



WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL AGENDA

**GUNBALANYA LOCAL AUTHORITY
THURSDAY, 16 JULY 2026**

12.00 PM - 1.00 PM



WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

Notice is hereby given that a Local Authority Meeting of the West Arnhem Regional Council will be held in Gunbalanya on Thursday 16 July 2026 at 10:00 am.



Katharine Clare Murray
Chief Executive Officer

Code of Conduct: The Local Government Act 2019

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

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

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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 16 JULY 2026

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

SUMMARY

This report is to table, for the Gunbalanya Local Authority record, any apologies, and requests for leave of absence received from Authority members, as well as record any absence without notice for the meeting held on 16 July 2026.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

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

COMMENT

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

LEGISLATION AND POLICY

Guideline 1: Local Authorities

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

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

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

PILLAR 6 FOUNDATIONS OF GOVERNANCE

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

Goal 6.3 Council and Local Authorities

Excellence in governance, consultation administration and representation

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

WEST ARNHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 16 JULY 2026

Agenda Reference:	4.1
Title:	Disclosure of Interest of Members or Staff
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

SUMMARY

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

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

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

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

RECOMMENDATION

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY acknowledges that there were no declarations of interest in reference to the items listed for the Gunbalanya Local Authority meeting held on 16 July 2026.

LEGISLATION AND POLICY

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

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

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

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

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

PILLAR 6 FOUNDATIONS OF GOVERNANCE

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

Goal 6.4 Risk Management

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

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 16 JULY 2026

Agenda Reference:	5.1
Title:	Confirmation of Local Authority Meeting Minutes
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

SUMMARY

Unconfirmed minutes from the Gunbalanya Local Authority meeting held on Tuesday, 12 May 2026 are submitted to the Local Authority for confirmation that the minutes are a true and correct record of the meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY adopts the minutes of the Gunbalanya Local Authority meeting held on Tuesday, 12 May 2026 as a true and correct record, noting Council's resolution as follows:

OCM163/2026 RESOLVED:

THAT COUNCIL:

- 1. Notes the minutes of the following Local Authority meetings and reviewed decisions made by the Local Authority; and*
- 2. Provides in-kind and in-principal support to the upgrade of the Gunbalanya Community Shelter Arrkuluk and Kakbi together with external stakeholders such as Gunbalanya Nominees, Emmanuel Church and Wurdwurd Foundation.*

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. 2026-05-12 Gunbalanya Local Authority Meeting Minutes - Unconfirmed [5.1.1 - 10 pages]



Minutes of the West Arnhem Regional Council Gunbalanya Local Authority
Tuesday, 12 May 2026 at 10:00 am
Council Chambers

1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY AND OPENING OF MEETING

Chairperson Andy Garnarradj declared the meeting open at 10:00am, welcomed all in attendance and 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

ELECTED MEMBERS PRESENT

Deputy Mayor	Jacqueline Phillips
Councillor	Henry Yates
Councillor	Ralph McCoy (via Teams)

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Chief Executive Officer	Katharine Murray
Director Corporate Services	Jocelyn Nathanael-Walters (via Teams)
Acting Director Community and Council Services	Rick Mitchell (via Teams)
Director Technical Services	Grant McKenzie
Project Manager	Clem Beard
Finance Manager	Imram Shajib (via teams)
Acting Council Service Manager	Damian Blair
Governance Advisor	Debbie Branson
Executive Assistant	Violette Stehlin (via Teams)
Waste and Resource Coordinator	Meredith Newall (via Teams)
Communications and Public Relations Coordinator	Heidi Walton

GUESTS

Northern Land Council Chairperson	Matt Ryan
Power Water	Megan Purser
One Wifi	Ritesh Pawa and Gary Tsgan
NT Police	Constable Adam McMahon
Emmanuel Church	Matt Pearson

GUEST SPEAKERS

Constable Adam McMahon joined the meeting at 10:00am and left at 10:26am.

A flyer from the NT Police was tabled regarding the Gunbalanya Community Safety Plan. The plan incorporates issues such as domestic violence, unlawful entry, over consumed alcohol, youth issues, unregistered and unroadworthy vehicles and licencing.

Questions were raised regarding Council's Night Patrol service, and it was agreed that the Local Authority Members support the Night Patrol employees.

NT Police available to provide assistance with registration online registration renewals. The local police office to provide information to community regarding stamp duty and new requirements regarding vehicle inspections.

3 APOLOGIES AND ABSENCES

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

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

GUN20/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Member Kerry Manakgu
Seconded Member Ishmael Wurramara

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Notes the apology received from Cr Daniel Siebert and Member Connie Nayinggul and Member Tamar Nawirridj;
2. Notes Mayor James Woods is on Leave of Absence; and
3. Determines Cr Daniel Siebert and Member Connie Nayinggul and Member Tamar Nawirridj, are an apology with permission of the Authority.

CARRIED

4 DECLARATION OF INTEREST OF MEMBERS OR STAFF

Agenda Reference:	4.1
Title:	Disclosure of Interest of Members or Staff
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

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

GUN21/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Chairperson Member Andy Garnarradj

Seconded Member Kenneth Mangiru

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY acknowledges that there were no declarations of interest in reference to the items listed for the Gunbalanya Local Authority meeting held on 12 May 2026.

CARRIED

5 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Agenda Reference:	5.1
Title:	Confirmation of Local Authority Meeting Minutes
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

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

GUN22/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Member Maxwell Garnarradj

Seconded Member Ishmael Wurramara

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY adopts the minutes of the Gunbalanya Local Authority meeting held on Tuesday, 2 March 2026 as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

6 DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Agenda Reference:	6.1
Title:	Invited Guest - Northern Land Council Chairperson
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

The Local Authority considered a report on Invited Guest - Northern Land Council Chairperson.

As a member of the Northern Land Council, Deputy Mayor Phillips declared a conflict of interest and Member Kerry Manakgu in this item however it was considered necessary for her to leave the meeting as no decision was required from Council.

Chairperson Matt Ryan and Andry Ralph from the Northern Land Council joined the meeting at 10:41am.

It was agreed that Council write to the Minister for Logistics and Infrastructure and Member for Arafura to follow up the outstanding Section 19 lease application.

Northern Land Council full council meeting will be held in Gunbalanya from Monday, 22 June 2026 for a week. The meeting will be held at the Gunbalanya School and camping on the oval.

GUN23/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Chairperson Member Andy Garnarradj

Seconded Member Kenneth Mangiru

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY notes the attendance of the Northern Land Council's Chairperson to discuss the Gunbalanya Airport shelter.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	6.2
Title:	Invited Guest - Power Water
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

This item was deferred until the representative was scheduled to join the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 10:58am and reconvened at 11:24am

Agenda Reference:	6.3
Title:	Presentation - One Wifi - Gunbalanya
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

This item was deferred until the representative was scheduled to join the meeting.

7 RECEIVE AND NOTE REPORTS

Agenda Reference:	7.1
Title:	CSM Operations Report on Current Council Services
Author:	Rick Mitchell, Acting Director Council and Community Services

This item was deferred to later in the meeting.

Agenda Reference:	7.2
Title:	Technical Services Gunbalanya Projects Report
Author:	Kylie Gregson, Manager Technical Services

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

GUN24/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Chairperson Member Andy Garnarradj

Seconded Member Kenneth Mangiru

THAT LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *Technical Services Gunbalanya Projects Report*;
2. Requests the palm trees be removed where the flag poles will be installed;
3. Requests a report to the next Local Authority meeting regarding a funeral vehicle, co funded by various stakeholders.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	7.3
Title:	Papers of Sue Kesteven
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

The Local Authority considered a report on Papers of Sue Kesteven.

GUN25/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Member Ishmael Wurramara

Seconded Member Kerry Manakgu

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY receives and notes the report titled *Papers of Sue Kesteven*.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	7.4
Title:	Human Resources Report as of 24 April 2026
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

The Local Authority considered a report on Human Resources Report as of 24 April 2026.

It was agreed that the titles of ASTIC and Non-ASTIC be changed.

GUN26/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Chairperson Member Andy Garnarradj

Seconded Member Ishmael Wurramara

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY receives and notes the report titled *Human Resources Report as of 24 April 2026*.

CARRIED

The meeting was adjourned at 11:58am and reconvened at 12:41pm without Cr Ralph McCoy and Member Ishmael Wurramara in attendance.

Agenda Reference:	7.1
Title:	CSM Operations Report on Current Council Services
Author:	Rick Mitchell, Acting Director Council and Community Services

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

Member Ishmael Wurramara joined the meeting at 12:50pm.

Cr Henry Yates left the meeting at 12:58pm and Cr Ralph McCoy joined the meeting at 12:59pm.

GUN27/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Member Evonne Gumurdul

Seconded Member Ishmael Wurramara

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *CSM Operations Report on Current Council Services*; and
2. Contacts Northern Territory Housing regarding weed control and fire hazard issues within yards of the Community houses.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	6.2
Title:	Invited Guest - Power Water
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

The Local Authority considered a report on Invited Guest - Power Water.

Member Evonne Gumurdul joined the meeting at 1:20pm.

Megan Purser attending the meeting at 1:20pm and left at 1:34pm.

GUN28/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Member Kenneth Mangiru

Seconded Member Maxwell Garnarradj

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY notes the attendance of the representative from Power Water.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	6.3
Title:	Presentation - One Wifi - Gunbalanya
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

The Local Authority considered a report on Presentation - One Wifi - Gunbalanya.

One Wifi joined the meeting at 1:36pm and left at 1:53pm.

GUN25/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Member Evonne Gumurdul

Seconded Member Kerry Manakgu

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY notes the presentation provided by the One Wifi.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	7.5
Title:	Finance Report to 31 March 2026
Author:	Imran Shajib, Finance Manager

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

Member Evonne Gumurdul left the meeting at 1:15pm

GUN30/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Member Ishmael Wurramara

Seconded Member Kerry Manakgu

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

1. Receives and notes the report titled *Finance Report to 31 March 2026*;
2. Receives and notes the Gunbalanya Local Authority Certification of the 2024-25 Local Authority Project Funding.

CARRIED

8 ACTION REPORTS

Agenda Reference:	8.1
Title:	Cultural Training
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

Agenda Reference:	8.2
Title:	Strategic Plan Review
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

Agenda Reference:	8.3
Title:	Review of Action Items
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

Agenda Reference:	8.4
Title:	Community Benefit Fund
Author:	Clem Beard, Project Manager

The Local Authority considered a report on Community Benefit Fund.

Matt Pearson joined the meeting at 2:00pm and left at 2:18pm.

GUN31/2026 RESOLVED:
On the motion of Member Evonne Gumurdul
Seconded Member Kerry Manakgu

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *Community Benefit Fund*; and
2. Seeks the Council supports to the upgrade of the Community Shelter Arrukuluk and Kakbi together with external stakeholders such as Gunbalanya Nominees, Emmanuel Church and Wurdwurd Foundation.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 2:18pm and reconvened at 2:35pm.

Agenda Reference:	8.5
Title:	Community Honour Board
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

The Local Authority considered a report on Community Honour Board.

This item was noted and discussed however no motion was made. Concern was expressed regarding the visibility of the names on the board.

Agenda Reference:	8.6
Title:	Upgrade the stainless steel toilets at the Gunbalanya office
Author:	Clem Beard, Project Manager

The Local Authority considered a report on Upgrade the stainless steel toilets at the Gunbalanya office.

GUN32/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Member Kenneth Mangiru
Seconded Member Maxwell Garnarradj

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *Upgrade the stainless steel toilets at the Gunbalanya office*; and
2. Replace stainless steel toilets to Vitreous China Pedestals \$9,555.00 with the Local Authority Funding.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	8.7
Title:	Eco friendly toilet installation at the Gunbalanya Airport
Author:	Clem Beard, Project Manager

The Local Authority considered a report on Eco friendly toilet installation at the Gunbalanya Airport.

Cr Ralph McCoy left the meeting at 2:41pm.

GUN33/2026 RESOLVED:

On the motion of Member Evonne Gumurdul
Seconded Member Maxwell Garnarradj

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *Eco friendly toilet installation at the Gunbalanya Airport*; and
2. Approves LOOCUBE ECOFLO Ablutions at the Gunbalanya Airport with an indicative cost of \$253,125.00 per supplied Concept Design through a Community Benefit Grant when Land Use Agreement has been endorsed by Council.

CARRIED

Agenda Reference:	8.8
Title:	Council Draft 2026-27 Regional Plan and Budget
Author:	Jocelyn Nathanael-Walters, Director Corporate Services

This item was deferred.

9 LOCAL AUTHORITY MEMBER QUESTIONS WITH OR WITHOUT NOTICE

Agenda Reference:	9.1
Title:	Local Authority Member Questions with or without Notice
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

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

Nil items were raised.

10 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled to take place on Thursday, 16 July 2026.

11 MEETING DECLARED CLOSED

Chairperson Member Andy Garnarradj declared the meeting closed at 3:00pm.

This page and the preceding pages are the minutes of the Gunbalanya Local Authority held on Tuesday 12 May 2026.

Click [here](#) to view the agenda for the Gunbalanya Local Authority held on Tuesday 12 May 2026.

WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 16 JULY 2026

Agenda Reference:	6.1
Title:	Strategic Plan Review
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to seek feedback from the Local Authority as part of the review of the Strategic Pillars.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Receive and note the report titled *Strategic Plan Review*; and
2. Provides feedback in relation to the questions raised within the report.

BACKGROUND

In January 2026 consultation commenced with Council to review the strategic direction to ensure alignment with current priorities and values.

In March 2026 the review of the pillars was introduced to the Local Authorities and Kakadu Ward Advisory Committee with further consultation to follow.

The Council approved the following questions be put to the Local Authorities and Kakadu Ward Advisory Committee to commence a further review:

1. In relation to WARC activities only, what matters most for your community in the next five years?
2. Which current pillars and priorities feel right? Which need to change?
3. Where is Council doing well? Where does it need to lift?
4. How should we measure success by Council in your community?

LEGISLATION AND POLICY

N/A

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

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

PILLAR 1 PARTNERSHIPS, RELATIONSHIPS AND BELONGING

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

Goal 1.1 Community Engagement

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

ATTACHMENTS

1. Pillars and Goals 2026-27 [**6.1.1** - 3 pages]

PILLAR 1 PARTNERSHIPS, RELATIONSHIPS AND BELONGING	
Investing in relationships and partnerships at all levels supports and strengthens community and belonging. We prioritise the value of partnerships and relationships as a key determinant of a happy, strong and thriving community.	
Goal 1.1	Community Engagement Seek out and support diverse perspectives and collaborations with community, community leaders, businesses, agencies and local service providers to enhance community life
Goal 1.2	Economic Partnerships Secure increased income opportunities (grants and commercial) that create employment and/or improve community life
Goal 1.3	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 1.5	Cultural Training Develop increased understanding and observation of cultural protocols
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 affects them

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
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 Council 'Innovate' Reconciliation Action Plan
Goal 3.2	Health and Safety Staff and public safety is achieved via planning, education and training
Goal 3.3	Learning and Development Deliver training and development which is effective, 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

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	Waste and Water Management Deliver environmentally and economically sound solid waste, water and sewerage services
Goal 4.3	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	Education Develop and deliver locally relevant education initiatives on sustainability and climate impacts across multiple mediums and platforms
Goal 5.3	Policy Devise and implement a Sustainability and Climate Action Policy

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
Goal 6.2	Records Delivery of storage and retrieval of records processes which support efficient and transparent administration
Goal 6.3	Council and Local Authorities Excellence in governance, consultation administration and representation
Goal 6.4	Risk Management The monitoring and minimisation of risks associated with the operations of Council
Goal 6.5	Planning and Reporting Robust planning and reporting that supports Council's decision-making processes
Goal 6.6	Information and Communication Technology Effective and innovative information technology solutions which maximise service delivery and support Council's operations

WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 16 JULY 2026

Agenda Reference:	6.2
Title:	Cultural Training
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

SUMMARY

This report presents an opportunity for each Local Authority to develop cultural awareness training within the community.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *Cultural Training*; and
2. Provides recommendations on cultural training that best meet the needs of the community, staff, contractors and visitors.

BACKGROUND

At the Ordinary Council Meeting 30 June 2025, Council requested a draft policy be prepared and considered further at a future workshop which will include consultation with the local authorities.

It was agreed that this would be actioned post the Local Government 2026 General Election.

The purpose of this list is for open discussion with the Local Authorities members. Suggestions as follows:

- Specific information about history, Traditional Owners/Elders, and their role, and local protocols -site specific-.
- Behaviours expected on Country: What are the expected behaviours from visitors and workers while living and working on their land (e.g. what's considered culturally disrespectful/inappropriate/rude, what behaviours are welcomed, etc.).
- How to behave and what to/not to do when cultural events are occurring, particularly Sorry Business.
- Geographic orientation: No-go zones, blocked roads, men's or women's business areas, etc.
- Communication: Practical information on how to engage respectfully with both men and women by recognising sensitivities (communication protocols when talking to the opposite gender), understanding kinship (such as poison cousins/relationships), body language, etc.
- Animals in community (e.g. dogs, cats, horses, pigs, goats).
- Drug and Alcohol prohibitions.
- Dress code: What's the appropriate clothing to wear in community for both men and women.

LEGISLATION AND POLICY

N/A.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

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

PILLAR 1 PARTNERSHIPS, RELATIONSHIPS AND BELONGING

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

Goal 1.5 Cultural Awareness Training

Develop increased understanding and observation of cultural protocols.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 16 JULY 2026

Agenda Reference:	6.3
Title:	Review of Action Items
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

SUMMARY

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

RECOMMENDATION

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

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

BACKGROUND

Action items arise out of resolutions of the Local Authority or questions asked by Members. The attached register provides the current status of the action items as provided by the administration. The administration recommends items as complete but it is for the Local Authority to determine whether the item remains active or is complete and can be removed.

COMMENT

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

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

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

PILLAR 6 FOUNDATIONS OF GOVERNANCE

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

Goal 6.3 Council and Local Authorities

Excellence in governance, consultation administration and representation.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Actions Gunbalanya [6.3.1 - 1 page]

Gunbalanya Local Authority - Actions				
Meeting Date	Status	Action Required	Assignees	Action Taken
3/03/2026	In Progress	Gunbalanya Airport GUN6/2026 RESOLVED: Requests staff to investigate lease ownership over the land of the Gunbalanya Airport.	Grant Mckenzie	Investigations underway.
12/05/2026	Complete	Weed Control / Fire Hazard GUN27/2026 Contact Northern Territory Housing regarding weed control and fire hazard issues within yards of the Community houses.	Peter Mickelson	Refer to correspondence.
12/05/2026	Complete	Palm Trees - Flag Poles GUN24/2026 Liaise with CSM to remove palm trees where the new flag poles will be located.	Peter Mickelson	Palms removed.
12/05/2026	In Progress	Funeral Vehicle GUN24/2026 Requests a report to the next Local Authority meeting regarding a funeral vehicle, co funded by various stakeholders.	Kylie Gregson	In search of funding sources.

WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 16 July 2026

Agenda Reference:	6.4
Title:	Finance Report Gunbalanya Local Authority
Author:	Imran Shajib, Finance Manager

SUMMARY

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

RECOMMENDATION

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

1. Receives and notes the report titled *Finance Report Gunbalanya Local Authority*;

BACKGROUND

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

COMMENT

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

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

LEGISLATION AND POLICY

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

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Not Applicable

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

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

PILLAR 6 FOUNDATIONS OF GOVERNANCE

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

Goal 6.1 Financial Management

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



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

Actual v Budget – Operational – July 2025 to May 2026



Actual v Budget - Gunbalanya as at 31 May 2026						
Description	GUNBALANYA					
	Actuals YTD	Budget YTD	Variance	%	Annual Budget	Progress
Operational Revenue						
Income Rates and Charges	442,822	444,759	(1,937)	(0%)	444,759	100%
Income Council Fees and Charges	8,434	19,250	(10,816)	(56%)	22,000	38%
Income Operating Grants	944,969	1,128,599	(183,630)	(16%)	1,128,919	84%
Income Allocation	122,554	160,512	(37,958)	(24%)	171,321	72%
Other Income	152,152	125,862	26,290	21%	103,268	100%+
Income Agency and Commercial Services	1,355,359	1,403,832	(48,473)	(3%)	1,534,266	88%
Charges - Waste	368,035	390,622	(22,587)	(6%)	390,622	94%
Total Operational Revenue	3,394,324	3,673,436	(279,112)	(8%)	3,795,155	89%
Operational Expenditure						
Employee Expenses	1,705,004	2,054,654	(349,651)	(17%)	2,254,639	76%
Contract and Material Expenses	697,606	1,054,061	(356,454)	(34%)	1,323,235	53%
Finance Expenses	1,616	1,169	447	38%	1,270	100%+
Travel, Freight and Accom Expenses	72,259	130,643	(58,384)	(45%)	142,323	51%
Fuel, Utilities & Communication	268,273	321,688	(53,415)	(17%)	355,599	75%
Other Expenses	464,593	492,917	(28,325)	(6%)	578,758	80%
Council Committee & LA Allowances	7,550	14,900	(7,350)	(49%)	14,900	51%
Council Committee & LA Expenses	1,956	4,000	(2,044)	(51%)	4,000	49%
Total Operational Expenditure	3,218,856	4,074,032	(855,176)	(21%)	4,674,724	69%
Total Operational Surplus / (Deficit)	175,468	(400,596)	576,065	100% +	(879,569)	0%

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



Annual Budget Operating Position as at 31 May 2026						
Description	Actuals YTD	Budget YTD	Variance	%	Annual Budget	Progress
Operating Surplus / (Deficit)	175,468	(400,596)	576,064	100% +	(879,569)	0%
Remove NON-CASH ITEMS						
Less Non-Cash Income	(122,554)	(160,512)	37,958	24%	(171,321)	72%
Add Back Non-Cash Expenses	(804,066)	(853,971)	49,905	6%	(928,914)	87%
Total Non-Cash Items	681,513	693,460	(11,947)	(2%)	757,593	90%
Less ADDITIONAL OUTFLOWS						
Capital Expenditure	399,260	654,438	(255,177)	(39%)	703,868	57%
Total Additional Outflows	399,260	654,438	(255,177)	(39%)	703,868	57%
Add ADDITIONAL INFLOWS						
Prior Year Carry Forward Tied Funding	236,956	236,956	-	-	236,956	100%
Transfers from Reserves	7,237	-	7,237	100%	-	100%
Total Additional Inflows	244,193	236,956	7,237	3%	236,956	100% +
Net Budgeted Operating Position	701,913	(124,619)	826,531	100% +	(588,887)	0%

Legend:

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

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

Excludes LAP Funding



Grant Funded - Community Projects	Funding Body	Approved Budget (A)	Prior Year Expenditure (B)	Expenditure to date 2025-26 (C)	Commitments to Date (D)	Available Funds as at 31.05.2026 (A-B-C-D)
4WD Bus -Sports & Recreation	Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts	160,000	(628)	(131,989)	(12,864)	14,519
TOTAL COMMUNITY PROJECTS		160,000	(628)	(131,989)	(12,864)	14,519

Grant Funded - Community Programs/Activities	Funding Body	Expenditure to date 2025-26 (A)	Commitments	Total Expenditure (A+B)
Home Care Packages Program (from July to November 2025)	Department of Health and Aged Care	50,335	-	50,335
Commonwealth Home Support Program	Department of Social Services	136,992	1,382	138,374
IEI - NT Jobs Package - Aged Care	Commonwealth of Australia	66,477	-	66,477
Night Patrol	National Indigenous Australians Agency	99,444	-	99,444
Deliver Indigenous Broadcasting Programs	National Indigenous Australians Agency	21,247	-	21,247
Australia Day Grant	Australia Day Council NT	361	-	361
eHCP - Home Care Packages Program from eTools	Department of Health and Aged Care	58,340	-	58,340
NAIDOC Week	National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA)	1,082	-	1,082
Sports and Recreation	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	159,890	16,808	176,698
Active Regional and Remote Communities Program	Department of People, Sport and Culture	33,340	14,945	48,285
Remote Jobs for Economic Development – Job Creation	National Indigenous Australians Agency	31,630	-	31,630
Support at Home Program (Note: This program commenced in November 2025, replacing the Home Care Packages Program)	Department of Social Services	49,749	98,959	148,708
TOTAL GRANT FUNDED PROJECTS / ACTIVITIES		708,887	132,094	840,981

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

Grant Funding - Local Authority Projects	Funding Amount \$	Fund received \$	Allocated \$	Balance Available for Allocation \$	Gunbalanya
LAP funding - 24-25	159,700	159,700	141,290	18,410	
LAP funding - 25-26	168,800	168,800	-	168,800	
Total Balance Available for Allocation				\$ 187,210	

Grant Funding - Local Authority Projects - Active Projects	Approved Budget \$	Meeting Date/ Resolution	Cash received to date (incl. Carried Forward) \$	Expenditure prior years \$	Expenditure to date 2025-26 \$	Commitments \$	Available Funds Active Projects as at 31.05.2026 \$	Status
Local Authority Projects (LAP)								
LAP - Additional Garden Hard Structure at the Billabong	117,800	25.05.2023 GUN171/2023	117,800	(91,148)	(6,968)	(1,171)	18,513	Waiting for the contractor to meet with PowerWater to authorize the proposed site servicing plan for ablutions at the Billabong.
LAP Gunbalanya Community Flag Poles	13,640	03/03/2026 GUN18/2026	13,640	-	-	(4,695)	8,945	Delivery of flag poles is expected by mid- July. The contractor has been informed about the installation and the scope of work, which includes tree removal at the office.
LAP Gunbalanya Upgrade Toilets	9,555	12/05/2026 GUN32/2026	9,555	-	-	(5,521)	4,034	Kakadu Contracting have been engaged to complete refurbishment works
LAP - Animal Management	19,245	27.11.2024 GUN51/2024	19,245	-	-	(19,245)	-	Scheduled visits - 2026 June 29, 2026 - July 3, 2026 : 5 vets and 5 students; September 21, 2026 - September 25, 2026 : 5 vets and 3 students.
LOCAL AUTHORITY PROJECTS	160,240	-	160,240	(91,148)	(6,968)	(30,632)	31,492	

WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 16 JULY 2026

Agenda Reference:	6.5
Title:	Gunbalanya Cemetery Progress Report
Author:	Meredith Newall, Waste and Resource Coordinator

SUMMARY

This report is to provide the Local Authority with a progress report on establishing a declared cemetery for Gunbalanya Community.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

1. Receives and notes the report titled *Gunbalanya Cemetery Progress Report*; and
2. Approves the proposed new location of the cemetery to proceed to consultation with the Traditional Owners.

BACKGROUND

The Council has been working towards delivering a culturally appropriate declared cemetery for the Gunbalanya Community as there is no current declared official burial ground or cemetery for the residents of the community. The Northern Territory Government commenced the *Burial and Cremation Act 2022* making Local Government responsible for the management of public and community cemetery facilities across the Northern Territory. West Arnhem Regional Council has been working towards declaring a community cemetery in Gunbalanya under the new Act.

As a part of the process of declaring a cemetery West Arnhem Regional Council worked with the community to identify an appropriate site for a cemetery and provide a design that is both practical and culturally suitable. The identified site was found to contain a restricted works area and the Northern Land Council (NLC) was requested to consult with the community to identify an alternative site.

COMMENT

The original site was identified as the most operationally practical and culturally appropriate site for the cemetery based on community consultation. NLC visited Gunbalanya in May 2026 and engaged with the Indigenous Land and Sea Corporation (ILSC) who hold a pastoral license around Gunbalanya. ILSC are open to varying their licensed area to allow a cemetery to be established. The attached maps show the original identified site and the amended site inside the ILSC licensed area. There are no restricted works areas inside the amended site boundaries.

The next stage in the process is for NLC to consult with the Traditional Owners regarding the suitability of the amended cemetery location.

LEGISLATION AND POLICY

Local Government Act 2019

Burial and Cremation Act 2022

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.

PILLAR 3 SAFETY AND WELLBEING

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

Goal 3.1 Cultural Safety

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

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.

PILLAR 6 FOUNDATIONS OF GOVERNANCE

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

Goal 6.3 Council and Local Authorities

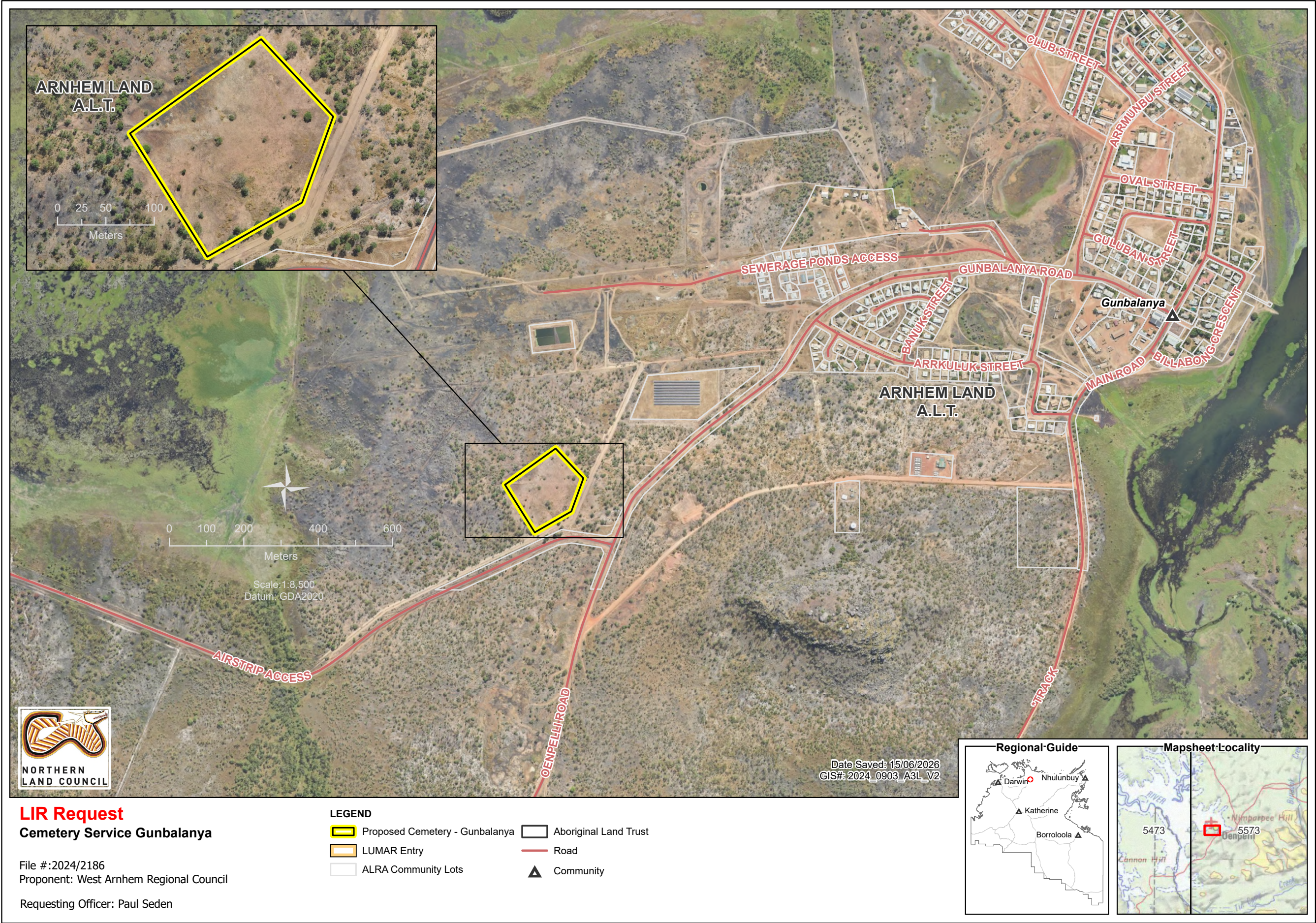
Excellence in governance, consultation administration and representation.

Goal 6.5 Planning and Reporting

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

ATTACHMENTS

1. Proposed Gunbalanya Cemetery - 22 June 2026 [6.5.1 - 1 page]



WEST ARNHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 16 JULY 2026

Agenda Reference:	7.1
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 Gunbalanya Local Authority meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

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

BACKGROUND

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

COMMENT

Correspondence	Sender / Receiver	Subject
Letter	WARC	Gunbalanya Community Housing – Weed Control and Fire Hazards
Letter	Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development	Gunbalanya Community Housing – Weed Control and Fire Hazards

LEGISLATION AN POLICY

Nil.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

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

PILLAR 6 FOUNDATIONS OF GOVERNANCE

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

Goal 6.3 Council and Local Authorities

Excellence in governance, consultation, administration and representation.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Letter to Northern Territory Housing [7.1.1 - 1 page]
2. Letter to WARC - Gunbalanya Community Housing Lots [7.1.2 - 1 page]



Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development
PO Box 4621
Darwin NT 0801

By email:

housing.complaints@nt.gov.au

publichousingsafety@nt.gov.au

drp.topendpublichousing@nt.gov.au

9 June 2026

Gunbalanya Community Housing

To Whom It May Concern

The Gunbalanya Local Authority at its meeting on 12 May 2026 resolved to contact Northern Territory Housing regarding weed control and fire hazard issues within yards of the community houses

The Local Authority is of the view that weed control would reduce the fire hazard to these houses and the surrounding area.

Yours Sincerely,

Peter Mickleson
Acting Director Community and Council Services



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

Jabiru (Head Office)
☎ 08 8979 9444

Gunbalanya
☎ 08 8970 3700

Maningrida
☎ 08 8979 6600

Warruwi
☎ 08 8970 3600

Minjilang
☎ 08 8970 3500



Department of HOUSING,
LOCAL GOVERNMENT,
AND COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT

Floor 2 CasCom 4 CasCom Centre
13 Scaturchio Street Casuarina NT

Postal address
PO Box 37037
Winnellie NT 0821

E Brandon.Evans@nt.gov.au

T 08 8999 8515

11 June 2026

Peter Mickleson
A/ Director Community and Council Services
West Arnhem Regional Council
Via email: Angela.Opitz@westarnhem.nt.gov.au

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter".

Dear Mr Mickleson

Re: Gunbalanya Community Housing

Thank you for your correspondence of 9 June 2026, and for discussing the matter with me.

I appreciate the Local Authority contacting the Department regarding weed control, and associated fire hazard on community housing lots.

Under law, the tenant is responsible for maintaining their yard. The Department undertakes tenancy inspections to maintain compliance.

The Department has engaged its contractor to undertake necessary grounds maintenance at vacant dwellings, and the Department will take appropriate action by exception, where dwellings are tenanted.

Should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me on: 8999 8515 or via email: Brandon.Evans@nt.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brandon".

Brandon Evans
A/ Manager Property Top End Region

WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 16 July 2026

Agenda Reference:	7.2
Title:	Human Resources Report
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

SUMMARY

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

RECOMMENDATION

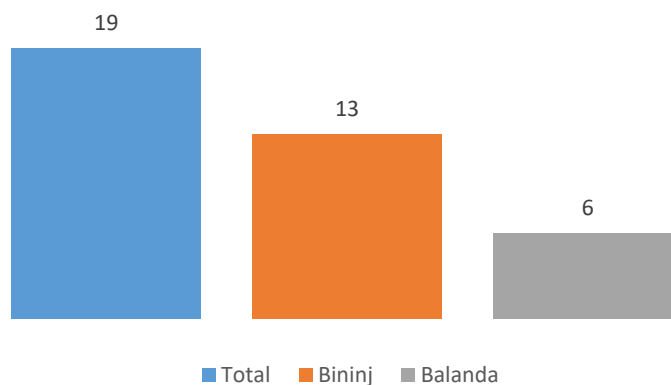
THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY receives and notes the report titled *Human Resources Report*.

COMMENT

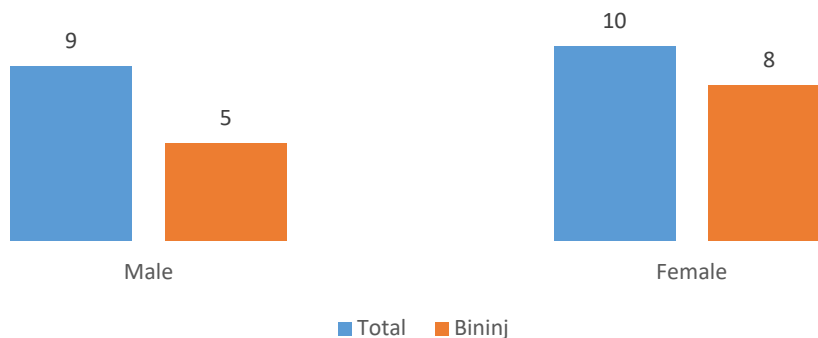
Workforce Report

As of 3 July 2026

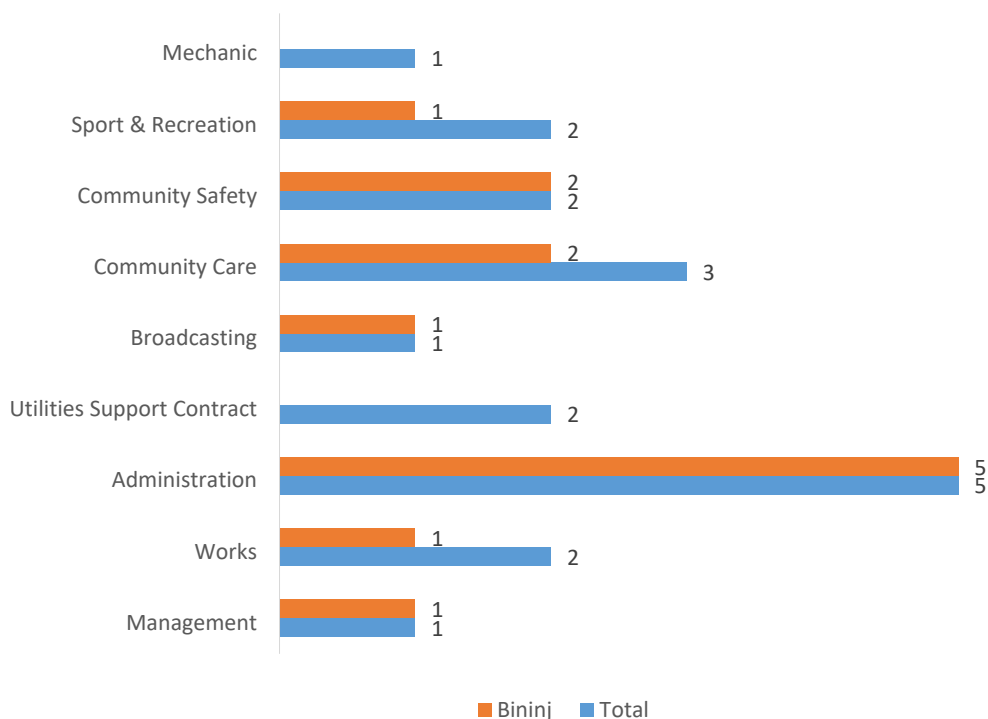
Employees by Number - Gunbalanya



Employees by Gender - Gunbalanya



Employees by Work Group - Gunbalanya



Vacancies by location as of 3 July 2026

Gunbalanya

- **Wellbeing Services Coordinator** \$104k, Permanent, Full Time, Subsidised Accommodation | Closes 15 July 2026
- **Team Leader Works** – \$81k per annum, Permanent, Full Time, Subsidised Accommodation | Open until filled
- **Works Assistant** - \$27.33 per hour, Permanent, 20 hours per week. No accommodation, Open until filled
- **Community Care Officer x 2** – \$32.31 per hour, Permanent, 20 hours per week, No accommodation, Open until filled
- **Precinct Assistant (Sports Grounds Keeper)** – \$27.33 per hour, Fixed Term, 20 hours per week. No accommodation, Open until filled *
- **Waste Collection Assistant** – \$27.33 per hour, Fixed Term, Full Time. No accommodation, Open until filled *
- **Community Safety Senior Officer** – \$38.51 per hour, Permanent, 25 hours per week. No accommodation. Open until filled.
- **Centrelink Assistant** – \$27.33 per hour, Permanent, 30 hours per week., No accommodation. Open until filled.

*Special conditions apply

LEGISLATION AND POLICY

Local Government Act 2019 (Act)
Council's Organisational Structure
Council's Budget and Long-Term Financial Plan

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

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

PILLAR 2 INCREASED LOCAL INDIGENOUS EMPLOYMENT

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

Goal 2.1 Indigenous Employment Framework

Create Council Indigenous employment framework including tailored pathways to employment.

Goal 2.2 Policy and Procedures

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

Goal 2.3 Policy and Procedures

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

PILLAR 3 SAFETY AND WELLBEING

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

Goal 3.2 Health and Safety

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

Goal 3.3 Training and Development

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

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

WEST ARNHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 16 July 2026

Agenda Reference:	7.3
Title:	Technical Services Gunbalanya Projects Report
Author:	Kylie Gregson, Manager Technical Services

SUMMARY

This report will present the Local Authority (LA) with an update on the overview of all Local Authority and other Council projects delivered in the Gunbalanya Community, for the reporting period up to 6 July 2026.

RECOMMENDATION

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

BACKGROUND

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

COMMENT

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

GUNBALANYA COUNCIL PROJECTS

STATUS	PROJECT COMPLETE	TASK	DESCRIPTION	% DONE
In Progress	30-09-2026	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. M&J Builders mobilised 30 June, works has commenced and target completion for construction works end of July.	Gunbalanya Flood Insurance Toad Hall, Laundry & damaged house.	70%
In Progress	31-12-2026	Overview - Wall repairs and painting throughout, concrete at entrance, replacement of commercial oven and dishwasher. Procurement commenced, materials on site, target completion end of July.	Gunbalanya Aged Care - Support at Home	10%

GUNBALANYA LOCAL AUTHORITY PROJECTS

STATUS	PROJECTED COMPLETE	STAGE	DESCRIPTION	% DONE
In Progress	30-07-26	Procurement commenced for delivery via road access.	Install 4 x Flag Poles at the WARC Office.	5%
In Progress	30-06-26	Procurement commenced for delivery via road access.	Replace Stainless Steel Toilets at the Council 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	Ongoing	Shelters managed and leased by the Anglican Church. Requesting for assistance with sourcing external funding for rebuild facilities.	Rebuild of 2 x Community Shelters at Banyan/Argulukk.	5%
In Progress	30-11-26	Tender awarded to the University of Melbourne. Gunbalanya scheduled visits are 29th June to 3rd July 2026, 21st to 25th September 2026.	Vet Program - Animal Management.	10%

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

Not Applicable.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Not Applicable.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

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

PILLAR 4 SERVICE DELIVERY AND BUILT ENVIRONMENT

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

Goal 4.1 Strategic Infrastructure and Asset Management

Strategically manage, maintain and enhance community infrastructure.

Goal 4.2 Fleet, Plant and Equipment

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

Goal 4.3 Waste and Water Management

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

Goal 4.4 Local Road Management and Maintenance

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

PILLAR 5 SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE ACTION

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

Goal 5.1 Recycling and Waste

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

Goal 5.2 Procurement

Develop and implement a leading-edge sustainability procurement strategy.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 16 JULY 2026

Agenda Reference:	7.4
Title:	Pavement Defects
Author:	Kylie Gregson, Manager Technical Services

SUMMARY

This report provides the Local Authority with information on road pavement defects identified within the Gunbalanya Township.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL receives and notes the report titled *Pavement Defects*;

BACKGROUND

Council staff have engaged a local contractor to undertake specialised LiDAR data collection across road infrastructure in all five communities. This work will provide Council with more accurate and comprehensive information about its road-based assets.

The data will support improved planning for infrastructure maintenance and upgrades by giving operational staff a clearer understanding of road conditions and asset requirements. It will also strengthen future funding applications by providing evidence-based information on road infrastructure needs.

COMMENT

The photos below provide the Local Authority with a clear snapshot of road pavement defects across the Gunbalanya Township.

This information will assist Council to identify priority areas and develop an appropriate scope of works for repairing community roads.







LEGISLATION AND POLICY

Not applicable.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

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

PILLAR 4 SERVICE DELIVERY AND BUILT ENVIRONMENT

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

Goal 4.1 Strategic Infrastructure and Asset Management

Strategically manage, maintain and enhance community infrastructure.

Goal 4.4 Local Road Management and Maintenance

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

PILLAR 6 FOUNDATIONS OF GOVERNANCE

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

Goal 6.5 Planning and Reporting

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

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

WEST ARNHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 16 JULY 2026

Agenda Reference:	7.5
Title:	CSM Operations Report on Current Council Services - Gunbalanya
Author:	Vicki McCoy, Council Services Manager, Gunbalanya

SUMMARY

This report will present the Local Authority (LA) with an update on council services provided in the Gunbalanya community for the period 01 April 2026 – 30 June 2026, as prepared by Council Services Manager (CSM) Vicki McCoy and presented by Interim Director Council and Community Services Peter Mickleson.

RECOMMENDATION

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

BACKGROUND

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

COMMENT

1. Community Recruitment

Positions filled during the report period:

- Community Care Cook – commenced 20 April 2026
- Utilities Support Contract Officer – commenced 01 June 2026

2. Administration Services

2.1 Administration

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

- 14 April 2026 Closed: 1:00pm – onwards Sorry Business
- 27 April 2026 Closure: 08:00am – 1:00pm Sorry Business
- 09 June 2026 Closed: 12noon - onwards Sorry Business
- 19 June 2026 Closed: 12noon - onwards Staff availability
- 22 June 2026 Closed All Day Staff availability

2.2 Post Office

Post Office services are provided by Gunbalanya Council administration staff during normal business hours during the report period, except for following days. Mail received, sorted and dispatched each business day.

- 14 April 2026 Closed: 1:00pm – onwards Sorry Business
- 27 April 2026 Closure: 08:00am – 1:00pm Sorry Business
- 09 June 2026 Closed: 12noon – onwards Sorry Business
- 11 June 2026 Closed All Day Staff availability
- 19 June 2026 Closed: 12noon – onwards Staff availability

- 22 June 2026 Closed All Day Staff availability

Total postage received	4,910.46 kg
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2.3 Staff Training

- 03 June 2026 Infection Control for Healthcare Workers via ELMO
- 09 June 2026 Chemical Training with WARC WHS Officer
- 11 June 2026 Procurement Training via TEAMS

2.4 Centrelink

The Gunbalanya Centrelink Office opened between 8:00am to 4:00pm on each business day during the reporting periods except for the following:

- 14 April 2026 Closed: 1:00pm - onwards Sorry Business
- 27 April 2026 Closure: 08:00am – 1:00pm Sorry Business
- 09 June 2026 Closed: 12noon - onwards Sorry Business
- 19 June 2026 Closed: 12noon - onwards Staff availability
- 22 June 2026 Closed All Day Staff availability

2.5 Cleaning

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

- Council office – twice a week – a total of 60 occasions.
- Playground amenities – once a week – total of 13 occasions
- Public toilets – twice a week – a total of 21 occasions.
- Common areas cleaned once a week – a total of 21 occasions.
- Visitor Accommodation rooms cleaned as required – a total of 41 rooms cleaned.

2.6 Visitor Accommodation

Visitor accommodation available is four (4) bookings can be made through Little Hotelier, via the WARC website.

3. Wellbeing Services

3.1 Sport & Recreation

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

- Basketball
- Football
- Dodge Ball
- Art & Craft
- Pool table
- Skateboarding
- Swimming
- Computer games
- Cooking
- Fishing

Highlights occurred during the reporting period:

- 13 – 14 April SR Team Leader did a Safe Food Handling Course
- 22 – 24 April SR Team Leader participated in the Australian Management Challenge in Darwin along with other WARC staff.
- 23 June Dodgy Bros set up an inflatable dodgeball arena as part of the school holiday program.

Overall

High number of interruptions to program, due to Sorry Business. Younger age groups continue attending the youth centre. Strong participation and positive behavior being observed throughout sessions. The structured youth center environment continues to provide an important safe space for recreation, social connection, and engagement within the community.

Attendance totals	819
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3.2 Community Care (Aged Care)

The Gunbalanya Community Care team provides services Monday – Friday to 29 clients. Community Care continues to provide transportation for medical appointments and healthy nutritious meals.

Total meals provided	2,676
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3.3 Disability Care

The Gunbalanya Community Care team is the Community Connectors and Coordinator of Supports (CoS) under the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS). Services provided are as follows:

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

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

Night patrol services were provided on available nights between rostered hours of 07:00pm – 01:00am.

3.5 Broadcasting

In conjunction with Top End Aboriginal Bush Broadcasting Association (TEABBA), broadcasting services provided Monday to Friday, between 08:00am – 10:24am.

4. Community Works

4.1 Parks and Open Space

The community is generally clean and tidy with rubbish collection occurring Monday to Friday.

- Mowing and chemical spraying continues around the community.

4.2 Roads

General minor road repairs and maintenance undertaken across the community.

- Potholes and roadside repairs were undertaken throughout the community.

4.3 Waste

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

Total volume of waste on-charged	0 tons
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5. Essential Services

5.1 Power

- 21 services requests from Indigenous Essential Services (IES)
- 12 engine services
- 05 power meter replacements
- 06 Power Coordinator and/or contractor onsite
- 4 fuel deliveries
- 0 scheduled power outage

5.2 Water

- Contract works conducted during the reporting period.
- Water emergency repairs in the Banyan Area.

5.3 Sewage

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

5.4 Aerodrome

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

6. Community

6.1 Community meetings and events

- Council Service Manager (CSM) attended various meetings and events over the reporting period.

Total number of meetings and events attended by the CSM	33
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6.2 Community key focus areas

- 17 – 18 July AFLNT U15's competition

- 27 July – 21 August Australian Bureau of Statics Census 2026
- 28 – 29 August Kurrung Sports Carnival
- 21 – 25 September VETS

6.3 Good News Stories

Plenty Highway Football Team visit to Gunbalanya 16 – 19 June 2026

A combined Plenty Highway men's team, made up of players from Mulga Bore, Engawala, Irrerlirrel and Atitjere, travelled more than 2,000 kilometers to take on Gunbalanya's local team in a night football match on Wednesday, 17 June, as part of their youth engagement and wellbeing program.

The match provided an exciting opportunity for players and showcased how football continues to bring communities together across vast distances. More than 150 community members turned out to support the game, creating a great atmosphere and highlighting the strong connections formed through sport. Thanks to our fabulous WARC BBQ cooks and Adjumarllarl Stronger Communities for Children for providing the sausages.

It was a special occasion, with the desert meeting the water as communities from Central Australia and West Arnhem came together as one. Events like these demonstrate the power of football in strengthening relationships, promoting wellbeing, and creating positive opportunities for young people across remote communities.

A special thanks to Traditional Owner Gabby Gumurdul and staff from Adjumarllarl Stronger Communities for Children for taking the Plenty Highway visitors out fishing and showcasing the beauty of Gunbalanya. There was plenty of excitement, especially when some of the men caught their first fish. Coming from remote desert communities where there are little water and limited opportunities for swimming or fishing, it was a memorable experience that everyone thoroughly enjoyed.

The week was a great example of how sport, culture, and shared experiences can strengthen connections between remote communities and create lasting memories.

Hoping to make a football match an annual event, due to the positive feedback received. Thanks to Ralph from Adjumarllarl SCfC in liaising with Plenty Highway in bringing football to Gunbalanya.



LEGISLATION AND POLICY

Not applicable.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATION

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

PILLAR 1 PARTNERSHIPS, RELATIONSHIPS AND BELONGING

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

Goal 1.1 Community Engagement

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

Goal 1.4 Community Events

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

Goal 1.6 Youth Engagement

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

PILLAR 3 SAFETY AND WELLBEING

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

Goal 3.4 Community Service Delivery

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

PILLAR 4 SERVICE DELIVERY AND BUILT ENVIRONMENT

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

Goal 4.3 Waste and Water Management

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

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 16 JULY 2026

Agenda Reference:	8.1
Title:	Invited Guest - NT Police
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

SUMMARY

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

RECOMMENDATION

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

BACKGROUND

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

A representative from the NT Police has been invited to attend 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 ARNHAM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 16 JULY 2026

Agenda Reference:	8.2
Title:	Presentation - Barramundi Fishery Reform
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is for the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries to brief the Local Authority in Gunbalanya on the Barramundi Fishery Reform.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT THE LOCAL AUTHORITY notes the presentation provided by the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries regarding the Barramundi Fishery Reform.

BACKGROUND

At various times, stakeholder request to present to the Authority so that issues can be raised and information shared.

The Department of Agriculture and Fisheries have request to present to the Gunbalanya Local Authority in relation to the Barramundi Fishery Reform (attached).

COMMENT

Stacey Bulluss, Engagement Officer, Fisheries Division will be in attendance via teams at 1:30pm.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

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

PILLAR 1 PARTNERSHIPS, RELATIONSHIPS AND BELONGING

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

Goal 1.1 Community Engagement

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

ATTACHMENTS

1. J Heffernan rescript DFA Barramundi Fishery Reform Original Script 30 01 [8.2.1 - 2 pages]

Barramundi Fishery Reform – Original Script

1. Government is banning the use of gill nets in the commercial Barramundi fishery.

The government is will stop fishing businesses from using gill nets to catch Barramundi.

2. Changes to the Barramundi fishery will be decided and announced this year.

The government is still working on changes to the laws about Barramundi fishing but once they are finished, they will tell everyone about the changes. This will happen later this year.

3. There will be no more gill nets used to commercially catch Barramundi in the Northern Territory after the 30th September 2027.

Fishing businesses will not be allowed to use gill nets to catch the Barramundi after 30th September 2027.

4. Government is asking Territorians about their hopes for a future industry. Things you may want to consider include:

The government is asking people from the Northern Territory to tell us what they think about the Barramundi fishing industry. Here are some things to help you think about this:

- a) Barramundi is a sustainable resource in the Northern Territory. There are lots of Barramundi, across the Territory:

There are a lot of Barramundi in the Northern Territory and if we look after them properly there will be plenty for the future.

- b) Should there be a commercial Barramundi fishery in the NT?

Do you think it is a good idea for people to have a business to catch lots of Barramundi and sell them?

- c) If there is no commercial barramundi fishery, then there may not be NT (wild caught) Barramundi to buy at the shops.

If we stop NT people from catching and selling Barramundi from the sea there may not be enough for the shops.

- d) If there is a commercial barramundi fishery, industry would need permission to fish in Aboriginal waters.

If a barramundi fishing business catch barramundi to sell, they would need permission before they could catch fish in water belonging to Aboriginal people.

- e) How would Aboriginal people like to **be involved in** a future commercial barramundi industry?

Would Aboriginal people like to work for a barramundi fishing industry or even start one up?

- f) Government scientists are testing different ways to catch Barramundi, without gill nets. There will be some information available later in the year about what might work.

Government scientists are trying out different ways to catch barramundi without using gill nets. Later in the year there will be some information about what might be a good way to do this.

5. Would you like Fisheries to come back **to** and provide an update later in the year?

Would you like the government's NT fisheries mob to tell you more about this later in the year?

COMMENTS:

- paragraph 1. **fishery** I'm not sure how well this term is understood so I've avoided using it. (I'm from the Centre).
- paragraph 4. This is a little ambiguous. I have interpreted to mean that the government is hoping to start a barramundi fishing industry.
- paragraph 4 a **a sustainable resource** Not sure how well interpreters will understand this so I've avoided using this expression.
- paragraph 4 c **wild caught** This is somewhat in house technical so I've avoided using it.
- paragraph 4e **be involved in** this is somewhat ambiguous in that the potential involvement is unclear. I have therefore assumed it to mean working in the fishing industry or possibly starting up a business.
- paragraph 5 **to** is a typo.

WEST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

FOR THE MEETING 16 JULY 2026

Agenda Reference:	9.1
Title:	Local Authority Member Questions with or without Notice
Author:	Katharine Murray, Chief Executive Officer

SUMMARY

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

Local Authority Members are encouraged to raise any issues they wish to discuss during the meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

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

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

- 10 NEXT MEETING**
- 11 MEETING DECLARED CLOSED**