



# **Agenda**

## **Gunyangara**

### **LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING**

On

**27 May 2022**

**EAST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL**

Notice is hereby given that an Local Authority Meeting of the East Arnhem Regional Council will be held at the on Friday, 27 May 2022 at 10AM.

Dale Keehne  
**Chief Executive Officer**

**Dial-in Details:**

**Join on your computer or mobile app**

[Click here to join Video Conference Meeting](#)

**Or call in (audio only)**

Dial the Conference# 02 8318 0005

Meeting ID: 369 931 290#

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	<i>The report will be dealt with under Section 99 of the Local Government Act and Section 51 (c)(i) of the Local Government (General) Regulations. It contains information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on any person.</i>	
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## **APOLOGIES**

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<b>ITEM NUMBER</b>	3.1
<b>TITLE</b>	Apologies and Absent Without Notice
<b>REFERENCE</b>	1610524
<b>AUTHOR</b>	Nawshaba Razzak, Corporate Planning & Policy Officer

### **SUMMARY:**

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

The report author does not have a conflict of interest in this matter (Section 179 of the Act).

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**That Local Authority:**

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

### **ATTACHMENTS:**

There are no attachments for this report.

## **APOLOGIES**

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<b>ITEM NUMBER</b>	3.2
<b>TITLE</b>	Local Authority Membership
<b>REFERENCE</b>	1610529
<b>AUTHOR</b>	Dale Keehne, Chief Executive Officer



### **SUMMARY:**

This report lists the community and Council appointed members and the resignation and vacancies of the Local Authority.

### **BACKGROUND**

The meeting needs to consider the membership of the Local Authority.

A Local Authority can have between 6 and 14 members, including the appointed Councillors.

### **GENERAL**

Following are the current community members of this Local Authority.

#### **Gunyangara**

Antoine Gintz  
Doug Yunupingu  
Elizika Puertollano  
Djawa Yunupingu  
Balu Palu Yunupingu

The following member is appointed by the Council for the community.

#### **Gunyangara**

Cr Banambi Wunungmurra

The following nomination has been received for the Local Authority membership.

Dana Yunupingu

It must be noted that the Chief Health Officer rules #55 concerning vaccination against COVID apply to Local Authority meetings.


The report author does not have a conflict of interest in this matter (Section 179 of the Act).

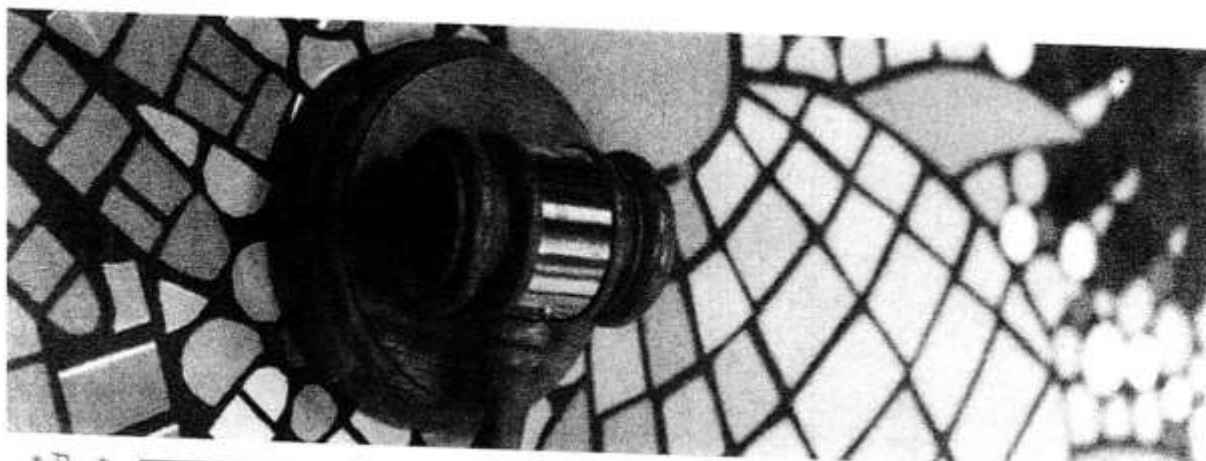
### **RECOMMENDATION**

#### **The Local Authority:**

- a) **Notes the member list and calls for new members to fill up existing vacancies.**
- b) **Notes the nomination received from Dana Yunupingu.**
- c) **Recommends the nomination to be presented for Council approval.**

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1  Gunyangara Nomination - Dana Yunupingu



## NOMINATION FORM

First Name:

Dana

Family Name:

Yunupingu

Clan Name:

Gumath

Community:

Gunyangara

Phone No.:

09447320664

E-mail:

community.ste@guny.com.au

Proposer Name:

Deborah Walker

Proposer Signature:

I,

Dana Yunupingu

accept being nominated into the

Local Authority.

Gunyangara

Signature:

For Official Use only

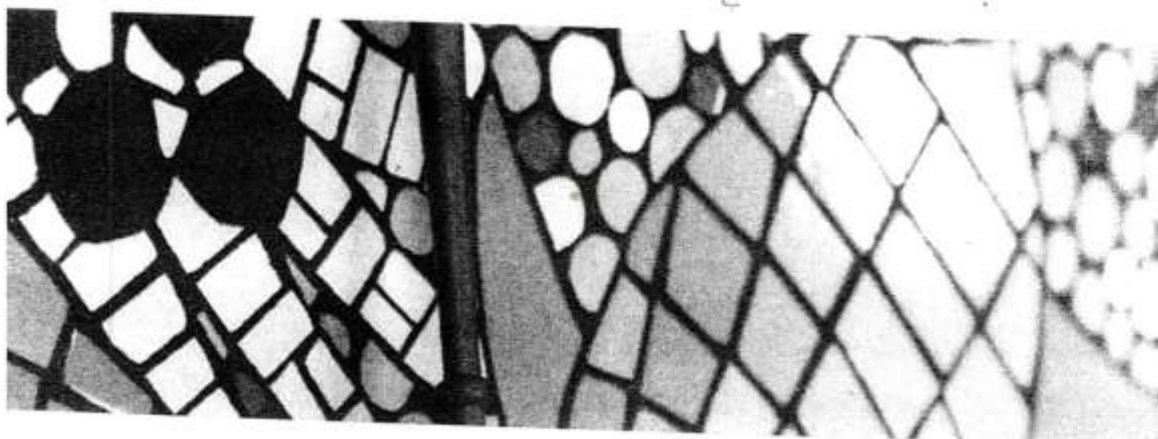
Nomination Received:

LA Consultation:

Council Approval:

\*Must be completed by the nominated person. Nomination will not be processed if not accepted.

\*\*Completed forms should be sent to, [governance@eastarthurshire.nsw.au](mailto:governance@eastarthurshire.nsw.au)



**CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

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<b>ITEM NUMBER</b>	4.1
<b>TITLE</b>	Conflict of Interest
<b>REFERENCE</b>	1610543
<b>AUTHOR</b>	Nawshaba Razzak, Corporate Planning & Policy Officer

**SUMMARY:**

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

**BACKGROUND**

The Local Government Act (Chapter 7, Part 7.2, Section 114 – Conflict of Interest) details that “A member has a conflict of interest in a question arising for decision by the audit committee, council, council committee or local authority if the member or an associate of the member has any of the following interests in how the question is decided:

- (a) a direct interest;
- (b) an indirect financial interest;
- (c) an indirect interest by close association;
- (d) an indirect interest due to conflicting duties.

**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.

The report author does not have a conflict of interest in this matter (Section 179 of the Act).

**RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Local Authority notes no conflicts of interest declared at today’s meeting.**

**OR**

**That the Local Authority notes any conflicts of interest declared at today’s meeting.**

**ATTACHMENTS:**

There are no attachments for this report



**PREVIOUS MINUTES**

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<b>ITEM NUMBER</b>	5.1
<b>TITLE</b>	Previous Minutes for Ratification
<b>REFERENCE</b>	1610611
<b>AUTHOR</b>	Nawshaba Razzak, Corporate Planning & Policy Officer

**SUMMARY:**

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

**BACKGROUND**

In line with the Northern Territory *Local Government Act 2019* (Chapter 6, Part 6.3, Section 101- 3), The audit committee, council, council committee or local authority must, at its next meeting, or next ordinary meeting, confirm the minutes (with or without amendment), including any confidential business considered at the meeting, as a correct record of the meeting.

According to the *Local Authority Guideline 1* (Part 12, Section 12.4), Members at a provisional meeting can confirm the minutes of a previous provisional meeting. However, members at a provisional meeting cannot confirm the minutes of a previous Local Authority meeting.

**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 notes the minutes from the meeting of 26 November 2021 to be a true record of the meeting.**

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1 [↓](#) Local Authority - Gunyangara 2021-11-26 [1727] Minutes



## 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**

**26 November 2021**

MINUTES OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD IN THE GUMATJ  
CORPORATION BOARDROOM FOR GUNYANGARA ON FRIDAY, 26 NOVEMBER  
2021 AT 10.00 AM

**ATTENDANCE**

In the Chair Antoine Gintz, Local Authority Members Djawa Yunupingu and Elizika Puertollano.

**COUNCIL OFFICERS**

Dale Keehne – CEO  
Shane Marshall – Director Technical and Infrastructure Services  
Andrew Walsh – Director Community Development  
Adam Johnson – Community Development Coordinator

Minute Taker – Nawshaba Razzak, Corporate Planning and Policy Officer

**OBSERVERS**

Mathilde Payet-Vidalenc - General Manager, Marngarr Resource Centre Aboriginal Corporation

**MEETING OPENING**

Chair opened the meeting at 10:16 AM and welcomed all members and guests.

**Apologies**

**3.1 APOLOGIES AND ABSENT WITHOUT NOTICE**

**SUMMARY:**

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

The report author does not have a conflict of interest in this matter (Section 179 of the Act).

**087/2021 RESOLVED (Antoine Gintz/Djawa Yunupingu)**

**That the Local Authority:**

- (a) Notes the absence of Local Authority member Doug Yunupingu, Balu Palu Yunupingu, Murphy Yunupingu and Councillor Banambi Wunungmurra.
- (b) Notes the apology received from member Balu Palu Yunupingu and Councillor Banambi Wunungmurra.
- (c) Notes Doug Yunupingu, Balu Palu Yunupingu, Murphy Yunupingu and Councillor Banambi Wunungmurra are absent with permission of the Local Authority.

**3.2 LOCAL AUTHORITY MEMBERSHIP**

**SUMMARY:**

This report lists the community and Council appointed members and the resignation and vacancies of the Local Authority.

MINUTES OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD IN THE GUMATJ CORPORATION BOARDROOM FOR GUNYANGARA ON FRIDAY, 26 NOVEMBER 2021 AT 10.00 AM

088/2021 **RESOLVED** (Antoine Gintz/Djawa Yunupingu)

That the Local Authority:

- a) Notes the member list and calls for new members to fill up existing vacancies.
- b) Notes resignation of Local Authority Member Murphy Yunupingu.

**Conflict of Interest**

**4.1 CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

**SUMMARY:**

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

089/2021 **RESOLVED** (Antoine Gintz/Djawa Yunupingu)

That the Local Authority notes no conflicts of interest declared at today's meeting.

**Previous Minutes**

**5.1 PREVIOUS MINUTES FOR RATIFICATION**

**SUMMARY:**

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

090/2021 **RESOLVED** (Elizika Puertollano/Antoine Gintz)

That the Local Authority notes the minutes from the meeting of 30 July 2021 to be a true record of the meeting.

**Guest Speakers**

**7.1 GUEST SPEAKERS**

**SUMMARY:**

Presentation by the representatives of the Anindilyakwa Land Council and the Northern Territory Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet regarding the Groote Archipelago Local Decision Making Agreement – proposed Local Government.

091/2021 **RESOLVED** (Antoine Gintz/Djawa Yunupingu)

That the Local Authority thanks the guest speakers for their presentation.

MINUTES OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD IN THE GUMATJ CORPORATION BOARDROOM FOR GUNYANGARA ON FRIDAY, 26 NOVEMBER 2021 AT 10.00 AM

**THE MEETING BREAKS AT 11:40 AM**

092/2021 RESOLVED (Antoine Gintz/Djawa Yunupingu)

**MEETING RESUMES AT 12:02 PM**

093/2021 RESOLVED (Antoine Gintz/Djawa Yunupingu)

**Local Authorities**

**6.1 LOCAL AUTHORITY ACTION REGISTER**

**SUMMARY:**

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

094/2021 RESOLVED (Antoine Gintz/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.

**General Business**

**8.7 REVISED BUDGET 2021/22**

**SUMMARY:**

This report presents a draft Revised Budget for consideration.

095/2021 RESOLVED (Antoine Gintz/Djawa Yunupingu)

That the Local Authority:

- a) Note the 2021/22 Budget Revision.
- b) Recommends a percentage of the available surplus be allocated to the already endorsed priority projects.

**8.6 GRANT REPORT**

**SUMMARY:**

This report presents the Grant Report for the community.

096/2021 RESOLVED (Elizika Puertollano/Djawa Yunupingu)

That the Local Authority notes the Grant Report.



MINUTES OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD IN THE GUMATJ  
CORPORATION BOARDROOM FOR GUNYANGARA ON FRIDAY, 26 NOVEMBER  
2021 AT 10.00 AM

#### **8.5 CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT**

##### **SUMMARY:**

This report presents the financial expenditure plus employment statistics as of 31 October 2021 within the Local Authority area.

**097/2021 RESOLVED (Antoine Gintz/Djawa Yunupingu)**

**That the Local Authority receives the Financial and Employment information to 31 October 2021.**

#### **8.4 ANIMAL MANAGEMENT UPDATE**

##### **SUMMARY:**

This report is tabled for the Local Authority to provide an update on the Animal Management program delivery within Gunyangara.

**098/2021 RESOLVED (Djawa Yunupingu/Elizika Puertollano)**

**That the Local Authority note the report.**

#### **8.3 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR**

##### **SUMMARY:**

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

**099/2021 RESOLVED (Antoine Gintz/Elizika Puertollano)**

**That the Local Authority notes the Community Development Report.**

#### **8.1 NEW ANINDILYAKWA AND REMAINING EAST ARNHEM REGIONAL LOCAL GOVERNMENT COUNCILS**

##### **SUMMARY:**

This is an update to the Local Authority on developments regarding a proposed new Anindilyakwa Regional Local Government Council.

**100/2021 RESOLVED (Elizika Puertollano/Antoine Gintz)**

**That the Local Authority:**

**Support the creation of an Anindilyakwa Regional Local Government including**

MINUTES OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING HELD IN THE GUMATJ  
CORPORATION BOARDROOM FOR GUNYANGARA ON FRIDAY, 26 NOVEMBER  
2021 AT 10.00 AM

through:

- a) Support for the development, transition to and services of the new Anindilyakwa Regional Local Government, as agreed.
- b) Formal commitment by the Northern Territory Government to provide funding necessary to ensure continuity of capacity, service delivery levels and sustainability across the East Arnhem Region.
- c) Making sure all Yolngu people of Gunyangara and our homelands continue to have a strong voice and are heard on all djama (business) important to us, through our Local Authority, and our other traditional controlled organisations including the Northern Land Council and remaining Yolngu Aboriginal Community-Controlled East Arnhem Regional Council, including through Local Decision Making and the Closing the Gap Northern Territory Implementation Plan.

## 8.2 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.

**101/2021 RESOLVED (Djawa Yunupingu/Elizika Puertollano)**

That the Local Authority notes the CEO report.

### DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Friday, 28 January 2022.

### MEETING CLOSE

The meeting ended at 1:16 PM.

This page and the preceding 5 pages are the minutes of the Local Authority Meeting held on Friday, 26 November 2021.

**LOCAL AUTHORITIES**

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<b>ITEM NUMBER</b>	6.1
<b>TITLE</b>	Local Authority Action Register
<b>REFERENCE</b>	1610645
<b>AUTHOR</b>	Nawshaba Razzak, Corporate Planning & Policy 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. New actions will be added to the Action Register.

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.

The report author does not have a conflict of interest in this matter (Section 179 of the Act).

**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:**

1 [↓](#) Local Authority - Gunyangara - 2022-05-27



## GUNYANGARA ACTIONS

ACTION ITEM	ACTIONS	STATUS
083/2021 Community Entrance Sign	That Local Authority members review the tabled Community Entry signs examples and provide feedback on a design specific for the Gunyangara community and decide on a suitable location for the sign to be installed when complete.	12.10.2021 - still under discussions – Gumatj has contributed some money – Ongoing with design direction from Gumatj under review. 26.11.2021 – Awaiting advice from NAC Board. By the end of the year there will be an agreement. <b>11/4/2022 – EARC will make a cash contribution towards Gumatj for their sign project to the value of on sign based of other Community installations.</b> <b>Recommendation –</b> a) That Council approve the contribution based on other installation costs for one Community sign b) Approve the removal of this Action Item.
Questions from members	That the Local Authority notes the questions from members and follow up on those questions that cannot be answered at today's meeting.  Local Authority member Antoine Gintz raised concern regarding the death of a tree from the front lawn of the Gumatj building, due to the bark being taken for painting from a community member and also if there is a possibility to have a by-law regarding this.	12.10.2021 - will be considered on the November By-Law presentation. 26.11.2021 - Will be considered at the December Council Meeting. <b>11/4/2022 – Remove action – Gumatj to address as the 99 year lease holder.</b>
Bus Shelter		12.10.2021 – Ongoing – Contractor issued Purchase order - Installation due the end of November. 26.11.2021 – Installations are happening currently. <b>11/4/2022 – Completed and remove from Action List</b>

GUNYANGARA ACTIONS

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

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<b>ITEM NUMBER</b>	8.1
<b>TITLE</b>	New Waste Transfer Station Project
<b>REFERENCE</b>	1617810
<b>AUTHOR</b>	Wesley Van Zanden, Waste & Environmental Manager

**SUMMARY:**

Proposal to develop a modified transfer station for the community of Gunyangara.

**BACKGROUND**

Council wish to put forward a proposal to develop a transfer station for the community of Gunyangara. Council believe that developing an area for residents to be able to drop off bulk waste will continue to reduce litter, improve the visual amenity of the community and increase recycling.

**GENERAL****Gunyangara Transfer Station Proposal**

Currently Gunyangara have no waste disposal sites or drop off points for hard rubbish in the community. It is proposed to develop a simple drop-off style Transfer Station for the community in the area previously used for green waste on the edge of town, see Figure 1.

The spaced would be unmanned, but regularly checked and managed by the Council's Municipal Service Team to ensure that the site was maintained in a clean and tidy manner.

The site is proposed to be used as a community drop-off point but also as an area for EARC MS Team to be able to store and manage residential bulk waste and recycling streams to:

- Reduce the amount of waste going to landfills;
- Reduce trips to Nhulunbuy Landfill for both community members and EARC; and
- Improve and increase recycling initiatives in the community.

The site would initially be for community residents only, not for commercial use as the goal is to reduce the amount of community hard rubbish accumulating on the road verges and to reuse/recycle materials as appropriate.

The site is **NOT** for commercial users to avoid going to the Nhulunbuy Landfill. The site will not be setup to accept or manage commercial waste as this would create an undue financial burden on the Council.

Figure 2, below illustrates the proposed layout of the Transfer Station. As you can see, it has been simplified as a drop-off zone for community and sorting and storing zone for Council to manage all the waste



**Figure 1. Proposed Site Location**



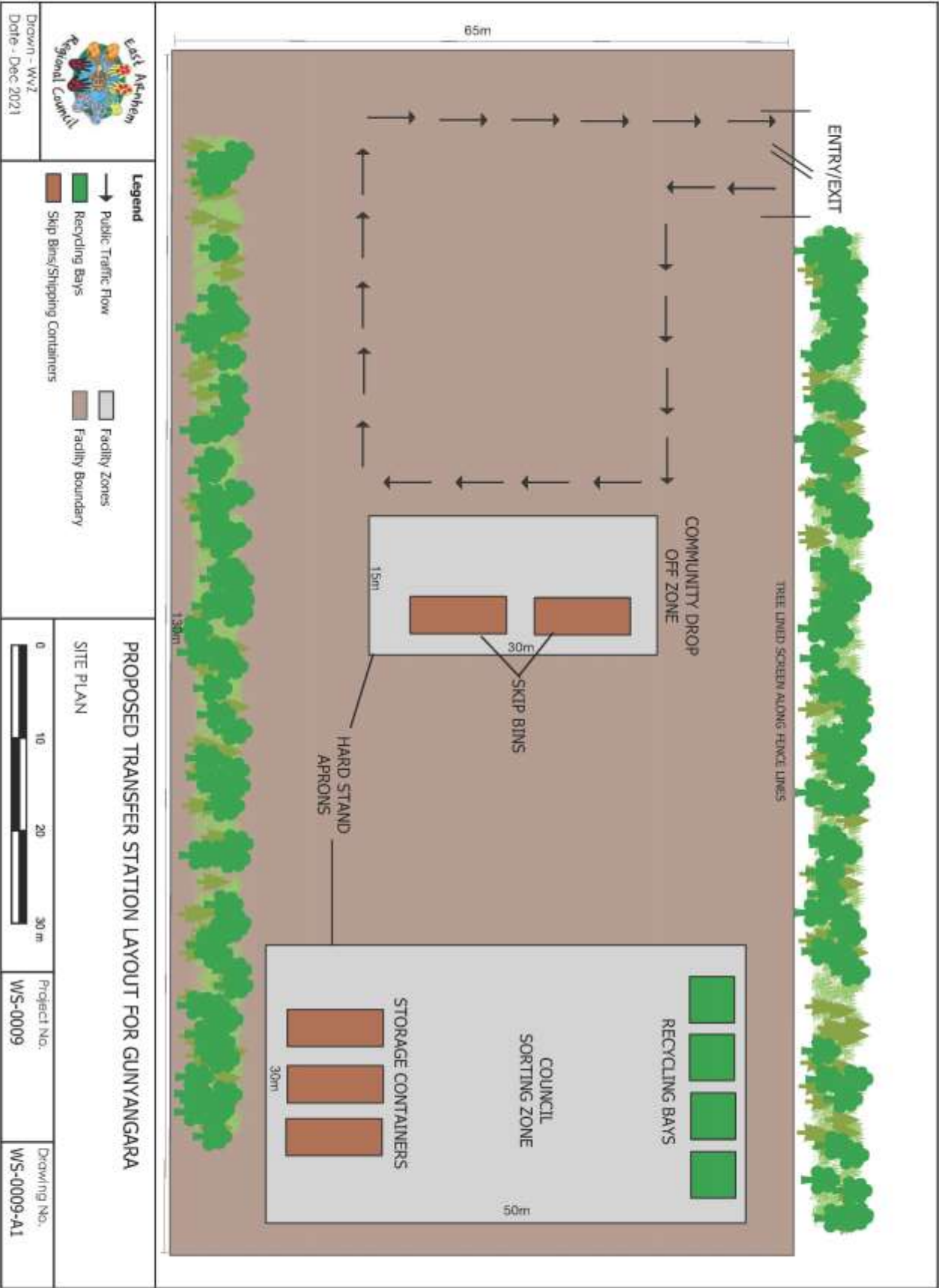


Figure 2. Proposed Layout

The report author does not have a conflict of interest in this matter (Section 179 of the Act).

## **RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Local Authority supports the development of a transfer station for Gunyangara in the proposed location.**

## **ATTACHMENTS:**

There are no attachments for this report.

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

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<b>ITEM NUMBER</b>	8.2
<b>TITLE</b>	Community Development Coordinator Report
<b>REFERENCE</b>	1613402
<b>AUTHOR</b>	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 updates to members

**BACKGROUND**

In line with Guideline1: Local Authorities it is a requirement for a report to be included on service delivery issues in the Local Authority area.

**GENERAL**

There has been an increase in break and enter at the East Arnhem Regional Council office over the past six months. This has caused delays in our daily operation, coordinating with police and cleaning up the aftermath. The Council is in the process of installing cameras within the office to assist police in identifying the culprits.

Dr Madeleine Kelso is currently on maternity leave. Sarah Carrall will be stepping in and coordinating the animal management practice for visitation, consultation and procedures for de-sexing. A new vet cabinet is now in the Gunyangara Council office, with general products as tick & flea collars, deworming tablets, and other products to assist with animal treatments. The next visit is in June for animal's general observation and treatment for Ticks, Worms and Scabies mange in dogs & cats.

Please leave your contact details at the store and the visiting veterinarian will follow up in her next visit.

Youth Sports and Recreation Gunyangara staff Christopher Lamboa has resigned from his position. Michael Yunupingu has a Youth, sport and recreation planner on the Gunyangara news website.

The Municipal service team has been busy in April with the hard waste collection in preparation for the funeral, 4 large truck loads of hard removed. We need to ensure Community members take their white goods to the curb as many resident are asking to remove rubbish and white goods from their veranda and the back yards which Council cannot undertake.

Cash for Cans resumed on the 25<sup>th</sup> May 2022, every time cash for cans occurs it is increasing in capacity from Community members. This helps absorb rubbish left within the community.

Dhimurru weed management meeting was held 23<sup>rd</sup> of February a program to encourage tracking weeds that are not native and can cause damage if not managed. Dhimurru Aboriginal Corporation will hold a seminar in the near future at the Town hall, for Community members, stakeholders who are interested in identifying, controlling unwanted weed species.

Three new solar lights have been erected at the causeway. Allan Rungan from Gumatj Corporation mentioned solar lights may be put up behind the Gumatji office and Cultural area in the future.

Meals on wheels from the Yirrkala Aged care and Disability centre currently catering for 7 Community members in Gunyangara.

A new team member has joined the Community Night Patrol team for Gunyangara Katarina Wanambi working alongside Janet Gurruwiwi.

The report author does not have a conflict of interest in this matter (Section 179 of the Act).

## **RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Local Authority members note the Community Development Coordinators report.**

## **ATTACHMENTS:**

There are no attachments for this report.



**GENERAL BUSINESS**

**ITEM NUMBER** 8.4  
**TITLE** Corporate Services Report  
**REFERENCE** 1610653  
**AUTHOR** Michael Freeman, Corporate Services Manager

**SUMMARY:**

This report presents the financial expenditure plus employment statistics as of 30 April 2022 within the Local Authority area.

**BACKGROUND**

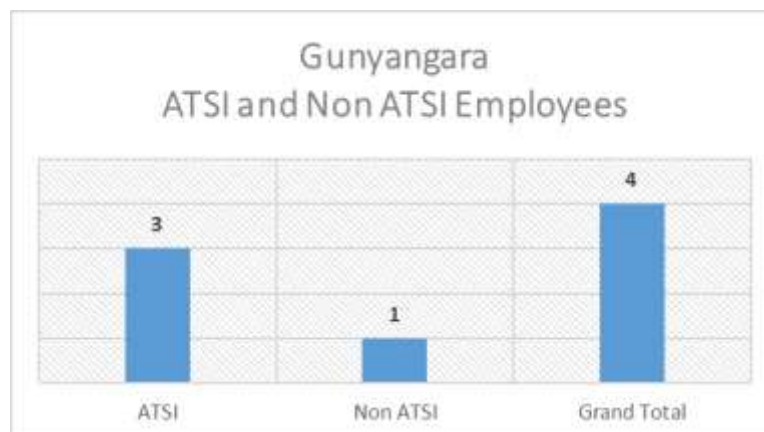
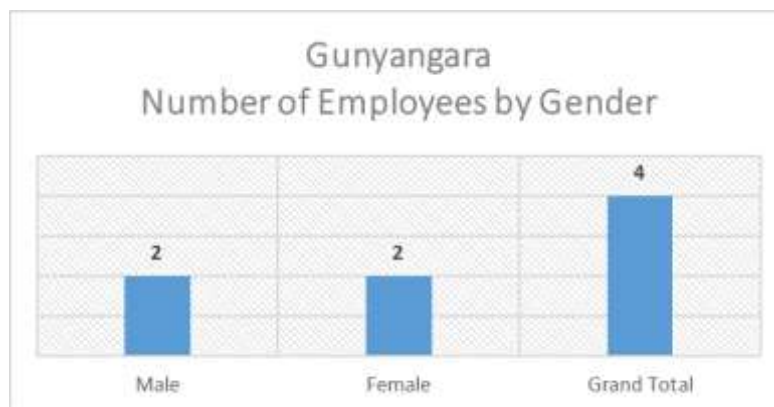
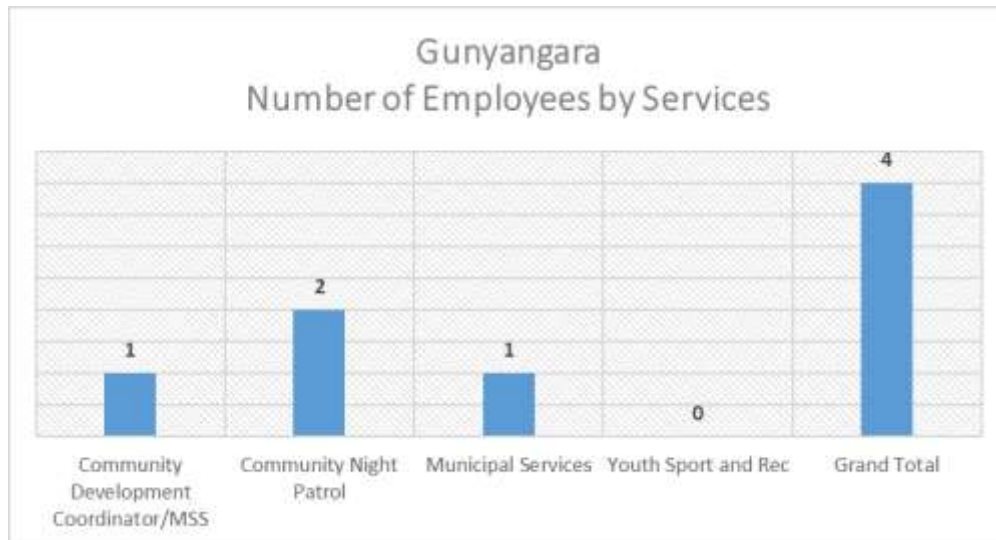
Local Authorities need to consider the Finance Report carefully as it details the current actual figures against the budget for the Local Authority area. Also the report details the number of staff against the different service areas.

**GENERAL**

Comparisons are to the revised budget approved by the Council in December 2021.

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

Row Labels	Actual YTD	Budget YTD	Variance	% of Variance
Children and Family Services	812	6,728	5,916	88%
Community Development	29,324	26,404	- 2,920	-11%
Community Patrol and SUS Services	86,928	104,710	17,783	17%
Municipal Services	122,736	92,119	- 30,618	-33%
Waste and Environmental Services	-	13,170	13,170	100%
Youth, Sport and Recreation Services	26,820	47,780	20,960	44%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>266,620</b>	<b>290,911</b>	<b>24,291</b>	<b>8%</b>

**Employee Statistics:****Vacancies as of 30 April 2022:**

VACANCIES AS AT 28.02.2022		
Position	Level	Community
Youth Sports & Recreation Worker	Level 1	Gunyangara

The report author does not have a conflict of interest in this matter (Section 179 of the Act).

**RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Local Authority receives the Financial and Employment information to 30 April 2022.**

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1  Financial Result\_Each Reporting Location\_Gunyangara.pdf

## Each Reporting Location

INCOME AND EXPENSE STATEMENT YEAR TO DATE 30 APRIL 2022	Gunyangara		
	ACTUALS YTD	BUDGET YTD	VARIANCE YTD
<b>OPERATING REVENUE</b>			
Grants	265,275	319,057	(53,782)
User Charges and Fees	18,105	24,735	(6,630)
Rates and Annual Charges	340,721	307,238	33,482
Interest Income	-	-	-
Other Operating Revenues	4,482	833	3,648
Untied Revenue Allocation	430,239	430,239	-
<b>TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES</b>	<b>1,058,821</b>	<b>1,082,102</b>	<b>(23,281)</b>
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>			
Employee Expenses	266,620	290,911	(24,291)
Materials and Contracts	107,308	576,597	(469,290)
Elected Member Allowances	-	-	-
Council Committee & LA Allowances	872	7,500	(6,628)
Depreciation and Amortisation	1,522	833	688
Interest Expenses	-	-	-
Other Operating Expenses	132,427	496,467	(364,041)
Council Internal Costs Allocations	88,222	116,960	(28,738)
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	<b>596,970</b>	<b>1,489,268</b>	<b>(892,298)</b>
<b>OPERATING SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)</b>	<b>461,850</b>	<b>(407,166)</b>	<b>869,017</b>
Capital Grants Income	-	-	-
<b>SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)</b>	<b>461,850</b>	<b>(407,166)</b>	<b>869,017</b>
Capital Expenses	-	(191,667)	191,667
Transfer to Reserves	-	(28,658)	28,658
Add Back Non-Cash Expenses	1,522	833	688
<b>NET SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)</b>	<b>463,372</b>	<b>(626,658)</b>	<b>1,090,030</b>
Carried Forward Grants Revenue	98,631	147,653	(49,022)
Revenue Received in Advance	-	-	-
Transfer from General Equity	-	-	-
Transfer from Reserves	-	698,021	(698,021)
<b>TOTAL ADDITIONAL INFLOWS</b>	<b>98,631</b>	<b>845,674</b>	<b>(747,043)</b>
<b>NET OPERATING POSITION</b>	<b>562,003</b>	<b>219,016</b>	<b>342,987</b>
			-

## **GENERAL BUSINESS**

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<b>ITEM NUMBER</b>	8.5
<b>TITLE</b>	Draft Regional Plan
<b>REFERENCE</b>	1614671
<b>AUTHOR</b>	Michael Freeman, Corporate Services Manager

### **SUMMARY:**

This report is to progress the Regional Plan.

### **BACKGROUND**

The *Local Government Act* requires each Council to have a Regional Plan.

The Regional Plan must contain a service delivery plan (what the Council is going to do) and the Council budget.

It must also include a longer term financial plan.

The plan must be adopted by resolution by 30 June 2022.

Before adoption, it must be approved as a draft, and made available to the public for comment.

It must be made available to Local Authorities for comment.

The timetable is therefore:

- The draft Annual Plan is presented to the Local Authorities from 16 to 27 May;
- Special Meeting – Monday 30 May – to approve a DRAFT with Local Authority feedback for public comment from 31 May to 21 June 2022.
- Ordinary Meeting – Thursday 30 June – approve and set rates.

### **GENERAL**

### **The Annual Budget**

The Annual Budget has been prepared on a business as usual approach.

#### **The Money Story:**

Council has two types of money – tied and untied. Tied money can only be used for the purpose the money is allocated.

(note, in the numbers below, money into the money pile is shown with a “-“ in front).

#### **Tied Section**

Tied new Revenue is \$15,968,166.

-1,248,238	Local Authorities
-3,560,765	Waste and Environmental Services
-556,273	Visitor Accommodation
-7,359,227	Aged Care and Disability Services
-166,075	Community Media
-3,077,587	Community Patrol and SUS Services

Added to that is Tied money from previous years, including the current unfinished year of \$4,838,174.

-2,927,099	Local Authorities
-165,528	Waste and Environmental Services
-1,226,935	Aged Care and Disability Services
-91,251	Community Media
-427,360	Community Patrol and SUS Services

Added to that is Tied money from Reserves of \$5,540,190.

**That gives \$26,346,530 to spend on Tied services.**

The expenditure on Tied services is \$15,375,736

389,809	Local Authorities
4,658,259	Waste and Environmental Services
244,237	Visitor Accommodation
7,227,599	Aged Care and Disability Services
184,329	Community Media
2,671,503	Community Patrol and SUS Services

Allocations and charges from Council to be transferred is \$3,612,468.

These are for information technology, fleet, building costs, accounting, insurance and management oversight.

Capital expenditure items in Tied services are \$7,358,326.

**The expenditure plus allocations plus capital equal \$26,346,530.**

### **Untied Section**

Untied new Revenue is \$28,489,857

-113,298	Community Development
-136,458	Veterinary and Animal Control Services
-1,247,950	Fleet and Workshop Services
-375,063	Library Services
-1,152,551	Local Road Maintenance & Traffic Management
-1,848,059	Local Road Upgrade and Construction
-2,108,351	Building and Infrastructure Services
-2,087,874	Children and Family Services
-3,502,594	Youth, Sport and Recreation Services
-10,000	Local Commercial Opportunities
-15,907,659	Corporate Services

Added to that is untied money from previous years, including the current unfinished year of \$934,869

-11,089	Veterinary and Animal Control Services
-150	Lighting for Public Safety
-9,228	Local Road Maintenance & Traffic Management
-1,716	Local Road Upgrade and Construction
-156,622	Building and Infrastructure Services
-45,195	Children and Family Services
-707,870	Youth, Sport and Recreation Services
-3,000	Community Events

Added to this is the allocations and charges transferred from Tied services of \$3,612,468.

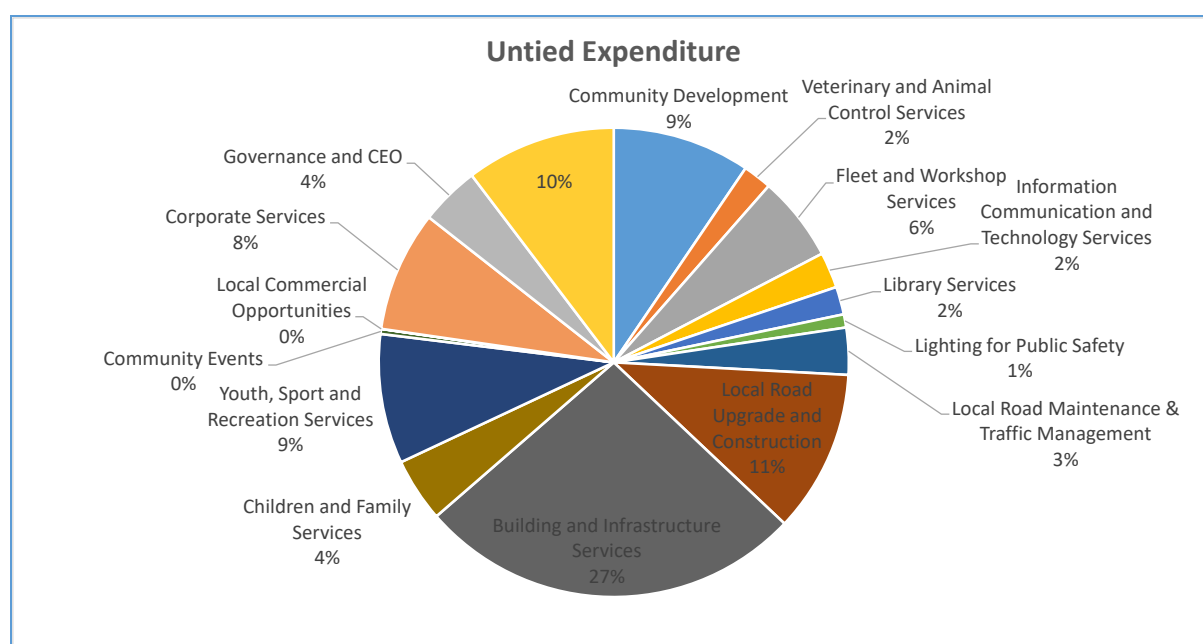
Added to that is Untied money from Reserves of \$4,872,500

354,753	Fleet and Workshop Services
-1,434,521	Local Road Upgrade and Construction
-3,339,732	Building and Infrastructure Services
50,000	Governance and CEO
-503,000	Municipal Services

That gives \$37,909,694 to spend on Untied services.

The expenditure on Untied services is \$36,909,830

3,499,808	Community Development
729,406	Veterinary and Animal Control Services
2,168,182	Fleet and Workshop Services
910,346	Information Communication and Technology Services
707,212	Library Services
335,433	Lighting for Public Safety
1,192,936	Local Road Maintenance & Traffic Management
4,134,296	Local Road Upgrade and Construction
9,800,880	Building and Infrastructure Services
1,623,470	Children and Family Services
3,295,432	Youth, Sport and Recreation Services
126,000	Community Events
3,500	Local Commercial Opportunities
3,069,606	Corporate Services
1,503,009	Governance and CEO
3,810,314	Municipal Services



Capital expenditure items in Untied services are \$934,352.

The operating expenditure and capital expenditure equal \$37,844,182.

That leaves a small surplus of \$65,512.

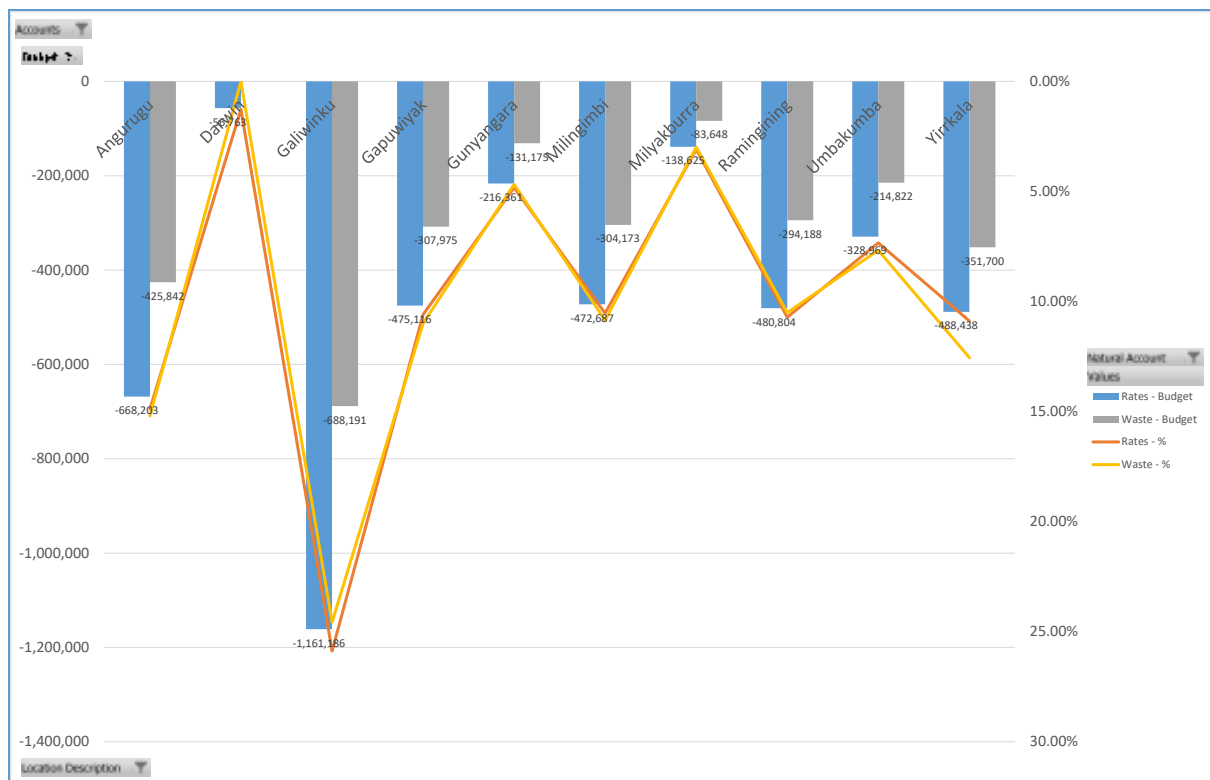
(all these numbers exclude depreciation).



### Rates and Waste Income

The Untied income includes \$4,487,152 of property rates.

The Tied Waste income includes \$2,801,713 of domestic waste charges.



### Local Government Funding

Major funding of \$13.8m from both Federal and Territory Government:

What	Amount	From Whom
Financial Assistance (General Purpose)	\$3.45m	Australian Govt
Financial Assistance (Roads)	\$1.33m	Australian Govt
NT Operational Subsidy	\$6.5m	NTG
Indigenous Jobs Development	\$1.28m	NTG
Local Authority Projects	\$1.24m	NTG

Local Projects

## East Arnhem Regional Council – Stage 1 Local Authority Community Projects

**Angurugu \$889,115.33**

- \*Public Toilets   \* Riverside Market Space   \*Footbridge
- \*External Public Seating & Benches in Church Area & Cemetery

**Umbakumba \$857,115.33**

- \*Footpaths – Underway   \*Oval Improvements   \*Firefighting Unit – completed
- \*Floating Pontoon / Jetty   \*Solar Lighting at Foreshore
- \*Lockable trailer for music equipment – completed
- \*Equipment for New Recreation Hall (up to \$30,000.00) – completed

**Milyakburra \$672,115.33**

- \*Oval funding contribution   \*Public Toilets   \*Jetty
- \*Up to \$30,000.00 Contribution for a BMX Track
- \*Shade Structure at the Barge Landing – completed

**Ramingining \$872,115.33**

- \*Oval Lights – underway   \*Airport Shelter Upgrade – Painting and Extension – underway

**Milingimbi \$956,515.33**

- \*Public Toilets near the Foreshore at Jesse Smith Park
- \*Waterpark
- \*Lockable Double Bin Stands for Each House – underway

**Gapuwiyak \$870,915.33**

- \*Two Playgrounds   \*Solar Lighting   \*Shade Shelters at Wharf Camp – completed
- \*Two Public Toilets – Near Airport and to replace those near Central Council Area
- \*Up to \$50,000.00 Financial Contribution towards Grant Funding for Improved Airport Waiting Facility

**Galiwin'ku \$1,483,415.33**

- \*Public Toilets at Two Locations   \*Additional Footpaths – underway
- \*Buthan Recreation Area   \*Co-Contribution to a Ceremony Area
- \*Outdoor Youth Recreation Facilities, incorporating a Waterpark and BMX Track

**Yirrkala \$1,072,215.33**

- \*Playgrounds   \*Fencing around Oval   \*Improved Oval Lighting - underway
- \*Two Public Toilets at Shady Beach & Oval   \*Improvements to Ceremony Areas

**Gunyangara \$678,415.33**

- \*Multi-Purpose Building at Oval – Change Rooms/Bathrooms (Cyclone Shelter)
- \*Footpaths (from School to Gumatj Office) - underway
- \*Landscaping and Beautification around Community

## East Arnhem Regional Council – Stage 2 Local Authority Community Projects

Council is seeking matching funds from the Northern Territory and Australian Governments and other organisations to help make these other projects a reality.

### **Angurugu \$889,115.33**

- CCTV Cameras
- Traffic Calming

### **Umbakumba \$857,115.33**

- New Sport and Recreational Hall
- Bollards

### **Milyakburra \$672,115.33**

- Water Park
- Solar Lighting

### **Ramingining \$872,115.33**

- Combined Shower, Toilets and Change Rooms at Oval
- Solar Lights at Cemetery
- Power to Cemetery
- Shade Shelter near Oval - Underway

### **Milingimbi \$956,515.33**

- Combined Change Rooms, Shower and Toilets at Oval
- Two Shade Structures and Seating on the Foreshore
- Renovate and Upgrade the Commentator Box at Oval
- Contribute towards the Ceremony Area at Makarata Field

### **Gapuwiyak \$870,915.33**

- Staged Waterpark
- Footpaths

### **Galiwin'ku \$1,483,415.33**

- Shelters - underway
- Mobile Laundromat

### **Yirrkala \$1,072,215.33**

- Sport and Recreational Hall (Cyclone Shelter) \$400,000 contribution
- Water Supply near Oval Solar Lights at Beach Areas
- Fencing for Sacred Sites
- Water Park

### **Gunyangara \$678,415.33**

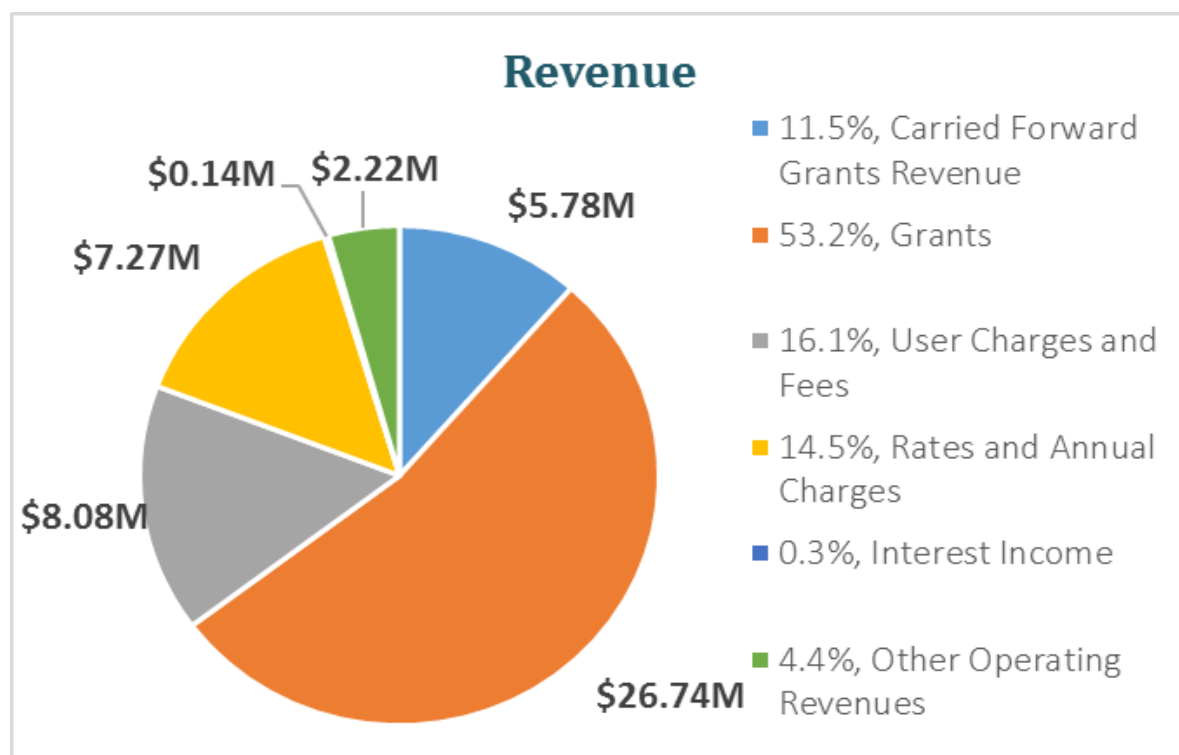
- Oval Lighting
- LED Screen and Trailer
- Basketball Court Cover and Seating

## THE BUDGET BOTTOM LINE

- ✓ A budget of \$60.57M incorporating an operating expenditure budget of \$52.28M, and capital expenditure budget of \$8.29 million.
- ✓ \$10.3M from reserves will be utilised to deliver the budget.
- ✓ The operating budget will achieve an operating surplus of \$65,512 meeting the required financial sustainability target.
- ✓ A modest rate increase of 2% for all the properties. Conditional Rates for mining properties have been increased as per Gazette S18 at 36% which resulted in an increase in overall rates collection by \$20,000. The 36% increase in mining rates has also been allowed for FY2024 and FY2025. EARC does not have any pastoral properties.
- ✓ \$3.5 million investment for the aged care capital expenditure funded with Aged Care Reserves.
- ✓ Local Authority Projects of \$4.14M will be delivered with funding coming from carried forward revenue of \$3.85M and current financial year revenue of \$1.24M.

## REVENUE

Council's major sources of revenue are Grants \$26.7M (54.31%), Rates and Charges \$7.27M (14.77%) and sundry income \$9.1M (18.23).



## Forecasted Grant Revenue:

<b>Grant</b>	<b>Amount</b>
1624 - Community Night Patrol Services	(2,680,787)
1604 - Youth, Sport and Recreation Program	(2,134,133)
1231 - Indigenous Employment Initiative Program	(1,915,683)
1617 - Community Child Care Fund	(1,610,423)
1705 - Local Authority Project Funding 2022-2023	(1,212,100)
1665 - Local Road and Infrastructure Program	(1,132,580)
1492 - Commonwealth Home Support Programme	(814,270)
1623 - Outside School Hours Care	(506,001)
1708 - Roads to Recovery Program 2022-23	(500,000)
1318 - Regional Sobering Up Shelter, Nhulunbuy	(396,800)
1262 - Public Library Service	(375,063)
1697 - Children and Family Intensive Support	(333,333)
1204 - Mungkadinamanja Flexible Aged Care	(315,785)
1243 - Remote Sport Program	(283,927)
1319 - Communities for Children Program	(233,653)
1681 - Community Youth Diversion Program	(200,000)
1700 - 2021-22 Waste and Resource Management Grant	(193,000)
1581 - Remote Indigenous Broadcasting Service	(166,075)
1408 - Animal Management Supervisor, Groote Eylandt	(118,538)
1695 - Aboriginal Benefit Account (ABA)	(45,200)
1688 - Local Authority Project Funding 2021-2022	(30,100)
6112 - Operational Grant Income Territory Govt	(6,500,000.00)
6113 - Financial Assistance Grants Territory Govt	(3,511,334.00)
203320 - Maintain Local Roads - Nhulunbuy	(1,137,551)
203419 - Construct & Upgrade Local Roads - Gunyangara	(215,479)
297017 - Galiwinku Asbestos Project	(180,000)
<b>Total</b>	<b>(26,741,814)</b>

### Rates and Charges

Budgeted rates and charges total \$7.3M of which \$4.5M will be generated through Rates Revenue and \$2.8M will be generated through Refuse Charges.

Rates are increased 2%. Mining properties rates have been increased by 36% as per Gazette S18.

	Fixed Charge	Valuation Multiplier
Rates Residential	\$ 2,977.80	
Rates Commercial	\$ 3,526.40	
Refuse charge	\$ 1,901.08	
Mining	\$ 1,211.71	0.044726

Community	General Rates Residential	# of Residential charges	General Rates Commercial	# of Commercial charges	Total Rates Revenue
Angurugu	\$ 622,360	209	\$ 45,843	13.00	\$ 668,203
Galiwinku	\$ 1,104,764	371	\$ 56,422	16.00	\$ 1,161,186
Gapuwiyak	\$ 464,537	156	\$ 10,579	3.00	\$ 475,116
Gunyangara	\$ 184,624	62	\$ 31,738	9.00	\$ 216,361
Milingimbi	\$ 458,581	154	\$ 14,106	4.00	\$ 472,687
Milyakburra	\$ 128,045	43	\$ 10,579	3.00	\$ 138,625
Ramingining	\$ 446,670	150	\$ 34,134	9.68	\$ 480,804
Umbakumba	\$ 300,758	101	\$ 28,211	8.00	\$ 328,969
Yirrkala	\$ 449,648	151	\$ 38,790	11.00	\$ 488,438
	<b>\$ 4,159,987</b>	<b>1397</b>	<b>\$ 270,402</b>	<b>76.68</b>	<b>\$ 4,430,389</b>
Mining Revenue					<b>\$ 74,676</b>
					<b>\$ 4,505,065</b>

Community	Refuse charge Residential	# of Residential charges	Refuse charge Commercial	# of Commercial charges	Total Refuse Charges
Angurugu	\$ 389,721	205	\$ 36,121	19.00	\$ 425,842
Galiwinku	\$ 631,159	332	\$ 57,032	30.00	\$ 688,191
Gapuwiyak	\$ 298,470	157	\$ 9,505	5.00	\$ 307,975
Gunyangara	\$ 115,966	61	\$ 15,209	8.00	\$ 131,175
Milingimbi	\$ 290,865	153	\$ 13,308	7.00	\$ 304,173
Milyakburra	\$ 74,142	39	\$ 9,505	5.00	\$ 83,648
Ramingining	\$ 277,558	146	\$ 16,631	8.75	\$ 294,188
Umbakumba	\$ 192,009	101	\$ 22,813	12.00	\$ 214,822
Yirrkala	\$ 330,788	174	\$ 20,912	11.00	\$ 351,700
	<b>\$ 2,600,677</b>	<b>1368</b>	<b>\$ 201,035</b>	<b>105.75</b>	<b>\$ 2,801,713</b>

**Sundry Income**

Income from other sundry sources is estimated at \$9.1M. Total current financial year rental income totals \$1.2M. Expected income from NDIS is \$1.97M and Medicare Subsidies will be \$1.2M.

Income from accommodation is forecasted at \$545k for the financial year. Workshop services have been forecasted to achieve \$170K. Indigenous Wage Subsidies are in line with previous years at \$1.28M.

Account	Amount
6320 - Child Care Fees - Families	(72,338)
6321 - Client Contribution	(488,410)
6323 - Rental Income	(1,208,321)
6325 - Child Care Fees	(171,461)
6327 - Medicare Subsidies	(1,854,950)
6331 - Shops and Merchandise Income	(4,400)
6332 - Workshop Services Income	(170,000)
6334 - Accommodation Income	(545,773)
6335 - Commercial Waste Fees	(307,100)
6338 - Contract Income	(101,098)
6339 - Other Service Fee Income	(37,800)
6340 - Indigenous Wage Subsidies	(1,284,000)
6341 - Diesel Fuel Income	(550,000)
6342 - Opal Fuel Income	(290,000)
6346 - Fuel Tax Rebates	(3,420)
6348 - Waste Recycling	(6,750)
6351 - NDIS - National Disability Insurance Scheme	(1,970,130)
6361 - Gravel Sales	(15,000)
6362 - Income Others	(7,500)
6363 - CDS Depot Income	(66,300)
6364 - CDS Cages Income	(3,882)
	<b>(9,158,633)</b>

Interest on cash investments and overdue rates is forecast achieve \$139K in 2022/23. There is possibility of earning higher interest rate if the Reserve Bank increase the cash rate.

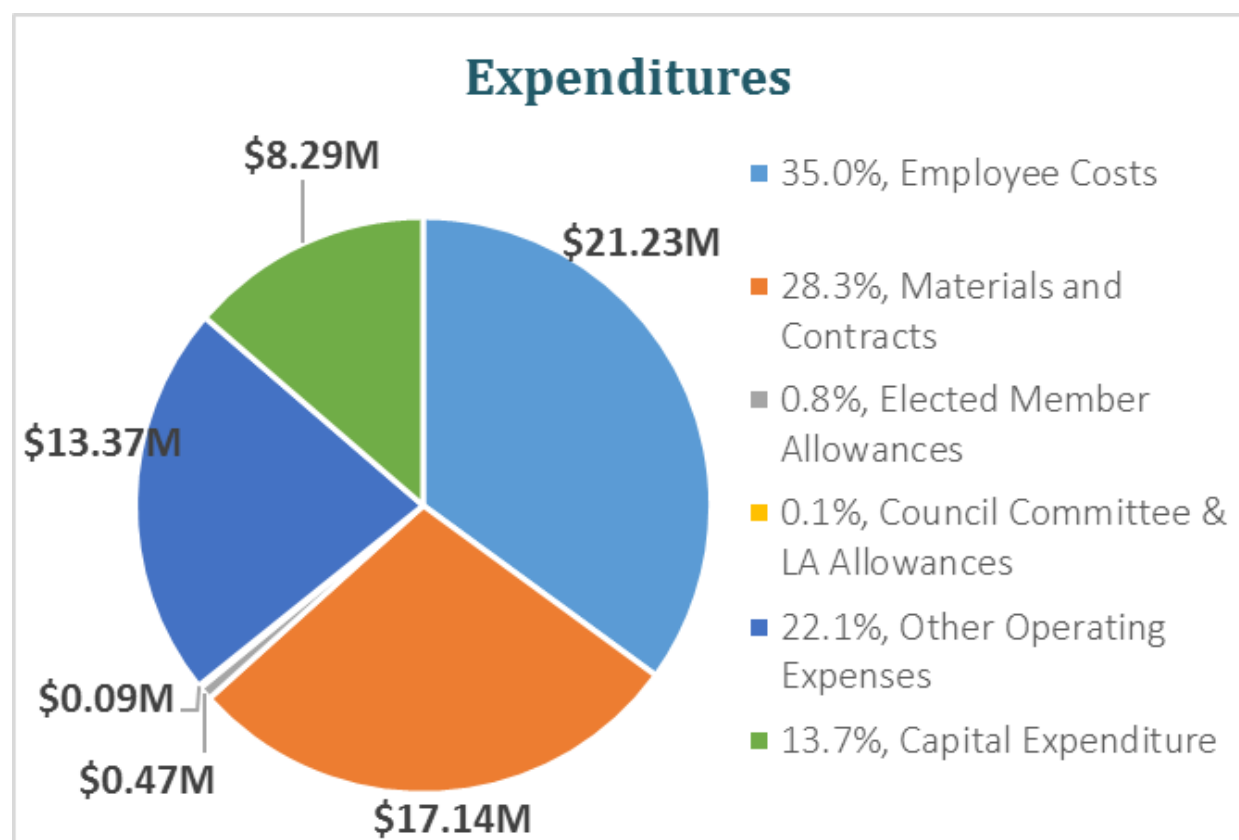
Insurance reimbursement of \$900,000 has been estimated for Milingimbi Fire that destroyed vehicles and building.



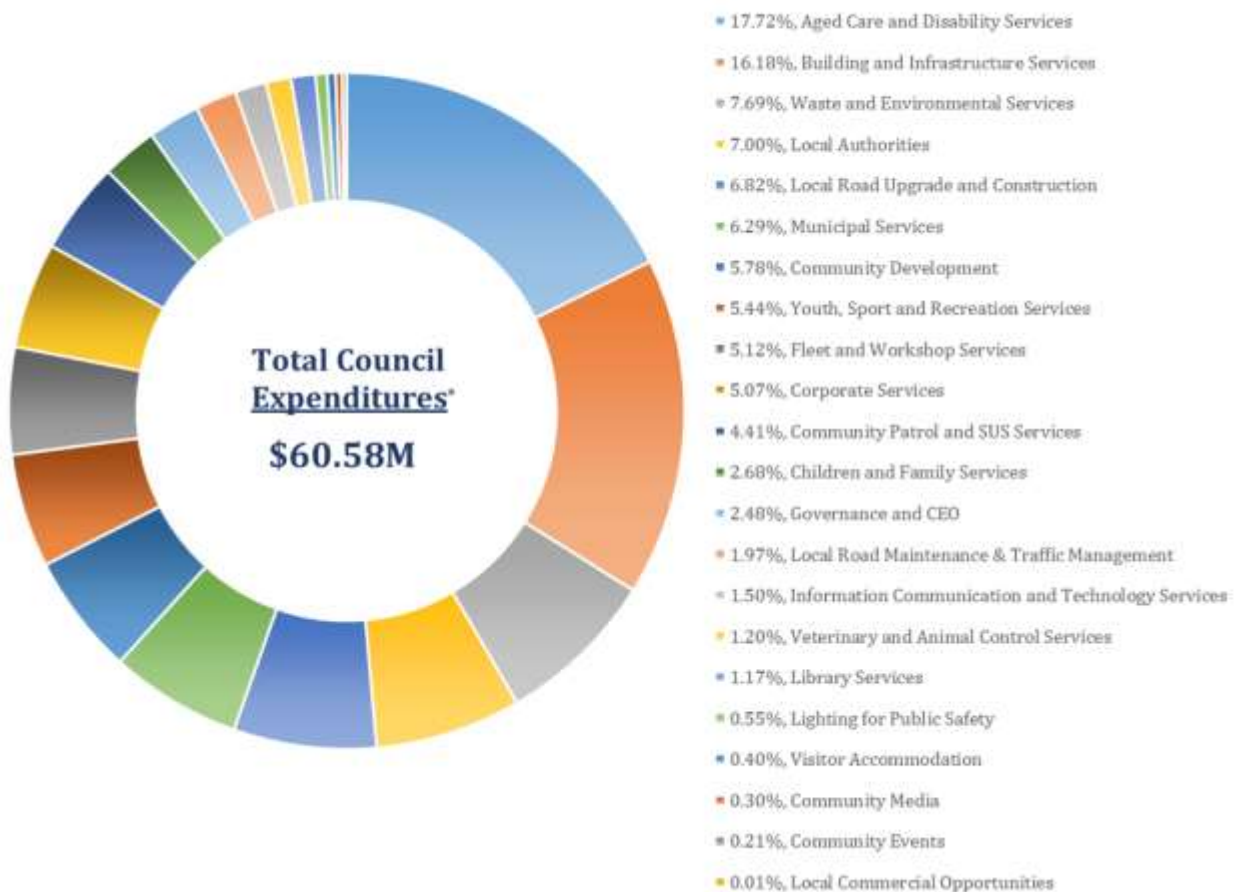
**OPERATING EXPENDITURE**

Council's expenditure is budgeted at \$60.5 M, \$52.28M of which consists of operating expenditure and \$8.29M consists of capital expenditure.

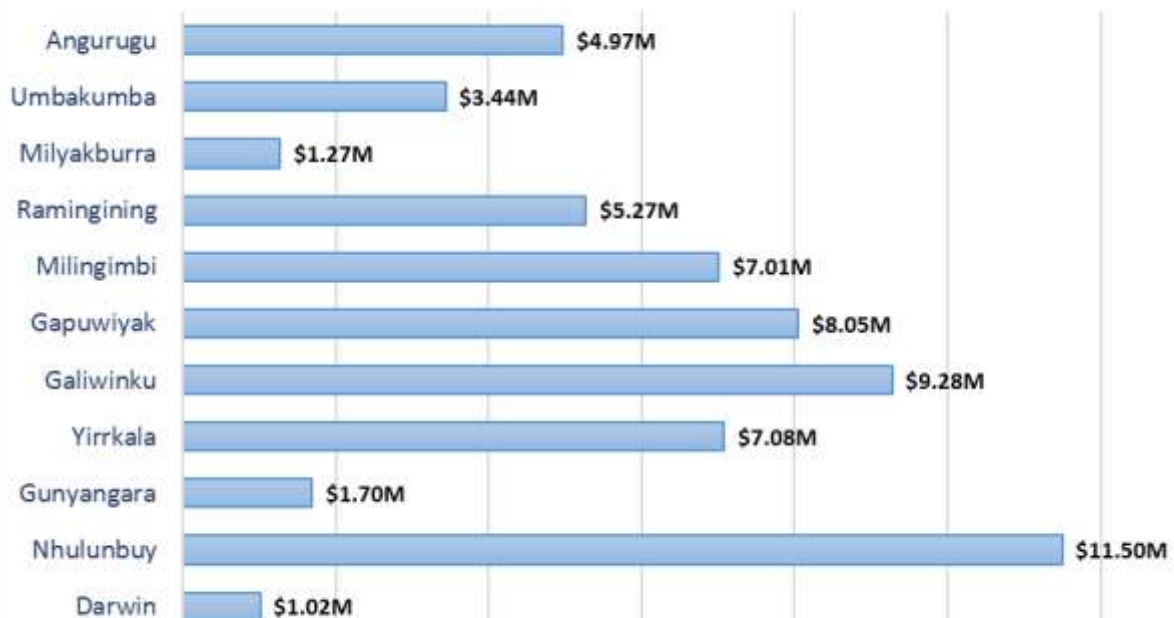
<b>Expenditures</b>	<b>Budget</b>
Employee Costs	21,225,218
Materials and Contracts	17,136,081
Elected Member Allowances	465,128
Council Committee & LA Allowances	87,966
Other Operating Expenses	13,371,173
Capital Expenditure	8,292,678
	60,578,244



### Where the money will be spent in FY2023



### Budgeted Spending



## Employee Benefits

Employee costs of \$21.2 million includes direct employee related salary expenditure and other indirect costs such as superannuation, workers compensation insurance and staff training. The total increase in staff costs from 2021/2022 is 9%, primarily reflecting employee certified agreement increases and workers compensation premium increases, and the inclusion of optimal operating staffing structures aligned with revenue for the various programs of council and the project funding agreements. For the wider Community Development directorate this includes the notable creation of the Regional Manager – Community Development position. Youth sport and recreation program has committed extra resources to its staffing plan to align community expectations and market conditions. Children and Library services has undergone internal structure changes with planned changes in the funding landscape.

<b>Service Area</b>	<b>Budget</b>
107 - Community Development	2,667,326
108 - Veterinary and Animal Control Services	410,456
112 - Fleet and Workshop Services	610,261
114 - Information Communication and Technology Services	138,336
115 - Library Services	572,121
118 - Local Road Maintenance & Traffic Management	148,225
122 - Building and Infrastructure Services	1,276,008
129 - Waste and Environmental Services	744,481
139 - Visitor Accommodation	112,657
141 - Aged Care and Disability Services	4,100,898
145 - Children and Family Services	1,298,361
146 - Community Media	88,018
147 - Community Patrol and SUS Services	2,025,243
152 - Youth, Sport and Recreation Services	2,200,757
167 - Corporate Services	1,808,809
168 - Governance and CEO	481,142
169 - Municipal Services	2,516,118
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>21,199,218</b>

### Materials and Services

Materials and services are a significant component of Council's expenditure budget at \$17.13 million.

Significant areas of material and service expenditure that assist with the delivery of services to the community include \$10.3M million in maintenance and operational costs for roads, waste management costs of \$1.8 million relating primarily to waste collection, processing and recycling, and disposal.

Other significant expense items included in the budget are shown in the table below:

Service Area	Budget
100 - Local Authorities	289,750
101 - Local Laws & Administration of Local Laws	0
107 - Community Development	220,005
108 - Veterinary and Animal Control Services	130,054
112 - Fleet and Workshop Services	117,713
114 - Information Communication and Technology Services	451,074
115 - Library Services	16,326
116 - Lighting for Public Safety	237,333
118 - Local Road Maintenance & Traffic Management	992,265
119 - Local Road Upgrade and Construction	4,134,296
122 - Building and Infrastructure Services	6,205,133
129 - Waste and Environmental Services	1,884,069
139 - Visitor Accommodation	46,341
141 - Aged Care and Disability Services	698,107
145 - Children and Family Services	114,679
146 - Community Media	648
147 - Community Patrol and SUS Services	39,071
152 - Youth, Sport and Recreation Services	109,131
156 - Community Events	67,700
157 - Local Commercial Opportunities	1,500
167 - Corporate Services	685,724
168 - Governance and CEO	59,640
169 - Municipal Services	654,972
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>17,155,531</b>

### Depreciation

The draft budget includes depreciation of \$3.52M. This is not funded.

### Capital Plan

Council's draft 2022/23 capital budget of \$8.2M includes \$3.5M for aged care \$3.5M for Aged Care Capital Program that has been budgeted funded through Aged and Disability Reserve.

Aged care capital program included the following:

- ✓ \$2m for the replacement of Yirrkala Aged & Disability Centre (Lot 143)
- ✓ \$0.7M for Ramingining Aged and Disability Centre Refurbishment and Extensions
- ✓ \$118,000 for Lot 255 Milingimbi Aged & Disability Centre for Power upgrades, laundry upgrades & Roof Repairs
- ✓ \$420,000 for Aged & Disability Services replacement fleet

### Roading

- ✓ \$96k allocated for grading of Yanbukawa Road at Angurugu community in addition to guide post and sign replacements due to damage within the town.

- ✓ \$35K for Umbakumba 4 Mile road grading shoulder reconstruction
- ✓ \$45K for Umbkumba Sign replacement and gravel purchases
- ✓ \$20K for Milyakburra barge road and networked grading as per LAC engagement
- ✓ \$120K for Ramining bi-annual grading of town and remote network
- ✓ \$46K for Milingimbi Bi-Annual grading
- ✓ \$254K for Gapuwiyak Bi-Annual network grade
- ✓ \$150K for Galiwinku Bi-Annual Grading
- ✓ 15K for Galiwinku clearing and base works on hunting and significant area tracks
- ✓ 15k for shoulder reinstatement with in the Gunyangara town roads
- ✓ 100K for additional allocation from draft surplus for Regional Road Safety Audit
- ✓ \$450K for Gapuwiyak local roads additional allocation from draft surplus for rural network upgrade on Balma-Numbawar link road
- ✓ \$800k for Galiwinku new curbing and drainage installation on Wakirana street- Colledge Road/Gakuda Street and Dhorunhdu Street to mitigate run off.
- ✓ \$800k for Yirrkala reconstruction and seal inclusive of kerbing to reduce downhill flow rates into properties on Balnama Street and Gumatj Road
- ✓ \$450k for Gunyangara curbing of Yunupingu Drive
- ✓ \$2K for Gapuwiyak cultural tracks
- ✓ Roads to Recovery Programme Capital Grant Funding of \$500,000 will be used for kerbing and storm water works at Galiwinku.
- ✓ Another \$400,000 will be used from reserves to deliver new curbing and drainage installation on Wakirana street - College Road / Gakuda Street and Dhorunhdu Street to mitigate run off
- ✓ \$800,000 will be used from reserves for Reconstruction and seal inclusive of kerbing to reduce downhill flow rates into properties on Balnama Street and Gumatj Road
- ✓ \$4.37M are planned for Road Expenditure in total that will be funded with \$3M grant funding and use of reserve funding for \$1.43M.

**Building & Infrastructure**

- ✓ \$9.8M will be spent on Building and Infrastructure
- ✓ \$900K will be used to build Milingimbi Shed damaged due to fire, funded through insurance recovery.
- ✓ \$234K has been allocated for staff housing Furniture
- ✓ Ramining Airport shelter \$ 32,000.

**Waste Management**

- ✓ \$4.6M has been planned for Waste Management that will utilise waste management reserve by \$1.83M.
- ✓ \$1.M for Landfill facilities, \$1.9M for Waste Management and \$0.86M for Scrap Metal Recovery Project has been budgeted.

**Community**

Other major Operating expenditure included the following.

- ✓ Community Development Coordinators Budgets has been increased by \$45k

- ✓ \$100k has been allocated for Child Care Perimeter Fencing at Gapuwiyak
- ✓ 40K for LED Trailer screen maintenance
- ✓ 30K cleaning budget for heavy cleans of Council offices that are well over due in locations where cleaners cannot be sourced.

**Veterinary and Animal Control Services**

- ✓ 10K allocated for Locum Veterinarian surgery
- ✓ \$40K allocated for rebuild of MS shed adjoining Vet Area

**Fleet & Workshop**

- ✓ \$934K will be used to replace existing Fleet.

## Statement of Financial Performance

for the year ended 30th June 2023

	Budget 2023 \$
<b>Operating Revenue</b>	
Grants	① 25,609,234
User Charges and Fees	8,076,883
Rates and Annual Charges	7,274,073
Other Operating Revenue	2,219,250
Interest Income	139,965
<b>TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE</b>	<b>43,319,405</b>
<b>Operating Expenses</b>	
Employee Costs	21,225,218
Materials and Contracts	17,136,081
Elected Member Allowances	465,128
Council Committee & LA Allowances	87,966
Depreciation and Amortisation	3,521,018
Other Operating Expenses	13,371,173
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	<b>55,806,584</b>
<b>OPERATING DEFICIT</b>	<b>(12,487,179)</b>
Capital Grants Income	① 1,132,580
<b>DEFICIT AFTER CAPITAL GRANTS INCOME</b>	<b>(11,354,599)</b>
Capital Expenditure	(8,292,678)
Transfer to Reserves	(3,552,846)
Add back Depreciation Expense	3,521,018
<b>NET BUDGET DEFICIT</b>	<b>(19,679,104)</b>
Carried Forward Grants Revenue	② 5,779,080
Transfer from General Equity	50,000
Transfer from Reserves	13,915,536
<b>TOTAL ADDITIONAL INFLOWS</b>	<b>19,744,616</b>
<b>NET BUDGETED OPERATING POSITION</b>	<b>65,512</b>

### Notes:

① Grants plus capital grants income include Tied funding of \$16,730,480 and Untied funding of \$10,0

② *Carried Forward Revenue* is revenue that has been received and recognised in a previous year in Council's Financial Statement as required by Accounting Standards. It is included in the Council budget in the year it is expected to be spent as this allows Council to set a budget that matches its revenue with the related expenditure, ignoring timing differences between financial years.



**Forecast Statement of Financial Position**

As at 30th June 2023

	Forecast 2023 \$
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	24,154,904
Trade and Other Receivables	826,016
Other Current Assets	1,437,233
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>26,418,153</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>	
Property, Plant and Equipment	78,497,857
Other Assets	213,734
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>78,711,591</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>105,129,744</b>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	
Trade and Other Payables	1,579,142
Other Liabilities	913,428
Lease Liabilities	223,182
Provisions	2,798,172
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<b>5,513,924</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	
Lease Liabilities	11,185,166
Provisions	3,476,179
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<b>14,661,345</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>20,175,269</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>84,954,475</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>	
Accumulated Surplus	27,775,012
Asset Revaluation Reserve	39,150,727
Replacement/Development Reserves*	18,028,736
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>	<b>84,954,475</b>
<b>*Replacement/Development Reserves</b>	
Fleet Replacement	5,627,182
Waste Management	743,672
Roads Replacement	2,460,902
Cemeteries Management	83,465
Buildings Replacement	1,313,895
Public Area Infrastructure	2,889,156
Disaster Recovery	500,000
Community Benefit	3,055,121
Aged and Disability	1,255,343
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>18,028,736</b>

**Forecast Statement of Cash Flows**

for the year ended 30th June 2023

	<b>Forecast 2023</b>
	<b>\$</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>	
Receipts:	
Grants and Contributions	26,741,814
Rates and Annual Charges	7,231,649
Other Operating Receipts	8,738,661
Interest received	139,965
Payments:	
Payments to Employees	20,503,495
Payments to Suppliers and Customers	29,470,094
<b>Net Cash used in Operating Activities</b>	<b>(7,121,500)</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>	
Receipt:	
Proceeds from Sale of Assets	127,500
Payment:	
Acquisition of Property, Plant & Equipment	8,292,678
<b>Net Cash used in Investing Activities</b>	<b>(8,165,178)</b>
<b>Net Decrease in cash held</b>	<b>(15,286,678)</b>
Cash at beginning of period	39,441,582
<b>Cash at end of period</b>	<b>24,154,904</b>

***Planned Major Capital Works***

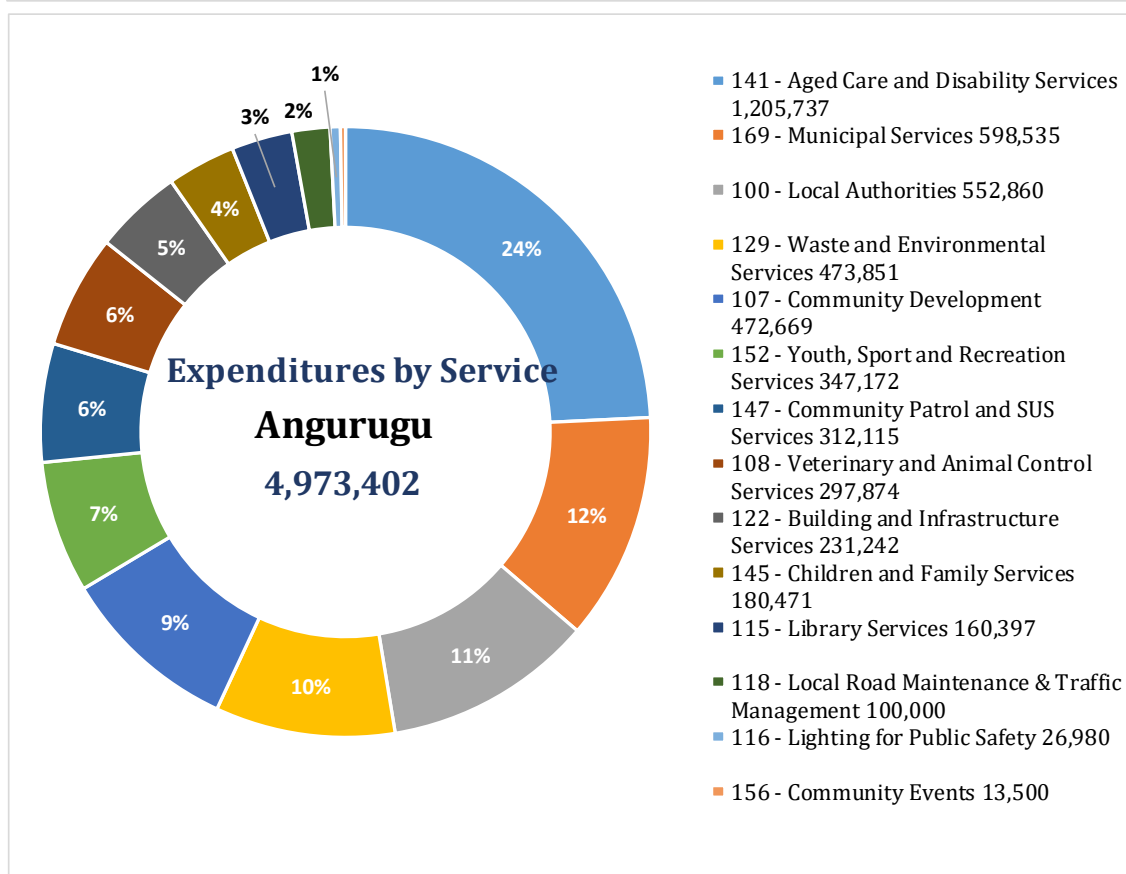
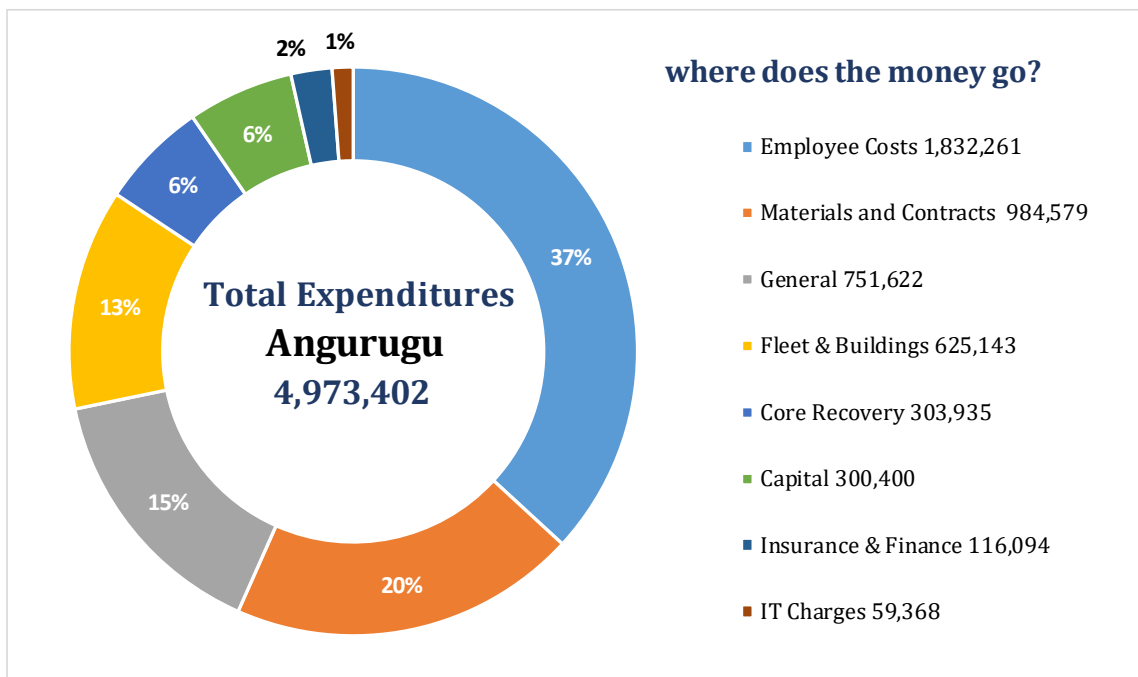
Class of Assets	By Major Capital Project	Current Financial Year 2023
		Budget
		\$
		(B)
Infrastructure	Design & Construct Replacement Aged & Disability Centre Lot 143 Yirrkala	2,000,000
Infrastructure	Refurbish and extensions Aged & Disability Centre Lot 143 Ramingining	772,000
Infrastructure	Power & laundry upgrades and roof repairs Aged & Disability Centre Lot 255 Milingimbi	118,000
TOTAL		2,890,000

***By Local Authority and Support Locations***

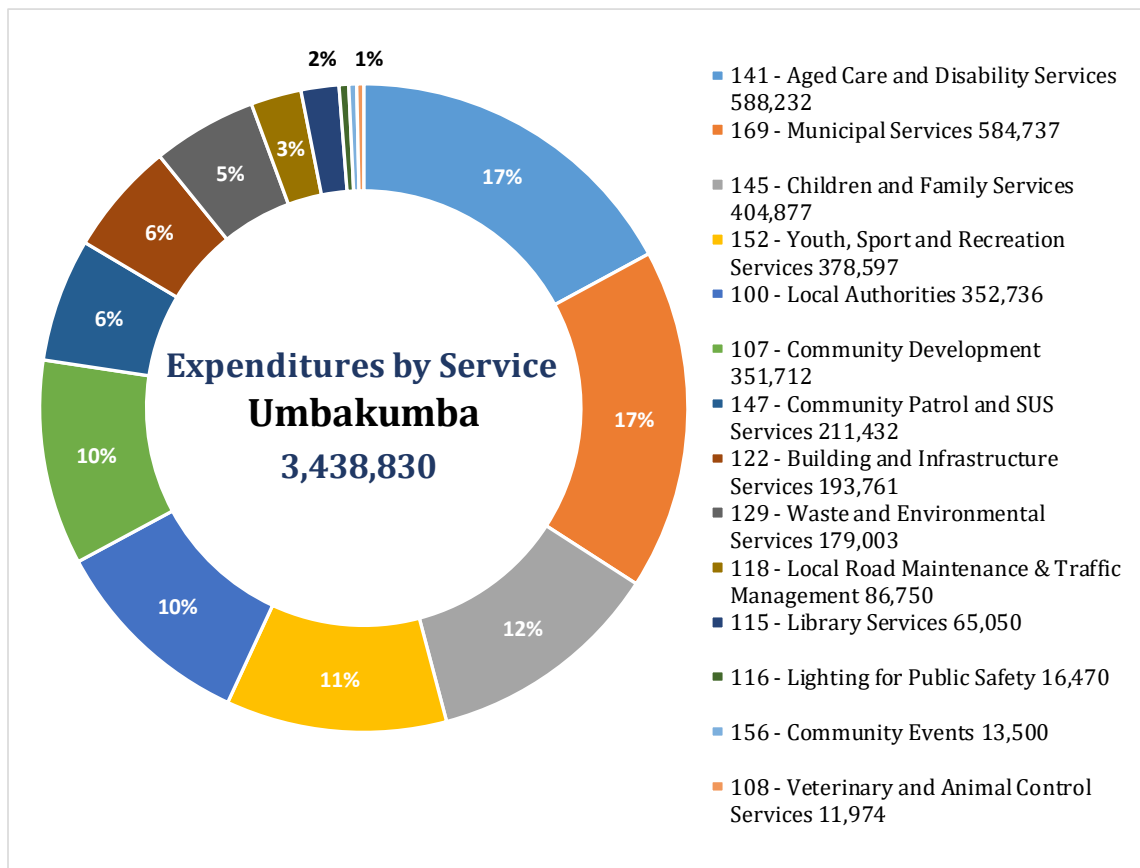
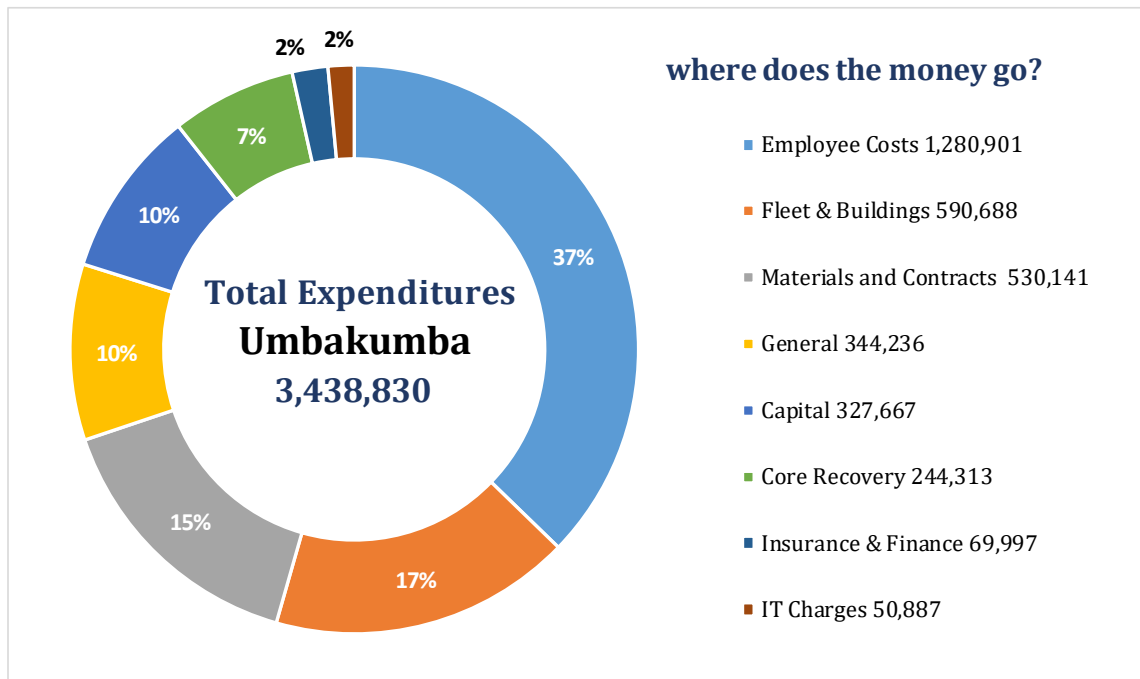
<b>INCOME AND EXPENSE STATEMENT YEAR TO DATE 30 JUNE 2023</b>	<b>Nhulunbuy &amp; Darwin</b>	<b>Angurugu</b>	<b>Umbakumba</b>	<b>Milyakburra</b>
<b>OPERATING REVENUE</b>				
Grants	13,260,227	1,494,594	1,288,790	245,139
User Charges and Fees	2,492,321	382,648	188,342	5,700
Rates and Annual Charges	41,971	1,094,045	543,791	222,272
Interest Income	139,965	-	-	-
Other Operating Revenue	237,880	11,250	2,787	5,545
Untied Revenue Allocation	(8,248,847)	790,252	712,158	474,155
<b>TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE</b>	<b>7,923,517</b>	<b>3,772,789</b>	<b>2,735,868</b>	<b>952,811</b>
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>				
Employee Expenses	5,665,629	1,832,261	1,280,901	416,152
Materials and Contracts	4,647,808	965,848	518,577	260,053
Elected Member Allowances	465,128	-	-	-
Council Committee & LA Allowances	-	9,774	9,774	9,774
Depreciation and Amortisation	3,521,018	-	-	-
Other Operating Expenses	6,171,317	876,674	416,023	276,769
Council Internal Costs Allocations	(8,879,687)	988,446	885,888	265,200
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	<b>11,591,214</b>	<b>4,673,002</b>	<b>3,111,163</b>	<b>1,227,948</b>
<b>OPERATING DEFICIT</b>	<b>(3,667,697)</b>	<b>(900,213)</b>	<b>(375,295)</b>	<b>(275,137)</b>
Capital Grants Income	1,132,580	-	-	-
<b>DEFICIT AFTER CAPITAL GRANTS INCOME</b>	<b>(2,535,117)</b>	<b>(900,213)</b>	<b>(375,295)</b>	<b>(275,137)</b>
Capital Expenditure	(4,444,173)	(300,400)	(327,667)	(45,736)
Transfer to Reserves	(2,589,344)	(258,801)	(80,437)	(23,189)
Add Back Depreciation	3,521,018	-	-	-
<b>NET DEFICIT</b>	<b>(6,047,617)</b>	<b>(1,459,414)</b>	<b>(783,399)</b>	<b>(344,062)</b>
Carried Forward Grants Revenue	2,083,123	568,254	229,554	42,390
Transfer from General Equity	-	50,000	-	-
Transfer from Reserves	4,837,489	630,798	431,218	264,357
<b>TOTAL ADDITIONAL INFLOWS</b>	<b>6,920,612</b>	<b>1,249,053</b>	<b>660,772</b>	<b>306,747</b>
<b>NET OPERATING POSITION</b>	<b>872,995</b>	<b>(210,361)</b>	<b>(122,627)</b>	<b>(37,315)</b>

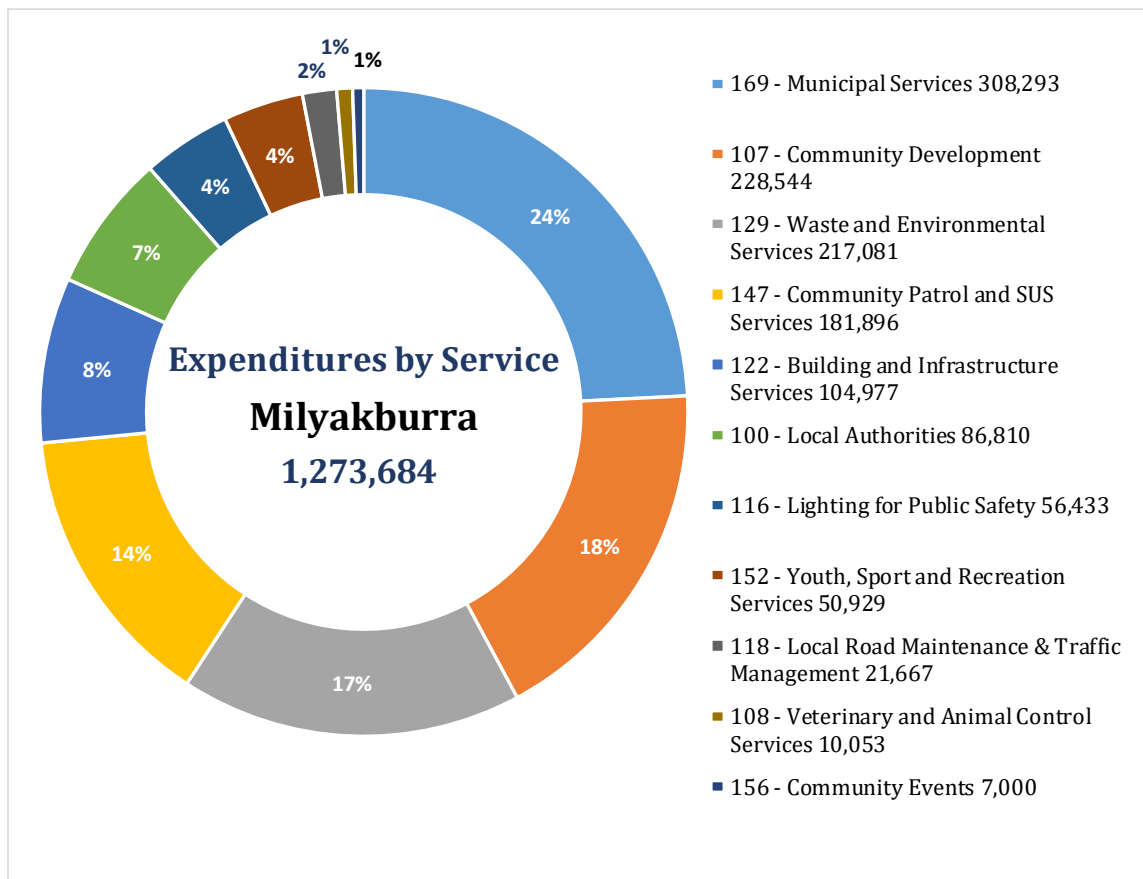
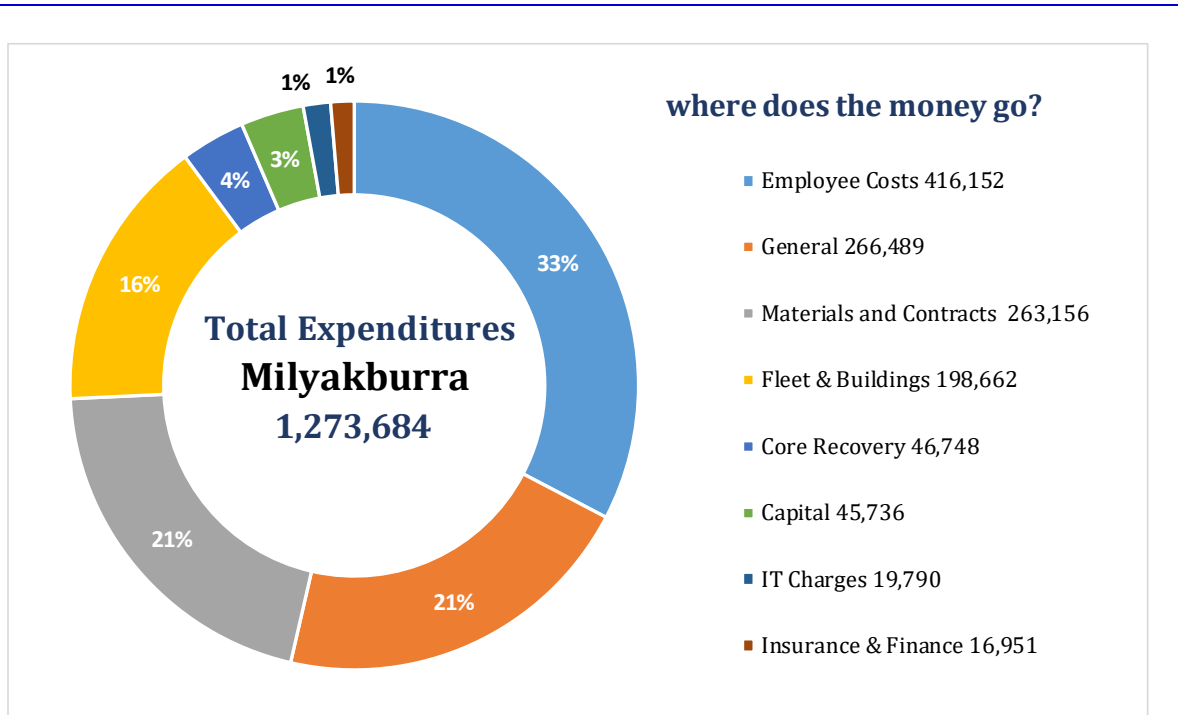
<b>INCOME AND EXPENSE STATEMENT YEAR TO DATE 30 JUNE 2023</b>	<b>Ramingining</b>	<b>Milingimbi</b>	<b>Gapuwiyak</b>
<b>OPERATING REVENUE</b>			
Grants	1,169,616	1,111,232	2,441,081
User Charges and Fees	842,903	854,529	1,273,372
Rates and Annual Charges	774,992	776,860	783,091
Interest Income	-	-	-
Other Operating Revenue	31,889	950,655	881,564
Untied Revenue Allocation	1,078,496	1,203,526	1,658,592
<b>TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE</b>	<b>3,897,896</b>	<b>4,896,802</b>	<b>7,037,699</b>
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>			
Employee Expenses	1,811,218	2,061,030	2,372,959
Materials and Contracts	964,583	2,157,670	1,618,605
Elected Member Allowances	-	-	-
Council Committee & LA Allowances	9,774	9,774	9,774
Depreciation and Amortisation	-	-	-
Other Operating Expenses	766,366	847,941	1,933,511
Council Internal Costs Allocations	1,244,730	1,186,781	1,572,408
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	<b>4,796,672</b>	<b>6,263,196</b>	<b>7,507,258</b>
<b>OPERATING DEFICIT</b>	<b>(898,775)</b>	<b>(1,366,394)</b>	<b>(469,558)</b>
Capital Grants Income	-	-	-
<b>DEFICIT AFTER CAPITAL GRANTS INCOME</b>	<b>(898,775)</b>	<b>(1,366,394)</b>	<b>(469,558)</b>
Capital Expenditure	(471,497)	(747,476)	(540,531)
Transfer to Reserves	(48,058)	(83,141)	(161,767)
Add Back Depreciation	-	-	-
<b>NET DEFICIT</b>	<b>(1,418,331)</b>	<b>(2,197,011)</b>	<b>(1,171,856)</b>
Carried Forward Grants Revenue	354,063	570,803	552,911
Transfer from General Equity	-	-	-
Transfer from Reserves	962,690	1,390,612	761,625
<b>TOTAL ADDITIONAL INFLOWS</b>	<b>1,316,753</b>	<b>1,961,415</b>	<b>1,314,536</b>
<b>NET OPERATING POSITION</b>	<b>(101,578)</b>	<b>(235,596)</b>	<b>142,680</b>

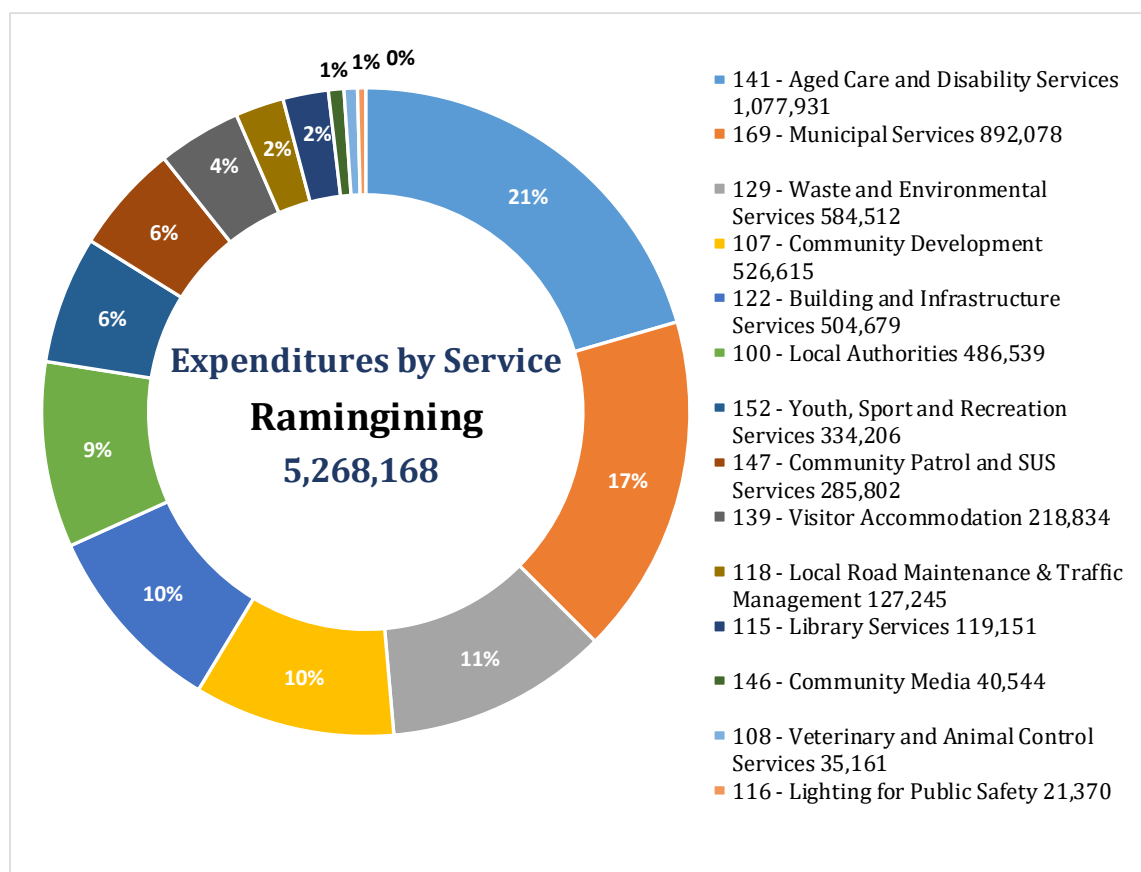
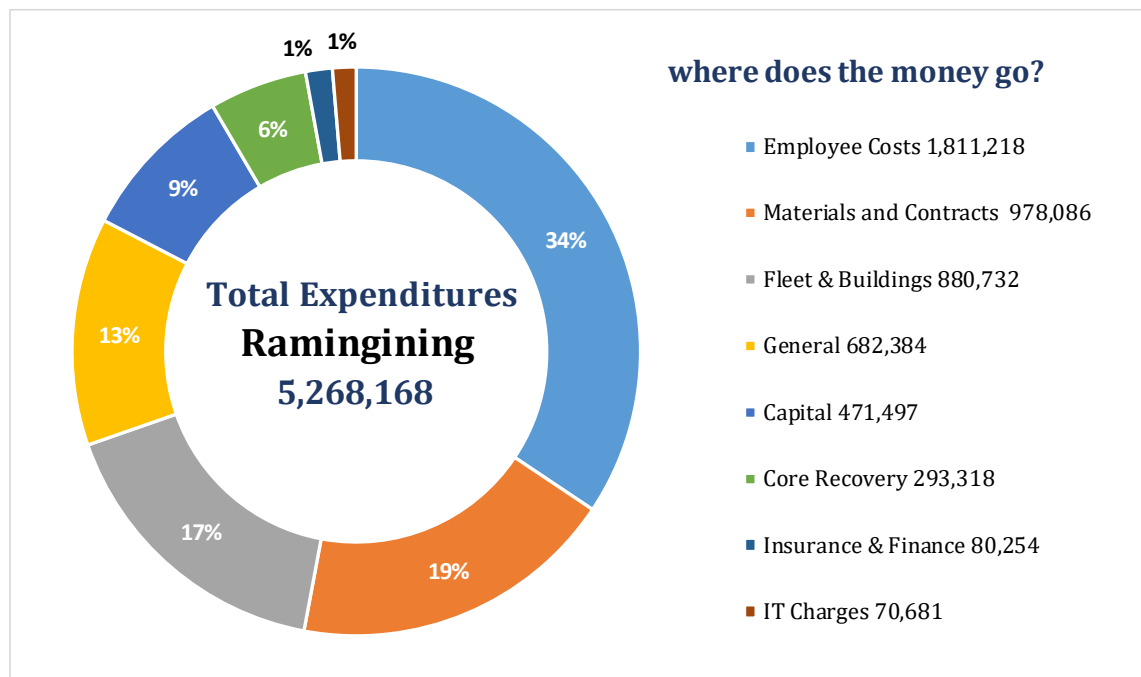
<b>INCOME AND EXPENSE STATEMENT YEAR TO DATE 30 JUNE 2023</b>	<b>Galiwinku</b>	<b>Yirrkala</b>	<b>Gunyangara</b>	<b>EARC TOTAL</b>
<b>OPERATING REVENUE</b>				
Grants	2,538,834	1,558,936	500,786	25,609,234
User Charges and Fees	1,469,999	565,370	1,700	8,076,883
Rates and Annual Charges	1,849,377	840,138	347,536	7,274,073
Interest Income	-	-	-	139,965
Other Operating Revenue	68,862	25,119	3,700	2,219,250
Untied Revenue Allocation	1,077,219	1,005,547	248,900	(0)
<b>TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE</b>	<b>7,004,291</b>	<b>3,995,110</b>	<b>1,102,621</b>	<b>43,319,405</b>
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>				
Employee Expenses	3,080,110	2,340,626	364,331	21,225,218
Materials and Contracts	2,679,997	2,534,196	788,744	17,136,081
Elected Member Allowances	-	-	-	465,128
Council Committee & LA Allowances	9,774	9,774	9,774	87,966
Depreciation and Amortisation	-	-	-	3,521,018
Other Operating Expenses	971,161	870,068	241,343	13,371,173
Council Internal Costs Allocations	1,593,187	949,393	193,655	(0)
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	<b>8,334,229</b>	<b>6,704,056</b>	<b>1,597,846</b>	<b>55,806,584</b>
<b>OPERATING DEFICIT</b>	<b>(1,329,938)</b>	<b>(2,708,946)</b>	<b>(495,225)</b>	<b>(12,487,179)</b>
Capital Grants Income	-	-	-	1,132,580
<b>DEFICIT AFTER CAPITAL GRANTS INCOME</b>	<b>(1,329,938)</b>	<b>(2,708,946)</b>	<b>(495,225)</b>	<b>(11,354,599)</b>
Capital Expenditure	(940,880)	(375,218)	(99,100)	(8,292,678)
Transfer to Reserves	(284,585)	(21,361)	(2,162)	(3,552,846)
Add Back Depreciation	-	-	-	3,521,018
<b>NET DEFICIT</b>	<b>(2,555,403)</b>	<b>(3,105,525)</b>	<b>(596,487)</b>	<b>(19,679,104)</b>
Carried Forward Grants Revenue	764,489	484,261	129,233	5,779,080
Transfer from General Equity	-	-	-	50,000
Transfer from Reserves	1,581,103	2,616,124	439,521	13,915,536
<b>TOTAL ADDITIONAL INFLOWS</b>	<b>2,345,592</b>	<b>3,100,384</b>	<b>568,753</b>	<b>19,744,616</b>
<b>NET OPERATING POSITION</b>	<b>(209,811)</b>	<b>(5,141)</b>	<b>(27,733)</b>	<b>65,512</b>

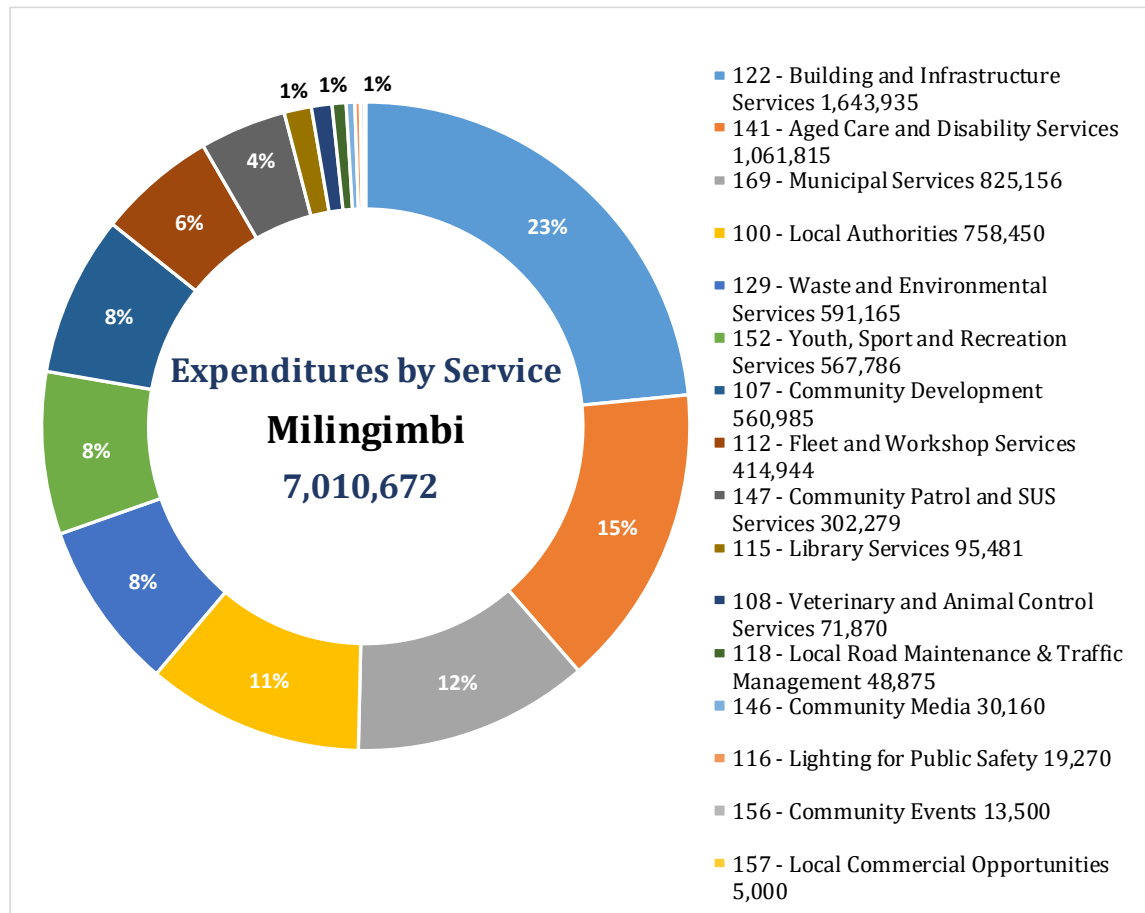
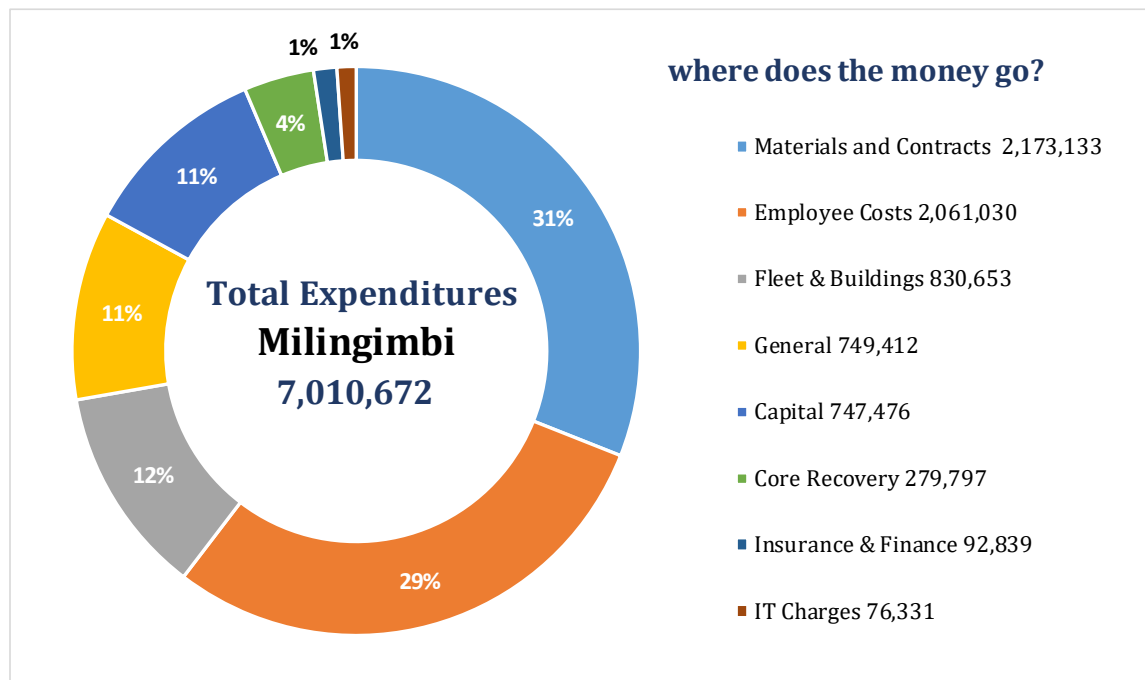


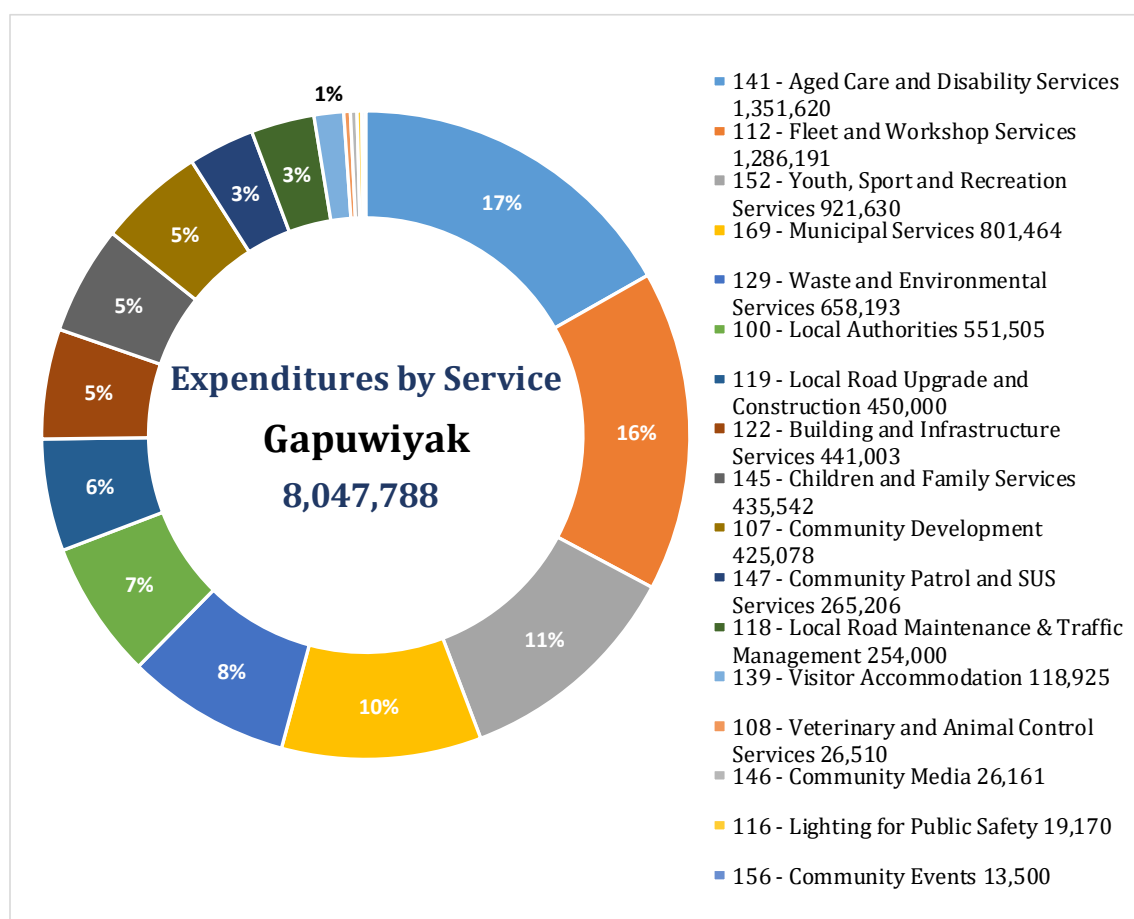
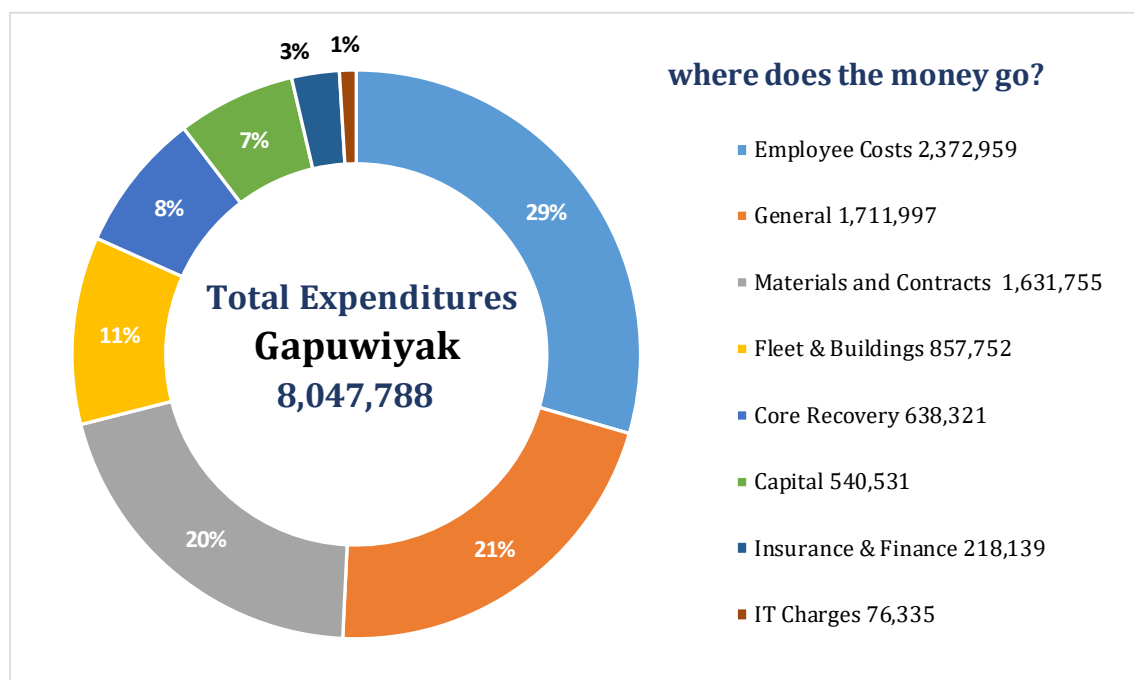


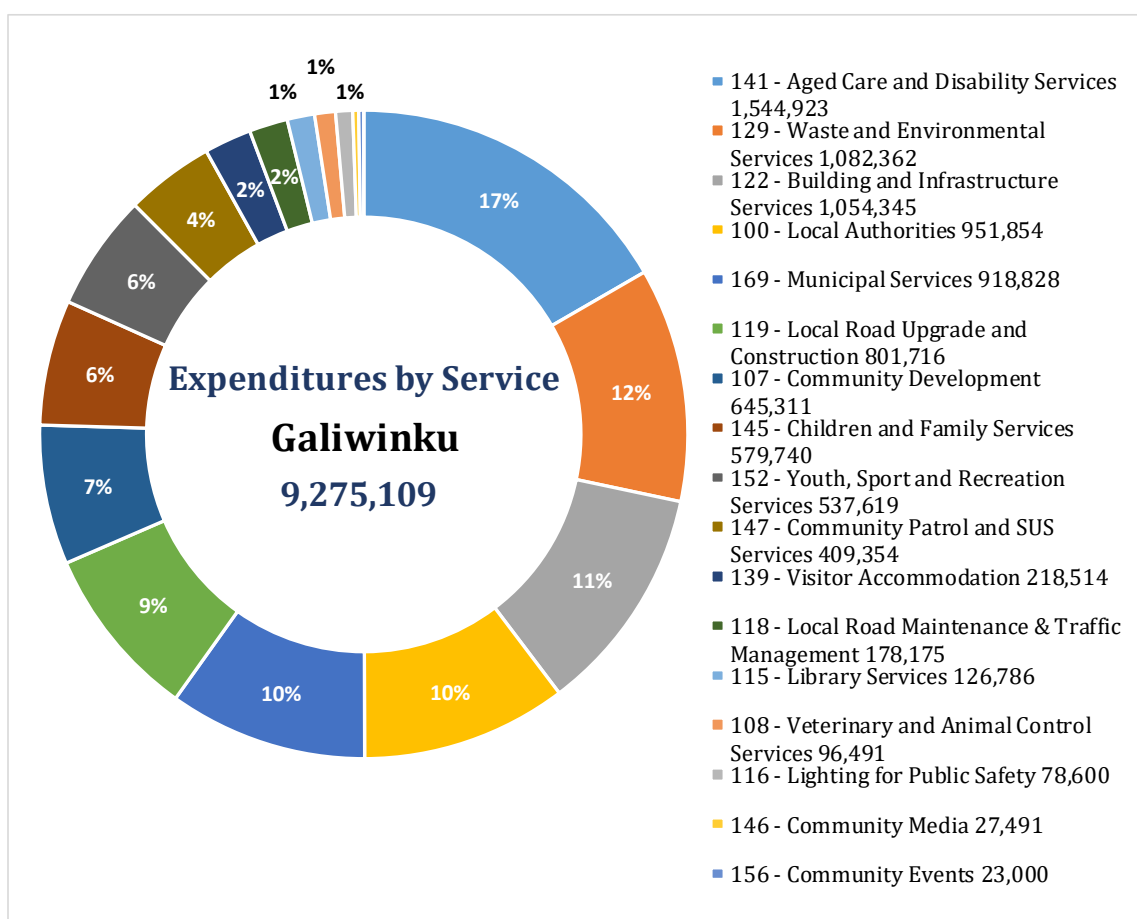
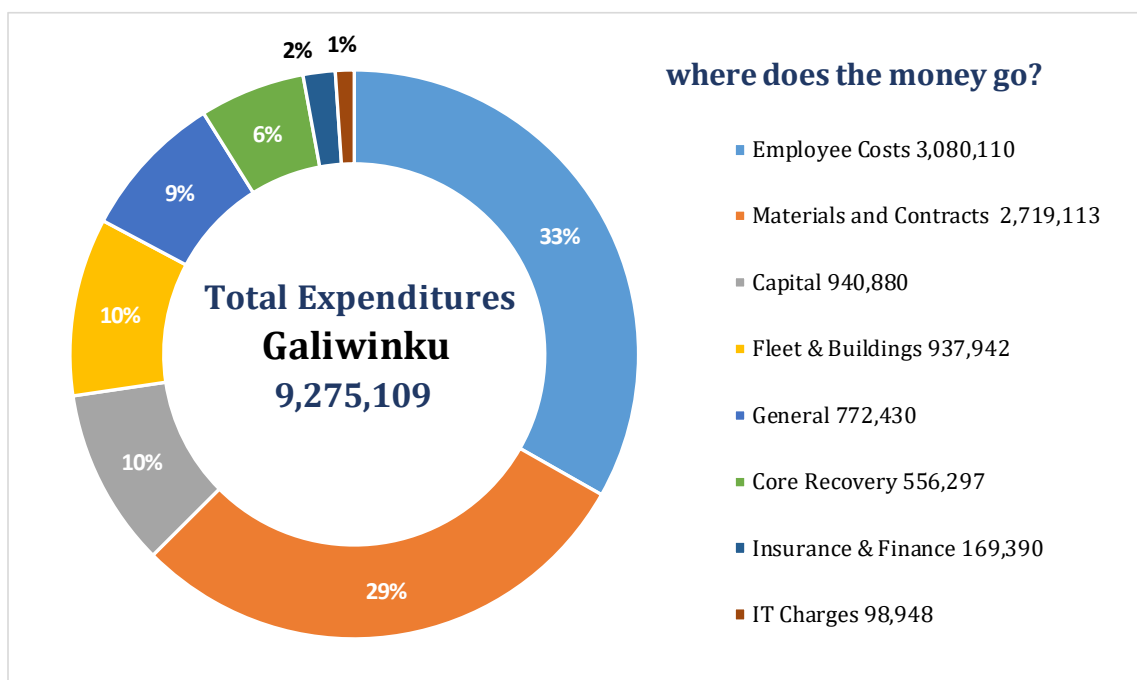


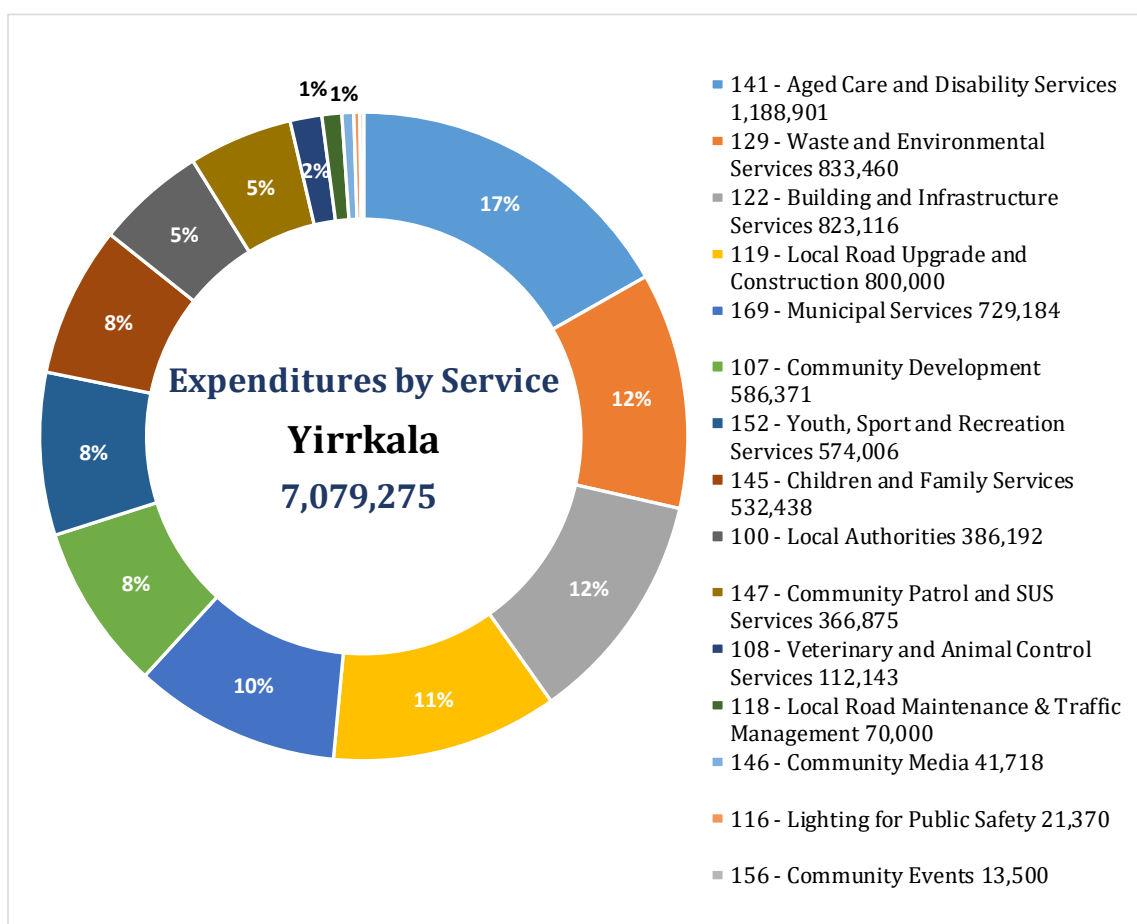
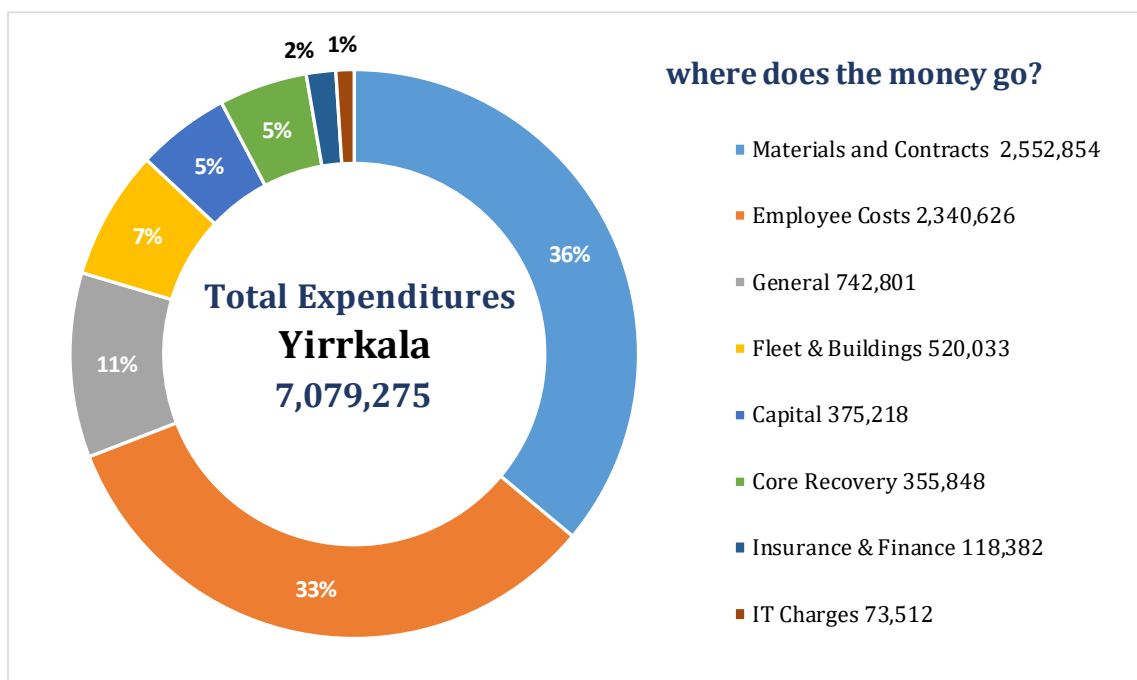




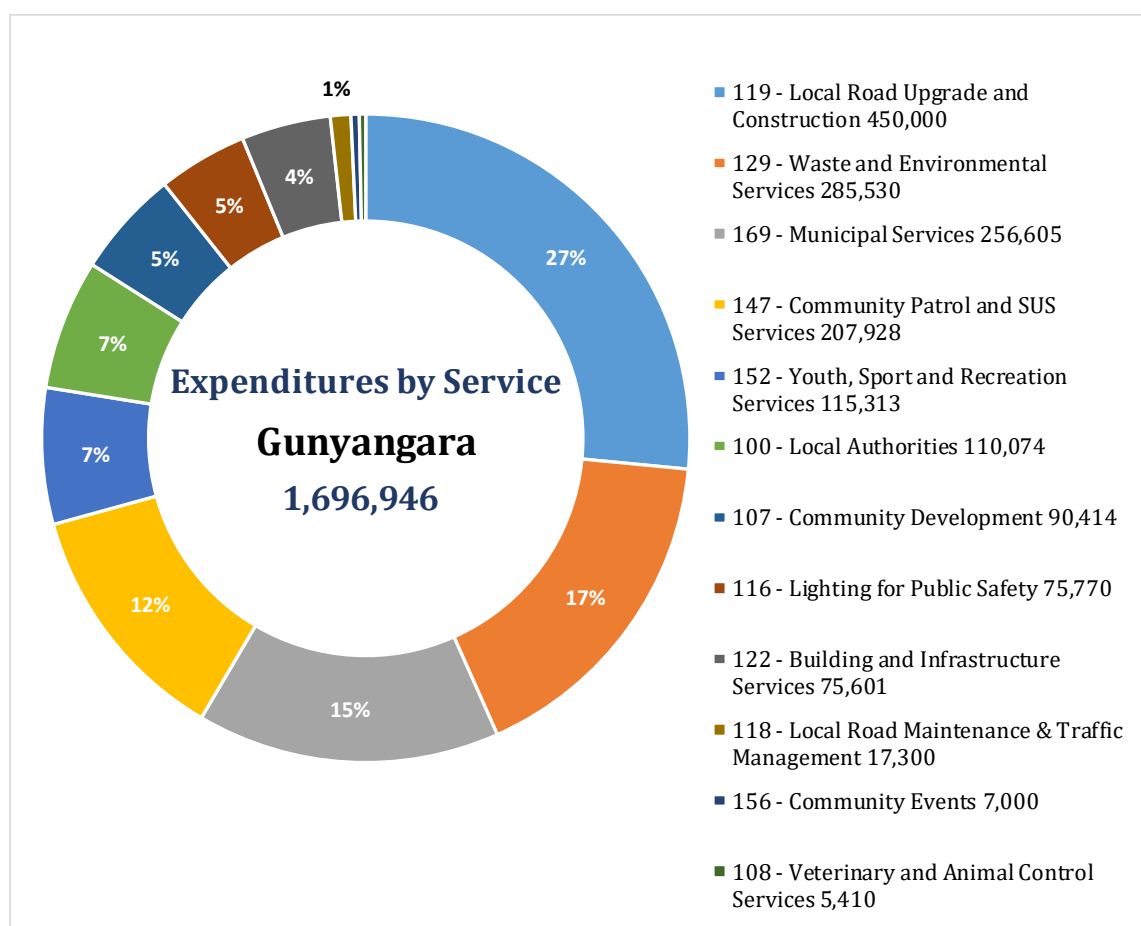
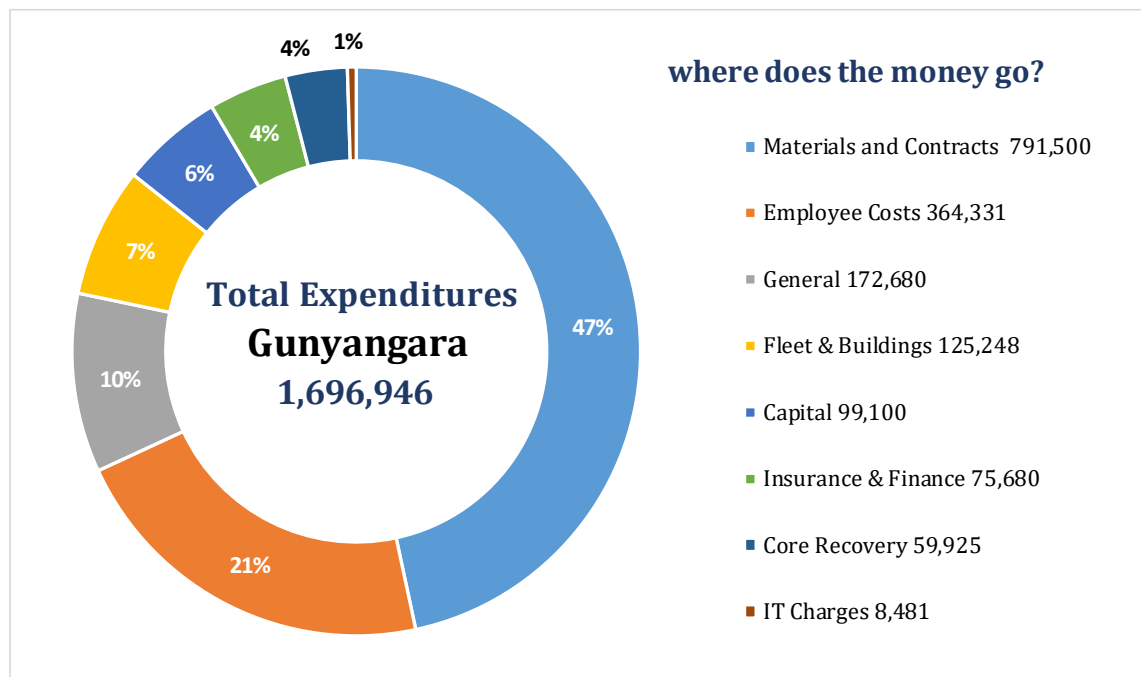












The report author does not have a conflict of interest in this matter (Section 179 of the Act).

## **RECOMMENDATION**

**The Local Authority notes the proposed draft Annual Plan.**

## **ATTACHMENTS:**

There are no attachments to this report.

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

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<b>ITEM NUMBER</b>	8.6
<b>TITLE</b>	CEO Report
<b>REFERENCE</b>	1615535
<b>AUTHOR</b>	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****Recognition of Aboriginal Community Controlled Local Governments**

Local Authorities and the Regional Council have been very active in progressing the call for the Recognition of Aboriginal Community Controlled Local Governments.

Three related motions were out to the General Meeting of the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory on 7 April, based on the resolution of Council at the last Ordinary Council Meeting, and the endorsement of all Local Authorities that met in March.

President Lapulung Dhamarrandji spoke with great strength, passion and conviction and gained resounding applause when talking to the three motions, followed by a unanimous vote by all members Councils to endorse them.

Specifically the NT member Councils resolved that LGANT:

1. Continues to progress calls on the Federal, State and Territory Governments to commit to nationally consistent recognition of Indigenous Local Government Councils as an Aboriginal controlled entity across Australia at all levels of Government. Indigenous Local Government being a Local Government Council with a majority representation of both Elected Officials and Constituency of Indigenous Australians.
2. Calls on the Australian and Northern Territory Governments to review their official procurement and funding guidelines to recognise and enable Indigenous Local Governments to apply for and be provided funding to help address significant social, economic, infrastructure, environmental and cultural needs.
3. Calls on the Australian and Northern Territory Governments to recognise the role of councils in the Northern Territory, because of their role and capacity to engage and deliver outcomes with Indigenous people, for their direct inclusion if they desire, with representation of the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory, in significant reform processes including the Closing the Gap Northern Territory Implementation Plan, Northern Territory Government's Local Decision Making and the Australian Government's Local, Regional and National Indigenous Voice.

Two Media Releases were distributed to media outlets as well as on the Council website and social media pages (at Attachment 1 and Attachment 2).

President Lapulung and myself as CEO had a number of media interviews, which included two television and three radio interviews with Northern Territory media outlets, and one with the national ABC radio network. Most of the key points covered in these interviews are listed in Attachment 3.

I have also been actively engaging the current Federal Government and the Opposition to seek their commitment to the call for Recognition and specific practical ways to do that. The Media Release on “Support for NT Aboriginal Community Controlled Local Governments Welcome” is at Attachment 4.

Council has also supported LGANT to advocate on the recognition of all Aboriginal Controlled and other Northern Territory Local Government Councils (Attachment 5).

Our advocacy will continue throughout the Federal election and beyond.

A related motion has been put to the next General Assembly of the Australian Local Government Association that will be held in Canberra in June.

The Aboriginal Resource and Development Service (ARDS) Aboriginal Corporation, has written a letter about a particular view of the “path forward for Local Decision Making in Yolngu communities and homelands”. This is included for consideration and discussion at Attachment 6.

### **Consultations on Kava and Alcohol**

President Lapulung and myself were also active participants in a meeting on 5 April arranged by the Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet to consider the possible introduction of alcohol and re-introduction of kava sales in the East Arnhem region. An information paper on these issues was provided and discussed with the workshop participants from a range of government departments and Aboriginal organisations that were able to attend. Please see Attachment 7.

President Lapulung led advocacy in the meeting and with the media on this issue.

Key contributions on behalf of Council were to emphasise that the possibility of the Alcohol Protected Areas expiring on 16 July due to Federal legislation, only applies to 5 homelands. The interest by some in government to consult all communities on their “alcohol management aspirations” is risky and could lead to opening the ‘Pandora’s box’ of problems with alcohol.

President Lapulung and myself spoke strongly of the many resolutions of Council and each Local Authority of the need for genuine consultation and engagement with all communities and homelands on whether the re-introduction of the legal sale of kava should occur, and all the health and social implications of it.

As President Lapulung states “Council offers a bridge between our Yolngu people and the Balanda (non-Indigenous) governments. A bridge to make sure the voices of all our people, our Traditional Owners, Clan Leaders, young and all community members, other Aboriginal organisations and the Land Councils – our young, and all community and homeland members, Land Councils and other Aboriginal organisations, on the important issue of the impact of alcohol and kava on our people, and the future generations, and other important issues.”

The report author does not have a conflict of interest in this matter (Section 179 of the Act).

## **RECOMMENDATION**

**That Local Authority notes the CEO report.**

### **ATTACHMENTS:**

- 1** [!\[\]\(8c4dca64662d21542001ca0ed7eeb688\_img.jpg\)](#) Attachment 1 - Media Release on Recognition of Aboriginal Community Controlled Local Governments 23 Mar 22
- 2** [!\[\]\(3de35c640e7147a3fb61ee393128d2ae\_img.jpg\)](#) Attachment 2 - Unanimous Support for Recognition of Aboriginal Community Controlled and other NT Local Governments \_BF9E15DC
- 3** [!\[\]\(d1438aeefda19c86ae7477bf1fb30796\_img.jpg\)](#) Attachment 3 - Key Points Re Recognition of Aboriginal Community Controlled Local Governments 8 Apr 22
- 4** [!\[\]\(dc4d2c544087998b6f093f485f5119d7\_img.jpg\)](#) Attachment 4 - Support for NT Aboriginal Community Controlled Local Governments Welcome 21 Apr 22
- 5** [!\[\]\(f26ab61dd00ea7e5f19553908ec3fa6b\_img.jpg\)](#) Attachment 5 - LGANT Media Release on Recognition and Closing the Gap
- 6** [!\[\]\(ecf85e064bcd351a8999f71bf3f405e7\_img.jpg\)](#) Attachment 6 - ARDS Facilitator letter to Aboriginal Corporations and Local Authorities about LDM in Yolŋu communities final
- 7** [!\[\]\(b7205a03f3dd3fe6f731085a326bb0d6\_img.jpg\)](#) Attachment 7 - Alcohol Management and Kava - RCFC paper



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23 March 2022

## MEDIA RELEASE

### Recognition of Aboriginal Community Controlled Local Governments in Closing the Gap



*Lapulung Dhamarrandji, President East Arnhem Regional Council*

Lapulung Dhamarrandji, President of East Arnhem Regional Council welcomes the support last week from newly elected Councillor Marc Sutherland of Tamworth Regional Council, and the ongoing support of the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) President Linda Scott and CEO Matt Pinnegar - for the genuine recognition of Indigenous Local Government, also known as Aboriginal Community Controlled Local Government Councils, in Closing the Gap.

"All Yolngu (Aboriginal) people need their voice to be heard, from the first elected Aboriginal Councillor of the Gomeri people in Tamworth, to us Yolngu who have full control of local government in East Arnhem Land and many remote areas of Australia" Mr. Dhamarrandji stated.

"All community and homelands people are intertwined and deeply connected through the two pillars (moieties) of Dhuwa and Yirritja, our Clans, our Ringitj, our Land, our Song Lines".

"The voice of our Aboriginal Regional Council and Local Authorities is founded on and deeply connected to this deeper authority – we have a voice, we just need the Australian and Northern Territory Governments to listen".

"We call for this recognition of our Local Authorities and our Regional Councils – through Closing the Gap, the Indigenous Voice and Local Decision Making.

All these policies say the right thing, about building on what is already there, but need to match that with action".



Mr. Dhamarrandji states "There needs to be a heart to heart, soul to soul connection and partnership of government with our Aboriginal Community Controlled Local Governments in unity with all other Aboriginal organisations, including the Land Councils, that share our sacred bond to respect and protect the Land and Traditional Owners. We are stronger for our people when we are united together".

"We need a breakthrough to overcome the stronghold and division that has been between us, to build the momentum and write a new chapter in our lives. This is a new hope and a new beginning, coming from the heart and the humility of an Indigenous first nations person".

"We - Council and the Local Authorities, offer a bridge of commonality, where Yolngu and Balanda (non-Indigenous) people can have real reconciliation and walk and work together to sustain and enhance our nation. We call on the Balanda Governments to join and engage with us starting with the cultural formality and foundation of the Yolngu **Ralmanapanmirr ga Ngayanguwangnganythirr** ceremony, to focus us Yolngu and Balanda to come together and build unity as one" stated Lapulung Dhamarrandji.

To this end, East Arnhem Regional Council CEO Dale Keehne stated, "Council will continue to work hand in hand with the strong leadership of the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory (LGANT) President Kon Vatskalis and CEO Sean Holden, and look forward to meeting again with our fellow NT Councils on 7 April to discuss and endorse three key motions". They are that LGANT:

1. continues to progress calls on the Federal, State and Territory Governments to commit to nationally consistent recognition of Indigenous Local Government Councils as an Aboriginal controlled entity across Australia at all levels of Government. Indigenous Local Government being a Local Government Council with a majority representation of both Elected Officials and Constituency of Indigenous Australians.
2. calls on the Australian and Northern Territory Governments to review their official procurement and funding guidelines to recognise and enable Indigenous Local Governments to apply for and be provided funding to help address significant social, economic, infrastructure, environmental and cultural needs.
3. calls on the Australian and Northern Territory Governments to recognise the role of councils in the Northern Territory, because of their role and capacity to engage and deliver outcomes with Indigenous people, for their direct inclusion if they desire, with representation of the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory, in significant reform processes including the Closing the Gap Northern Territory Implementation Plan, Northern Territory Government's Local Decision Making and the Australian Government's Local, Regional and National Indigenous Voice.

We also look forward to hearing from the Federal Government and Opposition on their commitments to these calls ahead of the upcoming federal election.

Contact: Dale Keehne, CEO, East Arnhem Regional Council, 0458 039 348.

5/10/22, 4:42 PM

Unanimous Support for Recognition of Aboriginal Community Controlled and other NT Local Governments in Closing the Ga...

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# Unanimous Support for Recognition of Aboriginal Community Controlled and other NT Local Governments in Closing the Gap

April 08, 2022

## MEDIA RELEASE

Lapulung Dhamarrandji, President of East Arnhem Regional Council welcomes the unanimous support shown at the General Meeting of the Local

<https://www.eastarnhem.nt.gov.au/news/2021/12/21/new-president-elected-by-council-rfxjf-fk6ka>

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5/10/22, 4:42 PM Unanimous Support for Recognition of Aboriginal Community Controlled and other NT Local Governments in Closing the Gap...  
Government Association of the Northern Territory.

This follows ongoing support of the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) President Linda Scott and CEO Matt Pinnegar - for the genuine recognition of Indigenous Local Government, also known as Aboriginal Community Controlled Local Government Councils, in Closing the Gap.

Specifically the NT member councils resolved today that LGANT:

1. Continues to progress calls on the Federal, State and Territory Governments to commit to nationally consistent recognition of Indigenous Local Government Councils as an Aboriginal controlled entity across Australia at all levels of Government. Indigenous Local Government being a Local Government Council with a majority representation of both Elected Officials and Constituency of Indigenous Australians.
2. Calls on the Australian and Northern Territory Governments to review their official procurement and funding guidelines to recognise and enable Indigenous Local Governments to apply for and be provided funding to help address significant social, economic, infrastructure, environmental and cultural needs.
3. Calls on the Australian and Northern Territory Governments to recognise the role of councils in the Northern Territory, because of their role and capacity to engage and deliver outcomes with Indigenous people, for their direct inclusion if they desire, with representation of the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory, in significant reform processes including the Closing the Gap Northern Territory Implementation Plan, Northern Territory Government's Local Decision Making and the Australian Government's Local, Regional and National Indigenous Voice.

President Dhamarrandji stated "Our Aboriginal Community Controlled Local Authorities and Aboriginal Regional Local Governments offer a bridge between our Yolngu (Indigenous) people and the Balanda (non-Indigenous) governments. A bridge to make sure the voices of all our people, our Traditional Owners, our Clans, our young, and all community and homeland members, Land Councils and other Aboriginal organisations - are heard, and acted on".

"We offer a structure and capacity to ensure different government plans and processes like the Federal Government's Closing the Gap and Indigenous Voice and NT Government's Local Decision Making – lead to real outcomes, led by the people", President Dhamarrandji stated.

"We need a real heart to heart connection and partnership, and know we are stronger when we are united together – Yolngu to Yolngu and Yolngu to Balanda".

Contact: Dale Keehne, CEO, East Arnhem Regional Council, 0458 039 348.

**ENDS**

<https://www.eastarnhem.nt.gov.au/news/2021/12/21/new-president-elected-by-council-rfxjf-fk6ka>

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5/10/22, 4:42 PM

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PRESIDENT LAPULUNG DHAMARRANDJI ON COUNTRY IN EAST ARNHEM LAND.

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### Key Points On Recognition of Aboriginal Community Controlled Governments

Our Aboriginal Community Controlled Local Government offers a **bridge (of commonality)** between our Yolngu people and the Balanda (non-Indigenous) governments. A bridge to make sure the voices of all our people - our Traditional Owners, our Clan Leaders, our young, and all our community and homeland members, Land Councils and other Aboriginal organisations - are heard, and acted on".

**We need a real heart to heart connection and partnership**, and know we are **stronger when we are united together – Yolngu to Yolngu and Yolngu to Balanda.**

**We offer a structure and capacity** to ensure different government plans and processes like the Federal Government's Indigenous Voice and Closing the Gap and NT Government's Local Decision Making – **lead to real outcomes, led by the people.**

To this end **ahead of the upcoming Federal election** we **call for commitments** by the current Government and the Labor Opposition to:

- 1) **Recognise and build on the existing Aboriginal Community Controlled Local Governance structure of Local Authorities and Regional Local Government Councils**, to support the **fullest possible engagement** with all Traditional Owners, Clans, the young, women and all community and homeland members, other Aboriginal Organisations and the Land Councils, through the Indigenous Local and Regional Voice and Closing the Gap processes.
- 2) **Allocate the proportion of the \$31.8 million** committed in the 2022-23 Federal Budget to build on and further expand the role and function of **Aboriginal Controlled Local Authorities and Regional Governments in the Northern Territory**. These funds would be practically spent on sitting fees for the Aboriginal leaders who will be devoting significant time and knowledge to consultation meetings, and expanded secretariat support and logistics costs - to ensure voices are properly heard and followed up with action.
- 3) **Ensure the alignment of the Federal Government Local, Regional and National Voice and Closing the Gap Processes** and Northern Territory Government's Local Decision Making Process – with each other, and, most importantly, with how they engage with our people.
- 4) **Amend government guidelines** so that ACCLG's are **eligible for funding to do much needed work** as Aboriginal controlled organisations with high capacity. Councils in turn would contract and partner with **other Aboriginal organisations** wherever that makes most sense, to build their capacity and achieve the best outcomes, as we do with other funding.





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21 April 2022

## MEDIA RELEASE

### Support for NT Aboriginal Community Controlled Local Governments Welcome

East Arnhem Regional Council supports the policy position for the constitutional recognition of Indigenous people and direct First Nations Voice to the Federal Parliament - following the Uluru Statement from the Heart. Federal Labor Party candidate for the Federal seat of Lingiari Marion Scrymgour met with Council in the region this week.

East Arnhem Regional Council welcomes the recognition expressed by the Labor Candidate of the critical role and capacity of Aboriginal Community Controlled Local Authorities and Regional Local Governments across the Northern Territory - to enable a strong and inclusive Local and Regional Voice, that will feed into a National Indigenous Voice.

This follows the unanimous support shown at the General Meeting of the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory General Meeting earlier this month, for Recognition by the Federal and Northern Territory Governments, of the formal role of Aboriginal Community Controlled Local Governments across the Northern Territory.

East Arnhem Regional Council President Lapulung Dhamarrandji stated that "Council offers a bridge between our Yolngu people and the Balanda (non-Indigenous) governments. A bridge to make sure the voices of all our people, our Traditional Owners, our Clan Leaders, our young, and all community and homeland members, Land Councils and other Aboriginal organisations – are heard and acted on."

"The Makarrata ceremony comes from the traditional Yolngu Rom (law) of East Arnhem Land and we invite the Balanda (non-Indigenous) Federal and Northern Territory Governments to join us Yolngu on country together, to overcome the divisions between us through real reconciliation, and start genuine dialogue and understanding, to build a better future and nation for us all", President Dhamarrandji stated.

"We need a real heart to heart connection and partnership, and know we are stronger when we are united together – Yolngu to Yolngu and Yolngu to Balanda."

Contact: Dale Keehne, CEO, East Arnhem Regional Council, 0458 039 348.

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**MEDIA STATEMENT - 5 May 2022**

## **MILLIONS NEEDED FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT TO DELIVER CLOSING THE GAP INITIATIVES**

Local government councils are serious about achieving the targets of Closing the Gap but need Australian Government assistance to do so.

For the first time, local government councils, through the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory (LGANT), are signatories, together with the Northern Territory Government and Aboriginal Peak Organisations Northern Territory, to the Territory's Closing the Gap Implementation Plan - but they are not resourced to implement the agreed actions to the level of the other two signatories.

To demonstrate a genuine commitment to accelerating delivery of Closing the Gap targets, LGANT is asking federal election candidates to commit to funding local government council Closing the Gap initiatives.

LGANT echoes the Australian Local Government Association's (ALGA) recent ask for:

- a \$100 million per annum fund over four years to support the capacity building of local government councils nationally in Closing the Gap and implementing the Local and Regional Voice.

Separately LGANT is also asking for:

- an additional \$1.8 million over 3 years (\$600,000 per annum) for new initiatives to help local government councils with achieving the Closing the Gap targets; and
- formal recognition of those local government councils with a majority representation of both elected officials and constituency of First Nation Australians as 'Aboriginal controlled entities'.

LGANT President, the Hon Kon Vatskalis says: "We cannot keep doing the same things and expecting a different result.

Local government councils are the voice of their communities and make a real and demonstrated difference in delivering outcomes - but they want to do more.

Some of the regional and remote local government councils in the Territory have a majority First Nations constituency but have a revenue shortfall that inhibits them from delivering what their constituents are asking for.

Without new funding, the Implementation Plan signatories will struggle to effectively collaborate and little will change regarding meeting the Closing the Gap targets."

The new funding will assist LGANT and its member councils achieve the desired results for First Nations people in the areas of education, employment, health and wellbeing, justice, safety, housing, land and waters, and languages.

In addition, LGANT supports local government councils, such as the East Arnhem Regional Council, in their ask for formal recognition of local government councils with majority representation of both elected official and constituency of First Nations Australians as Aboriginal controlled entities.

Lapulung Dhamarrandji, President of East Arnhem Regional Council, welcomes LGANT's support for this ask.

"This recognition is important to our Local Authorities and Regional Council and our people. This change would mean we can do much needed work across our communities using the local skills and knowledge in what are unique and often challenging conditions."

For more information contact Sean Holden, CEO LGANT: 0428 101 990

-Ends-



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29 April 2022

*A letter from the ARDS facilitation team about the path forward for Local Decision Making in Yolŋu communities and homelands*

### **What has already happened with the Local Decision Making story in the Yolŋu region?**

In May 2019, the Northern Territory Government signed an LDM Partnership Agreement with 6 Aboriginal organisations and government agencies (Miwatj Health, ALPA, ARDS, Laynhapuy Homelands, EARC (Local Government) and NIAA (Federal Government)). In this agreement, these organisations worked together to think about the best path for LDM in the Yolŋu region. There was lots of discussion about how to give Yolŋu leaders and communities more control over government services.

The LDM Partnership group asked ARDS to hold discussions with Yolŋu communities. ARDS facilitated workshops with Yolŋu leaders in Gapuwiyak (March 2021), Milinjimbi (May 2021) and Raminginiŋ (May 2021).

In May 2021, the LDM Partnership Agreement finished, and the NT Attorney-General and Minister for LDM, Selena Uibo, wrote a letter about LDM work in the Yolŋu region. In her letter (27 October 2021) she says,

*There are some clear, overwhelming messages:*

- 1. bāpurru (clan) and gurruṯu structures (Yolŋu kinship) are the source of Yolŋu strength and decision-making processes, and these structures should underpin empowerment and local decision making in the Yolŋu sub-regions; and*
- 2. it is now time to move beyond talking and into action, particularly to negotiate more LDM agreements and take the necessary steps towards meaningful change in communities, homelands and sub-regions.*

The Department of Chief Minister and Cabinet (NTG) have also worked with leaders in the Djalkirripuyngu area to prepare an LDM agreement for that area, and Laynhapuy Homelands have also started meeting and thinking about LDM in that area.

### **What have we heard from Yolŋu leaders?**

In all the discussions, there has been a strong view that Yolŋu *ganydjarr* (authority) comes from *bāpurru* (clan-nations), and this means that together we need to find a way for bāpurru leaders in each area to be part of the LDM process. We have also heard many people say that there must be a

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special role for *wāŋa woŋaŋu* (traditional land owners) in the LDM process in each area. Many people have also said that Aboriginal organisations should support *bäpurru* representatives in the LDM process.

Now, we are is thinking about the next steps of the LDM process. We think that the LDM *dhukarr* (pathway) will be different in different places. It will not be the same in every place.

**This is the *dhukarr* (pathway) ARDS is planning:**

1. A strong priority for ARDS is to make sure that Yolŋu voices are clearly heard by NTG. For any *Bäpurru* leaders or Yolŋu organisations who want to give a message to government about LDM, ARDS can help make sure that your voice is clearly heard by government. Please call or email us, or talk with an ARDS *djāmamirr*.
2. In the next 2-3 months, ARDS Yolŋu facilitators (together with Yolŋu staff from NIAA and DCMC) will speak with leaders from *bäpurru* across Miyarrka, Gattjirrka and Birr Rawarrang. Sometimes this will be done by visiting communities and sometimes this might happen through phone calls. This way we will make sure that leaders for each *bäpurru* have heard the LDM story. And we can find out which *bäpurru* want to send leaders to negotiate LDM agreements with the government.
3. We will also ask leaders which things they would like to start negotiating with government. For example, you might want to start with an agreement about health, or education, or something else.
4. Next, in each community ARDS will organise 2-3 day meetings with *bäpurru* representatives to start writing down the things that communities want to negotiate with government. ARDS will have a lawyer in these meetings, so that we can put the ideas from Yolŋu leaders into a draft document to give to the Northern Territory Government. On the last day of the meetings, senior representatives from the Northern Territory Government will come to meet with *Bäpurru* representatives face-to-face. We will try to agree on 1-2 topics for the first LDM Agreements.
5. NTG representatives will go away and draft an LDM agreement. ARDS facilitators will be part of this, and we will check with *bäpurru* representatives if there is anything in the draft agreement that is not clear, or different from the discussions with *bäpurru* representatives.
6. Then ARDS facilitators will take the draft agreement back to the *bäpurru* representatives in each community and read through it carefully together. *Bäpurru* representatives will decide if they want to call the NTG representatives back for more negotiation. Or if they are ready to go forward with the agreement, they will tell the Government they agree with the LDM agreement.

To help make this happen, ARDS facilitators want to speak with the boards of local Aboriginal organisations, and with Local Authorities about this plan.

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These are some of questions we would like to ask Yolŋu board members:

1. What is the best way of speaking with bāpurru representatives about the LDM story? Will we ask people to come together in big meetings, or will ARDS go and speak with each bāpurru one at a time? Or will we do both of these things?
2. What will we do if there are some bāpurru who do not send representatives to make decisions about LDM agreements?
3. What are good ways for Aboriginal organisations to support bāpurru representatives during the LDM process?
4. If bāpurru representatives are signing LDM agreements, what role should Aboriginal organisations have in the LDM agreements?

We will contact local organisations to ask for 30 minutes at one of your board or LA meetings to talk about these things. You can contact us at any time to talk about this letter or LDM discussions. You can also speak directly with Jim Rogers ([jim.rogers@nt.gov.au](mailto:jim.rogers@nt.gov.au)) or Lucasta Clothier-Fairs ([Lucasta.Clothier-Fairs@nt.gov.au](mailto:Lucasta.Clothier-Fairs@nt.gov.au)) at the Department of Chief Minister and Cabinet in Nhulunbuy or call them on 8987 0546.

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# RCFC – Alcohol Management and Kava

## Alcohol Management in East Arnhem

### The NT Government's position on alcohol management

Under the Local Decision Making (LDM) Policy, the NT Government has made a commitment to provide a genuine voice to remote communities about services and policies that affect them. LDM works with community to ensure community aspirations can transpire to better outcomes, including on alcohol management.

CM&C has already started consultations regarding alcohol management on the Gove Peninsula by providing support to the Harmony Group and is looking to expand consultations and support to other communities over the coming months.

### General Restricted Areas (GRAs) and Alcohol Protected Areas (APAs)

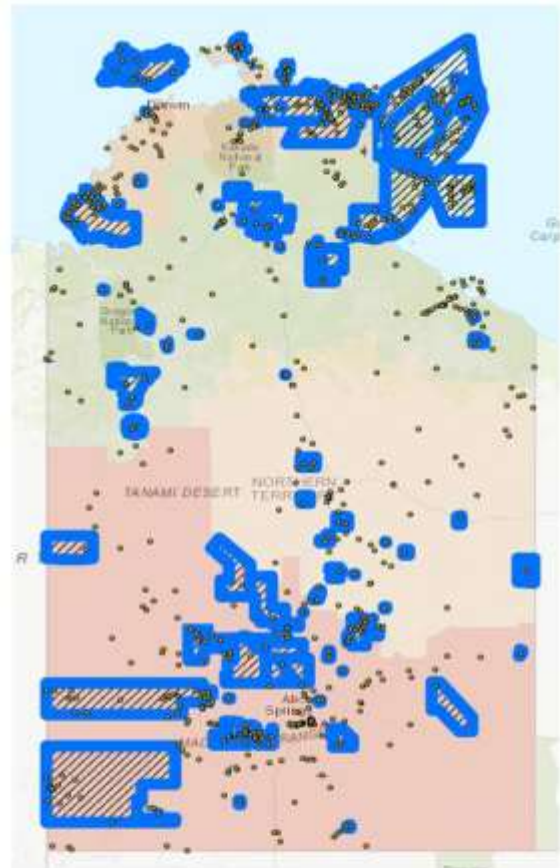
General Restricted Area (GRAs) are rules determined by the NT Government about how alcohol is managed in communities and homelands. In East Arnhem, nearly all areas have a GRA under the *NT Liquor Act 2019*.

Alcohol Protected Areas (APAs) are rules determined by Commonwealth Government about how alcohol is managed in communities and homelands under the *Stronger Futures in the Northern Territory Act 2012* (SF Act). In East Arnhem the only areas that are 'APA only communities' are:

- Dhipirrinjura
- Bayagida
- Mooronga
- Dhaniya
- Dhulmulmiya

All other areas in East Arnhem are covered by a GRA.

*The map on the right shows all areas that are covered by a GRA under the NT Liquor Act 2019 with a blue outline and hatch. All other areas in the NT are APA only communities.*





## What is going to change about alcohol management in the NT?

The *Stronger Futures in the Northern Territory Act 2012* (SF Act) is a Commonwealth Act that came in effect in 2012. The SF Act came in to effect after the expiration of the *Northern Territory Emergency Response Act 2007* (NTER Act), otherwise known as the 'the Intervention'.

The SF Act made a number of amendments to NT legislation including the offense to possess, supply or consume liquor in Alcohol Protected Areas (APAs).

When the SF Act sunsets on 16 July 2022, APAs, and therefore alcohol restrictions, will not exist in 'APA only communities'.

## What will happen to 'APA only communities'?

In line with the Local Decision Making Policy, the NT Government will not make changes to the *NT Liquor Act 2019* until communities and homelands have been given the opportunity to be consulted about how they want to manage alcohol.

In the coming months, the NT Government will begin consultations for 'APA only communities' through Aboriginal Peak Organisation in Northern Territory (APONT) and the Land Councils. These communities and homelands will be given the opportunity to either:

- 'Opt-in' to enable the status quo of the current liquor restrictions under the SF Act to be maintained for 12-18 months whilst further consultations take place; or
- 'Opt-out' and choose to have no alcohol restrictions in place.

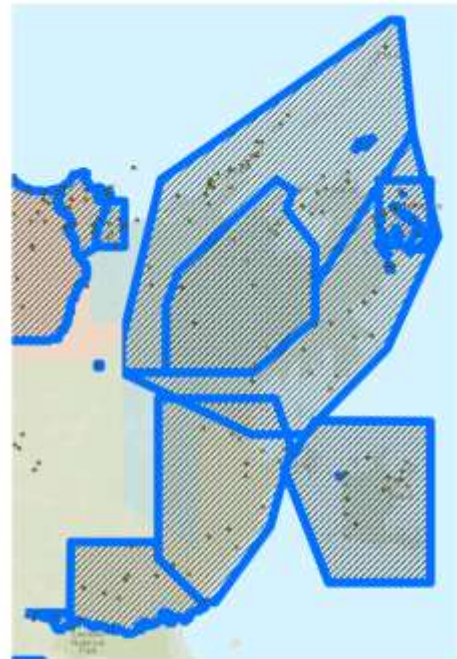
It is important to remember that APAs only affect remote aboriginal communities in the NT that do not already have a GRA under the *NT Liquor Act 1978*. In East Arnhem, nearly all communities and homelands are covered by a GRA.

## What is not changing about alcohol management in East Arnhem?

When the SF Act sunsets it will have little effect on East Arnhem. This is because almost all of East Arnhem is currently covered by a GRA and has been since the 1980's. These GRAs will remain in place when the SF Act sunsets.

The NT Government is consulting widely with 'APA only communities'. In East Arnhem, CM&C will be leveraging the opportunity to consult with East Arnhem communities about their alcohol management aspirations to ensure the GRAs still reflect the individual needs of each community and homeland in the region.

*The map the right shows the GRAs in East Arnhem represented by a blue outline and hatch. East Arnhem communities are almost entirely covered by GRAs*



## What options are there for alcohol management for communities and homelands in East Arnhem?

GRAs provide flexibility to implement targeted, community driven solutions to regulate alcohol supply and offer a number of options for communities and homelands to manage alcohol, such as:

1. No alcohol (or dry communities like most of the current GRAs in East Arnhem)
2. Allow some alcohol (like permits systems or community social clubs)
3. Have no restrictions on alcohol and no GRA

Examples of how other communities have followed the path of **2. Allow some alcohol** are:

- Have a permit system – like the Gove Peninsula and Groote Eylandt
- Run a community Social Club – like the Beswick Social Club

We will talk in more detail about these options and other examples with the Regional Children and Families Committee (RCFC).

## Engagement with the RCFC

When the SF Act sunsets, APAs will no longer exist. Largely, this will not change any current alcohol restrictions in East Arnhem because GRAs are already in effect. However, the GRAs in East Arnhem have been in place for a long time and, leveraging the consultations that will happen with 'APA only communities', CM&C would like to know if the existing GRAs still represent community aspirations for alcohol management or if community would like explore other ways to manage alcohol.

At the RCFC, we would like to ask you:

## RCFC – Alcohol Management and Kava

- What information do we need to help people make informed decisions alcohol management in their community?
- Who should we talk to about alcohol management?
- How should we talk to them?

## Kava Management in East Arnhem

### Commonwealth Kava Pilot: Phase 2

As we have previously discussed with committee members the Australian Government commenced regulation changes to allow for the commercial importation of kava effective as of 1 December 2021. The changes are part of the Australian Government's Pacific Step Up Strategy. These changes reclassify kava as a food and allow for its commercial importation to Australia via a permit system. Information about the importation arrangements and permits can be found at the following websites:

- <https://www.dfat.gov.au/geo/pacific/economic-prosperity-in-the-pacific/australia-kava-pilot>
- <https://www.odc.gov.au/import-requirements-kava>

As part of the commercial pilot, the Australian Government Department of Health (Cwth DoH) has commissioned the National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre (NDARC) and Ninti One Limited to monitor and evaluate the pilot.

The evaluation will assess the health, social, cultural and economic effects of the pilot on the Australian community, particularly in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and Pacific Islander communities. Cwth DoH has established a Monitoring and Evaluation Project Reference Group to assist NDARC and Ninti One on key elements of the evaluation, including how the pilot is working in each jurisdiction.

The Project Reference Group will continue to meet regularly throughout the pilot and includes representatives from the NT departments of the Chief Minister and Cabinet (CM&C) and Health (NT DoH). At this stage, NDARC/Ninti One are still obtaining the necessary approvals to commence the community engagement and we will hopefully have a schedule and advice on the approach in the coming weeks. You may have already had some level of engagement from NDARC and/or Ninti One.

### Northern Territory Arrangements and Position

Despite the Commonwealth kava importation rules being amended, the issue of and access to kava in the Northern Territory remains subject to the *Kava Management Act 1998* (the Act). The regulatory regime around kava supply, possession and use remains subject to the Act, with importation from overseas only being facilitated through the Commonwealth importation regime. The Department of Industry Tourism and Trade (DITT) Director of Licencing administers the provisions of the Act.

Kava possession is lawful provided that the person is of an adult age (18+), the amount possessed does not exceed two kilograms, the person is not intoxicated when supplied, and that supply has been undertaken lawfully (i.e. through the *Kava Management Act 1998* and the Commonwealth authorised importation process).

Kava that is possessed unlawfully is subject to forfeiture and seizure and persons may be subject to prosecution if offences are committed under the *Kava Management Act 1998*.



## RCFC – Alcohol Management and Kava

So in summary, whilst the national commercial importation arrangements have changed, the laws and regulations regarding the supply and use of kava in the NT have not changed.

The NT Government provided a submission to the Commonwealth on the commercial kava pilot in 2020 which raised concerns about commercial importation pilot proceeding without appropriate risk mitigation measure in place (particularly in the NT and more specifically, the East Arnhem region). Submissions were also made by other NT stakeholders including [NT Council of Social Services](#), [AMSANT/Miwatj Health](#) and [ARDS Aboriginal Corporation](#) who raised concerns about the health and social/cultural impacts of non-ceremonial misuse of kava. The NT Government has, and continues to, call for:

1. Resources to support comprehensive and culturally sensitive community engagement, including to determine the benefits and risks of a reintroduction of regulated/controlled kava trading, and to ensure comprehensive education for consumers in relevant languages.
2. Resources to support increased compliance in the Northern Territory, including increased policing and/or licensing and regulatory capacity to assist with regulated kava trade and/or to manage expected increased illicit supply.
3. Increased and dedicated research into the health and socio-economic impacts of kava on vulnerable communities, families and individuals.
4. A comprehensive and culturally sensitive monitoring and evaluation framework to understand any benefits, risks and impacts of the commercial kava pilot.

At this stage, the NT Government has received a response on point 4. above and is now involved on the Monitoring and Evaluation Project Reference Group referred to above.

## Next Steps

The Northern Territory Government is continuing to engage with the Australian Government on points 1-3 above and we hope to receive a response soon. Satisfactory resolution of these matters is critical to determining practical options and actions for effective kava management in the NT.

The NT Government will need to obtain comprehensive and representative views from communities about whether or not kava trading should be permitted in a particular place or region. In east Arnhem Land this will need to be undertaken in line with Local Decision Making principles and include ensuring Bāpurru mala and community leaders and families (including both dirramu and miyalk) are aware of the potential health and broader socio-economic impacts.

Following this community engagement, and subject to the necessary community support and compliance/regulatory resources being secured, the NT Government may be in a position to receive applications for kava licenses in designated kava management areas. However, reaching this point will likely take 6-12 months.

## Engagement with the East Arnhem RCFC

CM&C is now commencing initial engagement with the members of the East Arnhem RCFC and other key stakeholders about the design of a comprehensive and culturally sensitive regional/local approach to undertaking consultation to gauge attitudes and worries about kava.

This consultation will include asking whether or not to re-institute kava trading arrangements in specific sub-regions/communities (like before) or for current general restrictions and prohibitions on trade to continue with a

## RCFC – Alcohol Management and Kava

focus on enforcement (noting the high risk of an increase in illicit trade from other participating jurisdictions in the commercial pilot).

The upcoming workshop with the RCFC will focus upon the following questions about the upcoming consultation within the East Arnhem Region:

- What type of information does the RCFC think would be useful so community can make informed decisions?
- Who should we talk to/consult with?
- How should we talk to them and who do we need to take with us?