



WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL AGENDA

**MINJILANG LOCAL AUTHORITY
MONDAY, 9 SEPTEMBER 2024**



WEST ARNHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL

Notice is hereby given that a Local Authority Meeting of the West Arnhem Regional Council will be held in Minjilang on Monday 9 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.

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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 9 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 Minjilang Local Authority record, any apologies, requests for leave of absence and absence without notice received from Authority members for the meeting held on 9 September 2024.

RECOMMENDATION

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 9 SEPTEMBER 2024

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

SUMMARY

Agenda papers are presented for acceptance at the Minjilang Local Authority meeting held on 9 September 2024.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY accept the agenda papers as circulated for the Minjilang Local Authority meeting held on 9 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 ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 9 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 Minjilang Local Authority meeting held on 9 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 9 SEPTEMBER 2024

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

SUMMARY

Unconfirmed minutes from the 5 June 2024 Minjilang 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 5 June 2024 Minjilang 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. 2024.06.05 unconfirmed minjilang local authority minutes [6.1.1 - 6 pages]



Minutes of the West Arnhem Regional Council Minjilang Local Authority
Wednesday, 5 June 2024 at 10:00 am
Council Chambers

1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY AND OPENING OF MEETING

Chairperson Matthew Nagarlbin declared the meeting open at 10:11, welcomed all in attendance and did an Acknowledgement of Country.

APPOINTED MEMBERS PRESENT

Chairperson	Matthew Nagarlbin
Member	Shane Wauchope
Member	Clint Wauchope
Member	Charles Yirrawala

ELECTED MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor	James Woods
Deputy Mayor	Elizabeth Williams
Councillor	Henry Guwiyul

STAFF PRESENT

Chief Executive Officer	Andrew Walsh
Director of Community and Council Services	Fiona Ainsworth
Director of Finance	Jocelyn Nathanael- Walters
Governance and Risk Advisor (acting)	Jasmine Mortimore
Council Services Manager Minjilang (acting)	Rick Withers
General Manager Technical Services (acting)	Clem Beard
Manager Business Development	Leanne Johansson

GUEST PRESENT

National Indigenous Australian Agency (NIAA)	Fergus Boyd
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3 APOLOGIES AND ABSENCES

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

The Local Authority considered a report on Apologies, Leave of Absence and Absence Without Notice.

MIN14/2024 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Member S Wauchope
Seconded Member C Wauchope

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

1. Notes the absence of Member Audrey Lee.
3. Notes and accepts the apology received from Member David Makings.
4. Determines Member David Makings is absent with permission for the Minjilang Local Authority held on 5 June; and
4. Determines Audrey Lee is absent without permission of the Minjilang Local Authority held on 5 June 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.

MIN15/2024 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Chairperson Nagarlbin
Seconded Member Yirrawala

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY accept the agenda papers as circulated for the Minjilang Local Authority meeting held on 5 June 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.

MIN16/2024 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Chairperson Nagarlbin
Seconded Member Yirrawala

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY received no declarations of interest as listed for the Minjilang Local Authority meeting held on 5 June 2024.

CARRIED

6 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Agenda Reference:	6.1
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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.

MIN17/2024 RESOLVED:

**On the motion of Chairperson Nagarlbin
Seconded Member Yirrawala**

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

1. Adopted the minutes of the 25 March 2024 Minjilang Local Authority as a true and correct record.
2. Adopted the minutes of the 15 May 2024 Minjilang Local Authority as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

7 DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Agenda Reference:	7.1
Title:	Presentations and Visitors - Northern Territory Electoral Commission
Author:	Jasmine Mortimore, Acting Governance and Risk Advisor

The Local Authority considered a report on Presentations and Visitors - Northern Territory Electoral Commission.

MIN18/2024 RESOLVED:

**On the motion of Member C Wauchope
Seconded Member S Wauchope**

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

1. Noted the presentations on 2024 Territory Election; and
2. Thanks presenter Anna Egerton from the Northern Territory Electoral Commission.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	7.2
Title:	Presentations and Visitors - ALPA CDP
Author:	Jasmine Mortimore, Acting Governance and Risk Advisor

The Local Authority considered a report on Presentations and Visitors - ALPA CDP.

MIN21/2024 RESOLVED:

**On the motion of Member C Wauchope
Seconded Member Yirrawala**

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

1. Noted the presentations on Community Development Program Updates; and
2. Thanks presenter Sean Davies from Arnhem Land Progress Aboriginal Corporation.

CARRIED

8 ACTION REPORTS

Agenda Reference:	8.1
Title:	Finance Report for the period ended 30 April 2024
Author:	Corey White, Acting Finance Manager

The Local Authority considered a report on Finance Report for the period ended 30 April 2024.

MIN19/2024 RESOLVED:

West Arnhem Regional Council

- 3 -

Minjilang Local Authority
Wednesday 5 June 2024

**On the motion of Member Yirrawala
Seconded Chairperson Nagarlbin**

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Received and noted the report titled *Finance Report for the period ended 30 April 2024*

CARRIED

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

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

MIN20/2024 RESOLVED:

**On the motion of Member Yirrawala
Seconded Chairperson Nagarlbin**

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Received and noted the report titled *Review of Action Items*; and
2. Reviewed the outstanding action items and gave approval for completed items to be removed from the register, including item for ALPA CDP to present to the local authority

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	8.3
Title:	Council's Draft Regional Plan and Budget 2024-2205
Author:	Andrew Walsh, Chief Executive Officer

Meeting broke for lunch at 11:22 and recommenced at 11:47

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

MIN22/2024 RESOLVED:

**On the motion of Member S Wauchope
Seconded Chairperson Nagarlbin**

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

1. Receive and note the report titled *Council's Draft Regional Plan and Budget 2024-2025*.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	8.4
Title:	Purchase of Devices for Local Authority
Author:	Jasmine Mortimore, Acting Governance and Risk Advisor

The Local Authority considered a report on Purchase of Devices for Local Authority.

MIN23/2024 RESOLVED:

**On the motion of Member C Wauchope
Seconded Member Yirrawala**

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Received and noted the report titled *Purchase of Devices for Local Authority*; and
2. Do not approve the allocation of up to \$4000.00 of local authority funding to purchase 6 tablets.

CARRIED

9 RECEIVE AND NOTE REPORTS

Agenda Reference:	9.1
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.

MIN24/2024 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Member S Wauchope
Seconded Member C Wauchope

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY received and noted the report titled *Top End Youth Leadership Summit April 2024*.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference	10.1
Title:	CSM Operations Report on Current Council Services
Author:	Cathy Makings, CSM Minjilang

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

MIN25/2024 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Member Yirrawala
Seconded Chairperson Nagarlbin

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

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	9.3
Title:	2022-2023 Annual Report
Author:	Jasmine Mortimore, Acting Governance and Risk Advisor

The Local Authority considered a report on 2022-2023 Annual Report.

MIN26/2024 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Member S Wauchope
Seconded Chairperson Nagarlbin

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY received and noted the report titled *2022-2023 Annual Report*.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	9.4
Title:	Local Authority Membership
Author:	Jasmine Mortimore, Acting Governance and Risk Advisor

The Local Authority considered a report on Local Authority Membership.

MIN27/2024 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Chairperson Nagarlbin
Seconded Member S Wauchope

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

1. Received and noted the report titled *Local Authority Membership*; and
2. Approved nomination for Josephine Cooper to join the Minjilang Local Authority

CARRIED

10 LOCAL AUTHORITY MEMBER QUESTIONS WITH OR WITHOUT NOTICE

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

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

MIN28/2024 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Member Yirrawala
Seconded Member S Wauchope

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY recorded no questions from Members.

CARRIED

11 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled to take place on 9 September 2024

12 MEETING DECLARED CLOSED

Chairperson Matthew Nagarlbin declared the meeting closed at 13:05.

This page and the preceding pages are the minutes of the Minjilang Local Authority held on Wednesday 5 June 2024.

[Click here](#) to view agenda for 5 June 2024 Minjilang Local Authority Meeting.

WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 9 SEPTEMBER 2024

Agenda Reference:	7.1
Title:	PowerWater- 4G Power Meter System
Author:	Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide Minjilang 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 Meter Replacements by Power Water Corporation.

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.

Minjilang Local Authority Meeting – Presentations / Visitors			
Topic	Presenter/Visitor	Organisation	Invited by
Information on the 4G Power Meter Replacements	Jayde Armstead	Power Water Corporation	The Local Authority

The Minjilang meter replacements are currently scheduled for 24-25 September 2024.

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 9 SEPTEMBER 2024

Agenda Reference:	7.2
Title:	NT Health - Community Alcohol Plan
Author:	Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide Minjilang 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.

Minjilang 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 [7.2.1 - 9 pages]
2. interim-apa-guide-for-communities [7.2.2 - 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

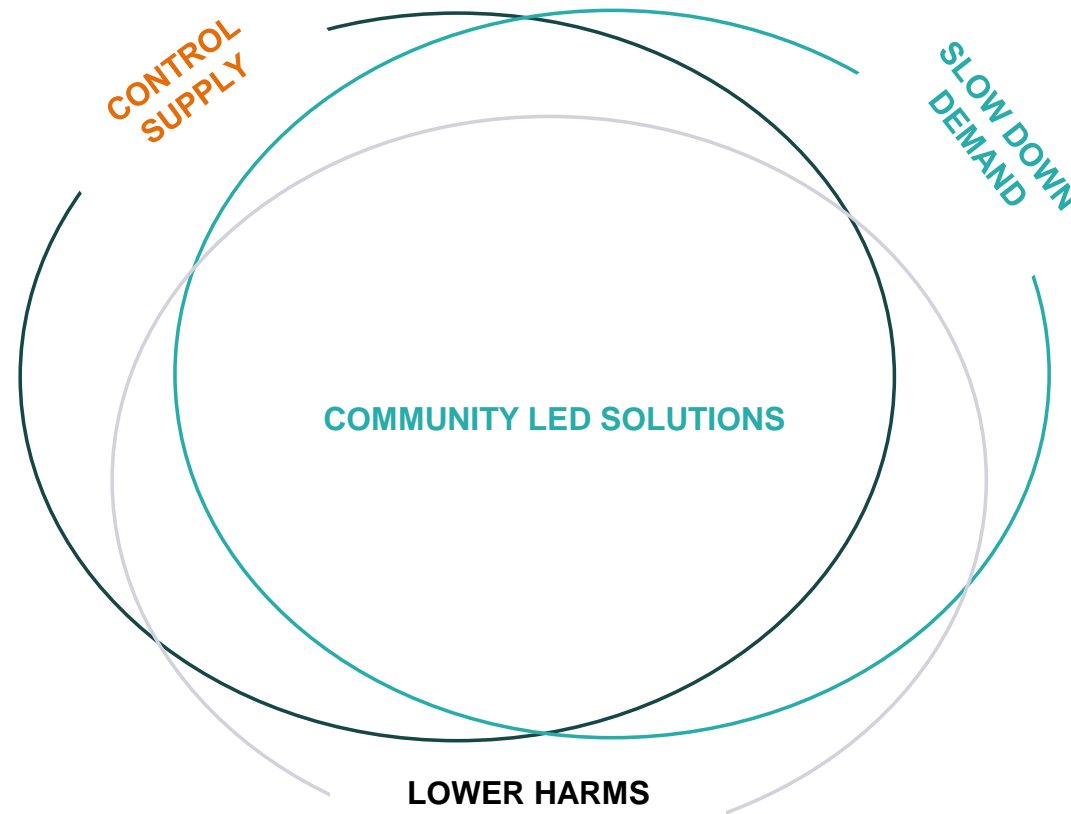
Community-Led Solutions to Alcohol Management;

- 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.)

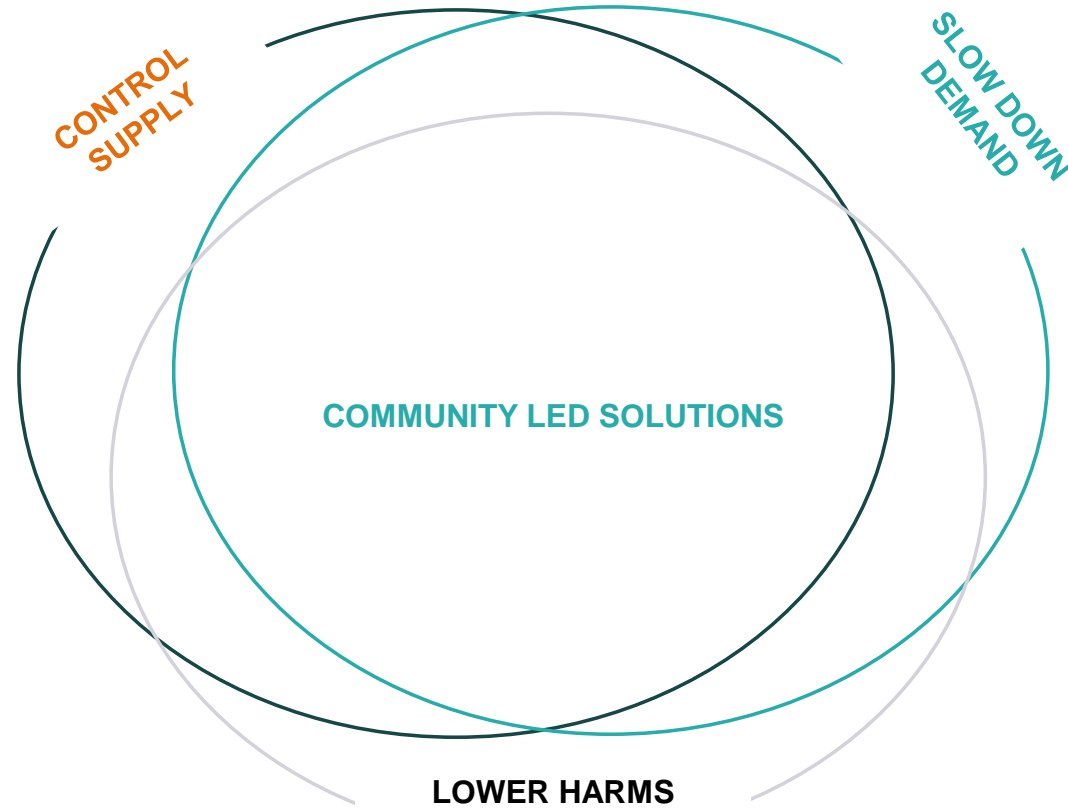
Harm Reduction

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

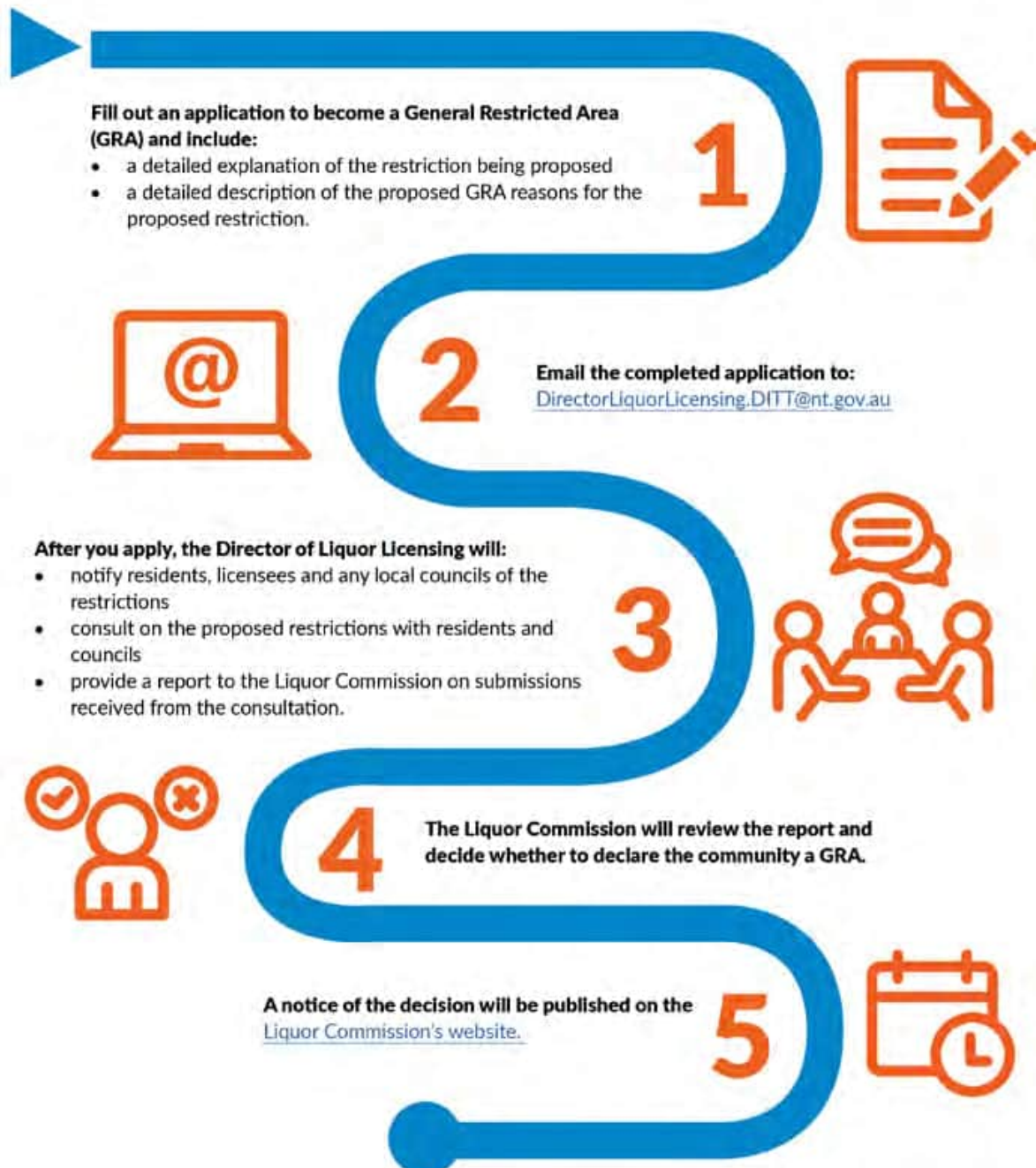
For drug and alcohol services in the NT, call [08 8999 1800](tel:0889991800) or email MHAOD.DOH@nt.gov.au

Overview of the interim opt-out model options



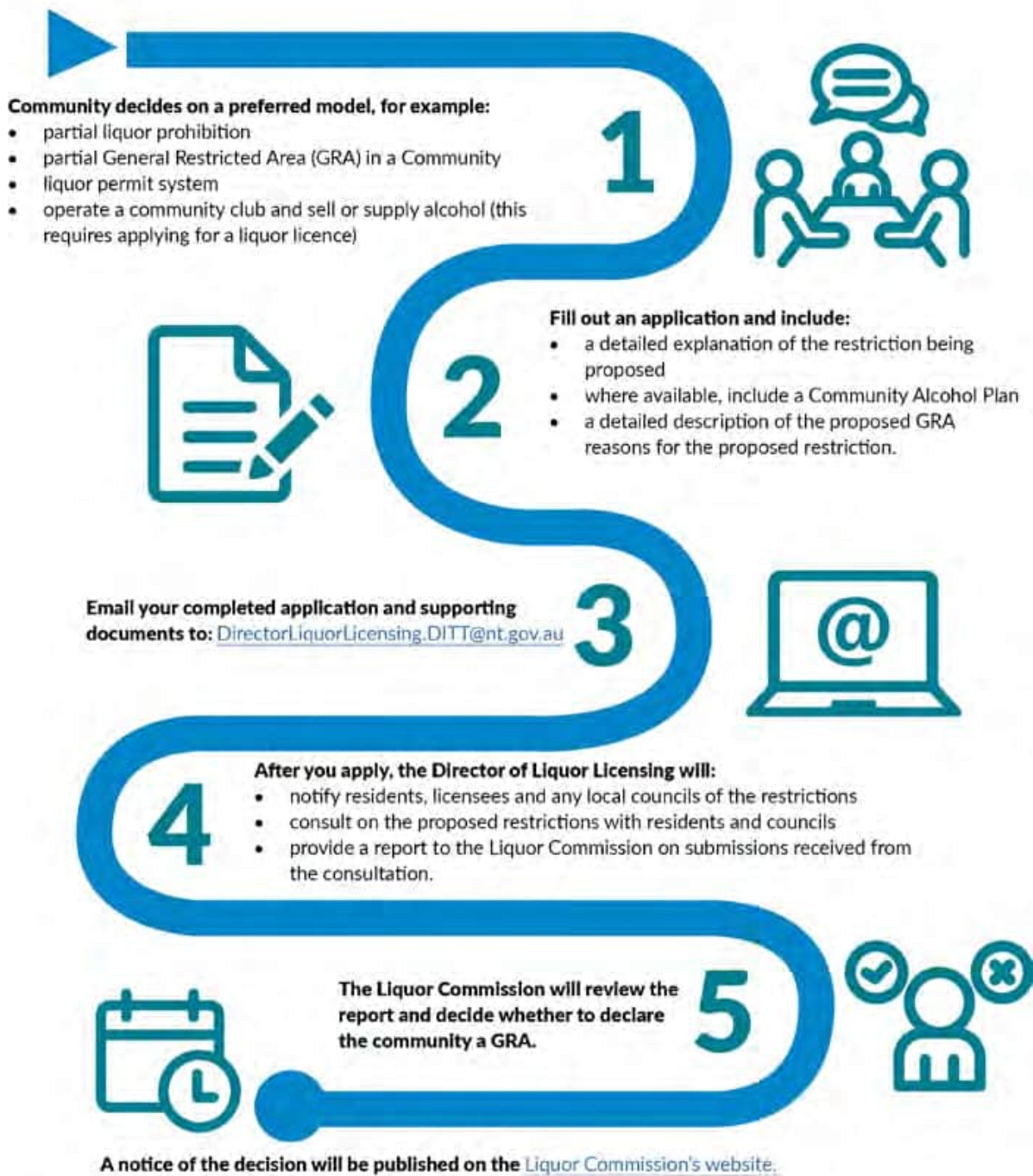
A quick guide to remaining a dry community

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



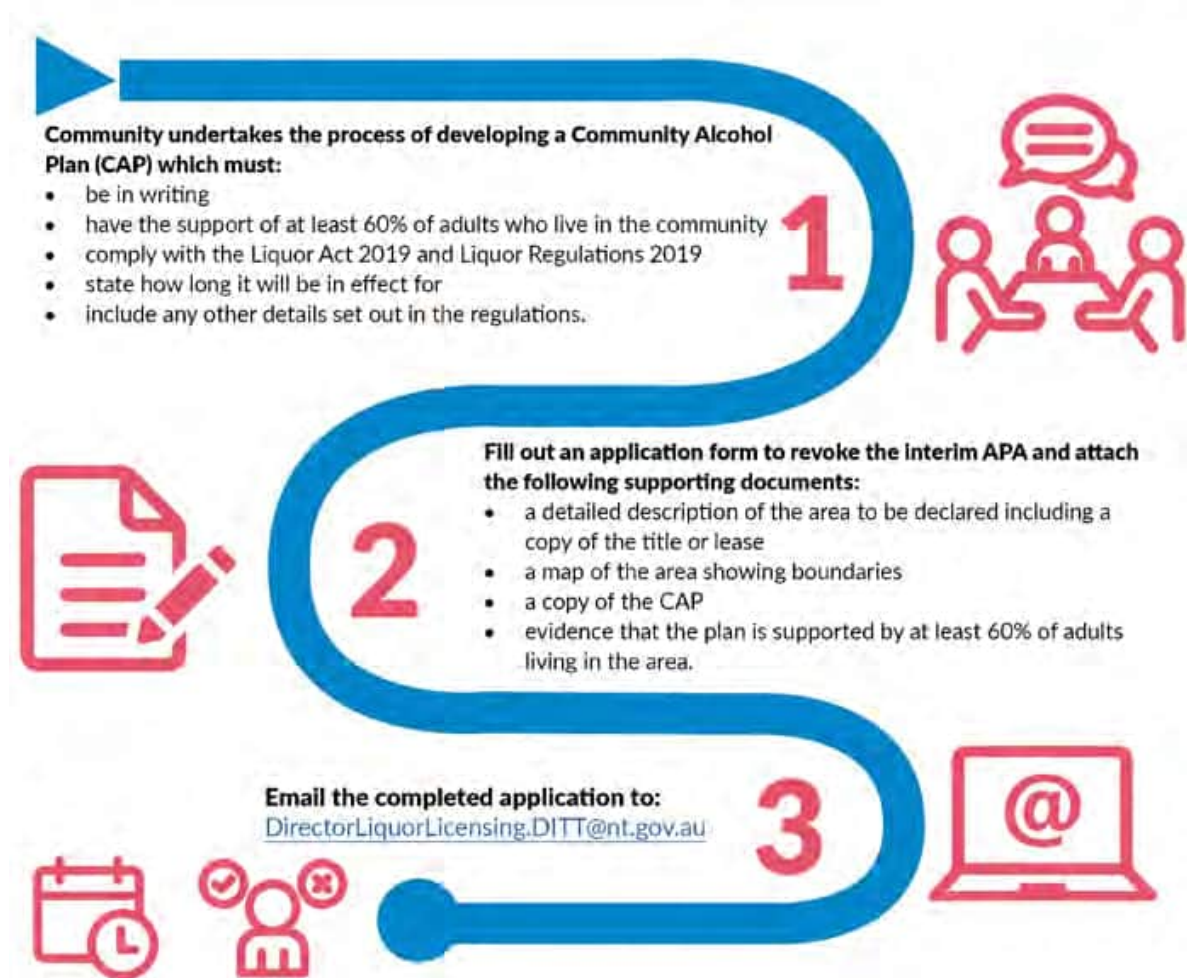
A quick guide to allowing some alcohol back into the community

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 ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 9 SEPTEMBER 2024

Agenda Reference:	7.3
Title:	Aboriginal Peak Organisation Northern Territory - Aboriginal Education Steering Committee
Author:	Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide Minjilang 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 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.

Minjilang Local Authority Meeting – Presentations / Visitors			
Topic	Presenter/Visitor	Organisation	Invited by
Information of the Aboriginal Education Peak Body	Rheannon Vea Ve	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 [7.3.1 - 6 pages]
2. Ed Forum report October 2023 FINAL [7.3.2 - 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.



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”.

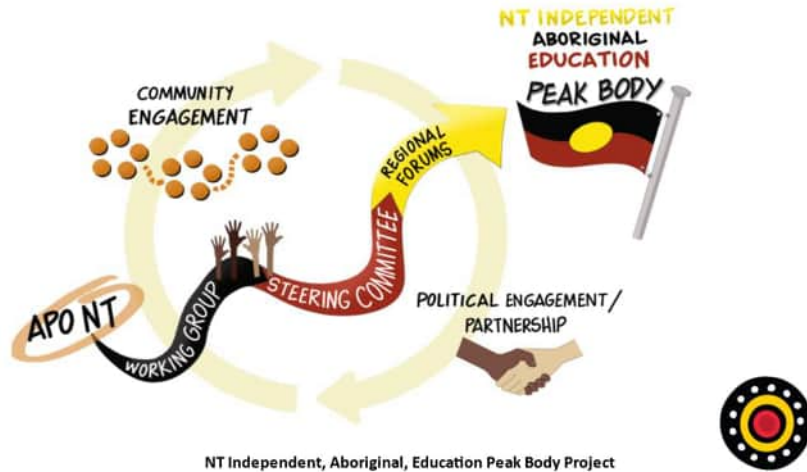


Photo – Jerome Cubillo



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

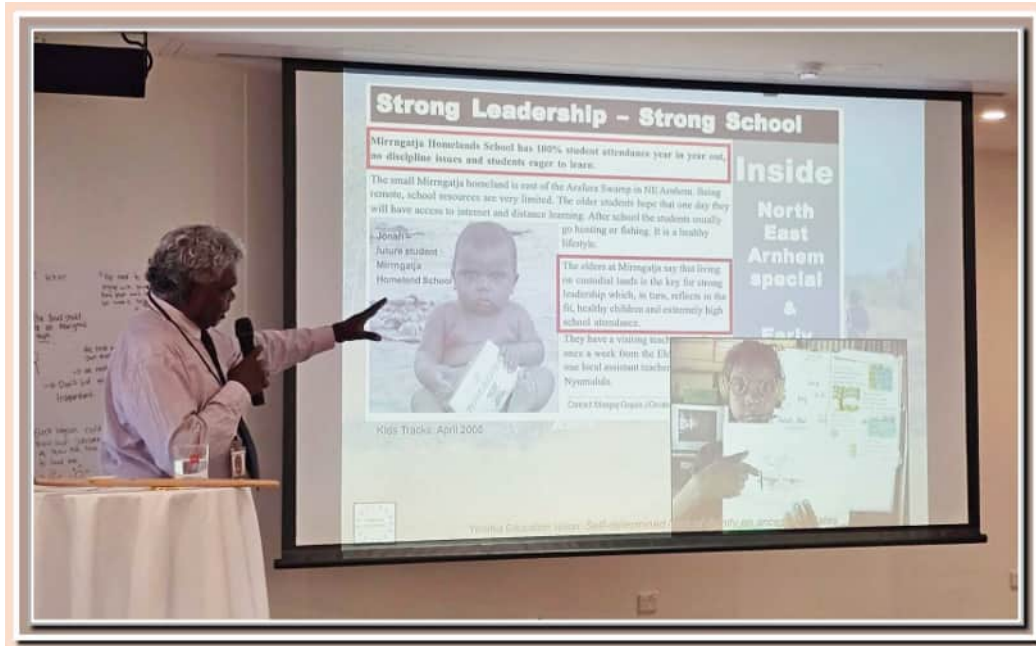


Photo of John Greatorex and Yingiya Guyula – Yirralka Education Committee

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.

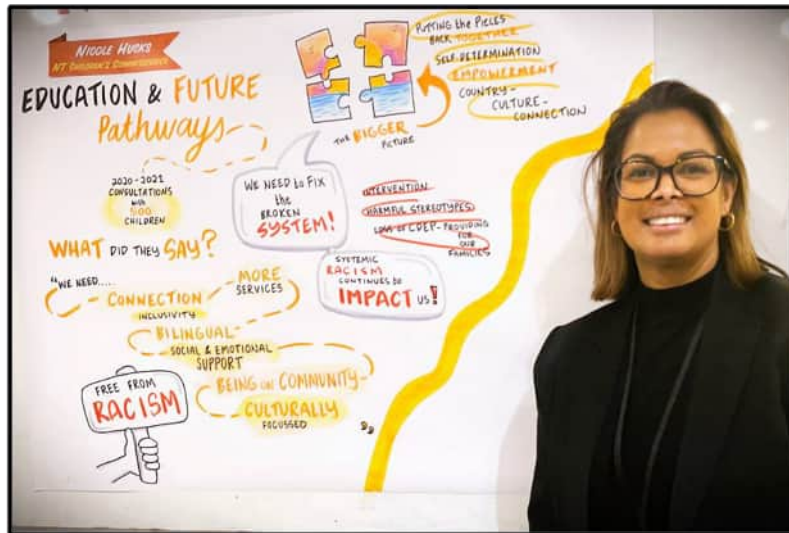
However these achievements are not a deliberate outcome of a mandated culturally appropriate system, rather they are in spite of a mainstream system that would otherwise have students learning just western education content. These successes are built off courageous and committed Yolngu who have paved 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



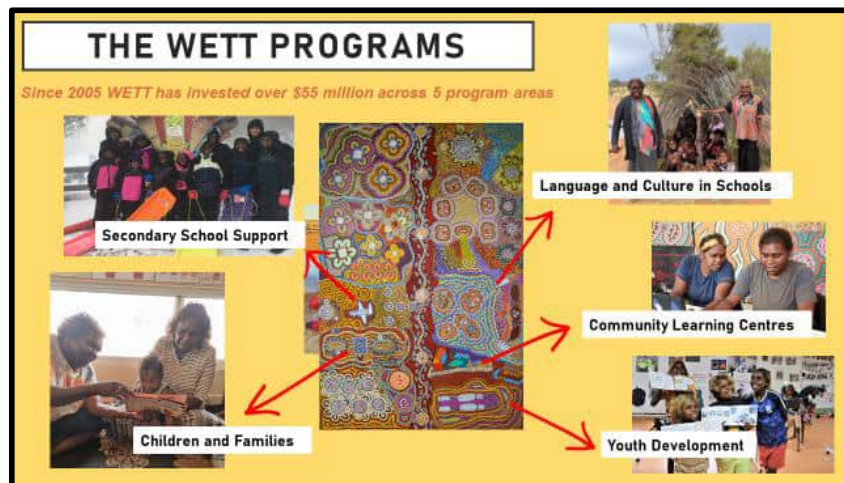


‘Yapa kuja kalu wangkami pirrijirdi jintangka - Warlpiri speaking up strongly together’ – Walpiri Education & Training trust (WETT)

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

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



WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 9 SEPTEMBER 2024

Agenda Reference:	7.4
Title:	NT Police - Law and Order Update
Author:	Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide Minjilang 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.

Minjilang 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 9 SEPTEMBER 2024

Agenda Reference:	7.5
Title:	National Indigenous Australians Agency - Remote Jobs and Economic Development
Author:	Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide Minjilang 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.

Minjilang 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 9 SEPTEMBER 2024

Agenda Reference:	8.1
Title:	Finance Report for the period ended 31 July 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 Minjilang.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Received and noted the report entitled *Finance Report for the period ended 31 July 2024*; and

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's 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 projects within the community. There are activities related 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 Minjilang income and expenditure is shown below.

Actuals v Budget - Minjilang

as at 31 Aug 2024

Description	MINJILANG					
	Actuals YTD	Budget YTD	Variance	%	Annual Budget	Progress
Operational Revenue						
Income Rates and Charges	5,310	10,620	(5,310)	(50%)	63,720	8%
Charges - Sewerage	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Charges - Water	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Charges - Waste	5,655	11,310	(5,655)	(50%)	67,857	8%
Income Council Fees and Other Charges	-	3,550	(3,550)	(100%)	21,300	0%
Income Operating Grants	3,075	90,639	(87,564)	(97%)	543,833	1%
Income Allocation	4,153	22,428	(18,275)	(81%)	134,569	3%
Other Income	643	1,750	(1,107)	(63%)	7,000	9%
Income Agency and Commercial Services	72,561	137,487	(64,926)	(47%)	824,921	9%
Total Operational Revenue	91,397	277,783	(186,387)	(67%)	1,663,201	5%
Operational Expenditure						
Employee Expenses	137,765	291,890	(154,125)	(53%)	1,753,018	8%
Contract and Material Expenses	178,907	85,259	93,647	(100%)+	456,107	39%
Finance Expenses	325	176	149	85%	1,055	31%
Travel, Freight and Accom Expenses	12,002	30,665	(18,663)	(61%)	179,988	7%
Fuel, Utilities & Communication	22,470	60,866	(38,396)	(63%)	364,919	6%
Other Expenses	13,780	61,748	(47,968)	(78%)	498,129	3%
Elected Member Allowances	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Elected Member Expenses	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Council Committee & LA Allowances	-	1,113	(1,113)	(100%)	-	0%
Council Committee & LA Expenses	-	26	(26)	(100%)	105	0%
Total Operational Expenditure	365,248	531,742	(166,495)	(31%)	3,253,321	11%
Total Operational Surplus / (Deficit)	(273,851)	(253,959)	(19,892)	(8%)	(1,590,120)	17%

Annual Budget Operating Position

as at 31 Aug 2024

Description	Actuals YTD	Budget YTD	Variance	%	Annual Budget	Progress
Operating Surplus / (Deficit)	(273,851)	(253,959)	(19,892)	(8%)	(1,590,120)	17%
Remove NON-CASH ITEMS						
Less Non-Cash Income	(4,153)	(22,428)	18,275	81%	(134,569)	3%
Add Back Non-Cash Expenses	25,788	110,921	(85,133)	(77%)	649,027	4%
Total Non-Cash Items	21,635	88,493	(66,858)	(76%)	514,458	4%
Less ADDITIONAL OUTFLOWS						
Capital Expenditure	(1,530)	-	(1,530)	(100%)	-	100%
Borrowing Repayments (Principal Only)	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Transfer to Reserves	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Other Outflows	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Total Additional Outflows	(1,530)	-	(1,530)	(100%)	-	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	(253,746)	(165,466)	(88,280)	(53%)	(1,075,662)	24%

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 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 6.1 Financial Management

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

ATTACHMENTS

1. Graphical Financial Presentation Minjilang - August 2024 [**8.1.1** - 7 pages]



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

Actual v Budget – Operational – August 2024



Actuals v Budget - Minjilang

as at 31 Aug 2024

Description	MINJILANG				Annual Budget	Progress
	Actuals YTD	Budget YTD	Variance	%		
Operational Revenue						
Income Rates and Charges	5,310	10,620	(5,310)	(50%)	63,720	8%
Charges - Sewerage	-	-	-	-	-	0%
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Actual v Budget – Operational – August 2024



Annual Budget Operating Position as at 31 Aug 2024

Description	Actuals YTD	Budget YTD	Variance	%	Annual Budget	Progress
Operating Surplus / (Deficit)	(273,851)	(253,959)	(19,892)	(8%)	(1,590,120)	17%
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Total Non-Cash Items	21,635	88,493	(66,858)	(76%)	514,458	4%
Less ADDITIONAL OUTFLOWS						
Capital Expenditure	(1,530)	-	(1,530)	(100%)	-	100%
Borrowing Repayments (Principal Only)	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Transfer to Reserves	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Other Outflows	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Total Additional Outflows	(1,530)	-	(1,530)	(100%)	-	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%
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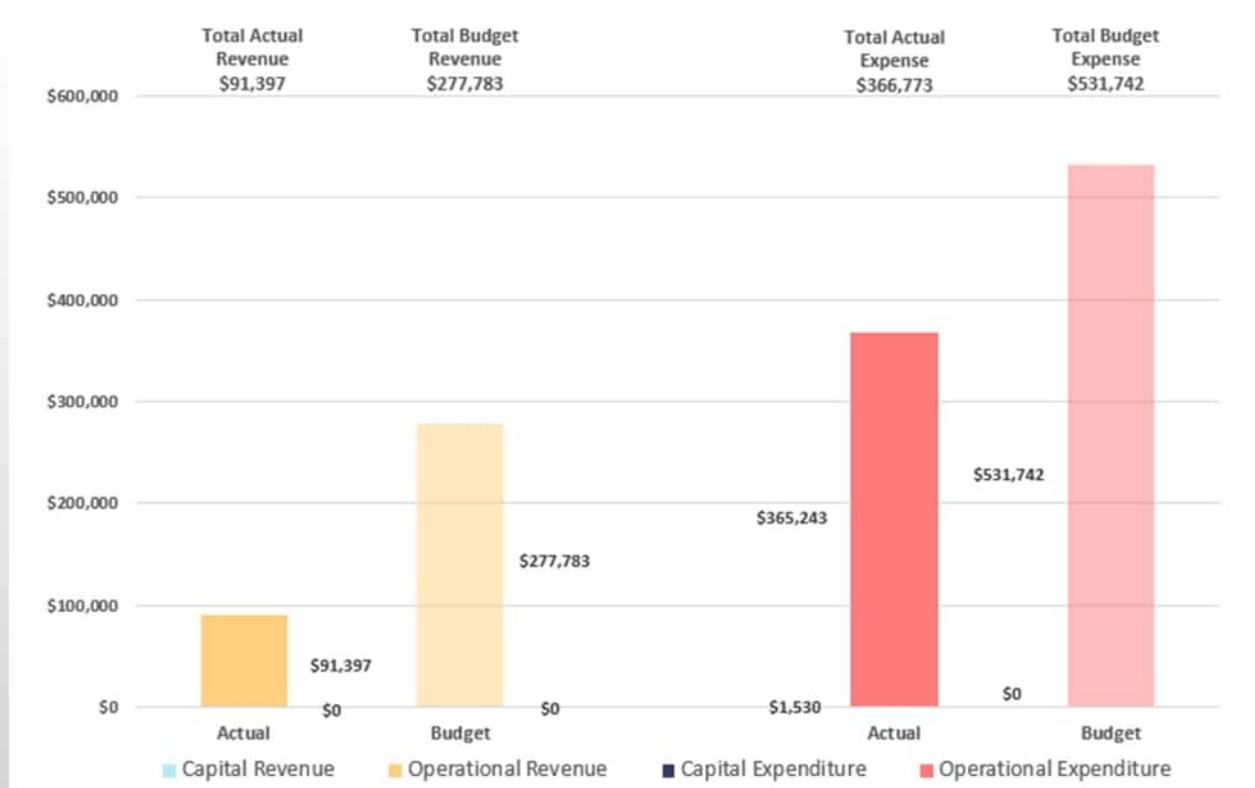
Legend:

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





Actual v Budget – Minjilang – August 2024



Grant Funding – Local Authority Projects – Available Funds – August 2024



Grant Funding - Local Authority Projects	Funding Amount	Funding Year	Funds Received	Funds not yet Received	Allocated	Balance as at 31.08.2024
Local Authority Projects Funding	36,900	FY 22/23	36,900	-	(35,856)	1,044
Local Authority Projects Funding	36,900	FY 23/24	36,900	-	-	36,900
TOTAL FUNDING	73,800		73,800	-	(35,856)	37,944

Add funds available from Projects completed under budget	-
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Total available for Allocation	37,944
---------------------------------------	---------------

LAP – Supply and Install General Purpose Power Outlet and Water Bubbler underspend of \$11,921 added into FY 23/24 and FY 22/23 funds available for allocation



Progress of Local Authority Projects – July 2024 to August 2024



Grant Funding - Local Authority Projects - Active Projects	Approved Budget	Meeting Date/ Resolution	Cash received to date (incl. Carried Forward)	Expenditure prior years	Expenditure to date 2024-25	Commitments	Available Funds as at 31.08.2024	Status
LAP - Animal Management Program 2025	3,602	18.05.2022 OCM78/2022	3,602	-	-	-	3,602	Ongoing
LAP - Animal Management Program 2024	3,366	18.05.2022 OCM78/2022	3,366	-	-	(3,060)	306	Next scheduled visit September 23rd - 27th 2024
LAP - Purchase of Sea Container for Storage at Basketball Court	40,000	25.03.2024 MIN11/2024	40,000	(21,052)	(1,530)	(12,656)	4,762	Lights to be installed in container for after/hrs use - 95% complete
TOTAL LOCAL AUTHORITY PROJECTS	46,968		46,968	(21,052)	(1,530)	(15,716)	8,669	



Grant Funding – Community Projects – August 2024

Grant Funding - 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)
Regional and Remote Burials Grant	50,000	-	-	-	50,000
Critical upgrades to Minjilang staff housing	227,273	(1,937)	(158,613)	(12,000)	54,723
Purchase of a new garbage compactor for Minjilang	250,000	-	-	(201,942)	48,058
TOTAL COMMUNITY PROJECTS	527,273	(1,937)	(158,613)	(213,942)	152,780

Grant Funding - Community Programs	Expenditure to date 2024-25 (A)	Commitments to Date (B)	Total Expenditure (A+B)
Home Care Packages Program (HCP)	(1,819)	-	(1,819)
Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP)	(2,017)	-	(2,017)
Night Patrol	(23,516)	-	(23,516)
Remote Sport Program	-	-	-
Deliver Indigenous Broadcasting Programs (RIBS)	-	-	-
Manage Crèche	(10,616)	(16,773)	(27,389)
Australia Day Grant	-	-	-
NAIDOC Week Activity	(1,475)	(87)	(1,562)
Celebrating Aboriginal Culture (Australia Day)	-	-	-
Sports and Recreation	(13,510)	(2,879)	(16,389)
TOTAL COMMUNITY Programs	(52,953)	(19,739)	(72,691)



WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 9 SEPTEMBER 2024

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

SUMMARY

This report is submitted for Minjilang 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. Minjilang Local Authority Action Items 9 September 2024 (1) [8.2.1 - 2 pages]

Reference Number	Status	Action Required	Assignee/s	Action Taken
1	In Progress	<p>28 April 2023 The grants team is seeking funding opportunities for this project.</p> <p>October 2022 to August 2023 Concept design developed. QS Services have provided cost estimates for the project of \$586,900.00.</p> <p>10.08.2022 OCM78/2022 Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approved the allocation of \$25,000 from Minjilang Local Authority funding to meet the costs for the architectural and structural drawings for the Minjilang Council office disabled access ramp and toilet; and Directed the administration to try and seek additional funding for the construction of the Minjilang Council office disabled access ramp and toilet at an estimated cost of \$586,900.00 <p>October 2021 to August 2022: Reports presented at LA meetings.</p> <p>February to June 2021: The technical services team sourced quotes and worked with the building certifier and architect to design a disabled ramp and convert the current toilets to a compliant disabled toilet to provide a scope of work and cost estimate.</p> <p>16.12.2020 OCM197/2020 MINJILANG COUNCIL OFFICE DISABILITY RAMP AND TOILET Council directed the administration to provide a scope and budget for the following projects in anticipation of future Local Authority funding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A disability ramp at the Council office in Minjilang. A public toilet that caters for the disabled. 	Bryony Stracey, Leanne Johansson	<p>27/03/2024 Ben Heaslip</p> <p>4 September 2023 – Leanne Johansson The grants team in conjunction with Technical Services are applying for two (2) stage funding through the 'Growing Regions Program – 1' per below.</p> <p>Expression of Interest close 1 August Full Application closes 12 December (extended to 15 January 2024)</p> <p>15 January 2024: Application submitted.</p> <p>15 March 2024: Awaiting outcomes.</p> <p>08/04/2024 Bryony Stracey Awaiting external response</p> <p>30/04/2024 Leanne Johansson 30 April 2024: Awaiting outcome</p> <p>16/05/2024 Bryony Stracey Notification received 16/05/2024 - We were unsuccessful in this round of this highly competitive grant. Will continue to seek funding.</p> <p>27/08/2024 Leanne Johansson Grants are continuing to seek opportunities to fund this project. A further update will be provided only when we have found an alternative funding source.</p>

Reference Number	Status	Action Required	Assignee/s	Action Taken
2	In Progress	MIN8/2024 RESOLVED: Approve the administration to apply for appropriate grants funding for trailer screen when available.	Bryony Stracey	08/04/2024 Bryony Stracey Commenced looking for funding options 27/08/2024 Bryony Stracey Grants investigating funding. No further updates until potential funding sourced.
3	Recommend Complete	MIN13/2024 RESOLVED: Requested Power and Water come to next scheduled Local Authority and then plan a community presentations to explain changes.	Jasmine Mortimore	24/05/2024 Jasmine Mortimore PowerWater unavailable for 30 May 2024 meeting, they have confirmed attendance for 11 July 2024 meeting. 03/09/2024 Jasmine Mortimore PowerWater have confirmed their attendance at the meeting on Monday 9 September 2024

WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 9 SEPTEMBER 2024

Agenda Reference:	8.3
Title:	Minjilang Cemetery Update
Author:	Sara Fitzgerald, Waste and Resource Coordinator

SUMMARY

This report is to provide an update to Minjilang Local Authority on progress towards establishment of the new Minjilang Cemetery and as for oversight on prioritisation of additional works.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Receive and note the report entitled *Minjilang Cemetery Update*.
2. Approve plumbing works to be the priority if surplus funds are available after tender works are completed; and
3. Approve for Solar Light to be the second priority if surplus are available after tender works are completed.

BACKGROUND

The Council has been working towards delivering a culturally appropriate declared cemetery for the Minjilang Community with the current cemetery nearing capacity.

Northern Territory Government updated the Burials and Cremations Act in 2022 making Local Government the owners of cemetery facilities across the Northern Territory. West Arnhem Regional Council has been successful in making the new site in Minjilang a declared cemetery under the new Act.

During the process of declaring the cemetery West Arnhem Regional Council has been working with the community to provide a design that is both practical and culturally suitable. The administration was successful in securing additional funds from the 'Community Places for People Grant' to fund the establishment works at the cemetery.

COMMENT

A tender was released to begin construction of the cemetery as per the attached design.

This first tender will cover the following elements:

- Installation of a 1.5m high perimeter fence with two vehicle gates and a pedestrian gate.
- Installation of a 6mt x 6mt shelter in the centre of the cemetery.
- Installation of a 'Minjilang Cemetery' sign.
- Formation of a graveled footpath through the centre of the cemetery.
- Formation of a graveled vehicle road around the internal perimeter of the cemetery.
- Creation of a fire break on the external fence line.
- Installation of bench seating inside the cemetery.
- Installation of mature Pandanus and Bismark palms at cemetery.

The administration is requesting the Local Authority to consider what work is the initial priority once these works are completed from the available funding pool.

- Power and Water surveying and establishing plumbing connection to site with water taps installed; or
- Solar lighting to the cemetery site

LEGISLATION AND POLICY

Local Government Act 2019
Burials and Cremations Act 2022

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Per Community Places for People Grant guidelines.

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.

PILLAR 3 SAFETY AND WELLBEING

As an 'Employer of Choice', we provide and promote a positive culture of safety, inclusion and respect. Our people are skilled, informed and have opportunities to grow and develop within our organisation. Services provided to community are professional, impactful, engaging and appropriate to local needs.

Goal 3.1 Cultural Safety

Delivery of actions in the WARC 'Innovate' Reconciliation Action Plan.

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. Minjilang Cemetery [8.3.1 - 2 pages]

MINJILANG COMMUNITY CEMETERY

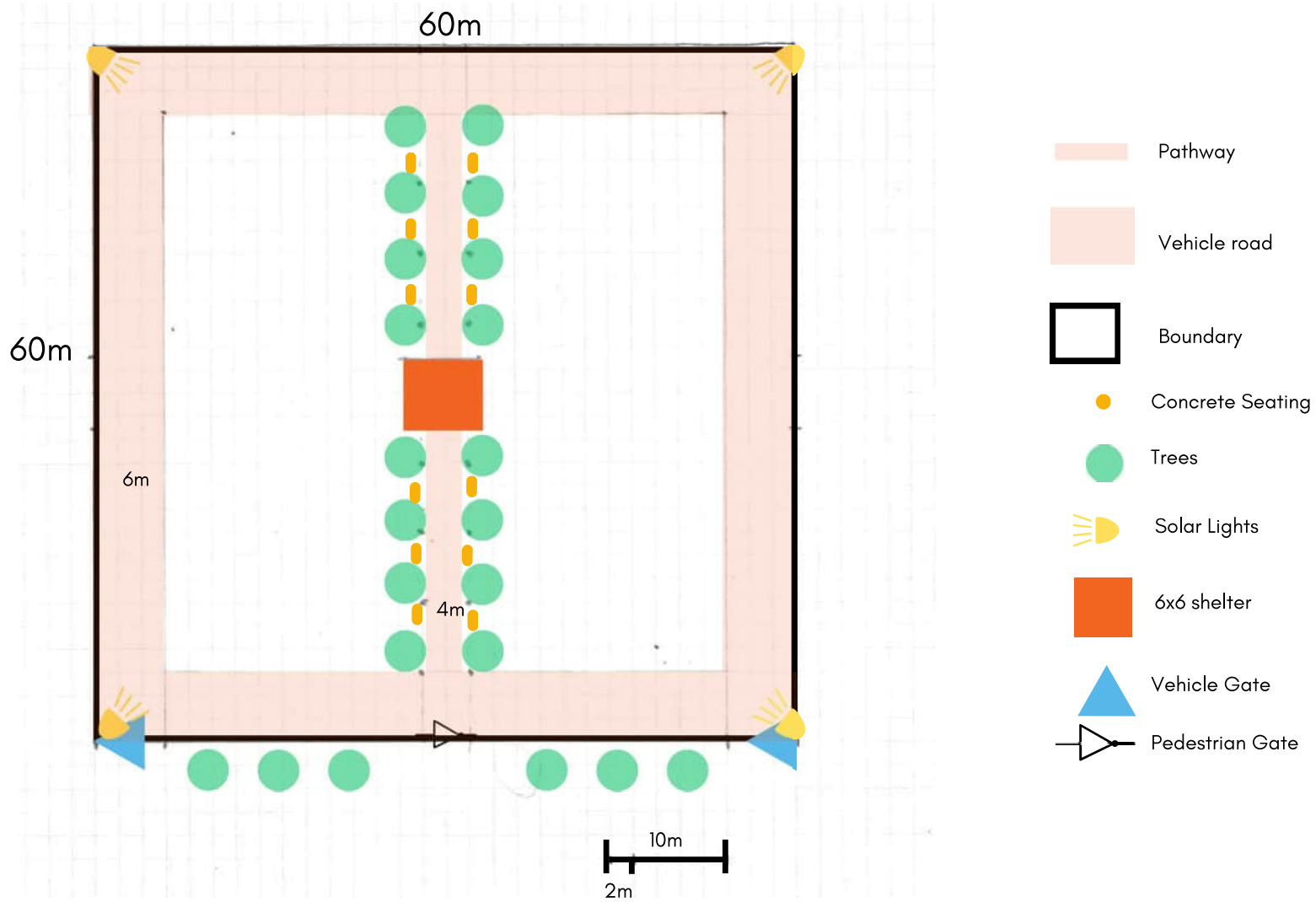
Overhead Approximate Cemetery Site



Overlay Cemetery Site Approximate



MINJILANG COMMUNITY CEMETERY



WEST ARNHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 09 September 2024

Agenda Reference:	9.2
Title:	CSM Operations Report on Current Council Service
Author:	Rick Withers, Council Services Manager

SUMMARY

This report will present the Local Authority with an update on council services provided in the Minjilang community for the period 21 May 2024 – 25 August 2024, as prepared and presented by Council Services Manager (CSM) Rick Withers.

RECOMMENDATION

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

BACKGROUND

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

COMMENT

1. Attendance Rates

1.1. Staff Attendance

- Relief Utilities Services Contractor (USC) Officer provided coverage 10-31 May 2024, contractor USC Officer provided relief 31 May – 21 June, contractor USC Officer provided coverage 21 June – 25 July, relief USC Officer providing coverage from 25 July until appointed.
- Team Leader Works was Acting Senior Works Officer 22-26 April 2024
- Council Services Manager appointed 01 JUL 24
- Senior Wellbeing and Administration Officer appointed
- Child Care Senior Officer appointed
- Child Care Officer appointed
- Wellbeing Services Coordinator absent without replacement 19 Aug – 29 Aug 2024
- Senior Works Team Leader absent without replacement 21 Aug – 28 Aug 2024
- Administration Officer absent without replacement 15 Jul – 29 Jul 2024

Currently recruiting for the following positions:

- L5 Utilities Services Contract (USC) Officer - (Advertised)
- Broadcasting Officer – (Advertised)
- Child Care Officers x 1 – Community
- Sports and Recreation Officer x 2 – Community (Advertised)

Total number of vacancies	5
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2. Administration Services

2.1. Administration

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

2.2. Post Office

Post Office services are provided by Minjilang Council administration staff during normal business hours. Mail was received, sorted, and dispatched each business day.

- There has been a steady flow of postage via online shopping. Storage is becoming problematic, but a solution is being sought.

Total postage received	351kg + Barge
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2.3. Centrelink

The Minjilang Centrelink Office operates between 8:30am to 4:30pm each business day.

- Staff were kept busy assisting residents with enquiries and facilitating agency contact via computers and phone.
- Centrelink Outage 24/07/24-29/07/2024.

2.4. Cleaning

Scheduled cleaning of council assets has been completed as follows:

- Council office – twice a week – total of 28 occasions;
- Playground amenities – once a week – total of 14 occasions;
- Public toilets – twice a week – total of 28 occasions; and
- Visitor Accommodation rooms cleaned as required – total 37 rooms cleaned.

2.5. Visitor Accommodation

The total number of current visitor accommodation available is 12 beds and bookings can be made through Little Hotelier.

- Various maintenance issues have been rectified throughout the reporting period. These include bathroom water leaks, hot water systems, extraction fans, ceiling fans, leaking taps, air-conditioner cleaning, and replacement.

3. Wellbeing Services

3.1. Sport & Recreation

Sport and Recreation activities have been seen in increase in attendance by staff and participants.

- Deep clean and defect rectification works were completed on the recreation hall
- Sports and Recreation equipment audited. Reallocation to new S&R program underway
- New Sports and Recreation program under development to encompass all ages and to reinvigorate community activities
- Children's football training commenced twice a week in conjunction with CSM. Fruit and ice water provided. The response from the children has been extremely positive with attendance averaging 15 children per session.
- New music equipment arrived, and the music room was allocated. Will be integrated into the Sports and Recreation timetable.
- New fishing/gathering equipment arrived and will be integrated into the Sports and Recreation timetable
- Back to Country to be facilitated through the Sports and Recreation program
- Women's Group Established
- A Sports and Recreation recruitment drive is underway due to most staff being absent

Attendance totals	Approx 300
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3.2. Aged Care

The Council provided support for the 3 Minjilang clients, Monday to Friday, and is currently looking to increase support to a larger client number.

- Daily meals are currently being prepared by ALPA Store and delivered by the administration team.

Total meals provided	207
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3.3. Disability Care

The Minjilang Community Care team continues to be the community connectors and services coordinator under the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS). Service provided includes in home support and other services as follows:

- Accommodation;
- Personal care / household tasks;
- Centre Activities;
- Home modifications,
- Plan management; and
- Transport.

Total number of NDIS participants	N/A
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3.4. Night Patrol

Night patrol services were provided on 69 of 98 available nights between 9pm and 3am.

- Home brewing and illegal alcohol into the community is still present
- Community Safety team members assisting with taking Aged Care clients out on country once a week. This initiative gives clients an opportunity to collect ochres and suitable bark to teach the younger generation the art of painting.
- Night Patrol Officers tended to attempted suicide

3.5. Broadcasting

In conjunction with TEABBA, broadcasting services were provided on 0 of the 98 available days, between 12.00pm and 4:00 pm.

- Services were not provided due to the unavailability of staff
- Broadcasting Officer recruitment is underway
- Please note that equipment rectification has now been conducted and a looping broadcast has now been established for approximately 4 weeks

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

4.1. Parks and Open Space

The community is clean and tidy.

- Emu bobs rubbish pick-up completed once to twice a week, as required
- Mowing in the community is undertaken as required
- Tree lopping will now be undertaken due to the reduction of required ground mowing due to the dry season
- Undertaking mowing of the Red Lily Clinic ground and staff housing, Police Station and Mamaruni School, providing sources of income to WARC
- Hard rubbish collection occurs every 2 weeks

4.2. Roads

Road repairs have commenced across the community.

- Grader works have been underway for some weeks with many outlying gravel roads repaired
- There is 70kms (about 43.5 mi) of general purpose and emergency gravel road maintenance to continue
- Road base has been delivered to Minjilang and works crew are gradually attending to potholes in the community

4.3. Waste

The landfill site is open to the public as there is no fencing to control access. As required the team clean the site and manage rubbish pits.

- Rubbish runs continue to operate 2 times per week – Mondays and Thursdays are the designated days, but this may vary on occasion due to staff shortages or public holidays
- Hard rubbish collected twice per month, 6 times

4.4. Plant and equipment

- Isuzu 2WD Ute (Rego No: CA21TO) returned to Darwin, to be auctioned
- Grader awaiting tyre replacement to arrive
- Tipper clutch rectified by works team leader
- Rubbish truck PTO issues rectified by WARC mechanic
- USC work vehicle defect rectification completed by works crew
- Loader door repaired by works team leader

5. Essential Services

5.1. Power

- Planned power outage 27 Aug 2024 1000-1500
- Genset services as scheduled.
- Scheduled barge fuel deliveries of and transferred fuel to the power station as per schedule.
- Barge fuel transfer line defect rectification underway.
- Quarterly reads as scheduled.
- Replaced power meters to multiple lots as per service requests.
- Further audit to take place of fuel distribution, transfer, and storage facilities. Replacement of dip sticks, bund valves, isolation valves, transfer pumps, and piping.
- Pest and vermin control required at power station, discussion between WARC and Power and Water to determine how best to proceed.
- Low voltage line short, caused power outage. Power and Water contractor flown out immediately to rectify.

5.2. Water

- Water samples conducted as per scheduled review. All returned positive readings
- Bore pumps and sewer lift pumps (hours and volumes) readings taken as scheduled
- The Council is working with Stedman Constructions repairing water leaks around the community
- Service requests completed for Power and Water
- Monthly, quarterly, water and wastewater samples taken
- Standing bores measured as scheduled
- Chlorine station audited and recommended for full system upgrade with remote reporting

5.3. Sewerage

- Sewer lift pumps (hours and volumes) readings taken as per schedule
- Pond gates scraped as per schedule
- Monthly sewer samples taken as per schedule
- Macerator replaced in pump station 18/07/24
- Sewage pump #1 replaced 18/07/24
- Pump Station pumped out and overhauled 18/07/24

5.4. Airfield

- Daily inspections were undertaken by the Aerodrome Reporting Officer (ARO). No significant issues were noted.
- Medical Evacuations occurred 29 May, 03/14/17 June, 06 Jul

- Minjilang still does not have the current Aerodrome Manual which implicates our Emergency Management Plan. This has been reported to Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics (DIPL) on various occasions.
- CASA audit conducted
- AMS audit conducted

6. Trade Services

6.1. Scheduled Servicing

- Works crew team leader is utilized as a mechanic to enable operations to continue in Minjilang, until the next visit for the Mechanic

6.2. Community meetings and events

- Fortnightly Operations Meetings
- Monthly Stakeholders Meetings Minjilang
- NIAA Minjilang Community Plan visit and community lunch 30 Jun 2024
- NIAA All-staff meeting 28 May 2024
- GTNT Apprenticeships meeting 07 Jun 2024
- Minjilang community Plan meeting NIAA 07 Jun 2024
- Anti-discrimination training 25 Jun 2024
- AMS Aerodrome inspection 26 Jun 2024
- GTNT Apprenticeship Induction 27 Jun 2024
- CASA Aerodrome inspection 08-10 Jul 2024
- SLT workshop 15 Jul 2024
- ACECQA CCCFR 14 Aug 2024
- First Aid Training 15 Aug 2024
- Fire Warden Training 16 Aug 2024
- CEO EBA Meeting 22 Aug 2024

Total number of meetings and events attended by the CSM	Approx 90
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6.3. Community key focus areas

- Home brewing and illegal alcohol brought into the community has reduced but is still evident
- Petrol sniffing by children has decreased but has been present on two well-known occasions in this reporting period
- The school has been broken into on numerous occasions
- Domestic violence is continuing, with no resources available in the community
- Police presence is still minimal in Minjilang with 1 x overnight visit in June, and one 3-night visit in August.

7. Community

7.1. Local Authority projects

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

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

Report to Local Authority Minjilang June 2024

Report to Minjilang Local Authority Veterinary Visit June 2024

Dr Gen Heffernan

June 2024



Background

- Liz and Rick have been coming with vets and vet students to Minjilang since 2015 to help look after the animals.
- This has always been on a volunteer and self funded basis for 2-3 days every year.
- We thank your community for assisting us financially this year to come for 2 full weeks (10 days) of veterinary care.
 - 3-7 June
 - 23-27 September
 - Surgery (desexing operations) for dogs and cats
 - Manme medicine – Treat parasites
 - Worms, ticks and scabies treatments





Our Work in Minjilang

- During our visit we have visited all houses to offer tick and mange medicine, and surgery
- Some houses declined surgery for their dogs or owners are not here to give permission. One house declined surgery of mother dog and puppies. Lots of young female dogs means lots of puppies soon.
- I am worried there will be too many puppies in Minjilang
- We gave tick and worm medicine to over 50 dogs and cats

We have done 8 dog surgeries

- 3 dog spays (girls)
- 4 dog castrates (boys)
- 1 toe amputation (Pirate)
- 3 sick dog treatments

NO CATS SURGERIES (stable cat population)

Sick dogs



Pirate

- broken foot and limping for a few weeks.
- We were able to examine her and performed a toe amputation on Tuesday. We saw her again today and she was walking better. We expect her to make a full recovery.

Pirate

- Sore elbow.
- We examined her and gave her some medicine to help her healing.
- She is still sore but getting better.



Education

- We visited the school and FaFT and spoke to the children about looking after animals and what they can do to help and what we can do to help
- This is important for children to learn about animal health and care as it which directly relates to people health and care.
- This is possible because you are supporting us to be here.



How are the dogs and cats in Minjilang?

- There are about 70 dogs in Minjilang. Many homes have dogs and/or cats. Some homes have pigs and magpie goose chicks too.
- The dogs are looking really good. Great skin with no mangey dogs. Lots of dogs have ticks and fleas.
- Many dogs have had an operation so that they cannot have puppies. This is a very good thing, as it also prevents spread of the nasty cancer that dogs can get on their genitals if they are having sex. **There are no dogs with this cancer in Minjilang!**
- Some owners do not want their dogs desexed as they want puppies. This may mean that there are lots of puppies in Minjilang soon.
- Some dogs are skinny. The new tick-borne disease is causing some death and wasting in puppies and dogs.



Ehrlichiosis: A new disease in dogs that is spread by ticks.

- Some dogs look rather skinny even though they are being well fed. This may be due to infection with the new disease E. canis that is spread by tick bites
- All of the dogs that we tested last year were **positive for E canis**- This test cannot tell whether they have been sick and are now recovering, or whether it is an active infection, but it seems that all dogs in Minjilang probably have had, or currently have, an E. canis infection.
- We can treat dogs with a long course of antibiotics given every day.
- The best way to prevent Ehrlichiosis is to give tick medicine regularly to prevent TICKS from biting the dogs.



How are the cats in Minjilang?

- There are about **30 cats in Minjilang**. All of the cats look very healthy. Many homes have no cats
- In almost every home with cats, these cats have had operations to prevent birth of more kittens. **When all the cats in the home are desexed this seems to prevent more cats from entering that home**
- Cats breed very quickly and can have a devastating impact on the environment- they kill birds, small mammals and lizards.
- It will be important to keep cat numbers under control with surgical desexing operations (removing kitten sacs and balls) for all cats and kittens



Our conclusions and suggestions:

Regular annual
visits will be
important to
maintain dog and
cat health and
control populations

- The number of dogs and the health of dogs in Minjilang is good
- When we visit in September there will be a lot of dogs that need surgery. Especially the skinny ones.
- Many communities now have too many cats. Minjilang is currently looking good- but it will be important to **encourage ALL cat owners to have operations for their cats.**
- If this doesn't happen, there will soon be TOO MANY CATS on the island- and this will be very bad for the environment.



Thankyou for inviting us to Minjilang to help look after your dogs and cats.

We will see you again in September!

WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 9 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**