





ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING TUESDAY, 18 FEBRUARY 2025



Notice is hereby given that an Ordinary Meeting of the West Arnhem Regional Council will be held in Council Chambers Jabiru on Tuesday 18 February 2025 at 12:00 pm.

Andrew Walsh
Chief Executive Officer

Code of Conduct: The Local Government Act 2019

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

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

TABLE OF CONTENTS

 	EM	SUBJECT PAG	E NO
1	AC	KNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY AND OPENING OF MEETING	5
2	PEI	RSONS PRESENT	6
3	AP	OLOGIES AND ABSENCES	6
	3.1	Apologies, Leave of Absence and Absent Without Notice	6
4	AC	CEPTANCE OF AGENDA	7
	4.1	Acceptance of Agenda	7
5	DE	CLARATION OF INTEREST OF MEMBERS OR STAFF	8
	5.1	Disclosure of Interest of Members or Staff	8
6	СО	NFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES	11
	6.1	Confirmation of Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes	11
	6.2	Confirmation of Special Council Meeting Minutes	23
7	DE	PUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS	30
	7.1	Visitor - Red Lily Health Board	30
	7.2	Visitor - Department of Logistics and Infrastructure	31
	7.3	Visitor - Bawinanga Homelands Aboriginal Corporation	32
8	AC	TION REPORTS	33
	8.1	Review of Action Items	33
	8.2	Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly	43
9	REG	CEIVE AND NOTE REPORTS	69
	9.1	Incoming and Outgoing Correspondence	69
	9.2	Meetings and Events attended by the Mayor	76
	9.3	Meetings and Events attended by the CEO	77
	9.4	Technical Services Projects Report	79
	9.5	The Delivery of Language, Literacy and Numeracy and Other Work-Related Training to Communit	
10) ELE	ECTED MEMBER QUESTIONS WITH OR WITHOUT NOTICE	88
	10.3	1 Elected Member Questions with or without Notice	88

11	PROCEDURAL MOTIONS	.89
	11.1 Closure to the Public for the Discussion of Confidential Items	.89
12	CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS	91
	12.1 Confirmation of Confidential Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes	.91
	12.2 Tender Evaluation - Maningrida Cemetery Works	.92
	12.3 Disposal of Executive Fleet Prado CE56JU	.93
	12.4 Current Status of Outstanding Regional Land Use Agreements from the Northern Land Council	.94
	12.5 Filling a Casual Vacancy - Minjilang Ward	.95
	12.6 Local Government Funding Levels	.96
13	DISCLOSURE OF CONFIDENTIAL RESOLUTIONS AND RE-ADMITTANCE OF THE PUBLIC	.97
14	NEXT MEETING	.97
15	MEETING DECLARED CLOSED	.97

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.

FOR THE MEETING 18 FEBRUARY 2025

Agenda Reference: 3.1

Title: Apologies, Leave of Absence and Absent Without Notice

Author: Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

SUMMARY

This report is to table, for Council's record, any apologies, and requests for leave of absence received by Council's Chief Executive Officer from Elected Members, as well as record any absence without notice for the Ordinary Council meeting held on 18 February 2025.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL:

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

COMMENT

Council 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 Council will be recorded as absent without notice.

LEGISLATION AND POLICY

Section 47(o) of the 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

ATTACHMENTS

FOR THE MEETING 18 FEBRUARY 2025

Agenda Reference: 4.1

Title: Acceptance of Agenda

Author: Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

SUMMARY

Agenda papers are presented for acceptance at the Ordinary Council meeting held on 18 February 2025.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL accept the agenda papers as circulated for the Ordinary Council meeting held on 18 February 2025.

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

FOR THE MEETING 18 FEBRUARY 2025

Agenda Reference: 5.1

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

SUMMARY

<u>Elected Members</u> are required to disclose an interest in a matter under consideration at an Ordinary Council 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 Council on whether they shall remain in the Chambers and/or take part in the vote on the issue. The Council may elect to allow the Member to provide further and better particulars of the interest prior to requesting them to leave the Chambers.

<u>Staff Members</u> 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 COUNCIL receive the declarations of interest as listed for the Ordinary Council meeting held on 18 February 2025.

LEGISLATION AND POLICYSTATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

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

1. Register - Declaration of Interest - Elected Member [5.1.1 - 2 pages]



Declaration of Interest Register					
Elected Members	Declared Interest	Connection			
Mayor James Woods	Local Government Association Northern Territory (LGANT)	Board Member			
	Malala Health Clinic	Staff Member, Board Member			
	Maningrida AFL Committee	Committee member			
	Maningrida Emergency Response Group	Unit Officer			
	Bawinanga Aboriginal Corporation	Deputy Chair			
	Maningrida Housing Reference Group	Member			
	Traditional Credit Union	Director			
Deputy Mayor Elizabeth Williams					
Cr Ralph F Blyth	Warnbi Aboriginal Corporation	Executive Officer			
	Wark Aboriginal Corporation	Director			
	Red Lily Health Board	Alternative Director / Board Member			
Cr Mickitja Onus	Energy Resources Australia (ERA)	Staff Member			
Cr Donna Nadjamerrek	National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA)	Indigenous Engagement Officer for Gunbalanya, Minjilang and Warruwi.			
	Injalak Aboriginal Corporation	Member			
	Adjumarllarl Aboriginal Corporation	Member			
Cr Otto Dann	Northern Land Council (NLC)	Board Member			
	Adjumarllarl Aboriginal Corporation	Member			
Cr James Marrawal					
Cr Jacqueline Phillips	JP Cultural Solutions	Director			
	Northern Land Council (NLC)	Board Member			
	Bawinanga Aboriginal Corporation	Chair			
	Maningrida Housing Reference Group	Member			
	Maningrida Homelands School Company	Board Member			
Cr Jermaine Namanurki	Malala Health Centre	Staff Member			
Cr Monica Wilton	Maningrida Homelands School Company	Deputy Chair			
	Maningrida School	Teacher / Language and Cultural Team			
Cr Tamar Nawirridj	Adjumarllarl Aboriginal Corporation	Member			

 № PO Box 721, Jabiru NT 0886

 ø info@westarnhem.nt.gov.au

 ¬ www.westarnhem.nt.gov.au



Jabiru (Head Office)

© 08 8979 9444

Gunbalanya

© 08 8970 3700

Maningrida
© 08 8979 6600

Warruwi

08 8970 3600

wi Minjilang 3600 © 08 8970 3500



	Gunbalanya School Board	Member
	Department of Education and Training	Staff Member







FOR THE MEETING 18 FEBRUARY 2025

Agenda Reference: 6.1

Title: Confirmation of Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes

Author: Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

SUMMARY

The Minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held on 29 January 2025 are submitted to Council for confirmation that those minutes are a true and correct record of the meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL confirm the minutes of 29 January 2025 Ordinary Council meeting as a true and correct record of the meeting.

STATUTORY AND POLICY

Section 101 and 102 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 of the *Regional Plan and Budget*: PILLAR 6 FOUNDATIONS OF GOVERNANCE

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

Goal 6.3 Council and Local Authorities

Excellence in governance, consultation administration and representation.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Unconfirmed Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes - 29 January 2025 [6.1.1 - 11 pages]



Minutes of the West Arnhem Regional Council Ordinary Council Meeting Wednesday, 29 January 2025 at 9:00 am Council Chambers

1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY AND OPENING OF MEETING

Chairperson Mayor Woods declared the meeting open at 9:09 am, welcomed all in attendance and did an Acknowledgement of Country.

2 PERSONS PRESENT ELECTED MEMBERS PRESENT

Chairperson James Woods (Mayor) (via video) Elizabeth Williams (via video) **Deputy Mayor** Councillor Mickitja Onus (via video) Councillor Otto Dann (via video) Councillor Monica Wilton (via video) Jermaine Namanurki (via video) Councillor Councillor Jacqueline Phillips (via video) Councillor Donna Nadjamerrek (via video)

STAFF PRESENT

Chief Executive Officer Andrew Walsh (via video)

Director Community and Council Services Fiona Ainsworth (via video)

Director Finance Jocelyn Nathanael-Walters (via video)

General Manager Technical Services (Acting) Clem Beard (via video)

Executive Assistant to Mayor and CEO Gina Carrascalao (via video)

Communications and Public Heidi Walton (via video)

Governance Advisor Jasmine Mortimore (via video)

3 APOLOGIES AND ABSENCES

Agenda Reference: 3.1

Title: Apologies, Leave of Absence and Absent Without Notice

Author: Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

The Council considered a report on Apologies, Leave of Absence and Absent Without Notice.

OCM1/2025 RESOLVED: On the motion of Cr Onus

Seconded Deputy Mayor Williams

THAT COUNCIL:

- Notes the absence of Cr James Marrawal, Cr Ralph F. Blyth, Cr Donna Nadjamerrek and Cr Otto Dann;
- 2. Notes the apology received from James Marrawal, Ralph F. Blyth and Cr Donna Nadjamerrek;
- 3. Determines James Marrawal, Ralph F. Blyth and Cr Donna Nadjamerrek are absent with permission of the Council; and
- 4. Determines Otto Dann is absent without permission of the Council.

CARRIED

4 ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

Agenda Reference: 4.1

Title: Acceptance of Agenda

Author: Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

The Council considered a report on Acceptance of Agenda.

OCM2/2025 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Mayor Woods

Seconded Cr Wilton

THAT COUNCIL accept the agenda papers as circulated for the Ordinary Council meeting held on 29 January 2025.

CARRIED

5 DECLARATION OF INTEREST OF MEMBERS OR STAFF

Agenda Reference: 5.1

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

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

OCM3/2025 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Cr Namanurki

Seconded Cr Onus

THAT COUNCIL receive no additional declarations of interest as listed for the Ordinary Council meeting held on 29 January 2025.

CARRIED

6 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Agenda Reference: 6.1

West Arnhem Regional Council - 2 - Ordina

Ordinary Council Meeting Wednesday 29 January 2025 Title: Confirmation of Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes

Author: Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

The Council considered a report on Confirmation of Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes.

OCM4/2025 RESOLVED: On the motion of Cr Wilton

Seconded Cr Onus

THAT COUNCIL confirm the minutes of 18 December 2024 Ordinary Council meeting as a true and correct record of the meeting.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference: 6.2

Title: Confirmation of Special Council Meeting Minutes

Author: Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

The Council considered a report on Confirmation of Special Council Meeting Minutes.

OCM5/2025 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Mayor Woods

Seconded Cr Namanurki

THAT COUNCIL confirm the minutes of 3 January 2025 Special Council meeting as a true and correct record of the meeting.

CARRIED

7 ACTION REPORTS

Agenda Reference: 7.0

Title: Review of Action Items

Author: Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

Cr Dann joined the meeting at 9:25am

The Council considered a report on Review of Action Items.

OCM6/2025 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Deputy Mayor Williams Seconded Mayor Woods

THAT COUNCIL:

- 1. Receive and note the report titled Review of Action Items;
- Review the outstanding action items and give approval for completed items to be removed from the register, excluding item 14 which will be discussed at the next meeting with a tour of Jabiru Council facilities; and
- 3. Amend item 5 to now request Council partner with MVR to assist with certifying documents for identification services.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference: 7.1

Title: Expenditure of WaRM Grant Funding

Author: Sara Fitzgerald, Waste and Resource Coordinator

The Council considered a report on Expenditure of WaRM Grant Funding.

OCM7/2025 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Cr Onus

West Arnhem Regional Council - 3 - Ordinary Council Meeting Wednesday 29 January 2025

Seconded Cr Phillips

THAT COUNCIL:

- 1. Receive and note the report titled Expenditure of WaRM Grant Funding; and
- 2. Approve the expenditure of up to \$148,800 from WaRM Grant Funding as follows:
 - Power upgrades for Maningrida and Gunbalanya Landfill;
 - Sewage system repairs for Maningrida Landfill;
 - CCTV System Upgrades;
 - Community Education; and
 - Recycling activities and equipment.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference: 7.2

Title: Proposed Change to June Ordinary Council Meeting

Author: Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

The Council considered a report on Proposed Change to June Ordinary Council Meeting.

OCM8/2025 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Mayor Woods Seconded Cr Namanurki

THAT COUNCIL:

- 1. Receive and note the report titled Proposed Change to June Ordinary Council Meeting; and
- 2. Approve to move the June Ordinary Council meeting to 30 June 01 July 2025.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference: 7.3

Title: LGANT Delegate Membership

Author: Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

The Council considered a report on LGANT Delegate Membership.

OCM9/2025 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Mayor Woods

Seconded Cr Wilton

THAT COUNCIL:

- 1. Receive and note the report titled LGANT Delegate Membership;
- 2. Accept the resignation of Cr Blyth as LGANT Delegate, including LGANT Member for the NT Place Names Committee; and
- 3. Appoint two Elected Members as delegates before each meeting to attend Local Government Association of the Northern Territory (LGANT) meetings.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference: 7.4

Title: Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly

Author: Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

The Council considered a report on Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly.

OCM10/2025 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Mayor Woods

Seconded Cr Namanurki

West Arnhem Regional Council - 4 - Ordinary Council Meeting Wednesday 29 January 2025

THAT COUNCIL:

- Receive and note the report titled Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly;
- 2. Nominate Cr Phillips, Mayor Woods and the CEO to attend;
- 3. Nominate Cr Onus as a proxy member if an Elected Member is unable to attend; and
- Request report be tabled at the next Council meeting to consider submitting a motion for the National General Assembly.

CARRIED

8 RECEIVE AND NOTE REPORTS

Agenda Reference: 8.1

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

The Council considered a report on Incoming and Outgoing Correspondence.

OCM11/2025 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Deputy Mayor Williams Seconded Cr Onus

THAT COUNCIL

- 1. Receive and note the attached items of incoming and outgoing correspondence; and
- 2. Refer item on verifying job qualifications or mandatory requirements within the recruitment process to the Risk Management and Audit Committee.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference: 8.2

Title: Meetings and Events attended by the Mayor

Author: Gina Carrascalao, Executive Assistant to Mayor and CEO

The Council considered a report on Meetings and Events attended by the Mayor.

OCM12/2025 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Mayor Woods Seconded Cr Namanurki

THAT COUNCIL receives and notes the report titled Meetings and Events attended by the Mayor.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference: 8.3

Title: Meetings and Events attended by the CEO
Author: Andrew Walsh, Chief Executive Officer

The Council considered a report on Meetings and Events attended by the CEO.

OCM13/2025 RESOLVED: On the motion of Cr Onus Seconded Cr Wilton

THAT COUNCIL receive and note the report titled Meetings and Events attended by the CEO.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference: 8.4

West Arnhem Regional Council

Ordinary Council Meeting Wednesday 29 January 2025

- 5 -

Title: Technical Services Projects Report

Author: Garth Borgelt, Manager Technical Services

The Council considered a report on Technical Services Projects Report.

OCM14/2025 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Mayor Woods

Seconded Cr Wilton

THAT COUNCIL receives and notes the report titled Technical Services Projects Report.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference: 8.5

Title: Strong and Resilient Communities grant opportunity
Author: Leanne Johansson, Business Development Manager

The Council considered a report on Strong and Resilient Communities grant opportunity.

OCM15/2025 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Mayor Woods Seconded Deputy Mayor Williams

THAT COUNCIL receive and note the report titled Strong and Resilient Communities grant opportunity.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference: 8.6

Title: Reduce Reuse Recycle Strategy 2024-2034 Update
Author: Sara Fitzgerald, Waste and Resource Coordinator

The Council considered a report on Reduce Reuse Recycle Strategy 2024-2034 Update.

OCM16/2025 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Cr Onus Seconded Mayor Woods

THAT COUNCIL receive and note the report titled Reduce Reuse Recycle Strategy 2024-2034 Update.

CARRIED

9 ELECTED MEMBER QUESTIONS WITH OR WITHOUT NOTICE

Agenda Reference: 9.1

Title: Elected Member Questions with or without Notice

Author: Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

Cr Nadjamerrek joined the meeting at 11:05am

The Council considered a report on Elected Member Questions with or without Notice.

OCM17/2025 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Cr Wilton

Seconded Cr Dann

That the Chairperson invites questions with or without notice from Elected Members.

- 1. Kakadu Councillors raised the public's concerns with Red Lily services in Jabiru and requested they attend the Council meeting in February.
- 2. Request Information to be shared to residence of Jabiru for responsibility of dogs in line with the Jabiru Town By-laws.
- 3. Cr Onus raised concerns with cats in the Jabiru Township.

West Arnhem Regional Council - 6 -

Ordinary Council Meeting Wednesday 29 January 2025

- 4. Mayor Woods raised concerns with lack of firebreaks in West Arnhem communities.
- 5. Cr Dann raised concerns with lack of water in Gunbalanya; and
- 6. Cr Phillips requested administration reach out to NT Health to provide updates relevant to our area.

CARRIED

10 PROCEDURAL MOTIONS

Agenda Reference: 10.1

Title: Closure to the Public for the Discussion of Confidential Items

Author: Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

Meeting broke at 11:29am and recommenced at 11:45am Cr Dann and Cr Nadjamerrek left the meeting at 11:29am

The Council considered a report on Closure to the Public for the Discussion of Confidential Items.

OCM18/2025 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Mayor Woods

Seconded Cr Wilton

That pursuant to section 99(2) and 293(1) of the Local Government Act 2019 and section 52 of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 the meeting be closed to the public to consider the Confidential items of the Agenda.

CARRIED

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

Agenda Reference: 12.1

Title: Disclosure of Confidential Resolutions and Re-admittance of the Public

Author: Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

The Council considered a report on Disclosure of Confidential Resolutions and Re-admittance of the Public.

OCM30/2025 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Mayor Woods

Seconded Cr Namanurki

THAT COUNCIL:

- 1. Approve to disclose all resolutions excluding item 11.9 from the confidential section of this meeting in the non-confidential meeting minutes; and
- 2. Open the meeting to the public after the discussion of confidential items.

CARRIED

11 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

Agenda Reference: 11.1

Title: Confirmation of Confidential Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes

Author: Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

Cr Nadjamerrek joined the meeting at 11:47am

The Council considered a report on Confirmation of Confidential Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes.

OCM19/2025 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Deputy Mayor Williams

Seconded Mayor Woods

THAT COUNCIL confirm the minutes of 18 December 2024 Confidential Ordinary Council meeting as a true and correct record of the meeting.

West Arnhem Regional Council

- 7 -

Ordinary Council Meeting Wednesday 29 January 2025

CARRIED

Agenda Reference: 11.2

Title: Confirmation of Confidential Special Council Meeting Minutes

Author: Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

Cr Dann joined the meeting at 11:49am

The Council considered a report on Confirmation of Confidential Special Council Meeting Minutes.

OCM20/2025 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Mayor Woods Seconded Deputy Mayor Williams

THAT COUNCIL confirm the minutes of 3 January 2025 Confidential Special Council meeting as a true and correct record of the meeting.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference: 11.3

Title: Filling a Casual Vacancy - Gunbalanya Ward
Author: Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

Cr Dann declared a conflict of interest as a family member has nominated and left the meeting at 11:57am.

The Council considered a report on Filling a Casual Vacancy - Gunbalanya Ward.

Council staff left the meeting at 12:00pm for the discussion of item and rejoined at 12:08pm.

OCM21/2025 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Cr Onus Seconded Mayor Woods

THAT COUNCIL:

- 1. Receive and note the report titled Filling a Casual Vacancy Gunbalanya Ward.
- Notes the nominations received by Daniel Siebert, Glen McCoy, Lesley Phillips and Tamar Nawirridi:
- 3. Approve nomination be sent to Governance Advisor; and
- 4. Appoints Tamar Nawirridj to fill the Gunbalanya Ward Casual Vacancy.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference: 11.4

Title: Tender Evaluation - Maningrida Landfill Wheel Loader

Author: Garth Borgelt, Manager Technical Services

Cr Dann rejoined the meeting at 12:15pm

The Council considered a report on Tender Evaluation - Maningrida Landfill Wheel Loader.

OCM22/2025 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Mayor Woods

Seconded Cr Onus

THAT COUNCIL:

- 1. Receive and note the report titled Maningrida Landfill Wheel Loader Tender; and
- 2. Approve the awarding of the Maningrida Landfill Wheel Loader Tender to Airpower (NT) Pty Ltd for the purchase of a Hyundai HL757TM-9 machine at a price of \$350,290.35.

-8-

CARRIED

Agenda Reference: 11.5

West Arnhem Regional Council

Ordinary Council Meeting Wednesday 29 January 2025 Title: Current Status of Outstanding Regional Land Use Agreements from the

Northern Land Council

Author: Clem Beard, Projects Manager Technical Services

Cr Phillips and Cr Dann declared a conflict as members of the Northern Land Council Board and left the meeting at 12:30pm.

Cr Wilton left the meeting at 12:32pm and rejoined at 12:41pm

The Council considered a report on Current Status of Outstanding Regional Land Use Agreements from the Northern Land Council.

OCM23/2025 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Mayor Woods Seconded Deputy Mayor Williams

THAT COUNCIL:

- 1. Receive and note the report titled Current Status of Outstanding Regional Land Use Agreements from the Northern Land Council;
- 2. Note the status of outstanding Land Use Agreements; and
- 3. Notes the frustration with delays with obtaining S19 lease approvals.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference: 11.6

Title: Write off of Debt

Author: Jocelyn Nathanael-Walters, Director of Finance

Cr Nadjamerrek left the meeting at 12:50pm and rejoined at 12:52pm

Cr Dann rejoined the meeting at 12:50pm

Cr Phillips rejoined the meeting at 12:55pm

The Council considered a report on Write off of Debt.

OCM24/2025 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Mayor Woods Seconded Deputy Mayor Williams

THAT COUNCIL:

- 1. Receive and note the report titled Write off of Debt;
- 2. Receive and note the Chief Executive Officer's written Write-Off of Debt Certification; and
- 3. Approve the write-off of debts identified in the report to the total value of \$1,803.91.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference: 11.7

Title: Write off of Money

Author: Jocelyn Nathanael-Walters, Director of Finance

The Council considered a report on Write off of Money.

OCM25/2025 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Mayor Woods Seconded Deputy Mayor Williams

THAT COUNCIL:

- 1. Receive and note the report titled Write off of Money;
- 2. Receive and note the Chief Executive Officer's written Certification that \$300 from Council's Maningrida Licensed Post Office (LPO) in October 2024 is missing and cannot be recouped; and
- 3. Approve the write-off of the \$300 Maningrida LPO money from the accounts of the Council.

West Arnhem Regional Council

- 9 -

Ordinary Council Meeting Wednesday 29 January 2025

CARRIED

Agenda Reference: 11.8

Title: Write off of Fuel

Author: Jocelyn Nathanael-Walters, Director of Finance

The Council considered a report on Write off of Fuel.

OCM26/2025 RESOLVED: On the motion of Mayor Woods Seconded Cr Onus

THAT COUNCIL:

- 1. Receive and note the report titled Write off of Fuel;
- 2. Receive and note the Chief Executive Officer's written Write Off of Fuel Certification; and
- 3. Approve the write-off of 600 litres of tainted diesel, at an estimated cost of \$1,038, from the accounts of the Council.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference: 11.9

Title: Special Rate - Public Lighting

Author: Andrew Walsh, Chief Executive Officer

The Report will remain confidential under Section 293(1) of the Local Government Act 2019 and General Regulation 2021 Part (3) Administration - Division 2 Section 51(1)(e). It contains information provided to the council on condition that it be kept confidential and would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to be contrary to the public interest.

Meeting broke for lunch at 1:09pm and recommenced at 1:54pm

Cr Nadjamerrek left the meeting at 1:09pm

Cr Onus rejoined the meeting at 1:55pm

Agenda Reference: 11.10

Title: Interim Chief Executive Officer

Author: Andrew Walsh, Chief Executive Officer

The Council considered a report on Interim Chief Executive Officer.

Council staff left the meeting at 2:36pm for Council to discuss item and rejoined at 2:42pm.

OCM28/2025 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Mayor Woods

Seconded Cr Wilton

THAT COUNCIL:

- 1. Receive and note the report titled Interim Chief Executive Officer; and
- 2. Appoint Mr. Ben Waugh as Interim Chief Executive Officer.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference: 11.11

Title: CEO Recruitment - Independent Panel Member Appointment

Author: Andrew Walsh, Chief Executive Officer

The Council considered a report on CEO Recruitment - Independent Panel Member Appointment.

OCM29/2025 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Deputy Mayor Williams

West Arnhem Regional Council - 10 - Ordinary Council Meeting Wednesday 29 January 2025

Seconded Cr Onus

THAT COUNCIL:

- 1. Receive and note the report titled CEO Recruitment Independent Panel Member Appointment; and
- 2. Appoint Mark Blackburn as the independent member for the CEO Employment and Remuneration Advisory panel.

CARRIED

13 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled to take place on 18 February 2025.

14 MEETING DECLARED CLOSED

Chairperson Mayor Woods declared the meeting closed at 3:01 pm.

This page and the preceding pages are the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Wednesday 29 January 2025.

<u>Click here</u> to view the agenda for the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 29 January 2025.

FOR THE MEETING 18 FEBRUARY 2025

Agenda Reference: 6.2

Title: Confirmation of Special Council Meeting Minutes

Author: Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

SUMMARY

The Minutes of the Special Council meeting held on 29 January 2025 are submitted to Council for confirmation that those minutes are a true and correct record of the meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL confirm the minutes of 29 January 2025 Special Council meeting as a true and correct record of the meeting.

STATUTORY AND POLICY

Section 101 and 102 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 of the *Regional Plan and Budget*: PILLAR 6 FOUNDATIONS OF GOVERNANCE

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

Goal 6.3 Council and Local Authorities

Excellence in governance, consultation administration and representation.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Unconfirmed Special Council Meeting Minutes - 29 January 2025 [6.2.1 - 6 pages]



Minutes of the West Arnhem Regional Council Special Council Meeting Wednesday, 29 January 2025 at 3:00 pm Council Chambers

1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY AND OPENING OF MEETING

Chairperson Mayor Woods declared the meeting open at 3:07 pm, welcomed all in attendance and did an Acknowledgement of Country.

2 PERSONS PRESENT ELECTED MEMBERS PRESENT

Chairperson James Woods (Mayor) (via video) Elizabeth Williams (via video) **Deputy Mayor** Councillor Mickitja Onus (via video) Councillor Otto Dann (via video) Councillor Monica Wilton (via video) Jermaine Namanurki (via video) Councillor Councillor Jacqueline Phillips (via video) Councillor Donna Nadjamerrek (via video)

STAFF PRESENT

Chief Executive Officer Andrew Walsh (via video)

Director Community and Council Services Fiona Ainsworth (via video)

Director Finance Jocelyn Nathanael-Walters (via video)

Manager Technical Services (Acting) Clem Beard (via video)

Governance Advisor Jasmine Mortimore (via video)

- 1 -

3 APOLOGIES AND ABSENCES

Agenda Reference: 3.1

Title: Apologies, Leave of Absence and Absent Without Notice

Author: Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

The Council considered a report on Apologies, Leave of Absence and Absent Without Notice.

SCM9/2025 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Mayor Woods Seconded Deputy Mayor Williams

THAT COUNCIL

- Notes the absence of Cr James Marrawal, Cr Ralph F Blyth, Cr Donna Nadjamerrek and Cr Otto Dann; and
- 2. Notes the apology received from Cr James Marrawal, Cr Ralph F Blyth and Cr Donna Nadjamerrek.

CARRIED

4 ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

Agenda Reference: 4.1

Title: Acceptance of Agenda

Author: Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

The Council considered a report on Acceptance of Agenda.

SCM12/2025 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Cr Onus Seconded Cr Namanurki

THAT COUNCIL accept the agenda papers as circulated for the Special Council meeting held on 29 January 2025.

CARRIED

5 DECLARATION OF INTEREST OF MEMBERS OR STAFF

Agenda Reference: 5.1

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

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

SCM13/2025 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Cr Wilton

Seconded Deputy Mayor Williams

THAT COUNCIL receive no declarations of interest as listed for the Special Council meeting held on 29 January 2025.

CARRIED

6 ACTION REPORTS

Agenda Reference: 6.1

Title: Write off Road Assets

Author: Jocelyn Nathanael-Walters, Director of Finance

Cr Dann joined the meeting at $3:11\mbox{pm}$

West Arnhem Regional Council - 2 - Special Council Meeting Wednesday 29 January 2025

The Council considered a report on Write off Road Assets.

SCM14/2025 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Deputy Mayor Williams Seconded Mayor Woods

THAT COUNCIL:

- 1. Receive and note the report titled Write off Road Assets; and
- 2. Approve from 1 July 2025 that Council cease recognising roads as an asset in Council's accounts.

CARRIED

7 RECEIVE AND NOTE REPORTS

Agenda Reference: 7.1

Title: Finance Report for the period ended 31 December 2024

Author: Jocelyn Nathanael-Walters, Director Finance

Corey White, Accountant

The Council considered a report on Finance Report for the period ended 31 December 2024.

SCM15/2025 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Mayor Woods

Seconded Cr Phillips

THAT COUNCIL receive and note the report titled *Finance Report for the period ended 31 December 2024.*

CARRIED

Agenda Reference: 7.2

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

The Council considered a report on Incoming and Outgoing Correspondence.

SCM16/2025 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Cr Onus Seconded Cr Phillips

THAT COUNCIL

- 1. receive and noted the attached items of incoming and outgoing correspondence.
- Approve for staff expression of interest for the sponsorship packs for the fun day on Saturday 1
 February 2025;
- 3. Nominate Cr Onus to represent Council at the fun day on Saturday 1 February 2025; and
- 4. Nominate Deputy Mayor Williams to attend the presentation night on 22 March 2025.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference: 7.3

Title: Grant Funding Acquittals

Author: Jocelyn Nathanael-Walters, Director of Finance

The Council considered a report on Grant Funding Acquittals.

SCM17/2025 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Mayor Woods

Seconded Cr Wilton

West Arnhem Regional Council - 3 - Special Council Meeting Wednesday 29 January 2025

THAT COUNCIL receive and note the report titled Grant Funding Acquittals.

CARRIED

8 PROCEDURAL MOTIONS

Agenda Reference: 8.1

Title: Closure to the Public for the Discussion of Confidential Items

Author: Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

The Council considered a report on Closure to the Public for the Discussion of Confidential Items.

SCM18/2025 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Deputy Mayor Williams

Seconded Cr Onus

That pursuant to section 99(2) and 293(1) of the Local Government Act 2019 and section 52 of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 the meeting be closed to the public to consider the Confidential items of the Agenda.

CARRIED

9 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

Agenda Reference: 10.1

Title: Disclosure of Confidential Resolutions and Re-admittance of the Public

Author: Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

The Council considered a report on Disclosure of Confidential Resolutions and Re-admittance of the Public.

SCM24/2025 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Mayor Woods

Seconded Cr Onus

THAT COUNCIL:

- 1. Approve to disclose all resolutions from the confidential section of this meeting in the non-confidential meeting minutes; and
- 2. Open the meeting to the public after the discussion of confidential items.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference: 9.1

Title: Chief Executive Officer Employment Contract
Author: Andrew Walsh, Chief Executive Officer

Cr Phillips left the meeting at 4:13pm

The Council considered a report on Chief Executive Officer Employment Contract.

SCM19/2025 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Mayor Woods Seconded Deputy Mayor Williams

THAT COUNCIL:

- 1. Receive and note the report titled Chief Executive Officer Employment Contract; and
- 2. Approve the Interim CEO employment contract with amendment of professional development being \$1000 and vehicle allowance at \$20,000.

- 4 -

CARRIED

Agenda Reference: 9.2

West Arnhem Regional Council

Special Council Meeting Wednesday 29 January 2025 Title: Local Authority Membership

Author: Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

The Council considered a report on Local Authority Membership.

SCM20/2025 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Mayor Woods

Seconded Cr Onus

THAT COUNCIL

- 1. Receive and note the report titled Local Authority Membership;
- 2. Approve to revoke David Makings Membership from the Minjilang Local Authority; and
- 3. Approves the commencement of the nomination process for vacant Minjilang Local Authority member position.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference: 9.3

Title: Maningrida Subdivision Handover
Author: Hilal Ahmad, Senior Project Manager

Cr Phillips joined the meeting at 4:18pm

The Council considered a report on Maningrida Subdivision Handover

SCM21/2025 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Mayor Woods Seconded Deputy Mayor Williams

THAT COUNCIL:

- 1. Receive and note the report titled Maningrida Subdivision Handover; and
- 2. Approve to accept handover of the Maningrida New Subdivision including the SIHIP section based on an agreement with the Department of Logistics and Infrastructure to complete the agreed scope of works listed in the report.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference: 9.4

Title: Gunbalanya Subdivision Handover
Author: Hilal Ahmad, Senior Project Manager

Deputy Mayor Williams left the meeting at 4:28pm

Cr Dann left the meeting at 4:34pm and rejoined at 4:41pm

The Council considered a report on Gunbalanya Subdivision Handover.

SCM22/2025 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Cr Onus

Seconded Mayor Woods

THAT COUNCIL:

- 1. Receive and note the report titled Gunbalanya Subdivision Handover; and
- 2. Approve the handover of the Gunbalanya Subdivision from Department of Logistics and Infrastructure to West Arnhem Regional Council.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference: 9.5

Title: Tender Evaluation - Provision of Veterinary Services - West Arnhem Region

Author: Clem Beard, Projects Manager Technical Services

West Arnhem Regional Council - 5 - Special Council Meeting Wednesday 29 January 2025

The Council considered a report on Tender Evaluation - Provision of Veterinary Services - West Arnhem Region.

SCM23/2025 RESOLVED: On the motion of Cr Dann Seconded Cr Namanurki

THAT COUNCIL:

- 1. Receive and note the report titled *Tender Evaluation Provision of Veterinary Services West Arnhem Region*; and
- 2. Approve University of Melbourne be awarded the contract to supply Veterinary Services under the animal management program across the West Arnhem Region for a total price of \$209,620.00.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference: 9.6

Title: Rates and Water Use Concession

Author: Jocelyn Nathanael-Walters, Director of Finance

The Council deferred a report on Rates and Water Use Concession.

11 MEETING DECLARED CLOSED

Chairperson Mayor Woods declared the meeting closed at 4:51 pm.

This page and the preceding pages are the minutes of the Special Council Meeting held on Wednesday 29 January 2025.

Click here to view the agenda for the Special Council Meeting held on 29 January 2025.

FOR THE MEETING 18 FEBRUARY 2025

Agenda Reference: 7.1

Title: Visitor - Red Lily Health Board

Author: Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

SUMMARY

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

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL noted the update from Red Lily.

BACKGROUND

At various times, Council 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.

	Ordinary Council Meeting – Presentations / Visitors					
Topic	Time	Presenter/Visitor	Organisation	Invited by		
Update on	12:30pm	Red Lily Staff and	Red Lily Health Board	At their request to		
Services with our		Board members		attend		
Region						

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

FOR THE MEETING 18 FEBRUARY 2025

Agenda Reference: 7.2

Title: Visitor - Department of Logistics and Infrastructure

Author: Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

SUMMARY

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

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL noted the discussions on the Maningrida Subdivision Handover by the Department of Logistics and Infrastructure.

BACKGROUND

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

COMMENT

The following visitors/presentations will attend today's meeting.

Ordinary Council Meeting – Visitor							
Topic Time		Presenter/Visitor Organisation		Invited by			
Maningrida Subdivision Handover	1:00pm	Keith DeDios – Acting Executive Director – Land Infrastructure and Serving Housing	Department of Logistics and Infrastructure	Council			
		Program Office					

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

FOR THE MEETING 18 FEBRUARY 2025

Agenda Reference: 7.3

Title: Visitor - Bawinanga Homelands Aboriginal Corporation

Author: Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

SUMMARY

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

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL noted the discussions with Kira Bourke from Bawinanga Homeland Aboriginal Corporation.

BACKGROUND

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

COMMENT

The following visitors/presentations will attend today's meeting.

Ordinary Council Meeting – Presentations / Visitors					
Topic	Time	Presenter/Visitor Organisation		Invited by	
Meet and greet	1:30pm	Kira Bourke	Bawinanga	Council	
			Homeland Aboriginal		
			Corporation		

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

FOR THE MEETING 18 FEBRUARY 2025

Agenda Reference: 8.1

Title: Review of Action Items

Author: Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

SUMMARY

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

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL:

- 1. Receive and note the report titled Review of Action Items; and
- 2. Review the outstanding action items and give approval for completed items to be removed from the register.

BACKGROUND

Action items arise out of resolutions of Council or questions asked by Councillors. 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 Council to determine whether the item remains active or is complete and can be removed.

COMMENT

The actions that Council resolves to occur are to be acted upon by the administration. This report enables Council 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. Action Items 18 February 2025 [**8.1.1** - 9 pages]

Item	Status	Action Required	Assignee/s	Action Taken
1	In Progress	OCM136/2024 RESOLVED: Invite Demed and BAC CEO to Council meeting to discuss gravel usage surrounding Gunbalanya township area.	Andrew Walsh, Jasmine Mortimore	15/08/2024 Ben Heaslip Waiting for DEMED CEO recruitment to be finalised. 13/11/2024 Jasmine Mortimore BAC CEO has agreed to meet with Council at a later date, DEMED CEO has been recruited and CEO will reach out to discuss 09/12/2024 Jasmine Mortimore Invitation sent to BAC CEO to attend next in person Council meeting to discuss. 20/01/2025 Jasmine Mortimore Council to redefine action and its purpose. 11/02/2025 Jasmine Mortimore Invitation sent to BAC and DEMED CEO, awaiting confirmation.
2	In Progress	OCM137/2024 RESOLVED: Request policy of fleet disposal to be updated to include assessment of each vehicle and expression of interests within community before auction in Darwin.	Jocelyn Nathanael- Walters	18/07/2024 Sara Fitzgerald Vehicle disposal policy is being adjusted to reflect the following items - All efforts will be made to offer passenger vehicles for disposal in community - When disposing of a vehicle in community a reasonable estimate of repair costs will be provided to interested community members If a vehicle is deemed beyond repair it will be removed from community for sale at auction or disposal to scrap to prevent excessive wase generated by council remaining in community All of the above Items once formalised will be administered by the Fleet Coordinator in collaboration with the mechanic to ensure process is fair and transparent and follows the guidelines set out by the Local Government Act 2019. 12/08/2024 Sara Fitzgerald Policy creation still in process 19/09/2024 Sara Fitzgerald Draft policy in review, new documents have been created to support the EOI process. 11/10/2024 Sara Fitzgerald First round of EOI has been completed, further information on effectiveness available at next OCM 05/11/2024 Garth Borgelt A report will be tabled at the next Ordinary Council Meeting in December. 06/12/2024 Garth Borgelt A draft policy has been prepared, it is expected to be presented to Council in March 2025.

Item	Status	Action Required	Assignee/s	Action Taken
3	In Progress	OCM155/2024 RESOLVED: Investigate inviting appropriate department for Identification Cards to a Ordinary Council meeting. OCM6/2025 RESOLVED: Amend item to now request Council partner with MVR to assist with certifying documents for identification services.	Andrew Walsh, Fiona Ainsworth,	24/07/2024 Leanne Johansson Currently ascertaining which is the appropriate department. 21/08/2024 - OCM Appropriate Department is the MVR. CEO will seek to meet with the Responsible Officer 15/10/2024 Jasmine Mortimore Change of Government has delayed progress, will provide further update in December OCM post meeting with relevant department. 13/11/2024 Jasmine Mortimore CEO will be meeting with Greg Turner, Director Motor Vehicle Registry on 15/11/2024 to discuss action 09/12/2024 Jasmine Mortimore Meeting has been rescheduled. 22/01/2025 Jasmine Mortimore MVR would like to look into a partnership with WARC to allow staff to certify documents in community to allow MVR to issue a proof of identification card. Seeking Councils direction to follow this project idea instead of WARC issuing West Arnhem branded cards that may not be recognised by vendors. Request that Council write to LGANT to lead this project for the Local Government sector. 05/02/2025 Jasmine Mortimore Meeting scheduled with MVR on 11 February including LGANT representatives to further this action.
4	In Progress	OCM303/2024 RESOLVED: Approve West Arnhem Regional Council applying for the following positions and support funding under the Remote Jobs and Economic Development program: a. Animal Control Officers – Jabiru x 2 b. Funeral Cultural and Burial Liaison Officer – Maningrida x 2	Andrew Walsh, Karen Borgelt, Leanne Johansson	04/11/2024 Leanne Johansson Still awaiting Remote Jobes and Economic Development (RJED) guidelines to be published. Grant applications will not be open until the RJED guidelines are published. Publishing is expected before 31/12/2024. 03/12/2024 Leanne Johansson Still waiting on final guidelines and grant opening date. WARC is preparing for the Remote Jobs and Economic Development (RJED) program by developing Position Descriptions for proposed RJED jobs, considering training needs, tools of trade and

Item	Status	Action Required	Assignee/s	Action Taken
		c. Oval and Sports Field Caretaker – Maningrida, Gunbalanya, Jabiru x 2 (per location). d. Aquatic Lifeguard – Maningrida, Jabiru x 2 (per location) e. Data & Records Officer Trainee – Darwin x 1 f. Resource Officers (Waste Awareness) - All Location - Human Resource Manager to develop PDs - Business Development Manager to complete applications to RJED	Acceptable 1	other staff considerations so we are ready to apply once the grant is open. 16/01/2025 Leanne Johansson RJED applications now open and will close on 3 February 2025. West Arnhem Regional Council will lodge two applications. The larger application will be for the NIAA Arnhem Land and Groote Eylandt region with 15 positions across the five communities. WARC's application will include wage costs for the RJED employees, limited partial wage costs for their supervisors, uniforms, and protective clothing, tools of trade and some machinery as required. The other application will be for NIAA Top End and Tiwi Islands region and will be for one position in the Darwin office. WARC's application will include wage costs for the RJED employee, limited partial wage costs for their supervisor, uniforms, and tools of trade as required. All the positions which will form part of the application are as approved by Council. They are: Information Management Assistant (Darwin) Precinct Officer (Maningrida, Gunbalanya and Jabiru) Bereavement Support Assistant (Maningrida) Animal Services Officer (Jabiru) Waste Collection Assistant (Maningrida, Gunbalanya and Jabiru) Pool and Safety Assistant (Maningrida, Gunbalanya and Jabiru) Transport Driver (Minjilang and Warruwi) 04/02/2025 Leanne Johansson WARC lodged two applications for the Remote Jobs and Economic Development grant on 31/1/2025 as previously authorised by Council. One application was for 15 jobs across the West Arnhem region. The second application was for one job in the Darwin office.
5	In Progress	OCM350/2024 RESOLVED: Request administration investigate Jabiru stakeholder support for the rectification of the Jabiru Childcare roof.	Andrew Walsh	22/01/2025 Jasmine Mortimore Options being explored through local stakeholders; Rio Tinto funding, Caulfield Grammar and waiting for external grant opportunities.

Item	Status	Action Required	Assignee/s	Action Taken	
6	In Progress	KWAC20/2024 RESOLVED: Explore income generating Civil work activities within the West Arnhem Region. (item referred to Council)	Fiona Ainsworth	22/01/2025 Jasmine Mortimore Discussions have commenced with the Department of Logistics and Infrastructure.	
7	In Progress	WAR57/2024 RESOLVED: Request Council advocate with the federal government for a multi purpose safe shelter for Warruwi Community.	Andrew Walsh		
8	In Progress	OCM393/2024 RESOLVED: Request a policy be created for Sponsorship and Donations.	Jocelyn Nathanael- Walters	22/01/2025 Jasmine Mortimore Policy has been drafted.	
9	In Progress	OCM17/2025 RESOLVED: Request Information to be shared to residence of Jabiru for responsibility of dogs in line with the Jabiru Town Bylaws. Cr Onus raised concerns with cats in the Jabiru Township.	Andrew Walsh	11/02/2025 Jasmine Mortimore Information was distributed in the last edition of the WIRE, Communications and Public Relations Coordinator will send out further information to our Jabiru stakeholder list.	
10	In Progress	OCM17/2025 RESOLVED: Cr Phillips requested administration reach out to NT Health to provide update relevant to our area	Fiona Ainsworth	11/02/2025 Jasmine Mortimore Director of Community Services has made contact with NT Health to determine availability of de-identified information for our communities.	
11	On Hold	OCM157/2023 RESOVLED: Request increased advocacy for AFL in West Arnhem Region please refer to AFL in West Arnhem document BACKGROUND: Marnie Mitchell: Through a partnership with AFL NT remote development managers will help support program and development sessions for both Minjilang and Warruwi with WARC covering accommodation/travel/meal costs and AFLNT cover wages of the staff. Community leadership are working together to facilitate the community visits bimonthly. Council Services Managers continue to support AFL initiatives within their		04/04/2024 Jasmine Mortimore Updates: Hall/oval and highly successful event in Warruwi. 5 community members signed up for umpiring. 15 January 2024 – Matt Griffiths: Nil further. AFL & AFLW included on YSR participation plans. 12 February 2024 – Marnie Mitchell: Matt Levens from AFLNT continues to work with Warruwi and Minjilang. Sport and Recreation staff in community are working with Community to have bi monthly visits to community working in conjunction with the school and council. 13 February 2024 – Dana Hewett: Jabiru – Plans are to continue with Auskick in 2024. 02/05/2024 Marnie Mitchell This is an advocacy and strategic item for WARC. My suggestion is that the WARC staff work with the Council and Mayor to discuss the role of WARC in this process of having a team in the AFLNT from West Arnhem.	

Item Sta	ıtus	Action Required	Assignee/s	Action Taken
		Sport and Recreation Teams OCM109/2024 RESOLVED: Requests further information on the details including cost of Tiwi Bombers football team for AFL NT. OCM215/2024 Approach West Arnhem stakeholders to support the development of a West Arnhem AFL team		Sport and Recreation staff will continue to provide fundamental training and mentoring opportunities for players, coaches and umpires as well as support ongoing community lead AFL competitions. AFLNTs recommendations form part of the WARC Australian Rules Plan. 11/06/2024 Marnie Mitchell I have made initial contact with the Tiwi Bombers president Lindsey Whiting based on a introduction from AFLNT. We had an indepth conversation around the prospect of having a West Arnhem team in the Premier level. His feedback is noted: *700-800K per year including the cost of a General Manager, travel and other costs to run successfully and professionally *Grants and fundraising is required to cover the costs *Men's and women's team represent Tiwi Bombers *Currently they fly in players weekly to Darwin from Tiwi dependant on game time and accommodate in Darwin *13 of 16 games are played in Darwin with only 3 home games. AFL subsidise the cost of teams travelling to Tiwi to play *They have an affiliation with Tracey Village - when players for Tracey in Div I and II are ready they then move to play Premier level with Tiwi *They train across 3 communities in Tiwi plus Darwin and only come together on game day I have also made contact with the appropriate staff at the AFLNT Leigh Elder - Leigh. Elder@afl.com.au and Gavin May - gavin.may@afl.com.au to discuss financial. governance, logistical and venue challenges. I hope to be able to source specific information and contacts that will be useful for the AFL programs in Maningrida. AFL 9s boys competition for 13-17 years including Maningrida, Gunbalanya and Jabiru is scheduled for 4th July in Jabiru. It is hoped that it will be expanded to include girl's next time. 12/06/2024 Jasmine Mortimore Made initial contact with Jabiru Bombers Football Club, they are currently awaiting the election of a new president and will continue conversations when role has been filled.

Item	Status	Action Required	Assignee/s	Action Taken	
item	Status	Action Required	Assignee/s	Action Taken 11/07/2024 Marnie Mitchell AFL9s mini carnival was held in Jabiru during the school holidays. Young men 13-years from Maningrida (two teams), Gunbalanya and Jabiru played games Thursd: afternoon and Friday. They camped at Jabiru school, cooked BBQ, played basket into the night and then all sat together and yarned. This was a very successful ever facilitated and managed by the Sport and Rec teams across the three communities. TeamHealth, AFLNT, School Attendance officer, Red Lily and Jabiru school helpe with transport, coaching and supervision with the community of Jabiru supporting the event by spectating, running water and umpiring the games. Some of the big boy's plan on coming back to Jabiru to play in the men's teams for Football and Basketball for Kurrung Sports Festival at the end of August. Next time we would like to have all communities involved. New AFLNT Staff Graham Hayes is now based in Maningrida. His role is to support and facilitate community training, competition and upskilling of players, coaches, umpires and other volunteers. Sport and Recreation team in Maningrida will support AFLNT.	
				08/08/2024 Marnie Mitchell 8/8/24 Marnie Mitchell AFLNT new staff member has started in Maningrida. Rec and Sport team working with AFLNT staff to ensure a team is training and coming to compete at the Kurrung Festival at the end of August.	
				AFLNT Darwin office are also engaging with Jabiru staff in relation to other events and opportunities to engage in competitions and tournaments.	
				There has been no further progress or discussion about a team in the AFLNT.	
				18/09/2024 Marnie Mitchell	
				Australian Rules Football played a major part in the recent Kurrung Festival with men's teams from all communities competing.	
				Maningridas upcoming L'urra Festival also includes Australian Rules Football games across various age groups. West Arnhem Regional Councils Sport and Recreation staff are playing support roles across the festival football activities.	

Item	Status	Action Required	Assignee/s	Action Taken
				Jabiru Bombers AFLNT official season begins 12th October 2024. Letters to be sent to West Arnhem stakeholders seeking support to develop a West Arnhem AFL Team - further update will be provided at the November Ordinary Council Meeting.
				23/09/2024 Jasmine Mortimore Meeting scheduled with Sydney Swans on 24 September 2024 to discuss AFL in West Arnhem. 15/10/2024 Jasmine Mortimore Request item be put on hold until conflicting priorities are resolved regarding Councils position. (following government advice and direction received in September 2024).
12	Recommend Complete	OCM19/2024 1. Directed Council to reach out to the Office of Marion Scrymgour to offer funding better suited to West Arnhem and to accept funding for purchase of community buses. 2. Requested alternative letter outlining organisations in communities better suited to deliver service within the communities, cc'ing in those organisations	Fiona Ainsworth, Leanne Johansson	15/04/2024 Jasmine Mortimore Outcome from action has changed as the offer of buses is being negotiated with the Office of Marion Scrymgour. WARC have sent a proposal to use buses for sport and recreations as this fits within the funding guidelines. 10/05/2024 Jasmine Mortimore Working with Office of Marion Scrymgour, updates will be provided out of session. 23/09/2024 Jasmine Mortimore As off 23 September 2024 administration has reached out to Office of Marion Scrymgour 5 times without response. Will continue to follow up. 15/10/2024 Jasmine Mortimore Office of Marion Scrymgour Office attended Council Meeting on 30 September and provided an update. 10/12/2024 Jasmine Mortimore Update from Office of Marion Scrymgour on 10/12 states 'The funding commitment has been approved to the current financial year, the department are just ensuring the diversion from the original commitment (from large buses to smaller manageable buses) has been authorised correctly.' 21/01/2025 Jasmine Mortimore Grants Team have now applied for the Buses through the Remote Supports grant and are awaiting response.

ltem	Status	Action Required	Assignee/s	Action Taken
				10/02/2025 Leanne Johansson Application is lodged.
13	Recommend Complete	OCM190/2023 Cr Phillips and Cr Woods raised issues with new drain out the front of Maningrida clinic / road quality for wet season.	Clem Beard	22/03/2024 Ben Heaslip 05 December 2023 – Hilal Ahmad: A Council report is included in the agenda today for discussion of options to be presented to Council members. 10 January 2024 – Hilal Ahmad: Purchase Order raised to concrete the crossing, U shaped rails installed on both sides of the crossing to make it safe. 22 Check dams installed in the drain to slow the water and stop scouring. 09 February 2024 – Hilal Ahmad Contractor will commence the works, depending on the weather. 11 March 2024 – Hilal Ahmad Contractor will commence the works, depending on the weather as concreting works are involved installing additional culverts. 12/04/2024 Hilal Ahmad Contractor will commence work by the end of April 2024 and will complete the work by mid May 2024. 07/05/2024 Clem Beard Contractor will commence at the end of the month. Project delayed due to late rains in Maningrida. Works include concreting entrance and both sides of the culvert to the takeaway stores opposite clinic. 07/06/2024 Clem Beard Planned works are scheduled to commence mid June - delays due to local available capacity. 18/07/2024 Sara Fitzgerald Works Scheduled to begin first week of August, will be completed in 2 parts with driveway widening being part of a tender for drainage maintenance being advertised prior to end July. 12/08/2024 Sara Fitzgerald Drainage tender to be awarded this meeting anticipated works complete prior to wet season 16/09/2024 Hilal Ahmad Tender awarded to BV Contracting and the works to commence in mid of October 2024. All works are scheduled to be completed prior to the onset of wet season.
				10/10/2024 Clem Beard

Item	Status	Action Required	Assignee/s	Action Taken
				BV Contracting will mobilise on the 28th of October and expected to be onsite for three (3) weeks to complete drainage/driveway works on Mallabam Road. 04/11/2024 Clem Beard BV Contracting have mobilized and commenced planned works in Maningrida for works with Mallabam Road drainage, stone pitching and culvert works for entrance to takeaway stores. Planned works expected to be completed by the end of November. 06/12/2024 Garth Borgelt The culvert entrance access road to the shops/office has been completed; Stone pitching in progress 15/01/2025 Garth Borgelt The culvert entrance access road to the shops/office has been completed; Stone pitching still progressing with target completion during February, weather permitting. 06/02/2025 Clem Beard Culvert crossing and stone pitching works have been completed per scope of works. Ongoing funding to be sourced for additional drainage works.
14	Complete		Andrew Walsh, Fiona Ainsworth	22/01/2025 Jasmine Mortimore Financial liability attached to this asset exceeds Councils financial capacity at this time. Costs for taking ownership of this asset and meeting lease requirements to be circulated to Elected Members. Aged Care and Youth Sport and Recreation programs currently have fit for purpose buildings. 11/02/2025 Jasmine Mortimore Department of Chief Minister and Cabinet have confirmed the lease for this building has a minimum liability for demolition of \$3.3 million. It is recommended that Council does not pursue this item further.
15	Complete	OCM17/2025 RESOLVED: Mayor Woods raised concerns with lack of firebreaks in West Arnhem communities.	Jasmine Mortimore	11/02/2025 Jasmine Mortimore The Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development have confirmed that firebreaks within Lots is tenant responsibility. Firebreaks outside of the Lot is the responsibility of the lease holder. Community can raise concerns with our CSMs, these concerns can be sent to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development to follow up with their tenants. The Department have also advised that they will work with their tenants to assist in having their lawns maintained.

WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 18 FEBRUARY 2025

Agenda Reference: 8.2

Title: Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly

Author: Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to inform Council of the 2025 Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) Annual Conference, the National General Assembly of Local Government (NGA).

THAT COUNCIL:

- 1. Receive and note the report titled *Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly*; and
- 2. Submit / do not submit a motion for the National General Assembly.

BACKGROUND

The Australian Local Government Association Annual Conference, the National General Assembly of Local Government (NGA), will be occurring in Canberra from 25 – 27 June 2025 at the National Convention Centre. In addition, a Regional Cooperation and Development Forum will be held on 24 June 2025.

COMMENT

ALGA is now calling for councils to submit motions for the 2025 NGA. Attending this Conference to debate policy motions that will be considered by the ALGA Board, the NGA is your opportunity to shape the federal advocacy agenda that ALGA will undertake on behalf of Australian local governments.

The theme of the 2025 NGA will be "National Priorities Need Local Solutions". ALGA is seeking motions that align with this theme and identify opportunities for new federal programs and policies that will support councils to build trust, both in our communities and as a local delivery partner for the Australian Government.

The attached discussion paper will help you prepare your council's motions, which can be submitted online at www.alga.com.au until Monday 31 March 2025.

LEGISLATION AND POLICY

Not applicable.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Approx \$15,000.00 for travel, tickets etc.

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.

- 43 -

Goal 1.4 Community Events

Deliver cultural, civic and sporting events which engage and unite the community.

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

1. 2025 NGA Discussion Paper [**8.2.1** - 24 pages]

National Priorities Need Local Solutions

24 - 27 June 2025 | National Convention Centre Canberra

National General Assembly Discussion Paper



KEY DATES

18 December 2024 | Opening of Call for Motions

31 March 2025 | Acceptance of Motions closes

24 June 2025 | Regional Cooperation & Development Forum

25 - 27 June 2025 | National General Assembly

TO SUBMIT YOUR MOTION VISIT: ALGA.COM.AU

The Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) is pleased to convene the 31st National General Assembly of Local Government (NGA), to be held in Canberra from 24-27 June 2025.

As convenor of the NGA, the ALGA Board cordially invites all councils to send representatives to this important national event.

The NGA is the premier national gathering of local governments, and provides councils with the opportunity to come together, share ideas, debate motions, and most importantly unite and further build on the relationship between local government and the Australian Government.

This discussion paper contains essential information for Australian councils considering submitting motions for debate at the 2025 National General Assembly of Local Government (NGA).

It is recommended that all councils and delegates intending to attend the 2025 NGA familiarise themselves with the guidelines for motions contained in this paper on page 6.

BACKGROUND TO ALGA AND THE NGA

ALGA was established 1947. In structure, ALGA is a federation of member state and territory associations. Its mission is to achieve outcomes for local government through advocacy with impact, and maximise the economic, environmental and social wellbeing of councils and our communities.

Since 1994, the NGA has built the profile of local government on the national stage, showcased the value of councils, and most importantly demonstrated – particularly to the Australian Government – the strength and value of working with local government to help deliver on national priorities.

Debate on motions was introduced to the NGA as a vehicle for councils from across the nation to canvas ideas. Outcomes of debate on motions (NGA Resolutions) could be used by participating councils to inform their own policies and priorities, as well as their advocacy when dealing with federal politicians.

At the same time, they help ALGA and its member state and territory associations gain valuable insight into council priorities, emerging national issues, and the level of need and support for new policy and program initiatives.

Given the structure of ALGA, its Constitution, and level of resources, the NGA does not bind the ALGA Board. However, the Board carefully considers NGA resolutions as it determines ALGA's policies, priorities and strategies to advance local governments within the national agenda.

This is your NGA and ALGA is pleased to act as the convenor. ALGA's policies and priorities will continue to be determined by the ALGA Board in the interests of all councils.

The ALGA Board thanks all councils for attending the NGA and those that will take the time to reflect on the purpose of debate on motions outlined in this paper, and to submit motions for debate at the 2025 NGA.

SUBMITTING MOTIONS

The theme of the 2025 NGA is – National Priorities Need Local Solutions

In June 2025, Australia will either have a re-elected Labor Government, or a new Coalition or minority government.

The 31st National General Assembly of Local Government will focus on opportunities for councils to work with the next Federal Government to deliver local solutions that will help them deliver on their vision for the nation

As the closest government to communities, councils understand local challenges and opportunities. They are a willing partner in government, and sustainably funded can provide place-based solutions to a range of national priorities including affordable housing, energy transition, road safety, increasing productivity, and improved health and wellbeing.

This discussion paper is a call for councils to submit motions for debate at the 2025 NGA to be held in Canberra from 24-27 June 2025.

Motions for this year's NGA should consider:

- Any new practical programs or policy changes that can strengthen the system of local government nationally to provide the services and infrastructure required to support and strengthen our communities; and/or
- New program ideas that that would help the local government sector to deliver place-based solutions to national priorities.

Motions should be concise, practical and implementable and meet the guidelines for motions set out in the paper.

You are encouraged to read all the sections of the paper but are not expected to respond to every issue or question. Your council's motion/s must address one or more of the issues identified in the discussion paper.



Motions must be lodged electronically using the online form available on the NGA website at: www.alga.asn.au and received no later than 11:59pm AEST on Monday 31 March 2025.

All notices of motions will be reviewed by the ALGA Board's NGA Sub-committee prior to publishing the NGA Business Paper to ensure that they meet these guidelines. This sub-committee reserves the right to select, edit or amend notices of motions to facilitate the efficient and effective management of debate on motions at the NGA. For example, the sub-committee may recommend an overarching strategic motion to encompass several motions on the same topic.

All NGA resolutions will be published on www.nationalgeneralassembly.com.au.

As the host of the NGA, ALGA will communicate resolutions to the relevant Australian Government Minister and publish Ministerial responses as they are received on this website.

Please note that if your council does submit a motion, there is an expectation that a council representative will be present at the NGA to move and speak to that motion if required.

We look forward to hearing from you and seeing you at the 2025 NGA.

CRITERIA FOR MOTIONS

To be eligible for inclusion in the NGA Business Papers, and subsequent debate on the floor of the NGA, motions must meet the following criteria:

- 1. Be relevant to the work of local government nationally.
- 2. Not be focused on a specific jurisdiction, location or region unless the project or issue has national implications.
- 3. Be consistent with the themes of the NGA.
- 4. Complement or build on the policy objectives of ALGA and your state or territory local government association.
- 5. Be submitted by a council which is a financial member of their state or territory local government association.
- 6. Propose a clear action and outcome ie call on the Australian Government to act on something.
- 7. Not be advanced on behalf of external third parties that may seek to use the NGA to apply pressure to Board members, or to gain national political exposure for positions that are not directly relevant to the work of, or in the national interests of, local government.
- 8. Address issues that will directly improve the capacity of local government to deliver services and infrastructure for the benefit of all Australian communities.
- 9. Not seek to advance an outcome that would result in a benefit to one group of councils to the detriment of another.
- 10. Be supported by sufficient evidence and demonstrate the relevance and significance of the matter to local government nationally.

Motions must commence with the following wording:

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to

•••

Please note: that resolutions of the NGA do not automatically become ALGA's national policy positions.

The ALGA Board carefully considers NGA resolutions as it determines ALGA's policies, priorities and strategies to advance local governments within the national agenda, but the resolutions are not binding.

West Arnhem Regional Council

OTHER THINGS TO CONSIDER

It is important to complete the background section of the submission form. Submitters of motions should not assume that NGA delegates will have background knowledge of the proposal. The background section helps all delegates, including those with no previous knowledge of the issue, in their consideration of the motion. Please note, motions should NOT be prescriptive in directing how the matter should be pursued.

Try to keep motions practical, focussed and capable of implementation to ensure that relevant Australian Government Ministers provide considered, thoughtful and timely responses.

Try to avoid motions that are complex, contain multi-dot points and require complex cross-portfolio implementation.

All motions submitted will be reviewed by the ALGA Board's NGA Sub-committee, in consultation with state and territory local government associations, to determine their eligibility for inclusion in the NGA Business Papers.

When reviewing motions, the Sub-committee considers the criteria, clarity of the motion and the importance and relevance of the issue to local government.

If there are any questions about the substance or intent of a motion, ALGA will raise these with the nominated contact officer. With the agreement of the submitting council, these motions may be edited before inclusion in the NGA Business Papers.

To ensure an efficient and effective debate, where there are numerous motions on a similar issue, the NGA Sub-committee will group these motions together under an overarching strategic motion. The strategic motions will have either been drafted by ALGA or will be based on a motion submitted by a council which best summarises the subject matter.

Debate will occur in accordance with the rules for debate published in the Business Papers and will focus on the strategic motions. Associated sub-motions will be debated by exception only or in accordance with the debating rules.

Any motion deemed to be primarily concerned with local or state issues will be referred to the relevant state or territory local government association and will not be included in the NGA Business Papers.

All motions require:

- a contact officer;
- a clear national objective;
- · a summary of the key arguments in support of the motion; and
- endorsement of your council

Motions should be lodged electronically using the online form available at www.alga.com.au.

Motions should be received no later than 11:59pm AEST on Monday 31 March 2025.



SETTING THE SCENE

The theme for the 2025 NGA – **National Priorities Need Local Solutions** – highlights the unique role Australia's 537 councils can play delivering local, placed-based solutions that meet the needs of their communities, while addressing broader national priorities.

The 2025 NGA provides you - the elected representatives of Australia's local councils and communities - with the opportunity to engage with the Federal Government and key Ministers.

Further, it is your opportunity to advocate for new or expanded programs and key policy initiatives that could strengthen local governments and its capacity to deliver services and infrastructure to local communities across the nation.

This year's call for motion focusses on twelve priority areas:

- · Intergovernmental relations;
- · Financial sustainability;
- · Roads and infrastructure;
- · Emergency management;
- · Housing and homelessness;
- · Jobs and skills;
- · Community services;
- · Closing the Gap and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Reconciliation;
- · Data, digital technology and cyber security;
- · Climate change and renewable energy;
- · Environment;
- Circular economy



1. INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

For almost 30 years, local government was represented by ALGA on the Council of Australian Governments (COAG), providing local input into national decision making. However, when COAG was replaced by National Cabinet in March 2020, local government was not included.

National Cabinet is a forum for the Prime Minister, Premiers and Chief Ministers to meet and work collaboratively; and is a key mechanism in Australia's intergovernmental architecture. A representative of local government, the President of ALGA, is invited to meet with National Cabinet once each year, as well as one meeting of the Council on Federal Financial Relations comprising the Commonwealth Treasurer as Chair and all state and territory treasurers.

While National Cabinet was established to support a coordinated national response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the lack of local representation to this body has unfortunately impacted on decision making.

The Government's review into the COVID-19 response – published in October 2024 – found that Australia's 537 councils were critical for the implementation of National Cabinet decisions during the pandemic.

The inquiry also recommended National Cabinet would benefit from having more structured engagement and active consultation with local government to ensure future decision-making is informed at a local level.

In addition to attending one meeting per year of National Cabinet and CFFR, ALGA also represents local government on a range of Ministerial Councils and Forums, including the Infrastructure and Transport Ministers Meeting, National Emergency Management Ministers Meeting, Local Government Ministers Forum, Joint Council on Closing the Gap, Planning Ministers Meeting, Environment Ministers Meeting, Cultural Ministers Meeting, Energy and Climate Change Ministers Meeting, Road Safety Ministers Meeting, and Building Ministers Meeting.

Given the important role councils play delivering local solutions to national priorities, how can intergovernmental arrangements be further improved in Australia?

Are there new initiatives and programs that could be adopted to improve the level of cooperation and collaboration between the Australian Government and local government?

2. FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

Sustainably funded, councils can play a key role delivering local solutions to national priorities. However, across the country many councils are facing significant financial challenges and are struggling to fund the delivery of core community services.

Every year councils are being asked to do more with less as a result of cost shifting, inadequate state and federal funding and, in some jurisdictions, rate pegging.

In 2024/25 councils will receive \$3.27 billion in federal Financial Assistance Grants. This is approximately 0.5% of Commonwealth taxation revenue, which is half the amount it was in 1996. The Australian Parliament is currently undertaking an Inquiry into local government sustainability, to which ALGA, State and Territory associations and many councils provided submissions

ALGA's submission to this inquiry highlighted that:

- If local government were provided annually with an additional \$350 million for the maintenance and delivery of quality open space, Australia's gross domestic product (GDP) would increase by \$858.9 million each year.
- If local government were able to effectively increase its capacity to perform regulatory services in planning and building, there would be an annual saving of \$859 million for development proponents and would generate an additional \$1.67 billion in GDP each year.
- Increased block transfers of Commonwealth funds to local governments can deliver greater efficiency and administrative cost savings of \$236 million and would generate increase GDP by \$330.8 million each year
- Reducing local government staff turnover can save \$425 million in avoided costs and lead to a \$619.9 million increase in GDP each year.
- Investing an additional \$1 billion each year into the maintenance of local government roads would increase GDP by \$354.6 million annually.

ALGA also stressed that the inquiry should not recommend any actions that will improve the financial sustainability of some councils to the detriment of others.

What are the opportunities to address financial sustainability across councils, and support their capacity to deliver local solutions to national priorities?

Are there improvements to be made to existing federal funding programs and arrangements that would support improved local government financial sustainability?

3. ROADS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Local governments are responsible for around 75% of Australia's road network by length, and play an important role supporting productivity and improving road safety.

However, many councils are not resourced to effectively maintain their local roads, and independent research from the Grattan Institute in 2023 identified a \$1 billion annual local government road maintenance funding gap.

In November 2023 the Government announced that Roads to Funding would be progressively increased from \$500 million to \$1 billion per year over the forward estimates, effectively halving the current funding gap.

In addition to local roads, councils build and maintain community facilities and infrastructure worth more than \$100 billion nationally.

In 2020 the Australian Government introduced a new Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program, which saw \$3.25 billion provided to all councils for local projects on a formula basis. ALGA's 2024 National State of the Assets highlighted the success of this federal funding program, reporting a \$1 billion improvement in the condition of local government facilities since the 2021 report.

Are there new programs or initiatives that the Australian Government could adopt to improve the long-term sustainability of local government roads and community infrastructure?

Are there programs or initiatives that the Australian Government could provide to improve the sector's capacity to manage local government infrastructure and to integrate these plans into long-term financial plans?

Are there opportunities for the Australian Government to support councils to invest in local infrastructure that will help address national priorities?

4. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Australia is experiencing weather events of greater intensity and frequency – which leads to increased impacts on communities and council resources. Over the past two years, more than 60 per cent of local government areas have been declared natural disaster areas, many of them multiple times.

In 2022 ALGA successfully advocated for a new \$200 million per year Disaster Ready Fund, and to date two rounds of funding have been provided through this program. This program has been legislated to run for five years.

Both rounds of the Disaster Ready Fund have been significantly oversubscribed, and ALGA is advocating for a significant increase in federal funding to improve the emergency management capability and capacity of local government.

The Royal Commission on National Natural Disaster Arrangements made two important recommendations for local government – calling for State and Territory Governments to take responsibility for the capacity and capability of local government for the functions which are delegated to them (recommendation 11.1), and recommending States and Territory Governments review arrangements for resource sharing between local governments (recommendation 11.2).

Released in November 2024, the Colvin Review (Independent Review of Commonwealth Disaster Funding) and Glasser Review (Independent Review of National Natural Disaster Governance Arrangements) both support a strategic shift towards disaster risk reduction and resilience. The Colvin Review also supports a major capacity uplift for local government and an enhanced national training and exercise regime which tests and builds local government capacity.

Councils are encouraged to draw on their practical experience of the improvements that could be made to managing emergencies.

Please note that many aspects of emergency management are state or territory responsibilities, and your motions should focus on how the Australian Government could assist.

What new programs, or improvements to existing programs, could the Australian Government develop to partner with local government to improve the current natural disaster management systems to further assist in recovery and build resilience?

How can the Government best support Australian councils to prepare for, respond to and recover from natural disasters?

5. HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS

Australia is currently facing a housing crisis which is resulting in more people experiencing housing insecurity and homelessness, while also preventing required worker movement across the country.

Councils are not responsible for building housing. Many councils do, however, play a key role in facilitating housing supply by appropriately zoning land and approving development. Others are going above and beyond to address the housing crisis, albeit without adequate resourcing.

One of the biggest issues is a lack of funding for infrastructure such as roads, water and power connections that are necessary for new housing developments.

The National Housing Accord – which ALGA is a signatory to on behalf of local government - sets an ambitious target of 1.2 million new, well-located homes over the next five years.

Research commissioned by ALGA, and delivered by Equity Economics, showed that there is currently a \$5.7 billion funding shortfall for the enabling infrastructure required to bridge the gap between current constructions and Australia's housing targets.

Another significant issue is local government's lack of input into setting housing policy at both a state, territory and federal level, While ALGA represents councils on a wide range of ministerial councils, it is not currently a member of the Housing and Homelessness Ministerial Council or National Cabinet.

A key focus for councils is ensuring that any new housing developments are not just supported by enabling infrastructure, but also the local facilities and services that are vital for healthy, productive and resilient communities.

What new programs and policies could the Australian Government develop to partner with local government to support the provision of more affordable housing?

How can the Australian Government work with councils to address the causes and impacts of homelessness?



Local government is a major employer in Australia providing employment, career advancement and training opportunities for more than 200,000 Australians, across an estimated 400 occupations.

However, councils – like many employers across the nation – are experiencing skill shortages that hinder their ability to meet community needs.

The 2022 Local Government Workforce Skills and Capability Survey show nine out of every ten Australian councils are facing jobs and skills shortages.

65% of respondent local governments said that project delivery had been impacted or delayed by vacancies, skills shortages, skills gaps or training needs.

The top five most cited skill shortages that local governments experienced were engineers (as noted by 46% of 2022 survey respondents), urban and town planners (40%), building surveyors (36%), environmental health inspectors (30%) and human resources professionals (29%).

Drivers of skill shortages include difficulty attracting young people to local government jobs, lack of available training courses, wage competition, and lack of resources to upskill the current workforce such as access to training facilities for rural/remote councils, workplace supervisors, subject matter experts, and contextualised training resources.

National priorities, such as increasing housing supply, cannot be achieved without support from local government and the right people to do the work.

Are there programs or initiatives that the Australian Government could implement that would enhance local government's capacity to attract and retain appropriately skilled staff now and into the future?

Are there programs or changes to existing programs that would increase local government's ability to employ apprentices and trainees?

Are there other initiatives that the Australian Government could provide to improve the sector's ability to plan and develop skills fit for the future?

7. COMMUNITY SERVICES

Councils provide a wide range of services based on local characteristics, needs, priorities, and the resources of their community.

Some of these services are provided to address market failure, and many of them are provided by councils on behalf of other levels of government.

It is important to note that nationally local government is more than 83% self-sufficient ie funded at the local level either through rates, fees and charges, sale of goods and services, or interest. The Australian Bureau of Statistics data shows that total local government annual expenditure in 2022-23 was \$48 billion.

Only 17% comes from grants and subsidies from other levels of government. Unfortunately, many of these grants and subsidies are tied, or competitive funding programs, or require matching funding which restricts the ability to address local priorities in the way the council and community might need.

Local government community services are broadly defined, and may include but are not limited to:

- environmental health including food safety;
- · childcare, early childhood education, municipal health;
- · aged care, senior citizens;
- services to people living with disability;
- programs to address disadvantage, to reduce poverty and homelessness;
- sporting and recreational programs;
- · arts and cultural activities, programs and festivals;
- · tourism and economic development activities;
- · library services

Noting the funding arrangements for the provision of local government community services are there programs and initiatives that the Australian Government could implement to improve the delivery of these services?

Are there reforms or improvements in national community services program that would help local governments support the Australian Government to deliver on its national objectives?



In 2021, ALGA co-signed a landmark national agreement to close the gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians. At the heart of the National Agreement on Closing the Gap Partnership are four agreed priority reform targets and 19 socio-economic targets in areasincluding education, employment, health and wellbeing, justice, safety, housing, land and waters, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages.

Local governments are uniquely placed to support partnerships to address long term service gaps and support their delivery. Councils are elected by their communities and have the longitudinal scope to develop a community's economic, skills, and infrastructure needs.

Local governments already play a significant role in helping their communities and the Closing the Gap outcomes. However, councils need appropriate resourcing, be it through place-based initiatives, or broader programs, to better facilitate and meet program objectives in their communities.

Are there programs or initiatives that the Australian Government could adopt to assist local government to advance reconciliation and close the gap?

Are there practical programs or initiatives that local government and the Australian Government could introduce to maintain, build and strengthen partnerships between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders and governments?

9. DATA, DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY AND CYBER SECURITY

Provision of information technology to all Australians is vital to innovation, economic growth, and social equity. However, it is potentially even more important to regional Australia where the tyranny of distance increases the inequity of services available – including education, health, economic and social. Innovative technology is becoming more broadly available and could boost productivity and economic growth.

Councils around Australia continue to embrace new technologies to improve their service delivery standards and broaden consultation and engagement with their local communities. However, implementation can be hindered without access to basic technological infrastructure and the necessary IT skills and resources.

In recent times, cyber-attacks on major corporations and other businesses have resulted in significant data breaches. It is a timely reminder as digital information, services and products become an increasing feature of modern business operation including in local government.

Like all risks, local government must manage the risk of cyber-attacks and address cyber security.

While this is primarily a responsibility of the sector itself, governments at all levels must work together to ensure that the public have confidence in government information management systems and its security.

Drawing upon your council's experience, and your knowledge of other councils within your state or territory, are there programs and initiatives that the Australian Government could implement to help local government develop its digital technology services and infrastructure?

Are there actions the Australian Government could take to improve cyber security within the local government sector?



10. CLIMATE CHANGE AND RENEWABLE ENERGY

Climate change is resulting in more frequent and severe disasters, coastal erosion, and rising heat, which are all impacting on the liveability of Australian communities.

Local governments play a role in emissions reduction through reducing their corporate emissions and supporting broader national processes of decarbonisation through community engagement, and provision of services and infrastructure.

The 2024 Local Government Climate Review found that 89% of councils have set or planned ambitious corporate emissions reduction targets.

Councils also play a critical role supporting their communities through change, helping them to adapt and build their resilience. The latest Local Government Climate Review found that two-thirds have done a climate risk assessment and 72% are implementing initiatives.

Barriers to adaptation include internal resourcing (70%), funding (67%), complexity and not knowing how to respond (53%), and limited technical expertise and capacity (48%).

Councils need support to adequately assess climate risk and vulnerabilities and adequately address them in plans, policies investment decisions and engagement with communities. Unfortunately, funding and support from other levels of government has failed to keep pace, placing an inequitable burden on the sector.

The rapid increase in renewable energy projects in regions across Australia is resulting in uneven and inconsistent community benefits being offered and delivered to communities. It is also placing significant pressure on local governments to plan, negotiate and secure an enduring constructive legacy associated with renewable energy projects.

Local governments are the only local democratic institution in a position to convene local interests and broker long term social and economic benefits from renewables projects, and should be recongised and supported for their role in maintaining social license for renewables projects.

Noting the Australian Government's approach to reducing emissions, are there partnerships, programs, and initiatives that local government and the Australian Government can form to achieve Australia's 2050 net zero emissions target?

What are the opportunities to support councils to increase community resilience to the impacts of climate change?



What support do councils need to ensure that renewable energy projects deliver lasting benefits to the communities that house them?

11. ENVIRONMENT

The Australian Government's Nature Positive Plan states "Almost half of Australia's gross domestic product (GDP) has a moderate to very high direct dependence on nature. The rate at which we are eroding the environment poses tangible risks to Australia's economic, financial and social stability."

Australia's 537 local governments undertake broad and diverse work to support environmental outcomes.

However, councils do not receive adequate support for this work, which includes managing pests, weeds, and biosecurity threats, contributing to water security and management, managing parklands and reserves, and community education.

In recent years the National General Assembly has considered a range of environmental issues, and passed resolutions on biodiversity, biosecurity, conservation, climate change and water security.

How could the Australian Government partner with local government to strengthen Australia's environmental services and infrastructure?

What new programs could the Australian Government partner with local government in to progress local regional and national objectives?



12. CIRCULAR ECONOMY

Australia's volume of waste continues to increase compared with population growth and GDP, even with rates of recycling improving over the past decades.

The 2022 National Waste Report showed that waste generation has increased by 20% over the last 15 years (8.3% from municipal waste). Since 2006-07, recycling and recovery of Australia's core waste has increased by 57% (+22% in municipal) however Australia continues to have one of the lowest rates of recycling among OCED countries.

Local governments are under pressure to respond to community demand for addressing pollution, while at-capacity landfills and emerging problematic materials pose serious operational challenges.

Collecting, treating, and disposing of waste costs local governments an estimated \$3.5 billion annually.

ALGA believes the onus for waste reduction should be borne by industry, not local governments. Mandatory product stewardship approaches, including payments to local governments for their resource recovery services, would ensure the principle of producer responsibility is operationalised and the cost and risk burden on local governments is rebalanced.

How could the Australian Government further strengthen product stewardship arrangements to support local governments in their endeavours to increase recycling and reduce the volume of waste?

How could the Australian Government partner with local government to advance the circular economy?





CONCLUSION

Thank you for taking the time to read this discussion paper and your support for the 2025 National General Assembly of Local Government.

A final reminder:

- Motions should be lodged electronically at www.alga.com.au and received no later than 11.59pm on Monday 31 March 2025.
- · Motions must meet the criteria published in this paper.
- Motions should commence with the following wording: This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to...'
- Motions should not be prescriptive in directing how the matter should be pursued.
- · Motions should be practical, focussed and relatively simple.
- It is important to complete the background section on the form.
- Motions must not seek to advance an outcome that would result in a benefit to one group of councils to the detriment of another.
- When your council submits a motion there is an expectation that a council representative will be present at the 2025 National General Assembly to move and speak to that motion if required.
- Resolutions of the National General Assembly do not automatically become ALGA's national policy positions. The resolutions are used by the ALGA Board to inform policies, priorities and strategies to advance local governments within the national agenda.

We look forward to hearing from you and seeing you at the 2025 National General Assembly in Canberra.





WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 18 FEBRUARY 2025

Agenda Reference: 9.1

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

SUMMARY

This report is to table items of correspondence received and sent since the last Ordinary Council Meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL receive and noted the attached items of incoming and outgoing correspondence.

BACKGROUND

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

COMMENT

ATTACHMENT NO	CORRESPONDENCE TYPE	DATE RECEIVED / SENT	SENT BY	DOCUMENT NAME
1	Incoming	23.01.2025	Selena Uibo, Leader of the Opposition	2025 0003- SJMU - Mr Andrew Walsh
2	Incoming	04.02.2025	The Hon. Tony Burke MP	Australian citizenship ceremonies - Letter from the Hon Tony Burke MP 4 February 2025
3	Incoming	05.02.2025	The Hon. Kon Vatskalis	RE Lord Mayors Invitation Bombing of Darwin Day Commemorative Service 2025

LEGISLATION AND POLICY

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

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

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

PILLAR 6 FOUNDATIONS OF GOVERNANCE

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

Goal 6.3 Council and Local Authorities

Excellence in governance, consultation administration and representation.

ATTACHMENTS

- 1. 2025 0003- SJMU Mr Andrew Walsh [**9.1.1** 1 page]
- Australian citizenship ceremonies Letter from the Hon Tony Burke MP 4 February 2025 [9.1.2
 1 page]
- 3. RE Lord Mayors Invitation Bombing of Darwin Day Commemorative Service 2025 [9.1.3 3 pages]



Parliament House State Square Darwin NT 0800 opposition.leader@nt.gov.au

GPO Box 3700 Darwin NT 0801 Telephone: 08 7923 8000

Mr Andrew Walsh Chief Executive Officer City of Palmerston

Via email: Andrew.walsh@westarnhem.nt.gov.au

Dear Mr Walsh

Congratulations to you on your recent appointment as Chief Executive Officer (CEO) for City of Palmerston. This new role is a well-deserved recognition of the dedication and hard work you have committed to the public sector over the past 13 years, as well as the exemplary leadership you demonstrated as CEO of the West Arnhem Regional Council.

I look forward to seeing the impact you will have at City of Palmerston and wish you all the success in this new role.

When you have settled into your new position, please reach out to my office so we can arrange a meeting to discuss how we can assist each other in continuing to make Palmerston a thriving, vibrant city.

Once again, congratulations on your appointment and I hope you have a prosperous year. I look forward to seeing you soon.

Yours sincerely

SELENA UIBO

23 JANUARY 2025



The Hon Tony Burke MP

Minister for Home Affairs
Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs
Minister for Cyber Security
Minister for the Arts
Leader of the House

Ref No: MC25-003727

Dear Mayor

Australian Citizenship Ceremonies

Thank you for your ongoing support in facilitating Australian citizenship ceremonies. We have seen through the recent ceremonies held to mark Australia Day the importance of people coming together, to celebrate Australian citizenship, and all that unites us as a cohesive and inclusive nation.

I am keen to ensure that as many of our community members as possible, who have an approved application for Australian citizenship, are afforded an opportunity to attend a ceremony and become a citizen. I know from my own experience in presiding at ceremonies just how much conferees value the opportunity to celebrate this important milestone in their own community, with family and friends.

Thank you for the work you have done to plan future ceremonies throughout the year. Where approved applicants may not have the opportunity to attend a ceremony with their local council in the near term and are in waiting, my Department will be supplementing the efforts of local councils by hosting a number of additional ceremonies around the country, focused in areas where there is a large backlog of approved conferees waiting for a ceremony. I have asked my Department to schedule these additional ceremonies during the last two weeks of February 2025. I have also asked my Department to extend invitations to you to attend these ceremonies where conferees are from your Council area.

If your Council has the ability to increase the size of existing ceremonies during February, or to plan a ceremony where one previously hadn't been scheduled during February, I encourage you to work with your existing ceremonies team contact in my Department to make those arrangements.

Yours sincerely

Parliament House Canberra ACT 2600 Telephone: (02) 6277 7860

From: Jasmine Mortimore

Sent: Tue, 11 Feb 2025 03:05:06 +0000

To: WARC Governance

Subject: RE: Lord Mayors Invitation | Bombing of Darwin Day Commemorative Service 2025

From: RSVP Invite < RSVPInvite@darwin.nt.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 5 February 2025 11:52 AM
To: Info WestArnhem < info@westarnhem.nt.gov.au>

Subject: Lord Mayors Invitation | Bombing of Darwin Day Commemorative Service 2025

You don't often get email from rsvpinvite@darwin.nt.gov.au. Learn why this is important

CAUTION: This is an external email, please take care when clicking links or opening attachments. When in doubt, contact your IT Department



The Right Worshipful the Lord Mayor of Darwin
The Hon. Kon Vatskalis
has pleasure inviting

Mr James Woods and Guest

at the

Commemorative Service, a National Day of Observance

Bombing of Darwin Day Wednesday 19 February 2025

commencing 9:40 am at the Darwin Cenotaph, Esplanade (please arrive by 9:30 am to be seated)

Please RSVP to City of Darwin by Tuesday 11 February 2025

via email: rsvpinvite@darwin.nt.gov.au **vou will be seated in AREA C**

Dress: Territory Rig (Tie not compulsory)

Notice

This transmission is confidential and intended only for the use of the addressee and may contain legally privileged information.

If you are not the addressee:

• Confidentiality and privilege is not waived;

- Please contact us immediately to advise of receipt by you; and
- You are not to read, disseminate, copy or take any action in respect of the contents of this transmission.

The views expressed in this transmission are those of the individual sender, except where the sender specifically states them to be the views of the City of Darwin.

FOR THE MEETING 18 FEBRUARY 2025

Agenda Reference: 9.2

Title: Meetings and Events attended by the Mayor

Author: Gina Carrascalao, Executive Assistant to Mayor and CEO

SUMMARY

This report provides information to Council on meetings and events attended by the Mayor since the last Ordinary Council Meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL receive and note the report titled *Meetings and Events attended by the Mayor*.

BACKGROUND

The meetings and events listed involve discussions that influence or may affect the operations of the Council or relationships with external agencies. The list is not a complete list of every meeting or event attended by the Mayor and excludes Council and Committee meetings.

COMMENT

Date(s)	Location	Reason for Meeting	Person(s) met with
31.01.2025	Maningrida	Maningrida Cyclone Shelter	Government Representative
13.02.2025	Teams	LGANT Strategic Plan consultations with Thrive Territory	LGANT

LEGISLATION AND POLICY

Allowances and Expenses (Elected, Local Authority and Committee Members) Policy. Travel and Accommodation (Elected, Local Authority and Committee Members) Policy.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

As per Council's policies and budget.

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

FOR THE MEETING 18 FEBRUARY 2025

Agenda Reference: 9.3

Title: Meetings and Events attended by the CEO Author: Andrew Walsh, Chief Executive Officer

SUMMARY

This report provides information on meetings and events attended by the CEO since the last Ordinary Council Meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL receive and note the report titled Meetings and Events attended by the CEO.

BACKGROUND

The meetings listed involve discussions that influence or may affect the operations of the Council or relationships with external agencies. The list is not a complete list of every meeting attended by the CEO and excludes Council and Committee meetings.

COMMENT

Date(s)	Location	Reason for Meeting	Person(s) Met with
30.01.2025	WARC office	Red Lily services	Brad Palmer, Dani Hawks & Mark DiFrancesco
30.01.2025	Dep. Of Agriculture & Fisheries – Berrimah	Catch & Release program – Jabiru Lake	Andrew Kirkman
30.01.2025	NIAA Office	Services	Brigette Bellenger
31.01.2025	Darwin	Workplace Matters	Erina Early - United Workers Union
31.01.2025	Darwin	West Arnhem Region	Darren Johnson – CM&C RED
31.01.2025	Darwin	Maningrida Subdivision	Louise McCormick CEO of DLI
04.02.2025	Darwin	S 19 Leases	Matthew Ryan - NLC
06.02.2025	Darwin	Services	Claire Joyce – Dep Housing, Local Gov & Community Development
07.02.2025	Teams	Services	David King - NIAA
07.02.2025	Darwin office	Banking services for WARC	Simon Lyons - TCU
11.02.2025	Darwin	Certification of Documents	Greg Turner - MVR

LEGISLATION AND POLICY

Allowances and Expenses (Elected, Local Authority and Committee Members) Policy. Travel and Accommodation (Elected, Local Authority and Committee Members) Policy.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

As per Council's policies and budget.

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

FOR THE MEETING 18 February 2025

Agenda Reference: 9.4

Title: Technical Services Projects Report
Author: Clem Beard, Project Manager

SUMMARY

This report is presented to the Council to provide an overview of all Local Authority and other Council projects delivered across the West Arnhem Regional Council locations, for the reporting period up to 10 February 2025.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL receives and notes the report titled Technical Services Projects Report.

BACKGROUND

High level operational/project management reports are provided to ensure transparency, communication, and support are provided to elected members.

COMMENT

As per attached report, a comprehensive snapshot is provided to Council of all current projects being undertaken by the Technical Services Team.

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

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 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.

Goal 4.2 Fleet, Plant and Equipment

Provide a modern and well-maintained fleet of plant and vehicles capable of meeting service delivery requirements.

Goal 4.3 Waste and Water Management

Deliver environmentally and economically sound solid waste, water and sewerage services.

Goal 4.4 Local Road Management and Maintenance

Tactically monitor, maintain and manage Council gazetted roads and community safety via traffic management.

PILLAR 5 SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE ACTION

Leading by example, we commit to developing a culture of sustainable practice. We recognise and champion the importance of safe-guarding our environment for future generations by working collectively with community, private enterprises and all tiers of government.

Goal 5.1 Recycling and Waste

Develop recycling and waste initiatives which protect and preserve community natural resources and the local environment.

Goal 5.2 Procurement

Develop and implement a leading-edge sustainability procurement strategy.

ATTACHMENTS

 Council Projects Report - 10.0 	02.2025 [9.4.1 - 3 pages]
--	-----------------------------------

2.	Local Authority	Projects Report -	10.02.2025	[9.4.2 - 2 pa	ages [°]

GUNBALANYA COUNCIL PROJECTS

STATUS	PROJECT COMPLETE	TASK	DESCRIPTION	% DONE
In Progress	30/05/2025	Thinkwater Darwin contracted - project is now 95% complete. Billabong pump and switchboard parts to automate operation of pumps has been received. Contractor to install after wet season. Pump uses manual operation in the meantime.	Gunbalanya Oval Upgrade.	95%
In Progress	30/08/2025	Claim accepted - Works awarded to MJ Builders. Following site visit, surveyors now advising this is a flood prone area and buildings need to be elevated higher. Loss adjustor has confirmed the variation letter is in addition to that previously approved. Ongoing discussion with insurers to clarify works. Met with assesor and builders, discussed new site, builder has been instructed by the assesor to provide updated quote.	Gunbalanya Flood Insurance Toad Hall, Laundry & damaged house.	10%

JABIRU COUNCIL PROJECTS

STATUS	PROJECT COMPLETE	TASK	DESCRIPTION	% DONE
In Progress	28/02/2025	Design awarded to NTBS is now complete. Additional onsite meetings in progress with Bombers Football Club. Approval required from GACJT at the next board meeting scheduled 20/02/2025.	Jabiru Brockman Oval Lights.	70%
In Progress	30/08/2025	Cultural approval given for dog park; Cultural approval is required for gym and playground once locations are agreed. Approval required from GACJT at the next board meeting scheduled 20/02/2025	Dog Park, Outside Gym & playground - Lakeside Park/Brockmanm Oval.	25%

MANINGRIDA COUNCIL PROJECTS

STATUS	PROJECT COMPLETE	TASK	DESCRIPTION	% DONE
In Progress	15/5/2025	Construction by Stedman Constructions commenced mid August 2024, changerooms slab completed, blockwork completed including core fill. Contractor currently installing steel framework for cantilever roof. Target completion by mid May 2025. Painting has commenced, steelwork nearing completion, roof sheets ordered, antcipated to be onsite by the end of February in preparation for installation.	Maningrida Change Rooms.	50%
In Progress	30/7/2025	Pre-Construction Planning; Waiting on completion of change rooms before commencement so public toilets are available for community. Construction to commence end of May 2025.	Maningrida Toilets upgrade near office.	5%
In Progress	30/6/2025	Dhukurrdji strongly in favour of immediate completion. Additional extensive consultations proceeding through NTG. Tender for construction was published in January with presentation for approval scheduled February OCM.	Maningrida Cemetery.	25%
In Progress	28/2/2025	Development Application and building permit received in December 2024. Structures on site, Works awarded to Stedman Constructions. Contractor aims to have structures completed by end fo Febuary 2025 pending weather. Works are scheduled to commence the week of the 17th of February.	Maningrida Airport Structures.	50%
COMPLETE	28/2/2025	The culvert entrance access road to the shops/office has been completed. Stone pitching completed per scope.	Malabam Roadworks.	100%

MINJILANG COUNCIL PROJECTS

STATUS	PROJECT COMPLETE	TASK	DESCRIPTION	% DONE
In Progress	30/03/2025	Works awarded to Stedman Constructions. Contractor kick-off meeting completed. Target completion by end of March 2025.	New Minjilang Cemetery.	30%

WARRUWI COUNCIL PROJECTS

STATUS	PROJECT COMPLETE	TASK	DESCRIPTION	% DONE
In Progress	30/06/2025	Works to be completed as soon as possible in dry season as radar is unreliable in wet conditions.	Warruwi ground penetrating radar.	10%
In Progress	30/06/2025	Hall works complete. Sea container installed by contractor. Balance of funds (\$70,000). Awaiting quote for painting of the front and RH side walls including the murals. House of Darwin to supply artwork options for community input and approval.	Warruwi Recreation Hall upgrade.	80%
COMPLETE	7/02/2025	Funding variation approved. Works have commenced using Stedman Contruction. Refurbishment works on Lot 29 /21 completed. Works have been completed in full.	Warruwi staff housing (Lot 21 roofing and Lot 29 internal refurbishment).	100%

GUNBALANYA LOCAL AUTHORITY PROJECTS

STATUS	PROJECTED COMPLETE	STAGE	DESCRIPTION	% DONE
In Progress	30/04/2025	Construction complete - additional type 2 road base is required on low areas, pending experience with rainfall in area. Awaiting for the road to reopen to transport gravel in and complete the project in full.	Gunbalanya Shelters.	95%
In Progress	30/04/2025	TB Constructions have completed ten of the thirteen houses under this project. Two of the remaining three houses to be completed in April 2025. Insufficient pavers available for final house (occupant now deceased).	Gunbalanya Aged Care Pavers.	80%
In Progress	30/11/2025	Tender awarded to the University of Melbourne with first round of visits Minjilang/Maningrida April/May 2025	Vet Program - Animal Management.	5%

MANINGRIDA LOCAL AUTHORITY PROJECTS

STATUS	PROJECTED COMPLETE	STAGE	DESCRIPTION	% DONE
In Progress	30/03/2025	Outdoor Gym installation complete. Water bubbler to be installed. Awaiting Power Water approval.	Installation Outdoor Gym.	85%
In Progress	28/02/2025	Contractor (JMK) has commenced installation of bollards for Cricket Oval. Scheduled for completion at the end February 2025.	Bollards for Cricket Oval.	40%
In Progress	30/06/2025	Commuter Bus ordered with delivery expected late February 2025. Contractor anticipates approx three months for fit-out due to workload. Parameters for use being prepared for approval by LA.	Funeral Hearse Vehicle.	15%
In Progress	30/11/2025	Tender awarded to the University of Melbourne with first round of visits Minjilang/Maningrida April/May 2025	Vet Program - Animal Management.	5%
Completed	5/01/2025	NYE fireworks completed safely.	NYE Fireworks 2024.	100%

MINJILANG LOCAL AUTHORITY PROJECTS

STATUS	PROJECTED COMPLETE	STAGE	DESCRIPTION	% DONE
In Progress	30/11/2025	Tender awarded to the University of Melbourne with first round of visits Minjilang/Maningrida April/May 2025	Vet Program - Animal Management.	5%

WARRUWI LOCAL AUTHORITY PROJECTS

STATUS	PROJECTED COMPLETE	STAGE	DESCRIPTION	% DONE
In Progress	30/04/2025	Works have been completed by Stedmans construction. Additional works(tables/seating) to be tabled at the next round of LA meetings for approval.	Repairs to shade structure.	100%
In Progress	30/11/2025	Tender awarded to the University of Melbourne with first round of visits Minjilang/Maningrida April/May 2025	Vet Program - Animal Management.	5%

FOR THE MEETING 18 February 2025

Agenda Reference: 9.5

Title: The Delivery of Language, Literacy and Numeracy and Other Work-Related

Training to Communities During 2025

Author: Karen Borgelt, Human Resources Manager.

SUMMARY

This report is to inform Council about the proposed collaboration between West Arnhem Regional Council and Charles Darwin University to deliver Language, Literacy, Numeracy (LLN) and other work-related training to our people in each of our Communities during 2025.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL receive and note the report titled *The Delivery of Language, Literacy and Numeracy and Other Work-Related Training to Communities During 2025.*

BACKGROUND

In 2023/2024, Charles Darwin University successfully delivered a Language, Literacy, and Numeracy (LLN) program entitled *Foundation Skills for your Future Program*, to 68 people in our Communities. This program ended in May 2024 when external funding for the program stopped.

On December 3, 2024, the Human Resources Manager (Karen Borgelt) and the Learning and Development Coordinator (Luisa Arango) met with the Deputy Chief Executive – Professional Services Industries (Robert Schwerdt), Vocational Education and Training (VET) Lecturer/Workplace Assessor, Joy Harley, and VET Lecturer, Karen Cooke at Charles Darwin University (CDU).

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the potential for restarting the LLN program and to explore other funded courses that could be offered to people in our Communities during 2025.

COMMENT

The Foundation Skills for Your Future Program was delivered in 2023/2024 by Joy Harley and Karen Cooke and involved 14 visits to Warruwi (with 20 participants), 13 visits to Minjilang (9 participants), 12 visits to Maningrida (13 participants), 13 visits to Jabiru (10 participants), and 12 visits to Gunbalanya (13 participants). The program was considered successful, with 92% of participants reporting they were "very satisfied" or "satisfied" with the program, and 96% of participants feeling more confident in using a computer and writing emails. Based on this success, we explored the possibility of developing and delivering a similar program to *The Foundation Skills for Your Future Program*.

During the meeting, Robert Schwerdt stated that CDU could create a funded LLN course, delivered one-on-one, alongside other relevant also funded work-based programs by CDU trainers in all five Communities. Mr Schwerdt also mentioned that, if there were not enough WARC participants, the courses could potentially be opened to non-WARC Community members.

It was agreed that the next step would be for us to provide CDU with information on the most needed work-related courses in our Communities, and in return, CDU would outline other courses they could offer alongside a new LLN course. Together, we would prioritise and schedule training to be delivered on-site throughout 2025.

Another major consideration was that any learning, and development should be delivered according to each participant's current LLN level and the roles they were performing. The longer-term goal being to gradually build individual knowledge and skills, including in information technology, to help people become more confident in their roles and better equipped for career advancement, either within WARC or for external employment.

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

WARC Professional Development Supervision and Support Policy

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

All CDU courses will be funded by CDU. At this stage it is understood that the only financial considerations to WARC would be the housing of the trainers.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

This report aligns to the following pillars and goals as outlined in 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 2 INCREASED LOCAL INDIGENOUS EMPLOYMENT

We are committed to investing in and supporting local Indigenous employment. We recognise the instrumental value that Indigenous staff bring to our organisation and the social force that occurs with employment opportunities.

Goal 2.1 Indigenous Employment Framework

Create Council Indigenous employment framework including tailored pathways to employment.

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 3.3 Training and Development

Deliver training and development which is effective and culturally appropriate, engaging and increases future employment opportunities and pathways.

PILLAR 5 SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE ACTION

Leading by example, we commit to developing a culture of sustainable practice. We recognise and champion the importance of safe-guarding our environment for future generations by working collectively with community, private enterprises and all tiers of government.

Goal 5.4 Education

Develop and deliver locally relevant education initiatives on sustainability and climate impacts across multiple mediums and platforms.

ATTACHMENTS

FOR THE MEETING 18 FEBRUARY 2025

Agenda Reference: 10.1

Title: Elected Member Questions with or without Notice

Author: Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

SUMMARY

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

RECOMMENDATION

That the Chairperson invites questions with or without notice from Elected Members.

ATTACHMENTS

FOR THE MEETING 18 FEBRUARY 2025

Agenda Reference: 11.1

Title: Closure to the Public for the Discussion of Confidential Items

Author: Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

SUMMARY

Pursuant to section 99(2) and 293(1) of the *Local Government Act 2019* and regulation 52 of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021,* the meeting is to be closed to the public to consider confidential matters.

LEGISLATION AND POLICY

Section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019*Regulations 51 and 52 of the *Local Government (Administration) Regulations 2021*

RECOMMENDATION

That pursuant to section 99(2) and 293(1) of the Local Government Act 2019 and section 52 of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 the meeting be closed to the public to consider the Confidential items of the Agenda.

ATTACHMENTS

FOR THE MEETING 18 FEBRUARY 2025

EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

The information in this section of the agenda is classed as confidential under section 293(1) of the *Local Government Act 2019* and regulation 52 of the *Local Government (Administration) Regulations 2021*.

Title: Confirmation of Confidential Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes

Author: Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

The Report will be dealt with under Section 293(1) of the Local Government Act 2019 and General Regulation 2021 Part (3) Administration - Division 2 Section 51(1)(c)(ii). It contains information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to: prejudice the maintenance or administration of the law.

Title: Tender Evaluation - Maningrida Cemetery Works
Author: Sara Fitzgerald, Waste and Resource Coordinator

Title: Disposal of Executive Fleet Prado CE56JU

Author: Clem Beard, Project Manager

Title: Current Status of Outstanding Regional Land Use Agreements from the

Northern Land Council

Author: Clem Beard, Project Manager

Title: Filling a Casual Vacancy - Minjilang Ward
Author: Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

The Report will be dealt with under Section 293(1) of the Local Government Act 2019 and General Regulation 2021 Part (3) Administration - Division 2 Section 51(1)(e). It contains information provided to the council on condition that it be kept confidential and would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to be contrary to the public interest.

Title: Local Government Funding Levels
Author: Andrew Walsh, Chief Executive Officer

13 DISCLOSURE OF CONFIDENTIAL RESOLUTIONS AND RE-ADMITTANCE OF THE PUBLIC WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING TUESDAY 18 FEBRUARY 2025

RE-ADMITTANCE OF THE PUBLIC

Agenda Reference: 13.2

Title: Disclosure of Confidential Resolutions and Re-admittance of the Public

Author: Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor

The Report will be dealt with under Section 293(1) of the Local Government Act 2019 and General Regulation 2021 Part (3) Administration - Division 2 Section 51(1)(c)(ii). It contains information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to: prejudice the maintenance or administration of the law.

14 NEXT MEETING

15 MEETING DECLARED CLOSED