



WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL AGENDA

**GUNBALANYA LOCAL AUTHORITY
TUESDAY, 3 MARCH 2026**



WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

Notice is hereby given that a Local Authority Meeting of the West Arnhem Regional Council will be held in Gunbalanya on Tuesday 3 March 2026 at 10:00 am.



Katharine Clare Murray
Chief Executive Officer

Code of Conduct: The Local Government Act 2019

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

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

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ITEM	SUBJECT	PAGE NO
1	ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY AND OPENING OF MEETING.....	6
2	PERSONS PRESENT.....	7
3	APOLOGIES AND ABSENCES	7
3.1	Apologies, Leave of Absence and Absence Without Notice	7
4	ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON	8
4.1	Election of Gunbalanya Local Authority Chairperson	8
5	ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA	10
5.1	Acceptance of Agenda	10
6	DECLARATION OF INTEREST OF MEMBERS OR STAFF	11
6.1	Disclosure of Interest of Members or Staff.....	11
7	CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES.....	12
7.1	Confirmation of Local Authority Meeting Minutes.....	12
8	DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS	21
8.1	Invited Guest - NT Police.....	21
8.2	Presentations and Visitors - Red Lily Health Clinic Update	22
9	RECEIVE AND NOTE REPORTS.....	23
9.2	Incoming and Outgoing Correspondence	23
9.3	Finance Report to 31 January 2026	26
9.4	Technical Services Gunbalanya Projects Report	32
9.5	CSM Operations Report on Current Council Services	34
9.6	Human Resources Report up to 13 February 2026.....	42
9.7	2024-2025 Annual Report.....	45
9.8	Gunbalanya Landfill Update.....	159
9.9	Draft 2026/27 Local Authority Budget and Long-Term Financial Plan.....	167
10	ACTION REPORTS	170
10.1	Review of Action Items	170
10.2	Cultural Training.....	172

10.3 Gunbalanya Community Flag Poles	174
10.4 Community Benefit Fund	176
11 LOCAL AUTHORITY MEMBER QUESTIONS WITH OR WITHOUT NOTICE	178
11.1 Local Authority Member Questions with or without Notice	178
12 NEXT MEETING	179

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 3 MARCH 2026

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

SUMMARY

This report is to table, for the Gunbalanya Local Authority record, any apologies, and requests for leave of absence received from Authority members, as well as record any absence without notice for the meeting held on 3 March 2026.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

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

COMMENT

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

LEGISLATION AND POLICY

Guideline 1: Local Authorities

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 ARNHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING TUESDAY 3 MARCH 2026

Agenda Reference:	4.1
Title:	Election of Gunbalanya Local Authority Chairperson
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is for the Local Authority to consider electing a new Chairperson.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *Election of Gunbalanya Local Authority Chairperson*; and
2. Elects Local Authority Member ... to the position of Gunbalanya Local Authority Chairperson for a period of 12 months.

BACKGROUND

The Gunbalanya Local Authority currently comprises of the following members:

Elected Members

- Cr Ralph McCoy
- Cr Henry Yates
- Cr Daniel Siebert

Appointed Members

- Andy Garnarradj
- Evonne Gumurdul
- Kenneth Mangiru
- Maxwell Garnarradj
- Ishmael Wurramara
- Kerry Mangiru
- Charlene Dirdi (resigned)

COMMENT

All members of the Local Authority (Appointed and Elected) can vote for the Chairperson. However, it is recommended only appointed members of the Gunbalanya Local Authority can nominate for the Chairperson position. The successful candidate will be appointed for a period of 12 months.

LEGISLATION AND POLICY

Section 78 of the *Local Government Act 2019*.

Clause 67 of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021*.

Clause 9.1 of *Guideline 1: Local Authorities*.

The Local Authority Appointments, Resignations and Terminations Policy applies to this matter.

Reasonable Expenses and Benefit for Council, Local Authority and Council Committee Members Policy

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

Conflict of Interest (Elected, Local Authority and Committee Members) Policy.

Gifts, Benefits and Hospitality (Elected, Local Authority and Committee Members) Policy.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The following allowance will be paid for each meeting of a Local Authority:

The Chair of a Local Authority will be paid as follows:

If the meeting is held up to 2 hours	\$300
If the meeting is held between 2 to 4 hours	\$450
If the meeting is held more than 4 hours	\$600

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

Nil

WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 3 MARCH 2026

Agenda Reference:	5.1
Title:	Acceptance of Agenda
Author:	Debbie Branson, Governance Advisor

SUMMARY

Agenda papers are presented for acceptance at the Gunbalanya Local Authority meeting held on 3 March 2026.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY accepts the agenda papers as circulated for the Gunbalanya Local Authority meeting held on 3 March 2026.

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 3 MARCH 2026

Agenda Reference:	6.1
Title:	Disclosure of Interest of Members or Staff
Author:	Debbie Branson, Governance Advisor

SUMMARY

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

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

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

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

RECOMMENDATION

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY acknowledges the declarations of interest relating to the items listed for the Gunbalanya Local Authority meeting held on 3 March 2026.

LEGISLATION AND POLICY

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

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

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

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

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

PILLAR 6 FOUNDATIONS OF GOVERNANCE

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

Goal 6.4 Risk Management

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

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 3 MARCH 2026

Agenda Reference:	7.1
Title:	Confirmation of Local Authority Meeting Minutes
Author:	Debbie Branson, Governance Advisor

SUMMARY

Unconfirmed minutes from the Gunbalanya Local Authority meeting held on Wednesday, 16 July 2025 are submitted to the Local Authority for confirmation that the minutes are a true and correct record of the meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY confirms the minutes of the Gunbalanya Local Authority meeting held on Wednesday, 16 July 2025 as a true and correct record.

LEGISLATION AND POLICY

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

Clause 13.1 *Guideline 1: Local Authorities 2021*.

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

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

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

PILLAR 6 FOUNDATIONS OF GOVERNANCE

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

Goal 6.3 Council and Local Authorities

Excellence in governance, consultation administration and representation.

ATTACHMENTS

1. 2025-07-16 Gunbalanya Local Authority Minutes - Unconfirmed [7.1.1 - 8 pages]



Minutes of the West Arnhem Regional Council Gunbalanya Local Authority
Wednesday, 16 July 2025 at 9:15am
Council Chambers

1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY AND OPENING OF MEETING

Chairperson Garnarradj declared the meeting open at 9:50am, welcomed all in attendance and did an Acknowledgement of Country.

2 PERSONS PRESENT

APPOINTED MEMBERS PRESENT

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

ELECTED MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor	James Woods
Deputy Mayor	Elizabeth Williams

STAFF PRESENT

Chief Executive Officer	Katharine Clare Murray
Director of Community and Council Services	Fiona Ainsworth (via video)
Director of Finance	Joycelyn Nathanael-Walters (via video)
Council Services Manager	Vicki Mccoy
Manager Technical Services	Kylie Gregson (via video)
Governance Advisor	Debbie Branson
Executive Assistant to Mayor and CEO	Gina Carrascalao (via video)
Project Manager	Clem Beard
Information Advisor	Ben Heaslip (via video)

3 APOLOGIES AND ABSENCES

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

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

GAR40/2025 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Chairperson Andy Garnarradj
Seconded Member Henry Yates

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Notes the apology received from Cr Donna Nadjamerrek, Cr Tamar Nawirridj, Cr Otto Dann, Members Grant Nayinggul and Nicodemus Nayilibidj; and
2. Determines Cr Tamar Nawirridj, Cr Donna Nadjamerrek, Cr Otto Dann, Members Grant Nayinggul and Nicodemus Nayilibidj are absent with permission of the Authority.

CARRIED

4 ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

Agenda Reference:	4.1
Title:	Acceptance of Agenda
Author:	Debbie Branson, Governance Advisor

The Local Authority considered a report on Acceptance of Agenda.

GAR41/2025 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Member Henry Yates
Seconded Member Kenneth Mangiru

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY accept the agenda papers as circulated for the Gunbalanya Local Authority meeting held on 16 July 2025.

CARRIED

5 DECLARATION OF INTEREST OF MEMBERS OR STAFF

Agenda Reference:	5.1
Title:	Disclosure of Interest of Members or Staff
Author:	Debbie Branson, Governance Advisor

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

GAR42/2025 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Chairperson Andy Garnarradj
Seconded Member Kenneth Mangiru

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY received nil declarations of interest for the Gunbalanya Local Authority meeting held on 16 July 2025.

CARRIED

6 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Agenda Reference:	6.1
Title:	Confirmation of Local Authority Meeting Minutes
Author:	Debbie Branson, Governance Advisor

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

GAR43/2025 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Member Evonne Gumurdul
Seconded Mayor James Woods

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY adopted the minutes of the Gunbalanya Local Authority meeting held on Wednesday 14 May 2025 as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

Item 7.1 – Presentations and Visitors was deferred and Item 7.2 – Invited Guests – NT Police was bought forward.

Agenda Reference:	7.2
Title:	Invited Guest - NT Police
Author:	Debbie Branson, Governance Advisor

The Local Authority considered a report on Invited Guest - NT Police.

Remote Sergeant Chan'e Mienie, NT Police joined the meeting at 9:55am.

GAR44/2025 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Chairperson Andy Garnarradj
Seconded Mayor James Woods

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY noted the update on Law and Order by the NT Police.

CARRIED

7 DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Agenda Reference:	7.1
Title:	Presentations and Visitors
Author:	Debbie Branson, Governance Advisor

The Local Authority considered a report on Presentations and Visitors.

Representatives from Red Lily Health Clinic, Brad Palmer and Jarrad Giles joined the meeting at 10:11am.

The Local Authority held a minute silence to acknowledge the loss of the Red Lily Health Clinic's former Chair.

Chairperson Andy Garnarradj left the meeting at 10:21am and returned at 10:23am.

Representatives from Red Lily Health Clinic, Brad Palmer and Jarrad Giles left the meeting at 10:42am.

GAR45/2025 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Member Connie Nayinggul
Seconded Member Henry Yates

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY notes the presentation by Red Lily Health Clinic.

CARRIED

8 ACTION REPORTS

Agenda Reference:	8.1
Title:	Review of Action Items
Author:	Debbie Branson, Governance Advisor

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

Members Kenneth Mangiru and Grant Nayinggul as members of the Adjumarllarl Aboriginal Corporation left the meeting at 10:49am and returned at 10:52am while the Local Authority members discussed the upgrade of the basketball courts.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:05am and reconvened at 11:24am.

GAR46/2025 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Member Henry Yates
Seconded Member Maxwell Garnarradj

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

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.

CARRIED

7 DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS (Continued)

Agenda Reference:	7.3
Title:	Presentations and Visitors
Author:	Debbie Branson, Governance Advisor

Kiarna Collinson and Sarah Jane, Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development joined the meeting at 11:27am and left at 11:56am.

GAR47/2025 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Member Henry Yates
Seconded Member Grant Nayinggul

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY notes the presentation by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development.

CARRIED

8 ACTION REPORTS (Continued)

Agenda Reference:	8.2
Title:	By-Laws for Gunbalanya Community
Author:	Ben Heaslip, Information Advisor

The Local Authority considered a report on By-Laws for Gunbalanya Community.

GAR48/2025 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Chairperson Andy Garnarradj
Seconded Member Evonne Gumurdul

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Receive and note the report titled *By-Laws for Gunbalanya Community*; and
2. Request draft By-laws for Commercial Waste, Removal of Commercial Waste and Traffic for consideration.

CARRIED

9 RECEIVE AND NOTE REPORTS

Agenda Reference:	9.1
Title:	Technical Services Gunbalanya Projects Report
Author:	Kylie Gregson, Manager Technical Services

The Local Authority considered a report on Technical Services Gunbalanya Projects Report.

GAR49/2025 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Member Henry Yates
Seconded Member Kenneth Mangiru

THAT LOCAL AUTHORITY receives and notes the report titled *Technical Services Gunbalanya Projects Report*.

CARRIED

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

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

GAR50/2025 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Chairperson Andy Garnarradj
Seconded Member Kenneth Mangiru

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Receive and note the report titled *CSM Operations Report on Current Council Services*; and
2. Approve the allocation of \$200.00 from the Gunbalanya Local Authority funding for the purchase of a farewell gift or to contribute to a farewell for the Sport and Recreation Officer who has resigned.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	9.3
Title:	Human Resources Report as at 30 June 2025
Author:	Linda Veugen-Yong, Human Resources Manager (Acting)

The Local Authority considered a report on Human Resources Report as at 30 June 2025.

GAR51/2025 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Member Evonne Gumurdul
Seconded Member Kenneth Mangiru

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY receive and note the report titled *Human Resources Report as at 30 June 2025*.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	9.4
Title:	2025 Local Government General Elections
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

The Local Authority considered a report on 2025 Local Government General Elections.

Chairperson Andy Garnarradj left the meeting at 12:43pm and returned at 12:50pm.

GAR52/2025 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Member Henry Yates
Seconded Mayor James Woods

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY receive and note the report titled *2025 Local Government General Elections*.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	9.5
Title:	Finance Report to May 2025
Author:	Imran Shajib, Finance Manager

The Local Authority considered a report on Finance Report to May 2025.

Chairperson left the meeting at 12:43pm and returned at 12:50pm.

GAR53/2025 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Member Evonne Gumurdul
Seconded Member Connie Nayinggul

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY receive and note the report titled *entitled Finance Report to May 2025*.

CARRIED

10 LOCAL AUTHORITY MEMBER QUESTIONS WITH OR WITHOUT NOTICE

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

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

GAR54/2025 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Chairperson Andy Garnarradj
Seconded Member Henry Yates

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

1. The Community needs a funeral 4wd motor vehicle; and
2. The Gunbalanya morgue requires maintenance.

CARRIED

11 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled to take place on Wednesday, 15 October 2025.

12 MEETING DECLARED CLOSED

Chairperson Garnarradj declared the meeting closed at 1:02pm.

This page and the preceding pages are the minutes of the Gunbalanya Local Authority held on Wednesday 16 July 2025.

Click [here](#) to view the agenda for the Gunbalanya Local Authority held on Wednesday 16 July 2025.

WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 3 MARCH 2026

Agenda Reference:	8.1
Title:	Invited Guest - NT Police
Author:	Debbie Branson, Governance Advisor

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is for the NT Police and Local Authorities to discuss issues and concerns in their communities. These discussions are supported by the MoU between West Arnhem Regional Council and the NT Police.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY noted the update on Law and Order by the NT Police.

BACKGROUND

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

Constanable Adam McMahon will attend in-person and Officer in Charge, Glenn Leafe will be attending via teams at 11:30am.

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 3 MARCH 2026

Agenda Reference:	8.2
Title:	Presentations and Visitors - Red Lily Health Clinic Update
Author:	Debbie Branson, Governance Advisor

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide the Local Authority with an update from the Red Lily Health Clinic.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY notes the presentation from Red Lily Health Clinic.

BACKGROUND

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

COMMENT

Mark DiFrancesco and the Local Manager have been invited to provide an update at 1:00pm.

Please raise any community health-related issues with the representatives.

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 3 MARCH 2026

Agenda Reference:	9.2
Title:	Incoming and Outgoing Correspondence
Author:	Debbie Branson, Governance Advisor

SUMMARY

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

RECOMMENDATION

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY receives and notes the attached items of incoming and outgoing correspondence.

BACKGROUND

Correspondence addressed to the Principal Member and Council, as determined by the Chief Executive Officer, is included in this report.

COMMENT

Date	From	Subject
29 Jul 2025	Emmanuel Church Kunbarlanja	Shelters - Arrkuluk and Kakbi (Banyan)
26 Nov 2025	National Library of Aust	Papers of Sue Kesteven

LEGISLATION AN POLICY

Nil.

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. Ltr Church-29072025115837-0001 [9.2.1 - 1 page]
2. Sue Kesteven [9.2.2 - 1 page]

To: Gunbalanya Local Authority
From: Lois Nadjamerrek, Emmanuel Church
Kunbarlanja

Dear Gunbalanya Local Authority,

My name is Lois Nadjamerrek. I am writing this letter for our community and for Emmanuel Church in Kunbarlanja.

We would like to ask for your support to help us use the two community shelters – one at Arrkuluk shelter and one at Kakbi (Banyan) shelter.

These places are good spaces for the community. They are quiet and neutral – good for open-air gatherings like community meetings or church events. But right now, they have no power, no lighting, and no water or toilet, and there is lots of rubbish around.

We would like to ask if it is possible for these shelters to be fixed up – maybe to have power connected, some lights, water, and toilet if possible. This would help us and the wider community to use these places for meetings or events in the daytime and at night too.

Is there any way you can support us to make this happen?

Thank you for listening.

Kind regards,

Lois Nadjamerrek

Emmanuel Church Kunbarlanja

Lois Nadjamerrek

Debbie Branson

From: Select <select@nla.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 26 November 2025 10:48 AM
To: WARC Governance
Subject: Update from the NLA on digitisation the Papers of Sue Kesteven

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

Dear Gunbalanya Local Authority,

I hope that your community is going well, and that you have not been badly affected by Cyclone Fina. We have been watching the news of cyclone carefully.

I know it has been a little while since you heard from us. This year has come and gone very quickly, but I wanted to update you on the Library's progress with digitising the Papers of Sue Kesteven.

I'm very pleased to report that the cassettes have all been digitised and we can now provide copies of these for you. We can provide these sound files by USB and/or Sharefile. Please let me know if you have a preference. We will also provide a listing of these files.

We have also commenced digitising the paper-based material. This has been slightly more complicated than the cassettes, but we have taken due diligence to make sure that everything is ready before beginning this. I will let you know when this material is ready to share with you.

I remember from some of our earlier discussions that the Bininj Kunwok Regional Language and Culture Centre might also be interested in seeing copies of the material. Please let me know if it would be appropriate for the Library to share with them too.

Again, I hope that you are all travelling safe and well.

Kind regards,
Rosalind

Rosalind Clarke | Assistant Director (acting), Curatorial & Collection Research | Pronouns: she/her

+61 2 6262 1966 | select@nla.gov.au | National Library of Australia

The National Library of Australia acknowledges First Australians as the Traditional Owners and Custodians of this land and pays respect to Elders – past and present – and through them to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.



Parkes Place Canberra ACT 2600 Australia
+61 2 6262 1111
www.library.gov.au

1

WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 3 March 2026

Agenda Reference:	9.3
Title:	Finance Report to 31 January 2026
Author:	Imran Shajib, Finance Manager

SUMMARY

This Finance Report covers the period 1 July 2025 to 31 January 2026 and is prepared specifically for the Gunbalanya Local Authority.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY receives and notes the report titled *Finance Report to January 2026*.

BACKGROUND

A local authority meeting agenda is to include a Finance Report.

COMMENT

The Local Authority's Finance Report covers the council activities and projects within the community. The reported activities include the council's Core Services funded by both tied and untied money, Commercial Services and Community Services.

The Finance Report also reports on the Local Authority's own projects and projects for Gunbalanya funded from the council's own money.

LEGISLATION AND POLICY

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

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Not Applicable

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

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

PILLAR 6 FOUNDATIONS OF GOVERNANCE

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

Goal 6.1 Financial Management

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



**Gunbalanya Local Authority Committee
Financial Management Report for the
period ended 31 January 2026**

Actual v Budget – Operational – July 2025 to January 2026

Actual v Budget - Gunbalanya

as at 31 Jan 2026

Description	GUNBALANYA				Annual Budget	Progress
	Actuals YTD	Budget YTD	Variance	%		
Operational Revenue						
Income Rates and Charges	440,186	443,330	(3,144)	(1%)	444,759	99%
Income Council Fees and Charges	3,977	8,250	(4,273)	(52%)	22,000	18%
Income Operating Grants	403,176	1,160,954	(757,778)	(65%)	1,211,076	33%
Income Allocation	105,053	117,342	(12,289)	(10%)	171,498	61%
Other Income	79,299	27,834	51,465	100%+	136,862	58%
Income Agency and Commercial Services	899,339	882,094	17,245	2%	1,534,266	59%
<i>Charges - Sewerage</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0%
<i>Charges - Water</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0%
<i>Charges - Waste</i>	361,731	390,622	(28,891)	(7%)	390,622	93%
Total Operational Revenue	2,292,761	3,030,427	(737,666)	(24%)	3,911,082	59%
Operational Expenditure						
Employee Expenses	1,123,679	1,194,030	(70,351)	(6%)	2,092,456	54%
Contract and Material Expenses	599,532	709,664	(110,132)	(16%)	1,345,337	45%
Finance Expenses	979	763	216	28%	1,270	77%
Travel, Freight and Accom Expenses	46,384	68,336	(21,952)	(32%)	137,084	34%
Fuel, Utilities & Communication	181,448	180,331	1,117	1%	347,887	52%
Other Expenses	302,468	303,457	(989)	(0%)	583,485	52%
<i>Elected Member Allowances</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0%
<i>Elected Member Expenses</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0%
<i>Council Committee & LA Allowances</i>	1,950	8,425	(6,475)	(77%)	14,900	13%
<i>Council Committee & LA Expenses</i>	411	2,205	(1,795)	(81%)	4,000	10%
Total Operational Expenditure	2,256,850	2,467,210	(210,360)	(9%)	4,526,419	50%
Total Operational Surplus / (Deficit)	35,910	563,216	(527,306)	(94%)	(615,337)	0%

Actual v Budget – Operating Position – July 2025 to January 2026

Annual Budget Operating Position

as at 31 Jan 2026

Description	Actuals YTD	Budget YTD	Variance	%	Annual Budget	Progress
Operating Surplus / (Deficit)	35,910	563,216	(527,306)	(94%)	(615,337)	0%
Remove NON-CASH ITEMS						
Less Non-Cash Income	(105,053)	(117,342)	12,289	10%	(171,498)	61%
Add Back Non-Cash Expenses	(540,114)	(548,948)	8,833	2%	(921,858)	59%
Total Non-Cash Items	435,061	431,606	3,456	1%	750,360	58%
Less ADDITIONAL OUTFLOWS						
Capital Expenditure	215,681	554,638	(338,957)	(61%)	682,825	32%
Borrowing Repayments (Principal Only)	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Transfer to Reserves	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Other Outflows	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Total Additional Outflows	215,681	554,638	(338,957)	(61%)	682,825	32%
Add ADDITIONAL INFLOWS						
Capital Grants Income	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Prior Year Carry Forward Tied Funding	236,956	236,956	-	-	236,956	100%
Other Inflow of Funds	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Transfers from Reserves	7,237	-	7,237	100%	-	100%
Total Additional Inflows	244,193	236,956	7,237	3%	236,956	100% +
Net Budgeted Operating Position	499,484	677,140	(177,656)	(26%)	(310,846)	0%

Legend:

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

Grant Funding – Community Projects and Programs – July 2025 to January 2026

Excludes LAP Funding



Grant Funded - Community Projects	Approved Budget (A)	Prior Year Expenditure (B)	Expenditure to date 2025-26 (C)	Commitments to Date (D)	Available Funds as at 31.01.26 (A-B-C-D)
4WD Bus -Gunbalanya -Sports & Recreation	220,000	(628)	(69,943)	(61,992)	87,437
TOTAL COMMUNITY PROJECTS	220,000	(628)	(69,943)	(61,992)	87,437

Grant Funded - Community Programs	Expenditure to date 2025-26 (A)	Commitments to Date (B)	Total Expenditure (A+B)
Home Care Packages Program (HCP)	42,998	732	43,731
Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP)	93,117	1,155	94,272
NT Jobs Package - Aged Care	49,749	-	49,749
Night Patrol	71,725	-	71,725
Deliver Indigenous Broadcasting Programs (RIBS)	16,223	-	16,223
Australia Day Grant	-	215	215
eHCP - Home Care Packages Program from eTools	58,340	-	58,340
NAIDOC Week	1,082	-	1,082
Sports and Recreation	98,746	2,122	100,868
Active Regional and Remote Communities Program	11,719	39,174	50,894
Remote Jobs for Economic Development – Job Creation	98	30,554	30,652
Support at Home Program	29,761	372	30,134
TOTAL COMMUNITY PROJECTS	473,559	74,325	547,884

LAP Funding – Local Authority Projects (Money story to end of January 2026)

Grant Funding - Local Authority Projects	Funding Amount \$	Fund received \$	Allocated \$	Balance Available for Allocation \$
LAP funding - 23-24	159,700	159,700	159,700	-
LAP funding - 24-25	159,700	159,700	118,095	41,605
LAP funding - 25-26 not yet received	168,800	-	-	-
Total Balance Available for Allocation				\$ 41,605

Grant Funding - Local Authority Projects - Active Projects	Approved Budget \$	Meeting Date/ Resolution	Cash received to date (incl. Carried Forward) \$	Expenditure prior years \$	Expenditure to date 2025-26 \$	Commitments \$	Available Funds Active Projects as at 31.01.26 \$	Status
Local Authority Projects (LAP)								
LAP - Additional Garden Hard Structure at the Billabong	117,800	25.05.2023 GUN171/2023	117,800	(91,148)	(2,488)	(4,400)	19,764	Awaiting Site Servicing Plan from Power Water Corporation to establish costs for funding applications to construct ablutions at the Billabong as requested by Local Authority
LAP - Solar Lights at Gunbalanya Back Road	13,425	25.05.2023 GUN200/2023	13,425	(12,186)	(1,203)	-	-	Work Completed. Unspent Program Fund transferred to Local Authority Unallocated Funds
LAP - Gunbalanya Oval Lighting: Contribute \$100K	100,000	09.07.2024 GUN22/2024	100,000	(82,417)	(17,583)	-	-	Work Completed
LAP - Animal Management	17,986	27.11.2024 GUN51/2024	17,986	-	(17,986)	-	-	Annual Vet Services completed for 2025
LOCAL AUTHORITY PROJECTS	249,211	-	249,211	(185,751)	(39,261)	(4,400)	19,764	

WEST ARNHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 3 March 2026

Agenda Reference:	9.4
Title:	Technical Services Gunbalanya Projects Report
Author:	Kylie Gregson, Manager Technical Services

SUMMARY

This report will present the Local Authority (LA) with an update on the overview of all Local Authority and other Council projects delivered in the Gunbalanya Community, for the reporting period up to 10 February 2026.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT LOCAL AUTHORITY receives and notes the report titled *Technical Services Gunbalanya Projects Report*.

BACKGROUND

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

COMMENT

The The table below provides a comprehensive snapshot of all projects currently being delivered in the Gunbalanya Community.

GUNBALANYA COUNCIL PROJECTS

STATUS	PROJECT COMPLETE	TASK	DESCRIPTION	% DONE
In Progress	31-07-2026	Insurance claim accepted - Works awarded to M+J Builders. Following site visit, surveyors now advising this is a flood prone area and buildings need to be elevated higher. Build to take place in Darwin, then transported for site installation. Target completion now extended to end of July 2026.	Gunbalanya Flood Insurance Toad Hall, Laundry & damaged house.	70%

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

Nil

WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 3 MARCH 2026

Agenda Reference:	9.5
Title:	CSM Operations Report on Current Council Services
Author:	Vicki McCoy, Council Services Manager, Gunbalanya

SUMMARY

This report will present the Local Authority (LA) with an update on council services provided in the Gunbalanya community for the period 01 June 2025 – 31 December 2025 as prepared and presented by Council Services Manager (CSM), Vicki McCoy.

RECOMMENDATION

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

BACKGROUND

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

COMMENT

1. Community Recruitment

Positions filled during the report period:

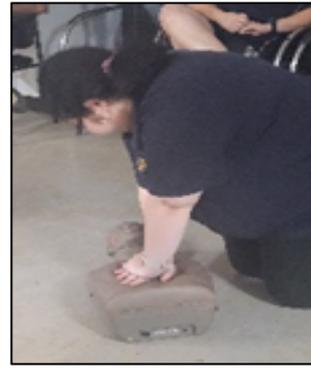
- Sports and Recreation Officer – Commenced 03 June 2025
- Works Officer – Commenced 09 September 2025
- Community Cook – Commenced 09 September 2025
- Sports and Recreation Team Leader – Commenced 03 November 2025
- Post/Administration Officer – Commenced 01 December 2025
- Works Officer – Commenced 30 December 2025

2. Administration Services

2.1 Administration

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

- 11 July 2025 – Closure due to National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee (NAIDOC) Day public holiday, only applicable to West Arnhem Regional Council (WARC) staff and services provided.
- 13 August 2025 – Closure 11:00am-12:00pm due to WARC All staff training session.
- 19 August 2025 – Closure 8:30am-11:30am due to WARC staff Training.
- 20 August 2025 – Closure 8:00am-1:00pm due to sorry business.
- 15 September 2025 – Closure 12:00noon due to sorry business.
- 09 October 2025 – Closure due to staff training
- 05 December 2025 – Closure 11:30am due to End of Year Staff Christmas Party



Gunbalanya staff attended CPR training course on 19 August 2025.

2.2 Post Office

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

- 01 July 2025 – Closure 8:00am-4:30pm due to end of year stocktaking.
- 13 August 2025 – Closure 11:00am-12:00pm due to WARC All staff training session.
- 20 August 2025 – Closure 8:00am-1:00pm due to sorry business.
- 15 September 2025 – Closure 12:00noon due to sorry business.
- 09 October 2025 – Closure due to no staff
- 12 November – Closure due to no staff
- 24 November - Closure due to no staff
- 05 December 2025 – Closure 11:30am due to End of Year Staff Christmas Party

Total postage received	9,055.111kgs
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2.3 Centrelink

The Gunbalanya Centrelink Office self-service remained open between 8:00am to 4:00pm each business day during the report period except for the following periods:

- 19 November 2025 – Closure due to Technical problems.
- 25th – 31st December 2025 - Christmas period closure.

2.4 Cleaning

Scheduled cleaning of council assets for reporting report has been completed as follows:

- Council office – Daily Monday- Friday – total of 147 occasions.
- Public toilets – twice a week – total of 60 occasions.
- Common areas cleaned – as required – total of 63 occasions.
- Visitor Accommodation rooms cleaned as required.

2.5 Visitor Accommodation

The total number of current visitor accommodation available is four (4) Cabins, bookings can be made through Little Hotelier, via WARC website.

- Vacant staff housing utilized for this reporting period, due to large number of visiting contractors.
- 170 guests utilized cabins for the reporting period.
- Work on Toad Hall commenced in late September 2025. Due to weather, work will re-commence in the dry.

3. Wellbeing Services

2.6 Sport & Recreation

Sport and Recreation team delivered activities involving after-school sessions, school holiday initiatives, and young adult-oriented programs. The activities offered included:

- Basketball
- Football
- Soccer
- Dodge Ball
- Art & Craft
- Pool table
- Swimming at pool
- Computer games
- Cooking
- One (1) staff member enrolled to do Certificate III in Community Services.
- Schools Careers Day held on 06 June 2025.
- School Holiday program ran from 23 June – 01 August 2025.
- AFL 9s competition occurred on the 03-04 July 2025.
- Community NAIDOC Week celebrations held on 10 July 2025.
- Sydney Swans visit 12 November 2025.

Attendance totals	4,664
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AFL 9s Gunbalanya competition - 03-04 July 2025.



Arts & Craft, Collecting Bush Food, Swimming

Overall:

Sports and Recreation Team have been implementing a range of different activities to cater for all community members in Gunbalanya.

2.7 Community Care (Aged Care)

The Gunbalanya Community Care team provides services Monday – Friday to 28 clients.

- Community Care continues to provide transportation for medical appointments and healthy nutritious meals.

Overall:

Community Care Service Team continues to provide a high quality of service across Gunbalanya during the reporting period. Community Care team from Jabiru assisting where possible and making sure clients had an ongoing quality service.



Total meals provided	11,089
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2.8 Disability Care

- The Gunbalanya Community Care team and the Community Connectors and Coordinator of Supports (CoS) under the National Disability Insurance scheme (NDIS).

Total number of NDIS participants	15
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2.9 Community Safety (Night Patrol)

- One (1) staff member enrolled in Certificate III in Community Services.

Total Patrol Nights	24
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2.10 Broadcasting

In conjunction with Top End Aboriginal Bush Broadcasting Association (TEABBA), broadcasting services were provided Monday to Friday, between 08:00am to 12:00noon.

- 30 June 2025 – Staff trained on new media equipment installed by TEABBA.

Total number of On-Air hours	250.5hrs
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4. Community Works

4.1 Parks and Open Space

The community is generally clean and tidy with rubbish collection occurring daily.

- 02 June 2025 – Install new fire pits at the Billabong shelter.
- 04 June 2025 – Removal of the overgrowth of weeds from Telstra tower.
- 19 June 2025 – Weeds removed from Billabong to install new pump.
- 19 August 2025 – Staff attended First Aid and CPR training.

4.2 Roads

General road repairs and maintenance were undertaken across the community.

- 11 August 2025 – Repairs to potholes and edges conducted by Downer Group Pty Ltd.



4.3 Waste

Landfill site operated Monday to Friday, 8:00am to 4:00pm with no disruption to service.

- 26 June 2025 – Sell & Parker removed 143.18 tons of dirt, rubbish and timber from the Gunbalanya Landfill site.
- Sell & Parker removed approx. 120+ vehicles removed from landfill.

5. Essential Services

4.4 Power

- Services requests from Indigenous Essential Services (IES) conducted.
- GenSet services completed as required.
- Power meter replacements done.
- Power Coordinator and/or contractor onsite.
- Fuel delivered before road closure.
- Contract works conducted during the reporting period.
- No disruptions to service during the reporting period.
- 10-13 June 2025 – Chemical Spraying Course.
- 19 August 2025 – USC staff attended First Aid + CPR training

4.5 Water

- Contract works conducted during the reporting period.
- No disruptions to service during the reporting period.

4.6 Sewage

- Contract works conducted during the reporting period.
- No disruptions to service during the reporting period.

4.7 Aerodrome

As per the contract, inspections, callouts and maintenance were undertaken by the Aerodrome Reporting Officer (ARO).

- No disruptions to service during the reporting period.
- 28 July 2025 – New line marking completed at the Gunbalanya aerodrome.



Aerodrome line marking

6. Community

5.1 Community meetings and events

- NAIDOC day event held at Injalak Art Centre.
- Children Christmas Party.

Total number of meetings and events attended by the CSM	64
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5.2 Community key focus areas

- Wet season preparation.
- Recruitment.
- Night Patrol.

5.3 Good News Stories

- The Gunbalanya School Career Expo was held on 06 June 2025, with Gunbalanya Council staff assisting with the setting up some of the plant equipment used by the Council works teams.



School Career Expo



Gunbalanya's two (2) newly Elected members sworn in as the communities new Councillors on 23 September 2025 in Jabiru. Congratulations Cr. Henry Yates and Cr. Ralph McCoy

LEGISLATION AND POLICY

Not applicable.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATION

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.

Goal 1.6 Youth Engagement

Deliver diverse, targeted programs and events which actively empower and engage young people as valuable partners in decision-making which effects them.

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 3.4 Community Service Delivery

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

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 3 March 2026

Agenda Reference:	9.6
Title:	Human Resources Report up to 13 February 2026
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to inform the Local Authority of Council employment statistics within the Local Government area and employment vacancies.

RECOMMENDATION

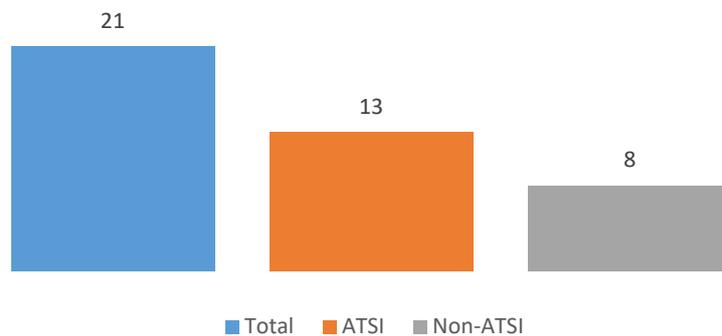
THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY receives and notes the report titled *Human Resources Report up to 13 February 2026*.

COMMENT

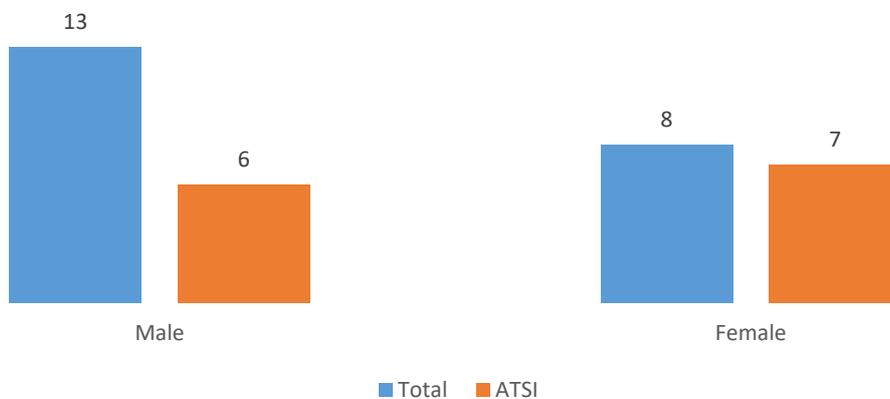
Workforce Report

As of 13 February 2026

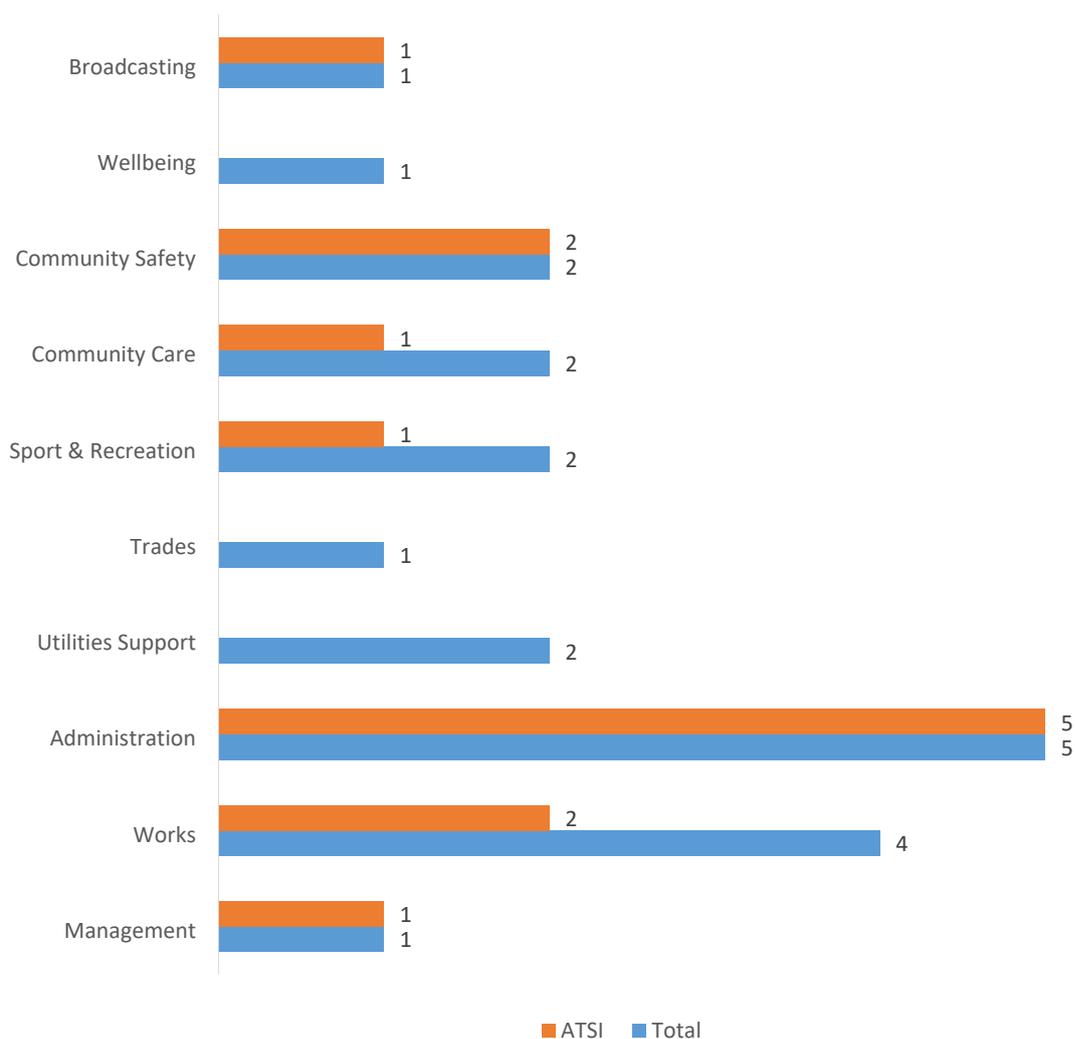
Employees by Number - Gunbalanya



Employees by Gender - Gunbalanya



Employees by Work Group - Gunbalanya



Vacancies by location as of 13 February 2026

Gunbalanya

- **Precinct Assistant (Sports Grounds Keeper)** - \$26.53/hr | Fixed Term | 20 hrs | No Accommodation | Open until filled *
- **Waste Collection Assistant** - \$26.53/hr | Fixed Term | Full Time | No Accommodation | Open until filled*
- **Works Assistant** | \$26.53/hr | Permanent | 25 hrs | No Accommodation | Open until filled
- **Youth, Sport & Recreation Assistant** — \$26.53/hr | Permanent | 25 hrs | No Accommodation | Open until filled
- **Community Safety Senior Officer** — \$37.39/hr | Permanent | 25 hrs | No Accommodation | Open until filled
- **Centrelink Assistant** — \$26.53/hr | Permanent | 30 hrs | No Accommodation | Open until filled
- **Community Care Officer** — \$31.35/hr | Permanent | 20 hrs | No Accommodation | Open until filled

*Special conditions apply

LEGISLATION AND POLICY

Local Government Act 2019 (Act)

Council's Organisational Structure

Council's Budget and Long-Term Financial Plan

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

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

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 3.2 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.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 3 March 2026

Agenda Reference:	9.7
Title:	2024-2025 Annual Report
Author:	Debbie Branson, Governance Advisor

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to present the approved West Arnhem Regional Council's 2024-2025 Annual Report to the Local Authority for noting. The Annual Report contains information about Council's operating and financial activities over the past financial year.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY receives and notes the report titled *2024-2025 Annual Report*.

BACKGROUND

According to Guideline 1: Local Authorities section 10.2 (a) Once in each financial year, a local authority agenda must include a copy of the Councils Annual report for the previous financial year.

LEGISLATION AND POLICY

Local Government Act 2019 Guideline 1: Local Authorities

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

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

PILLAR 1 PARTNERSHIPS, RELATIONSHIPS AND BELONGING

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

Goal 1.1 Community Engagement

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

PILLAR 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

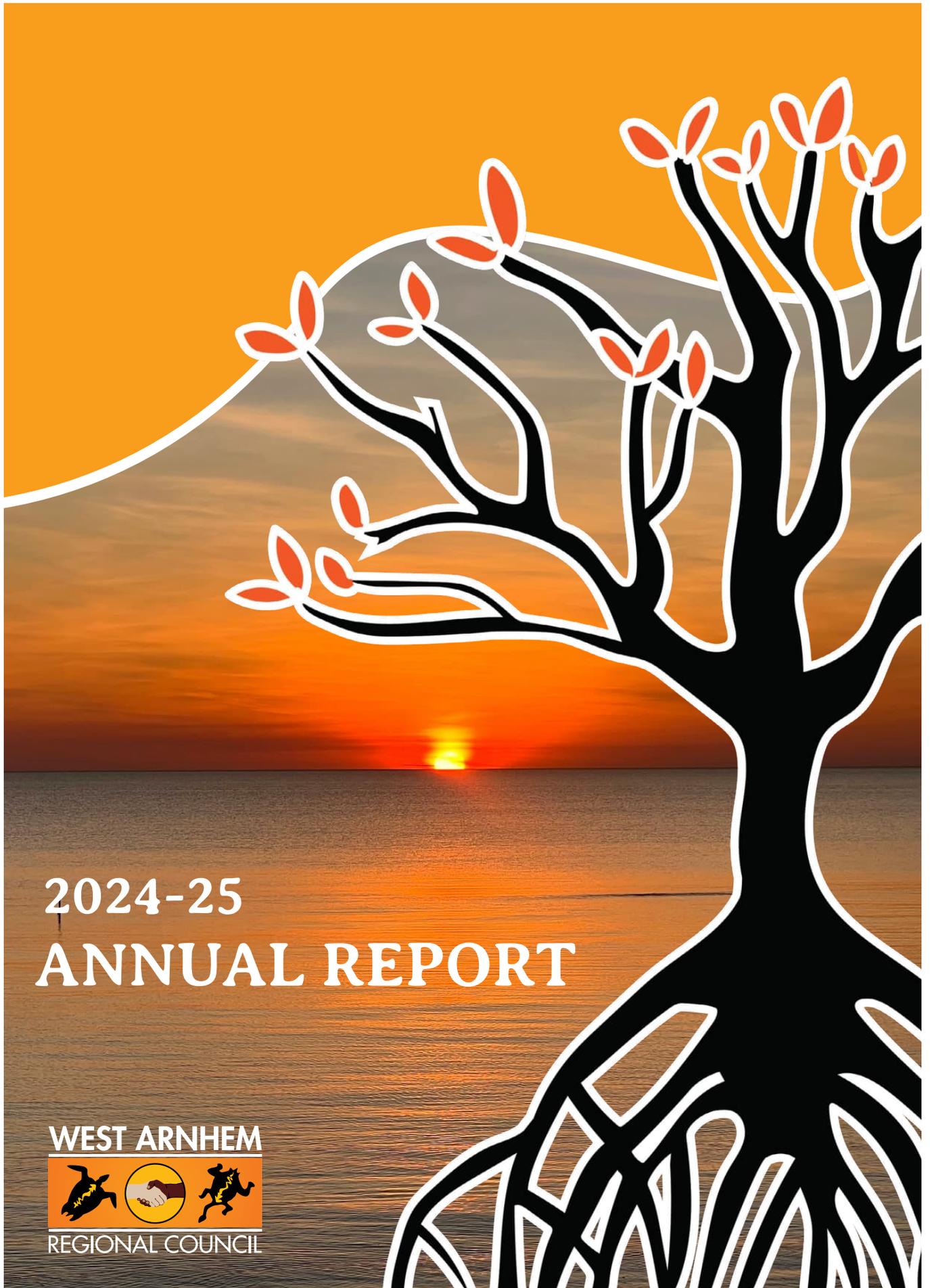
Excellence in governance, consultation administration and representation.

Goal 6.5 Planning and Reporting

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

ATTACHMENTS

1. WARC 2024-25 Annual Report (1) [9.7.1 - 113 pages]



2024-25 ANNUAL REPORT

WEST ARNHEM



REGIONAL COUNCIL

Acknowledgement of Country

West Arnhem Regional Council acknowledges the First Nations Custodians; and the many Language and Family groups who are Managers and Care-takers to each of their Traditional homelands and Waters across the West Arnhem Region's Wards. West Arnhem Regional Council pay their respects and acknowledge Elders, past present and rising.



Ubirr, Kakadu National Park.



Table of Contents

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR AND CEO	4
STRATEGIC PLAN	6
OUR REGION	8
Statistics Overview	10
OUR COUNCIL	12
Our Councillors	13
Council's Structure	14
Meeting Attendance	15
Allowances	16
Council Committee and Panel	17
Consultations Undertaken by Council	19
Key Council Projects	20
Council Shared Agreements	21
Council Delegations and Advisory Bodies	22
Local Authorities	23
Local Authority Meeting Attendance	24
Local Authority Projects	26
OUR STAFF	28
Organisational Structure	29
Staff Snapshot	30
COUNCIL PERFORMANCE	33
Our Performance Highlights	34
Assessment of Council's Performance	45
FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE	68

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People should be aware that this publication may contain images and names of people who have since passed away.

Mayor and CEO Welcome

On behalf of West Arnhem Regional Council, we are proud to present the 2024-25 Annual Report.

This year has been one of progress, as we continue to work together to achieve our Vision of Strong Communities. We recognise that true and lasting outcomes are achieved through collaboration and consultation with our constituents, Local Authorities and stakeholders. This has been, and will remain, a central focus of our Council's work.

With the leadership of our 12 Aboriginal Elected Members, representing the five wards of West Arnhem, Council remains strong and committed to greater outcomes for our region through community development, good governance, financial sustainability, and the empowerment of the communities we serve.

In 2024-25, Council saw several changes in leadership. We welcomed several new Elected Members, Monica Wilton and Jermaine Namanurki, representing the Maningrida Ward in July 2024. Tamar Nawirridj was appointed in January 2025 for the Gunbalanya Ward, and Steven Nabalmarada was appointed in February 2025 for the Minjilang Ward. We also acknowledge and thank the outgoing Councillors for their contributions during this period.

Following a national recruitment campaign, Council was also pleased to appoint Katharine Murray as Chief Executive Officer (CEO) in April 2025. Katharine took on the role from former CEO Andrew Walsh, who resigned earlier in the year. We thank Andrew for his significant contributions during his tenure and warmly welcome Katharine's leadership as she guides Council into the future.

This has been a year of milestones across all facets of our organisation - from advocacy and representation to strong service delivery, building up our workforce and increasing

local employment. These priorities are deeply embedded in the six Pillars of our Strategic Plan, which continues to guide and shape our work.

A key achievement this year was the approval of the West Arnhem Regional Council (Jabiru Town) By-Laws 2024. Endorsed at a Special Council Meeting on 6 December 2024 and approved by the Minister on 17 December 2024, the new by-laws came into effect on 1 January 2025. These laws replaced six existing by-laws, ensuring the ongoing maintenance and regulation of Jabiru Township.

“These priorities are deeply embedded in the six Pillars of our Strategic Plan, which continues to guide and shape our work..”

Under Pillar 4 – Service Delivery & Built Environment, Council has continued to invest in vital infrastructure that enhances liveability, supports community activity, and improves facilities across the region. This year's highlights include:

- Gunbalanya: Oval irrigation upgrades – \$250,000
- Jabiru: Installation of oval lights – \$1.5 million
- Maningrida: Changerooms – \$3.5 million
- Minjilang: Cemetery works – \$150,000
- Warruwi: Recreation Hall upgrades – \$200,000

Throughout the year, Local Authorities across West Arnhem supported and funded more than 20 major community and infrastructure projects. Council acknowledges the dedication of all Local Authority members, past and present, for their important role as a bridge between Council and community. In line with Pillar 2 – Increased Local Indigenous Employment, Council was successful in securing 12 positions under the



Remote Jobs and Economic Development Program, further strengthening opportunities for local employment and community development.

Council also reached an important milestone for its workforce, with staff voting in favour of the organisation's first Enterprise Agreement, formally approved by the Fair Work Commission on 25 February 2025. This agreement improves employment conditions and reflects our commitment to valuing and investing in our people. We sincerely thank our 170-strong workforce for their dedication and service to our communities and look forward to the positive outcomes this agreement will deliver.

Council has also maintained a strong focus on financial sustainability, ensuring that resources are managed responsibly and transparently to support the long-term wellbeing of our communities.

Our advocacy efforts have ensured that West Arnhem continues to have a strong voice in Territory and

national conversations, securing valuable funding and resources while championing the needs and aspirations of our region. During the reporting period, Council was pleased to secure additional funding for major community infrastructure projects, including \$50,000 for repairs to the Maningrida Swimming Pool, \$200,000 for a new fuel tank in Minjilang, and \$1.15 million for upgrades to recreation facilities in Jabiru.

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the Australian Government, the Northern Territory Government and our funding bodies for their valuable partnerships and funding opportunities over the past year. These collaborations have played a key role in advancing the development and welfare of our region.

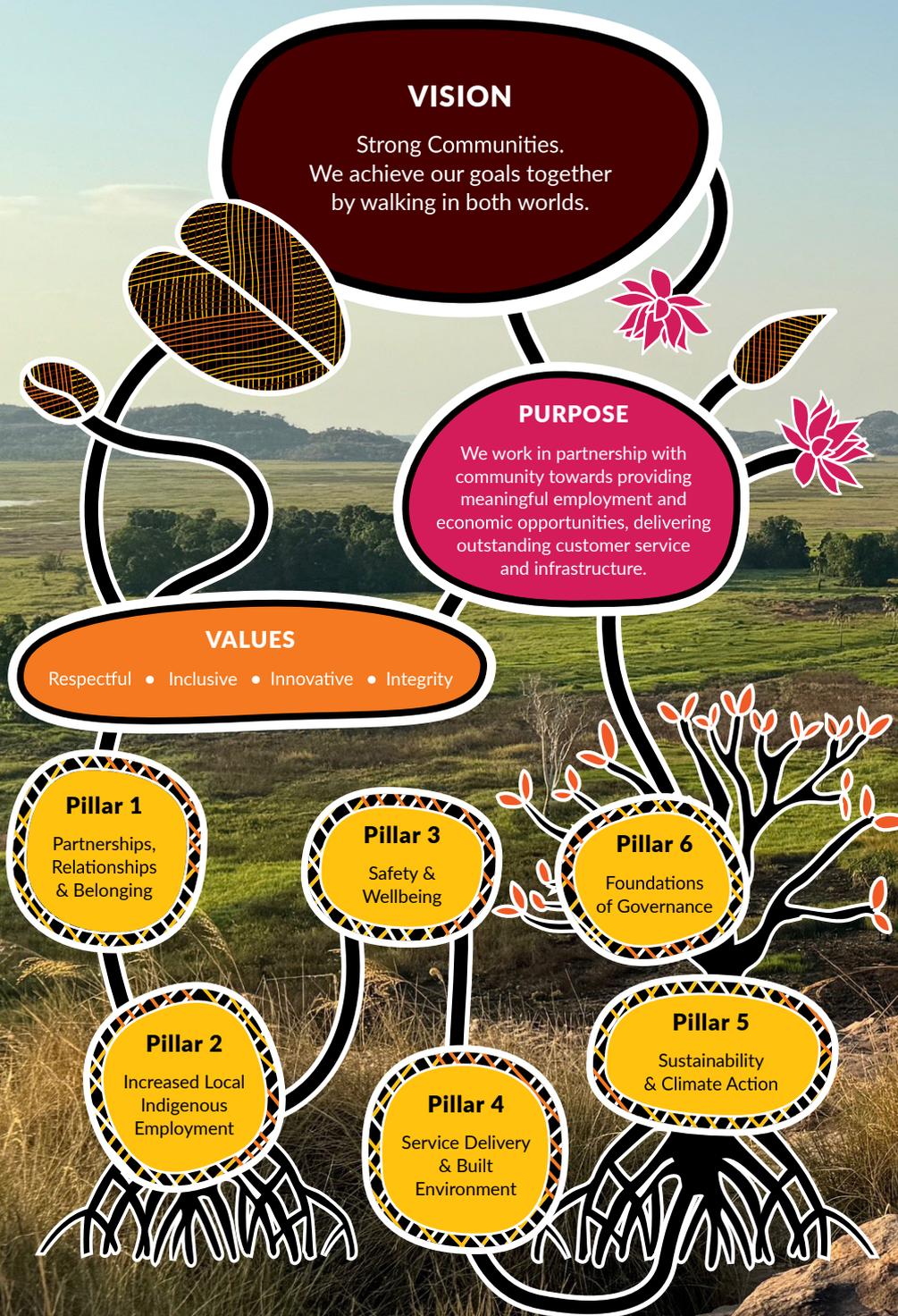
Finally, to our communities - thank you. Council is proud to walk alongside you, and we look forward to continuing this journey together. As we look ahead, our focus remains on building on these foundations, strengthening opportunities, and delivering meaningful outcomes for all communities in West Arnhem.



James Woods
Mayor

Katharine Murray
Chief Executive Officer

Strategic Plan





The values or behaviours that Council will embrace to support our Purpose and guide us in achieving the Vision are:

Respectful:

We respect our communities and staff of all cultures. We respect elders past, present and emerging for they hold the memories, the traditions the culture and hopes of Indigenous Australia. We acknowledge that Aboriginal culture is a living culture and that Aboriginal people continue to live in spiritual and sacred relationship with country.

Inclusive:

We are engaged with our communities and partners. We value diverse perspectives and voices and encourage their incorporation into our work practices.

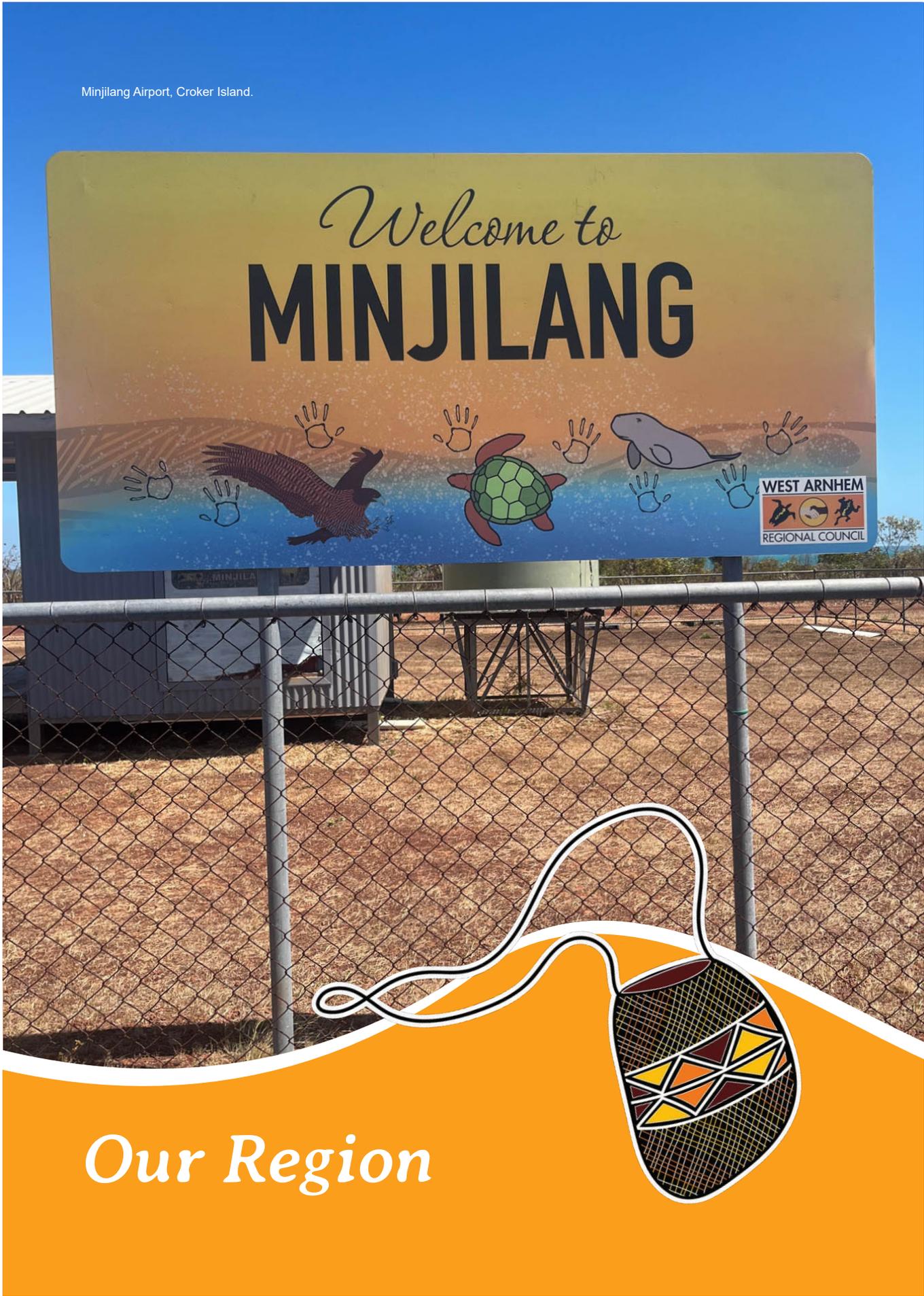
Innovative:

We encourage and promote a culture of safety where innovation is celebrated and new ways of working are implemented to improve our services.

Integrity:

We are open, transparent and accountable.

Minjilang Airport, Croker Island.



Our Region

Our Region at a Glance

The West Arnhem Regional Council is located in the northern reaches of the Northern Territory, spanning 49,675 square kilometres of diverse landscapes and deep cultural heritage. The region is home to around 6,281 people living across five main communities - Maningrida, Gunbalanya, Jabiru, and the island communities of Warruwi and Minjilang - as well as more than 100 homelands.

Communities and Populations

Each community has its own character, history, and strengths:

- Gunbalanya: 1,177 residents
- Jabiru: 755 residents
- Maningrida: 2,518 residents
- Minjilang: 265 residents
- Warruwi: 432 residents

Together, these communities reflect the strong bonds of saltwater and freshwater peoples, whose lives and identities remain intertwined through songlines and cultural practices. More than three-quarters of the population - about 81% - identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Peoples, making culture, tradition, and language central to everyday life.

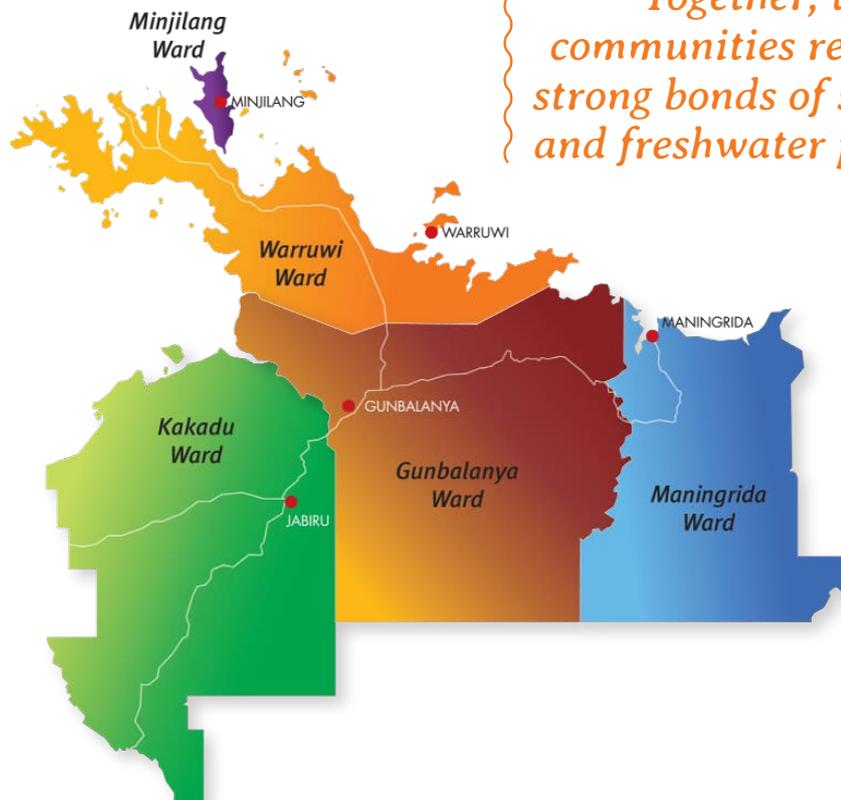
Environment and Country

West Arnhem is defined by its extraordinary environment. From sweeping coastlines, winding river systems, wetlands, and freshwater billabongs to the rugged escarpments of stone country, the region holds both ecological and cultural significance. It is also home to two of Australia's most famous protected areas: Kakadu National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage site, and Garig Gunak Barlu National Park on the Cobourg Peninsula.

Governance and Community Voice

Council governance is organised into five Wards, represented by 12 elected members. These members work in close partnership with their communities to address local priorities while respecting the unique needs of each area. Local decision-making is further strengthened through four Local Authorities in Maningrida, Gunbalanya, Warruwi, and Minjilang. These meetings give community members a direct voice in shaping projects and services, helping ensure that council decisions reflect local aspirations.

“Together, these communities reflect the strong bonds of saltwater and freshwater peoples..”



Statistics Overview

Data source: 2021 Census data



Total Population

6,281
Median Age: 28 years



Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Peoples

5,097 or 81%



Gender Breakdown

Male 50.9%
Female 49.1%



Number of Families

1,144



Top Languages Spoken at Home

(Excluding English)
Kunwinjku: 23.1%
Burarra: 18.0%
Kuninjku: 6.6%
Ndjebbana (Gunavidji): 5.7%
Maung: 5.1%



Households

Private Dwellings: 2,188
Average number of people per household: 4.2



Waruwi Youth, Sport and Recreation program's 'on Country' activities.



The Youth AFL 9s competition in Gunbalanya.

Mayor James Woods and Councillor Jacqueline Phillips attending the 2024 First Circles Leadership Program graduation as Alumni.



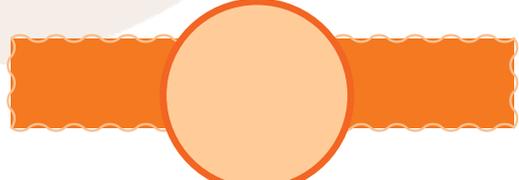
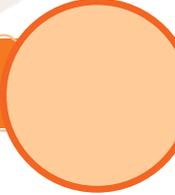
Our Council



Our Councillors

The Council is governed by five wards with 12 Elected Members serving to represent the interests of their respective Wards. The Elected Members work closely with the Communities to ensure that local priorities and challenges are addressed, with a special emphasis on the unique needs of each area.



			
			
Gunbalanya Ward Cr Otto Dann	Gunbalanya Ward Cr Tamar Nawirridj	Gunbalanya Ward Cr Donna Nadjamerrek	
			
			
Maningrida Ward Mayor James Woods	Maningrida Ward Cr Jacqueline Phillips	Maningrida Ward Cr Monica Wilton	Maningrida Ward Cr Jermaine Namanurki
			
			
Kakadu Ward Deputy Mayor Elizabeth Williams	Kakadu Ward Cr Ralph Blyth	Kakadu Ward Cr Mickitja Onus	
			
			
Minjilang Ward Cr Steven Nabalmarda	Warruwi Ward Cr Marrawal		

Council's Structure

Residents of each of West Arnhem Regional Council's five wards elect councillors at the Northern Territory local government general election held every four years. There are 12 councillors in total elected and they sit as the West Arnhem Regional Council.

The role of Council is to:

- Listen to and represent the interests of residents
- Influence decisions which affect communities
- Provide leadership, guidance, and directly influence the future direction of the region
- Advocate to all levels of government on important community matters

“Council welcomed several new appointments to ensure strong local representation.”

Following the 2021 NT Local Government General Election, Council welcomed several new appointments to ensure strong local representation. Tamar Nawirridji was appointed to fill a vacancy in the Gunbalanya Ward, while Monica Wilton and Jermaine Namanurki joined the Maningrida Ward, and Steven Nabalmarda was appointed to the Minjilang Ward. The next NT Local Government General Election is scheduled for August 2025, when community members will once again have the opportunity to elect their representatives.

Changes within Council

Gunbalanya Ward

In October 2024, Council accepted the resignation of Cr Gabby Gumurdul. Cr Tamar Nawirridji was appointed in January 2025 to fill the vacancy. Cr Nawirridji is committed to supporting the Gunbalanya community and caring for country.

Maningrida Ward

In July 2024, Council called for nominations to fill two vacancies in the Maningrida Ward. Cr Jermaine Namanurki and Cr Monica Wilton were subsequently appointed. Cr Namanurki is eager to strengthen his understanding of governance and develop leadership skills to benefit the Maningrida community. Cr Wilton is dedicated to being a strong voice for her people, with a focus on improving community health and reducing violence.

Minjilang Ward

In November 2024, Council accepted the resignation of Cr Henry Guwiyul. Cr Steven Nabalmarda was appointed in February 2025 and is committed to working closely with the Minjilang community to address local needs.



Elected Members training with staff from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development.

Meeting Attendance

Elected Members Attendance at Council and Committee Meetings in 2024-25:

Elected Members	Ward	Council meetings	Finance Committee Meetings	Risk Management and Audit Committee Meetings	CEO Employment & Remuneration Advisory Panel	Kakadu Ward Advisory Committee Meeting	Special Council Meeting	Attendance Summary		
								Entitled to Attend	Meeting Attended	
James Woods (Mayor)	Maningrida	10/12		3/4	3/3	4/4	16/16	39	36	92%
Elizabeth Williams (Deputy Mayor)	Kakadu	11/12		4/4	3/3	4/4	16/16	39	38	97%
Gabby Gumurdul	Gunbalanya	0/4					0/4	4	0	0%
Ralph Blyth	Kakadu	9/12				4/4	13/16	32	26	81%
Otto Dann	Gunbalanya	6/12					7/16	28	13	46%
Donna Nadjamerrek	Gunbalanya	7/12					6/16	28	13	46%
Jacqueline Phillips	Maningrida	8/12		2/4			12/16	32	22	68%
Monica Wilton	Maningrida	12/12					11/11	23	23	
Henry Guwiyul	Minjilang	1/4					0/4	8	1	12%
Jemaine Namanurki	Maningrida	10/12					8/11	23	18	78%
Cr Marrawal	Warruwi	8/12			3/3		9/16	31	20	65%
Tamar Nawirridj	Gunbalanya	3/5					3/5	5	3	60%
Mickitja Onus	Kakadu	11/12			3/3	4/4	15/16	35	33	94%

1. Finance Committee members are Mayor James Woods, Deputy Mayor Elizabeth Williams, Cr Mickitja Onus, Cr Marrawal and Cr Donna Nadjamerrek. No meetings were convened in 2024-25.
2. Risk Management and Audit Committee members are Mayor James Woods, Deputy Mayor Elizabeth Williams, Cr Jacqueline Phillips and two independent members Chairperson Carolyn Eagle and Member Warren Jackson.
3. CEO Employment & Remuneration Advisory Panel members are Mayor James Woods, Deputy Mayor Elizabeth Williams, Cr Mickitja Onus and Cr Marrawal. Mark Blackburn was appointed as the independent member.
4. Kakadu Ward Advisory Committee members are Mayor James Woods, Deputy Mayor Elizabeth Williams, Cr Mickitja Onus and Cr Ralph Blyth.

Allowances

Elected Members Payments

Elected Member	Total Allowances Paid (excl. Super Paid)	Base Allowance	Extra Meeting Allowance	Superannuation Paid
James Woods (Mayor)	102,000.08	102,000.08	-	11,730.02
Elizabeth Williams (Deputy Mayor)	42,400.12	36,000.12	6,400.00	4,875.98
Gabby Gumurdul	7,423.07	6,923.07	500.00	853.64
Ralph Blyth	23,499.98	19,999.98	3,500.00	2,702.46
Otto Dann	23,399.98	19,999.98	3,400.00	2,690.96
Donna Nadjamerrek	21,599.98	19,999.98	1,600.00	2,483.96
Jacqueline Phillips	23,799.98	19,999.98	3,800.00	2,736.96
Monica Wilton	23,396.68	18,296.68	5,100.00	2,690.59
Henry Guwiyul	8,327.46	7,527.46	800.00	957.65
Jermaine Namanurki	22,496.68	18,296.68	4,200.00	2,587.09
Cr Marrawal	24,899.98	19,999.98	4,900.00	2,863.46
Tamar Nawirridj	8,737.38	7,637.38	1,100.00	1,004.79
Mickitja Onus	24,699.98	19,999.98	4,700.00	2,840.46
Steven Nabalmarada	7,538.46	6,538.46	1,000.00	866.91
Total	364,219.81	323,219.81	41,000.00	41,884.93
Total Allowances and Super Paid				406,104.74

1. Allowance for Members are set by the Northern Territory Government Remuneration Tribunal.
2. Payments are as per the Members payment advice.

Council Committee Unelected Member Payments

Council Committee Unelected Member		Total Payments	Meeting Allowance	Travel Paid
Council's Risk Management and Audit Committee Independent Chairperson	Carolyn Eagle	\$3,836.00	\$3,836.00	-
Council's Risk Management and Audit Committee Independent Member	Warren Jackson	\$2,876.00	\$2,876.00	-
		\$6,712.00	\$6,712.00	-

Council Committees and Panel

Finance Committee

The Finance Committee is constituted as an Executive Committee with all the necessary powers to carry out Council's financial functions in line with section 83 of the *Local Government Act 2019* and Regulation 19 of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021. The Finance Committee was formed to review and approve the finance report in the instance that a quorum cannot be met for an Ordinary Meeting of Council.

The Committee currently consists of the following members:

Finance Committee Members
Mayor James Woods
Deputy Mayor Elizabeth Williams
Councillor Mickitja Onus
Councillor Marrawal
Councillor Donna Nadjamerrek

The Finance Meeting was disbanded at the beginning of 2023 and reestablished in February 2024.

No meetings were convened during the 2024-25 finance year.

Risk Management and Audit Committee

The Risk Management and Audit Committee is a key component of Council's governance framework. The Committee is an independent advisory body that monitors the compliance of Council's financial policies and procedures with relevant statutory provisions, regulations and ministerial guidelines. The Committee works within the framework of the Risk Management and Audit Committee Charter and the Risk Management and Audit Committee Terms of Reference.

The Committee currently consists of the following members:

Risk Management and Audit Committee Members
Carolyn Eagle (Independent Chair)
Warren Jackson (Independent Member)
Mayor James Woods
Deputy Mayor Elizabeth Williams
Councillor Jacqueline Phillips
Councillor Gabby Gumurdul

The Risk Management and Audit Committee meets four times a year. Meeting dates were as follow:

20 September 2024
12 November 2024
27 February 2025
19 June 2025



Gunbalanya Local Authority member and Chairperson Andy Gamarradj, Minister Malamdirri McCarthy, Cr Donna Nadjamerrek, Mayor James Woods and Cr Otto Dann in Gunbalanya in April 2025.

Council Committees and Panel

CEO Employment and Remuneration Advisory Panel

The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Employment and Remuneration Advisory Panel was reestablished in May 2024 in line with the *Local Government Act 2019* - Guideline 2: Appointing a CEO. The key objective of the Panel is to provide advice and support to Council regarding CEO employment processes including recruitment, contract of employment, remuneration and performance review.

The Panel has the following members:

CEO Employment and Remuneration Advisory Panel Members
Mayor James Woods
Deputy Mayor Elizabeth Williams
Councillor Mickitja Onus
Councillor Marrawal
Independent Member Mark Blackburn

Meeting dates in 2024-25:

22 January 2025
14 February 2025
20 February 2025

Kakadu Ward Advisory Committee

Formed to support the Kakadu Ward Councillors as the Ward has not been recognised by the Local Government Ministers as a Local Authority. This gives the Councillors a voice in and for the activities and operations of West Arnhem Regional Council in Jabiru and the wider Kakadu Ward. Whilst this advisory committee has no income stream at this point, the Committee's activities encompass all areas of Kakadu Ward events and operations, and it was established as a vessel to empower the greater community spirit and make a difference for the constituents of the Kakadu Ward.

The Committee currently consists of the following members:

Kakadu Ward Advisory Committee Members
Councillor Ralph Blyth (Chairperson)
Mayor James Woods
Deputy Mayor Elizabeth Williams
Councillor Mickitja Onus

Meeting dates in 2024-25:

13 September 2024
29 November 2024
14 March 2025
19 June 2025



Consultations Undertaken by Council

The West Arnhem Regional Council Plan and Budget 2025-26

The Draft Regional Plan and Budget 2025-26 was approved by Council and released for public consultation on 29 April 2025.

A revised draft was issued on 13 May 2025 to incorporate information inadvertently omitted from the original version. The subsequent public consultation period closed on 3 June 2025, with one submission received from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development, recommending minor grammatical changes.

"The Plan is underpinned by six strategic pillars."

During May 2025, the draft Plan was also presented to Local Authorities across the region to invite review and feedback from community representatives.

The final Regional Plan and Budget 2025-26 was formally adopted by Council on 17 June 2025.

The Plan is underpinned by six strategic pillars:

- Partnerships, Relationships and Belonging
- Increased Local Indigenous Employment
- Safety and Wellbeing
- Service Delivery and Built Environment
- Sustainability and Climate Action
- Foundations of Governance

These priorities, developed through consultation with communities and Local Authorities, reinforce Council's commitment to stability, financial resilience, and strong local governance across West Arnhem.

Consultation on Draft Jabiru By-Laws

West Arnhem Regional Council sought feedback on its Draft West Arnhem Regional Council (Jabiru Town) By-Laws, which were required to replace the six existing by-laws for Jabiru Town after the end of the Jabiru Town Development Authority. The notice was published on Friday, 27 September 2024.

The draft by-laws aimed to:

- Promote public health, wellbeing and safety
- Control animals in Jabiru
- Protect public amenities
- Include provisions that consider the wishes of the Mirarr people

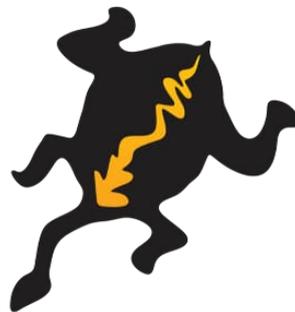
Written submissions were invited and accepted until close of business on Friday, 18 October 2024. Comments received by Council were considered in consultation with the NT Government. Two letters were received from residents and multiple comments from elected members.

The West Arnhem Regional Council (Jabiru Town) By-Laws 2024 were endorsed at a Special Council Meeting on 6 December 2024 and received Ministerial approval on 17 December 2024.

On 1 January 2025, the new by-laws for Jabiru came into effect, replacing the six previous by-laws for the township.

This milestone marked the conclusion of a three-and-a-half-year process following the cessation of the Jabiru Town Development Authority.

Beginning in May 2021, the by-laws were drafted, revised and refined through extensive community consultation to ensure strong local governance and the ongoing maintenance and regulation of the Jabiru township.



Key Council Projects

This year's projects – from early planning to completion and new works underway – highlight our strong commitment to community development and infrastructure improvement.

Gunbalanya
Oval Lights installation
Oval irrigation upgrades
Flood insurance at Toad Hall
Jabiru
Housing upgrades
Installation of lights at Brockman Oval
Maningrida
Construction of change rooms and toilet upgrades
Cemetery
Malabam Road drainage and culvert
Minjilang
Cemetery
Warruwi
Recreation Hall upgrades
Ground penetrating radar



Road upgrades along Malabam Road, Maningrida.



Construction of the new Maningrida Change Rooms.



New lights installed on Gunbalanya's Oval.

Council Shared Agreements

CouncilBIZ Subsidiary

The members of CouncilBIZ agreed to transition all member services, predominantly ICT and software, to the relevant individual member councils on or before 30 June 2024 and for the local government subsidiary to be wound up. At the end of June 2025 only a few shared legacy telecommunication contracts remain, and the Council is working with the other CouncilBIZ members and the NT Government to resolve these agreements and to close CouncilBIZ.

Local Government Association of the Northern Territory

West Arnhem Regional Council is a member of the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory (LGANT). LGANT's role is to advocate on behalf of and support the local government sector and its member councils. In the 2024-25 year, Council continued to work with LGANT in various key areas and the Council's Mayor, James Woods, was appointed as a LGANT Board Member. The staff and elected members also attended the LGANT Conference in November 2024 and April 2025.

Other Agreements

In the 2024-25 year, Council entered into other agreements with various government agencies in efforts to improve its service delivery especially through its social welfare programs. These include:

1. The delivery of Licenced Post Office services in Jabiru, Maningrida and Gunbalanya, and Community Postal Agency services in Waruwi and Minjilang as per agreements with Australia Post.
2. The delivery of Home Care Packages (HCP) and Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP) that enable clients, within the aged care sector, to live in their own homes.
3. The delivery of disability support services as a registered National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) provider.
4. The delivery of National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) Remote Community Connector services as per a contract with NDIA
5. The provision of Centrelink services in Gunbalanya, Jabiru, Minjilang and Waruwi as per an agreement with Services Australia.
6. An agreement with Power and Water Corporation to maintain power, water and sewerage systems contracts in Gunbalanya, Maningrida, Minjilang and Waruwi.
7. An agreement with the Melbourne Veterinary School commenced in January 2024 to provide animal management services in Gunbalanya, Jabiru, Maningrida, Minjilang and Waruwi.
8. The maintenance of airstrip services contracts in Gunbalanya, Maningrida, Waruwi and Minjilang as per an agreement with the Department of Logistics and Infrastructure (DLI).
9. Agreements with National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA) to provide programs to Gunbalanya, Maningrida, Minjilang and Waruwi for community sport and recreation activities, Waruwi Outside School Hours Care (OSCH) and local Indigenous broadcasting.
10. An agreement with NIAA to provide a community safety program in Gunbalanya, Minjilang and Waruwi.
11. An agreement with the Northern Territory Government to provide the Active Regional and Remote Communities program in Gunbalanya, Jabiru, Maningrida, Minjilang and Waruwi.
12. An agreement with Australian Government Department of Education via Community Child Care Fund restricted grant (CCCCFR) for creche provision in Minjilang and Waruwi.
13. Collaborations with education institutions such as Batchelor Institute and Charles Darwin University to facilitate the delivery of accredited courses to Council staff.
14. Working together with Reconciliation Australia as Council continues to make progress in its reconciliation journey, and achieve the goals outlined in the West Arnhem Regional Council Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan July 2021 – July 2023.
15. Various agreements with the Commonwealth Government to improve the wellbeing of communities.
16. Working together with the Northern Land Council (NLC), an independent statutory authority of the Commonwealth that assists Aboriginal peoples in the Top End of the Northern Territory to acquire and manage their traditional lands and seas.

Council Delegations and Advisory Bodies

The *Local Government Act 2019* (Act) contains several provisions that allow Council to delegate some of its functions and powers to Committees including Local Authorities.

By delegating its powers and functions, Council provides an opportunity for community members to contribute to ideas about various community projects through their local representatives and have greater input in Council's decision-making process. Council considered expert advice from professionals and specialists appointed to Council Committees, such as Council's Risk Management and Audit Committee which has two independent members with specialist skills.

In 2024-25, the Council approved delegations to the following committees/authorities:

Local Authorities in Minjilang, Warruwi, Gunbalanya and Maningrida

In 2024-25, Council worked closely with Local Authority members in all its communities, and received advice, recommendations and approvals on the following key matters:

1. Council's Strategic Plan;
2. Council's priorities for expenditure within each Local Authority area, including projects funded by the Local Authorities;
3. Council's service delivery for communities in each Local Authority; and
4. The West Arnhem Regional Council Regional Plan and Budget 2024-25.

Risk Management and Audit Committee

The Risk Management and Audit Committee was established pursuant to part 5.3 of the Act as a key component of Council's governance framework. During the 2024-25 year, the Risk Management and Audit Committee met 4 times to carry out the following key functions:

1. Monitoring and overseeing Council's audit function which includes:
 - a. The development of audit programs;
 - b. The conducting of internal audits;
 - c. The review of audit outcomes; and
 - d. Assessing how audit recommendations have been implemented.
2. Advising Council about the appointment of external

auditors, reviewing the auditor's recommendations about Council's key risk and compliance issues, and providing feedback about the auditor's performance.

3. Reviewing and if appropriate, recommending that Council approves financial statements (in conjunction with the auditor's report).

4. Monitoring changes in accounting and reporting requirements.

5. Reviewing compliance and legislative requirements, contracts, standards and best practice guidelines.

6. Monitoring and making recommendations on the adequacy of Council's risk management framework, internal policies, as well as Council's practices and procedures for managing risk.

Kakadu Ward Advisory Committee

In 2024-25, the Council also worked with the Kakadu Ward Advisory Committee and received advice and recommendations on the key matters it put to Council's Local Authorities.

Finance Committee

The Finance Committee is an Executive Committee with all the necessary powers to carry out Council's financial functions. This Committee has delegated authority from Council to carry out the following functions during the months that an Ordinary Council meeting is not convened:

1. Review and approve Council's monthly financial reports.
2. Review and approve reports on Council budgets that are presented during the Committee's meeting.
3. Review reports about Council's immediate and long-term financial plans.
4. Consider the financial implications of Council's financial plans to ensure that they meet the needs of West Arnhem communities.
5. Review the financial status and progress of major projects and recommend changes or revisions to projects, if necessary.
6. Review the debtor and creditor lists, and ensure sufficient funds are available to pay forthcoming debts.
7. Review and approve any other urgent matters as required.

An Ordinary Council meeting was scheduled and occurred every month in 2024-25 and there was no need for a Finance Committee meeting.



Local Authorities

Local Authority meetings are an essential forum to strengthen local decision making in remote communities.

Through local authorities, communities have the opportunity to express their views and represent their communities views on matters affecting local government.

West Arnhem's Local Authorities give people living in Maningrida, Minjilang, Warruwi and Gunbalanya a direct voice in how Council services are provided, and how funds are spent in their communities. Acting as a link between

their community and the Council, the members express local interests and make recommendations for projects of significance to their community.

“Local Authority meetings are an essential forum to strengthen local decision making in remote communities..”

During the 2024-25 financial year, Local Authorities in the West Arnhem region held meetings on the following dates:

Maningrida	Warruwi	Gunbalanya	Minjilang
12 September 2024	10 September 2024	11 September 2024	9 September 2024
28 November 2024	26 November 2024	27 November 2024	25 November 2024
10 March 2025	11 March 2025	5 February 2025	13 March 2025
12 May 2025	13 May 2025	12 March 2024	15 May 2025
		14 May 2025	



Warruwi Local Authority meeting on Tuesday, 13 May 2025.

Local Authority Meeting Attendance

Gunbalanya				
Member	Position	Eligible to Attend	Meetings Attended	
Andy Garnarradj	Chairperson	5	4	80%
Henry Yates	Appointed Member	5	5	100%
Kenneth Mangiru	Appointed Member	5	3	60%
Maxwell Garnarradj	Appointed Member	5	5	100%
Connie Nayinggul	Appointed Member	5	3	60%
Evonne Gumurdul	Appointed Member	5	5	100%
Nicodemus Nayilibidj	Appointed Member	5	2	40%
Grant Nayinggul	Appointed Member	5	5	100%
James Woods	Mayor	5	5	100%
Elizabeth Williams	Deputy Mayor	5	5	100%
Donna Nadjamerrek	Elected Member	5	1	20%
Otto Dann	Elected Member	5	3	60%
Tamar Nawirridj	Elected Member	3	2	66%
Gabby Gumurdul	Elected Member	1	1	100%

Gabby Gumurdul resigned in October 2024 and Tamar Nawirridj was appointed Elected Member in January 2025.

Maningrida				
Member	Position	Eligible to Attend	Meetings Attended	
Sharon Hayes	Appointed Member/Chairperson*	4	4	100%
Jessica Phillips	Appointed Member/Chairperson*	4	2	50%
Garth Doolan	Appointed Member	4	4	100%
Marlene Kernan	Appointed Member	4	4	100%
Shane Namanurki	Appointed Member	4	2	25%
Joyce Bohme	Appointed Member	4	3	75%
James Woods	Mayor	4	4	100%
Monica Wilton	Elected Member	4	4	100%
Elizabeth Williams	Deputy Mayor	4	4	100%
Jermaine Namanurki	Elected Member	4	4	100%
Jacqueline Phillips	Elected Member	4	2	50%

Jessica Phillips was appointed Maningrida Local Authority Chairperson for 12 months in May 2025.

Minjilang					
Member	Position	Eligible to Attend	Meetings Attended		
Matthew Nagarbin	Chairperson	4	3	75%	
Shane Wauchope	Appointed Member	4	4	100%	
Charles Yirrawala	Appointed Member	4	4	100%	
Clint Wauchope	Appointed Member	4	4	100%	
David Makings *	Appointed Member	2	2	100%	
Josephine Cooper	Appointed Member	4	2	50%	
Audry Lee *	Appointed Member	2	0	0%	
James Woods	Mayor	4	4	100%	
Elizabeth Williams	Deputy Mayor	4	4	100%	
Steven Nabalmarda *	Elected Member	2	1	50%	
Henry Guwiyul *	Elected Member	1	0	0%	

David Makings and Audry Lee resigned as Local Authority appointment Members, Henry Guwiyul also resigned as Elected Member in November 2024 and Steven Nabalmarda was appointed in February 2025.

Warruwi					
Member	Position	Eligible to Attend	Meetings Attended		
Jason Mayinaj	Chairperson	4	3	75%	
Nicholas Hunter	Appointed Member	4	3	75%	
Phillip Wasaga	Appointed Member	4	3	75%	
Ida Wasaga	Appointed Member	4	2	50%	
Richard Nawirr	Appointed Member	4	4	100%	
Alfred Gawaraidjt	Appointed Member	4	3	75%	
Geri Narul	Appointed Member	4	3	75%	
William Wurlurli	Appointed Member	4	2	50%	
James Woods	Mayor	4	4	100%	
Elizabeth Williams	Deputy Mayor	4	4	100%	
Cr Marrawal	Elected Member	4	3	75%	

Local Authority Projects

Throughout the 2024-25 period, West Arnhem’s Local Authorities have supported and funded a number of major community and infrastructure projects:

Maningrida	
Project	Status
Installation of outdoor gym	Completed and operational
Installation of bollards at Cricket Oval	Completed and operational
Maningrida New Year’s Eve fireworks	Completed and delivered
Installation of outdoor water bubbler	Completed
Installation of pebble ice machine	Completed and operational
Installation of solar lights, Bottom camp/New subdivision/Childcare	Completed and operational
Funeral hearse vehicle	Delivery received
Animal Management Program co-contribution	One round remaining at end of financial year

Minjilang	
Project	Status
Water service connection to new cemetery	Works in progress
Removal of trees front of council office	Completed
Animal Management Program co-contribution	One round remaining at end of financial year



New shelter facilities constructed at the Gunbalanya billabong.

New solar lights in Maningrida.

Gunbalanya	
Project	Status
Oval upgrades	Completed and operational
Modifications to office shelter	Completed and operational
Cold drinking water fountain	Completed and operational
Gunbalanya billabong installation of new shelters	Completed and operational
Aged care pavers	Completed and operational
Crosswalk and bollards at the council office	Completed and operational
Animal Management Program co-contribution	One round remaining at end of financial year

Warruwi	
Project	Status
Repairs to shade structure	Completed and operational
Installation of steel grab rails	Completed and operational
Table and seating replacement	Completed and operational
Animal Management Program co-contribution	One round remaining at end of financial year



New bollards installed near the Maningrida cricket oval.



Warruwi shade structure repaired.

Maningrida Youth, Sport & Recreation
Team Leader Edward Dudanga.



Our Staff





Organisational Structure

Functional & Role



Staff Snapshot



Over the past year, the workforce was reduced by 40 employees, primarily through natural attrition. This reduction aligned with budgetary constraints and was guided by strategic intent. Additionally, the staffing plan was adjusted to transition casually employed staff into permanent part-time roles, supporting workforce stability and long-term planning. The representation of female employees remained consistent, showing steady participation over the past two years.

- Support the recruitment and retention of high-quality employees,
- Recognise and encourage high performance and positive workplace behaviours,
- Provide clear and transparent employment conditions,
- Acknowledge and support Aboriginal culture,
- Contribute to strong outcomes for the communities served by the Council, and
- Align the needs of the Council with those of its employees.

WARC's First Enterprise Agreement

In late November 2024, following a comprehensive consultation process and strong employee representation, WARC staff voted in favour of the organisation's first Enterprise Agreement. This milestone marked a significant step forward in shaping employment conditions tailored to the needs of both the Council and its workforce.

The enterprise bargaining process provided a valuable opportunity for collaboration between management and staff, resulting in several key enhancements, including:

- Pay increases of 4% from the first full pay period after the agreement was approved, followed by 3% increases in both 2025 and 2026.
- Extension of pay step progression to include casual employees, in addition to permanent and temporary staff.
- Introduction of an outdoor allowance, replacing Level 1 and 2 adverse conditions payments under the award. This allowance is set at the highest award rate and applies to all hours worked, not just qualifying hours.
- Expanded compassionate leave, offering 3 days per occurrence, with an additional 2 days for travel outside Council boundaries or interstate (for Darwin-based employees).
- Up to 10 days of cultural and ceremonial leave annually for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander employees.
- Six weeks of paid parental leave and two weeks of paid supporting partner leave.
- An additional public holiday each year during NAIDOC Week, recognising and celebrating Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture.

The Fair Work Commission formally approved the Enterprise Agreement on 25 February 2025. Implementation commenced immediately, enabling employees to benefit from its provisions without delay.

The Agreement is designed to:

Building capability: Community services staff embark on Certificate III training

Nearly 20 staff members from Community Safety, Wellbeing, and Youth, Sport and Recreation teams across our communities have been enrolled in a Certificate III in Community Services this year. This nationally recognised qualification equips professionals with practical skills and knowledge to develop and deliver local, person-centred services that meet diverse community needs. By undertaking this course, our team will be empowered to provide support, foster community wellbeing, and drive positive social outcomes.

Training is being delivered on-site by Charles Darwin University, commencing in the second semester of 2025. This hands-on approach ensures that learning is tailored to our unique community context, with staff able to put theory straight into practice for immediate local benefit.

WARC amongst first Councils to join LG Traineeship Pilot Program

West Arnhem Regional Council is proud to be among the first councils in the Northern Territory to join the Local Government Traineeship Pilot Program, a collaborative initiative between LGANT, GTNT Group, Industry Skills Advisory Council NT, and the NT Government.

Through this program, employees will undertake a Certificate III in Business tailored to local government, receiving dedicated mentoring, networking opportunities, and broad exposure to council operations. This hands-on experience directly supports council's strategic vision by empowering residents to build skills and gain recognised professional qualifications, while fostering a sustainable pathway to employment in the sector.

Location and Age

Work Location	Total	Indigenous employees
Darwin	22	2
Jabiru	48	12
Gunbalanya	25	16
Maningrida	23	15
Minjilang	23	17
Warruwi	28	27

Age	Total	Indigenous employees
Under 20	5	5
20-29	16	12
30-39	39	17
40-49	39	22
50-59	47	25
60-69	19	6
Over 70	4	2

Employment Types

Employment Type	Total	Indigenous employees
Fixed Term	7	4
Casual	7	7
Permanent (ongoing)	153	78

Employment Class	Total	Indigenous employees
Casual	7	7
Full Time	117	47
Part Time	45	35



Minjilang's works crew at a WHS site visit.

Minjiliang Crèche staff Joelle
Puantulura and Vanessa Bradshaw.



Works team in Warruwi moving sand for a community event.



Council's Performance



Our Performance Highlights

Pillar 1: Partnerships, Relationships and Belonging

Celebrating community and sport

West Arnhem Regional Council hosted the Kurrung Sports Carnival on August 30 and 31 2024, showcasing an impressive display of football and basketball. The event brought together men's and women's sports teams from Jabiru, Minjilang, Maningrida, Warruwi, Gunbalanya, and even Katherine.

Through Kurrung, the Council continues its commitment to strengthening Communities across the West Arnhem region.

West Arnhem Regional Council Mayor James Woods acknowledged the significance of the Kurrung Sports Carnival for the region, expressing his gratitude to Council staff and Community stakeholders for their hard work in delivering a remarkable event. "Sport is a powerful way to unite people for a common purpose. Through sport, we feel pride, unity, and mateship."



Empowering Young Leaders at inaugural Warruwi Youth Camp

The inaugural Warruwi Youth Culture Camp, held 17–18 July 2024 at Ngjipin Beach, brought together more than 20 young people for on-country learning and cultural connection.

Initiated by local youth through the 2023 Youth Leadership Summit, the camp featured health checks, anti-smoking workshops with Red Lily Health, cultural activities with Elders, spear making, mussel collecting and sessions with Mardbalk Rangers, Power and Water and NT Police.

Strongly supported by the Warruwi Local Authority, the camp reflected the priorities of young people and promoted health, wellbeing and cultural pride.

Youth Leadership Summit

The 2024 West Arnhem Youth Leadership Summit brought together young leaders from Gunbalanya, Jabiru, Maningrida, and Warruwi for an inspiring three-day event. This summit, held in November, showcased the transformative power of youth leadership, collaboration, co design and community-driven change.

This year's summit not only built on the foundations established in 2023 but introduced innovative approaches that empowered students to develop actionable ideas, share their visions with stakeholders, and contribute meaningfully to their communities.

Each student group created a robust framework for their ideas, reflecting a deep understanding of their communities' needs and potential solutions. The hands-on inquiry approach empowered students to take ownership of their projects, ensuring long-term relevance and impact.



Youth AFL 9s kicking goals

During the school holidays, 40 young men aged 12–17 took to Brockman Oval for an AFL 9s round robin between Jabiru, Maningrida and Gunbalanya. Despite the distance, Maningrida entered two teams, with Gunbalanya eventually defeating Maningrida 2 in the grand final.

The carnival, an idea raised at the recent Youth Leadership Summit, delivered on the call for inter-community competition and showcased the talent, sportsmanship and community pride of all players.

The event also promoted health, social and emotional wellbeing among West Arnhem youth.

**Pillar 2:
Increased Local Indigenous Employment**

Works crew complete truck driving training

Members of the Council works crews attended a training session in Gunbalanya on 12 and 13 August 2024 to learn how to safely drive heavy rigid vehicles. The following week, the group travelled to the CDU campus in Katherine to put in practice what had learnt and had the opportunity of driving trucks on the road.

William Wurluri from Warruwi said it was a great training experience.

“Driving a truck on a different road was challenging. The traffic conditions in Katherine are different to the ones in Warruwi, but it was great to practice what we have learnt to make us better truck drivers. I was able to upgrade to a HR driver licence and I’m very happy”.



Works Crews begin on-site training for Certificate III in Civil Construction

The Council is very excited to share that our works crews across communities are enrolled to complete a Certificate III In Civil Construction Plant Operations.

By completing this program, the teams will learn the necessary skills to operate machinery and perform construction tasks safely. Initially, 45 participants are being signed-up with the study activities conducted on-site by Batchelor Institute.

Misman Kris, Senior Works Officer at Minjilang, said it was great to have Matthew on-site for training. “The boys really enjoy having him here and we learned a lot from him. We look forward to completing the full certification”.



Council Shines at Maningrida Job Fair

The Council was proud to participate in the highly successful Job Fair held in Maningrida on 20 May 2025. The event attracted an impressive turnout, with over 200 adults and 30 senior students in attendance. Our vibrant and eye-catching display proved popular, keeping our team engaged throughout the day as they answered a wide range of job enquiries and provided valuable information about career opportunities.

We look forward to connecting with more community members and continuing to support local employment and career development.

Showcasing Career Pathways in Council

West Arnhem Regional Council was proud to participate in Gunbalanya School Career's Week on Friday, 6 June 2025, joining 12 other expo stalls to inspire the 70 students in attendance.

Council staff showcased the diverse career pathways available within the organisation - from hands-on demonstrations with machinery (a highlight for students keen to climb aboard), to interactive games led by the Youth, Sport and Recreation Team Leader.

Students also enjoyed cake tasting courtesy of Council's talented Cook and learned about the vital role of the IT team in keeping services running smoothly.



**Pillar 3:
Safety and Wellbeing**

**Amongst first Councils to join LG
Traineeship Pilot Program**

West Arnhem Regional Council is excited to be one of the first organisations in the NT to join the Local Government Traineeship Pilot Program, a collaboration between LGANT, GTNT Group, Industry Skills Advisory Council NT, and the NT Government.

Amarni Harris, Retail and Post Officer in Jabiru, has been enrolled into this program to complete a Certificate III in Business focused on Local Government, receiving extra mentoring, peer networking opportunities, and exposure to the essential operations of council life.

Katharine Murray, WARC CEO, says “this also goes in line with Council’s strategic plan by providing local residents with opportunities to learn and obtain professional qualifications in administration”.



**First Aid, CPR and Fire
Warden Training Across
WARC**

In August 2024, more than 70 employees participated in First Aid, CPR and Fire Warden training, refreshing their skills to provide assistance in emergencies and respond effectively in critical situations.

Trainer Martin Evans visited each community to deliver two days of training, ensuring staff were well prepared. In Jabiru, First Aid Officer Lajane Nicholls renewed her certification and praised the program saying, “The trainer made the session interactive and clear for all the participants.”

Council proudly delivers this training annually across all communities to build staff capability and ensure workplace and community safety.

All About Movement, Connection and Culture

West Arnhem Regional Council partnered with Red Lily Health, Warruwi School, Minjilang School and Yagbani Aboriginal Corporation to deliver Hoops4Health - a First Nations-led, strength-based program supporting healing, connection and youth empowerment through basketball and community leadership. The initiative created opportunities for positive change by combining leadership and cultural connection with one of the community's favourite activities — basketball.

In Warruwi, Works Officer Baden was recognised as a local 'Champion' and spoke with young people about the importance of staying in school, continuing their learning, and avoiding drugs and alcohol. The event was a great success, with more than 100 participants joining throughout the day.

In Minjilang, strong support from the local school and community helped boost participation, with over 40 young people actively involved in the activities.



Sports and Culture Programs Boost Community Wellbeing

Minjilang's sport and recreation programs continue to thrive, offering a mix of basketball, dodgeball, AFL, back-to-country trips and community walks. Activities have drawn strong participation from all ages, with basketball and dodgeball proving especially popular.

Cultural connection remains central, with outings such as fishing trips providing opportunities to learn from Country, share stories and strengthen identity. Positive community feedback and the addition of a new Wellbeing Services Senior Officer have helped build momentum, supporting a holistic approach to health, culture and community wellbeing in Minjilang.

**Pillar 4:
Service Delivery and Built Environment**



**Building Better Sporting Spaces
Across West Arnhem**

West Arnhem Regional Council remained committed to improving sporting facilities across the region, with significant progress made on major projects in 2024-25.

In Gunbalanya, the new Oval Lights were officially completed, thanks to the support of the Northern Territory Government. These lights created a huge boost for sport and recreation in the community, enabling evening games and training sessions and making the facility more accessible for all.

In Jabiru, upgrades to Brockman Oval also advanced, supported by the Rio Tinto Jabiru Social Infrastructure Fund. Three new grandstands were completed, providing improved seating and comfort for spectators, while works on the brand-new oval lighting commenced but were not yet finalised within the reporting period.

These upgrades demonstrated Council's ongoing commitment to enhancing sporting infrastructure and supporting strong, active AFL communities across West Arnhem.

**Upgrades to Community Road
Networks**

West Arnhem Regional Council undertook extensive road upgrades in Maningrida, Warruwi and Gunbalanya, with strong support from the Roads to Recovery program.

In Warruwi, works were completed and the community roads were left looking better than ever. The upgrades included shoulder maintenance and resealing of all internal community roads, along with repairs to edge breaks and potholes throughout the town.

To further improve safety, new steel grab rail bollards were installed on each side of the speed bumps, funded by the Warruwi Local Authority.

These improvements extended the life of the road network by at least 10 years while also enhancing safety and accessibility for the community.





Maningrida Changerooms Nearing Completion

The new changerooms in Maningrida moved closer to completion, with several major milestones achieved. This exciting project will soon deliver upgraded facilities to support local sport and community use.

By mid-year, works included:

- Painting of interior and exterior walls
- Shower and wall tiling underway
- Internal plumbing, electrical, and joinery completed, along with painting of steelwork and door trims
- Flooring prepared for installation in June
- Canteen appliances ordered and arriving soon

Proudly supported by the National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA) and managed by West Arnhem Regional Council, the changerooms are set to provide modern facilities for players, supporters, and the wider community.

Mayor James Woods said, "Sport and recreation is a lifeblood - it brings people together and contributes to building stronger communities. Council is counting down to the grand opening of the Maningrida Changerooms in 2025."

Major Projects Completed Across West Arnhem

West Arnhem Regional Council was busy over recent months, delivering improvements to infrastructure across our communities to ensure benefits for everyone.

Newly resurfaced roads in Maningrida, Warruwi and Gunbalanya were completed with support from the Northern Territory Government, enhancing safety and accessibility. Alternative access gates were installed at the Maningrida Airport to support sorry business.

In Minjilang, the Crèche reopened following extensive roof and interior repairs. The facility remains an important part of the community, continuing to provide vital support for local families.



**Pillar 5:
Sustainability and Climate Action**

Youth Education – Caring for Country

Council delivered a youth education initiative focused on the powerful message of ‘Caring for Country.’ Young people across West Arnhem participated in a creative project highlighting the impacts of litter and the importance of waste reduction.

In partnership with SoundED, youth collaborated on a regional song, Stop the Drop, combining video, music and lyrics to promote sustainability in a fun and engaging way.

West Arnhem Regional Council Services Manager, Geri Narul, expressed her excitement about the initiative, saying: “Our goal is to see our West Arnhem communities waste-free in the near future and this project is a great way to send a strong message about how important it is to look after our Country.”



Removing scrap metals from our landfills

In late 2024, Maningrida hosted Sell & Parker to remove scrap metal from the community. The team successfully crushed and removed more than 200 cars from the Maningrida landfill.

The metal was recycled, with old car bodies shredded, melted down, and repurposed into new products, including parts for new vehicles. Council encouraged residents with unwanted car bodies to contact their local office to arrange collection, supporting both community safety and sustainability.

Pre-Cyclone Clean-Ups

Council delivered pre-cyclone clean-ups across all communities, providing residents with the opportunity to safely dispose of hard rubbish that could pose risks during severe weather.

Collections took place in Warruwi, Jabiru, Maningrida, Gunbalanya and Minjilang between October and December 2024, with household items, e-waste and scrap metal removed from kerbsides. The initiative enhanced community safety and preparedness while keeping them clean and clear in advance of the wet season.



**Pillar 6:
Foundations of Governance**

Council Attends National General Assembly

West Arnhem Regional Council continued its role as a vital advocate and representative for its communities at all levels of government, with Mayor James Woods, Councillor Mickitja Onus and CEO Andrew Walsh travelling to Canberra to attend the National General Assembly.

During the visit, Mayor Woods had the opportunity to host ALGA President Linda Scott, alongside councillors from both East and West Arnhem Regional Councils. Mayor Woods expressed his gratitude, saying: "Thank you for your service to Local Government – job well done."

Community needs and priorities were central to discussions when Mayor Woods, Councillor Onus, and East Arnhem councillors met with Senator Malarndirri McCarthy. Topics included support for local government, housing, the critical need for Indigenous employee housing, health, the new Remote Jobs and Economic Development Program, and homelands.



Elected Member Training

West Arnhem Regional Council's Elected Members participated in a valuable training session with the Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development on 18 November 2024.

The session covered key topics essential for good governance and decision-making, including:

- Introduction to finances
- Council meeting procedures and decision-making
- Understanding Local Government
- Roles and responsibilities
- Code of Conduct
- Conflict of interest

Ongoing training ensures Elected Members are well-equipped to serve our Communities with integrity and informed decision-making.

Celebrating Long Service in Local Government

At the March 2025 Minjilang Local Authority meeting, West Arnhem Regional Council Mayor James Woods presented Shane Wauchope and Charles Yirrawala with awards recognising their remarkable 10 years of service to the Minjilang Local Authority. Their dedication has played a vital role in shaping a stronger future for the community.

Earlier, on 18 February 2025, Mayor Woods also presented Councillor Ralph Blyth with a Long Service Award on behalf of the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory, celebrating his 20 years of dedicated service to local government and his ongoing commitment to the West Arnhem region.

These awards highlight the extraordinary dedication of local leaders in supporting and strengthening their communities.



Remote Food Security Strategy Launched

West Arnhem Regional Council Mayor James Woods met with Minister for Indigenous Australians, Senator Malarndirri McCarthy, and Member for Lingiari, Marion Scrymgour MP, in Maningrida for the official launch of the Remote Food Security Strategy rollout across regional and remote communities.

Mayor Woods expressed his support for the strategy, stating: "The release of the Remote Food Security Strategy is a significant step forward for remote communities, which will no longer be forced to endure unacceptable food insecurity. Access to affordable food will improve the health and wellbeing of our communities."

The Minister's visit also provided an opportunity to discuss key regional issues and showcase important Council-led projects. The meeting highlighted the importance of collaboration across all levels of government to deliver meaningful initiatives that enhance the quality of life for residents in West Arnhem communities.



Assessment of Council's Performance

West Arnhem Regional Council's Strategic Plan is built around six key pillars that represent the priorities and aspirations of our communities.

This section provides an overview of Council's performance against the objectives outlined in the 2024-25 Regional Plan, offering a clear and transparent look at the progress made toward achieving these goals.

Council's progress has been assessed using the following categories:

 **Target Achieved**
 **Target Partially Achieved**
 **Target In Progress**
 **Target Not Achieved**



Pillar 1 - Partnerships, Relationships and Belonging

- 1.1 Community Engagement
- 1.2 Economic Partnerships
- 1.3 Communication
- 1.4 Community Events
- 1.5 Cultural Awareness Training
- 1.6 Youth Engagement



Pillar 2 - Increased Local Indigenous Employment

- 2.1 Indigenous Employment Framework
- 2.2 Traineeships and Apprenticeships
- 2.3 Policy and Procedures



Pillar 3 - Safety and Wellbeing

- 3.1 Cultural Safety
- 3.2 Health and Safety
- 3.3 Employee Engagement and Training and Development
- 3.4 Community Service Delivery



Pillar 4 - Service Delivery and Built Environment

- 4.1 Strategic Infrastructure and Asset Management
- 4.2 Fleet, Plant and Equipment
- 4.3 Waste and Water Management
- 4.4 Local Road Management and Maintenance



Pillar 5 - Sustainability and Climate Action

- 5.1 Recycling and Waste
- 5.2 Procurement
- 5.3 Reduce Office Waste
- 5.4 Education
- 5.5 Policy



Pillar 6 - Foundations of Governance

- 6.1 Financial Management
- 6.2 Records
- 6.3 Council and Local Authorities
- 6.4 Risk Management
- 6.5 Planning and Reporting
- 6.6 Information and Communication Technology

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	Strategy	Measure	Target	Result
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	Engage with Traditional Owners to assist local cultural events with road closures, facilities hire and/or use, provide signage and general support	In-kind support to assist with cultural events provided	100%	✓ TARGET ACHIEVED: Ongoing support to assist in the request from Community members to help facilitate/coordinate road closures. Council provide in-kind support where requested, to assist with cultural events
	Attend and contribute to heads of agencies meetings	Heads of agencies meetings attended and information shared locally with teams and across the organisation	100%	✓ TARGET ACHIEVED: This is ongoing, and the target continues to be met across the region with monthly meetings attended in each community
	Develop well-planned, community-led sport and recreational programs	Programs and initiatives are informed by the expressed needs and voices of the local people they serve and the staff who deliver them	100%	✓ TARGET ACHIEVED: Ongoing community consultation and engagement informs programs and activities across communities
	Actively seek out and develop collaborative partnerships that encourage service coordination and integration	Community meetings coordinated, informed and participated in	100%	✓ TARGET ACHIEVED



Goal	Strategy	Measure	Target	Result
1.2 Economic Partnerships Secure increased income opportunities (grants and commercial) that create employment and/or improve community life	Business Development Strategy to drive economic outcomes	Review existing Business Development Strategy	September 2024	🌟 TARGET IN PROGRESS: priorities of new CEO and Council to be considered before development of full plan - December 2026
	Identify and pursue opportunities for further partnerships, income and growth	Local employment opportunities embedded into planning and new contracts and increased	June 2025	🌟 TARGET IN PROGRESS: Refer RJED. When applying for grants and considering contracts, driving local employment is always a focus
		Council-run community services are adequately resourced to provide culturally appropriate, safe, community-led programs	100%	✅ TARGET ACHIEVED: Community service programs are adequately funded, with local staff employed to ensure they are culturally appropriate, safe, community-led programs
	Manage WARC's staff housing portfolio in order to: a. attract and retain staff b. promote staff stability and contribute to community life	Every tenancy is delivered according to the RTA	100%	✅ TARGET ACHIEVED: Every tenancy is delivered according to the Residential Tenancy Act
		All applicable opportunities for funding for new housing and housing maintenance contracts pursued	100%	✅ TARGET ACHIEVED: Critical upgrades to staff housing completed in Minjilang and Warruwi from NTG grant funding. All opportunities for further funding are pursued
Seek to retain and uplift existing grants and contracts	Existing contracts retained and additional contracts procured	Minimum uplift CPI or above	✅ TARGET ACHIEVED: Uplift sought for all existing grants and contracts. Additional grants and contracts procured in 24/25	

Goal	Strategy	Measure	Target	Result
1.3 Communication Deliver dynamic communication which is culturally informed and appropriate, engaging and relevant to the interests of Council	Develop and manage Council's social media and communication channels, including the website	Minimum social media targets are met: Instagram – minimum 2 posts per month Facebook – minimum 3 posts per month LinkedIn – minimum 2 posts per month Twitter – minimum 1 post per month Website news articles – minimum 2 per month	100%	✔ TARGET ACHIEVED: These targets across all social media platforms were met
	Publish <i>The Wire</i> once a fortnight	Implement social media strategy	June 2025	✘ TARGET NOT ACHIEVED: Goals of future social media strategy to be workshopped
	Publish a community event calendar on noticeboards and the website	Community contribution of articles and/or photos to each edition	4	✔ TARGET ACHIEVED: Articles and photos are contributed for each edition
	Create and promote the use of pictorial and/or promotional materials in local languages via Council's established communication channels (internal and external)	Noticeboards and website current and up-to-date community event calendar displayed	100%	✔ TARGET ACHIEVED: Noticeboards, LED screens and the website are updated weekly. The website's community event calendar is kept updated
	Foster an organisational culture of innovation in communication which engages staff and enhances internal communication	Internal and external communication and promotional materials in local languages and/or pictorials are delivered according to the actions of WARC's Reconciliation Action Plan	100%	⚠ TARGET PARTIALLY ACHIEVED: Local language groups regularly provide materials in language for WARC to promote
		Staff newsletter <i>In the Loop</i> published monthly	12 per annum	✔ TARGET ACHIEVED: 12 editions were published during this period
	Work with stakeholders to foster positive relationships and build effective networks locally, across the region and nationally	All internal requests for WARC branded communication materials including calendars, posters, digital displays and social media posts are facilitated and delivered by WARC Communications and Public Relations Coordinator	100%	✔ TARGET ACHIEVED: All internal requests are delivered or supported
	Work with stakeholders to foster positive relationships and build effective networks locally, across the region and nationally	Stakeholder news shared through social media and communication channels on behalf of stakeholders as per request	85%	✔ TARGET ACHIEVED: Stakeholder news and updates are shared as requested

Goal	Strategy	Measure	Target	Result
1.4 Community Events Deliver cultural, civic and sporting events which engage and unite the community	Conduct civic events which recognise and celebrate community sentiment	Civic events held in each community hosted by Council	4 per annum	✔️ TARGET ACHIEVED: Minimum of 4 events held in each community across the region: Australia Day, ANZAC Day, NAIDOC week and Territory Day
	Provide support to community organisations to deliver community-based events	In-kind support provided to community groups as requested	As per budget	✔️ TARGET ACHIEVED: As resources available in all locations

Goal	Strategy	Measure	Target	Result
1.5 Cultural Awareness Training Develop increased understanding and observation of cultural protocols	Develop and launch cultural awareness program	Cultural awareness providers engaged and worked with to design and deliver a WARC-appropriate cultural awareness program	June 2025	✔️ TARGET ACHIEVED
		Online learning course for all WARC staff, contractors and consultants embedded	100%	⚠️ TARGET PARTIALLY ACHIEVED: Staff with computer access completed the online training
		All new employees completed cultural awareness training within first week of employment	100%	🔄 TARGET IN PROGRESS: Online training embedded
		Cultural awareness and cultural safety in WARC's First Nations Employment Plan embedded	June 2025	❌ TARGET NOT ACHIEVED
		A series of half day cultural awareness workshops delivered	June 2025	✔️ TARGET ACHIEVED: Delivered in previous financial year

Goal	Strategy	Measure	Target	Result
1.6 Youth Engagement Deliver diverse, targeted programs and events which actively empower and engage young people as valuable partners in decision-making which effects them	Design and deliver youth engagement programs in consultation with youth and community stakeholders	Youth and community consultations informed by program design and activity work plans	100%	🔄 TARGET IN PROGRESS: The West Arnhem Youth Leadership Summit was selected as the winner of the National Local Government award for Aboriginal and Torres Strait islander People's Recognition. The outcome from this summit help form the program planning and delivery across communities

Goal	Strategy	Measure	Target	Result
1.6 Youth Engagement Deliver diverse, targeted programs and events which actively empower and engage young people as valuable partners in decision-making which effects them	Deliver regional planning activities with Sport and Recreation and Community Services teams and schools	Sport and Recreation and Community Services delivery well-planned, with programs reflecting the expressed needs of the community and WARC's regional goals designed	100%	 TARGET ACHIEVED: Anecdotal evidence as well as actions from the West Arnhem Youth Leadership Summit formulate event planning across the region. Kurrung Sports Carnival is an annual event and this year's AFL 9s was born out of the expressed request for intercommunity sporting events. Sporting peak bodies and specialist providers have also visited all communities at the request of community
	Plan and deliver diverse and engaging holiday programs that meet the needs and interests of all children/young people and which run for a longer period each day	Holiday programs delivered and attendance is increased in each community throughout the school holiday period	Uplift 10%	 TARGET IN PROGRESS: Specialist providers to community during school holidays see an increase in attendance and engagement. Jabiru and Minjilang are WIP noting Jabiru is not agency funded
	Identify funds to diversify the range of youth activities and establish new services as requested by the community	A more diverse range of youth activities and events, catering to different age groups, interests, genders and localities are planned and delivered	June 2025	 TARGET ACHIEVED: The Business and Commercial Services team keep abreast of funding opportunities. Current funders also share potential funding opportunities with Grants. These grants may fill identified gaps
	Promote, celebrate and report on activities and events in publications such as <i>The Wire</i> and social media	Photos and/or stories for publication in <i>The Wire</i> and social media provided by Sport and Recreation and Community Services teams	Minimum 2 per month	 TARGET ACHIEVED: The Community Service team are regular contributors to <i>The Wire</i> . This serves as a means of highlighting and celebrating the current programs and activities as well as promoting the programs and opportunities available in community
	Ensure robust data collection systems and contribute to community knowledge	Data collection tool reviewed; data uploaded by all Team Leaders and good quality reporting provided	December 2024	 TARGET PARTIALLY ACHIEVED: A hard copy data collection tool has been implemented in Night Patrol. Jabiru staff reviews uploaded data weekly and reports back to the community leadership what their community's status is. All communities have devices to input the data. All staff program team leaders understand the purpose of the data collection. Data collection and integrity of data is an ongoing issue working progress

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	Strategy	Measure	Target	Result
2.1 Indigenous Employment Framework Create Council Indigenous employment framework including tailored pathways to employment	Develop a WARC Indigenous Employment Strategy including Indigenous identified positions, dedicated People and Capability support, career pathways, apprenticeships and traineeships	Indigenous Employment Strategy finalised and commenced	June 2025	🌀 TARGET IN PROGRESS
	Work with community to understand employment obstacles for local people and identify solutions	Employment consultation workshops and initiatives delivered in each community	December 2024	✅ TARGET ACHIEVED: Enterprise Agreement approved by Fair Work Commission and implemented
	Seek funding to support WARC's Indigenous Employment Strategy	Funding opportunities identified and funds applied for	December 2024	🌀 TARGET IN PROGRESS: Awaiting finalisation of Indigenous Employment Strategy. All grants and contracts are considered an opportunity to support Indigenous Employment. WARC has applied for Regional Jobs and Economic Development funding. This program supports local jobs for local people. Received 75% of requested positions (12 across three communities)
	Undertake a skills gap and training needs analysis	Results of skills and training gap analysis used to draft training plan	100%	🌀 TARGET IN PROGRESS
	Enhance WARC's employer brand to attract and retain staff	Review WARC branding for all positions, website and community level initiatives for local employment	100%	✅ TARGET ACHIEVED: Recruitment branding updated
	Earmark roles as 'Indigenous identified positions'	The number of 'Indigenous identified positions' increased annually	5% per annum	✅ TARGET ACHIEVED: Currently achieved by Special Measures Targeted Recruitment Policy

Goal	Strategy	Measure	Target	Result
<p>2.2 Traineeships and Apprenticeships</p> <p>Provide local residents opportunities to learn and obtain professional qualifications in trades and administration</p>	<p>Create a traineeships and apprenticeships program which partners with community stakeholders, including local schools, to identify potential traineeship and apprenticeship candidates and linking candidates to employment pathways with Council</p>	<p>Traineeships and apprenticeships implemented</p>	<p>June 2025</p>	<p>✔ TARGET ACHIEVED</p>

Goal	Strategy	Measure	Target	Result
<p>2.3 Policy and Procedures</p> <p>Research, review and develop policy to underpin and inform Council's intent and strategy to increase local Indigenous employment</p>	<p>Review WARC recruitment processes, partnerships and systems for local people</p>	<p>Recruitment process recommendations implemented</p>	<p>100%</p>	<p>🔄 TARGET IN PROGRESS</p>



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	Strategy	Measure	Target	Result
3.1 Cultural Safety Delivery of actions in the WARC 'Innovate' Reconciliation Action Plan	Complete all actions of Council's 'Innovate' Reconciliation Action Plan	'Innovate' Reconciliation Action Plan actions completed as per plan	June 2025	🚫 TARGET NOT ACHIEVED: Renewed RAP and working group will be a focus in 25/26
	Provide reports to Council and Local Authorities on the challenges, highlights and progress of implementing the Reconciliation Action Plan initiatives	Reconciliation Action Plan updates and reports provided to Council and Local Authorities each quarter	100%	🚫 TARGET NOT ACHIEVED
	Contribute articles and updates to staff newsletter <i>In the Loop</i> on the highlights of the Reconciliation Action Plan progress	Reconciliation Action Plan working group and Council Service Managers contributed to alternating monthly update/story to <i>In the Loop</i> staff newsletter	100%	🚫 TARGET NOT ACHIEVED
	Review success of Reconciliation Action Plan against actions and determine Council's next steps towards reconciliation actions for 2024 and beyond	Progress of 'Innovate' plan reviewed and next steps determined by Chief Executive Officer and Reconciliation Action Plan working group	June 2025	🔄 TARGET IN PROGRESS: Progress of RAP reviewed

Goal	Strategy	Measure	Target	Result
3.2 Health and Safety Staff and public safety is achieved via planning, education and training	Work Health and Safety Plan	Work Health and Safety Plan implemented	100%	🔄 TARGET IN PROGRESS
	Develop and deliver a training program that meets work health and safety, staff and organisational needs	Work health and safety training completed as per training schedule	100%	✅ TARGET ACHIEVED
	Support the wellbeing of employees	Culturally appropriate wellness programs, support embedded into HR practices, mental health support, diversity and inclusion training	June 2025	🔄 TARGET IN PROGRESS
	Review policies and procedures in accordance with statutory requirements	Policies and procedures continue to be reviewed in accordance with the required timelines	100%	🔄 TARGET IN PROGRESS

Goal	Strategy	Measure	Target	Result
3.3 Employee Engagement and Training and Development Deliver training and development which is effective and culturally appropriate, engaging and increases future employment opportunities and pathways	Establish a WARC Learning and Development Framework	Learning and Development Framework draft created	June 2025	TARGET IN PROGRESS
	Review policies and procedures in accordance with statutory requirements	Policies and procedures continue to be reviewed in accordance with the required timelines	100%	TARGET IN PROGRESS
	Review and improve WARC's performance framework, including probation and on-boarding program	Implement an effective performance management system with SMART goals established for positions	100%	TARGET IN PROGRESS
		Probation/annual goal and development planning with Line Manager undertaken	100%	TARGET IN PROGRESS
		Performance reviews tracked and monitored by People and Capability team and completed on time by Line Managers	90%	TARGET IN PROGRESS
	Foster a positive workplace culture through engagement initiatives	Annual survey, on-boarding and exit surveys, events, reward and recognition initiatives	As per strategic plan	TARGET IN PROGRESS

Goal	Strategy	Measure	Target	Result
3.4 Community Service Delivery Provision of high quality, culturally informed programs that support and enhance the safety and wellbeing of community members	Programs and services are well planned with activities and expected outcomes identified prior to delivery commencing	Activity plans are developed in consultation with local teams for each service and initiative	100%	 TARGET ACHIEVED: Programs and activities are developed in conjunction with participants and local community staff. This is fundamental to the community care programs – Aged Care and NDIS. Jabiru staff work with community staff to ensure the programs and activities meet the legislative needs and expectations of the funding providers. The funding agreements identify and contribute to the outcomes of the programs

Goal	Strategy	Measure	Target	Result
3.4 Community Service Delivery Provision of high quality, culturally informed programs that support and enhance the safety and wellbeing of community members	High quality care is provided to all recipients of community services delivered by Council	All staff are provided with opportunities to upskill via access to professional development relevant to their roles and responsibilities	100%	 TARGET IN PROGRESS: All mandatory qualifications and training are offered and must be completed by staff. Staff are also offered professional development opportunities via formal and informal training. All staff are encouraged to take up the opportunities. Support to successfully complete these formal training opportunities is in many cases required
	Service delivery is compliant with the expectations of funders and relevant legislation	Report providing recommendations on service quality and compliance improvement opportunities reviewed and delivered by the Community Support team	100%	 TARGET PARTIALLY ACHIEVED: Programs have Continuous Improvements strategies as required
		All activities, reports and compliance tasks completed as per contractual arrangement, aged care standards, NDIS care standards	100%	 TARGET ACHIEVED: Council has a current NDIS Certificate of Registration until February 2028 with the Mid Term audit August 2026
		Timely data/monitoring returns and funding reports delivered by Community Wellbeing team	100%	 TARGET PARTIALLY ACHIEVED: All Community Care - NDIS and Aged Care and Remote Community Connector reporting is compliant and submitted by the Community Care team. All Wellbeing grant reports, budgets submitted to funders and data have been submitted
	Remote Indigenous Broadcasting Services supporting local Indigenous languages are managed and supported across the region	Broadcasters are offered support training opportunities with Top End Aboriginal Bush Broadcasting Association (TEABBA)	90%	 TARGET IN PROGRESS: TEABBA funding is for wages of the broadcasting staff only. Training opportunities must be supported by TEABBA. They are flexible in how and when they support the current staff via online or face to face, in community training and mentoring

Goal	Strategy	Measure	Target	Result
3.4 Community Service Delivery Provision of high quality, culturally informed programs that support and enhance the safety and wellbeing of community members	High quality early learning activities for child development are delivered	All National Quality Standard and Australian Children's Education & Care Quality Authority crèche and childcare standards met	100%	🚫 TARGET PARTIALLY ACHIEVED: The Crèche in Warruwi has been closed since December 2024. Vacancies have not been filled. This is an ongoing barrier to re-opening the service. Recruitment is an industry wide issue. Minjilang Crèche has been audited by Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority ACECQA quality and safety project officers and the Early Childhood Regulatory Project Australian Government Department of Education. There were no major non-conformances identified
	Strengthen ability to respond to community safety needs, including the provision of staff enrolment in training that enhances and sustains appropriate community safety skills and provide opportunities for professional development	Local staff worked with to increase the competency levels in responding to domestic and family violence, specifically intake, case management and safety planning with clients	2024 - 2025	🚫 TARGET NOT ACHIEVED: No longer deliver safehouse, only night patrol. Require specialist culturally appropriate trainer in 25/26
	Provide to the community well-managed and maintained library collections, including a culturally relevant library collection	Diversity audit completed and recommendations implemented	2024 - 2025	✅ TARGET ACHIEVED
		Connected Communities: Vision for the Northern Territory Public Libraries 2017 - 2023 enacted as applicable to West Arnhem	100%	✅ TARGET ACHIEVED
	Plan, prepare and present educational and engaging early childhood activities weekly	Weekly early childhood activities are well planned and delivered as per schedule	100%	✅ TARGET ACHIEVED: In Jabiru plans are updated monthly

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	Strategy	Measure	Target	Result
4.1 Strategic Infrastructure and Asset Management Strategically manage, maintain and enhance community infrastructure	Develop and manage a corporate Asset Management Strategy and Asset Management Plans for defined asset classes with a focus on:	Corporate Asset Management Strategy completed	July 2025	TARGET IN PROGRESS: Asset Management Strategy to be reviewed now the ERP Software has been updated
	a. identifying and developing an asset maintenance tracking system that includes cyclical inspections b. managing the renewal and replacement program c. coordinating projects within community	Asset management tracking system implemented	July 2025	TARGET IN PROGRESS: Identifying the best framework and management system to be used and refer as above
	Investigate opportunities to source external funding for infrastructure upgrades	Scoping, plans and cost estimates for critical infrastructure assets identified for future funding requirements	Ongoing	TARGET ACHIEVED: Proactive in identifying future projects and scoping for potential funding
	Maintenance programs for parks, ovals, cemeteries and reserves	Safety audits conducted yearly on trees within community which are designated to Council responsibility	100%	TARGET ACHIEVED: Quarterly audits are carried out in all areas in the Community
		All maintenance activities carried out in accordance with budget allocation	100%	TARGET PARTIALLY ACHIEVED: Expenses are kept with-in Council Budget. With exception of emergency un-forecasted events
		Park equipment safety audits, inspections and maintenance program carried out to schedule	100%	TARGET ACHIEVED: Regularly inspected by Council Service Managers and reported to Technical Services team

Goal	Strategy	Measure	Target	Result
4.1 Strategic Infrastructure and Asset Management Strategically manage, maintain and enhance community infrastructure	Continue community consultations on the establishment of gazetted cemeteries in Warruwi, Minjilang and Maningrida	Community consultations on the establishment of gazetted cemeteries in Warruwi, Minjilang and Maningrida progressed	June 2025	🌀 TARGET IN PROGRESS: Minjilang and Maningrida cemeteries now gazetted and under construction. Warruwi and Gunbalanya lease applications pending
	Ensure community swimming pools operate according to community needs and all legislative and work health and safety requirements	Opening hours to meet community requirements provided with a comparison year-on-year increase in operating costs of no more than 10%	June 2025	✅ TARGET ACHIEVED: Flexible Pool hours of operation are in place which enables Community members and Service Providers access to Council Swimming Pools
		Staff employed to meet supervision ratios and cultural needs	100%	✅ TARGET ACHIEVED: one new part time ATSI Pool Attendant employed to cover any shortfall of supervision ratios and cultural needs.(Maningrida only) ✅ TARGET ACHIEVED: Jabiru
		Operational procedures are adhered to and documented as required by WARC and legislated standards	100%	✅ TARGET ACHIEVED: Monthly reports are submitted by Swimming Pool Team Leader
		Pool maintenance regime is established and sustainable	June 2025	✅ TARGET ACHIEVED: Daily, weekly and monthly maintenance schedule in place and operational for Swimming Pool staff



Goal	Strategy	Measure	Target	Result
4.2 Fleet, Plant and Equipment Provide a modern and well-maintained fleet of plant and vehicles capable of meeting service delivery requirements	Review and update the Strategic Fleet Asset Management Strategy	Strategic Fleet Asset Management Strategy maintained and improved	Ongoing	🔍 TARGET IN PROGRESS: Identifying the best framework and management system to be used
	Implement effective cost recovery mechanisms for use of Council's vehicles, plant and equipment	Annual review and update of Council's Fees and Charges against operating and replacement costs	May 2025	✅ TARGET ACHIEVED: Cost recovery model and charge back to programs in place
		Fleet, plant and equipment hire contracts to support and ensure effective cost recovery for Council prepared	Ongoing	✅ TARGET ACHIEVED: Business activity under constant review
	Ensure vehicles, plant and equipment are fully serviced as per the Strategic Plan for the useful life of the asset	All vehicles inspected as per Strategic Plan	100%	✅ TARGET ACHIEVED: Vehicle inspections completed
		Repairs and maintenance requests performed in line with Strategic Plan	100%	🚧 TARGET PARTIALLY ACHIEVED: Maintenance and repair work done as possible within resource capacity
		Accurate vehicle, plant and equipment data maintained	100%	✅ TARGET ACHIEVED: Vehicle and plant register up to date
	Maintain adequate stock levels	Stocks purchased and used in community workshops reviewed and monitored	Ongoing	✅ TARGET ACHIEVED: Stocking requirements closely monitored
	Upgrade fuel distribution infrastructure to comply with work, health and safety relevant standards and business requirements	Infrastructure audit as per current legislation completed and report including recommended plan for upgrades delivered	Ongoing	✅ TARGET ACHIEVED: Fuel distribution monitored regularly

Goal	Strategy	Measure	Target	Result
4.3 Waste and Water Management Deliver environmentally and economically sound solid waste, water and sewerage services	Provide scheduled domestic waste collection in each community	Waste collections completed as per schedule	100%	✔️ TARGET ACHIEVED: Waste collections maintained
	Landfill sites are licensed and operate in accordance with NT Environment Protection Authority (NTEPA) authorities	Landfill sites remain operational	100%	❌ TARGET NOT ACHIEVED: Jabiru landfill site under remediation to meet NTEPA guidelines in joint venture with OSS as per deed obligations
	Work with other government and commercial entities in order to plan for long term waste disposal needs	Utilise Charles Darwin University's <i>Academic Review of Future Waste Management Strategy</i>	July 2025	❌ TARGET NOT ACHIEVED: Position was vacant for several months during this financial year
		Northern Territory Local Government Association liaised and collaborated with on advocacy initiatives and waste strategies	July 2025	✔️ TARGET ACHIEVED: Attend regular meetings with LGANT and liaise on relevant issues
	Adhere to water and sewerage operations and maintenance schedules	Disruption to Jabiru town water supply	10% or less	✔️ TARGET ACHIEVED: In Jabiru when dealing with these repairs within budget
		Disruption to Jabiru sewerage network	10% or less	✔️ TARGET ACHIEVED: In Jabiru when dealing with these repairs within budget
		All legislated standards for potable water testing in Jabiru met	100%	✔️ TARGET ACHIEVED: In Jabiru when dealing with these repairs within budget
		Annual audit of water treatment practices including policies and procedures conducted	December 2024	🟡 TARGET PARTIALLY ACHIEVED: 50% achieved

Goal	Strategy	Measure	Target	Result
4.4 Local Road Management and Maintenance Tactically monitor, maintain and manage Council gazetted roads and community safety via traffic management	Develop and schedule yearly road, footpath and stormwater repairs and maintenance programs for each community which: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> determines a road maintenance schedule for the course of the year determines grading frequency of internal access roads schedules hazard identification and road condition reports (actions and frequency) schedules footpath and stormwater inspections 	Deliver yearly road, footpath and stormwater repairs and maintenance as per schedule with records maintained for each community in Council's records management system - currently 'Magiq'	100%	 TARGET PARTIALLY ACHIEVED: All planned road maintenance activities were successfully completed. Record management not achieved due to ongoing position vacancy
		All footpaths and stormwater inspected quarterly	100%	 TARGET ACHIEVED
		Percentage of known footpath hazards made safe within 24 hours	85%	 TARGET ACHIEVED
	Continually monitor and carry out minor road repairs	Roads monitored and minor repairs completed as required	85%	 TARGET ACHIEVED: Road assessment ongoing and all repairs completed where capacity and finance is available
	Consult with Local Authorities to incorporate local priorities for traffic management into traffic management strategies and/or plans	Consultations on traffic management priorities are minuted and reported to Council and WARC executive	100%	 TARGET ACHIEVED: Local Authorities have been active in determining road project priorities
	Deliver plans as per schedule for managing street lighting	All non-functioning street lights repaired bi-annually as per set program	100%	 TARGET PARTIALLY ACHIEVED: 80% achieved in Jabiru, other communities to be addressed as per lighting strategy when completed
		Functioning street lights per audit per community	85%	 TARGET PARTIALLY ACHIEVED: Target achieved in Jabiru, other communities to be addressed as per lighting strategy when completed



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	Strategy	Measure	Target	Result
5.1 Recycling and Waste Develop recycling and waste initiatives which protect and preserve community natural resources and the local environment	Review strategic and environmental risks associated with climate change and sustainability and draft 10 year strategy for reuse, recycle and reduce waste initiatives	Reuse, Recycle and Reduce Waste Strategy implemented	June 2025	✔ TARGET ACHIEVED: Reduce, Reuse and Recycle Strategy has been implemented
	Continue pre-cyclone community waste collections	Pre-cyclone waste collections held twice yearly as per published schedule	100%	✔ TARGET ACHIEVED: Two or more pre-cyclone waste clean-ups achieved in each community
	Continue whole-of-community approach to identify and implement innovative initiatives to reuse, recycle and reduce waste	Keep Australia Beautiful and local schools collaborated with and Clean up Australia Day, Tidy Towns campaign and eco schools program participated in	June 2025	✔ TARGET ACHIEVED: Ongoing activity and relationships maintained

Goal	Strategy	Measure	Target	Result
5.2 Procurement Develop and implement a leading-edge sustainability procurement strategy	Review WARC current procurement practices against sustainability and climate action NT and national procurement benchmarks and develop leading-edge Procurement Strategy	Leading-edge Procurement Strategy completed	June 2025	✔ TARGET ACHIEVED: Procurement Policy approved by Council December 2024

Goal	Strategy	Measure	Target	Result
5.3 Reduce Office Waste All offices recycle and reduce waste and consumables	Encourage Council office solutions to reduce waste	Paperless agenda papers to reduce binding and printing costs	June 2025	🟡 TARGET PARTIALLY ACHIEVED: Councillors have access to laptops and email to view electronic copies

Goal	Strategy	Measure	Target	Result
5.4 Education Develop and deliver locally relevant education initiatives on sustainability and climate impacts across multiple mediums and platforms	Engage with local schools to develop age and locally appropriate educational resources	Education campaign collateral created and displayed in community and schools	June 2025	✅ TARGET ACHIEVED: 'Stop the Drop' video created September 2024. Video displayed at all community council offices
	Facilitate relationships between businesses, community leaders and youth with a focus on conserving natural resources	Community-appropriate collaborative materials, initiatives and messages developed and promoted via community noticeboards and social media	June 2025	✅ TARGET ACHIEVED: Promotions through social media and Council website. 'Waste and Sustainability' page added to Council website
	Encourage and promote community understanding and correct use of sorting bays	Uplift in correct use of sorting bays	50%	🟡 TARGET IN PROGRESS: Sorting bay signage has been replaced as required and community education is in progress

Goal	Strategy	Measure	Target	Result
5.5 Policy Devise and implement a Sustainability and Climate Action Policy	Research and develop WARC Environment and Sustainability Management Strategy and Policy	Environment and Sustainability Management Strategy and Policy completed	June 2025	✅ TARGET ACHIEVED: Refer to WARC Regional Waste Management Strategy

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	Strategy	Measure	Target	Result
6.1 Financial Management Provision of strong financial management and leadership which ensures long term sustainability and growth	Develop and implement a financially sustainable long term financial plan, annual budget and periodic budget reviews	Statutory requirements and external audit qualifications fully complied with	100%	🌀 TARGET IN PROGRESS: Continuing to work with Council's stakeholders including the NT Government to achieve a financially sustainable budget and long-term financial plan
	Management of Council's revenue and payable functions			✅ TARGET ACHIEVED
	Manage and deliver on Council's annual statutory and financial obligations			✅ TARGET ACHIEVED: Obligations met within the required timeframes
	Management of Council's asset accounting practices			🌀 TARGET IN PROGRESS: Asset valuation achieved, and the asset register assembly and policies are next to be reviewed and updated
	Monitor and coordinate external funding provided through grants and commercial contracts	Contractual arrangements complied with	100%	🌀 TARGET IN PROGRESS: All Community Care - NDIS and Aged Care and Remote Community Connector reporting is compliant and submitted by the Community Care team - 100%. All Wellbeing grant reports, budgets submitted to funders and data have been submitted - 100%. Creche - Minjilang and Warruwi reporting is via a third part provider - OWNA. Collected data is reported - 75%. All other grant program reports and acquittals are submitted as required 🌀 TARGET IN PROGRESS: All commercial contractual agreements fulfilled

Goal	Strategy	Measure	Target	Result
6.1 Financial Management Provision of strong financial management and leadership which ensures long term sustainability and growth	Maintain the rates database including all property details	Statutory requirements fully complied with and percentage of rates debtors outstanding	100%	✔ TARGET ACHIEVED
	Maintain the rates register		100%	✔ TARGET ACHIEVED
	Prepare the annual rates declaration		Less than 5%	✔ TARGET ACHIEVED
	Apply concessions as appropriate		100%	✔ TARGET ACHIEVED
	Determine the rateability of properties		100%	✔ TARGET ACHIEVED
	Manage and provide advice on Council's investments in accordance with adopted policies	Interest on investments	> \$180,000 FY2024-2025	✔ TARGET ACHIEVED: Interest on investments was over the \$180,000 target
	Monitor returns of investments including roll-over of term deposits			✔ TARGET ACHIEVED
	Manage Council-funded projects to maintain a positive working capital ratio	Positive working capital ratio	Minimum ratio 1:1	✔ TARGET ACHIEVED
	Annual review and update of Council's Fees and Charges	Review and update of Council's Fees and Charges completed	100%	✔ TARGET ACHIEVED

Goal	Strategy	Measure	Target	Result
6.2 Records Delivery of storage and retrieval of records processes which support efficient and transparent administration	Maintain records in accordance with legislation	Public Information, Local Government Council Statutory and Freedom of Information requirements complied with	100%	🚫 TARGET PARTIALLY ACHIEVED: Over 90% of relevant statutory obligations complied with
	Implement disposal schedule by sentencing and disposing of records	Electronic records held in records management system eligible for destruction sentenced	85%	✔ TARGET ACHIEVED: 100% of eligible records have been sentenced
	Train staff in the use of Council's records management system - currently 'Magiq'	Training delivered to new staff using records management system 'Magiq' during their probation period	85%	✔ TARGET ACHIEVED: 87% of relevant staff received induction training
	Support staff to identify and save important records	Number of queries/ requests telephoned or sent to records@ for support and responded to within 24 hours	85%	✔ TARGET ACHIEVED: 95% of enquiries were responded to within 24 hours

Goal	Strategy	Measure	Target	Result
6.3 Council and Local Authorities Excellence in governance, consultation administration and representation	Ensure capacity for customer relationship management, including mechanisms for feedback on service delivery	Complaints and positive feedback reported to the administration	100%	✔️ TARGET ACHIEVED: Where sufficient evidence had been provided
		Complaints acknowledged within five working days	90%	✔️ TARGET ACHIEVED: And complaints finalised
		Complaints finalised within fifteen working days	95%	✔️ TARGET ACHIEVED
	Improve accountable and transparent decision-making by facilitating the participation of Councillors in Council, Committee and Local Authority Meetings	At least one training program attended each financial year by Council and Local Authority Members	100%	✔️ TARGET ACHIEVED: Training provided by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development for Council and Local Authority Members
		Ongoing administrative and secretarial support for Council, Local Authority and Committee Meetings provided	100%	✔️ TARGET ACHIEVED: Governance Advisor attending all meetings in person to provide support
		Four meetings of each Local Authority held each financial year	100%	✔️ TARGET ACHIEVED: Meetings held September 2024, November 2024, March 2025 and May 2025
	Enable community members to participate in local decision-making by ensuring that non-confidential Agendas and Minutes of Council are publicly available at Council offices in each community	All non-confidential Agendas and Minutes publicly available three working days before a meeting (Agendas) and ten working days after a meeting (Minutes)	100%	✔️ TARGET ACHIEVED: Available within the timeframes on Council's website and hard copies available upon request
	Establish formal and informal mechanisms for community consultation on key issues and input into decision-making	Community outreach event hosted by Council in each community every financial year	100%	❌ TARGET NOT ACHIEVED
	Create opportunities for Councillors and senior staff to be available to community members to discuss Council decisions, programs and projects, either informally or through community meetings	Local Authority Meetings attended by at least one relevant Councillor and at least one Senior Manager	100%	✔️ TARGET ACHIEVED
	Ensure advocacy and representation of Council interests through government, the private sector and the media	Advocacy framework, strategy and communication reviewed	December 2024	✔️ TARGET ACHIEVED
Create an advocacy framework, strategy and communication plan in consultation with Councillors			🟡 TARGET PARTIALLY ACHIEVED	

Goal	Strategy	Measure	Target	Result
6.4 Risk Management The monitoring and minimisation of risks associated with the operations of Council	Update risk registers and ensure appropriate treatment plans are implemented	Overall risk rating within the risk register reduced	10% reduction	✔️ TARGET ACHIEVED
	Undertake internal audits as per audit plan	Internal audits completed as per the adopted plan	100%	❌ TARGET NOT ACHIEVED: Internal Audit Plan being finalised
	Regularly review insurance cover and premiums	Annual full appraisal of cover required, policies reviewed via insurance broker	June 2024	✔️ TARGET ACHIEVED

Goal	Strategy	Measure	Target	Result
6.5 Planning and Reporting Robust planning and reporting that supports Council's decision-making processes	Produce key policy and direction documents for the Council including the Regional Plan, Annual Reports and policies	Regional Plan finalised and shared, Annual Report delivered, and policies requiring review are reviewed and updated as per required timelines	100%	🔄 TARGET IN PROGRESS
	Jabiru Masterplan Meetings are attended by CEO and/or designated executive	All Masterplan meetings scheduled are attended	100%	✔️ TARGET ACHIEVED

Goal	Strategy	Measure	Target	Result
6.6 Information and Communication Technology Effective and innovative information technology solutions which maximise service delivery and support Council's operations	Plan and deliver Council's technology needs through the provision of a well-maintained and managed information and communication technology (ICT) platform	Develop ICT Strategic Plan	December 2024	❌ TARGET NOT ACHIEVED: Priority continues to be on ICT transformation and security with the move away from CouncilBIZ supported services. However, a review of Council's ICT needs is in progress
	Optimise the delivery of ICT services and equipment to required work locations to meet staff and service delivery needs	Develop ICT Asset register	June 2025	🔄 TARGET IN PROGRESS: Is part of determining Council's future ICT needs
	Provision of innovative, relevant and cost-effective ICT solutions to solve service delivery challenges	Annual review of ICT needs in line with the ICT Strategic Plan completed	100%	🔄 TARGET IN PROGRESS: Is part of the Council's ICT transformation
	Optimise costs associated with ICT delivery, including communications, both fixed and mobile, data, voice and video services and staff equipment		100%	🔄 TARGET IN PROGRESS: Is part of the project determining Council's future (immediate and longer term) ICT needs

Ngjipin Beach, Warruwi.



Financial Performance

Statement 1. Comparison of Actual Performance Against Budget

Table 1.1 Income and Expenditure Statement

	Financial Year Original Budget	Financial Year Final Budget	Actual Performance	Variation Between Final Budget and Actuals
	\$	\$	\$	\$
OPERATING INCOME				
Rates	2,667,828	2,667,829	2,525,946	(141,883)
Charges	4,337,273	3,904,376	3,304,903	(599,473)
Fees and Charges	696,126	725,448	820,118	94,670
Operating Grants and Subsidies	16,363,765	22,263,569	18,972,704	(3,290,866)
Interest / Investment Income	154,000	154,000	221,413	67,413
Commercial and Other Income	13,368,342	13,279,963	13,514,956	234,992
TOTAL OPERATING INCOME	37,587,333	42,995,185	39,360,039	(3,635,146)
OPERATING EXPENDITURE				
Employee Expenses	19,919,484	18,169,847	16,788,958	(1,380,889)
Materials and Contracts	7,113,838	10,904,386	7,905,383	(2,999,004)
Elected Member Allowances	399,170	418,928	368,053	(50,874)
Elected Member Expenses	48,000	212,150	210,693	(1,457)
Council Committee & LA Allowances *	26,450	49,800	40,862	(8,938)
Council Committee & LA Expenses **	-	23,788	18,963	(4,825)
Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	5,476,364	5,271,438	5,064,566	(206,872)
Interest Expenses	-	-	-	-
Other Expenses	9,195,099	12,648,826	10,713,504	(1,935,323)
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURE	42,178,405	47,699,163	41,110,981	(6,588,182)
OPERATING SURPLUS / DEFICIT	(4,591,072)	(4,703,978)	(1,750,942)	2,953,036

Statement 1. Comparison of Actual Performance Against Budget

Statement 1.2 Annual Operating Position

	Financial Year Original Budget	Financial Year Final Budget	Actual Result	Variation Between Final Budget and Actuals
	\$	\$	\$	\$
OPERATING SURPLUS / DEFICIT	(4,591,072)	(4,703,978)	(1,750,942)	2,953,036
Remove NON-CASH ITEMS				
Less Non-Cash Income	(6,964,681)	(6,855,620)	(6,527,841)	327,779
Add Back Non-Cash Expenses	12,441,045	12,127,058	11,592,407	(534,651)
TOTAL NON-CASH ITEMS	5,476,364	5,271,438	5,064,566	(206,872)
Less ADDITIONAL OUTFLOWS				
Capital Expenditure	8,740,992	5,826,123	5,140,829	(685,294)
Borrowing Repayments (Principal Only)	-	-	-	-
Transfer to Reserves	147,000	-	1,749,414	1,749,414
Other Outflows	-	-	8,054,766	8,054,766
TOTAL ADDITIONAL OUTFLOWS	(8,887,992)	(5,826,123)	(14,945,010)	(9,118,887)
Add ADDITIONAL INFLOWS				
Capital Grants Income	7,906,700	3,050,000	7,233,205	4,183,205
Prior Year Carry Forward Tied Funding	-	1,716,074	3,376,320	1,660,246
Other Inflow of Funds	96,000	437,503	2,261,010	1,823,507
Transfers from Reserves	-	55,087	55,087	-
TOTAL ADDITIONAL INFLOWS	8,002,700	5,258,664	12,925,623	7,666,959
NET OPERATING POSITION	-	-	1,294,237	1,294,237

Statement 2. Reasons for Material Variations between the Final Budget and Actual Performance

Operating Income

Operating Income had a negative variance to the amended budget of \$3.6M. Rates and Charges were below expectation as there was a delay in issuing water charge notices. The difference in Operating Grants and Subsidies was partially due to not receiving the full financial subsidy initially requested and a delay in receiving grant money at year end.

Operating Expenses

Overall, the Operating Expenditure is in a net favourable position of \$6.6M due to a number of reasons. Employee expenses were \$1.3M less compared to budget,

as a result of staff shortages and turnover. Materials and Contracts were under budget by \$3M due to delays in projects and the inability to engage contractors in a timely manner (i.e. industry shortages).

Capital Expenditure

West Arnhem Regional Council's capital expenditure reflects the acquisition/creation of new assets as well as renewal of existing ones. Capital expenditure for the 2024-25 was over budgeted by \$0.7M. This budget variance was due to the delay in the completion of several projects, which will be finalised in 2025-26.

Table 3.1 Total Expenditure for Each Council Committee and Local Authority

For the year ending 30 June 2025	Council Committee & LA Allowances \$	Council Committee & LA Expenses \$	Total \$
Audit Committee	6,712	-	6,712
Kakadu Ward Committee	-	2,472	2,472
Gunbalanya LA Members	14,100	3,357	17,457
Maningrida LA Members	7,250	5,544	12,794
Minjilang LA Members	5,000	4,378	9,378
Waruwi LA Members	7,800	3,212	11,012
TOTAL	40,862	18,963	59,825

Key Performance Indicators

The financial performance indicators detailed below inform all interested parties on how well the Council is performing compared to industry benchmarks.

Asset Sustainability Ratio

This ratio helps to show whether the Council is replacing assets as their service potential is used up. Some assets are absolutely essential – sewerage and water treatment facilities, etc. This ratio helps to identify whether the Council will be able to continue services associated with these assets.

All Northern Territory councils struggle to replace assets as and when this is needed, and this has been the subject of several reviews undertaken by the NT Government.

The Target Benchmark is greater than 90%.

Result 2024-2025 = 102%

Result 2023-2024 = 40%*

*Recalculated to remove road assets.

Operating Surplus Ratio

This ratio shows whether the Council has the ability to cover its operating costs from operating revenues. Like all businesses, Council must ensure that it has sufficient revenue to meet its operating costs. Achieving a positive result means that Council is covering its costs and is able to apply the surplus to capital expenditure.

The Target Benchmark is between 0% and 10%.

Result 2024-2025 = 8%

Result 2023-2024 = 11%

Current Ratio

The current ratio is a liquidity ratio that measures Council's ability to pay its short-term obligations. To gauge this ability, the current ratio considers the current total assets (both liquid and illiquid) relative to the current total liabilities. Council's current ratio of 0.99 means that it has 0.99 times current assets in relation to current liabilities.

The Target Benchmark is greater than 1.

Result 2024-2025 = 0.97

Result 2023-2024 = 0.88

Rate Coverage Ratio

This ratio measures the Council's dependence on general rate revenue to fund its operations. The higher the ratio more the Council's revenue is sourced from its rating base, which in turn means a lower dependency on grant funding. Like many regional councils, WARC is substantially dependent on grant funding, which reduces its flexibility and control when it comes to budget options. The challenge for Council is to improve this ratio in the face of limited alternative funding sources and a very limited rate base.

The Target Benchmark is greater than 12%.

Result 2024-2025 = 8%

Result 2023-2024 = 7%*

*Recalculated to only include general rate revenue.



Financial Statement



WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

ABN: 45 065 336 873

**FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED
30 JUNE 2025**

WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

ABN: 45 065 336 873

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

CONTENTS	Page
Chief Executive Officer's Certificate	1
Auditor's Independence Declaration	2
Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income	3
Statement of Financial Position	4
Statement of Working Capital	5
Statement of Changes in Equity	6
Statement of Cash Flows	7
Notes to the Financial Report	8
Independent Auditor's Report	34

WEST ARNHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL
ABN: 45 065 336 873
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER CERTIFICATE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

I, Katharine Murray, the Chief Executive Officer of the West Arnhem Regional Council (the council), certify that:

- (a) the statement has, to the best of my knowledge, information and belief, been properly drawn up in accordance with the applicable Australian Accounting Standards, the *Local Government Act 2019* and those Regulations so as to present fairly the financial position of the council and the results for the 2024-25 financial year; and
- (b) the statement is in accordance with the accounting and other records of the council.



Dated: 11 November 2025



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**AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF
NORTHERN TERRITORY LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2019 AND NORTHERN
TERRITORY LOCAL GOVERNMENT (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 2021**

TO THE COUNCILLORS OF WEST ARNHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June 2025 there have been no contraventions of:

- (i) the auditor independence requirements as set out in the *Northern Territory Local Government Act 2019 and Northern Territory (General) Regulations 2021*, in relation to the audit, and
- (ii) any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Nexia Edwards Marshall NT'.

Nexia Edwards Marshall NT
Chartered Accountants

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Noel Clifford'.

Noel Clifford
Partner

Direct Line: 08 8981 5585 ext. 506
Mobile: 0417 864 114
Email: nclifford@nexiaemnt.com.au

Darwin, Northern Territory
Dated: 13 November 2025

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF WEST ARNHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of West Arnhem Regional Council (the "Council"), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2025, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including material accounting policy information, and the Chief Executive Officer's Certificate.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of West Arnhem Regional Council, is in accordance with the *Northern Territory Local Government Act 2019* including:

- (i) giving a true and fair view of the Council's financial position as at 30 June 2025 and of its financial performance and its cashflows for the year then ended; and
- (ii) complying with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Northern Territory Local Government (General) Regulations 2021*.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the Council in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

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

Other information

The Councillors and Chief Executive Officer are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information in West Arnhem Regional Council's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2025, but does not include the financial report and the auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of the other information we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF WEST ARNHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL (CONT.)

Responsibilities of the Councillors and Chief Executive Officer for the Financial Report

The Councillors and Chief Executive Officer of West Arnhem Regional Council are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Northern Territory Local Government Act 2019* and for such internal control as the Councillors and Chief Executive Officer determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

The Councillors and Chief Executive Officer are responsible for overseeing the Council's financial reporting process.

Auditor's responsibility for the audit of the financial report

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

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

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

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF WEST ARNHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL (CONT.)

Auditor's responsibility for the audit of the financial report (Cont.)

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

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

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads 'Nargia Edwards Marshall NT'.

Nexia Edwards Marshall NT
Chartered Accountants

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads 'Noel Clifford'.

Noel Clifford
Partner

Direct Line: 08 8981 5585 ext. 506
Mobile: 0417 864 114
Email: nclifford@nexiaem.com.au

Darwin, Northern Territory

Dated: 13 November 2025

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WEST ARNHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL
ABN:45 065 336 873
STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

	Note	2025 \$	2024 \$
INCOME			
Grants and contributions	2A	20,770,174	16,176,599
Rates and annual charges	2B	5,830,849	6,076,850
Other (losses)/ gains	2C	447,148	24,235
Investment income	2D	221,413	192,989
User charges and fees	2E	7,787,513	10,421,027
TOTAL INCOME		35,057,097	32,891,700
EXPENSES			
Depreciation	3A	5,064,566	8,036,274
Employee Cost	3B	14,222,126	15,980,472
Other operating expenses	3C	14,476,168	13,012,425
TOTAL EXPENSES		33,762,860	37,029,171
OPERATIONAL PROFIT (LOSS)		1,294,237	(4,137,471)
Roads and Capital Activities			
Write off Roads		21,219,628	-
Write off Assets		-	345,505
Total Roads and Capital Activities	8	21,219,628	345,505
NET LOSS		(19,925,391)	(4,482,976)
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME			
Revaluation of buildings and other structures for the year	14	55,375,580	-
TOTAL OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME		55,375,580	-
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS)		35,450,189	(4,482,976)

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL
ABN:45 065 336 873
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT 30 JUNE 2025

	Note	2025 \$	2024 \$
ASSETS			
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash on Hand and at Bank	4	14,125,956	8,669,259
Trade and Other Receivables	5	1,588,176	1,567,093
Other Assets	6	170,554	151,626
Inventory	7	133,511	104,829
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		16,018,197	10,492,807
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, Plant and Equipment	8	116,560,000	82,028,083
Right of Use Assets	9	7,475,665	7,765,016
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		124,035,665	89,793,099
TOTAL ASSETS		140,053,862	100,285,906
LIABILITIES			
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and Other Payables	10	4,407,919	3,649,126
Other Contract liabilities	11	9,790,253	5,890,393
Employee Provisions	12	2,023,428	2,009,477
Lease Liabilities	13	229,526	417,932
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		16,451,126	11,966,928
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Employee Provisions	12	194,890	223,220
Lease Liabilities	13	8,190,268	8,328,369
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		8,385,158	8,551,589
TOTAL LIABILITIES		24,836,284	20,518,517
NET ASSETS		115,217,578	79,767,389
EQUITY			
Retained Earnings		32,381,488	54,015,421
Reserves	14	82,836,090	25,751,968
TOTAL EQUITY		115,217,578	79,767,389

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

WEST ARNHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL
ABN:45 065 336 873
STATEMENT OF WORKING CAPITAL
AS AT 30 JUNE 2025

	Note	2025 \$	2024 \$
ASSETS			
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash on Hand and at Bank	4	14,125,956	8,669,259
Trade and Other Receivables	5	1,588,176	1,567,093
Other Assets	6	170,554	151,626
Inventory	7	133,511	104,829
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		16,018,197	10,492,807
Less:			
LIABILITIES			
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and Other Payables	10	4,407,919	3,649,126
Contract liabilities	11	9,790,253	5,890,393
Employee Provisions	12	2,023,428	2,009,477
Lease Liabilities	13	229,526	417,932
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		16,451,126	11,966,928
NET CURRENT ASSETS (LIABILITIES)		(432,929)	(1,474,121)
CURRENT RATIO		0.97	0.88

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

WEST ARNHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL
ABN:45 065 336 873
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

Note	Retained Earnings	Assets Revaluation Reserve	Capital Reserves	Other Reserves	Total Equity
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Balance at 1 July 2023	58,425,467	25,711,095	113,803	-	84,250,365
Comprehensive income:					
Loss for the year	(4,482,976)	-	-	-	(4,482,976)
Other comprehensive income (loss) for the year	-	-	-	-	-
Total comprehensive income (loss) attributable to Members of the entity for the year	(4,482,976)	-	-	-	(4,482,976)
Transfers between equity	72,930	-	(72,930)	-	-
Balance at 30 June 2024	54,015,421	25,711,095	40,873	-	79,767,389
Balance at 1 July 2024	54,015,421	25,711,095	40,873	-	79,767,389
Comprehensive income:					
Loss for the year	(19,925,391)	-	-	-	(19,925,391)
Other comprehensive income for the year	-	55,375,580	-	-	55,375,580
Total comprehensive income (loss) attributable to Members of the entity for the year	(19,925,391)	55,375,580	-	-	35,450,189
Transfers between equity	(1,708,542)	-	120,553	1,587,989	-
Balance at 30 June 2025	32,381,488	81,086,675	161,426	1,587,989	115,217,578

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

WEST ARNHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL
ABN:45 065 336 873
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

	Note	2025 \$	2024 \$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Receipts from customers		13,472,071	18,183,923
Grants and contributions receipts		24,670,034	15,750,571
Payments to suppliers and employees		(27,514,401)	(28,516,075)
Interest received		221,413	192,989
Net cash provided by operating activities	16	<u>10,849,117</u>	<u>5,611,408</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Proceeds from disposals of property, plant and equipment		511,595	76,433
Payment for property, plant and equipment		(5,140,826)	(5,046,049)
Net cash (used in) investing activities		<u>(4,629,231)</u>	<u>(4,969,616)</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Payments for lease liabilities		(763,189)	(454,523)
Net cash (used in) financing activities		<u>(763,189)</u>	<u>(454,523)</u>
Net increase in cash held		5,456,697	187,269
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the financial year		8,669,259	8,481,990
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the financial year	4, 16	<u>14,125,956</u>	<u>8,669,259</u>
The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.			

WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL
ABN:45 065 336 873
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

Note 1 Material Accounting Policy Information

The financial statements cover West Arnhem Regional Council as an individual entity, incorporated and domiciled in Australia. West Arnhem Regional Council is operating pursuant to the NT Local Government Act 2019 and NT Local Government (General) Regulations 2021.

The financial statements were authorised for issue on 13 November 2025 by the Elected Members of the Council.

Statement of Compliance

The financial statements are general purpose financial statements that have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB), the requirements of the Local Government Act 2019, Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 and other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standard Board.

Australian Accounting Standards set out accounting policies that the AASB has concluded would result in financial statements containing relevant and reliable information about transactions, events and conditions. Material accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are presented below and have been consistently applied unless stated otherwise.

Basis of Preparation

The financial statements, except for the cash flow information, have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical costs, modified, where applicable, by the measurement at fair value of selected non-current assets, financial assets and financial liabilities. The amounts presented in the financial statements are in Australian Dollars and have been rounded to the nearest dollar.

Critical Accounting Estimates

The preparation of the financial statements requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise its judgement in the process of applying the Council's accounting policies. The areas involving a higher degree of judgement or complexity, or areas where assumptions and estimates are significant to the financial statements, are disclosed in Note 1(p) Critical Accounting Judgements, Estimates and Assumptions.

Current and Non Current Classification

Assets and liabilities are presented in the statement of financial position based on current and non current classifications.

An asset is classified as current when it is either expected to be realised or intended to be sold or consumed in the Council's normal operating cycle, it is held primarily for the purpose of trading, it is expected to be realised within 12 months after the reporting period and or the asset is cash or cash equivalent unless restricted from being exchanged or used to settle a liability for at least 12 months after the reporting period. All other assets are classified as non current.

A liability is classified as current when it is either expected to be settled in the Council's normal operating cycle, it is held primarily for the purpose of trading, it is due to be settled within 12 months after the reporting period and or there is no unconditional right to defer the settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after the reporting period. All other liabilities are classified as non current.

Material Accounting Policies**(a) Revenue and Other Income Recognition**

The Council recognises revenue as follows :

Revenue from Contracts With Customers

Revenue is recognised at an amount that reflects the consideration to which the Council is expected to be entitled in exchange for transferring goods or services to a customer. For each contract with a customer, the Council identifies the contract with a customer; identifies the performance obligations in the contract; determines the transaction price which takes into account estimates of variable consideration and the time value of money; allocates the transaction price to the separate performance obligations on the basis of the relative stand alone selling price of each distinct good or service to be delivered; and recognises revenue when or as each performance obligation is satisfied in a manner that depicts the transfer to the customer of the goods or services promised.

WEST ARNHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL
ABN:45 065 336 873
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

Note 1 Material Accounting Policy Information (Cont.)**(a) Revenue and Other Income Recognition (Cont.)****Operating Grants**

Grant revenue is recognised in profit or loss when the Council satisfies the performance obligations stated within the funding agreements.

Funding arrangements which are enforceable and contain sufficiently specific performance obligations are recognised as revenue under AASB15. Otherwise, such arrangements are accounted for under AASB 1058, where upon initial recognition of an asset, the Association is required to consider whether any other financial statement elements should be recognised (for example financial liabilities representing repayable amounts), with any difference being recognised immediately in profit or loss as income.

If conditions are attached to the grant which must be satisfied before the Council is eligible to retain the contribution, the grant will be recognised in the statement of financial position as a liability until those conditions are satisfied.

Capital Grant

When the Council receives a capital grant, it recognises a liability for the excess of the initial carrying amount of the financial asset received over any related amounts (being contributions by owners, lease liability, financial instruments, provisions, revenue or contract liability arising from a contract with a customer) recognised under other Australian Accounting Standards.

Rates

Rates are recognised as revenue when the Council obtains control over the asset comprising the receipt.

Rates are an enforceable debt linked to rateable property that will be recovered when the property is sold, and therefore control normally passes at the time of levying, or where earlier upon receipt of rates paid in advance. The rating period and reporting period for the Council coincide and accordingly, all rates levied for the year are recognised as revenue.

Uncollected rates are recognised as receivables.

Contributed Assets

The Council receives assets from the government and other parties for Nil or nominal consideration in order to further its objectives. These assets are recognised in accordance with the recognition requirements of other applicable accounting standards (AASB 9, AASB 16, AASB 116 and AASB 138).

On initial recognition of an asset, the Council recognises related amounts (being contributions by owners, lease liability, financial instruments, provisions, revenue or contract liability arising from a contract with a customer).

The Council recognises income immediately in profit or loss as the difference between initial carrying amount of the asset and the related amounts.

Interest Income

Interest income is recognised using the effective interest method.

Donations and Bequests

Donations and bequests are recognised on receipt of the funds with control of this revenue having passed to the Council.

Income from Sale of Goods

Revenue from the sales of goods and the rendering of a service is recognised upon the delivery of the goods and services to the customers.

A receivable will be recognised when the goods are delivered. The Council's right to consideration is deemed unconditional at this time as only the passage of time is required before payment of that consideration is due. There is no significant financing component because sales are made within a credit term of 30 to 45 days.

The Council's historical experience with sales returns show that they are negligible and considered to be highly improbable. As such no provision for sale refunds is recognised by the Council at the time of sale of goods.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax.

WEST ARNHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL
ABN:45 065 336 873
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

Note 1 Material Accounting Policy Information (Cont.)**(b) Property, Plant and Equipment**

Each class of property, plant and equipment is carried at cost or fair value as indicated, less, where applicable, accumulated depreciation and any impairment losses.

Freehold Property

Freehold land and Buildings are shown at their fair value based on periodic, but at least triennial, valuations by external independent valuers, less subsequent depreciation for buildings.

In periods when the Freehold Land and Buildings are not subject to an independent valuation, the Councillors conduct Councillors' valuations to ensure the carrying amount for the Land and Buildings is not materially different to the fair value.

Increases in the carrying amount arising on revaluation of Land and Buildings are recognised in other comprehensive income and accumulated in the revaluation surplus in equity. Revaluation decreases that offset previous increases of the same class of assets shall be recognised in other comprehensive income under the heading of revaluation surplus. All other decreases are recognised in profit or loss.

Any accumulated depreciation at the date of the revaluation is eliminated against the gross carrying amount of the asset and the net amount is restated to the revalued amount of the asset.

Freehold Land and Buildings that have been contributed at no cost, or for nominal cost, are initially recognised and measured at the fair value of the asset at the date it is acquired.

Plant and Equipment

Plant and equipment are measured on the cost basis and are therefore carried at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. In the event the carrying amount of plant and equipment is greater than its estimated recoverable amount, the carrying amount is written down immediately to its estimated recoverable amount and impairment losses are recognised either in profit or loss or as a revaluation decrease if the impairment losses relate to a revalued asset. A formal assessment of recoverable amount is made when impairment indicators are present (refer to Note 1(f) for details of impairment).

Plant and equipment that have been contributed at no cost, or for nominal cost, are valued and recognised at the fair value of the asset at the date it is acquired.

Depreciation

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets, including buildings and capitalised lease assets but excluding freehold land, is depreciated on a straight-line basis over the asset's useful life to the entity commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use. Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the shorter of either the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful lives of the improvements.

The depreciation rates used for each class of depreciable assets are:

Class of Fixed Asset	Depreciation Rate Life (years)
Buildings, structures and site improvements and improvements	10-60 years
Infrastructure	15- 100 years
Plant and equipment	1-14 years
Roads	2-100 years
Furniture and Fittings and office Equipment	1- 5 years
Motor Vehicles	1- 5 years
Right of Use Assets- Leased Land and Buildings	10-40 years

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at the end of each reporting period.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing proceeds with the carrying amount. These gains or losses are recognised in profit or loss in the period in which they arise. When revalued assets are sold, amounts included in the revaluation surplus relating to that asset are transferred to retained earnings.

The Council approved, in a special Council meeting on 29 January 2025, that the Council elected not to recognise roads expenditure as an asset and for those road assets already recorded, in the Council's accounts up to 30 June 2024, to be written off as a cost. The carrying amount of these roads was removed from the asset register, with the resulting loss recognized in the Income Statement of \$21,219,628. The write-off reflects a prudent assessment of asset condition and ensures the financial statements accurately represent the service potential of the Council's infrastructure.

WEST ARNHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL
ABN:45 065 336 873
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

Note 1 Material Accounting Policy Information (Cont.)**(c) Leases**

At inception of a contract, the Council assess if the contract contains or is a lease. If there is a lease present, a right-of-use asset and a corresponding lease liability is recognised by the Council where the Council is a lessee. However all contracts that are classified as short term leases (lease with remaining lease term of 12 months or less) and leases of low value assets are recognised as an operating lease on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease.

Initially the lease liability is measured at the present value of the lease payments still to be paid at commencement date. The lease payments are discounted at the interest rate implicit in the lease. If this rate cannot be readily determined, the Council uses the incremental borrowing rate.

Lease payments included in the measurement of the lease liability are as follows :

- fixed lease payments less any lease incentives;
- variable lease payments that depend on an index or rate, initially measured using the index or rate at the commencement date;
- the amount expected to be payable by the lessee under residual value guarantees;
- the exercise price of purchase options, if the lessee is reasonably certain to exercise the options;
- lease payments under extension options, if the lessee is reasonably certain to exercise the options; and
- payments of penalties for terminating the lease, if the lease term reflects the exercise of an option to terminate the lease.

The right-of-use assets comprise the initial measurement of the corresponding lease liability as mentioned above, any lease payments made at or before the commencement date as well as any initial direct costs. The subsequent measurement of the right-of-use assets is at cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses.

Right-of-use assets are depreciated over the lease term or useful life of the underlying asset whichever is the shortest. Where a lease transfers ownership of the underlying asset or the cost of the right-of-use asset reflects that the Council anticipates to exercise a purchase option, the specific asset is depreciated over the useful life of the underlying asset.

Concessionary Leases

For leases that have significantly below market terms and conditions principally to enable the Council to further its objectives (commonly known as peppercorn / concessionary leases), the Council has adopted the temporary relief under AASB 2019-8 and measures the right of use assets at cost on initial recognition.

(d) Right of Use Assets

A Right of Use Asset is recognised at the commencement date of a lease. The right-of-use asset is measured at cost, which comprises the initial amount of the lease liability, adjusted for, as applicable, any lease payments made at or before the commencement date net of any lease incentives received, any initial direct costs incurred, and, except where included in the cost of inventories, an estimate of costs expected to be incurred for dismantling and removing the underlying asset, and restoring the site or asset.

Right of Use Assets are depreciated on a straight line basis over the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful life of the asset, whichever is the shorter. Where the Council expects to obtain ownership of the leased asset at the end of the lease term, the depreciation is over its estimated useful life. Right of Use Assets are subject to impairment or adjusted for any remeasurement of lease liabilities.

(e) Impairment of Financial Assets

The Council recognises a loss allowance for expected credit losses on:

- financial assets that are measured at amortised cost or fair value through other comprehensive income;
- contract assets (eg amount due from customers under contracts).

The Council uses the following approach to impairment, as applicable under AASB 9: Financial Instruments:

- the simplified approach.

Simplified approach

The simplified approach does not require tracking of changes in credit risk at every reporting period, but instead requires the recognition of lifetime expected credit loss at all times.

This approach is applicable to:

- trade receivables; and
- lease receivables.

In measuring the expected credit loss, a provision matrix for trade receivables is used taking into consideration various data to get to an expected credit loss (i.e. diversity of its customer base, appropriate groupings of its historical loss experience, etc).

WEST ARNHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL
ABN:45 065 336 873
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

Note 1 Material Accounting Policy Information (Cont.)**(e) Impairment of Financial Assets (Cont.)****Recognition of expected credit losses in financial statements**

At each reporting date, the Council recognises the movement in the loss allowance as an impairment gain or loss in the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income.

(f) Impairment of Non Financial Assets

Non-financial assets are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. An impairment loss is recognised for the amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount. Any excess of the asset's carrying amount over its recoverable amount is recognised in profit or loss.

Recoverable amount is the higher of an asset's fair value less costs of disposal and value-in-use. The value-in-use is the present value of the estimated future cash flows relating to the asset using a pre-tax discount rate specific to the asset or cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs. Assets that do not have independent cash flows are grouped together to form a cash-generating unit.

Where an impairment loss on a revalued individual asset is identified, this is recognised against the revaluation surplus in respect of the same class of asset to the extent that the impairment loss does not exceed the amount in the revaluation surplus for that class of asset.

(g) Employee Benefits**Short-term employee benefits**

Provision is made for the Council's obligation for short-term employee benefits. Short-term employee benefits are benefits (other than termination benefits) that are expected to be settled wholly within 12 months after the end of the annual reporting period in which the employees render the related service, including wages, salaries and annual leave and superannuation. Short-term employee benefits are measured at the (undiscounted) amounts expected to be paid when the obligation is settled.

The Council's obligations for short-term employee benefits such as wages, salaries and superannuation are recognised as a part of current trade and other payables in the statement of financial position.

Other long-term employee benefits

The Council classifies employees' long service leave and annual leave entitlements as other long-term employee benefits as they are not expected to be settled wholly within 12 months after the end of the annual reporting period in which the employees render the related service. Provision is made for the Council's obligation for other long-term employee benefits, which are measured at the present value of the expected future payments to be made to employees. Expected future payments incorporate anticipated future wage and salary levels, durations of service and employee departures, and are discounted at rates determined by reference to market yields at the end of the reporting period on government bonds that have maturity dates that approximate the terms of the obligations. Any remeasurements for changes in assumptions of obligations for other long term employee benefits are recognised in profit or loss in the periods in which the changes occur.

The Council's obligations for long-term employee benefits are presented as non-current liabilities in its statement of financial position, except where the Council does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, in which case the obligations are presented as current liabilities. The Council based on past experience records employee's long service leave entitlements on commencement of their employment within the Council.

Retirement benefit obligations**Superannuation benefits**

All employees of the Council receive accumulated contribution superannuation entitlements, for which the Council pays the fixed superannuation guarantee contribution to the employee's superannuation fund of choice. For the period 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025 this was 11.5% of the employee's ordinary average salary. From 1 July 2025 this rate has increased to 12% plus additional superannuation of 0.5% in 2025 (2024 :1%) for employees that commenced their employment with Council before the Enterprise Bargaining Agreement (EBA) came into effect. All contributions in respect of employees' accumulated contribution entitlements are recognised as an expense when they become payable. The Council's obligation with respect to employees' accumulated contribution entitlements is limited to its obligation for any unpaid superannuation guarantee contributions at the end of the reporting period. All obligations for unpaid superannuation guarantee contributions are measured at the (undiscounted) amounts expected to be paid when the obligation is settled and are presented as current liabilities in the Council's statement of financial position.

(h) Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits held at-call with banks, other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within short-term borrowings in current liabilities on the statement of financial position.

WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL
ABN:45 065 336 873
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

Note 1 Material Accounting Policy Information (Cont.)

(i) Trade and Other receivables

Trade and other receivables include amounts due from clients for fees and goods and services provided, from donors and any outstanding grant receipts. Receivables expected to be collected within 12 months of the end of the reporting period are classified as current assets. All other receivables are classified as non-current assets.

Accounts receivable are initially recognised at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any provision for measurement. Refer to Note 1(e) for further discussions on the determination of impairment losses.

(j) Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included with other receivables or payables in the statement of financial position.

Cash flows are presented on a gross basis. The GST components of cash flows arising from investing or financing activities which are recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO are presented as operating cash flows included in receipts from customers or payments to suppliers.

(k) Income Tax

No provision for income tax has been raised as the entity is exempt from income tax under Div 50 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*.

(l) Trade and Other Payables

Trade and other payables represent the liabilities for goods and services received by the Council during the reporting period that remain unpaid at the end of the reporting period. Trade payables are recognised at their transaction price. The balance is recognised as a current liability with the amounts normally paid within 30 days of recognition of the liability.

(m) Contract Liabilities

Contract liabilities represent the Council's obligation to transfer goods or services to a customer or complete required performance obligations and are recognised when a customer pays consideration, or when the Council recognises a receivable to reflect its unconditional right to consideration (whichever is earlier), before the Council has transferred the goods or services to the customer and or completed required performance obligations.

(n) Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the Council has a legal or constructive obligation, as a result of past events, for which it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will result and that outflow can be reliably measured. Provisions recognised represent the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation at the end of reporting period.

(o) Comparative Figures

Where required by Accounting Standards comparative figures have been adjusted to conform with changes in presentation for the current financial year.

WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL
ABN:45 065 336 873
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

Note 1 Material Accounting Policy Information (Cont.)

(p) Critical Accounting Judgements, Estimates and Assumptions

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts in the financial statements. Management continually evaluates its judgements and estimates in relation to assets, liabilities, contingent liabilities, revenue and expenses. Management bases its judgements, estimates and assumptions on historical experience and on other various factors, including expectations of future events, management believes to be reasonable under the circumstances. The resulting accounting judgements and estimates will seldom equal the related actual results. The judgements, estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities (refer to the respective notes) within the next financial year are discussed below.

(i) Valuation of buildings, land and infrastructure

The Council engaged independent valuers in 2025 to conduct an independent valuation of its land, buildings and infrastructure assets. Marsh Valuation Services were engaged to undertake this valuation of the Council's property and infrastructure assets

The valuation was completed on 16 October 2025 with the valuation date being 30 June 2025. The valuation of Council's infrastructure assets was performed by Ms. Khadhija Bembridge, BE, GradIEAust, Consultant Valuer License number 8504641 and Mr. Langley Johnston, BEMIEAust, Principal-Infrastructure License number 4365664. The valuation of Council's land and buildings, site improvements and other structures was performed by Mr. Matthew Persley, AAPI, Certified Practising Valuer, Valuer Number 4057MR and Mr. Travis Whiteman, AAPI, Certified Practising Valuer, Valuer Number 5143.

The valuation was prepared in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards with the basis of value used being fair value of the assets. In determining fair value, the valuer has used the Market Approach and Cost Approach. The market approach compares assets with identical or comparable (similar) assets for which price information is available. The cost approach provides an indication of value by calculating the current replacement or reproduction cost of an asset and making deductions for physical deterioration and all other relevant forms of obsolescence. Straight line depreciations were used for buildings and infrastructure assets and the estimated remaining useful life of assets having regard to physical deterioration, functional and economic obsolescence.

Council assets were valued on the basis that the Council intends to retain the assets for a continuous use for Council's purposes. The current use of these assets is presumed to be their highest and best use.

The valuation of these assets at 30 June 2025 resulted in a net increase in the land, buildings and infrastructure value of \$55,375,580 and an increase of the same amount to the Asset Revaluation Reserve.

(ii) Useful lives of property, plant and equipment

As described in Note 1(b), the Council reviews the estimated useful lives of property, plant and equipment at the end of each reporting period, based on the expected utility of the assets.

The Council determines the estimated useful lives and related depreciation and amortisation charges for its property, plant and equipment and finite life intangible assets. The useful lives could change significantly as a result of technical innovations or some other event. The depreciation and amortisation charge will increase where the useful lives are less than previously estimated lives, or technically obsolete or non-strategic assets that have been abandoned or sold will be written off or written down.

(iii) Impairment- General

The Council assesses impairment at the end of each reporting period by evaluating conditions and events specific to the Council that may be indicative of impairment triggers.

Impairment of plant and equipment

The Council assesses impairment of plant and equipment at each reporting date by evaluating conditions specific to the Council and to the particular asset that may lead to impairment. If an impairment trigger exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is determined. This involves fair value less costs to sell or value-in-use calculations, which incorporate a number of key estimates and assumptions. There was no provision for impairment of plant and equipment at 30 June 2025 (2024: \$Nil).

Impairment of accounts receivable

The provision for impairment of receivables assessment requires a degree of estimation and judgement. The level of provision is assessed by taking into account the recent sales experience, the ageing of receivables, historical collection rates and specific knowledge of the individual debtors' financial position. Provision for impairment of receivables at 30 June 2025 amounted to \$17,225 (2024: \$36,638).

WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL
ABN:45 065 336 873
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

Note 1 Material Accounting Policy Information (Cont.)

(p) Critical Accounting Judgements, Estimates and Assumptions (Cont.)

(iv) Performance Obligations Under AASB 15

To identify a performance obligation under AASB 15, the promise must be sufficiently specific to be able to determine when the obligation is satisfied. Management exercises judgement to determine whether the promise is sufficient by taking into account any conditions specified in the arrangement, explicit or implicit, regarding the promised goods or services. In making this assessment, management includes the nature / type, cost /value, quantity and the period of transfer related to the goods or services promised.

v) Performance Obligations Under AASB 16

The lease term is a significant component in the measurement of both the right-of-use asset and lease liability. Judgement is exercised in determining whether there is reasonable certainty that an option to extend the lease or purchase the underlying asset will be exercised, or an option to terminate the lease will not be exercised, when ascertaining the periods to be included in the lease term. In determining the lease term, all facts and circumstances that create an economical incentive to exercise an extension option, or not to exercise a termination option, are considered at the lease commencement date. Factors considered may include the importance of the asset to the Corporation's operations; comparison of terms and conditions to prevailing market rates; incurrence of significant penalties; existence of significant leasehold improvements; and the costs and disruption to replace the asset. The Corporation reassesses whether it is reasonably certain to exercise an extension option, or not exercise a termination option, if there is a significant event or significant change in circumstances.

Where the interest rate implicit in a lease cannot be readily determined, an incremental borrowing rate is estimated to discount future lease payments to measure the present value of the lease liability at the lease commencement date. Such a rate is based on what the Corporation estimates it would have to pay a third party to borrow the funds necessary to obtain an asset of a similar value to the right-of-use asset, with similar terms, security and economic environment.

(q) Fair Value of Assets and Liabilities

The Council measures some of its assets at fair value on either a recurring or non-recurring basis, depending on the requirements of the applicable Accounting Standard.

When an asset or liability, financial or non-financial, is measured at fair value for recognition or disclosure purposes, the fair value is based on the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date; and assumes that the transaction will take place either: in the principal market; or in the absence of a principal market, in the most advantageous market.

Fair value is measured using the assumptions that market participants would use when pricing the asset or liability, assuming they act in their economic best interests. For non-financial assets, the fair value measurement is based on its highest and best use. Valuation techniques that are appropriate in the circumstances and for which sufficient data are available to measure fair value, are used, maximising the use of relevant observable inputs and minimising the use of unobservable inputs.

(r) Economic Dependence and Going Concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis, which contemplates continuity of normal business activities and the realisation of assets and settlement of liabilities in the ordinary course of business.

The Council is dependent on continued funding from the Australian and Northern Territory Governments to ensure the continuance of its activities. At the date of this report Management has no reason to believe that Council will not continue to receive funding support from the Governments. Current funding for the Active Regional and Remote Community program from Northern Territory Government runs until 30th June 2029 and the Local Authority Project funding program runs until 30 June 2027. The operations and future success of the Council is dependent upon the continued support and funding by the government bodies and the achievement of operating surpluses and positive operating cash flows.

(s) New and Amended Accounting Standards and Policies Adopted By The Council

AASB 2020-1: Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - Classification of Liabilities as Current or Non-Current.

The Council adopted AASB 2020-1 which amends AASB 101 to clarify requirements for the presentation of liabilities in the statement of financial position as current or non-current. It also clarifies the meaning of "settlement of a liability".

The adoption of the amendment did not have a material impact on the financial statements.

AASB 2022-6: Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - Non-Current Liabilities with Covenants.

The Council adopted AASB 2022-6: Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - Non-Current Liabilities with Covenants which amends AASB 101 to improve the information an Council provides in its financial statements about liabilities from loan arrangements for which the Council's right to defer settlement of those liabilities for at least 12 months after the reporting period is subject to the Council complying with conditions specified in the loan arrangement.

The adoption of the amendment did not have a material impact on the financial statements.

The West Arnhem Regional Council has adopted all amendments required for the year ended 30 June 2025. The adoption of these amendments did not have a material impact on the financial statements.

WEST ARNHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL
ABN:45 065 336 873
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

Note 2 Revenue and Other Income

The majority of West Arnhem Regional Council funding is in the form of grants from governmental department bodies. The Council has assessed that the majority of its grant agreements are enforceable and contain sufficiently specific performance obligations. This assessment is based on the fact that the agreements require the Council to deliver defined activities such as waste management and sustainability initiatives, infrastructure development, community wellbeing programs, and initiatives that support economic opportunities and employment. Each agreement also specifies the duration of the programs and associated reporting requirements. The Council therefore recognises funding received under such agreements as Revenue under AASB 15. Revenue is recognised as the Council delivers the required services over the duration of the underlying programs.

	Note	2025 \$	2024 \$
2A Grant and Contributions			
NTG - Operational Grants		10,017,761	9,445,983
NTG - Capital Grants		2,544,400	2,083,800
Aust Gov - Operational Grants		5,264,410	4,803,661
Aust Gov - Capital Grants		4,646,075	2,823,240
Grant Income Other		1,219,190	55,267
		<u>23,691,836</u>	<u>19,211,951</u>
Less movement:			
Grant Income brought and carried forward movement		(2,921,662)	(3,035,352)
Total Grant and Contributions		<u>20,770,174</u>	<u>16,176,599</u>
2B Rates and annual charges			
General Rate Income Base		2,364,196	2,304,407
Sewerage Charges Income Base		657,544	711,797
Water Charges Income Base		1,153,351	1,440,743
Domestic Waste Charge Income Base		1,362,646	1,321,663
Commercial Waste Charge Income		131,362	143,880
Animal Control - Special Rate		161,750	154,360
Total Rates and annual charges		<u>5,830,849</u>	<u>6,076,850</u>
2C Other (losses)/ gains			
Gain on disposal of assets		447,148	24,235
Total Other (losses)/ gains		<u>447,148</u>	<u>24,235</u>
2D Investment income			
Interest income		221,413	192,989
Total Investment income		<u>221,413</u>	<u>192,989</u>
2E User charges and fees:			
Property lease rental fees		201,461	185,947
Reimbursement Income		184,696	76,528
Insurance claims		52,945	1,403,763
Equipment Hire Income		92,875	48,659
Landfill Fee Income		485,202	368,034
Council Fees and Charges Income		31,624	54,723
Sales Income		701,734	861,427
Service Fee Income		948,014	983,734
Contract Fee Income		4,129,252	5,372,316
FAO Childcare Benefit		290,879	455,519
Other Agency Income		372,358	475,167
Fuel Tax Credit		60,166	61,700
Contribution		27,820	12,977
Other income		208,487	60,533
Total User charges and fees		<u>7,787,513</u>	<u>10,421,027</u>

WEST ARNHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL
ABN:45 065 336 873
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

Note 3	Expenses	2025 \$	2024 \$
3A	Depreciation Expense		
	Depreciation Expense Buildings	1,567,712	1,710,539
	Depreciation Expense Infrastructure	2,029,530	2,010,411
	Depreciation Expense Plant and Equipment	720,898	880,514
	Depreciation Expense Furniture Fittings and Office	123,247	118,370
	Depreciation Expense Vehicles	259,027	302,432
	Depreciation Expense - Section 19 Leases	174,042	147,089
	Depreciation Expense - Jabiru Town Leases	190,110	183,271
	Depreciation Expense Roads	-	2,683,648
	Total Depreciation Expense	5,064,566	8,036,274
3B	Employee Cost		
	Salaries and Wages	10,446,491	11,813,898
	Leave provision expense	1,513,834	1,775,641
	Locality Allowance	283,714	324,101
	Superannuation	1,469,866	1,609,572
	Worker compensation	491,133	426,392
	Fringe Benefits Tax	17,088	30,868
	Total Employee Cost	14,222,126	15,980,472
3C	Other operating expenses		
	Accounting & Audit Fee	82,215	64,999
	Airfare & Taxi	358,478	372,652
	Bank fees	11,694	13,880
	Bad Debt Provision & write off	84	13,947
	Capital expenditure (minor)	150,000	-
	Elected and Committee Member Payments	415,489	367,083
	Contractors	4,809,410	4,452,931
	Disaster Recovery costs	100,000	-
	Election setup expenses	87,989	-
	Food Purchases	169,667	224,051
	Freight Expense	252,961	252,932
	Fuel Diesel /UL	411,620	499,015
	Hire of Plant, Equipment and Office	19,017	16,032
	Insurance	2,615,649	1,153,417
	Interest - Lease Liabilities	361,881	349,589
	Interest - Other	-	1,885
	Inventory Purchases	405,652	587,557
	Leases - Equipment & Low Value Assets	26,566	27,048
	Leases - Jabiru and Section 19 Charges	68,194	107,683
	Legal Fees	134,696	60,816
	Lotto/Scratchies Purchases	87,942	106,308
	Materials expense	871,989	936,576
	Motor Vehicle Registration	104,776	116,033
	Minor Capital Expenditure	58,457	60,163
	Professional Fees	344,212	477,438
	Relocation/Recruitment Expense	142,429	174,412
	Software and Other License Fees	388,292	274,669
	Software Help Desk Support	436,587	713,044
	Staff Housing Rent Expense	-	54,336
	Subscriptions and Membership	57,184	62,652
	Sundry	56,941	18,676
	Telephone, Network and Communication	167,684	192,130
	Training Expenses	184,529	263,976
	Travel, Accommodation & Meals	168,627	42,399
	Utilities - Electricity, Water, Gas & Sewerage	925,257	954,096
	Total Operating Expense	14,476,168	13,012,425

WEST ARNHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL
ABN:45 065 336 873
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

Note 4	Cash on Hand and at Bank	Note	2025 \$	2024 \$
	CURRENT			
	Term Deposit		2,255,000	2,655,000
	Cash at Bank		11,869,318	6,012,459
	Cash on Hand		1,638	1,800
	Total Cash on Hand and at Bank		14,125,956	8,669,259
	Restricted cash and cash equivalents summary <i>Purpose</i>			
	External restrictions			
	Included in liabilities			
	Contract liabilities and Revenue in advance	11	9,790,253	5,890,393
	Total external restrictions		9,790,253	5,890,393
	Internal restrictions			
	Included in liabilities Employee Leave Provisions current		2,023,428	2,009,477
	Total internal restrictions		2,023,428	2,009,477
	Total unrestricted		2,312,275	769,389
	Total Cash on hand and at bank	16(a), 20	14,125,956	8,669,259
Note 5	Trade and Other Receivables			
	CURRENT			
	Receivables :			
	Trade receivables		1,093,538	951,628
	Less: Provision for impairment of receivables		(17,225)	(36,638)
	Total trade receivables		1,076,313	914,990
	Other Receivables :			
	Accrued Income		322,747	318,366
	ATO Receivables - GST (Net)		189,116	333,737
	Total Other receivables		511,863	652,103
	Total current trade and other receivables	20	1,588,176	1,567,093
	The Council normal credit term is 30 days. No interest is charged for the first 30 days from the date of invoice. Thereafter, interest is charged at 10% per annum, and is calculated on a daily basis, on the outstanding balance.			
	Ageing of accounts receivable:			
	The ageing of trade receivables is detailed below:			
	Not past due		599,392	486,628
	Past due 31-60 days		26,027	230,781
	Past due 61-90 days		153,777	48,631
	Past due 91+ days		314,342	185,588
	Total		1,093,538	951,628
	Movement in provision for impairment of receivables			
	Balance at beginning of the year		36,638	57,843
	Provision utilised during year and or recovered		(19,413)	(21,205)
	Balance at the end of the year		17,225	36,638
Note 6	Other Assets			
	CURRENT			
	Prepayments		170,554	151,626
	Total Other Assets		170,554	151,626
Note 7	Inventory			
	CURRENT			
	Inventory at cost (Fuel, Oil and Merchandise)		133,511	104,829
	Total Inventory		133,511	104,829
	All Inventories are expected to be either sold or utilised within 12 months			

WEST ARNHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL
ABN:45 065 336 873
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

Note 8	Property, Plant and Equipment	Note	2025 \$	2024 \$
	NON CURRENT			
	Land and Buildings, Roads and Infrastructures:			
	Land:			
	At Cost		-	688,500
	At independent valuation 2025		520,000	-
	Total Land		520,000	688,500
	Buildings:			
	At independent valuation 2025		1,747,165	-
	At cost		30,971,682	32,067,046
			32,718,847	32,067,046
	Less Accumulated depreciation		(17,172,348)	(15,605,138)
	Total Buildings		15,546,499	16,461,908
	Infrastructure assets:			
	At independent valuation 2025		89,692,564	-
	At cost		19,657,911	53,512,689
			109,350,475	53,512,689
	Less Accumulated depreciation		(16,215,991)	(14,189,196)
	Total Infrastructure assets		93,134,484	39,323,493
	Roads:			
	At cost		-	34,647,986
	Less Accumulated depreciation		-	(13,428,358)
	Total Roads		-	21,219,628
	Total Land and Buildings, Roads and Infrastructure	21	109,200,983	77,693,529
	Vehicles at cost			
	At cost		2,773,191	2,908,635
	Less Accumulated depreciation		(2,457,159)	(2,530,429)
	Total Vehicles		316,032	378,206
	Furniture and Fittings:			
	At cost		927,205	927,205
	Less Accumulated depreciation		(763,295)	(640,048)
	Total Furniture and Fittings		163,910	287,157
	Plant and Equipment:			
	At Cost		9,171,647	9,408,356
	Less Accumulated depreciation		(7,045,464)	(7,035,400)
	Total Plant and Equipment		2,126,183	2,372,956
	WIP		4,752,892	1,296,235
	Total Property, Plant and Equipment		116,560,000	82,028,083

Movements in Carrying Amounts

Movement in the carrying amounts for each class of property, plant and equipment between the beginning and the end of the current financial year:

	Land \$	Buildings \$	Infrastructure \$	Road Structures \$	Motor Vehicles \$	Furniture and Fittings \$	Plant and Equipment \$	WIP \$	Total \$
Carrying amount at 1 July 2024	688,500	16,461,908	39,323,493	21,219,628	378,206	287,157	2,372,956	1,296,235	82,028,083
Additions at cost	-	785,937	162,807	-	208,237	-	527,188	3,456,657	5,140,826
write off adjustments	-	-	-	(21,219,628)	-	-	-	-	(21,219,628)
Disposals/ adjustments	-	-	-	-	(11,384)	-	(53,063)	-	(64,447)
Depreciation expense	-	(1,567,712)	(2,029,530)	-	(259,027)	(123,247)	(720,898)	-	(4,700,414)
Revaluation increments (decrements)	(168,500)	(133,634)	55,677,714	-	-	-	-	-	55,375,580
Carrying amount at 30 June 2025	520,000	15,546,499	93,134,484	-	316,032	163,910	2,126,183	4,752,892	116,560,000

WEST ARNHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL
ABN:45 065 336 873
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

Note 8 Property, Plant and Equipment (Cont.)

The Council engaged independent valuers in 2025 to conduct an independent valuation of its land, buildings and infrastructure assets. Marsh Valuation Services were engaged to undertake this valuation of the Council's property and infrastructure assets.

The valuation was completed on 16 October 2025 with the valuation date being 30 June 2025. The valuation of Council's infrastructure assets was performed by Ms. Khadhija Bembridge, BE, GradIEAust, Consultant Valuer License number 8504641 and Mr. Langley Johnston, BEMIEAust, Principal-Infrastructure License number 4365664. The valuation of Council's land and buildings, site improvements and other structures was performed by Mr. Matthew Persley, AAPI, Certified Practising Valuer, Valuer Number 4057MR and Mr. Travis Whiteman, AAPI, Certified Practising Valuer, Valuer Number 5143.

The valuation was prepared in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards with the basis of value used being fair value of the assets. In determining fair value, the valuer has used the Market Approach and Cost Approach. The market approach compares assets with identical or comparable (similar) assets for which price information is available. The cost approach provides an indication of value by calculating the current replacement or reproduction cost of an asset and making deductions for physical deterioration and all other relevant forms of obsolescence. Straight line depreciations were used for Buildings and infrastructure assets and the estimated remaining useful life of assets having regard to physical deterioration, functional and economic obsolescence.

Council assets were valued on the basis that the Council intends to retain the assets for a continuous use for Council's purposes. The current use of these assets is presumed to be their highest and best use.

The valuation of these assets at 30 June 2025 resulted in a net increase in the land, buildings and infrastructure value of \$55,375,580 and an increase of the same amount to the Asset Revaluation Reserve.

(ii) Roads Structure

The Council approved, in a special Council meeting on 29 January 2025, that the Council elected not to recognise roads expenditure as an asset and for those road assets already recorded, in the Council's accounts up to 30 June 2024, to be written off as a cost. The carrying amount of these roads was removed from the asset register, with the resulting loss recognized in the Income Statement of \$21,219,628. The write-off reflects a prudent assessment of asset condition and ensures the financial statements accurately represent the service potential of the Council's infrastructure.

	2025	2024
	\$	\$
Note 9 Right of Use Assets		
NON CURRENT		
Right of Use Assets :		
Leased Buildings	9,147,905	9,088,930
Less Accumulated depreciation	(1,672,240)	(1,323,914)
	7,475,665	7,765,016
The Council's lease portfolio includes lease of buildings. The Property leases have an average of 20 years as their lease term.		
The option to extend or terminate are contained in several of the property leases of the Council. These clauses provide the Council the opportunities to manage leases in order to align with its strategies. All of the extension or termination options are only exercisable by the Council. The extension or termination options which were probable to be exercised have been included in the calculation of the Right of Use Asset.		
Carrying amount at 1 July 2024	7,765,016	7,765,016
Additions at cost	74,801	74,801
Depreciation expense	(364,152)	(364,152)
Carrying amount at 30 June 2025	7,475,665	7,475,665
(b) AASB 16 Related Amounts Recognised in the Statement of Profit and Loss		
Depreciation charge related to right of use assets	364,152	330,360
Interest expense on lease liabilities	361,881	349,589
Short Term leases expense	94,760	134,731
	820,793	814,680

WEST ARNHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL
ABN:45 065 336 873
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

	2025	2024
	\$	\$
Note 10 Trade and Other Payables		
CURRENT		
Trade creditors	2,977,035	2,631,151
Accrued expenditure	1,073,076	834,056
Other Payables	144,125	169,961
Income in Advance	213,683	13,958
Total Trade and Other Payables	4,407,919	3,649,126
(a) Financial liabilities at amortised cost are classified as trade and other payables.		
Trade and other payables:	4,407,919	3,649,126
Total trade and other payables	4,407,919	3,649,126
Financial liabilities as trade and other payables	20 4,407,919	3,649,126
	2025	2024
	\$	\$
Note 11 Contract Liabilities		
CURRENT		
Contract Liabilities - unspent grant funded programs	2,593,398	2,210,930
Contract Liabilities - capital grant funded programs	4,860,560	3,376,320
Grants refundable	536,362	303,143
Grant Revenue in Advance	1,799,933	-
	9,790,253	5,890,393
Total Other Contract Liabilities	9,790,253	5,890,393

WEST ARNHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL
ABN:45 065 336 873
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

	2025	2024
	\$	\$
Note 11 Contract Liabilities (Cont.)		
Total Contract and Unspent liabilities comprising the following grant funding amounts:		
(a) Contract Liabilities - grant funded programmes		
Warruwi Outside School Hours Care	42,206	36,139
Aged Care Transitional Support	22,549	22,549
TEABBA Staff Funding - Indigenous Broadcasting	-	12,329
NAIDOC Week	9,335	11,005
Kurrung Sports Carnival - Sport Australia	10,030	7,925
Celebrating Aboriginal Culture (Australia Day)	-	1,746
Ninja Warrior Obstacle Course	-	1,157
Strong Women for Healthy Country Network Forum	-	1,135
Commonwealth Home Support Program	-	574,720
NT Jobs Package - Aged Care	478,842	298,714
Remote Sports Program	-	54,775
Malala Road (non gazetted) Maningrida - From Lot 736	-	1,069
Seeding New Investment	-	18,691
Manage Creche	448,449	762,305
Long Day Care Toy & Equipment Grant Program	-	1,635
Youth Mobile Gym Program - Maningrida	-	760
Deliver Indigenous Broadcasting Programs (RIBS)	93,729	47,991
Sports and Recreation	243,807	271,284
West Arnhem Youth Leadership Summit	25,333	85,000
Inter-community Fishing Competition-GUN & JAB	20,000	-
Active Regional and Remote Communities Program	195,201	-
Transition Support Aged Care	10,000	-
Community Night Patrols	205,364	-
Repair the Maningrida Pool Eroded Footings	50,000	-
R2R - Warruwi Internal Road, Warruwi, From Lot 4 to Lot 148	7,921	-
R2R - Airport Road, Maningrida - From Lot Lot 438 to Lot 739	25,968	-
Upgrade for Maningrida Rd and airport road funeral access	10,610	-
Public Library Services	1,590	-
Kakadu Trailthon	5,670	-
Local Authorities Community Project Income	609,706	-
Regional and Remote Burials Grant - MAN and WAR	28,780	-
Regional and Remote Burials Grant - Minjilang	48,308	-
Total Contract Liabilities - grant funded programmes	2,593,398	2,210,929
(b) Contract Liabilities - capital grant funded programs		
Local Authorities Community Project Income	-	1,008,229
WaRM - Waste and Resource Management	183,303	148,800
Warruwi Community Hall Upgrade	-	372,669
ABA - Maningrida Oval Changerooms	1,916,115	395,196
Regional and Remote Burials Grant - MAN and WAR	-	43,000
Regional and Remote Burials Grant - Minjilang	-	50,000
LRCI Phase 4 - Part B - Malabam Road - Maningrida	-	281,544
Critical upgrades to Minjilang staff housing;	-	158,682
Purchase of a new garbage compactor for Minjilang	40,652	250,000
Brockman Oval grandstand installation - Jabiru	-	86,700
Brockman Oval Lights - Jabiru	1,412,255	150,000
Revitalisation Project - Jabiru	125,000	16,500
West Arnhem Cemetery Establishment - MANINGRIDA	409,814	415,000
Jabiru Library Revitalisation Phase 2	41,947	-
Repair and Maintenance of Maningrida Basketball Court	42,730	-
4WD Buses -Gunbalanya and Maningrida -Sports & Recreation	438,744	-
Jabiru Gym Upgrade	50,000	-
Replace the Minjilang Fuel Tank	200,000	-
Total Contract Liabilities - capital grant funded programs	4,860,560	3,376,320

WEST ARNHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL
ABN:45 065 336 873
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

	2025	2024
	\$	\$
Note 11 Contract Liabilities (Cont.)		
(c) Grants refundable		
TFHC - Womens Safe House NPA	-	200,202
Flexible Support Packages and COVID-19 Service Delivery Cost	-	67,289
Domestic Family & Sexual Violence Program	-	35,652
International Women's Day – Library Event	258	-
National Australia Day Council - Australia Day Grant	842	-
Celebrating Aboriginal Culture (Australia Day)	1,746	-
Australia Day Council Regional Grant	224	-
Youth Mobile Gym Program - Maningrida	760	-
Commonwealth Home Support Program	532,495	-
Long Day Care Toy & Equipment Grant Program	37	-
Total Grants refundable	536,362	303,143
(d) Contract liabilities - movement in amounts :		
Balance at the beginning of the year	2,210,930	2,444,066
Additions: Grants for which performance obligations will only be satisfied in subsequent years	2,593,398	2,210,930
Expended : Grants acquitted or utilised during the year	(2,210,930)	(2,444,066)
Closing balance	2,593,398	2,210,930
	2025	2024
	\$	\$
Note 12 Employee Provisions		
CURRENT		
Provision for annual leave	1,209,452	1,178,811
Provision for long service leave	813,976	830,666
	2,023,428	2,009,477
NON-CURRENT		
Provision for long service leave	194,890	223,220
	194,890	223,220
Total provisions for employee benefits	2,218,318	2,232,697
Analysis of total provisions:	Total	
	\$	
Opening balance at 1 July 2024	2,232,697	
Provisions used during the year (net)	(14,379)	
Balance at 30 June 2025	2,218,318	

Provision For Employee Benefits

Employee provisions represents amounts accrued for annual leave and long service leave.

The current portion for this provision includes the total amount accrued for annual leave entitlements and the amount accrued for long service leave entitlements that have vested due to employees having completed the required period of service. Based on past experience, the Council does not expect the full amount of annual leave or long service leave balances classified as current liabilities to be settled within the next 12 months. However, these amounts must be classified as current liabilities since the Council does not have an unconditional right to defer the settlement of these amounts in the event employees wish to use their leave entitlement.

The non-current portion for this provision includes amounts accrued for long service leave entitlements that have not yet vested in relation to those employees who have not yet completed the required period of service.

In calculating the present value of future cash flows in respect of long service leave, the probability of long service leave being taken is based upon historical data. The measurement and recognition criteria for employee benefits have been discussed in Note 1(g).

WEST ARNHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL
ABN:45 065 336 873
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

	Note	2025 \$	2024 \$
Note 13 Lease Liabilities			
CURRENT			
Lease Liabilities		182,164	146,623
Accrued lease charges		47,362	271,309
		<u>229,526</u>	<u>417,932</u>
NON-CURRENT			
Lease Liabilities		8,190,268	8,328,369
		<u>8,190,268</u>	<u>8,328,369</u>
Total Lease Liabilities	20	<u>8,419,794</u>	<u>8,746,301</u>
		2025	2024
		\$	\$
Note 14 Reserves			
Asset Revaluation Reserve		81,086,675	25,711,095
Capital Reserve		161,426	40,873
Other Reserve		1,587,989	-
Total Reserves		<u>82,836,090</u>	<u>25,751,968</u>
Asset Revaluation Reserve		<u>81,086,675</u>	<u>25,711,095</u>
Movements in the Reserve during the year were:			
Opening Balance		25,711,095	25,711,095
Revaluation increments (decrements)		55,375,580	-
Closing Balance Asset Revaluation Reserve		<u>81,086,675</u>	<u>25,711,095</u>
Capital Reserve		<u>161,426</u>	<u>40,873</u>
Movements in the Reserve during the year were:			
Opening Balance		40,873	1,160,271
transfers from (to) retained earnings		120,553	(1,119,398)
Credit Income Statement Build Reserve		-	-
Closing Balance Capital Reserve		<u>161,426</u>	<u>40,873</u>
Other Reserve		<u>1,587,989</u>	<u>-</u>
Movements in the Reserve during the year were:			
Opening Balance		-	-
transfers from (to) retained earnings		1,587,989	-
Closing Balance Other Reserve		<u>1,587,989</u>	<u>-</u>

The Asset Revaluation Reserve records the revaluations of non current assets.
The Capital Reserve is maintained for Council nominated capital projects and acquisitions.
The Other Reserve is maintained for Council nominated operational works.

WEST ARNHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL
ABN:45 065 336 873
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

Note 15 Related Party Transactions

Any persons having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the Council, directly or indirectly, including any Board Member (whether executive or otherwise) of the Council, is considered to be Key Management Personnel (KMP).

(i) **Names of the persons holding the position of KPM at the Council at any time during the year are:****Councillors**

Councillor (Mayor) James Woods	
Councillor (Deputy Mayor) Elizabeth Williams	
Councillor Ralph Blyth	
Councillor Otto Dan	
Councillor James Marrawal	
Councillor Gabby Gumurdul	Resigned 28 October 2024
Councillor Donna Nadjamerrek	
Councillor Jacqueline Phillips	
Councillor Henry Guwiyul	Resigned 8 November 2024
Councillor Mickitija Onus	
Councillor Jermainine Namanurki	Commenced 19 July 2024
Councillor Monica Wilton	Commenced 19 July 2024
Councillor Tamar Nawirridj	
Councillor Steven Nabalmarda	

Chief Executive Officer

Andrew Walsh	Resigned 27 February 2025
Ben Waugh (Interim CEO)	Period 17 February 2025 to 17 May 2025
Katharine Clare Murray	Commenced 28 April 2025
Fiona Ainsworth (Acting CEO)	Period 27 December 2024 to 01 January 2025
Jocelyn Nathanael-Walters (Acting CEO)	Period 13 September 2024 to 20 September 2024

Executive Management

Fiona Ainsworth, Director of Community and Council Services	Commenced 17 May 2021 (General Manager Technical Services, from December 2022, Acting Chief Operating Officer, and from 12 February 2024 Director of Community and Council Services).
Rick Mitchell, Acting Director of Community and Council Services	Period 19 December 2024 to 22 December 2024, 04 January 2025 to 12 January 2025 and 14 April 2025 to 28 April 2025
Jocelyn Nathanael-Walters, Director of Finance	Commenced 05 February 2024
Ben Waugh (Acting Director of Finance)	Period 21 May 2025 to 23 June 2025

WEST ARNHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL
ABN:45 065 336 873
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

Note 15 Related Party Transactions (Cont.)**(ii) Remuneration of KMP**

The KMP of Council includes the elected members, the CEO, and certain prescribed officers under AASB 124. In all, 20 were paid the following total remuneration (21 KMP in 2024).

	2025	2024
	\$	\$
Short-term employee benefits	744,258	786,048
Non-cash benefits	18,788	93,734
Termination benefits	98,354	106,544
Councillor Allowances	423,495	341,608
Total Key Management Remuneration	1,284,895	1,327,934

(iii) CEO Remuneration :

The Council CEO's (as defined by AASB 124 Related Party Disclosure and in accordance with General Instruction 2: Annual Financial Statement) were paid the following total remuneration for the 2024-25 year:

Position	CEO	Interim CEO	CEO	Acting CEO	Acting CEO	DCC	Acting DCC	DF	Interim DF
Name	Andrew Walsh	Ben Waugh	Katharine Murray	Jocelyn Nathanael - Walters	Fiona Ainsworth	Fiona Ainsworth	Rick Mitchell	Jocelyn Nathanael - Walters	Ben Waugh
Start and end dates	4/03/2024 to 27/02/2025	17/02/2025 to 17/05/2025	28/04/2025 to current	13/09/2024 to 20/09/2024	27/12/2024 to 01/01/2025	12/02/2024 to current	19/12/2024 to 22/12/2024, 04/01/2025 to 12/01/2025, 14/04/2025 to 28/04/2025	05/02/2024 to current	21/05/25 to 23/06/2025
Short-term benefits	\$192,853	\$68,000	\$37,491	\$6,253	\$3,931	\$222,454	\$14,869	\$190,094	\$8,313
Non-cash benefits	\$18,788	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Termination benefits	\$90,571	\$6,923	-	-	-	-	-	-	860.00
Total Remuneration	\$302,212	\$74,923	\$37,491	\$6,253	\$3,931	\$222,454	\$14,869	\$190,094	\$9,173

(iv) Other Transactions

Other than the amount paid as taxpayers or residents (e.g. rates, user charges fees, etc.), no other transactions have been made with KMP during the year.

(v) During the year the Council entered into the following transactions with the related parties:

	Receiving of Services	Receiving of Services	2025	2024
	\$	\$	\$	\$
CouncilBIZ	576,864	1,025,450		
Local Gov Association NT	45,128	55,833		
	621,992	1,081,283		

There are no other transactions with KMP and or other related parties in 2025 (2024: Nil).

WEST ARNHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL
ABN:45 065 336 873
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

	Note	2025 \$	2024 \$
Note 16 Cash Flow Information			
(a) Reconciliation of cash and cash equivalents to Statement of Cash Flows :			
Cash on hand and at bank	4	14,125,956	8,669,259
Total cash as stated in the Statement of cash flows		14,125,956	8,669,259
(b) Reconciliation of Cash Flow from Operating Activities with Current Year Loss			
Loss: for the current year		(19,925,391)	(4,482,976)
Non-cash flows:			
Depreciation and amortisation expense		5,064,566	8,036,274
Gain on disposal of assets		(447,148)	(24,235)
Write off assets - buildings (leased)		-	345,505
Write off assets Roads		21,219,628	-
Interest expense on lease liabilities		361,881	349,589
Changes in assets and liabilities:			
(Increase)/decrease in Trade and Other Receivables		(21,083)	1,540,168
(Increase)/decrease in other assets		(18,928)	(99,950)
(Increase)/decrease in Inventory		(28,682)	114,580
Increase/(decrease) in Trade and Other payables		758,793	5,138
Increase/(decrease) in Other Contract liabilities		3,899,860	(426,028)
Increase/(decrease) in Employee Provisions		(14,379)	253,343
Net cash provided by operating activities		10,849,117	5,611,408

Note 17 Lease and Capital Expenditure Commitments Outstanding:

(a) Lease Liability Lease Commitments	2025 \$	2024 \$
<i>Leasehold rental commitments</i>		
Committed at the reporting date but not recognised as liabilities, payable:		
Within one year	539,815	502,356
One to five years	2,048,820	2,185,756
More than 5 years	11,897,389	12,221,211
	14,486,024	14,909,323
(b) Operating Lease Commitments		
Committed at the reporting date but not recognised as liabilities, payable:		
Within one year	19,017	16,032
One to five years	-	-
More than 5 years	-	-
	19,017	16,032

The non-cancellable operating leasing commitments in 2025 were for the short term lease of office Equipments. All such leases at 30 June 2025 are on a month to month basis.

(c) Capital Expenditure Commitments

The Council has capital expenditure commitments of \$4,860,560 as at 30 June 2025 (2024: \$3,376,320). Of this a significant portion is being funded through specific grant programs.

WEST ARNHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL
ABN:45 065 336 873
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

Note 18 Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets

The Council is not aware of any Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets as at 30 June 2025 (2024: \$Nil).

Note 19 Events After the Reporting Period

Council is not aware of any other significant events since the end of the reporting period that have significantly affected, or may significantly affect the Council's operations, the results of those operations, or the Council's state of affairs in future financial years.

Note 20 Financial Risk Management

The Council's financial instruments consist mainly of deposits with banks accounts, receivables and payables.

The totals for each category of financial instruments, measured in accordance with AASB 139 as detailed in the accounting policies to these financial statements, are as follows:

	Note	2025 \$	2024 \$
Financial assets			
Cash on hand	4	14,125,956	8,669,259
Trade and other receivables	5	1,588,176	1,567,093
Total financial assets		15,714,132	10,236,352
Financial liabilities			
Financial liabilities at amortised cost:			
Trade and other payables	10	4,407,919	3,649,126
Lease Liabilities	13	8,419,794	8,746,301
Total financial liabilities		12,827,713	12,395,427

Financial Risk Management Policies

Management is responsible for mentoring and managing the Council's compliance with its risk management strategy. The overall risk management strategy is to assist the Council in meeting its financial targets whilst minimising potential adverse effects on financial performance. These include credit risk policies and future cash flow requirements.

Specific Financial Risk Exposures and Management

The main risks the Council is exposed to through its financial instruments are credit risk, liquidity risk and market risk relating to interest rate risk. There has been no substantive change in the types of risk the Council is exposed to, how these risks arise, management's objectives, policies and procedures for managing or measuring risks from the previous period.

WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL
ABN:45 065 336 873
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

Note 20 Financial Risk Management (Cont.)**a. Credit Risk**

Exposure to credit risk relating to financial assets arises from the potential non-performance by counterparties of contract obligations that could lead to a financial loss for the Council.

Credit risk exposures

The maximum exposure to credit risk by class of recognised financial assets at the end of the reporting period is equivalent to the carrying amount and classification of those financial assets (net of any provisions) as presented in the statement of financial position.

Legislative restrictions on Council's investment powers effectively limit investments to financial instruments issued or guaranteed by the Australian Government, banks and authorised deposit taking institutions. Rates and other receivables are monitored on an ongoing basis with the result that the Council's exposure to bad debts is not significant.

The Council has no significant concentrations of credit risk exposure to any single counterparty or group of counterparties. Details with respect to credit risk of accounts receivable and other debtors are provided in Note 5.

b. Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk arises from the possibility that the Council might encounter difficulty in settling its debts or otherwise meeting its obligations in relation to financial liabilities. The Council manages this risk through the following mechanisms:

- > preparing forward-looking cash flow analysis in relation to its operational, investing and financing activities.
- > maintaining short term investments to cater for unexpected volatility in cash flows.
- > monitoring the ageing of receivables and payables.
- > maintaining a reputable credit profile.
- > managing credit risk related to financial assets.
- > only investing surplus cash with major financial institutions.

c. Market risk**Interest rate risk**

Exposure to interest rate risk arises on financial assets and financial liabilities recognised at the end of the reporting period whereby a future change in interest rates will affect future cash flows or the fair value of fixed rate financial instruments. The Council is also exposed to earnings volatility on floating rate instruments.

The financial instruments that expose the Council to interest rate risk are limited to cash and cash equivalents.

The Council also manages interest rate risk by ensuring that, whenever possible, payables are paid within any pre-agreed credit terms.

(ii) Sensitivity analysis

The following table illustrates sensitivities to the Council's exposures to changes in interest. The table indicates the impact on how profit reported at the end of the reporting period would have been affected by changes in the relevant risk variable that management considers to be reasonably possible.

These sensitivities assume that the movement in a particular variable is independent of other variables.

	2025	2024
	\$	\$
Surplus \$		
(+/- 1% in interest rates)	113,976	92,292

No sensitivity analysis has been performed on foreign exchange risk as the entity has no material exposures.

Refer to Note 18 for detailed disclosures regarding the fair value measurements of the Council financial assets.

WEST ARNHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL
ABN:45 065 336 873
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

Note 21 Fair Values Measurements**Fair value estimation**

The Council measures and recognises the following assets and liabilities at fair value on a recurring basis after initial recognition:

- financial assets at fair value through profit or loss;
- financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income; and
- freehold land and buildings.

The Council does not subsequently measure any liabilities at fair value on a recurring basis, or any assets or liabilities on a non-recurring basis.

The fair values of financial assets and financial liabilities are presented in the following table and can be compared to their carrying values as presented in the statement of financial position.

	Note	2025		2024	
		Carrying Amount	Fair Value	Carrying Amount	Fair Value
		\$	\$	\$	\$
Financial assets					
Cash on hand and at bank	4,20	14,125,956	14,125,956	8,669,259	8,669,259
Trade and other receivables	5,20	1,588,176	1,588,176	1,567,093	1,567,093
Total financial assets		15,714,132	15,714,132	10,236,352	10,236,352
Financial liabilities					
Trade and other payables	10,20	4,407,919	4,407,919	3,649,126	3,649,126
Lease Liabilities	13,20	8,419,794	8,419,794	8,746,301	8,746,301
Total financial liabilities		12,827,713	12,827,713	12,395,427	12,395,427

- (i) Cash on hand, accounts receivable and other debtors, and accounts payable and other payables are short-term instruments in nature whose carrying value is equivalent to fair value. Trade and other payables exclude amounts provided for annual leave, which is outside the scope of AASB 139.
- (ii) Lease liabilities fair values are assessed on an annual basis by Management and the Directors. Current available data is used in assessing their carrying and fair values.

A fair value measurement assumes that the transaction to sell the asset or transfer the liability takes place either:

- (a) in the principal market for the asset or liability; or
(b) in the absence of a principal market, in the most advantageous market for the asset or liability."

	Note	2025		2024	
		Carrying Amount	Fair Value	Carrying Amount	Fair Value
		\$	\$	\$	\$
Non-Financial assets					
Buildings and Structure and Site Improvements	8	109,200,983	109,200,983	77,693,529	77,693,529
Total non- financial assets		109,200,983	109,200,983	77,693,529	77,693,529

The Council engaged independent valuers in 2025 to conduct an independent valuation of its land, buildings and infrastructure assets. Marsh Valuation Services were engaged to undertake this valuation of the Council's property and infrastructure assets.

The valuation was completed on 16 October 2025 with the valuation date being 30 June 2025. The valuation of Council's infrastructure assets was performed by Ms. Khadhija Bembridge, BE, GradIEAust, Consultant Valuer License number 8504641 and Mr. Langley Johnston, BEMIEAust, Principal-Infrastructure License number 4365664. The valuation of Council's land and buildings, site improvements and other structures was performed by Mr. Matthew Persley, AAPI, Certified Practising Valuer, Valuer Number 4057MR and Mr. Travis Whiteman, AAPI, Certified Practising Valuer, Valuer Number 5143.

The details of the valuation and valuation methodology are disclosed at Note 8 Property, Plant and Equipment.

WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL
ABN:45 065 336 873
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

Note 22 Auditor's Fees

	2025	2024
Audit of the Financial Report:	\$	\$
Audit Fees	50,500	45,900
	50,500	45,900

Note 23 Council Details

West Arnhem Regional Council ABN 45 065 336 873 is the Regional Council for the local government area of the West Arnhem Region, in the Northern Territory, Australia, established under the Local Government Act 2019. Its principal activities are to deliver the usual services of a local Council, as well as certain commercial activities. Its address is 13 Tasman Crescent, Jabiru NT 0886.

WEST ARNHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL
ABN:45 065 336 873
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

NOTE 24 Revenue, Expenses And Assets By Functions
24 (a) Actual Component Results and Assets by Functions

Revenues, expenses and assets have been attributed to the following functions/activities. Details of those functions/activities are provided at note 24(b).

Income, Expenses and Assets have been directly attributed to the following Functions / Activities. Details of these Functions / Activities are provided in Note 24(b).										
	Income		Expenses		Operating Surplus / (Deficit)		Grants Included in Income		Total Assets Held (Current & Non-Current)	
	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024
\$	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual
Functions										
General Public Services	14,385,129	10,691,865	16,820,317	13,869,779	(2,435,188)	(3,177,914)	11,229,001	6,854,417	21,563,600	5,875,257
Public Order and Safety	1,085,508	2,020,779	1,034,727	1,471,057	50,781	549,722	919,463	1,866,185	349,680	212,105
Economic Affairs	7,454,444	6,981,006	25,847,633	8,713,620	(18,393,190)	(1,732,614)	4,219,338	2,328,447	6,527,360	24,577,472
Environmental Protection	2,608,766	2,601,804	502,369	1,657,857	2,106,397	943,946	-	8,460	17,250,880	13,178,149
Housing and Community Amenities	3,719,926	3,864,713	5,137,945	5,691,309	(1,418,020)	(1,826,596)	-	119,626	37,882,000	27,076,441
Health	-	247,136	200,202	23,250	(200,202)	223,886	-	247,136	-	-
Recreation, Culture and Religion	3,431,653	765,163	1,637,466	2,900,142	1,794,187	(2,134,979)	3,356,798	691,638	32,054,000	10,636,150
Education	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Social Protection	2,371,671	5,719,234	3,801,827	3,047,662	(1,430,156)	2,671,576	1,045,574	4,060,690	932,480	472,509
Total Functions	35,057,097	32,891,700	54,982,488	37,374,676	(19,925,391)	(4,482,976)	20,770,174	16,176,599	116,560,000	82,028,083

WEST ARNHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL
ABN:45 065 336 873
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

NOTE 24 Revenue, Expenses And Assets By Functions

24 (b) Components of Functions: Activities

The activities relating to the Council functions are as follows:

GENERAL PUBLIC SERVICES

General public services including administrative, legislative and executive affairs, financial and fiscal affairs, external affairs, governance and general services.□

PUBLIC ORDER & SAFETY

Animal control, enforcement of local government regulations and emergency services.

ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

General economic, agricultural and forestry, fuel and energy, other labour and employment affairs, transport, other industries and tourism.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Waste management, pollution reduction, protection of biodiversity and landscape, protection and remediation of soil, ground water and surface water, and best practice management of the natural environment.

HOUSING & COMMUNITY AMENITIES

Water supply, street lighting and other community amenities.

HEALTH

Preventative health programs

RECREATION, CULTURE & RELIGION

Community centres, libraries, facilities and venues, recreation parks and ovals.

SOCIAL PROTECTION

Childcare services, community aged care programs, youth camps, sports events and family safe programs.

Contact

West Arnhem Regional Council

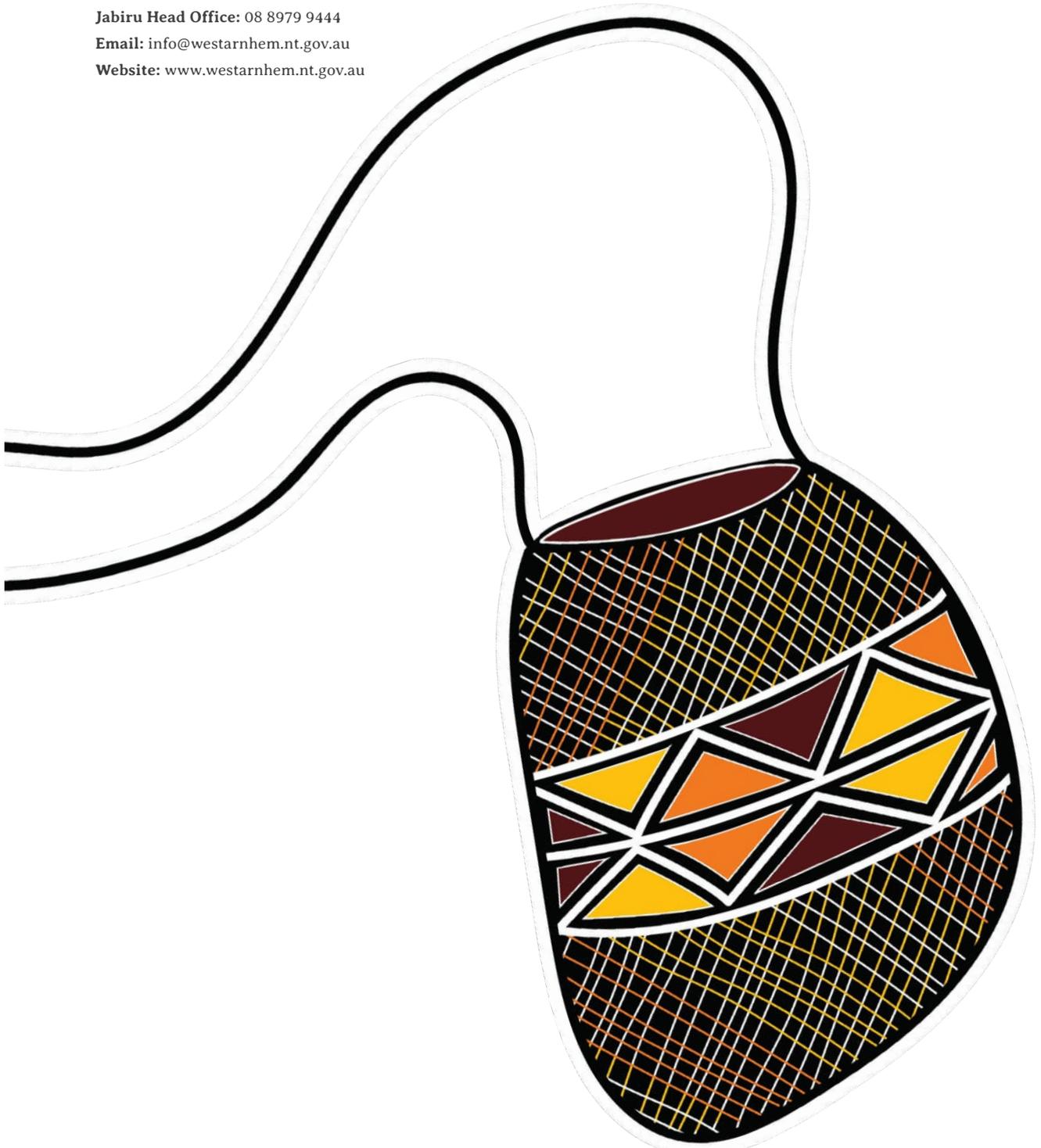
Address: 13 Tasman Crescent, Jabiru NT 0886

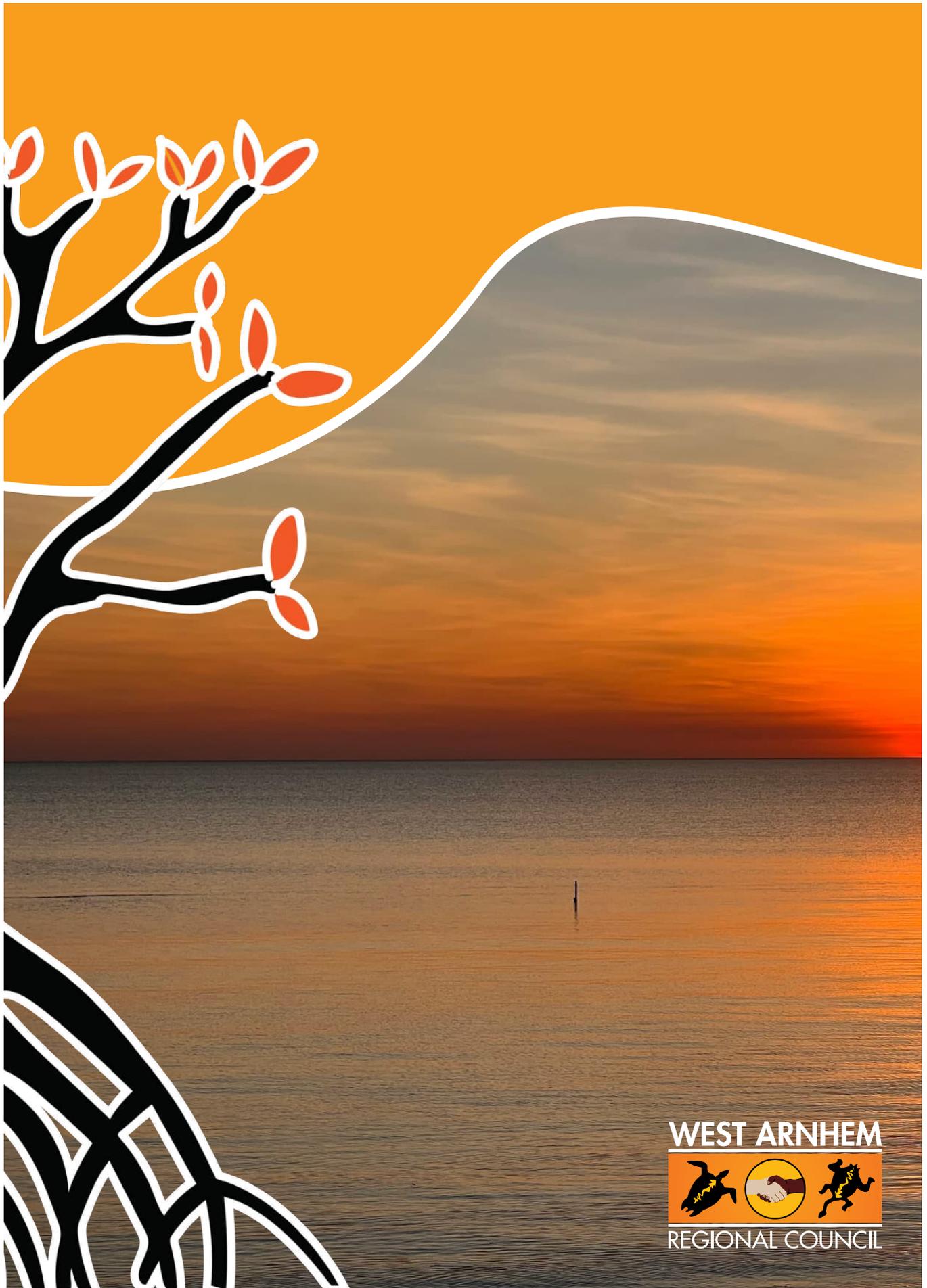
Postal Address: PO Box 721 Jabiru, NT 0886

Jabiru Head Office: 08 8979 9444

Email: info@westarnhem.nt.gov.au

Website: www.westarnhem.nt.gov.au





WEST ARNHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 3 MARCH 2026

Agenda Reference:	9.8
Title:	Gunbalanya Landfill Update
Author:	Meredith Newall, Waste and Resource Coordinator

SUMMARY

This report is to provide an update to Gunbalanya Local Authority on current activities at Gunbalanya Landfill.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY receives and notes the report titled *Gunbalanya Landfill Update*.

BACKGROUND

An inspection of the Gunbalanya Waste Management Facility was conducted on 29 October 2025 by the Northern Territory Environment Protection Authority (NT EPA). The inspection report received by council in December 2025 raised several non-compliance issues present at the site, and these are being addressed.

Following the inspection, the NT EPA issued a letter advising that this site does not currently hold an Environment Protection License and is in breach of the relevant legislation. Previously a s19 Lease was required to apply for a license but the NT EPA has stated this is no longer a requirement for an application to be made. Further clarification of the application process is being sought from the NT EPA.

Sell & Parker commenced the removal of scrap metal August 2025 and were successful in removing 55 tonnes prior to the wet season.

COMMENT

The works team is working hard to manage this site to ensure it is operating to compliance as far as practicable. The potential recruitment of a dedicated Landfill Officer position will be investigated following the installation of additional power at the site.

To assist in enabling an onsite Landfill Officer to be stationed at the site, WARC has committed its 2024/2025 Waste and Resource Management (WaRM) program grant funding to:

- Install a solar array at the Gunbalanya Landfill
- Install a new closed-circuit television (CCTV) system

The 2025/2026 WaRM Grant funding has been committed to address the non-compliance issues identified by the NT EPA in October 2025. The actions to be undertaken by WARC to achieve compliance is outlined in the attached report.

LEGISLATION AND POLICY

Local Government Act 2019

Waste Management and Pollution Control Act 1998

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Any potential liability for penalties imposed due to non-compliance has been overcome.

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.

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.

ATTACHMENTS

1. EPA Inspection - Gunbalanya - December 2025 [9.8.1 - 6 pages]

West Arnhem Regional Council



NT EPA Inspection 19 October 2025 - Response Gunbalanya



West Arnhem Regional Council

Inspection Outcomes and Actions to be Taken

The NT EPA conducted an inspection of the Gunbalanya Waste Management Facility 29 October 2025. It was identified that the facility was required to be licensed under the Waste Management and Pollution Control Act 1998 as it services a permanent population of more than 1,000. The inspection report issued to West Arnhem Regional Council was set out to reflect the non-compliance issues if a license had been issued for this site. The following response outlines the actions to be taken in response to the findings of the NT EPA inspection.

West Arnhem Regional Council

Issue No.	Description	Action	Timeframe
1	Entry signage must include EPL No. and 24 hour emergency contact	Signage to be installed with the option to include the EPL No. once issued.	End March 2026
2	Environmental Management Plan (EMP) and Emergency Response Plan (ERP) to be implemented	EMP was compiled by EcOz in 2016. This will be updated in house and submitted in support of EPL application. ERP to be compiled in house adapting the current plan issued for Jabiru.	End June 2026 End June 2026
3	Inadequate storage of used lead acid batteries (ULABS)	Order Uniseg ULAB storage and transport container (dependent on funding)	End March 2026
4	Permissible tyre stack limits exceeded	Staff to be advised of storage limits.	Presentation delivered to staff 9 December 2025
5	Separation distances from vegetation for tyre storage and burning of tyres	Staff to be advised of fire break requirements. No burning signs to be installed.	Presentation delivered to staff 9 December 2025 End March 2026
6	Plant and equipment operation	Landfill operator training to be conducted for all WARC communities. Training register to be kept in each community.	End June 2026 End January 2026
7	Ensure signage for segregation bays is appropriate for site use	Review existing signage at sorting bays.	End January 2026

West Arnhem Regional Council

	Burning of waste in bays Lack of signage for other stockpiles	No burning signs to be installed. Signage to be ordered and delivered	End March 2026 End March 2026
8	Daily cover	Assess availability of cover material and source if necessary Landfill operator training to be conducted for all WARC communities.	End January 2026 End June 2026
9	Litter containment	Establish a litter collection schedule. Landfill operator training to be conducted for all WARC communities.	End January 2026 End June 2026
10	Leachate and stormwater management	Landfill operator training to be conducted for all WARC communities.	End June 2026
11	Waste oil storage	Impervious bunds, frames and covers to be ordered and delivered. Landfill operator training to be conducted for all WARC communities.	End March 2026 End June 2026
12	Cause or permit waste to be burned	Firebreaks to be maintained. No burning signs to be installed. Landfill operator training to be conducted for all WARC communities	Immediate Presentation delivered to staff 9 December 2025 End March 2026 End June 2026

West Arnhem Regional Council

13	Absence of log for fire incidents	Log templates available in council electronic records system: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fires; • Complaints; • Listed waste collections; • Non-compliance notifications. All relevant staff notified and sent link to access.	Completed 12 November 2025
14	Appropriate fire response equipment	All WARC facilities to be assessed for fire response equipment appropriate to the site. Appropriate equipment ordered.	End March 2026
15	Potential groundwater impacts from leachate	To be addressed in EMP.	End June 2026
16	Potential for environmental harm from litter	Landfill operator training to be conducted for all WARC communities. Establish a litter collection schedule.	End June 2026 End January 2026
17	Stormwater management	Landfill operator training to be conducted for all WARC communities.	End June 2026
18	Release of smoke beyond boundary of the site	No burning signs to be installed.	End March 2026
19	Waste data not being collected	Investigate an electronic waste data collection platform.	End March 2026
21 (sic)	Listed waste records	Template has been created and available to staff via council's electronic records system.	Completed 12 November 2025
22	Records to be retained for two years after the end of the 12 month period to which the record relates	Investigate an electronic waste data collection platform.	End March 2026



West Arnhem Regional Council



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WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 3 March 2026

Agenda Reference:	9.9
Title:	Draft 2026/27 Local Authority Budget and Long-Term Financial Plan
Author:	Jocelyn Nathanael-Walters, Director Corporate Services

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to commence the consultation process with the Local Authorities within the region in relation to the 2026/27 Budget and Long-Term Financial Plan.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY receives and notes the report titled *Draft 2026/27 Local Authority Budget and Long-Term Financial Plan*.

BACKGROUND

The Council is required to consult with its Local Authorities about next year's annual budget and long-term financial plan. The Council must approve a budget and long-term financial plan by 30 June 2026.

At the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 24 February 2026, the Council approved the attached draft 2026-27 budget (at Local Authority level) to begin the process of building the annual budget and long-term financial plan.

COMMENT

The draft 2026-27 budget (at Local Authority level) is an opportunity to discuss what community activities and services are expected to be delivered and their estimated costs. This is an opportunity for Local Authority members to ask questions and contribute to the building of next year's budget.

LEGISLATION AND POLICY

Local Government Act 2019

Minister's Guideline 1: Local Authorities

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Council is responsible for having an approved budget and long-term financial plan and to monitor the council's performance against that approved budget.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

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

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.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Table 6.1 LA v.4 [9.9.1 - 2 pages]

DRAFT - Local Authority Area Budget for 2026-27						
LOCAL AUTHORITY BUDGET COMPARISON	Region		Gunbalanya		Jabiru	
	Approved Final Revised Budget 2025-26 \$	Draft Budget 2026-27 \$	Approved Final Revised Budget 2025-26 \$	Draft Budget 2026-27 \$	Approved Final Revised Budget 2025-26 \$	Draft Budget 2026-27 \$
OPERATING INCOME						
Rates	-	-	380,271	473,020	1,524,892	1,706,394
Charges - Sewerage	-	-	-	-	750,797	803,353
Charges - Water	-	-	-	-	1,674,000	1,791,180
Charges - Waste	-	-	390,622	417,966	303,185	324,408
Fees and Charges	197,300	197,300	86,488	14,500	458,352	385,544
Operating Grants and Subsidies	12,280,397	11,394,570	1,128,919	995,762	541,650	445,430
Interest / Investment Income	160,000	170,000	-	-	-	-
Income allocation	6,005,703	5,401,016	171,321	106,648	64,010	48,531
Other income	584,507	790,877	103,268	16,500	138,862	2,500
Income Agency and Commercial Services	220,015	220,015	1,534,266	1,487,261	1,465,473	1,455,512
TOTAL OPERATING INCOME	19,447,921	18,173,777	3,795,155	3,511,657	6,921,221	6,962,852
OPERATING EXPENDITURE						
Employee Expenses	7,157,612	7,520,031	2,254,639	2,487,396	3,639,572	4,175,421
Materials and Contracts	1,913,522	1,130,571	1,323,235	1,162,484	1,843,483	1,782,578
Elected Member Allowances	402,120	402,120	-	-	-	-
Elected Member Expenses	289,119	299,119	-	-	-	-
Council Committee Allowances	7,000	7,000	-	-	-	-
Local Authority Allowances	-	-	14,900	14,900	-	-
Council Committee & LA Expenses	-	-	4,000	4,000	10,175	10,175
Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	5,271,438	5,271,438	-	-	-	-
Finance expenses	4,100	4,100	1,270	1,270	1,770	1,770
Travel, Freight and Accom Expenses	503,589	503,797	142,323	139,356	69,489	69,489
Fuel, utilities and communication	491,042	491,042	355,599	348,930	591,112	588,962
Other Expenses	3,970,027	2,522,487	578,758	544,388	947,980	838,323
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURE	20,009,568	18,151,705	4,674,724	4,702,724	7,103,581	7,466,718
BUDGETED OPERATING SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	(561,647)	22,072	(879,569)	(1,191,067)	(182,360)	(503,866)
<i>Remove NON-CASH ITEMS</i>						
Less Non-Cash Income	(6,470,299)	(5,777,300)	-	-	-	-
Add Back Non-Cash Expenses	11,741,737	11,048,738	-	-	-	-
TOTAL NON-CASH ITEMS	5,271,438	5,271,438	-	-	-	-
<i>Less ADDITIONAL OUTFLOWS</i>						
Capital Expenditure	(6,302,412)	(818,484)	-	-	-	-
Transfer to Reserves	(1,489,500)	(1,305,000)	-	-	-	-
Other Outflows	(1,400,000)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL ADDITIONAL OUTFLOWS	(9,191,912)	(2,123,484)	-	-	-	-
<i>Add ADDITIONAL INFLOWS</i>						
Proceeds from Sale of Assets	90,000	90,000	-	-	-	-
Capital Grants Income	-	-	-	-	-	-
Prior Year Carry Forward Tied Funding	5,031,013	-	-	-	-	-
Other Inflow of Funds	1,489,500	1,305,000	-	-	-	-
Transfers from Reserves	1,546,489	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL ADDITIONAL INFLOWS	8,157,002	1,395,000	-	-	-	-
NET BUDGETED OPERATING POSITION SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	3,674,881	4,565,026	(879,569)	(1,191,067)	(182,360)	(503,866)

DRAFT - Local Authority Area Budget for 2026-27								
LOCAL AUTHORITY BUDGET COMPARISON	Maningrida		Minjilang		Warruwi		Total Annual Budget	
	Approved Final Revised Budget 2025-26 \$	Draft Budget 2026-27 \$	Approved Final Revised Budget 2025-26 \$	Draft Budget 2026-27 \$	Approved Final Revised Budget 2025-26 \$	Draft Budget 2026-27 \$	Approved Final Revised Budget 2025-26 \$	Draft Budget 2026-27 \$
OPERATING INCOME								
Rates	637,857	792,776	60,675	77,855	98,220	125,618	2,701,915	3,175,663
Charges - Sewerage	-	-	-	-	-	-	750,797	803,353
Charges - Water	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,674,000	1,791,180
Charges - Waste	735,252	786,720	67,857	72,607	106,664	114,130	1,603,580	1,715,831
Fees and Charges	190,498	82,942	27,767	15,150	52,767	32,750	1,013,172	728,186
Operating Grants and Subsidies	1,254,613	940,469	1,051,523	975,469	1,369,962	945,954	17,627,064	15,697,654
Interest / Investment Income	-	-	-	-	-	-	160,000	170,000
Income allocation	106,221	96,061	94,159	96,159	28,886	28,886	6,470,299	5,777,300
Other income	20,000	20,000	8,500	7,000	5,500	5,500	860,637	842,377
Income Agency and Commercial Services	1,632,866	1,632,866	855,287	855,287	795,613	795,613	6,503,520	6,446,554
TOTAL OPERATING INCOME	4,577,307	4,351,834	2,165,768	2,099,526	2,457,612	2,048,452	39,364,983	37,148,098
OPERATING EXPENDITURE								
Employee Expenses	2,307,736	2,625,885	1,474,726	1,816,562	1,895,094	2,028,936	18,729,379	20,654,230
Materials and Contracts	1,563,726	1,280,033	508,708	441,233	769,772	348,704	7,922,446	6,145,602
Elected Member Allowances	-	-	-	-	-	-	402,120	402,120
Elected Member Expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-	289,119	299,119
Council Committee Allowances	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,000	7,000
Local Authority Allowances	6,000	6,000	6,205	6,205	9,200	9,200	36,305	36,305
Council Committee & LA Expenses	8,000	8,000	8,600	8,600	3,083	3,083	33,858	33,858
Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,271,438	5,271,438
Finance expenses	1,050	1,050	1,400	1,400	800	800	10,390	10,390
Travel, Freight and Accom Expenses	207,430	211,069	199,580	195,806	160,555	143,446	1,282,966	1,262,963
Fuel, utilities and communication	373,368	373,368	306,315	301,451	201,397	204,281	2,318,833	2,308,035
Other Expenses	923,565	654,752	447,085	338,107	430,242	361,935	7,297,656	5,259,992
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURE	5,390,875	5,160,157	2,952,620	3,109,363	3,470,143	3,100,385	43,601,511	41,691,052
BUDGETED OPERATING SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	(813,568)	(808,323)	(786,852)	(1,009,837)	(1,012,531)	(1,051,933)	(4,236,527)	(4,542,954)
<i>Remove NON-CASH ITEMS</i>								
Less Non-Cash Income	-	-	-	-	-	-	(6,470,299)	(5,777,300)
Add Back Non-Cash Expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-	11,741,737	11,048,738
TOTAL NON-CASH ITEMS	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,271,438	5,271,438
<i>Less ADDITIONAL OUTFLOWS</i>								
Capital Expenditure	-	-	-	-	-	-	(6,302,412)	(818,484)
Transfer to Reserves	-	-	-	-	-	-	(1,489,500)	(1,305,000)
Other Outflows	-	-	-	-	-	-	(1,400,000)	-
TOTAL ADDITIONAL OUTFLOWS	-	-	-	-	-	-	(9,191,912)	(2,123,484)
<i>Add ADDITIONAL INFLOWS</i>								
Proceeds from Sale of Assets	-	-	-	-	-	-	90,000	90,000
Capital Grants Income	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Prior Year Carry Forward Tied Funding	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,031,013	-
Other Inflow of Funds	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,489,500	1,305,000
Transfers from Reserves	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,546,489	-
TOTAL ADDITIONAL INFLOWS	-	-	-	-	-	-	8,157,002	1,395,000
NET BUDGETED OPERATING POSITION SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	(813,568)	(808,323)	(786,852)	(1,009,837)	(1,012,531)	(1,051,933)	-	-

WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 3 MARCH 2026

Agenda Reference:	10.1
Title:	Review of Action Items
Author:	Debbie Branson, Governance Advisor

SUMMARY

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

RECOMMENDATION

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *Review of Action Items*; and
2. Reviews the outstanding action items and gives approval for completed items to be removed from the register.

BACKGROUND

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

COMMENT

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

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

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

PILLAR 6 FOUNDATIONS OF GOVERNANCE

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

Goal 6.3 Council and Local Authorities

Excellence in governance, consultation administration and representation.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Actions [10.1.1 - 1 page]

Meeting Date	Status	Action Required	Assignees	Action Taken
27/11/2024	In Progress	GUN55/2024 RESOLVED: Investigate Awning for shop car park	Clem Beard, Kylie Gregson	Invited Store Manager to Gunbalanya Local Authority March 2026 Meeting - no response to date.
27/11/2024	In Progress	GUN55/2024 RESOLVED: Investigate upgrades to the Basketball court, including fixing or replacing toilets, change rooms, water fountain and fence.	Clem Beard, Kylie Gregson	Invited Store Manager to Gunbalanya Local Authority March 2026 Meeting - no response to date.
16/07/2025	On Hold	GAR48/2025 RESOLVED: Request draft By-laws for Commercial Waste, Removal of Commercial Waste and Traffic for consideration.	Ben Heaslip	Drafting instructions received - on hold.

WEST ARNHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 3 MARCH 2026

Agenda Reference:	10.2
Title:	Cultural Training
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

SUMMARY

This report presents an opportunity for each Local Authority to develop cultural awareness training within the community.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *Cultural Training*; and
2. Provides recommendations on cultural training that best meet the needs of the community, staff, contractors and visitors.

BACKGROUND

At the Ordinary Council Meeting 30 June 2025, Council requested a draft policy be prepared and considered further at a future workshop which will include consultation with the local authorities.

It was agreed that this would be actioned post the Local Government 2026 General Election.

The purpose of this list is for open discussion with the Local Authorities members. Suggestions as follows:

- Specific information about history, Traditional Owners/Elders, and their role, and local protocols -site specific-.
- Behaviours expected on Country: What are the expected behaviours from visitors and workers while living and working on their land (e.g. what's considered culturally disrespectful/inappropriate/rude, what behaviours are welcomed, etc.).
- How to behave and what to/not to do when cultural events are occurring, particularly Sorry Business.
- Geographic orientation: No-go zones, blocked roads, men's or women's business areas, etc.
- Communication: Practical information on how to engage respectfully with both men and women by recognising sensitivities (communication protocols when talking to the opposite gender), understanding kinship (such as poison cousins/relationships), body language, etc.
- Animals in community (e.g. dogs, cats, horses, pigs, goats).
- Drug and Alcohol prohibitions.
- Dress code: What's the appropriate clothing to wear in community for both men and women.

LEGISLATION AND POLICY

N/A.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

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 1.5 Cultural Awareness Training

Develop increased understanding and observation of cultural protocols.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 3 MARCH 2026

Agenda Reference:	10.3
Title:	Gunbalanya Community Flag Poles
Author:	Clem Beard, Project Manager

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to gauge the Local Authority's interest in purchasing Community Flag Poles in Gunbalanya.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *Gunbalanya Community Flag Poles*; and
2. Approves/Does not approve the costs of the installing four new Community Flag Poles in Gunbalanya from Local Authority Funding at an estimated cost of \$13,640.00.

BACKGROUND

The Council requested a review of existing flag poles within each Community. It was advised that the flag poles in Gunbalanya are located at the store and it has been suggested the Council install four of their own.

If the Gunbalanya Local Authority are supportive of funding the purchase and installation of new flag poles and flags as required, Council will cover the cost of maintenance, replace the flags when required and will provide the resources to comply with protocols.

The Council will cover the cost of maintenance, replace the flags when required and will provide the resources to comply with protocols.

Supply and Install Flag Poles - Gunbalanya Local Authority				
Resource	Unit	Qty	Est Price	Total
6m FLAGPOLE WITH INTERNAL HALYARD & HINGE BASE Raise the flag using an internal halyard & secure the rope behind the door. Lower the pole from the hinge base for maintenance	only	4	\$1,250.00	\$5,000.00
Freight - Road Transport DWN - GUN	only	4	\$350.00	\$1,400.00
Installation/Plant/Labour	only	4	\$1,500.00	\$6,000.00
Sub Total				\$12,400.00
Contingencies 10%				\$1,240.00
Total Estimated/Indicative Costs				\$13,640.00

LEGISLATION AND POLICY

Per Local government Procurement Policy

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Per available annual funding from the Gunbalanya Local Authority

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 1.4 Community Events

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

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 3 MARCH 2026

Agenda Reference:	10.4
Title:	Community Benefit Fund
Author:	Clem Beard, Project Manager

SUMMARY

This report is to collate and prioritise a list of community assets nominated by the Local Authority members for potential infrastructure improvements and asset purchases when grant funding opportunities arise.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *Community Benefit Fund*; and
2. Prioritises a list of projects from the Local Authority members for the Administration to pursue future grant applications.

BACKGROUND

The Community Benefit Fund (CBF) receives funds from a levy on electronic gaming machines in licensed hotels. Major community grants provide funding to provide services, leisure activities and opportunities to Territorians.

All applications that meet the eligibility criteria will be considered.

If your application meets the priorities below, it will be given preference when considered.

The priorities are:

Priority 1

Applications for infrastructure improvements or asset purchases that can demonstrate an ongoing community benefit beyond the period of funding.

Priority 2

Applications that support the growth of the NT and:

Provide multi-level stimulus through the outcome of the grant and also use local suppliers and contractors in the process of completing the grant.

COMMENT

The Major Community Grant opportunity opens biannually, with funding from **\$15,001 to \$250,000**. The next available funding round opens 1 July and closes 31 August 2026.

The most recent successful application works awarded to West Arnhem Regional Council (WARC) was the Revitalization/Upgrade of the Jabiru Library completed in 2025.

Recommendations put forward in the past for community upgrades focusing on enhancing community participation, health, and wellbeing include:

- Earthworks - Resurfacing Ovals

- Upgrading/installing reticulation to grounds
- Removing potentially dangerous/at risk trees in all community public areas.
- Upgrading existing ablution facilities across the region
- Providing additional drinking water fountain locations
- Upgrading existing playgrounds/shades/surfaces

The Local Authority's have the opportunity to give feedback to Council on what projects they may wish to be considered for this and other any future grant funding opportunities.

LEGISLATION AND POLICY

Per Local Government Act (2019).

WARC internal policies for all facets of Infrastructure improvements/acquisitions.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

In kind support can be considered as part of application process:

- Internal Wages
- Admin Fees
- Project Management Fees

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 1.2 Economic Partnerships

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

Goal 1.4 Community Events

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

Goal 1.6 Youth Engagement

Deliver diverse, targeted programs and events which actively empower and engage young people as valuable partners in decision-making which effects them.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 3 MARCH 2026

Agenda Reference:	11.1
Title:	Local Authority Member Questions with or without Notice
Author:	Debbie Branson, Governance Advisor

SUMMARY

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

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

RECOMMENDATION

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

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

- 12 NEXT MEETING
- 13 MEETING DECLARED CLOSED