



WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL AGENDA

**GUNBALANYA LOCAL AUTHORITY
WEDNESDAY, 11 SEPTEMBER 2024
10:00am**



WEST ARNHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL

Notice is hereby given that a Local Authority Meeting of the West Arnhem Regional Council will be held in Gunbalanya on Wednesday 11 September 2024 at 10:00 am.

Andrew Walsh
Chief Executive Officer

Code of Conduct: The Local Government Act 2019

As stipulated in Schedule 1 of the Act, the Code of Conduct for Members is as follows:

1. *Honesty and Integrity:* A member must act honestly and with integrity in performing official functions.
2. *Care and diligence:* A member must act with reasonable care and diligence in performing official functions.
3. *Courtesy:* A member must act with courtesy towards other members, council staff, electors and members of the public.
4. *Prohibition on bullying:* A member must not bully another person in the course of performing official functions.
5. *Conduct towards Council staff:* A member must not direct, reprimand, or interfere in the management of, council staff.
6. *Respect for cultural diversity and culture:* A member must respect cultural diversity and must not therefore discriminate against others, or the opinions of others, on the ground of their cultural background.
A member must act with respect for cultural beliefs and practices in relation to other members, council staff, electors and members of the public.
7. *Conflict of interest:* A member must avoid any conflict of interest, whether actual or perceived, when undertaking official functions and responsibilities.
If a conflict of interest exists, the member must comply with any statutory obligations of disclosure.
8. *Respect for confidences:* A member must respect the confidentiality of information obtained in confidence in the member's official capacity.
A member must not make improper use of confidential information obtained in an official capacity to gain a private benefit or to cause harm to another.
9. *Gifts:* Members must not solicit, encourage or accept gifts or private benefits from any person who might have an interest in obtaining a benefit from the council.
A member must not accept a gift from a person that is given in relation to the person's interest in obtaining a benefit from the council.'
10. *Accountability:* A member must be prepared at all times to account for the member's performance as a member and the member's use of council resources.
11. *Interests of municipality, region or shire to be paramount:* A member must act in what the member genuinely believes to be the best interests of the municipality, region or shire.
In particular, a member must seek to ensure that the member's decisions and actions are based on an honest, reasonable and properly informed judgment about what best advances the best interests of the municipality, region or shire.
12. *Training:* A member must undertake relevant training in good faith.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ITEM	SUBJECT	PAGE NO
1	ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY AND OPENING OF MEETING.....	4
2	PERSONS PRESENT.....	5
3	APOLOGIES AND ABSENCES	5
3.1	Apologies, Leave of Absence and Absence Without Notice	5
4	ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA	6
4.1	Acceptance of Agenda	6
5	DECLARATION OF INTEREST OF MEMBERS OR STAFF	7
5.1	Disclosure of Interest of Members or Staff.....	7
6	CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES	8
6.1	Confirmation of Local Authority Meeting Minutes.....	8
7	DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS	15
7.1	NT Health - Community Alcohol Plan.....	15
7.2	Aboriginal Peak Organisation Northern Territory - Aboriginal Education Steering Committee	39
7.3	NT Police - Law and Order Update.....	64
7.4	National Indigenous Australians Agency - Remote Jobs and Economic Development.....	65
8	ACTION REPORTS.....	66
8.1	Finance Report to August 2024.....	66
8.2	Review of Action Items	77
8.3	Modifications to staff and visitors rest area at the office.....	85
9	RECEIVE AND NOTE REPORTS.....	90
9.1	Incoming and Outgoing Correspondence	90
9.2	CSM Operations Report on Current Council Services	93
10	LOCAL AUTHORITY MEMBER QUESTIONS WITH OR WITHOUT NOTICE	112
10.1	Local Authority Member Questions with or without Notice	112
11	NEXT MEETING	113

Acknowledgement of Country

West Arnhem Regional Council acknowledges the First Nations Custodians, and the many Language and Family groups who are Managers and Caretakers to each of their Traditional homelands and Waters across the West Arnhem Region Wards.

West Arnhem Regional Council pays its respects and acknowledges Elders, past, present and rising.

WEST ARNHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 11 SEPTEMBER 2024

Agenda Reference:	3.1
Title:	Apologies, Leave of Absence and Absence Without Notice
Author:	Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

SUMMARY

This report is to table, for the Gunbalanya Local Authority record, any apologies, and requests for leave of absence received from Authority members for the meeting held on 11 September 2024.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

1. Notes the absence of ...
2. Notes the apology received from ...
3. Determines ... are absent with permission of the Authority.
4. Determines ... are absent without permission of the Authority.

COMMENT

Local Authorities can choose to accept the apologies or requests for leave of absence as presented, or not accept them. Apologies or requests for leave of absence that are not accepted by the Local Authority will be recorded as absent without notice.

LEGISLATION AND POLICY

Clauses 7.1(f) and 9 *Guideline 1: Local Authorities 2021*

Council's Scheduling and Conduct of Meetings (Elected, Local Authority and Council Committee Members) Policy.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

This report is aligned to the following pillars and goals in the *Regional Plan and Budget*:

PILLAR 6 FOUNDATIONS OF GOVERNANCE

Integrity is at the heart of everything we do. We are leaders of best practice and excellence in governance, advocacy, consultation and administration. Our processes, procedures and policies are ethical and transparent.

Goal 6.3 Council and Local Authorities

Excellence in governance, consultation administration and representation

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 11 SEPTEMBER 2024

Agenda Reference:	4.1
Title:	Acceptance of Agenda
Author:	Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

SUMMARY

Agenda papers are presented for acceptance at the Gunbalanya Local Authority meeting held on 11 September 2024.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY accept the agenda papers as circulated for the Gunbalanya Local Authority meeting held on 11 September 2024.

LEGISLATION AND POLICY

Section 92(1) *Local Government Act 2019*.

Council's Scheduling and Conduct of Meetings (Elected, Local Authority and Council Committee Members) Policy.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

This report is aligned to the following pillars and goals in the *Regional Plan and Budget*:

PILLAR 6 FOUNDATIONS OF GOVERNANCE

Integrity is at the heart of everything we do. We are leaders of best practice and excellence in governance, advocacy, consultation and administration. Our processes, procedures and policies are ethical and transparent.

Goal 6.3 Council and Local Authorities

Excellence in governance, consultation administration and representation

Goal 6.5 Planning and Reporting

Robust planning and reporting that supports Council's decision-making processes

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

WEST ARNHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 11 SEPTEMBER 2024

Agenda Reference:	5.1
Title:	Disclosure of Interest of Members or Staff
Author:	Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

SUMMARY

Local Authority Members are required to disclose an interest in a matter under consideration at the Local Authority meeting:

- 1) In the case of a matter featured in an officer's report or written agenda item by disclosing the interest to the meeting as soon as possible after the matter is raised.
- 2) In the case of a matter raised in a general debate or by any means other than the printed agenda of the Council meeting, disclosure as soon as possible after the matter is raised.

Under disclosure, the Member must abide by the decision of the Local Authority on whether they shall remain in the Chambers and/or take part in the vote on the issue. The Local Authority may elect to allow the Member to provide further and better particulars of the interest prior to requesting them to leave the Chambers.

Staff Members of the Council are required to disclose an interest in a matter at any time on which they are required to act or exercise their delegate authority in relation to the matter. Upon disclosure, the staff member is not to act or exercise their delegated authority unless Council expressly directs them to do so.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY received the declarations of interest as listed for the Gunbalanya Local Authority meeting held on 11 September 2024.

LEGISLATION AND POLICY

Section 114 (Elected Members) *Local Government Act 2019*

Section 179 (staff members) *Local Government Act 2019*

Council's Scheduling and Conduct of Meetings (Elected, Local Authority and Council Committee Members) Policy.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

This report is aligned to the following pillars and goals in the *Regional Plan and Budget*:

PILLAR 6 FOUNDATIONS OF GOVERNANCE

Integrity is at the heart of everything we do. We are leaders of best practice and excellence in governance, advocacy, consultation and administration. Our processes, procedures and policies are ethical and transparent.

Goal 6.4 Risk Management

The monitoring and minimisation of risks associated with the operations of Council.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 11 SEPTEMBER 2024

Agenda Reference:	6.1
Title:	Confirmation of Local Authority Meeting Minutes
Author:	Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

SUMMARY

Unconfirmed minutes from the 9 July 2024 Gunbalanya Local Authority meeting are submitted to the Local Authority for confirmation that the minutes are a true and correct record of the meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY adopted the minutes of the 9 July 2024 Gunbalanya Local Authority as a true and correct record.

LEGISLATION AND POLICY

Sections 101(4) and 101(5) of the *Local Government Act 2019*.

Clause 13.1 *Guideline 1: Local Authorities 2021*.

Council's Scheduling and Conduct of Meetings (Elected, Local Authority and Council Committee Members) Policy.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

This report is aligned to the following pillars and goals of the *Regional Plan and Budget*:

PILLAR 6 FOUNDATIONS OF GOVERNANCE

Integrity is at the heart of everything we do. We are leaders of best practice and excellence in governance, advocacy, consultation and administration. Our processes, procedures and policies are ethical and transparent.

Goal 6.3 Council and Local Authorities

Excellence in governance, consultation administration and representation.

ATTACHMENTS

1. unconfirmed gunbalanya local authority meeting minutes_-_9 july 2024 [6.1.1 - 6 pages]



Minutes of the West Arnhem Regional Council Gunbalanya Local Authority
Tuesday, 9 July 2024 at 10:00 am
Council Chambers

1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY AND OPENING OF MEETING

Chairperson Andy Garnarradj declared the meeting open at 10:35, welcomed all in attendance and did an Acknowledgement of Country.

APPOINTED MEMBERS PRESENT

Chairperson	Andy Garnarradj
Member	Grant Nayinggul
Member	Evonne Gumurdul
Member	Maxwell Garnarradj
Member	Kenneth Mangiru

ELECTED MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor	James Woods
Deputy Mayor	Elizabeth Williams (via video)
Councillor	Donna Nadjamerrek

STAFF PRESENT

Chief Executive Officer	Andrew Walsh
Director Community and Council Services	Fiona Ainsworth
Senior Projects Manager	Hilal Ahmad
General Manager Technical Services	Sara Fitzgerald (via video)
Information Advisor	Ben Heaslip (via video)
Manager Community Services	Marnie Mitchell (via video)
Project Co-ordinator Infrastructure	Sam Fazzolari (via video)
Manager Business Development	Leanne Johansson (via video)

GUESTS

Lachlan McKenzie	Adjumarllarl Aboriginal Corporation
Aneurin Townsend	Department of Chief Minister and Cabinet
Jermaine Namanurki	Member of the Public

3 APOLOGIES AND ABSENCES

Agenda Reference:	3.1
Title:	Apologies and Leave of Absence
Author:	Jasmine Mortimore, Acting Governance and Risk Advisor

The Local Authority considered a report on Apologies and Leave of Absence.

GUN16/2024 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Chairperson Garnarradj
Seconded Member Mangiru

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY receive and note Member's apologies for Members Henry Yates, Connie Nayinggul, Cr Otto Dann and Cr Gabby Gumurdul for the Local Authority meeting held on 9 July 2024.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	3.2
Title:	Absent without Notice
Author:	Jasmine Mortimore, Acting Governance and Risk Advisor

The Local Authority considered a report on Absent without Notice.

GUN17/2024 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Member Garnarradj
Seconded Member G Nayinggul

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY receive and notes no Member's absences without notice for the Local Authority meeting held on 9 July 2024.

CARRIED

4 ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

Agenda Reference:	4.1
Title:	Acceptance of Agenda
Author:	Jasmine Mortimore, Acting Governance and Risk Advisor

The Local Authority considered a report on Acceptance of Agenda.

GUN18/2024 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Member Mangiru
Seconded Member G Nayinggul

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY accepts the agenda papers as circulated for the Gunbalanya Local Authority meeting held on 9 July 2024.

CARRIED

5 DECLARATION OF INTEREST OF MEMBERS OR STAFF

Agenda Reference:	5.1
Title:	Disclosure of Interest of Members or Staff
Author:	Jasmine Mortimore, Acting Governance and Risk Advisor

The Local Authority considered a report on Disclosure of Interest of Members or Staff.

GUN19/2024 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Chairperson Garnarradj
Seconded Member Gumurdul

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY receives no declarations of interest for the Gunbalanya Local Authority meeting held on 9 July 2024.

CARRIED

6 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Agenda Reference:	6.1
Title:	Confirmation of Local Authority Meeting Minutes
Author:	Jasmine Mortimore, Acting Governance and Risk Advisor

The Local Authority considered a report on Confirmation of Local Authority Meeting Minutes.

GUN20/2024 RESOLVED:

**On the motion of Member Mangiru
Seconded Member Garnarradj**

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY adopts the minutes of the 7 March 2024 Gunbalanya Local Authority as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

7 ACTION REPORTS

Agenda Reference:	7.1
Title:	Review of Action Items
Author:	Ben Heaslip, Information Advisor

The Local Authority considered a report on Review of Action Items.

GUN21/2024 RESOLVED:

**On the motion of Chairperson Garnarradj
Seconded Member G Nayinggul**

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Receive and note the report entitled *Review of Action Items*.
2. Review the outstanding action items and give approval for completed items to be removed from the register, with the exception of the water leak in oval irrigation system item.
3. Agree to withdraw the financial contribution towards fireworks and remove it from the action register.
4. Raise concerns about power meters being damaged and request PowerWater attend the next LA meeting to discuss.
5. Request Department of Chief Minister and Cabinet to take action on tree removal on Lot 586.
6. Invite TFHC to next meeting to discuss further actions on tree removal including the rate at which repairs are carried out.
7. Invite William Costigan, Director Health to next meeting to discuss service standards and delays on after hours service.
8. Agree to remove Gravel Pits from action items and not to discuss them at LA meetings.
9. Send a letter to NT Police and MVR requesting regular services for the community and raise the issue of time it takes to process licences.
10. Request the CEO to investigate tax returns for community members.
11. Confirm if NLA employee visited Gunbalanya and showed community members the items from the Uranium Proposal document list.
12. Remove the Soil Testing item from Action Items; and
13. Follow up PowerWater on access roads

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	7.2
Title:	Gunbalanya Oval Lighting
Author:	Hilal Ahmad, Senior Project Manager

Cr Nadjamerrek entered the meeting at 11:35 am
Deputy Mayor Williams left the meeting at 11:44 am.
The Local Authority considered a report on Gunbalanya Oval Lighting.

GUN22/2024 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Chairperson Garnarradj
Seconded Member Mangiru

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Receive and note the report entitled *Gunbalanya Oval Lighting*.
2. Approve continuation of construction on the Gunbalanya Oval Lights Project.
3. Contribute \$100,000 of LAPF Funding for further expenditure; and
4. Request opening ceremony for lights once complete.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	7.3
Title:	Finance Report to May 2024
Author:	Corey White, Acting Finance Manager

The Local Authority considered a report on Finance Report to May 2024.

GUN23/2024 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Member Gumurdul
Seconded Member Garnarradj

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

Receive and note the report entitled *Finance Report to May 2024*.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	7.4
Title:	Assessment report for the Gunbalanya Oval
Author:	Clem Beard, Project Manager Technical Services

The Local Authority considered a report on Assessment report for the Gunbalanya Oval.

GUN24/2024 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Mayor Woods
Seconded Chairperson Garnarradj

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Receive and note the report entitled *Assessment report for the Gunbalanya Oval*; and
2. Approve the allocation of \$5,000.00 from LA Funding to produce a comprehensive report for the Sports Oval to seek funding for enhancements to footy oval.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	7.5
Title:	Modifications to staff and visitors rest area at the office
Author:	Clem Beard, Project Manager Technical Services

The Local Authority considered a report on Modifications to staff and visitors rest area at the office.

GUN25/2024 RESOLVED:

**On the motion of Cr Nadjamerrek
Seconded Member Gumurdul**

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Receive and note the report entitled *Modifications to staff and visitors rest area at the office.*
2. Do not approve \$22,429.00 for additional seating and purlin installation at the office rest area; and
3. Request Administration to bring seating proposal to next meeting with photos.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	7.6
Title:	Installation of pavers for Aged Care Clients - Gunbalanya
Author:	Clem Beard, Project Manager Technical Services

The Local Authority considered a report on Installation of pavers for Aged Care Clients - Gunbalanya.

GUN26/2024 RESOLVED:

**On the motion of Member G Nayinggul
Seconded Cr Nadjamerrek**

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Receive and note the report entitled *Installation of pavers for Aged Care Clients – Gunbalanya.*
2. Approve the allocation of \$52,800.00 from Gunbalanya Local Authority funding for the installation of pavers including Lot 562; and
3. Request the Administration send a letter to NT Dept Aged Care and NDIS to make them aware of this project.

CARRIED

8 RECEIVE AND NOTE REPORTS

Agenda Reference:	8.1
Title:	Top End Youth Leadership Summit April 2024
Author:	Marnie Mitchell, Manager Community Services Support

The Local Authority considered a report on Top End Youth Leadership Summit April 2024.

GUN27/2024 RESOLVED:

**On the motion of Cr Nadjamerrek
Seconded Mayor Woods**

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY receive and note the report entitled *Top End Youth Leadership Summit April 2024.*

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	8.2
Title:	Council's Regional Plan and Budget 2024-2025
Author:	Andrew Walsh, Chief Executive Officer

The Local Authority considered a report on Council Regional Plan and Budget 2024-2025.

GUN28/2024 RESOLVED:

**On the motion of Member Mangiru
Seconded Cr Nadjamerrek**

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY receive and note the report entitled Council's Regional Plan and Budget 2024-2205.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	8.3
Title:	CSM Operations Report on Current Council Services
Author:	Vicki McCoy, Council Services Manager, Gunbalanya

The Local Authority considered a report on CSM Operations Report on Current Council Services.

GUN29/2024 RESOLVED:

**On the motion of Member Mangiru
Seconded Chairperson Garnarradj**

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY receive and note the report entitled *CSM Operations Report on Current Council Services*.

CARRIED

9 LOCAL AUTHORITY MEMBER QUESTIONS WITH OR WITHOUT NOTICE

Agenda Reference:	9.1
Title:	Local Authority Member Questions with or without Notice
Author:	Jasmine Mortimore, Acting Governance and Risk Advisor

The Local Authority consider a report on Local Authority Member Questions with or without Notice.

GUN30/2024 RESOLVED:

**On the motion of Cr Nadjamerrek
Seconded Member Gumurdul**

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY record for action the following questions from Members:

1. Administration invite DEMED Chair and CEO to next Local Authority meeting; LA to voice concerns over level of service to homeland members and feel that DEMED are forgetting people.

CARRIED

10 NEXT MEETING

Next meeting of the Gunbalanya Local Authority is scheduled for Wednesday 11 September 2024

11 MEETING DECLARED CLOSED

Chairperson Andy Garnarradj declared the meeting closed at 2:30 pm.

This page and the preceding pages are the minutes of the Gunbalanya Local Authority held on Tuesday 9 July 2024.

[Click here](#) to view agenda for the Gunbalanya Local Authority Meeting held on 9 July 2024

WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 11 SEPTEMBER 2024

Agenda Reference:	7.1
Title:	NT Health - Community Alcohol Plan
Author:	Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide Gunbalanya Local Authority with a list of presentations to be made by various stakeholders of the West Arnhem Regional Council.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

1. Noted the presentations on Community Alcohol Plan by NT Health.

BACKGROUND

At various times, the Authority requests that presentations be made so that issues can be raised and information shared.

COMMENT

The following visitors/presentations will be in attendance at today's meeting.

Gunbalanya Local Authority Meeting – Presentations / Visitors			
Topic	Presenter/Visitor	Organisation	Invited by
Information on the Development and Funding of the Community Alcohol Plan (CAPs)	Sofia McPerson – Principal Alcohol Action Officer	NT Health	At their request to attend

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

This report is aligned to the following pillars and goals of the *Regional Plan and Budget*:

PILLAR 1 PARTNERSHIPS, RELATIONSHIPS AND BELONGING

Investing in relationships and partnerships at all levels supports and strengthens community and belonging. We prioritise the value of partnerships and relationships as a key determinant of a happy, strong and thriving community.

Goal 1.1 Community Engagement

Seek out and support diverse perspectives and collaborations with community, community leaders, businesses, agencies and local service providers to enhance community life.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Community Alcohol Plan CAP overview [7.1.1 - 9 pages]
2. interim-apa-guide-for-communities [7.1.2 - 14 pages]

Department of Health

Community Alcohol Plan CAP

NT Health



Welcome

“I would like to acknowledge that this meeting is being held on the traditional lands of the xxxx, and pay my respect to elders both past and present, I would also like to acknowledge any Aboriginal or Torres Strait Island people that have joined us today.

Background

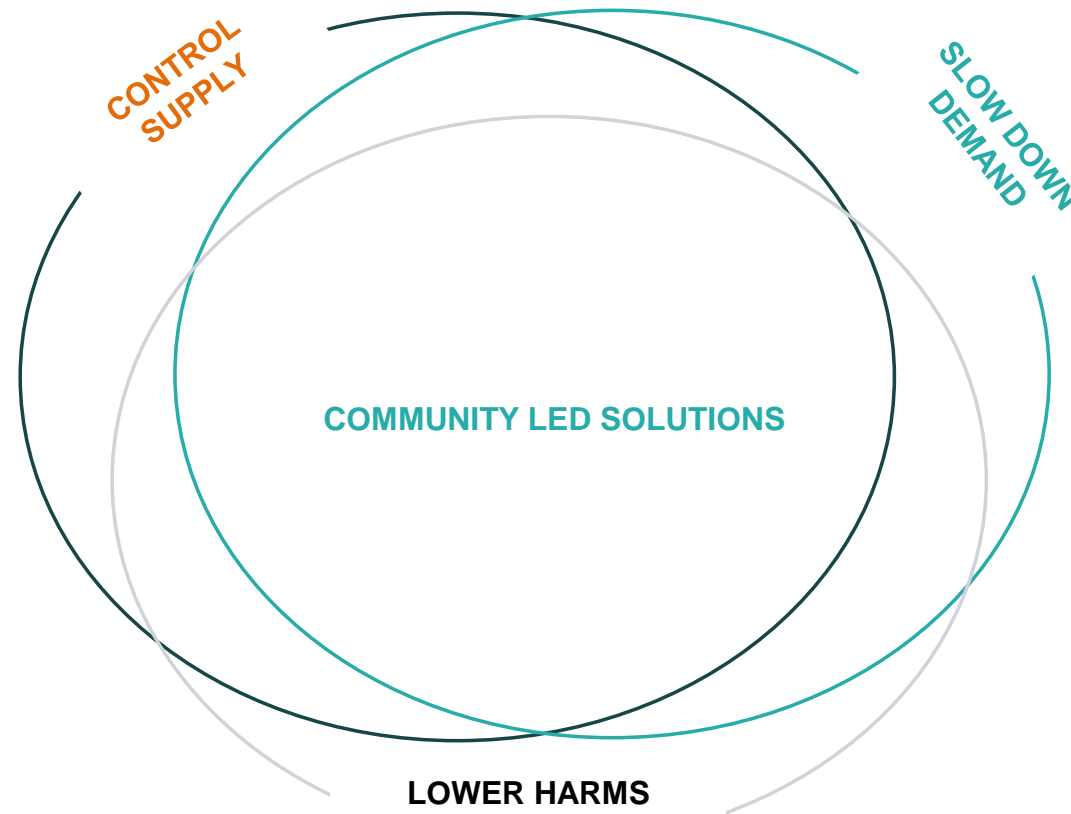
Community-Led Solutions to Alcohol Management;

- NTG want to talk to community leaders and communities to understand best ways to reduce harm from alcohol and other drugs.
- We want to work together with communities make a Community Alcohol Plan (CAP)
- Communities will decide what actions are in these Plans;
 1. Reduce Supply - manage Alcohol and Drugs coming in and out of communities.
 2. Reduce Demand - change how Alcohol is used and how help reaches people
 3. Reduce Harm - any activities that prevent harm or support positive responses to Alcohol in community
- The actions in a Community Alcohol Plan can be funded.

CAP can be made by :

- A Community DIY approach
- NT Health Officers support making these Plans
- Consultants - communities can engage a consultant

Community Alcohol Plan



Supply Reduction

Any actions that help control supply and availability of alcohol

For example,

- Actions to stop “grog-running” e.g. police roadblocks and patrols; community patrols
- Dry areas with no alcohol-allowed
- Actions to control when and how alcohol is available
 - Alcohol free days
 - Limit alcohol amount for sale and how strong
 - Drinking zones in the community
 - Alcohol free houses
 - Community clubs
- Communities to liaise NT Licensing to agree controlled supply and access to alcohol e.g. Permit systems etc

Demand Reduction

Any actions that reduce demand for alcohol.

This includes:

- Community & health education and awareness campaigns
 - working with vulnerable people to not drink or drink less (e.g. pregnant women or young people);
 - having alcohol-free events.
- Health services providing community support;
 - training to talk to people with risky drinking behaviour
 - support pathway to treatment and rehabilitation services for individuals and families who need
 - link to social & emotional wellbeing (SEWB) services to address other reasons for heavy drinking.
- Supporting local activities and support for people to reduce their alcohol use
 - sport
 - youth diversion activities
- Community-based programs
 - role models
 - influence responsible drinking
- Other activities that help change drinking behaviours (cultural camps, sport, music, arts etc.)

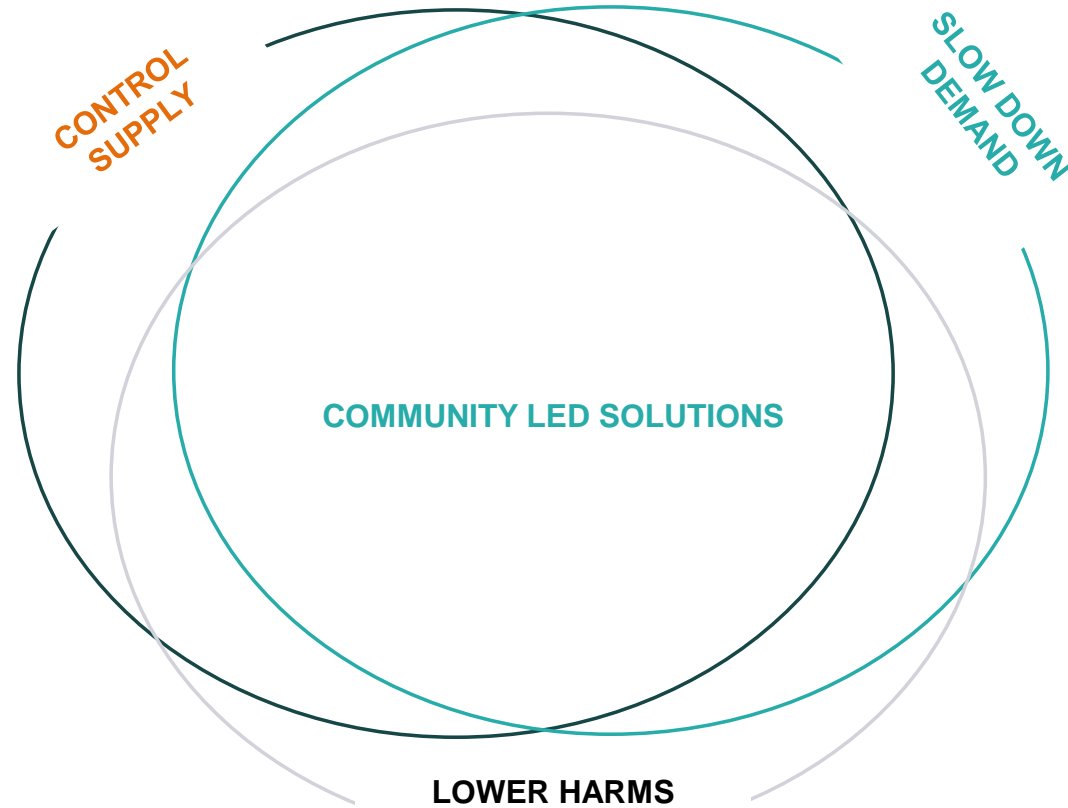
Harm Reduction

Any actions that reduce harm or support positive responses to Alcohol in community

This includes:

- Safety through night patrols, safe houses and sobering up places
- Community education aimed at reduction of harm
- Supports for alcohol related violence, homelessness and crime.
- Alcohol and other drug treatment and rehabilitation services available in the community
- Safe transport
- Upgrading of public spaces with better lighting
- Peer support groups such as Women's shelters; Men's Groups; and Youth Groups
- Diversion programs and Community policing

Community Alcohol Plan



Community-Led Discussion

Aim:

To discuss making a Community Alcohol Plan (CAP) that outlines local community solutions to alcohol-related harm.

This involves:

- Green Light from Traditional Owners, Landowners and Family leaders
 - Carefully listening to community views
 - Using local knowledge to manage alcohol in community with least harm
 - Responsible drinking education for everyone
 - Improving access to support - alcohol counselling and treatment for people who need it
 - Starting sports, schools, music or youth diversion activities
 - Education about support for people with alcohol issues
 - Deciding what investments and activities will make most difference
 - ~~How all the current supports and services can contribute~~
-

Understanding the interim alcohol protected area opt-out model:

A guide for Communities



Document title	Understanding the interim alcohol protected area opt-out model: A guide for Communities
Contact details	Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet
Approved by	Giovina D'Alessandro, Senior Executive Director Alcohol Policy Coordination Unit
Date approved	2 August 2023
Document review	As required

Version	Date	Author	Changes made
0.1	5/06/2023	Alcohol Policy Coordination Unit	First version
1.0	2/08/2023	Alcohol Policy Coordination Unit	Approved version

Acronyms	Full form
AMP	Alcohol Management Plan
CAP	Community Alcohol Plan
DITT	Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade
GRA	General Restricted Area

Glossary

Director of Liquor Licencing	<p>The Director of Liquor Licencing (Director) holds a statutory role with power to make determinations in respect to certain liquor matters under the Liquor Act 2019 (the Liquor Act).</p> <p>As part of the application process to opt-out the Director must consider a Community Alcohol Plan. The Director's decision and reasons are published in a written notice.</p>
The Northern Territory Liquor Commission	<p>The Northern Territory Liquor Commission (the Liquor Commission) was established under the <i>Liquor Commission Act 2018</i>. The Liquor Commission is an independent statutory authority with extensive powers to regulate liquor licencing in the Northern Territory.</p> <p>It is the primary decision-maker in regards to liquor licence applications and in hearing and determining complaints under the Liquor Act.</p>



About this guide

On 16 February 2023, the new interim alcohol protected area (APA) opt-out model came into effect. The changes were informed by the Office of the Central Australia Regional Controller's first report to the Northern Territory and Commonwealth governments. The report recommended urgent amendments to the Liquor Act.

The Liquor Act includes ways in which alcohol can be controlled in different places in the NT. The amendments effectively changed interim alcohol protected areas (interim APAs) from an opt-in to an opt-out model.

If your community, homeland or outstation is now an interim APA this guide will help you to consider the following options:

- to have alcohol with no restrictions
- to have alcohol with customised restrictions
- to be a dry community.

The restrictions are time-limited and are set to finish up on 28 February 2027.

A new opt-out model

The opt-out model applies to all NT communities previously subject to alcohol restrictions under the Commonwealth's *Stronger Futures in the Northern Territory Act 2012* legislation.

The model means that all communities will be dry, and it will be against the law to bring in, possess, consume, sell or supply alcohol in these areas unless authorised to do so.

Get the list of interim APA communities.

[Interim APA communities PDF \(545.3 KB\)](#)

[Interim APA communities XLSX \(42.2 KB\)](#)

Communities that were already an interim APA under the old model area are automatically covered by the new opt-out model. They will remain dry and will not need to do anything.

Communities that are a general restricted area (GRA) are also not affected and don't need to do anything.

Get the list of GRAs.

[General restricted areas PDF \(495.3 KB\)](#)

[General restricted areas XLSX \(43.8 KB\)](#)

How to opt-out

A community can decide how it wants alcohol to be sold and consumed in the community.

This can involve:

- if a community has a licensed premises, agreeing on specific days and hours of trade for a licensed premises
- types of alcohol
- locations for selling alcohol
- using a permit system
- a community can also decide that it wants to apply to remove any restrictions on alcohol.

If you want to allow alcohol back in your community, you need to opt-out of the model and stop being an interim APA.

There are two ways a community can stop being an interim APA:

- by having your interim APA status revoked by the Director of Liquor Licensing or
- by applying to become a GRA by the Liquor Commission and gaining approval.

Some models communities may wish to consider include:

Partial liquor restriction	<p>A community can choose to partially restrict the possession and consumption of alcohol.</p> <p>For example, Barunga has a partial restriction of alcohol where beer is permitted. However, all other liquor in the area is prohibited, unless the person has a liquor permit.</p>
Partial GRAs in a Community	<p>A community can also choose to designate a specific area of land to restrict the possession and consumption of alcohol.</p> <p>For example, the Nyirranggulung Mardrulk Ngadberre GRA covers a large portion of land, however excludes the community of Beswick.</p>
Liquor permit system	<p>A liquor permit system can be introduced into a GRA, enabling communities to manage alcohol responsibly.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • alcohol volume limits • establishing permit committees for approving, varying and revoking individual permits • breaches and penalties regime • local decision making in the management of permits
Community Clubs	<p>Applying to establish a community club is a separate process and requires an application for a Liquor licence. Further information on this process can be located in the Liquor Act and on the DIIT website.</p>

Developing a community alcohol

As a community decides whether to remain dry or bring back alcohol, an important part of the discussion involves considering supply, demand and harm reduction measures to support future alcohol management. The development of a Community Alcohol Plan (CAP) provides an essential framework to consider these elements.

A CAP must:

- be in writing
- specify the area the plan applies to
- how the plan will be implemented and managed by the community
- have the support of at least 60% of adults who live in the community
- comply with the Liquor Act and regulations
- state how long it will be in effect for
- include any other details set out in the Liquor Regulations.

The CAP must also include measures aimed at:

- managing the supply of alcohol
- reducing demand for alcohol in the community
- reducing harm or the risks of harm that may be caused by alcohol
- show how each measure will be measured.

Demonstrating community support for the plan

For communities with a population over 50 people, the CAP must include:

- the total number of adults who are genuine permanent residents of the community, that is, they do not have another place of residence
- the methods used to determine the total number of adults who reside in the community.

For communities with a population of 50 people or less, the CAP must include:

- a list of adults whose principal place of residence is within the community
- a signature from each adult showing their support of the Plan, provided that this represents at least 60% of the eligible cohort

Further information and guidance on CAP requirements can be found in the [Liquor Regulations 2019](#).

Assistance developing a Community Alcohol Plan

Communities who wish to explore these processes and support options should email AAISystems.DoH@nt.gov.au to register their interest.



Get your interim APA status revoked

To get your interim APA status revoked, follow these steps:

Step 1. Develop a community alcohol plan

The CAP must:

- be in writing
- have the support of at least 60% of adults who live in the community
- comply with the Liquor Act and regulations
- state how long it will be in effect for
- include any other details set out in the regulations

Get a copy of the [community alcohol plan template DOCX \(118.0 KB\)](#).

Step 2. Fill in the form

Fill in the [application to revoke an interim alcohol protection area DOCX \(66.9 KB\)](#) and have it signed by the registered land owners of the area.

Step 3. Attach supporting documents

You must provide all of the following with your application:

- detailed description of the area to be declared including a copy of the title or lease
- map of the area showing boundaries
- a copy of the CAP
- evidence that the CAP is supported by at least 60% of adults living in the area
 - you can ask the NT Electoral Commission to do a ballot of the community

Find out more about this service on the [NTEC website](#)

Step 4. Submit your application

Email your application and supporting documents to InterimAPA.Enquiries@nt.gov.au

After you apply

The Director will review your application and decide whether to revoke the interim APA status.

They will consult with NT Police, NT Health, healthcare providers and any other relevant stakeholders.

The Director may revoke all or part of an interim APA if satisfied that the revocation is in the public interest and not likely to have a significant adverse impact on the Territory community.

If approved, the Director will provide a notice of this decision and publish it on the [DIIT website](#), which will include a copy of your CAP. You can then legally allow alcohol back in your community as per the Director's decision.

The Director must review the CAP for a community within 12 months after the interim APA for the community is revoked.

If you decide later on to operate a community club and want to sell or supply alcohol, you must [apply for a liquor licence](#).

Become a general restricted area

After a community has chosen their customised alcohol restrictions model, they need to apply to become GRA.

As a GRA you can:

1. Allow alcohol in your community under certain conditions; or
2. Choose to ban alcohol completely in your community.

To apply to become a GRA, follow these steps:

Step 1. Fill in the form

Fill in the [GRA application DOCX \(66.8 KB\)](#).

You must include:

- a detailed explanation of the restriction being proposed
- a detailed description of the proposed GRA
- reasons for the proposed restriction
- Where available include a CAP.

Step 2. Submit your application

Email the form to InterimAPA.Enquiries@nt.gov.au

After you apply

The Director will:

- notify residents, licensees and any local councils of the restrictions
- consult on the proposed restrictions with residents and councils
- provide a report to the Liquor Commission on submissions received from the consultation.

The Liquor Commission will review the report and decide whether to declare the community a GRA.

If approved, a notice of the decision will be published on the [Liquor Commission website](#).



Alcohol in communities guide 2023 | 7

More information

A range of useful resources can be located on NT.GOV.AU on the 'Changes to alcohol restrictions in NT communities' [page](#) including:

Former Alcohol management plans

If your community previously developed an alcohol management plan (AMP) under the Stronger Futures legislation, you can request a copy by emailing alcoholpolicy@nt.gov.au.

Get the list of communities with AMPs:

- [AMPs PDF \(85.7 KB\)](#)
- [AMPs XLSX \(39.4 KB\)](#)

Factsheets on interim APAs and GRAs

- [Interim APA fact sheet PDF \(175.7 KB\)](#)
- [GRA fact sheet PDF \(152.6 KB\)](#)

Alcohol Policy in the NT

The Northern Territory Government is working in partnership with communities to manage alcohol and reduce alcohol-related harm for all Territorians. The Alcohol Policy in the NT website provides useful information and resources about alcohol policy as well as key alcohol-related indicators in the Territory.

- Link to the [alcohol policy website](#)

Office of Central Australian Regional Controller

On 24 January 2023, the Prime Minister Anthony Albanese and Northern Territory Chief Minister Natasha Fyles announced the appointment of a Central Australian Regional Controller to coordinate government's response to the reported levels of alcohol-related harm occurring in Alice Springs. The role will also see the Controller develop and implement a medium to long-term plan for the region, which will include information on how to progress economic development and improve liveability.

- Link to further information on the [Central Australian Regional Response](#)



Key contacts

If you would like more information to help your community decide what to do, contact your nearest local regional office.

Barkly	Phone: 08 8962 4503 Email: barkly.cmc@nt.gov.au
Big Rivers	Phone: 08 8973 8588 Email: cmc.bigrivers@nt.gov.au
Darwin, Palmerston and Litchfield	Phone: 08 8999 3425 Email: cmc.dplexec@nt.gov.au
East Arnhem	Phone: 08 8987 0536 Email: eastarnhem.cmc@nt.gov.au
Top End	Phone: 08 8999 5430 Email: cmc.topend@nt.gov.au
Central Australia	Phone: 08 8951 5781 Email: asp.cmc@nt.gov.au

Other contacts

Licensing NT	Phone: 08 8999 1800 Email: ditt.licensingnt@nt.gov.au
Banned Drinker Register	Phone: 1800 237 226 Email: BannedDrinkerRegister.doh@nt.gov.au
NT Electoral Commission	Phone: 1800 698 683 Email: ntec@nt.gov.au

Support

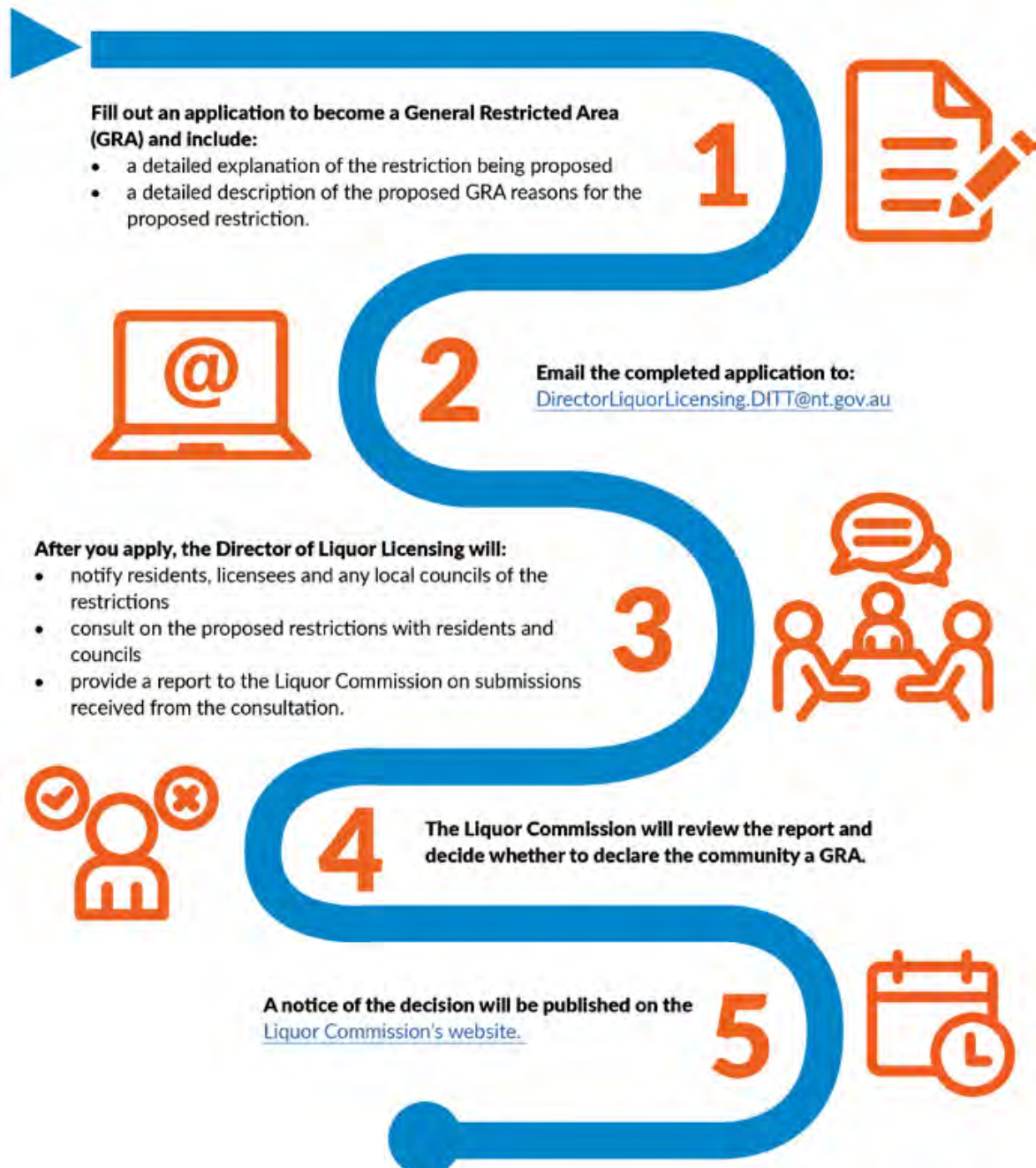
For drug and alcohol services in the NT, call [08 8999 1800](tel:0889991800) or email MHAOD.DOH@nt.gov.au

Overview of the interim opt-out model options



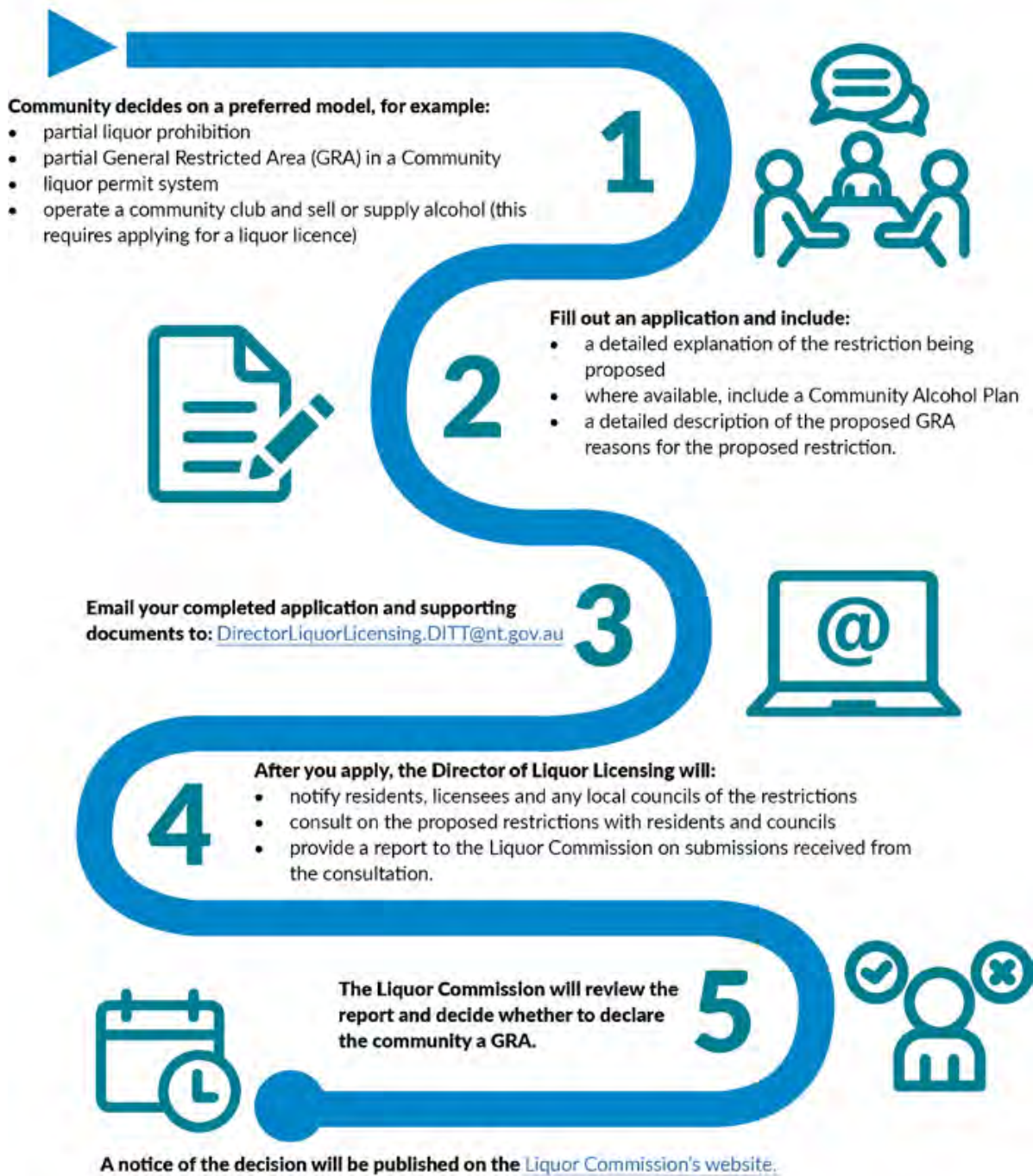
A quick guide to remaining a dry community

Pathway 1. Community decides to remain dry and completely ban alcohol.



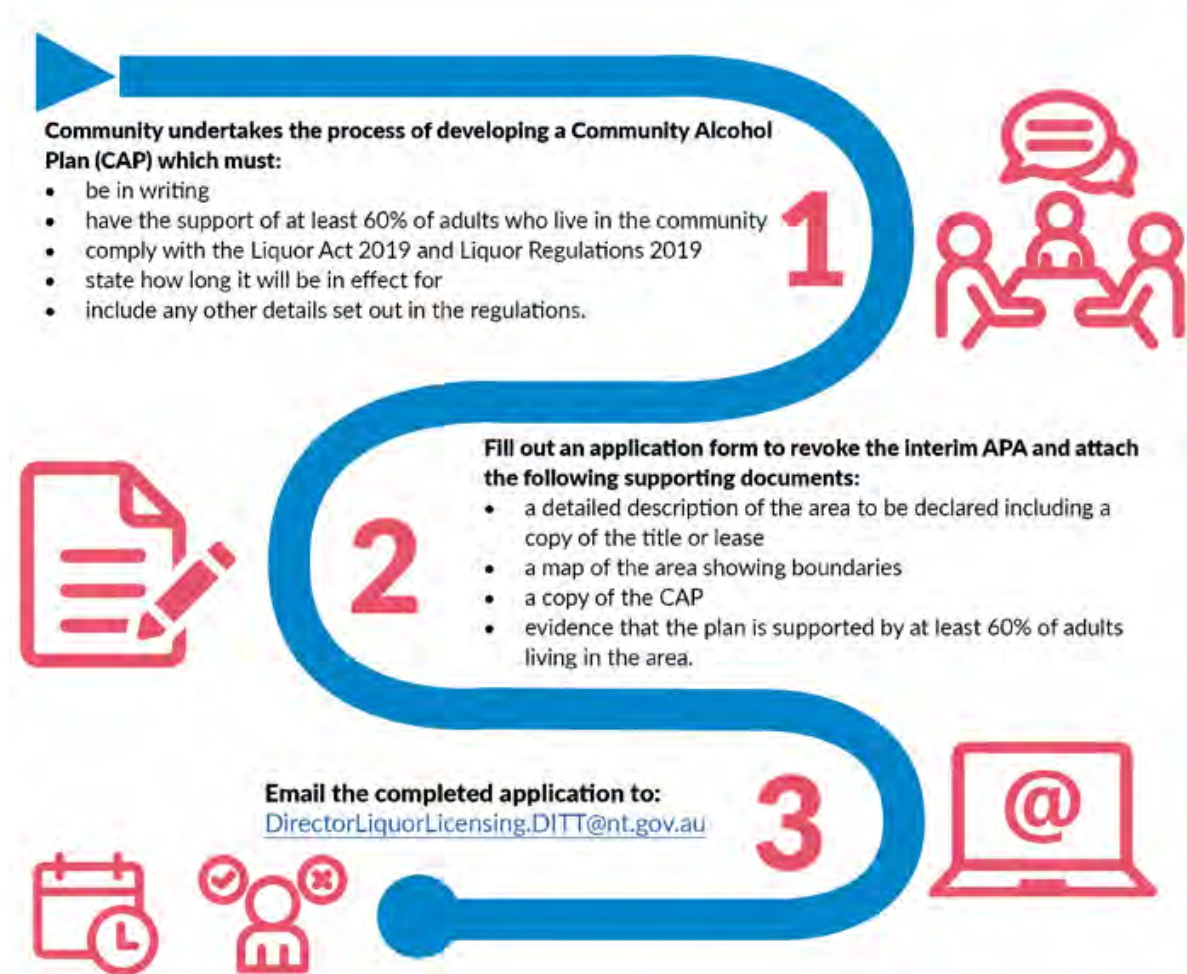
A quick guide to allowing some alcohol back into the community

Pathway 2. Community decides to have alcohol with customised restrictions.



A quick guide to remove interim APA status

Pathway 3. Community decides to have no alcohol restrictions and revoke their interim alcohol protected area (APA) status



After you apply the Director of Liquor Licensing (the Director) will review your application and decide whether to revoke the interim APA status. They will consult with NT Police, NT Health, healthcare providers and any other relevant stakeholders.

The Director may remove all or part of an interim APA if satisfied the revocation is in the public interest and not likely to have a significant impact on the Territory community .

If approved, the Director will provide a notice of this decision and publish it on the Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade website, which will include a copy of your CAP. You can then legally allow alcohol back in your community as per the Director's decision. The Director must review the CAP for a community within 12 months after the interim APA for the community is revoked.

If you decide later on to operate a community club and want to sell or supply alcohol, you must apply for a liquor licence.

Understanding the interim alcohol protected area opt-out model:

A guide for Communities



WEST ARNHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 11 SEPTEMBER 2024

Agenda Reference:	7.2
Title:	Aboriginal Peak Organisation Northern Territory - Aboriginal Education Steering Committee
Author:	Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide Gunbalanya Local Authority with a list of presentations to be made by various stakeholders of the West Arnhem Regional Council.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY noted the presentations on the Aboriginal Education Peak Body by Aboriginal Peak Organisation of the NT.

BACKGROUND

At various times, the Authority requests that presentations be made so that issues can be raised and information shared.

COMMENT

The following visitors/presentations will be in attendance at today's meeting.

Gunbalanya Local Authority Meeting – Presentations / Visitors			
Topic	Presenter/Visitor	Organisation	Invited by
Information of the Aboriginal Education Peak Body	Rheannon Veava	Aboriginal Peak Organisation of the NT (APONT)	At their request to attend.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

This report is aligned to the following pillars and goals of the *Regional Plan and Budget*:

PILLAR 1 PARTNERSHIPS, RELATIONSHIPS AND BELONGING

Investing in relationships and partnerships at all levels supports and strengthens community and belonging. We prioritise the value of partnerships and relationships as a key determinant of a happy, strong and thriving community.

Goal 1.1 Community Engagement

Seek out and support diverse perspectives and collaborations with community, community leaders, businesses, agencies and local service providers to enhance community life.

ATTACHMENTS

1. APO NT ED Terms of Reference [7.2.1 - 6 pages]
2. Ed Forum report October 2023 FINAL [7.2.2 - 18 pages]



**Aboriginal Peak
Organisations**
NORTHERN TERRITORY

ABORIGINAL EDUCATION STEERING COMMITTEE 2023

Terms of Reference

PURPOSE OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE

SPEAK UP STRONG – advocate for key priorities and drive change.

CHANGE THE EXPERIENCE FOR OTHERS coming through the system.

CHANGE THE STORY – raise the expectations of children, young people, and their families.

Work towards **BALANCING OPPORTUNITIES** and resourcing between urban and remote schools.

Works towards **COMMUNITY CONTROL**.

SYSTEM CHANGE – support education to be meaningful and relevant.

SHIFT THE BALANCE OF POWER.

HOLD GOVERNMENTS TO ACCOUNT.

VALUING ABORIGINAL WAYS AND WESTERN WAYS EQUALLY.

BE PREPARED AND PURPOSEFUL – setting clear standards and vision that governments can support.

SUPPORT CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE TO RECONNECT TO SONG LINES – knowing who we are, where we come from and where we are going.

In addition to this, the committee will:

Explore options of establishing an independent, Aboriginal Education peak body including, providing direction on the governance structures, purpose, objectives, membership, terms of reference that will determine the peak body.

Establish a communications and engagement strategy.

Identify key priorities and develop an education advocacy campaign.

Advocate for Aboriginal children and young people in the NT that relate to the key priorities set by the committee, and that are informed by APO NT Aboriginal community engagement.



Aboriginal Peak Organisations

NORTHERN TERRITORY

WAYS OF WORKING TOGETHER

Our committee agree to work together in the following ways:

RESPECT – show respect for each other, our history, our knowledge, and experiences within the group, as well as with the communities, families, and everyone that we work with.

ACCOUNTABILITY – we will be accountable to each other and to Aboriginal people and communities of the NT.

SELF-DETERMINATION – We honour the leadership within the committee and within APONT. We recognise the rights of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to be informed and determine our own futures and make our own decisions about what is right for our people.

CULTURE AND LANGUAGES – In all our conduct, actions and decisions, the acknowledgement and valuing of culture and languages is essential.

VOICE OF COMMUNITY, STAFF AND MEMBERS – It is important that all our work is community controlled. We value the expertise and experiences of committee members, APONT members, community, and staff.

HONESTY – if we are to make any great progress, there must be honest conversations, within the committee, with APONT and particularly with the government.

TRUST – There needs to be trust within the group, with APONT and with the government.

UNITY AND COLLABORATION – We will prioritise relationships and connections that support better educational outcomes for children, families, and communities. We will work together as one for the benefit of all Aboriginal children and young people. We will work in partnership the government and other partners.

CONFIDENTIALITY – The committees' meetings and interactions are conducted in a safe, confidential, and supported environment. Personal experiences and information shared in this group stay within the group. Any information shared by APO NT will be deidentified unless agreed to.

*Our committee will work in ways that reflect the practices that will be asked of schools and governments.



Aboriginal Peak Organisations

NORTHERN TERRITORY

WHO WE ARE WORKING FOR

We are looking forward to future generations. Our work is to improve the education systems for generations to come. Our view is that education starts at birth and continues through to the elderly. That is our scope.

It is important that members can represent a range of people and make decisions based on the greater good of all Aboriginal people in the NT. Accountability is ultimately to the children, young people and adults who are recipients of the work that will be undertaken by this committee.

Steering committee meetings

Members will commit to meeting:

- 3 times per year in person for a maximum of 2 days.
- Members will also attend virtual meetings 3 times per year for a half day via video link.

APO NT will fund members attendance at meetings including travel allowance, sitting Fees, travel and accommodation.

Meeting venues will vary throughout the year. Members will determine the most appropriate meeting places.

Where relevant, APO NT will ensure interpreters are engaged to support the group. Resources and presentations will be delivered in a way that is relevant and culturally appropriate to all members.

Minutes and other papers will be forwarded to members in a timely manner. The following will apply:

- Minutes of the meetings will go out 10 business days post the meeting date.
- Papers for consideration, discussion or information will be sent to members at least 1 week in advance where possible. The Senior Project Officer will be available to engage with members 1:1 as is required.

Roles and Responsibilities

Membership

Members will be in a unique position that enables them to represent their communities and/or organisations, as well as offer their expertise and knowledge of the education sector for the purpose of enhancing education experiences and outcomes for Aboriginal children and young people. In particular, the membership will:

- Be committed to positive change in Aboriginal education.



Aboriginal Peak Organisations

NORTHERN TERRITORY

- Be committed to supporting the Aboriginal Community Controlled sector, families, children and young people to have a voice.
- Experience working in or participating in Aboriginal education.
- Be, or have been a leader in education in one or more of the following areas of education: early childhood, primary, secondary, tertiary including VET, higher education, and other adult education.
- Have advocacy experience and skills.
- Ability to provide strategic and sound advice on the development of the NT Independent Aboriginal Education Peak Body
- Ability to commit to the responsibilities of the role i.e., attendance, represent the committee at forums/meetings, share knowledge with others about what is happening in Aboriginal education and what the committee are doing.

Representation

Where practical, the entire membership will represent the following:

- 12-16 members maximum
- 1 APO NT member representative (this should be an Aboriginal representative)
- Ideally there will be a mix of senior and younger Aboriginal educators.
- 2 young people
- A balance of genders
- 100% membership will be Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.
- Regional representation where practical = East Arnhem, West Arnhem, Top End, Top end West, Katherine, Barkly, Central Australia, Anindilyakwa.
- Where possible = remote communities, town camps, urban, regional, homelands and outstations.

Member responsibilities

Steering committee members will provide expert strategic advice, be able to advocate on behalf of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the NT, with regards to education and relevant external factors that impact a child and young person's ability to learn. As a steering committee member, you will also:

- As a steering committee member, you will bring passion and commitment to reforming the current education system.
- Agree to support the above stated purpose.
- Actively participate in committee activities to improve education that benefits all Aboriginal people and communities across the NT.
- Be a committee member for 18-24 months.
- Attend 3 meetings in person every year = maximum 2 days each.
- Attend 3 video meetings every year = 2-3 hour's each meeting.

In addition to this, you might be asked to:

- Attend special meetings that are relevant to the education priorities.

4



Aboriginal Peak Organisations

NORTHERN TERRITORY

- Attend and/or present at APO NT organised conferences or forums where relevant.
- Provide advice to APO NT about new government programs, services, policies, and legislation.
- Support the Senior Project Officer to engage with communities, organisation, or individuals where relevant.

Chairperson

The committee have agreed there will be no Chairperson at this stage.

Committee members have equal roles and responsibilities.

APO NT'S ROLE

Due to their being no Chairperson at the moment, the committee have agreed for the Senior Project Officer to facilitate the meetings.

APO NT is committed to doing everything it can to support the leadership within the steering committee to achieve its purpose. As such, APO NT will provide secretariat support such as:

- Organise meetings.
- preparing agendas
- prepare briefing papers.
- organise travel and accommodation.
- manage sitting fees if eligible.

We also commit to:

- Provide relevant and up to date information about session topics so that the committee can have informed discussions and decision-making processes.
- Provide regular updates out of session.
- Advice and/or recommendations where appropriate, based on the latest research and knowledges within the sector.
- Provide staff to support the establishment of the peak body.

Decision making

Our committee value and respect each other as equal members. When making decisions, this must be done all together to reach a consensus.

5



PASSING THE MESSAGE STICK

Education Forum - October 2023



Mulka Jarrama

"This message stick is about hope, peace and coming together. Starting a new journey, having the wisdom and knowledge together, to connect with Yolngu world and the western culture. This is what this message stick represents.

If we can build a bridge, our ancestors have done it before, it has been broken, so if we can build that bridge again, we can make things better.

The government need to understand, to listen to us, and listen to our voices.

Hopefully in the future, there will be changes for us and for the young ones as well"¹.



¹ Spoken by Garth Doolan – Aboriginal Education Steering Committee member, gifted the forum with Mulka Jarrama message stick.



Summary of forum key points:

Throughout the forum, there were several significant points raised that require immediate attention, including:

- Systemic racism is a significant issue experienced by many people on a day-to-day basis. This needs to be acknowledged and addressed as a matter of urgency.
- People feel voiceless. The concept of the peak body offers people hope.
- Less talking, more action.
- The current NT crisis in education can change, if government are willing to make this happen.
- Aboriginal people want a two-way system – Aboriginal education and western education to work together.
- The issues being experienced in education, are a human rights issue and should be approached from this perspective.

“We move forward together, in a spirit of hope and unity. One team, one voice. We will carry on the work of our ancestors, stand strong for our community, our people and our children”².



Graphic recording above – Where to from here?

² Participant quote



CALL TO ACTION

INVESTIGATION INTO THE INVESTMENT IN ABSTUDY (BOARDING SCHOOL SUPPORT).

The call to action is for the purpose of reviewing the investment into supporting students to leave communities to access boarding schools. The forum participants believe that some of this should be redirected to communities to assist students to remain on country, access secondary school there and graduate there.

ADDRESS SYSTEMIC RACISM IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

For too long people have been speaking out about their experiences of discrimination and racism.

EDUCATION IS A HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE AND SHOULD BE TREATED AS SUCH.

Participants request human rights re: education and self-determination be recognised and implemented according to the relevant UN conventions and declarations.

EXPOSE THE FAILURES RE: LACK OF INVESTMENT IN HOMELANDS SCHOOLS.

For too long children and young people living on homelands have been neglected. Their rights to education have been violated. This has not always been the case. There was a time when homelands were thriving, and students were getting their educational needs met. This has been taken away. Infrastructure is left to degrade, and children and young people are forgotten.

EFFECTIVE ENROLMENT BE IMMEDIATELY ABOLISHED AND REPLACED WITH NEEDS-BASED FUNDING.

CREATE A MECHANISM THAT EMPOWERS COMMUNITIES TO HAVE A VOICE AND PROMOTES ACCOUNTABILITY WITH SENIOR REGIONAL DIRECTORS.

This call to action is in relation to the consistent issue of principals having too much power and autonomy with managing schools.

RAISE THE EXPECTATIONS OF STUDENTS

This came from discussion about students finishing secondary school, but they can't read and write. This includes students who have attended boarding school.

IMPLEMENT CULTURALLY SAFE STANDARDS WITHIN ALL SCHOOLS ACROSS THE NT

These standards are being developed by the Aboriginal Education Steering Committee within APONT.



SETTING THE SCENE

The scene was set for an aspirational 2 days by Jerome Cubillo, Deputy Convenor for APONT and CEO of NT Indigenous Business Network. His opening speech acknowledged the voices of people at the forum:

“are integral to the formation of an Aboriginal Education Peak Body and to lead the change we envision for our children and young people. This forum represents a beacon of hope, a gathering of minds committed to transforming the landscape of Aboriginal education in the Territory”.

Mr Cubillo reminded us that;

“For Aboriginal communities, education holds even greater significance. It is the pathway to self-determination, cultural preservation, and social equity. It is the tool that empowers us to break the cycle of disadvantage, to bridge the gap that has persisted for far too long”.

“It is the foundation upon which we build our dreams, nurture our aspirations, and shape our destinies”.

“Education is not merely about acquiring knowledge or skills. It is about igniting the spark of curiosity, fostering a love for learning, and empowering individuals to become agents of change within their communities”.

We heard that genuine, meaningful partnerships with government, schools, families and students need to be collaborative, however guided by Aboriginal peoples’ terms and priorities. It cannot be done in isolation, however the significance of Aboriginal people’s place in transforming this system needs to be recognised and embedded in any reform. As we move forward throughout the transformative journey, Mr Cubillo stated;

“I am proud to stand alongside the exceptional educators and trailblazers in this room who are leading the way towards a better education system. Your dedication and innovative approaches inspire me, and I am honoured to be working alongside you”.

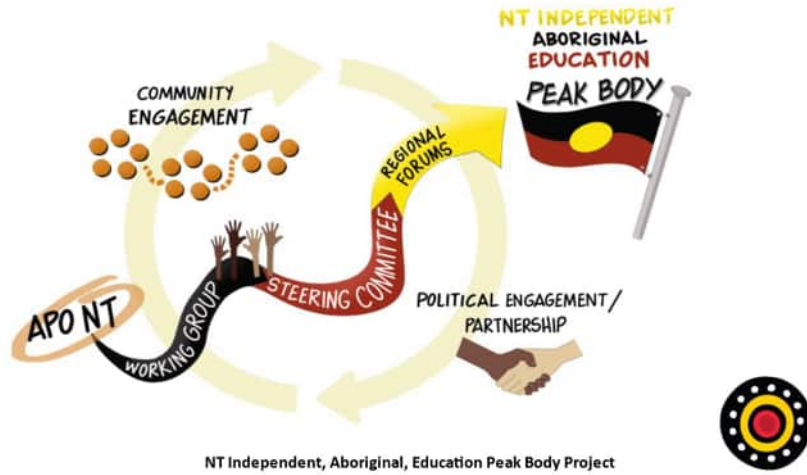


Photo – Jerome Cubillo



INDEPENDENT, ABORIGINAL EDUCATION PEAK BODY PROJECT TO DATE

Presentation by Christine Williamson



The forum heard about the APO NT advocacy that led to a commitment from the NTG Department of Education, including the recent commitment of 3 years of funding to establish a peak body. Initially a working group of APONT members was formed to guide and support APONT in developing the project. Through community engagement, a steering committee was formed (see below photo of committee members). APONT has also been participating in Territory and National groups, which include other State and Territory Aboriginal Education Peak Bodies. This initial forum is part of the regional forum stage, which will continue throughout the Territory at the request of the participants of this forum.



Aboriginal Education Steering Committee members

Tameka McMasters, Dale Hillen, Jocelyn Uibo, Fiona Gibson, Sharon Anderson, Angela Ross, APO NT Convenor Dr John Paterson, Hamilton Morris, Garth Doolan, Joseph Diddo



SETTING THE AGENDA

Facilitated by Christine Williamson

Our forum worked together to set the agenda for education across the NT. There were many priority areas identified for reforming and maintaining education; however, the key priorities are as follows:

- Appropriate funding for schools (abolish effective enrolment)
- Investment in local educators
- Investment in homelands schools
- Mandating culturally responsive learning
- Accountability – government and community
- Community support
- Education appropriate for unique contexts
- Kids graduating on country
- Education being relevant
- Education being approached from a human rights perspective
- Practical future pathways / development of life skills in schools, learning on country



Graphic recording (L) Setting the Agenda & (R) Nawarddeken Academy



NAWARDDEKEN ACADEMY

Presentation by Conrad Maralngurra, Michelle Bangarr and Olga Scholes



Photo above – Speaker, Olga Scholes, CEO

Photo below – Speaker – (L) Conrad Maralngurra Chairperson

<https://www.nawarddeken.org.au/>



Our Story

The Nawarddeken Academy story begins in 2002 when professor Bardayal Lofty Nadjamerrek OAM established the Manwurrk Rangers at Kabulwarnamyo - a forerunner of the company today known as Warddeken Land Management Limited (WLML). This ranger program pioneered Australia's first carbon abatement project, allowing Traditional Owners to live and work on their country.

Our Vision

Our Academy and community will work together to make our kids strong

in both Bininj (Indigenous) and Balanda (non-Indigenous) learning, so that when they leave the Academy they have the knowledge, skills and confidence that they need to make good life choices.



NSW ABORIGINAL EDUCATION CONSULTATIVE GROUP (AECG)

Presenters – Leigh Ridgeway and Emeritus Professor Dr John Lester



Graphic recording – NSW AECG presentation

The forum heard from the NSW AECG who have been operational for more than 40 years. The AECG have a sophisticated structure which reflects representatives from local, regional and state levels, including young people at the Junior AECG. We heard that their partnership agreement was key to working in collaboration with the NSW State Government. Other key learnings for the NT, are to consider accountability mechanisms, membership, governance and code of conduct.

Website link <https://www.aecg.nsw.edu.au/>





HOW TO SET UP A PEAK BODY – TO INCORPORATE OR NOT TO INCORPORATE.

Facilitated by Sasha Kiessling - Aboriginal Governance and Management Program

Sasha presented to the group re: purpose of a peak, pros, and cons of incorporation. This session built on day 1 – membership and representation. We learnt about informal and formal organisations, as pictured below, as well as what a peak organisation looks like.



Photo – Facilitator, Sasha Kiessling, AGMP



Currently the Aboriginal Education Steering Committee are an informal group, supported by APONT.



If the Aboriginal Education Steering committee were to become an incorporation, they could have a mix of memberships, and the members would elect the board to represent them.





Aboriginal participants respectfully called for a closed session to discuss the peak body structure and purpose. This created a culturally safe space for participants to discuss their views on what an independent, education peak body should look like. A summary of this discussion was fed back to the larger group. Participants want:

- An incorporated body
- All Aboriginal board
- Diverse funding streams – government, philanthropic etc.
- Members to be nominated by their community
- Membership will be Aboriginal people, however associate membership was considered for friends / advisors / academics.



(L) Dale Hillen – Member of the Aboriginal Education Steering Committee summarising the key points from the closed session & (R) Robbie Hale – APONT Project Officer & emcee.





CULTURALLY SAFE STANDARDS FOR SCHOOLS

Facilitated by Christine Williamson

“We want education, but not at the expense of our culture”³

For too long, many families have been forced to choose between culture and education. Whilst there are many initiatives happening across the NT from independent Aboriginal education expert groups, the Aboriginal Education Steering Committee within APO NT believe it is important to develop a set of standards across all institutes, when considering culturally safe learning spaces.

- ❖ Consideration for male and females roles working alongside each other
- ❖ Community member to be involved in the recruitment & review of teachers and principals
- ❖ Cultural inductions should be mandatory in every community & at university within the teaching degrees for all school staff
- ❖ All aspects of school should involve elders, from each language group
- ❖ Have culturally safe & quiet spaces for students, families & Aboriginal educators
- ❖ Consent for activities needs to be culturally appropriate
- ❖ Schools should express children’s identity throughout the environment i.e. art work, language information, skin names etc.
- ❖ Education staff to have built into their contracts – growth of Aboriginal staff, teachers & principal numbers.



Photo – Speaker, Gemma Nganbe, Catholic Aboriginal Leadership Team speaking about how education is lifelong, we never stop learning.

³ Quote from forum participant



This was a significant discussion, as forum participants were able to speak to best practice re: ensuring that schools were culturally safe spaces, but also, that they were designed for children and young people to thrive. We also heard, the importance of having grandmothers and aunts in schools to create safety for students and for communities to take some ownership of disturbances that upset school attendance and learning.



(L) Graphic recording of Culturally Safe Schools
 (R) – Graphic recording of Yirralka Education Committee – Mapuru School.





YIRRALKA EDUCATION COMMITTEE - ARE SCHOOLS FIT FOR PURPOSE?

Presentation by Yingiya Guyula and John Greatorex

“We need to send kids to school, but what school you talking about?”

Mr Yingiya Guyula

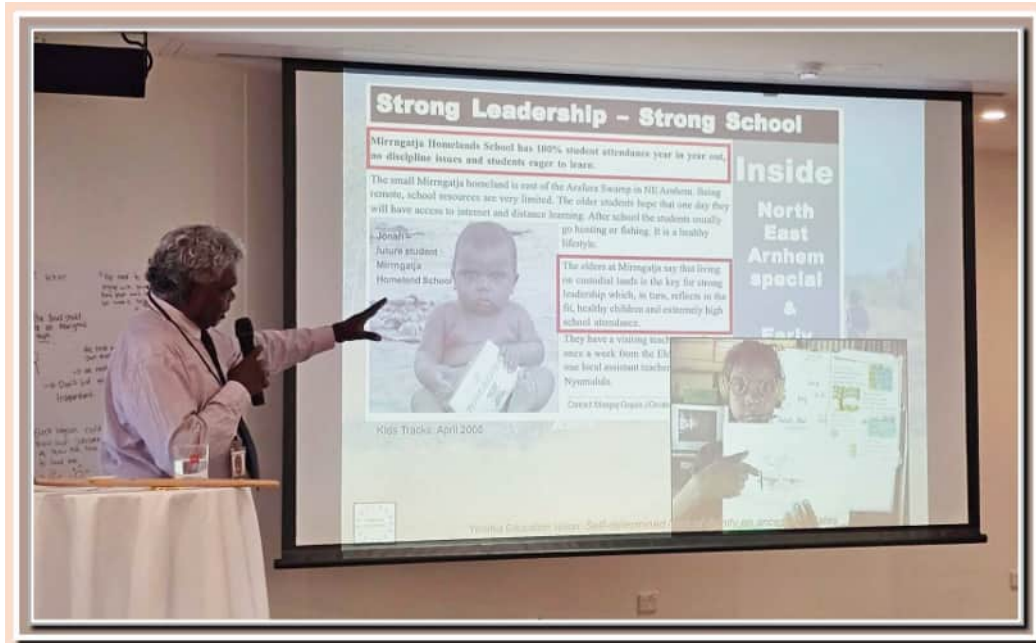


Photo of John Greatorex and Yingiya Guyula – Yirralka Education Committee

A powerful presentation about the importance of challenging western perspectives on *whose* education are we talking about when we refer to learning. In the community of Mapuru, students have their educational rights and responsibilities placed at the forefront on their learning. Learning in their own language, receiving that learning by local educators and the curriculum content being determined by the community, are all significant achievements that the Yirralka Education Committee have achieved.

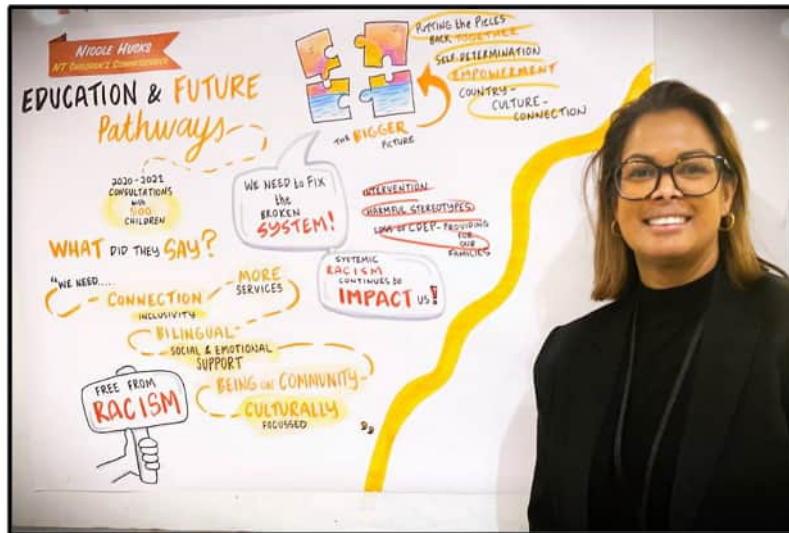
However these achievements are not a deliberate outcome of a mandated culturally appropriate system, rather they are in spite of a mainstream system that would otherwise have students learning just western education content. These successes are built off courageous and committed Yolngu who have paved the way for an inclusive education system that privileges Aboriginal knowledge's, ways of being and knowing, whilst valuing western education.





OFFICE OF THE CHILDREN'S COMMISSION (OCC) – EDUCATION AND FUTURE PATHWAYS

Presentation by the Acting Children's Commissioner, Nicole Hucks (photo below)



The OCC talked to 540 children & young people about their experiences of education (51% = Aboriginal). Children and Young people told OCC that positive learning environments need to include:

- ❖ Bilingual learning
- ❖ Culturally relevant content
- ❖ Support social & emotional wellbeing
- ❖ Be individualised & inclusive

In response to the presentation, forum participants talked about the impacts of life events outside education such as harmful policies and practices that have a major impact i.e., child protection, the NT Intervention, CDP, and systemic racism to name a few. These have significant implications for children's access and success with the education system.



Photo – Speaker, Matthew Ryan



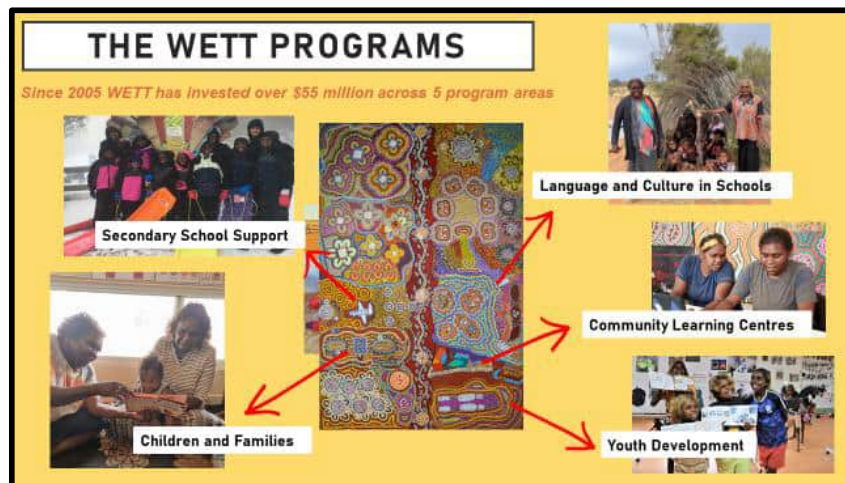


‘Yapa kuja kalu wangkami pirrijirdi jintangka - Warlpiri speaking up strongly together’ – Walpiri Education & Training trust (WETT)

Presenters: Annette Patrick, Sharon Anderson WETT Advisory Council Members (Photo below)



WETT has been meeting for 18 years. They support 4 remote communities including Lajamanu, Yuendumu, Nyirripi and Willowra through the Walpiri Theme Cycle curriculum.



WETT VISION

Our vision is for our children's children to be strong in their knowledge of culture, country and language, to be strong role models for future generations and to stand up for our communities. Our language, culture and decisions will be respected. Our voices will be heard. We will have the same opportunities as everyone else. Our children will be confident, knowledgeable, disciplined, healthy and respected. They will have good roles and jobs, as will the generations to come.

<https://www.clc.org.au/wett/>





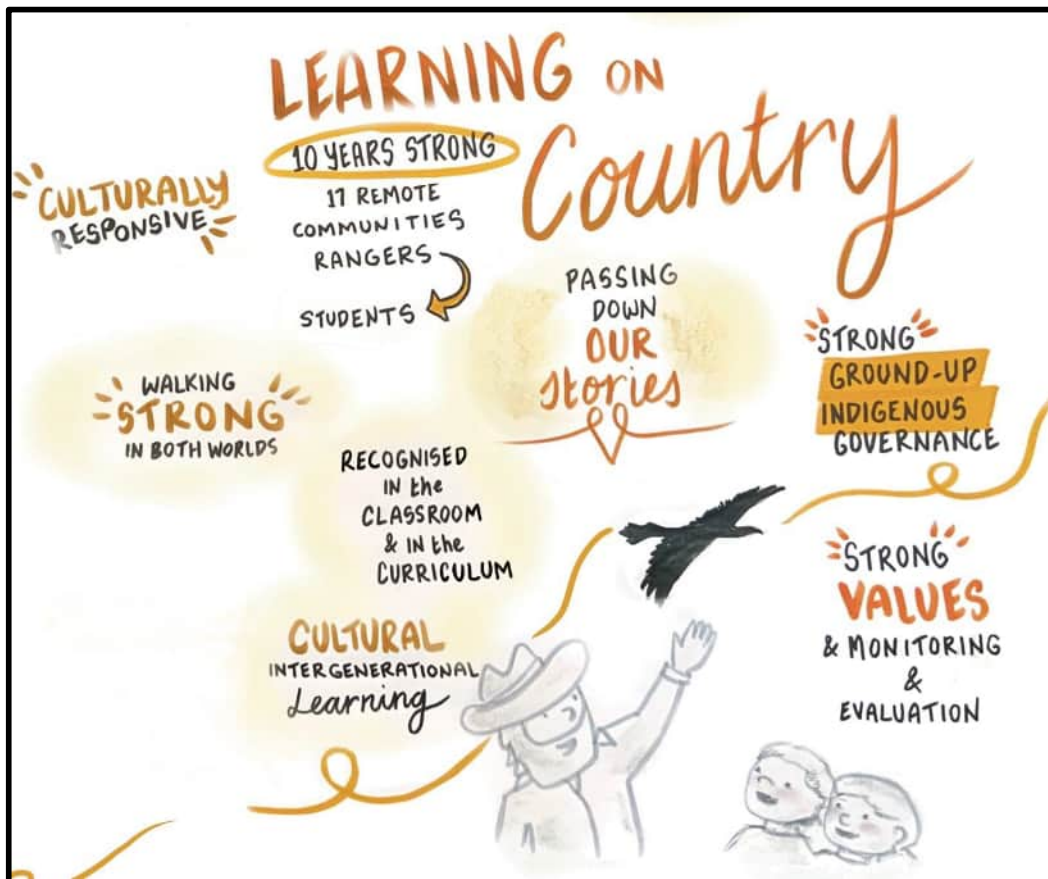
NORTHERN LAND COUNCIL – LEARNING ON COUNTRY PROGRAM

Presentation by Shane Bailey and Hugh Kneebone

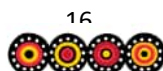
The Learning on Country Program is a partnership with communities, schools and the NLC. There are strong foundational values and practices that ensure the program is grounded in Indigenous Governance, recognising two way learning, intergenerational learning and setting up students for success in western and Bininj ways of life.

These program has been very success, recently expanding to include addition remote communities.

<https://www.nlc.org.au/building-the-bush/learning-on-country>



Graphic recording – Learning on Country presentation





Unfortunately, Wuyagiba Bush University were unable to present, however participated throughout the forum. For information click this link <https://www.wuyagibastudyhub.org/>

A total of 16 organisations and groups were represented at the forum, including:

- Nawarddeken Academy
- Catholic Aboriginal Leadership Team (CALT)
- Central Land Council, Walpiri Education and Training Trust (WETT)
- Northern Land Council, Learning on Country (LoC)
- Aboriginal Housing NT (AHNT)
- Yirralka Education Committee – Mapuru School
- Maningrida Homelands School Company
- Pertame Language Centre
- NSW Aboriginal Education Consultative Group (AECG)
- Wuyagiba Bush University
- Children’s Ground
- Charles Darwin University
- AFL NT – Michael Long Learning and Leadership Centre (MLLLC)
- DoE Transition Support Unit (TSU)
- DoE – Strategic Engagement & Partnerships
- Aboriginal Peak Organisations NT (APO NT)



Group photo of forum participants and APO NT staff




Aboriginal Education NT


Education is a human right

Learning in your own language is a human right

Making decisions about what your kids learn and how they learn is a human right



Learn more about your rights



UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

A black rectangular graphic with yellow and white text. On the left is a stylized Aboriginal flag with a yellow sun on a black upper half and a red lower half. A white arrow points from the text "Learn more about your rights" to a QR code on the right. At the bottom right, the text "UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples" is written in a smaller, lighter font.

Report written by: Christine Williamson
For APO NT
November, 2023



WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 11 SEPTEMBER 2024

Agenda Reference:	7.3
Title:	NT Police - Law and Order Update
Author:	Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide Gunbalanya Local Authority with a list of presentations to be made by various stakeholders of the West Arnhem Regional Council.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

1. Noted the presentations on Law and Order Update by NT Police.

BACKGROUND

At various times, the Authority requests that presentations be made so that issues can be raised and information shared.

COMMENT

The following visitors/presentations will be in attendance at today's meeting.

Gunbalanya Local Authority Meeting – Presentations / Visitors			
Topic	Presenter/Visitor	Organisation	Invited by
Community Law and Order Update	Christopher Harden	NT Police	Council

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

This report is aligned to the following pillars and goals of the *Regional Plan and Budget*:

PILLAR 1 PARTNERSHIPS, RELATIONSHIPS AND BELONGING

Investing in relationships and partnerships at all levels supports and strengthens community and belonging. We prioritise the value of partnerships and relationships as a key determinant of a happy, strong and thriving community.

Goal 1.1 Community Engagement

Seek out and support diverse perspectives and collaborations with community, community leaders, businesses, agencies and local service providers to enhance community life.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

WEST ARNHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 11 SEPTEMBER 2024

Agenda Reference:	7.4
Title:	National Indigenous Australians Agency - Remote Jobs and Economic Development
Author:	Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide Gunbalanya Local Authority with a list of presentations to be made by various stakeholders of the West Arnhem Regional Council.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

1. Noted the presentations on the overview of the Remote Job Economic Development by National Indigenous Australians Agency

BACKGROUND

At various times, the Authority requests that presentations be made so that issues can be raised and information shared.

COMMENT

The following visitors/presentations will be in attendance at today's meeting.

Gunbalanya Local Authority Meeting – Presentations / Visitors			
Topic	Presenter/Visitor	Organisation	Invited by
Overview and answer questions on the Remote Jobs and Economic Development (RJED) Consultation	Bec Langdon – Acting Assistant Director	National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA)	At their request

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

This report is aligned to the following pillars and goals of the *Regional Plan and Budget*:

PILLAR 1 PARTNERSHIPS, RELATIONSHIPS AND BELONGING

Investing in relationships and partnerships at all levels supports and strengthens community and belonging. We prioritise the value of partnerships and relationships as a key determinant of a happy, strong and thriving community.

Goal 1.1 Community Engagement

Seek out and support diverse perspectives and collaborations with community, community leaders, businesses, agencies and local service providers to enhance community life.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 11 September 2024

Agenda Reference:	8.1
Title:	Finance Report to August 2024
Author:	Corey White, Management Accountant

SUMMARY

This Local Authority Finance Report is for the period 1 July 2024 to 31 August 2024 (the first two months of the 2024-25 financial year) for Gunbalanya.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

1. Received and noted the report entitled *Finance Report to August 2024*.

BACKGROUND

This Local Authority Finance Report includes a graphical presentation with reports on:

- Revenue and expenses that relate to the community as compared to the budget;
- The Local Authority Project Funds (LAPF) balance not yet allocated to a project;
- The progress of Local Authority projects from the last LA meeting report to now; and
- Council grant funding activities and community projects happening in the community.

COMMENT

The Local Authority Finance Report covers the Council's activities and projects within the community. There are activities that relate to Council's Core Services funded by both Tied and Untied, Commercial Services, and Community Services activities. From time-to-time there are some projects that are funded from Council's own money.

A summary of the total Gunbalanya income and expenditure is shown below.

Actuals v Budget - Gunbalanya

as at 31 Aug 2024

Description	GUNBALANYA					
	Actuals YTD	Budget YTD	Variance	%	Annual Budget	Progress
Operational Revenue						
Income Rates and Charges	32,482	64,964	(32,482)	(50%)	389,782	8%
Charges - Sewerage	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Charges - Water	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Charges - Waste	32,552	65,104	(32,552)	(50%)	390,621	8%
Income Council Fees and Charges	905	8,192	(7,286)	(89%)	48,400	2%
Income Operating Grants	96,605	26,617	69,988	100%+	159,700	60%
Income Allocation	25,232	68,987	(43,755)	(63%)	413,924	6%
Other Income	12,245	4,458	7,787	100%+	18,500	66%
Income Agency and Commercial Services	111,187	296,376	(185,188)	(62%)	1,778,255	6%
Total Operational Revenue	311,209	534,697	(223,488)	(42%)	3,199,181	10%
Operational Expenditure						
Employee Expenses	254,542	403,791	(149,249)	(37%)	2,422,748	11%
Contract and Material Expenses	139,240	239,302	(100,061)	(42%)	1,292,439	11%
Finance Expenses	382	515	(133)	(26%)	3,088	12%
Travel, Freight and Accom Expenses	5,382	21,397	(16,015)	(75%)	119,857	4%
Fuel, Utilities & Communication	6,243	58,805	(52,562)	(89%)	334,743	2%
Other Expenses	32,127	111,825	(79,699)	(71%)	650,919	5%
Elected Member Allowances	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Elected Member Expenses	2,200	2,025	175	9%	8,100	27%
Council Committee & LA Allowances	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Council Committee & LA Expenses	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Total Operational Expenditure	440,116	837,660	(397,544)	(47%)	4,831,894	9%
Total Operational Surplus / (Deficit)	(128,907)	(302,963)	174,055	57%	(1,632,713)	8%

Annual Budget Operating Position - Gunbalanya

as at 31 Aug 2024

Description	Actuals YTD	Budget YTD	Variance	%	Annual Budget	Progress
Operating Surplus / (Deficit)	(128,907)	(302,963)	174,055	57%	(1,632,713)	8%
Remove NON-CASH ITEMS						
Less Non-Cash Income	(25,232)	(68,987)	43,755	63%	(413,924)	6%
Add Back Non-Cash Expenses	73,474	204,361	(130,887)	(64%)	1,219,667	6%
Total Non-Cash Items	48,242	135,374	(87,132)	(64%)	805,743	6%
Less ADDITIONAL OUTFLOWS						
Capital Expenditure	(315,806)	(50,000)	(265,806)	(100%+)	(200,000)	100%+
Borrowing Repayments (Principal Only)	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Transfer to Reserves	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Other Outflows	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Total Additional Outflows	(315,806)	(50,000)	(265,806)	(100%+)	(200,000)	100%+
Add ADDITIONAL INFLOWS						
Capital Grants Income	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Prior Year Carry Forward Tied Funding	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Other Inflow of Funds	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Transfers from Reserves	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Total Additional Inflows	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Net Budgeted Operating Position	(396,471)	(217,589)	(178,882)	(82%)	(1,026,970)	39%

LEGISLATION AND POLICY

Clause 10 of the *Local Government Guideline 1: Local Authority* states what a local authority agenda must include. Sub-clause 10.1 says the report from the CEO is to include the progress and financial report on local authority projects and a report on current council services and projects in the local authority area.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Not Applicable

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

This report aligns to the following pillars and goals as outlined in the *Regional Plan and Budget*:

PILLAR 6 FOUNDATIONS OF GOVERNANCE

Integrity is at the heart of everything we do. We are leaders of best practice and excellence in governance, advocacy, consultation and administration. Our processes, procedures and policies are ethical and transparent.

Goal 6.1 Financial Management

Provision of strong financial management and leadership which ensures long term sustainability and growth.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Graphical Finance Presentation Gunbalanya - August 2024 [8.1.1 - 8 pages]



**Gunbalanya Local Authority Committee
Financial Management Report for the
period ended 31st August 2024**

1

Actual v Budget – Operational – July 2024 to August 2024



Actuals v Budget - Gunbalanya

as at 31 Aug 2024

Description	GUNBALANYA				Annual Budget	Progress
	Actuals YTD	Budget YTD	Variance	%		
Operational Revenue						
Income Rates and Charges	32,482	64,964	(32,482)	(50%)	389,782	8%
Charges - Sewerage	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Charges - Water	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Charges - Waste	32,552	65,104	(32,552)	(50%)	390,621	8%
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Total Operational Revenue	311,209	534,697	(223,488)	(42%)	3,199,181	10%
Operational Expenditure						
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Finance Expenses	382	515	(133)	(26%)	3,088	12%
Travel, Freight and Accom Expenses	5,382	21,397	(16,015)	(75%)	119,857	4%
Fuel, Utilities & Communication	6,243	58,805	(52,562)	(89%)	334,743	2%
Other Expenses	32,127	111,825	(79,699)	(71%)	650,919	5%
Elected Member Allowances	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Elected Member Expenses	2,200	2,025	175	9%	8,100	27%
Council Committee & LA Allowances	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Council Committee & LA Expenses	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Total Operational Expenditure	440,116	837,660	(397,544)	(47%)	4,831,894	9%
Total Operational Surplus / (Deficit)	(128,907)	(302,963)	174,055	57%	(1,632,713)	8%



2

Actual v Budget – Operating Position – July 2024 to August 2024



Annual Budget Operating Position - Gunbalanya as at 31 Aug 2024

Description	Actuals YTD	Budget YTD	Variance	%	Annual Budget	Progress
Operating Surplus / (Deficit)	(128,907)	(302,963)	174,055	57%	(1,632,713)	8%
Remove NON-CASH ITEMS						
Less Non-Cash Income	(25,232)	(68,987)	43,755	63%	(413,924)	6%
Add Back Non-Cash Expenses	73,474	204,361	(130,887)	(64%)	1,219,667	6%
Total Non-Cash Items	48,242	135,374	(87,132)	(64%)	805,743	6%
Less ADDITIONAL OUTFLOWS						
Capital Expenditure	(315,806)	(50,000)	(265,806)	(100%)+	(200,000)	100%+
Borrowing Repayments (Principal Only)	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Transfer to Reserves	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Other Outflows	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Total Additional Outflows	(315,806)	(50,000)	(265,806)	(100%)+	(200,000)	100%+
Add ADDITIONAL INFLOWS						
Capital Grants Income	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Prior Year Carry Forward Tied Funding	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Other Inflow of Funds	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Transfers from Reserves	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Total Additional Inflows	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Net Budgeted Operating Position	(396,471)	(217,589)	(178,882)	(82%)	(1,026,970)	39%

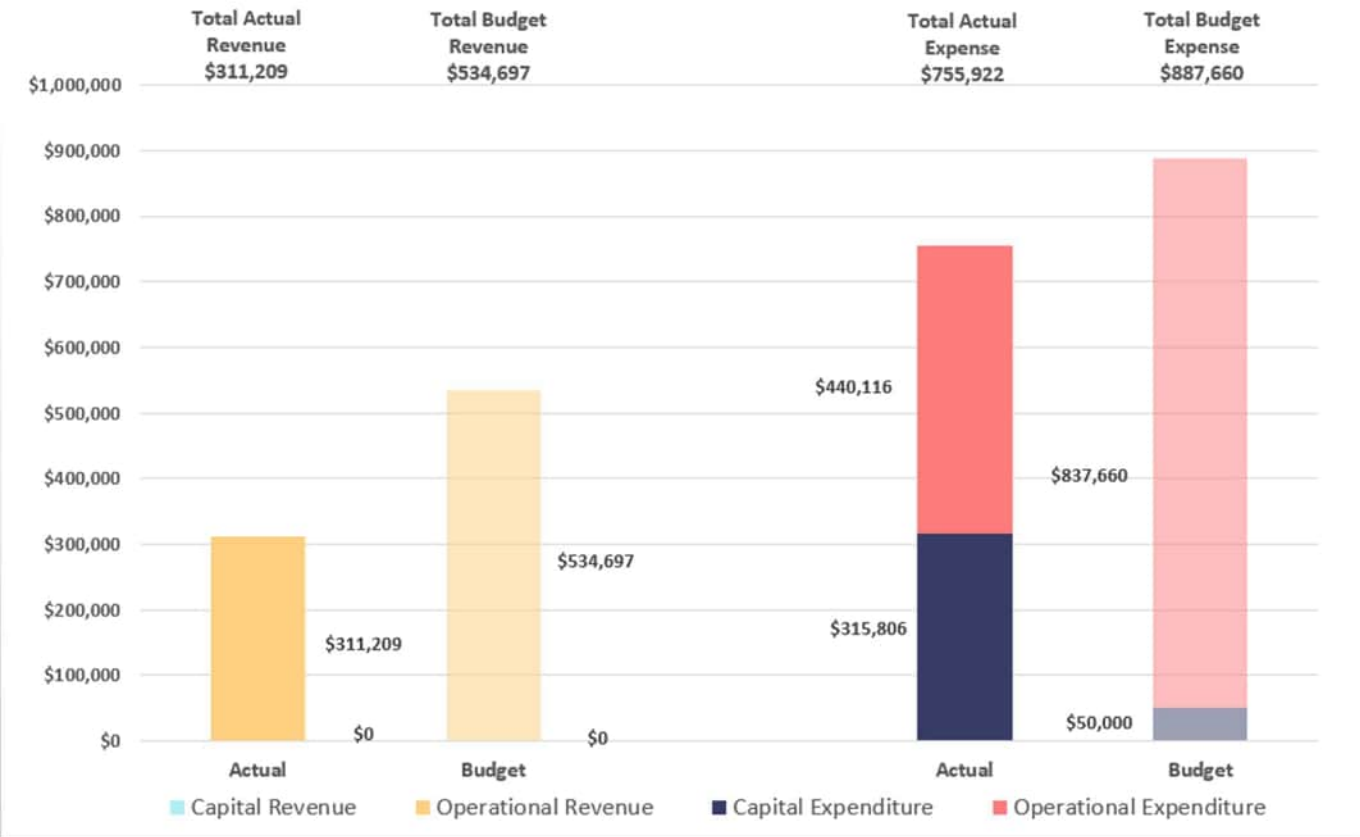
Legend:

- Unfavourable variance over \$75,000
- Unfavourable variance under \$75,000
- Favourable variance
- ! Variance over \$300,000



3

Actual v Budget – Gunbalanya – August 2024



4

Council Funded Projects – August 2024



Reserve Activity	Approved Budget	Date of Approval	Expenditure Prior Financial Years	Expenditure this Financial Year	Commitments	Balance as at 31.08.2024	Status
5294.01 - Concrete Stand for Diesel Tank - Gunbalanya	70,000	FY 22/23	(64,198)	(2,930)	-	2,872	Certification received and works completed
Council Funded (Reserve) Balance	70,000		(64,198)	(2,930)	-	2,872	

5



Grant Funding – Local Authority Projects – August 2024

Grant Funding - Local Authority Projects	Funding Amount	Funding Year	Funds Received	Funds not yet Received	Allocated	Balance available for Allocation
LAP - funding available 22/23	159,700	FY 22/23	159,700	-	(159,700)	-
LAP - funding available 23/24	159,700	FY 22/23	159,700	-	(159,700)	-

Add funds available from Projects completed under budget	
--	--

Total available for Allocation	-
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An overallocation of Local Authority funds has occurred in the 2023/2024 Financial Year. \$58,369 of the upcoming 2024/2025 LA Funding has already been allocated.



Progress of Local Authority Projects – August 2024

Local Authority Projects - Active Projects	Approved Budget	Meeting Date/ Resolution	Cash received to date (incl. Carried Forward) (A)	Expenditure prior years (B)	Expenditure to date 2024-25 (C)	Commitments (D)	Available Funds as at 31.08.2024 (A-B-C-D)	Status
Local Authority Projects (LAP)								
LAP - Community Garden Hard Structure & Amenities Lot 649	108,000	29.07.2021 OCM69/2021	108,000	(35,679)	(18,708)	(31,750)	21,863	Works have commenced to be completed by the end of September
LAP - Additional Garden Hard Structure at Billabong	117,800	25.05.2023 GUN171/2023	117,800	(22,404)	(20,310)	(34,150)	40,936	Works have commenced to be completed by the end of September
LAP - Solar Lights at Gunbalanya Back Road	13,425	10.01.2023 GUN200/2022	13,425	(9,066)	(3,120)	-	1,239	WIP - One solar light installed
LAP - External Chilled Water Fountain at the Council office	4,714	07.03.2024 GUN11/2024	4,714	(1,876)	-	(1,956)	882	Works Completed
LAP - Assessment Report for Gunbalanya Oval	5,000	09.07.2024 GUN24/2024	5,000	-	(4,500)	-	500	Works Completed
LAP - Installation of Pavers for Aged Care Clients - Gunbalanya	52,800	09.07.2024 GUN26/2024	52,800	-	-	-	52,800	Kakadu Contracting will commence works end of September
LAP - Animal Management Program 2024	15,708	10.08.2022 OCM78/2022	15,708	-	-	(14,280)	1,428	Awaiting invoice from the Vets to allocate funds
LAP - Gunbalanya LA Lights Contribution	100,000	09.07.2024 GUN22/2024	41,630	-	-	-	41,630	Sourcing Quotes for available funding
LAP - Animal Management Program 2025	16,808	10.08.2022 OCM78/2022	16,808	-	-	-	16,808	Next scheduled visit from the 12th September 2024 for the week
TOTAL ACTIVE LOCAL AUTHORITY PROJECTS	434,254		375,885	(69,025)	(46,638)	(67,856)	178,085	

Per GUN21/2024 point 3, from the LA Meeting held on 09.07.2024, the \$25,000 Co Contribution towards fireworks has been withdrawn and funds have been moved to the LA Funding Pool.



Grant Funding – Community Projects – August 2024



Grant Funded - Community Projects	Approved Budget (A)	Prior Year Expenditure (B)	Expenditure to date 2024-25 (C)	Commitments to Date (D)	Available Funds as at 31.08.2024 (A-B-C-D)
Gunbalanya Oval Lighting	1,560,000	(898,791)	(312,423)	(51,150)	297,636
TOTAL COMMUNITY PROJECTS	1,560,000	(898,791)	(312,423)	(51,150)	297,636

Grant Funded - Community Programs	Expenditure to date 2024-25 (A)	Commitments to Date (B)	Total Expenditure (A+B)
Home Care Packages Program (HCP)	(18,093)	(12,245)	(30,338)
Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP)	(10,221)	(187)	(10,408)
NT Jobs Package - Aged Care	(14,255)	-	(14,255)
Night Patrol	(32,669)	-	(32,669)
Remote Sport Program	(1,362)	-	(1,362)
Women's Safe House	-	(455)	(455)
eHCP - Home Care Packages Program from eTools	(20,319)	-	(20,319)
Get Up Stand Up Show Up - NAIDOC Week	(989)	-	(989)
Sports and Recreation	(24,019)	(3,905)	(27,924)
TOTAL COMMUNITY PROJECTS	(121,926)	(16,792)	(138,718)



WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 11 SEPTEMBER 2024

Agenda Reference:	8.2
Title:	Review of Action Items
Author:	Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

SUMMARY

This report is submitted for Gunbalanya Local Authority to review and discuss the progress on outstanding action items from meetings.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Received and noted the report entitled *Review of Action Items*; and
2. Reviewed the outstanding action items and gave approval for completed items to be removed from the register.

BACKGROUND

Action items arise out of resolutions of the Local Authority or questions asked by Members. The attached register provides the current status of the action items as provided by the administration. The administration recommends items as complete but it is for the Local Authority to determine whether the item remains active or is complete and can be removed.

COMMENT

The actions that Local Authority resolves to occur are to be acted upon by the administration. This report enables Local Authority to progressively discuss and acknowledge the status of items.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

This report is aligned to the following pillars and goals in the *Regional Plan and Budget*:

PILLAR 6 FOUNDATIONS OF GOVERNANCE

Integrity is at the heart of everything we do. We are leaders of best practice and excellence in governance, advocacy, consultation and administration. Our processes, procedures and policies are ethical and transparent.

Goal 6.3 Council and Local Authorities

Excellence in governance, consultation administration and representation.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Gunbalanya Local Authority Action Items 11 September 2024 [8.2.1 - 7 pages]

Reference number	Status	Action Required	Assignee/s	Action Taken
1	In Progress	<p>OCM213/2020: Upgrading the toilets and supplying water to the airport.</p> <p>Background: 17 October 2022: A report with full overview was presented to the LA including utilising the proposed layout changes of the toilets. 16 July 2021 - 15 July 2022: Reports with full overview were presented to the LA including utilising non-potable water from the Gunbalanya Station. 16 July 2021 - 13 May 2022 - Loukas Gikopoulos Reports with full overview were included in Gunbalanya LA meetings. 16 February 2021 The administration is investigating the possibility of installing eco-toilets at the airport. The technical services team will provide further details about this option during today's meeting.</p>	Clem Beard	<p>14 December 2022 - Clem Beard OCM118/2022 Approved the administration to seek funding for a flushing prefabrication ablution facility at an estimated cost of \$304,000.</p> <p>08 February 2023 – Clem Beard Land Tenure to be completed when/if grant Funding becomes available.</p> <p>28 April 2023 – Clem Beard Ongoing discussions with the NLC on funding and leasing arrangements for Airport Facilities management</p> <p>21 July 2023 – Clem Beard The administration has held further discussions 06 July with Senator Malamdirri McCarthy and Peter Wellings to advocate for Commonwealth funding for upgrades of Airport facilities for Gunbalanya/Minjilang and Waruwi.</p> <p>17 October 2023 – Clem Beard Scheduled meeting Monday 16 October postponed with Senator McCarthy and Peter Wellings to 31 October.</p> <p>25 January 2024 – Clem Beard The Administration has held further discussions 10 January with Senator Malamdirri McCarthy and Peter Wellings to advocate for Federal Government funding for upgrades of Airport facilities for Gunbalanya/Minjilang and Waruwi. NLC and DIPL are in the process of creating and agreeing to leases for West Arnhem Region Airports. Once land tenure is approved and leases executed a joint venture may be required to construct airport facilities into the future.</p> <p>28 May 2024 - Clem Beard Ongoing discussions on leasing of Airports and Land Use Agreements are continuing with DIPL/NLC. WARC are awaiting those resolutions and endorsements from both parties.</p>

Reference number	Status	Action Required	Assignee/s	Action Taken
				<p>26/08/2024 Clem Beard</p> <p>Negotiations with DIPL/NLC are continuing for Land Use Agreements at the Airport in Gunbalanya.</p>
2	In Progress	<p>GUN21/2024 RESOLVED: Confirm if National Library Archive employee visited Gunbalanya and showed community members the items from the Uranium Proposal document list</p> <p>GUN7/2024 RESOLVED: Administration to respond to the National Library expressing interest in learning more about the donation of records from the 1970s and 1980s Social Impact of Uranium Mining Proposal and requesting a detailed list of the contents of the collection.</p>	Ben Heaslip	<p>26 March: Emailed National Library asking for detailed items list</p> <p>30/05/2024 Jasmine Mortimore Information Advisor following up with National Library of Australia and will provide updates as required</p> <p>03/07/2024 Ben Heaslip Email received from National Library is attached to this report. Attached to the email was a listing of the items in the collection (not included in this report).</p> <p>08/09/2024 Jasmine Mortimore Administration has reached out to National Library Archive and they have advised they have not visited Gunbalanya. Seeking advice from the Local Authority on next step to progress this action item.</p>
3	In Progress	<p>OCM111/2017: LOCATION AND IDENTIFICATION OF GRAVES AT THE GUNBALANYA CEMETERY Request that the Administration write (again) to the NLC with some urgency to finalise the location and identification of graves at the Gunbalanya cemetery to allow crews to carry out maintenance safely.</p> <p>Background: Minute note from January 2020 Council meeting: provided a detailed update regarding the identification of graves across all communities. WARC will need to undertake this identification work which will be at considerable cost. Advised that this work has been included in the 2020-2021 budget.</p>	Sara Fitzgerald	<p>05 August 2020 - Stephen Hoyne NLC and the Traditional Owners met in Gunbalanya 2nd and 6th March 2020 to discuss cemetery location. No advice had been received from NLC.</p> <p>25 January 2021 – Clem Beard Traditional Owners identified possible site near clearing behind “Welcome to Gunbalanya” sign (at the intersection of the airport road and main road into Gunbalanya). However, in November last year NLC anthropologists stated this is close to a registered restricted works area. More research is being undertaken by NLC’s anthropology team.</p> <p>15 July 2022 – Clem Beard: Awaiting NLC updates on consultations underway in the Gunbalanya Community</p>

Reference number	Status	Action Required	Assignee/s	Action Taken
		<p>A meeting between NLC and the Traditional Owners was held in Gunbalanya on 2nd and 6th March 2020 to discuss Cemetery location and Council workshop yard. Administration have written again to NLC seeking feedback however at the time of completing this action item no advice has been received from NLC.</p> <p>30 April 2020 To progress this matter as early as possible in 2020 NLC proposes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NLC speak with traditional owners as to recommendations for possible suitable sites for a cemetery (NLC anthropologist and lawyer will commence this as soon as possible); - Land Tenure Unit and WARC consider the viability of Lot 736 and/or other recommended sites; - Once a suitable lot for a cemetery is found (ie. agreeable area to traditional Aboriginal owners, not in a restricted works area or near sacred sites, suitable for cemetery such as not in a flood prone area, etc.) the terms of the agreement can be finalised and a proposal can progress to formal consultation; - If consented to, consultation with the NLC will draft an agreement and progress to Executive/Full Council Meeting for decision of the NLC Executive/Full Council. <p>(Note: NLC have identified Lot 736 above as this is one option which has been suggested by traditional Aboriginal owners to the NLC as a possible cemetery location. The Administration notes that Lot 736 is currently the site where the new Solar Farm has been constructed).</p>		<p>17 October 2022- Sam Fazzolari: Meeting held with NLC Lawyer 10/10/2022 to explore options for location of proposed new cemetery.</p> <p>25 January 2023 – Clem Beard: Correspondence with NLC Lawyer confirmed further options and consultations for the location of the proposed new cemetery will take place in the community throughout 2023. Once new Cemetery is identified and operational, work can commence on closing existing cemetery with approvals from Landowners.</p> <p>05 May 2023 – Clem Beard: Correspondence received 26/04/2023 from NLC Lawyer regarding consultations with Traditional Owners. TOs requested current cemetery be maintained and repaired. TOs suggested drainage and retaining walls.</p> <p>17 October 2023 – Clem Beard Administration has sourced estimated costs for Ground Penetration Radar works to identify grave sites in the existing Gunbalanya Cemetery. Mobilisation: Darwin – Gunbalanya: \$1110 Technician / 4wd vehicle Daily Rate (based on 12hr day): \$2580 Accredited GPR technician/survey Demobilisation: Gunbalanya – Darwin: \$1110 Technician / 4wd vehicle Compilation and production of CAD file and plots: \$145 per hour. Accommodation: to be provided by client at no cost to Cross Solutions.</p> <p>Administration has submitted a Grant application for these works to proceed as costs are substantial for Council to fund this project.</p> <p>16 November 2023: Admin to investigate OCM111/2017 – determined the need to consider alternative location 'old peanut farm' and consult with ILSC via NLC</p> <p>25 February 2024 – Clem Beard</p>

Reference number	Status	Action Required	Assignee/s	Action Taken
				<p>The administration have held further discussions with NLC and have lodged an 'Expression of Interest' for land tenure to be granted to establish a new cemetery at the airport entrance road aka 'old peanut farm'. Awaiting NLC consultation process to commence in late March with Traditional Owners to consent a land use agreement to meet new legislation requirements for burials.</p> <p>23/05/2024 Clem Beard</p> <p>NLC have advised the Land Tenure for cemetery will be discussed in Gunbalanya with Traditional Owners in the next round of community consultations. Updated advice scheduled mid-August for Gunbalanya.</p> <p>23/08/2024 Clem Beard</p> <p>NLC have advised the administration the intended consultation dates will be 27th & 28th of August with Landowners on the new proposed site (old peanut farm) at the Airport Turnoff.</p>
4	In Progress	<p>GUN26/2024 RESOLVED: Request the Administration send a letter to NT Dept Aged Care and NDIS to make them aware of this project.</p> <p>GUN183/2023 RESOLVED Cr Gumurdul requested a report on Council assisting and facilitating paths for elders' homes to assist with wet season pick-ups.</p>	Clem Beard, Marnie Mitchell	<p>11 September 2023 – Clem Beard Administration has reached out to Regional Services, Top End Territory Families, Housing and Communities. Housing have requested a list of Aged Care clients and provided lot numbers for tenants to complete a Housing Alteration Form to facilitate/authorise works to proceed. Once authorisation is received will source quotes for planned works.</p> <p>6 November 2023 – Clem Beard NTG Tenancy Contract Officers were onsite in Gunbalanya w/c 30/10/23 and had a large majority of forms signed by the households. NTG Tenancy Contract Officers will be processing forms and sending through to DIPL for the technical approval process. Once approval is granted Tenancy Officers will forward to WARC and attempt to engage CDP to assist with the projects as suggested by the department of Housing. Aged Care clients visited in Gunbalanya by Tenancy equals (28) twenty-eight homes requiring pathway pavers.</p> <p>05 December – Clem Beard</p>

Reference number	Status	Action Required	Assignee/s	Action Taken
				<p>Territory Housing/DIPL have approved (9) nine homes for the installation of pavers, awaiting a further (6) six homes to be approved. DIPL strongly recommend pavers be installed securely and to standard by a qualified tradesman. Pavers which are not installed correctly, and with the current wet weather conditions will disrupt the pavers and they may become an uneven surface causing trip hazards, hence why this will not be DIPL responsibility including the ongoing maintenance. The ongoing maintenance will be a tenant responsibility.</p> <p>09 February – Clem Beard Territory Housing/DIPL have approved (10) ten homes for installation of pavers, awaiting updates on further (5) five homes. DIPL instruct work is to be carried out by qualified tradies after wet season when road access is available.</p> <p>11 March – Clem Beard Wellbeing coordinator investigating possibility of sourcing installation costs from NDIS and aged care clients funding. Installation quotes to be sourced from Kakadu Contracting working in Gunbalanya on Territory Housing assets.</p> <p>28 June 2024 - Clem Beard A report is included in the Local Authority agenda today with indicative costs for installation of pavers to Aged Care residents homes.</p> <p>26/08/2024 Clem Beard Kakadu Contracting will perform works in Gunbalanya whilst carrying out housing maintenance works. Once the first home is completed, the administration will source approval from Territory Housing to sign off and contractor will be engaged to complete remainder of nominated homes for project.</p>
5	In Progress	GUN21/2024 RESOLVED: Request Department of Chief Minister and Cabinet to take action on tree removal on Lot 586; and	Clem Beard, Vicki McCoy	<p>04 August 2023 - Tim Hema: No update at this time 20 October - Jasmine Mortimore: The Administration requests more details from the Local Authority</p>

Reference number	Status	Action Required	Assignee/s	Action Taken
		<p>Invite TFHC to next meeting to discuss further actions on tree removal including the rate at which repairs are carried out</p> <p>GUN160/2023: DIPL reporting on trees in community.</p>		<p>28 February 2024 - Vicki McCoy: The Administration requests more details from the Local Authority as further clarification is required.</p> <p>04/04/2024 Vicki McCoy</p> <p>29 February 2024 - Vicki McCoy: Trees identified are Mahoganys. There are some that are nearer the power lines and close to house. Trees outside of yard will be attended to when roads accessible for tree loppers to cut, those inside will need to be reported to Intract for actioning.</p> <p>23/05/2024 Clem Beard</p> <p>Jessica Downie (Acting Senior Housing Officer - Territory Families, Housing and Communities) to visit Lot 586 this week and take photos of tree. They will arrange a Work Order for DIPL to cut/trim tree. Territory Housing is responsible for any trees inside yard.</p> <p>14/08/2024 Vicki McCoy</p> <p>a/Snr Housing Officer was arranging visit to community to get new photos. Will liaise and update CSM.</p> <p>03/09/2024 Vicki McCoy</p> <p>Vicki McCoy: No further information received from Territory Families, Housing and Communities a/Senior Housing Officer about when visit scheduled to look at trees in yards.</p>
6	In Progress	<p>GUN21/2024 RESOLVED: Send a letter to NT Police and MVR requesting regular services for the community and raise the issue of time it takes to process licences</p>	Jasmine Mortimore	<p>08/09/2024 Jasmine Mortimore</p> <p>Police invited to Local Authority meeting and will address these concerns with the Local Authority.</p>
7	In Progress	<p>GUN21/2024 RESOLVED:</p>	Jasmine Mortimore, Vicki McCoy	<p>14/08/2024 Vicki McCoy</p>

Reference number	Status	Action Required	Assignee/s	Action Taken
		Raise concerns about power meters being damaged and request PowerWater attend next LA meeting to discuss.		14/08/2024 Vicki McCoy: No further updates from PowerWater. USC has liaised directly with Customer Service when needing to change new power meter.
8	In Progress	GUN21/2024 RESOLVED: Invite William Costigan, NT Director Health West Arnhem region to next meeting to discuss service standards and delays on after hours service	Jasmine Mortimore	08/09/2024 Jasmine Mortimore Invitation to attend meeting sent on 08/09/2024 - awaiting response
9	In Progress	GUN30/2024 RESOLVED: Administration invite DEMED Chair and CEO to next LA meeting; LA to voice concerns over level of service to homeland members and feel that DEMED are forgetting people.	Jasmine Mortimore	08/09/2024 Jasmine Mortimore Demed declined invitation to attend Local Authority meeting and advised if members want, they can meet with Demed individually to discuss their concerns.
10	Recommend Complete	GUN6/2024 RESOLVED: Request the technical services team address the leak in the irrigation system on the oval.	Clem Beard	30/05/2024 Jasmine Mortimore Report Included in 6 June 2024 Local Authority. 26/08/2024 Clem Beard Water leak repaired.
11	Recommend Complete	GUN7/2024 RESOLVED: Members request letter to be written to NIAA requesting funding for AFL NT to support Gunbalanya AFL program including a Gunbalanya Football League.	Jasmine Mortimore	31/05/2024 Jasmine Mortimore Letter drafted and will be sent to LA chair for signing before sending to NIAA 08/09/2024 Jasmine Mortimore Letter was sent to NIAA on 15/07/2024
12	Recommend Complete	GUN21/2024 RESOLVED: CEO to investigate tax returns for community members	Andrew Walsh, Jasmine Mortimore	08/09/2024 Jasmine Mortimore Tax Agent visited Gunbalanya to assist community members with their tax return

WEST ARNHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 11 SEPTEMBER 2024

Agenda Reference:	8.3
Title:	Modifications to staff and visitors rest area at the office.
Author:	Clem Beard, Acting General Manager Technical Services

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is for the Gunbalanya Local Authority members to consider the modifications to the Shelter and update the seating at the Gunbalanya Office.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Receive and note the report entitled *Modifications to staff and visitors rest area at the office.*; and
2. Approve Option One \$31,921.00 - Upgrade Seating, Table and Modifications – Staff and Visitors rest area; or
3. Approve Option Two \$18,400.00 - Relocate existing Seating and Modifications - Staff/Visitors rest area.

BACKGROUND

At the previous Local Authority meeting the administration was requested to supply additional clarification of modifications proposed to consider a resolution of works planned for community rest area to improve the weather protection of facility.

COMMENT

The administration has sourced indicative quotes from suppliers and installers to carry out modifications for all year around weather protection and propose the replacement of the existing table and seating infrastructure per supplied images.

Option One - Upgrade Seating, Table and Modifications – Staff and Visitors rest area		
Description	Quantity	Indicative Price
Woodgrain cedar bench seating - length 2mts	4	\$ 3,996.00
In ground woodgrain park table setting and seating	1	\$ 4,010.00
Z purlin shading 3 x sides	1	\$ 7,500.00
Installation - Z purlins shading - weather protection	1	\$ 4,000.00
Installation - Table and Seating	1	\$ 2,000.00
Concrete installation excavation - cut pavers refit - remove existing seats	1	\$ 3,300.00
Freight Darwin to Gunbalanya	1	\$ 950.00
Accommodation x 4 nights	1	\$ 2,000.00
Contingencies 15%		\$ 4,165.00
Total		\$ 31,921.00

Option Two - Relocate existing Seating and Modifications - Staff/Visitors rest area		
Description	Quantity	Indicative Price
Z purlin Shading 3 x sides	1	\$ 7,500.00

Installation - Z Purlins Shading - Weather Protection	1	\$	4,000.00
Concrete installation excavation - Cut pavers refit - Relocate and modify existing seats	1	\$	3,300.00
Accommodation x 2 nights	1	\$	1,200.00
Contingencies 15%		\$	2,400.00
Total		\$	18,400.00

LEGISLATION AND POLICY

Council's Procurement Policy is relevant to this project.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

As per approved annual budget for the Gunbalanya Local Authority

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

This report is aligned to the following pillars and goals of the *Regional Plan and Budget*:

PILLAR 4 SERVICE DELIVERY AND BUILT ENVIRONMENT

We provide high quality infrastructure and service delivery that meets the unique needs of each community, creates a sense of place and contributes towards promoting a sense of pride in community.

Goal 4.1 Strategic Infrastructure and Asset Management

Strategically manage, maintain and enhance community infrastructure.

ATTACHMENTS

1. GX Outdoors Proposal - Table and Seats [**8.3.1** - 2 pages]
2. Z Purlins for Shelter [**8.3.2** - 1 page]



Sales Proposal

U1026511

21/08/2024

Requested By:

Sam Fazzolari - 08 8982 9525
West Arnhem Regional Council
PO Box 721
Jabiru NT 0886

Your Sales Contact

Natalie Anderson
1300 552 102
natalie.vella@gxoutdoors.com

Grillix Pty Ltd ta GX Outdoors

55 Commercial Street
PO Box 5010
Bundaberg QLD 4670
www.gxoutdoors.com
Toll Free: 1300 552 102

Page: 1 of 2

Credit Terms: 7 Days from Invoice

Quote Valid To: 20/09/2024

Description	Qty	Sell Price	Ext Price
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Atessa 2m Table Setting - Inground Mount - Western Red Cedar Timberimage

- * Fully enclosed, insect and vermin resistant extrusions coated in the unique 'TimberImage'
- * Anti-vandal die-cast alloy end caps screwed in with anti-theft screws (not riveted)
- * All stainless steel fixings and dynabolts
- * Strong, durable alloy frames & end caps powder coated in colour from GX Outdoors colour range
- * Ideal for coastal locations
- * Inground or surface mounting also available
- * Flat packed for cheaper freight rates

Atessa 2m Bench Seat - Inground Mount - Western Red Cedar Timberimage

- * Fully enclosed, insect and vermin resistant extrusions coated in the unique 'TimberImage'
- * Anti-vandal, die-cast alloy end caps screwed in with anti-theft screws (not riveted)
- * All stainless steel fixings
- * Strong, durable alloy frames powder coated in colour from GX Outdoors colour range
- * Ideal for coastal locations
- * Supplied with stainless steel dynabolts
- * Customisable up to lengths of 6 metres
- * Inground or surface mounting available
- * Flat packed for cheaper freight rates

DELIVERY TO DARWIN NT

ABN 46 129 480 977

Expect More

gxoutdoors.com

PACKAGING:

UNLOADING:

LEAD TIMES:

WARRANTY:





WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 11 SEPTEMBER 2024

Agenda Reference:	9.1
Title:	Incoming and Outgoing Correspondence
Author:	Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

SUMMARY

This report is to table items of correspondence received and sent since the last Gunbalanya Local Authority meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY received and noted the attached items of incoming and outgoing correspondence.

BACKGROUND

In October 2012 Council resolved only to table hard copy mail due to its volume. In 2021 the Administration aligned its definition of Correspondence with section 55(2) of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021*, as all correspondence addressed to, or sent by, the council or its principal member. Correspondence matching that definition is presented to Council in this report.

LEGISLATION AN POLICY

Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 s55(2)
Incoming and Outgoing Correspondence Policy

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

This report is aligned to the following pillars of the *Regional Plan and Budget 2023-2024*:

PILLAR 6 FOUNDATIONS OF GOVERNANCE

Integrity is at the heart of everything we do. We are leaders of best practice and excellence in governance, advocacy, consultation and administration. Our processes, procedures and policies are ethical and transparent.

Goal 6.3 Council and Local Authorities

Excellence in governance, consultation administration and representation.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Letter of Support - AFL N Ts Increased Funding for the West Arnhem Region - 2024 [9.1.1 - 2 pages]



Gerrit Wanganeen
Regional Manager, Arnhem Land and Groote Eylandt
74 Chesterfield Cct Nhulunbuy NT 0880

31 May 2024

Sent via: Gerrit.wanganeen@official.niaa.gov.au

AFL Northern Territory Increased Funding for West Arnhem Region

Dear Mr Wanganeen,

I am writing to bring to your attention and seek the agencies support for the pressing need for additional funding from the National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA) to AFL NT for the establishment of two full time positions in the West Arnhem region, particularly in the community of Gunbalanya. The request for this additional funding stems from the historical context and ongoing commitment of AFL NT to fostering Australian Rules Football programs in our region.

AFL NT has a long standing partnership with the communities of West Arnhem, notably Gunbalanya, where AFLNT has worked closely with the community and the West Arnhem Regional Council (WARC) to establish and maintain AFL programs. In 2018/19, AFLNT secured seed funding for a 12 month pilot program in Gunbalanya, which proved to be successful in engaging the local community in various football activities, including competitions and school based programs. Despite the success of the pilot program, securing additional funding has been challenging, and AFL NT has been operating with limited resources in the region.

West Arnhem Regional Council is of the understanding, currently, AFL NT's engagement with NIAA only allows for one full time position in the West Arnhem region, currently based in Maningrida. However, the unique geographical and demographic characteristics of Gunbalanya warrant the establishment of a second full time position in the community. Gunbalanya, with a population of 1500, is situated far inland and has its own distinct needs and challenges compared to Maningrida, which is located on the Central Arnhem coast.

The significance of AFL programs in the West Arnhem region cannot be understated, given the strong attachment First Nations people have to Country and the role of sports, particularly Australian Rules Football, in fostering community connections and promoting physical and mental well-being. The West Arnhem Regional Council has developed its own Australian Rules Football Plan, highlighting the importance of AFL in the region's community development.

Taking into consideration NIAA's commitment to supporting initiatives that contribute to Closing the Gap outcomes, particularly in areas such as increasing participation in sport and promoting the physical and mental health benefits of sports among Indigenous youth, I urge

PO Box 721, Jabiru NT 0886 | info@westarnhem.nt.gov.au | www.westarnhem.nt.gov.au



Jabiru (Head Office)
08 8979 9444

Gunbalanya
08 8970 3700

Maningrida
08 8979 6600

Waruwi
08 8970 3600

Minjilang
08 8970 3500




the agency to consider funding a second full time position for the West Arnhem region, to be based in Gunbalanya. This additional support aligns with the recent announcement of \$2.5 million in funding from the Albanese Government to boost participation in football across the Northern Territory.

The arrangement with NIAA presents a timely opportunity to address the funding shortfall faced by AFL NT in delivering much needed programs in Gunbalanya and other communities in the West Arnhem region. With a heightened focus on increasing services for youth participation in AFL programs, the investment will not only support AFL NT's Indigenous engagement programs but also contribute to positive outcomes in school attendance, well-being, and community participation.

The Gunbalanya Local Authority supports AFL NT to seek further funding from NIAA for an extension of the current West Arnhem AFL Program. We envisage 2 full time West Arnhem AFL NT representatives, 1 full time position based in Maningrida that also services Waruwi and Minjilang communities; as well as 1 full time position based in Gunbalanya that also services Jabiru and surrounding outstations.

I appreciate your attention to this matter. Should you require any further information or clarification, please do not hesitate to contact Marnie Mitchell, Manager of Community Services Support on 08 8979 9470.

Yours Sincerely,



Andy Garnarradi
Chairperson, Gunbalanya Local Authority



WEST ARNHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 11 SEPTEMBER 2024

Agenda Reference:	9.2
Title:	CSM Operations Report on Current Council Services
Author:	Vicki McCoy, CSM Gunbalanya

SUMMARY

This report presents the Local Authority with an update on council services provided in the community for the period 25 May – 25 August 2024, as prepared and presented by Council Services Manager (CSM) Vicki McCoy.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY received and noted the report entitled *CSM Operations Report on Current Council Services*.

BACKGROUND

All issues / matters raised are to be discussed by Local Authority members, as detailed in the report.

COMMENT

1. Attendance Rates

1.0. Staffing

Currently recruiting for the following positions:

- Senior Works Officer Interviews conducted
- Team Leader Community Care Vacant – until filled
- Team Leader Works Vacant – until filled
- Community Safety Senior Officer Vacant – until filled
- Broadcasting Officer Vacant – until filled
- Centrelink Assistant Vacant – until filled

Total number of vacancies	6
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2. Administration Services

2.0. Administration

The Gunbalanya Council administration office was open from 8:00am to 4:30pm on each business day during the report period

- Administration Coordinator and Administration Officer attended First Aid/CPR training 8 August 2024
- Administration Officer attended Fire Warden training 9 August 2024

2.1. Post Office

Post Office services are provided by Gunbalanya Council administration staff during 8:00am to 4:00pm on each business day

- Mail received, sorted and dispatched each business day
- Daily banking sheets sent to Retail and Post Office Jabiru, for additional quality assurance and compliance checks

Total postage received	6,145kg
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2.2. Centrelink

The Gunbalanya Centrelink Office operates between 8:00am to 4:00pm each business day

- Staff kept busy assisting residents with enquiries and facilitating agency contact via computers and phone

- Service Australia attended community 25 – 27 July 2024 and 19 – 23 August
- Senior Centrelink Officer on Long Service Leave, from 15 July 2024 to 9 August 2024
- Approx. 4 week disruption to Centrelink computers and phones. Clients unable to access MyGov. Telstra resolved problem 22 August 2024.

2.3. Cleaning

Scheduled cleaning of council assets has been completed as follows:

- Council office - total of 47 occasions;
- Playground amenities – total of 10 occasions;
- Public toilets – total of 10 occasions;
- Common areas – total of 20 occasions;
- Visitor Accommodation – as required; and
- Temporary Accommodation – as required.

2.4. Visitor Accommodation

Due to closure of Toad Hall, self-contained cabins have been fully booked. Bookings can be made through Little Hotelier.

- Utilised vacant staff housing for visiting staff/contractors when necessary
- Visitor Accommodation rooms cleaned as required
- Staff housing cleaned as required

3. Wellbeing Services

3.0. Sport & Recreation

- New Sports and Recreation (SR) program under development to cater for all ages
- SR participated at Schools Expo Career Day by showing what equipment is being used, answered questions relating to SR program and playing games
- SR has been busy with conducting various activities and engaging with other stakeholders to ensure activities happening during day and evening
- SR has been part of organising a Cultural trip with relevant stakeholders

Attendance totals	3,405
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3.1. Aged Care

The Gunbalanya Community Care team continues to provide services Monday to Friday

- An average of 11 clients come in for breakfast every morning
- Community Care continues to provide transport, healthy and nutritious hot meals, and dry breakfast to all clients including NDIS clients five days a week
- Hot breakfast provided Tuesday and Thursday
- Community Care provides laundry care for participating clients
- Centre activities include fishing, day trips to Jabiru, darts and various stimulating activities
- Clients transported to clinic for medical appointments and medication collection
- 2 new clients commenced for CHSP
- 1 new client commenced for HCP
- 1 new client temporary from MJD Foundation
- Office closure 9 July 2024 from 10am for Sorry Business

Total meals provided	4,073
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Disability Care

The Gunbalanya Community Care team continues to be the community connectors and services coordinator under the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS). Services provided are still limited to in home support and meals on wheels.

Total number of NDIS participants	18
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3.2. Women’s Safe House

The women’s safe house is manned 8:30am – 4:36pm Monday to Friday and has accommodated 15 clients over the reporting period.

- Casual staff manage the Safe House outside of those hours as required. This is on an On-Call basis
- Staff busy cleaning, preparing for handover of Safe House 30 June 2024
- As of the 30 June 2024 WARC is no longer responsible for the Women’s Safe House in Gunbalanya. This was handed to DEMED to operate.

3.3. Night Patrol

Night patrol services were provided on Monday to Saturday between 7:00pm and 3:00am.

- Outside alcohol and substances are still strong issues in the community, resulting in numerous fights occurring during this reporting period

3.4. Broadcasting

In conjunction with Top End Aboriginal Bush Broadcasting Association (TEABBA), broadcasting services operated automatically between 08:00am and 12:00 noon only.

- Currently recruiting for new Broadcasting Officer
- No broadcasting this report period

Total number of On-Air hours	0 hrs
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4. Community Works

4.0. Parks and Open Space

- Weed spraying to commence before wet season
- Mowing and collection of hard rubbish continues around community
- Welcome to Gunbalanya sign needs to be fixed
- Billabong pump faulty, seeking repair options
- Rubbish runs continue to operate Monday to Friday
- Fire breaking has commenced around areas of community. This will continue.
- Oval lights handed over and turned on 23 July 2024. Official opening once project completed.

4.1. Roads

- Pothole and road repairs have commenced across the community
- Roadworks completed on road outside of works compound
- Need to install traffic signage including safety markers around areas of community

4.2. Waste

The landfill site operated Monday to Friday, 8:30am to 4:00pm with no disruption to service

- Rubbish pushed back and landfill cleaned regularly
- Skips bins needed at Landfill bays, working with Waste and Resource coordinator

4.3. Plant and equipment

- Daily vehicle, plant, truck pre-starts and toolboxes meetings completed
- Toyota landcruiser pending repair for oil leaks
- Slasher and ride on mowers are undertaking repairs
- Vehicle hoist inspected 2 August 2024
- Skid steer is currently under repair

5. Essential Services

5.0. Power

- Daily Genset reads occur morning and afternoon, Monday to Friday

- Daily Genset shed cleans
- Daily Genset oil check and top up if required
- Weekly Generation Report, conducted on Mondays
- Maintenance and housekeeping at the Genset shed
- Carried out 250 hour services on Genset 1
- Carried out 300 hour service on Genset 2
- Daily solar farm inspections
- Numerous vandalized meters, power disconnections, pulled fuses, meter repairs and/or replacements and service requests completed
- Power Water reads completed
- Increase in replacements on Smart meter boxes

5.1. Water

- Weekly bacto water samples
- Monthly wastewater samples
- Daily chlorine testing and schedule calls
- UV shed reads and daily monitoring
- Daily town tank reads
- Numerous water leak repairs, replacement of burnt out or damaged water meters, including service requests completed
- Flushing of town lines where possible
- Water leaks occurring across the community

5.2. Sewerage

- Daily sewer pit reads and low-level pump outs plus float cleans
- Monthly wastewater sampling
- Compound maintenance
- Daily inspections of sewer pond
- Sewer pond outflow reads conduct on Fridays, outflow meter non-operational and repairs underway
- Manual unblocking of wastewater dump pipes as required
- Twice weekly dumping of sewer cage at the Social Club, occurring as needed

5.3. Airfield

- Aerodrome boundary fence needs major repairs, this has been escalated
- Passenger access gate needs repairs, to prevent it being wedged open
- Small trees, shrubs and anthills growing along fence line and internally
- Wildlife/vermin is a constant hazard (birds, dingoes, wild dogs)
- Grass inside and outside of Aerodrome maintained
- DIPL attended aerodrome to inspect fencing 6 August
- Aerodrome Inspection conducted 8 August

6. Community

6.0. Local Authority projects

- Current
 - Animal Management Program (Vet) recent visit outcome report attached

6.1. Community meetings and events

- Fortnightly Operation Meetings
- Monthly Stakeholder Meetings
- Fortnightly Community Care Management Meetings
- Fortnightly Senior Leadership Team Meetings
- Internal WARC Meetings

- Meeting with Westpac – regarding visiting community for the week
- Meeting with Dietician – regarding menus for Community Care
- Meeting with Health Outreach – regarding Men’s Health
- Meeting with Clinic – regarding Men’s Clinic
- Meeting with PAWA – regarding Smart meters
- Meeting with Westpac – regarding visit to community
- Meeting Stronger Communities for Children (SCFC) - regarding Remote Laundry
- Meeting with Aboriginal Investment Group (AIG) - regarding Remote Laundry
- Meeting with Community Development Plan (CDP) - regarding training courses
- Meeting with Relationship Australia – regarding ‘Redress Scheme Support Services
- Meeting with Rugby NT – regarding introducing rugby union into community
- Meeting with Injalak Arts Centre – regarding Stone Festival

Total number of meetings and events attended by the CSM	35
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LEGISLATION AND POLICY

Not applicable.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

This report aligns to the following pillars and goals as outlined in the *Regional Plan and Budget*:

PILLAR 6 FOUNDATIONS OF GOVERNANCE

Integrity is at the heart of everything we do. We are leaders of best practice and excellence in governance, advocacy, consultation and administration. Our processes, procedures and policies are ethical and transparent.

Goal 6.3 Council and Local Authorities

Excellence in governance, consultation administration and representation.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Gunbalanya June report [9.2.1 - 14 pages]

Report to WARC on veterinary visit to Gunbalanya

June 17th – June 21st 2024

Dr Liz Tudor BVSc

West Arnhem Land Dog
Health Project (WALDHeP)



Introduction to WALDHeP (West Arnhem Land Dog Health Program)

- WALDHeP was founded by Dr Liz Tudor, in 2005 and, accompanied by her husband Rick, she has provided veterinary care to households in Gunbalanya since 2005, expanding to include Warruwi and Minjilang in 2015.
- WALDHeP is honoured to be providing veterinary care across all West Arnhem Regional Council communities in 2024 and was delighted to be back in Gunbalanya in June.



How WALDHeP works..

- Liz Tudor and Cam Raw work at the University of Melbourne Veterinary School
- WALDHeP's approach is based on building relationships of trust over time
- WALDHeP brings a large team of vets, and veterinary students (who fulfil the role of vet nurses) to communities.
- However, from the community's perspective, it is the same trusted faces who visit homes and engage with animal owners every visit.
- These individuals, Dr Liz with partner Rick, along with Dr Cam, visit homes, deliver animals to the surgical team, assist with surgery and return animals home at the end of the day.
- The size of the WALDHeP team and the support of multiple surgeons, means that WALDHeP can accomplish a large amount during each visit with great efficiency - whilst not swamping community members with new faces.



The Gunbalanya Vet Team

Monday June 17th – Friday June 21st 2024

SEVEN VETS

Liz Tudor
Cam Raw
Erica Shaw
Joanna Aitken
Lucy Davies
Arielle Giles
Travis Gromer

FIVE DVM STUDENTS

Genevieve Chapman
Helena Thomas
Inthuja
Thiruyoheswaran
Jonathan Chan
William Barron
and two assistants:
Eddy Roccati
Nik Handsjuk





Gunbalanya June visit

We established our surgery at the rear of the Clinic.

Dr Cam and Dr Liz visited houses to offer medicine for worms and scabies and surgery for cats and dogs.

Dogs and cats were transported to and from the clinic in cages.

One hundred and one (101) surgical procedures conducted under general anaesthetic!

- Over four working days, we performed:
 - Eleven dog spays
 - Thirty-four dog castrations
 - Twenty-one cat spays
 - Twenty-five cat castrations
 - Eight other surgeries
 - Two venereal tumour (TVT) resections
- This is a very large amount of work-made possible by the size and expertise of our team!



Other veterinary work in Gunbalanya

- We visited every occupied home in Arguluk, Banyan and Middle Camp to offer worm and scabies treatment to dogs.
- In some homes people were away and we were unable to treat their animals.
- We had nine people call by for consultations about their dogs or cats and to have vaccinations or pick up medicine.



How are the dogs in Gunbalanya?

- Some dogs in Gunbalanya are very healthy
- Unfortunately, since our last visit in September 2023, there are a **lot more dogs with poor skin health** (scabies, itchy skin and hair loss).
- A number of these dogs are also **very skinny**.
- We think this is probably because many dogs in Gunbalanya have the new **tick-borne disease Ehrlichiosis**
- It is very difficult to treat this disease, and it makes it hard for dogs to fight off other infections. We think this is why so many dogs are skinny and have bad skin.



What more can we do to help the dogs in Gunbalanya?

- The best things we can do for these skinny dogs are to:
 - Give them worm medicine
 - Give them scabies medicine
 - Make sure they don't have ticks
 - Give them good manme- meat from the meatworks is kamak!
- We have given all these dogs medicine that will last for three months (till we come back in September)
- We will treat the dogs again in September, and leave medicine for owners to give over the wet season

Good reasons for dogs to have operations

- We know from all the data we have collected over twenty years that desexed dogs have:
 - Healthier skin
 - Better body condition
 - Fewer worms in their stomachs
- Also desexed dogs are less cheeky and stay closer to home
- There is a cancer that is spread between male and female dogs when they have sex . It is called TVT.
- Desexing dogs means they don't spread this nasty cancer

What about the cats?

- Cats breed very fast and often:
 - One female cat can produce 24 kittens in one year!
 - One pair of cats in their lifetime, through their offspring, can be responsible for the birth of 420,000 kittens
- Too many cats leads to loss of wildlife (birds, small mammals and lizards) , and spreads disease in homes (worms and Toxoplasma, which is really serious for pregnant women).





Cats in Gunbalanya

- When we visited last year there were many houses with very large numbers of cats
- We are pleased to report that cat numbers are better controlled than they were last year.
- Those houses that reported too many cats last year now have very few cats.
- It is important to keep performing desexing operations, as cats breed fast, and numbers may escalate very quickly!

Recommendations: Ongoing veterinary care in Gunbalanya

- Regular visits are essential to provide desexing surgery that ensures dog and cat populations remain stable, to provide medicines to kill parasites on the skin and in the intestines, and to keep all animals healthy.
- We will visit Gunbalanya again this year in September, from **Monday September 16th- Friday September 20th**
- We will visit all houses again to provide worm, tick and mange medicine. There are some houses that had young puppies and mother dogs in June, where owners have asked us to come back and do operations in September.
- During the June visit we treated two dogs with the cancer (TVT). We will give them another dose of medicine to make sure the cancer is gone.



Thankyou!

Our thanks to West Arnhem Regional Council, Traditional Owners and the residents of Gunbalanya for allowing us to visit Gunbalanya and to provide veterinary care for dogs and cats.

WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 11 SEPTEMBER 2024

Agenda Reference:	10.1
Title:	Local Authority Member Questions with or without Notice
Author:	Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to give Local Authority Members a forum in which to table items they wish to be debated.

Local Authority Members are encouraged to raise any issues they wish to discuss during the meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY recorded for action the following questions from Members.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

- 11 NEXT MEETING**
- 12 MEETING DECLARED CLOSED**