

BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL



2026-2027

REGIONAL

PLAN



**This is an inhouse and
low-cost production of
our Regional Plan**

Instead of paying for a designer and printing (\$30,000), we have purchased two new mowers for our municipal staff to keep our community safe and tidy.





Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of Warumungu, Mudburra, Jingili, Wakaya, Wambaya, Waanyi, Warlpiri, Warlmanpa, Alyawarr, Anmatyerre and Kaytetye Countries on which Barkly Regional Council live and work, the lands which we meet on today, and recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and culture.

We pay our respects to the ancestors and elders of these lands, past, present and emerging. May we continue to work together to Deliver sustainable outcomes through a process based on mutual respect and understanding.



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Welcome Message from the Mayor

As Mayor of the Barkly Regional Council, I am proud to present our 2026–27 Regional Plan at a time of both significant opportunity and considerable challenge.

Across the world, communities are navigating a period of economic uncertainty shaped by geopolitical tensions, global supply chain disruptions, energy market volatility, and increasing pressures on the cost of living. These international events may seem distant from the Barkly, yet their impacts are felt every day across our region through higher fuel prices, rising freight costs, increased construction expenses, workforce shortages, and growing pressure on the delivery of essential services. Despite these challenges, I remain optimistic about the future of the Barkly.

Our region stands at the centre of some of Northern Australia’s most exciting economic opportunities. From critical minerals and resource development to agriculture, renewable energy, tourism, transport, digital connectivity, and emerging infrastructure investment, the Barkly is increasingly being recognised as a region of strategic national importance. The economic forecasts for Northern Australia continue to highlight the enormous contribution remote and regional communities will make to Australia's future prosperity.

As these opportunities emerge, our Council will continue to advocate strongly for our fair share of investment and reinvestment. The wealth generated from Barkly must translate into better roads, stronger community infrastructure, improved services, housing, telecommunications, workforce development, and opportunities for the people who call it home. Economic growth must deliver tangible benefits for our towns, homelands, communities, pastoral stations, businesses, families, and future generations.

Over the past year, we have continued to strengthen relationships across all levels of government, industry, Traditional Owners, neighbouring councils, community organisations, and regional stakeholders. These partnerships are essential. No single organisation can address the complex challenges facing our region alone, but together we can build practical solutions that improve the quality of life for our residents.

I would like to acknowledge and thank our Local Authorities, community boards, advisory groups, and community leaders who continue to provide invaluable local knowledge, guidance, and leadership. Their voices help ensure Council decisions remain grounded in the priorities and aspirations of our communities.

I also extend my sincere thankyou to our Chief Executive Officer, Peter Harder, and the entire operational team of Barkly Regional Council. Every day, often in difficult and remote conditions, our staff deliver services that many communities rely upon. Their professionalism, resilience, and commitment to service are fundamental to the success of our organisation and the wellbeing of our region.

Importantly, I acknowledge my fellow elected members. Councillors bring diverse perspectives, local experience, and a shared commitment to representing the interests of

our communities. While we may not always agree on every issue, we are united by our desire to achieve the best outcomes for the people of the Barkly. The strength of local government lies in this collective commitment to public service.

We face significant infrastructure and asset management challenges. Like many remote councils across the Northern Territory and Australia, we must balance growing community expectations with funding models that often fall short of the true cost of delivering and maintaining essential services across vast distances. We will continue advocating for funding reform that recognises the realities of remote service delivery and supports the long-term sustainability of regional communities.

The year ahead will require discipline, collaboration, and careful stewardship of public resources. It will also require us to remain ambitious about what the Barkly can become. Our Council remains committed to improving community safety, strengthening local economies, expanding digital opportunities, supporting youth and families, preparing for natural disasters, and ensuring our communities remain connected, resilient, and inclusive. The Barkly has always been defined by its people; resilient, hardworking, innovative, and deeply connected to this remarkable part of Australia. It is a region rich in culture, history, opportunity, and potential.

Together, we will continue to advocate, invest, and plan for a future that honours our unique identity while embracing the opportunities that lie ahead. By working together - communities, Councillors, staff, Traditional Owners, businesses, industry, and governments - we can ensure that the benefits of future growth are shared across our region and that the Barkly remains a place where people choose to live, work, invest, and raise their families.

Thank you for your continued trust and support as we work to build a stronger, more sustainable, and prosperous future for all who call the Barkly home.

Sid Vashist
Mayor - Barkly Regional Council



Welcome Message from the CEO

Our communities remain our primary focus. As we enter the 2026-27 financial year, we do so in a tougher operating environment - one likely to begin in the shadows of the Iran war, with high fuel prices flowing through to freight, contractors, and the cost of day-to-day service delivery. At the same time, the move to price-reflective power pricing is expected to hit the Barkly hard, with electricity costs forecast to increase by around 70% to 100% across the region. For a remote Council already facing high transport distances, limited local supply chains, and workforce constraints, these pressures will be felt in every community and across every service.

This year will require clear priorities and hard decisions, because our greatest constraint is not commitment or effort - it is the lack of sustainable funding to maintain and replace the assets our communities rely on. We are operating with no real capacity to maintain buildings, plant, equipment, light vehicles, or roads, and 100% of our depreciation is currently unfunded. In practical terms, this means we are increasingly forced into reactive “make do” maintenance, deferring renewals and accepting the progressive decline of essential infrastructure.

Our plant and equipment - used daily to deliver municipal and community services - has an average age of 15 to 20 years, with maintenance costs escalating to unsustainable levels and no funded pathway to replacement. For roads, Roads to Recovery funding supports only around one third of the resealing and resheeting task, while the remaining backlog continues to deteriorate. As renewals fall behind schedule, roads fail and replacement costs can multiply by four times or more because the whole road, not just the surface, must be rebuilt. For buildings, deterioration is increasingly leading to closures and an inability to keep pace with safety and legislative requirements, while high levels of damage and vandalism add further cost and risk.

The scale of the task ahead is clear. Our 10-year asset replacement need is estimated at approximately \$155 million across buildings, roads, and plant and equipment, yet Council’s own contribution of untied funds is projected at most \$5 million over that period - leaving a shortfall of around \$150 million. Compounding this challenge, many funding programs prioritise new assets. While these are welcome, they can increase long-term operating and maintenance burdens when there is no sustainable funding to maintain what we already have.

In response, our focus for 2026–27 will be grounded in financial realism and asset triage: prioritising safety-critical works, maintaining service continuity, and advocating strongly for funding models that enable councils like ours to maintain existing assets - not just build new ones. We will continue to work closely with Local Authorities, community stakeholders, and government partners to ensure decisions are transparent, place-based, and targeted to the most urgent needs.

We remain committed to being an employer of choice in the Barkly, but we will do so in a context where cost escalation and asset decline directly affect workforce safety, efficiency,

and morale. We will keep building a culture that supports our people, strengthens capability, and retains local knowledge - because in remote service delivery, our workforce is one of our most critical assets.

This Regional Plan reflects a year where resilience will be measured not by ambition alone, but by our ability to protect essential services and core infrastructure under extreme financial pressure. With the right partnerships and sustainable funding reforms, the Barkly can move from a cycle of decline to a pathway of steady, practical improvement. Until then, we will continue to prioritise what matters most - community safety, service continuity, and honest advocacy for the resources our region needs and deserves.

I look forward to the year ahead and to working with our communities, Councillors, staff, and partners to deliver the best possible outcomes in difficult circumstances - while continuing to push for a fairer, sustainable funding base that allows us to maintain the assets our people rely on every day.

Thank you

Peter Harder





OUR REGION

Community Histories

Ali Curung

During the late 1950s, small groups of people were collected from around the region and relocated to Warrabri Settlement. These included Kaytetye people from Barrow Creek, Warlpiri people from Bullocky Creek areas and Alyawarra people from Murray Downs and Hatches Creek. Over 1,200 people populated Ali Curung in its early days. Warrabri was established in 1956 under its original name of ‘Warrabri Settlement’. The community changed its name to Ali Curung in 1978.



Alpurrurulam

The community was formed out of a discord between Lake Nash Station and the Indigenous population living on the nearby Georgina River. At the time many of the community members worked at Lake Nash Station but in the early 1980s there were plans to move the community to Bathurst Downs. For the locals this was “poison country”, no good to live on and posed a risk during wet season. They wanted to stay at Alpurrurulam – their home where there was water in the river all year round. In 1982 the community wrote to the then Chief Minister of the Northern Territory Government requesting a parcel of land to call their own near Lake Nash Station. After many legal battles, 10 square km area was excised from the pastoral lease and given back to the community in 1983. Alpurrurulam Land Aboriginal Corporation (ALAC) was then formed to be the landowner (a board of Community Elders) for the land. This is what is now called Alpurrurulam.



Ampilatwatja

The first European in the region was Charles Winnecke, a surveyor, who passed through in 1877. Although the Alyawarr people were shy of the Europeans, Winnecke’s expedition needed the help of the local people to find water in the desert. Freehold title leases were granted by the federal government around 1910 to establish cattle stations on Alyawarr land in an attempt to bring white settlers and development to central Australia. Traditional owners lost rights to culturally significant sites and to hunting grounds to make way for the grazing cattle. In 1940, the land around Ampilatwatja was taken up by settler John ‘Nugget’ Morton, who is connected to the Coniston Massacre of Aboriginal people in 1928. The resultant Ammaroo Station became a gathering place for Alyawarr people in the ‘60s and ‘70s where many worked as drovers and fencers. In 1976 under the Native Titles Act Alyawarr families were granted a small plot at an area then known as Honeymoon Bore, about 10km from Ammaroo Station. This small settlement is what has now developed into the community of Ampilatwatja. In the 1990s the traditional owners gained small excisions from the local pastoral lease to continue their life on the land.

Arlparra

Named by German settlers in the early 1920s, Utopia was a pastoral lease owned by the Chalmers family. Indigenous people originally lived close to the main homestead area now known as Three Bores Homeland. The property was sold and became alienated Crown land held on behalf of Indigenous people. After a lengthy land claim hearing, this land legally became known as the Angarapa Aboriginal Land Trust under the Aboriginal Land Rights (NT) Act 1976. Indigenous families then moved back to their more traditional areas.



Elliott

This is the Barkly region's second largest town and sits on the edge of Newcastle Waters Station. Named after Army Captain Reginald Douglas Elliott (MBE), it began life at the site of Number 8 bore as an Australian Army Camp during World War II (1942). A war memorial statue stands on the site of the camp, directly adjacent to the bore used to supply water to troops. Its population is largely Indigenous, who live in two outstations at either end of the town – Gurungu (North Camp) and Wilyuku (South Camp). Gurungu was formed in 1968 when workers left Newcastle Station following a dispute and Wilyuku started in the 1970s when people left the Barkly Tablelands after award wages were brought in.



Wutunugurra

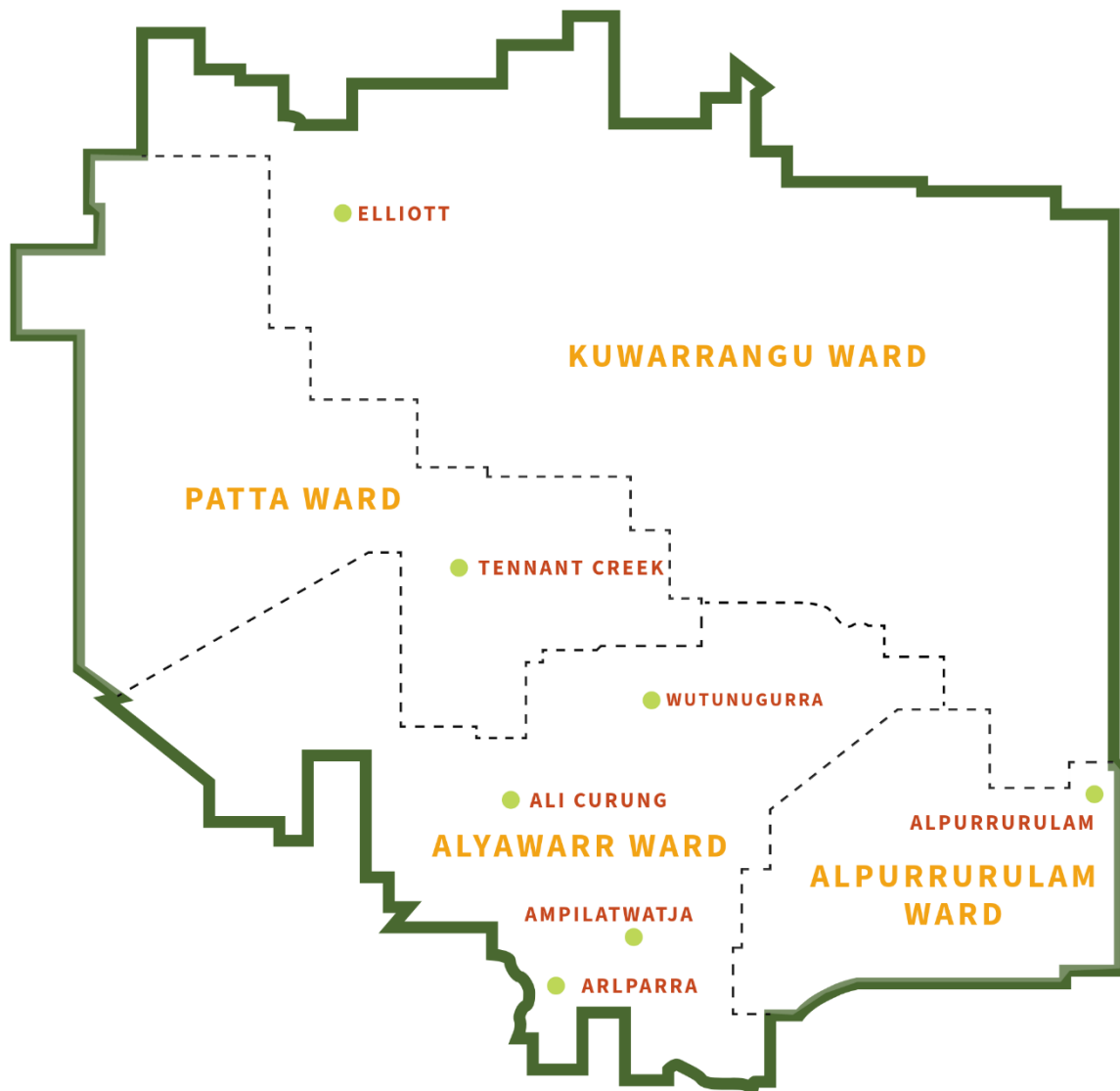
This is a Community Living Area (CLA) sitting on 99ha, which was excised from Epenarra Pastoral Lease in the early 1980s. The Clough family have held the lease since 1952 and enabled a small portion of Epenarra Station to be returned to the traditional custodians as a living area. A handful of the TOs living today still speak of the ration days in the 1960s when many of the families moved back to Hatches Creek where there was a wolfram mine. Wolfram is an ore from which miners get Tungsten, a metal used for hardening the tips of drills among other things. The Indigenous people went to work with the other tribes. They filled up bags and sent the mineral away on the train to Alice Springs. The largest mine, the Pioneer mine, operated up until 1970.



Tennant Creek

European history in this area began in 1860 when explorer John McDouall Stuart passed this way on his unsuccessful first attempt to cross the continent from south to north. He named a creek to the north of town after John Tennant, a financier of the expedition and a pastoralist from Port Lincoln, South Australia. Tennant Creek was the site of Australia's last gold rush during the 1930s, and at that time was the third-largest gold producer in the country. The town was located 12 km south of the watercourse as the Overland Telegraph Station had been allocated on an 11 km reserve. An important contributor to the early history of Tennant Creek was Mrs Weaber, wife of the blind owner of the Rising Sun Mine, one of the richest mines in the district before World War II. She set up the Christmas Tree event which still continues to this day. In 1940, the Weaber family sold Nobles Knob, which went on to become the largest open cut mine in Australia. It ceased production in 1985, and the last mine closed in 1999.

Wards and Communities



Barkly Demographics

Population	2021	2016	2011
Tennant Creek	2949	2991	3016
Ali Curung	394	494	535
Alpurrurulam	350	420	441
Ampilatwatja	439	418	365
Arparra	444	452	517
Elliott	287	339	348
Wutunugurra	143	166	207

Indigenous People	2021	2016	2011
Tennant Creek	1632	1536	1591
Ali Curung	347	451	482
Alpurrurulam	335	387	416
Ampilatwatja	397	386	342
Arparra	372	401	483
Elliott	244	299	286
Wutunugurra	129	150	196

Families	2021	2016	2011
Tennant Creek	647	622	649
Ali Curung	91	102	115
Alpurrurulam	94	102	106
Ampilatwatja			
Arparra	95	89	86
Elliott	71	72	66
Wutunugurra	36	39	46

Private Dwellings	2021	2016	2011
Tennant Creek	1108	1237	1061
Ali Curung	96	93	104
Alpurrurulam	79	98	97
Ampilatwatja	67	64	56
Arparra	82	68	74
Elliott	106	88	78
Wutunugurra	42	35	45

Unemployed People	2021	2016	2011
Tennant Creek	111	87	90
Ali Curung	45	27	36
Alpurrurulam	14	20	23
Ampilatwatja	6	161	27
Arparra	47	126	19
Elliott	0	43	6
Wutunugurra	18	15	3



OUR COUNCIL

The Story of our Logo

In 2008 Shire Transition Committee members worked closely together to choose from several different designs by three artists from the Papulu Apparr-Kari Aboriginal Corporation in Tennant Creek. The logistics for creating and selecting a logo was extremely difficult simply because of the sheer size of the region, but a design called Tracks of the Barkly by Barbara Whippy using the previous smaller community councils’ logos captured the spirit of the region.

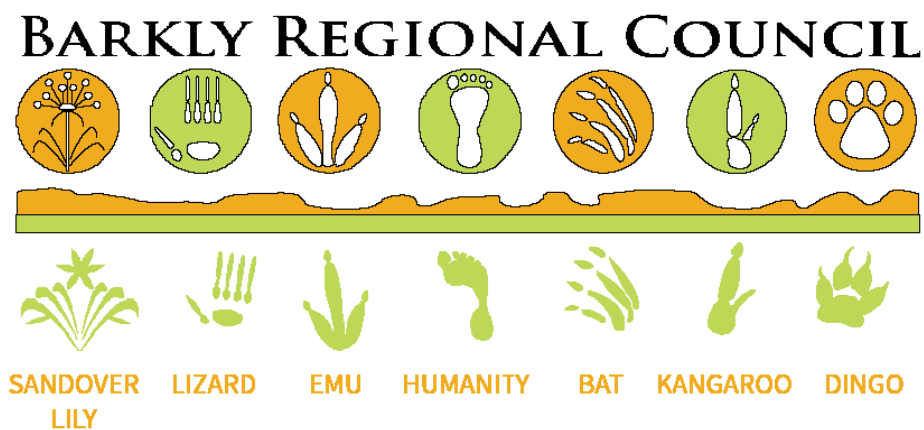
For the committee members a footprint has no colour, and humanity has to be there. They felt that there were these visual tracks right across the Barkly region, which referred to a diversity of people living in the Barkly over time: Indigenous, non-Indigenous, miners, and those men and women working in the cattle industry.

The base line for the logo is the “McDouall Ranges” north of Tennant Creek, named by John McDouall Stuart on Tuesday, 5th June 1860. This was in honour of Colonel James McDouall, of the 2nd Lifeguards, Logan and Wigtownshire. Locally they are known as the “Honeymoon Ranges” so called by the newlyweds camping on their mining leases in the range during the 1930s gold rush.

Above, there is a row of symbols starting with the Sandover Lily which represents the Urapuntja or Utopia region, the Lizard which symbolises Nyinkka, a sacred symbol in Tennant Creek, and Emu which characterises Elliott and the surrounding region.

The footprint in the centre represents humanity – all of the people of the Barkly – with the Bat representing Alpururulam, Kangaroo characterising Ampilatwatja and Dingo a sacred symbol for Ali Curung.

The Tracks of the Barkly logo shows that Barkly Regional Council as represented by the Council laws are listening to the communities and to the people of this vast remote region, not only with their intellects but with their hearts.



Our Vision, Mission, and Values

Our Vision

“We will strive to be an innovative and sustainable Council that listens to our communities and empowers future generations of the Barkly.”

Our Purpose

“Our commitment is to serve and support our communities by delivering strong local leadership, purposeful advocacy, and impactful services.”

Our Values

Integrity: upholding honesty and transparency in everything we do.

Diversity: embracing and celebrating the unique identities, traditions, and strengths of every community.

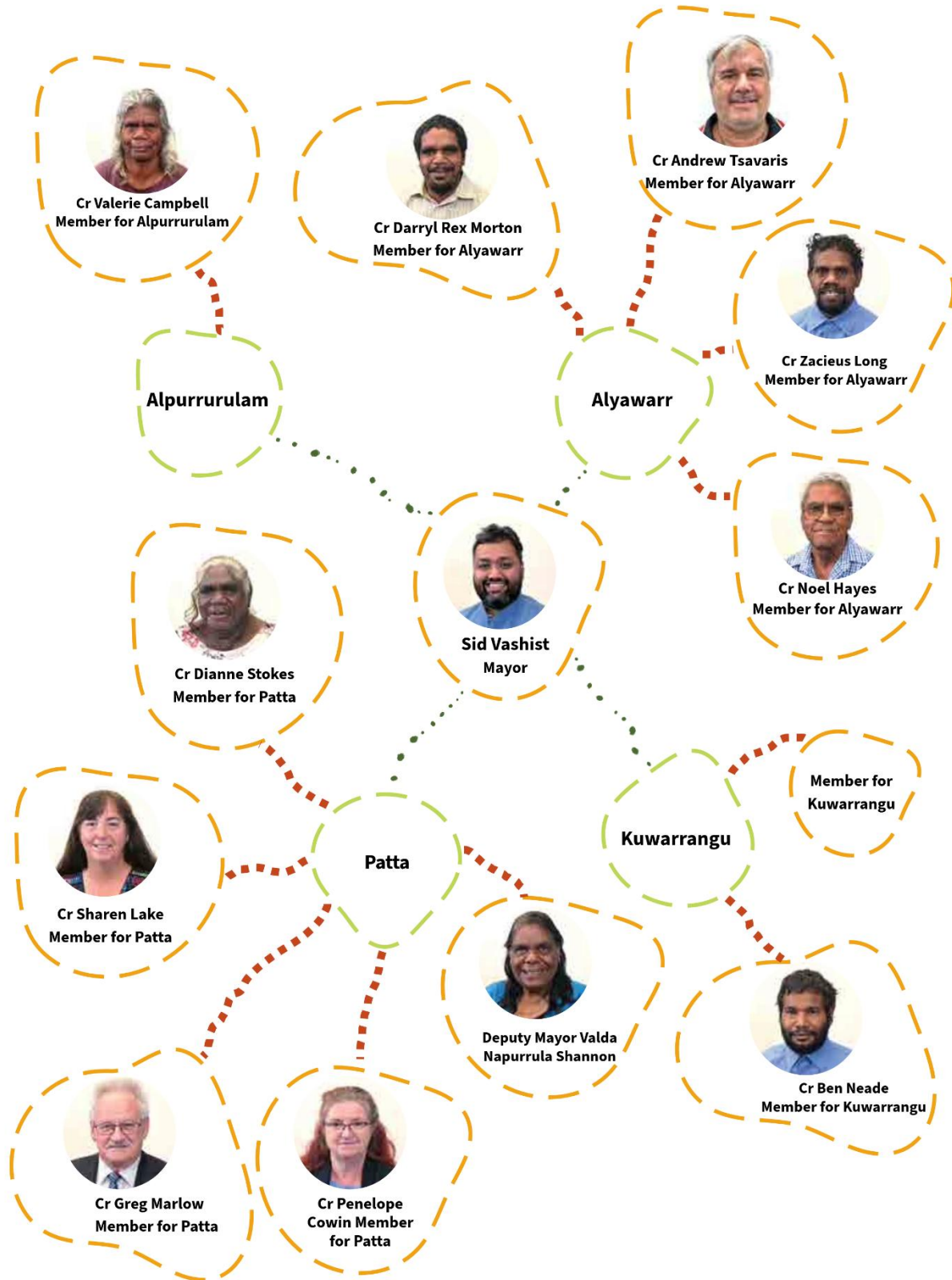
Empathy: understanding and valuing the needs and experiences of others.

Accountability: taking ownership of our actions through a commitment to BRC and our communities.

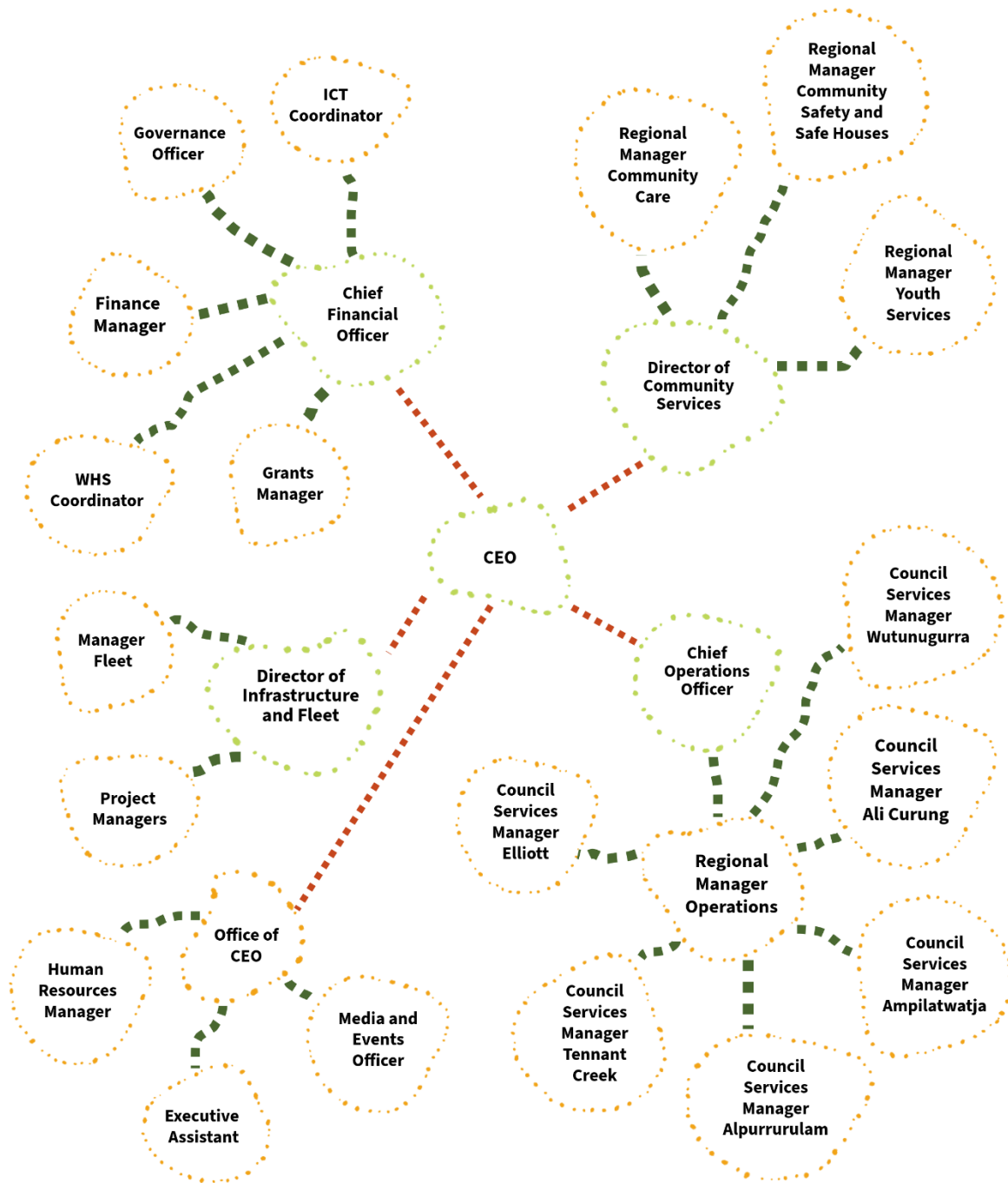
Service: dedicating ourselves to excellence, putting people first, and creating a positive impact.



Our Elected Members



Our Organisational Structure



Our Governance Framework

Barkly Regional Council’s governance framework is grounded in a strategic, operational, and place-based decision-making process that reflects the diverse needs, aspirations, and priorities of communities across the Barkly Region. At its core, the framework is built on three fundamental pillars drawn from international standards of good governance:

1. Responsible Stewardship

The Council is committed to the prudent, transparent, and accountable management of public resources. This includes effective financial management, asset stewardship, and long-term sustainability to ensure resources are managed in the best interests of current and future generations.

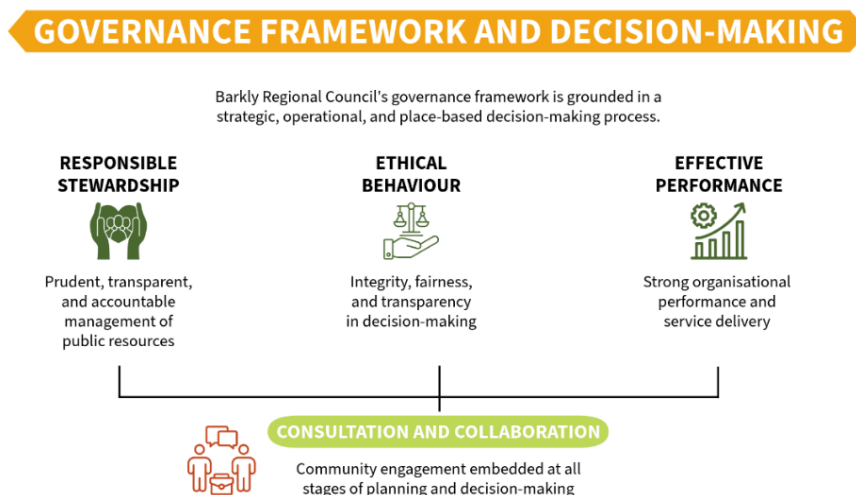
2. Ethical Behaviour

Decision making is guided by integrity, fairness, and transparency. The Council upholds high ethical standards in leadership, governance, and operational practices, ensuring trust and confidence in how decisions are made and implemented.

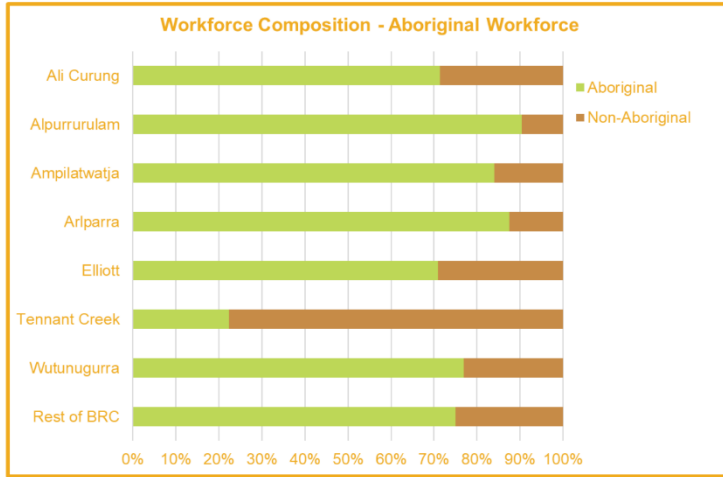
3. Effective Performance

The framework supports strong organisational performance through clear roles, sound systems, and continuous improvement. This ensures decisions translate into practical outcomes and the efficient delivery of services that meet community needs.

In addition to these pillars, consultation and collaboration are central to the Council’s governance approach. Community engagement is embedded at every stage of planning and decision making, ensuring that local voices, knowledge, and lived experience shape priorities, strategies, and outcomes. This place-based governance approach defines how Barkly Regional Council makes decisions, implements policies, allocates resources, and delivers services. It ensures decision making is inclusive, informed, and responsive, supporting the delivery of targeted, high-quality services that strengthen communities and advance the long-term wellbeing of the Barkly Region.

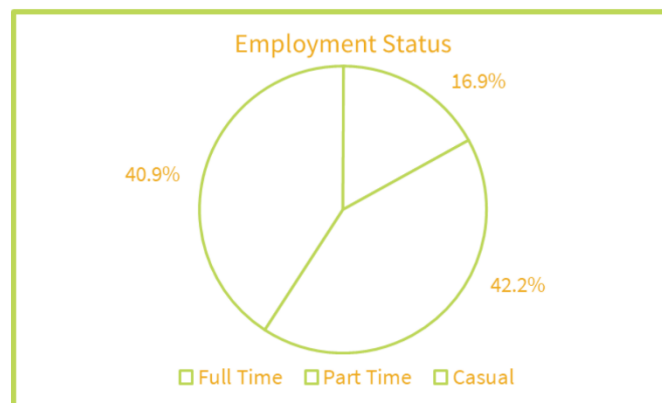
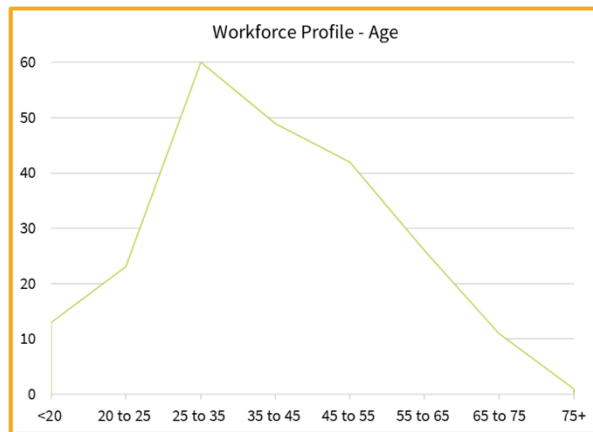


Our Employee Statistics



BRC BY FTE	
LOCALITY	FTE
Ali Curung	19.46
Alpurrurulam	12.18
Ampilatwatja	7.82
Arlparra	7.82
Elliott	19.30
Tennant Creek	94.76
Wutunugurra	11.64
Rest of BRC	5.28
Total FTE	178.26

NUMBER OF PEOPLE EMPLOYED	225						
GENDER	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 60%;">Male</td> <td style="text-align: right;">134</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Female</td> <td style="text-align: right;">89</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Trans/NB</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2</td> </tr> </table>	Male	134	Female	89	Trans/NB	2
Male	134						
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STATUS	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 60%;">Full time</td> <td style="text-align: right;">92</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Part Time</td> <td style="text-align: right;">38</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Casual</td> <td style="text-align: right;">95</td> </tr> </table>	Full time	92	Part Time	38	Casual	95
Full time	92						
Part Time	38						
Casual	95						



Operations

The Operations Directorate is responsible for delivering municipal services and contracted civil works, waste management, animal management, cemetery management, services on behalf of the Australian Government (Services Australia, Australia Post), aerodrome maintenance, visitor's accommodation, and coordinating repairs and maintenance of council assets to the remote communities of Ali Curung, Alpurrurulam, Ampilatwatja, Arlparra and Wutunugurra, and the townships of Tennant Creek and Elliott. The directorate is also responsible for animal management and the coordination of remote vet visits to provide care to various companion animals (dogs, cats, donkeys and horses).

Municipal Services

Parks and Open Spaces: Parks and open spaces are vital places for communities within the Barkly Region to young people and families to connect, socialise and play. In many communities, green spaces are the main location for community meetings, barbecues and information sharing gatherings. With many families living in crowded conditions, community parks and open spaces are a refuge, enabling culture to exist and flourish in a contemporary setting. Barkly Regional Council's municipal crews take great pride in ensuring these places are well maintained with regular mowing, weed spraying, irrigation and general maintenance. In addition, the municipal team ensure the ongoing functionality and maintenance of splash parks in Ali Curung and Elliott, and median strip/truck bay maintenance in Elliott.

Internal Roads maintenance: Barkly Regional Council understands the importance of maintaining our internal roads to improve the safety of people and vehicles in our communities. Municipal staff are trained in pothole repair and installation of road furniture including speed humps and speed signs.

Weed control and fire reduction management: Barkly Regional Council follows best practice in weed control and fire hazard reduction to improve the safety of its communities. Slashing, mowing, chemical spraying, clearing, manual control and pruning (tree lopping) operations are conducted pre-fire season across all communities near Council assets, and Council is often contracted to establish and maintain fire breaks around communities.

Cemetery management: Barkly Regional Council maintains the burial area in Ali Curung alongside the two gazetted cemeteries in Tennant Creek and Elliott, in accordance with the *Burial and Cremation Act 2022*. In particular, Council staff have been working closely with the community in Ali Curung to upgrade and beautify these sacred and culturally significant areas with strong support from Local Authorities and Traditional Owners.

Waste management: Barkly Regional Council provides a range of waste management services for residents, businesses and community-based organisations, including kerbside garbage collection, litter patrol, annual hard waste removal, and management of a licenced landfill facility in Tennant Creek alongside community landfill sites. Council’s waste management practices and policies are guided by the Northern Territory Circular Economy Strategy 2022-2027 and former Northern Territory Waste Management Strategy 2015-2022, and the *Waste Management and Pollution Control Act 2007*. Municipal staff receive regular training in use of machinery and equipment to ensure our environmental obligations are met and that waste is managed effectively.

Animal management: The Operations Directorate is responsible for enforcing animal management by-laws, collecting dogs at-large and maintaining a dog pound in Tennant Creek. In addition, the directorate facilitates a regular schedule of veterinarian visits across communities, providing treatments including vaccinations, sterilisation, tick and flea treatment, preventative worming and continued education with assistance from our animal companion workers. Council developed an Animal Management Strategy in April 2026 in collaboration with key stakeholders and Aboriginal organisations, which it will begin implementing in 2026-27.

Commercial Services

Australia Post: Barkly Regional Council contracted by Australia Post to deliver postal services to three communities in the Barkly region: Ali Curung, Alpururulam and Ampilatwatja. Council staff collect, sort, and distribute mail at each location.

Centrelink (Services Australia): Services Australia contracts Council to provide Specified Personnel and access to self-service equipment across five communities in Ali Curung, Ampilatwatja, Wutunugurra, Elliott and Alpururulam. They provide culturally appropriate customer services, monitor and report on service consumption and manage service equipment on site.

Aerodrome maintenance: Barkly Regional Council conducts inspections and facilitates maintenance work and reporting for five aerodromes across the region at Ali Curung, Ampilatwatja, Arlparra, Elliott and Alpururulam on behalf of the Department of Logistics and Infrastructure (DLI).

Natrisha Barnett
Chief Operating Officer



2026-2027

PAID - additional weekly bin collection

**Place sticker on the
front of the bin
(opposite side to the
lid hinge)**



Place sticker here

**This bin will not be
collected if the
sticker is not visible.**

**To order an additional bin and collection
contact Barkly Regional Council office.
reception@barkly.nt.gov.au**

Free giveaway and hard waste collection - Spring Cleaning in the month of September

Free Kerbside Giveaway

As part of our Spring Cleanup the first week of September will be dedicated to free giveaways as **one man's trash, can be another man's treasure**. Therefore, each year, Council will hold a Free Kerbside Giveaway event, which will be advertised and promoted on Social Media.

Residents are entitled to place any unwanted items on the kerbside for free collection by members of the public to encourage repurposing items that would normally end up in landfill. The unwanted items must be placed in such a way that it does not obstruct pedestrian movement.

Any items not claimed must be removed from the kerbside by the beginning of the second week or they may be collected as part of the hard waste collection.

Hard Waste Collection

During the second and third weeks of September, residents will be able to place unwanted items on the kerbside or in the skip bins (located in various locations around the community).

The unwanted items must be placed in such a way that it does not obstruct pedestrian movement.

Acceptable Items

- **Furniture:** sofas, mattresses, tables, and bed bases.
- **Whitegoods:** stoves, washing machines, and fridges/freezers (doors must be removed for safety).
- **Scrap Metal:** car rims (no tyres), bicycles, and small metal items.
- **Small Items:** must be boxed (not bagged) and securely tied.

Unacceptable Items

- **Hazardous Materials:** asbestos, chemicals, paint, or batteries.
- **General Waste:** daily household garbage, clothing, and food scraps.
- **Building Rubble:** concrete, bricks, tiles, and soil.
- **Car Bodies:** whole vehicles, large motor parts, and tyres.

Restrictions

- **Weight and Size Limits:** individual items must not exceed 50kg, must be light enough for two people to lift and be less than 2m.
- **Illegal Dumping:** placing items out earlier than the allowed timeframe is treated as illegal dumping and can result in council fines.

See Council's website for more details as they are subject to change.

Corporate Services

The directorate is largely a support service department, a corporate enabler, to the various divisions within Council, covering Finance, Grants, Governance, Work, Health and Safety, Records, and Information Communications Technology. All of Council benefits from the combination of these services provided. This includes timely, accurate, and well recorded information, as well as action in the critical ICT area, and compliance in regards Work, Health and Safety.

Governance

Barkly Regional Council operates under the Local Government Act 2019 and must follow regulations made under the Act, the Local Government (*General*) Regulations, and the Local Government (*Electoral*) Regulations. Additionally, Guidelines are made under the act for Council to follow. Barkly Regional Council focuses on accountable and representative decision-making. Council is dedicated to open communication, consultation, and encourages community involvement in planning and decision-making. Council, its committees, and Local Authority hold meetings:

- Each Meeting will be held four or six times per year.
- Meetings to be open to the public, unless confidential, as per the Local Government Act.
- A briefing session before each Ordinary Council meeting is held.
- Agendas and Minutes will be made available as per the Local Government Act 2019 requirements.

Financial Management

Budget 2026-27 includes a number of key components:

- Introduction, Goals, and Objectives.
- Budget Assumptions, Long-Term Financial Plan, and Asset Management Plan.
- Budget Statements and Cash Flows.
- Rating Policy, Declaration of Rates and Charges.
- Economic and Social Effects.
- Elected Member Allowances.
- Local Authority Area Budgets.
- Capital Expenditure
- Fees and Charges Schedules (Appendices A and B).

Finance provides regular, accurate Financial Reporting to both internal and external stakeholders. It is externally audited annually and provides external audits to grant programs requiring it.

Grant Management

Researching and proposal writing for grant funding in support of Council objectives from the Regional Plan. Overseeing all activities related to grants, including consultation with management, accurate and timely reporting to both internal and external stakeholders on financial and operational aspects of grant programs. Additionally, Grants listens and researches emerging funding priorities.

Information and Communication Technology (ICT)

Exploring digital platforms to improve service delivery, visual and audio communication, and operations. Researching innovative technologies to enhance decision-making for infrastructure and resource management. The goal is to create a more efficient workforce and reduce time spent on administrative tasks.

Records Management

The management of records of business operations, ensuring that both short-term and long-term records are properly documented, maintained internally and externally, and accessible.

Work, Health and Safety (WHS)

Development of a comprehensive WHS management system with policies and procedures, and Education for proactive risk identification and control. Regular risk assessments and control measures. Training and supervision for employees to ensure safety responsibilities are understood. Procedures for incident reporting and investigation to prevent recurrence. Continuous review of WHS systems for effectiveness and compliance with relevant legislation.

David Glover
Chief Financial Officer



Community Services

The Community Services Directorate plays a vital role in supporting the wellbeing, safety, health, and social connection of residents across the Barkly region. Through a broad range of funded programs, facilities, and community-led initiatives, Barkly Regional Council (BRC) continues to deliver practical and culturally responsive services that strengthen communities, support participation, and promote positive outcomes for people of all ages. The Directorate delivers services across remote communities and Tennant Creek through strong partnerships with local residents, Traditional Owners, government agencies, schools, health providers, sporting organisations, and community stakeholders. BRC remains committed to providing culturally safe, inclusive, and accessible services that contribute to healthy lifestyles, social inclusion, community pride, and stronger futures for the Barkly region.

Aged Care continues to remain a core priority for Council. Through funding provided under the Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP) and the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Flexible Aged Care Program (NATSIFAC), BRC delivers aged care services across Ali Curung, Alpurrurulam, Elliott, Ampilatwatja, and Arlparra, including surrounding homelands and outstations. Council is committed to supporting older residents to remain living independently and safely within their communities while maintaining strong cultural and family connections. Over the coming year, BRC will continue to strengthen client-centred care through enhanced transport services, social support activities, meals programs, domestic assistance, respite opportunities, and wellbeing initiatives. Increased collaboration with health clinics, aged care advocates, and regional service providers will support a more holistic approach to care delivery. Council will also continue workforce development initiatives to increase local Indigenous employment opportunities within aged care services and identify infrastructure and funding opportunities to improve facilities and service delivery.

Youth Services remain a significant focus for Council, recognising the importance of early intervention, engagement, leadership, and diversionary activities for young people across the region. Through funding from the National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA), Northern Territory Government (NTG), and other grant opportunities, BRC delivers youth programs across Ampilatwatja, Arlparra, Ali Curung, Alpurrurulam, Elliott, and Wutunugurra, together with services provided through the Tennant Creek Youth Centre (TCYC). Council will continue to provide culturally safe, inclusive, and structured activities that encourage participation, resilience, and positive social connection. Programs include sport and recreation, arts and music, cultural activities, school holiday programs, cooking programs, health and wellbeing activities, and evening diversionary programs. BRC will continue strengthening partnerships with schools, police, local organisations, and community leaders to support improved outcomes for young people. Council also aims to expand youth leadership opportunities and encourage greater participation of young people in community consultation and Local Authority discussions.

Sport and Recreation facilities and programs play an important role in promoting physical health, community connection, and active lifestyles. BRC manages and supports a range of recreation spaces, sporting programs, and community facilities across the Barkly region. Council remains committed to increasing participation in structured recreation activities for children, young people, families, and older residents. Partnerships with sporting organisations, schools, and health agencies will continue to strengthen opportunities for community-based recreation, school holiday activities, and regional sporting events. Facility audits and asset planning will continue to guide future improvements and investment opportunities.

The Tennant Creek Pool and Gym continue to provide important recreational and wellbeing opportunities for residents and visitors. Council recognises the significant value these facilities provide in supporting physical health, social connection, and community wellbeing. Over the coming year, BRC will focus on improving operational sustainability, enhancing customer experience, and increasing participation through community events, learn-to-swim activities, fitness opportunities, and targeted health promotion initiatives. Workforce development and training, including lifeguard and fitness staffing pathways, will remain a priority to support safe and compliant operations. Council will also continue to identify funding opportunities to improve infrastructure and enhance accessibility and usability of these facilities.

Libraries across the Barkly region continue to provide safe and welcoming community spaces that support literacy, digital inclusion, learning, and social connection. BRC libraries offer access to technology, educational resources, cultural activities, and community programs for residents of all ages. Libraries also play an important role as safe daytime spaces for children, young people, families, and visitors. Council will continue to strengthen library programming through partnerships, school engagement activities, digital literacy initiatives, and community events. Infrastructure improvements, safety enhancements, and expanded community use opportunities will continue to be explored to ensure libraries remain valued and accessible community assets.

Community Safety remains a cornerstone of the Community Services Directorate. Through Night Patrol services funded by the National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA), BRC supports culturally safe intervention, transport, and early response services across remote communities and Tennant Creek. Night Patrol teams play an important role in supporting vulnerable community members, reducing harm, and strengthening community safety outcomes through local knowledge and culturally appropriate engagement. Council will continue working collaboratively with police, schools, community leaders, and other stakeholders to identify emerging safety needs and improve service coordination. Asset management, workforce development, and fleet sustainability will remain key priorities to ensure Night Patrol services can continue operating effectively across the region.

Safe Houses in Ali Curung and Elliott continue to provide critical crisis accommodation and support services for individuals and families impacted by domestic and family violence. Through Northern Territory Government funding, BRC remains committed to delivering trauma-informed, culturally safe, and community-responsive support services. Council will continue strengthening partnerships with specialist domestic and family violence services, police, health providers, and community organisations to improve referral pathways and support outcomes for vulnerable residents. Workforce support, staff training, and community education initiatives will remain a focus to strengthen awareness, safety planning, and early intervention responses across communities.

Splash Pads and community recreation spaces also contribute significantly to liveability, family wellbeing, and community engagement across the Barkly region. These facilities provide safe and accessible recreational opportunities, particularly during periods of extreme heat. Council will continue to support the maintenance, activation, and improvement of splash pads and outdoor recreation spaces while exploring opportunities for future upgrades and expanded community use.

Through all areas of service delivery, Barkly Regional Council’s Community Services Directorate remains committed to building stronger, healthier, safer, and more connected communities. Council will continue working alongside residents, Traditional Owners, funding bodies, and partner organisations to ensure services are culturally responsive, community-informed, and focused on delivering practical outcomes for the people of the Barkly region.

Amanda Lambden
Director of Community Services



Infrastructure and Fleet

The Infrastructure and Fleet Services team is committed to delivering high-quality infrastructure projects that enhance community well-being and regional development. Our team manages the planning, delivery and maintenance of Council infrastructure, fleet, plant and equipment across the region. This includes Local Authority projects, State and Federal grant-funded works, Council-funded repairs and maintenance, and the day-to-day management of Council's fleet and mechanical assets. Our work directly impacts the safety, functionality, and liveability of the community.

Key Areas of Service Delivery

Project Delivery: We manage infrastructure projects from planning to completion, ensuring they are delivered on time, within budget, and to a high standard.

Roads, Footpaths and Street Lights: Upgrading and maintaining roads, footpaths and Street lights to improve accessibility and safety.

Council Asset Maintenance: Ensuring the upkeep and repair of Council-owned and leased buildings, community facilities, and essential infrastructure.

Fleet and Machinery: Overseeing the Council's vehicles, heavy plant and machinery, and equipment to support operational efficiency.

Development Applications: Assessing and approving development applications in line with BRC guidelines to support sustainable regional growth.

Our Approach

- **Proactive and Strategic:** We actively seek funding and plan projects that address long-term infrastructure needs in the region.
- **Community-Focused:** We prioritise infrastructure projects that meet community needs and enhance daily life.
- **Efficient and Cost-Effective:** We ensure all projects and services are delivered in a financially responsible and sustainable manner.
- **Collaboration:** We work closely with local authorities, contractors, and funding bodies to deliver quality services.
- **Compliance and Best Practices:** Our team follows industry standards and regulatory requirements to ensure safe and effective service delivery.

By focusing on infrastructure development, asset management, and operational efficiency, our team plays a critical role in supporting the region's growth and sustainability.

Surya Godavarthi

Director of Infrastructure and Fleet

Strategic Approach: The 10-year Infrastructure and Fleet Replacement Plan

The 10-Year Infrastructure and Fleet Replacement Plan provides a structured and financially sustainable approach to maintaining and upgrading Barkly Regional Council's assets. The plan covers fleet, plant, equipment, buildings, roads, footpaths and other critical infrastructure. Its purpose is to ensure assets are replaced or upgraded at the appropriate time to reduce breakdowns, minimise lifecycle costs and maintain reliable service delivery.

1-2 Years: Immediate Priorities – Restoring Essential Functionality

The initial phase focuses on critical replacements and urgent repairs to restore essential functionality.

- Fleet and Equipment: prioritising plant and machinery that have not been replaced for an extended period, reducing breakdowns and costly emergency repairs.
- Infrastructure: Addressing roads and buildings requiring urgent attention to bring them back to a safe and usable condition.
- Key Outcomes: Improved reliability, reduced downtime, and immediate safety enhancements for Council operations and community assets.

3-5 Years: Stabilising and Upgrading to Standard

This phase brings most Council assets to a consistent and sustainable standard.

- Fleet and Equipment: Systematic replacement of aging vehicles and machinery to optimise performance and reduce maintenance costs.
- Buildings and Facilities: Upgrading essential facilities to improve functionality, safety, and compliance with evolving regulations.
- Road and Footpath Network: Undertaking significant rehabilitation projects to enhance transport connectivity and accessibility.
- Key Outcomes: A stable and modernised fleet and infrastructure base, reducing unplanned repairs and extending asset life.

6-8 Years: Refining and Preparing for Future Needs

This phase focuses on completing the remaining lower-priority asset replacements while preparing for future cycles.

- Lifecycle Continuation: Replacing assets that were upgraded in the earlier phases, ensuring continuous improvement and minimal disruptions.
- Buildings and Facilities: Enhancing efficiency through sustainability-focused upgrades, such as energy-efficient systems and modern materials.
- Road and Drainage Systems: Implementing proactive maintenance to extend asset life and prevent costly emergency repairs.
- Key Outcomes: A fully modernised asset base that is well-maintained and positioned for long-term sustainability.

9-10 Years: Full Optimisation and Sustainable Lifecycle Management

By this stage, we will have a fully functional, efficient, and well-maintained fleet and infrastructure network.

- Sustaining Operational Efficiency: Preventing cost spikes by proactively planning for replacements before assets reach critical failure.
- Financial Sustainability: Keeping operational costs stable by avoiding reactive spending and investing in long-term efficiency.
- Key Outcomes: A predictable and sustainable asset management cycle, ensuring that essential services are delivered without interruption, cost overruns, or unexpected breakdowns.

Long-Term Vision: Ensuring a Reliable Future

This plan is a commitment to long-term sustainability, financial responsibility, and delivering better outcomes for the Barkly region. By continuously monitoring asset conditions and proactively planning for replacements, we can maintain a well-functioning and cost-effective infrastructure network that supports regional growth and development.

Barkly Regional Council 10 Year Asset Replacement Cost

Life Cycle Costs - Cost Summaries (\$'000)										
Buildings Periodic Replacement Costs	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10
CAT 1 = Replace with Design Element	2,418	2,422	3,441	2,996	1,399	295	5,155	6,971	8,647	4,821
CAT 2 = Standard Replacement w/o Design Element	224	0	448	1,089	558	491	812	1,255	2,512	1,227
Total	2,642	2,422	3,888	4,085	1,957	785	5,967	8,226	11,159	6,048
Total Cumulative	2,642	5,064	8,952	13,037	14,994	15,780	21,747	29,973	41,132	47,180
Roads Periodic Replacement Cost	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10
CAT 1 = Replace with Design Element	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CAT 2 = Standard Replacement w/o Design Element	11,926	10,810	10,384	10,960	11,069	10,665	7,127	4,894	3,383	5,740
Total	11,926	10,810	10,384	10,960	11,069	10,665	7,127	4,894	3,383	5,740
Total Cumulative	11,926	22,736	33,121	44,080	55,149	65,814	72,941	77,835	81,218	86,958
Fleet Periodic Replacement Cost	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10
Overall Outgoing Fleet Costs	6,704	6,174	3,284	4,207	595	308	7,084	8,038	3,374	1,257
Estimated Earnings from Fleet Asset Sale	2,051	1,694	674	840	177	71	6,439	4,012	2,798	849
Total	4,653	4,480	2,609	3,367	418	237	645	4,026	576	408
Total Cumulative	4,653	9,133	11,743	15,110	15,528	15,765	16,410	20,436	21,012	21,420
Combined Total Periodic Replacement Cost	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10
CAT 1 = Replace with Design Element	2,418	2,422	3,441	2,996	1,399	295	5,155	6,971	8,647	4,821
CAT 2 = Standard Replacement w/o Design Element	12,150	10,810	10,832	12,049	12,049	11,156	7,939	6,148	5,895	6,967
Fleet Costs	4,653	4,480	2,609	3,367	418	237	645	4,026	576	408
Total	19,221	17,712	16,882	18,412	13,866	11,688	13,739	17,146	15,118	12,195
Total Cumulative	19,221	36,933	53,815	72,228	86,094	97,782	111,520	128,666	143,785	155,980

The following assumptions have been used in preparing the 10-Year Asset Replacement Plan:

- All trailer and heavy equipment and trucks have a calculated depreciation of 2.5% per annum.
- All new vehicle prices are based on quotes for 2026 models.
- Tyre and major service costs factored in every 4 years.
- All running costs cover servicing, fuel, telematics and registration.
- All running costs increase every year to accommodate changing fuel costs.
- In order to retain resale value of the light vehicle fleet, I recommend change over every 3-4 years.

- All costs are inclusive of GST.
- Telematics costs are factored in for all assets.
- All new vehicle and equipment pricing is based off the 2025 model year except the front-end loader which is 2023.
- All evaluations do not consider vehicle condition unless the vehicle known to be inoperable.
- Escalation assumed at 3% per annum.
- Replacement costs, remaining life and useful life values are as per the June 2023 asset reports, updated to current date. Some useful lives adjusted to smooth expenditure.
- All quantities are as per the June 2023 asset reports. Assets have not been inspected as part of this report.
- Replacement Values and cycle as defined in life cycle cost data sheet.
- Replacement is assumed at the year after the estimated effective life (e.g. effective life is 5 years; replacement at year 6).
- Replacement Cycles assumed all materials and equipment maintained in accordance with suppliers' details.
- Contingencies are included.
- Asbestos removal or treatment is excluded.
- Budgets exclude GST and Loose furniture.
- Staffing cost and cleaning cost are EXCLUDED in the above calculation.





**OUR
COMMUNITIES**

Ali Curung

Aliases: Ale-Kerange, Alekarengge, Warrabri, and Warriabri.

Local Government Council: Barkly.

Main Languages: Warlpiri, Alyawarr, Kaytetye, and Warumungu.

Land Council: Central Land Council. Electorate: Barkly.

Population: 394 (from 2021 Census).

Location: Ali Curung is located southeast of Tennant Creek on the Warrabri Aboriginal Land Trust. Ali Curung is surrounded by Neutral Junction, Murray Downs, and Singleton Pastoral Properties.

Accessible by road: The community is located 170km south of Tennant Creek. The road from Tennant Creek to Ali Curung is sealed and is roughly a two-hour drive.

Ali Curung has a local store, unsealed airstrip, a health centre, a police station, and school.

Council Services: Municipal Services (Murray Downs/Imangarra receive some municipal services), Cemetery, Roads, Sports Grounds, Parks and Splash Park, Playgrounds, Waste Collection, Council Infrastructure, Customer Service, Airstrip Contract, Centrelink, Post Office, Streetlights, Aged Care, Night Patrol (including Murray Downs, Mungkarta, and Tara), Outside School Hours Care, Safe House, and Youth, Sport and Recreation.



Ali Curung Regional Plan Priorities

Council-Led Initiatives (Requiring External Funding and Partnerships):

- Delivery of the Ali Curung Youth Centre including changerooms/toilets
- Install grass and irrigation in key areas
- Construct a new fence and scoreboard
- Install bollards at the basketball courts
- Resurface community roads
- Upgrade the safe house
- Develop a new playground with shade on Lot 156
- Upgrade streetlights to LEDs

Other Projects (Requiring External Funding and Partnerships):

- Advocate for the delivery of stable power supply (that the generator and automation is installed)
- Advocate for reintroduction of respite services and a general improvement in health services
- Expansion on safe house (including for men)
- Provide a community master plan
- Advocate for the delivery of sealed airstrip
- Upgrades to the football field, including lights and grass
- Advocate for well designed, appropriate, sustainable housing with a simple application process that ultimately leads to a reduction in the waiting list

Local Authority (LA) Projects (Within LA Budget and Scope) Resolved ACLA-26/18:

- Install a cemetery sign for directions
- Install solar lights in main parks and dark areas (completed in parks)
- Vet services



Alpurrurulam

Aliases: Ilperrelhelam, Lake Nash, Wart Alparayetye.

Local Government Area: Barkly. *Main Language:* Alyawarr.

Land Council: Central Land Council. *Electorate:* Barkly.

Population: 350 (from 2021 Census).

Location: Alpurrurulam is a Community Living Area southeast of Tennant Creek within the Lake Nash Pastoral Property just west of the Queensland border.

Accessible by road: Alpurrurulam is approx. 570 km east from Tennant Creek along the Barkly Highway via the Austral Downs Station Road turnoff approx. 11 km from the NT/QLD border. In the wet season the road, and the river can become impassable. Alpurrurulam can also be accessed via the Sandover Highway.

Alpurrurulam has a local store, a sealed airstrip, a health centre, and a school.

Council Services: Municipal Services, Cemetery, Roads, Sports Grounds, Parks, Playgrounds, Waste Collection, Council Infrastructure, Customer Service, Airstrip Contract, Centrelink, Post Office, Streetlights, Aged Care, Night Patrol, Outside School Hours Care, and Youth, Sport and Recreation.



Alpurrurulam Regional Plan Priorities

Council-Led Initiatives (Requiring External Funding and Partnerships):

- Road and Drainage upgrades
- Develop a community master plan, including visitor park, water park, and drainage
- Define an area for future Park
- Allocate space for future Small Businesses
- Develop a Stormwater Management Plan

Other Projects (Requiring External Funding and Partnerships):

- Advocate for the construction of the funded police station in Alpurrurulam
- Advocate for all-weather access to the airstrip
- Advocate for all-weather access road across the Georgina River and gazetting of the road
- Enclose old basketball court with seating to create a Community Shelter
- Advocate for sewerage pond
- Advocate upgrade of Airstrip for the heavier planes (to bring in emergency supplies)
- Advocate for a safe house
- Advocate for a Fire Management Plan
- Toilet at Cemetery and Airstrip (approval for septic first step)
- Night Patrol Office
- Shiny Shed Fencing (at actual perimeter)
- Advocate for the replacement of the boundary fence

Local Authority (LA) Projects (Within LA Budget and Scope) Resolved ALLA-26/20:

- Install additional speed bumps for road safety
- Vet services
- Install more seating and lights at oval
- Upgrade changerooms at the oval
- Repair and recommission the existing Community Centre



Ampilatwatja

Aliases: Aharreng, Aherre, Ammaro, Ammaroo, and Amperlatwatye.

Local Government Area: Barkly. *Main Language:* Alyawarr.

Land Council: Central Land Council. *Electorate:* Barkly.

Population: 439 (from 2021 Census).

Location: Ampilatwatja is located northeast of Alice Springs on the Aherreng Aboriginal Land Trust. The community is surrounded by the pastoral properties of Ammaroo, Derry Downs and Elkedra.

Accessible by road: Ampilatwatja is approx. 315 km southeast of Tennant Creek (155 km unsealed) and approx. 325 km northeast of Alice Springs, off the Sandover Highway (220 km unsealed). It's about 4 hours' drive if the road is in reasonable condition. A 4-WD is required during rainy weather, and the road can be impassable or closed to all vehicles with heavy rain.

Ampilatwatja has a local store, an unsealed airstrip, a health centre, and a school.

Council Services: Municipal Services, Cemetery, Roads, Sports Grounds, Parks, Playgrounds, Waste Collection, Council Infrastructure, Customer Service, Airstrip Contract, Centrelink, Post Office, Streetlights, Aged Care, Night Patrol, Outside School Hours Care, and Youth, Sport and Recreation.



Ampilatwatja Regional Plan Priorities

Council-Led Initiatives (Requiring External Funding and Partnerships):

- Plant more trees in the community
- Install an outdoor gym
- Upgrade Youth Activity Centre, including rectifying the flooding issues

Other Projects (Requiring External Funding and Partnerships):

- Advocate for the delivery of the funded sealed airstrip
- Advocate for the delivery of the funded water upgrade
- Develop a visitor camping area on land to be identified
- Provide a community football team bus
- Advocate for an upgrade to the football oval; fencing, LED lighting, seating, and trees
- Advocate for the delivery of the funded water security
- Advocate for more solar lights and streetlights to improve community safety
- Advocate for the delivery of the funded sewerage pond
- Construct bin stands to hold 2 bins for public housing
- Advocate for a Learning and Healing Centre (meeting rooms, computer access, training, etc)

Local Authority (LA) Projects (Within LA Budget and Scope) Resolved AMLA-26/9:

- Speed humps
- Community signage
- Vet services



Arlparra

Aliases: Ahalpere, Angarapa, New Shop, Urapuntja Store, and Utopia New Store.

Local Government Area: Barkly. *Main Language:* Alyawarr.

Land Council: Central Land Council. *Electorate:* Barkly.

Population: 444 (from 2021 Census).

Location: The community is located 270km northeast of Alice Springs via Sandover Highway on the eastern perimeter of the Western Desert ‘block’ next to the traditional land of the Eastern Anmatyarre and Alyawarre people.

Accessible by road: Arlparra is approx. 380 km southeast from Tennant Creek and 248 km northeast from Alice Springs by road. Most part of the access road is unsealed. During the wet season (December - March), the roads, the connecting Sandover highway and the river are often impassable. 20 km of the road is sealed from Arlparra north to the airstrip and Urapuntja Health Centre.

Arlparra has a local store, a sealed airstrip, a health centre, a police station, and a school.

Council Services: Municipal Services, Roads, Sports Grounds, Parks, Playgrounds, Waste Collection, Council Infrastructure, Customer Service, Airstrip Contract, Streetlights, Aged Care, Night Patrol, Outside School Hours Care, and Youth, Sport and Recreation.



Artparra Regional Plan Priorities

Council-Led Initiatives (Requiring External Funding and Partnerships):

- Utopia Homeland Roads

Other Projects (Requiring External Funding and Partnerships):

- Advocacy for disaster management equipment
- Advocate for water security in the Homeland stations
- Advocate for pump truck
- Advocate for Loader/Grader for road works
- Advocate for a power supply that is suitably sized for the community
- Advocate for delivery of the funded Sandover Highway Sealing

Local Authority (LA) Projects (Within LA Budget and Scope) Resolved ARLA-26/8:

- Basketball court upgrades
- Solar Lighting
- Community Bus
- Vet Services



Elliott

Local Government Area: Barkly.

Main Language: Kriol.

Land Council: Northern Land Council.

Electorate: Barkly.

Population: 287 (from 2021 Census).

Location: Elliott is located north of Tennant Creek on the Stuart Highway.

Accessible by road: Elliott is located approx. 250km north of Tennant Creek by road on the Stuart Highway. The entire access road to the community is sealed and good road access all year.

Elliott has a local store, a sealed airstrip, a health centre, a police station, and a school.

Council Services: Municipal Services, Cemetery, Roads, Sports Grounds, Parks and Splash Park, Playgrounds, Waste Collection, Council Infrastructure, Customer Service, Library, Airstrip Contract, Centrelink, Post Office, Streetlights, Aged Care, Night Patrol, Outside School Hours Care, and Youth, Sport and Recreation.



Elliott Regional Plan Priorities

Council Led Initiatives (Require External Funding and Partnerships):

- A staged implementation of the approved Jim Rennie Reserve masterplan
- Conduct feasibility studies and seek funding for town pool for Elliott
- Investigate a RV dump point.

Other Projects (Requiring External Funding and Partnerships):

- Advocate for more housing, social and affordable
- Advocate for a new Aged Care Centre
- Advocate for a Men’s Safe House/Shed
- Advocate for a water quality solution for Dialysis Services
- Seek funding and support for airstrip access road sealing
- Advocate for improved airstrip lighting for safety
- Advocate for safety improvements to the turn-offs for North and South Camps, the landfill and airstrip
- Advocate for a purpose-built safe house
- Creating opportunities for the youth employment
- Support and explore funding options for a bus for sports participation and community transport
- Advocate for general store
- Advocate for improvements to water quality
- Advocate for sobering up shelter and operational funding
- Advocate for upgrade of the airstrip amenities
- Advocate for affordable opportunities to dispose of septic sludge

Local Authority (LA) Projects (Within LA Budget and Scope) Resolved ELLA-26/17:

- Plan and establish a visitor park
- Develop cemetery facilities to improve public amenities
- Vet Services



Tennant Creek

Local Government Council: Barkly.

Land Council: Central Land Council.

Electorate: Barkly.

Population: 2949 (from 2021 Census).

Location: Tennant Creek is located about 1,015 kms south of Darwin and 507kms north of Alice Springs. The community can be accessed all year round via the Stuart Highway, the main highway traversing the Northern Territory.

Tennant Creek has an IGA, an airport, a hospital, a police station, a primary school, and a high school.

Council Services: Municipal Services, Cemetery, Roads, Sports Grounds, Parks, Playgrounds, Waste Collection, Landfill Facility, Council Infrastructure, Customer Service, Library, Animal Management, Pool Management, Streetlights, and Youth Centre.



Tennant Creek Regional Plan Priorities

Council Led Initiatives (Require External Funding and Partnerships):

- Purkiss Oval light upgrade to LEDs to enable evening/night sports matches
- Lake Mary Ann 10-year Master Plan (upgrades, camping, access)
- Install footpaths, prioritising access for vulnerable residents
- Pool upgrades (shade) and/or redevelopment as per masterplan

Other Projects (Requiring External Funding and Partnerships):

- Advocate for more housing, social and affordable
- Seek funding for a new cricket pitch surface
- Review relocation of waste management facilities
- Advocate for continuing upgrades to the Paterson Street
- Review the current waste management practices to ensure sustainability
- Advocate for portable vehicle crusher and tyre crusher
- Purkiss Reserve – seek funding for stage 2, as per original scope of works
- Advocate for day surgery at Hospital
- Upgrades and redevelopment of the Civic Hall

Local Authority (LA) Projects (Within LA Budget and Scope) Resolved TCLA-26/19:

- Lake Mary Ann 0-5 playground
- Vet services



Wutunugurra

Aliases: Epenarra, Wetenngerr, Wuttunugurr, and Wutunurrgura.

Local Government Area: Barkly.

Main Language: Alyawarr.

Land Council: Central Land Council. Electorate: Barkly.

Population: 143 (from 2021 Census).

Location: Wutunugurra is located southeast of Tennant Creek, on the western side of the Frew River on a Community Living Area within the Epenarra Pastoral Property.

Accessible by road: The community is located on the western side of the Frew River, 205km south-east of Tennant Creek. Access road consists of both sealed and unsealed sections (around 87km of sealed along the Stuart Highway to the Wutunugurra turn off and 118km of unsealed along the Kurundi Road). Access to the community is variable, depending on weather conditions the Kurundi Road may be closed due to flooding in the wet season.

Wutunugurra has a local store, access to an unsealed airstrip, a health centre, and a school.

Council Services: Municipal Services, Roads, Sports Grounds, Playgrounds, Waste Collection, Council Infrastructure, Customer Service, Centrelink, Post Office, Streetlights, Night Patrol, Outside School Hours Care, and Youth, Sport and Recreation.



Wutunugurra Regional Plan Priorities

Council-Led Initiatives (Require External Funding and Partnerships):

- Develop a master plan for a sports precinct
- Develop a new playground for children
- Install safety signs in key locations
- Install speed bumps for road safety

Other Projects (Requiring External Funding and Partnerships):

- Advocate for major infrastructure upgrades such as road
- Seek funding for community welfare and aged care establishment
- Advocate for a dedicated airstrip for Wutunugurra
- Establish a Wutunugurra Youth Centre with musical instruments
- Advocate for funding for a Women’s Centre worker
- Construct a toilet at the church with a small kitchen and additional shade structures
- Advocate for Barkly Roads (Kurundi Road) upgrades
- Fence around the community to prevent cattle intrusion by coordinating with the Station
- Build a verandah for the Arts Centre with tables and chairs
- Establish a study centre with computers and internet access
- Construct shade shelters and benches at the cemetery
- Advocate for water security
- Advocate for sewerage pond
- Advocate for gym equipment
- Advocate for community bus

Local Authority (LA) Projects (Within LA Budget and Scope):

- Install solar lights around community for improved security (Resolved WLA-26/2)
- Vet services



Community Support and Events

Throughout the year Barkly Regional Council host community events within the Barkly Region. In recent years the majority of these events have been held in Tennant Creek, with the exception of NAIDOC events. With strong stakeholder and community lead support, council would like to expand beyond Tennant Creek and into each community.

Council Events through grants and budget:

- NAIDOC
- Barkly Christmas Lights Competition
- Australia Day
- International Women’s Day
- Citizenship Ceremonies

Community Events held with Council support (through sponsorship or waiving of fees) – Annual Financial Support Details

Event	Support Details
Australia Day – one day event	Grant plus staff time to organise the event and work on the day
Barkly Christmas Lights Competition	Three levels of prizes worth \$750
BRC NAIDOC Events – all BRC communities	Grant plus staff time to organise the event and work the day of their community event, along with collaboration with other Stakeholders
NAIDOC Tennant Creek Events	Waiver of hire fees for Civic Hall during NAIDOC Week for community events
International Women’s Day – week of events	Grant plus staff time to organise the event, work on the day, and collaborate with other Stakeholders
Tennant Creek High School Graduation	Donation of \$2,000 from Council
Tennant Creek Children’s Christmas Tree	Waiver of hire fee for Purkiss Reserve Oval and Lights. Staff support for setting up marquees, clean-up, extra bins, map out irrigation on oval, clean toilets
NT Cricket – Rossy Williams Shield Cricket	Waiver of hire fee for Purkiss Reserve Oval
Clontarf Football Carnival – one day event	Waiver of hire fee for Purkiss Reserve Oval and Lights
ANZAC Day	Municipal support for set up of podium, assisted with traffic management

Office of the Mayor’s Fund

This fund, with an annual supporting budget of \$5,000, will support our ad hoc governance functions and visits. It also provides for any small gifts for dignitaries and other minor expenses. The fund can receive community donations, and all expenses will be detailed in the Annual Report.



STRATEGIC

PLAN

Strategic Planning Model

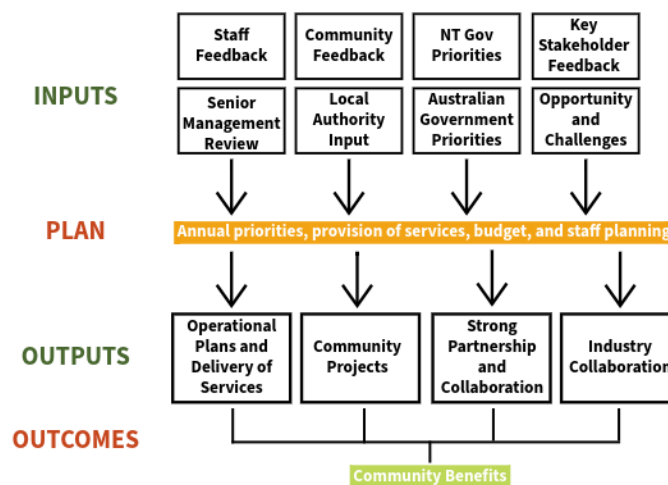
Barkly Regional Council’s strategic planning model is grounded in inclusive, collaborative, and evidence-based principles. The model draws on diverse inputs to ensure decision making is informed by a broad range of perspectives, including community members, staff, advisory committees, and key stakeholders. This approach ensures emerging needs, opportunities, and challenges are identified and considered in a structured and transparent way.

The planning process incorporates staff feedback, community input, senior management review, local authority contributions, and alignment with Northern Territory and Australian Government priorities. These inputs are considered collectively and in close consultation with Councillors and senior management to ensure strong alignment with local, Territory, and Federal directions while remaining responsive to community expectations.

These inputs inform the development of the Strategic Plan, which establishes annual priorities and provides clear direction for service delivery, budget allocation, and workforce planning. The Strategic Plan acts as the central framework guiding Council’s operational and organisational decision making.

The model supports delivery through operational plans, community projects, and strong partnerships with industry, community organisations, and other levels of government. This collaborative approach maximises resources, strengthens service delivery, and supports sustainable development.

The ultimate outcome of the strategic planning model is tangible community benefit, including improved wellbeing, enhanced liveability, and long term social, economic, and environmental outcomes. The model ensures Barkly Regional Council remains responsive, accountable, and forward looking.



Our Strategic Focus

BRC Strategic Focus	Goal
Our Communities	Deliver sustainable services that meet the needs of the community.
Our Employees	Become an employer of choice within the Barkly region.
Strong Relationships	Sustain high levels of stakeholder engagement.
Regional Growth	Create opportunities for Economic Development and Growth.
Good Governance	Provide effective leadership and good governance.
Our Assets	Maintain quality facilities, infrastructure, and fleet.



Strategic Priorities

Our Communities	
Goal: Deliver sustainable services that meet the needs of the community.	
1.1	<i>Objective</i> - Review and appraise Council's service delivery annually across all core and ancillary services. <i>Outcomes</i> - Detailed operational reports provided to Council and Local Authorities.
1.2	<i>Objective</i> - Compile disaster management strategies that maximises community preparedness for disaster events. <i>Outcomes</i> - Detailed Disaster Management Ready Plan for each community.
1.3	<i>Objective</i> - Deliver structured recreational and diversional activities in all communities that promote health and wellbeing and supports community safety. <i>Outcomes</i> - Meet required service delivery standards as per funding agreements.
1.4	<i>Objective</i> - Ensure all services are appropriately resourced and are financially sustainable. <i>Outcomes</i> - Budgets are succinct to the needs of service delivery and accurately reported to Council.
1.5	<i>Objective</i> - Provide succinct support for our aging community members. <i>Outcomes</i> - Meet required service delivery standards as per funding agreements, quality and safety guidelines, and Aged Care reforms.

Our Employees	
Goal: Become an employer of choice within the Barkly region.	
2.1	<i>Objective</i> - Create an innovative work culture that listens to all employees and provides a platform for feedback. <i>Outcomes</i> - Conduct annual staff survey and identify areas for improvement and implement initiatives.
2.2	<i>Objective</i> - Create a training continuum that supports the needs of the business and provides professional development opportunities for all staff. <i>Outcomes</i> - Create a training framework including training needs analysis and an annual training performance management plan.
2.3	<i>Objective</i> - Review organisational structures and position descriptions to ensure Council has a fit for purpose work force. <i>Outcomes</i> - Annual classification review against Enterprise Agreement in conjunction with budgets.
2.4	<i>Objective</i> - Improve attraction, retention, and motivation of staff. <i>Outcomes</i> - Create a rewards and recognition program that promotes personnel achievements and milestones.
2.5	<i>Objective</i> - Develop a detailed employee induction package that offers a holistic view of all operations. <i>Outcomes</i> - Create Cultural Awareness training, and corporate training video modules.

Strong Relationships	
Goal: Sustain high levels of stakeholder engagement.	
3.1	<i>Objective</i> – Communicate with our community in a way they want to hear and interact with Council. <i>Outcomes</i> - Establish a BRC Communications Plan, to reach our community in a variety of media suitable to each demographic of our community.
3.2	<i>Objective</i> - Ensure that Local Authorities are involved in the regional planning and the community decision making process. <i>Outcomes</i> - Establish a strategic planning model for BRC and 4 Local Authority meetings per year.
3.3	<i>Objective</i> - Create enduring partnerships with Territory and Federal Governments. <i>Outcomes</i> - Securing ongoing support and collaboration for BRC initiatives.
3.4	<i>Objective</i> - Ensure all stakeholders are provided the opportunity to offer feedback to ensure Council continually improves. <i>Outcomes</i> - Create mechanisms for community feedback and report to Council.
3.5	<i>Objective</i> - Create an innovative platform for Council Q&A. <i>Outcomes</i> - Create a forum for community members to liaise with elected members and ELT.

Regional Growth	
Goal: Create opportunities for Economic Development and Growth.	
4.1	<i>Objective</i> - Advocate for natural resources and agricultural development. <i>Outcomes</i> - Create a Barkly prospectus.
4.2	<i>Objective</i> - Council to continually promote Barkly’s significant cultural and geographical uniqueness to support tourism campaigns. <i>Outcomes</i> - Collaborate with tourism partners to promote and support Barkly events.
4.3	<i>Objective</i> - Council to investigate initiatives to promote economic advancement and growth of the region. <i>Outcomes</i> - Creating an environment for stakeholders to connect and collaborate on opportunities within the Barkly region.
4.4	<i>Objective</i> - Council to explore opportunities to develop properties in conjunction with key stakeholders. <i>Outcomes</i> - Identify BRC properties for further development.
4.5	<i>Objective</i> - Identify opportunities to hold/develop major events for the region. <i>Outcomes</i> - Work with stakeholders to bring major events to the Barkly region.

Good Governance	
Goal: Provide effective leadership and good governance.	
5.1	<i>Objective</i> - Council fosters good governance utilising best practice and internal review. <i>Outcomes</i> - Clear Audits and positive feedback from the Local Government Unit.
5.2	<i>Objective</i> - Prepare a Long-Term Financial Plan to ensure Council’s ongoing financial stability. <i>Outcomes</i> - Conduct an annual review of BRC long-term financial plan.
5.3	<i>Objective</i> - Create a records management system that is user friendly. <i>Outcomes</i> - Review and implement system improvements to current records management system.
5.4	<i>Objective</i> - Council to conduct a complete review of all IT Policies and Procedures. <i>Outcomes</i> - Review existing policies and create procedures and supporting documentation.
5.5	<i>Objective</i> - Council to conduct a complete review of its By-Laws. <i>Outcomes</i> - Embed new By-Laws to empower Local Laws Officers.



Our Assets	
Goal: Maintain quality facilities, infrastructure, and fleet.	
6.1	<i>Objective</i> - Develop a plan to maintain/upgrade key facilities across all communities. <i>Outcomes</i> - Facilities are safe for use and fit for purpose.
6.2	<i>Objective</i> - Conduct an annual audit on roads, pathways, and drainage networks. <i>Outcomes</i> - Roads and pathways are safe for use and meet contemporary standards.
6.3	<i>Objective</i> - Develop a long-term Cemetery Management Plan. <i>Outcomes</i> - Implementation of Cemetery Management Plan.
6.4	<i>Objective</i> - Conduct an annual review of all fleet vehicles. <i>Outcomes</i> - Implement a 10-year Fleet Management Plan in line with budget.
6.5	<i>Objective</i> - Develop a Waste Management Strategy for all communities. <i>Outcomes</i> - Execute a Waste Management Strategy in accordance with contemporary Australian Standards.



BUDGET OVERVIEW

Introduction

The Council is required to prepare an Annual Budget, that outlines the financial expectations for the Council in delivering services to the community.

The budget process involves consultations with the Manager/Director responsible for service delivery, as well as those providing support services, to establish a baseline cost for service delivery. The expenditure estimate includes salaries and wages for both direct and indirect staff, materials, contracts with external parties, and overhead costs necessary at both the community and support centre levels.

The budget process also involves consultation with Local Authorities to determine capital expenditure allocations for each community.

The funding needed to deliver these services and projects is determined by income from rates, user charges, contract and grant income, and various other revenues. Additionally, capital requirements are taken into account to ensure the provision of assets and infrastructure necessary for effective service delivery.

Income and Expenditure Budget 2026-27

The budget for 2026-2027 has been developed through a consultative process and aims to address the needs of residents and the programs directed by the Barkly Regional Council.

During the 2026-2027 financial year, the Barkly Regional Council is projected to receive operational revenue totalling \$27.52 million. This revenue is composed of:

- \$19.17m expected from grants
- \$1.58m from government contracts and agency services
- \$6.74m from rates and waste charges
- Remaining amounts from other sources

Budget assumptions and facts

- All current services continue to be provided by Barkly Regional Council.
- Where budgeted, reserves will be utilised to cover capital expenditures where grant funding is not available.
- In the absence of a significant rates base, the Commonwealth and Territory Governments will continue to fund services.
- The budget has been prepared with the expectation of a possible Consumer Price Index (CPI) increase in government funding.
- There is no direct control over grants and agency income for future years.
- No additional major initiatives are planned over the next five years beyond the Council Regional Plan, primarily because any major initiatives are wholly dependent on additional funding. There is currently no indication of significant increases that could enable such initiatives.

- The entire annual Financial Assistance Grant for the 2025-26 financial year was paid in that financial year. It is anticipated there will be a prepayment of Financial Assistance Grant for the 2026-27 financial year (at the time this budget is prepared).
- Negotiating of agreements for those that are due to expire by the end of the 2025-26 financial year will occur.

Long-Term Financial Plan

The detailed Long-Term Financial Plan (LTFP) is outlined in below table. Barkly Regional Council's LTFP sets out the financial parameters and the underlying assumptions on which they are based. It is supported by a range of planning documents, strategies, and policies that together provide a framework for informed financial decision-making and performance measurement.

This integrated approach ensures the long-term financial sustainability of the Council while addressing the evolving needs and expectations of the community. The Long-Term Financial and Asset Management Plan outlines the approach for maintaining Council's infrastructure, supported by effective resources and processes that promote continuous improvement in asset management planning over time.

The long-term financial forecast is used to guide resource allocation, borrowing, and investment decisions, as well as to assess the Council's ongoing financial performance. By integrating financial and infrastructure capital management, the Council ensures that both are administered effectively.

The LTFP is reviewed annually to ensure that its assumptions remain defensible and that the forecasts continue to be reasonable. Adjustments will be made as circumstances evolve. The Council's long-term objective is to achieve a consistent, balanced or modest surplus on average, fully funding depreciation to enable asset replacement at the end of their useful life.

Key additional assumptions embedded within the LTFP include:

- A continued reduction in corporate overheads over the next four years.
- Consistent investment in asset replacement, aligned with the Council's Asset Management Plans.
- Approximate 5.0% annual increase in the Consumer Price Index (CPI), affecting both costs and grant revenues; and
- Annual rate and waste charges increases ranging between 4.5% and 5.5%.

Whole of Council Annual and Long-Term Financial Plan Budgets

Table 1.1 Forecasted Income and Expenditure Statement

Account	FCST FIN Year 2026-2027 (\$'000)	FCST FIN Year 2027-2028 (\$'000)	FCST FIN Year 2028-2029 (\$'000)	FCST FIN Year 2029-2030 (\$'000)
OPERATING INCOME				
Rates and Other Levies	5,201	5,409	5,625	5,850
Waste Charges	1,542	1,604	1,668	1,735
User Fees and Charges	668	695	723	751
Operating Grants and Subsidies	19,170	19,937	20,734	21,564
Interest / Investment Income	60	62	65	67
Commercial and Other Income	911	947	985	1,025
TOTAL OPERATING INCOME	27,552	28,654	29,800	30,992
OPERATING EXPENDITURE				
Employee Expenses	17,597	18,037	18,758	19,509
Materials and Contracts	8,156	8,482	8,822	9,174
Elected Member Allowances	531	552	574	597
Elected Member Expenses	289	301	313	325
Council Committee & LA Allowances	63	66	68	71
Council Committee & LA Expenses	14	15	15	16
Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	4,294	4,466	4,644	4,830
Other Expenses	15	16	16	17
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURE	30,959	31,933	33,211	34,539
OPERATING SURPLUS / DEFICIT	(3,407)	(3,279)	(3,410)	(3,547)

Table 1.2 Forecasted Yearly Operating Position

	FCST FIN Year 2026-2027 (\$'000)	FCST FIN Year 2027-2028 (\$'000)	FCST FIN Year 2028-2029 (\$'000)	FCST FIN Year 2029-2030 (\$'000)
BUDGETED OPERATING SURPLUS / DEFICIT	(3,407)	(3,279)	(3,410)	(3,547)
Less Non-Cash Income				
<i>Add Back Non- Cash Expenses (Depreciation)</i>	4,294	4,466	4,644	4,830
TOTAL NON-CASH ITEMS	4,294	4,466	4,644	4,830
Less ADDITIONAL OUTFLOWS				
Capital Expenditure - Tied Funds	4,480	4,659	4,846	5,039
Capital Expenditure - Untied Funds	887	922	959	998
Borrowing Repayments (Principal Only)	0	0	0	0
Transfer to Reserves	0	0	0	0
Other Outflows	0	0	0	0
TOTAL ADDITIONAL OUTFLOWS	5,367	5,582	5,805	6,037
Add ADDITIONAL INFLOWS				
Capital Grants Income	4,480	4,659	4,846	5,039
Prior Year Carry Forward Tied Funding	0	0	0	0
Other Inflow of Funds	0	0	0	0
Transfers from Reserves	0	0	0	0
TOTAL ADDITIONAL INFLOWS	4,480	4,659	4,846	5,039
NET BUDGETED OPERATING SURPLUS / DEFICIT	0	264	275	285

Appendix A - Capital Expenditure and Funding by class of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE **	FCST FIN Year 2026-2027 (\$'000)	FCST FIN Year 2027-2028 (\$'000)	FCST FIN Year 2028-2029 (\$'000)	FCST FIN Year 2029-2030 (\$'000)
Infrastructure (including roads, footpaths, park furniture, structures, equipment)	4,151	4,317	4,490	4,669
Plant and Machinery	180	187	195	202
Fleet	0	0	0	0
Other Assets (including furniture and equipment)	887	922	959	998
Other Project Expenditure	149	155	161	168
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE*	5,367	5,582	5,805	6,037
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE FUNDED BY: **				
Operating Income (amount allocated to fund capital items)	887	922	959	998
Capital Grants	4,480	4,659	4,846	5,039
Transfers from Cash Reserves	0	0	0	0
LA Funds	0	0	0	0
Sale of Assets (including trade-ins)	0	0	0	0
Other Funding	0	0	0	0
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE FUNDING	5,367	5,582	5,805	6,037

Appendix A.1 - Pinned Major Capital Works Budget – Projects/Items Over \$150,000

Class of Assets	By Major Capital Project *	Total Prior Year(s) Actuals \$	Outer Financial Year 1 Budget \$	Total Planned Budget ** \$	Total Planned Budget \$	Expected Project Completion Date
Infrastructure	Roads to Recovery	0	700,212	700,212	700,212	FY2026-27
Infrastructure	Ali Curung Youth Centre Grandstand Project	0	3,000,000	3,000,000	3,000,000	FY2026-27
TOTAL ***		0	3,700,212	3,700,212	3,700,212	

Budget Statement of Financial Position as of 30 June 2027

	Note	Budget 2027 \$'000	Final Forecast 2026 \$'000	Original Forecast 2026 \$'000
ASSETS				
Current assets				
Cash and cash equivalents	5	4,695	4,695	5,043
Trade and other receivables	6	4,219	4,214	3,222
Inventories	7	82	76	86
Total current assets		8,996	8,985	8,351
Non-current assets				
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	8	49,716	49,530	52,110
Right-of-use assets	11			
Total non-current assets		49,716	49,530	52,110
Total assets		58,712	58,515	60,461
LIABILITIES				
Current liabilities				
Trade and other payables	9	263	192	242
Provisions	10	1,359	1,233	1,150
Total current liabilities		1,622	1,425	1,392
Non-current liabilities				
Provisions	10	176	176	135
Total non-current liabilities		176	176	135
Total liabilities		1,798	1,601	1,527
Net Assets		56,914	56,914	58,934
EQUITY				
Accumulated Surplus		11,182	11,182	13,202
Reserves	11	45,732	45,732	45,732
Total Council equity		56,914	56,914	58,934

Budget Statement of Cash Flows for the Year Ending 30 June 2027

	Note	Budget Draft 2027 \$'000	Final Projection 2026 \$'000	Budget Original 2026 \$'000
Cash flows from operating activities				
<i>Receipts:</i>				
Rates, fees and user charges		6,743	6,364	6,810
Investments		60	40	57
Grants and contributions received for operating purposes		19,170	18,893	19,922
Reimbursements		18,893		
Other revenues		1,581	1,608	1,002
<i>Payments:</i>				
Employee costs		(17,597)	(16,118)	(19,134)
Materials, contracts and other expenses		(9,070)	(8,986)	(8,657)
Net cash flows from operating activities	13	887	1,801	-
Cash flows used in investing activities				
<i>Receipts:</i>				
Amounts received specifically for new or upgraded assets		4,480	1,763	(2,734)
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment		-	-	-
<i>Payments:</i>				
Acquisition of property, plant and equipment		(5,367)	(5,461)	2,734
Acquisition of short-term deposits			-	-
Net cash flows used in investing activities		(887)	(3,698)	-
Cash flows used in financing activities				
Payment of principal portion of lease liabilities		-	-	-
Net cash flows used in financing activities		-	-	-
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents				
		-	(1,897)	-
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year				
		4,695	6,592	5,043
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year				
	5	4,695	4,695	5,043

Rating Policy

Rates

i. Pursuant to Section 227 of the Local Government Act 2019 (the “Act”), the Council adopts the Unimproved Capital Value (UCV) as the basis for assessing the value of allotments within the Barkly Regional Council Area (the “Council Area”).

ii. The Rating Policy follows the principles of administrative simplicity, policy consistency, and equality. As permitted by the Local Government Act 2019, the Council will use the UCV to calculate rates for the allotments within the Council Area. The Northern Territory Valuer-General is responsible for determining the UCV of the land, while the relevant Northern Territory Government minister sets rates for mining tenements and pastoral leases.

iii. In accordance with Section 237 of the Act, the Council declares that it intends to raise \$5.13million for general purposes through a combination of fixed charges and differential valuation-based charges, with minimum charges applicable.

iv. Pursuant to Section 226(5) of the Act, the Council declares that for allotments within the Town of Tennant Creek, the minimum amount payable will be multiplied by:

- The number of separate parts or units that are adapted for separate occupation or use on each allotment of land, or
- The number one, whichever is greater.

General Rateable Land

According to Section 226(1) of the NT Local Government Act 2019, the Council adopts:

1. Differential valuation-based rates for the township of Tennant Creek, fixed for different zones.
2. Differential valuation-based rates for the township of Elliott, fixed for different zones.
3. A differential fixed charge for other allotments within the Council area, fixed for different zones.

For every allotment of rateable land within the towns of Tennant Creek and Elliott, the general rate is a valuation-based charge, with the assessed value based on the unimproved capital value (UCV) of the land subject to rates. For allotments in other parts of the Council area, the general rate is either a minimum charge or based on the valuation.

Conditionally Rateable Land

Under the Local Government Act 2019, land held under a pastoral lease or occupied under a mining tenement in the Northern Territory is conditionally rateable (Section 219). The Minister for Local Government is responsible for setting the level of conditional rates, which the local government council in whose area the pastoral lease or mining tenement is located collects each year. The Minister must set the level of conditional rates at least two months before the beginning of the financial year in which the rates will be collected. The Minister has decided to increase conditional rates by 3.1 per cent for the 2026-27 financial year. Conditional rates are subject to a Gazette Notice, which is also available on the Council's website.

Pastoral Leases

The assessed value is defined in Section 227 of the Local Government Act 2019. Rates are calculated using the unimproved capital value multiplied by 0.000813. The minimum rate for these properties is \$1000.70.

Active Mining Leases

The assessed value is defined in Section 227 of the Local Government Act 2019. Rates are calculated using the unimproved capital value multiplied by 0.0009238. The minimum rate for these properties is \$2,368.42.

Waste Management Charges

In relation to the Council's sanitation and waste management functions, the Council, pursuant to Section 239 of the Local Government Act 2019, establishes the following charges and service fees:

The Council imposes charges and service fees for the garbage collection service in Tennant Creek, Elliott, Newcastle Waters, and allotments in the communities and surrounding areas of Ali Curung, Alpurrurulam, Ampilatwatja, Arlparra, and Wutunugurra. All allotments will incur waste management fees regardless of whether the service is utilized.

(a) For each allotment in Tennant Creek, Elliott, and Newcastle Waters:

If a waste collection service is provided using a 240-litre capacity receptacle, or if the Council is willing and able to provide:

- Each weekly kerbside service:
 - Waste Management Charge: \$523.00 per annum.
- Each additional weekly kerbside service:
 - Waste Management Fee: \$523.00 per annum.

(b) For each allotment in the communities and surrounding areas of Ali Curung, Alpurrurulam, Ampilatwatja, Arlparra, and Wutunugurra:

If a waste collection service is provided using a 240-litre capacity receptacle, or if the Council is willing and able to provide:

- Each weekly kerbside service:
 - Waste Management Charge: \$1,506.00 per annum.
- Each additional weekly kerbside service:
 - Waste Management Fee: \$679.00 per annum.

The Council proposes to raise \$1.53 million through waste management charges.

Animal Management Levy

Pursuant to Section 239 of the Act, the Council has declared a special rate on rateable land to fund Animal Management services and initiatives within the Council area. This special rate, declared as an “Animal Management” rate, will be levied on every allotment of rateable land recorded for residential use in the Council assessment record, where the rural classification does not apply.

The rate is set at a flat \$103 per allotment in Tennant Creek and Elliott Township, and \$206 per allotment in all other communities and surrounding areas. Council anticipates that this will generate approximately \$171,701 in revenue, which will be used exclusively to fund Animal Management services.

Penalty for Late Payment

Pursuant to Section 245 of the Local Government Act, the Council has determined that the interest rate on overdue rates will be 15 percent per annum, calculated on a daily basis until the date of payment.

Rates Concession

It is recognised that some individual ratepayers may face difficulties in adhering to the rating policy. The Council will consider granting a rate concession (i.e., a reduced or deferred payment) in cases of financial hardship, to correct anomalies in the rating system, or where there is some public benefit. Ratepayers may apply for consideration under the Rates Exemption and Concession Policy (CP115).

Payment Dates

The Council has determined that the Rates and Charges declared under this resolution are due and payable in four approximately equal instalments on the following dates:

- First Instalment - September 30, 2026
- Second Instalment - November 30, 2026
- Third Instalment - January 31, 2027
- Fourth Instalment - March 31, 2027

Declaration of Rates and Charges

Differential rates schedule

The following rates proposal for 2026-2027 has been prepared in accordance with Section 201 of the Local Government Act (2019). It includes adjustments to incorporate conditional rating levies for mining and pastoral leases, as approved by the Minister for Local Government and Community Services. Revenue estimates for pastoral and mining leases are based on the Conditional Rates declared by the Minister. Similarly, the Council has adopted the latest valuation roll data issued by Land Title Office.

The proposed Rates and User Charges for 2026-2027 are as follows:

Allotments in the town of Tennant Creek				
Rate	Percentage	Minimum	Zone	Description
0.036863	3.6863	\$1,026.00	SD	Single Dwelling
0.011876	1.1876	\$1,026.00	RL	Rural Living
0.046472	4.6472	\$1,035.00	MD	Multiple Dwelling
0.118257	11.8257	\$1,736.00	CL	Community Living
0.046514	4.6514	\$1,026.00	MR	Medium Density Residential
0.085527	8.5527	\$1,736.00	C	Commercial
0.064668	6.4668	\$1,736.00	TC	Tourist Commercial
0.047297	4.7297	\$1,736.00	SC	Service Commercial
0.059894	5.9894	\$1,736.00	CP	Community Purposes
0.051686	5.1686	\$1,736.00	OR	Organised Recreation
0.047297	4.7297	\$1,736.00	LI	Light Industrial
0.048950	4.8950	\$1,736.00	GI	General Industry
0.009249	0.9249	\$1,736.00	UF	Urban Farm Land

Allotments in the town of Elliott				
Rate	Percentage	Minimum	Zone	Description
0.006265	0.6265	\$716.00	CM	Allotments used principally for commercial or business purposes (Zone: CM)
0.005702	0.5702	\$361.00		All other allotments not included above (All Other Zoning)

Allotments in the town of Newcastle Waters				
Rate	Percentage	Minimum	Zone	Description
0.105357	10.5357	\$1,327.00	OC	Allotments used principally for commercial or business purposes (Zone: OC)
0.105357	10.5357	\$361.00		All other allotments not included above (All Other Zoning)

Allotments in Community and Surrounding Living Areas of Ali Curung, Alpurrurulam, Ampilatwatja, Imangara, and Wutunugurra				
Rate	Percentage	Minimum	Zone	Description
0.050537	5.0537	\$1,581.00	OT	Allotments used principally for commercial or business purposes (Zone: OT)
0.04922	4.922	\$1,421.00		All other allotments not included above (All Other Zoning)

Allotments in Council Area (Excluding those comprised in other parts of this schedule)				
Rate	Percentage	Minimum	Zone	Description
0.012586	1.2586	\$1,581.00	OT	Allotments used principally for commercial or business purposes (Zone: OT)
0.047614	4.7614	\$1,246.00		All other allotments not included above (All Other Zoning)

Conditionally Rateable Land 2026/27				
0.000813	0.0813	\$1,000.70		Land held under pastoral lease
0.009238	0.9238	\$2,368.42		Land occupied under a mining tenement

Waste Charges	
Charge	
\$523.00	Kerbside Collection
\$1,506.00	Kerbside Collection - Community & Surrounding areas
\$679.00	Additional Kerbside Collection - Community & Surrounding areas

Animal Management Levy – allotments in town of Newcastle Waters, Tennant Creek, and Elliott	
Charge	
\$103.00	Special Rate: Animal Management

Animal Management Levy – Allotments in Community and Surrounding Living Areas of Ali Curung, Alpururulam, Ampilatwatja, Imangara, and Wutunugurra	
Charge	
\$206.00	Special Rate: Animal Management

Assessment of the social and economic effects of the Rating Policy and Declaration

The Council has recognised that social and economic factors are essential for its residents. While acknowledging this, much of the economic decision making is influenced by the Commonwealth and Northern Territory Governments, as well as global impacts. For the 2026-2027 financial year, the rates levied on property owners by Barkly Regional Council will remain affordable and at average levels compared to other local government jurisdictions in Australia. A rates comparison report prepared by Council staff has guided the Council in determining an appropriate approach to property rates for 2026-2027. This approach considers equity, fairness, and the ability to utilise revenue for community projects. Furthermore, rates revenue constitutes a small portion of the Council's total budget, representing approximately 18 percent of the total operating revenue. This indicates that the Council is effective in securing significant non rate revenue for all its communities,

including government grants and contracts. As a result, services and employment opportunities can be provided to Council residents that far exceed what rates revenue alone would allow, leading to a net positive socio-economic impact for residents. Despite the presence of mining and pastoral properties within the council's area, rate capping imposed by the Territory Government on this category limits the Council's ability to generate increased revenue. This, in turn, impacts the Council's capacity to provide enhanced services to the communities.

Elected Member Allowances

As per the determination of allowances for member of local Councils, Determination 1 of 2026 and in accordance with Section 353 (Chapter 21) of the Local Government Act 2019, Barkly Regional Council proposes to pay the following elected member allowances in 2026-27.

Allowance	Mayor (\$)	Deputy Mayor (\$)	Councillors (\$)
Councillor's Allowance	21,960	21,960	21,960
Additional Allowance	87,280	16,000	-
Professional Development Allowance	7,500	7,500	7,500
Maximum Extra Meeting Allowance	-	12,000	12,000
Total Claimable	116,740	57,460	41,460

The amount budgeted for the Elected Member expenses and allowances (excluding travel costs and accommodation expenses) is \$628,260.

Councillors' allowances and additional allowances

The allowances cover the following expenses:

- Any cost to Councillors of attending meetings and activities of Council where:
 - Council does not reimburse these costs.
 - Contribution towards phone and internet usage:
 - Contribution towards any home office and supplies.
 - Allowance towards costs incurred in servicing constituents in the ward or

Council Area

- Including, but not limited to:
 - Donations.
 - Organisation sponsorship.
 - Membership fees.
 - Patron expenses; and
 - Constituent support

Extra Meeting Allowances

An extra meeting allowance of up to \$12,000 per financial year, may be accessed by all Regional Councillors and Deputy Principal Members of the Council. On each occasion, the allowance paid will depend on the duration of the meeting session:

- Meeting Up to 2 hours \$200
- Meeting between 2 and 4 hours \$300
- Meeting for More than 4 hours \$500 (maximum payable for any one day)

Professional development allowance

Professional development allowance is \$7,500 for the 2026-27 financial year for each elected member. Any course or professional development activity must be specifically related to the role of the Councillor and be approved by the Council.

Vehicle allowance

Vehicle Allowance will be available for travel undertaken by all Councillors when the travel:

- exceeds 50kms from home base 100kms return,
- travel does not occur in a Council supplied and maintained vehicle.
- the Councillor is not in receipt of a motor vehicle allowance in Clause 7 below; and
- the vehicle allowance is capped at **\$10,000**.

Vehicle Allowance will be in the form of kilometre allowance which will be paid at rates set by the Australian Taxation Office each year (currently 88 cents a kilometre for 2024-25).

Vehicle Allowance will be available in the following circumstances:

- travel to and from statutory Council meetings.
- travel to and from official Council approved meeting.
- travel to and from approved functions representing the Principal Member.
- travel to and from Local Authority Meetings within the ward the Councillor represents.
- travel to and from all meetings of Council and their committees; and
- travel to and from any additional activity where Extra Meeting/Activity Allowance has been approved.

When a kilometre reimbursement is paid, travel time will also be paid utilising extra meetings or activities rate. This payment is not to be included in the extra meetings/activities cap as specified in the extra meeting allowances rates above (refer Clause 4.1 of Determination 1 of 2026).

The Vehicle Allowance Cap will not include:

- travel to and from Local Authorities Meetings within the Ward that the member represents.
- travel involved with Professional Development activities.

Provision of Motor Vehicle (Clause 7 of Determination 1 of 2026)

If Principal Members of Municipal and Regional Councils are not given a Council maintained vehicle, they can receive a Vehicle allowance.

The Vehicle allowance, which will be paid fortnightly or monthly, will be as follows:

- \$40,000 per year for Regional Principal Members.

Travel Allowance

Principal members, Deputy Principal Members and Councillor who are required to stay from home overnight on approved Council business will be entitled to Travel Allowance.

The applicable rates to be paid are found in Table 1 of Taxation Determination TD 2025/4 or any subsequent Taxation Determination made in substitution of that Determination.

Local Authority Allowances

In accordance with section 107 of the Local Government Act 2019, a member of a local authority is entitled to be paid the allowance or allowances determined by the Remuneration Tribunal under section 7E of the *Assembly Members and Statutory Officers (Remuneration and Other Entitlements) Act 2006*.

As per the determination of allowance of members of Local Authorities, Determination 1 of 2026, the allowances below will be paid for each meeting of a Local Authority.

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

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

A Member of a Local Authority will be paid as follows:

- If the meeting is held up to 2 hours \$200
- If the meeting is held between 2 to 4 hours \$300
- If the meeting is held for more than 4 hours \$400

The amount budgeted for the Local Authority member expenses and allowances (excluding catering, travel and support expenses) for 2026-27 is \$39,000.



Budget for Each Local Authority Area

*This report only applies to Regional Local Government Councils.

Income and Expenditure Statement	Regional Office (\$'000)	Tennant Creek (\$'000)	Elliott (\$'000)	Ali Curung (\$'000)
Rates and Other Levies	5,201	0	0	0
Waste Charges	1,542	0	0	0
User Fees and Charges	3	352	66	65
Operating Grants and Subsidies	7,973	1,235	1,997	1,997
Interest / Investment Income	60	0	0	0
Commercial and Other Income	0	406	102	101
Total Operating Income	14,779	1,992	2,165	2,163
Operating Expenditure				
Employee Expenses	4,034	2,910	2,250	2,155
Materials and Contracts	1,839	1,348	1,043	999
Elected Member Allowances	531	0	0	0
Elected Member Expenses	289	0	0	0
Council Committee and LA Allowances	11	8	8	8
Council Committee and LA Expenses	4	1	2	1
Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	4,294	0	0	0
Other Expenses	15	0	0	0
Total Operating Expenditure	11,017	4,267	3,302	3,164
Net Budgeted Surplus/ (Deficit)	3,762	(2,275)	(1,137)	(1,001)

Ampilatwatja (\$'000)	Alpurrurulam (\$'000)	Wutunugurra (\$'000)	Arlparra (\$'000)	Total (\$'000)
0	0	0	0	5,201
0	0	0	0	1,542
65	74	44	0	668
909	1,688	1,688	1,681	19,170
0	0	0	0	60
97	106	100	0	911
1,071	1,868	1,832	1,681	27,552
1,933	1,920	1,251	1,144	17,597
896	890	573	568	8,156
0	0	0	0	531
0	0	0	0	289
8	8	8	8	63
1	1	1	1	14
0	0	0	0	4,294
0	0	0	0	15
2,837	2,819	1,833	1,721	30,959
(1,766)	(951)	(0)	(40)	(3,407)

2026-2027

FEES

AND

CHARGES



Fees and Charges Schedule

Note: Please check the BRC website for separate fees and charges listing - as fees printed in the Regional Plan are subject to change.

Concession Types: Pensioner Concession Card - refers to government issued concession card or 65+ Senior's card.

Animal Control	
^Free registration for first time registrations of de-sexed dogs in 2026-27 financial year +Adoption fees do not apply when a dog is transferred to a rehoming centre.	
Annual registration - intact dog	\$410.00
Annual registration - desexed dog ^	\$60.00
Annual registration - intact dog (with valid concession card)	\$350.00
Annual registration - desexed dog (with valid concession card)	Free
Basic Licence – 2 to 5 dogs (per property)	Free
Full licence – more than 5 dogs (per property)	\$150.00
Dog adoption (registration, de-sexing, C3, treatment for fleas and ticks) +	\$300.00
Pound fees - charge per day (payment required before dog is released)	\$36.00
Cat traps (per day per trap) - veterinarian fees apply	Free
Deposit for trap (per trap)	\$130.00
Replacement registration tag	\$30.00
Annual registration - registered breeders - intact dog	\$110.00
Must supply evidence of breeding license or current membership of breeding association.	

Administration and Library	
Fees / Fines - per By-Laws and Local Government Act	
Failure to notify of change of address - for rates notices	\$150.00
Stallholders Permit - Public Land (per day) [S25]	\$45.00
Removal of flammable undergrowth and/or excess rubbish: staff labour hire, plus equipment hire rates or contractor costs plus 10%.	
Information Search/Copies of Council Documents	
Rates Search	\$129.00
Application fee for non-personal information	\$40.00
Access to information (per hour)	\$34.00
Deposit for access to information	\$34.00
Archived files (per document) - minutes and agendas	\$114.00
Local Laws and By-Laws	\$44.00
Professionally printed copy of Annual Report and Regional Plan - if in stock	\$49.00
Copies of council documents can be found on our website for free - if it is not on our website then it is considered archived and relevant fees apply.	

Advertising - fees per month	
Billboards on adjoining lands	\$80.00
Advertising on buildings	\$80.00
Signboard in or on a public place	\$91.00
Printing and Copying Services - per document	
Binding A4 documents	\$26.00
Laminating A4 documents	\$2.50
Laminating A3 documents	\$5.00
Laminating Business Card sized documents	\$2.00
Printing A4 single side - black and white	\$0.40
Printing A4 single side - colour	\$1.00
Printing A4 double side - black and white	\$0.75
Printing A4 double side - colour	\$2.00
Printing A3 single side - black and white	\$0.75
Printing A3 single side - colour	\$2.00
Printing A3 double side - black and white	\$1.25
Printing A3 double side - colour	\$4.00
Printing Current Agenda	\$75.00
Printing Minutes (previous 12 months)	\$25.00
Library Fees and Charges	
Interlibrary loans - interstate only	POA
Temporary member deposit - refundable	\$50.00
Replacement library card	\$10.00
Replacement of lost or damaged library items	At cost

Council Venues - minimum 2 weeks' notice for venue hire	
<p>Bonds are refundable post event, minus any charges for additional cleaning if required. <i>Council venues should be returned in the same or better state - ready to hire again.</i></p> <p>*The following discounts apply to venue hire only (see booking paperwork for more details):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full price for Businesses/Government bookings. • 50% discount for residential ratepayers (individual/personal use only), not-for-profits, associations for internal organisation use. • 90% discount for registered not-for-profits and associations for Community events. • 100% discount on approved applications to Council (Council means Ordinary Council Meetings, applications require at least 2 months' notice). • Bonds are not included in the discount structure and are required for all venue bookings. 	
Hire Fees in Communities	
Accommodation (per-room per-day)	\$227.00
Accommodation (per-house per-week) – subject to availability	\$1,000.00
Meeting room with video conferencing (per hour) *	\$78.00

Tennant Creek Hire	
Council Chambers (half-day) - office hours only (either 8-12 or 12-4)	\$330.00
Council Chambers (full-day) - office hours only 8-4	\$608.00
Civic Hall (half day) - weekdays only (either 8-12 or 12-4) *	\$407.00
Civic Hall (full day) *	\$788.00
Bond for function without alcohol	\$696.00
Bond for function with alcohol	\$1,597.00
Parks and Reserves	
Peko Park (per day) - excluding power *	\$129.00
Lake Mary Ann (per hour - minimum 3 hours) - exclusive use of a section *	\$103.00
Purkiss Reserve Main Oval only (per hour) *	\$46.00
Purkiss Reserve Main Oval and Change Rooms (per hour) *	\$57.00
Purkiss Reserve Main Oval Lights (per hour) (or PAYG meter)	\$46.00
Purkiss Reserve Multipurpose Field (per hour) *	\$57.00
Purkiss Reserve Basketball Court (per hour) *	\$40.00
Purkiss Reserve Tennis Court (per hour) - including net upon request *	\$40.00
Purkiss Reserve Cricket Training Nets (per hour) *	\$24.00
Purkiss Reserve Kiosk (per hour)	\$129.00
Tennant Creek Chapel	
Hire rate per hour - minimum 4 hours	\$37.00
Hire rate per day *	\$253.00
Chairs (maximum 50 chairs - subject to availability) #	\$100.00
Small shade structures (2.5 x 2.5 size - subject to availability) #	\$50.00
# During business hours – Monday-Thursday 6:30am-3:00pm or Friday 6:30am-12:00pm. Includes drop off and pick up of chairs and/or shade structures.	
All Venues	
Power box (per hour) – access to box at either Peko Park or Lake Mary Ann	\$31.00
Cleaning Fee (per hour)	\$114.00
Alarm Callout Fee (per callout)	\$140.00
Key Bond	\$100.00
Bond (per venue - with no indoor facilities; e.g. court hire)	\$100.00
Bond (per venue, with indoor facilities) excluding Civic Hall	\$300.00
Tennant Creek Youth Centre (with one staff member to supervise venue)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must be booked 4 weeks in advance - availability subject to programmed usage and staff availability. • Rates do not apply to youth service providers; their access is by negotiation. • Hire of TCYC does not include Ninja course or side rooms. 	
Main Area and Kitchen (minimum 3 hours)	\$325.00
Additional hours (per hour)	\$115.00
Bond	\$300.00
Cleaning Fee (per hour)	\$114.00

Swimming Pool and Fitness Centre	
Swimming Pool (open 1st October to 30th April)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Free entry for spectators and carers of a person with a disability. • Children under-5 swim for free with a paying adult supervisor. 	
Adult (18 years of age and older) - single entry	\$8.00
Children (5-18 years of age) - single entry	\$5.00
Pensioner/Concession (with valid card) - single entry	\$6.00
Adult (18 years of age and older) - 10 entry discount pass	\$70.00
Children (5-18 years of age) - 10 entry discount pass	\$30.00
Pensioner/Concession (with valid card) - 10 entry discount pass	\$35.00
Adult (18 years of age and older) Season Pass - pro-rata available	\$380.00
Children (5-18 years of age) Season Pass - pro-rata available	\$195.00
Pensioner/Concession (with valid card) Season Pass - pro-rata available	\$200.00
Family (2 adults and 2 children) Season Pass - pro-rate available	\$725.00
Extra Child for Family Season Pass - per extra child	\$60.00
Pool Hire including 2 lifeguards (commercial) per hour - out of hours	\$455.00
Out of Hours Lane hire for 4-hour block, including admission for one person.	\$30.00
Lane Hire - Additional costs for mandatory lifeguard per hour apply. Normal admission fees per extra person apply.	
Price on Application for the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pool Hire including 2 lifeguards (non-commercial) per hour - out of hours. • School Swimming Carnival including 2 lifeguards with facility closed to public. • TC Swimming Club. • Additional mandatory costs for lifeguard per hour. 	
Tennant Creek Fitness and Wellness Centre	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All members must complete a membership form and induction. • Access to building via phone app or fob. 	
Adult 10 entry pass	\$128.00
Pensioner/Concession (with valid card) 10 entry pass	\$71.00
Monthly Access Fee	\$62.00
Monthly Pensioner/Concession Fees (with valid card)	\$38.00
Membership Contract (fortnightly direct debit)	\$24.40
Cemetery	
Gazetted Cemeteries -Tennant Creek and Elliott only	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funerals to be held Monday to Friday between 10am-3pm. • Council must be advised before first burial if the plot is intended for a second burial. • Reserved plots burial fee equals current year plot price less deposit. • *Less \$227.00 if own Council approved contractor is used. 	
Single plot*	\$1,113.00
Single plot - half sized grave*	\$747.00
Double plot - first burial*	\$1,113.00

Double plot - second burial	POA
Niche wall	\$938.00
Deposit for reserving a plot	\$1,113.00
Exhumations - with correct paperwork	\$3,116.00
Extra charge for funerals held on Saturday, Sunday, public holidays, or out of hours (per hour - minimum 3 hours) – on top on regular fee	\$90.00
Burial Areas in Communities	
Preparing gravesite and covering (Monday to Friday)	\$227.00
Extra charge for funerals held on Saturday, Sunday, public holidays, or out of hours (per hour - minimum 3 hours) – on top on regular fee	\$90.00

Plant, Equipment, and Labour Rates (mobilisation fees to and from Depot)	
<p>Note: booking requests require a minimum of one weeks' notice. Bookings are not guaranteed until confirmed by BRC staff in writing. Additional fees apply for after-hours bookings.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subject to availability (council's community operations come first). • Hire rates do not apply to contracted works - their use of plant is by written agreement. • Afterhours callout rate is standard rate plus 30% surcharge with a minimum 3 hours per callout. • All rates include an operator (who will need direction and supervision). 	
Mobilisation of Plant (per KM) – equipment may need to be moved between communities	\$10.00
Labour Hire (licenced plant operator) during office hours - per hour	\$145.00
Labour Hire (waste or mowing) during office hours - per hour	\$95.00
Front End Loader (per hour)	\$351.00
Grader (per hour)	\$351.00
Backhoe (per hour)	\$325.00
10T Tipper (per hour)	\$325.00
Water Truck (per hour) - water not included	\$253.00
Low Loader - Prime Mover and trailer (per hour)	\$624.00
Compactor (per hour)	\$325.00
Bus Hire (per hour)	\$145.00
Tractor with no attachments (per hour)	\$201.00
Tractor with attachments (per hour)	\$227.00
Sweeper (per hour)	\$397.00
Cherry Picker (per hour)	\$397.00
Skid Steer Loader (per hour)	\$366.00
Forklift (per hour)	\$181.00
Tele-Handler (per hour)	\$397.00
Supply water from standpipe (per KL)	\$6.00
Opening fee for standpipe (per opening)	\$42.00
Closing fee for standpipe (per closing)	\$42.00
Dry Hire Rates (must have undertaken training on equipment before hiring)	
Push Mower/Brush Cutter - per hour (this equipment is free for residents' usage if it has been purchased by their Local Authority)	\$26.00

Fees and Charges - Landfill, Recycling and Waste Collection	2026-27	2027-28
Recyclables and Green Waste		
Recyclable Containers (proceeds towards community projects)	Free	Free
Clean fill - non-contaminated, suitable for landfill day cover (if in any doubt, or large quantity, we will ask for proof) *	Free	Free
<p>*Based on observations after the load has been dumped e.g. observed contamination (i.e. heavy metals, hydrocarbons, etc), we reserve the right to reclassify the waste, or ask you to remove it, as our licence doesn't allow chemical or hydrocarbon based contaminated soil. Trying to deliver contaminated soils may also result in fines or prosecution.</p>		
Residential Waste - Barkly Residents only - proof of residency required		
Cars, Utes, and Trailers	Free	Free
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sorted loads only i.e. rubbish, green, cardboard, steel, timber. • Degassed whitegoods and air conditioners, stoves. • Household appliances. • Maximum of 12 visits per year (July to June). • Photo identification with a local address is required. 		
Annual Residential hard waste - kerbside collection (see website for times and conditions)	Free	Free
<p>Free residential waste is classified as waste delivered from a non-commercial /business /government address by a resident living at the address (or an unpaid friend/volunteer helping a resident without the capacity to deliver it themselves), waste must be SORTED and excludes the following items that must be paid for separately:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contaminated green waste. • Tyres. • Mattresses. • Whitegoods that haven't been degassed. • Vehicles. 		
Household Bin Replacement and Additional Collection		
240 litre household bin - complete bin (residents may purchase their own COMPLIANT bin, i.e. green, heavy duty, UV stable)	\$300.00	\$109.00
Lid only - red	\$37.00	\$38.00
Lid pins (2)	\$16.00	\$16.00
Wheels and axle (set)	\$52.00	\$54.00
Additional annual bin collection fee (240 litre household bin) - single weekly pickup	\$523.00	\$539.00
Additional annual bin collection fee (360 litre commercial bin) - single weekly pickup	\$677.00	\$697.00
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is a ratepayer's responsibility to purchase and maintain their own bins in a suitable condition for collection. • Only one bin will be collected per property unless an additional collection has been purchased and the payment sticker is displayed on the additional bin. • Council accepts no responsibility for bin damage, either from the pick-up process or general damage while the bin is in the street. 		

Paid Waste		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commercial Waste, Non-Residents and Resident Unsorted (if a resident chooses not to sort their rubbish, then they must pay) Item fees apply for non-degassed white goods, mattresses, stoves, oils, and e-waste 		
Car Boot	\$10.00	
Utility	\$28.00	
Standard 6x4 Trailer	\$28.00	
Standard 6x4 Trailer with high sides	\$42.00	
Standard Tandem Trailer	\$42.00	
Standard Tandem Trailer with high sides	\$56.00	
Trucks - per tonne (<10 tonnes of waste) (loaded weight - empty weight x price)	\$98.00	
Trucks - per tonne (>10 tonnes of waste) (loaded weight - empty weight x price)	\$165.00	
General Waste - per tonne (loaded weight - empty weight x price)		\$194.00
Metal and White goods/Air conditioners (degassed and certified) - per tonne		\$194.00
Unsorted Residential Waste - per tonne		\$194.00
Construction and Demolition Waste (mixed concrete, steel, etc) - per tonne (certified hexavalent chromium free)		\$388.00
Contaminated fill (contaminated by general waste only, no hydrocarbons or chemicals) - per tonne		\$309.00
Green waste - no mixed loads - per tonne		\$98.00
Cardboard - no mixed loads - per tonne		\$309.00
Car bodies (certified professionally drained of all fluids) - per car	\$227.00	Increase TBD
Car bodies - undrained - per car	\$572.00	Increase TBD
Stove	\$8.00	
White good (fridge, freezer, aircon - not degassed)	\$28.00	\$57.00
Air conditioner (not degassed)	\$28.00	\$57.00
Mattress (any size)	\$35.00	\$52.00
Effluent - dumped by contractors - per litre (excluding Tennant Creek)	\$1.00	\$1.10
Oil - hydrocarbon or cooking - per litre	\$7.00	Increase TBD

Tyre Disposal (if a tyre is part of a resident's load it must be paid separately)		
Car/motorcycle tyres - each	\$28.00	\$29.00
Small truck/4WD tyres - each	\$39.00	\$40.00
Large truck/semi-trailer tyres - each	\$57.00	\$76.00
Plant (tractor, loader, grader, etc.) tyres - each	\$83.00	\$111.00
Tyres – per kg (if less than combined 150kg then item rates apply)		\$14.50
Tyres and Rim – per kg (if less than combined 150kg then item rates apply)		\$23.75
Retrieval of Abandoned Items (Fines may also be applied)		
Removal of abandoned vehicle (additional costs apply if contractor costs are higher)	\$361.00	\$523.00
Storage of abandoned vehicle - per day	\$21.00	\$22.00
Administration/advertisement	\$227.00	\$234.00

Disclaimer: Indicative Waste Charges for the 2027 – 2028 Financial Year are included as there has been a new weighbridge installed in Tennant Creek, new collection vehicles are planned, as well as an overall review of waste operations to ensure the long-term viability and compliance of the waste services across the Barkly. This will result in major changes to the waste streams that can be received, the pricing structure and the pricing of the various waste streams.

The Council is providing advanced notice of more than 12 months to ensure that ratepayers who may be impacted can plan appropriately.



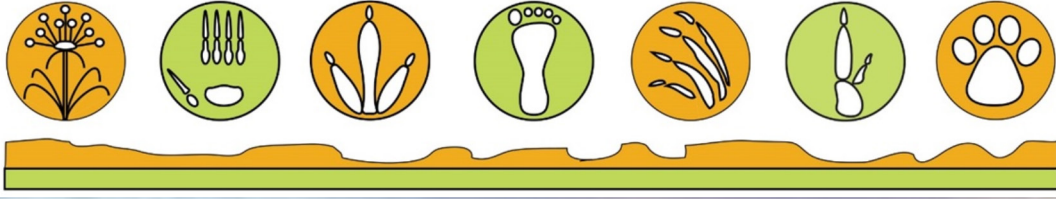
Contact Us

Distances in KM between selected points in the Barkly region							
	TC	EL	AC	AM	AL	AR	WU
Tennant Creek (TC)		252.33	172.09	312.69	569.39	380.68	209.01
Elliott (EL)	252.33		424.4	565.01	773.25	633	461.33
Ali Curung (AC)	172.09	424.4		140.6	476.88	208.59	167.93
Ampilatwatja (AM)	312.69	565.01	140.6		336.28	74.49	218.70
Alpurrurulam (AL)	569.39	773.25	476.88	336.28		390.69	554.99
Arlparra (AR)	380.68	633	208.59	74.49	390.69		286.87
Wutunugurra (WU)	209.01	461.33	167.93	218.70	554.99	286.87	
Alice Springs	506.42	758.73	376.44	321.50	657.78	247.55	540.34
Darwin	985.08	732.75	1157.52	1677.19	1506.37	1603.24	1194.45

Approximate travel times via most direct route	
Tennant Creek to Elliott (via Stuart Hwy)	Approx. 2 hours and 50 minutes
Tennant Creek to Ali Curung (via Stuart Hwy)	Approx. 1 hour and 57 minutes
Tennant Creek to Alpurrurulam (via Barkly Hwy)	Approx. 6 hours and 31 minutes
Tennant Creek to Ampilatwatja (via Murray Downs Rd)	Approx. 3 hours and 42 minutes
Tennant Creek to Arlparra (via Sandover Hwy)	Approx. 4 hours and 32 minutes
Tennant Creek to Wutunugurra (via Kurundi Rd)	Approx. 2 hours and 30 minutes

Community Office Contact Details	
08 8962 0000 - Tennant Creek Office - 41 Peko Road, Tennant Creek NT 0860	
Postal: PO BOX 821, Tennant Creek NT 0861	reception@barkly.nt.gov.au
Ali Curung Office - Lot 278, Ali Curung NT 0872	
Postal: Community Mail Bag 188, Ali Curung NT 0872	alicurung@barkly.nt.gov.au
Alpurrurulam Office - Lot 132, Alpurrurulam QLD 4825	
Postal: PMB 23, Mt Isa QLD 4825	alpurrurulam@barkly.nt.gov.au
Ampilatwatja Office - Lot 3, Ampilatwatja NT 0872	
Postal: PMB 68, Alice Springs NT 0872	ampilatwatja@barkly.nt.gov.au
Arlparra – contact Ampilatwatja Office	
Elliott Office - Lot 134, Elliott NT 0862	
Postal: C/O Post Office, Elliott NT 0862	elliott@barkly.nt.gov.au
Wutunugurra Office - 12 Angerrakw Rd, Wutunugurra	
Postal: PMB 148, Alice Springs NT 0872	wutunugurra@barkly.nt.gov.au

BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL



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