



Agenda

Gunyangara

LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING

On

27 July 2021

EAST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

Notice is hereby given that an Local Authority Meeting of the East Arnhem Regional Council will be held at the Gunyangara Council Office on Tuesday, 27 July 2021 at 10.00am.

Dale Keehne
Chief Executive Officer

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APOLOGIES

ITEM NUMBER	3.1
TITLE	Apologies and Absent Without Notice
REFERENCE	1501768
AUTHOR	Candice O'Halloran, Governance, Local Authority and Communication Officer

**SUMMARY:**

This report is to table, for the Local Authority's record, any absences and apologies and requests for leave of absence received from Local Authority Members and what absences that Local Authority gives permission for.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority:

- a) Notes the absence of < >.
- b) Notes the apology received from < >.
- c) Notes < > are absent with permission of the Local Authority.
- d) Notes < > absent without permission of the Local Authority.

ATTACHMENTS:

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

ITEM NUMBER	4.1
TITLE	Conflict of Interest
REFERENCE	1501757
AUTHOR	Candice O'Halloran, Governance, Local Authority and Communication Officer

**SUMMARY:**

This report is tabled for members to declare any conflicts they have within the agenda.

BACKGROUND

The Local Government Act details that “A member has a conflict of interest in a question arising for decision by the council, local board or council local authority, committee if the member or an associate of the member has a personal or financial interest in how the question is decided”. Chapter 7, Part 7.2 – Conflict of Interest.

GENERAL

A conflict of interest is a situation that has the potential to undermine a person’s ability to be impartial because of the possibility of a clash between the person’s self-interest and professional interest or public interest.

When this occurs the Local Authority Member should declare the interest and remove them self from the decision making process.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority:

- a) Notes no conflicts of interest declared at today’s meeting.**
- b) Notes any conflicts of interest declared at today’s meeting.**

ATTACHMENTS:

PREVIOUS MINUTES

ITEM NUMBER	5.1
TITLE	Previous Minutes for Ratification
REFERENCE	1501755
AUTHOR	Candice O'Halloran, Governance, Local Authority and Communication Officer

**SUMMARY:**

The Local Authority is asked to confirm the unconfirmed minutes from the previous meeting.

BACKGROUND

As per the Northern Territory *Local Government Act 2008*, "The council, local authority, local board or council committee must, at its next meeting, or next ordinary meeting, confirm the minutes (with or without amendment) as a correct record of the meeting". (*Part 6.3 Section 67.3*).

GENERAL

Local Authority members need to read the unconfirmed minutes carefully before they endorse them as a true record of the previous meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority approves the minutes from the meeting of 27 May 2021 to be a true record of the meeting.

ATTACHMENTS:

- 1 Local Authority - Gunyangara 2021-05-28 [1634] Minutes.DOCX



Mission

East Arnhem Regional Council is dedicated to promoting the power of people, protection of community and respect for cultural diversity in the East Arnhem Regional Council. It does this by forming partnerships, building community capacity, advocating for regional and local issues, maximising service effectiveness and linking people with information.

Core Values

Respect
Professionalism
Human Dignity
Organisational Growth
Equity
Community

MINUTES FOR THE LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING

28 May 2021

MINUTES OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD IN THE GUNYANGARA
COUNCIL OFFICE ON FRIDAY, 28 MAY 2021 AT 10.00AM

ATTENDANCE

In the Chair, Antoine Gintz, and Members Elizika Puertollano, Djawa Yunupingu, Balu Palu Yunupingu, Murphy Yunupingu

OBSERVERS

CEO – Dale Keehne, Director of Technical and Infrastructure Services - Shane Marshall,
Community Development Coordinator – Adam Johnson

Minute Taker – Candice O'Halloran – Acting Governance, Local Authorities &
Communications Manager

MEETING OPENING

Chair opened the meeting at 10:12am and welcomed all members and guests.

Apologies

3.1 APOLOGIES AND ABSENT WITHOUT NOTICE

SUMMARY:

This report is to table, for the Local Authority's record, any absences and apologies and requests for leave of absence received from Local Authority Members and what absences that Local Authority gives permission for.

100/2021 RESOLVED (Djawa Yunupingu/Murphy Yunupingu)

That the Local Authority:

- a) Notes the absence of Rhonda Yunupingu.**
- b) Notes the apology received from Rhonda Yunupingu.**
- c) Notes Rhonda Yunupingu. are absent with permission of the Local Authority.**

For:

Antoine Gintz, Elizika Puertollano, Djawa Yunupingu, Balu Palu Yunupingu, Murphy Yunupingu.

Against:

Nil

Conflict of Interest

4.1 CONFLICT OF INTEREST

SUMMARY:

This report is tabled for members to declare any conflicts they have within the agenda.

101/2021 RESOLVED (Djawa Yunupingu/Murphy Yunupingu)

That the Local Authority:

- a) Notes no conflicts of interest declared at today's meeting.**

MINUTES OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD IN THE GUNYANGARA
COUNCIL OFFICE ON FRIDAY, 28 MAY 2021 AT 10.00AM

For:

Antoine Gintz, Elizika Puertollano, Djawa Yunupingu, Balu Palu Yunupingu, Murphy Yunupingu.

Against:

Nil

Previous Minutes

5.1 PREVIOUS MINUTES FOR RATIFICATION

SUMMARY:

The Local Authority is asked to confirm the unconfirmed minutes from the previous meeting.

102/2021 RESOLVED (Antoine Gintz/Murphy Yunupingu)

That the Local Authority approves the minutes from the meeting of 26 March 2021 to be a true record of the meeting.

For:

Antoine Gintz, Elizika Puertollano, Djawa Yunupingu, Balu Palu Yunupingu, Murphy Yunupingu.

Against:

Nil

Local Authorities

6.1 LOCAL AUTHORITY ACTION REGISTER

VSUMMARY:

The Local Authority is asked to review the range of actions and progress to complete them.

103/2021 RESOLVED (Balu Palu Yunupingu/Djawa Yunupingu)

That the Local Authority note the progress of actions from the previous meetings and request that completed items be removed from the Action Register for the Council to endorse.

For:

Antoine Gintz, Elizika Puertollano, Djawa Yunupingu, Balu Palu Yunupingu, Murphy Yunupingu.

Against:

Nil

MINUTES OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD IN THE GUNYANGARA
COUNCIL OFFICE ON FRIDAY, 28 MAY 2021 AT 10.00AM

General Business

8.1 CEO REPORT

SUMMARY:

This is a report of the key broad issues since the last report to the Local Authority, in addition to those covered in other parts of the agenda.

104/2021 RESOLVED (Elizika Puertollano/Djava Yunupingu)

That Local Authority notes the CEO report.

For:

Antoine Gintz, Elizika Puertollano, Djava Yunupingu, Balu Palu Yunupingu, Murphy Yunupingu.

Against:

Nil

8.5 CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT

SUMMARY:

This report presents the financial expenditure plus employment statistics as of 30 April 2021 within the Local Authority area.

105/2021 RESOLVED (Djava Yunupingu/Antoine Gintz)

That the Local Authority receives the Financial and Employment information to 30 April 2021.

For:

Antoine Gintz, Elizika Puertollano, Djava Yunupingu, Balu Palu Yunupingu, Murphy Yunupingu.

Against:

Nil

8.6 FY 2022 DRAFT BUDGET - GUNYANGARA

SUMMARY:

This report presents the 2021-22 draft budget for the Local Authority.

106/2021 RESOLVED (Balu Palu Yunupingu/Elizika Puertollano)

The Local Authority notes the FY 2022 draft budget.

For:

Antoine Gintz, Elizika Puertollano, Djava Yunupingu, Balu Palu Yunupingu, Murphy Yunupingu.

MINUTES OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD IN THE GUNYANGARA
COUNCIL OFFICE ON FRIDAY, 28 MAY 2021 AT 10.00AM

Against:
Nil

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING FOR LUNCH

107/2021 RESOLVED (Balu Palu Yunupingu/Djawa Yunupingu)

For:
Antoine Gintz, Elizika Puertollano, Djawa Yunupingu, Balu Palu Yunupingu, Murphy Yunupingu.

Against:
Nil

RESUMPTION OF MEETING

108/2021 RESOLVED (Elizika Puertollano/Antoine Gintz)

For:
Antoine Gintz, Elizika Puertollano, Djawa Yunupingu, Balu Palu Yunupingu, Murphy Yunupingu.

Against:
Nil

Cr Balu Palu Yunupingu left the meeting, the time being 11:45 AM

COMMUNITY REPORTS

9.1 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR REPORT

SUMMARY:

This report is provided by the Community Development coordinator at every local Authority meeting to provide information and or updates to members.

109/2021 RESOLVED (Djawa Yunupingu/Elizika Puertollano)

That the Local Authority notes the Community Development report.

For:
Antoine Gintz, Elizika Puertollano, Djawa Yunupingu, Balu Palu Yunupingu, Murphy Yunupingu.

Against:
Nil

MINUTES OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD IN THE GUNYANGARA
COUNCIL OFFICE ON FRIDAY, 28 MAY 2021 AT 10.00AM

Questions From Members

10.1 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS

SUMMARY:

The Local Authority will now take questions from members.

110/2021 RESOLVED (Elizika Puertollano/Antoine Gintz)

That the Local Authority

- a) Notes the questions from members and follow up on those questions that cannot be answered at today's meeting.
- b) Request there Director of Community development to have a look at the hours that night patrol are in community and ask for the hours to be extend in community, due to ongoing issues.
- c) Request the Director of Technical and Infrastructure regarding the reinstatement of the bay linkage of the causeway/ bay waters way with Rio Tinto.

For:

Antoine Gintz, Elizika Puertollano, Djawa Yunupingu, Balu Palu Yunupingu, Murphy Yunupingu.

Against:

Nil

Questions From Public

11.1 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

SUMMARY:

The Local Authority will now take questions from members the public.

111/2021 RESOLVED (Elizika Puertollano/Antoine Gintz)

That the Local Authority notes no questions from the public.

For:

Antoine Gintz, Elizika Puertollano, Djawa Yunupingu, Balu Palu Yunupingu, Murphy Yunupingu.

Against:

Nil

MOVED INTO CONFIDENTIAL SESSION

112/2021 RESOLVED (Djawa Yunupingu/Antoine Gintz)

For:

Antoine Gintz, Elizika Puertollano, Djawa Yunupingu, Balu Palu Yunupingu, Murphy Yunupingu.

MINUTES OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD IN THE GUNYANGARA
COUNCIL OFFICE ON FRIDAY, 28 MAY 2021 AT 10.00AM

Against:
Nil

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

MEETING CLOSE

The meeting terminated at pm.

This page and the preceding pages are the minutes of the Local Authority Meeting held on Friday, 28 May 2021.

UNCONFIRMED

LOCAL AUTHORITIES



ITEM NUMBER	6.1
TITLE	Local Authority Action Register
REFERENCE	1501750
AUTHOR	Candice O'Halloran, Governance, Local Authority and Communication Officer

SUMMARY:

The Local Authority is asked to review the range of actions and progress to complete them.

BACKGROUND

The current Local Authority Action Items List, and updates on progress to complete them, is attached.

GENERAL

The attached report gives the Local Authority an opportunity to check that actions from previous meetings are being implemented.

If an action is completed the Local Authority need to request for the item to be removed from the Action Register, for the Council to endorse.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority note the progress of actions from the previous meetings and request that completed items be removed from the Action Register for the Council to endorse.

ATTACHMENTS:

GENERAL BUSINESS

ITEM NUMBER	8.1
TITLE	CEO Report
REFERENCE	1501615
AUTHOR	Dale Keehne, Chief Executive Officer

**SUMMARY:**

This is a report of the key broad issues since the last report to the Local Authority, in addition to those covered in other parts of the agenda.

GENERAL

A lot of things have happened in the last two months since we last met.

Celebration of Regional Office Opening & Projects

Many other important Indigenous leaders were joined by Minister Selena Uibo to mark this special event. This included East Arnhem Regional Council elected Councillors, the Council President and Deputy President, the Chairs of each of the 9 Local Authorities, Indigenous Liaison Officers and many long serving Yolngu and Anindilyakwa staff from across the region.

The Chairs, Board Members and CEOs of all other significant Aboriginal Organisations across the region were invited along with senior officials from the Northern Territory and Australian Governments.

Wityana Marika led a traditional Bungal cultural ceremony reserved for such significant events.

The celebration of the launch of the new office was accompanied by the celebration of Council's commitment to spend over \$9 million dollars on 50 projects across all 9 communities of East Arnhem Land, as determined by the Council Local Authority in each community.

Bringing together of Yolngu and Anindilyakwan leaders from across the Local Authorities, Council and other Aboriginal organisations - is what East Arnhem Regional Council is all about. Being driven by the voice and decisions of the people of each community and their homelands, working in partnership and unity with others, to achieve the best for all.

Yolngu Partnership Agreement

The resolution of Council on its input to the 'Joint Submission' on the Indigenous Voice was not recognised by the Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet.

Detailed input has been provided from the Council on a useful way forward to the Yolngu Partnership Local Decision Making process.

There has been valuable engagement with Laynhapuy Homelands, and Marthakal Homelands of the value of their direct 'local' governance and voice within the broader East Arnhem Regional Council regional structure.

Groote Archipelago Agreement

Council officers have contributed to the development of a comprehensive Terms of Reference and provided further information for an independent assessment Financial Assessment Report. The Terms of Reference have still not been finalised. The Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet have advised that consultations with communities across the East Arnhem Region are planned to commence from 25 October 2021, following the outcome of Council and ALC elections.

The NT Government Local Decision Making Minister has made public statements strongly supporting that the de-amalgamation go ahead - before the independent report to assess the viability of the proposal has even started, or any community consultations have been held to consider the findings of the independent assessment, and whether communities actually support the de-amalgamation of Council.

National Advocacy on Key Local and Regional Issues

The Council delegation used the opportunity of our visit to the Australian Local Government National General Assembly to advocate and engage on a range of key issues, as detailed in attached the Media Releases and newspaper article (Attachments 1 to 5).

The key issues raised for support from the Minister of Indigenous Australians (NIAA) and the CEO of the National Indigenous Australians Agency were:

1. Commit to nationally consistent recognition of Indigenous Local Government Councils as Aboriginal controlled entities across Australia at all levels of Government. That is, where there is majority representation of both Elected Officials and Constituency of Indigenous Australians

This motion formally proposed by EARC was unanimously endorsed at the ALGA General Meeting.

Deputy President Djuwalpi Marika raised the motion for recognition of Aboriginal Controlled Council and talked through with Minister Wyatt how East Arnhem Regional Council is traditionally based, from the formation of its electoral wards on cultural lines, to the inherent respect for Clan Leaders and Traditional Owners. The Minister was advised about the recognition and respect shown by Council of each Local Authority, and the openness of Council to hear and support the voice of the Laynhapuy, Marthakal and other homelands.

The Minister reaffirmed that government is wanting to hear the voice of traditional cultural structures, and showed interest in the way Council does this and how that could be further deepened.

NIAA CEO Ray Griggs advised the Council delegation that he recognises East Arnhem Regional Council as a 'variation of the construct', of how to engage with the local and regional Indigenous voice, because EARC and other similar councils in the Northern Territory are Aboriginal controlled.

The issue of Council losing and missing out on a range of grant opportunities, was acknowledged. The Minister committed to assess the current criteria being applied. The recognition of Aboriginal Controlled Local Governments was put forward by Council as a straightforward way to deal with this problem.

2. Support the review by the Northern Territory Government of its Local Decision Making Framework Policy and Agreements, to be in line with the principles, partnerships, priority areas and actions within the updated National Agreement on Closing the Gap (unanimously supported at the General Meeting of the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory in April 2021), and upon approval, the more comprehensive and advanced Principles-based Framework for Local, Regional and National Indigenous Voice.

The Council delegation raised that there is significant confusion with the range of governance reforms that are being raised and discussed with community and homelands members, and that the different proposed approaches need to be brought together.

Alignment of the Northern Territory and Australian Government approaches with the Aboriginal Community Controlled Councils, will enable the most comprehensive, effective and unified approach to achieve real improvement for our communities and homelands.

These Indigenous Voice principles include the recognition of existing bodies and governance structures, building on existing capability, and a commitment to listen to all voices - traditional owners and leaders, the young, disabled and all others.

The proposed approach for a stronger Indigenous Local, Regional and National Voice being considered by the Federal Government, and its key principles, is aligned with the formal recognition of Aboriginal Controlled Local Government Councils, called for by the Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly, this week.

The NIAA CEO said that he is focussed on outcomes and does not care what the structure is. He wants genuine engagement with community and for government to change as needed to deal with what issues different communities raise.

In relation to the Local Decision Making agreement the NIAA CEO asked why the NT Government do not slow down and wait until there is more clarity on the way forward with the Indigenous Voice process, so we have a united and coordinated approach. Council expressed its strong support for that.

3. Select the East Arnhem Region as one of 6 Indigenous Voice Regions in the Northern Territory and 35 Regions across the nation, as proposed in the Indigenous Voice Submission from Council.

The point was put that Council this will provide the opportunity for all Aboriginal people from across Australia to benefit from the proposed Indigenous Voice process.

It will also allow all local voices to be heard at a regional then national level. The Laynhapuy Homelands, Marthakal Homelands have expressed their support for their respective local voices to be heard regionally through East Arnhem Regional Council, and other cultural based leaders and institutions could do the same.

We are united and stronger through Miwatj Health, and we should stay united and stronger through our Miwatj Council, East Arnhem Regional Council. We want to be one, not fragmented.

The Council delegation explained how the Anindilyakwa Land Council and other Groote Eylandt and Bickerton Island organisations would be able to express their strong local voice to the regional East Arnhem structure.

As Djuwalpi Marika said "I am following my blood. Council is the arm of the people of East Arnhem Land. We are working to bring empowerment to our Yolngu and Anindilyakwa

Yolngu of East Arnhem Land, and look forward to working with the two Balanda (western) levels of government.”

4. Start dealing with real and pressing issues, to get real achievements, through Indigenous Voice and Local Decision Making.

The Council delegation also raised the re-introduction of the legal sale of kava, its health effects, concerns, where and how it should be sold.

Minister Wyatt shared concerns with East Arnhem Regional Council on the re-introduction of kava into areas like the Northern Territory and Western Australia.

Genuine engagement with all communities and homelands on this very important issue would also set a valuable example of what can be achieved through the Indigenous Voice and the Northern Territory Government’s Local Decision Making policy.

The East Arnhem Regional Council raised that given the legal sale of kava is due to start from December this year – the consultation and engagement with communities will need to start very soon, for the voice of the people to be really heard and acted on.

Minister Wyatt committed to follow up the need for full and proper engagement to be initiated soon as proposed, including with Northern Territory Minister of Health Natasha Fyles, and Minister for Local Decision Making Selena Uibo.

Two other key issues were raised with the NIAA CEO as important and in need of being addressed. The first is the effective response to youth crime that is beyond the usual ‘tough on crime’ cycle and engages community elders and family and involved structural changes to government and justice system processes.

The other issue is the need to support real jobs, not prop up the failed CDP program.

5. Need for Increased Funding to Fix Road Damage from Heavy Wet Season

The NIAA CEO was asked to consider a post-wet season audit declaration process of road networks, that have sustained significant dilapidation from weather impacts. Road funding opportunities don’t reflect sessional effects across the Top End outside of declared events.

The CEO acknowledged this is a significant problem in need of a response and committed to put the Council in contact with relevant senior officials to pursue it.

Another roads based issue useful to raise is the value of direct funding from the Federal Government to Councils for greater outcomes, as money is not lost on the way through the respective state or territory government.







RECOMMENDATION

That Local Authority notes the CEO Report.

ATTACHMENTS:

GENERAL BUSINESS

ITEM NUMBER	8.2
TITLE	Inquiry Into Local Decision Making - Your Voice
REFERENCE	1506765
AUTHOR	Dale Keehne, Chief Executive Officer

**SUMMARY:**

The Northern Territory Government's Local Decision Making Policy and Program is now due to be reviewed, as it is almost three and a half years old, and there have been significant developments including the update of Closing the Gap that includes the recognition of the role of Local Government, the Indigenous Local, Regional and National Voice process, and proper recognition of Aboriginal Community Controlled Local Government Councils.

BACKGROUND

The Northern Territory Government launched its Local Decision Making Policy in February 2018.

All 17 Northern Territory Local Governments formally resolved at the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory (LGANT) General Meeting on 22 April 2021 to call for the formal evaluation of the Local Decision Making Program, including its alignment with the updated Closing the Gap and Local, Regional and National Indigenous Voice process, upon approval.

GENERAL

The Public Accounts Committee of the Northern Territory Legislative Assembly has now called an Inquiry into Local Decision Making. The Committee is asking for submissions from interested people and organisations on:

- 1) the progress, achievements challenges and future potential of LDM implementation across the Northern Territory.
- 2) how to foster community leadership interest in and commitment to new LDM agreements.
- 3) the impact of technology, Treaty, Truth-Telling and Voice on LDM developments.

Submissions are due by close of business Friday 13 August 2021.

Council intends to make a submission to the enquiry based on its experience over the last two to three years since the Local Decision Making policy was introduced by the Northern Territory Government to the region.

This will be based on the experience of Councillors, Local Authorities, communities and homelands through the Groote Archipelago Local Decision Making Agreement, the Yolngu Region Local Decision Making Partnership Agreement and the Workshop series to date, and the Djalkiripuyngu Commitment Agreement for Local Decision Making. The experience of community and homeland members of the range of other processes including Treaty, Empowered Communities, and more recently the Indigenous Local, Regional and National Voice, and how they link or do not link together, will also be included in the submission.

Council seeks your direct input as Local Authority members to help inform the Council submission to the Inquiry.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority supports a submission by Council to the Inquiry into Local Decision Making by the Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory, with the incorporation of views provided by the Local Authority.

ATTACHMENTS:

GENERAL BUSINESS

ITEM NUMBER	8.3
TITLE	Mutual Respect Agreement - Northern Territory Police
REFERENCE	1501760
AUTHOR	Andrew Walsh, Director Community Development



SUMMARY:

This report seeks to inform and establish a position from the Local Authority on the proposed Northern Territory Police Mutual Respect Agreement (MRA).

BACKGROUND

East Arnhem Regional Council and the Northern Territory Police have a long standing collaborative relationship, and have worked together on many matters to increase the safety of residents throughout East Arnhem.

In addition, the Northern Territory Police have a firmly established relationship with the Community Patrol program, and many other community programs. The Northern Territory Police actively work with Council and other stakeholders on various other community safety programs across the East Arnhem region.

GENERAL

The Northern Territory Police have contacted Council to become a signatory and party to the Northern Territory Police Mutual Respect Agreement. The Mutual Respect Agreement aims to strengthen the relationship with community, increase Police knowledge about community and commit Police to attend Local Authority Meetings to discuss items of importance and safety.

The Northern Territory Police's intention is to establish a Mutual Respect Agreement for each community in East Arnhem.

Key points from the Mutual Respect Agreement are:

- Police will **LEARN** about the language, culture and protocols of the (Community Name) community; how to communicate and conduct themselves appropriately; how to respect the land, sacred sites and traditional value; and how to solve problems with the help of Leaders and the community
- Leaders will help **EDUCATE** police officers about these things and the ways of the community generally
- Leaders will **ASSIST** the police in upholding the law and keeping the peace
- Both **PARTIES** will work together to develop **PROTOCOLS** to record these things and ensure their mutual **RESPECT**; and
- **AGREEMENT** will be celebrated every year on the anniversary of the parties signing it.

At Council's ordinary meeting, 30 June 2021, Council unanimously supported Council being a party to the agreement. Council also supported detailed consultation with each community

on the Mutual Respect Agreement and approved the appropriate signatory to the agreement to be discussed locally and approved by each Local Authority.

For Local Authorities consideration:

- Does the Local Authority support the signing of the Mutual Respect Agreement?
- Who the Local Authority nominates to be the Council signatory in the Local Authority area?
- Consideration be given to additional party signing the agreement?

Attached to the report is a draft Mutual Respect Agreement for Yirrkala, that has the Council logo affixed and Dep. President Djuwalpi Marika as a signatory, the agreement also included the signature Wanyubi Marika Chairman of the Rirratjingu Aboriginal Corporation.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority:

- (a) Notes the report.**
- (b) Supports the signing of the Northern Territory Police Mutual Respect Agreement.**
- (c) Nominates a Councilor / Local Authority Member to be Council's signatory to the Mutual Respect Agreement.**
- (d) Recommends xxxx is an additional signatory to the Mutual Respect Agreement.**

ATTACHMENTS:

- 1 Yirrkala Mutual Respect Agreement 6 Jul 21.pdf**

YIRRKALA MUTUAL RESPECT AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

THE YIRRKALA LEADERS AND
THE NORTHERN TERRITORY POLICE FORCE



**Rirratjingu
Aboriginal
Corporation**



**Northern Territory
Police Force**

AFFIRM

That all people are equal before the law and are entitled to equal protection

ACKNOWLEDGE

That the Leaders of the Yirrkalā Community have a duty to uphold the law, culture and clan values of the clan groups in the Yirrkalā region.

That the Northern Territory Police Force have sworn an oath to keep the peace, uphold the law, protect life and property, and faithfully discharge their duties in accordance with the law.

LOOK TO THE FUTURE

And recognise that to do their respective duties, they must respect each other's laws and values.



The parties agree to:

Police will **LEARN** about the language, culture and protocols of the Yirrkalā community; how to communicate and conduct themselves appropriately; how to respect the land, sacred sites and traditional value; and how to solve problems with the help of Leaders and the community;

AND the Leaders will help **EDUCATE** police officers about these things and the ways of the community generally;

AND the Leaders will **ASSIST** the police in upholding the law and keeping the peace;

AND all **PARTIES** will work together to develop **PROTOCOLS** to record these things and ensure their mutual **RESPECT**.

This **AGREEMENT** will be celebrated every year on the anniversary of the parties signing it.

Cross Cultural Training

Building Relationships

Mutual Respect and Communication

Awareness of Sacred Sites and Ceremonial Ground

Introductions of Leaders and Key People

ONGOING CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE YIRRKALA LEADERS AND THE NORTHERN TERRITORY POLICE FORCE

Once a month police will meet with the Yirrkalā Leaders for regular consultation on crime, safety, law and justice issues within the community.

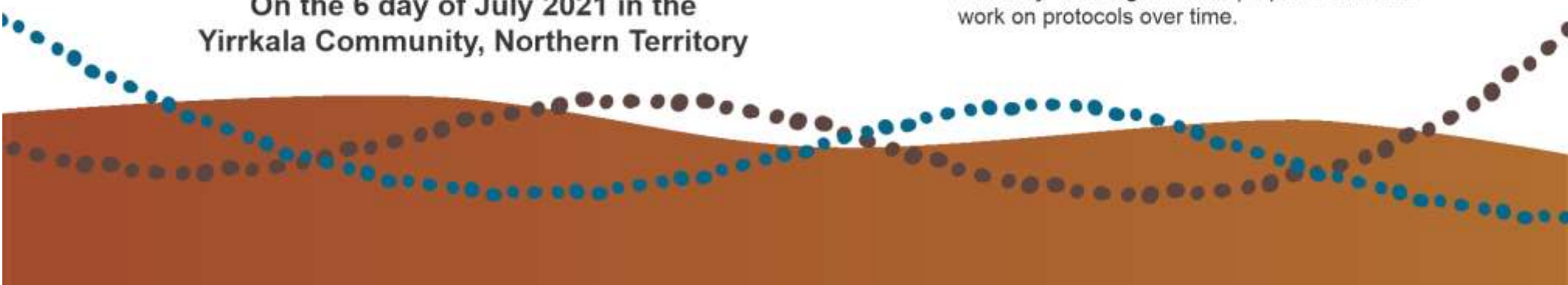
Police will be invited to the Yirrkalā Local Authority meeting for this purpose and also work on protocols over time.

Wanyubi Marika
Chairman Rirratjingu
Aboriginal
Corporation

Mr Djuwalpi Marika
Deputy President
East Arnhem
Regional Council

Superintendent
Northern
Northern Territory
Police Force

On the 6 day of July 2021 in the
Yirrkalā Community, Northern Territory



GENERAL BUSINESS

ITEM NUMBER	8.4
TITLE	National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island Flexible Aged Care Service - Proposal
REFERENCE	1501829
AUTHOR	Stacey Eley, Regional Manager Aged and Disability Services

**SUMMARY:**

This report seeks to inform and gain support for Council's Aged and Disability Service to submit an application for the upcoming Department of Health (DoH) grant round to convert all current Home Care Packages (HCP) into a regional National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island Flexible Aged Care (NATSIFAC) service.

BACKGROUND

As part of the Aged Care Government Reforms during 2014, East Arnhem Regional Council's allocated Home Care Packages, along with all other packages across Australia, were moved to a National Government pool. Government's intent and purpose driving the change was to provide greater independence and utilisation of packages across the country.

Unfortunately, in practice, this change has created barriers to use, falling short of the set intent. Limitations in the clients ability to pool funds as was common practice in remote settings, has driven under utilisation of the new system and in some cases reductions in care. In some cases, clients were unable to receive care or any assessed need requirements. Administration of the current system has also proved challenging.

Since the reforms were implemented it has been acknowledged by Government and providers that pooled flexible aged care funds is a better suited and more sustainable model for aged care services in regional, remote and very remote Aboriginal communities rather than the individual funded packages that are currently in place. This acknowledgement and lived experience through delivery is navigating the application.

GENERAL

East Arnhem Regional Council (EARC) is seeking a regional approach in this application for the delivery of NATSIFAC Services. This approach will improve the delivery of services and increase the overall benefits to frail aged people of the East Arnhem Region, as it will allow alignment between administration, operations, delivery and client needs and client movements.

The current funding model does not meet the needs of all clients, due to funding and care differences between clients. The current model often leads to Council being in a position of risk, having unspent funds held in trust, while unfunded services are provided to clients to meet a duty of care requirements.

Under the proposal, with the consent of relevant clients, Council will be combining all current Home Care Packages into a regional NATSIFAC, pooling all Home Care Packages funds to provide services and equipment as per all clients assessed needs. This application will also include waitlisted clients for higher packages and clients needing to move from Commonwealth Home Support Packages to Home Care Packages.

It is also a requirement for EARC to consult and inform communities, seek approval from clients and share the impact these changes will have if EARC is successful with its Application. Evidence of the process and support from the clients must be included in the Application.

Benefits under a new funding model include:

- Improved and better distribution of resources to meet the needs of all clients
- No current HCP client will be disadvantaged or worst off under the new model
- All prescribed and required equipment will be purchased and available to clients
- Services will continue and be delivered in line with client care plans
- All clients on current HCP will transfer to the NATSIFAC funding model.
- Services and support to Commonwealth Home Support Program or entry level clients will remain unchanged unless the needs of those clients change.

Council staff will be discussing this application and proposal with clients and families individually and through group sessions, through Local Authority meetings and community briefings over the coming weeks.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority support the development and submission of an application for a regional National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Island Flexible Aged Care grant when next released.

ATTACHMENTS:

GENERAL BUSINESS



ITEM NUMBER	8.5
TITLE	Youth, Sport and Recreation Community Update
REFERENCE	1495143
AUTHOR	Peter Dunkley, Regional Manager Youth Sports and Recreation

SUMMARY:

This report sets out to highlight Youth, Sport and Recreation events, activities, successes and challenges in your community.

BACKGROUND

The Youth, Sport and Recreation seeks to strengthen young people, by helping them live happy, healthy lives. We deliver a range of funded activities and programs including but not limited to after school hours activities, school holiday programs, camps, hunting and bush trips, movie nights, arts/music, formal and informal sports and physical activity, Youth Diversion case management, community radio, inter community activities, staff training and capacity building.

The Youth, Sport and Recreation program seeks input, feedback and support from the Local Authority in an effort to continually improve what we do.

GENERAL

- Community staffing
- Remote Sports Program (formal and informal competitions, visits from peak sporting bodies)
- After School hours program
- School holiday program
- Youth Diversion (Yirrkala/Gunyangara, Milingimbi, Ramingining, Gapuwiyak, Galiwinku only)
- Community Radio (Yirrkala, Milingimbi, Ramingining, Gapuwiyak, Galiwinku only)
- Program successes / challenges

RECOMMENDATION

- That the Local Authority notes the Youth, Sport and Recreation Community update.**
- That the Local Authority seeks the following recommendations:**

ATTACHMENTS:

GENERAL BUSINESS

ITEM NUMBER	8.6
TITLE	Waste Services Update
REFERENCE	1500630
AUTHOR	Wesley Van Zanden, Waste & Environmental Manager

**SUMMARY:**

This report is to provide a summary update of works and projects being implemented in the community by the Waste Services Department

BACKGROUND

General information regarding the Waste Services departments Waste Education Program.

GENERAL

The Waste Services team are excited to announce that we have recently hired two new staff members to replace the recent resignations. We are now back to a full team that will be able to better service all the communities and continue to grow and develop environmental, recycling, waste minimisation and education initiatives.

Waste Education

We are currently developing an overarching three year Community Education Strategy that is in line with East Arnhem Regional Councils (EARC) ten year Waste Management Strategic Plan. The Education Strategy is stilling being developed, however, the staged approach we are taking to deliver the strategy are as follows;

- Stage 1. Stakeholder Identification and Analysis (completed).
- Stage 2. Liaising with community stakeholders regarding education/awareness strategies (ongoing).
- Stage 3. Development of an iterative 3 year Community engagement strategy (worked on in conjunction with stages 1 and 2).
- Stage 4. Start delivering strategy (end 2021/Start 2022).
- Stage 5. Review, adapt and adopt (Annual review, but also regular check points for continuous development and improvement).

Furthermore, while this strategy is in development, discrete projects like the Container Deposit Scheme, Marine Plastics, and Mobile Muster; that are being rolled out now, will have more of an adhoc approach until they can be integrated into the three year plan.

Once such initiative that is currently being finalised is a joint venture between EARC, Plastics Ocean Australasia, and Veolia, to provide education and awareness around plastic waste in the ocean and on the beaches. We are currently in the final production stage of creating three videos in language to help roll the initiative out. Together with this video, Ocean Plastics Australasia will be providing education materials for community groups and the schools to utilise.

The Waste team have also been busy developing some further education materials with regards to the importance of reducing litter and waste. The first step has been to create a short educational cartoon to play on our notice boards and at schools and events to raise awareness. This video is nearly finalised and hopefully be ready to promote and circulate by August.

Container Deposit Scheme

The Cash for Containers program is back up and running in all communities. We are planning to have regular monthly collection days. If you haven't already, tell family and head down to the council office to pick up a bulka bag and start putting all plastic bottles, glass bottles and aluminum cans in the bag. At the end of each month our team will call by to pick up the bag and pay you ten cents per container. We encourage residents in all communities to get involved to help reduce the amount of plastic going into our landfills.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority notes the Waste Services update report.

ATTACHMENTS:

GENERAL BUSINESS

ITEM NUMBER	8.7
TITLE	Roads Infrastructure - Pedestrian Footpath and Crossings Program Public Tender & Bus Shelters Installation Updates
REFERENCE	1505867
AUTHOR	Arvin Roping, Transport and Infrastructure Manager

**SUMMARY:**

This Report is tabled for the Gunyangara Local Authority in order to update on the progress of the proposed stage two (2) of the pedestrian footpath and crossing program via public tender.

BACKGROUND

General information regarding the Transport and Infrastructure department's Gunyangara proposed construction of stage two (2) of the pedestrian footpath and crossing program.

GENERAL**Proposed Stage Two (2) of the Pedestrian Footpath and Crossing Program**

The proposed stage two of the pedestrian footpath and crossings program has an estimated project budget of \$200,000.00 (exclusive of GST).

Current Second (2nd) Round public open tender updates:

2nd Round Public open tender release date: Friday, 16 July 2021

Closing due date: Wednesday, 11 August 2021

Notified the market – published the opportunity on the Council's webpage, Tenders.Net and NT News.

Note that the tender was re-released due to budget constraints and lack of market response during the first round of public tender release.

Proposed Installation of Two (2) x Bus Shelters

The proposed installation of two bus shelters has an estimated project budget of \$30,000.00 (exclusive of GST).

Gumatj Corporation Limited have been awarded the contract under an exemption that the bus shelters are to be built from the local timber, as well as to support the local employment of the timber and furniture enterprise.

At this stage, discussions currently underway to finalise the locations of the proposed installation of bus shelters.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority note the report.

ATTACHMENTS:

GENERAL BUSINESS

ITEM NUMBER	8.9
TITLE	Animal Management Program Update
REFERENCE	1502267
AUTHOR	Shane Marshall, Director Technical & Infrastructure Services

**SUMMARY:**

This report is tabled for the Local Authority as an update on the Animal Management Program annual results and program focus for the 21-22 financial period.

BACKGROUND

The EARC animal program has continued to work very hard for the past year. The Veterinarian and Animal Control Manager has been on maternity leave from July 2020 until March 2021 and during that time the program was predominantly serviced by the Yirrkala based part time Animal Management Worker and the Groote Eylandt- based Veterinary Supervisor. The team also had temporary relief veterinarians assisting with service delivery to Yirrkala, Gunyangara, Gapuwyak, Milingimbi, Galiwinku and Ramingining during August-December 2020 and March-June 2021 periods.

GENERAL

Service delivery was affected by COVID-19 restrictions on travel into community for a small period of time in early 2020, however community visits recommenced and all nine EARC communities received at least 3 veterinary visits by the end of 2020. Due to flare-ups in COVID hotspots, our animal management program has had to cancel some of our planned community visits from interstate staff and veterinary students that were due to fly in and assist us in service delivery. This will unfortunately continue to happen if hotspots arise where our interstate collaborative teams are based. The team has continued to try and recruit veterinarians and veterinary nurses from within the Northern Territory to avoid these issues, however the recruitment of professional staff has continued to be a challenge.

The Animal Management team released the first EARC Community Veterinary Cabinets in July/ August 2020. The full cabinets have been placed in our communities which receive less frequent veterinary visits including Gapuwyak, Ramingining, Milingimbi and Galiwinku. Inside the cabinets are a large quantity of first aid and anti-parasitic resources to treat all of the basic illnesses and conditions that the team frequently see in community. These have resulted in fantastic outcomes for animals in community that may have not received any other treatments until the team was next in community.


Projects such as this empower our community members to make responsible decisions for the welfare of their animals. It has meant the Animal Management Team has been able to provide a more consistent service in between designated veterinary visits with the assistance of local community staff. Basic training was provided by the Veterinarian/Animal Control Manager remotely to ensure that all staff in community understood what was contained in the cabinets. The funds for this project were used from the core services budget and have been integral in improving animal welfare in our communities. The communities of Yirrkala, Gunyangara, Angurugu, Umbakumba and Milyakburra only received very small amounts of veterinary supplies as they benefit from more frequent services. In 2021, we are looking at rolling out the full cabinets to all of our EARC communities.

A new disease called Ehrlichiosis (*E. canis*) has been slowly making its way across the Northern Territory from where it was first discovered in WA. This disease is one that is



spread via the brown dog tick which is highly prevalent in our communities, especially over the wet season. The Veterinarian and Animal Control Manager has become a member of the E. canis Management Group for the Northern Territory and is currently working on an EARC strategy for E canis. We have had three positive cases in our communities. Unfortunately, treatment is expensive and the animal management program does not have the financial resources to treat this disease. Any cases have been referred to a private veterinary clinic for further treatment. We have instead been focusing on minimising the impact of the disease by trying to increase our prevention of the brown dog ticks in our communities.


One of the goals in the next financial year is work with pharmaceutical companies to acquire reduced costs anti-parasitic medications for brown dog ticks to distribute throughout our communities prior to the 2021 wet season commencing. We have currently managed to acquire reduced cost Bravecto and Nexgard anti-parasitic treatments at a reduced rate in partnership with AMRRIC and the pharmaceutical companies that make these products.

Tick Sickness




There is a new tick sickness called Ehrlichiosis




Dogs get the sickness from ticks. Sick dogs...

- Sleep lots and are tired
- Get skinny
- Don't want to eat food
- Get mucky or cloudy eyes



If your dog looks like sick one and is not feeling good, talk to your Vet, Environmental Health Worker or AMRRIC about medicine for your dog.



www.amrric.org
(08) 8948 1768

The animal management team is continuing to struggle with the issue of aggressive dogs in our communities. The number of complaints from community for dog bites increased in the past year and unfortunately in the absence of any By-Laws the animal management team is quite limited in our capacity to respond. At this point in time, all dog bites are reported to the police in community to be followed up.

The animal management team has also been following up with the community members and has spent a large amount of time discussing the issue of roaming, aggressive dogs with the owners' of such animals to work towards solutions in a cultural appropriate manner.

The Animal Management Program team is very proud of the quantitative results over of the last 12 months in light of the challenges we have faced. Overall desexing numbers for the July 20 – June 2021 period were 391 dogs and 229 cats. Overall general health checks and treatments given out by the team were 1621 . These figures quantify the hard work that is being completed by the Animal Management Team in our communities.

Table 1: Community Desexing and Treatment totals for 20/21 FY:

EARC Communities	Dogs Desexed	Cats Desexed	Treatments given by Animal Management Team*
Yirrkala	22	25	129
Gunyangara	34	4	109
Ramingining	77	67	147
Gapuwiyak	55	57	178
Milingimbi	72	18	199
Galiwinku	57	45	233
Angurugu	46	6	335
Umbakumba	19	7	164
Milyakburra	9	0	127
TOTAL	391	229	1621

*treatments given can include: medications, worming, euthanasia or any other veterinary treatment that has been requested by the owners of the animal. This does not include the verbal consultation that is undertaken on an ad hoc basis by the EARC animal management team.

Planned projects for the 20/21 Financial Year:

- Staffing: Recruit a new permanent veterinarian for the Groote Eylandt based position as soon as possible. Look at utilising existing relationships with CDP in community to recruit local animal management workers to our team.
- Veterinary facility for Milingimbi. Currently the team is still working in difficult conditions in the Municipal shed at Milingimbi. An air-conditioned donga with running water will be a much needed addition to our program.
- EARC Community Vet Cabinets – further training for new staff and a continuation of this service by the AMP team. Setting up cabinets for all nine EARC communities to ensure consistency of veterinary services.
- Parasite Prevention Plan prior to the wet season in 2021: Large scale E canis surveillance and brown dog tick treatments prior to the 2021 wet season commencing - one of the goals in the next financial year is work with pharmaceutical companies to acquire reduced costs anti-parasitic medications for brown dog ticks to distribute throughout our communities.
- Cat management focused programs including education and desexing days – We have a collaborative grant project with AMRRIC via STEM education with all of our schools in September 2021.
- Cat Management collaboration on Groote Eylandt with Territory Natural Resource Council to protect the native wildlife
- Continued education about aggressive dogs in schools and across community to promote more owner responsibility
- Continued education projects throughout all of our communities promoting responsible pet ownership
- Focus on community engagement to promote awareness of animal welfare concerns and education
- Continuously working towards our 80% desexing goal for all nine EARC communities

- Begin education and awareness programs on the key concepts within the new By-Laws for the animal management program

RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority note the report

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no attachments for this report.

GENERAL BUSINESS



ITEM NUMBER 8.10
TITLE Corporate Services Report
REFERENCE 1501259
AUTHOR Michael Freeman, Corporate Services Manager

SUMMARY:

This report presents the financial expenditure plus employment statistics as of 30 June 2021 within the Local Authority area.

BACKGROUND

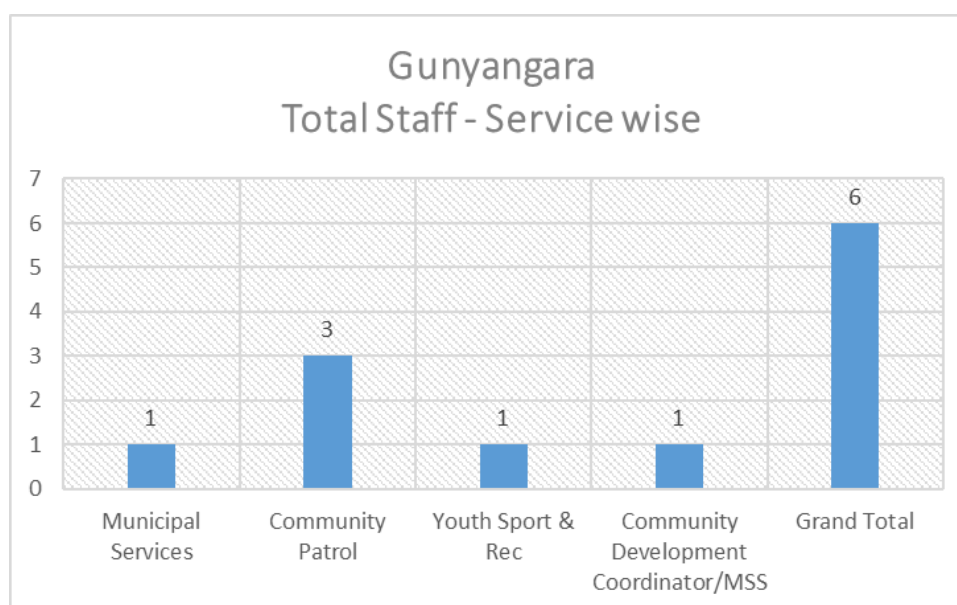
Local Authorities need to consider the Finance Report carefully as it details the current actual figures against the budget for the Local Authority area. Also the report details the number of staff against the different service areas.

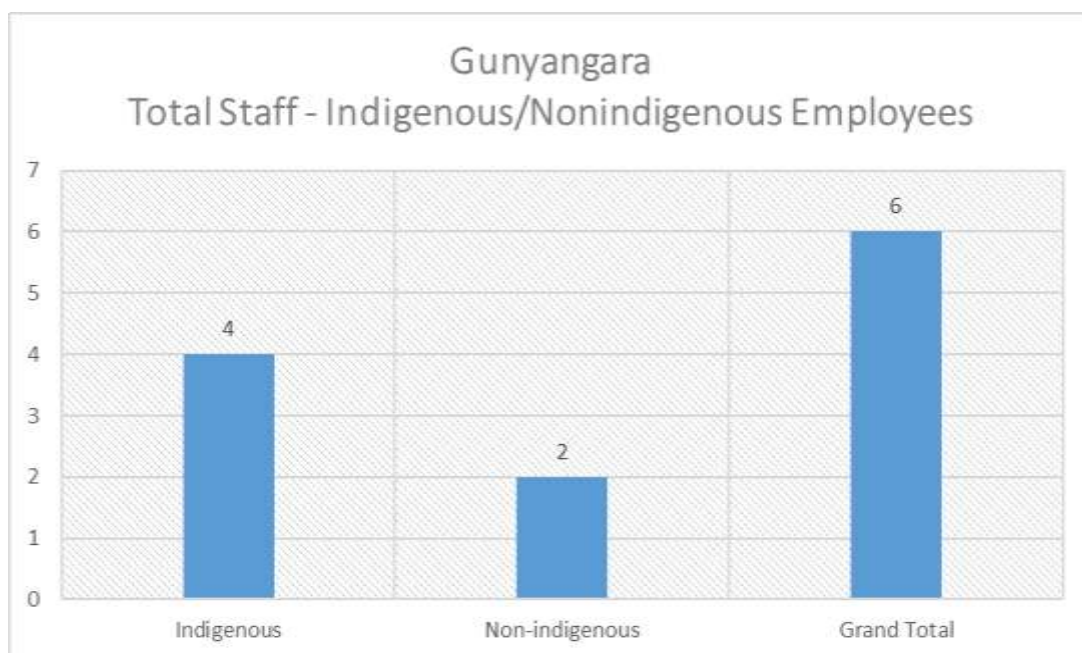
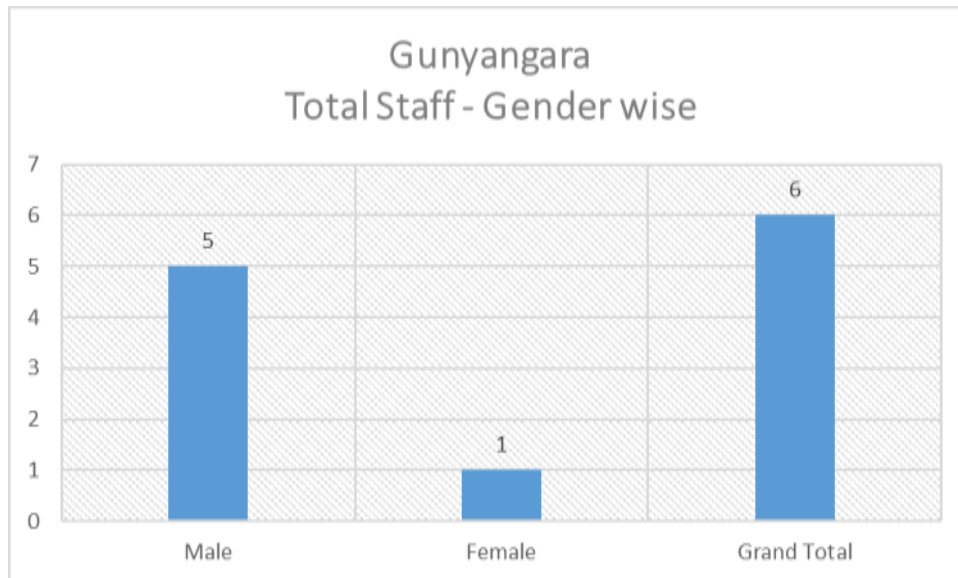
GENERAL

The following tables show year to date employment costs against budget. Services that are under budget are the result of poor attendance at work and vacancies due to staff turnover.

Row Labels	Actual	Budget	Variance	% of Variance
Children and Family Services	6,977	8,649	1,672	23.96%
Community Development	30,823	46,641	15,819	51.32%
Community Patrol and SUS Services	104,213	190,035	85,821	82.35%
Municipal Services	85,120	124,200	39,080	45.91%
Waste and Environmental Services	3,630	10,263	6,633	182.75%
Youth, Sport and Recreation Services	13,345	39,775	26,430	198.04%
Grand Total	244,108	419,563	175,455	71.88%

Employee Statistics:





Vacancies as of 30 June 2021:

Position	Level
Community Patrol Officer	L2 S1
Community Patrol Officer	L1 S1

RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority receives the Financial and Employment information to 30 June 2021.

ATTACHMENTS:

COMMUNITY REPORTS

ITEM NUMBER	9.1
TITLE	Community Development Coordinator Report
REFERENCE	1499994
AUTHOR	Adam Johnson, Community Development Coordinator

**SUMMARY:**

This report is provided by the Community development Coordinator at every local Authority meeting to provide information and or update to members.

BACKGROUND

As per Guideline 1 Regional Council and Local Authority members, it is a requirement for the Community Development Coordinator to provide a 'Community Development Report on current Regional Council Services in the Local Authority area'.

GENERAL

The East Arnhem Regional Council office building is having minor repairs, the outside area is being painted and security lights are to be installed. The office area in consultation with Arnhem Land Progress Aboriginal Corporation (ALPA) are trying to provide work experience for indigenous community members to assist with reception, administration work and assistance for local community members when they visit the office.

The waste management team calendar will provide quarterly dates for hard waste collections. East Arnhem Regional Council is in the process of obtaining skip bins for community convenience to remove hard waste, this designated area is yet to be chosen.

There has been broken wine bottles smashed at the local Bus shelter area, creating a safety issue for small children waiting at the Bus Shelter, for the school bus. Empty bottles of spirits have been sighted by the Municipal service team doing regular litter clean-up around the community.

East Arnhem Regional Council closely working with Gumatji to provide a healthy lawn at the sports oval, by upgrading the oval with rich soil, ensuring the irrigation system functions properly and a solar pump has been installed at the quarry to assist with water management.

Road signs are frequently being damaged. Give way signs, reflective along Drimmie Heads Rd, speed hump and speed bump signs as well as turn off signs this sign damage has been reported to the Traffic management for replacement. This is a safety concern and an inconvenience to road users.

Cash for Cans at the East Arnhem Regional Council office has been delayed due to sorry business and other events taking place. The cans need to be delivered to the office for counting, showing the significance reduction in litter within the community.

The weed management meeting held with discussion for a three- day coffee bush blitz in Gunyangara and partnership with Dhimurru Aboriginal Corporation and other organizations. A BBQ event to be held afterwards.

East Arnhem Regional Council staff are working with the Local Authority members promoting a strong, safe and clean community, such as littering, animal management and respecting each other in Community.

Night Patrol Services team manager Josclyn Cairns has resigned and staff from Gunyangara would like to take this opportunity to thank Josclyn, who has worked for East Arnhem

Regional Council for many years. We wish Joselyn all the best for her future. Janet Gurruwiwi has resigned due to personnel reasons also, a big thank you for Janet her contribution to the Night patrol team and her dedicated time working alongside the Community.

A Training conference was held in June at the Walkabout Lodge conference room, bringing a wealth of knowledge, experience and issues confronted by the Night patrol team. A local traditional name to be encourage for the naming of Night Patrol vehicles.

RECOMMENDATION

That the local Authority members notes the Community Development Coordinator Report.

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no attachments for this report.

QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS



ITEM NUMBER	10.1
TITLE	Questions from Members
REFERENCE	1501744
AUTHOR	Candice O'Halloran, Governance, Local Authority and Communication Officer

SUMMARY:

The Local Authority will now take questions from members.

GENERAL

The Local Authority will now take questions from members.

Questions and discussions must be directed through the Chair.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority notes the questions from members and follow up on those questions that cannot be answered at today's meeting.

ATTACHMENTS:

QUESTIONS FROM PUBLIC



ITEM NUMBER	11.1
TITLE	Questions from the Public
REFERENCE	1501766
AUTHOR	Candice O'Halloran, Governance, Local Authority and Communication Officer

SUMMARY:

The Local Authority will now take questions from members the public.

GENERAL

The Local Authority will now take questions from the public.

Questions and discussions must be directed through the Chair.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority notes the questions from the public and follow up on those questions that cannot be answered at today's meeting.

ATTACHMENTS: