



WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL AGENDA

**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
WEDNESDAY, 25 MARCH 2026**



WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

Notice is hereby given that an Ordinary Meeting of the West Arnhem Regional Council will be held in Council Chambers Jabiru on Wednesday 25 March 2026 at 9:00 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.

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Acknowledgement of Country

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

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

WEST ARNHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 25 MARCH 2026

Agenda Reference:	3.1
Title:	Apologies, Leave of Absence and Absent Without Notice
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

SUMMARY

This report is to table, for Council's record, any apologies, and requests for leave of absence received by Council's Chief Executive Officer from Elected Members, as well as record any absence without notice for the Ordinary Council meeting held on 25 March 2026.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Notes the absence of ...
2. Notes the apology received from Deputy Mayor Jacqueline Phillips and Cr Daniel Siebert;
3. Determines ... are absent with permission of the Council.
4. Determines ... are absent without permission of the Council.

COMMENT

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

LEGISLATION AND POLICY

Section 47(o) of the *Local Government Act 2019*.

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

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

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

PILLAR 6 FOUNDATIONS OF GOVERNANCE

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

Goal 6.3 Council and Local Authorities

Excellence in governance, consultation administration and representation

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 25 MARCH 2026

Agenda Reference:	4.1
Title:	Acceptance of Agenda
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

SUMMARY

Agenda papers are presented for acceptance at the Ordinary Council meeting held on 25 March 2026.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL accepts the agenda papers as circulated for the Ordinary Council meeting held on 25 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 ARNHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 25 MARCH 2026

Agenda Reference:	5.1
Title:	Disclosure of Interest of Members or Staff
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

SUMMARY

Elected Members are required to disclose an interest in a matter under consideration at an Ordinary Council Meeting:

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

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

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

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL acknowledges the declarations of interest disclosed in relation to the items listed for consideration at the Ordinary Meeting held on 25 March 2026.

LEGISLATION AND POLICY/STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

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

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

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

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

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

PILLAR 6 FOUNDATIONS OF GOVERNANCE

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

Goal 6.4 Risk Management

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

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 25 MARCH 2026

Agenda Reference:	6.1
Title:	Confirmation of Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

SUMMARY

The Minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held on Tuesday, 24 February 2026 are submitted to Council for confirmation that those minutes are a true and correct record of the meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL confirms the minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held on Tuesday, 24 February 2026 as a true and correct record of the meeting.

STATUTORY AND POLICY

Section 101 and 102 *Local Government Act 2019*

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

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

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

PILLAR 6 FOUNDATIONS OF GOVERNANCE

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

Goal 6.3 Council and Local Authorities

Excellence in governance, consultation administration and representation.

ATTACHMENTS

1. 2026-02-24 Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes - Unconfirmed [6.1.1 - 17 pages]



Minutes of the West Arnhem Regional Council Ordinary Council Meeting
Tuesday, 24 February 2026 at 12:00 pm
Council Chambers

1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY AND OPENING OF MEETING

Mayor James Woods declared the meeting open at 12:00pm, welcomed all in attendance and did an Acknowledgement of Country.

2 PERSONS PRESENT

ELECTED MEMBERS PRESENT

Chairperson	James Woods (Mayor)
Deputy Mayor	Jacqueline Phillips
Councillor	Jermaine Namanurki
Councillor	Ralph McCoy
Councillor	Daniel Siebert
Councillor	Steven Nabalmarada
Councillor	Ralph F Blyth
Councillor	Mickitja Onus

STAFF PRESENT

Chief Executive Officer	Katharine Clare Murray
Acting Director Community and Council Services	Rick Mitchell
Director Corporate Services	Jocelyn Nathanael-Walters
Director Technical Services	Grant McKenzie
Manager Technical Services	Kylie Gregson
Governance Advisor	Debbie Branson
Executive Assistant	Violette Stehlin
Communications and Public Relations Coordinator	Heidi Walton

GUESTS

A/Director Learning and Development Local Government and Community Development Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development	Karen Hocking (Mandatory Training only)
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3 APOLOGIES AND ABSENCES

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

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

OCM49/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Micketja Onus
Seconded Cr Ralph McCoy

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Notes the apology received from Cr Henry Yates, Cr Joseph Diddo and Cr Ralph F Blyth (Tuesday, 24 February 2026 only); and
2. Determines Cr Henry Yates, Cr Joseph Diddo and Cr Ralph F Blyth are absent with permission of the Council.

CARRIED

4 ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

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

The Council considered a report on Acceptance of Agenda.

OCM50/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Steven Nabalmarda
Seconded Mayor James Woods

THAT COUNCIL accepts the agenda papers as circulated for the Ordinary Council meeting held on 24 February 2026.

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

The Deputy Mayor Jacqueline Phillips declared an interest in Item 11.5 – Current Status of Outstanding Regional Land Use Agreements from the Northern Land Council.

OCM51/2025 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Cr Jermaine Namanurki

Seconded Deputy Mayor Jacqueline Phillips

THAT COUNCIL acknowledges the declarations of interest disclosed in relation to the item listed for the Ordinary Council meeting held on 24 February 2026.

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:05pm to commence Elected Member Mandatory Training Module 2 with Karen Hocking, Acting Director Learning and Development, Local Government, Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development.

The meeting reconvened at 2:53pm.

6 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Agenda Reference:	6.1
Title:	Confirmation of Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

The Council considered a report on Confirmation of Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes. The Chief Officer advised that the LGANT have advised that the 2026 April Conference in Alice Springs has been cancelled and the General Meeting will be held in Darwin on 15 April 2026.

It was agreed that a report be tabled to the Ordinary Council Meeting in March 2026.

OCM52/2025 RESCINDED 24 FEBRUARY 2026:

On the motion of Cr Mickitja Onus

Seconded Cr Steven Nabalmarda

THAT COUNCIL confirms the minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held on Wednesday, 28 January 2026, as a true and correct record of the meeting rescinding Resolution OCM012/2026 as follows:

THAT COUNCIL:

- 1. Receives and notes the report titled Local Government Association of the NT April 2026 Conference and General Meeting - Alice Springs; and*
- 2. Approves the costs associated with registration, accommodation and travel expenses for Mayor James Woods, Deputy Mayor Jacqueline Phillips, Cr Henry Yates and Chief Executive Officer, Katharine Murray to attend the Local Government Association of the NT 2026 April Conference and General Meeting which will be held in Alice Springs.*

CARRIED

7 ACTION REPORTS

Agenda Reference:	7.1
Title:	Review of Action Items
Author:	Debbie Branson, Governance Advisor

The Council considered a report on Review of Action Items.

OCM53/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Mayor James Woods
Seconded Cr Micketja Onus

THAT COUNCIL:

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.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	7.2
Title:	Women in Small Business Summit 2026
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

Item 7.2 – Women in Small Business Summit 2026 was deferred.

Agenda Reference:	7.3
Title:	Special Kakadu Ward Advisory Committee Minutes
Author:	Debbie Branson, Governance Advisor

The Council considered a report on Special Kakadu Ward Advisory Committee Minutes.

OCM54/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Micketja Onus
Seconded Mayor James Woods

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Notes the minutes of the Special Kakadu Ward Advisory Committee meeting held on Tuesday, 10 February 2026;
2. Appoints Cr Micketja Onus as Chairperson of the Kakadu Ward Advisory Committee and the appointment be reviewed post the Kakadu By-Election; and
3. Approves the previous Council's allocated Jabiru dog park funding of \$30,000.00 in Council resolution OCM272/2024, be used as general co-contribution for the Jabiru Lakeside Precinct Upgrade 2025-26 capital project which includes the Council's original dog park plans.

CARRIED

8 RECEIVE AND NOTE REPORTS

Agenda Reference:	8.1
Title:	Incoming and Outgoing Correspondence
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

The Council considered a report on Incoming and Outgoing Correspondence.

OCM55/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Ralph McCoy
Seconded Cr Steven Nabalmarda

THAT COUNCIL receives and notes the attached items of incoming and outgoing correspondence.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	8.2
Title:	Meetings and Events attended by the Mayor
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

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

OCM56/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Steven Nabalmarda
Seconded Cr Mickitja Onus

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

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	8.3
Title:	Meetings and Events attended by the Chief Executive Officer
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

The Council considered a report on Meetings and Events attended by the Chief Executive Officer.

OCM57/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Mayor James Woods
Seconded Cr Ralph McCoy

THAT COUNCIL receives and notes the report titled *Meetings and Events attended by the Chief Executive Officer*.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	8.4
Title:	Community and Council Services Report
Author:	Rick Mitchell, Acting Director Council and Community Services

The Council considered a report on Community and Council Services Report.

OCM58/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Ralph McCoy
Seconded Cr Steven Nabalmarda

THAT COUNCIL receives and notes the report entitled *Community and Council Services Report*.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	8.5
Title:	Technical Services Report
Author:	Kylie Gregson, Manager Technical Services

The Council considered a report on Technical Services Report.

OCM59/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Steven Nabalmarda
Seconded Deputy Mayor Jacqueline Phillips

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

CARRIED

The meeting was adjourned at 4:33pm and was reconvened on Wednesday, 25 February 2026 at 8:33am with Cr Ralph F Blyth in attendance.

Agenda Reference:	8.6
Title:	Financial report for period ending 31 January 2026
Author:	Jocelyn Nathanael-Walters, Director Finance

The Deputy Mayor joined the meeting at 8:46am.

The Council considered a report on Financial report for period ending 31 January 2026.

The *Local Government Act 2019* section 209 permits the Council to appoint an Auditor for a fix term of between 2 and 5 years. Council's recent contract with Nexia Edwards Marshall NT was for 3 years (2022-23, 2023-24 and 2024-25) therefore an extension to this appointment will be within the fixed term limits permitted by legislation. Nexia Edwards Marshall NT have confirmed they are able to undertake the 2025-26 audit for the same price as the 2024-25 service. This contract extension will provide time for the Council to undertake a proper procurement process to appoint the Council Auditor for the next 4 years, starting 2026-27.

OCM60/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Ralph McCoy
Seconded Cr Steven Nabalmarda

THAT COUNCIL

1. Receives and notes the report titled Financial Report for the period ending 31 January 2025;
2. Approves the Regional and Remote Burial Areas Grant Funding 2024-26 Acquittal for Maningrida and Warruwi;
3. Approves the Regional and Remote Burial Areas Grant Funding 2024-26 Acquittal for Minjilang;
4. Approve the Community Places for People Grant Program 2024-25 Acquittal for Warruwi Community Hall;
5. Approves Community Places for People Grant Program 2025-26 Acquittal for Warruwi Community Hall; and
6. Approves the extension of the 3-year Nexia Edwards Marshall NT audit contract to include an additional year to cover 2025-26.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	7.2
Title:	Women in Small Business Summit 2026
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

The Council considered a report on Women in Small Business Summit 2026.

OCM61/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Mayor James Woods
Seconded Cr Micketja Onus

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *Women in Small Business Summit 2026*;
2. Approves the Deputy Mayor to attend the 2026 Women in Business Summit in Sydney, Australia on Wednesday, 18 March 2026 and costs associated with travel and accommodation to a total of \$8,323.55; and
3. Approves that funds are allocated from the Elected Members Professional Development allowance.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	8.7
Title:	Remote Jobs and Economic Development (RJED)
Author:	Rick Mitchell, Acting Director Council and Community Services

The Council considered a report on Remote Jobs and Economic Development (RJED).

OCM62/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Steven Nabalmarda
Seconded Cr Jermaine Namanurki

THAT COUNCIL receives and notes the report titled *Remote Jobs and Economic Development (RJED)*.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	8.8
Title:	LGANT - Guideline 1 Review - Local Authorities
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

The Council considered a report on LGANT - Guideline 1 Review - Local Authorities.

OCM63/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Ralph McCoy
Seconded Mayor James Woods

THAT COUNCIL receives and notes the report titled *LGANT - Guideline 1 Review - Local Authorities*.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	8.9
Title:	LGANT - Feedback: Inquiry into Local Government Funding and Fiscal Sustainability submission
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

The Council considered a report on LGANT – Feedback Inquiry into Local Government Funding and Discal Sustainability submission.

OCM64/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Jermaine Namanurki
Seconded Cr Ralph F Blyth

THAT COUNCIL receives and notes the report titled *LGANT - Feedback: Inquiry into Local Government Funding and Fiscal Sustainability submission*.

CARRIED

9 ELECTED MEMBER QUESTIONS WITH OR WITHOUT NOTICE

Agenda Reference:	9.1
Title:	Elected Member Questions with or without Notice
Author:	Debbie Branson, Governance Advisor

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

OCM65/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Mickitja Onus
Seconded Cr Ralph McCoy

THAT COUNCIL raised the following questions:

- RMAC – Pre-requisites for the Chairperson role
- Request Council to engage with the Department of Lands and Infrastructure in regard to the road conditions within the region including Arnhem Highway
- Engaging a Debt Collection agency as an option
- NIAA Closing the Gap – Place Based Partnerships
- KWAC Meeting Dates
- Maningrida Airport – Sorry Business / Cultural Obligations – priority access – a letter be sent to the Federal Member for Aboriginal Affairs
- Spartan Parks – Playground – Tour Visit
- Maningrida Changeroom Plaque referred to the Maningrida Local Authority
- Housing Concession implemented into Local Communities – investigate eligibility
- Warruwi – Fighting teenagers – Council to advocate to assist

CARRIED

LGANT – Australian Institute of Company Directors (AICD) Governance Essential for Local Government

OCM66/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Ralph F Blyth
Seconded Mayor James Woods

THAT COUNCIL approves the cost associated with Cr Ralph McCoy attending the LGANT Australian Institute of Company Directors Course on 12-13 March 2026 in Darwin and are funded from the Elected Members Professional Development Allowance.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned 10:26am and reconvened at 10:46am.

10 PROCEDURAL MOTIONS

Agenda Reference:	10.1
Title:	Closure to the Public for the Discussion of Confidential Items
Author:	Debbie Branson, Governance Advisor

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

OCM67/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Ralph F Blyth
Seconded Mayor James Woods

THAT pursuant to section 99(2) and 293(1) of the Local Government Act 2019 and section 52 of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 the meeting be closed to the public at 10:56am to consider the Confidential items of the Agenda.

CARRIED

11 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

Agenda Reference:	11.1
Title:	Confirmation of Confidential Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

OCM70/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Ralph F Blyth
Seconded Cr Ralph McCoy

THAT COUNCIL confirms the minutes of Wednesday, 28 January 2026 Confidential Ordinary Council meeting as a true and correct record of the meeting.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	11.2
Title:	Confidential Special Kakadu Ward Advisory Committee Minutes
Author:	Debbie Branson, Governance Advisor

OCM71/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Ralph F Blyth
Seconded Cr Mickitja Onus

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Notes the confidential minutes of Special Kakadu Ward Advisory Committee confidential meeting held on Tuesday, 10 February 2026; and
2. Requests that the item relating to Jabiru Airport be deferred until GAC provides further information.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	11.3
Title:	Incoming and Outgoing Correspondence
Author:	Violette Stehlin, Acting Executive Assistant to Mayor and CEO

OCM72/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Mickitja Onus
Seconded Cr Ralph McCoy

THAT COUNCIL receives and notes the attached items of confidential incoming and outgoing correspondence.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	11.4
Title:	Review of Confidential Action Items
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

OCM73/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Jermaine Namanurki
Seconded Cr Ralph McCoy

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *Review of Confidential Action Items*; and
2. Reviews the outstanding action items.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	11.5
Title:	Current Status of Outstanding Regional Land Use Agreements from the Northern Land Council and Gundjeihmi Aboriginal Corporation Jabiru Town
Author:	Clem Beard, Project Manager

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

Agenda Reference:	11.6
Title:	Organisation Structure Update
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

OCM74/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Ralph F Blyth
Seconded Cr Ralph McCoy

THAT COUNCIL receives and notes the report titled *Organisation Structure Update*.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	11.7
Title:	2025-26 Water Concessions Request
Author:	Jocelyn Nathanael-Walters, Director of Finance

OCM75/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Ralph F Blyth
Seconded Cr Jermaine Namanurki

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *2025-26 Water and Rates Concession Request*;
2. Approves the grant of a full 2025-26 rates concession to the Jabiru Golf Club on Lot 2101 plan 410 Jabiru;
3. Approves the grant of a capped water use concession to the Jabiru Golf Club, for up to 7,700 Kilolitres of water use per quarter for the period 1 December 2025 to 30 November 2026 (12 months) for Lot 2101; and
4. Approves a 2025-26 rates payment plan for the Jabiru Golf Club on Lot 2324 Plan 410 Jabiru of \$3,567.37 per month for the 2025-26 rates to be paid in full by 30 September 2026.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	11.8
Title:	Letter to Employers regarding Jabiru Childcare Centre's Urgent Financial Sustainability Concerns
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

OCM76/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Mickitja Onus
Seconded Cr Ralph McCoy

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *Jabiru Childcare Centre Update*; and
2. Continues to lobby for funding for the repair of the roof.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	11.9
Title:	Tender Evaluation - Provision of Veterinary Services - West Arnhem Region
Author:	Clem Beard, Project Manager

OCM68/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Ralph F Blyth
Seconded Cr Steven Nabalmarda

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *Tender Evaluation - Provision of Veterinary Services - West Arnhem Region*;
2. Approves the University of Melbourne be awarded the contract to supply Veterinary Services under the animal management program across the West Arnhem Region for a total price of \$304,590.00;
3. Requests a further report detailing the statistics of the services provided; and
4. Request that in future Council scopes broader for tender suppliers.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	11.10
Title:	LGANT Update - Amendments to the Local Government Act and Regulations
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

OCM77/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Ralph F Blyth
Seconded Cr Daniel Siebert

THAT COUNCIL receives and notes the report titled *LGANT Update - Amendments to the Local Government Act and Regulations*.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	11.11
Title:	Maningrida Region Consortium
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

OCM78/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Ralph McCoy
Seconded Cr Jermaine Namanurki

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *Maningrida Region Consortium*; and
2. Supports the Maningrida Region Consortium proposal to seek \$300,000 over twelve months from NIAA to support a staged establishment process.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	11.12
Title:	Draft 2026-2027 Budget
Author:	Jocelyn Nathanael-Walters, Director of Finance

OCM79/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Ralph McCoy
Seconded Cr Daniel Siebert

THAT COUNCIL

1. Receives and notes the report titled *2025-26 Budget Review and Draft 2026-27 Budget*;
2. Approves the revised 2025-26 budget and long-term financial plan; and
3. Approves the 2026-27 budget and long-term financial plan for development discussion with Council's Local Authorities in March 2026 with the depreciation change.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	11.13
Title:	Community Honour Boards
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

OCM80/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Ralph F Blyth
Seconded Cr Jermaine Namanurki

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *Community Honour Boards*;
2. Determines that, out of respect, the names of the West Arnhem Regional Council Elected Members who have passed remain on the Honour Board in Jabiru in full; and
3. Refer the Community Honour Boards to the Local Authorities.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	11.14
Title:	Gunbalanya Local Authority Appointment
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

OCM81/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Ralph McCoy
Seconded Cr Daniel Siebert

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *Gunbalanya Local Authority Appointment*; and
2. Appoints Connie Nayinggul and Tamar Nawirridj to the Gunbalanya Local Authority as community members.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	11.15
Title:	Chief Executive Officer's Report
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

OCM82/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Deputy Mayor Jacqueline Phillips
Seconded Cr Ralph McCoy

THAT COUNCIL notes the verbal operational update provided by the Chief Executive Officer.

CARRIED

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

Agenda Reference:	12.2
Title:	Disclosure of Confidential Resolutions and Re-admittance of the Public
Author:	Debbie Branson, Governance Advisor

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

OCM83/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Ralph F Blyth
Seconded Cr Daniel Siebert

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Approves to disclose the selected resolutions from the confidential section of this meeting in the non-confidential meeting minutes as follows:
 - Item 11.1 Confirmation of Confidential Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes
 - Item 11.2 Confidential Special Kakadu Ward Advisory Committee Minutes
 - Item 11.3 Incoming and Outgoing Correspondence
 - Item 11.4 Review of Confidential Action Items
 - Item 11.6 Organisation Structure Update
 - Item 11.7 2025-26 Water and Rates Concession Request
 - Item 11.8 Jabiru Childcare Centre Update
 - Item 11.9 Tender Evaluation - Provision of Veterinary Services -West Arnhem Region
 - Item 11.10 LGANT Update - Amendments to the Local Government Act and Regulations
 - Item 11.11 Maningrida Region Consortium
 - Item 11.12 2025-26 Budget Review and Draft 2026-27 Budget
 - Item 11.13 Community Honour Boards
 - Item 11.14 Gunbalanya Local Authority Appointment
 - Item 11.15 Chief Executive Officer's Report
2. Opens the meeting to the public at 1:50pm after the discussion of confidential items.

CARRIED

13 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled to take place on Wednesday, 25 March 2026.

14 MEETING DECLARED CLOSED

Mayor James Woods declared the meeting closed at 1:50pm.

This page and the preceding pages are the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Tuesday, 24 February 2026.

Click [here](#) to view the agenda for the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Tuesday, 24 February 2026.

WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 25 MARCH 2026

Agenda Reference:	6.2
Title:	Local Authority Meeting Minutes
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

SUMMARY

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

RECOMMENDATION

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

Community	Date Held	Quorum	Date of next meeting
Maningrida	Monday 2 March 2026	No - Provisional	Monday 11 May 2026
Gunbalanya	Tuesday 3 March 2026	Yes	Tuesday 12 May 2026
Waruwi	Wednesday 4 March 2026	No – Provisional	Wednesday 13 May 2026
Minjilang	Thursday 5 March 2026	No – Provisional	Thursday 14 May 2026

ATTENDANCE MATRIX – COMMUNITY MEMBERS

Maningrida	13 October 2025	2 March 2026
Sharon Hayes	✓	✓
Garth Doolan	✓	✓
Shane Namanurki	✓	✗
Marlene Kernan	✓	✓
Monica Wilton	✗	✗
Jocye Bohme	✗	✗
Vacancy	-	-

Gunbalanya	3 March 2026
Andy Garnarradj	✓
Evonne Gumurdul	✓
Kenneth Mangiru	✓
Maxwell Garnarradj	✓
Ishmael Wurramara	✓
Kerry Manakgu	✓
Tamar Nawirridj	✓
Connie Nayinggul	✗

Waruwi	4 March 2026
Renfred Manmurulu	✓
Jamie Milpurr	✓
Misman Kris	✓
Richard Nawirr	✓
Ida Waiang	✗
Nicholas Hunter	✗
Jason Mainaj	✗

Minjilang	5 March 2026
Shane Wauchope	✓
Charles Yirrawala	✓
Josephine Cooper	✓
Lachlan Nabegeyo	✓
Matthew Nagarlbin	✗
Clint Wauchope	✗

BACKGROUND

The Ministerial Guidelines state that:

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

LEGISLATION AND POLICY

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

Clause 13.1 *Guideline 1: Local Authorities 2021*.

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

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

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

PILLAR 6 FOUNDATIONS OF GOVERNANCE

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

Goal 6.3 Council and Local Authorities

Excellence in governance, consultation administration and representation.

ATTACHMENTS

1. 2026-03-02 Maningrida Local Authority Minutes - Unconfirmed [6.2.1 - 11 pages]
2. 2026-03-03 Gunbalanya Local Authority Minutes - Unconfirmed [6.2.2 - 11 pages]
3. 2026-03-04 Waruwi Local Authority Minutes - Unconfirmed [6.2.3 - 10 pages]
4. 2026-03-05 Minjilang Local Authority Minutes Unconfirmed [6.2.4 - 11 pages]



Minutes of the West Arnhem Regional Council Maningrida Local Authority
PROVISIONAL MEETING
Monday, 2 March 2026 at 10:00 am
Council Chambers

1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY AND OPENING OF MEETING

Chairperson Cr Jermaine Namanurki declared the meeting open at 10:23am, welcomed all in attendance and did an Acknowledgement of Country.

2 PERSONS PRESENT

APPOINTED MEMBERS PRESENT

Member	Sharon Hayes
Member	Garth Doolan
Member	Marlene Kernan

ELECTED MEMBERS PRESENT

Chairperson	Cr Jermaine Namanurki
Mayor	James Woods
Deputy Mayor	Jacqueline Phillips

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Chief Executive Officer	Katharine Murray
Director Community and Council Services	Rick Mitchell
Director Corporate Services	Jocelyn Nathanael-Walters
Director Technical Services	Grant McKenzie
Council Services Manger	Scott Page
Project Manager	Clem Beard
Finance Manager	Imran Shajib (via Teams)
Manager of Technical Services	Kylie Gregson (via Teams)
Waste and Resources Coordinator	Meredith Newall (via Teams)
Finance Officer	Prabesh Basnet
Governance Advisor	Debbie Branson
Executive Assistant to CEO and Mayor	Violette Stehlin

GUESTS

Northern Territory Police

Sergeant Tim Gillahan (via Teams)

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.

MAN-P1/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Member Sharon Hayes

Seconded Deputy Mayor Jacqueline Phillips

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Notes the apology received from Member Joyce Bohme, Member Monica Wilton, Member Shane Namanurki and Cr Joseph Diddo; and
2. Determines Member Joyce Bohme, Member Monica Wilton, Member Shane Namanurki and Cr Joseph Diddo 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.

MAN-P2/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Deputy Mayor Jacqueline Phillips

Seconded Mayor James Woods

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY accepts the agenda papers as circulated for the Maningrida Local Authority meeting held on 2 March 2026.

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.

MAN-P3/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Deputy Mayor Jacqueline Phillips
Seconded Member Sharon Hayes

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY acknowledges that there were no declarations of interest in reference to the items listed for the Maningrida Local Authority meeting held on 2 March 2026.

CARRIED

6 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

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

As it was a Provisional Meeting this item was deferred to the next Maningrida Local Authority Meeting.

7 DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Agenda Reference:	7.1
Title:	Invited Guest - NT Police
Author:	Debbie Branson, Governance Advisor

This item was deferred until the representative from the Northern Territory Police was available.

Agenda Reference:	7.2
Title:	Invited Guest - Apex Security Group
Author:	Violette Stehlin, Acting Executive Assistant to Mayor and CEO

This item was deferred to the next Maningrida Local Authority as the Apex Security Group's representative was unable to attend.

8 RECEIVE AND NOTE REPORTS

Agenda Reference:	8.1
Title:	Finance Report to 31 January 2026
Author:	Imran Shajib, Finance Manager

The Local Authority considered a report on Finance Report to 31 January 2026.

MAN-P4/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Chairperson Cr Jermain Namanurki
Seconded Deputy Mayor Jacqueline Phillips

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

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	8.2
Title:	Maningrida Landfill Update
Author:	Meredith Newall, Waste and Resource Coordinator

The Local Authority considered a report on Maningrida Landfill Update.

MAN-P5/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Member Sharon Hayes
Seconded Chairperson Cr Jermain Namanurki

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

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	8.3
Title:	Technical Services Maningrida Projects Report
Author:	Kylie Gregson, Manager Technical Services

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

MAN-P6/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Mayor James Woods
Seconded Deputy Mayor Jacqueline Phillips

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

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 11:03am and reconvened at 12:15pm with the absence of Mayor James Woods.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Item 9.4 – Cultural Training was brought forward.

Agenda Reference:	9.4
Title:	Cultural Training
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

The Local Authority considered a report on Cultural Training.

Member Marlene Kernan joined the meeting at 12:58pm.

MAN-P7/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Chairperson Cr Jermaine Namanurki

Seconded Member Sharon Hayes

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 which include:
 - Map showing boundaries where women and men are allowed to go
 - Appropriate attire in community
 - Women to wear skirts below the knees
 - Appropriate response when invited to learn on Country
 - Requesting in-person cultural training provided by First Nations person from West Arnhem region
 - Cultural training workshop to be provided for all staff including First Nations person born outside the West Arnhem region
 - List of Northern Land Council permits for recreational activities
 - Seeking permission to go on Country
 - Consultation with the main language groups
 - Appropriate response when asked for goods/money etc.
 - Understanding totems
 - Permission to use/remove art

CARRIED

Order of Business

Item 8.8 – was bought forward.

Agenda Reference:	8.8
Title:	Draft 2026/27 Local Authority Budget and Long-Term Financial Plan
Author:	Jocelyn Nathanael-Walters, Director Corporate Services

The Local Authority considered a report on Draft 2026/27 Local Authority Budget and Long-Term Financial Plan.

MAN-P8/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Member Sharon Hayes
Seconded Member Garth Doolan

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

CARRIED

7 DEPUTATION AND PRESENTATIONS

Agenda Reference:	7.1
Title:	Invited Guest - NT Police
Author:	Debbie Branson, Governance Advisor

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

Sergeant Tim Gillahan joined the meeting at 1:35pm.

Mayor Woods joined the meeting at 1:40pm.

Sergeant Tim Gillahan left the meeting at 1:41pm.

MAN-P9/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Jermain Namanurki
Seconded Deputy Mayor Jacqueline Phillips

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

CARRIED

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Item 9.2 – Proposed Chilled Water bubbler – Basketball Court – Maningrida was brought forward.

Agenda Reference:	9.2
Title:	Proposed Chilled Water bubbler - Basketball Court - Maningrida
Author:	Clem Beard, Project Manager

The Local Authority considered a report on Proposed Chilled Water bubbler - Basketball Court - Maningrida.

MAN-P10/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Member Garth Doolan

Seconded Chairperson Cr Jermaine Namanurki

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *Proposed Chilled Water bubbler - Basketball Court - Maningrida*;
2. Approves the allocation of up to \$20,000 for the supply and installation of Chilled Water Fountain from the Maningrida Local Authority; and
3. Explores more options for water fountain utilising filling of water bottles and healthier drinking options.

CARRIED

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Item 9.3 – Fabrication Variation – Height of Airport Shelter – Cultural Entrance / Exit was brought forward.

Agenda Reference:	9.3
Title:	Fabrication Variation - Height of Airport Shelter - Cultural Entrance/Exit
Author:	Clem Beard, Project Manager

The Local Authority considered a report on Fabrication Variation - Height of Airport Shelter - Cultural Entrance/Exit.

MAN-P11/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Member Sharon Hayes

Seconded Deputy Mayor Jacqueline Phillips

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *Fabrication Variation - Height of Airport Shelter - Cultural Entrance/Exit*; and
2. Approves the variation of works and repurposing of surplus funds of \$37,235.00.

CARRIED

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Item 9.5 – Community Benefit Fund was bought forward.

Agenda Reference:	9.5
Title:	Community Benefit Fund
Author:	Clem Beard, Project Manager

The Local Authority considered a report on Community Benefit Fund.

MAN-P12/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Mayor James Woods

Seconded Chairperson Cr Jermaine Namanurki

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 as follows:
 - Resurface oval in front of the Maningrida Progress Association office.

CARRIED

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Item 8.7 – Maningrida Local Authority Membership was bought forward.

Agenda Reference:	8.7
Title:	Maningrida Local Authority Membership
Author:	Debbie Branson, Governance Advisor

The Local Authority considered a report on Maningrida Local Authority Membership.

MAN-P14/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Chairperson Jermaine Namanurki

Seconded Member Sharon Hayes

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY receives and notes the report titled *Maningrida Local Authority Membership*.

CARRIED

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Item 9.6 – Manayinkarirra Cemetery Works was brought forward.

Agenda Reference:	9.6
Title:	Manayinkarirra Cemetery Works
Author:	Meredith Newall, Waste and Resource Coordinator

The Local Authority considered a report on Manayinkarirra Cemetery Works.

MAN-P15/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Chairperson Cr Jermaine Namanurki

Seconded Member Sharon Hayes

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *Manayinkarirra Cemetery Works*;
2. Prioritises and approves additional works as per available funding;
3. Suggested works prioritised as follows:
 - Signage (image of dilly bag to be removed)
 - Seating (1-meter length with no back and 2-meter length with back)
 - Lighting;
4. Suggests landscaping/plants are provided from the nursery in Maningrida;
5. Conducts consultation with Dhukurrdji and Language Clan Leaders to be organised to discuss the future use of the cemetery; and
6. Requests that water connection works and shelter construction not to be done until after the consultation with Dhukurrdji and Language Clan Leaders.

CARRIED

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Item 10.1 – Local Authority Member Questions with or without notice was brought forward.

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.

MAN-P16/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Chairperson Cr Jermaine Namanurki

Seconded Member Sharon Hayes

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

- Maningrida Change Rooms Plaque – Named *Manbiyiya Oval Changerooms* officially opened on 14 November 2025 to be discussed at the consultation with Dhukurrdji and Language Clan Leaders; and
- Wheelie bins to be placed in public areas.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	8.4
Title:	CSM Operations Report on Current Council Services
Author:	Scott Page, Council Services Manager, Maningrida

This item was deferred to the next Maningrida Local Authority meeting.

Agenda Reference:	8.5
Title:	Human Resources Report up to 13 February 2026
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

This item was deferred to the next Maningrida Local Authority meeting.

Agenda Reference:	8.6
Title:	2024-2025 Annual Report
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

This item was deferred to the next Maningrida Local Authority meeting.

9 ACTION REPORTS

Agenda Reference:	9.1
Title:	Review of Action Items
Author:	Debbie Branson, Governance Advisor

This item was deferred to the next Maningrida Local Authority meeting.

11 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled to take place on Monday 11 May 2026.

12 MEETING DECLARED CLOSED

Chairperson Cr Jermaine Namanurki declared the meeting closed at 2:56pm.

This page and the preceding pages are the minutes of the Maningrida Local Authority held on Monday 2 March 2026.

Click [here](#) to view the agenda for the Maningrida Local Authority held on Monday 2 March 2026.

UNCONFIRMED



Minutes of the West Arnhem Regional Council Gunbalanya Local Authority
Tuesday, 3 March 2026 at 10:00 am
Council Chambers

1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY AND OPENING OF MEETING

Mayor James Woods declared the meeting open at 10:03am, welcomed all in attendance and Member Evonne Gumurdul did a Welcome to Country and Member Kerry Manakgu did an Acknowledgement of Country.

2 PERSONS PRESENT

APPOINTED MEMBERS PRESENT

Chairperson	Andy Garnarradj
Member	Evonne Gumurdul
Member	Kenneth Mangiru
Member	Maxwell Garnarradj
Member	Ishmael Wurramara
Member	Kerry Manakgu
Member	Tamar Nawirridj

ELECTED MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor	James Woods
Deputy Mayor	Jacqueline Phillips
Councillor	Henry Yates
Councillor	Ralph McCoy (via Teams)
Councillor	Daniel Siebert

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Chief Executive Officer	Katharine Murray
Director Corporate Services	Jocelyn Nathanael-Walters
Acting Director Community and Council Services	Rick Mitchell
Director Technical Services	Grant McKenzie
Project Manager	Clem Beard
Finance Manager	Imram Shajib (via teams)
Council Services Manager	Vicki McCoy

Governance Advisor	Debbie Branson	
Executive Assistant	Violette Stehlin	
Finance Officer	Prabesh Basnet	
Waste and Resource Coordinator	Meredith Newall (via Teams)	
GUESTS		
NT Police	Constable Adam McMahon	
NT Emergency Services	Rachel Manbawan	
Red Lily Health Clinic	Michelle Smith	
Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development, Jabiru Project	Claire Joyce	Claire Joyce

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Item 8.1 – Invited Guest – NT Police was brought forward.

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

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

Constable Adam McMahon representing the Northern Territory Police and Rachel Manbawan representing the Northern Territory Emergency Services joined the meeting at 10:10am and left the meeting at 10:28am.

GUN1/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Member Andy Garnarradj
Seconded Member Evonne Gumurdul

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

CARRIED

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.

GUN2/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Cr Ralph McCoy
Seconded Member Andy Garnarradj

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Notes the apology received from Member Connie Nayinggul
2. Determines Member Connie Nayinggul is absent with the permission of the Authority.

CARRIED

4 ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON

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

The Local Authority considered a report on Election of Gunbalanya Local Authority Chairperson.

Member Andy Garnarradj was nominated as Chairperson by majority members.

GUN3/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Member Evonne Gumurdul
Seconded Member Tamar Nawirridj

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

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

CARRIED

5 ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

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

The Local Authority considered a report on Acceptance of Agenda.

GUN4/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Member Kerry Manakgu
Seconded Member Ishmael Wurraramara

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

CARRIED

6 DECLARATION OF INTEREST OF MEMBERS OR STAFF

Agenda Reference:	6.1
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.

GUN5/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Daniel Siebert
Seconded Member Evonne Gumurdul

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY acknowledges there were no declarations of interest relating to the items listed for the Gunbalanya Local Authority meeting held on 3 March 2026.

CARRIED

7 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Agenda Reference:	7.1
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.

GUN6/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Member Kerry Manakgu
Seconded Member Kenneth Mangiru

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Requests staff to investigate lease ownership over the land of the Gunbalanya Airport; and
2. Invites the Chairman of the Northern Land Council to the next Gunbalanya Local Authority meeting to discuss the upgrades of the airport shelter and airport toilets.

CARRIED

GUN7/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Chairperson Member Andy Garnarradj
Seconded Member Kenneth Mangiru

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 and that Resolution No. 2 – GAR50/2025, be rescinded as follows:

GAR50/2025 RESOLVED:

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

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

Meeting adjourned 11:06am and reconvened at 11:34am.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Item 9.1 – Incoming and Outgoing Correspondence was brought forward.

9 RECEIVE AND NOTE REPORTS

Agenda Reference:	9.1
Title:	Incoming and Outgoing Correspondence
Author:	Debbie Branson, Governance Advisor

The Local Authority considered a report on Incoming and Outgoing Correspondence.

GUN8/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Chairperson Member Andy Garnarradj

Seconded Member Kenneth Mangiru

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Receives and notes the attached items of incoming and outgoing correspondence;
2. Requests, in regards to the Emmanuel Church Kunbarlanja correspondence, the following items as a long-term plan for the site:
 - New fence
 - Lights
 - Roof iron sheets replaced
 - Toilets repaired
 - Water supplied
 - Power connected and installation of power points
 - Big screen television installed
 - Children's playground
 - Sandpit
 - Firepit
 - Laundry facilities
 - Supervision on site

CARRIED

8 DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

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

The Local Authority considered a report on Presentations and Visitors - Red Lily Health Clinic Update.

Michele Smith representing Red Lily Health Clinic joined the meeting at 11:47am and left the meeting at 12:02pm.

GUN9/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Member Tamar Nawirridj
Seconded Member Kenneth Mangiru

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

CARRIED

Order of Business
Item 9.1 – Incoming and Outgoing Correspondence continued.

Agenda Reference:	9.1
Title:	Incoming and Outgoing Correspondence
Author:	Debbie Branson, Governance Advisor

The Local Authority considered a report on Incoming and Outgoing Correspondence.

GUN10/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Chairperson Member Andy Garnarradj
Seconded Member Kerry Manakgu

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Accepts the offer from the National Library of Australia, to share the information in relation to the Papers of Sue Kesteven; and
2. Requests that the items are distributed to the family members.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	9.2
Title:	Finance Report to 31 January 2026
Author:	Imran Shajib, Finance Manager

The Local Authority considered a report on Finance Report 31 January 2026.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:03pm and reconvened at 1:47pm with the absence of Mayor James Woods, Member Kerry Manakgu, Member Evonne Gumurdul and Member Tamar Nawirridj.

Mayor James Woods, Member Kerry Manakgu, Member Evonne Gumurdul and Member Tamar Nawirridj joined the meeting at 2:00pm.

GUN11/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Chairperson Member Andy Garnarradj
Seconded Cr Henry Yates

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *Finance Report to January 2026*; and
2. Requests that the Active Regional and Remote Communities Program and Support at Home Program be discussed in detail in the next Gunbalanya Local Authority Meeting.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	9.3
Title:	Technical Services Gunbalanya Projects Report
Author:	Kylie Gregson, Manager Technical Services

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

GUN12/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Chairperson Member Andy Garnarradj
Seconded Member Tamar Nawirridj

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

CARRIED

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

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

GUN13/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Member Evonne Gumurdul
Seconded Member Kenneth Mangiru

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

CARRIED

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

The Local Authority considered a report on Human Resources Report up to 13 February 2026.

GUN14/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Member Kenneth Mangiru
Seconded Chairperson Member Andy Garnarradj

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

CARRIED

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

The Local Authority considered a report on 2024-2025 Annual Report.

GUN15/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Member Tamar Nawirridj
Seconded Member Ishmael Wurraramara

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

CARRIED

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

The Local Authority considered a report on Gunbalanya Landfill Update.

Cr Henry Yates and Cr Daniel Siebert left the meeting at 2:45pm.

GUN16/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Member Kerry Manakgu
Seconded Member Kenneth Mangiru

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

CARRIED

Cr Henry Yates and Cr Daniel Siebert returned to the meeting at 2:48pm.

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

The Local Authority considered a report on Draft 2026/27 Local Authority Budget and Long-Term Financial Plan.

GUN17/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Member Evonne Gumurdul
Seconded Member Maxwell Garnarradj

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

CARRIED

10 ACTION REPORTS

Agenda Reference:	10.1
Title:	Review of Action Items
Author:	Debbie Branson, Governance Advisor

This item was deferred to the next Local Authority Meeting.

Agenda Reference:	10.2
Title:	Cultural Training
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

This item was deferred to the next Local Authority Meeting.

Agenda Reference:	10.3
Title:	Gunbalanya Community Flag Poles
Author:	Clem Beard, Project Manager

The Local Authority considered a report on Gunbalanya Community Flag Poles.

GUN18/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Ralph McCoy
Seconded Chairperson Member Andy Garnarradj

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *Gunbalanya Community Flag Poles*; and
2. Approves the costs of the installing four new Community Flag Poles in Gunbalanya from Local Authority Funding at an estimated cost of \$13,640.00.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	10.4
Title:	Community Benefit Fund
Author:	Clem Beard, Project Manager

This item was deferred to the next Local Authority Meeting.

11 LOCAL AUTHORITY MEMBER QUESTIONS WITH OR WITHOUT NOTICE

Agenda Reference:	11.1
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.

GUN20/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Henry Yates
Seconded Member Tamar Nawirridj

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

- Invite Power and Water to the next Gunbalanya Local Authority meeting regarding the water quality in Gunbalanya.
- Relocation of Centrelink Office to be discussed at the next Gunbalanya Local Authority meeting.
- Upgrade the stainless steel toilets at the Gunbalanya office.

CARRIED

12 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled to take place on Monday, 11 May 2026.

13 MEETING DECLARED CLOSED

Chairperson Andy Garnarradji declared the meeting closed at 3:14pm.

This page and the preceding pages are the minutes of the Gunbalanya Local Authority held on Tuesday 3 March 2026.

Click [here](#) to view the agenda for the Gunbalanya Local Authority held on Tuesday 3 March 2026.



Minutes of the West Arnhem Regional Council Warruwi Local Authority
PROVISIONAL MEETING
Wednesday, 4 March 2026 at 10:00 am
Council Chambers

1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY AND OPENING OF MEETING

Mayor James Woods declared the meeting open at 10:01am, welcomed all in attendance and did an Acknowledgement of Country.

2 PERSONS PRESENT

APPOINTED MEMBERS PRESENT

Chairperson	Renfred Manmurulu
Member	Jamie Milpurr
Member	Misman Kris
Member	Richard Nawirr

ELECTED MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor	James Woods
Deputy Mayor	Jacqueline Phillips

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Chief Executive Officer	Katharine Murray
Director Corporate Services	Jocelyn Nathanael-Walters
Director Technical Services	Grant McKenzie
Acting Director Community and Council Services	Rick Mitchell
Project Manager	Clem Beard
Council Services Manager	Debbie Gough
Governance Advisor	Debbie Branson
Executive Assistant to Mayor and CEO	Violette Stehlin
Finance Officer	Prabesh Basnet
Finance Manager	Imran Shajib (via Teams)

GUESTS

Northern Territory Police	Sergeant Tim Gillahan
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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.

WAR-P1/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Member Renfred Manmurulu
Seconded Member Richard Nawirr

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Notes the apology received from Member Ida Waiang, Member Nicholas Hunter and Member Jason Mayinaj; and
2. Determines Member Ida Waiang, Member Nicholas Hunter and Member Jason Mayinaj are absent with permission of the Authority.

CARRIED

4 ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON

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

The Local Authority considered a report on Election of Warruwi Local Authority Chairperson.

WAR-P2/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Member Richard Nawirr
Seconded Member Misman Kris

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *Election of Warruwi Local Authority Chairperson*; and
2. Elects Local Authority Member Renfred Manmurulu to the position of Warruwi Local Authority Chairperson until the next meeting.

CARRIED

Member Renfred Manmurulu assumed the chair.

5 ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

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

The Local Authority considered a report on Acceptance of Agenda.

WAR-P3/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Chairperson Member Renfred Manmurulu
Seconded Member Misman Kris

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY accepts the agenda papers as circulated for the Warruwi Local Authority meeting held on 14 October 2025.

CARRIED

6 DECLARATION OF INTEREST OF MEMBERS OR STAFF

Agenda Reference:	6.1
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.

WAR-P4/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Member Misman Kris
Seconded Chairperson Member Renfred Manmurulu

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY acknowledges there was no declarations of interest relating to the items listed for the Warruwi Local Authority meeting held on 4 March 2026.

CARRIED

7 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

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

As it was a Provisional Meeting this item was deferred to the next Maningrida Local Authority Meeting.

8 DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Items 8.1 was deferred until the representatives were available.

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

This item was deferred to the next Local Authority meeting as the representatives did not attend.

9 RECEIVE AND NOTE REPORTS

Agenda Reference:	9.1
Title:	Finance Report to 31 January 2026
Author:	Imran Shajib, Finance Manager

The Local Authority considered a report on Finance Report to 31 January 2026.

WAR8-P5/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Member Richard Nawirr

Seconded Chairperson Member Renfred Manmurulu

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *Finance Report to August 2025*;
2. Receives and notes the Warruwi Local Authority Certification of the 2024-25 Local Authority Project Funding; and
3. Requests a staff member be invited to discuss Support at Home Program in detail at the next Warruwi Local Authority meeting.

CARRIED

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

The Local Authority considered a report on Incoming and Outgoing Correspondence.

WAR-P6/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Member Misman Kris

Seconded Member Jamie Milpurr

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

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	9.3
Title:	CSM Operations Report on Current Council Services
Author:	Debbie Gough, Council Services Manager, Warruwi

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

WAR-P7/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Chairperson Member Renfred Manmurulu
Seconded Member Jamie Milpurr

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

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	9.4
Title:	Report on the Detection of Burial Sites Warruwi
Author:	Clem Beard, Project Manager

The Local Authority considered a report on Report on the Detection of Burial Sites Warruwi.

WAR-P8/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Chairperson Member Renfred Manmurulu
Seconded Member Richard Nawirr

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *Report on the Detection of Burial Sites Warruwi*; and
2. Requests that the Northern Land Council and Territory Housing is provided a copy of the survey documents.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	9.5
Title:	Human Resources Report up to 13 February 2026
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

The Local Authority considered a report on Human Resources Report up to 13 February 2026.

WAR-P9/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Member Mismam Kris
Seconded Chairperson Member Renfred Manmurulu

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

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	9.6
Title:	Warruwi Culture Camp
Author:	Rick Mitchell, Acting Director Council and Community Services

The Local Authority considered a report on Warruwi Culture Camp.

WAR-P10/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Chairperson Member Renfred Manmurulu
Seconded Member Richard Nawirr

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *Warruwi Culture Camp*; and
2. Approves the allocation of \$10,000 from the Local Authority Funding for the 2026 Warruwi Cultural Camp.

CARRIED

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

The Local Authority considered a report on 2024-2025 Annual Report.

WAR-P11/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Chairperson Member Renfred Manmurulu
Seconded Member Misman Kris

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *2024-2025 Annual Report*; and
2. Requests copies of images taken at the 2023 Leadership Summit be circulated.

CARRIED

The meeting was adjourned at 11:23am and reconvened 11:51am.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Item 8.1 – Invited Guest – NT Police was brought forward.

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

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

Sergeant Tim Gillahan joined the meeting at 11:51am and left the meeting at 12:05pm.

WAR-P12/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Member Jamie Milpurr

Seconded Chairperson Member Renfred Manmurulu

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

CARRIED

10 ACTION REPORTS

Agenda Reference:	10.1
Title:	Review of Action Items
Author:	Debbie Branson, Governance Advisor

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

WAR-P13/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Chairperson Member Renfred Manmurulu

Seconded Member Jamie Milpurr

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.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	10.2
Title:	Whole of Town Subdivision Application - Warruwi
Author:	Clem Beard, Project Manager

The Local Authority considered a report on Whole of Town Subdivision Application - Warruwi.

WAR-P13/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Member Richard Nawirr

Seconded Chairperson Member Renfred Manmurulu

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *Whole of Town Subdivision Application - Warruwi*; and
2. Approves the proposed boundaries for West Arnhem Regional Council listed town lots.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	10.3
Title:	Cultural Training
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

The Local Authority considered a report on Cultural Training.

WAR-P14/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Chairperson Member Renfred Manmurulu

Seconded Member Mismán Kris

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *Cultural Awareness Training*; and
2. Provides recommendations on cultural training that best meet the needs of the community, staff, contractors and visitors as follows:
 - Appropriate attire in Community
 - Face-to-face training to be provided
 - Provide two weeks' notice
 - Council Services Manager to provide maps
 - Maps to show boundaries
 - Council Office to be closed all day until advised otherwise by a Traditional Owner
 - Yarn circle on Country
 - First Nations person from Warruwi to lead training
 - Training to be provided to men and women separately
 - Seek permission from Traditional Owners to gain access.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	10.4
Title:	Warruwi Community Flag Poles
Author:	Clem Beard, Project Manager

The Local Authority considered a report on Warruwi Community Flag Poles.

WAR-P15/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Chairperson Renfred Manmurulu
Seconded Member Mismán Kris

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *Warruwi Community Flag Poles*; and
2. Approves the costs of the installing two additional Community Flag Poles in Warruwi from Local Authority Funding at an estimated cost of \$6,490.00.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	10.5
Title:	Community Benefit Fund
Author:	Clem Beard, Project Manager

The Local Authority considered a report on Community Benefit Fund.

WAR-P16/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Chairperson Member Renfred Manmurulu
Seconded Member Richard Nawirr

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. List of proposed projects as follows:
 - Shade front of office (seaside)

CARRIED

11 LOCAL AUTHORITY MEMBER QUESTIONS WITH OR WITHOUT NOTICE

Agenda Reference:	11.1
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.

WAR-P17/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Member Misman Kris
Seconded Member Jamie Milpurr

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY recorded for action the following questions from Members.
Requesting use of a grader to grade road that leads out to the bores.

CARRIED

12 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled to take place on Tuesday, 12 May 2026.

13 MEETING DECLARED CLOSED

Chairperson Member Renfred Manmurulu declared the meeting closed at 1:30pm.

This page and the preceding pages are the minutes of the Warruwi Local Authority held on Wednesday 4 March 2026.

Click [here](#) to view the agenda for the Warruwi Local Authority held on Wednesday 4 March 2026.



Minutes of the West Arnhem Regional Council Minjilang Local Authority
PROVISIONAL MEETING
Thursday, 5 March 2026 at 10:00am
Council Chambers

1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY AND OPENING OF MEETING

Mayor James Woods declared the meeting open at 10:33am, welcomed all in attendance and did an Acknowledgement of Country.

2 PERSONS PRESENT

APPOINTED MEMBERS PRESENT

Member	Shane Wauchope
Member	Charles Yirrawala
Member	Josephine Cooper
Member	Lachlan Nabegeyo

ELECTED MEMBER PRESENT

Mayor	James Woods
Deputy Mayor	Jacqueline Phillips
Councillor	Steven Nabalamarada

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Chief Executive Officer	Katharine Murray
Director Corporate Services	Jocelyn Nathanael-Walters
Acting Director Community and Council Services	Rick Mitchell
Director Technical Services	Grant McKenzie
Project Manager	Clem Beard
Council Services Manager	Damian Sandilands
Governance Advisor	Debbie Branson
Executive Assistant	Violette Stehlin
Finance Officer	Prabesh Basnet
Finance Manager	Imran Shajib (via Teams)
Manager Technical Services	Kylie Gregson (via Teams)
Waste and Resources Coordinator	Meredith Newall (via Teams)

GUESTS PRESENT

Northern Territory Police

Senior Sergeant Glenn Leafe

Northern Territory Police

Acting Sergeant Keshia Clarke

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.

MIN-P1/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Member Charles Yirrawala

Seconded Member Shane Wauchope

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Notes the apology received from Member Matthew Nagarbin and Member Clint Wauchope;
2. Notes the late arrival of Cr Steven Nabalmarda and Member Lachlan Nabegeyo; and
3. Determines Member Matthew Nagarbin and Member Clint Wauchope are absent with permission of the Authority.

CARRIED

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

The Local Authority considered a report on Election of Minjilang Local Authority Chairperson.

MIN-P2/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Member Josephine Cooper

Seconded Member Charles Yirrawala

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *Election of Minjilang Local Authority Chairperson*; and
2. Elects Mayor James Woods as the Chairperson for the Minjilang Local Authority meeting and that the Election of the Chairperson be deferred to the next meeting.

CARRIED

5 ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

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

The Local Authority considered a report on Acceptance of Agenda.

MIN-P3/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Member Shane Wauchope
Seconded Member Josephine Cooper

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY accepts the agenda papers as circulated for the Minjilang Local Authority meeting held on 5 March 2026.

CARRIED

6 DECLARATION OF INTEREST OF MEMBERS OR STAFF

Agenda Reference:	6.1
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.

MIN-P4/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Member Charles Yirrawala
Seconded Member Shane Wauchope

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY acknowledges no declarations of interest relating to the items listed for the Minjilang Local Authority meeting held on 5 March 2026.

CARRIED

7 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

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

As it was a Provisional Meeting this item was deferred to the next Minjilang Local Authority Meeting.

8 DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Agenda Reference:	8.1
Title:	Presentations and Visitors - Menzies School of Health Research
Author:	Debbie Branson, Governance Advisor

This item was withdrawn.

Item 8.2 – Invited Guest – NT Police was deferred until the representatives were available.

Agenda Reference:	8.3
Title:	Presentations and Visitors - Red Lily Health Clinic Update
Author:	Debbie Branson, Governance Advisor

This item was deferred to the next meeting as the guest speaker did not attend.

9 RECEIVE AND NOTE REPORTS

Agenda Reference:	9.1
Title:	Minjilang Local Authority Membership
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

The Local Authority considered a report on Minjilang Local Authority Membership.

Former Community Member, Josephine Cooper was in attendance and it was agreed that Josephine be recommended to Council to fill the vacancy on the Minjilang Local Authority.

Member Lachlan Nabegeyo joined the meeting at 10:53am.

MIN-P5/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Member Charles Yirrawala
Seconded Member Shane Wauchope

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY receives and notes the report titled *Minjilang Local Authority Membership*.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	9.2
Title:	Finance Report to 31 January 2026
Author:	Imran Shajib, Finance Manager

The Local Authority considered a report on Finance Report to 31 January 2026.

MIN-P6/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Member Lachlan Nabegeyo
Seconded Member Charles Yirrawala

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *Finance Report to August 2025*;
2. Receives and notes the Minjilang Local Authority Certification of the 2024-25 Local Authority Project Funding; and
3. Requests that a staff member provide more information regarding the Home Care Services at the next Minjilang Local Authority meeting.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	9.3
Title:	Technical Services Minjilang Projects Report
Author:	Kylie Gregson, Manager Technical Services

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

MIN-P7/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Member Charles Yirrawala
Seconded Member Shane Wauchope

THAT LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *Technical Services Minjilang Projects Report*; and
2. Agrees to continue with the application on the lease of Lot 175 Town of Minjilang for future development.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	9.4
Title:	CSM Operations Report on Current Council Services
Author:	Damian Sandilands, Minjilang Council Services Manager

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

MIN-P8/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Member Charles Yirrawala
Seconded Member Josephine Cooper

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

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	9.5
Title:	Human Resources Report up to 13 February 2026
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

The Local Authority considered a report on Human Resources Report up to 13 February 2026.

MIN-P9/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Member Lachlan Nabegeyo
Seconded Member Shane Wauchope

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY receives and notes the report titled *Human Resources Report up to 30 September 2025*.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	9.6
Title:	2024-2025 Annual Report
Author:	Debbie Branson, Governance Advisor

The Local Authority considered a report on 2024-2025 Annual Report.

MIN-P10/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Member Charles Yirrawala
Seconded Member Shane Wauchope

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

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	9.7
Title:	Draft 2026/27 Local Authority Budget and Long-Term Financial Plan
Author:	Jocelyn Nathanael-Walters, Director Corporate Services

The Local Authority considered a report on Draft 2026/27 Local Authority Budget and Long-Term Financial Plan.

MIN-P11/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Member Charles Yirrawala
Seconded Member Shane Wauchope

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

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 12:04pm and reconvened at 12:39pm.

Cr Steven Nabalmarda joined the meeting at 12:39pm.

10 ACTION REPORTS

Agenda Reference:	10.1
Title:	Review of Action Items
Author:	Debbie Branson, Governance Advisor

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

MIN-P12/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Member Lachlan Nabegeyo
Seconded Member Charles Yirrawala

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.

CARRIED

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Item 8.2 – Invited Guest – NT Police was brought forward.

Agenda Reference:	8.2
Title:	Invited Guest - NT Police
Author:	Debbie Branson, Governance Advisor

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

Senior Sergeant Glenn Leafe and Acting Sergeant Keshia Clarke joined the meeting at 12:42pm and left the meeting at 12:48pm.

MIN-P13/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Steven Nabalmarada
Seconded Member Shane Wauchope

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

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	10.2
Title:	Whole of Town Subdivision Application - Minjilang
Author:	Clem Beard, Project Manager

The Local Authority considered a report on Whole of Town Subdivision Application - Minjilang.

MIN-P14/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Member Shane Wauchope

Seconded Member Charles Yirrawala

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Receive and note the report titled *Whole of Town Subdivision Application - Minjilang*; and
2. Approves the proposed boundaries for West Arnhem Regional Council listed town lots.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	10.3
Title:	Cultural Training
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

The Local Authority considered a report on Cultural Training.

MIN-P15/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Member Lachlan Nabegeyo

Seconded Member Charles Yirrawala

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. Proposed recommendations as follows:
 - Seek permission from Traditional landowners when going on Country
 - Appropriate attire in Community
 - Contractors to receive cultural training
 - Men and women training to be provided separately
 - To liaise with Shane prior to coming to community for the first time
 - Shane with a female Traditional Owner will hold the cultural training on country
 - All female staff will proceed out with a female Traditional Owner for training and males with a male Traditional Owner.
 - LA was of the view that they already have a good system in place for cultural training and they induct all staff who work for WARC at the Minjilang office already
 - Training is to be provided for those staff who visit regularly.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	10.4
Title:	Minjilang Community Flag Poles
Author:	Clem Beard, Project Manager

The Local Authority considered a report on Minjilang Community Flag Poles.

MIN-P16/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Cr Steven Nabalmarda

Seconded Member Charles Yirrawala

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *Minjilang Community Flag Poles*; and
2. Approves the repair and relocation costs of the existing Community Flag Poles on Lot 118 Minjilang from Local Authority Funding at an estimated cost of \$12,980.00.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	10.5
Title:	Minjilang Cemetery Progress Report
Author:	Meredith Newall, Waste and Resource Coordinator

The Local Authority considered a report on Minjilang Cemetery Progress Report.

MIN-P17/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Member Shane Wauchope

Seconded Cr Steven Nabalmarda

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *Minjilang Cemetery Progress Report*; and
2. Requests that the image of the dilly bag be removed from the signage.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	10.6
Title:	Public Wi-Fi Area for the Minjilang Community
Author:	Damian Sandilands, Minjilang Council Services Manager

The Local Authority considered a report on Public Wi-Fi Area for the Minjilang Community.

MIN-P18/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Cr Steven Nabalmarda

Seconded Member Charles Yirrawala

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *Public Wi-Fi Area for the Minjilang Community*;
2. Approves the cost of the supply and installation of Starlink hardware to a total cost of \$7,470.00 (exc GST) from Local Authority funding;
3. Approves the upfront twelve month subscription fee for the managed Starlink services to a total cost of \$6,110.00 (exc GST) with the understanding that a further twelve-month subscription will require approval / renewal; and
4. Recommends to Council the endorsement of the Minjilang Local Authority Funded Public WiFi Policy.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	10.7
Title:	Community Benefit Fund
Author:	Clem Beard, Project Manager

The Local Authority considered a report on Community Benefit Fund.

MIN-P19/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Member Shane Wauchope

Seconded Member Lachlan Nabegeyo

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. Proposed projects as follows:
 - Roads to the Minjilang airport and barge landing

CARRIED

11 LOCAL AUTHORITY MEMBER QUESTIONS WITH OR WITHOUT NOTICE

Agenda Reference:	11.1
Title:	Local Authority Member Questions with or without Notice
Author:	Debbie Branson, Governance Advisor

Nil.

12 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled to take place on Thursday, 14 May 2026.

13 MEETING DECLARED CLOSED

Chairperson Mayor James Woods declared the meeting closed at 1:32pm.

This page and the preceding pages are the minutes of the Minjilang Local Authority held on Thursday 5 March 2026.

Click [here](#) to view the agenda for the Minjilang Local Authority held on Thursday 5 March 2026.

UNCONFIRMED

WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 25 MARCH 2026

Agenda Reference:	6.3
Title:	Kakadu Ward Advisory Committee Minutes
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

SUMMARY

The unconfirmed minutes of the Kakadu Ward Advisory Committee meeting held on Friday, 6 March 2026 are submitted to Council for noting. Items are also recommended for Council's endorsement.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Receives and notes the minutes of Kakadu Ward Advisory Committee meeting held on Friday, 6 March 2026; and
2. Endorses the following recommendation from the Kakadu Ward Advisory Committee meeting held on Friday, 6 March 2026:

Kakadu Triathlon 2025/26

THAT THE COMMITTEE:

1. Receives, notes and accepts the late report titled Kakadu Triathlon 2025/26;
2. Requests that further sponsorship from other communities be sought;
3. Recommends to Council to continue to support this event in 2026 but to advise CareFlight and Darwin Triathlon that in future years the Council's capacity to provide this support may be reduced; and
4. Recommends to Council to support the Kakadu Triathlon 2025/26 for a financial contribution of approximately \$36,000 and provide in-kind support to cover staffing, plant, equipment and facilities to co-ordinate the 2026 event.

BACKGROUND

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

COMMENT

Nil

LEGISLATION AND POLICY

Sections 101(3) and 101(4) of the Local Government Act 2019.

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

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

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

PILLAR 6 FOUNDATIONS OF GOVERNANCE

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

Goal 6.3 Council and Local Authorities

Excellence in governance, consultation administration and representation.

ATTACHMENTS

1. 2026-03-06 Kakadu Ward Advisory Committee Minutes - Unconfirmed [6.3.1 - 10 pages]



Minutes of the West Arnhem Regional Council Kakadu Ward Advisory Committee
Friday, 6 March 2026 at 9:00 pm
Council Chambers

1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY AND OPENING OF MEETING

Chairperson Cr Mickitja Onus declared the meeting open at 9:02am, welcomed all in attendance and did an Acknowledgement of Country.

2 PERSONS PRESENT

ELECTED MEMBERS PRESENT

Chairperson	Cr Mickitja Onus
Mayor	James Woods
Deputy Mayor	Jacqueline Phillips
Councillor	Ralph F Blyth

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Chief Executive Officer	Katharine Murray
Acting Director Community and Council Services	Rick Mitchell
Director Technical Services	Grant McKenzie
Project Manager	Clem Beard
Council Services Manager	Kevin Voisey
Governance Advisor	Debbie Branson
Executive Assistant	Violette Stehlin
Manager Technical Services	Kylie Gregson (via Teams)
Waste and Resource Co-ordinator	Meredith Newall (via Teams)

GUESTS

Northern Territory Police	Acting Sergeant Keshia Clarke
Northern Territory Police	Constable Ryan Ruf
Red Lily Health Clinic	Mark DiFrancesco (via Teams)

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.

KWAC1/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Ralph F Blyth
Seconded Mayor James Woods

THAT THE COMMITTEE acknowledges all members of the Committee were present.

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.

KWAC2/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Mayor James Woods
Seconded Deputy Mayor Jacqueline Phillips

THAT THE COMMITTEE accepts the agenda papers as circulated for the Kakadu Ward Advisory Committee meeting held on 6 March 2026.

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.

KWAC3/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Chairperson Cr Mickitja Onus
Seconded Cr Ralph F Blyth

THAT THE COMMITTEE acknowledges no declarations of interest relating to the items listed for the Kakadu Ward Advisory Committee meeting held on 6 March 2026.

CARRIED

6 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Agenda Reference:	6.1
Title:	Confirmation of Kakadu Ward Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
Author:	Debbie Branson, Governance Advisor

The Local Authority considered a report on Confirmation of Kakadu Ward Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes.

KWAC4/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Mayor James Woods
Seconded Chairperson Cr Micketja Onus

THAT THE COMMITTEE confirms the minutes of the Kakadu Ward Advisory Committee held on Friday, 18 July 2025 as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	6.2
Title:	Confirmation of Special Kakadu Ward Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
Author:	Debbie Branson, Governance Advisor

The Council considered a report on Confirmation of Special Kakadu Ward Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes.

KWAC5/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Mayor James Woods
Seconded Chairperson Cr Micketja Onus

THAT THE COMMITTEE confirms the minutes of the Special Kakadu Ward Advisory Committee held on Tuesday, 10 February 2026 as a true and correct record noting Council's resolution as follows:

OCM71/2026 RESOLVED:

THAT COUNCIL:

- 1. Notes the confidential minutes of Special Kakadu Ward Advisory Committee confidential meeting held on Tuesday, 10 February 2026; and*
- 2. Requests that the item relating to Jabiru Airport be deferred until GAC provides further information.*

CARRIED

7 DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Item 7.1 – Invited Guest NT Police and Item 7.2 – Invited Guest Red Lily Health Clinic Update were deferred until the representatives were available.

8 RECEIVE AND NOTE REPORTS

Agenda Reference:	8.1
Title:	Jabiru Waste Report
Author:	Meredith Newall, Waste and Resource Coordinator

The Committee considered a report on Jabiru Waste Report.

KWAC6/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Ralph F Blyth
Seconded Mayor James Woods

THAT THE COMMITTEE:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *Jabiru Waste Report*;
2. Requests an update regarding the remediation of the green waste area; and
3. Requests that options are explored to manage wild dogs at the Jabiru landfill.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	8.2
Title:	Technical Services Jabiru Projects Report
Author:	Kylie Gregson, Manager Technical Services

The Committee considered a report on Technical Services Jabiru Projects Report.

KWAC7/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Mayor James Woods
Seconded Chairperson Cr Mickitja Onus

THAT THE COMMITTEE receives and notes the report titled *Technical Services Jabiru Projects Report*.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	8.3
Title:	CSM Operations Report on Current Council Services
Author:	Kevin Voisey, Council Services Manager, Jabiru

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

KWAC8/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Chairperson Cr Mickitja Onus
Seconded Cr Ralph F Blyth

THAT THE COMMITTEE:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *CSM Operations Report on Current Council Services*; and
2. Requests an option to euthanize wild dogs be explored.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	8.4
Title:	Human Resources Report up to 13 February 2026
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

The Committee considered a report on Human Resources Report up to 13 February 2026.

KWAC9/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Mayor James Woods
Seconded Chairperson Cr Micketja Onus

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

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	8.5
Title:	2024-2025 Annual Report
Author:	Debbie Branson, Governance Advisor

The Committee considered a report on 2024-2025 Annual Report.

KWAC12/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Ralph F Blyth
Seconded Deputy Mayor Jacqueline Phillips

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

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	8.6
Title:	Jabiru Town By-laws 2024
Author:	Rick Mitchell, Acting Director Council and Community Services

The Committee considered a report on Jabiru Town By-laws 2024.

KWAC13/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Ralph F Blyth
Seconded Chairperson Cr Micketja Onus

THAT THE COMMITTEE receives and notes the report titled *Jabiru Town By-laws 2024*.

CARRIED

9 ACTION REPORTS

Agenda Reference:	9.1
Title:	KWAC Terms of Reference - Review
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

The Committee considered a report on KWAC Terms of Reference - Review.

KWAC14/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Ralph F Blyth
Seconded Mayor James Woods

THAT THE COMMITTEE:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *KWAC Terms of Reference - Review*; and
2. Submits the reviewed Terms of Reference to Council for adoption.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	9.2
Title:	Review of Action Items
Author:	Debbie Branson, Governance Advisor

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

KWAC15/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Ralph F Blyth
Seconded Chairperson Cr Mickitja Onus

THAT THE COMMITTEE:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *Review of Action Items*; and
2. Reviews the outstanding action items and gave approval for completed items to be removed from the register.

CARRIED

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Item 9.3 – Community Benefit Fund was deferred.

Agenda Reference:	7.1
Title:	Invited Guest - NT Police
Author:	Debbie Branson, Governance Advisor

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

Acting Sergeant Keisha Clarke and Constable Ryan Ruf joined the meeting at 10:08am and left at 10:33am.

KWAC16/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Deputy Mayor Jacqueline Phillips
Seconded Cr Ralph F Blyth

THAT THE COMMITTEE notes the update on Law and Order by the NT Police.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	7.2
Title:	Presentations and Visitors - Red Lily Health Clinic Update
Author:	Debbie Branson, Governance Advisor

The Committee considered a report on Presentations and Visitors - Red Lily Health Clinic Update.

Mark DiFrancesco joined the meeting at 10:33am and left the meeting at 10:51am.

KWAC17/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Mayor James Woods
Seconded Chairperson Cr Micketja Onus

THAT THE COMMITTEE notes the presentation from Red Lily Health Clinic.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	9.3
Title:	Community Benefit Fund
Author:	Grant Mckenzie, Director Technical Services

The Committee considered a report on Community Benefit Fund.

KWAC18/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Deputy Mayor Jacqueline Phillips
Seconded Cr Ralph F Blyth

THAT THE COMMITTEE:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *Community Benefit Fund*;
2. Prioritises a list of projects from the Local Authority members for the Administration to pursue future grant applications; and
3. Advises that a proposed list of projects will be provided at the next Kakadu Ward Advisory Committee meeting.

CARRIED

West Arnhem Regional
Council

- 7 -

Kakadu Ward Advisory
Committee
Friday 6 March 2026

Agenda Reference:	9.4
Title:	Kakadu Triathlon 2025/26
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

The Committee considered a report on Kakadu Triathlon 2025/26.

KWAC19/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Mayor James Woods
Seconded Chairperson Cr Micketja Onus

THAT THE COMMITTEE:

1. Receives, notes and accepts the late report titled Kakadu Triathlon 2025/26;
2. Requests that further sponsorship from other communities be sought;
3. Recommends to Council to continue to support this event in 2026 but to advise CareFlight and Darwin Triathlon that in future years the Council's capacity to provide this support may be reduced; and
4. Recommends to Council to support the Kakadu Triathlon 2025/26 for a financial contribution of approximately \$36,000 and provide in-kind support to cover staffing, plant, equipment and facilities to co-ordinate the 2026 event.

CARRIED

Meeting adjourned at 11:18am and reconvened at 11:32am.

10 COMMITTEE MEMBER QUESTIONS WITH OR WITHOUT NOTICE

Agenda Reference:	10.1
Title:	Kakadu Ward Advisory Committee Member Questions
Author:	Debbie Branson, Governance Advisor

The Committee considered a report on Kakadu Ward Advisory Committee Member Questions.

KWAC17/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Cr Ralph F Blyth
Seconded Mayor James Woods

THAT THE COMMITTEE recorded for action the following questions from Members.

Australian Bureau of Statistics to provide a presentation on the upcoming 2026 Census at the next Ordinary Council meeting.

CARRIED

11 PROCEDURAL MOTIONS

Agenda Reference:	11.1
Title:	Closure to the Public for the Discussion of Confidential Items
Author:	Debbie Branson, Governance Advisor

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

KWAC18/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Chairperson Cr Mickitja Onus
Seconded Cr Ralph F Blyth

THAT pursuant to section 99(2) and 293(1) of the Local Government Act 2019 and section 52 of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 the meeting be closed to the public at 11:39am to consider the Confidential items of the Agenda.

CARRIED

11 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

Agenda Reference:	12.1
Title:	Confirmation of Confidential Special Kakadu Ward Advisory Committee Minutes
Author:	Debbie Branson, Governance Advisor

KWAC19/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Mayor James Woods
Seconded Chairperson Cr Mickitja Onus

THAT THE COMMITTEE confirms the confidential minutes of the Confidential Special Kakadu Ward Advisory Committee meeting held on Tuesday, 10 February 2026 as a true and correct record of the meeting.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	12.2
Title:	Review of Action Items
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

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

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

Agenda Reference:	13.1
Title:	Disclosure of Confidential Resolutions and Re-admittance of the Public
Author:	Debbie Branson, Governance Advisor

KWAC21/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Mayor James Woods
Seconded Chairperson Cr Micketja Onus

THAT THE COMMITTEE

1. Approves to disclose the selected resolutions from the confidential section of this meeting in the non-confidential meeting minutes;
 - 12.1 Confirmation of Confidential Special Kakadu Ward Advisory Committee Minutes to be moved to open; and
2. Opens the meeting to the public at 11:57am after the discussion of confidential items.

CARRIED

13 MEETING DECLARED CLOSED

Chairperson Cr Micketja Onus declared the meeting closed at 11:58am.

This page and the preceding pages are the minutes of the Kakadu Ward Advisory Committee held on Friday 6 March 2026.

[Click here to view the agenda for the Kakadu Ward Advisory Committee held on Friday 6 March 2026.](#)

14 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled to take place on Friday, 15 May 2026.

WEST ARNHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 25 MARCH 2026

Agenda Reference:	7.1
Title:	Presentations and Visitors - Apex Security Group
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with a presentation by Apex Security Group, a stakeholder of the West Arnhem Regional Council.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL notes the presentation by Apex Security Group Director, Andrew Olive.

BACKGROUND

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

Apex Security Group Director, Andrew Olive, has been invited to provide an overview of the security services their organisation can offer to support Maningrida.

COMMENT

Andrew Olive will be in attendance via Microsoft Teams on Wednesday, 25 March 2026 at 10:00am.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

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

PILLAR 1 PARTNERSHIPS, RELATIONSHIPS AND BELONGING

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

Goal 1.1 Community Engagement

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

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

WEST ARNHem REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 25 MARCH 2026

Agenda Reference:	7.2
Title:	Presentations and Visitors - Motlop Mentors
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with a presentation by Motlop Mentors, a stakeholder of the West Arnhem Regional Council.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL notes the presentation by Motlop Mentors founder, Steven Motlop.

BACKGROUND

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

Steven Motlop is the founder of Motlop Mentors and has been invited to provide an overview on the sports-based mentoring programs their organisation can provide to the Maningrida Community.

COMMENT

Steven Motlop will attend via Microsoft Teams on Wednesday, 25 March 2026 at 11:00am.

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 25 MARCH 2026

Agenda Reference:	7.3
Title:	Presentations and Visitors - Australian Bureau of Statistics
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with a presentation by the Australian Bureau of Statistics, a stakeholder of the West Arnhem Regional Council.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL notes the presentation by Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Community Engagement Manager, Geoffrey Angeles.

BACKGROUND

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

ABS Community Engagement Manager, Geoffrey Angeles has been invited to share information regarding the 2026 Census Data Collection as well as ABS's plans for this year.

COMMENT

Geoffrey Angeles will attend via Microsoft Teams on Wednesday, 25 March 2026 at 1:00pm.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

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

PILLAR 1 PARTNERSHIPS, RELATIONSHIPS AND BELONGING

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

Goal 1.1 Community Engagement

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

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 25 MARCH 2026

Agenda Reference:	8.1
Title:	Review of Action Items
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

SUMMARY

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

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL:

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 Council or questions asked by Councillors. The attached register provides the current status of the action items as provided by the administration. The administration recommends items as complete but it is for Council to determine whether the item remains active or is complete and can be removed.

COMMENT

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

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

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

PILLAR 6 FOUNDATIONS OF GOVERNANCE

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

Goal 6.3 Council and Local Authorities

Excellence in governance, consultation administration and representation.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Actions [8.1.1 - 2 pages]

Meeting Date	Item	Status	Action Required	Assignees	Action Taken
21/05/2024	Review of Action Items	Recommend Complete	AFL West Arnhem OCM157/2023 RESOLVED: Request increased advocacy for AFL in West Arnhem Region - refer to WFL in West Arnhem document. BACKGROUND Marnie Mitchell: Through a partnership with AFL NT remote development managers will help support program and development sessions for both Minjilang and Warruwi with WARC covering accommodation / travel / meal costs and AFLNT cover wages of the staff. Community leadership are working together to facilitate the community visits bimonthly. Council Services Manager continue to support AFL initiatives within their Sport and Recreation Teams. OCM109/2024 RESOLVED: Requests further information on the details including costs of Tiwi Bomber football team for AFTNT. OCM215/2024 RESOLVED A pproach West Arnhem stakeholders to support the development of a West Arnhem AFL team.	Katharine Murray	Refer to information item within the agenda.
18/06/2024	Identification services in West Arnhem	In Progress	Identification Services OCM6/2025 RESOLVED: Request Council partner with MVR to assist with certifying documents for identification services.	Rick Mitchell	MVR Director has advised MOU is still under lawyer consideration and draft is not yet available to present.
30/06/2025	Cultural Awareness Training within Community	In Progress	Cultural Training OCM157/2025 RESOLVED: Request a draft policy be prepared to be considered further at a future workshop which will include consultation with the local authorities.	Katharine Murray, Luisa Arango	Consultation taken place with Maningrida, Warruwi and Minjilang. Refer to report within the agenda.
29/10/2025	Risk Management and Audit Committee Member Update	In Progress	Risk Management and Audit Committee OCM264/2025 RESOLVED: Draft Terms of Reference to Ordinary Council Meeting January 2026 and seek suitable expressions of interest to fill the vacant independent Chairperson role.	Jocelyn Nathanael-Walters	Refer to report within the agenda.
29/10/2025	Elected Member Questions with or without Notice	In Progress	Animal Management - Communities OCM284/2025 RESOLVED Advise rangers in each community concerns in relation to managing feral animals, in particular to buffalo, wild pigs and dingos.	Rick Mitchell	Administration has reached out to rangers in respective communities: Gunbalanya - Njanjima Rangers are currently in community consultation to determine a strategy to manage the feral animals in community and have suggested a meeting with Council in January to provide update. Jabiru - KNP do not have a strategy in place for Jabiru township but are open to discuss further. Djurrubu Rangers have not been available to discuss. Warrwui - Mardbalk Sea Rangers have a Healthy Country Plan in conjunction with NLC and TOs and are monitoring animal numbers and collecting data to formulate strategy. Minjilang - Garngi Community Rangers are unable to comment as no coordinator on island. Maningrida - Have been unable to make contact with Bawinanga/Djelk Rangers. Will provide further updates when received.
20/11/2025	Confirmation of Special Council Meeting Minutes	In Progress	Council's Medium to Long Term Financial Position SCM79/2025 RESOLVED: Require the CEO to provide an updated report on Council's medium to longer term financial position, with the 2025-26 budget review, between January and April 2026.	Jocelyn Nathanael-Walters	Approximately April 2026.

20/11/2025	Elected Member Questions with or without Notice	Recommend Complete	Cyclone Shelters OCM309/2025 RESOLVED: Minjilang, Warruwi and Maningrida - priority discussions with NIAA, Closing the Gap (Priority Reform 2) and governments.	Katharine Murray	Mayor and CEO met with NIAA no funding available.
28/01/2026	Warruwi and Kakadu By-Election	In Progress	Warruwi and Kakadu By-Election OCM009/2026 RESOLVED: Determines a date for the Warruwi By-Election be set in June 2026; and Advises that Kakadu By-Election be held at the latest in April 2026.	Katharine Murray	Nominations open for Kakadu By-election 24 April 2026. Ministerial approval has been obtained hold Warruwi By-election in June.
28/01/2026	Strategic Plan - Review of Pillars	In Progress	Strategic Plan - Review of Pillars OCM010/2026 RESOLVED: Endorses the proposal by the CEO to commence consultation with the elected members, local authorities and senior management to review the strategic direction to ensure alignment with current priorities and values.	Katharine Murray	Consultation has begun with Local Authorities.
24/02/2026	Women in Small Business Summit 2026	Recommend Complete	Approves the Deputy Mayor to attend the 2026 Women in Business Summit in Sydney, Australia on Wednesday, 18 March 2026 and costs associated with travel and accommodation to a total of \$8,323.55; and Approves that funds are allocated from the Elected Members Professional Development allowance.	Katharine Murray	Event booked to capacity at time of registration.
24/02/2026	Elected Member Questions with or without Notice	Not yet started	Request Council to engage with the Department of Lands and Infrastructure in regard to the road conditions within the region including Arnhem Highway	Grant Mckenzie	Meeting with Department of Lands and Infrastrture.
24/02/2026	Elected Member Questions with or without Notice	Not yet started	Maningrida Airport - Sorry Business / Cultural Obligations - priority access - a letter be sent to the Federal Member for Aboriginal Affairs	Katharine Murray	Letter sent to Federal Member.
24/02/2026	Elected Member Questions with or without Notice	Not yet started	Spartan Parks - Playground - Tour Visit	Katharine Murray	Tour in Darwin - End of Year
24/02/2026	Elected Member Questions with or without Notice	Not yet started	Housing Concession implemented into Local Communities - investigate eligibility	Katharine Murray	Executive to work with Mayor
24/02/2026	Elected Member Questions with or without Notice	Not yet started	Engaging a Debt Collection agency as an option	Jocelyn Nathanael-Walters	Director to follow up with department
24/02/2026	Elected Member Questions with or without Notice	In Progress	Maningrida Changeroom Plaque referred to the Maningrida Local Authority.	Kylie Gregson	Discussed at the Local Authority Meeting and referred to the Dhukurrdji and Language Clan Leaders tfor consideration.

WEST ARNHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 25 MARCH 2026

Agenda Reference:	8.2
Title:	Risk Management and Audit Committee - Terms of Reference and Vacancy of Chairperson
Author:	Jocelyn Nathanael-Walters, Director Corporate Services

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is for the Council to review and consider an updated Risk Management and Audit Committee Charter and Terms of Reference and to receive an update on appointing a Chairperson to this Risk Management and Audit Committee.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *Risk Management and Audit Committee - Terms of Reference and Vacancy of Chairperson*;
2. Approves the updated Risk Management and Audit Committee Charter; and
3. Approves the updated Risk Management and Audit Committee Terms of Reference.

BACKGROUND

The Committee is required to review its Charter and Terms of Reference every two years or as deemed necessary by either the Council or the Chief Executive Officer. The current Charter and Terms of Reference were reviewed in 2021.

A review of the Risk Management and Audit Committee Charter, Terms of Reference and a proposed Annual Work Plan was included in the Risk Management and Audit Committee meeting held 27 February 2025. At that meeting the Committee, led by the Independent Chairperson Carolyn Eagle, requested significant changes be made to the proposed documents.

The appointment of the Independent Chairperson has since finished and an Expression of Interest for the position was advertised in late 2025 without success.

COMMENT

Recommend changes (a broadening) to the requirements of the Independent Members of the Risk Management and Audit Committee have been included in the proposed Terms of Reference. Those attributes are listed under the heading 3. Composition and quorum of the Committee and it is proposed that the Independent Members have at least two of the three below listed attributes:

1. Proven expertise in finance or accounting (CPA or CA ANZ qualifications); and/or
2. Possess knowledge of local government legislation; and/or
3. Have strong governance or industry risk management experience.

Once the Risk Management and Audit Committee Charter and Terms of Reference are approved, Council's executive will seek to fill the vacant Chairperson's role.

LEGISLATION AND POLICY

Local Government Act 2019

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Council is required to have an Audit Committee to assist the Council in assessing and monitoring council's finances.

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 6.4 Risk Management

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

ATTACHMENTS

1. Draft RMAC Charter Version 2026 [**8.2.1** - 1 page]
2. Draft RMAC Terms of Reference Version 2026 [**8.2.2** - 5 pages]



Risk Management and Audit Committee Charter

(Version 2026)

1. Introduction

West Arnhem Regional Council (WARC) established the Risk Management and Audit Committee (the Committee), pursuant to Part 5.3 of the *Local Government Act 2019* (the Act), as a key component of WARC's governance framework. The Committee is an advisory body formed to provide advice to the Council on ways to add value and improve the Council's operations. This Committee is to help the Council accomplish its objectives by bringing a systematic disciplined approach to evaluate and improve the effectiveness of Council's financial and corporate governance processes, and compliance with legislative and regulatory requirements.

This Charter is to be read in conjunction with the Risk Management and Audit Committee Terms of Reference.

2. Independence and Confidentiality

Members of the Committee are responsible and accountable for maintaining the confidentiality of the information they receive during the course of their work on this Committee. Committee member confidentiality is still to be maintained after the member's appointment ceases. Additionally, Committee members are responsible and accountable for disclosing and declaring all possible perceived, potential or actual conflicts of interest or threats to their independence or objectivity.

3. Scope of Committee Activities

The Committee's activities encompass all areas of Council including internal financial and operational controls, IT systems, and assets management and information management. Nevertheless, the Committee has no direct authority or responsibility for the activities it monitors. The Committee has no responsibility for developing or implementing procedures or systems, and it does not prepare records or engage in line processing functions or activities. Additionally, the work of the Committee does not in any way relieve Council staff of their responsibilities for the development,

implementation and maintenance of management control systems in their area.

4. Roles and Responsibilities

The Committee's role is to:

1. Developing, monitoring and maintaining a culture of accountability and integrity;
2. Facilitating the integration of good financial and corporate governance practices into day-to-day business activities and processes;
3. Promoting a culture of cost-consciousness, self-assessment and adherence to high ethical standards; and
4. Promoting a culture of performance and achievement of outcomes.

More specifically the roles and responsibilities of the Committee include:

1. Improving the credibility and objectivity of WARC's accountability process, including financial reporting;
2. Overseeing the effectiveness of the audit functions;
3. Ensuring the independence of the auditor; and
4. Assuring the quality of reporting of financial and non-financial information.

All Committee members are to conduct themselves in accordance with the as outlined in Schedule 1 of the Act. The following Council policies are also applicable to Committee members:

1. Code of Conduct (Council, Local Authority and Council Committee Members) Policy;
2. Breach of Code of Conduct Policy;
3. Fraud and Corruption Control Policy and Plan;
4. Improper Conduct and Whistleblowing Policy;
5. Conflict of Interest (Elected, Local Authority and Council Committee Members) Policy;
6. Gifts and Benefits Policy (Council, Local Authority and Council Committee Members) Policy; and
7. Reasonable Expenses and Benefits (Council, Local Authority and Council Committee Members) Policy.

5. Review of Charter

This Charter is to be reviewed at least once in the term of Council.



Risk Management and Audit Committee Terms of Reference

1. Role

The West Arnhem Regional Council's Risk Management and Audit Committee (the Committee) is created as an advisory committee in accordance with the provisions in the *Local Government Act 2019* (the Act) and the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021* (the Regulations). Its role is to monitor West Arnhem Regional Council's (WARC) compliance with financial and accounting regulations and standards, as well as any other matters related to the integrity of Council's internal risk controls.

2. Responsibilities

The Committee provides recommendations to Council to assist in the governance of WARC, and the exercising of due care, diligence and skill in relation to:

1. Internal Control and Risk Management;
2. Audit and Compliance Reviews;
3. External Reporting; and
4. Compliance with Accounting and Industry Standards.

More detail of these Committee responsibilities are provided in Appendix 1.

3. Composition and quorum of the Committee

The Committee is to comprise of a minimum of three (3) and not more than six (6) WARC Elected Members, and two (2) Independent Members of which one (1) is to be the Chairperson.

Independent Members are to be appointed on the basis of professional qualities and skills and are to have at least two (2) of the three (3) attributes listed below:

1. Proven expertise in finance or accounting (CPA or CA ANZ qualifications);
2. Possess knowledge of local government legislation; and/or
3. Have strong governance and/or industry risk management experience.

All appointments to the Committee including the Chairperson's appointment (which must be an Independent Member) are to be approved by Council resolution.

The Council can at any time appoint a stand-in or replacement Elected Member to act as a proxy member for a WARC elected representative member of the Committee.

If an Independent Member is unable to attend a Committee meeting they are not permitted to appoint a proxy in their absence.

A quorum at a Committee meeting is where more than half of the total number of appointed Committee Members are in attendance. To comply with **section 86(4) of the Act**, in the event the Chairperson is absent from a Committee meeting the second Independent Member is to be the Chairperson for that particular meeting.

In addition to the Committee Members, the following Council staff are expected to attend the Committee meetings:

- Chief Executive Officer (CEO)
- Director Corporate Services
- Governance Advisor

The Committee is to receive secretariat support from Council staff.

4. Committee Meetings and Reporting to Council

Meetings of the Committee may be held face-to-face or through any technological means by which members can participate in a discussion. In accordance with **regulation 104(2) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021** (the General Regulations) the notice and agenda of each meeting will be made available to Committee Members at least three (3) days before each meeting. All Committee meetings are to be open to the public however a meeting may be closed to the public while confidential business is being considered in accordance with **section 99(2) of the Act**.

The Committee Members may meet separately with the Council's auditor or compliance review officer to discuss issues of mutual interest, without attendance of Council staff (including the CEO).

To ensure that the Committee completes its activities within legislated timeframes the Council's Governance Advisor will work with the Chairperson and the CEO to prepare an annual work plan for the Committee before the start of each financial year.

The Committee should meet at least four times a year to:

1. Review the draft audited financial statements and auditors report;
2. Meet with the auditors;
3. Monitor the implementation of any audit recommendations accepted by the Council; and
4. Undertake matters that the Committee is responsible for and matters referred by Council to the Committee.

The minutes of each Committee meeting are to be prepared pursuant to **regulation 59 of the General Regulations** and be tabled at the next meeting of the Council to comply with **section 101(4) of the Act**.

5. Voting Right of Committee Members

All Committee members (Elected and Independent Members) have equal voting rights on the Committee. Any matters requiring a decision will be decided by a majority of votes of members present.

6. Term of Appointment and Termination of Committee Members

The term of membership for Elected Members will be the term of the Council, which is four (4) years. Elected members will be appointed to the Committee at the first Ordinary Council Meeting following the local government general election. Membership of an Elected Member ceases if they are no longer an elected member.

To comply with **section 86(4) of the Act** the Independent Member appointed as Chairperson must not be a WARC Elected Member or WARC staff member.

Independent Members will be appointed by Council for a maximum period of four (4) years after suitable candidates are interviewed following a public call for expressions of interest. The appointment of Independent Members are to be by Council resolution, and may be renewed or terminated by Council subject to their appointment agreements.

7. Performance and Review

The Committee will review its performance at least once in the term of the Council. The assessment may seek input from the Council, CEO, Council staff expected to attend the Committee meetings and any other relevant stakeholders as determined by the Council.

8. Remuneration of the Committee Members

WARC's Elected Members of the Committee are to be remunerated for their attendance at Committee meetings in accordance with the *Determination of Allowances for Members of Local Councils* as set from

time to time by the NT Government Remuneration Tribunal. The rate payable to Elected Members is specified annually in Council's Regional Plan and Budget.

The remuneration rate and conditions of the Independent Members are based on the C1 daily rate in the Northern Territory *Statutory Bodies Classification Structure*, and in accordance with the Council's Risk Management and Audit Committee Charter. Independent Members are to provide invoices before payments are processed.

9. Committee Access to Council Records and Resources

The Council authorises the Committee, through the Chairperson, to seek any reasonable information it requires from the CEO.

Additionally, the CEO will advise the Committee Members in the event of the following:

- Loss of significant programs;
- Material theft, following disclosure to the Council; and
- An adverse financial event.

10. Conflict of Interest

Committee Members will be asked to disclose conflicts of interest at the commencement of each meeting. Ongoing conflicts of interest need not be declared at each meeting once acknowledged. Where members or invitees at Committee meetings are deemed to have a real or perceived conflict of interest, they will be excused from Committee discussions and deliberations on the issue where a conflict of interest exists.

As per **section 110 (1) of the Act**, Elected Members of the Committee are to submit an annual return of interests within 60 days of the Elected Member's election, and no later than 30 September each year. Independent Members of the Committee are to submit an annual return of interests by 30 September each year. The submission must be in the prescribed form as outlined in **regulation 106 of the General Regulations**.

11. Review of Terms of Reference

The Committee shall review its terms of reference at least once in the term of the Council to provide assurance that it remains consistent with Council's objectives and responsibilities. The Committee shall also review its terms of reference to ensure compliance with any legislative changes.

Appendix 1: Detailed Responsibilities of the Risk Management and Audit Committee

The timelines and due dates for the following responsibilities will be outlined in the Committee's annual work plan.

1.1 Internal Control and Risk Management

- Assess the internal processes for determining and managing key risk areas, particularly:
 - i. compliance with laws, regulations, standards and best practice guidelines, including industrial relations laws;
 - ii. important judgements and accounting estimates;
 - iii. litigation and claims;
 - iv. fraud and theft; and
 - v. relevant business risks other than those that are dealt with by other specific Council committees.
- Assess Council's risk management systems and assessments and that significant or material risks are reported to the Council.
- Consider management reports on any suspected or actual fraud, theft or breaches of laws, and recommend appropriate actions.
- Assess the effectiveness of the internal control, risk management and performance management systems with management and auditors.
- Evaluate the process WARC has in place for assessing and continuously improving internal controls.
- Review compliance with internal policies, plans and procedures.
- Review the delegations of Council staff members.

1.2 Audit

- Make recommendations to Council on the appointment, remuneration and monitoring of the effectiveness and independence auditors.
- Invite the auditor to attend a Committee meeting(s) to review the audit plan, discuss audit results, consider the implications of the audit findings and otherwise discuss management and the control environment issues.
- Enquire of the auditor if there have been any significant disagreements with management irrespective of whether or not they have been resolved.
- Monitor and critique management's responsiveness to the auditor's findings and recommendations.
- Review all representation letters signed by management and ensure that the information provided is complete and appropriate.
- Provide the opportunity for the Committee Members to meet with the auditor without management personnel being present at least once a year.

1.3 External Reporting

- Consider the appropriateness of accounting policies and principles and any amendments,

ensuring that they are in accordance with the stated financial reporting framework.

- Assess significant estimates and judgements in financial reports by enquiring of management about the process used in making material estimates and judgements and then enquire of the auditor the basis for their conclusions on the reasonableness of management's estimates.
- Assess management explanations for unusual transactions or significant variances from prior year results or current year budget.
- Review management's processes for ensuring and monitoring compliance with laws, regulations and other requirements (including Australian Accounting Standards and the Local Government legislation) relating to external reporting of Council's financial and non-financial information.
- Recommend to Council whether the statutory audited financial and non-financial statements should be signed by the CEO based on the Committee's assessment of them.
- Monitor disclosures of related-party transactions.

WEST ARNHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 25 MARCH 2026

Agenda Reference:	8.3
Title:	Kakadu Ward Advisory Committee - Terms of Reference
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's endorsement of the Kakadu Ward Advisory Committee's Terms of Reference.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *Kakadu Ward Advisory Committee - Terms of Reference*; and
2. Adopts the Kakadu Ward Advisory Committee Terms of Reference as attached to the report.

BACKGROUND

Under Section 11 of the current Kakadu Ward Advisory Committee's Terms of Reference, a review is to take place with the Local Government election term to provide assurance that the Terms of Reference remain consistent with Council's objectives and responsibilities. The purpose of the review is also to ensure compliance with legislative changes.

The Terms of Reference were submitted to the Kakadu Ward Advisory Committee held on Friday, 6 March 2026 and has been submitted to Council for adoption. Noting no changes were made other than an update of staff's position titles.

LEGISLATION AND POLICY

Local Government Act NT 2019

Local Government (General) Regulations 2021

Kakadu Ward Advisory Committee Terms of Reference

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

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. 230227 TERMS OF REFERENCE - Kakadu Ward Advisory Committee [8.3.1 - 5 pages]



West Arnhem Regional Council Kakadu Ward Advisory Committee

Version 2023.0: Approved by Committee Meeting held on - Resolution KWAC...../2023

Adopted by Council on – Resolution OCM.....



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1. Role

The Kakadu Ward Advisory Committee (the Committee) is created as an advisory committee as per provisions in the *Local Government Act 2019* (the Act) and the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021* (the Regulations). The Committee is an independent advisory body formed to add value and improve Council's operations within the Kakadu Ward.

2. Responsibilities

The Committee provides recommendations to Council and the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) that encompass all areas of Kakadu Ward events and operations. The Committee will discuss and develop objectives, opportunities and activities for community and stakeholder engagement and development as well as providing feedback relevant specifically to the Kakadu Ward or WARC. Nevertheless, the Committee has no direct authority or responsibility for the activities it monitors. The Committee has no responsibility for developing or implementing procedures or systems, and it does not prepare records or engage in line processing functions or activities. Additionally, the work of the Committee does not in any way relieve Council staff of their responsibilities for the development, implementation and maintenance of management control systems in their area.

3. Composition of the Committee

The Committee will comprise of all West Arnhem Regional Council (WARC) Kakadu Ward Elected Members, The Mayor, Deputy Mayor. In addition to this, the Chairperson will be decided by appointment at the first meeting of the Kakadu Ward Advisory Committee meeting of each elected term of Council.

In addition to the Committee members, the following Council staff may attend Committee meetings:

- i. Chief Executive Officer
- ii. Chief Operating Officer
- iii. Governance and Risk Advisor
- iv. Council Services Manager
- v. Administration Officer

The Committee will receive secretariat support from Council staff.

4. Committee Meetings and Reporting to Council

A quorum at each Committee meeting will be the smallest integer greater than half of the total number of Committee members. In the Chair's absence from a meeting, the members of the Committee present at the meeting will select a Chair for that particular meeting.

Meetings of the Committee may be held face-to-face or through any technological means by which members can participate in a discussion. The notice and agenda of each meeting will be made available to Committee members at least three business days before each meeting. All Committee meetings are to be open to the public unless they are considered confidential as per provisions in section 293(1) of the Act division 2 of the Regulations.

The Committee may invite any persons to attend its meetings as it sees fit, and consult with other persons or seek any information it considers necessary to fulfil its responsibilities.

The minutes of each Committee meeting should be prepared as per requirements in regulation 59 of the Regulations. The Chair should review the minutes within 5-7 business days after receipt from the

[1]



secretariat. The secretariat is to ensure the minutes of Committee meetings are available on Council's website within 10 business days after the meeting to which they relate, to comply with section 102(2) of the Act.

The Committee Chair is to report to the Council following each Committee meeting to comply with section 101(4) of the Act. The manner of reporting may be by distribution of a copy of the minutes of the meeting supplemented by other written information if necessary, including any recommendations requiring Council action and/or approval.

5. Voting Right of Committee Members

All Committee members have equal voting rights on the Committee. Any matters requiring a decision will be decided by a majority of votes of members present. In the event of a tie, the Chair has the casting vote.

6. Term of Appointment and Termination of Committee Members

The term of membership for elected members will be the term of the Council, which is 4 years. Elected members will be appointed to the Committee at the first Ordinary Council Meeting following the local government general election. Membership of an elected member ceases if they are no longer an elected member.

7. Performance and Review

The Committee will review its performance at least once every 2 years. This review may be conducted as a self-assessment, and will be coordinated by the Chair. The assessment may seek input from the CEO, management and any other relevant stakeholders as determined by the CEO.

8. Remuneration of the Committee Members

WARC's elected members of the Committee shall be remunerated for their attendance at Committee meetings in accordance with Council's Allowances and Expenses (Elected, Local Authority and Committee Members) Policy. The rate payable is specified annually in Council's Regional Plan and Budget.

9. Committee Access to Council Records and Resources

Council authorises the Committee, through the Chair, to:

- i. Seek any information it requires from:
 - a. Any employee. All employees of the council are directed to co-operate with any request made by the committee, and
 - b. External parties;

10. Conflict of Interest

Committee members will be asked to disclose conflicts of interest at the commencement of each meeting. Ongoing conflicts of interest need not be declared at each meeting once acknowledged. Where members or invitees at Committee meetings are deemed to have a real or perceived conflict of interest, they will be excused from Committee discussions and deliberations on the issue where a conflict of interest exists.

[2]



As per section 110 (1) of the Act, elected members of the Committee should submit an annual return of interests within 60 days of the elected member's election, and no later than 30 September each year. The submission must be in the prescribed form as outlined in regulation 106 of the Regulations.

11. Review of Terms of Reference

The Committee shall review its terms of reference every year inline with the Local Government election term (four years) to provide assurance that it remains consistent with Council's objectives and responsibilities. The Committee shall also review its terms of reference to ensure compliance with any legislative changes.

[3]

WEST ARNHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 25 March 2026

Agenda Reference:	8.4
Title:	Northern Territory Young Achiever Awards
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with information regarding Mayor Woods invitation to the 2026 Northern Territory Young Achievers Awards.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *Northern Territory Young Achiever Awards*; and
2. Approves the costs associated with the dinner ticket, one way flight to Darwin from Maningrida and accommodation totalling a cost of \$1,700.00.

BACKGROUND

Mayor Woods received an invitation from the Northern Territory Young Achiever Awards to attend the 2026 Gala Northern Territory Young Achievers Awards taking place in Darwin on Friday, 10 April 2026.

Briseis Brittain of Ramingining and Maningrida is one of the 2026 finalists. She is an outstanding Indigenous para-athlete, emerging as one of Australia's most promising talents in 2025. Classified in the T38 category, Briseis is ranked world number one in the U20 200m and 400m. Represented Australia at the World Para Athletics Championships in New Delhi. A 2025 National Junior Champion, member of Darwin Athletics Club and NT Sports Academy Para Futures Program. She has overcome significant geographical and physical barriers to emerge as a strong candidate for the 2026 Commonwealth Games and 2028 Paralympic hopeful. Briseis is a powerful role model, using her platform to promote physical wellbeing and self-worth among her peers.

Travel Costs

Noting no flights available from Darwin to Maningrida 11-12 April 2026, costs include:

Flight – Maningrida to Darwin	\$754-00
Dinner Ticket	\$200-00
Accommodation	\$558-00 (3 nights accommodation)
Travel Allowance	\$165-00/day

It is proposed that the Mayor attends the LGANT Symposium in Darwin (refer to Item 8.5 within the agenda) therefore costs associated with return flights will be referenced in this report.

COMMENT

Nil.

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

Reasonable Expenses and Benefits (Council, Local Authority and Council Committee Members) Policy

Local Government Act 2019

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Funds will be sourced from the Elected Members Travel allocation in the current budget.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

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

PILLAR 6 FOUNDATIONS OF GOVERNANCE

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

Goal 6.3 Council and Local Authorities

Excellence in governance, consultation administration and representation.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 25 MARCH 2026

Agenda Reference:	8.5
Title:	Local Government Association of the NT Symposium - April 2026
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to advise Council of the representatives attending the Local Government Association of the NT (LGANT) Symposium scheduled in Darwin on 15 April 2026 and seek approval for the associated costs.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Receives and note the report titled *Local Government Association of the NT Symposium - April 2026*; and
2. Approves the costs associated with registration, accommodation and travel expenses for Mayor James Woods, Deputy Mayor Jacqueline Phillips and Chief Executive Officer, Katharine Murray to attend the Local Government Association of the NT General Meeting scheduled in Darwin on 15 April 2026 to a total cost of \$6,500.00.

BACKGROUND

LGANT hold two General Meetings in approximately April and November each year. At the first General Meeting, members approve the LGANT annual budget, membership subscriptions and strategic plan.

LGANT's 2026 Conference and General Meeting was scheduled for April 2026 in Alice Springs. LGANT has advised that the conference has been cancelled, and the General Meeting has been relocated to Darwin. The meeting will take place on Wednesday, 15 April 2026 and Thursday, 16 April 2026.

At the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 28 January 2026, Cr Henry Yates was approved by Council to attend the 2026 Conference and General Meeting in Alice Springs together with Mayor James Woods, Deputy Mayor Jacqueline Phillips and Chief Executive Officer.

As the conference was cancelled, the resolution was rescinded at the Ordinary Council Meeting on 24 February 2026.

In September 2025, Council appointed the Mayor and Deputy Mayor as West Arnhem Regional Council representatives to attend LGANT's General Meetings. Cr Ralph F Blyth was also appointed as substitute.

As per LGANT's Constitution, WARC is a Member Council with a population between 3001 – 2500 therefore are entitled to two votes. It is essential that at least two Elected Member representatives attend on behalf of Council.

Travel Costs

Registration	\$1,500-00
LGANT Dinner	\$495-00
Accommodation	\$1615-00
Flights	\$754-00
Travel Allowances	\$1933-00

LEGISLATION AND POLICY

Reasonable Expenses and Benefits (Council, Local Authority and Council Committee Members) Policy
Determination of Allowances for Members of Local Government Councils
Local Government Act 2019

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Funds will be sourced from the Elected Members Travel allocation in the current budget.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

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

PILLAR 1 PARTNERSHIPS, RELATIONSHIPS AND BELONGING

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

Goal 1.1 Community Engagement

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

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 25 MARCH 2026

Agenda Reference:	8.6
Title:	11th Global Conference of the Alliance for Healthy Cities
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to seek Council approval for Mayor James Woods to attend the 11th Global Conference of the Alliance for Healthy Cities held in Sydney, Australia.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *11th Global Conference of the Alliance for Healthy Cities*; and
2. Approves/Does not approve Mayor James Woods attendance to the 11th Global Conference of the Alliance for Healthy Cities in Sydney, Australia taking place on Tuesday, 1 September 2026 until Thursday, 3 September 2026 and costs associated with registration, travel and accommodation to a total of \$7,150.00.

BACKGROUND

The Mayor received an invitation to attend the 11th Global Conference of the Alliance for Healthy Cities hosted in Sydney, Australia. The conference will take place at the University of New South Wales, Kensington Campus (UNSW), in conjunction with the UNSW Cities Institute and Healthy Cities Australia.

This conference will bring together more than 30 Asia-Pacific Mayors, the World Health Organization (WHO) Western Pacific Regional Office, alongside regional policymakers, practitioners, academics, and urban health leaders from across the region.

The conference is grounded in the WHO Healthy Cities movement, a global social movement that calls on city leaders to place people, places, planet, participation, peace, and prosperity at the heart of urban policymaking. The main theme of the conference is 'Healthy Cities for All: Equity, Innovation and Action' with a special focus on celebrating 40 years of the 'Ottawa Charter: From Vision to Action'.

The estimated cost to Council is as per the below table:

Item	Description	Approximate Cost
Registration	Registration to attend 11 th Global Conference of the Alliance for Healthy Cities	\$600.00
Flight	Maningrida > Darwin > Sydney (return)	\$3,600.00
Accommodation	Adina Apartment Coogee & Mercure Darwin Airport Resort	\$2,000.00
Allowances	Breakfast, lunch, dinner and incidentals	\$750.00
Taxi	Accommodation to Conference Accommodation to Airport (return)	\$200.00
Total:		\$7,150.00

COMMENT

Nil

LEGISLATION AND POLICY

Reasonable Expenses and Benefits (Council, Local Authority and Council Committee Members) Policy.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Funds will be sourced from the Elected Members Travel allocation within the budget

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

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

PILLAR 1 PARTNERSHIPS, RELATIONSHIPS AND BELONGING

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

Goal 1.3 Communication

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

ATTACHMENTS

1. 11 th Global Conference of the Alliance for Healthy Cities [8.6.1 - 5 pages]

Executive Assistant

Subject: FW: 11th Global Conference of the Alliance for Healthy Cities (AFHC2026)

From: Healthy Cities Australia <socialmedia@healthycities.org.au>
Sent: Monday, 23 February 2026 3:25 PM
To: Info WestArnhem <info@westarnhem.nt.gov.au>
Subject: 11th Global Conference of the Alliance for Healthy Cities (AFHC2026)

You don't often get email from socialmedia@healthycities.org.au. [Learn why this is important](#)

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



11th Global Conference of the Alliance for Healthy Cities (AFHC2026)

February 2026

1-3 September 2026 | UNSW Sydney



1-3 September 2026 | Kensington Campus (UNSW)



Hi Mayor James Wood,

On behalf of the UNSW Cities Institute and Healthy Cities Australia, we are pleased to invite you to the **11th Global Conference of the Alliance for Healthy Cities (AFHC2026)**, to be held **1-3 September 2026 at UNSW Sydney**.

Bringing together mayors, senior policymakers, researchers and leading practitioners from across the Asia Pacific, AFHC2026 will focus on advancing evidence informed, city led action for healthier, more sustainable and equitable urban environments.

Why Your Participation Matters

1. Strengthening Australia's role in the global Healthy Cities movement

Australia is internationally recognised as one of the forerunners of the WHO Healthy Cities movement. AFHC2026 marks a pivotal moment as Healthy Cities Australia renews the national network and strengthens local government engagement. Your involvement would help position Australian cities as active contributors within a global community of more than 260 member cities across the Asia-Pacific.

2. Direct engagement with international city leaders

The previous conference drew representatives from 207 cities and 51 countries, including 59 mayors. AFHC2026 will feature:

- Mayors' Summit and Roundtables

- Peer networking with local government leaders
- Citytocity knowledge exchange and partnership opportunities

3. Tackling urgent Australian urban challenges with global best practice

The conference theme, “Healthy Cities for All: Equity, Innovation and Action,” explores five subthemes closely aligned with Australian urban priorities:

- Indigenous and traditional knowledge in planning
- Liveable highdensity development
- Governance, financing and local leadership
- Climate resilience and planetary health
- Demographic change and healthy ageing

These topics reflect the major challenges facing fastgrowing, climateimpacted and increasingly diverse Australian cities.

4. Elevating local government leadership

Local governments shape the environments that determine community health, mobility, resilience and liveability. Your participation will support:

- Development of national policy recommendations and advocacy support
- Launch of a renewed Australian Healthy Cities Network
- Signing of a Mayors’ Declaration outlining shared commitments

Program Highlights

Across three days, the program will include:

- Plenary sessions with global health and city leaders
- Technical workshops and city case studies
- Mayors’ Summit and Roundtables
- Site visits across the City of Sydney exploring innovation in planning, sustainability and health
- WHO–AFHC Healthy Cities Awards Ceremony

We Would Be Honoured to Welcome You

Your leadership is essential to shaping the future of healthy, liveable cities across Australia and the region. AFHC2026 offers an important opportunity to showcase your city's initiatives, learn from global peers, and influence national and international urban health directions.

Please visit www.healthycities2026.com - we sincerely hope you will join us for this significant event. Please feel free to reach out to me directly on kelly@healthycities.org.au; my co-host Dr Jinhee Kim jinhee.kim@unsw.edu.au

OR

For Registration and accommodation enquiries: register.afhc2026@arinexgroup.com

For Program and general enquiries: afhc2026@arinexgroup.com

Co-organised by



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WEST ARNHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 25 MARCH 2026

Agenda Reference:	8.7
Title:	Minjilang Local Authority Funded Public WiFi Policy
Author:	Rick Mitchell, Acting Director Council and Community Services

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is for Council to endorse the draft Minjilang Local Authority Funded Wifi Policy.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Receive and note the report titled *Minjilang Local Authority Funded Public WiFi Policy*; and
2. Approve the Minjilang Local Authority Funded Wifi Policy.

BACKGROUND

In July 2025 the Minjilang Local Authority approved the supply and installation of a free public wi-fi area at the rear of the Council Hall.

In March 2025 the Minjilang Local Authority made the following decision:

MIN-P18/2026 RESOLVED:

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. *Receives and notes the report titled Public Wi-Fi Area for the Minjilang Community;*
2. *Approves the cost of the supply and installation of Starlink hardware to a total cost of \$7,470.00 (exc GST) from Local Authority funding;*
3. *Approves the upfront twelve month subscription fee for the managed Starlink services to a total cost of \$6,110.00 (exc GST) with the understanding that a further twelve-month subscription will require approval / renewal; and*
4. *Recommends to Council the endorsement of the Minjilang Local Authority Funded Public WiFi Policy.*

COMMENT

Noting that the Minjilang Local Authority have recommended to Council the endorsement of the Minjilang Local Authority Funded Public Policy which highlights the access hours and restrictions on use.

Mayor Woods raised concern regarding future repairs or equipment replacements which is covered under Item 4 – IT Maintenance.

LEGISLATION AND POLICY

Local Government Act 2019

Local Government (General) Regulations 2021

Work Health and Safety (National Uniform Legislation) Act 2011

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

No financial implications relating to endorsing the 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. Draft Minjilang LA Funded Public Wi Fi Policy [**8.7.1** - 3 pages]



Policy Name	Minjilang Local Authority Funded Public WiFi
Publication Date:	
Council Decision (Reference):	
Local Authority Decision (Reference):	MIN-P18/2026
Classification:	Service Area Policy
Categorisation:	Council and Community Services
Review Frequency:	1 year
Review Date:	05/03/2027
Responsible Officer:	Director Council and Community Services
Version (Revision Number):	1.0

1. PURPOSE

This policy outlines a set of guiding principles for the operation and use of the Council's Local Authority funded public WiFi service in Minjilang.

2. SCOPE/INTENT

The intent of the Minjilang Local Authority funded public WiFi service is to provide a free internet source for community members and an alternate communication channel when the existing telecommunication service is unavailable particularly in the wet season.

3. DEFINITIONS

In the context of this policy the following definitions apply:

Council Member means an individual elected to Council, including the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillors.

Employee means all employees of Council, whether employed on a permanent, fixed term or casual basis.

Minjilang Local Authority Member means an individual appointed by the Council via a formal resolution.

4. POLICY STATEMENT

1. Location of Free WiFi

The WiFi service is to be located at Council's Minjilang office and be accessible to anyone in the vicinity of the service.

2. Access Hours

The public WiFi is to be turned off from 10pm to 6am.

These access hours maybe reviewed and changed from time-to-time by the Minjilang Local Authority.



Approved by Chief Executive Officer

Date:

Page 1 of 3



3. Restrictions on Use

Access to certain undesirable sites and applications (such as gambling, pornography and TikTok) will not be allowed in accordance with Council’s own IT Policy and practices.

The Starlink service chosen by the Minjilang Local Authority may also limit the number of users able to successfully use the WiFi service at any one time.

Any public disputes in connection with the WiFi service may result in the service being turned off for a period of time.

4. IT Maintenance

Once the WiFi equipment is installed the Council’s IT Coordinator will assume responsibility for managing the equipment with on-site assistance from the Minjilang Community Services Manager (CSM).

Any future repairs or equipment replacements for this WiFi service will not be the financial responsibility of the Council.

5. Annual Review

An annual review and funding consideration by the Minjilang Local Authority for this public WiFi should occur before the annual Starlink service agreement expires to avoid an interrupted service.

5. RESPONSIBILITIES

The Director of Council and Community Services is the Policy Custodian for this policy and is responsible for reviewing the operation of the policy (every year or more frequently as may be required), and for monitoring continuing relevance, effectiveness, and consistency with related documents and the Law.

Following approval of this policy document, the Minjilang Council Services Manager (or a nominated delegate) is also responsible for ensuring that the implementation and communication plan is implemented and that all Council employees have access to the policy.

6. RELATED DOCUMENTS

Legislation and References

- Local Government Act 2019*
- Local Government (General) Regulations 2021*
- Work Health and Safety (National Uniform Legislation) Act 2011*

Policies

- Code of Conduct (Council, Local Authority and Council Committee Members)
- Code of Conduct (Employees)
- IT Policy
- Workplace Health and Safety Policy

Procedures

Nil



Approved by Chief Executive Officer

Date:

Page 2 of 3



Instructions, tools, guidelines, forms, and templates

Nil.

DRAFT



Approved by Chief Executive Officer

Date:

Page 3 of 3

WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 25 March 2026

Agenda Reference:	8.8
Title:	Financial report for period ending 28 February 2026
Author:	Jocelyn Nathanael-Walters, Director Finance

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with the Financial Management Report for the period ended 28 February 2026 and to request the balance of the Council's Election Reserve be transferred to enable payment of the NT Electoral Commission's invoice for the 2025 local government general election.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Receives and notes the report titled Finance report for period ending 28 February 2026; and
2. Approves the transfer of \$87,989 from the Election Reserve to enable payment of the NT Electoral Commission's invoice for the 2025 local government general election.

BACKGROUND

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

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

The report must be in the approved form.

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

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

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

COMMENT

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

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

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

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

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

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

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

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

PILLAR 6 FOUNDATIONS OF GOVERNANCE

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

Goal 6.1 Financial Management

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

ATTACHMENTS

1. Monthly Financial Report- February 2026 [**8.8.1** - 18 pages]

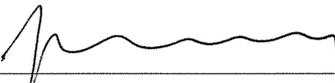
Certification by the CEO to the Council

Council Name:	West Arnhem Regional Council
Reporting Period:	February 2026

That, to the best of my knowledge, information and belief:

- (1) The internal controls implemented by the council are appropriate; and
- (2) The council's financial report best reflects the financial affairs of the council.

CEO Signed



Date Signed

13 March 2026

Note: The monthly financial report to council must either be accompanied by a written certification by the CEO to the council, as set out above, or the CEO is to provide written reasons for not providing the certification. (Regulation 17(5) of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021*)

Monthly Financial Report for February 2026

Report 1

Table 1. Income and Expenditure Statement

Expected YTD Annual Budget Completion 67%

Period ended 28 February 2026	Notes	YTD Actuals (A) \$	Commitments (B) \$	YTD Budget (C) \$	YTD Variance (A - C) \$	Approved Final Revised Budget (OCM79/2026) (E) \$	YTD Actual Compared to Approved Budget (A / E) %
OPERATING INCOME							
Rates		2,766,486	-	2,978,972	(212,486)	2,979,401	93%
Charges	1	3,002,267	-	3,156,233	(153,966)	4,028,376	75%
Fees and Charges		443,001	-	493,108	(50,107)	735,686	60%
Operating Grants and Subsidies		15,168,945	-	14,152,973	1,015,972	17,627,064	86%
Interest / Investment Income		146,157	-	109,216	36,941	160,000	91%
Commercial and Other Income	2	8,919,536	-	8,979,790	(60,254)	13,834,456	64%
TOTAL OPERATING INCOME		30,446,393	-	29,870,292	576,101	39,364,983	77%
OPERATING EXPENDITURE							
Employee Expenses		10,958,342	21,013	12,162,742	(1,204,400)	18,729,379	59%
Materials and Contracts	4	2,866,401	1,400,676	4,399,143	(1,532,742)	7,922,446	36%
Elected Member Allowances		226,440		270,892	(44,452)	402,120	56%
Elected Member Expenses		127,212		174,064	(46,852)	289,119	44%
Council Committee		-		-	-	7,000	0%
Council Committee & LA Allowances		8,328		24,930	(16,602)	36,305	23%
Council Committee & LA Expenses		11,337		20,368	(9,031)	33,858	33%
Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment		3,514,292		3,514,292	-	5,271,438	67%
Interest Expenses		-		-	-	-	-
Other Expenses	3	6,038,229	190,365	7,094,490	(1,056,261)	10,909,845	55%
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURE		23,750,581	1,612,054	27,660,921	(3,910,340)	43,601,510	54%
OPERATING SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)		6,695,812		2,209,371	4,486,441	(4,236,527)	

Period ended 28 February 2026	Notes	YTD Actuals (A) \$	Commitments (B) \$	YTD Budget (C) \$	YTD Variance (A - C) \$	Approved Final Revised Budget (OCM79/2026) (E) \$	YTD Actual Compared to Approved Budget (A / E) %
<u>Charges Income</u>							
Sewerage	1	674,230	-	561,275	112,956	750,797	90%
Water		801,376	-	991,378	(190,002)	1,674,000	48%
Waste Collection		1,526,661	-	1,603,580	(76,919)	1,603,580	95%
		3,002,267	-	3,156,233	(153,966)	4,028,376	
<u>Commercial and Other Income</u>							
Income Allocations	2	4,198,660	-	4,396,500	(197,840)	6,470,299	65%
Agency and Commercial Services Income		4,227,911	-	4,065,698	162,213	6,503,520	65%
Other Income		492,965	-	517,592	(24,627)	860,637	57%
		8,919,536	-	8,979,790	(60,254)	13,834,456	
<u>Other Expenses</u>							
Travel, Freight & Accommodation	3	563,513	120,498	766,743	(203,230)	1,282,966	44%
Fuel, Utilities & Communication		1,473,440	33,880	1,513,727	(40,287)	2,318,833	64%
Finance Expenses		6,159		7,026	(867)	10,390	59%
Other Expenses		3,995,117	35,987	4,806,995	(811,878)	7,297,656	55%
		6,038,229	190,365	7,094,490	(1,056,261)	10,909,845	

NO.	Note. 4 All Commitments	Commitments
1	Animal Control-Annual Vet Tender	304,590
2	ICT Transition- Water Charges Configaration	170,750
3	Water Management: Jabiru	142,050
4	Active Regional and Remote Communities Program	104,963
5	Jabiru Public Toilet Upgrades	87,153
6	Brockman Oval Lights - Jabiru	69,551
7	Sewerage Management	68,550
8	Corporate Financial Management	56,908
9	West Arnhem Cemetery Establishment	48,471
10	Maintain local roads	46,536
11	Jabiru Gym Upgrade	45,820
12	Waste Management	38,760
13	Manage Information Technology and Communications	30,753
14	Parks and Public Open Space - including weed control	21,684
15	WaRM - Waste and Resource Management	18,625
16	ABA - Maningrida Oval Changerooms	13,961
17	Manage Electricity and water business	13,736
18	Operate and maintain swimming pool	12,980
19	Remote Jobs for Economic Development – Job Creation	11,905
20	Food Preparation Services	11,288
21	LAP - Installation of outdoor gym equipment at the pool	10,488
22	Jabiru Roads Maintenance - National Parks	8,727
23	Community Service Delivery	8,689
24	Sports and Recreation	8,022
25	Operate post office business	7,987
26	Manage Visitor accommodation	4,493
27	Maintain plant, equipment and motor vehicles	4,218

NO.	Note. 4 All Commitments	Commitments
28	Maintain staff houses	3,804
29	Manage and maintain cemeteries	2,988
30	Manage Council Governance	2,695
31	Manage Creche	2,382
32	Install and maintain street lights	2,240
33	Aerodromes Inspection and Maintenance	1,925
34	LAP - Beautification of township - Warruei	1,799
35	Operate Long day care	1,731
36	LAP - Additional Garden Hard Structure at the Billabong	1,120
37	International Women's Day – Library Event	1,093
38	Support at Home Program	1,078
39	Human Resource Management	918
40	Maintain & construct council controlled buildings & land	882
41	National Australia Day Council - Australia Day Grant	772
42	Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP)	653
43	NDIS - National Disability Insurance Scheme	653
44	Home Care Packages Program (HCP)	522
45	Australia Day Grant	491
46	Kurrung Sports Carnival - Sport Australia	397
47	Replace Toad Hall Contents: Gunbalanya	362
48	Regional and Remote Burials Grant - MINJILNAG	325
49	NDIA - Remote Community Connector	110
50	Seven Purchase Orders <\$100	78
Total		1,400,676

Table 2. Monthly Operating Position

Expected YTD Annual Budget Completion

67%

Period ended 28 February 2026	Notes	YTD Actuals (A) \$	YTD Budget (C) \$	YTD Variance (A - C) \$	Approved Final Revised Budget (OCM79/2026) (E) \$	YTD Actual Compared to Approved Budget (A / E) %
BUDGETED OPERATING SURPLUS / (DEFICIT) (Table 1.)		6,695,812	2,209,371	4,486,441	(4,236,527)	
Remove NON-CASH ITEMS						
Less Non-Cash Income	5	(4,198,660)	(4,396,500)	197,840	(6,470,299)	65%
Add Back Non-Cash Expenses	6	7,663,110	8,061,160	(398,049)	11,741,737	65%
TOTAL NON-CASH ITEMS		3,464,451	3,664,660	(200,209)	5,271,438	
Less ADDITIONAL OUTFLOWS						
Capital Expenditure	Table 3	(4,074,241)	(4,893,161)	818,920	(6,302,413)	65%
Other Outflow	7	(1,511,000)	(1,400,000)	(111,000)	(1,400,000)	108%
Transfer to Reserves	8	(142,500)	-	(142,500)	(1,489,500)	10%
TOTAL ADDITIONAL OUTFLOWS		(5,727,741)	(6,293,161)	565,420	(9,191,913)	
Add ADDITIONAL INFLOWS						
Capital Grants Income	9	247,800	-	247,800	-	
Prior Year Carry Forward Tied Funding (Capital)	10	5,031,013	5,031,013	-	5,031,013	100%
Proceeds from Sale of Assets		108,337	-	108,337	90,000	120%
Other Inflow of Funds	11	41,425	-	41,425	1,489,500	3%
Transfer from Reserve	12	1,511,000	1,400,000	111,000	1,546,489	98%
TOTAL ADDITIONAL INFLOWS		6,939,575	6,431,013	508,562	8,157,002	
Net BUDGETED OPERATING SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)		11,372,097	6,011,883	5,360,214	-	

Period ended 28 February 2026	Notes	YTD Actuals (A) \$	YTD Budget (C) \$	YTD Variance (A - C) \$	Approved Final Revised Budget (OCM79/2026) (E) \$	YTD Actual Compared to Approved Budget (A / E) %
<u>Non-Cash Income</u>						
Income Allocations (internal movement)	5	(4,198,660)	(4,396,500)	197,840	(6,470,299)	65%
<u>Non-Cash Expenses</u>						
Expense Allocations (internal movement)	6	4,148,818	4,546,868	(398,049)	6,470,299	64%
Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment		3,514,292	3,514,292	-	5,271,438	67%
		7,663,110	8,061,160	(398,049)	11,741,737	
<u>Other Outflows</u>						
Insurance Payment 2025-26 (OCM239/2025)	7	(1,400,000)	(1,400,000)	-	(1,400,000)	
Project from Capital Reserve - Rectification Work Jabiru Sewer Pond and Irrigation System (OCM0014/2026)		(70,000)	-	(70,000)	-	
Project from Capital Reserve - Rectification Work Jabiru Town Water (OCM0014/2026)		(41,000)	-	(41,000)	-	
		(1,511,000)	(1,400,000)	(111,000)	(1,400,000)	
<u>Transfer to Reserves</u>						
Insurance 2026-27	8	-	-	-	(1,400,000)	
Capital Reserve - Water meter Replacement		(30,000)	-	(30,000)	-	
Sponsorship Reserve		(30,000)	-	(30,000)	-	
Fleet Replacements		(32,500)	-	(32,500)	-	
General Reserve		(50,000)	-	(50,000)	-	
		(142,500)	-	(142,500)	(1,400,000)	

Period ended 28 February 2026	Notes	YTD Actuals (A) \$	YTD Budget (C) \$	YTD Variance (A - C) \$	Approved Final Revised Budget (OCM79/2026) (E) \$	YTD Actual Compared to Approved Budget (A / E) %
<u>Capital Grants Income</u>						
Capital Grants - Territory Government	9	247,800	-	247,800	-	
		247,800	-	247,800	-	
<u>Prior Year Carry Forward Tied Funding</u>						
Capital Grants Income Carried Forward	10	5,031,013	5,031,013	-	5,031,013	100%
		5,031,013	5,031,013	-	5,031,013	100%
<u>Other Inflow of Funds</u>						
Capital Reserve - Decommission of Old Fuel Tank		7,237	-	7,237	-	
Kerb and Channel Airport to Workshop Road - Warruwi		4,188	-	4,188	-	
Capital Reserve - Water meter Replacement	11	30,000	-	30,000	-	
		41,425	-	41,425	-	
<u>Transfer from Reserve</u>						
Insurance Payment 2025-26 (OCM239/2025)		1,400,000	1,400,000	-	-	
Project from Capital Reserve - Rectification Work Jabiru Sewer Pond and Irrigation System (OCM0014/2026)	12	70,000	-	70,000	-	
Project from Capital Reserve - Rectification Work Jabiru Town Water (OCM0014/2026)		41,000	-	41,000	-	
		1,511,000	1,400,000	111,000	-	

Table 3. Capital Expenditure and Funding
By class of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE Period ended 28 February 2026	Notes	YTD Actuals \$	Commitments \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Variance \$	Approved Final Revised Budget (OCM79/2026) (E) \$
Infrastructure	12	3,086,302	262,099	3,580,665	(494,363)	4,350,042
Buildings		366,221	-	274,274	91,947	339,050
Vehicles	12	377,775	61,992	436,344	(58,570)	786,340
Plant	12	112,934	361,306	512,753	(399,819)	737,856
Local Authority Funded projects		131,010	-	89,125	41,885	89,126
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE		4,074,241	685,398	4,893,161	(818,920)	6,302,414
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE FUNDED BY:						
Operating Income (amount allocated to fund capital items)		473,292	82,588	1,078,105	(604,813)	1,040,401
LA Funding		131,010	-	89,125	41,885	89,125
Capital Grants		3,247,897	602,810	3,614,932	(367,034)	4,941,888
Insurance claim - Fleet		101,792	-	-	101,792	-
Capital Reserves		11,914	-	111,000	(99,087)	141,000
Proceeds from Sale of assets		108,337	-	-	108,337	90,000
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE FUNDING		4,074,241	685,398	4,893,161	(818,920)	6,302,414

No	Note. 12 Commitments for Capital Expenditures	Budget Commitments \$
1	ABA - Oval Changerooms : Maningrida	262,099
2	4WD Buses -Sports & Recreation :Gunbalanya and Maningrida	61,992
3	Maintain plant, equipment & motor vehicles : Region	82,588
4	Zero Turn Mower: Gunbalanya, Jabiru & Maningrida	97,401
5	Installation of a Fuel Tank: Minjilang	181,318
	Total	685,398

Table 4. Monthly Balance Sheet Report

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 28 February 2026	YTD Actuals \$	Notes
ASSETS		
Cash at Bank		A & A.1
Tied Funds	6,581,358	
Untied Funds	7,482,906	
Accounts Receivable		
Trade Debtors	821,675	B
Rates & Charges Debtors	796,225	C
Other Current Assets	620,036	
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	16,302,201	
Non-Current Financial Assets		
Property, Plant and Equipment	127,369,988	D
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS	127,369,988	
TOTAL ASSETS	143,672,189	
LIABILITIES		
Trade Creditors	655,156	E
ATO & Payroll Liabilities	79,265	F
Current Provisions	2,810,302	G
Accrued Expenses	417,854	
Other Current Liabilities	787,329	
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	4,749,907	
Non-Current Provisions	280,741	
Other Non-Current Liabilities	8,190,268	H
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES	8,471,008	
TOTAL LIABILITIES	13,220,915	
NET ASSETS	130,451,274	

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 28 February 2026	YTD Actuals	Notes
	\$	
EQUITY		
Asset Revaluation Reserve	59,047,626	
Capital Reserve	100,425	
Election Reserve	87,989	
Disaster Recovery Funding	100,000	
Fleet Capital Reserve	32,500	
Sponsorship Reserve	30,000	
Equity Adjustments	22,842,829	
Accumulated Surplus	48,209,905	
TOTAL EQUITY	130,451,274	

BALANCE SHEET NOTES

Note A. Details of Cash and Investments Held	\$	\$
<u>Investments Held</u>		
Operating Bank Account	123,939	
Business One - Post Office Bank Account	54,160	
Business Maxi Bank Account (Note A.1)	7,499,653	
General Trust Bank Account	130,000	
Traditional Credit Union - Shares	-	
Term Deposits (Note A.1)	6,255,000	14,062,751
<u>Cash Held</u>		
Floats	1,513	1,513
Total Cash and Investments Held		14,064,264
Less: Restricted Cash		6,581,358
Balance Unrestricted Cash		7,482,906

Note A.1 Higher Interest Earning Investments	Deposit Date	Principal \$	Interest Rate	Maturity Date	Terms
Westpac	21/03/2024	5,000	3.85%		
NAB	11/11/2025	300,000	4.20%	9/07/2026	240
NAB	28/10/2025	450,000	4.13%	28/10/2026	365
NAB	14/01/2026	500,000	4.35%	16/06/2026	153
NAB	30/12/2025	500,000	4.20%	29/04/2026	120
NAB	19/12/2025	500,000	4.25%	18/05/2026	150
NAB	19/12/2025	500,000	4.20%	20/04/2026	122
NAB	9/12/2025	500,000	4.20%	8/05/2026	150
NAB	12/11/2025	1,000,000	4.15%	13/04/2026	152
NAB	12/11/2025	1,000,000	4.20%	10/07/2026	240
NAB	11/02/2026	1,000,000	4.40%	12/05/2026	90
Business Maxi Bank Account		7,499,653	1.55%		
Total Higher Interest Earning Investments		13,754,653			

Note B. Trade Debtors	Current	Past Due 31 - 60 Days	Past Due 61 - 90 Days	Past Due 90+ Days	Total \$
NDIS Debtors	4,672	4,002	-	9,562	18,236
ChildCare Debtors	19	64	5,823	32,505	38,411
Trade Debtors	622,244	74,651	4,224	63,909	765,028
Total Trade Debtors	626,935	78,717	10,047	105,976	821,675

Note C. Rates & Charges Debtors	To be Levied in 2025/26	Current	Past Due 31 - 60 Days	Past Due 61 - 90 Days	Past Due 90+ Days	Total \$
General Rates	2,660,464	136,907			24,308	161,215
Special Rates	277,259	3,827			292	4,119
Water Charges	1,074,999	213,776			258,408	472,184
Waste Charges	2,275,347	149,953			8,754	158,707
Total Rates & Charges Debtors	6,288,069	504,463	-	-	291,762	796,225

Refer sub Note C.1

Note C.1 Rates & Chargers Debtors -Past 90+ Days Comparison	Jan-26	Feb-26	Difference
	Past Due 90+ Days	Past Due 90+ Days	
General Rates	24,308	24,308	-
Special Rates	292	292	-
Water Charges	260,007	258,408	(1,599)
Waste Charges	12,254	8,754	(3,500)
Total Rates & Charges Debtors	296,861	291,762	(5,099)

	1 July 2025 Assets & WIP	YTD WIP	YTD New Assets & Capitalising WIP	YTD Disposals	Accumulated Depreciation	YTD WDV Balance	Notes
Note D. New Physical Assets (including WIP) YTD							
Land	520,000	-	-	-	-	520,000	
Section 19 Leases	5,310,030	-	-	-	(1,116,712)	4,193,318	
Jabiru Town Sub Leases	3,837,875	-	-	-	(555,528)	3,282,347	
Buildings	31,999,050	-	-	-	(16,452,737)	15,546,313	
WIP - Buildings	154,404	366,221	-	-	-	520,625	D1
Infrastructure	108,610,743	-	-	-	(16,215,991)	92,394,751	
WIP - Infrastructure	4,467,247	3,123,693	-	-	-	7,590,941	D2
Vehicles	2,773,191	-	-	-	(2,457,159)	316,032	
WIP - Vehicles	66,729	471,393	-	-	-	538,122	D3
Furniture and Fittings	927,205	-	-	-	(763,295)	163,910	
WIP - Furniture	64,512	-	-	-	-	64,512	
Plant and Machinery	9,171,647	-	-	-	(7,045,464)	2,126,183	
WIP - Plant and Machinery	-	112,934	-	-	-	112,934	D4
Total Non- Current Assets	167,902,633	4,074,241	-	-	(44,606,886)	127,369,988	

Work-In-Progress (WIP - items not yet recorded in the Asset Register) Note:
D1 - Expenditure not yet capitalised -Includes Concrete paving works & chain mesh fence Rec Hall Warruwi \$48k; Jabiru Housing ugrade \$206k; Gunbalanya Staff Housing upgrade \$127k
D2 - Expenditure not yet capitalised - Includes Maningrida toilet extension \$1.15M; Gunbalanya Oval Lights \$1.31M; Upgrade basketball area \$33k; Minjilang & Maningrida Cemetery establishment \$269k; Jabiru Sewerage Pump and Bore 02 Submersible Pump \$78k
D3 - Expenditure not yet capitalised - Includes Hilux 4x4 \$101k; Toyota Hiace Bus \$67k; carryout 4wd to maningrida \$82k; Replacement Hilux 4x4 for Warruwi \$54k; 4WD Conversion to the Hiace Bus-Maningrida \$62k
D4 - Expenditure not yet capitalised - MAN Rubish Truck parts \$8.3k; Installation of a Fuel Tank: Minjilang \$101k

Note E. Trade Creditors	Current	Past Due 31 - 60 Days	Past Due 61 - 90 Days	Past Due 90+ Days	Total \$
Trade Creditors	490,154	81,792	31,602	51,608	655,156
				<i>Refer sub Note E.1</i>	

Sub Note E.1-Under Retention \$40,183

Note F. Australian Tax Office (ATO) and Payroll Obligations

As at the date of this report, all reporting and payment obligations have been met.

Note G. Provisions (Current and Non-Current)	\$	\$
<u>Current Provisions</u>		
Employee Annual Leave	1,127,542	
Long Service Leave	813,976	
Doubtful Debts	10,807	
<u>Provision - other</u>		
Insurance for 2026-27	817,976	
Replacement of Council's aged IT equipment	40,000	
		2,810,302
<u>Non-Current Provisions</u>		
Long Service Leave	280,741	
		280,741
Total Provisions		3,091,043

Note H. Other Non Current Liabilities	\$	\$
Section 19 Lease Liability	4,658,222	
Jabiru Town Sub Lease Liability	3,532,046	
Total Other Non Current Liabilities		8,190,268

Snapshot – February 2026 Financial Report



Total Inflow of Funds
 (Operational Income \$30.4M, Capital Funding \$5.23M, TRF from Reserve \$1.51M, Other inflows 0.15M)
 (Year to Date)

\$37.29 ↑

Month Comparison: Feb 25 \$37.45
 Month Comparison: Jan 26 \$32.34

Million

Total Operating Result
 (Surplus / Deficit)
 (Year to Date)

\$6.70 ↑

Month Comparison: Feb 25 \$3.43
 Month Comparison: Jan 26 \$4.70

Million

Working Capital Ratio

2.66 ↑

Month Comparison: Feb 25 1.84
 Month Comparison: Jan 26 2.20

Total Cash at Bank

\$14.06 ↑

Month Comparison: Feb 25 \$12.65
 Month Comparison: Jan 26 \$11.85

Million

Restricted Cash (Tied)

\$6.47 ↓

Month Comparison: Feb 25 \$8.87
 Month Comparison: Jan 26 \$6.48

Million

Cash Flows
 (Movement in January 2026)

\$2.21

Month Comparison: Feb 25 \$2.29
 Month Comparison: Jan 26 -\$0.50

Million

Unrestricted Cash (Untied)

\$7.59 ↑

Month Comparison: Feb 25 \$3.78
 Month Comparison: Jan 26 \$5.37

Million

New Physical Assets, including WIP
 (Year to Date)

\$4.07

Month Comparison: Feb 25 \$1.83
 Month Comparison: Jan 26 \$3.61

Million

Total Assets
 Property, Plant, and Equipment

\$127.37

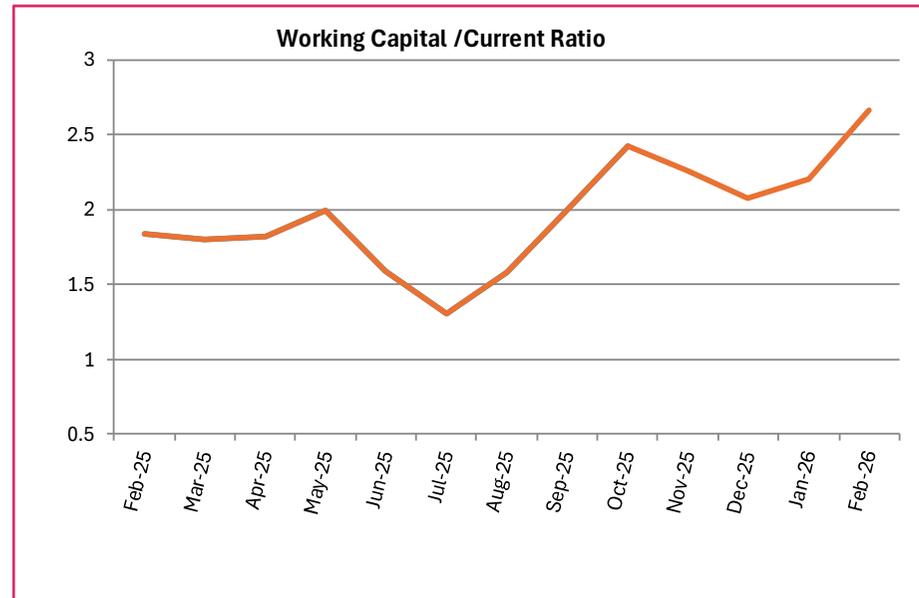
Month Comparison: Feb 25 \$82.86
 Month Comparison: Jan 26 \$127.14
 (Includes Revaluation of \$59.7)

Million



Working Capital Ratio from February 2025 to February 2026

Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25	Jun-25	Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25	Dec-25	Jan-26	Feb-26
1.84	1.80	1.82	1.99	1.59	1.31	1.58	1.99	2.42	2.26	2.08	2.20	2.66



Monthly Financial Report for Local Authority Areas

Operating Income and Expenditure for Local Authorities for the Period Ending 28 February 2026

Report 2

	Regional Office / Unallocated			Minijilang LA			Warruwi LA			Gunbalanya LA		
	YTD Actuals \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Variance \$	YTD Actuals \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Variance \$	YTD Actuals \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Variance \$	YTD Actuals \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Variance \$
OPERATING INCOME												
Rates	-	-	-	82,005	73,292	8,713	104,348	118,237	(13,889)	442,561	444,330	(1,769)
Charges	-	-	-	66,665	67,857	(1,192)	104,932	106,664	(1,732)	366,644	390,622	(23,978)
Fees and Charges	109,873	124,909	(15,037)	18,008	8,968	9,040	22,343	20,987	1,356	6,508	11,000	(4,492)
Operating Grants and Subsidies	11,794,452	10,626,423	1,168,030	821,475	684,316	137,158	842,442	976,011	(133,569)	636,840	719,680	(82,840)
Interest / Investment Income	146,157	109,216	36,941	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Commercial and Other Income	4,100,318	4,476,292	(375,973)	657,248	639,751	17,497	570,822	546,771	24,052	1,261,812	1,244,259	17,553
Untied Revenue Allocation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL OPERATING INCOME	16,150,800	15,336,839	813,961	1,645,401	1,474,184	171,217	1,644,887	1,768,669	(123,782)	2,714,364	2,809,891	(95,527)
OPERATING EXPENDITURE												
Employee Expenses	4,398,725	4,686,286	(287,561)	878,931	961,241	(82,310)	983,952	1,186,222	(202,270)	1,270,712	1,454,702	(183,990)
Materials and Contracts	412,637	1,203,730	(791,092)	221,777	262,628	(40,851)	158,061	416,956	(258,895)	640,731	764,970	(124,239)
Elected Member Allowances	226,440	270,892	(44,452)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Elected Member Expenses	127,212	174,064	(46,852)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Council Committee & LA Allowances	1,678	3,452	(1,774)	700	5,020	(4,320)	1,650	5,425	(3,775)	1,950	8,425	(6,475)
Council Committee & LA Expenses	-	-	-	1,541	3,453	(1,911)	1,536	1,800	(263)	411	2,205	(1,795)
Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Interest Expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Expenses	2,502,859	3,336,834	(833,975)	533,309	578,413	(45,104)	383,527	506,180	(122,653)	598,852	650,952	(52,100)
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURE	7,669,551	9,675,257	(2,005,706)	1,636,257	1,810,754	(174,497)	1,528,726	2,116,582	(587,856)	2,512,655	2,881,254	(368,598)
OPERATING SURPLUS /(DEFICIT)	8,481,249	5,661,582	2,819,667	9,143	(336,570)	345,713	116,161	(347,913)	464,074	201,709	(71,362)	273,071

	Maningrida LA			Kakadu Ward Advisory Committee			Total		
	YTD Actuals \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Variance \$	YTD Actuals \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Variance \$	YTD Actuals \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Variance \$
OPERATING INCOME									
Rates	700,322	745,413	(45,091)	1,437,250	1,597,700	(160,449)	2,766,486	2,978,972	(212,486)
Charges	686,484	735,252	(48,768)	1,777,542	1,855,838	(78,296)	3,002,267	3,156,233	(153,966)
Fees and Charges	51,636	56,614	(4,979)	234,634	270,630	(35,996)	443,001	493,108	(50,107)
Operating Grants and Subsidies	628,707	657,626	(28,918)	495,930	488,917	7,013	15,219,846	14,152,973	1,066,873
Interest / Investment Income	-	-	-	-	-	-	146,157	109,216	36,941
Commercial and Other Income	1,201,798	1,124,876	76,923	1,076,636	947,842	128,794	8,868,635	8,979,790	(111,155)
Untied Revenue Allocation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL OPERATING INCOME	3,268,948	3,319,781	(50,833)	5,021,994	5,160,927	(138,934)	30,446,393	29,870,292	576,101
OPERATING EXPENDITURE									
Employee Expenses	1,294,407	1,481,435	(187,028)	2,131,615	2,392,856	(261,241)	10,958,342	12,162,742	(1,204,400)
Materials and Contracts	592,537	769,066	(176,530)	840,658	981,794	(141,135)	2,866,401	4,399,143	(1,532,742)
Elected Member Allowances	-	-	-	-	-	-	226,440	270,892	(44,452)
Elected Member Expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-	127,212	174,064	(46,852)
Council Committee & LA Allowances	2,350	4,175	(1,825)	-	-	-	8,328	26,497	(18,169)
Council Committee & LA Expenses	3,023	5,478	(2,455)	4,826	5,866	(1,039)	11,337	18,801	(7,463)
Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	-	-	-	3,514,292	3,514,292	-	3,514,292	3,514,292	-
Interest Expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Expenses	1,070,596	1,009,370	61,226	949,087	1,012,743	(63,656)	6,038,229	7,094,490	(1,056,261)
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURE	2,962,913	3,269,524	(306,612)	7,440,478	7,907,550	(467,072)	23,750,581	27,660,921	(3,910,340)
OPERATING SURPLUS /(DEFICIT)	306,035	50,257	255,778	(2,418,485)	(2,746,623)	328,138	6,695,812	2,209,371	4,486,441

WEST ARNHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 25 MARCH 2026

Agenda Reference:	8.9
Title:	Regional Cemetery Update
Author:	Meredith Newall, Waste and Resource Coordinator

SUMMARY

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

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *Regional Cemetery Update*; and
2. Approves/Does not approve *Project Plan for the Manayingkarirra Community Cemetery* that will be submitted in support of an application for funds under the Regional and Remote Burials Grant.

BACKGROUND

The *Burials and Cremations Act 2022* commenced 28 November 2022 making local government the managers of cemetery facilities across the Northern Territory. West Arnhem Regional Council (WARC) has been working towards establishing culturally appropriate cemeteries for all our communities with cemeteries in Jabiru, Maningrida and Minjilang achieving 'declared' status.

COMMENT

The NT Government provided funding to WARC to establish cemeteries in our region under the *Community Places for People Grant*. This grant was a one-off funding opportunity, and funds have been used to undertake works in Maningrida and Minjilang to prepare identified cemetery sites for burials.

Other funding provided to WARC for cemeteries was under the *Regional and Remote Burials Grant* 2023/2024 round and this was utilised for works in Maningrida, Minjilang and Warruwi. The 2025/2026 round is open and closes 10 April 2026. An application is being submitted to complete works at the Manayingkarirra Community Cemetery.

Status by community:

Gunbalanya

- A suitable cemetery site is yet to be identified by NLC through consultation with the Traditional Owners

Jabiru

- Proposed design for the signage is attached for approval

Maningrida

- Core works were completed 12 September 2025 with the Local Authority approving the following pending works 2 March 2026:
 - Supply and installation of 6 solar light poles with anti-climbing spikes

- Supply and installation of 10 x 1 metre aluminum benches and 10 x 2 metre aluminum benches with back
- Entry sign
- An application under the *Regional and Remote Burials Grant* will be submitted for the following remaining works:
 - Water connection
 - Supply and install bush tucker plants
 - Tap and fountain
 - Shelter installation

Minjilang

- Contractor is arranging for certification of shelter drawings prior to installation

Waruwi

- No update

LEGISLATION AND POLICY

Local Government Act 2019

Burials and Cremation Act 2022

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

As per Community Places for Peoples Grant guidelines

As per Remote Burials Grant Program guidelines

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

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

PILLAR 1 PARTNERSHIPS, RELATIONSHIPS AND BELONGING

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

Goal 1.1 Community Engagement

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

PILLAR 4 SERVICE DELIVERY AND BUILT ENVIRONMENT

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

Goal 4.1 Strategic Infrastructure and Asset Management

Strategically manage, maintain, and enhance community infrastructure.

ATTACHMENTS

- Jabiru cemetery sign
- Project Plan for remaining works at the Manayingkarirra Community Cemetery

Supply only 1 x 1200 x 900 mm ACP sign

1200 mm

900 mm

JABIRU
CEMETERY

x1

Open to the public
sunrise to sunset

CEMETERY MANAGER:
West Arnhem Regional Council

P: 8979 9444
E: info@westarnhem.nt.gov.au
W: westarnhem.nt.gov.au



PROJECT MANAGEMENT PLAN	
PROJECT NAME	Maningrida Cemetery Finalisation Works
PROJECT MANAGER	Waste & Resource Coordinator
PROJECT DIRECTOR	Manager Technical Services
PRIORITY RANKING	1 – within 1 year of funding agreement
PROBLEM/OPPORTUNITY	<p>Maningrida is the largest remote town in the NT located 500km east from Darwin and is part of the Arnhem Land Aboriginal Land Trust.</p> <p>The Manayingkarirra Cemetery was gazetted as a community cemetery in July 2024 and a tender was issued for the establishment of the cemetery. The core works were awarded to BV Contracting in February 2025 with works commencing August 2025. The core works were completed in September 2025 with the exception of the installation of a sign at the entry. These works were funded by the <i>Community Places for People Grant</i> and the <i>Regional and Remote Burials Grant</i>.</p> <p>Additional works approved by the Local Authority in March 2026 are the installation of six solar light poles, signage installation and seating.</p> <p>The remaining works required to finalise the establishment of the Manayingkarirra Cemetery are the installation of 2 shelters, water connection (with tap and water bubbler) and landscaping.</p>
DELIVERABLES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A multi-phase scope of work that outlines all work to be undertaken and specifies materials, suppliers, and quality standards • Acceptance of quotes to budget and deliverables • The total cost for the project inclusive of variations allow 10% • An effective strategy for working around the stakeholder requirements for minimal disruption to stakeholders • An effective strategy for working around environmental factors • An effective strategy for working around cultural factors • An agreed timeline for the completion of the project

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The delivery of the agreed scope of works for improvements to the Manayinkirarra Cemetery establishment.
KEY OBJECTIVES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of a culturally sensitive cemetery • Public health benefits through providing an established facility for local burials • Provision of infrastructure to ensure well being of visitors to the facility
CRITICAL SUCCESS FACTORS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivery of project on time, on budget and to the agreed specifications • A cemetery that is culturally sensitive and fit for purpose • Managing community expectations • Committed contractors that can deliver the work on time and on budget • Employment of local indigenous
STAKEHOLDERS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development • Local contractors • Power and Water Corporation • Local Authority • Sea Swift
PERFORMANCE REPORTING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Project Director will be updated weekly so they can monitor the progress and report to the Executive Management Team of WARC as required. • The project manager will provide updates to council and Local Authority at the completion of each phase if required. • The project manager will provide project sponsors full updates at the completion of each phase as per the agreement. • Routine stakeholder updates as required with performance reports.
SPECIFICATIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installation of 2 shelters - \$27,246.78 • Supply and freight of edible bush tucker plants - \$4,605.55 • Installation of edible bush tucker plants - \$5,000 • Water connection works - \$56,890.91 • Supply of water bubbler and tap - \$5,318.00 • Installation of water bubbler and tap - \$1,128.60

BUDGET AND RESOURCES	<p>Funding of \$95,188.94 is being requested from the Regional and Remote Burial Areas Grant Program in the 2025/2026 round.</p> <p>In kind support to complete the works as per the specifications above will be provided by West Arnhem Regional Council. This will include project management, 50 hours labour from council works staff in Maningrida and travel costs.</p> <p>Resources required are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project Sponsor • Project Manager • Procurement of materials • General labour • Plant and equipment • Logistics and barge freight • Trade suppliers • WH&S Management • HR Management • Traffic Management • Waste disposal and resource recovery • Storage • Accommodation
TIME	<p>To commence as soon as practicable after receiving notification of grant outcome.</p> <p>To be completed within 12 months of notification of grant outcome.</p>
RISKS	<p>Financial – not being awarded grant funding</p> <p>Cultural – ensuring all cultural considerations are met for the cemetery and works are suspended for ceremony as required</p>
ESCALATION MANAGEMENT	<p>Written approval to be obtained from Project Director to implement changes to the scope.</p>
CONTINGENCY	<p>Time and cost contingencies are to be established.</p>

CONTRACTUAL ARRANGEMENTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conditions attached to funding agreements • Employment and engagement agreements in place with staff and contractors • Trading terms and conditions of suppliers
BUSINESS VALUE	Provision of a culturally sensitive cemetery that provides suitable infrastructure and needs for visitors to the cemetery.
APPROVALS	Project Manager – Waste and Resource Coordinator Project Director – Manager Technical Services Project Sponsor - CEO Council – Elected members Local Authority Board – Nominated members
PREPARED BY / DATE	Meredith Newall – 13 March 2026
APPROVED BY / DATE	Kylie Gregson – 13 March 2026

WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 25 MARCH 2026

Agenda Reference:	8.10
Title:	Local Government Association of the NT - Call for Motions
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with the proposed motions to put forward to the Local Government Association of the NT General Meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *Local Government Association of the NT - Call for Motions*; and
2. Approves the following motions to the Local Government Association of the NT General Meeting:
 - a. Enhanced infrastructure funding for remote Northern Territory communities
 - b. Strengthening social and emotional wellbeing supports for young people in remote Northern Territory communities
 - c. Supporting safe places and healing programs for men in remote Northern Territory communities
 - d. Sustainable funding for council run early childhood services in remote Northern Territory communities

BACKGROUND

At the February 2026 Ordinary Council meeting, the CEO asked for any motions that Council would like to put forward to LGANT for consideration at the general meeting in April. Councillors put forward four suggestions. The CEO has drafted four motions as attached.

COMMENT

Requesting Council approves the following motions:

1. Enhanced infrastructure funding for remote Northern Territory communities
2. Strengthening social and emotional wellbeing supports for young people in remote Northern Territory communities
3. Supporting safe places and healing programs for men in remote Northern Territory communities
4. Sustainable funding for council run early childhood services in remote Northern Territory communities

LEGISLATION AND POLICY

Nil.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

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

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 4.1 Strategic Infrastructure and Asset Management

Strategically manage, maintain and enhance community infrastructure.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Enhanced infrastructure funding for remote Northern Territory communities LGAN (1) [**8.10.1** - 5 pages]
2. Strengthening social and emotional wellbeing supports for young people in remote N [**8.10.2** - 5 pages]
3. Supporting safe places and healing programs for men in remote Northern Territory c [**8.10.3** - 5 pages]
4. Sustainable funding for council run early childhood services in remote Northern Te [**8.10.4** - 5 pages]



LGANT CALL FOR MOTIONS

P (08) 8944 9697 **A** 21 Parap Rd, Parap NT 0820
E info@lgant.asn.au PO Box 2075, Parap NT 0804
W lgant.asn.au ABN: 35 662 805 503

We are local. We connect.



CALL FOR MOTIONS

About this document

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

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Timeframes

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

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

Other important information

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

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

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

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

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

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



TEMPLATE CALL FOR MOTIONS

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

Name of Council:

West Arnhem Regional Council

Contact person and title:

Mayor James Wood

Phone:

8979 9496

Email:

James.Wood@westarnhem.nt.gov.au

Motion title:

Enhanced infrastructure funding for remote Northern Territory communities

Resolution sought (Motion)

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

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

- “Council calls on the NT Government to....”
- “Council calls on the Australian Government to....”
- “Council calls on LGANT to....”

West Arnhem Regional Council calls on the Australian Government, the Northern Territory Government and LGANT to:

1. Recognise that remote and very remote Northern Territory communities face a significant infrastructure deficit across essential community assets such as roads, airstrips, internal access roads, housing-related civil works, community facilities, water, sewerage and stormwater systems.
2. Develop and implement dedicated long-term funding programs to address critical infrastructure backlogs in remote communities, similar in intent to interstate programs that support “returning home” and community-level infrastructure upgrades, with funding streams tailored to the Northern Territory’s remote Aboriginal community context.
3. Ensure that new and existing infrastructure funding programs:
 - are recurrent or multi-year in nature,
 - provide certainty and flexibility to remote councils as delivery partners,
 - recognise higher construction, maintenance and logistics costs in very remote locations, and
 - can be used for both renewal of ageing infrastructure and delivery of fit-for-purpose new assets that support safe, liveable communities.



4. Work with LGANT and member councils to co-design program guidelines, prioritisation frameworks and reporting requirements so that remote councils can realistically plan, deliver and maintain community infrastructure, including where they act as agents for other levels of government.

Supporting information:

Questions for consideration in drafting this section:

- What is the issue/opportunity the motion is addressing?
- How it came to light?
- If/how your council has tried to deal with it to date?
- If a legislative issue, what is the relevant Act?
- Does LGANT have an existing policy statement on the subject/issue? If yes, what is it?
- Is the motion relevant to the sector across the NT? If yes, how? If not, can the issue be dealt with through a different forum?
- What other councils have you spoken to about this motion?

Provide attachment/s if required.

Remote and very remote communities in the Northern Territory depend on a relatively small set of critical infrastructure assets — including local roads and airstrips, internal access roads, drainage, essential services related civil works and community facilities — to enable safe access to housing, health, education, employment and emergency services. Many of these assets are ageing, were constructed to lower standards, or were never fully upgraded to cope with population growth, climate impacts and changing expectations for safe, healthy living environments in remote communities. While various Australian and Northern Territory Government capital programs support specific sectors (such as housing or roads), they are often fragmented, short term, highly competitive and not well tailored to the real costs and delivery challenges faced by remote councils. Interstate examples show that dedicated, long term funding streams aimed at improving local infrastructure linked to people's ability to live safely in their home communities can help reduce backlogs, support employment and create more liveable and resilient communities; however, the Northern Territory currently lacks an equivalent, comprehensive approach focused on remote local government areas. Remote councils are key delivery partners and, in many cases, maintain infrastructure on behalf of other jurisdictions; a clearer, better resourced funding framework would enable councils to plan multi year works programs, build local workforce capability, and ensure that infrastructure keeps pace with community needs. LGANT is well placed to coordinate member councils' priorities and advocate for the design of Territory appropriate infrastructure programs that mirror the intent of successful interstate models while responding to the unique conditions of remote NT communities.

Council confirmation:

I, Katharine Murray, the Chief Executive Officer, hereby confirm that this motion was approved by resolution of council on Wednesday, 25 March 2026 for presentation at the next LGANT General Meeting.



In submitting this motion, I confirm that the council has (please tick):

- consulted with other NT councils to confirm the motion is relevant to the sector more broadly; and
- reviewed LGANT's [Constitution](#), [Governance Charter](#), [Policy Statements](#), and [Strategic Plan](#) in preparing this motion.

I also acknowledge that (please tick):

- if the council has not provided enough information or evidence to support the motion, LGANT has the discretion to not accept the motion.

Signature: _____ Date: _____



LGANT

CALL FOR MOTIONS

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CALL FOR MOTIONS

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Other important information

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TEMPLATE CALL FOR MOTIONS

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

Name of Council:

West Arnhem Regional Council

Contact person and title:

Mayor James Wood

Phone:

8979 9496

Email:

James.Wood@westarnhem.nt.gov.au

Motion title:

Strengthening social and emotional wellbeing supports for young people in remote Northern Territory communities

Resolution sought (Motion)

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

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

- “Council calls on the NT Government to....”
- “Council calls on the Australian Government to....”
- “Council calls on LGANT to....”

West Arnhem Regional Council calls on the Australian Government, the Northern Territory Government and LGANT to:

1. Recognise the critical importance of social and emotional wellbeing for young people in remote and very remote communities, particularly Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people, and the role that local government can play as a connector, facilitator and advocate; and
2. Expand and adequately resource culturally safe, youth-specific social and emotional wellbeing, mental health and suicide prevention services in remote communities, including outreach, group and digital supports that are codesigned with young people, elders and Aboriginal community-controlled organisations; and
3. Develop a coordinated Territory-wide approach to youth social and emotional wellbeing that links schools, youth services, Aboriginal community-controlled health organisations, NT Primary Health Network funded programs and council-led initiatives, and ensures sustainable funding for place-based programs in very remote locations; and
4. Work with relevant peak bodies, including AMSANT, NTCOSS and Youth Voice NT, to elevate the voices and lived experience of young people in remote communities in the



design of policies, strategies and programs that affect their social and emotional wellbeing.

Supporting information:

Questions for consideration in drafting this section:

- What is the issue/opportunity the motion is addressing?
- How it came to light?
- If/how your council has tried to deal with it to date?
- If a legislative issue, what is the relevant Act?
- Does LGANT have an existing policy statement on the subject/issue? If yes, what is it?
- Is the motion relevant to the sector across the NT? If yes, how? If not, can the issue be dealt with through a different forum?
- What other councils have you spoken to about this motion?

Provide attachment/s if required.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people in remote areas experience higher exposure to stressors such as grief and loss, overcrowded housing, family violence and alcohol related harms, all of which impact on their social and emotional wellbeing. Evidence shows that culturally grounded, community led programs that connect young people to culture, country, language and elders can strengthen resilience, improve coping skills and support better mental health outcomes. Across the Northern Territory, the NT Primary Health Network and other funders support a range of social and emotional wellbeing, psychosocial support and youth mental health services delivered through Aboriginal community controlled health organisations and non government providers, but coverage and intensity in very remote communities is variable and often reliant on short term funding cycles. Local governments in remote communities are key partners in youth engagement, facilities, sport and recreation and community safety, and are often one of the few stable institutions on the ground that can help coordinate and host youth wellbeing initiatives. LGANT's advocacy and policy role provides a mechanism to bring together councils' experience with that of Aboriginal community controlled and youth sector organisations, including Youth Voice NT, to support more joined up, youth led and place based approaches to social and emotional wellbeing in remote communities.

Council confirmation:

I, Katharine Murray, the Chief Executive Officer, hereby confirm that this motion was approved by resolution of council on Wednesday, 25 March 2026 for presentation at the next LGANT General Meeting.

In submitting this motion, I confirm that the council has (please tick):

- consulted with other NT councils to confirm the motion is relevant to the sector more broadly; and



- reviewed LGANT's [Constitution](#), [Governance Charter](#), [Policy Statements](#), and [Strategic Plan](#) in preparing this motion.

I also acknowledge that (please tick):

- if the council has not provided enough information or evidence to support the motion, LGANT has the discretion to not accept the motion.

Signature: _____ Date: _____



LGANT CALL FOR MOTIONS

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CALL FOR MOTIONS

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TEMPLATE CALL FOR MOTIONS

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

Name of Council:

West Arnhem Regional Council

Contact person and title:

Mayor James Wood

Phone:

8979 9496

Email:

James.Wood@westarnhem.nt.gov.au

Motion title:

Supporting safe places and healing programs for men in remote Northern Territory communities

Resolution sought (Motion)

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

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

- “Council calls on the NT Government to....”
- “Council calls on the Australian Government to....”
- “Council calls on LGANT to....”

West Arnhem Regional Council calls on the Australian Government, the Northern Territory Government and LGANT to:

1. Recognise the need for safe places and culturally appropriate healing programs for men in remote and very remote communities, to support men’s safety, behaviour change, mental health and family wellbeing.
2. Work with Aboriginal community-controlled organisations, local governments and elders to develop a framework and funding model for the establishment and ongoing operation of men’s safe houses and similar men’s spaces in remote communities, including options for local governance, staffing and integration with existing services.
3. Ensure that any men’s safe house and healing initiatives are embedded within broader family violence prevention, social and emotional wellbeing, alcohol and other drugs, and justice diversion strategies, rather than being stand-alone or time-limited projects.
4. Support LGANT to coordinate the experiences and views of member councils on men’s spaces and safe houses, and to advocate to governments for sustainable funding, clear roles and responsibilities, and evaluation of outcomes for families and communities.

Supporting information:

Questions for consideration in drafting this section:

- What is the issue/opportunity the motion is addressing?



- How it came to light?
- If/how your council has tried to deal with it to date?
- If a legislative issue, what is the relevant Act?
- Does LGANT have an existing policy statement on the subject/issue? If yes, what is it?
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- What other councils have you spoken to about this motion?

Provide attachment/s if required.

Remote and very remote communities in the Northern Territory experience high rates of family and domestic violence, alcohol related harm and incarceration, with significant impacts on women, children and the wider community. At the same time, many communities have identified the need for dedicated, culturally safe places for men to go in times of crisis or conflict, and for ongoing spaces where men can access support, participate in healing programs and strengthen their roles as fathers, partners and leaders. In some communities, men's spaces and informal "safe houses" have emerged through local initiatives, but these are often unfunded, dependent on a small number of community leaders and not well linked into broader service systems. A more structured, co designed approach to men's safe houses and men's healing spaces — led by Aboriginal community controlled organisations and elders, and supported by local government, police, courts, health and specialist services — could help reduce violence, improve safety and create more pathways away from jail and towards healing and responsibility. LGANT can play a role in bringing together councils' experience of community safety and facilities management, and in advocating for sustainable, culturally grounded men's safe house models that are tailored to the circumstances of remote NT communities and complement existing services for women and children.

Council confirmation:

I, Katharine Murray, the Chief Executive Officer, hereby confirm that this motion was approved by resolution of council on Wednesday, 25 March 2026 for presentation at the next LGANT General Meeting.

In submitting this motion, I confirm that the council has (please tick):

- consulted with other NT councils to confirm the motion is relevant to the sector more broadly; and
- reviewed LGANT's [Constitution](#), [Governance Charter](#), [Policy Statements](#), and [Strategic Plan](#) in preparing this motion.

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Signature: _____ Date: _____



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TEMPLATE CALL FOR MOTIONS

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

Name of Council:

West Arnhem Regional Council

Contact person and title:

Mayor James Wood

Phone:

8979 9496

Email:

James.Wood@westarnhem.nt.gov.au

Motion title:

Sustainable funding for council-run early childhood services in remote Northern Territory communities

Resolution sought (Motion)

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

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

- “Council calls on the NT Government to....”
- “Council calls on the Australian Government to....”
- “Council calls on LGANT to....”

West Arnhem Regional Council calls on the Australian Government, the Northern Territory Government to:

1. Recognise that a number of Northern Territory local governments directly operate or auspice early childhood education and care centres in remote and very remote Aboriginal communities, often as providers of last resort; and
2. Establish a sustainable, long-term and integrated funding model for council-run early childhood services in remote communities that:
 - provides certainty of recurrent operational funding,
 - reflects the true cost of service delivery in very remote locations, and
 - supports mixed-model, place-based services delivered by councils, including integrated early years, family support and cultural programs designed with local Aboriginal communities; and
3. Work with LGANT and affected councils to address workforce challenges in remote council-run early childhood centres, including funding for training, housing and incentives to attract and retain early childhood educators.



Supporting information:

Questions for consideration in drafting this section:

- What is the issue/opportunity the motion is addressing?
- How it came to light?
- If/how your council has tried to deal with it to date?
- If a legislative issue, what is the relevant Act?
- Does LGANT have an existing policy statement on the subject/issue? If yes, what is it?
- Is the motion relevant to the sector across the NT? If yes, how? If not, can the issue be dealt with through a different forum?
- What other councils have you spoken to about this motion?

Provide attachment/s if required.

In many remote and very remote NT communities, the local council is the only organisation willing and able to deliver early childhood education and care services, meaning councils act as providers of last resort and carry significant service and financial risk where market based models are not viable. Current Australian and NT Government funding arrangements for remote early childhood services often rely on short term, fragmented grants, which make it difficult for councils to plan, retain staff and maintain quality, despite the critical role that early childhood services play in child development, school readiness and Closing the Gap targets. Remote and very remote services face higher costs due to geography, small enrolments, housing pressures and workforce shortages, yet are essential community infrastructure for families' participation in work, training and community life. A sustainable, recurrent funding model that explicitly recognises councils as key early years partners in remote communities would support continuity of services, strengthen local employment pathways and provide a more stable foundation for integrated, culturally safe early years programs. LGANT's Strategic Plan and policy role emphasise advocacy on issues that collectively affect local government, and this motion would help shape a clear sector wide position on remote early childhood funding for engagement with the Australian and NT Governments.

Council confirmation:

I, Katharine Murray, the Chief Executive Officer, hereby confirm that this motion was approved by resolution of council on Wednesday, 25 March 2026 for presentation at the next LGANT General Meeting.

In submitting this motion, I confirm that the council has (please tick):

- consulted with other NT councils to confirm the motion is relevant to the sector more broadly; and
- reviewed LGANT's [Constitution](#), [Governance Charter](#), [Policy Statements](#), and [Strategic Plan](#) in preparing this motion.

I also acknowledge that (please tick):



- if the council has not provided enough information or evidence to support the motion, LGANT has the discretion to not accept the motion.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

WEST ARNHem REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 25 MARCH 2026

Agenda Reference:	9.1
Title:	Incoming and Outgoing Correspondence
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

SUMMARY

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

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL receives and notes the attached items of incoming and outgoing correspondence.

BACKGROUND

In June 2025, Council requested that incoming and outgoing correspondence be made available in hard copy for Council Members to view at each meeting separate to the agenda. Correspondence available is as follows:

COMMENT

Type	Date	Sender/Receiver	Reference
Email	09.02.2026	Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development	Learning and Development Reference Group Nomination
Letter	18.02.2026	Chief Executive Officer of Red Lily Health Board, Erin Lew Fatt	Invitation to the International Women's Day Event in Jabiru
Letter	25.02.2026	Local Government Association of the Northern Territory	Cost Index for 2024-2025
Email	26.02.2026	Australian Football League Northern Territory	Appointment of Warren Campbell
Email	27.02.2026	Jabiru Golf Club	Exemption on Rates and Water Charges 2025-2026
Email	27.02.2026	Local Government Association of the Northern Territory	2026 Board Meetings
Email	04.03.2026	Local Government Association of the Northern Territory	Tranche 2 Amendments and Priorities List
Letter	11.03.2026	Marrawuddi Arts & Culture	Letter in Support of Marrawuddi Arts & Culture's Remote Jobs and Development Grant Application
Email	11.03.2026	ONEWiFi and Infrastructure	First Nations Community Wi-Fi Program in Gunbalanya
Letter	12.03.2026	Connie Nayinggul	Letter of Congratulations Gunbalanya Local Authority Appointment
Letter	12.03.2026	Tamar Nawirridj	Letter of Congratulations Gunbalanya Local Authority Appointment
Letter	12.03.2026	Arnhem Land Progress Aboriginal Corporation	Letter in Support of Arnhem Land Progress Aboriginal Corporation's

			Mobile Training Unit Grant Application
Email	13.03.2026	Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development	Determinations of Council and Local Authority Member Allowances
Submission	16.03.2026	LGANT	Critical Minerals Strategy - DRAFT submission
Letter	17.03.2026	Gundjehmi Aboriginal Corporation	Letter in Support of Gundjehmi Aboriginal Corporation's Funding Applications for the Return of the Mahbilil Festival
Submission	17.03.2026	LGANT	Draft for Review - Productivity Commission Inquiry into the Determinants of Regional Airfares

LEGISLATION AND 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

Nil

WEST ARNHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 25 MARCH 2026

Agenda Reference:	9.2
Title:	Meetings and Events attended by the Mayor
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

SUMMARY

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

RECOMMENDATION

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

BACKGROUND

The meetings and events listed involve discussions that influence or may affect the operations of the Council or relationships with external agencies.

COMMENT

Date(s)	Location	Reason for Meeting	Person(s) met with
26.02.2026	Darwin	Maningrida Aerodrome Access and Security Stakeholder Meeting	Department of Logistics and Infrastructure and Maningrida Progress Association
02.03.2026	Maningrida	Local Authority Meeting	Maningrida Local Authority Committee Members
02.03.2026	Maningrida	Maningrida Consortium Meeting	Maningrida Consortium Members and Minister Steven Edgington
03.03.2026	Gunbalanya	Local Authority Meeting	Gunbalanya Local Authority Committee Members
04.03.2026	Warruwi	Local Authority Meeting	Warruwi Local Authority Committee Members
05.03.2026	Minjilang	Local Authority Meeting	Minjilang Local Authority Committee Members
06.03.2026	Jabiru	Kakadu Advisory Committee Meeting	Kakadu Advisory Committee Members
12.03.2026	Warruwi	Warruwi Community Meeting	Warruwi Community Stakeholders and Warruwi Community Members
13.03.2026	Darwin	Jabiru Airport and Jabiru Childcare Centre	Minister Steven Edgington
17.03.2026	via Microsoft Teams	Meet and Greet	Not-For-Profit Organisation Home Beyond Home
24.03.2026	via Microsoft Teams	Empowering the Bush Strategic Framework	Local Government Association of the Northern Territory

LEGISLATION AND POLICY

Nil.

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 1.1 Community Engagement

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

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 25 MARCH 2026

Agenda Reference:	9.3
Title:	Meetings and Events attended by the Chief Executive Officer
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

SUMMARY

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

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL receives and notes the report titled *Meetings and Events attended by the Chief Executive Officer*.

BACKGROUND

The meetings listed involve discussions that influence or may affect the operations of the Council or relationships with external agencies.

COMMENT

Date(s)	Location	Reason for Meeting	Person(s) met with
26.02.2026	Darwin	Maningrida Aerodrome Access and Security Stakeholder Meeting	Department of Logistics and Infrastructure and Maningrida Progress Association
27.02.2026	Darwin	Census 2026	Australian Bureau of Statistics
27.02.2026	Darwin	Community Cyclone Shelters	National Indigenous Australians Agency
02.03.2026	Maningrida	Local Authority Meeting	Maningrida Local Authority Committee Members
02.03.2026	Maningrida	Maningrida Consortium Meeting	Maningrida Consortium Members and Minister Steven Edgington
03.03.2026	Gunbalanya	Local Authority Meeting	Gunbalanya Local Authority Committee Members
04.03.2026	Warruwi	Local Authority Meeting	Warruwi Local Authority Committee Members
05.03.2026	Minjilang	Local Authority Meeting	Minjilang Local Authority Committee Members
06.03.2026	Jabiru	Kakadu Advisory Committee Meeting	Kakadu Advisory Committee Members
10.03.2026	Darwin	2025-26 Audit Engagement	Nexia Edwards Marshall Northern Territory
10.03.2026	Darwin	Jabiru Childcare Centre	Department of Housing Local Government and Community Development
11.03.2026	via Microsoft Teams	Meet and Greet	Shine People Solutions
12.03.2026	Warruwi	Warruwi Community Meeting	Warruwi Community Stakeholders and Warruwi Community Members

13.03.2026	Darwin	Jabiru Airport and Jabiru Childcare Centre	Minister Steven Edgington
13.03.2026	Darwin	Monthly Meeting	Gundjeihmi Aboriginal Corporation Jabiru Town
17.03.2026	via Microsoft Teams	Meet and Greet	Not-For-Profit Organisation Home Beyond Home
17.03.2026	Jabiru	Monthly Meeting	Gundjeihmi Aboriginal Corporation
20.03.2026	via Microsoft Teams	Nominated Recipient Seminar 2026	Office of the Independent Commissioner Against Corruption in the Northern Territory and Various Stakeholders
20.03.2026	Darwin	Sentor Malandiri McCarthy	Cyclone Narell

LEGISLATION AND POLICY

Nil.

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 1.1 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 25 March 2026

Agenda Reference:	9.4
Title:	Human Resource Monthly Report
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

SUMMARY

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

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL receives and notes the report titled *Human Resource Monthly Report*.

BACKGROUND

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

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

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

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

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

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 1 PARTNERSHIPS, RELATIONSHIPS AND BELONGING

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

Goal 1.5 Cultural Awareness Training

Develop increased understanding and observation of cultural protocols.

PILLAR 2 INCREASED LOCAL INDIGENOUS EMPLOYMENT

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

Goal 2.1 Indigenous Employment Framework

Create Council Indigenous employment framework including tailored pathways to employment.

Goal 2.2 Policy and Procedures

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

Goal 2.3 Policy and Procedures

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

PILLAR 3 SAFETY AND WELLBEING

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

Goal 3.1 Cultural Safety

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

Goal 3.2 Health and Safety

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

Goal 3.3 Training and Development

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

Goal 3.4 Community Service Delivery

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

ATTACHMENTS

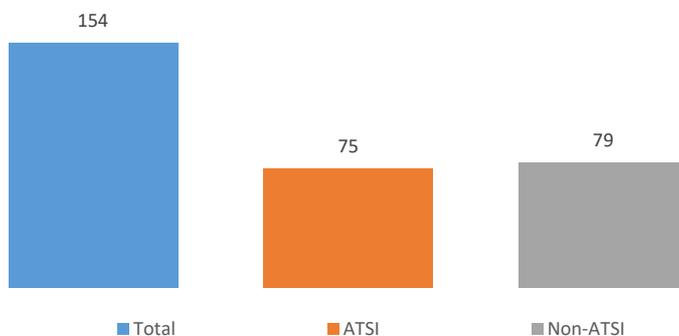
1. 2026.03 - HR Report for OCM - WED 25 March 2026 [9.4.1 - 6 pages]
-

Workforce Report – Period 10 January 2026 to 13 March 2026

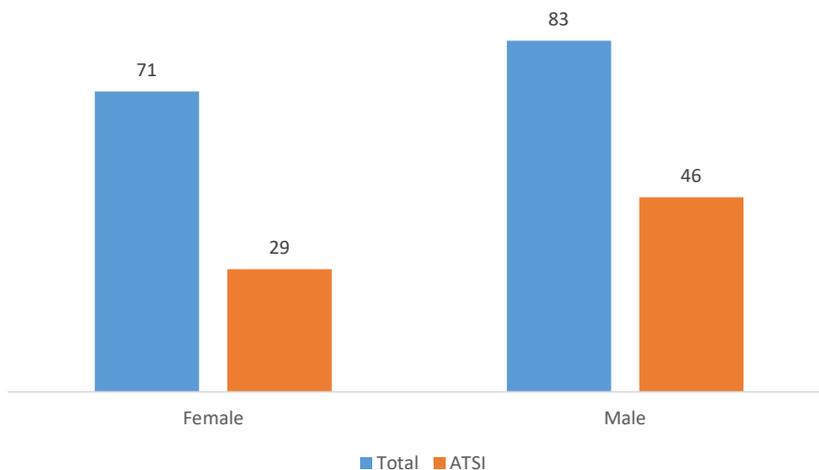
Workforce statistics as of 13 March 2026:

Total Workforce		Turnover
Total Employees:	154	Turnover rate in July 2025 was 51%.
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander employees	75	Staff turnover now is 43%.
Percentage of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander employees:	49%	

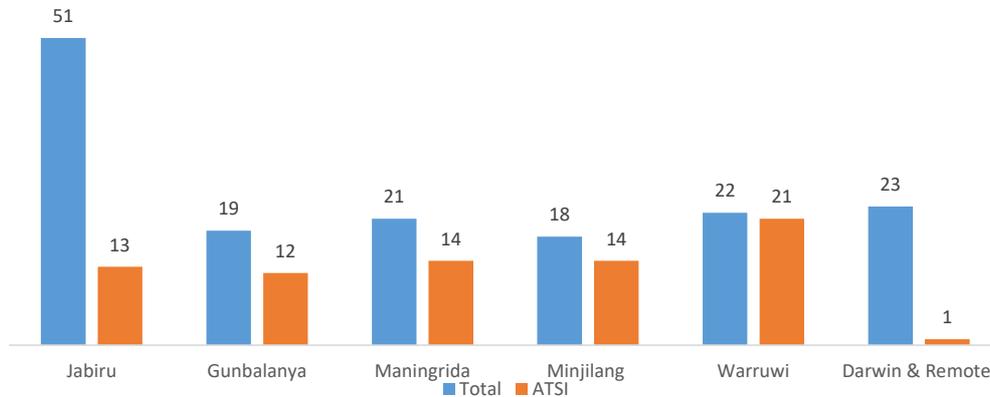
EMPLOYEE NUMBER



EMPLOYEE BY GENDER



EMPLOYEES BY LOCATION



General Team Report

Human Resources

- **Draft First Nations Employment Plan:**

Consultation and survey feedback on the *Draft First Nations Employment Plan* closed on 6 February 2026. All submissions have since been reviewed, and amendments have been incorporated into the plan. The revised document is under final review for approval, launch, and implementation.

- **PART Training: Building Confidence and practical skills to support victims of domestic violence at WARC:**

WARC has commenced the delivery of the *'Prevent. Assist. Respond. training (PART)'* a powerful, specialist training for frontline workers responding to domestic, family, and sexual violence. It uses clear, practical ideas to help them feel more confident, understand victims' experiences, and learn how to support them better. The first workshops were delivered in Jabiru on 3 March and in Gunbalanya on Thursday 5 March. It will be delivered in every community, and external stakeholders have been invited to build stronger networks around this topic.

Recruitment

Employment partnerships and jobs fair

- WARC staff continue to work with local Remote Australian Employment Services to support applicants for Council vacancies. Planning is underway for WARC to participate in the Maningrida Jobs Fair in May 2026 to further promote employment opportunities and connect with local job seekers.

Advertising and promotion activity

- Council continues to promote vacancies via the WARC website, online and social media, supported by LED screens in all communities to maintain strong local visibility of job opportunities across the region.

Recruitment Activity - 10 Jan to 13 March 2026

	Number of Positions	Number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander's
New vacancies over reporting period	25	
Under Recruitment - advertisement open and shortlisting/selection/pre-employment checks underway	20	14
Filled	12	3

Vacancies by location as of 13 March 2026**Gunbalanya**

- Wellbeing Services Coordinator – \$101,000 per annum, Permanent, Full Time, Subsidised accommodation, Closes Wednesday 24 March
- Community Care Officer (2 positions) – \$31.35 per hour, Permanent, 20 hours per week, No accommodation, Open until filled
- Precinct Assistant (Sports Grounds Keeper) – \$26.53 per hour, Fixed Term, 20 hours per week, No accommodation, Open until filled (JobSeeker conditions apply – contact your case manager)
- Waste Collection Assistant – \$26.53 per hour, Fixed Term, Full Time, No accommodation, Open until filled (JobSeeker conditions apply – contact your case manager)
- Community Safety Senior Officer – \$37.39 per hour, Permanent, 25 hours per week, No accommodation, Open until filled
- Centrelink Assistant – \$26.53 per hour, Permanent, 30 hours per week, No accommodation, Open until filled

Jabiru

- Pool and Safety Assistant (2 positions) – \$26.53 per hour, Fixed Term, 20 hours per week, No accommodation, Open until filled (JobSeeker conditions apply – contact your case manager)
- Pool Officer – \$68,000 per annum, Permanent, 25 hours per week, Subsidised accommodation, Open until filled

Maningrida

- Bereavement Support Assistant (2 positions) – \$26.53 per hour, Fixed Term, 20 hours per week, No accommodation, Open until filled (JobSeeker conditions apply – contact your case manager)
- Pool and Safety Assistant (2 positions) – \$26.53 per hour, Fixed Term, 20 hours per week, No accommodation, Open until filled (JobSeeker conditions apply – contact your case manager)

Minjilang

- Utilities Support Contract Officer – \$79,000 per annum, Permanent, Full Time, Accommodation provided, Open until filled
- Child Care Senior Officer – \$73,000 per annum, Permanent, Full Time, Subsidised accommodation, Open until filled
- Broadcasting Officer – \$37.39 per hour, Permanent, 12.5 hours per week, No accommodation, Open until filled

Waruwi

- Wellbeing Services Senior Officer – \$85,000 per annum, Permanent, Full Time, Subsidised accommodation, Open until filled
- Child Care Senior Officer – \$73,000 per annum, Permanent, Full Time, Subsidised accommodation, Open until filled
- Team Leader Works – \$40.13 per hour, Permanent, Full Time, No accommodation, Open until filled
- Broadcasting Officer – \$37.39 per hour, Permanent, 12.5 hours per week, No accommodation, Open until filled
- Centrelink Officer – \$34.59 per hour, Permanent, 7.6 hours per week, No accommodation, Open until filled

Learning and Development Report

CERTIFICATIONS	LOCATIONS & NUMBER STAFF ENROLLED	ATSI PARTICIPATION
Certificate III in Civil Construction RTO: Batchelor Institute Staff in: Works Teams	Jabiru: 5	2 ATSI
	Maningrida: 8	8 ATSI
	Minjilang: 5	5 ATSI
	Waruwi: 10	10 ATSI
	Gunbalanya: 1	1 ATSI
	Total: 29	26 ATSI
Certificate III in Community Services RTO: ALPA Staff in: Community Safety and YSR	Jabiru: 1	0 ATSI
	Gunbalanya: 4	4 ATSI
	Maningrida: 1	1 ATSI
	Minjilang: 7	7 ATSI
	Waruwi: 5	5 ATSI
	Total: 18	17 ATSI
Certificate III in Individual Support RTO: Response Employment & Training Staff in: Community Care	Waruwi: 2	2 ATSI
	Gunbalanya: 1	1 ATSI
	Total: 3	3 ATSI
Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care RTO: Alana Kaye / Batchelor Institute Staff in: Child Care	Minjilang: 2	2 ATSI
	Jabiru: 2	0 ATSI
	Total: 4	2 ATSI

Other training activities carried out between 18 October 2025 and 9 January 2026

1. 4x4 – 4WD Driving in unsealed roads - CDU

Audience: Staff who drive 4WD

Date: 16-17 February 2026 in Jabiru – 18-19 February 2026 in Gunbalanya

2. Remote Trauma Course

Audience: Jabiru Staff

Date: 29 January 2026

Work Health Safety

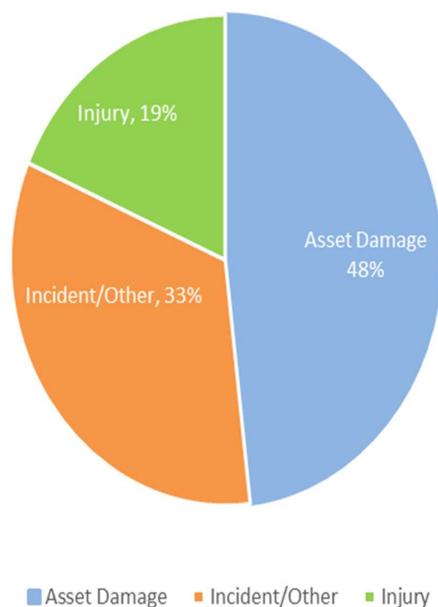
This table outlines the progress we have made in enhancing our safety measures across various areas.

RECENT ACHIEVEMENTS		DATES
Lucidity Software Usage and Improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resource Enhancement: Inspection Dashboard updated for the new year 2026 	Ongoing
Policy and Compliance	<p>Projects completed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aerodrome reporting officer (ARO) WHS Management Plan Final. Childcare Asbestos Sand National recall. <p>Risk Assessments and Project Reviews:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1x Risk Assessment ARO Work all Final sign off SWMS Aerodrome reporting officer all locations Final sign off Royal life saving Risk assessment Maningrida Pool 	16.12.2025 Final Approval 10.03.2026 05.03.2026 10.03.20-26
WHS Training	CSM Workshop - DWN - 02.02-06.02.2026 All Managers have completed five practical WHS modules: Chemical Management, Contractor Management, Incident, Injury and Near Miss, Risk assessment, CSM Responsibilities using WARC training resources tailored to Community services Management.	03 -05 February 2026
Site Visits	Planned for April to all communities with the CSM Manager	April 2026

OTHER ACTIVITIES		DATES
Site Visits	Coming in April	Planning for April 2026

WHS INCIDENTS		
WARC Incidents 10 January 2026 to 13 March 2026		
Type	Number	
Damage to Assets	13	
Incident/Near Miss/ Other	9	
Injury	5	
Grand Total	27	

WARC Incidents 10 January to 13 March 2026



WEST ARNHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 25 March 2026

Agenda Reference:	9.5
Title:	Community and Council Services Report
Author:	Rick Mitchell, Acting Director Council and Community Services

SUMMARY

This report is presented to the Council to provide an overview of community and council services delivered across the West Arnhem Regional Council (WARC) locations, for the reporting period of 01.12.25-28.02.26.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL receives and notes the report entitled *Community and Council Services Report*.

BACKGROUND

High level operational figures are provided to ensure transparency, communication, and insight are provided to elected members.

COMMENT

1. Business and Commercial Services

1.1. Aerodrome Reporting Officer (ARO) Services

Total number of Care Flight callouts that occurred:

Community	December	January	February	Year to date
Gunbalanya	3	3	2	19
Maningrida	11	13	7	69
Minjilang	0	1	2	7
Warruwi	0	2	0	0

	Gunbalanya	Maningrida	Warruwi	Minjilang
Current ARO-trained staff available across the region	2 (SWTL also trained & available for on call)	3 (CSM also trained & available for on call)	2	2 (including CSM)

1.2. Centrelink Services (Gunbalanya, Jabiru, Minjilang, Warruwi)

Centrelink was open during the reporting period, with the exception of:

Community	Date	Reason for closure
Jabiru	27.02.26	Staff availability
Warruwi	03.02.26-06.02.26, 09.02.26-12.02.26, 17.02.26, 19.02.26, 20.02.26, 25.02.26, 27.02.26	Staff availability

1.3. Post Office Services

Total amount of post received and delivered (kg):

Community	December	January	February	Year to date
Gunbalanya	1,367.51	1,322.54	1,390.62	10,862.67 kg
Maningrida	4,824.25	2,948.90	4,196.02	35,501.57 kg
Minjilang	256	196	148	1,948.36 kg
Warruwi	427	255	291	2,991 kg
Jabiru	8,190.3	7,250.32	6,885.07	65,317.79 kg

1.4. Power Water Services (Gunbalanya, Maningrida, Minjilang, Warruwi)

	December	January	February	Year to date
Total number of new Services Requests (SR) received:	29	32	36	355

1.5. Tenancy

	December	January	February	Year to date
Number of new tenants	1	4	4	22
Number of vacating tenants	1	2	3	24

	Gunbalanya	Jabiru	Maningrida	Minjilang	Warruwi
Current total number of properties under refurbishment	2	4	0	0	0

2. Community Services

2.1. Broadcasting (Gunbalanya, Maningrida, Minjilang, Warruwi)

Total number of Top End Aboriginal Bush Broadcasting Association (TEABBA) on-air hours:

Community	December	January	February	Year to date
Gunbalanya	43.2	38.4	38.4	316.4 hrs
Maningrida	8	64	80	152 hrs
Warruwi	0	0	0	0 hrs
Minjilang	0	0	0	0 hrs

2.2. Community Care (Aged Care – Gunbalanya, Jabiru, Minjilang, Warruwi)

Number of Aged Care recipients by community as of 28.02.26:

Community	CHSP	HCP/SAH
Kakadu	7	1
Gunbalanya	6	10
Minjilang	1	2
Warruwi	2	0
Total	16	13

Total meals provided SAH & CHSP:

Community	December	January	February	Year to date
Gunbalanya	558	624	592	4,272
Jabiru	236	244	242	1,794
Minjilang	50	92	120	726
Warruwi	60	62	56	790

2.3. Community Safety (Night Patrol – Gunbalanya, Minjilang & Warruwi)

Number of nights Night Patrol operated:

Community	December	January	February	Year to date
Gunbalanya	14	12	7	43
Minjilang	20	20	20	167
Warruwi	17	20	17	154

- In Gunbalanya, Night patrol operations were impacted by staffing shortages during the reporting period. Recruitment for the Community Safety Senior Officer position is ongoing.
- In Minjilang, Night Patrol services operated on 20 of the 20 available nights. Additional staff have been rostered alongside the Sport and Recreation program to discourage antisocial behaviour among youth.
- In Warruwi, Night Patrol services were not delivered on 3 available nights, due to staff availability.

2.4. Early Learning Centres (Jabiru Childcare Centre, Minjilang & Warruwi Creches)

Total attendance at the Early Learning Centres:

Community	December	January	February	Year to date
Jabiru	145	Closed	Closed	1,259
Minjilang	28	Closed	Closed	456
Warruwi	Closed since December 2024			

Total closures at the Early Learning Centres:

Community	December	January	February	Year to date
Jabiru	8	31	28	68
Minjilang	18	31	28	113
Warruwi	Closed since December 2024			

New enrollments at the Community Creches:

Community	December	January	February	Year to date
Minjilang	0	0	0	3
Warruwi	Closed since December 2024			

2.5. National Disability Insurance Scheme (Gunbalanya, Jabiru, Minjilang, Warruwi)

Number of National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) participants receiving services as of 28.02.26:

	Gunbalanya	Jabiru	Minjilang	Warruwi	Total
NDIS Participants receiving services	14	3	0	3	20

Total NDIS meals provided:

Community	December	January	February	Year to date
Gunbalanya	382	420	360	3,120
Jabiru	92	94	90	610
Minjilang	0	0	0	0
Warruwi	106	186	168	1,642

- There are currently no participants registered with Council for services in Minjilang.

2.6. National Disability Insurance Agency

The National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) Remote Community Connector (RCC) based in Jabiru. Meetings and engagement across the region; as follows:

	December	January	February	Year to date
Community and Stakeholder Engagement Activities	38	85	108	334
Participant Check-In	0	0	0	58
Access Request Forms prepared for potential NDIS Participants	0	1	1	22
Service Provider Visits	0	1	3	21
NDIA Supported Visit	0	0	0	2
Number of other Activities Agreed to By Agency	0	0	0	2
Community Visits	1	1	0	8

- During February, Remote Community Connector made progress by maintaining and strengthening relationships with service providers, stakeholders, NDIS participants and their nominees.

2.7. Sports and Recreation

Total attendance at the Sports and Recreation programs:

Community	December	January	February	Year to date
Gunbalanya	1,095	526	550	4,330
Maningrida	835	750	1,656	9,728
Minjilang	685	629	164	3,479
Warruwi	150	270	302	1,690

Jabiru	68	0	165	2,312
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During the reporting period:

- Despite a one-week closure in Gunbalanya, the sport and recreation program remained productive, with steady participation and strong community engagement.
- Highlights in Gunbalanya included increased engagement through Daluk-only days at the Youth Centre, supporting stronger participation from young women, and the launch of the School Elective Program, with three sessions delivered during the reporting period.
- Community garden discussions are progressing slowly with Gunbalanya community stakeholders.



JLP Basketball delivered their program in Gunbalanya during February

- In Jabiru, youth sport and recreation programs were delivered in partnership with the JLP Basketball facilitators, who ran skills-based workshops with local youth through Jabiru schools.
- No other programs for sport and recreation have taken place, due to staff vacancies in Jabiru. The new sport and recreation team leader commenced in March.



JPL Basketball in Jabiru - provided Structured after-school sessions providing safe and positive recreation opportunities

- In Minjilang, sport and recreation activities continued to be delivered throughout the reporting period, however were impacted by the youth sport officer being away on several occasions
- Weekly wellbeing sessions were held in Minjilang, supporting confidence and mental health
- Program delivery in Warruwi was impacted by staff availability; however, several activities continued throughout the month, such as Basketball scratch matches and disco sessions for younger children.
- In Maningrida Sport and Recreation programs delivered a variety of structured youth activities including after-school programs, school holiday activities and young adult sessions such as Basketball, dodgeball, arts and crafts and table tennis.



Sports and recreation activities took place as usual in Maningrida

3. Council Services

3.1. Aquatic Centres (Jabiru, Maningrida)

Total attendance at the Aquatic Centres:

Community	December	January	February	Year to date
Maningrida	1,250	394	1,401	8,332
Jabiru	368	410	539	5,710

- Jabiru pool is closed Thursdays, Fridays and Public Holidays, due to staff availability, until further notice.

3.2. Library (Jabiru only)

Total attendance at the library:

Community	December	January	February	Year to date
Jabiru	139	85	262	1,751

3.3. Community Works

- Potholes and roadside repairs undertaken throughout community in Jabiru. With the wet season in full swing, potholes are appearing on most roads. Works staff are spending one day per week repairing potholes.
- Ongoing works continuing throughout the region, mowing and hard rubbish collection being priority with the current wet season conditions.
- Maintenance of roads and signage completed as required in line with staffing capacity.



- Upgrade of Community Toilet block in Maningrida commenced in February.



- Work on the bridge in Waruwi is ongoing.



3.4. Community Wins

- Roll out of Remote & Economic Development Program
- 4-wheel drive courses have taken place in Gunbalanya and Jabiru during the reporting period.



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 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 1.3 Communication

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

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 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 25 MARCH 2026

Agenda Reference:	9.6
Title:	West Arnhem - Australian Football League (AFL)
Author:	Rick Mitchell, Acting Director Council and Community Services

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an overview of West Arnhem Regional Council Australian Rules team from Maningrida to play in the Northern Territory Football League. (NTFL)

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL receive and note the report titled *West Arnhem - Austrian Football League (AFL)*.

BACKGROUND

Meeting date	Action
04/04/2024	<p>Hall/oval and highly successful event in Warruwi.</p> <p>5 community members signed up for umpiring.15 January 2024 - Matt Griffiths: Nil further.</p> <p>AFL & AFLW included on YSR participation plans.</p> <p>12 February 2024 - Matt Levens from AFLNT continues to work with Warruwi and Minjilang.</p> <p>Sport and Recreation staff in community are working with Community to have bimonthly visits to community working in conjunction with the school and council.</p> <p>13 February 2024 - Jabiru - Plans are to continue with Auskick in 2024.</p>
02/05/2024	<p>This is an advocacy and strategic item for WARC.</p> <p>My suggestion is that the WARC staff work with the Council and Mayor to discuss the role of WARC in this process of having a team in the AFLNT from West Arnhem.</p> <p>Sport and Recreation staff will continue to provide fundamental training and mentoring opportunities for players, coaches and umpires as well as support ongoing community lead AFL competitions.</p> <p>AFLNTs recommendations form part of the WARC Australian Rules Plan.</p>
11/06/2024	<p>Made initial contact with the Tiwi Bombers president based on an introduction from AFLNT. Had an in-depth conversation around the prospect of having a West Arnhem team in the Premier level.</p> <p>His feedback is noted: *700-800K per year including the cost of a General Manager, travel and other costs to run successfully and professionally.</p> <p>Grants and fundraising are required to cover the costs.</p> <p>Men's and women's team represent Tiwi Bombers.</p> <p>Currently they fly in players weekly to Darwin from Tiwi dependant on game time</p>

	<p>and accommodate in Darwin . 13 of 16 games are played in Darwin with only 3 home games.</p> <p>AFL subsidise the cost of teams travelling to Tiwi to play. They have an affiliation with Tracey Village - when players for Tracey in Div I and II are ready they then move to play Premier level with Tiwi. They train across 3 communities in Tiwi plus Darwin and only come together on game day.</p> <p>Contacted the appropriate staff at the AFLN to discuss financial governance, logistical and venue challenges. Hope to be able to source specific information and contacts that will be useful for the AFL programs in Maningrida.</p> <p>AFL 9s boys' competition for 13-17 years including Maningrida, Gunbalanya and Jabiru is scheduled for 4th July in Jabiru. It is hoped that it will be expanded to include girl's next time.</p> <p>12/06/2024 - Made initial contact with Jabiru Bombers Football Club, they are currently awaiting the election of a new president and will continue conversations when role has been filled.</p>
11/07/2024	<p>AFL9s mini carnival was held in Jabiru during the school holidays.</p> <p>Young men 13-17 years from Maningrida (two teams), Gunbalanya and Jabiru played games Thursday afternoon and Friday. They camped at Jabiru school, cooked BBQ, played basketball into the night and then all sat together and yarned.</p> <p>This was a very successful event facilitated and managed by the Sport and Rec teams across the three communities.</p> <p>TeamHealth, AFLNT, School Attendance officer, Red Lily and Jabiru school helped with transport, coaching and supervision with the community of Jabiru supporting the event by spectating, running water and umpiring the games.</p> <p>Some of the big boy's plan on coming back to Jabiru to play in the men's teams for Football and Basketball for Kurrung Sports Festival at the end of August.</p> <p>Next time we would like to have all communities involved. New AFLNT Staff Graham Hayes is now based in Maningrida. His role is to support and facilitate community training, competition and upskilling of players, coaches, umpires and other volunteers.</p> <p>Sport and Recreation team in Maningrida will support AFLNT.</p>
08/08/2024	<p>AFLNT new staff member has started in Maningrida. Rec and Sport team working with AFLNT staff to ensure a team is training and coming to compete at the Kurrung Festival at the end of August.</p> <p>AFLNT Darwin office are also engaging with Jabiru staff in relation to other events and opportunities to engage in competitions and tournaments.</p> <p>There has been no further progress or discussion about a team in the AFLNT.</p>
18/09/2024	<p>Australian Rules Football played a major part in the recent Kurrung Festival with men's teams from all communities competing.</p> <p>Maningridas upcoming L'urra Festival also includes Australian Rules Football games across various age groups.</p>

	<p>West Arnhem Regional Councils Sport and Recreation staff are playing support roles across the festival football activities.</p> <p>Jabiru Bombers AFLNT official season begins 12th October 2024.</p> <p>Letters to be sent to West Arnhem stakeholders seeking support to develop a West Arnhem AFL Team - further update will be provided at the November Ordinary Council Meeting.</p>
23/09/2024	Meeting scheduled with Sydney Swans on 24 September 2024 to discuss AFL in West Arnhem.
15/10/2024	Request item to be put on hold until conflicting priorities are resolved regarding Councils position (following government advice and direction received in September 2024).

COMMENT

Noting the timeline and multiple attempts made to progress with this request and the lack of collaboration between stakeholders and the willingness to support, it is recommended that this item be complete.

LEGISLATION AND POLICY

Nil

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

N/A

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

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

PILLAR 1 PARTNERSHIPS, RELATIONSHIPS AND BELONGING

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

Goal 1.4 Community Events

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

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 25 March 2026

Agenda Reference:	9.7
Title:	First Nations Employment Plan
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

SUMMARY

This report provides further feedback results from the Draft First Nations Employment Plan and Survey.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL receives and notes the report titled *First Nations Employment Plan*.

BACKGROUND

Early in 2024, a draft **Frist Nations Employment Plan** was released to staff for consultation. Unfortunately, due to various leadership changes the plan did not progress.

Since then, WARC has implemented its first Enterprise Agreement and a Special Measure recruitment policy, resulting in the successful delivery of several actions from the previous plan.

With these changes in in mind, the draft First Nations Employment Plan has been reignited and refreshed, to ensure WARC **continues to grow, support, and develop a strong, skilled, and capable First nations workforce**.

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

N/A

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 Traineeships and Apprenticeships

Provide local residents opportunities to learn and obtain professional qualifications in trades and administration.

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.

ATTACHMENTS

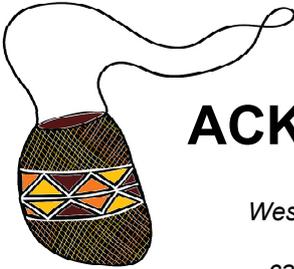
1. First Nations Employment Plan [9.7.1 - 18 pages]

West Arnhem Regional Council



First Nations Employment Plan 2026 – 2030

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 caretakers to each of their Traditional homelands and Waters across the West Arnhem Regions Wards. West Arnhem Regional Council pay their respects and acknowledge Elders past, present and rising.

West Arnhem Regional Council

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West Arnhem Regional Council

OUR VISION

Strong Communities. We achieve our goals together by walking in both worlds.

OUR PURPOSE

We work in partnership with community towards providing meaningful employment and economic opportunities, delivering outstanding customer service and infrastructure.

OUR VALUES

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

West Arnhem Regional Council

TERMS WE HAVE USED IN THIS DOCUMENT

West Arnhem Regional Council (WARC) respectfully uses the terms “First Nations”, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and “Indigenous” in our First Nations Employment Plan to refer to Aboriginal People and Torres Strait Islanders of Australia and First Peoples. We acknowledge other cultural names may be preferred.

CONTRIBUTOR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Council would like to thank the assistance and input of the many contributors to this document including WARC’s First Nations staff, and other employees who have shared their voice.

West Arnhem Regional Council

FIRST NATIONS SNAPSHOT

At 30 June 2021, there were 983,700 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, representing 3.8% of the total Australian population.

76,487 were living in the Northern Territory representing the highest proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people relative to its total population size (30.8%).

Source: ABS 31.08.2023 Final 2021 Census-based estimated resident population of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-Indigenous Australians for various geographies

Source: Estimates of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, 30 June 2021 | Australian Bureau of Statistics (abs.gov.au)

WEST ARNHEM REGION SNAPSHOT

Our Council stretches out over an expanse of almost 50,000 square kilometres across West Arnhem Land encompassing five remote communities, including the two island communities of Warruwi and Minjilang, Gunbalanya, Jabiru and Maningrida. The West Arnhem region encompasses both fresh water and saltwater people of diverse language groups and customs. While each community profile is incredibly unique, Language, Culture and Ceremony are strong, and clans are connected across the entire Arnhem region.

Approximately, 6281 people reside in the West Arnhem region, and more than two thirds of our population identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander or 'Bininj' people.

Population overview

- *Jabiru (755 people)*
- *Gunbalanya (1177 people)*
- *Maningrida (2518 people)*
- *Warruwi (432 people)*
- *Minjilang (265 people)*

People	6281
Male	50.9%
Female	49.1%
Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander	5,097 or 81.1%

Data source: 2021 Census data

West Arnhem Regional Council



West Arnhem Regional Council

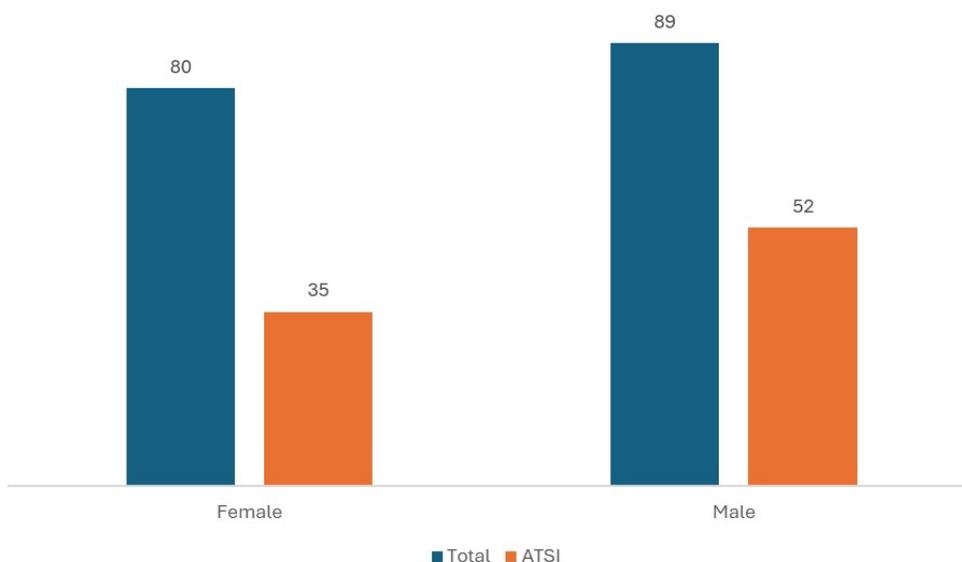
FIRST NATIONS STAFF SNAPSHOT

West Arnhem Regional Council is one of the largest employers in the region providing local government, community wellbeing, and commercial services which contribute to achieving our vision.

As of 30 June 2025, West Arnhem Regional Council employed 169 people of which 53% are Indigenous.

Also, as of 30 June 2025:

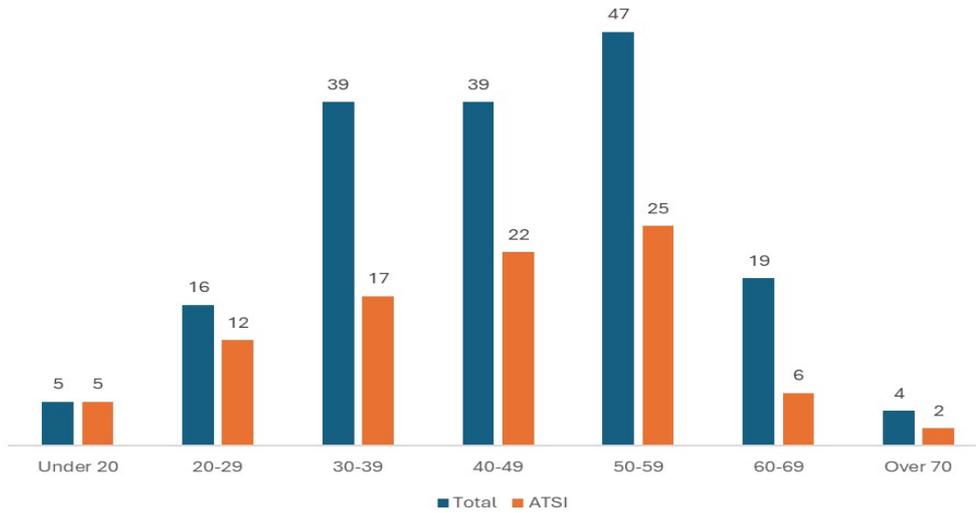
Workforce by Gender



Male employees comprise 53% of the workforce, females constitute 47%.

West Arnhem Regional Council

Workforce by Age



Workforce by Work Location



West Arnhem Regional Council

PLAN OBJECTIVE

The objective of this Plan is to continue to grow and develop a strong, skilled, and capable First Nations workforce across the West Arnhem Region.

This Plan builds on West Arnhem Regional Council's ongoing commitment to drive meaningful organisational change and advance Indigenous employment outcomes.

WARC is committed to creating for Indigenous people a workplace that is supportive, inclusive, and culturally safe.

As one of the major employers in the region, the Council is in a strong position to contribute to improved social and economic outcomes for First Nations people through increased skill development and employment.

This Plan covers the period, March 2026 to March 2030.

Actions will be implemented according to priority and budget.

West Arnhem Regional Council

OUR FOCUS AREAS

Council will aim to increase the employment, retention, and advancement of Indigenous employees across all levels.

First Nations Employment Plan will focus on five main areas:

- 1. Attract and Recruit**
- 2. Train and Develop**
- 3. Retain and Support**
- 4. Grow and Nurture**
- 5. Connect and Partner**

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

Internally, WARC considered and adopted information from the following internal sources:

Regional Plan and Budget 2025-2026

West Arnhem Regional Council Enterprise Agreement 2024-2027

WARC Special Measures – Targeted Recruitment Policy

Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan July 2021 - July 2023

Indigenous Workforce Development Strategy 2013 – 2016

Survey results and feedback received on “Draft First Nations Employment Plan”, conducted between 6 October 2025 and 6 February 2026.

West Arnhem Regional Council

1. FOCUS: ATTRACT AND RECRUIT

The Council aims to attract and recruit suitable Indigenous people to work at WARC.

	GOAL	OUTCOME	RESPONSIBILITY	TARGET
1.1	Advertisements to prominently display: "Indigenous people are strongly encouraged to apply. Special Measures in place."	Targeted advertisements	Human Resources Team	Ongoing
1.2	Job advertisements for select levels to include hourly rate	Ensure information is easily understood	Human Resources Team	Ongoing
1.3	Jobs to be advertised locally using notice boards and radio	Ensure vacancies reach the targeted audience	Human Resources Team	Ongoing
1.4	Simple, non-intimidating selection processes relevant for the position	Remove barriers for local employee recruitment	Human Resources Team	Ongoing
1.5	Ensure that language used in recruitment and selection documentation is in plain English	Prospective employees understand job advertisements, selection criteria and job description	Human Resources Team	Ongoing
1.6	Increase, encourage and support flexibility through part time or casual employment	Support family and cultural obligations	Human Resources Team	Ongoing
1.7	Research, review and develop policy to underpin and inform Council's intent and strategy to increase local Indigenous employment Regional Plan and Budget (RPB) – 2.3 – 2025/2026	Review WARC recruitment processes, partnerships and systems for local people	Human Resources Team	As per policy and procedure review dates

West Arnhem Regional Council

2. FOCUS: TRAIN AND DEVELOP

West Arnhem Regional Council will support and encourage Indigenous employees to develop and build skills through culturally appropriate training.

	GOALS	OUTCOME	RESPONSIBILITY	TARGET
2.1	Select and deliver culturally sensitive training and development opportunities	Training delivered in a culturally sensitive manner. A preference for in person (face-to-face) training	Human Resources Team	Ongoing
2.2	Undertake a skills gap and training needs analysis RPB – 2.1 d – 2025/2026	Skills gaps identified for mandatory compliance	Manager / Supervisor with Human Resources Team support	Ongoing
2.3	Traineeships – Provide opportunities to learn and obtain professional qualifications in trades and administration RPB – 2.2 - 2025/2025	Implemented training activities relevant to work groups	Human Resources Team with Senior Management	Ongoing
2.4	Accessible and realistic career / work pathways	Consult and draft career/ work pathway for work groups	Department/Program Managers with Human Resources Team support	Ongoing
2.5	Establish a WARC Learning and Development Framework RPB 3.3 a – 2025/2026	All learning and development activities support our staff to do their jobs well, aligns with WARC's strategic goals, and respects local culture and community needs	Human Resources Team	December 2026
2.6	Deliver practical on-the-job training	Staff know what is expected of them and have the skills to carry out their responsibilities	All Supervisors and Managers	Ongoing

West Arnhem Regional Council

3. FOCUS: RETAIN AND SUPPORT

West Arnhem Regional Council will aim to increase retention of Indigenous employees by offering a culturally sensitive, supportive, and rewarding work environment.

	GOAL	OUTCOME	RESPONSIBILITY	TARGET
3.1	Develop a culturally appropriate induction program to support newly hired First Nations staff, ensuring they understand Council policies, expectations, and how Council operates	Staff receive a culturally appropriate induction that gives them a clear understanding of how Council works	Human Resources Team	December 2026
3.2	Culturally safe reward and recognition programs	Implemented meaningful reward and recognition programs	Human Resources Team	Ongoing
3.3	Ensure HR policies and procedures do not have barriers to participation of Aboriginal people in the workplace RAP 9.5	Create an inclusive system and workplace	Human Resources Team	Ongoing
3.4	Promote the achievements of Indigenous employees through internal and external communications as appropriate	Employee achievements promoted	Communications and Public Relations Coordinator / Human Resources Team	Ongoing
3.5	Assist Indigenous employees to increase their knowledge and understanding of Council policies and procedures	Indigenous employees understanding and follow policy and procedure	Human Resources Team	On commencement of employment and ongoing
3.6	Promote use of applicable leave entitlements to meet cultural and family obligations	Increased use of Cultural Leave and reduction of Unauthorised Absences, when applicable	Managers and supervisors with Human Resources Team	Ongoing
3.7	Support flexible work practices and requests to promote work/life balances, in a culturally sensitive way	Easily accessible and flexible work/life balance practices are available to all employees	Human Resources Team	Ongoing

West Arnhem Regional Council

	GOAL	OUTCOME	RESPONSIBILITY	TARGET
3.8	Ensure all staff are included in opportunities to participate or have their say	Accessible and inclusive opportunities	All staff	Ongoing
3.9	Research and develop a mentoring or buddy program for Indigenous employees, particularly newly recruited staff	A culturally appropriate buddy system in place for new employees	Executive and Senior Management and Human Resources Team	December 2028
3.10	Increase general and site-specific Cultural Training amongst non-indigenous staff RPB 1.5 c 2025/2026	All new non-indigenous employees complete Cultural Training during probation	Human Resources Team	Ongoing
3.11	Managers and supervisors to regularly check in with staff to identify support needs	Staff report feeling adequately supported and confident in their ability to perform in line with job expectations	Managers and supervisors	Ongoing
3.12	Build managers' and supervisors' skills so they can lead First Nations staff in a culturally safe way and support their ongoing growth	Stronger trust and working relationships are developed between managers and First Nations staff, resulting in improved teamwork and cooperation	Executive and Senior Management and Human Resources Team	Ongoing
3.13	Create opportunities for staff to come together, share, and build stronger relationships and communication	Staff feel more connected, supported, and comfortable sharing ideas, strengthening overall team communication and relationships	Managers and supervisors	Ongoing
3.14	Conduct 'exit' interviews to assist in understanding the reasons for staff separation	Exit interviews conducted and action implemented where necessary	Managers and supervisors	At end of employment

West Arnhem Regional Council

4. FOCUS: GROW AND NURTURE

Provide career development opportunities for Indigenous employees to grow and advance, through career pathways, performance reviews, and other support systems.

	GOAL	OUTCOME	RESPONSIBILITY	TARGET
4.1	Encourage Indigenous staff to determine their own career goals through performance reviews that identify strengths and provide constructive feedback	Staff have clearly defined, realistic goals that support their personal growth	Managers and supervisors	Throughout employment
4.2	Identify emerging talent for growth and actively train/mentor them in preparation for backfill and future roles	Upskilled staff, who receive hands-on and supported training opportunities	Managers and Supervisors with support from Human Resources Team	Ongoing
4.3	Provide opportunities to act-up to a higher position	Increase knowledge, skills, and experience	Managers and Supervisors with support from Human Resources Team	Ongoing
4.4	Support expressions of interest for work experience and volunteer work by Indigenous community members	Participants are provided with work experience and insights into roles which may lead to paid employment	Managers and Supervisors with support from Human Resources Team	Ongoing
4.5	Build and nurture relationships with staff in each community by visiting staff and spending time in person	Staff feeling connected, heard and supported	Senior Leadership Team, Managers and Supervisors	Ongoing

West Arnhem Regional Council

5. FOCUS: CONNECT AND PARTNER

West Arnhem Regional Council will develop partnerships with local Indigenous organisations, Government and non-Government agencies.

	GOAL	OUTCOME	RESPONSIBILITY	TARGET
5.1	Support Indigenous employee representation on relevant external boards, committees and working groups	Indigenous employees represented on external and internal committees and working parties	Executive Leadership Team, Senior Managers	Ongoing
5.2	Develop partnership agreements with local Indigenous organisations to support recruitment	Relationships built and maintained with relevant Indigenous organisations and Government agencies	Managers and Human Resources Team	Ongoing
5.3	Support Career Day expos	Raise awareness of jobs available at Council	Human Resources Team	As available
5.4	Develop partnerships with government, non-government and local community organisations to provide training and development opportunities	Access to training opportunities through partnerships with relevant agencies and organisations	Managers and Human Resources Team	Ongoing
5.5	Increase funds available to employ and develop indigenous staff RPB 1.2 b 2025/2026	More employment and training opportunities for first nations people	Executive Leadership Team, relevant Senior Managers	Ongoing

West Arnhem Regional Council

REPORTING

The progress of this Plan will be included in the Council's Annual Report and Ordinary Council Meetings (or as requested).

ACTION	OUTCOME	RESPONSIBILITY	TIMEFRAME
Reporting of progress	Provide confidence to Executive Leadership Team, and Council that internal efforts for advancing First Nations employment is a priority	Human Resources Team	As required.

To measure success, we will access a variety of sources including:

- WARC workforce data (HR Systems)
- Staff survey results
- Staff feedback
- Training Registers
- Action plan progress reporting

WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 25 March 2026

Agenda Reference:	9.8
Title:	Cultural Training within Communities
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with the feedback received following from consultation with the Local Authorities in regard to Cultural Training within their communities.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL receives and notes the report titled *Cultural Training within Communities*.

BACKGROUND

At the Ordinary Council Meeting in June 2025, the CEO took to Council a report requesting support to develop cultural training for Council staff and contractors. Council requested the CEO to initially consult with the local authorities as it was felt they were best placed to advise on the content of the cultural training for each community that WARC staff worked in.

This item was then deferred by Council until after the 2025 Local Government General Elections. The October Local Authority meetings had to be cancelled so consultation with the Local Authorities could not begin until the March 2026 Local Authority meetings. This agenda item provided an opportunity for an open discussion regarding each community's requirements for cultural training that would best meet the needs of the community, staff, contractors and visitors.

Topics suggested were 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.

Consultation took place during the Local Authority meetings between Monday, 2 March and Thursday 5 March 2025. Attached is a summary of the consultation for each community. Unfortunately, due to time constraints, the item was deferred to the next meeting in Gunbalanya.

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

N/A.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

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

PILLAR 1 PARTNERSHIPS, RELATIONSHIPS AND BELONGING

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

Goal 1.5 Cultural Awareness Training Develop increased understanding and observation of cultural protocols.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Cultural Training - Summary [9.8.1 - 1 page]

Maningrida	Gunbalanya	Warruwi	Minjilang
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Map showing boundaries where women and men are allowed to go • Appropriate attire in community • Women to wear skirts below the knees • Appropriate response when invited to learn on Country • Requesting in-person cultural training provided by First Nations person from West Arnhem region • Cultural training workshop to be provided for all staff including First Nations person born outside the West Arnhem region • List of Northern Land Council permits for recreational activities • Seeking permission to go on Country • Consultation with the main language groups • Appropriate response when asked for goods/money etc. • Understanding totems • Permission to use/remove art 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriate attire in Community • Face-to-face training to be provided • Provide two weeks' notice • Council Services Manager to provide maps • Maps to show boundaries • Council Office to be closed all day until advised otherwise by a Traditional Owner • Yarn circle on Country • First Nations person from Warruwi to lead training • Training to be provided to men and women separately • Seek permission from Traditional Owners to gain access. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seek permission from Traditional landowners when going on Country • Appropriate attire in Community • Contractors to receive cultural training • Men and women training to be provided separately • To liaise with Shane prior to coming to community for the first time. • Shane with a female T/O will hold the cultural training on country. • All female staff will proceed out with a female T/O for training and males with a male T/O. • LA was of the view that they already have a good system in place for cultural training and they induct all staff who work for WARC at the Minjilang office already. • Training is to be provided for those staff who visit regularly.

WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 25 March 2026

Agenda Reference:	9.9
Title:	Australian Local Government Association 2026 National General Assembly
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an update of costs associated with delegates attending the Australian Local Government Association 2026 National General Assembly.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL receives and notes the report titled *Australian Local Government Association 2026 National General Assembly*.

BACKGROUND

In January 2026 Council nominated Cr Jermaine Namanurki together with the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer to attend the 2026 National General Assembly in Canberra. The Council approved costs associated with travel, accommodation and registration for each delegate attending.

Costs were estimated at the time, and it was requested the costs be bought forward to a Council for information.

Registration:	\$4,647.00 (\$1,549.00 per person)
Accommodation:	\$6,436.00 (Darwin and Canberra)
Charters/Flights:	\$8,621.76
Travel Allowances:	\$1,411.05
TOTAL:	\$21,115.81

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

Reasonable Expenses and Benefits Council, Local Authority and Council Committees) Policy

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Funded from Elected Members Travel.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

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

PILLAR 6 FOUNDATIONS OF GOVERNANCE

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

Goal 6.3 Council and Local Authorities

Excellence in governance, consultation administration and representation.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

WEST ARNHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 25 March 2026

Agenda Reference:	9.10
Title:	Technical Services Report
Author:	Kylie Gregson, Manager Technical Services

SUMMARY

This report is presented to the Council to provide an overview of all Local Authority and other Council projects delivered across the West Arnhem Regional Council locations, for the reporting period up to 13 March 2026.

RECOMMENDATION

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

BACKGROUND

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

COMMENT

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

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

Not Applicable.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Not Applicable.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

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

PILLAR 4 SERVICE DELIVERY AND BUILT ENVIRONMENT

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

Goal 4.1 Strategic Infrastructure and Asset Management

Strategically manage, maintain and enhance community infrastructure.

Goal 4.2 Fleet, Plant and Equipment

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

Goal 4.3 Waste and Water Management

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

Goal 4.4 Local Road Management and Maintenance

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

PILLAR 5 SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE ACTION

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

Goal 5.1 Recycling and Waste

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

Goal 5.2 Procurement

Develop and implement a leading-edge sustainability procurement strategy.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Technical Services Projects - OCM March 2026 [9.10.1 - 4 pages]
2. Technical Services LA Projects - OCM March 2026 [9.10.2 - 3 pages]

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%

JABIRU COUNCIL PROJECTS

STATUS	PROJECTED COMPLETE	TASK	DESCRIPTION	% DONE
In Progress	31-07-2026	Overview - Replanting of garden beds, move existing park benches under cover, install charging ports and bubbler. Outstanding works is supply of native plants and re-planing of garden beds.	Jabiru Town Square Revitalisation (Rio Tinto).	40%
In Progress	29-03-2026	Insurance claim accepted - Works awarded to TB Constructions. Replacement of internal ceiling due to water damage. Target completion end of March 2026.	Jabiru Hall Ceiling Replacement - Insurance.	40%
In Progress	30-6-2027	Cultural approval received for Dog Park, Playground and Outdoor Gym from GAC. Awaiting release of funds to commence tender procurement process of projects.	Dog Park & Playground - Lakeside Park. Outdoor Gym - Brockman Oval (Rio Tinto).	25%
In Progress	30-6-2026	Internal upgrades include - Pressure wash surfaces, painting walls, ceilings and doors. Supply and install new toilet pans, shower roses, toilet paper dispensers, paper towel dispensers, mirrors above basins. Supply & install new lighting as required. Target completion end of June 2026.	Town Square Public Toilet Upgrades (Rio Tinto).	25%
In Progress	30-6-2026	Internal upgrades include - Pressure wash surfaces, painting walls, ceilings and doors. Supply and install new toilet pans, shower roses, toilet paper dispensers, paper towel dispensers, mirrors above basins. Investigate and repair internal water leaks. Target completion end of June 2026.	Brockman Oval Public Toilet Upgrades (Rio Tinto).	25%
In Progress	31-7-2026	Replace existing wayfinding signs that are damaged and faded. Awaiting release of funds to commence works.	Wayfinding Sign Upgrades (Rio Tinto).	25%

MANINGRIDA COUNCIL PROJECTS

STATUS	PROJECTED COMPLETE	TASK	DESCRIPTION	% DONE
In Progress	31-05-2026	Construction commenced December 2025, delayed due to structural design. Target completion end of May 2026.	Maningrida Toilets upgrade near office.	50%

MINJILANG COUNCIL PROJECTS

STATUS	PROJECTED COMPLETE	TASK	DESCRIPTION	% DONE
In Progress	31-03-2026	Works awarded to Stedman's Construction. Contractor kick-off meeting completed. Boundary cleared, fencing completed, 6 mtr pavement completed. Pending works, installation of shelter, planting of pandanus and palms, installation of footpath. Target completion end of March 2026.	New Minjilang Cemetery.	80%
In Progress	31-03-2026	Administration lodged an "Expression of Interest" documentation on the 22 January 2019 to the Northern Land Council (NLC) to commence consultation with the community on proposed leasing arrangements to ensure WARC can continue to deliver core services to the community. Consultations and approvals were conducted by the NLC and a proposed lease for staff accommodation was received by WARC on 3 December 2019. Council approved the leasing arrangements 10 June 2020. Since the council endorsement received on 10 June 2020, the leasing arrangements have been on hold due to the unavailability of accessing Council reserve funds to construct the infrastructure required. Additionally, no external staff have been employed to manage the childcare as 100% employment has been utilized by local indigenous staff from the community. Administration has identified since 2020 staff housing is not required to manage the community childcare service therefore no land use agreement (Lot 175) has been executed.	Minjilanga Lot 175 - Expression of interest application for section 19 lease.	5%

WARRUWI COUNCIL PROJECTS

STATUS	PROJECTED COMPLETE	TASK	DESCRIPTION	% DONE
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GUNBALANYA LOCAL AUTHORITY PROJECTS

STATUS	PROJECTED COMPLETE	STAGE	DESCRIPTION	% DONE
In Progress	Dry Season	Procurement to commence for delivery pending on road access.	Install 4 x Flag Poles at the WARC Office.	5%
In Progress	30-06-26	Awaiting authorised PWC Site Servicing Plan to establish costs to connect services (water and sewerage) for proposed public toilet at the Billabong.	Provide ablution facilities at the Billabong.	5%
In Progress	TBA	Estimates to be sourced for construction of shelters only.	Refurbishment/Rebuild of 2 x Community Shelters at Banyan/Arrgulukk.	5%

MANINGRIDA LOCAL AUTHORITY PROJECTS

STATUS	PROJECTED COMPLETE	STAGE	DESCRIPTION	% DONE
In Progress	TBA	Alternative Water Bubbler requested 'Fit for Purpose' - Present options at LA meeting in May 2026 to seek approval.	Installation of Chilled Water Bubbler, Basketball Court.	5%
In Progress	30-05-26	Engineering and design works completed - awaiting revised Building Permit for variation approval.	Fabrication Variation, Raise Height of Airport Shelter - Cultural Entrance/Exit.	25%

MINJILANG LOCAL AUTHORITY PROJECTS				
STATUS	PROJECTED COMPLETE	STAGE	DESCRIPTION	% DONE
In Progress	30-06-26	Procurement to commence for delivery by Seaswift Barge.	Install 4 x Flag Poles at the Office.	5%
In Progress	01-07-26	Council Service Manager (CSM) and IT procuring items for installation.	Starlink WiFi for public use at the rear of the Minjilang Office/Recreation Hall.	5%
WARRUWI LOCAL AUTHORITY PROJECTS				
STATUS	PROJECTED COMPLETE	STAGE	DESCRIPTION	% DONE
In Progress	30-06-26	Procurement to commence for delivery by Seaswift Barge.	Install 2 x Flag Poles at the Office.	5%
In Progress	30-10-26	Provide support/materials for Culttural Camp 2026.	Culttural Camp 2026.	5%
In Progress	01-07-26	Procurement of Park Setting - purchase order sent to Felton Industries.	Beautification of Warruwi - Park Setting for the 'Lookout'.	5%

WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 25 March 2026

Agenda Reference:	9.11
Title:	Regional Waste Update
Author:	Meredith Newall, Waste and Resource Coordinator

SUMMARY

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

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL receives and notes the report titled *Regional Waste Update*.

BACKGROUND

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

COMMENT

1. Regional

- Several non-compliance issues were identified by the NT EPA in October 2025 at Gunbalanya and Maningrida
- Actions to address non-compliance issues by WARC have been approved by council
- The 2025/2026 WaRM grant is being utilised to improve compliance with environmental legislation in all communities
- Signage has been ordered/installed to raise community awareness of the rules that apply to use of their local Waste Management Facility
- Storage units for listed wastes have been ordered for Maningrida, Minjilang and Warruwi
- A draft s19 lease from Northern Land Council (NLC) has been received by council. The lease is intended to be used as a template for the four (4) currently unlicensed landfill sites and has been sent for a legal opinion
- The Clontarf Academy visited the Jabiru Waste Management Facility in February 2026

2. Gunbalanya

- Lease Status: Awaiting lease from Northern Land Council (NLC)
- License Status: Requires licensing and NT EPA have advised in writing that a s19 lease is not required to apply and continuing to operate without a licence is in breach of the *Waste Management and Pollution Control Act 1998*
- Rubbish Collections: No changes to schedule. Replacement bins have been delivered to Jabiru as well as spare lids and pins. These will be delivered to community during the dry season
- Landfill: Operational from Monday to Friday 7.30am – 3.00pm
- The priority for this site is to achieve compliance with environmental legislation ahead of getting an Environment Protection Licence:

- Signage has been received at the Darwin office and will be delivered and installed during the dry season
- The reinstatement of power to the gatehouse and the provision of CCTV has been approved as per the Waste and Resource Management Grant 2024/2025 funding
 - Three (3) quotes have been received for a solar array installation
 - A quote for the supply of a CCTV system has been provided to council
- An upgraded loader is also sought for the community as part of the asset replacement program

3. Jabiru

- Lease Status: Lease with Gundjehmi Aboriginal Corporation Jabiru Town (GAC JT)
- License Status: License EPL351-01
- Rubbish Collections: No changes to schedule. Replacement bins have been delivered to community as well as spare lids and pins
- Landfill: Operational from Monday to Friday 7.30am – 3.00pm
- A green waste sign has been installed at a sorting bay for residents to dispose of green waste
- The site has limited space available for green waste receipt
- There are no resources available to treat green waste either into a usable product (e.g. mulch) or to enable volume reduction prior to landfilling
- A software licence for the 'Cooee' waste data record system has been purchased. The Waste and Resource Coordinator will liaise with the software provider to ensure the system captures relevant data referencing council waste types and fees and charges. Finance and IT will provide input into the system as relevant to their roles. It is expected that the system will be fully operational in May 2026
- Additional signage has been installed at the Jabiru landfill site to advise users of:
 - rules of entry
 - commercial user fees
 - PPE required for entry to the active tip face
 - no unauthorised access to stockpiles
- Illegal dumping signs have been delivered to Jabiru for use by works staff when an illegal dump site has been identified
- On 25 February the Jabiru Waste Management Facility hosted a visit from the Clontarf Academy. Eight students and their teacher learnt about how waste was managed at the landfill site and had a quick tour of the facility. The visitors were given a demonstration of the track loader and mini excavator in operation. The highlight of the visit was being invited to sit in the cab of the mini excavator with students making sure their teacher took a photo of each of them



Introduction to the landfill site



Students taking turns to sit in the cab

4. Maningrida

- Lease Status: Awaiting lease from Northern Land Council (NLC)
- License Status: Requires licensing and NT EPA have advised in writing that a s19 lease is not required to apply and continuing to operate without a licence is in breach of the *Waste Management and Pollution Control Act 1998*
- Rubbish Collections: Monday-Friday. Replacement bins have been delivered to community as well as spare lids and pins
- Landfill: Operational from Monday to Friday 7.30am–3.00pm and although currently unstaffed, it is generally well maintained
- Maningrida Landfill is working towards compliance ahead of a license being granted. The focus of this site is to reinstate power and sewerage to the gatehouse to enable the employment of a Landfill Officer
 - One quote has been received for the required septic tank works
 - Three quotes have been received for the installation of a solar array
- Additional measures to improve compliance with the environmental legislation include:
 - Signage (awaiting Sea Swift freight)
 - rules of entry
 - commercial user fees
 - no unauthorised access to stockpiles
 - 2 x used Car Battery Containers with bund have been ordered
 - 2 x 1,000 litre IBC with bund, frame and cover for waste engine oil have been ordered
 - 6 IBCs of cooking oil disposed at the landfill sites have been sent for processing in Darwin.
- Cleansing bags have been delivered to the Maningrida Council office to address exposure issues associated with cultural waste
 - The cultural burning trial at the Maningrida Waste Management Facility has been terminated following the site visit from the NT EPA. The presence of burnt material on site was noted as a non-compliance issue in the EPA's report
- Keep Australia Beautiful Council NT has been engaged with Maningrida identified as a priority for whole of community engagement and education regarding litter

5. Minjilang

- Lease Status: Awaiting lease from Northern Land Council (NLC)
- License Status: No license required

- Rubbish Collections: No change to schedule. Replacement bins have been delivered to community as well as spare lids and pins.
- Landfill: Remains unstaffed
- Minjilang landfill is unfenced and is impacted by wild pigs foraging disposed waste. The current site is nearing capacity, and a lease is required to extend the current footprint or another suitable site to be identified
- To improve environmental practices at the site the following measures have been put in place:
 - Signage (awaiting Sea Swift freight)
 - rules of entry
 - no unauthorised access to stockpiles
 - 1 x used car battery container with bund (to be stored at the workshop) has been ordered
 - 1 x temporary car battery pallet with bund and cover ordered
 - 1 x 1,000 litre IBC with bund, frame and cover for waste engine oil ordered

6. Warruwi

- Lease Status: Draft lease received from Northern Land Council (NLC) which will be used as a template for other West Arnhem Regional Council landfills
- License Status: No license required
- Rubbish Collections: No change to schedule. Replacement bins have been delivered to community as well as spare lids and pins
- Landfill: Unmanned
- Challenges for this site include limited space into the future
- To improve environmental practices at the site the following measures have been put in place:
 - Signage (awaiting Sea Swift freight)
 - rules of entry
 - no unauthorised access to stockpiles
 - 1 x used car battery container with bund (to be stored at the workshop) have been ordered
 - 1 x temporary car battery pallet with bund and cover have been ordered
 - 1 x 1,000 litre IBC with bund, frame and cover for waste engine oil have been ordered

LEGISLATION AND POLICY

Not applicable.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

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

PILLAR 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 ARNHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 25 March 2026

Agenda Reference:	9.12
Title:	Remote Jobs and Economic Development - Round 3
Author:	Rick Mitchell, Acting Director Council and Community Services

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an update on the Remote Jobs and Economic Development program, round three and to seek nominations for jobs to be applied for by West Arnhem Regional Council (WARC) to create new local employment opportunities.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL receives and notes the report titled *Remote Jobs and Economic Development - Round 3*.

BACKGROUND

The National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA) has released round three of the Remote Jobs and Economic Development (RJED) programs. West Arnhem Regional Council have been successful in securing twelve of the fifteen positions applied across rounds one and two., demonstrating strong performance and capacity in delivering RJED roles.

The RJED program funds the creation of new entry level jobs in Remote Australian Employment Services (RAES) regions along with supporting costs through the Job Creation and Community Jobs and Business Fund (CJBF) streams. These grants support local services economic development and fair award-based employment in remote communities by funding new entry level roles that respond clearly to identified community needs for up to three years.

Under round three, RJED aims to fund approximately 1300 additional jobs for up to three years. The program has two main funding streams:

- Job Creation – provide wages and on-cost support for new positions.
- Community Jobs and Business Fund– supports the equipment, operational costs and infrastructure required to create and sustain those jobs.

All funded roles must be genuinely new positions, not already funded from other sources and must not replace existing employees. Positions must be based in RAES regions and align with local community priorities and economic development objectives with a strong focus on First Nations communities and young people aged 15-24. Eligible applicants include employers and organisations operating in remote regions that can demonstrate strong community support and the capacity to effectively manage the grant.

COMMENT

Round one of RJED introduced 12 positions throughout the region including:

- Precinct Assistant X 3
- Waste Collection Assistant X 3
- Pool and Safety X 4

- Bereavement Support Assistant X 2

West Arnhem Regional Council were unsuccessful in the round two application process.

Round three will include the application for the below positions:

- Cultural Support Assistant X 5
- Facilities Support Assistant X 5
- Transport Driver X 1
- Youth Engagement Assistant X 3

West Arnhem Regional Council are seeking endorsement from Council to apply for the listed roles in Round three and support funding under the Remote Jobs and Economic Development program.

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

Nil.

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.

ATTACHMENTS

1. RJED Program Fact Sheet [9.12.1 - 2 pages]
2. RAES Fact Sheet [9.12.2 - 2 pages]

Creating jobs in your community

The Remote Jobs and Economic Development (RJED) program is creating 6,000 jobs for people living in remote Australia by 2030.

This means:

- ✓ New local jobs with good pay and conditions, like superannuation and leave
- ✓ Jobs are flexible and can be part-time, full-time or casual
- ✓ Communities have a say in what jobs are needed

Every community is different, so jobs may be different in each place. Jobs could be to care for the environment, work in a shop, care for others, grow a small business or you may have other ideas.

How it works

1

Communities talk to employers about what **jobs they need and want**.

2

Employers can apply for government funding to pay for wages and equipment so they can **create these jobs and hire local people**.

3

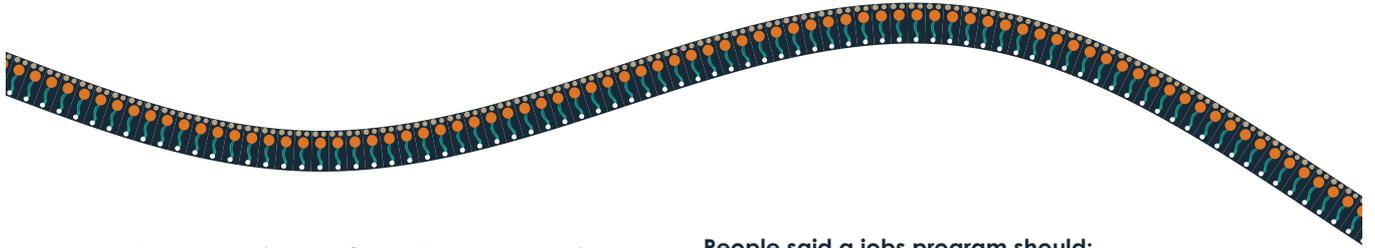
Young people, families, and communities benefit from **new jobs with good pay and conditions**.



Australian Government
National Indigenous
Australians Agency



NIAA



Replacing the Community Development Program

The government is committed to improving employment outcomes for people living in remote Australia and has replaced the Community Development Program (CDP) with the Remote Australia Employment Service (RAES) and the RJED program.

Together, these:

- Provide people in remote communities with meaningful jobs with good pay and conditions
- Support those who may need help to become job ready with the skills and resources they need

People said a jobs program should:

- Be planned and led by communities
- Recognise roles carried out in communities
- Take a new approach for youth
- Support local jobs and people
- Be flexible
- Invest in local priorities
- Assist people who can't work right now

They also said employment services should include:

- Skills and support to complete paperwork for employment
- Continuous on-the job training
- Ongoing tailored mentoring and coaching
- Long-term sustainability of jobs
- Employment that supports local cultural needs

How it came about

Over the past few years, the government has talked to thousands of people in more than 200 remote communities about the best way to replace the Community Development Program (CDP).

This is so we could create a jobs program that communities want, supported by employment services that help young people and job seekers get ready for work.

Find out more

If you're looking for a job or you've finished school or will be soon, find out more!

Visit www.niaa.gov.au/remote-jobs

E-mail RJEDImplementation@niaa.gov.au

Call 1800 079 098





Australian Government

Remote Australia Employment Service

The Remote Australia Employment Service (RAES – pronounced RAYS) replaces the Community Development Program (CDP) and will begin in remote communities on 1 November 2025.

It will provide job seekers in remote communities with a flexible employment service that supports them to upskill, find pathways to work and contribute to their community.

The RAES supports providers to work collaboratively with communities on projects, and with job seekers to understand their needs.

CDP services will continue to support remote job seekers until 31 October 2025 to ensure a smooth transition before RAES starts.

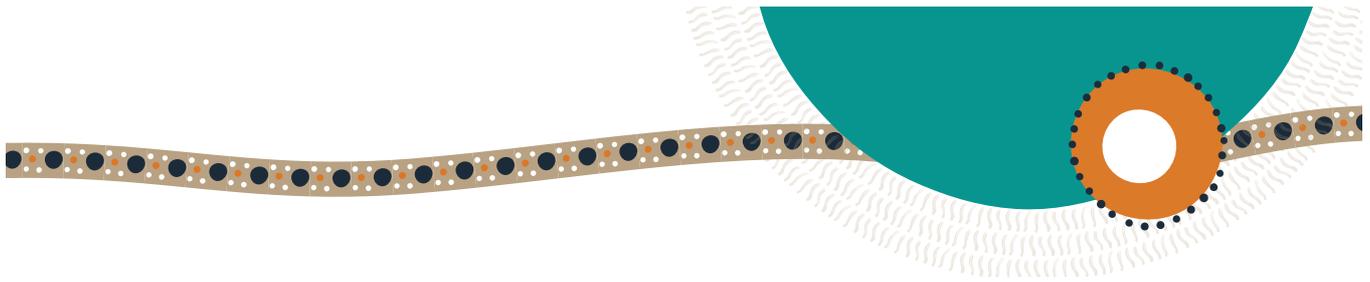
How will the new remote employment service work?

RAES will support job seekers in remote Australia to build their skills and address barriers to getting a job.

It will support around 40,000 job seekers across 1,200 communities in RAES regions (currently known as CDP regions).

The service will:

- ✓ Help job seekers prepare for work, move into a job when available and stay employed with greater access to mentoring and tailored support.
- ✓ Support job seekers through community projects that build their skills and help them become job ready. These projects give communities more flexibility to design solutions locally, tailored for individual needs.
- ✓ Change the way providers are funded, supporting improved service delivery in critical areas such as employment placement support (currently known as post placement support).



- ✓ In a small number of regions, trial local approaches to build language, literacy and numeracy as these are foundational skills for getting a job.
- ✓ In a small number of regions trial how existing job seeker assessment processes could be improved so job seekers feel supported and comfortable, with providers identifying barriers as well as strengths and skills.
- ✓ Provide an increased investment in training and resources to deliver higher quality, culturally safe services tailored to remote job seekers.

Job seekers will still be required to agree to a job plan, attend regular appointments, and accept suitable paid work and not leave suitable paid work.

There will be opportunities for improvement throughout implementation of the service to reflect further community and stakeholder feedback.

How will the new service be different to CDP and CDEP?

What we know is that the current CDP is not working for everyone. The RAES will:

- ✓ Be more flexible.
- ✓ Enhance provider engagement with community to ensure community projects are co-designed and align with local priorities and aspirations.
- ✓ Link participants with suitable employment opportunities, including those created through the Remote Jobs and Economic Development (RJED) program.

Participation in activities to meet mutual obligation requirements will remain voluntary.

The new service will abide by new workplace rules and laws that have come into place since CDEP including:

- Requirements for Working with Vulnerable People or Working with Children checks to protect vulnerable people and children from harm.
- New Work Health and Safety laws have also been introduced to manage risks to the health and safety of everyone in a job.

It's important to the Government that the service works for job seekers in remote communities and complements existing policies led by other Government departments, while also aligning with broader employment policy reforms.

For more information

Visit niaa.gov.au/remote-services

[Subscribe for email updates](#) on remote employment via the website

Email us at

RemoteEmploymentService@niaa.gov.au

Contact your local NIAA regional office on **1800 079 098**

WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 25 MARCH 2026

Agenda Reference:	10.1
Title:	Elected Member Questions with or without Notice
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

SUMMARY

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

RECOMMENDATION

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

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 25 MARCH 2026

Agenda Reference:	11.1
Title:	Closure to the Public for the Discussion of Confidential Items
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

SUMMARY

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

LEGISLATION AND POLICY

Section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019*

Regulations 51 and 52 of the *Local Government (Administration) Regulations 2021*

RECOMMENDATION

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

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 25 MARCH 2026

EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

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

Agenda Reference:	12.1
Title:	Confirmation of Confidential Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

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

Agenda Reference:	12.2
Title:	Confidential Kakadu Ward Advisory Committee Minutes
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

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

Agenda Reference:	12.3
Title:	Incoming and Outgoing Correspondence
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

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

Agenda Reference:	12.4
Title:	Review of Confidential Action Items
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

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

Agenda Reference:	12.5
Title:	Current Status of Outstanding Regional Land Use Agreements from the Northern Land Council and Gundjeihmi Aboriginal Corporation Jabiru Town
Author:	Clem Beard, Project Manager

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

Agenda Reference:	12.6
Title:	K9 Security Maningrida - Funding Request
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

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

Agenda Reference:	12.7
Title:	Minjilang Local Authority Appointment
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

The Report will be dealt with under Section 293(1) of the Local Government Act 2019 and General Regulation 2021 Part (3) Administration - Division 2 Section 51(1)(a). It contains information about the employment of a particular individual as a member of the staff or possible member of the staff of the council that could, if publicly disclosed, cause prejudice to the individual.

Agenda Reference:	12.8
Title:	Maningrida Power Supply
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

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

Agenda Reference:	12.9
Title:	Strategic Plan and Advocacy Framework
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

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

Agenda Reference:	12.10
Title:	Mayor's Travel Arrangements
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

The report will be dealt with under Section 293(1) of the Local Government Act 2019 and General Regulations 2021 Part (3) Administration - Division 2 51(1)(b). It contains information about the personal circumstances of a resident or ratepayer.

Agenda Reference:	12.11
Title:	Chief Executive Officer's Report
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

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

WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING WEDNESDAY 25 MARCH 2026

RE-ADMITTANCE OF THE PUBLIC

Agenda Reference:	13.1
Title:	Disclosure of Confidential Resolutions and Re-admittance of the Public
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

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

14 NEXT MEETING

15 MEETING DECLARED CLOSED