

# Annual Report MacDonnell Regional Council

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#### Our 2019|20 Annual Report cover photo

Jayden Doolan, son of Areyonga Local Authority Chair and MacCare Team Leader Sarah Gallagher and Local Authority member Jonathon Doolan shows us he is still growing strong. Jayden first appeared on the cover of the 2017-2021 Regional Plan proudly showing his developing strength, determination and vehicular asset (photo right).

2019/20 Annual Report of the MacDonnell Regional Council is produced in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2008*. MacDonnell Regional Council consistently works with its funding partners in an endeavour to achieve our shared goals, provide real employment and improve life opportunities for constituents.



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# Message from our Council President

In a year where the COVID-19 pandemic affected so many people's lives around the world, we were fortunate that the virus did not reach the MacDonnell Regional Council (MRC) communities. There is a benefit living remotely as we feel a lot safer. I am so proud of the community residents and staff for following the restrictions and safety measures that were put in place to protect everyone.

I would like to praise the staff for their adaptability and resilience in continuing to provide valued services during this really hard time. Everyone managed to stay calm and performed their jobs very well. Our Council Services through our Civil Works team and Council Services Coordinators were reliable as always. Aged Care, Child Care, and Community Patrol maintained their high level of community services. Whilst Youth Team had to close the Rec Halls, they encouraged community members to spend time with their families. We will continue all the good practices to maintain the Northern Territory as a COVID-19 free place and ensure the safety of our communities so we can focus on recovery.

I know we were all disappointed with the cancellation of so many community events, but I am looking forward to them coming back better than ever as they bring us all together again. It was sad to see the postponement of the National Tidy Towns Awards that was to be hosted by Santa Teresa as the winner of last year's awards. I want to congratulate all of the other MRC communities who are stepping up to meet this challenge like Santa Teresa and raising the standard of community life.

Again this year, we have been a major employer of Aboriginal people in our region, allowing residents to work on community for their communities. This year, I'm proud to say that MRC has continued to create employment opportunities that support MRC residents.

To the young leaders of the MRC region, I encourage you to come to Local Authority meetings, either to stand up to present or see what it is like to be a member.

Be game, if you don't do it, you don't get anything done.

We want you to continue to contribute through Youth Board meetings. Keep working together so the Councillors know what you are doing. This will help you to learn how to present your ideas for your communities and become more confident so you may become future Councillors and one day the President.

An important achievement that MRC attained during COVID-19 was the use of video conferencing to conduct Local Authority and Council meetings online. At first, I didn't feel very comfortable with this use of technology, but I got used to it, so we could achieve quorums and continue with local decision making. Beyond COVID-19, MRC can use this technology to bring our 13 remote communities closer together.

We are sad for the passing away of Cr Wilyuka but we truly honour the time he spent with us. He will be remembered as a good leader.

Councillors and Local Authority members, please continue to help each other to support and achieve the best outcomes for the communities within the MRC region. I also want to acknowledge the efforts of all of the MRC staff over this year and the time I have been President. I have seen a lot of positive changes in the MRC region from all of us working together.

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Roxanne Kenny, President, MacDonnell Regional Council

# Message from our Chief Executive Officer

Welcome to the MacDonnell Regional Council Annual Report for 2019/20, a year like no other. The first half was a time of great productivity with Council powering into its 11th year of operation, whilst the second half was dominated by the dramatic impacts of COVID-19.

I am extremely proud of the dedicated, patient and understanding MRC staff who continued to deliver our valued services to the communities during the Biosecurity lock down. Whilst some services were reshaped, I was continually amazed at their adaptability and flexibility to deliver services while keeping the MRC area safe. MRC was able to maintain full employment and there were no job losses or stand downs due to COVID-19. The Elected and Local Authority members also stepped up during the lockdown. All Council and LA meetings were successfully conducted virtually, bar one.

MRC continues to develop and promote indigenous leadership while maintaining our indigenous employment on community at 87%. MacDonnell Regional Council's service delivery continues to support community endeavour and promote economic development opportunities. Our municipal teams are working examples of place based leadership consultation in action. Our community services continue to strengthen the fabric of the community from within, by assisting and supporting its growing, vulnerable and disadvantaged members. The MRC is a very significant and consistent employer of Aboriginal people.

MRC continues to maintain its strong fiscal management, but continues to be heavy reliant on our ability to win and deliver commercial contracts to fully resource our local government operations. Due to MRC's strong financial position, it has been able to approve substantial rate relief and no fee increases for the 2020/21 year to support commercial ratepayers recover from the devastating effects of COVID-19. MRC also supported regional businesses by delivering on a vast infrastructure development and maintenance program. MRC acknowledges the support of the Commonwealth Government through the Financial Assistance General Purpose and Roads grants and the Northern Territory Government Operational and Special Community Assistance and Local Employment (SCALE) grants.

Sadly in February, MRC lost another giant of Central Australia, Councillor P Wilyuka. Councillor Wilyuka served his community of Titjikala in a physical, cultural and spiritual sense for many years. He was a passionate advocate for local employment and the development of young people to fill future community roles. He will be sadly missed by many.

I can only praise the 12 councillors I serve and thank them for their tireless commitment to the constituents of MacDonnell Regional Council.

Finally and without hesitation, I thank our wonderful MRC staff who apply their efforts on a daily basis toward our goals and help deliver the great improvements MRC brings to the lives of our residents.

Jeff MacLeod, Chief Executive Officer, MacDonnell Regional Council

# The Council

Situated in an arid desert environment at the centre of the Australian continent, MacDonnell Regional Council (MRC) features many iconic, panoramic landscapes which are easily accessed from Alice Springs. Picturesque water holes, magnificent flora and fauna, red desert sands and captivating mountain ranges with changing hues are reasons why the MacDonnell region is uniquely beautiful and has a deep and powerful strength that can only be felt when travelling across the land.

## **About Communities**

Named after the ancient and spectacular MacDonnell Ranges, MacDonnell Regional Council was established in 2008 and its area covers our 13 major remote communities as well as many outstations and numerous established and emerging enterprises in the pastoral, tourism and mining industries. The towns of Alice Springs and Yulara are excluded from the MRC. A total population of 6,029 was recorded in the ABS 2016 Census from all dwellings in the MacDonnell Regional Council.

At MacDonnell Regional Council we recognise and respect the fact that Aboriginal culture is the oldest known continuing culture in the world and that Aboriginal people have had their own forms of governance for tens of thousands of years.

Having strong and effective Aboriginal representatives on the Council has provided an opportunity to discuss and develop effective two-way communication and engagement as well as strong governance principles and practices. Councillor discussions are multi-lingual, moving easily between the Aboriginal languages spoken in the MacDonnell region (mainly Luritja, Pintubi, Pitjantjatjara and Arrernte) and English. In weighing-up the impacts of their decisions made, councillors explore vastly different perspectives and expectations.

	MRC Workforce	Aboriginal Workforce	Community Population*
Amoonguna	34	91%	239
<u>Areyonga (Utju)</u>	43	90%	195
Docker River (Kaltukatjara)	33	89%	394
Finke (Aputula)	29	89%	192
Haasts Bluff (Ikuntji)	38	89%	138
Hermannsburg (Ntaria)	42	88%	605
Imanpa	22	95%	151
Kintore (Walungurru)	37	86%	410
Mount Liebig (Watiyawanu)	39	87%	169
Papunya (Warumpi)	38	87%	404
Santa Teresa (Ltyentye Ap	urte) 34	88%	579
Titjikala	36	91%	227
Wallace Rockhole	8	100%	102

★Population figures shown are from ABS 2016 Census

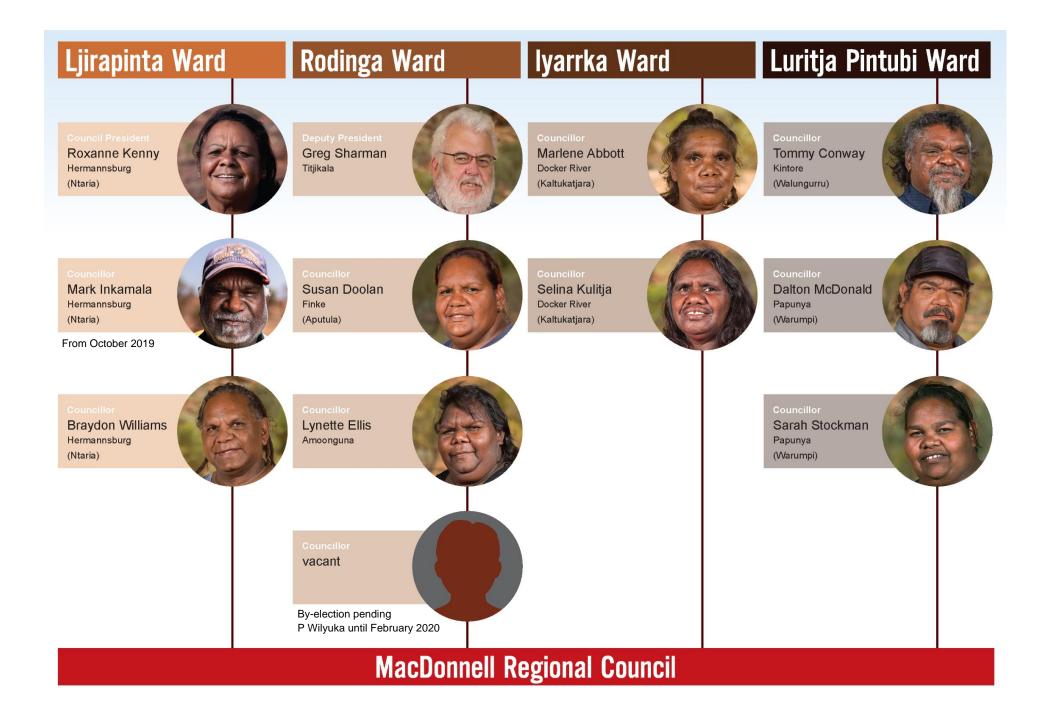
We are committed to delivering quality services for all of our residents, with MRC services operating from Service Delivery Centres in all thirteen communities. The coordination of all services and the administration of governance, finance, funding arrangements, program management and human resources is supported centrally in our Alice Springs office.

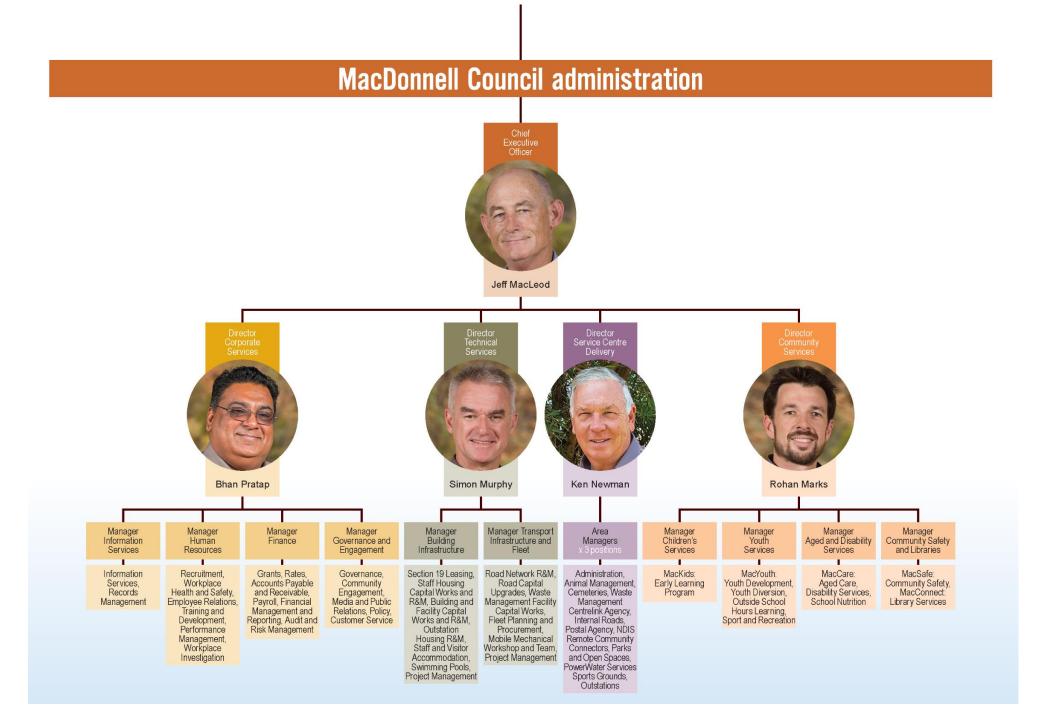
## About Council

MacDonnell Regional Council has 12 elected members in four wards. Councillors are elected for four years, with the last election held in September 2017. Following these elections newly elected councillors joined with re-elected councillors to nominate and vote for their principal members. Roxanne Kenny was re-appointed as President of MacDonnell Regional Council and Greg Sharman was appointed as Deputy President.

Throughout its annual cycle, Council holds an Ordinary Council Meeting every two months, and Special Council Meetings as required. Meetings are held on any of the 13 communities within the Council, at a local business within the Council region or in Alice Springs. All Council meetings are open to the public unless confidential business is being considered. Residents of our communities and members of the public are encouraged to attend.

MacDonnell Regional Council has a Finance and Risk Committee, Audit Committee and Local Authorities in each of its 13 remote communities. Dates, times, agendas and minutes for all Council and committee meetings, including Local Authority meetings, are available on the MacDonnell Regional Council website: www.macdonnell.nt.gov.au/meetings





# Services Offered by MacDonnell Regional Council by Community

	Amoonguna	Areyonga	Docker River	Finke	Haasts Bluff	Hermannsburg	Imanpa	Kintore	Mount Liebig	Papunya	Santa Teresa	Titjikala	Wallace Rockhole
Council Infrastructure	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
Municipal Services	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
Libraries	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	$\checkmark$
Outstations		/	V		V	$\checkmark$		/	V	V	V	V	
Swimming Pools		V	/	/	/			V	/	/	V		
Airstrip Maintenance	/	V	V	V	V	$\checkmark$	/	V	V	V	V	/	
Australia Post	V	V	V	V	V	/	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
Centrelink	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V		V	V
NDIS Community Con	nectos		V	V	V	V	V		V	V		V	
Community Store	V		/	/	/		/		/	/		/	
Power Maintenance	/	V	V	V	V		V	V	V	V	/	V	/
Water Maintenance	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V
Sewerage Maintenand	e 🗸	V	1⁄2*	V		V	V	V		V	V	1⁄2*	
Early Learning Centres	S	V	V	V	V	V		V	V	V	V	V	
Outside School Hours Learning		V						V	V	V		V	
Community Safety	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	V	
Aged and Disability Services	V	V				V				V		V	
School Nutrition		V		V	V	,	V		V			V	
Youth Services	V	V	V ÷	V 🕈	V	V	<b>√</b> †	V	V	V	V	V	

# **Strategic Planning**

Strategic Planning acknowledges the vision, mission and values of the MacDonnell Regional Council. The following assesses our performance against our goals, objectives and key performance indicators for the past financial year.

## Our Vision

many voices, one dream, building a quality desert lifestyle

## **Our Mission**

to improve the lives of Council residents by delivering valued and relevant services

# **Our Values**

Open we will build strong relationships and seek feedback and input on our work

respectful we will respect and support our diverse cultures and heritage

accountable our work must be transparent and accountable to

MacDonnell Regional Council residents

inclusive we will value and incorporate local knowledge, experience and

perspectives into the work that we do

innovative we will seek new ideas and ways of working to achieve our

outcomes and improve our services

# Strategic planning assessments

MacDonnell Regional Council's mission is *to improve the lives of Council residents by delivering valued and relevant services* and our vision is *many voices, one dream, building a quality desert lifestyle.* To fulfil our mission and accomplish our vision we set goals, objectives and strategies that are supported by key performance indicators that provide a measure of our progress.

The 2019/20 financial year was one of further consolidation – building on the solid foundations established over the previous years, despite a challenging fiscal environment.

MRC is faced with increasing constituent expectations against what is overall a shrinking income stream and rising costs. To address this, we have had to look to other sources of income and a reduction in expenditure. Our performance measures below should be seen in that context. As a whole we remain very proud of our performance.

MRC acknowledges the assistance of both Federal and Northern Territory governments in their support of services provision to MacDonnell Regional Council communities and the importance of Federal funding through the Financial Assistance Grants (FAG) program to support our continued delivery of quality services.

In order to measure progress across all our goals, outcomes (sub-goals) strategies and key performance indicators (KPIs), MacDonnell Regional Council has again used the following ratings system to quickly show the progress.

## Strategic rating key

- A Achieved completely or almost completed
- B Partially achieved
- C Not achieved or very little achieved

When committing to ambitious targets, success is not always guaranteed. Of our 13 objectives, 1 had a majority or median of A key performance indicators, 9 had a majority or median of B key performance indicators, and only 3 had a C majority rating. A total of 43 KPIs yielded 6 As, 21 Bs and 16 Cs.

## Rating summary

Objectives	13	total
А	majority or median in 1	outcomes
В	majority or median in 9	outcomes
С	majority in 3	outcomes

KPIs	43 total
А	6 achieved
В	21 partially achieved
С	16 not achieved

<b>Objective 1.1</b> Council's infra	Objective 1.1 Council's infrastructure meets community needs					
Strategy	KPI	Target	Rating	Comment		
Develop and implement Council Community Infrastructure Plans to guide infrastructure investment and development	Broad stakeholder consultation undertaken in each community to identify Council's current and future community infrastructure needs.	June 2020	В	A component of the community surveys were used to begin consultation with community on infrastructure needs.COVID-19 restrictions on travel and operations impacted the consultation process for part of March and a significant portion of Q4.		
	Develop and adopt 10 year Council Community Infrastructure Plans for each community	June 2021	n/a	This KPI is dependent on the previous KPI.		
Secure long term land tenure for lots used in the delivery of Council services	90% of the community based lots that Council utilises to delivery services are leased under Section 19 leases.	June 2020	В	For MRC's community based lots, 26 applications have been lodged with 20% approved, 30% not yet approved and 50% not yet consulted.		

Strategy	KPI	Target	Rating	Comments
Secure additional contracts that create employment	NT Government service contracts (Housing Tenancy, Housing Maintenance, Room to Breathe) secured	June 2020	С	NT service contracts were not released.
	Other service contracts secured	June 2020	A	Centrelink and NDIS contracts have been secured for 2020-21. MacCare secured a new aged care funding agreement (NATSIFACP) to provide services to high care clients for a period of 4 years. MacYouth secured a new 2 year contract through Territory Families to implement 'The Right Track' Program for 2 years MacYouth secured another new contract through CAYLUS for the Try, Test and Learn Program.
	Number and FTE of new positions created	June 2020	A	14 new positions of 9.2 full-time equivalent.

<b>Objective 1.3</b> Increase Abori	ginal employment opportunities			
Strategy	KPI	Target	Rating	Comments
Promote Aboriginal employment within Council	Develop and implement Special Measures Policy to support Aboriginal employment	June 2020	A	Special Measures Policy has been developed and approved by the Council.
	90% of community based positions filled by Aboriginal staff	June 2020	В	88% of community based positions are filled by Aboriginal staff.
	15% of Alice Springs based positions filled by Aboriginal staff	June 2020	В	12% of Alice Springs based positions filled by Aboriginal staff. Note that the Alice Springs Office includes staff employed in Transport Infrastructure and Fleet.
Local employment supported through Council's tender contracts	10% local Aboriginal labour achieved through delivery of Council's tender contracts	June 2020	С	10% local Aboriginal labour not achieved through Council's tender contracts, will now be included in tender specifications.
Partner with organisations that can offer job-ready candidates in communities	10 local Aboriginal people placed in employment	June 2020	В	MacKids have employed 2 CDP participants in Kintore. Service Centre Delivery partners with CDP providers to have local people into MRC jobs.

Objective 1.4 Support local A	Aboriginal enterprise			
Strategy	KPI	Target	Rating	Comments
Develop a regional tourism	Regional tourism plan is developed and	June 2021	n/a	CEO has joined the Lasseter, Alice Springs and
plan in collaboration with	approved by Council			MacDonnell Region Destination Management Plan Group
Tourism NT				to push for greater support of Aboriginal tourism.
Develop policy to inform	Policy developed and approved by	June 2020	С	MRC's in-kind support documentation to support local
Council's in-kind support	Council			Aboriginal enterprise is in draft.
Provide in-kind support to local	\$50,000 in-kind services provided	June 2020	С	In-kind support template was developed for data collection
Aboriginal enterprises in				but not utilised.
communities				

<b>Objective 2.1</b> Support active	and healthy lifestyles			
Strategy	KPI	Target	Rating	Comments
Collaborate with community stakeholders to promote health initiatives	13 health initiatives delivered	June 2020	В	MacKids worked with Trachoma to deliver 4 events in communities. MacYouth partnered with Community Health Clinics and CAYLUS to deliver the Women's Health Program in 4 communities. NT Healthy Communities Program and multiple health initiatives deferred or put on hold due to COVID-19.
Provide quality parks, open spaces, sporting and recreation facilities, that are accessible for all ages	Develop and adopt revised Service Level Guidelines informed by Local Authority and Council Infrastructure Plans.	June 2020	В	Service Level guidelines have been reviewed but await information from Local Authority and Council Infrastructure Plans.
·	Audit existing infrastructure against revised Service Level Guidelines and map on GIS system	June 2021	n/a	The audit of existing infrastructure is reliant on previous KPIs. A GIS system has been viewed as too expensive and unnecessary for this function.
Promote healthy eating through Council's services, meetings, functions and events	Policy developed and approved on Council provided food	June 2020	C	The Healthy Eating Policy is still in development. Meeting catering has cut back from supplying sugary products.

Objective 2.2 Improve enviro Strategy	KPI	Target	Rating	Comments
Increase community awareness of the impact of waste on the environment	Develop and deliver waste education campaign in each community	June 2020	В	Tidy Towns program supported by MRC. 2020 theme is Clean Hands, Clean Community.
Improve the health of animals living in communities	Develop baseline animal health data for each community	June 2020	В	Reports are provided by veterinarians following visits to communities, providing baseline information and comments on the general health of animals. Will partner with AMRRIC to apply for grant to conduct an animal census in 2020-21.
	Develop and implement animal health program targeting identified health issues	June 2021	n/a	This KPI is dependent on the previous KPI.
Develop community-wide recycling program	Recycling stations are installed and operating in each community	June 2021	n/a	Signage is installed and separation occurs but not recycling due to external factors. Waste facilities have been upgraded with assistance from Waste Management Facility team.

Objective 2.3 Support community and cultural events					
Strategy	KPI	Target	Rating	Comments	
Provide in-kind support for community and cultural events	\$50,000 in-kind support provided	June 2020	В	MRC continues to provide general in-kind support across the 13 MRC communities when community events are held. A template has been developed for data collection but not utilised.	
Support the development of an annual major regional cultural festival within the Council area	Feasibility study developed and submitted to Council for review, exploring business models for the delivery a major regional cultural festival	June 2020	С	The feasibility report to support an annual major regional cultural festival has not completed within the target timeframe. Anticipate completion during following year.	

The first KPIs has been carried over to the 2020-21 Regional Plan. The second KPI will be developed into collaboration with stakeholders to build capacity for major cultural and sporting events.

# Goal 3. Empowered communities

Strategy	KPI	Target	Rating	Comments
Partner with service providers to support the development of Youth Boards in Finke, Imanpa and Docker River	Youth Boards are established in Finke, Imanpa and Docker River	June 2020	С	MRC is committed to empowering young people and to supporting Youth Boards in Finke, Imanpa and Docker River, where MacYouth does not operate widely. Ngaanyatjarra College have shown interest in including this form of decision- making into their curriculum at their secondary schools in Docker River and Imanpa. A Council envoy and the Director Community Services will meet with NPYWC regarding youth services in these 3 communities. COVID-19 has delayed visits and the progress of this.
Develop and maintain Youth Boards in the nine MacYouth communities	Youth boards meet 6 per community / per year	June 2020	В	25 Youth Board meetings were held this financial year, falling short of the 54 meeting target. COVID-19 impacted the facilitation of these meetings in the 4th quarter of the year.
Provide governance training for Youth Board representatives	A representative from each Youth Board completes the Local Authority governance training program	June 2020	С	A guideline for Youth Boards to be able to work more closely with Local Authorities has been developed. It focuses on Local Authority Project Funding and Discretionary Funding. It was a follow up to the Community Engagement Officer's presentation at the MacYouth training on this component of Governance training. Governance training has not been developed yet.
Local Authorities engage with Youth Boards	A Youth Board representative presents at each Local Authority on the progress and actions of the Youth Board	June 2020	В	MacYouth staff have received governance training to support youth board members in making these representations during Round 4 of LAs. There has been an increase in numbers of Youth Board members nominating for their Local Authorities. 2 Youth Board minutes presented to LA meetings to propose projects and attended by MacYouth staff.
	10% of Local Authority Project funding approved for local Youth Board identified projects	June 2020	В	6 Local Authorities allocated Project funding to Youth Boards to identify projects. Of funds allocated to Youth Boards, no projects completed yet. 4 communities voluntarily allocated Discretionary Funds to support Youth Board meetings.

These strategies have been carried over to the 2020-21 Regional Plan with further development and adaption of the KPIs.

Strategy	KPI	Target	Rating	Comments
Individualised training programs are established to support the development and empowerment of each elected	Individualised training programs are developed for each elected member	June 2020	C	2019-20 year in governance was underpinned by stabalising and building capacity so training was focussed primarily on governance staff. This was achieved in readiness for the 2020-21 Regional Plan.
member	Individualised training programs are completed by each elected member	June 2020	С	2019-20 year in governance was underpinned by stabalising and building capacity so training was focussed primarily on governance staff. This was achieved in readiness for the 2020-21 Regional Plan.
Governance training program developed and delivered for Local Authority members	Local Authority governance training program developed and approved	June 2020	С	2019-20 year in governance was underpinned by stabalising and building capacity so training was focussed primarily on governance staff. This was achieved in readiness for the 2020-21 Regional Plan.
	All Local Authority members complete Local Authority governance training program	June 2020	С	2019-20 year in governance was underpinned by stabalising and building capacity so training was focussed primarily on governance staff. This was achieved in readiness for the 2020-21 Regional Plan.
Local Authority Plans are developed for each community and inform Council Community Infrastructure Plans	5 year Local Authority Plans developed and approved by each Local Authority	June 2020	В	The Kintore "Master Plan" was presented to the Kintore LA. The Kintore initiative and development served as a leading example to other Local Authorities as they addressed this Strategy. The initial round of consultation have begun and 8 Local Authorities were consulted. Efforts were hampered by inclement weather, cultural business and then COVID-19 travel restrictions.

Strategy	KPI	Target	Rating	Comments
Local Authority meetings are engaging and accessible to members and the public	Consult with Local Authorities regarding Local Authority meeting format and content	June 2020	A	A revised agenda to bring Local Authority meetings in-line with Ordinary Council Meetings was trialled and when assessed by the Local Authorities received their support. A change in meeting times to after-hours was proposed to a number of LAs and was not supported.
	Revise Local Authority meeting format and content in line with Local Authority feedback	Dec 2021	n/a	
	13 Local Authority meetings are held in open public spaces	June 2020	В	An LA in Papunya held in an "open public space" was held in the 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter with approximately 20 members of the public not usually involved with the LA attending and observing. The Local Authority meetings to be held in "open public spaces" were scheduled for the 4 <sup>th</sup> quarter to be in the cooler winter months. COVID-19 operational and travel restrictions adversely impacted 4 <sup>th</sup> quarter application of this KPI.
	5% of residents attend each Local Authority meetings	June 2020	С	Resident attendance at Local Authority meetings are still low. Moving the LA meetings to an open public space was hoped to make the meetings more accessible to the public, but unfortunately did not go ahead due to COVID-19 restrictions.
Councillors supported to engage with constituents	13 Councillor community engagement events supported	June 2020	С	Councillors have been informed that any Councillor community engagement events will be supported by MRC. Councillor and community engagement was also planned to happen at the LA meetings in open public spaces that did not go ahead.
Council services reflect community aspirations	10% of residents in each community complete a Council Services survey	June 2020	В	124 MRC residents were surveyed (32% of the KPI target) before COVID-19 travel restrictions were enacted by MRC on 16 March 2020. Efforts were also hampered by inclement weather and cultural business. This KPI has been amended for the 2020-21 Regional Plan to provide Councillors, LA members and community representatives with more support to provide MRC with strategic direction.
Optimise use of technology to raise community awareness of Council services	Develop and adopt revised Communications and Engagement Plan	June 2020	A	The 2020-21 Communications and Engagement Plan includes a 2019-20 Engagement Report, Engagement Principles, Operational Plans for all KPIs that the Engagement Team leads, Communication and Engagement Tools, Frameworks to consider using and future considerations.

Strategy	KPI	Target	Rating	
Attract, train and retain a skilled workforce	Complete Strategy 1 Actions from MRC Workforce Development plan	June 2020	В	Review of induction process completed. New central induction process developed and implemented. On-line community based induction developed for piloting. New Annual Performance Review and Development policy and process implemented. MRC values capability framework developed for use in annual performance review and probation processes. Recruitment website review undertaken and improvements being developed to enhance talent acquisition. Significant HR Policy development has taken place - 9 policies developed and approved; 6 procedures/guides developed.
	Develop and adopt training programs for all positions within Council	June 2021	n/a	The remaining strategies for the MRC Workforce Development plan have a 2-year target date, so work will continue on these KPIs into the next financial year.
Develop workforce to meet current and future capability needs	Complete Strategy 2 Actions from MRC Workforce Development plan	June 2021	n/a	See above
	Develop training programs to support internal advancement of staff	June 2021	n/a	See above
Increase employee engagement	Complete Strategy 3 Actions from MRC Workforce Development plan	June 2021	n/a	See above
	Staff attendance is > 85% of contracted hours	June 2020	В	Staff attendance was 77.8% of contracted hours. There was a significant amount of travel out of community when the COVID-19 Biosecurity Zone Restrictions were lifted.
Improve communication and collaboration across all areas within Council	Complete Strategy 4 Actions from MRC Workforce Development plan	June 2021	n/a	The remaining strategies for the MRC Workforce Development plan have a 2-year target date, so work will continue on these KPIs into the next financial year.

Objective 4.2 Improve efficiencies through our use of technology					
Strategy	KPI	Target	Rating	Comments	
Connect staff through video conferencing	Video conferencing facility established in 8 communities and accessible for all staff	June 2020	A	Video Conference is available at all communities utilising the Community Service Coordinators' laptops via Satellite Connectivity. The External Agencies also have the facilities to utilise Video Conferencing but on a restricted scale. The COVID-19 response has included trials of different video conferencing formats in all communities.	
Use electronic solutions for data collection and reporting	Implement use of electronic timesheets for all departments	June 2020	В	6% of MRC staff are using electronic timesheets. All of the Alice Springs office is using electronic timesheets. There are ongoing issues with poor connectivity on community.	
	Develop and implement electronic reporting for all council services	June 2022	n/a	Electronic reporting software platforms are being investigated. Functionality in the MRC communities will improve as the infrastructure supporting this is upgraded. Noting the Current climate and network development planning with Telstra and Councilbiz – this be could about 4 to 5 years to optimal levels.	
Increase access to online training modules	80% of staff complete digital literacy training	June 2020	В	Digital Literacy training through MacConnect was delivered in the MRC and attended by 144 MRC employees (29%). COVID-19 restricted further roll-out for the 4 <sup>th</sup> quarter of the year.	
	Implement online Learning Management System for the delivery of staff training programs	June 2020	В	Learning management system development has continued. On-line induction developed. Pilot training program for all managers has been approved.	

Strategy	KPI	Target	Rating	
Effective compliance in achieving our legislative obligations	Revised policy framework adopted and implemented	June 2020	В	General Policy framework reviewed. HR policy category selected to lead the review process as it represented the largest number of policies and carrying the highest risk. Approximately 65% completed.
Develop best practice Work Health and Safety strategy	Approval of revised Work Health and Safety Management System	June 2020	С	COVID-19 WH&S guidelines developed and implemented. Healthy facilities audits implemented. Review of WH&S policy and management system underway.
	Work Health and Safety Management System implemented and all staff have received training	December 2020	С	A WH&S risk workshop was conducted with MRC management staff. Incident reporting improved at Executive Leadership Team and Council reporting level. WH&S management system still under development due to impact of COVID-19.

# Service Centre Delivery

Service Centre Delivery (SCD) is responsible for providing local government, municipal and essential services, as well as some other funded services to each of the 13 MRC communities.

The Directorate of Service Centre Delivery employs 185 people across nine (9) programs. Funding for these programs comes from a variety of sources – Untied funds from NTG Operational Funds and Federal Assistance grants; Commercial contracts from Services Australia, Power Water, Australia Post and National Disability Insurance Scheme; and, other NTG grants and agreements.

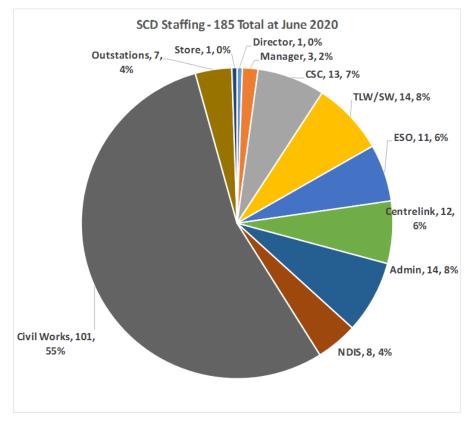
Untied funds can be used for whatever MRC determines in the area of local government. In Service Delivery, these funds pay for our Alice Springs based staff and our community offices to operate. The Service Delivery structure has a Director and three Managers of Service Centre Delivery based in Alice Springs and our first Aboriginal Manager Service Delivery working remotely from Hermannsburg. On each of our 13 remote communities there is a Council Services Coordinator with administration support and a civil works team to undertake municipal services. MRC also operates a store at Amoonguna and employs a Store Operator.

Commercial services enables MRC to employ people to do specific jobs on communities or to provide a particular service to the community. This includes Essential Services Officers (ESOs) on 11 communities; Centrelink

Agents on 12 communities; NDIS Remote Community Connectors on 8 communities; and, for MRC to collect and deliver the mail at 12 of our communities.

Grants funding ensures MRC does other specific things. For example, MRC receives a grant to look after the municipal and essential services at 23 outstations, located around 7 of our communities – Docker River (1), Haasts Bluff (2), Hermannsburg (1), Mount Liebig (5), Papunya (8), Santa Teresa (1) and Titjikala (5). The grant also provides limited housing repairs and maintenance on outstations and provides wages for seven (7) part-time jobs.

Service Centre Delivery has also received a grant to provide a community event at each of our communities over a 5-year period that will promote healthy living and messaging combined with eating healthy foods in a culturally appropriate manner. It will also enable MRC to bring DirtGirl and Costa the Garden Gnome back to Central Australia to visit each of our communities and promote the message.



ABOVE: Service Centre Delivery team profile

Nine out of 10 workers (90%) in Service Delivery are Aboriginal (166 of 185 employees). This meets a MRC goal of having local people in jobs. Across all Service Centre Delivery programs, there are 3 men employed for every woman (75%). This is not uncommon when it is usual to have males employed in municipal and essential services in local government and this is the area where most people are employed within our Directorate.

However, if we take out the Civil Works teams, 6 out of 10 workers in Service Delivery are women (60%.)

# **Council Services**

The following is a summary of MRC provided services within the Service Centre Delivery Directorate.

### Animal Management

The MacDonnell Regional Council has developed Animal Management Guidelines to improve the health and numbers of dogs and other animals in a culturally sensitive way; and, to achieve a maintenance and long term reduction in animal numbers without the need for mass culling. The success of any animal management plan is based on three factors – Regular and frequent Veterinarian visits; Surgical or chemical de-sexing; and a Continual Educational program. Principally, animal management refers to dog management but can also include cats, horses, etc.

The MacDonnell Regional Council currently delivers its animal management services to all communities in the MRC's region and utilises the services of contracted veterinarians. This included NT Veterinary Services, Dr Graeme Blanch and Dr Bob Irving. These vets visit remote communities treating animals for internal parasites and to conduct sterilisation treatments.

MRC also had the benefit of a Petstock visit in September 2019 to three communities in the West MacDonnell Ranges – Papunya, Haasts Bluff and Mount Liebig. This philanthropic organisation brought a team of visiting veterinary surgeons from Canberra to offer a surgical program. During their visit, they de-sexed 62 dogs and 3 cats, as well as treating them for internal and external parasites. They had hoped to visit again in May 2020 but were unable to travel due to COVID-19 restrictions.

#### **Key achievements**

MacDonnell Regional Council budgets \$100,000 per year to provide professional visiting veterinary services to all 13 of its communities and funded outstations. This enables at least two visits per year to each place, as well as the philanthropic visits from Petstock.

#### **Key challenges**

A key challenge for MRC continues to be the level of funds available to deliver animal management services. MRC currently fully funds these services from its operational funding. Increased funds would enable improved veterinary services, including enhanced education and de-sexing, to be delivered to communities. The provision of visiting professional veterinary services to MRC communities for three years will be put out to tender in early July 2020.

#### Cemeteries

Cemetery management services are conducted in 12 MacDonnell Regional Council communities. Services include general maintenance of cemetery reserves and surrounds, preparation of burial plots, upkeep of burial details and identification of burial places within the cemetery.

MRC has developed Cemetery Management Guidelines, providing the basis of a four level implementation plan for cemeteries. This outlines the service level standards that MRC aims to achieve, taking into account the MRC's goal of 'Developing Communities' and relevant legislation.

Service levels for the development of cemeteries include:

- site identification and clearing, including fencing, car parks and grave shoring
- shade structures, seating, wheelie bins and water

- signage and plot markers, including a cemetery register and grid plan of grave locations
- pathways and landscaping

The planned introduction of the *NT Burials and Cremation Act 2019* was put on hold and is unlikely to be re-introduced before July 2021.

#### Key achievements

Areyonga had a new fence installed at their cemetery from lease funds provided by the Central Land Council.

The Hermannsburg Third Cemetery was increased in size and had new fencing installed by a local Aboriginal business.

Mount Liebig installed a new sign for their cemetery.



ABOVE: Mount Liebig Civil Works team installing a new cemetery sign funded by the Mount Liebig Local Authority

### Internal Roads Maintenance

Communities continue to improve their roads and traffic safety. Speed humps were installed at some communities and road signs have been repaired or replaced, as necessary. Planning is also taking place on developing footpaths at Hermannsburg and Titjikala to improve pedestrian safety.

## Parks and Open Spaces

Parks and public spaces in each community are the responsibility of MRC and work in this area includes upgrades and maintenance of facilities, such as shade structures, park furniture, signage, and playground equipment.



ABOVE: Playground fence at Ross Park, Amoonguna

It also includes the provision of lighting for public safety, conducting monthly safety audits on playground equipment, litter control and ensuring grass is kept short to mitigate fire risks.



ABOVE: Main playground, Areyonga

## Sports Grounds and Facilities

MRC maintains community sports ovals and softball fields. Special Purpose Grants were received that will result in new covered Basketball courts at Amoonguna, Haasts Bluff and Papunya. Docker River is to have flood lights installed at their footy oval while Mount Liebig will have new fencing and shelters at their softball field.

#### **Key achievements**

A new softball field with fencing being constructed at Mount Liebig.



ABOVE: Softball field with new fencing, Mount Liebig

#### Waste Management

MacDonnell Regional Council strives to deliver best practice waste management services for thirteen (13) remote communities in its region. Services include general waste collection, landfill management, litter management, and staff training. Domestic kerbside collections are conducted twice weekly in all communities, with landfill sites effectively managed and maintained against the relevant service level guidelines across all 13 remote locations. Waste management operations are delivered in accordance with the Central Australian Remote Landfill Operating Manual (CARLOM), developed by Barkly, Central Desert and MacDonnell Regional Councils, the Local Government Association of the NT (LGANT), and the NT Department of Environmental Health. This group makes up the Central Australian Waste Management Working Group whose aim is to work collaboratively to discuss regional waste management and environmental health issues, along with developing sustainable and best practice waste management documents for Central Australian remote communities.

#### Key achievements

1352 waste collections occurred throughout 2019/20 across 13 locations. Waste collections are conducted twice weekly at each of our 13 communities.

The new waste management facility at Santa Teresa was completed as well as remediation of the old site.

Two Managers from Service Delivery were to attend the Coffs 2020 Waste Conference to increase their knowledge on best practice throughout the industry but the conference was cancelled as a result of COVID -19.

New waste management trenches were constructed at Amoonguna and Areyonga and a complete rehabilitation of the site, including new trenches has commenced at Hermannsburg.



ABOVE: Amoonguna Waste Management facility, April 2020

#### **Key challenges**

Monitoring landfills and illegal dumping continues to prove challenging due to their locations outside communities. The landfills are of a size and volume where it is impractical to have them permanently staffed.

The separation of waste materials takes place on all communities and in line with best practice are stockpiled for collection later. The removal of these stockpiles from communities is an on-going issue due to distance, road conditions and access to markets. Waste separation is a national strategy to protect the environment and to reduce the volumes of waste going to landfill.

### MRC Tidy Towns

Our Service Delivery Teams have done an amazing job in 2019-20 in keeping all 13 MRC communities tidy and continually improving best practices in the management of communities. Hard work has especially paid off with Finke, Wallace Rockhole and Santa Teresa becoming finalists in the Northern Territory Tidy Towns. Late in 2019, all MRC Council Services Coordinators (CSC) gathered together in Alice Springs for a couple of days to attend training, share stories, get updates and recognise all the hard work each team is doing to improve the quality of life on our communities. The team then spent a morning exploring Santa Teresa's waste management facility which won the 2019 Northern Territory Tidy Towns 'Best Landfill Site.'

The CSC gathering enabled MRC to hold a MacDonnell Regional Council Tidy Towns competition within our own communities, creating some healthy competition and to ensure our communities continue to be great places to live. Keep Australia Beautiful Council (NT) CEO, Heimo Schober was the special guest presenter for the Awards along with MRC CEO Jeff MacLeod.

The winners of each category were: Best Small Community Winner - Wallace Rockhole Runner up - Imanpa

Best Medium Community Winner - Finke Runner up - Titjikala & Mount. Liebig

Best Large Community Winner - Santa Teresa Runner up - Hermannsburg

Best Landfill (Large) Winner - Santa Teresa Runner up - Papunya Best Landfill (Medium) Winner - Mount Liebig Runner up - Amoonguna

Best Landfill (Small) Winner – Imanpa Runner up - Wallace Rockhole

Best Park Winner - Areyonga

Best Sportsground Winner - Titjikala Oval

Most Improved Community Winner - Docker River



ABOVE: Heimo Schober, CEO of KABC (NT) presenting Tanya Luckey, CSC Imanpa with an award for Best Small Landfill at the MRC Tidy Towns Awards.

## NT Tidy Towns Awards

As reigning title holders of the 2018 Northern Territory Sustainable Community Tidy Town Award, Santa Teresa played host to the 2019 awards. The Awards showcased innovative ideas and initiatives that improve social and environmental development and sustainability in regional areas of the Northern Territory.

The day included a visit to Santa Teresa with tours of the MacDonnell Regional Council, Atyenhenge Atherre Aboriginal Corporation (AAAC), the Ltyentye Apurte Catholic Education Centre and the Santa Teresa Catholic Church facilities.

At the NT Awards MacDonnell Regional Council was very successful and came away with many awards including:

Best Small Community	Wallace Rockhole
Best Medium Community	Santa Teresa
Best Regional Council	MacDonnell Regional Council
Community Participation	Santa Teresa
Best Landfill Site	Santa Teresa
Resource Recovery (Highly Commended)	Finke



ABOVE: Visitors to the NT Tidy Towns Awards on a day trip to Santa Teresa



ABOVE: Max Baliva (centre), CSC Hermannsburg (formerly CSC Wallace Rockhole) accepts the award for NT's Best Small Community from Jeff Colver (left), KABC (NT) Board Member and Damien Ryan (right), LGANT President

## Australian Sustainable Communities Awards (Tidy Towns)

The National Tidy Towns Awards were scheduled to occur at Alice Springs and Santa Teresa in April 2020 but was deferred until a future time due to COVID -19 travel restrictions. Planning is taking place to hold an "on-line" Awards ceremony later in 2020.

#### Key achievements – Territory

NT Health Department has funded MRC over five (5) years to rollout a Healthy Communities program, focusing on messaging that includes the theme "No Germs on Me." The program will include a modified Get Grubby Program, involving the characters DirtGirl, ScrapBoy and Costa the Garden Gnome. The program includes a healthy eating program that will be promoted at each MRC community. The program involves the MRC Service Centre Delivery team, Children's Services, Youth and our Community Engagement staff, as well as Keep Australia Beautiful Council (NT) and other interested stakeholders.

This program originally scheduled to commence in May 2020 was deferred until 2021 due to COVID -19.

# **Non-Council Services**

## Outstations

The NT Government funds MRC to deliver some services to 23 occupied outstations or homelands that includes servicing about 250 residents living in 74 dwellings. Services include municipal and essential services, housing maintenance services and special purpose infrastructure projects. The MRC's focus is to ensure reliable delivery of power, water and sewerage and to provide a safe and healthy environment for outstation residents. Civil works teams carry out regular inspections of outstations. Municipal services provide waste collection, roads maintenance, animal management, fire breaks and environmental activities. Essential services maintain power, water, and septic/sewerage provision. Housing maintenance services include both urgent repairs, to address electrical risks, loss of power, septic/sewerage issues or loss of water, and general structural, plumbing, electrical and gas repairs.

Although this is a five year agreement, funding has only recently been secured for the first quarter of the 2020-21 financial year.



ABOVE: Joe Rawson, Team Leader Works preparing the vehicle for a Papunya Outstations run

### Commercial operations

#### Australia Post

The MRC has renewed its agreement for a further three years to provide postal agency services for Australia Post at twelve (12) of its remote communities. Mail services are provided to most communities weekly and are usually delivered by air services. Where airstrips are not available, the MRC organises mail collection from Alice Springs.

#### Centrelink

MRC is contracted by Services Australia to deliver remote Centrelink Agent services on behalf of the Commonwealth. These services are provided in 12 communities and include:

- · accepting claim forms and other required documents
- responding to customer enquiries and provision of assistance, guidance or referral if needed
- assisting customers to access self-service facilities

This contract has been secured for a further 12 months. All sites are staffed by local employees who receive remote agent training from Services Australia.

#### **Community Store**

MRC operates one community store at Amoonguna, a community near to Alice Springs. This "corner store" ensures residents have access to basic grocery items and other goods.

#### **Essential Services**

The MRC delivers essential services across all thirteen (13) MRC communities under contract to the Power and Water Corporation (PowerWater). MRC employs 11 Essential Service Officers (ESOs), with a strong focus on training and developing local Aboriginal employees in the role. Two of our smaller communities have the Team Leader Works provide limited essential services on those communities. On each community, MRC has the goal of having relief ESOs available.

Currently there are 37 qualified ESOs within the MRC. They are responsible for the day to day maintenance and upkeep of power, water and sewerage infrastructure in their community.

#### Key achievements

Of the 37 ESO qualified MRC employees, 21 are Aboriginal (57%), located at Alice Springs (1), Amoonguna (2), Docker River (1), Finke (1), Haasts Bluff (3), Hermannsburg (1), Imanpa (1), Mount Liebig (3), Papunya (1), Santa Teresa (3), Titjikala (2) and Wallace Rockhole (2).

#### National Disability Insurance Services (NDIS)

NDIS fund eight (8) Remote Community Connectors across the MRC. These identified positions are for local Aboriginal residents and Connectors are responsible for responding to a variety of NDIS related participant requests and enquiries via the telephone or in person over the counter. Remote Connectors are located at Docker River, Finke, Haasts Bluff, Hermannsburg, Imanpa, Mount Liebig, Papunya and Titjikala.



ABOVE: Shakira Nelson, NDIS Remote Community Connector, Papunya

# **Technical Services**

# Property and Tenancy

The Property and Tenancy team are responsible for repairs, maintenance, upgrades and capital works for all MacDonnell Regional Council (MRC) buildings and facilities as well as tenancy services for staff housing. Our buildings include Service Delivery Centres, Home Care and Childcare Centres, depots, recreation halls, staff and outstation housing as well as swimming pools and other sporting facilities. The team also deliver commercial and grant funded projects on behalf of NT and Federal Government Departments.

#### **Key achievements**

The Property and Tenancy team were kept busy all year with multiple capital projects in addition to their usual activities, these included;

- Ongoing Homeland Extra grant funding for upgrade works to 18
   Outstation houses
- Installation of solar power at Papunya SDC, installation of 16 x solar hot water systems, light fitting replacement with LED fittings at 11 houses and replacement of 10 RAC box styled air conditioners with reverse cycle air conditions under the Energy, Efficiency Grant
- Replacement of new septic sewage system at lot 188 Docker River (staff house)
- Replacement of kitchen at lot 35 Hermannsburg (staff house)
- Upgrade to the Imanpa SDC including kitchen replacement, internal and external paint, flooring and roofing works

- Minor upgrade to lot 4 unit 2 Kintore including internal paint, glazing, and other carpentry works
- Upgrade to staff visitor house lot 45 Mt Liebig including internal paint, new flooring and other carpentry works
- Initial works to the conversion of lot 28 Mt Liebig contractor camp to 2 x 1bed units. The works were interrupted with the onset of COVID-19
- Replacement of the roof at lot 249 Papunya and upgrade of house after vandalism including an internal paint and new flooring
- The purchase of 2 x 4 bed ensuite bunkhouses for Papunya and Haasts Bluff, and an additional 2 bed unit in Papunya to alleviate the ongoing housing of visiting staff and contractors in these communities

#### Key challenges

COVID-19 interrupted the completion of some capital works projects. Only urgent or emergency works were responded to while the Biosecurity Zone to the MRC communities was in place. The Housing Team managed the MRC staff Essential Worker Permit applications and continues to support MRC with processing risk assessments for all contractors and staff.

Mobilisation costs for trades is a perennial factor that adds to annual budgets in this area. Unfortunately there is not enough consistent work in each community to allow for permanent employment of the various trades in each community to then in turn take on local trainees.

# **Fleet Services**

The Fleet Services team operate from the Alice Springs based workshop where they maintain MRC's vehicles and carry out major works on larger fleet items. The team includes our coordinator, fleet officer and four mobile mechanics who travel to communities every week to maintain MRC's large fleet of more than 300 items including vehicles, trucks, garbage compactors, buses, tractors, skid steers, backhoes and large earthmoving plant. During the year the team covers over 50,000 km to deliver this vital service and performed over 1,500 individual services. The team use a web based application called Fleetio to assist with the task of managing the fleet. This is a collaborative tool, used by MRC for 7 years, and the data collected in that time has been invaluable for understanding usage patterns and costs for forward planning and record keeping.

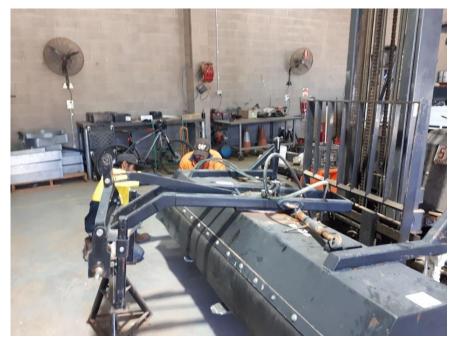
#### **Key achievements**

The team are measured by the number of 'issues' that are open at any one time on all fleet items. The team have maintained an average of 150 open issues for the last couple of years, a dramatic drop from more than 300 previously. This is testament to the benefits of forward planning for community visits, utilising the functionality of Fleetio and efficiently coordinating the team.

The relative youth of MRC's very large fleet of vehicles continues to be a major achievement. This year saw an average age of fleet items of 14 months. This success is based on the long-term vision by MRC to adequately fund the fleet to ensure that service delivery targets are met with minimum disruptions due to fleet down time.

#### **Key challenges**

COVID-19 and the delays associated with receiving essential worker permits meant that Mechanic visits to some communities were significantly affected. Mechanics were available to assist local teams to troubleshoot minor issues, and were able to be get ahead with Alice Springs-based fleet. MRC acted swiftly to secure travel permits for Mechanics when they became available, which meant community visits resumed as soon as practicable. By sending two teams to community each week, effectively doubling capacity, the team were able to catch up on missed time and service all communities before the end of financial year.



ABOVE: Mechanic Chris Paine working on Titjikala's road sweeper with Plant Operator Alec Kruger's assistance

## Infrastructure

The Transport Infrastructure team is responsible for management of the 1,555km MRC road network, maintenance of community street lighting and airstrips, and capital upgrades to community waste management facilities.

#### Key achievements

#### Roads

Utilising federal Roads to Recovery funding, MRC has upgraded the 9km Kintore Access Road. The project involved utilising a crushing plant to produce high quality road base as the locally available natural gravel was no longer suitable. MRC was also able to upgrade four internal roads at Kintore that were much in need of re-gravelling, including Kempurarrpa Street, Miyarrpa Street, Lampinytja Street and Tjunarriti Road.

Grading of unsealed internal and outstation roads by the MRC grader team (made up of 100 per cent Indigenous staff) was completed based on their annual program as well as urgent works that were required.



ABOVE: Work in progress for the Kintore Access Road



ABOVE: Completed Kintore Access Road

#### Waste management facility capital upgrades

The Plant Operator Team has undertaken significant capital upgrades to our waste management facilities at Areyonga, Amoonguna and Hermannsburg this year. The works include constructing new landfill trenches, covering existing trenches and rehabilitating the sites. The team utilise heavy equipment including our prime mover and float, 20 tonne excavator, 15 tonne loader and a large tipper. Through their recent experience they have become highly skilled at this specialist work and are an invaluable asset to MRC in achieving consistent waste management practices.



ABOVE: Hermannsburg WMF - March 2020



ABOVE: Hermannsburg WMF - September 2020

#### Key challenges

The challenges of COVID-19 meant that MRC experienced significant delays with mobilising Alice Springs-based staff and contractors to carry out essential works. MRC acted swiftly to secure travel permits for the Plant Operator team and contractors working on the Kintore Access Road upgrade, which helped minimise downtime. Weather conditions play a large part in the maintenance requirements for all of our unsealed roads. Recent lack of rainfall during the reporting period has meant that many roads have deteriorated and literally blown away, leaving underlying pavement exposed. This has meant that our Grader team have had to find material as best they can to make repairs but additionally surfaces are left vulnerable to even further deterioration when rainfall eventuates.

Keeping our graders and team on the road and working to program is always challenging. Often what seems like a small problem can keep a machine off the road for some time, significantly disrupting production. Mechanical parts are often not readily available and have to be imported from other states or from overseas which can impose significant delays on repair. The other factor which has an impact is team absences at short notice. If a team member misses the day when the other team members travel to the work location, then it can effect production for the whole week.

### **Project Management**

The Technical Services team deliver projects across a wide range of MRC functions. The largest project that is underway is the re-development of the MRC office at Bagot St. Significant work has gone into the design and tender stages that concluded in May; the construction commenced in June. MPH is the local Alice Springs builder that won the tender and they are on track to complete the project in February 2021. This project is funded by MRC and CDRC (the joint owners of the site) and we have been fortunate to have received \$1.5m grant funding from NTG via the *Strategic Local Government Infrastructure Fund*.



ABOVE: Design for Bagot St re-development

This year we were also fortunate to receive significant NTG Sport and Recreation funds to deliver projects in 5 of our communities. The projects included basketball courts with large steel canopies at Papunya, Amoonguna and Haasts Bluff as well as football oval lights at Docker River and a softball diamond upgrade at Mt Liebig.



ABOVE: Amoonguna basketball court



ABOVE: Papunya basketball court

#### **Swimming Pools**

Successful operations of the 3 MRC pools was achieved during the season this year with no major interruptions. Many community based pool assistants were employed to work at the pools and they helped make the season as success. Entry fees were charged for the second year to patrons; this has been now been accepted by community members as a way to contribute to the operations of the pools.



ABOVE: Areyonga pool



ABOVE: Kintore pool

# **Community Services**

The Community Services directorate delivers intentional, sustainable, community-led services that seek to positively impact the lives of our residents. Services include aged and disability services, children's services, community safety, and youth services across 12 of our remote communities. These programs are delivered by our team of 300 dedicated staff, of which approximately 83% are Aboriginal.

Our Community Services programs are culturally sensitive programs that meet the needs of community residents, through innovative service delivery models. We are committed to investing in our local Aboriginal staff and seeing them progress into senior roles within the organisation.

### Aged and Disability Services

Our Aged and Disability Service, known as MacCare, delivers services in eight of our remote communities. Through a person-centred approach, MacCare supports clients to live in their own communities and provides choice and flexibility in the way their care and services are delivered.

Services include personal care, meals, transport, domestic assistance and social activities to assist clients to connect with their community.

The service also delivers a School Nutrition Program in five remote communities within the region, promoting health, contributing to school attendance and achieving positive educational outcomes.

Programs delivered by Aged and Disability Services in 2019/20 include:

- Commonwealth Home Care Packages funded by the Commonwealth Department of Health (to 31 October 2020)
- National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Flexible Aged Care Program - funded by the Commonwealth Department of Health (from 1 November 2019)
- Commonwealth Home Support Program funded by the Commonwealth Department of Health
- School Nutrition Program funded by the National Indigenous Australians Agency
- National Disability Insurance Scheme Services– funded through a feefor-service model.



ABOVE: Titjikala MacCare bush trip

#### **Key achievements**

- 92 elderly community members supported to live in their community
- 4 community members living with a disability supported to live in their community.
- 37,112 meals delivered
- 1,468 transports provided
- 2,600 hours of domestic care provided
- 390 hours of personal care provided
- 3,381 hours of social support provided
- 85 per cent Aboriginal employment.
- 47,766 meals were delivered through the school nutrition program

From 1 November 2019 MacCare transitioned to funding under the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Flexible Aged Care program, this change has allowed for improvements to services to clients while securing the financial viability of the aged care program through to June 2023.

Renovations were completed at 3 of our 8 sites under the Aged Care Regional, Rural and Remote Infrastructure Grant awarded in 2018. A further 3 sites will have works completed under the grant in the coming year.

MRC applied for funding through the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Flexible Aged Care program Bi-annual grant round and has been awarded funds to upgrade much of its existing service delivery equipment, as well as further renovations to each of the 8 sites.

Our Aged and Disability service in Finke underwent auditing by the National Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission in November 2019. The service met all reviewed criteria.

#### Key challenges

MacCare has undergone significant preparation and planning in response to the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic. As many of our clients rely on our service provision to meet their daily needs, many activities of the service

were identified as critical and contingency planning undertaken for the case that the service is directly impacted.

The National Aged Care Quality Standards changed 1 July 2019 and several operational changes were required to be implemented to achieve compliance with the revised standards. Some support for the implementation was provided through Commonwealth Department of Health, with the implementation requiring changes to MRC policy and procedures, training for MRC staff, and education for clients and carers.

The rollout of support to disability clients under the National Disability Insurance Scheme has continued to be difficult with a lack of suppliers of Coordination of Supports effecting client's ability to access and apply their full funding allocation.



ABOVE: Titjikala MacCare staff and clients

### Children's Services

Children's Services programs, known on community as MacKids, delivers Early Learning programs for children from birth to school age, in ten of MRC's remote communities.

The Early Learning program is play-based and reflective of children's interests, abilities, and culture. The programs' operational hours vary between 6 to 8.5 hours, dependent on the needs of working families in each community. However, our programs are open to all children under school age and we encourage all families to access our quality early learning programs. We encourage families to stay and be involved with their child's learning if possible, as this provides parents with opportunities to build on their skills in supporting continued learning in the home environment.

Programs delivered by MacKids in 2019/2020 were:

 Early Learning Program – funded by the Commonwealth Department of Education, Skills and Employment

#### **Key achievements**

- 115,360 hours of childcare and Early Learning programs delivered
- 409 children accessed the Early Learning programs across the ten centres
- 86% Aboriginal employment
- 30% of families have successfully completed their registration for the Child Care Subsidy, with support from MacKids staff
- 7 Educators are progressing through Certificate III Early Childhood Education, with one having completed the qualification this year

The Areyonga Early Learning team presented at the NT Early Childhood Education and Care on "Involving community in the Early Learning program to support culture".

The Areyonga Early Learning team was also a finalist in the NT Early Childhood Education and Care Awards in the category of Community Engagement. This nomination was a result of the hard work and commitment of the MacKids team in working collaboratively with a wide range of community stakeholders, in particular community elders.

MacKids teams in Areyonga, Hermannsburg, Kintore, Mount Liebig, Titjikala and Finke delivered combined events with MacCare and other Aged Care providers, promoting the sharing of cultural songs and stories between community elders and children.

Community Yarning circles were held in Haasts Bluff and Mount Liebig in conjunction with the National Association for Prevention of Child Abuse And Neglect (NAPCAN). The focus was on "Keeping Children Safe" and the community consultations have been invaluable in the continued development of programs across all communities that reflect local aspirations and culture.

All centres have worked closely with the local schools to ensure a positive transition to pre-school and primary school for children and their families.

Strong relationships have been developed with stakeholders such as Territory Families to ensure that we support families to keep children safe.

All services have continued to make significant progress towards the National Quality Standards (NQS) for Early Childhood Education and Care, meeting all agreed targets within their Quality improvement Plans. Staff have been engaged with both the NQS and the MacKids strategic objectives, strengthening the focus and commitment to quality Early Learning programs.

#### **Key challenges**

Under the Jobs for Families funding package, MacKids funding is partly dependent on families registering for the Child Care Subsidy scheme (CCS).

This has continued to require extensive work from MacKids staff to educate families about the process and the benefits of registering for the CCS.

COVID-19 resulted in the national suspension of the Child Care Subsidy (between March to June 2020) and parents/carers were not required to pay fees for children to attend childcare during this period. Attendances were greatly reduced during this period and COVID-19 restrictions made resourcing and supporting teams difficult, with staff looking to technology to find creative solutions to continue to provide support and training to teams.

### **Community Safety**

MacDonnell Regional Council's Community Safety Program, known as MacSafe, is delivered in 12 of the MRC's remote communities (no service in Wallace Rockhole).

MacSafe provides a proactive and preventative approach to divert Aboriginal people away from contact with the criminal justice system, increase personal and community safety, and support school attendance by transporting children home, or to a safe location at night.

MacSafe is a responsive service, working collaboratively with the community, NT Police, service providers and other stakeholders, to ensure a partnership approach to addressing issues that the community identify as impacting on the safety of residents.

Programs delivered by MacSafe in 2019/20 included:

- MacSafe Community Safety Service funded by the National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA) as a part of the Indigenous Advancement Strategy (IAS)
- Yarning Circles Program (Titjikala and Finke) funded by NT Department of Health

#### Key achievements

- 12,999 hours of Community Safety services were delivered across 12 communities.
- 98% Aboriginal employment.
- 30% female employment.
- 20,155 engagements with community residents, providing assistance with community safety issues.
- 14,991 engagements with young people, providing transport home or to a safe location at night.
- 2 Yarning Circles were upgraded and completed (Titjikala and Finke).
- 57 staff received language, literacy and numeracy training, as well as digital literacy training.



ABOVE: MacSafe training

MacSafe has taken a pro-active approach to improving the safety at large community events, particularly sports weekends and funerals. This involved working closely with community organisers from the early stages of the event planning process, and engaging with a wide range of stakeholders including other MRC services, AFL NT, NT Police, and the National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA).

During this year MacSafe teams from neighbouring communities travelled to other communities within the MRC region to support five community sports weekends and two major funerals.



ABOVE: BBQ at Finke Yarning Circle with Community Patrol and community

#### Key challenges

COVID-19 related restrictions implemented in March had a significant impact on the MacSafe service. Patrolling continued in all 12 communities, however transport was unable to be provided to community members due to physical distancing requirements. Services resumed transport from 8 June 2020.

Several training, community engagement and education events had to be cancelled due to COVID-19. The Building Stronger and Safer Communities workshops (scheduled for Finke, Santa Teresa, Hermannsburg and Mount Liebig, funded by the NT Department of Health) and the MacSafe Conference, were both rescheduled to 2020/21.

Local Authorities and community members have requested extended MacSafe service hours in many MRC communities. MacSafe has expanded service delivery in 6 of the 12 communities, however the lack of indexation to the program funding over the past 5 years makes this difficult to sustain and further expansion is not currently possible.

## Youth Services

Our Youth Service, known as MacYouth, delivers a range of innovative youth programs for young people aged 5 to 25 years, across nine communities throughout the MacDonnell region. MacYouth also delivers the Remote Sport Program in 3 additional communities.

Programs delivered by MacYouth in 2019/20 included:

- Youth Development Program funded by the National Indigenous Australians Agency
- Outside School Hours Learning Program funded by the National Indigenous Australians Agency
- Remote Sport Program funded by the NT Department of Tourism and Culture; Community Participation, Sport and the Arts Division
- Community Youth Diversion funded by the NT Department of Territory Families

- Volatile Substance Abuse Program (Kintore) funded by the NT Department of Health
- Youth Engagement Strategy (Papunya and Hermannsburg) funded by Central Australian Youth Link-Up Service
- Try Test and Learn funded by Central Australian Youth Link-Up Service
- Menstrual Hygiene Management funded by Central Australian Youth Link-Up Service
- Santa Teresa School Holiday funded by Atyenhenge Atherre Aboriginal Corporation, facilitating partner for Stronger Communities for Children Program
- Thirrilli Indigenous Suicide Prevention Forum attendance funded by the National Indigenous Australians Agency



ABOVE: Matthew Brumby from Titjikala showing his skill with a traditional tool he made at The Right Track camp delivered by MacYouth

#### Key achievements

- 13,097 hours of youth programming delivered across 9 communities (8,168 hours of sport and recreation, 1,404 hours of leadership and culture, 1,495 hours of safety and diversion, 1,384 hours of jobs education and training, 646 hours of staff development)
- 15 young people engaged per activity (on average)
- 21 young people supported through Youth Diversion, a preventative measure from entering the criminal justice system
- 64% Aboriginal employment
- 9 Youth Boards met regularly (active in each community where MRC is funded for the Youth Development Program through NIAA) providing emerging young leaders opportunity to guide youth programming, discuss community issues, and present agenda items to Local Authority meetings
- 91 young people supported through case management under the Right Track program
- 4 cultural camps delivered across the region engaging 44 young people at risk of entering the criminal justice system
- MacYouth staff attended the National Indigenous Youth Empowerment Summit, presenting to other youth service providers on 'Diversion through connections to Culture and Country'
- Supporting over 270 students into education pathways throughout this reporting period
- 60 boarding school students were supported by MacYouth staff while they were unable to return to their schools due to COVID-19 restrictions
- Modified youth programs were delivered throughout the COVID-19 restrictions, applying hygiene and physical distancing practices
- Online 'Virtual Sports Carnivals', opened opportunities for community members to compete in a range of sporting challenges across the MRC during COVID-19.
- 4 regional sports competitions delivered (Soccer, AFL 9's, Softball and Basketball).

• Hermannsburg, Mount Liebig, and Kintore youth represented MacYouth at the NT Softball Championship placing second, fourth and fifth.

MacYouth continued to partner with the Glen Iris Football Club (GIFC) in Victoria with 9 young people sponsored to visit Melbourne on an exchange tour, visiting boarding schools and football clubs. 3 female and 3 male youth from Papunya and Mount Liebig travelled to Melbourne this year, with the trip also including the opportunity to meet AFL players, watch an AFL game, and enjoy experiences such as surfing and seeing the sites of the city.



ABOVE: Jasmine Martin (left) and Natlin Petersen on the way to visit important cultural sites at The Right Track women's cultural camp at Karrinyarra.

MacYouth continued our commitment to training and developing staff, delivering a 4 day workshop at Ross River Resort for over fifty staff, on reactive strategies for behavioural management, umpiring and coaching, trauma informed practice, and child safety. MacYouth partnered with Central Australian Youth Link-Up Service (CAYLUS) to deliver the 'Try, Test and Learn – Meeting the Youth Gap' program. The program is innovative, providing opportunities for youth to be employed and supported with training in a wide range of work practices and life skills. The goal of this program is to reduce long term dependence on welfare and increase the number of skilled workers across the MacDonnell region.



ABOVE: Sitting with Elders learning about culture at The Right Track women's cultural camp at Karrinyarra.

#### **Key challenges**

COVID-19 impacted heavily on the delivery of Youth Services between March and June 2020, with the range and type of programs limited as result of COVID-19 restrictions. Risk assessments were conducted on all activities and modified services continued to be delivered, with MacYouth staff also supporting other critical community services during this challenging period.

# **Corporate Services**

The Corporate Services directorate provides professional support to MRC's service delivery across the region through the provision of administrative, information technology (IT), human resources (HR), accounting and finance, customer services, insurance and risk and governance and planning services.

The activities of the Corporate Services directorate ensure that Council and its 13 Local Authorities have a strong governance framework and are compliant with the *Local Government Act 2008*, other relevant legislation and related regulations and guidelines. This is achieved by good regional planning. Consistent and accurate secretariat support for Council and Local Authority meetings, training for Councillors and Local Authority members, and the development and review of a wide range of policies to guide MRC operations and services in communities. Strong human resource practices, financial management and reporting systems, and IT management, enable and provide critical support for these operations and services.

In 2019/20 financial year the corporate services directorate continued with number of projects which include records management, HR, and IT projects. These will gain momentum in 2020/21 and strategies identified through these projects will become part of MRC's regional plan KPI's in 2020/21 and 2021/22 with the view of strengthening Corporate Services' capability on service excellence, employee and community satisfaction, and sustainable operations. Accounting and finance staff continued to strive to manage the

MRC's finances through regular reviews of the budgets, accounting systems and processes.

### Human Resources

The Human Resources department of MacDonnell Regional Council manages recruitment, employee staffing records, inductions, performance management, employee relations, training and development, exit processes, HR policy and procedure development, work health and safety and employee wellbeing.

As at 30 June 2020, the MRC had a total of 446 employees with demographic breakdowns per gender, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (ATSI) origin and employment category are indicated below:

Staff	number	percentage
Male	226	50.7
Female	220	49.3
Total	446	
ATSI	337	75.6
Non ATSI	109	24.4
Full Time	157	35.2
Part Time	157	35.2
Casual	132	29.6

MRC has 375 staff members based in communities, with 87% of those roles occupied by Aboriginal staff. The MRC is a very significant and consistent employer of Aboriginal people.

#### Key achievements

The Human Resources team made significant progress in 2019/20 in implementing the Council approved Workforce Development Plan. Key achievements included:

**Induction Review:** review of induction process completed with a new central induction process developed and implemented. An on-line community based induction developed for piloting.

Annual Performance Review and Development policy and process implemented: Supervisor training undertaken. MRC values capability framework developed for use in annual performance review and probation processes. Guidelines and developed and implemented to better support the process.

**Policy Review and Development:** Significant HR Policy development has taken place - 9 policies developed and approved; 6 procedures/guides developed. A Special Measures Policy was developed to support MRC's employment of Aboriginal staff.

**Learning management system (LMS):** An LMS project has developed to the pilot implementation stage with the LMS containing course content developed by MRC and also content provided from external sources.

MRC managed to maintain a high percentage of Aboriginal staff, with 87% of community based roles occupied by Aboriginal staff. There a seven (7) Aboriginal staff in Council Service Coordinator roles. The total of Aboriginal employees above entry level roles continues to have an upward trend - 63 in 2016/7, 72 in 2017/8, 79 in 2018/19 and 89 in 2019/20.

A total of 160 employees left MRC during the period under review, while 123 new employees were hired.

In relation to Work Health and Safety (WHS) a key focus has been ensuring that MRC has in place good risk management, guidelines and

communication for staff related to COVID-19. The WHS team supported the development of COVID guidelines including related to a Covid safe workplace, working from home and travel approval requirements.

WH&S incident reporting was another key focus are during 2019/20 and a summary of incidents reported is presented below: There were 132 incidents reported in the 2019/2020 financial year.

- Community Services 94 incidents
- Corporate Services 3 incidents
- Technical Services 15 incidents
- Service Delivery 20 incidents

Risks that are of note for MacDonnell Regional Council are:

- Vehicle use and driving in remote locations
- Property damage incidents
- Psychosocial hazards associated with working in community

MRC continued to support workers in achieving qualifications and certificates, especially around Work Health and Safety related training:

- Twenty-two staff members completed 4WD training
- Five staff members completed White Card training
- Five staff members completed Warden training
- Two staff members completed First Aid training

#### Key challenges

Key challenges for Human Resources remain the attraction and retention of skilled candidates, particularly Essential Services Officer, Team Leader and Coordinator positions. Recruiting for community based positions is a challenge given the remoteness of our communities.

The development and implementation of a comprehensive WH&S management system remains a key challenge for MRC and this will be a core focus for 2021/22.

### Governance and Engagement

Two small teams deliver governance, policy, customer service, communications and engagement. This brings together varied Corporate Services functions.

The governance team ensures the organisation's compliance through legislative, statutory, policy and delivery obligations. The team specifically provides secretariat support to Council and its 13 Local Authorities as well as stewardship to the development of MRC and operational policies, procedures and supporting documents.

An engagement team provides the organisation's communications, internally for the workforce and externally for stakeholders through selected media channels. Along with facilitating the organisation's planning and reporting processes, the team rolls out community engagement activities that support an understanding relationship between community residents, MRC services, Councillors and Local Authority members.

#### **Key achievements**

The 2019/20 financial year saw the organisation's first dedicated community engagement program established. The existing communications position was expanded and supported by a new officer position to deliver on revised organisational directions and new Regional Plan strategies aimed at understanding and supporting empowered communities.

While engagement practices address long term planning and delivery, the new team instigated an ambitious survey program to engage 10% of community

members and to establish the holding of outdoor Local Authority meetings to more broadly engage each community. Both strategies could not meet targets fully due to the travel restrictions implemented to contain the coronavirus, but are being continued through the new Regional Plan.



ABOVE: Giselle Barku (left) contributes to the Kintore master plan in the Local Authority meeting with assistance from Phyllis Rose

After an external consultant began developing a new policy framework, the appointment of a full time officer position has enabled framework details to be finalised and its rigorous schedule of policy development and renewal to continue. At the same time preparations were underway for the introduction of the new *Local Government Act 2019*, scheduled for the start of the new financial year were delayed by 12 months due to the travel restrictions implemented to contain the coronavirus.

Of the Local Authority meetings scheduled to be held during this financial year, 87% were held successfully. Predominantly, meetings cancelled were a result of sorry business affecting the community with an alternate meeting time not being possible.

Communities	Am	Ar	Do	Fi	Ha	He	lm	Ki	Mt	Pa	Sa	Ti	Wa
Jul-Sep 2019	Q	Q	Q	Q	x	Q	Q	Q	x	Q	Q	Q	x
Oct-Dec 2019	Q	Q	Q	р	р	Q	Q	р	р	Q	Q	Q	Q
Jan-Mar 2020	Q	Q	Q	Q	Q	Q	Q	Q	Q	Q	x	x	x
Apr-Jun 2020	Q	Q	Q	Q	р	x	Q	Q	Q	Q	Q	Q	Q
Legend	Q	Quo	rum	р	Prov	visiona	al	x	Cano	celled			

#### Local Authority meetings held 2019/20

The travel restrictions that were implemented to contain the coronavirus for the period 26 March to 5 June 2020 (closely reflecting the Apr-Jun 2020 quarter) improved our ratios of meetings held. The table above shows the outcome of scheduled meetings by communities (shown alphabetically not chronologically) throughout the financial year as: 77% Quorum, 10% Provisional and 13% cancelled.

While the Apr-Jun quarter shows an improved meetings ratios: 84% Quorum, 8% Provisional and 8% cancelled.

During travel restrictions sorry business was mostly postponed as mourners were not able to travel between communities. This also contained Local Authority members in their communities and the holding of audio-visual conferencing meetings was prioritised across the organisation.

#### Key challenges

A previous restructure in the department had brought about a rebuild that started the financial year at about a third of staff capacity. This was built upon while maintaining and developing existing organisational targets to secure 100% capacity by the end of the reporting year.

While good planning saw preparations and timely starts to conclude annual targets in the cooler final quarter of the financial year, engagement activities were adversely affected by the travel restrictions implemented to contain the coronavirus. These challenges were observed early during restrictions and were successfully accounted for in the new Regional Plan.



ABOVE: (left to right) Terrence Abbott, Gareth Lea (standing), Dalton McDonald and Tommy Conway in discussion at the Papunya Local Authority meeting

## Information Technology

The Information Technology department manages the MRC's information and communications technology across its 14 locations (13 remote communities and the Alice Springs office). This includes ensuring connectivity through close relations with providers such as Telstra Activ8me, iinet and CouncilBiz, MRC's computer network provider; and continuous enhancement of the IT operating environment through equipment improvements while reducing capital and ongoing costs.

#### **Key achievements**

Modernisation of operational systems and computer equipment at the Alice Springs Office and Community Offices. Standardisation of ICT Operating environment, computers, monitors and printers in all major office spaces.

Network Configuration of Meraki Routers and Switches has vastly increased response for outages, Papunya New Office is complete and fully operational. Data Sources are 4G Wifi integrated and Fibre Backhaul. Fibre to the building planned which will improve the connectivity

The Federal Government/Telstra implemented communications black spot program has seen improvements to our community communications and mobile coverage.

Mobile coverage under the Black Spot program:

• Amoonguna, Docker River, Hermannsburg, Papunya, Mount Liebig, Kintore, Santa Teresa, Titjikala and Wallace Rockhole currently have Mobile Coverage at the commencement of 2019.

Mobile Black spot upgrade plan for remainder of communities is listed below:

 Areyonga – Not Listed – Mobile coverage not available (Mainly due to the location of the community, investigations for improvements to connectivity are still ongoing

- Finke Mobile Tower construction had commenced but due to COVID 19 restrictions on Telstra staff has been delayed – Completion was first advised as End August-September 2020 however this has been extended – Estimated time of completion is unknown now
- Haasts Bluff Delays etc below have put Haasts Bluff behind and at this stage I have not been advised of a commencement date.
- Imanpa Tower and links have been installed however operational capacity is still in the reduced stages and will be online at the same time as Finke

Staff Houses Internet Connectivity:

 Staff Houses at Papunya and Hermannsburg are connected by Telstra landline and ADSL services for internet. The remainder of the communities remain on Satellite Connections installed under the NBN program. Individuals have the option to increase or decrease their plans however they are required to pay for the extra data. Staff are required to pay for their network connectivity on a Monthly basis.

Video Conferencing:

 Video Conferencing equipment is being upgraded in communities to support remote access. Satellite only sites are having major issues with Network Speeds and Quality of video links. This is a five year plan to fix but it relies heavily on the Infrastructure and Backhauls to be compatible.

#### Records:

 The records management system has been fully updated and are online. This will complete a very long process and the challenge ahead is to train our staff to utilise these programs to their fullest capacity. Infocouncil and Magiq are now operational for Alice Springs Office staff and will be rolled out to Community Office staff in the near future. This project is complete.

#### **Key challenges**

The vast distances of the geographic area of the MacDonnell Regional Council and staff turnover still manages to challenge the IT department. With the implementation of Meraki equipment and online help tools (Teamviewer) the down time of equipment and services has decreased immensely. However this does not negate the requirement to travel to community to repair or install equipment and the weather is still a contributing factor for timeframes. Of note is the new Councilbiz configuration plan which must be agreed to by all councils to get the services and frameworks required to rectify our connectivity issues.

### Finance

The Finance department ensures that MRC income, payments and financial reporting is done in a timely and accountable manner. The Finance department manage all payments and receipts across the 14 offices of the MRC, as well as the acquittal of all grant money received.

The MacDonnell Regional Council finished the year with an operating surplus of \$1,780,497. This includes:

 \$1,728,062 of MRC net surplus plus \$52,435 unexpended grant in reserve. MRC's Operating surplus reduced by \$4.9M due application of AASB 1058.

#### Impact of AASB 1058 and AASB 15

Current year Unearned Grant Income and Grant Received in Advance increased by \$10M and unexpended Grant reserve in Equity reduced by \$10M. All grants not spent by the end of financial year are recognised as liability except Federal Assistance Grant funding is classified as untied funds. Untied funds as recognised as unexpended grants reserve under equity section.

#### Impact of AASB 16

Application of AASB has result in recognition of MRC's leases cost greater than 12 months as Lease Asset (Right-to-Use) and Lease Liability.

Right-to-use asset is \$1.4M

Lease Liability (current) is \$360K

Lease Liability (non-current) is \$1.09M

At the end of the 2019/20 financial year the MRC holds \$2.62 in current assets for every \$1 owed in current liabilities including the unexpended grant (Current ratio). The result provides a clear indication that MRC is in a good position to pay its debts when due.

Current ratio = Current assets ÷ (Current liabilities + unexpended grants reserve)

Grant funding received during the financial year, but which remains unspent at year end is included in the statement of financial position referenced unearned Grant Income and Grants received in Advance. During the 2019/20 financial year the unearned Grant income and Grant received in advance, included in the statement of financial position is \$7,475,651 and \$3,080,397 respectively.

#### **Key challenges**

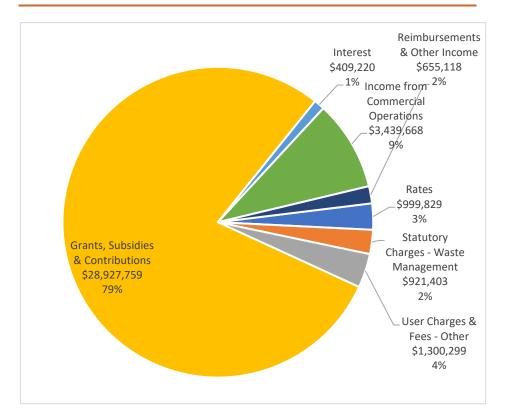
The income from grants and subsidies in 2019/20 is 79% of total revenue and was offset by a significant increase in self-generated funds. This area

continues to be a challenge and unless the decline is reversed it could leave MRC once again being at risk of being reliant on too few income streams.

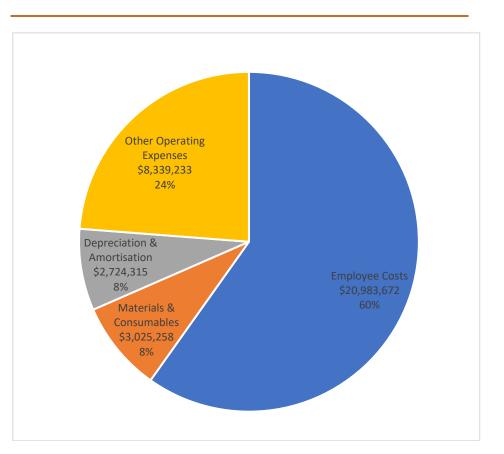
The MRC accumulated depreciation ratio is 81% meaning the MRC existing fixed assets are worth around 19% the original value. Low ratio mean that the assets have plenty of life in them and high ratio means the opposite. However, this financial ratio is relative to the MRC line of business and industry standards.

Accumulated depreciation to fixed assets ratio = Accumulated depreciation  $\div$  (Fixed assets – Lands)

#### Source of Income 2019/20



#### Source of Expenditure 2019/20



# General Purpose Financial Report

MacDonnell Regional Council General Purpose Financial Reports for Year Ending 30 June 2020



# **General Purpose Financial Reports**

for

# Year Ended 30 June 2020

2019|20 Annual Report of the MacDonnell Regional Council | page 54

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#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S CERTIFICATE For the Year Ended 30th June 2020

I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge, information and belief:

- a) The Financial Statements have been properly drawn up in accordance with the applicable Australian Accounting Standards, the Local Government Act, and the Local Government (Accounting) Regulations so as to present fairly the financial position of the Council and the results for year ended 30 June 2020, and;
- b) The Financial Statements are in accordance with the accounting and other records of the Council, and
- c) There are reasonable grounds to believe that the Council will be able to pay its debts when they become due and payable.

9-10-2020

Date

Chief Executive Officer



#### Independent audit report to the Chief Executive Officer of MacDonnell Regional Council

#### Opinion

We have audited the accompanying general purpose financial report of MacDonnell Regional Council ("the Council"), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2020, and the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year ended on that date, a summary of significant accounting policies, other explanatory notes and the Chief Executive Officer's Certificate.

In our opinion, the financial report of MacDonnell Regional Council is in accordance with the *Northern Territory Local Government Act*, including:

- (a) giving a true and fair view of the financial position of MacDonnell Regional Council as at 30 June 2020 and of the Council's performance for the year ended on that date; and
- (b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations) and the *Local Government (Accounting) Regulations.*

#### Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report.

We are independent of the Council in accordance with the *Northern Territory Local Government Act 2008* and the ethical requirements of the *Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the 'Code') that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Emphasis of Matter – COVID-19 Pandemic Impact

We draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the Council. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

# The Responsibility of the Chief Executive Officer and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Report

The Chief Executive Officer ("CEO") of the Council is responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Northern Territory Local Government Act* and for such internal control as the CEO determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the CEO is responsible for assessing the Council's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the Council or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Council's financial reporting process.

#### Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Council's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the CEO.

- Conclude on the appropriateness of the CEO's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on Council's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Council to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with management regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Merit Partners

Merit Partners

In-h-

MunLi Chee Partner

DARWIN

9 October 2020

#### STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME For the Year Ended 30 June 2020

	Natas	2020	2019
	Notes	\$	\$
INCOME			
Rates		999,829	918,751
Statutory Charges - Waste Management		921,403	872,276
User Charges & Fees - Other	3a	1,300,299	1,102,686
Grants, Subsidies & Contributions	3b	28,927,759	31,867,447
Interest		409,220	559,192
Income from Commercial Operations	3c	3,439,668	3,104,598
Reimbursements & Other Income	3d	655,118	663,370
Total Income		36,653,296	39,088,320
EXPENSES			
Employee Costs	4a	20,983,672	20,191,132
Materials & Consumables	4b	3,025,258	3,605,458
Depreciation & Amortisation	4c	2,724,315	2,097,553
Other Operating Expenses	4d	8,339,233	6,919,281
Total Expenditure		35,072,478	32,813,424
OPERATING SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)		1,580,818	6,274,896
Net Gain from Disposal of Property, Plant & Equipment	5	199,679	194,766
NET SURPLUS		1,780,497	6,469,662
Other Comprehensive Income		-	-
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME		1,780,497	6,469,662

#### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION At 30 June 2020

		2020	2019
	Notes	\$	\$
	0	0 700 740	0 740 000
Cash on Hand & at Bank	6	6,790,746	3,749,986
Short-Term Deposits	11	21,500,000	23,500,000
Trade & Other Receivables	7	936,636	947,208
Inventories	8	78,045	53,852
		29,305,427	28,251,046
NON CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, Plant & Equipment	9	8,013,185	6,606,845
Right-of-Use Assets	9,1	1,416,197	-
		9,429,382	6,606,845
Capital Work In Progress	9,1	1,734,379	1,757,019
		11,163,761	8,363,864
TOTAL ASSETS		40,469,188	36,614,910
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Payables & Accruals	10a	1,954,783	1,777,289
Employee Benefits	10b	2,056,873	1,727,273
Unearned Grant Income	12,1	7,475,651	-
Grants Received in Advance	12,1	3,080,397	-
Lease Liabilities	10c,1	360,786	-
	100,1	14,928,490	3,504,562
NON CURRENT LIABILITIES		500.000	555 000
Employee Benefits	10b	592,326	555,029
Lease Liabilities	10c,1	1,069,269	-
		1,661,595	555,029
TOTAL LIABILITIES		16,590,086	4,059,591
NET ASSETS		23,879,102	32,555,319
EQUITY			
Unexpended Grants Reserve	12,1	2,384,988	12,789,267
Accumulated Funds	12,1	20,442,716	18,714,654
Future Works Reserve	14	1,051,398	1,051,398
TOTAL EQUITY		23,879,102	32,555,319

#### STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY For the Year Ended 30 June 2020

	Ended 50 June 2020	2020	2019
	Notes	\$	\$
Unexpended Grants Reserve			
Unexpended Grants Reserve at Beginning of the year		12,789,267	7,028,521
Transfers To Reserve from Accumulated Surplus			5,760,746
Unexpended Grants Reserve at End of the year Less: Adjustment on adoption of AASB 15	12	12,789,267	12,789,267
& AASB 1058	1	(10,456,714)	-
Transfer From Accumulated surplus unexepended gran movement	t	52,435	-
Unexpended Grants Reserve, as adjusted		2,384,988	12,789,267
Future Works Reserve			
Future Works Reserve at Beginning of the year		1,051,398	700,703
Transfer To / (From) Reserve		-	350,695
Future Works Reserve at End of the year	14	1,051,398	1,051,398
Accumulated Surplus			
Accumulated Surplus at Beginning of the year		18,714,654	18,400,754
Net Surplus / (Deficit)		1,780,497	6,469,662
Other Comprehensive Income		-	-
Transfer To / (From) Unexpended Grants Reserve		(52,435)	(5,760,746)
Transfer To / (From) Unexpended Grants Reserve		-	(350,695)
Minor prior period adjustment		-	(44,321)
Accumulated Surplus at End of the year		20,442,716	18,714,654
Total Equity		23,879,102	32,555,319

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS For the Year Ended 30 June 2020

Notes	2020 \$	2019 \$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Receipts		
Rates	999,829	918,751
Statutory Charges - Waste Management	921,403	872,276
User Charges & Fees - Other	1,142,141	1,367,611
Grants, Subsidies & Contributions	29,536,397	32,400,989
Income from Commercial Operations	3,021,294	2,499,082
Reimbursements & Other Income	575,435	1,381,940
Payments		
Employee Costs	(19,805,041)	(20,484,441)
Materials & Consumables	(2,736,977)	(3,607,421)
Other Operating Expenses	(9,715,494)	(6,963,749)
Net Cash provided by (or used in) Operating Activities 11	3,938,985	8,385,038
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Receipts		
Interest	409,221	559,192
Sale of Replaced Property, Plant, Equipment & Vehicles	193,848	175,487
Sale of Surplus Property, Plant, Equipment & Vehicles	5,831	19,297
Payments		
Purchase of Replacement Property, Plant, Equipment &		
Vehicles	(2,515,002)	(2,092,123)
Payments for Capital work in progress	(586,800)	(1,667,944)
Net Cash (Used In) Provided By Investing Activities	(2,492,903)	(3,006,091)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Payments Repayments of lease liabilities	(405,322)	
Repayments of lease habilities	(+00,022)	
Net Cash (Used In) Provided By Financing Activities	(405,322)	-
Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash Held	1,040,761	5,378,947
Cash & Cash Equivalents at Beginning of the Reporting Period	27,249,986	21,871,039
Cash & Cash Equivalents at End of the Reporting Period 11	28,290,746	27,249,986

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2020

#### **1 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

#### **Basis of preparation**

The financial report is a general purpose report, which has been prepared in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations, the requirements of the Local Government Act, the Local Government (Accounting) Regulations, and other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board.

The financial report has been prepared on the basis of historical cost and except where stated, does not take into account changing money values or current valuations of non-current assets. Cost is based on the fair values of the consideration given in exchange for assets.

#### Date of authorisation for issue

The date the financial statements were authorised for issue is as shown on the Chief Executive Officer's Certificate.

#### **Critical accounting estimates**

In the application of the Australian Accounting Standards management is required to make judgments, estimates and assumptions about carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstance, the results of which form the basis of making the judgments. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis.

Judgments made by management in the application of the Australian Accounting Standards that have significant effects on the financial statements and estimates with a significant risk of material adjustments in the next year are disclosed, where applicable, in the relevant notes to the financial statements.

Accounting policies are selected and applied in a manner which ensures that the resulting financial information satisfies the concepts of relevance and reliability, thereby ensuring that the substance of the underlying transactions or other events is reported.

Because the major assets and liabilities are carried at historical cost, there are no key assumptions concerning the future, and other key sources of estimation uncertainty at the balance sheet date, that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

#### Rounding

All amounts in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest dollar.

#### The Local Government reporting entity

MacDonnell Regional Council (MRC) is a not-for-profit local government authority incorporated under the Local Government Act of the Northern Territory of Australia. The principal place of business and registered address of MRC is:

Level 2/16 Hartley Street, Alice Springs, NT, 0870.

All funds through which MRC controls resources to carry on its functions have been included in the financial statements forming part of this financial report.

In the process of reporting on the local government as a single unit, all balances between activities have been eliminated.

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2020

#### **1 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES CONTINUES**

#### CouncilBiz

MRC is a member of CouncilBiz, a local subsidiary operating under the auspices of the Local Government Act (NT). The other members are Barkly, Central Desert, East Arnhem, Roper Gulf, Tiwi Islands, Victoria Daly, West Arnhem and West Daly Regional Councils and the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory.

CouncilBiz provides an Information Technology support service and charges its members on a user-pays basis based on a formula agreed to by all members.

Under the terms and conditions of CouncilBiz Constitution, the debts and liabilities of CouncilBiz are guaranteed by the members in equal shares or on the basis of the formula agreed by the members.

The CouncilBiz Constitution also provides that all income and property, however derived, must be applied solely towards promoting their objectives.

Upon the dissolution of CouncilBiz, the amount that remains after such dissolution and the settlement of all debts and liabilities shall be transferred to another organisation, as agreed to by the members, with similar purpose and with similar rules prohibiting the distribution of assets and income to its members.

Information regarding CouncilBiz can be found on MRC's Web Site: www.macdonnell.nt.gov.au

#### Income tax

MRC is not subject to income tax. The Council is tax exempt under Sec 50-25 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997, being a local governing body

#### **Revenue recognition**

Revenue from contracts with customers is recognised when control of the goods or services are transferred to the customer at an amount that reflects the consideration to which the Council expects to be entitled in exchange for those goods or services. Performance obligations may be completed at a point in time or over time.

#### **Rates and levies**

Rates are recognised at the commencement of rating period. Rates over paid at the reporting period are classified as current liability.

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2020

#### **1 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES CONTINUES**

#### Grants and other contributions

Grants revenue is recognised at fair value exclusive of the amount of GST. Until 30 June 2019, grant revenue and other non-reciprocal contributions were recognised as revenue when the Council obtains control over the asset comprising the contribution, which was normally obtained on receipt.

From 1 July 2019, where a grant agreement is enforceable and has sufficiently specific performance obligations for the Council to transfer goods or services to the grantor or a third party beneficiary, the transaction is accounted for under AASB 15. In this case, revenue is initially deferred as a contract liability when received in advance and recognised as or when the performance obligations are satisfied.

Where grant agreements do not meet criteria above, it is accounted for under AASB 1058 and income is recognised on receipt of funding except for capital grants revenue received for the purchase or construction of non-financial assets to be controlled by the Council. Capital grants with enforceable contracts and sufficiently specific obligations are recognised as an unearned grant income liability when received and subsequently recognised progressively as revenue as or when the Council satisfies its obligations under the agreement. Where a non-financial asset is purchased, revenue is recognised at the point in time the asset is acquired and control transfers to the Council.

Government appropriation and untied grants are recognised in the profit or loss at the time of their receipt.

#### **Rendering of Services**

Until 30 June 2019, revenue from rendering services was recognised by reference to the stage of completion of the contract. From 1 July 2019, revenue from rendering of services is recognised when the Council satisfies the performance obligation by transferring the promised services. The Council typically satisfies its performance obligations when:

the amount of revenue, stage of completion and transaction costs incurred can be reliably measured and
 it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the Council.

#### Fees and Other charges

Other revenue includes fees for services provided to community and other organisations. These fees charged for providing ongoing services are recognised as income over the period the service is provided.

#### Interest and dividends

Interest received from term deposits is accrued over the term of the investment. No dividends were received during the reporting period.

#### **Economic dependency**

A significant proportion of the Council's revenue is derived from Government grants.

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2020

#### **1 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES CONTINUES**

#### Financial Instruments:

(i) Initial recognition and measurement

Financial assets are recognised when the Council becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. For financial assets this is the equivalent to the date that the Council commits itself to either the purchase or sale of the asset (i.e. trade date accounting is adopted).

Financial assets (except for trade receivables) are initially measured at fair value plus directly attributable transaction costs, except where the instrument is classified "at fair value through profit or loss", in which case transaction costs are expensed to profit or loss immediately. Where available, quoted prices in an active market are used to determine fair value. In other circumstances, valuation techniques are adopted.

Trade receivables are initially measured at the transaction price if the trade receivables do not contain significant financing component.

(ii) Subsequent measurement

Financial assets are subsequently measured at:

- amortised cost (Loans & receivables and investments);
- fair value through Statement of Comprehensive Income; or
- fair value through Other Comprehensive Income.

Financial liabilities are subsequently measured at:

- amortised costs; or
- fair value through Statement of Comprehensive Income.

The Council does not have any financial assets and liabilities fair value through other comprehensive income.

Trade receivables are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method, net of any provision for expected credit losses. Whereas, trade payables are subsequently measured at amortised costs using the effective interest rate method.

(iii) Derecognition

Financial assets are derecognised when the contractual rights to receipt of cash flows expires or the asset is transferred to another party whereby the Council no longer has any significant continuing involvement in the risks and benefits associated with the asset. Financial liabilities are derecognised when the related obligations are discharged, cancelled or have expired. The difference between the carrying amount of the financial liability extinguished or transferred to another party and the fair value of consideration paid, including the transfer of non-cash assets or liabilities assumed, is recognised in Statement of Comprehensive Income.

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2020

#### **1 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES CONTINUES**

#### (iv) Impairment

Impairment on trade and other receivables is reduced through the use of provision accounts, all other impairment losses on financial assets at amortised cost are taken directly to the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

#### Impairment Losses

The Council recognises an allowance for expected credit losses (ECLs) for trade and other receivables. ECLs are based on the difference between the contractual cash flows due in accordance with the contract and all the cash flows that the Council expects to receive, discounted at an approximation of the original effective interest rate. The expected cash flows will include cash flows from the sale of collateral held or other credit enhancements that are integral to the contractual terms.

ECLs are recognised in two stages. For credit exposures for which there has not been a significant increase in credit risk since initial recognition, ECLs are provided for credit losses that result from default events that are possible within the next 12-months (a 12-month ECL). For those credit exposures for which there has been a significant increase in credit risk since initial recognition, a loss allowance is required for credit losses expected over the remaining life of the exposure, irrespective of the timing of the default (a lifetime ECL).

For trade and other receivables, the Council applies a simplified approach in calculating ECLs. Therefore, the Council does not track changes in credit risk, but instead recognises a loss allowance based on lifetime ECLs at each reporting date. The Council has established a provision matrix that is based on its historical credit loss experience, adjusted for forward-looking factors specific to the debtors and the economic environment.

The Council considers a trade and other receivables in default when contractual payments are 30 days past due. However, in certain cases, the Council may also consider a financial asset to be in default when internal or external information indicates that the Council is unlikely to receive the outstanding contractual amounts in full before taking into account any credit enhancements held by the Council. A trade and other receivables is written off when there is no reasonable expectation of recovering the contractual cash flows.

#### Inventories

Finished goods are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Costs have been assigned to inventory on hand at balance date using the weighted average method.

#### Property, plant and equipment

Property, plant and equipment are recognised at cost. For assets acquired at no cost or nominal consideraton, cost is determined as fair value at the date of acquisition.

All non-current assets purchased or constructed are capitalised as the expenditure is incurred and depreciated as soon as the asset is held "ready for use". Cost is determined as the fair value of the assets given as consideration plus costs incidental to the acquisition, including architects' fees and engineering design fees and all other costs incurred. The cost of non-current assets constructed by the Council includes the cost of all materials used in construction and direct labour on the project.

At each reporting date, MRC reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible and intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any). Where the asset does not generate cash flows that are independent from other assets, MRC estimates the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs.

Recoverable amount is the higher of fair value less costs to sell and value in use. In assessing value in use, the

Where an impairment loss subsequently reverses, the carrying amount of the asset is increased to the revised

A reversal of an impairment loss is recognised immediately in profit or loss.

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Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2020

#### **1 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES CONTINUES**

#### Depreciation

Items of property, plant and equipment are depreciated over their estimated useful lives using the straight line method. The main rates used are:

Buildings	10%
Plant	20%
Motor vehicles	20%
Furniture and equipment	20%

#### **Capital Work in Progress**

Initial expenditures incurred for buildings under construction are capitalised as they are incurred and depreciation is commenced once the building is complete and ready for use.

#### Accounts payable

Trade payables and other accounts payable are recognised when MRC becomes obliged to make future payments resulting from the purchase of goods and services.

#### **Employee benefits**

Provision is made for benefits accruing to employees in respect of wages and salaries, annual leave, long service leave, and sick leave when it is probable that settlement will be required and they are capable of being measured reliably.

The current portion of employee benefits is the portion to which employees will become unconditionally entitled to within 12 months from balance date.

Provisions made in respect of wages and salaries, annual leave and other employee benefits expected to be settled within 12 months, are measured at their nominal values using the remuneration rate expected to apply at the time of settlement.

Provisions made in respect of other employee benefits which are not expected to be settled within 12 months are measured as the present value of the estimated future cash outflows to be made by MRC in respect of services provided by employees up to reporting date.

The superannuation expense for the reporting period is the amount of the contributions MRC makes to the superannuation plans which provide benefits to its employees plus provision for superannuation in respect of leave entitlements owed.

The Council does not have any employees who are members of defined benefit funds.

All superannuation schemes to which the Council makes contributions on behalf of employees are of the accumulation type, where the superannuation benefits accruing to the employee are represented by their share of the net assets of the scheme, and no further liability attaches to the Council.

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2020

#### **1 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES CONTINUES**

#### Provisions

Provisions are recognised when MRC has a present obligation (legal or constructive) as a result of a past event, it is probable that MRC will be required to settle the obligation, and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation.

The amount recognised as a provision is the best estimate of the consideration required to settle the present obligation at reporting date, taking into account the risks and uncertainties surrounding the obligation. Where a provision is measured using the cash flows estimated to settle the present obligation, its carrying amount is the present value of those cash flows.

#### Leases

#### Council as a lessee

The Council leases S19 Aboriginal lands and office accommodations. Lease contracts are typically made for fixed periods of 4 to 12 years, but may have extension options. Lease terms are negotiated on an individual basis and contain a wide range of different terms and conditions. The lease agreements do not impose any covenants. The Council does not provide residual value guarantees in relation to leases.

The Council has elected to recognise payments for short-term leases and low value leases as expenses on a straightline basis, instead of recognising a right-of-use asset and lease liability. Short-term leases are leases with a lease term of 12 months or less with no purchase option. Low value assets are assets with a fair value of \$10,000 or less when new and not subject to a sublease arrangement comprise mainly of office equipments.

Recognition and measurement (under AASB 16 from 1 July 2019)

The Council assesses at contract inception whether a contract is, or contains, a lease. That is, if the contract conveys the right to control the use of an identified asset for a period of time in exchange for consideration.

The Council recognises lease liabilities to make lease payments and right-of-use assets representing the right to use the underlying assets, except for short-term leases and leases of low-value assets.

The Council recognises right-of-use assets at the commencement date of the lease (the date the underlying asset is available for use). Right-of-use assets are initially measured at the amount of initial measurement of the lease liability, adjusted by any lease payments made at or before the commencement date and lease incentives, any initial direct costs incurred, and estimated costs of dismantling and removing the asset or restoring the site, if any.

Right-of-use assets are depreciated on a straight-line basis over the shorter of the lease term and the estimated useful lives of the assets, as follows:

\* Office Accommodation \* S19 Aboriginal Land

5 to 10 years 6 to 12 years

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2020

#### **1 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES CONTINUES**

If ownership of the leased asset transfers to the Council at the end of the lease term or the cost reflects the exercise of a purchase option, depreciation is calculated using the estimated useful life of the asset.

The right-of-use assets are subsequently measured applying the costs model adjusted. The right-of-use assets are subject to remeasurement principles consistent with the lease liability including indexation and market rent review that approximates fair value and only revalued where a trigger or event may indicate their carrying amount does not equal fair value.

Recognition and measurement (under AASB 117 until 30 June 2019) Operating lease payments are recognised as an operating expense in the comprehensive operating statement on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

#### Lease Liabilities

At the commencement date of the lease where the Council is the lessee, the Council recognises lease liabilities measured at the present value of lease payments to be made over the lease term. Lease payments may include fixed payments (including in substance fixed payments) less any lease incentives receivable and payments of penalties for terminating the lease, if the lease term reflects the entity exercising the option to terminate.

The lease payments are discounted using the interest rate implicit in the lease. If that rate cannot be readily determined, which is generally the case for the Council's leases, the weighted average incremental borrowing rate is used as the incremental borrowing rate.

After the commencement date, the amount of lease liabilities is increased to reflect the accretion of interest and reduced for the lease payments made. In addition, the carrying amount of lease liabilities is remeasured if there is a modification, a change in the lease term, a change in the lease payments (such as changes to future payments resulting from a change in an index or rate used to determine such lease payments) or a change in the assessment of an option to purchase the underlying asset.

Lease liabilities are determined in accordance with AASB 117 until 30 June 2019. From 1 July 2019, lease liabilities are determined in accordance with AASB 16.

#### Goods and services tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST. Receivables and payables are recognised inclusive of GST. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is included as part of receivables or payables. Operating receipts and payments in the cash flow statement are stated inclusive of GST.

#### Adoption of new and revised Accounting Standards

In the current year, MRC has adopted all of the new and revised Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) that are relevant to their operations and effective for the current annual reporting period.

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2020

#### **1 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES CONTINUES**

#### AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with a Customer / AASB 1058 Income for Not-for-Profit Entities

AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with a Customer (AASB 15) supersedes AASB 111 Construction Contracts, AASB 118 Revenue and related interpretations and applies, with limited exceptions, to all revenue arising from contracts with customers. Under AASB15 revenue from agreements that are enforceable, have sufficiently specific performance obligations and transfer goods or services to the customer or third-party beneficiary will be recognised when or as performance obligations are satisfied. AASB 15 requires entities to exercise judgement, taking into consideration all of the relevant facts and circumstances when assessing contracts with their customers.

AASB 1058 Income for Not-for-Profit Entities (AASB 1058) clarifies and simplifies income-recognition requirements that apply to not-for-profit entities and replaces most of the not-for-profit provisions under AASB 1004 Contributions. AASB 1058 applies to transactions where the consideration to acquire an asset is significantly less than fair value principally to enable the entity to further its objectives, and where volunteer services are received.

In contrast with previous standards such as AASB 1004, AASB 1058 allows deferral of income from capital grants where there is an enforceable contract with sufficiently specific performance obligations and the agreement does not require the Council to transfer the asset to other parties. For such capital grants, the funding received is initially deferred in an unearned revenue liability and subsequently recognised as revenue as or when the Council satisfies obligations under the agreement.

In accordance with transition provisions, the Council has applied the modified retrospective approach on transition to AASB 15 and AASB 1058, with the cumulative effect of applying both accounting standards recognised in retained earnings at 1 July 2019. Accordingly, the comparative information presented for 2018-19 has not been restated and is presented as previously reported. The Council applied the accounting standards retrospectively to all contracts, including completed contracts, at 1 July 2019. Completed contracts include contracts where the Council had recognised all revenue in prior periods under AASB 1004 *Contributions*.

The following tables summarise the transitional impact of adoption of AASB 15 and AASB 1058.

Impact on balances affected by adopting AASB 15 and AASB 1058 as at 1 July 2019:

	Previous Standard \$	Adjustments \$	Adoption of New AASB 1058 \$
Statement of Financial Position Unearned grant income	-	(10,456,714)	(10,456,714)
Statement of Changes in Equity Retained earnings	(10,456,714)	10,456,714	-

Other than the revenue recognition on grants, the application had no material impact on the Council's main source of revenue such as rates, contract income, store revenue and other charges.

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2020

#### **1 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES CONTINUES**

AASB 16 Leases

AASB 16 Leases (AASB 16) supersedes AASB 117 Leases and relevant interpretations and introduces significant changes to lessee accounting by removing the distinction between operating and finance leases. For lessees with operating leases, a right-of-use asset has now been recognised on the balance sheet together with a lease liability at the lease commencement.

In accordance with transition provisions, the Council has applied the modified retrospective approach on transition to AASB 16, with the cumulative effect of initial application of the standard as an adjustment to the balance sheet as at 1 July 2019. Accordingly, the comparative information presented for 2018-19 has not been restated and is presented as previously reported.

Lease liabilities recognised at 1 July 2019 have been measured at the present value of the remaining lease payments discounted using the Council's weighted average incremental borrowing rate at the date of initial application. The weighted average incremental borrowing rate applied to the lease liabilities as at 1 July 2019 was 3.11%.

The corresponding right-to-use asset has been recorded on transition at an amount equal to the lease liability, adjusted by the amount of any prepaid or accrued lease payments relating to that lease recognised in the balance sheet as at 1 July 2019.

The Council has applied the following practical expedients permitted by AASB 16 on transition:

· lease classification has been grandfathered. Where a contract did not contain a lease at 1 July 2019 under

application of a single discount rate to a portfolio of leases with reasonably similar characteristics

• application of onerous contact assessment before transition, in place of performing an impairment review

· leases with a remaining term of less than 12 months as at 1 July 2019 were expensed rather than recognised

exclusion of initial direct costs from the measurement of the right-to-use asset as at 1 July 2019

application of hindsight in determining the lease term where the contract contained options to extend or terminat

On adoption of AASB 16, the Council recognised additional right-of-use assets and lease liabilities for vehicles which had previously been classified as operating leases.

**Balance Sheet** 

	1 July 2019 Amount \$
Assets	
Right-of-Use Assets – Office Accommodation	506,957
Right-of-Use Assets – S19 Leases	1,328,420
Total Assets	1,835,377
Liabilities	
Lease Liabilities	1,835,377
Total Liabilities	1,835,377
Net Assets	<u> </u>

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2020

### **1 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES CONTINUES**

The lease liabilities as at 1 July 2019 can be reconciled to the operating lease commitments of 30 June 2019, as follows:

	Amount \$
Minimum operating lease commitments	2,020,657
as at 30 June 2019 Add: Lease payments relating to renewal periods	2,020,657
not included in operating lease commitments	
as at 30 June 2019	
Undiscounted lease payments	2,020,657
Less: effect of discounting using the incremental borrowing rate	(185,280)
Lease liabilities as at 1 July 2019	1,835,377

AASB 2016-8 Amendments to Australian accounting standards – Australian implementation guidance for not-for-profit entities (AASB 9 Financial instruments)

AASB 2016-8 is effective for the first time in 2019-20 and will require non-contractual receivables arising from statutory requirements to apply the initial recognition and measurement requirements of AASB 9. The requirements of AASB 2016-8 are largely consistent with existing recognition and measurement practices of the Council and is therefore not expected to have a material impact.

Several other amending standards and AASB interpretations have been issued that apply to the current reporting

## Standards and Interpretations in issue not yet adopted

Several other amending standards and AASB interpretations have been issued that apply to future reporting periods but are considered to have limited impact on the Council.

### **Impact of COVID 19 Pandemic**

For most entities, the COVID-19 crisis has led to more variability and uncertainty underlying the preparation of the financial statements. As the Council provides essential services/needs to the community in the MacDonnell region, the Covid 19 pandemic has impacted the Council in many ways as follows:

- \* Adopting to changes of the Council office operations due to quarantine measures imposed by government;
- \* Some of office personnel are in work at home arrangements;
- \* Given the social distancing regime and the inability for members to travel, all previously organised events have either been postponed or conducted via video or teleconferencing;
- \* All of its remote communities under its care were closed to all non-essential travel in response to concerns about the spread of COVID-19, some of the Council's essential services and civil and road works were discontinued and deferred to another timeline;
- \* Zero rates, fees and charges increase for 2021 financial year. First rate instalment deferred until 1st January 2021.
- \* Interest on outstanding rates freeze from 1st March 20 to 30 June 2020
- \* Commercial rates get one quarter rate waiver for 2020/21 financial year and a further second quarter waiver if a commercial rate payer qualifies for Federal Government's jobkeeper program and registered with NT government's business Hardship Package;
- \* Cleaning materials has gone up by 57% due to COVID 19 requirements;
- \* Telephone and internet services cost up by 41% while the staff travel and accommodation down by 28%.

The Council has an excellent working relationship with the Northern Territory Government and its agencies that has meant greater consultation and collaboration allowing the Council to influence policy direction. This has and became critical as the Council navigated its response to COVID-19. There are many moving parts with parameters that change daily making decision-making more complex for all concerned but at the heart of what the Council does is what is best for its communities, its individuals, businesses, service providers and the environment.

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2020

# 2a ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN

The MacDonnell Regional Council commenced operations on 1 July 2008, it undertakes all local government functions in the following communities:

Amoonguna

Areyonga (Utju) Docker River (Kaltukatjara) Finke (Aputula) Haasts Bluff (Ikuntji) Hermannsburg (Ntaria) Imanpa Kintore (Walungurru) Mount Liebig (Watiyawanu) Papunya (Warumpi) Santa Teresa (Ltyentye Apurte) Titjikala Wallace Rockhole

The major functions undertaken are:

### **General public services**

Corporate management, administrative support and governance. Public order and safety Community Safety, Companion animal management. **Economic affairs** Centrelink services, Essential services, Local roads maintenance, Amoonguna Community store. Postal services. Commercial fuel sales. **Environment Protection** Waste management, litter control, open drains, street cleaning Housing and Community Outstation and Staff Housing repairs and maintenance, Fencing. Health Child Nutrition program. **Recreation, Culture & Religion** Provision of sports, recreation and leisure facilities, Swimming pools. **Social Protection** Children's Services, Public Behaviour & Youth Program, Home Care

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2020

TOTAL ASSETS

2b Funtion Results	General Publ	ic Services	Public Orde	er & Safety	Economi	c Affairs	Environmenta	al Protection	Housing & C	Community	Heal	lth	Recreation, Cul	ture & Religion	Social Pro	otection	тот	AL
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
OPERATING REVENUES	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Rates	999,829	976,870	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	999,829	976,870
Statutory Charges - Waste Management	921,403	913,780	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	921,403	913,780
User Charges & Fees - Other	102,731	90,170	42,364	40,000	-	100	-	-	303,018	284,500	127,795	127,920	37,983	36,230	686,409	667,890	1,300,300	1,246,810
Grants - Cth Operational	-	-	1,629,077	1,624,080	455,503	478,820	-	-	-	-	414,554	383,550	-	-	10,151,541	10,010,680	12,650,675	12,497,130
Grants - Cth Capital	-	-	-	-	443,076	69,560	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	86,794	-	529,871	69,560
Grants - NT Operational	8,856,436	7,815,230	50,000	70,000	1,018,740	494,080	-	-	418,174	522,200	-	-	124,771	124,770	1,238,543	1,293,670	11,706,663	10,319,950
Grants - NT Capital	571,710	571,710	-	-	675,000	978,540	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,246,710	1,550,250
Opening unexpended grant liability	4,632,628	4,679,940	1,751,703	1,763,320	2,030,739	9,244,320	206,109	206,110	681,618	670,020	-	-	144,065	142,460	1,009,852	1,081,920	10,456,714	17,788,090
Closing unexpended grant liability	1,325,908	-	210,280	-	4,367,707	-	873	-	332,272	-	23,321	-	101,042	-	1,114,249	-	7,475,651	-
Refunded grant	-	-	-	-	187,223	187,220	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	710	-	131,860	187,223	319,790
Interest	409,221	475,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	409,221	475,000
Income from Commercial Operations	563,472	497,260	6,845	920	3,481,004	3,518,070	100,000	100,000	115,051	114,050	-	-	7,159	7,160	20,935	8,760	3,439,669	3,493,040
Reimbursements & Other Income	560,849	496,890	6,845	920	43,959	25,400	100,000	100,000	115,051	114,050	-	-	7,159	7,160	20,935	8,760	854,795	753,180
	16,292,370	16,516,850	3,276,553	3,499,240	3,593,091	14,621,670	405,236	406,110	1,300,639	1,704,820	519,028	511,470	220,096	317,070	12,100,759	12,939,820	36,852,975	49,763,870
OPERATING EXPENSES																		
Employee Costs	9,232,401	10,600,030	2,311,827	2,378,570	1,995,761	2,341,010	145,169	205,300	169,935	223,900	-	-	278,247	359,190	6,850,331	7,125,490	20,983,672	23,233,490
Materials & Consumables	1,351,691	3,049,430	34,732	47,470	250,410	272,210	12,067	15,090	83,530	189,670	118,374	129,520	87,075	96,140	1,087,380	1,139,040	3,025,260	4,938,570
Depreciation & Amortisation	2,724,315	2,150,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,724,315	2,150,000
Other Operating Expenses	4,411,435	5,815,310	143,644	286,230	1,763,830	3,342,510	24,077	128,380	1,089,991	1,666,750	33,909	15,210	88,809	202,180	783,537	1,337,020	8,339,232	12,536,830
	17,719,842	21,614,770	2,490,204	2,712,270	4,010,002	5,955,730	181,314	92,010	1,343,456	2,080,320	152,283	144,730	454,131	657,510	8,721,248	9,601,550	35,072,478	42,858,890
<b>OPERATING SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)</b>	1,427,473	5,097,920	(786,350)	(786,970)	416,911	(8,665,940)	(223,922)	(314,100)	42,817	375,500	(366,745)	(366,740)	234,035	340,440	(3,379,511)	(3,338,270)	(1,780,497)	(6,904,980)

1,676,901 40,469,188
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			2020	2019
		Notes	\$	\$
2-				
3a	USER CHARGES & FEES - OTHER Equipment Hire		36,457	31,771
	Landfill Tipping Fees		47,424	20,511
	Property Fees		364,231	336,693
	Service Fees		814,204	678,208
	Other User Charges & Fees		37,983	35,503
	Total User Charges & Fees - Other		1,300,299	1,102,686
3b	GRANTS, SUBSIDIES & CONTRIBUTIONS			
	Commonwealth of Australia Government Agencies			
	Operating Grants		455,503	897,678
	Capital Grants		529,871	-
	Agency Services Grants		12,195,172	14,505,146
	Sub-total		13,180,546	15,402,824
	Northern Territory Government Agencies			
	Operating Grants		10,344,563	9,573,395
	Special Purpose Grants		571,710	3,068,004
	Capital Grants		675,000	2,296,359
	Agency Services Grants		1,362,100	1,526,864
	Sub-total		12,953,373	16,464,622
	Grants Received for Operating and Specific Purposes Grants Received for New or Upgraded Assets		26,133,919 -	31,867,447 -
	Add: Grants collected in previous year realised as income in the current year as per AASB 15 & AASB 1058	1, 12 (b)	10,456,714	_
	Less: Grant refunded		(187,223)	-
	Unearned grant income as at 30 June 2020 as per AASB 15 & AASB 1058	12 (b)	(7,475,651)	-
	Total Grants Revenue	—	28,927,759	31,867,447

	Notes	2020 \$	2019 \$
CONDITIONS OVER GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS			
Grants and contributions that were obtained on the condition that they be expended on specified purposes or in a future period bu which are not yet expended in accordance with those conditions are as follows:	ıt		
Unexpended at the close of the previous reporting period:		10,456,714	7,028,521
Less:			
Expended during the current reporting period from revenues recognised in previous reporting periods		(518,048)	(7,099,834)
Amounts recognised as liabilities in current reporting period due an obligation to pay back to funding body	to	(4,597,716)	-
Prior year unexpended grants repaid to funding bodies		(187,223)	-
Net revenue recognised due to change on repayment conditions grant	s of	-	-
<b>Plus:</b> Amounts recognised as revenues in current reporting period but not yet expended in accordance with the conditions.	t	5,402,321	10,528,027
Surplus balances at the close of the current reporting period and held as restricted assets	d	10,556,048	10,456,714
Net increase (decrease) in restricted assets in the current reporting period		99,334	3,428,193
INCOME FROM COMMERCIAL OPERATIONS			
Contract Fees		3,279,278	2,937,202
Fuel Sales		1,837	648
Sales - Amoonguna Store		158,553	166,748
Total Income from Commercial Operations		3,439,668	3,104,598
REIMBURSEMENTS & OTHER INCOME			
Fuel Tax Rebate		61,347	28,471
Fundraising & Donations		7,159	1,817
Insurance Recoveries		77,407	85,579
Reimbursements Other Income		298,574 210,631	470,935 76,568
Total Reimbursements & Other Income		<u>655,118</u>	<u> </u>
וסנמו הכווווסטופכוווכוונפ מ סנווכו ווונטוווכ	_	000,110	

		2020	2019
	Notes	\$	\$
EMPLOYEE COSTS			
Salaries, Wages, Leave and Allowances, including On-Costs		18,459,997	17,749,916
Employer's Superannuation Contributions		1,724,293	1,719,473
Workers Compensation Insurance		9,691	49,310
Protective Clothing		5,739	2,042
Recruitment Expenses		81,452	66,855
Training Programs		376,368	288,577
Employee Benefits & Other Employee Costs		326,132	314,959
Total Employee Costs	_	20,983,672	20,191,132
MATERIALS & CONSUMABLES			
Building Materials		12,039	23,794
Buildings Repairs & Maintenance		330,805	442,552
Cleaning Services & Materials		115,207	73,629
Community Infrastructure		310,825	811,558
Food for Services & Catering Costs		588,136	609,266
Furniture & Fittings		82,058	169,847
Plant & Equipment		88,370	87,121
Purchases - Amoonguna Store		159,378	150,975
Road Furniture & Signage		1,786	287
Tools, Equipment & Minor Assets		835,747	394,006
Vehicles Parts & Tyres		201,489	215,706
Other Materials & Consumables		299,418	626,717
Total Materials & Consumables		3,025,258	3,605,458

		Notes	2020 \$	2019 \$
4c	DEPRECIATION & AMORTISATION			
	Buildings & Facilities		380,324	176,466
	Furniture & Fittings		106,701	107,481
	Plant & Equipment		525,801	550,682
	Vehicles		1,292,309	1,262,924
	Right-of-Use	10 (c )	419,180	-
	Total Depreciation & Amortisation		2,724,315	2,097,553
4d	OTHER OPERATING EXPENSES			
	Advertising & Promotional Activities		27,345	16,798
	Audit Services		52,000	61,000
	Computer Services		413,827	478,663
	Consulting Fees		123,640	97,210
	Contract Labour		2,796,886	2,334,602
	Elected Members' Allowances & Training		334,880	340,930
	Freight Charges		146,359	150,997
	Fuel for Plant & Vehicles		522,641	156,354
	Gas, Power, Sewerage & Water		779,675	705,706
	Insurance Premiums & Fees		1,471,253	930,106
	Legal & Professional Services		6,851	27,409
	Local Authority Members' Allowances		14,903	17,053
	Memberships & Subscriptions		69,853	66,250
	Operating Leases	10 (c )	54,668	306,276
	Interest on Leased assets	10 (c )	50,524	-
	Repayment of Grants		-	4,876
	Telephone & Internet Services		804,463	570,667
	Transaction Fees & Taxes		41,565	13,855
	Travel, Accommodation & Entertainment		278,966	389,972
	Vehicle Registration, Repairs & Maintenance, others		348,934	250,557
	Total Other Operating Expenses		8,339,233	6,919,281

		Notes	2020 \$	2019 \$
5	ASSET DISPOSALS			
	PLANT & EQUIPMENT			
	Proceeds from disposal		5,831	19,297
	Less: Carrying amount of assets sold		-	-
	Gain on disposal	_	5,831	19,297
	VEHICLES			
	Proceeds from disposal		193,848	175,469
	Less: Carrying amount of assets sold		-	-
	Gain on disposal		193,848	175,469
	NET GAIN ON DISPOSAL OF ASSETS		199,679	194,766
6	CASH ON HAND AND AT BANK			
	Westpac Operating Account		603,835	1,027,248
	Westpac Trust Account		6,162,373	2,421,735
	Westpac Territory Housing Account		1,190	272,185
	Bank Accounts for Community Stores		9,056	12,513
	Westpac Centrelink Processing Account		14,093	14,105
	Petty Cash		-	1,000
	Amoonguna Store Float		200	1,200
	Total Cash on Hand & at Bank		6,790,746	3,749,986

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2020

			2020	2019
		Notes	\$	\$
7	TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES			
	Trade Receivables		346,211	280,408
	Allowance for Doubtful Debts		-	(118,509)
	Rates & Charges Receivable		423,339	344,814
	Accrued Income		122,857	343,452
	GST Receivable		44,230	97,043
	Total Trade & Other Receivables		936,636	947,208

The average credit period on sales of goods and rendering of services is 60 days.

No interest is charged on the trade receivables.

Ageing of past due but not impaired trade debtors		
30-60 days	337,616	266,822
60-90 days	4,693	13,337
Greater than 90 days	3,901	249
	346,211	280,408
Movement in the Allowance for Doubtful Debts Balance at the Beginning of the Year	118,509	133,618
Bad Debt Amounts written off	(118,509)	(15,109)
Balance at the End of the Year	-	118,509

A loyalty fund has been set up on Council's behalf by Telstra as part of a contract entered into in the 2015/16 financial year. The remaining balance as at 30 June 2020 available to Council under this loyalty funds is \$132,734.80. The fund has not been recorded in these accounts as an asset as the actual amount of benefit the Council will receive is unknown

### 8 INVENTORIES

Goods for Sale Held at Community Stores & in Bulk Fuel Tanks	78,045	53,852
Total Inventories	78,045	53,852

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2020

# **9 PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT**

Year Ended 30 June 2020	Land	Buildings & Facilities	Furniture & Fittings	Plant & Equipment	Vehicles	Right-of-use Note 10(c)	Total
Gross Carrying Amount at Cost							
Opening balances at 1 July 2019	404,250	21,466,810	918,091	6,415,981	7,585,154	-	36,790,287
Add: Adoption of AASB 16	-	-	-	-	-	1,835,377	1,835,377
Opening balances at 1 July 2019,							
As Restated	404,250	21,466,810	918,091	6,415,981	7,585,154	1,835,377	38,625,664
Additions	-	1,439,440	130,472	813,185	1,524,552	-	3,907,649
Less: Disposals	-	-	-	(134,460)	(950,443)	-	(1,084,903)
Balance at 30 June 2020	404,250	22,906,250	1,048,563	7,094,706	8,159,263	1,835,377	41,448,410
Accumulated Depreciation							
Opening balances at 1 July 2019	-	20,041,561	778,531	5,110,823	4,252,526	-	30,183,441
Add: Adoption of AASB 16				0,000,0000	.,,		,,
Opening balances at 1 July 2019,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
As Restated	-	20,041,561	778,531	5,110,823	4,252,526	-	30,183,441
Charge for the year		380,325	106,701	525,801	1,292,308	419,180	2,724,315
Less: Accumulated depreciation on disposals	_	-		(134,460)	(754,269)	-	(888,729)
Balance at 30 June 2020	-	20,421,886	885,232	5,502,164	4,790,565	419,180	32,019,027
Net Book Value							
Carrying value at 1 July 2019,							
As Restated	404,250	1,425,249	139,560	1,305,158	3,332,628	1,835,377	8,442,223
Carrying value at 30 June 2020	404,250	2,484,364	163,331	1,592,542	3,368,698	1,416,197	9,429,382
Voor Ended 20 June 2040	Land	Buildings &	Furniture &	Plant &	Vahiolog	Total	
Year Ended 30 June 2019	Land	Facilities	Fittings	Equipment	Vehicles	Total	
Gross Carrying Amount at Cost Opening balances at 1 July 2018	404,250	20,435,794	897,805	6,245,042	7,590,857	35,573,748	
Opening balances at 1 July 2010	404,230	20,433,794	091,005	0,240,042	7,590,057	33,373,740	

Additions	
Less: Disposals	
Balance at 30 June 2019	

# Accumulated Depreciation

Opening balances at 1 July 2018	-	19,922,274	671,050	4,686,141	3,592,917	28,872,382
Charge for the year	-	176,466	107,481	550,682	1,262,924	2,097,553
Less: Accumulated depreciation on						
disposals	-	(57,179)	-	(126,000)	(603,315)	(786,494)
Balance at 30 June 2019	-	20,041,561	778,531	5,110,823	4,252,526	30,183,441

20,286

918,091

296,939

(126,000)

6,415,981

686,703

(692,406)

7,585,154

2,092,123

(875,585)

36,790,286

# Net Book Value

Carrying value at 1 July 2018	404,250	513,520	226,755	1,558,901	3,997,940	6,701,366
Carrying value at 30 June 2019	404,250	1,425,249	139,560	1,305,158	3,332,628	6,606,845

1,088,195

21,466,810

(57,179)

	2020 \$	2019 \$
Capital Work In Progress	Ŧ	Ŧ
Buildings & Facilities	1,614,211	1,280,111
Plant and Equipment	120,168	-
Furniture & Fittings	-	26,123
Vehicles		450,784
	1,734,379	1,757,019

404,250

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### Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2020

	Notes	2020 \$	2019 \$
10(a) PAYABLES & ACCRUALS			
Creditors		552,123	1,189,565
Unearned Income		5,231	2,027
Accruals & Other payables		1,353,779	585,696
Audit fee and FBT		43,651	-
Total Trade and Other Payables		1,954,783	1,777,289
10(b) EMPLOYEE BENEFITS Current			
Annual leave provision		1,586,064	1,166,718
Long service leave		470,809	560,555
		2,056,873	1,727,273
Non-current		2,000,010	.,
Long service leave provision		592,326	555,029
<b>.</b>		592,326	555,029
Total Current Employee Benefits		2,649,200	2,282,302
10(c) LEASE LIABILITIES Current			
Lease Liabilities		360,786	-
		360,786	-
Non-current			
Lease Liabilities		1,069,269	
		1,069,269	-
Total Lease Liabilities		1,430,055	-

The right-of-use assets include all assets leased under s19 lease and two leased properties in Alice Springs. The net carrying value of theses right-of-use assets as at 30 June 2020 are as follows:

	Building and other structure
At 1 July 2019	1,835,377
Depreciation	(419,180)
At 30 June 2020	1,416,197

Set below are the carrying amount of lease liabilities (Included under current incremental borrowing rate as provided by Westpac as Council does not have current loans) and the movements during the period

At 1 July 2019	1,835,377
Additions	-
Accretion of interest	50,524
Payments	(455,847)
At 30 June 2020	1,430,055

## Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2020

		2020	2019
	Notes	\$	\$
The following are amounts recognised in profit and loss:			
Depreciation expenses for right-of-use assets	4 (c )	419,180	
Interest expenses on lease liabilities assets	4 (d )	50,524	
Expenses relating to leases of low-value assets	4 (d )	54,668	

Low-value assets include lease of storage space for archive boxes, where the Council does not lease contract in place.

RECONCILIATION OF STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS		
Net Surplus	1,780,497	6,469,662
Net gain on disposal of assets	(199,679)	(194,766)
Interest received	(409,221)	(559,192)
Depreciation	2,724,315	2,097,553
Minor prior period adjustments	-	(44,321)
(Increase) / Decrease in trade and other receivables	10,572	(15,166)
Decrease / (Increase) in Inventory	(24,192)	447,072
Increase / (Decrease) in trade and other liabilities	(354,055)	287,254
Increase / (Decrease) in provisions	410,548	(103,058)
Net cash provided by operating activities	3,938,786	8,385,038
Reconciliation of Cash and Cash Equivalents		
Cash on Hand & at Bank	6,790,746	3,749,986
Short-Term Deposits	21,500,000	23,500,000
Cash & Cash Equivalents at End of the Reporting Period	28,290,746	27,249,986

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2020

# 12 UNEXPENDED GRANTS RESERVE AND UNEARNED GRANT INCOME

The following grants and other income have been paid to the Council for specific purposes. Any unearned amounts are treated as unearned grant income at the end of the financial year. This is because funding bodies will require either that the unused funds be returned or be applied against activities undertaken in future periods.

Where grant agreements do not meet criteria above, it is accounted for under AASB 1058 and income is recognised upon receipt. Any unexpended portion is recognised as unexpended grants reserve in the equity section of the Council's statement of financial position. It is the policy of the Council to present grant monies separately as a reserve where the Council is contractually obliged to provide the services in a subsequent financial period.

The following unexpended grant reserves and unearned income are as follows:

Unexpended grants reserve	Closing Balance	Movements		Opening Balance	
	at 30 June 2020	Income	Expenses	at 1 July 2019 (see Note 1)	
Grant received - untied income					
FAA Roads 2021 advance payment	524,675	524,675	-	-	
FAA General Purpose 2021 advance payment	992,644	992,644	-	-	
FAA General Purpose	-	1,960,370	2,885,944	925,574	
FAA Roads	867,669	494,239	1,033,549	1,406,979	
Total	2,384,988	3,971,928	3,919,493	2,332,553	

2(b) Unearned grant income	Closing Balance	Movements		Opening Balance	
	at 30 June 2020	Income	Expenses	at 1 July 2019 (see Note 1)	
Grant received in advance recognised as liability					
Community Safety Program 2021 advance payment	1,624,077	1,624,077	-	-	
Youth Development Program 2021 advance payment	1,297,336	1,297,336	-	-	
Youth Development - CAYLUS 2021 advance payment	158,984	158,984.00	-	-	
	3,080,397	3,080,397	-	-	

General Purpose				
NT Operational Subsidy	-	4,109,985	4,109,985	-

Specific Purpose				
Aged Care Food	26,057	397,534	371,477	-
Baby Fast NT	-	-	3,931	3,931
Building Stronger Communities Workshops	30,000	30,000	-	-
Central Australia Suicide Prevention Workshop	-	-	10,000	10,000
Children Services Cleaning Project	5,900	5,900	-	-
Children's Services - DoE	100,864	3,900,508	3,829,075	29,431
CLC Covid19 Assistance	48,558	48,558	-	-
Community Safety Program	144,900	1,673,286	3,242,133	1,713,747
Community Safety Vehicles, Core, LLN, Cert III	30,380	44,570	14,190	-
Community Home Support Program	-	552,164	552,164	-
Community Home Support Covid19 Emergency Support	93,134	93,134	-	-
Community Wi-Fi	7,000	7,000	-	-
Covid19 - CAYLUS	6,508	40,000	33,492	-
Disability in Home Support Services (DIHS) - DOH	4,866	8,261	3,395	-
Docker River Child Care Capital Works	(13,311)	-	219,590	206,279
Energy Efficiency and Sustainability Grant	75,588	-	174,421	250,009
Flexible Aged Care Program	21,169	955,018	933,849	-
Good Things Activation Grant	-	-	15,300	15,300
Good Things Capacity Building Grant	-	25,000	46,250	21,250
Healthy Living Program	34,050	70,000	35,950	-
Holiday Program Ntaria	-	6,000	-	(6,000)
Holiday Program Santa Teresa	22,647	61,500	51,253	12,401
Home Care Projects	318,615	85,628	326,132	559,119
Home Care Services	345,610	237,155	297,537	405,992
Indigenous Jobs Package Funding	-	1,335,000	1,335,000	-
Local Authority Project Funding	986,777	571,710	240,521	655,588
MHM Program - CAYLUS	11,900	15,000	3,100	-
NATSIFlexi Aged Care Laundry Upgrades	357,448	357,448	-	
NATSIFlexi Aged Care Equipment	86,794	86,794	-	-
Natural Disaster Relief Fund	-	-	187,223	187,223

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	Closing Balance Movements Opening Ba			
	Closing Balance at 30 June 2020	Income	Expenses	Opening Balance at 1 July 2019
NDIS	235,387	270,000	34,613	-
Ntaria Bush Camps	(5,000)	-	-	(5,000)
NT Jobs Package	93,372	989,178	895,806	,
NT Library Grant	90,151	92,771	106,288	103,668
Outside School Hours Learning Program - DoE	4,305	1,114,943	1,281,978	
Outstations - Homelands Extra Allowance	218,018	144,000	407,010	
Outstations - Housing Maintenance Program	114,254	275,259	161,365	360
Outstations - Municipal and Essential Services Program	61,905	659,773	636,414	38,546
Outstations - Homeland Jobs Package	-	295,750	295,750	-
Outstations - MES SPG	537,259	-	510,404	1,047,663
Papunya Harm Reduction Program	-	10,000	-	(10,000)
Papunya SDC Building	20,545	24,860	29,173	24,858
Remote Oval Capital Grant - Amoonguna	58,093	600,000	541,907	-
Remote Oval Capital Grant - Docker River	248,275	-	291,725	540,000
Remote Oval Capital Grant - Haasts Bluff & Papunya	702,243	-	647,421	1,349,664
Remote Oval Capital Grant - Mt Liebig	56,776	75,000	18,224	-
Roads to Recovery	-	455,503	455,503	-
Remote Sport Program	-	501,309	501,309	-
Remote Sport Program Stimulus Package	13,000	13,000	-	-
Safety & Wellbeing Suicide Prevention Forum	5,000	5,000	-	-
SCALE Funding	194,456	377,000	182,544	-
School Nutrition Program	-	414,554	414,554	-
SCFC - Ntaria Summer Program	-	5,500	5,500	-
Self Funded Sport & Rec	3,186	2,159	501	1,528
Shade Picnic Area Titjikala	595	-	-	595
Solar Park Lighting in 13 Communities	100	-	-	100
SLGIF Projects	470,687	145,000	123,255	448,942
SLGIF Projects - Bagot Street Building Upgrade	1,258,725	-	161,375	1,420,100
SPG Prime Mover and Side Tipping Trailer	-	-	232,275	232,275
SPG 8m Side Loading Compactor Truck	162	-	143,922	144,084
SPG 45' Drop Deck Trailer	-	-	1,915	1,915
SPG Re-vegetation Project	10	-	-	10
Support Youth Boards	-	10,000	5,000	(5,000)
The Youth The Right Track Program	86,920	-	163,080	250,000
Titjikala Kitchen upgrade	6,710	33,660	26,950	-
Try Test Learn - CAYLUS	118,968	355,588	236,619	-
Yarning Circles Finke & Titjikala	-	10,000	5,000	(5,000)
Youth Areyonga Toilet Block Upgrade	28,731	28,731	-	-
Youth Development Program	-	2,606,078	2,575,551	(30,527)
Youth Development - COVID-19 Booster Package	90,500	90,500	-	-
Youth Development - CAYLUS	15,955	-	167,329	183,284
Youth Diversion Program	-	142,526	142,526.00	-
Youth Engagement and Education Program	-	88,120	88,120	-
Youth Suicide Prevention Forum	-	40,500	40,500	-
Youth Papunya - CAYLUS	873	-	5,236	6,109
Other Purposes				
Tech Services Projects	36	-	-	36
Social Club Funds		3	1,869	
	7,475,651	24,593,418	27,574,479	10,456,714
Total	10,556,048	27,673,815	27,574,479	10,456,714

### Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2020

## **13 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS**

The Council is exposed through its financial instruments to liquidity risk, credit risk, and interest rate risk.

### Liquidity Risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Council will not be in a position to meet its financial obligations as and when they fall due. The Council manages its liquidity risk by monitoring cash flows and through budget management. Liquidity is also supported by the fact that a high proportion of government subsidies and grants are received before the activities and projects to which they relate are undertaken.

### Credit Risk

Credit risk is the risk of financial loss to the Council in the event of the failure by a commercial debtor or funding agency to meet its contractual or statutory obligations. Credit risk is greatly mitigated by the fact that the only parties with whom the Council has material dealings are agencies of the Commonwealth and Northern Territory Governments.

### Interest rate risk management

The Council has no material exposure to interest rate risk.

Average	Variable	Fixed Inte	erest rate	Non-Interest	
interest rate	Interest rate	Less than 1	1 to 5 years	Bearing	Total
%	\$	year			
0.4	6,790,746				6,790,746
1.42		21,500,000	-		21,500,000
				346,211	346,211
	6,790,746	21,500,000	-	346,211	28,636,956
				552,123	552,123
-	-	-	-	552,123	552,123
Average	Variable	Fixed Inte	erest rate		
interest rate	Interest rate	Less than 1			Total
%	\$	year	1 to 5 years	bearing	
	Ŧ	2			
0.4	3.749.986				3,749,986
2.05	-,,		-		23,500,000
		_0,000,000		161.899	161,899
	3,749,986	23,500,000	-		27,411,885
	0,1.0,000	20,000,000	<b>I</b>		
				1,189,565	1,189,565
-	-	_	_		1,189,565
	interest rate % 0.4 1.42 Average interest rate % 0.4 2.05	interest rate       Interest rate         %       \$         0.4       6,790,746         1.42       6,790,746         0.4       6,790,746         1.42       6,790,746         0.4       6,790,746         1.42       6,790,746         0.4       3,790,746         0.4       3,749,986         0.4       3,749,986         2.05       3,749,986	interest rate         Interest rate         Less than 1 year           0.4         6,790,746         1.42         21,500,000           0.4         6,790,746         21,500,000         1.42           0.4         6,790,746         21,500,000         1.42           0.4         6,790,746         21,500,000         1.42           0.4         6,790,746         21,500,000         1.42           0.4         790,746         21,500,000         1.42           0.4         9,790,746         1.42         1.42           0.4         9,790,746         1.42         1.42           0.4         3,749,986         2.05         2.05           0.4         3,749,986         2.3,500,000         1.42           0.4         3,749,986         2.3,500,000         1.42	interest rate       Interest rate       Less than 1       1 to 5 years         0.4       6,790,746	interest rate         Interest rate         Less than 1 year         1 to 5 years         Non-Interest Bearing           0.4         6,790,746

\* Interest is calculated on the closing daily balance on each account in excess of \$2,000. Tiered rates of interest apply to the credit balance. Interest is calculated daily and credited monthly in arrears on the last business day of each calendar month.

There is no foreign exchange risk.

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2020

# **14 RESERVES**

Future work reserves are intended to cover costs associated with the Council's future capital expenditures.

Movement of this reserve are as follows:

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
Balance at beginning of the year	1,051,398	700,703
Transfer to / from Accumulated Funds		350,695
Balance at end of the year	1,051,398	1,051,398

# **15 RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES**

The related parties of the Council include:

- the key responsible persons because they have authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the Council directly; and

- spouses, children and dependents who are close family members of the key responsible persons; and

- any entities controlled or jointly controlled by key responsible persons' or controlled or jointly controlled by their close family members.

### **KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL**

The Key Management Personnel of the Council include the President, Vice President, Councillors, CEO and certain prescribed officers under section 112 of the *Local Government Act 1999*. In all, 18 persons were paid the following total compensation:

	Γ	2020	2019
		\$	\$
Salaries, allowances & other short term benefits		1,146,472	1,461,809
Post-employment benefits		99,669	109,752
Long term benefits		56,182	-
Termination benefits		66,913	-
	TOTAL	1,369,236	1,571,561

### PARTIES RELATED TO KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL

6 close family members of key management personnel are employed by the Council in accordance with the terms of the Award, and as recorded in the Public Register of Salaries maintained in accordance with the *Local Government Act*.

### (a) Retirement Benefits

No retirement benefits have been made by the Council to a Responsible Person.

### (b) Loans to Responsible Persons

No loans have been made, guaranteed or secured by the Council to a Responsible Person during the financial year ended 30 June 2020.

### Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2020

### (c) Other Transactions

No other transactions, other than remuneration payments and the reimbursement of approved expenses, were entered into by Council with Responsible Persons during the reporting year.

### (a) Outstanding Amounts

Other than those relating to accrued salaries and provision for employee entitlements, there are no outstanding receivables or payables from / to the Council's key responsible persons as at 30 June 2020.

### **16 AUDITORS' REMUNERATION**

Amounts received or due and receivable by the auditors of Macdonnell Regional Council are as follows:

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
Audit or review services	52,000	61,000
Other services		-
Total	52,000	61,000

# **17 CONTINGENT ASSETS AND LIABILITIES**

Under the terms and conditions of the Constitution of CouncilBiz, the Council and other members have guaranteed the debts and liabilities of CouncilBiz. As at 30 June 2020, the amount of the obligation cannot be measured with sufficient reliability, and has not been recognised in the financial statements.

### **18 EVENTS AFTER THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION DATE**

There are no events after the statement of financial position date that should be disclosed.

# MRC Council offices

MacDonnell Regional Council	Council Service Delivery centres	Hermannsburg (Ntaria)	Santa Teresa (Ltyentye Apurte)
		Phone: 08 8954 4702 Fax: 08 8954 4701	Phone: 08 8956 0999 Fax: 08 8956 0923
Alice Springs office	Amoonguna	Mail: CMB 185 via Alice Springs NT 0872	Mail: CMB 190 via Alice Springs NT 0872
Bagot Street, Alice Springs	Phone: 08 8952 9043 Fax: 08 8959 7401	Email: hermannsburg@macdonnell.nt.gov.au	Email: santateresa@macdonnell.nt.gov.au
	Mail: PO Box 996 Alice Springs NT 0871		
The Alice Springs office has	Email: amoonguna@macdonnell.nt.gov.au	Imanpa	Titjikala
temporarily relocated to:		Phone: 08 8956 7454 Fax: 08 8956 7464	Phone: 08 8956 0844 Fax: 08 8956 0843
Level 2 / 16 Hartley Street, Alice Springs	Areyonga (Utju)	Mail: CMB 119 via Alice Springs NT 0872	Mail: CMB 149 via Alice Springs NT 0872
	Phone: 08 8956 7877 Fax: 08 8956 7302	Email: imanpa@macdonnell.nt.gov.au	Email: titjikala@macdonnell.nt.gov.au
Local call: 1300 360 959	Mail: CMB 219 via Alice Springs NT 0872		
Phone: 08 8958 9600 Fax: 08 8958 9601	Email: areyonga@macdonnell.nt.gov.au	Kintore (Walungurru)	Wallace Rockhole
Mail: PO Box 5267, Alice Springs NT 0871		Phone: 08 8956 8566 Fax: 08 8956 8569	Phone: 08 8954 4802 Fax: 08 8954 4801
Email: info@macdonnell.nt.gov.au	Docker River (Kaltukatjara)	Mail: CMB 13 via Alice Springs NT 0872	Mail: CMB 168 via Alice Springs NT 0872
www.macdonnell.nt.gov.au	Phone: 08 8954 4102 Fax: 08 8954 4101	Email: kintore@macdonnell.nt.gov.au	Email:
	Mail: CMB 49 via Alice Springs NT 0872		wallacerockhole@macdonnell.nt.gov.au
	Email: dockerriver@macdonnell.nt.gov.au	Mount Liebig (Watiyawanu)	
		Phone: 08 8956 8588 Fax: 08 8956 8589	
	Finke (Aputula)	Mail: CMB 97 via Alice Springs NT 0872	
	Phone: 08 8956 0966 Fax: 08 8956 0900	Email: mountliebig@macdonnell.nt.gov.au	
	Mail: CMB 184 via Alice Springs NT 0872		
	Email: finke@macdonnell.nt.gov.au	Papunya (Warumpi)	
		Phone: 08 8993 7702 Fax: 08 8993 7701	
	Haasts Bluff (Ikuntji)	Mail: CMB 225 via Alice Springs NT 0872	
	Phone: 08 8956 8533 Fax: 08 8956 8534	Email: papunya@macdonnell.nt.gov.au	
	Mail: CMB 211 via Alice Springs NT 0872		
	Email: haastsbluff@macdonnell.nt.gov.au		