



# **WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL AGENDA**

**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, 26 MARCH 2025**



## WEST ARNHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL

Notice is hereby given that an Ordinary Meeting of the West Arnhem Regional Council will be held in Council Chambers Jabiru on Wednesday 26 March 2025 at 9:00 am.

Ben Waugh  
Interim Chief Executive Officer

### Code of Conduct: The Local Government Act 2019

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

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

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

ITEM	SUBJECT	PAGE NO
<b>1</b>	<b>ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY AND OPENING OF MEETING.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>PERSONS PRESENT .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>APOLOGIES AND ABSENCES .....</b>	<b>6</b>
3.1	Apologies, Leave of Absence and Absent Without Notice .....	6
<b>4</b>	<b>ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA .....</b>	<b>7</b>
4.1	Acceptance of Agenda .....	7
<b>5</b>	<b>DECLARATION OF INTEREST OF MEMBERS OR STAFF .....</b>	<b>8</b>
5.1	Disclosure of Interest of Members or Staff.....	8
<b>6</b>	<b>CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES.....</b>	<b>11</b>
6.1	Confirmation of Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes .....	11
6.2	Confirmation of Special Council Meeting Minutes .....	20
6.3	Special Gunbalanya Local Authority Meeting Minutes .....	27
6.4	Risk Management and Audit Committee Minutes.....	31
<b>7</b>	<b>DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS .....</b>	<b>38</b>
7.1	Visitor - Red Lily Health Board .....	38
7.2	Visitor - Bawinanga Homelands Aboriginal Corporation .....	39
<b>8</b>	<b>ACTION REPORTS .....</b>	<b>40</b>
8.1	Review of Action Items .....	40
8.2	Local Government Association of the Northern Territory Symposium.....	49
8.3	Supporting ALGA's 2025 Federal Election Priorities .....	55
8.4	Draft Motions for Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly .....	57
<b>9</b>	<b>RECEIVE AND NOTE REPORTS.....</b>	<b>84</b>
9.1	Incoming and Outgoing Correspondence .....	84
9.2	Meetings and Events attended by the Mayor .....	94
9.3	Meetings and Events attended by the CEO .....	95
9.4	Technical Services Projects Report .....	97
9.5	Regional Waste Update .....	106

9.6	Regional Cemeteries Update .....	109
9.7	Human Resources Report - 1 January to 28 February 2025.....	111
9.8	2025 Local Government Election Caretaker Period .....	117
9.9	Finance Report for the period ended 31 January 2025 .....	119
<b>10</b>	<b>ELECTED MEMBER QUESTIONS WITH OR WITHOUT NOTICE .....</b>	<b>121</b>
10.1	Elected Member Questions with or without Notice .....	121
<b>11</b>	<b>PROCEDURAL MOTIONS.....</b>	<b>122</b>
11.1	Closure to the Public for the Discussion of Confidential Items.....	122
<b>12</b>	<b>CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS .....</b>	<b>124</b>
12.1	Confirmation of Confidential Special Council Meeting Minutes.....	124
12.2	Incoming and Outgoing Correspondence .....	125
12.3	Current Status of Outstanding Regional Land Use Agreements from the Northern Land Council .....	126
12.4	Local Government Funding Levels .....	127
12.5	Disposal of Fleet Landcruiser 200 Series CF41QP .....	128
12.6	Movements in Reserves.....	129
<b>13</b>	<b>DISCLOSURE OF CONFIDENTIAL RESOLUTIONS AND RE-ADMITTANCE OF THE PUBLIC .....</b>	<b>130</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>NEXT MEETING .....</b>	<b>130</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>MEETING DECLARED CLOSED .....</b>	<b>130</b>



## **Acknowledgement of Country**

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

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

## WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

### FOR THE MEETING 26 MARCH 2025

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>3.1</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Apologies, Leave of Absence and Absent Without Notice</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

#### 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 26 March 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

Nil

## WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

### FOR THE MEETING 26 MARCH 2025

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>4.1</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Acceptance of Agenda</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

#### SUMMARY

Agenda papers are presented for acceptance at the Ordinary Council meeting held on 26 March 2025.

#### RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL accept the agenda papers as circulated for the Ordinary Council meeting held on 26 March 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

Nil

## WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

### FOR THE MEETING 26 MARCH 2025

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

#### SUMMARY

**Elected Members** 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.

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

#### RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL receive the declarations of interest as listed for the Ordinary Council meeting held on 26 March 2025.

#### LEGISLATION AND POLICY/STATUTORY 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. Declaration of Interest Register Elected Members [5.1.1 - 2 pages]



Declaration of Interest Register		
Elected Members	Declared Interest	Connection
<b>Mayor James Woods</b>	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
<b>Deputy Mayor Elizabeth Williams</b>		
<b>Cr Ralph F Blyth</b>	Warnbi Aboriginal Corporation	Executive Officer
	Wark Aboriginal Corporation	Director
	Red Lily Health Board	Alternative Director / Board Member
<b>Cr Mickitja Onus</b>	Energy Resources Australia (ERA)	Staff Member
<b>Cr Donna Nadjamerrek</b>	National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA)	Indigenous Engagement Officer for Gunbalanya, Minjilang and Warruwi.
	Injalak Aboriginal Corporation	Member
	Adjumarllarl Aboriginal Corporation	Member
<b>Cr Otto Dann</b>	Northern Land Council (NLC)	Board Member
	Adjumarllarl Aboriginal Corporation	Member
<b>Cr James Marrawal</b>		
<b>Cr Jacqueline Phillips</b>	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
<b>Cr Jermaine Namanurki</b>	Malala Health Centre	Staff Member
<b>Cr Monica Wilton</b>	Maningrida Homelands School Company	Deputy Chair
	Maningrida School	Teacher / Language and Cultural Team
<b>Cr Tamar Nawirridj</b>	Adjumarllarl Aboriginal Corporation	Member

✉ PO Box 721, Jabiru NT 0886    📧 info@westarnhem.nt.gov.au    🌐 www.westarnhem.nt.gov.au



Jabiru (Head Office)  
☎ 08 8979 9444

Gunbalanya  
☎ 08 8970 3700

Maningrida  
☎ 08 8979 6600

Warruwi  
☎ 08 8970 3600

Minjilang  
☎ 08 8970 3500



	Gunbalanya School Board	Member
	Department of Education and Training	Staff Member
<b>Cr Steven Nabalmarda</b>		

✉ PO Box 721, Jabiru NT 0886 ● info@westarnhem.nt.gov.au 🌐 www.westarnhem.nt.gov.au



Jabiru (Head Office)  
☎ 08 8979 9444

Gunbalanya  
☎ 08 8970 3700

Maningrida  
☎ 08 8979 6600

Warruwi  
☎ 08 8970 3600

Minjilang  
☎ 08 8970 3500



## WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

### FOR THE MEETING 26 MARCH 2025

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>6.1</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Confirmation of Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

#### SUMMARY

The Minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held on 18 February 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 18 February 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. 2025.02.18 Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes - Unconfirmed [6.1.1 - 8 pages]



Minutes of the West Arnhem Regional Council Ordinary Council Meeting  
Tuesday, 18 February 2025 at 12:00 pm  
Council Chambers

---

**1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY AND OPENING OF MEETING**

**Chairperson Mayor Woods declared the meeting open at 12:29 pm, welcomed all in attendance and did an Acknowledgement of Country.**

The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) invites Ms Tamar Nawirridj being the Newly appointed Elected Member to read aloud the following declaration of office:

"I, Tamar Nawirridj, having been elected as a Councillor of West Arnhem Regional Council declare that I will faithfully and impartially fulfill the duties of the office, in accordance with the local government principles and code of conduct under the *Local Government Act 2019* and any other relevant legislative requirements, to the best of my judgement and ability."

The Council acknowledged that Ms Tamar Nawirridj cited and signed the declaration and congratulated Ms Nawirridj on her appointment as Councillor of West Arnhem Regional Council.

**2 PERSONS PRESENT  
ELECTED MEMBERS PRESENT**

Chairperson	James Woods (Mayor)
Deputy Mayor	Elizabeth Williams
Councillor	Mickitja Onus
Councillor	Tamar Nawirridj
Councillor	Donna Nadjamerrek
Councillor	Monica Wilton
Councillor	Jermaine Namanurki
Councillor	Jacqueline Phillips
Councillor	James Marrawal (via video)

**STAFF PRESENT**

Chief Executive Officer	Andrew Walsh
Interim Chief Executive Officer	Ben Waugh
Director Community and Council Services	Fiona Ainsworth
Director Finance	Jocelyn Nathanael-Walters
Manager Technical Services	Kylie Gregson
Governance Advisor	Jasmine Mortimore
Communications and Public Relations Coordinator	Heidi Walton
Executive Assistant to Mayor and CEO	Gina Carrascalao



**3 APOLOGIES AND ABSENCES**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>3.1</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Apologies, Leave of Absence and Absent Without Notice</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

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

**OCM31/2025 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Cr Onus**

**Seconded Cr Phillips**

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Notes the absence of Cr Otto Dann and Cr Ralph F. Blyth;
2. Notes the apology received from Cr Otto Dann and Cr Ralph F. Blyth; and
3. Determines Cr Otto Dann and Cr Ralph F. Blyth are absent with permission of the Council.

**CARRIED**

**4 ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>4.1</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Acceptance of Agenda</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

The Council considered a report on Acceptance of Agenda.

**OCM32/2025 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Mayor Woods**

**Seconded Deputy Mayor Williams**

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

**CARRIED**

**5 DECLARATION OF INTEREST OF MEMBERS OR STAFF**

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

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

**OCM33/2025 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 18 February 2025.

**CARRIED**

**6 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>6.1</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Confirmation of Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

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

**OCM34/2025 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Cr Nadjamerrek**  
**Seconded Cr Namanurki**

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

**CARRIED**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>6.2</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Confirmation of Special Council Meeting Minutes</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

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

**OCM35/2025 RESOLVED:**

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

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

**CARRIED****7 DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>7.1</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Visitor - Red Lily Health Board</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

Red Lily Health Board were unable to attend the meeting.

The Council deferred a report on Visitor - Red Lily Health Board.

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>7.2</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Visitor - Department of Logistics and Infrastructure</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

The Council considered a report on Visitor - Department of Logistics and Infrastructure.

**OCM36/2025 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Deputy Mayor Williams**  
**Seconded Cr Wilton**

THAT COUNCIL

1. Notes the discussions on the Maningrida Subdivision Handover by the Department of Logistics and Infrastructure;
2. Thanks Keith from the Department of Logistics and Infrastructure;
3. Endorsed Mayor Woods to sign the agreement for the Maningrida Subdivision Handover; and
4. Raises concerns with Stedman's Construction and Engineering on gravel pit in the Maningrida Subdivision.

**CARRIED**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>7.3</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Visitor - Bawinanga Homelands Aboriginal Corporation</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

Bawinanga Homelands Aboriginal Corporation were unable to attend the meeting.

The Council deferred a report on Visitor - Bawinanga Homelands Aboriginal Corporation.

## 8 ACTION REPORTS

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>8.1</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Review of Action Items</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

The Council considered a report on Review of Action Items.

**OCM37/2025 RESOLVED:**  
**On the motion of Cr Wilton**  
**Seconded Mayor Woods**

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Receive and note the report titled *Review of Action Items*;
2. Review the outstanding action items and give approval for completed items to be removed from the register; and
3. Source quotes on sealing car park out the back off Maningrida Council Office for Councils consideration.

**CARRIED**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>8.2</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

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

**OCM38/2025 RESOLVED:**  
**On the motion of Mayor Woods**  
**Seconded Cr Nawirridj**

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Receive and note the report titled *Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly*; and
2. Draft a motion on increased funding for public lighting and increased funding to main arterial roads including landfill access roads in regional and remote Australia to be considered at the next Ordinary Council Meeting.

**CARRIED**

## 9 RECEIVE AND NOTE REPORTS

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>9.1</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Incoming and Outgoing Correspondence</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

The Council considered a report on Incoming and Outgoing Correspondence.

**OCM39/2025 RESOLVED:**  
**On the motion of Deputy Mayor Williams**  
**Seconded Cr Namanurki**

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

**CARRIED**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>9.2</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Meetings and Events attended by the Mayor</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Gina Carrascalao, Executive Assistant to Mayor and CEO</b>

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

**OCM40/2025 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Cr Onus**

**Seconded Deputy Mayor Williams**

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

**CARRIED**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>9.3</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Meetings and Events attended by the CEO</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Andrew Walsh, Chief Executive Officer</b>

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

**OCM41/2025 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Mayor Woods**

**Seconded Cr Nadjamerrek**

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

**CARRIED**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>9.4</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Technical Services Projects Report</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Clem Beard, Project Manager</b>

The Council considered a report on Technical Services Projects Report.

**OCM42/2025 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Deputy Mayor Williams**

**Seconded Mayor Woods**

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

**CARRIED**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>9.5</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>The Delivery of Language, Literacy and Numeracy and Other Work-Related Training to Communities During 2025</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Karen Borgelt, Human Resources Manager.</b>

The Council considered a report on The Delivery of Language, Literacy and Numeracy and Other Work-Related Training to Communities During 2025.

**OCM43/2025 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Cr Onus**

**Seconded Cr Namanurki**

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

**CARRIED**

**10 ELECTED MEMBER QUESTIONS WITH OR WITHOUT NOTICE**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>10.1</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Elected Member Questions with or without Notice</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

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

**OCM44/2025 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Deputy Mayor Williams**  
**Seconded Mayor Woods**

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

1. Cr Onus raised advertising tenders through WARC's website and facebook page.

**CARRIED****11 PROCEDURAL MOTIONS**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>11.1</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Closure to the Public for the Discussion of Confidential Items</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

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

**OCM45/2025 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Mayor Woods**  
**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****12 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>12.1</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Confirmation of Confidential Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

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

**OCM46/2025 RESOLVED:**

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

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

**CARRIED**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>12.2</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Tender Evaluation - Maningrida Cemetery Works</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Sara Fitzgerald, Waste and Resource Coordinator</b>

The Council considered a report on Tender Evaluation - Maningrida Cemetery Works.

**OCM47/2025 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Deputy Mayor Williams**  
**Seconded Cr Phillips**

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Receive and note the report titled *Tender Evaluation - Maningrida Cemetery Works*; and
2. Approve the awarding of Maningrida Cemetery Works – Core Work to BV Contracting for a total price of \$196,843.86.

**CARRIED**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>12.3</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Disposal of Executive Fleet Prado CE56JU</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Clem Beard, Project Manager</b>

The Council considered a report on Disposal of Executive Fleet Prado CE56JU.

**OCM48/2025 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Deputy Mayor Williams  
Seconded Mayor Woods**

THAT COUNCIL

1. Receive and note the report titled *Disposal of Executive Fleet Prado CE56JU*; and
2. Release confidential resolution relating to the disposal of Executive Fleet Prado CE56JU.

**CARRIED**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>12.4</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Current Status of Outstanding Regional Land Use Agreements from the Northern Land Council</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Clem Beard, Project Manager</b>

Cr Phillips declared a conflict as member of the NLC Board and left the meeting at 2:47pm.

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

**OCM49/2025 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Cr Onus  
Seconded Cr Namanurki**

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Receive and note the report titled Current Status of Outstanding Regional Land Use Agreements from the Northern Land Council; and
2. Note the status of outstanding Land Use Agreements.

**CARRIED**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>12.5</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Filling a Casual Vacancy - Minjilang Ward</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

Cr Phillips joined the meeting at 2:55pm

Council staff left the room for the discussions.

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

**OCM50/2025 RESOLVED:**

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

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Receive and note the report titled *Filling a Casual Vacancy - Minjilang Ward*;

2. Notes the nominations received by Steven Nabalmarda; and
3. Appoints Steven Nabalmarda to fill the Minjilang Ward Casual Vacancy.

**CARRIED**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>12.6</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Local Government Funding Levels</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Andrew Walsh, Chief Executive Officer</b>

The Council considered a report on Local Government Funding Levels.

**OCM51/2025 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Cr Nadjamerrek**

**Seconded Cr Phillips**

THAT COUNCIL receive and note the report titled *Local Government Funding Levels*.

**CARRIED**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>13.1</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Disclosure of Confidential Resolutions and Re-admittance of the Public</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

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

**OCM52/2025 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Mayor Woods**

**Seconded Tamar Nawirridj**

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**

**14 NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting is scheduled to take place on Wednesday, 26 March 2025.

**15 MEETING DECLARED CLOSED**

Chairperson Mayor Woods declared the meeting closed at 3:33 pm.

This page and the preceding pages are the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Tuesday 18 February 2025.

[Click here](#) to view the agenda for the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 18 February 2025.

## WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

### FOR THE MEETING 26 MARCH 2025

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>6.2</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Confirmation of Special Council Meeting Minutes</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

#### SUMMARY

The Minutes of the Special Council meeting held on 19 February 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 19 February 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. 2025.02.19 Special Council Meeting Minutes - Unconfirmed [6.2.1 - 6 pages]





Minutes of the West Arnhem Regional Council Special Council Meeting  
Wednesday, 19 February 2025 at 9:00 am  
Jabiru Council Chambers

---

**1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY AND OPENING OF MEETING**

Mayor Woods declared the meeting open at 9:21 am, welcomed all in attendance and did an Acknowledgement of Country.

**2 PERSONS PRESENT**

**ELECTED MEMBERS PRESENT**

Chairperson	James Woods (Mayor)
Deputy Mayor	Elizabeth Williams
Councillor	Ralph F. Blyth
Councillor	Mickitja Onus
Councillor	Tamar Nawirridj
Councillor	Donna Nadjamerrek
Councillor	Monica Wilton
Councillor	Jermaine Namanurki
Councillor	Jacqueline Phillips
Councillor	James Marrawal (via video)

**STAFF PRESENT**

Chief Executive Officer	Andrew Walsh
Interim Chief Executive Officer	Ben Waugh
Director Community and Council Services	Fiona Ainsworth
Director Finance	Jocelyn Nathanael-Walters
Communications and Public Relations Coordinator	Heidi Walton
Governance Advisor	Jasmine Mortimore
Executive Assistant to Mayor and CEO	Gina Carrascalao

**3 APOLOGIES AND ABSENCES**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>3.1</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Apologies, Leave of Absence and Absent Without Notice</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

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

**SCM25/2025 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Cr Onus**

**Seconded Deputy Mayor Williams**

THAT COUNCIL

1. Notes the absence of Cr Otto Dann; and
2. Notes the apology received from Cr Otto Dann.

**CARRIED**

**4 ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>4.1</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Acceptance of Agenda</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

The Council considered a report on Acceptance of Agenda.

**SCM26/2025 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Cr Blyth**

**Seconded Deputy Mayor Williams**

THAT COUNCIL accept the agenda papers as circulated for the Special Council meeting held on 19 February 2025.

**CARRIED**

**5 DECLARATION OF INTEREST OF MEMBERS OR STAFF**

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

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

**SCM27/2025 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Mayor Woods**

**Seconded Cr Onus**

THAT COUNCIL

1. Receive the declarations of interest as listed for the Special Council meeting held on 19 February 2025.
2. Receives the declaration of interest for Heidi Walton for item 8.1 of the Special Council Meeting held on 19 February 2025.

**CARRIED**

**7 PROCEDURAL MOTIONS**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>7.1</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Closure to the Public for the Discussion of Confidential Items</b>

<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>
----------------	--

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

**SCM28/2025 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Deputy Mayor**

**Seconded Mayor Woods**

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 at 9:26am to consider the Confidential items of the Agenda.

**CARRIED**

**8 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>8.1</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Rates and Water Use Concession</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jocelyn Nathanael-Walters, Director of Finance</b>

Heidi Walton declared a conflict as member of the Jabiru Golf Club Committee and left the meeting at 9:26am.

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

**SCM29/2025 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Deputy Mayor Williams**

**Seconded Mayor Woods**

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Receive and note the report titled *Rates and Water Use Concession*;
2. Approve the grant of a full 2024-25 rates concession to the Jabiru Golf Club on Lot 2101 Plan 410 Jabiru;
3. Approve the grant of a capped water use concession to the Jabiru Golf Club, for up to 7,700 Kilolitres of water use per quarter for the period 1 December 2024 to 30 November 2025 (12 months); and
4. Approve a 2024-25 rates payment plan for the Jabiru Golf Club on Lot 2324 Plan 410 Jabiru of \$3,567.37 per month for the 2024-25 rates to be paid in full by 30 September 2025.

**CARRIED**

**9 DISCLOSURE OF CONFIDENTIAL RESOLUTIONS AND RE-ADMITTANCE OF THE PUBLIC**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>9.1</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Disclosure of Confidential Resolutions and Re-admittance of the Public</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

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

**SCM34/2025 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Mayor Woods**

**Seconded Cr Onus**

THAT COUNCIL open the meeting to the public at 9:45am after the discussion of confidential item 8.1.

**CARRIED**

**6 ACTION REPORTS**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>6.1</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Review of Council's General Rates, Special Rates and Concessions Policy</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jocelyn Nathanael-Walters, Director of Finance</b>

The Council considered a report on Review of Council's General Rates, Special Rates and Concessions Policy.

**SCM30/2025 RESOLVED:**  
**On the motion of Cr Blyth**  
**Seconded Mayor Woods**

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Receive and note the report titled *Review of Council's General Rates, Special Rates and Concessions Policy*; and
2. Approve the revised *General Rates, Special Rates and Concessions Policy*.

**CARRIED**

## **7 PROCEDURAL MOTIONS**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>7.2</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Closure to the Public for the Discussion of Confidential Items</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

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

**SCM28/2025 RESOLVED:**  
**On the motion of Cr Blyth**  
**Seconded Mayor Woods**

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 at 9:57am to consider the Confidential items of the Agenda.

**CARRIED**

## **8 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>8.2</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Approve the Disposal of Fleet Landcruiser 200 Series CF41QP</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

Heidi Walton re-joined the meeting at 10:00am.

*The Report will remain confidential with under Section 293(1) of the Local Government Act 2019 and General Regulation 2021 Part (3) Administration - Division 2 Section 51(1)(c)(i). It contains information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to: cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on, any person.*

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>8.3</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>West Arnhem Regional Council Organisational Structure and Budget Revision</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jocelyn Nathanael-Walters, Director of Finance</b>

The Council considered a report on West Arnhem Regional Council Organisational Structure and Budget Revision.

**SCM32/2025 RESOLVED:**  
**On the motion of Mayor Woods**  
**Seconded Cr Nadjamerrek**

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Receive and note the report titled *West Arnhem Regional Council Organisational Structure and Budget Revision*; and
2. Approve the revised Organisational Structure chart containing Full Time Employee (FTE)
3. Approve the revised 2024-25 Budget and Long-Term Financial Plan subject to the following:
  - a. Create an Election Reserve and transfer to that reserve the \$33k saved in 2024-25;
  - b. Create a Disaster Recovery Fund Assistance (DRFA) reserve and transfer to that reserve the \$100k saved in 2024-25;
  - c. Repurposing expected savings of \$75k to fund Maningrida and Gunbalanya urgent oval light repairs;
  - d. Repurposing the balance of budgeted savings to begin building funds to pay the 2025-26 insurance costs; and
  - e. Notes the inclusion of 100k for the Jabiru Street lighting in the revised 2024 - 25 budget.

**CARRIED**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>8.4</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Council Draft Regional Plan and Budget 2025-26</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Fiona Ainsworth, Director of Community and Council Services</b>

The Council considered a report on Council Draft Regional Plan and Budget 2025-26.

**SCM33/2025 RESOLVED:****On the motion of Cr Onus****Seconded Deputy Mayor Williams**

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Receive and note the report titled *Council Draft Regional Plan and Budget 2025-26*; and
2. Approve the first draft 2025-26 Regional Plan with the draft budget and long-term financial plan for Local Authority consultation in March 2025, subject to:
  - a. The draft budget and long-term financial plan being incorporated in the draft 2025-26 Regional Plan document

**CARRIED****9 DISCLOSURE OF CONFIDENTIAL RESOLUTIONS AND RE-ADMITTANCE OF THE PUBLIC**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>9.2</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Disclosure of Confidential Resolutions and Re-admittance of the Public</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

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

**SCM34/2025 RESOLVED:****On the motion of Mayor Woods****Seconded Deputy Mayor Williams**

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Approve to disclose all resolutions, excluding item 8.2 from the confidential section of this meeting in the non-confidential meeting minutes; and
2. Open the meeting to the public at 10:35am after the discussion of confidential items.

**CARRIED****10 MEETING DECLARED CLOSED**

The Mayor and Elected Members acknowledged Andrew Walsh's hard work and dedication in his tenure at West Arnhem Regional Council and wished him the best in his new role.

Chairperson Mayor Woods declared the meeting closed at 10:39 am.

This page and the preceding pages are the minutes of the Special Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 19 February 2025.

[Click here](#) to view the agenda for the Special Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 19 February 2025.

UNCONFIRMED

## WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

### FOR THE MEETING 26 MARCH 2025

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>6.3</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Special Gunbalanya Local Authority Meeting Minutes</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

#### SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with copies of the minutes of the Local Authority meetings within the region.

#### RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL noted the minutes of the following Local Authority meetings and reviewed decisions made by the Local Authority:

Community	Date Held	Quorum	Date of next meeting
Gunbalanya	5 February 2025	Yes	14 May 2025

#### BACKGROUND

The Ministerial Guidelines state that:

minutes from local authority meetings or provisional meetings must form part of the agenda papers for the next ordinary meeting of council. The council must consider any items for attention, raised by each local authority meeting or provisional meeting, at the next ordinary meeting of council after the local authority meeting or provisional meeting (Section 13.1 *Ministerial Guideline 1 – Local Authorities 2021*).

#### LEGISLATION AND POLICY

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

Clause 13.1 *Guideline 1: Local Authorities 2021*.

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

#### STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

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

##### PILLAR 6 FOUNDATIONS OF GOVERNANCE

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

##### Goal 6.3 Council and Local Authorities

Excellence in governance, consultation administration and representation.

#### ATTACHMENTS

1. 2025.02.05 Special Gunbalanya Local Authority Minutes [6.3.1 - 3 pages]



Minutes of the West Arnhem Regional Council Special Gunbalanya Local Authority  
Wednesday, 5 February 2025 at 10:00 am  
Gunbalanya Council Chambers

---

**1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY AND OPENING OF MEETING**

Chairperson Garnarradj declared the meeting open at 10:29 am, welcomed all in attendance and did an Acknowledgement of Country.

**2 PERSONS PRESENT**

**APPOINTED MEMBERS PRESENT**

Chairperson	Andy Garnarradj
Member	Henry Yates
Member	Evonne Gumurdul
Member	Connie Nayinggul
Member	Maxwell Garnarradj
Member	Kenneth Mangiru
Member	Grant Nayinggul

**ELECTED MEMBERS PRESENT**

Mayor	James Woods
Deputy Mayor	Elizabeth Williams
Councillor	Otto Dann
Councillor	Tamar Nawirridj

**STAFF PRESENT**

Chief Executive Officer	Andrew Walsh
Director of Community and Council Services	Fiona Ainsworth
Director of Finance	Jocelyn Nathanael-Walters
Governance and Risk Advisor (acting)	Jasmine Mortimore
Executive Assistant to Mayor and CEO	Gina Carrascalao

**GUESTS**

Red Lily	Brad Palmer
Red Lily	Stephen Hayes
Red Lily	June Nadjamerrek
Red Lily	Shirley Spicer



**3 APOLOGIES AND ABSENCES**

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

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

**GUN1/2025 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Chairperson Garnarradj**

**Seconded Member Yates**

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Notes the absence of Nicodemus Nayilibidj and Cr Donna Nadjamerrek; and
2. Notes the apology received from Nicodemus Nayilibidj and Cr Donna Nadjamerrek.

**CARRIED****4 ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>4.1</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Acceptance of Agenda</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

The Local Authority considered a report on Acceptance of Agenda.

**GUN2/2025 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Mayor Woods**

**Seconded Chairperson Garnarradj**

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY accept the agenda papers as circulated for the Gunbalanya Local Authority meeting held on 5 February 2025.

**CARRIED****5 DECLARATION OF INTEREST OF MEMBERS OR STAFF**

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

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

**GUN3/2025 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Member Gumurdul**

**Seconded Member Mangiru**

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY received no declarations of interest as listed for the Gunbalanya Local Authority meeting held on 5 February 2025.

**CARRIED****6 DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>6.1</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Presentation - Red Lily Health Board</b>

<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>
----------------	--

June Nadjamerrek - Chairperson of Red Lily Health Board, Brad Palmer - CEO of Red Lily, Stephen Hayes - Transitional Manager of Red Lily, Shirley Spicer - Executive Assistant and Board Secretariat of Red Lily joined the meeting.

Mayor Woods left the meeting at 11:19am

June Nadjamerrek and Shirley Spicer left the meeting at 11:31am

The Local Authority considered a report on Presentation - Red Lily Health Board.

**GUN4/2025 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Member Yates**

**Seconded Member Gumurdul**

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

1. Noted the presentations on Update of Gunbalanya Clinic Transition by Red Lily Health Board;
2. Request letter to be sent to the Department of Health, Department of Logistics and Infrastructure and Department of Chief Minister and Cabinet to discuss concerns with delays in tender for new Gunbalanya Health Clinic building and request these departments meet with the Red Lily Health Board and Local Authority Members;
3. Request Red Lily send information for a representative from Gunbalanya Local Authority to join the transition steering committee for the next meeting on 17 February 2025; and
4. Request Red Lily send information on the Advisory Committee commencing in July for Local Authority Members awareness and future representative from the authority.

**CARRIED**

**7 MEETING DECLARED CLOSED**

Chairperson Garnarradj declared the meeting closed at 11:59 am.

This page and the preceding pages are the minutes of the Special Gunbalanya Local Authority Meeting held on Wednesday 5 February 2025.

[Click here](#) to view the agenda for the Special Gunbalanya Local Authority Meeting held on 5 February 2025.

## WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

### FOR THE MEETING 26 MARCH 2025

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>6.4</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Risk Management and Audit Committee Minutes</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

#### SUMMARY

The unconfirmed minutes of the of the 27 February 2025 Risk Management and Audit Committee are submitted to Council for noting.

#### RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL noted the minutes of 27 February 2025 Risk Management and Audit Committee and reviewed decisions made by the Committee.

#### BACKGROUND

The *Local Government Act 2019* states that minutes from Council's audit committee must be tabled at the next ordinary meeting of Council and confirmed as a correct record of the meeting.

#### COMMENT

Nil

#### LEGISLATION AND POLICY

Sections 101(3) and 101(4) 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 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. 2025.02.27 Risk Management and Audit Committee Meeting Minutes - Unconfirmed [6.4.1 - 6 pages]



Minutes of the West Arnhem Regional Council Risk Management and Audit Committee Meeting  
Thursday, 27 February 2025 at 10:00 am  
Council Chambers

---

**1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY AND OPENING OF MEETING**

Chairperson Eagle declared the meeting open at 10:02 am, welcomed all in attendance and did an Acknowledgement of Country.

**2 PERSONS PRESENT  
ELECTED MEMBERS PRESENT**

Chairperson	Carolyn Eagle
Mayor	James Woods
Deputy Mayor	Elizabeth Williams
Independent member	Warren Jackson
Councillor	Jacqueline Phillips

**STAFF PRESENT**

Interim Chief Executive Officer	Ben Waugh
Director Finance	Jocelyn Nathanael-Walters
Director Community and Council Services	Fiona Ainsworth
Governance Advisor	Jasmine Mortimore
Finance Manager (acting)	Imran Shajib
	Andrew Walsh

### 3 APOLOGIES AND ABSENCES

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

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

#### **RMAC1/2025 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Deputy Mayor Williams  
Seconded Member Jackson**

THAT THE COMMITTEE

1. Notes the absence of Cr Jacqueline Phillips and Mayor James Woods;
2. Notes the apology of Mayor James Woods; and
3. Determines Mayor James Woods and Cr Jacqueline Phillips are absence with permission of the Committee.

**CARRIED**

### 4 ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>4.1</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Acceptance of Agenda</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

The Committee considered a report on Acceptance of Agenda.

#### **RMAC2/2025 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Chairperson Eagle  
Seconded Deputy Mayor Williams**

THAT THE COMMITTEE accept the agenda papers as circulated for the Risk Management and Audit Committee meeting held on 27 February 2025.

**CARRIED**

### 5 DECLARATION OF INTEREST OF MEMBERS OR STAFF

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

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

#### **RMAC3/2025 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Chairperson Eagle  
Seconded Member Jackson**

THAT THE COMMITTEE received no additional declarations of interest as listed for the Risk Management and Audit Committee Meeting held on 27 February 2025.

**CARRIED**

### 6 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>6.1</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Confirmation of Risk Management and Audit Committee Minutes</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

The Committee considered a report on Confirmation of Risk Management and Audit Committee Minutes.

**RMAC4/2025 RESOLVED:**  
**On the motion of Chairperson Eagle**  
**Seconded Deputy Mayor Williams**

THAT THE COMMITTEE confirmed the minutes of 20 September 2024 Risk Management and Audit Committee as a true and correct record of the meeting.

**CARRIED**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>6.2</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Confirmation of Special Risk Management and Audit Committee Minutes</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

The Committee considered a report on Confirmation of Special Risk Management and Audit Committee Minutes.

**RMAC5/2025 RESOLVED:**  
**On the motion of Chairperson Eagle**  
**Seconded Deputy Mayor Williams**

THAT THE COMMITTEE confirmed the minutes of 12 November 2024 Special Risk Management and Audit Committee as a true and correct record of the meeting.

**CARRIED**

## **7 ACTION REPORTS**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>7.1</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Review of Action Items</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

The Committee considered a report on Review of Action Items.

**RMAC6/2025 RESOLVED:**  
**On the motion of Chairperson Eagle**  
**Seconded Member Jackson**

THAT THE COMMITTEE

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

**CARRIED**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>7.2</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Review of Risk Management and Audit Committee Charter, Terms of Reference and Annual Work Plan</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

Cr Phillips joined the meeting at 10:24am

The Committee considered a report on Review of Risk Management and Audit Committee Charter, Terms of Reference and Annual Work Plan.

**RMAC7/2025 RESOLVED:**  
**On the motion of Member Jackson**

**Seconded Cr Phillips**

THAT THE COMMITTEE

1. Receive and note the report titled *Review of Risk Management and Audit Committee Charter, Terms of Reference and Annual Work Plan*; and
2. Endorse the revised Risk Management and Audit Committee Charter, Terms of Reference and 2025 Annual Work Plan, with amendment to be circulated with members for approval;
3. Notes that the version approved by the Committee will be presented to Council for final approval.

**CARRIED**

**8 RECEIVE AND NOTE REPORTS**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>8.1</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Finance Report for the period ended 31 December 2024</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jocelyn Nathanael-Walters, Director Finance Corey White, Accountant</b>

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

**RMAC8/2025 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Member Jackson**

**Seconded Chairperson Eagle**

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

**CARRIED**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>8.2</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Qualifications Audit</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Andrew Walsh, Chief Executive Officer</b>

The Committee considered a report on Qualifications Audit.

**RMAC9/2025 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Chairperson Eagle**

**Seconded Member Jackson**

THAT THE COMMITTEE

1. Receive and note the report titled *Qualifications Audit*; and
2. Recommend complete action item 4.

**CARRIED**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>8.3</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Credit Card Reconciliations</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jocelyn Nathanael-Walters, Director of Finance</b>

The Committee considered a report on Credit Card Reconciliations.

**RMAC10/2025 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Cr Phillips**

**Seconded Member Jackson**

THAT THE COMMITTEE receive and note the report titled *Credit Card Reconciliations*, covering the period of September 2024 - January 2025.

**CARRIED**

## 9 PROCEDURAL MOTIONS

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>9.1</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Closure to the Public for the Discussion of Confidential Items</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

Meeting broke at 12:28pm and recommenced at 12:45pm

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

### **RMAC11/2025 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Chairperson Eagle**

**Seconded Member Jackson**

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 at 12:45pm to consider the Confidential items of the Agenda.

**CARRIED**

## 10 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

The information in this section of the Agenda is classed as confidential under Section 293(1) of the *Local Government Act 2019* and Regulation 51 of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021*.

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>10.1</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Confirmation of Confidential Risk Management Audit Committee Minutes</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

The Committee considered a report on Confirmation of Confidential Risk Management Audit Committee Minutes.

### **RMAC12/2025 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Chairperson Eagle**

**Seconded Member Jackson**

THAT THE COMMITTEE confirm the minutes of 20 September 2024 Confidential Risk Management and Audit Committee meeting as a true and correct record of the meeting.

**CARRIED**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>10.2</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Information Management Update</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Ben Heaslip, Information Advisor</b>

The Committee considered a report on Information Management Update.

### **RMAC13/2025 RESOLVED:**

**On the motion of Chairperson Eagle**

**Seconded Cr Phillips**

THAT THE COMMITTEE receive and note the report titled *Information Management Update*.

**CARRIED**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>10.3</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Local Government Funding Levels</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Andrew Walsh, Chief Executive Officer</b>

The Committee considered a report on Local Government Funding Levels.



**RMAC14/2025 RESOLVED:**  
**On the motion of Chairperson Eagle**  
**Seconded Member Jackson**

THAT THE COMMITTEE receive and note the report titled *Local Government Funding Levels*.

**CARRIED**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>11.1</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Disclosure of Confidential Resolutions and Re-admittance of the Public</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

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

**RMAC15/2025 RESOLVED:**  
**On the motion of Chairperson Eagle**  
**Seconded Cr Phillips**

THAT THE COMMITTEE opened the meeting to the public at 1:35 pm after the discussion of confidential items and approved to disclose all resolutions from the confidential section of this meeting in the non-confidential meeting minutes.

**CARRIED**

The public was re-admitted at 1:36 pm.

The Committee thanked Andrew Walsh for his tenure with West Arnhem Regional Council.

## **12 NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting is scheduled to take place on Thursday, 5 June 2025.

## **13 MEETING DECLARED CLOSED**

Chairperson Eagle declared the meeting closed at 1:37 pm.

This page and the preceding pages are the minutes of the Risk Management and Audit Committee held on Thursday 27 February 2025.

[Click here](#) to view the agenda for the Risk Management and Audit Committee held on Thursday, 27 February 2025.

## WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

### FOR THE MEETING 26 MARCH 2025

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>7.1</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Visitor - Red Lily Health Board</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

#### 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 Services with our Region	9:30am	Red Lily Staff and Board members	Red Lily Health Board	At their request to attend

#### STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

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

##### PILLAR 1 PARTNERSHIPS, RELATIONSHIPS AND BELONGING

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

##### Goal 1.1 Community Engagement

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

#### ATTACHMENTS

Nil

## WEST ARNHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL

### FOR THE MEETING 26 MARCH 2025

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>7.2</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Visitor - Bawinanga Homelands Aboriginal Corporation</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

#### 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	10:00am	Kira Bourke	Bawinanga Homeland Aboriginal Corporation	Council

#### STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

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

##### **PILLAR 1 PARTNERSHIPS, RELATIONSHIPS AND BELONGING**

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

##### **Goal 1.1 Community Engagement**

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

#### ATTACHMENTS

Nil

## WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

### FOR THE MEETING 26 MARCH 2025

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>8.1</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Review of Action Items</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

#### 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 26 March 2025 [8.1.1 - 8 pages]

Item	Status	Action Required	Assignee/s	Action Taken
<b>1</b>	In Progress	OCM136/2024 RESOLVED: Invite Demed and BAC CEO to Council meeting to discuss gravel usage surrounding Gunbalanya township area.	Jasmine Mortimore	<p>15/08/2024 Ben Heaslip Waiting for DEMED CEO recruitment to be finalised.</p> <p>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</p> <p>09/12/2024 Jasmine Mortimore Invitation sent to BAC CEO to attend next in person Council meeting to discuss.</p> <p>20/01/2025 Jasmine Mortimore Council to redefine action and its purpose.</p> <p>11/02/2025 Jasmine Mortimore Invitation sent to BAC and DEMED CEO, awaiting confirmation.</p> <p>20/03/2025 Jasmine Mortimore Bawinanga Aboriginal Corporation have confirmed attendance at the upcoming Ordinary Council Meeting scheduled for 26 March 2025. Still awaiting confirmation from Demed Aboriginal Corporation.</p>
<b>2</b>	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, Kylie Gregson	<p>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 waste 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.</p> <p>12/08/2024 Sara Fitzgerald Policy creation still in process</p> <p>19/09/2024 Sara Fitzgerald Draft policy in review, new documents have been created to support the EOI process.</p> <p>11/10/2024 Sara Fitzgerald</p>

Item	Status	Action Required	Assignee/s	Action Taken
				<p>First round of EOI has been completed, further information on effectiveness available at next OCM</p> <p>05/11/2024 Garth Borgelt A report will be tabled at the next Ordinary Council Meeting in December.</p> <p>06/12/2024 Garth Borgelt A draft policy has been prepared, it is expected to be presented to Council in March 2025.</p> <p>19/03/2025 Jasmine Mortimore Draft Vehicle Disposal Policy is currently being updated to address recent auction disposal issue.</p>
<b>3</b>	In Progress	<p>OCM303/2024 RESOLVED: Approve West Arnhem Regional Council applying for the following positions and support funding under the Remote Jobs and Economic Development program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Animal Control Officers – Jabiru x 2</li> <li>b. Funeral Cultural and Burial Liaison Officer – Maningrida x 2</li> <li>c. Oval and Sports Field Caretaker – Maningrida, Gunbalanya, Jabiru x 2 (per location).</li> <li>d. Aquatic Lifeguard – Maningrida, Jabiru x 2 (per location)</li> <li>e. Data &amp; Records Officer Trainee – Darwin x 1</li> <li>f. Resource Officers (Waste Awareness) - All Location</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Human Resource Manager to develop PDs</li> <li>- Business Development Manager to complete applications to RJED</li> </ul>	Leanne Johansson	<p>04/11/2024 Leanne Johansson Still awaiting Remote Jobs 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.</p> <p>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 other staff considerations so we are ready to apply once the grant is open.</p> <p>16/01/2025 Leanne Johansson RJED applications now open and will close on 3 February 2025. West Arnhem Regional Council will lodge two applications.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>All the positions which will form part of the application are as approved by</p>

Item	Status	Action Required	Assignee/s	Action Taken
				<p>Council. They are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Information Management Assistant (Darwin)</li> <li>- Precinct Officer (Maningrida, Gunbalanya and Jabiru)</li> <li>- Bereavement Support Assistant (Maningrida)</li> <li>- Animal Services Officer (Jabiru)</li> <li>- Waste Collection Assistant (Maningrida, Gunbalanya and Jabiru)</li> <li>- Pool and Safety Assistant (Maningrida and Jabiru)</li> <li>- Transport Driver (Minjilang and Warruwi)</li> </ul> <p>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.</p> <p>The funding body advises it will be at least 8 weeks before the results of the applications will be known.</p> <p>13/03/2025 Leanne Johansson  NIAA advises that no decisions have been reached on any applications and they do not have a timeframe for when information will be provided to applicants.</p>
<b>4</b>	In Progress	OCM350/2024 RESOLVED: Request administration investigate Jabiru stakeholder support for the rectification of the Jabiru Childcare roof.	Ben Waugh	22/01/2025 Jasmine Mortimore Options being explored through local stakeholders; Rio Tinto funding, Caulfield Grammar and waiting for external grant opportunities.
<b>5</b>	In Progress	WAR57/2024 RESOLVED: Request Council advocate with the federal government for a multi purpose safe shelter for Warruwi Community.	Ben Waugh	19/03/2025 Jasmine Mortimore Advocacy letter will be drafted to sent on behalf of the Mayor to all relevant ministers.
<b>6</b>	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.  19/03/2025 Jasmine Mortimore Policy is still being drafted and is being reviewed to align with Delegation Manual.
<b>7</b>	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.  19/03/2025 Jasmine Mortimore

Item	Status	Action Required	Assignee/s	Action Taken
				Director of Community and Council Services is working with Red Lily, Malala and NT Health to secure information as requested.
<b>8</b>	In Progress	OCM36/2025 RESOLVED: Raise concerns with Stedmans Construction and Engineering on gravel pit in the Maningrida Subdivision.	Fiona Ainsworth	19/03/2025 Jasmine Mortimore Director of Community and Council Services will reach out to Stedmans Construction and Engineering to discuss matter.
<b>9</b>	In Progress	OCM37/2025 RESOLVED: Source quotes on sealing car park out the back off Maningrida Council Office for Councils consideration.	Fiona Ainsworth	20/03/2025 Jasmine Mortimore Director of Community and Council Services is in the process of investigating this item.
<b>10</b>	On Hold	OCM157/2023 RESOLVED: 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 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	Marnie Mitchell	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.  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



Item	Status	Action Required	Assignee/s	Action Taken
				<p>Arnhem team in the Premier level.</p> <p>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</p> <p>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.</p> <p>I hope to be able to source specific information and contacts that will be useful for the AFL programs in Maningrida.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>11/07/2024 Marnie Mitchell            AFL9s mini carnival was held in Jabiru during the school holidays. Young men 13-17 years from Maningrida (two teams), Gunbalanya and Jabiru played games Thursday afternoon and Friday. They camped at Jabiru school, cooked BBQ, played basketball into the night and then all sat together and yarned. This was a very successful event facilitated and managed by the Sport and Rec teams across the three communities.</p> <p>TeamHealth, AFLNT, School Attendance officer, Red Lily and Jabiru school helped with transport, coaching and supervision with the</p>

Item	Status	Action Required	Assignee/s	Action Taken
				<p>community of Jabiru supporting the event by spectating, running water and umpiring the games.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Next time we would like to have all communities involved.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>08/08/2024 Marnie Mitchell 8/8/24 Marnie Mitchell</p> <p>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.</p> <p>AFLNT Darwin office are also engaging with Jabiru staff in relation to other events and opportunities to engage in competitions and tournaments.</p> <p>There has been no further progress or discussion about a team in the AFLNT.</p> <p>18/09/2024 Marnie Mitchell</p> <p>Australian Rules Football played a major part in the recent Kurrung Festival with men's teams from all communities competing.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Jabiru Bombers AFLNT official season begins 12th October 2024.</p> <p>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.</p>

Item	Status	Action Required	Assignee/s	Action Taken
				<p>23/09/2024 Jasmine Mortimore Meeting scheduled with Sydney Swans on 24 September 2024 to discuss AFL in West Arnhem.</p> <p>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).</p>
11	On Hold	<p>OCM155/2024 RESOLVED: Investigate inviting appropriate department for Identification Cards to a Ordinary Council meeting.</p> <p>OCM6/2025 RESOLVED: Amend item to now request Council partner with MVR to assist with certifying documents for identification services.</p>	Ben Waugh, Fiona Ainsworth, Gina Carrascalao	<p>24/07/2024 Leanne Johansson Currently ascertaining which is the appropriate department.</p> <p>21/08/2024 - OCM</p> <p>Appropriate Department is the MVR. CEO will seek to meet with the Responsible Officer</p> <p>15/10/2024 Jasmine Mortimore Change of Government has delayed progress, will provide further update in December OCM post meeting with relevant department.</p> <p>13/11/2024 Jasmine Mortimore CEO will be meeting with Greg Turner, Director Motor Vehicle Registry on 15/11/2024 to discuss action</p> <p>09/12/2024 Jasmine Mortimore Meeting has been rescheduled.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>05/02/2025 Jasmine Mortimore Meeting scheduled with MVR on 11 February including LGANT representatives to further this action.</p>

Item	Status	Action Required	Assignee/s	Action Taken
				<p>11/02/2025 Jasmine Mortimore Verbal update from meeting held on 11 February 2025 will be provided at the Council meeting. Action is now being assigned to Director of Community and Council Services.</p> <p>19/03/2025 Jasmine Mortimore Further to meeting held in February, MVR is drafting a MOU between MVR and WARC. This is expected to be presented end of June 2025.</p>
<b>12</b>	Recommend Complete	KWAC20/2024 RESOLVED: Explore income generating Civil work activities within the West Arnhem Region. (item referred to Council)	Fiona Ainsworth, Kylie Gregson	<p>22/01/2025 Jasmine Mortimore Discussions have commenced with the Department of Logistics and Infrastructure.</p> <p>20/03/2025 Jasmine Mortimore WARC will continue to explore income generating Civil works activities within the West Arnhem Region. Recommend item be completed as it is business as usual.</p>
<b>13</b>	Recommend Complete	OCM17/2025 RESOLVED: Request Information to be shared to residence of Jabiru for responsibility of dogs in line with the Jabiru Town By-laws. Cr Onus raised concerns with cats in the Jabiru Township.	Ben Waugh	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.
<b>14</b>	Recommend Complete	OCM38/2025 RESOLVED: Draft a motion on increased funding for public lighting and increased funding to main arterial roads including landfill access roads in regional and remote Australia to be considered at the next Ordinary Council Meeting.	Ben Waugh	19/03/2025 Jasmine Mortimore Report seeking Councils approval on ALGA motions is included in agenda for meeting scheduled 26 March 2025.

## WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

### FOR THE MEETING 26 MARCH 2025

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>8.2</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Local Government Association of the Northern Territory Symposium</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

#### SUMMARY

This purpose of this report is for Council to consider attendance at the upcoming Local Government Association Northern Territory (LGANT) May Symposium (including general meeting) scheduled for 1-2 May 2025 and also consider submitting a motion to this meeting.

#### RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Receive and note the report titled *Local Government Association of the Northern Territory Symposium*;
2. Nominate Elected Member/s, Chief Executive Officer and Director of Community and Council Services to attend the LGANT Symposium;
3. Approve all associated costs for attending the LGANT Symposium; and
4. Submit / Do not submit a motion to the LGANT General Meeting.

#### COMMENT

LGANT's next General meeting will be held in Katherine on Thursday 1 and Friday 2 May 2025 following the in-person April Ordinary Council Meeting scheduled for Tuesday 29 and Wednesday 30 April 2025.

LGANTs Chief Executive Officer, Mary Watson is calling for motions for the General Meeting to be submitted by COB 4 April 2025.

#### Submitting a Motion

Councils can consider submitting motions on issues such as governance, policy positions and advocacy efforts. Policy positions are a statement or declaration of an organisation's stance on a particular topic(s). Further, LGANT seeks to influence public policy which is laws, guidelines and actions decided and taken by governments. Motions from councils help LGANT form its policy positions and statements that in turn, assist with advocacy efforts. Advocacy is a broad term encompassing endeavours to achieve change. For LGANT, advocacy is activity undertaken to promote and influence issues that collectively effect local government.

There should only be one issue per motion. It is suggested that the council submitting the motion first discuss it with LGANT so they can outline existing activity or policies positions, if any, in the topic area and assist with developing the business case. Motions will then need to be approved by resolution of the local government council prior to submission to LGANT.

#### LEGISLATION AND POLICY

The following policies are relevant to this report:

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

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

Code of Conduct (Elected, Local Authority and Committee Members) Policy.

#### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Ticket prices for the LGANT Conference have not been released but will be approx. \$500 per person. Travel costs will dependant on attendance.

#### STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

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

## **PILLAR 1 PARTNERSHIPS, RELATIONSHIPS AND BELONGING**

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

### **Goal 1.1 Community Engagement**

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

## **PILLAR 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. FORM LGANT Calls for Motions 2025 [8.2.1 - 4 pages]



# LGANT CALL FOR MOTIONS

---

**P** (08) 8944 9697  
**E** [info@lgant.asn.au](mailto:info@lgant.asn.au)  
**W** [lgant.asn.au](http://lgant.asn.au)

**A** 21 Parap Rd, Parap NT 0820  
PO Box 2075, Parap NT 0804

ABN: 35 662 805 503

**We are local. We connect.**



## CALL FOR MOTIONS

### About this document

LGANT's purpose, as per the Strategic Plan 2021-2025, is to support and represent member councils to drive economic and social development for NT communities by providing:

- Advocacy and representation
- Capacity building
- Promotion of the sector
- Governance development
- Service delivery and infrastructure

The purpose of *this* document is to provide a template for member councils to submit motions to LGANT on issues for consideration, such as governance, policy positions and advocacy efforts, at either the May or November General Meetings.

Policy positions are a statement or declaration of an organisation's stance on a particular topic(s). Further, LGANT seeks to influence public policy which is laws, guidelines and actions decided and taken by governments. Motions from councils help LGANT form its policy positions and statements that in turn, assist with advocacy efforts. LGANT's current policy statements can be found [here](#).

Advocacy is a broad term encompassing endeavours to achieve change. For LGANT, advocacy is activity undertaken to promote and influence issues that collectively effect local government.

### Timeframes

This 'call for motion' template will usually accompany LGANT's notice of a General Meeting, but motions can be submitted at any time.

To make the Agenda of a General Meeting, motions must be submitted in advance. Late motions will not be accepted (unless urgent) and will instead be referred to the next General Meeting.

If the motion is urgent, councils may consider calling a Special General Meeting or request the LGANT Board address through their meetings.

### Other important information

There should only be ONE issue per motion. It is suggested that the council submitting the motion first discuss it with LGANT so they can outline existing activity or policies positions, if any, in the topic area and assist with developing the business case.

Motions need to be approved by resolution of the local government council prior to submission to LGANT.

LGANT will assess the motion for completeness and appropriateness and if necessary, discuss it with the submitting member council and request more information or redrafting before including in the General Meeting Agenda. This process may require the council to re-endorse its motion. If there is not enough information, LGANT has the discretion to not accept the motion.

LGANT will draft a cover business paper for each motion and may present the final motions to the LGANT Board for review, before distribution to members via the final General Meeting Agenda.

By submitting a motion, your council can move and speak to the motion at the General Meeting it is going to.

The better your council's argument or case, the more likely it is to be resolved by members. Resolved motions are minuted following the General Meeting, allocated to LGANT staff for action, and reported on at LGANT Board and General meetings.





## TEMPLATE CALL FOR MOTIONS

*Councils are invited to submit motions for debate to be included at General Meetings using this template.*

**Name of Council:**

Click or tap here to enter council name.

---

**Contact person and title:**

Click or tap here to enter your full name and position.

---

**Phone:**

Click or tap here to enter text.

**Email:**

Click or tap here to enter text.

---

**Date of Council resolution on the motion:** Click or tap to enter a date.

**Motion to be presented at:**

☐ **LGANT General Meeting date** - Click or tap to enter a date.

**Motion title:**

Click or tap here to enter text.

---

**Resolution sought (Motion):**

Motions should be clear and concise and limited to one subject matter/ issue.

Consider the action your council wants LGANT to do for the local government sector e.g.,

- "Council calls on LGANT to...."
- "Council calls on the NT Government to...."
- "Council calls on the Australian Government to...."
- "Council calls on LGANT to assist with...."
- "Council calls on LGANT to develop a policy position on...."
- "Council calls on LGANT to review its policy position on...."
- "Council calls on LGANT to change the Constitution to...."

Click or tap here to enter council name. **calls on LGANT to** Click or tap here to enter text.



**Background and supporting information:**

Maximum 600 words. If additional information is required, provide as attachment/s.

Click or tap here to enter text.

**Council confirmation**

I, \_\_\_\_\_ the Chief Executive Officer hereby confirm that this motion was approved by resolution of Council at its meeting on     /     /2025.

In submitting this motion I confirm that Council has:

- consulted with other NT councils to confirm the motion is relevant to the sector more broadly;
- reviewed LGANT's Constitution, Governance Charter, Policy Statements, and Strategic Priorities in preparing this motion; and
- provided enough information (such as what the issue is, how it came to light and if/how your council has tried to deal with it to date) to enable members to make a considered decision on whether to support or otherwise.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

### FOR THE MEETING 26 March 2025

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>8.3</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Supporting ALGA's 2025 Federal Election Priorities</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Gina Carrascalao, Executive Assistant to Mayor and CEO</b>

#### SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is for council to consider supporting the National Federal Election Funding priorities identified by the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA). ALGA has outlined five key funding priorities for the next Australian Government, aimed at addressing critical national challenges such as affordable housing, road safety, emergency management, and climate change.

#### RECOMMENDATION

##### THAT COUNCIL

1. Receive and note the report titled *Supporting ALGA's 2025 Federal Election Priorities*.
2. Support the National Federal Election Funding priorities identified by the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA).

#### BACKGROUND

The next Federal Election must be held by 17 May 2025.

Working in conjunction with its member state and territory associations, the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) has developed a framework and resources for a national advocacy campaign that will run in the lead up to this election.

Based around the tagline of “Put Our Communities First”, the goal is to secure additional federal funding that will support every council to play a bigger role delivering local solutions to national priorities.

All Australian councils have been asked to participate in this campaign to ensure a coordinated approach that will deliver the best possible outcomes.

#### COMMENT

The Put Our Communities First campaign will advocate for new federal funding to be distributed to all councils on a formula-basis, similar to the Commonwealth’s Roads to Recovery Program, or the previous Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program.

This will ensure that every council and community benefits and support local decision making based on local needs.

The five national funding priorities have been determined by the ALGA Board – comprised of representatives from each of Australia’s state and territory local government associations – and align with key national priorities.

These five funding priorities are:

Priority Area	Annual Funding Request
Enabling Infrastructure for Housing Supply	\$1.1 billion
Community Infrastructure	\$500 million
Safer Local Roads	\$600 million
Local Government Emergency Management Capability	\$900 million
Climate Adaptation	\$400 million

Supporting ALGA's 2025 federal election priorities aligns with our council's commitment to delivering effective local solutions to national challenges. By endorsing these priorities and participating in the "Put Our Communities First" campaign, we can contribute to a stronger, more resilient community while advocating for increased national funding support.

#### **STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT**

N/A

#### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

N/A

#### **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 1.2 Economic Partnerships**

Secure increased income opportunities (grants and commercial) that create employment and/or improve community life.

##### **Goal 1.3 Communication**

Deliver dynamic communication which is culturally informed and appropriate, engaging and relevant to the interests of Council.

##### **PILLAR 6 FOUNDATIONS OF GOVERNANCE**

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

##### **Goal 6.3 Council and Local Authorities**

Excellence in governance, consultation administration and representation.

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

Nil

## WEST ARNHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL

### FOR THE MEETING 26 MARCH 2025

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>8.4</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Draft Motions for Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

#### SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider submitting motions to the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) National General Assembly (NGA).

#### THAT COUNCIL:

1. Receive and note the report titled *Draft Motions for Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly*; and
2. Submit / do not submit the motion on Increased funding for public lighting to the National General Assembly.
3. Submit / do not submit the motion on Increased funding to main arterial roads including landfill access and roads in regional and remote Australia to 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.

ALGA is now calling for councils to submit motions for the 2025 NGA. 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.

Motions need to be submitted online by Monday 31 March 2025.

#### COMMENT

At the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 18 February 2025, Council passed resolution OCM38/2025 to draft the following motions.

#### Increased funding for public lighting

##### **Motion:**

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to:

- a) Establish a dedicated funding program specifically for the upgrade and ongoing maintenance of unsealed road networks in regional and remote Australia that provide essential access to critical infrastructure and services, including but not limited to: landfills, aerodromes, barge landings, health facilities, schools and emergency services.
- b) Allocate a minimum of \$200 million per annum for this program, indexed annually to account for inflation and construction cost increases.
- c) Prioritise projects that demonstrate a clear link to improved community safety, enhanced economic opportunities, and increased access to essential services for residents in remote and isolated areas.
- d) Work collaboratively with state and territory governments and local councils to develop streamlined application processes and reporting requirements for this funding program, minimising administrative burden and maximising the efficient use of resources.

e) Ensure that the funding allocation formula for this program takes into account the unique challenges faced by remote councils, including vast distances, low population densities, extreme weather conditions, and limited access to skilled labour and materials.

National Objective:

**National Objective:**

This motion aims to improve public safety, reduce energy consumption, and support the transition to smart city technologies by modernising public lighting infrastructure across Australia. A national approach will ensure consistent standards, economies of scale, and equitable access to funding for all local government areas.

**Key Arguments:**

1. Public safety: Modern, well-maintained street lighting is crucial for community safety and crime prevention.
2. Energy efficiency: LED street lighting can reduce energy consumption by up to 50-80% compared to traditional lighting technologies.
3. Climate action: Upgrading public lighting aligns with Australia's commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and transition to a low-carbon economy.
4. Smart city enablement: Modern lighting infrastructure can serve as a platform for smart city technologies, improving urban services and quality of life.
5. Cost savings: While initial investment is required, modernized public lighting can lead to significant long-term cost savings for local governments through reduced energy and maintenance costs.
6. Economic stimulus: A national program to upgrade public lighting would create jobs in manufacturing, installation, and maintenance sectors across the country.
7. Equity: A dedicated fund would ensure that all councils, regardless of their financial capacity, can access resources to improve their public lighting infrastructure.

**Increased funding to main arterial roads including landfill access and roads in regional and remote Australia.**

**Motion:**

This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to:

- a) Establish a dedicated Public Lighting Infrastructure Fund to support local governments in upgrading and modernising street lighting networks across Australia.
- b) Provide financial incentives and low-interest loans to accelerate the transition to energy-efficient LED street lighting, particularly in regions that have made limited progress to date.
- c) Develop national guidelines and standards for smart lighting technologies to ensure interoperability and maximise energy savings and safety benefits.
- d) Fund research and pilot projects exploring innovative public lighting solutions that can enhance community safety, reduce energy consumption, and support smart city initiatives.

**National Objective:**

This motion seeks to improve the safety, reliability, and accessibility of unsealed road networks in regional and remote Australia, ensuring that residents have equitable access to essential services and economic opportunities. This will contribute to stronger, more resilient communities and reduce the disparities between urban and remote areas.

**Key Arguments:**

1. Critical Infrastructure Access: Unsealed roads are often the only means of access to critical infrastructure and services for remote communities. Their condition directly impacts residents' ability to access healthcare, education, waste disposal, transportation, and emergency services.

2. **Economic Development:** Reliable road access is essential for economic activity in regional and remote areas, supporting industries such as agriculture, tourism, and mining. Poor road conditions increase transportation costs, limit market access, and hinder economic growth.
3. **Community Safety:** Unsealed roads are inherently more dangerous than sealed roads, with higher rates of accidents and vehicle damage. Improving road surfaces, signage, and drainage can significantly reduce these risks.
4. **Social Equity:** Residents of regional and remote areas often face significant disadvantages compared to their urban counterparts. Investing in unsealed road infrastructure is a crucial step towards addressing these inequities and ensuring that all Australians have access to essential services and opportunities.
5. **Environmental Protection:** Properly maintained unsealed roads reduce dust pollution, soil erosion, and sedimentation of waterways, protecting the environment and preserving natural resources.
6. **Cost Savings:** While initial investment is required, well-maintained unsealed roads reduce vehicle maintenance costs, lower transportation expenses, and minimise the need for emergency repairs, resulting in long-term cost savings for residents and businesses.
7. **Alignment with NGA Theme:** This motion directly aligns with the NGA theme "National Priorities Need Local Solutions," as it addresses a critical infrastructure gap in remote communities and contributes to national objectives related to regional development, social inclusion, and environmental sustainability. The motion also aligns to the NGA priority area of "Roads and Infrastructure."

## **LEGISLATION AND POLICY**

N/A

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

N/A

## **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.

#### **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 [8.4.1 - 24 pages]

***National Priorities  
Need Local Solutions***

24 - 27 June 2025 | National  
Convention Centre Canberra

# **National General Assembly Discussion Paper**



**ALGA**  
Australian Local  
Government Association



## 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](https://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](http://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](http://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.



## 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](http://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, place-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?*



## 6. JOBS AND SKILLS

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?*



## 8. CLOSING THE GAP AND ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER RECONCILIATION

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 areas including 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 recognised 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](http://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 26 MARCH 2025

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>9.1</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Incoming and Outgoing Correspondence</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

#### 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	RECEIVED BY	DOCUMENT NAME
1	Incoming	14 February 2025	Selena Uiibo, Leader of the Opposition	Mayor James Woods	2025 0020 - His Lordship the Mayor Mr James Woods
2	Outgoing	5 March 2025	Ben Waugh, Interim Chief Executive Officer	Marion Scrymgour MP, Member for Lingiari	West Arnhem Region Multi-Project Infrastructure Proposal 05.03.2025
3	Outgoing	6 March 2025	Ben Waugh, Interim Chief Executive Officer	Luccio Cercarelli PSM, CEO Department of Chief Minister and Cabinet	Letter - WARC CEO to DCMC CEO - RE Gunbalanya Health Clinic Tender Delays - 06.03.2025

#### 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 0020 - His Lordship the Mayor Mr James Woods [**9.1.1** - 2 pages]
2. West Arnhem Region Multi- Project Infrastructure Proposal 05.03.2025 [**9.1.2** - 4 pages]
3. Letter - WARC CEO to DCMC CEO - RE Gunbalanya Health Clinic Tender Delays - 06.03.2025 [**9.1.3** - 2 pages]



## LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION

Parliament House  
State Square  
Darwin NT 0800  
[opposition.leader@nt.gov.au](mailto:opposition.leader@nt.gov.au)

GPO Box 3700  
Darwin NT 0801  
Telephone: 08 8923 8000

His Lordship the Mayor  
Mr James Woods  
Mayor of West Arnhem Regional Council  
West Arnhem Regional Council

Via email: [James.Woods@westarnhem.nt.gov.au](mailto:James.Woods@westarnhem.nt.gov.au)

Dear Mayor

Earlier this week, the Chief Minister introduced her controversial Territory Coordinator Bill into Parliament.

If this law is passed, it will pave the way for a range of existing Northern Territory laws and regulatory processes to be bypassed in the assessment of new developments. This could have significant impacts on landowners, communities, local governments, cultural heritage and the environment, without any recourse.

The CLP Government plans to pass this law in March, but firstly it will go to a Legislative Scrutiny Committee which will consider community feedback on the Bill and provide a report to Parliament by 12 March 2025.

Territorians were given a small period of time over the December holiday period to provide feedback on the draft Bill. The Government received more than 550 written submissions in response but it is unclear how much, if any, of that feedback they took on board. I know many Territorians still have concerns and questions around this proposed new law.

The Scrutiny Committee process gives Territorians another opportunity to make a submission on the Bill before it is debated in Parliament in March.

I would encourage everyone with an interest in this piece of legislation from right across the Territory to make a submission, or re-send their original submission, to the Scrutiny Committee.

**Please be aware that the CLP Government has only allowed a few days for people to make a submission to the Scrutiny Committee.**

- 2 -

**You will need to submit your feedback by Wednesday 19 February to the Secretary, Legislative Scrutiny Committee, GPO Box 3721, Darwin NT, 0801 or by email to [LA.Committees@nt.gov.au](mailto:LA.Committees@nt.gov.au).**

Economic development is critically important to the Territory's growth and prosperity, but it should not occur at the expense of our communities, our natural resources, our environment, our cultural heritage, our way of life or against the wishes of Territorians.

Please ensure you contribute to this important process; everyone's voice deserves to be heard.

You can find out more information about the Bill and the Scrutiny Committee process here <https://parliament.nt.gov.au/committees/list/legislative-scrutiny-committee/17-2025> .

Yours sincerely



SELENA UIBO

14 FEB 2025



Ms Marion Scrymgour MP  
PO Box 6022  
House of Representatives  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600

5 March 2025

## West Arnhem Region Multi-Project Infrastructure Proposal

Dear Ms Scrymgour

This proposal outlines a comprehensive package of five infrastructure projects for the West Arnhem Region, aimed at enhancing sport and recreation facilities across multiple communities. The total estimated cost for this package is \$4,305,000. These projects were officially endorsed by the West Arnhem Regional Council at a Special Council Meeting held on October 16, 2024. This endorsement demonstrates the Council's commitment to improving community infrastructure and quality of life for residents.

Investing in sport and recreation infrastructure in this region is critical for many reasons including:

- Limited existing infrastructure: In remote communities, there is often limited infrastructure and programming to provide leisure and other pursuits.
- Community building: Sports and recreation activities can be useful in building a sense of purpose, hope, and belonging in these communities.
- Health and well-being: Approximately one-third of the Indigenous population participates in some form of sporting activity, making these facilities important for promoting physical activity and improved health outcomes.
- Social interaction and inclusion: Sport can bring communities together, build community identity and sense of place, and promote social interaction and inclusion.
- Economic opportunities: Improved facilities can potentially attract more sporting events to the region, particularly with upgrades like the Brockman Oval project.

By addressing the unique needs of rural, regional, and remote participants, this infrastructure package aims to make sport more sustainable and accessible to everyone in the West Arnhem Region.

### Project Overview:

#### 1. Gunbalanya Oval Irrigation Installation

Estimated cost: \$250,000

Documentation – Quotes obtained

This project represents Stage 2 of the Gunbalanya oval upgrade. The funds will be used for reticulation and pump replacement/upgrades, ensuring proper irrigation for the oval. This improvement will enhance the playing surface and maintain the oval's condition year-round. The project includes:

- Installation of a new irrigation system and in-ground sprinklers

PO Box 721, Jabiru NT 0886 | [info@westarnhem.nt.gov.au](mailto:info@westarnhem.nt.gov.au) | [www.westarnhem.nt.gov.au](http://www.westarnhem.nt.gov.au)



Jabiru (Head Office)  
08 8979 9444

Gunbalanya  
08 8970 3700

Maningrida  
08 8979 6600

Warruwi  
08 8970 3600

Minjilang  
08 8970 3500



- Pump upgrades to improve water distribution
- Resurfacing and line marking of the oval

These upgrades will complement the recently completed Gunbalanya Oval Lights project, which was finished in September 2024. The combined improvements aim to provide a top-quality playing field for various sports and activities, supporting the community's recreational needs.

## 2. Jabiru Pool Saltwater Conversion and Facility Upgrade

Estimated cost: \$250,000 – \$320,000

Documents obtained – Quotes from 2021 for saltwater chlorination conversion are available. The value of conversion as at 2021 is \$170,000. Additionally, the upgrade of the pool's plant room to today's standards and to accommodate the new system is estimated at \$150,000 based on Council existing estimates.

This project aims to convert the existing pool water sanitation system from liquid chlorine to a modern saltwater chlorination system. The upgrade will improve safety by eliminating risks associated with handling gas chlorine and offer long-term cost savings through reduced chemical use and maintenance.

The project includes:

- Installation of a saltwater chlorination system
- Upgrading the facility housing the pool's sanitation system and storage
- Ensuring safe, compliant storage of equipment and materials
- Potential enhancements to the pool's filtration system
- Training staff on the new system's operation and maintenance

These improvements will build upon recent upgrades to the Alberto Luglietti Memorial Swimming Pool, which included new children's play equipment, a pool mobility lift, and a splash pad. The pool, being the largest shaded swimming facility in Kakadu, plays a crucial role in community recreation and tourism.

## 3. Gunbalanya Youth Centre and Basketball Facilities Upgrade

Estimated cost: \$3,000,000

Documents obtained – no quotes or architectural drawings are available at this stage, estimate based on other works of similar scale and location.

This project involves a complete demolition and rebuild of the current outdated youth centre. The existing building is not fit for purpose and poses security risks. The new facility will be designed to meet the community's needs and better support youth programs.

The project will include:

- Demolition of the existing youth centre
- Construction of a modern, purpose-built facility
- Installation of new basketball facilities
- Implementation of improved security measures
- Creation of multi-purpose spaces for various youth activities
- Integration of culturally appropriate design elements

The project aims to provide a safe and engaging space for the youth of Gunbalanya, supporting their development and community engagement.





#### **4. Jabiru Pool Gym Refurbishment**

Estimated cost: \$375,000

Documents obtained – QS estimates and architectural drawings obtained.

The proposed gym refurbishment includes improvements in temperature control, ventilation, and the installation of accessible facilities such as disability-friendly toilets, showers, and changerooms.

Specific upgrades include:

- Installation of disability-friendly toilets, showers, and changerooms
- Improvement of air conditioning and ventilation systems
- Expansion of the gym floor space
- Implementation of energy-efficient lighting
- Creation of dedicated areas for different types of workouts

This upgrade will accommodate the anticipated increase in visitor numbers to the Jabiru region as the Mirrar people enact the Jabiru Masterplan to bring increased tourists to Kakadu National Park and Jabiru. This upgrade will enhance the overall recreational facilities available to both residents and tourists.

#### **5. Brockman Oval Fence and Electronic Scoreboard**

Estimated cost: \$275,000 - \$360,000

Documents obtained - At this stage, no quotes or surveying assessments are available. The estimate has been derived from comparable works of a similar scale and location.

This project complements the ongoing Brockman Oval upgrades.

The additions include:

- Installation of a perimeter fence around the oval
- Erection of an electronic scoreboard

The electronic scoreboard will likely feature LED technology, displaying scores, team names, and potentially player statistics. These improvements are part of a broader plan to host additional sporting events in Jabiru, particularly when the oval lights are in use, enhancing the spectator experience and the oval's overall functionality.

#### **Conclusion**

The comprehensive multi-project package for the West Arnhem Region, totalling \$4,305,000, is a much-needed investment in infrastructure and services in remote communities. This investment across Gunbalanya and Jabiru will enhance the quality of life, and physical and mental health for residents in some of the Northern Territory's most remote areas.

The Gunbalanya projects, including the oval irrigation installation and youth centre upgrade, will create community, health and work opportunities for young people in remote communities. These modern, safe spaces for recreation and community engagement have the potential to reduce social issues and increase positive youth involvement.

The Jabiru Pool upgrades, including the saltwater conversion and gym refurbishment, will make recreational facilities more accessible and appealing to a wider range of community members, increasing physical activity levels and overall well-being.





The Brockman Oval improvements will boost economic opportunities in this remote region. By enhancing the oval's capabilities to host major sporting events, this project would attract more visitors to the area, supporting local businesses and creating job opportunities in the tourism and hospitality sectors. It also provides the West Arnhem region with a facility that can host regional competitions in a town that can cater for the influx of competitors, officials and spectators, building social cohesion across communities already connected by family and lore.

Additionally, this infrastructure package will help achieve targets of the National Agreement on Closing the Gap. Enhanced sporting and social opportunities can lead to longer healthy lives, better social cohesion and greater employment opportunities. These projects are an opportunity for the people of West Arnhem to make tangible progress in addressing the unique challenges faced by remote communities in the Northern Territory.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ben Waugh". The signature is fluid and stylized, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Ben Waugh  
Interim Chief Executive Officer  
West Arnhem Regional Council





Mr Luccio Cercarelli PSM  
Chief Executive Officer  
Department of Chief Minister and Cabinet  
GPO Box 4396  
Darwin NT 0801

Sent via email: [cabinetoffice.cmc@nt.gov.au](mailto:cabinetoffice.cmc@nt.gov.au)

6 March 2025

### Gunbalanya Health Clinic Tender Delays

Dear Mr Luccio Cercarelli PSM,

I am writing on behalf of the Red Lily Health Board and Gunbalanya Local Authority Members to express our concerns regarding the delays in the tender process for the new Gunbalanya Health Clinic building. We kindly request a meeting with representatives from the Northern Territory Governments Department of Health, Department of Logistics and Infrastructure, and Department of Chief Minister and Cabinet to discuss this matter in detail.

The Northern Territory Government has allocated \$20 million for the construction of a new health centre at Gunbalanya, which will include consulting rooms, emergency bays, dental facilities, X-ray capabilities, renal facilities, and a morgue. However, the tender process for this essential project has experienced significant delays, causing concern among our community members and stakeholders.

Initially, the tender was expected to be released in early 2024. However, as of August 2024, we have been advised that the tender process has been postponed to early 2025. These delays have potential implications for the timely delivery of essential health services to our region and may impact the planned transition of health services.

We kindly request a meeting at your earliest convenience to address the below

1. Status of the tender process and reasons for the delays.
2. Impact on the project timeline, including the planned July 2025 transition of health services.
3. Ensuring adequate support for existing health facilities until project completion.

Our goal is to support Red Lily Health Board to ensure the timely completion of this vital community project while maintaining current health services during the extended waiting period.

✉ PO Box 721, Jabiru NT 0886    📧 [info@westarnhem.nt.gov.au](mailto:info@westarnhem.nt.gov.au)    🌐 [www.westarnhem.nt.gov.au](http://www.westarnhem.nt.gov.au)



Jabiru (Head Office)  
☎ 08 8979 9444

Gunbalanya  
☎ 08 8970 3700

Maningrida  
☎ 08 8979 6600

Warruwi  
☎ 08 8970 3600

Minjilang  
☎ 08 8970 3500







We would appreciate your prompt response to this letter, including proposed dates and times for the meeting. Please contact Governance Advisor at [governance@westarnhem.nt.gov.au](mailto:governance@westarnhem.nt.gov.au) to confirm your availability.

We look forward to working together to resolve these issues and progress the Gunbalanya Health Clinic project for the benefit of our community.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Ben Waugh". The signature is fluid and stylized, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Ben Waugh  
Interim Chief Executive Officer



## WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

### FOR THE MEETING 26 MARCH 2025

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>9.2</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Meetings and Events attended by the Mayor</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Gina Carrascalao, Executive Assistant to Mayor and CEO</b>

#### 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
26.02.2025	Teams	Strategic Planning	Board - LGANT
06.03.2025	Maningrida	Services	Minister McCarthy
19.03.2025	Teams	CEO review	Board - 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

Nil

## WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

### FOR THE MEETING 26 MARCH 2025

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>9.3</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Meetings and Events attended by the CEO</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Andrew Walsh, Chief Executive Officer</b>

#### 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
18.02.2025	Jabiru	Introduction meeting	Emma Tepania – ERA (Rio Tinto)
20.02.2025	Jabiru	Introduction meeting	Dr Emma Young - GACJT
20.02.2025	Darwin	Catch up	Katie McGettigan - JLT
21.02.2025	Darwin	Introduction meeting	Mary Watson - LGANT
21.02.2025	Darwin	Introduction meeting	Manuel Brown – Member for Arafura
24.02.2025	Darwin	Staff sharing	Simon Lyon - TCU
28.02.2025	Darwin	Introduction meeting	Jessie Schaecken – GAC CEO
05.03.2025	Maningrida	Ministerial visit	NIAA
21.03.2025	Darwin	Continuous services	Darren Johnson – Dep of Chief Minister

#### 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**

Nil

## WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

### FOR THE MEETING 26 March 2025

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>9.4</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Technical Services Projects Report</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Kylie Gregson, Manager Technical Services</b>

#### 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 17 March 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**

1. Council Projects - As of 17.03.2025 [**9.4.1** - 4 pages]
2. Local Authority Projects - As of 17.03.2025 [**9.4.2** - 3 pages]

## GUNBALANYA COUNCIL PROJECTS

STATUS	PROJECT COMPLETE	TASK	DESCRIPTION	% DONE
In Progress	30/04/2025	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	Insurance 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 assessor and builders discussed new site within the lot boundary. Builder has been instructed by the assessor to re quote.	Gunbalanya Flood Insurance Toad Hall, Laundry & damaged house.	10%

## JABIRU COUNCIL PROJECTS

STATUS	PROJECT COMPLETE	TASK	DESCRIPTION	% DONE
In Progress	30/03/2025	Design awarded to NTBS is now complete. Additional onsite meetings in progress with Bombers Football Club. Approval received from GACJT at the board meeting 20/02/2025. Cultural approval has been received from GAC. Awaiting final updated design drawing to commence tender process.	Jabiru Brockman Oval Lights.	70%
In Progress	30/8/2025	Cultural approval received for Dog Park, Playground and Outdoor Gym from GAC. Approval received from GACJT at the board meeting held 20/02/2025. Awaiting release of funds to commence tender procurement process of projects.	Dog Park & Playground - Lakeside Park. Outdoor Gym - Brockman Oval.	25%
In Progress		The GACJT Board agreed to permit the scoping of a catch-and-release fishing project at Jabiru Lake, subject to WARC consulting with both Office of Supervising Scientists (OSS) and GACJT during the planning stage. The Board expressed concern that if the program is implemented before remediation, this may delay or impede the remediation which is to be completed by the OSS. Once the project has been scoped and a business case developed, the final proposal will be taken back to the GACJT Board for approval.	The request to introduce a catch and release fishing program in Lake Jabiru was presented to the GACJT Board at their February meeting.	0%



## MANINGRIDA COUNCIL PROJECTS

STATUS	PROJECT COMPLETE	TASK	DESCRIPTION	% DONE
In Progress	15/05/2025	Construction by Stedmans Construction commenced mid August 2024. Roof sheets completed and flashings to be completed by early April. Formwork for seating commenced and will be poured in sections anticipating to commence end of March. Target completion by end of May 2025. Next stage of construction is to commence fit out of facility rooms/toilets/changeroom/canteen.	Maningrida Change Rooms.	50%
In Progress	30/07/2025	Pre-Construction Planning; Waiting on completion of change rooms before commencement so public toilets are available for community. Construction to commence end of June 2025.	Maningrida Toilets upgrade near office.	5%
In Progress	30/06/2025	Dhukurrdji strongly in favour of immediate completion. Additional extensive consultations proceeding through NTG. Tender awarded to BV Contracting to commence works late April 2025.	Maningrida Cemetery.	25%
Complete	28/02/2025	Airport structures completed and COC received for construction of shelters.	Maningrida Airport Structures.	100%
Complete	28/02/2025	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	30/04/2025	Works awarded to Stedmans Construction. Contractor kick-off meeting completed. Target completion by end of April 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.	Waruwi ground penetrating radar.	10%
In Progress	30/6/2025	Mowing strip to be installed, works have been awarded to Stedman Constructions. Hall works complete. Sea container installed by contractor. Balance of funds (\$35,000). Awaiting quote for transport of additional water tanks to install onsite.	Waruwi Recreation Hall upgrade.	80%

## 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. Local Authority have requested a Fire Pit for each facility to provide cooking options for community members.	Gunbalanya Billabong 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.	Gunbalanya Aged Care Pavers.	80%
In Progress	1/05/2025	Speed bumps and childrens crossing at the office and Youth Centre. Additional U shape bollard to be installed to increase safety as cars traversing through the opening.	Crosswalk and bollards at the Council Office.	80%
In Progress	30/11/2025	Tender awarded to the University of Melbourne. Gunbalanya scheduled visits July and September 2025.	Vet Program - Animal Management.	5%

## MANINGRIDA LOCAL AUTHORITY PROJECTS

STATUS	PROJECTED COMPLETE	STAGE	DESCRIPTION	% DONE
In Progress	30/04/2025	Outdoor Gym installation complete. Water bubbler to be installed. Awaiting Power Water approval.	Installation Outdoor Gym water bubbler.	85%
In Progress	30/05/2025	Pebble Ice Machine approved at Local Authority meeting. Procurement has commenced seeking availability of additional quotes from alternative suppliers.	Installation of Pebble Ice Machine at Football Oval changerooms.	5%
In Progress	15/05/2025	Solar Light approved at Local Authority meeting. Procurement has commenced seeking availability of additional quotes.	Solar Lights for Bottom Camp/New subdivision/Child Care Centre.	5%
In Progress	30/06/2025	Commuter Bus delivered 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. Maningrida scheduled visits April/May, July, August and September 2025.	Vet Program - Animal Management.	5%
Completed	28/02/2025	Contractor (JMK) has completed works and finalised installation.	Bollards for Cricket Oval.	100%

## MINJILANG LOCAL AUTHORITY PROJECTS

STATUS	PROJECTED COMPLETE	STAGE	DESCRIPTION	% DONE
In Progress	30/05/2025	Water service approved at Local Authority meeting. Procurement has commenced seeking availability of additional quotes from alternative suppliers.	Water service connection to new cemetery - 50% contribution from LA funding	5%
In Progress	30/11/2025	Tender awarded to the University of Melbourne. Minjilang scheduled visits May and September 2025.	Vet Program - Animal Management.	5%

## WARRUWI LOCAL AUTHORITY PROJECTS

STATUS	PROJECTED COMPLETE	STAGE	DESCRIPTION	% DONE
In Progress	30/04/2025	Works on replacement shade have been completed by Stedmans Construction. Additional works (tables/seating) have been approved and procurement commenced.	Table and seating to be replaced.	80%
In Progress	30/11/2025	Tender awarded to the University of Melbourne. Waruwi scheduled visits July and September 2025.	Vet Program - Animal Management.	5%

## WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

### FOR THE MEETING 26 MARCH 2025

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>9.5</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Regional Waste Update</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Sara Fitzgerald, Waste and Resource Coordinator</b>

#### SUMMARY

This report is to provide an update to Council on the status of Waste Management within our communities.

#### RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL receive and note the report titled *Regional Waste Update*.

#### BACKGROUND

As one of our key operational service delivery areas, Waste Management is an ongoing focus for West Arnhem Regional Council. Each community has its own unique challenges and opportunities in managing waste in our journey towards circular economy and effective waste management.

#### COMMENT

##### 1. REGIONAL

- Stop the Drop video has been well received across the region and beyond. This song has formed the basis for an entry into the National Awards for Local Government. There are further resources available to support this program through the Sport and Recreation as well as the waste program to be activated this year. Additionally Top End Aboriginal Bush Broadcasting Association (TEABBA) request the song to go into the song rotation which is fantastic for all involved.
- Replacement bins have been ordered for each community to start replacing aged and broken bins. It is anticipated that council will replace a quarter of all bins every year to ensure our community members have access to sufficient resources to remove rubbish.
- Unfortunately Keep Australia Beautiful NT failed to receive funding for 2025 so the Tidy Towns program will not be run this year. It is now integral that council focus its efforts on combating litter in communities by initiating their own litter programs.
- The Reduce Reuse Recycle Strategy is still tracking well with these initial stages well underway. Council can look forward to working towards some tangible waste reductions figures into the future.

##### 2. GUNBALANYA

- Lease Status: Awaiting lease from Northern Land Council (NLC).
- License Status: Requires licensing however this cannot be pursued until lease is issued.
- Rubbish Collections:
  - Banyan: Mondays & Thursdays
  - Middle Camp: Mondays & Thursdays
  - Arrkuluk: Tuesdays & Fridays
  - Billabong: Tuesdays & Fridays
- Landfill: Operational from Monday to Friday 7.30am – 3.00pm.
- Gunbalanya Landfill is working towards compliance to be ready for licensing when a lease is approved. The focus of this site is to reinstate power to the gatehouse and work towards CCTV to aid in recovery of commercial waste fees. An upgraded loader is also sought for the community as part of the asset replacement program. Scrap steel removal is done sporadically from the site when contractors are available to do so.

### 3. JABIRU

- Lease Status: Lease with Gundjeihmi Aboriginal Corporation Jabiru Town (GACJT).
- License Status: License EPL301-01.
- Rubbish Collections: Tuesdays and Thursdays.
- Landfill: Operational from Monday to Friday 7.30am – 3.00pm.
- The priority for Jabiru is to maintain compliance with the EPA license and work with the Office of Supervising Scientist towards best outcome for remediation. Currently remediation is awaiting further studies and will look to progress further in 2026.

### 4. MANINGRIDA

- Lease Status: Awaiting lease from Northern Land Council (NLC).
- License Status: Requires licensing however this cannot be pursued until lease is issued.
- Rubbish Collections: Monday-Friday.
- Landfill: Operational from Monday to Friday 7.30am – 3.00pm.
- Maningrida Landfill is working towards compliance to be ready for licensing when a lease is approved. The focus of this site is to reinstate power sewerage to the gatehouse and work towards CCTV to aid in recovery of commercial waste fees. Scrap steel is being removed from the site in 2025.
- A focus outside of landfill is establishing a cash for containers program in Maningrida and finding a viable solution for cultural waste.

### 5. MINJILANG

- Lease Status: Awaiting lease from Northern Land Council (NLC).
- License Status: No license required.
- Rubbish Collections: Mondays and Thursdays.
- Landfill: Unmanned.
- Minjilang Landfill is nearing capacity, and a key issue is wild pigs entering the site and eating waste. This is a public health risk and has the attention of both the local authority and NTG environmental health officers. No viable solutions have been found, and a lease remains priority to expand operations outside of the current footprint and create a fully fenced compliant site.

### 6. WARRUWI

- Lease Status: Awaiting lease from Northern Land Council (NLC).
- License Status: No license required.
- Rubbish Collections: Mondays and Fridays.
- Landfill: Unmanned.
- Warruwi landfill is an excellent example of a remote landfill. Challenges for this site include limited space into the future. NTG advocacy needs to be undertaken to ensure that their procurement practices include removal of waste for Warruwi. Warruwi is the ideal community to pursue waste sorting and recycling initiatives into the future due to the mature landfill practices and established community garden,

## LEGISLATION AND POLICY

Not applicable.

## FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

## STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

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

### PILLAR 4 SERVICE DELIVERY AND BUILT ENVIRONMENT

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

**Goal 4.3 Waste and Water Management**

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

**ATTACHMENTS**

Nil



## WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

### FOR THE MEETING 26 MARCH 2025

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>9.6</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Regional Cemeteries Update</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Sara Fitzgerald, Waste and Resource Coordinator</b>

#### SUMMARY

This report is to provide an update to Council on the progress of establishing declared Cemeteries within our communities.

#### RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives and note the report titled *Regional Cemeteries Update*.

#### BACKGROUND

Northern Territory Government updated the Burials and Cremations Act in 2022 making Local Government the owners of cemetery facilities across the Northern Territory. West Arnhem Regional Council (WARC) has been working towards declaring Cemeteries for all our communities.

#### COMMENT

Operational staff have worked with our communities across the region to declare and establish community Cemeteries. This program of works involves extensive consultation with community members and landowners to ensure the facilities we are creating are both fit for purpose and culturally sensitive.

Status by Community:

##### 1. GUNBALNAYA

- Site: Decided.
- Lease: Currently in negotiation with Northern Land Council (NLC).
- A site has been decided on for Gunbalanya Cemetery. Once NLC have finalised the lease agreement this will then go back into community consultation for input on design before seeking funding to build the cemetery.

##### 2. JABIRU

- Site: Currently outside WARC lease boundaries.
- Lease: Held by Gundjeihmi Aboriginal Corporation Jabiru Town (GACJT).
- It is not expected that WARC will become the leaseholder for this cemetery. Currently WARC hold the license to maintain and GACJT are the final decision makers over if burials occur in the cemetery precinct.

##### 3. MANINGRIDA

- Site: Site decided near airport /new sub.
- Lease: Held by WARC.
- Declaration: Issued by Northern Territory Government.
- Construction will commence April 2025 to expand boundaries, further consultation will be undertaken with community before deciding on any further works.

##### 4. MINJILANG

- Site: New site decided through community consultation.
- Lease: Held by WARC.
- Declarations: Issued by Northern Territory Government.
- Contruction has commenced and is anticipated it will be operational from May 2025.

## 5. WARRUWI

- Site: To be determined.
- Lease: To be determined.
- WARC are undertaking ground penetrating radar works in Warruwi to determine the best site for the cemetery. Operational staff will then do community consultation and apply for a lease over the agreed site.

### LEGISLATION AND POLICY

Local Government Act 2019

Burials and Cremations Act 2022

### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Per Community Places for People Grant guidelines.

Per Remote Burials Grant Program guidelines.

### STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

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

#### PILLAR 1 PARTNERSHIPS, RELATIONSHIPS AND BELONGING

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

##### Goal 1.1 Community Engagement

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

#### PILLAR 3 SAFETY AND WELLBEING

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

##### Goal 3.1 Cultural Safety

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

#### PILLAR 4 SERVICE DELIVERY AND BUILT ENVIRONMENT

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

##### Goal 4.1 Strategic Infrastructure and Asset Management

Strategically manage, maintain and enhance community infrastructure.

### ATTACHMENTS

Nil

## WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

### FOR THE MEETING 26 March 2025

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>9.7</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Human Resources Report - 1 January to 28 February 2025</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Linda Veugen-Yong, Human Resources Manager (Acting)</b>

#### SUMMARY

This report is to inform Council of the activities and initiatives undertaken by the Human Resources Team.

#### RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL receive and note the report titled *Human Resources Report - 1 January to 28 February 2025*.

#### BACKGROUND

The Human Resources Team remains committed to fostering a supportive work environment and investing in the professional development of its employees. Through strategic Human Resources initiatives, we aim attract, retain, and develop our talented employees to better serve our communities.

The Human Resources (HR) Team is responsible for council recruitment and retention, employee learning and development, Work Health Safety (WHS) management and payroll. To achieve its human resource management responsibilities under the Local Government Act 2019, in particular section 172, the HR Team has policies and practices in place that give effect to the following principles:

- Selection processes for appointment and promotion that are based on merit and are fair and equitable.
- Employees have reasonable access to training and development and opportunities for advancement and promotion.
- Employees are treated fairly and consistently (not subject to arbitrary or capricious decisions).
- Suitable processes are in place to deal with employment-related grievances.
- Work conditions are required to be safe and healthy.
- Unlawful, or any form of unreasonable or unjustifiable, discrimination against an employee or potential employee is not tolerated.

The HR Team also is required to adhere to Work Health and Safety laws, Fair Work, Australian Taxation and Superannuation legislation.

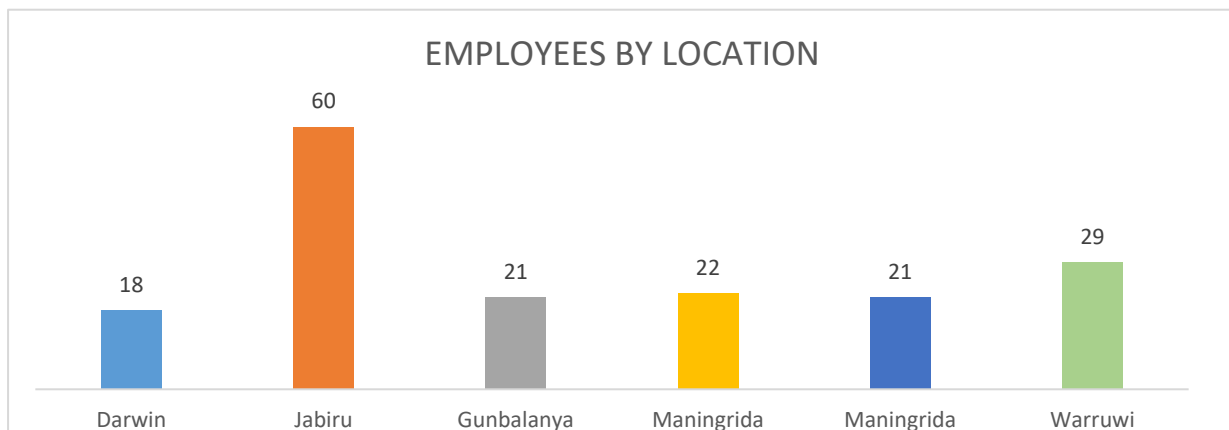
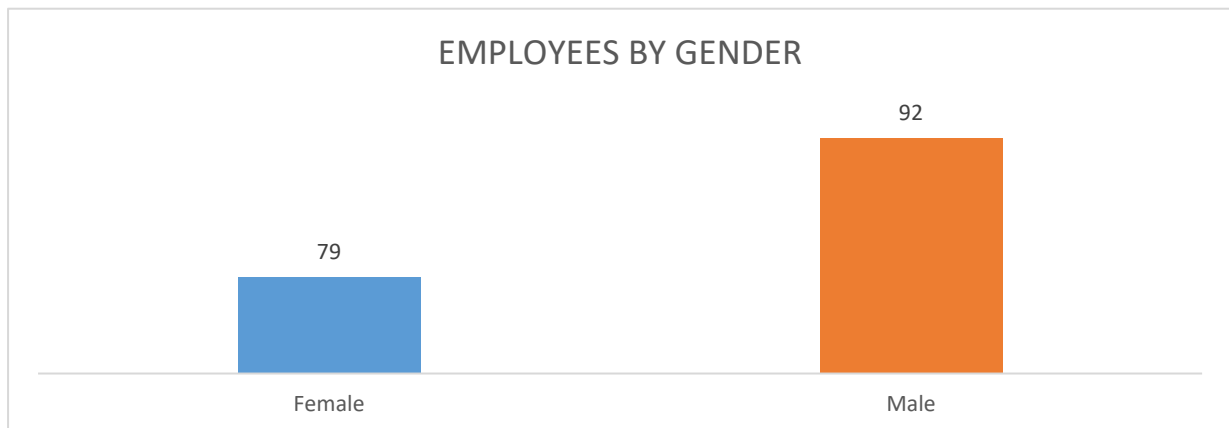
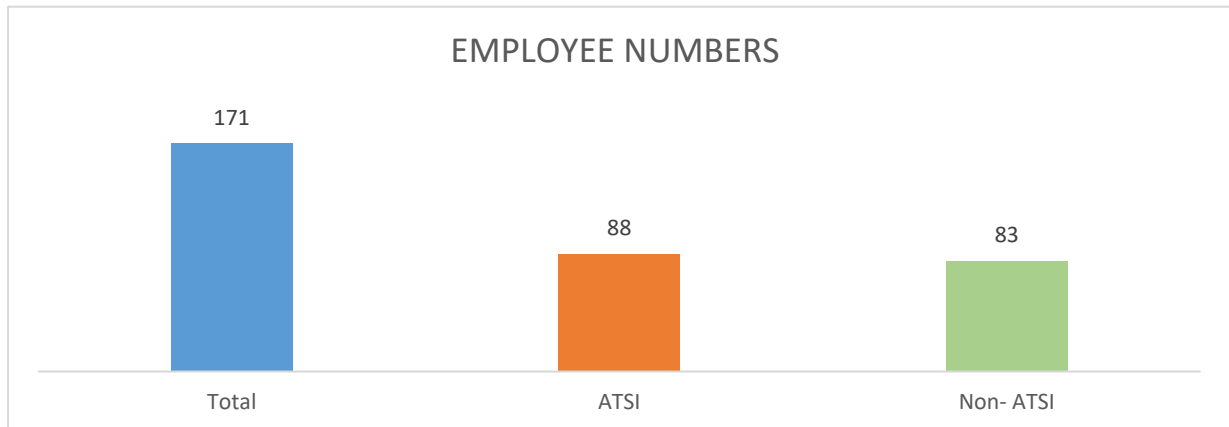
#### COMMENT

---

## Workforce Report

As of 28 February 2025

Total Workforce	Turnover
Total Employees: 171	Staff turnover – Previous for 12 months: 52%
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander employees: 88	
Percentage of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander employees: 51%	



## General Team Report

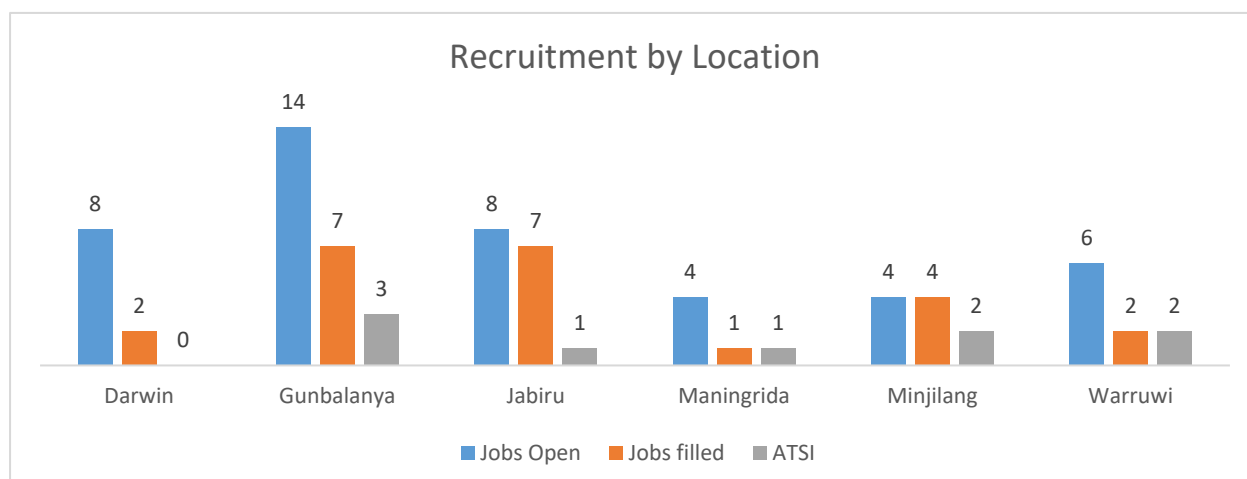
### Human Resources

- The Human Resources Team worked closely with the CEO on an organisational restructure that. A proposal was opened for consultation for about a month from the middle of January 2025.
- Commenced preparations to transition from current employee conditions to Enterprise Agreement.
- Planning commenced to prepare for significant technology upgrade (TechnologyOne), affecting the Payroll and Human Resources system.
- Lucidity software was purchased to monitor, control and support Work Health and Safety. The Team is working together on the implementation of the system.

### Recruitment

- Special Measures applies to all vacancies. This was implemented in mid 2024. Applications for people identified as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (ATSI) are assessed first by the recruitment panel.

Recruitment	January - February 2025
Number of Roles Vacant:	44
Number of Roles filled:	23
Number of ATSI employed:	9



### Learning and Development Report

Training	Number
Number of Training Activities in January and February 2025	4
Number of staff who attended training from in January and February 2025	6 (excludes staff enrolled in certificates)

Recent achievements		Dates
<b>Certificate III in Civil Construction</b>  <b>RTO: Batchelor Institute</b>	<p>Batchelor Institute has started the delivery Certificate III in Civil Construction.</p> <p>That training started by identifying employees who needed a White Card to ensure they completed that unit first.</p> <p>It is expected they will visit each location between 3 to 4 times per year.</p>	<p>Waruwi: 10 to 14 February</p> <p>Minjilang: 17 – 21 February</p>
<b>Pool Lifeguard, First Aid and CPR</b>  <b>RTO: Royal Life Saving</b>	<p>The Royal Life Saving delivered Pool Lifeguard training in the Jabiru Pool. Two employees obtained this qualification, and another two staff renewed their First Aid and CPR.</p>	<p>Jabiru 17 to 21 February</p>
UPCOMING TRAINING		DATES
<b>Certificate III in Civil Construction</b>  <b>RTO: Batchelor Institute</b>	<p>First delivery in:</p> <p>Jabiru: 3 to 7 March 2025</p> <p>Maningrida: 10 to 14 March 2025</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<b>New release on ELMO: WHS Program</b>	<p>A new WHS program will be released in April to increase the knowledge and skills in WHS, specifically regarding risk assessments and its importance.</p>	<p>April 2025</p>
<b>Certificate III in Community Services</b>	<p>The Council is aiming to enrol staff from different teams into the Certificate II in Community Services (Community Safety and Youth Sport and Recreation).</p>	<p>TBA</p>

### Work Health Safety

This table outlines the progress we have made in enhancing our safety measures across various areas.

Recent achievements		Dates
<b>Specialized Assessments Facilitator: WHS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Completed 145 risk assessments across various operational areas</li> <li>- Finished Utilities Support Contract (USC) User Manual, Aquatic Centre, and Cyclone Preparedness risk assessments</li> </ul>	<p>Ongoing</p>

Plant & Equipment Risk Management	- Updated Plant and Equipment Register with 395 assets - Reviewed and implemented 21 Safe Work Instructions (SWI)	Ongoing													
Employee Engagement	- Conducted site visits to Jabiru and Maningrida	January													
UPCOMING															
Site Visits	Ongoing site and community visits by WHS Coordinator to build proactive safety culture and mitigate risks	Ongoing													
Software implementation	WHS software roll-out, education and use by employees.	June 2025													
WARC Incidents Oct 2024 to Jan 2025															
<div><table><tr><th>Type</th><th>WARC Incidents Jan 2025 to Feb 2025</th></tr><tr><td>Damage to Assets</td><td>19</td></tr><tr><td>Incident/Near Miss/ Other</td><td>10</td></tr><tr><td>Injury</td><td>6</td></tr><tr><td>Grand Total</td><td>35</td></tr></table><div><p>Total</p><table><tr><td>Injury, 6, 17%</td></tr><tr><td>Incident/ Near Miss/ Other, 10, 29%</td></tr><tr><td>Damage to Assets, 19, 54%</td></tr></table><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Damage to Assets</li><li>■ Incident/Near Miss/ Other</li><li>■ Injury</li></ul></div></div>			Type	WARC Incidents Jan 2025 to Feb 2025	Damage to Assets	19	Incident/Near Miss/ Other	10	Injury	6	Grand Total	35	Injury, 6, 17%	Incident/ Near Miss/ Other, 10, 29%	Damage to Assets, 19, 54%
Type	WARC Incidents Jan 2025 to Feb 2025														
Damage to Assets	19														
Incident/Near Miss/ Other	10														
Injury	6														
Grand Total	35														
Injury, 6, 17%															
Incident/ Near Miss/ Other, 10, 29%															
Damage to Assets, 19, 54%															

## STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

*Local Government Act 2019 (Act)*

Council's Organisational Structure

Council's Budget and Long-Term Financial Plan

## FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Council must maintain an organisational chart showing the council's staff structure, per regulation 6(1)(a) of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021*. The Council approved Organisational Structure is used to develop, and later review, the Budget and Long-Term Financial Plan.

The CEO is responsible for the appointment of the council's staff in accordance with a budget allocated to staff expenditure approved by the Council, per section 170 of the Act.

## 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 1.5 Cultural Awareness Training

Develop increased understanding and observation of cultural protocols.

### 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.

**Goal 2.2 Policy and Procedures**

Research, review and develop policy to underpin and inform Council's intent and strategy to increase local Indigenous employment.

**Goal 2.3 Policy and Procedures**

Research, review and develop policy to underpin and inform Council's intent and strategy to increase local Indigenous 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 3.1 Cultural Safety**

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

**Goal 3.2 Health and Safety**

Staff and public safety is achieved via planning, education and training.

**Goal 3.3 Training and Development**

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

**Goal 3.4 Community Service Delivery**

Provision of high quality, culturally informed programs that support and enhance the safety and wellbeing of community members.

**ATTACHMENTS**

Nil



## WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

### FOR THE MEETING 26 March 2025

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>9.8</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>2025 Local Government Election Caretaker Period</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

#### SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to inform Council about the caretaker period for the upcoming 2025 Local Government elections

#### RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL receive and note the report titled *2025 Local Government Election Caretaker Period*.

#### BACKGROUND

In August this year, residents who live in West Arnhem communities will get a chance to elect a new Council that will serve their communities from September 2025 to August 2029. To ensure a smooth transition from the current Council to the new one, West Arnhem Regional Council will commence the caretaker period on the day nominations open. The caretaker period is a timeframe when all major decisions that are to be made by Council are put on hold. The period will end when the results of the elections are declared, and the new Elected Members are sworn into office in September 2025.

#### COMMENT

During the caretaker period, The Council will not make any major decisions.

Major decisions include:

- Entering into any high value contract or lease agreement involving expenditure inclusive of GST that exceeds one per cent (2.5%) of the annual budgeted revenue in the relevant financial year.
- Entering into a new or substantially changed funding agreement, unless there is real risk the eligibility for funding will be lost.
- Committing council funds outside the adopted budget.
- Amending the Council's caretaker policy.
- Amending the Council's delegations.
- Making a decision relating to the employment or remuneration of the CEO or Acting CEO.

However, major decisions do not include:

- A decision that relates to the carrying out of works in response to an emergency or disaster.
- An urgent matter that cannot wait until the newly elected Council makes a decision on that matter.
- A matter that has the possibility of legal or significant financial repercussions if a decision on the matter is deferred until the new Council has been elected.
- An expenditure or other decision required to be taken under an agreement by which funding is provided to the Council by the Commonwealth or Northern Territory Government, or otherwise for the Council to be eligible for funding from the Commonwealth or Northern Territory Government.
- The signing of an agreement where the majority of the negotiations were undertaken or resolved by Council prior to the caretaker period commencing.

#### Council Resources

Council resources are not to be used for the purposes of campaigning for a candidate. Council resources may be used to help with running the general election or to encourage voter participation.

#### Communications

Council communication methods – including media, websites, social media and newsletters – will not be used in any way that favours, promotes or criticises any particular Council Member or candidate. Council will continue to communicate normal council business relevant to the community. During the caretaker period, the CEO is the preferred spokesperson for any official communications. However, this does not fetter the discretion of the Mayor to speak on behalf of the Council as the Council's principal representative.

#### **Public Consultation**

Council will defer any public consultation until after the caretaker period, unless:

- It is mandatory public consultation required under legislation; or
- The consultation cannot reasonably be deferred.

#### **Events and Functions**

Council members will not use council events and functions held during the caretaker period for campaigning. No events or functions relating to opening or launching facilities will be held during the caretaker period.

#### **Electoral Information**

Council will only publish electoral information that is educational or promotional material relating to the election process and voter engagement.

#### **STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT**

Section 161 *Local Government Act 2019*.

West Arnhem Regional Council's Caretaker Policy

#### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

N/A

#### **STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS**

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

##### **PILLAR 6 FOUNDATIONS OF GOVERNANCE**

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

##### **Goal 6.5 Planning and Reporting**

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

##### **Goal 6.6 Information and Communication Technology**

Effective and innovative information technology solutions which maximise service delivery and support Council's operations.

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

Nil

## WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

### FOR THE MEETING 26 March 2025

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>9.9</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Finance Report for the period ended 31 January 2025</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jocelyn Nathanael-Walters, Director Finance</b>

#### SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with the Financial Management Report for the period ended 31 January 2025.

#### RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL receive and note the report titled *Finance Report for the period ended 31 January 2025*.

#### BACKGROUND

The CEO must, in each month, give the Council (or Council's Finance Committee) a report setting out:

- The actual year to date income and expenditure of council;
- The most recently adopted annual budget; and
- Details of any material variances between the most recent actual income and expenditure, and the most recently adopted annual budget.

The report must be in the approved form.

The report must be accompanied by the CEO's certification in writing, to the Council, that to the best of the CEO's knowledge, information and belief:

- The internal controls implemented by Council are appropriate; and
- The Council's financial report best reflects the financial affairs of Council.

If the CEO cannot provide the certification, then written reasons for not providing the certification is to be submitted.

#### COMMENT

The *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021* requires the previous month's financial report to be given to the Council.

The format of the monthly financial report follows the prescribed format set out in the CEO of the Department of Chief Minister and Cabinet's approved form published on the NT Government Local Government Unit's website.

Financial will be tabled at the Ordinary Council Meeting scheduled 26 March 2025.

#### STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

Regulation 17 of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021* outlines the requirements for the monthly financial report to council.

#### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The CEO is responsible for laying before the Council a monthly financial report and the Council is responsible for managing its resources.

#### STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

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

##### PILLAR 6 FOUNDATIONS OF GOVERNANCE

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

##### Goal 6.1 Financial Management

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

## **ATTACHMENTS**

Nil

## **WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL**

### **FOR THE MEETING 26 MARCH 2025**

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>10.1</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Elected Member Questions with or without Notice</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

#### **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**

Nil

## WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

### FOR THE MEETING 26 MARCH 2025

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>11.1</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Closure to the Public for the Discussion of Confidential Items</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

#### 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

Nil

## **WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL**

### **FOR THE MEETING 26 MARCH 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*.

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>12.1</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Confirmation of Confidential Special Council Meeting Minutes</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

*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.*



<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>12.2</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Incoming and Outgoing Correspondence</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

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

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>12.3</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Current Status of Outstanding Regional Land Use Agreements from the Northern Land Council</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Clem Beard, Project Manager</b>

*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)(i). It contains information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to: cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on, any person.*

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>12.4</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Local Government Funding Levels</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Ben Waugh, Interim Chief Executive Officer</b>

*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)(i). It contains information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to: cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on, any person.*

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>12.6</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Disposal of Fleet Landcruiser 200 Series CF41QP</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jocelyn Nathanael-Walters, Director of Finance</b>

*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.*

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>12.7</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Movements in Reserves</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jocelyn Nathanael-Walters, Director of Finance</b>

*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.*

<b>Agenda Reference:</b>	<b>13.2</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Disclosure of Confidential Resolutions and Re-admittance of the Public</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Jasmine Mortimore, Governance Advisor</b>

*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.*

## **RE-ADMITTANCE OF THE PUBLIC**

**14 NEXT MEETING**

**15 MEETING DECLARED CLOSED**