

Agenda

Gunyangara

LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING

On

1 December 2022

EAST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

Notice is hereby given that an Local Authority Meeting of the Gunyangara Local Authority will be held at the Gunyangara Council Office on Thursday, 1 December 2022 at 10.00AM.

Dale Keehne
Chief Executive Officer

Join on your computer or mobile app

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Dial the Conference# 02 8318 0005

Meeting ID: 369 931 290#

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1 December 2022

APOLOGIES

ITEM NUMBER 3.1

TITLE Apologies and Absent Without Notice

REFERENCE 1688627

AUTHOR Wendy Brook, Executive Assistant to the CEO

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:

1<u>U</u> Gunyangara Attendance Record.docx



Gunyangara attendance record

Balu Palu Yunupingu	Cr Wesley Dhamarrandji	Cr Marrpalawuy Marika	Banambi Wunungmurra	Doug Yunupingu	Elizika Puertollano	Djawa Yunupingu	Antoine Gintz	Meeting date 25.03.22 Cancelled
								25.03.22 Cancelled
								23.05.22 Cancelled
								29.07.22 Cancelled
N - with permission	N – with permission	N - with permission	٧	N – with permission	٧	N – with permission	٧	30.09.22 14.11.22 16.01.23
								14.11.22
								16.01.23

APOLOGIES

ITEM NUMBER 3.2

TITLE Local Authority Membership

REFERENCE 1688628

AUTHOR 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 members are appointed by the Council for the community:

Gunyangara

Cr Banambi Wunungmurra

Cr Marrpalawuy Marika

Cr Wesley Dhamarrandji

The following nominations have been received for the Local Authority membership:

Dana Yunupingu

Murphy Dhayurra

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

RECOMMENDATION

The Local Authority notes the member list and calls for new members to fill up existing vacancies.

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no attachments to this report.



CONFLICT OF INTEREST

ITEM NUMBER 4.1

TITLE Conflict of Interest

REFERENCE 1688629

AUTHOR Wendy Brook, Executive Assistant to the CEO

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 to this report.



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PREVIOUS MINUTES

ITEM NUMBER 5.1

TITLE Previous Minutes for Ratification

REFERENCE 1688630

AUTHOR Wendy Brook, Executive Assistant to the CEO

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 and 30 September 2022 to be a true record of the meeting.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Local Authority Gunyangara 2021-11-26 [1727] Minutes.DOCX
- 2 Local Authority Gunyangara 2022-09-30 [1938] Minutes.DOCX



Mission

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

Core Values

Respect
Professionalism
Human Dignity
Organisational Growth
Equity
Community

MINUTES FOR THE LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING

26 November 2021

-1-

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.

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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.

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.
- 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.

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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

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through:

- 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.



Mission

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Core Values

Respect
Professionalism
Human Dignity
Organisational Growth
Equity
Community

MINUTES FOR THE GUNYANGARA PROVISIONAL LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING

30 September 2022

-1-

ATTENDANCE

In the Chair Antoine Gintz, Cr. Banambi Wunungmurra and Local Authority member Elizika Puertollano.

COUNCIL OFFICERS

Andrew Walsh – Acting CEO & Director Community Development.

Natasha Jackson – A/g Director Technical and Infrastructure Services.

Signe Balodis – Director Community Development.

Minute Taker - Wendy Brook EA to the CEO.

OBSERVERS

Murphy Yunipingu. Mathilde Payet-Vidalence – Ngarrariyal

MEETING OPENING

Chair opened the meeting at 11.00AM 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).

102/2022 RESOLVED (Antoine Gintz/Banambi Wunungmurra)

That Local Authority:

- (a) Notes the absence of Cr. Marrpalawuy Marika, Cr. Wesley Dhamarrandji Djawa Yunupingu, Doug Yunupingu and Balu Palu Yunupingu.
- (b) Notes the apology received from Cr Marrpalawuy Marika.
- (c) Notes Cr. Marrpalawuy Marika, Djawa Yunupingu, Doug Yunupingu, Balu Palu Yunupingu and Cr. Wesley Dhamarrandji are absent with permission.

3.2 LOCAL AUTHORITY MEMBERSHIP

SUMMARY:

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

103/2022 RESOLVED (Banambi Wunungmurra/Antoine Gintz)

The Local Authority:

- (a) Notes the member list and calls for new members to fill up existing vacancies.
- (b) Recommends the nominations of Dana Yunupingu and Murphy Dhayirra be presented for Council approval.

Conflict of Interest

4.1 CONFLICT OF INTEREST

SUMMARY:

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

104/2022 RESOLVED (Elizika Puertollano/Banambi Wunungmurra)

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

Previous Minutes

'Deferred due to Provisional meeting'

5.1 PREVIOUS MINUTES FOR RATIFICATION

SUMMARY:

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

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.

105/2022 RESOLVED (Antoine Gintz/Elizika Puertollano)

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

8.1 CEO REPORT

SUMMARY

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

106/2022 RESOLVED (Antoine Gintz/Banambi Wunungmurra)

That the Local Authority notes the CEO Report.

8.2 PACIFIC AUSTRALIA LABOUR MOBILITY SCHEME - TRIAL

SUMMARY

This report is to provide information to the Elected Members of the Pacific Australia Labour Mobility (PALM) scheme from the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs Tourism & Trade (DFAT), including recommendation following consultation with East Arnhem Regional Council Local Authorities and progress the scheme to a trial phase for the East Arnhem Regional Council.

107/2022 RESOLVED (Antoine Gintz/Banambi Wunungmurra)

That the Local Authority notes the report on the progress of the Pacific Australia Labour Mobility scheme.

8.3 TECHNICAL AND INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM AND CAPITAL PROJECT UPDATES

SUMMARY

This report is tabled for the Local Authority to provide program updates within the Technical and Infrastructure directorate, in addition to progress updates associated with capital projects and initiatives associated with the 2022-2023 Annual Plan.

108/2022 RESOLVED (Banambi Wunungmurra/Elizika Puertollano)

That the Local Authority:

- (a) Notes the Technical and Infrastructure report.
- (b) Supports the development of a transfer station for Gunyangara in the proposed location noting this has been approved by the 99 year lease boards.

'Library Services deferred until next meeting.'

8.4 LIBRARY SERVICES PRINCIPLES

SUMMARY

This report is to inform and seek direction from the Local Authorities on the provision and design of East Arnhem Regional Council's Library services.

RECOMMENDATION	
That Local Authorities:	
(a) Notes the report.	
(b) Recommend the follo	owing be included in Library design and programming;
a	
a b	

8.5 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR REPORT SUMMARY

This report is provided by the Community Development Coordinator at every Local Authority meeting to provide information to members.

109/2022 RESOLVED (Antoine Gintz/Banambi Wunungmurra)

That the Local Authority notes the Community Development Coordinator Report.

'Youth Sport and Recreation update to be provided at next meeting.'

8.6 YOUTH, SPORT AND RECREATION COMMUNITY UPDATE SUMMARY:

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

RECOMMENDATION

-5-

That the Local Authority:

- (a) Notes the Youth, Sport and Recreation Community update.
- (b) Makes the following recommendations:

8.7 CORPORATE SERVICES REPORT

SUMMARY

This report presents the financial expenditure plus employment statistics as of 31 August 2022 within the Local Authority area.

110/2022 RESOLVED (Antoine Gintz/Banambi Wunungmurra)

That the Local Authority receives the Financial and Employment information to 31 August 2022, noting the Local Authority Project Fund acquittals.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

25 November 2022.

MEETING CLOSE

The meeting terminated at 12.19PM.

This page and the preceding pages are the minutes of the Local Authority Meeting held on Friday, 30 September 2022.

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LOCAL AUTHORITIES

ITEM NUMBER 6.1

TITLE Local Authority Action Register

REFERENCE 1688632

AUTHOR Wendy Brook, Executive Assistant to the CEO

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 October 2022 (2).docx

GUNYANGARA ACTIONS

ACTION ITEM	ACTIONS	STATUS
Kava Pilot	That the Local Authority: a) Notes the report on the Kava Pilot: Allowing the commercial importation of kava. b) Supports comprehensive community consultation as highlighted in the Northern Territory Government's submission to the Australian Government's Kava Pilot Phase 2: Allowing the Commercial Importation of Kava consultation paper, and the call for Commonwealth funding to support either: 1) increased compliance and policing for the increase in the illicit kava trade, or 2) effective and informed local decision making about kava management to minimise potential harms. c) Supports the Northern Territory Government's request for funding to support research into the health and social impacts from increased kava availability	20.10.22 President and CEO to follow up a positive discussion on this issue at a meeting with the Chief Minister to the region, with the Executive Director of the Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet, on gaining action on the Local Authority and Council resolutions.
Murals		20.10.22 – Design consultant to work with each Local Authority, community and homeland members to develop an agreed design, of a map of the region, including key cultural aspects of each part of the region.

SUNYANGARA ACTIO

ACTION ITEM AC	ACTIONS	STATUS
083/2021 The 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.	Completed
Questions from That members follows	That the Local Authority notes the questions from members and follow up on those questions that cannot be answered at today's meeting.	Completed
the to 1	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.	
Bus Shelter		Completed

GENERAL BUSINESS

ITEM NUMBER 8.1

TITLE CEO Report 1694817

AUTHOR Dale Keehne, Chief Executive Officer

SUMMARY:

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

GENERAL

Improvements

Given the significant re-structure of the Council organisational structure occurred almost three years ago, it is time to actively review how we can further improve our processes and operations.

Arrangements are currently being made to conduct a full staff survey, so all staff can confidentially have their say on issues, concerns and any suggested ways we can improve the way we work. Once the survey is complete, senior management will review the findings, and decide what things can be changed or done differently to deal with the issues raised.

The current cultural induction tools we use are being reviewed, and other options looked into, so we can provide more effective and comprehensive induction of employees to working and living with our Indigenous communities.

A Communications Strategy is also being developed to review and improve all our external and internal communication, and the way we do this. We will be seeking the views of a wide range of staff from different areas and levels. We expect to be recruit a person into a Communications role following the review, when it will be clearer of our overall strategy, and what is needed to implement it.

Possible De-amalgamation of Council

The process to consider the possible de-amalgamation of Council has been delayed further again. The Northern Territory Cabinet has delayed considering it to at least February or March next year.

Council has continued to assist where we can through giving information and advice to the person who has been engaged by the NT Government to provide it clear advice to inform its decision to actually create a new 'Warnindilyakwa Regional Council' and leave a remaining East Arnhem Regional Council. This has included arranging meetings with the range of Federal and NT Government funding agencies who fund the majority of Council services and operations.

It is unclear from this process to date when any new Council would start from, if that occurs.



Council will continue its role of ensuring the Northern Territory Government honours its fundamental commitment that there will be no reduction in the current service delivery levels, in the Anindilyakwan and Yolngu parts of the region, if it actually decides to de-amalgamate the Council.

Governor-General's Visit to the Region

The Honourable Governor-General and his wife Mrs. Hurley visited the East Arnhem Region on Monday 14 to Wednesday 16 November.

Council coordinated a range of events including the Governor-General meeting the Chairs, CEOs and Board nominated members of the range of Aboriginal Organisations that work in the region, a community visit to Yirrkala, and meeting student representatives from the Nhulunbuy and community schools.

The first part of the Governor-General's visit was a visit to Council.

The Governor-General was welcomed to the Council regional office by a traditional Bungal conducted by Rirratjingu Clan members.

Once the Bungal was complete, the Governor-General met with approximately 25 Councillors and Local Authority Members in the Council meeting room / chambers, that we are brought in from across the region.

There was a very positive discussion with the Governor-General, which we can brief all Local Authority Members about today.

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

RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority notes the CEO Report.

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no attachments to this report.

GENERAL BUSINESS

ITEM NUMBER 8.2

TITLE Review and Further Empowerment of Local

Authorities

REFERENCE 1694831

AUTHOR Dale Keehne, Chief Executive Officer

SUMMARY:

Each Local Authority is asked to consider the review and further strengthening and empowerment of Local Authorities, for referral to Council and a review of Local Authorities being conducted by the Northern Territory Government.

BACKGROUND

Aboriginal people have run local government and community services in each Aboriginal community across the Northern Territory, since the end of the mission days.

From 2008 Aboriginal people have run local government and community services in a number of communities across larger regions.

This increased Aboriginal Controlled Council's ability to deliver services, and increased their voice and ability to deal and work with the Northern Territory and Australian Governments.

The voice of local communities has come from locally elected Councillors, and the creation of Community Advisory Boards in each community.

From 2013 this local voice was strengthened with the shift from Community Advisory Boards to Local Authorities which have a more formal role within the broader regional Councils. This includes a formal process for nominating members, formal and transparent agendas, and reporting back processes, the provision of specific Local Authority Project Funding, and secretariat and senior management support.

Review of Local Authorities

The Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet is conducting a formal review of Local Authorities. It includes key principles of Flexible Governance, Community Centred, Placed Based Engagement, Empowerment, Outcome Focused, and Accountability – and possible options to achieve them (see attachment A).

GENERAL

The next steps are for the Regional Councils and the respective Local Authorities to provide comment and input on the Local Authority Review Report.

Council resolved at its last meeting on 20 October:

That the Local Authority:

(a) Endorses the review of the Local Authority Review Report by each Local Authority, to consider and decide on the different recommendations to strengthen the role of Local Authorities, and any other recommendations.



(b) Endorses the nomination of President Lapulung Dhamarrandji, Chief Executive Officer Dale Keehne and a Local Authority Member, as representatives on the Reference Group to develop an Implementation Plan to strengthen Local Authorities.

Each Local Authority is being consulted in the November round of meetings to discuss these and other options, and seek a formal resolution from each Local Authority of how they wish to be empowered.

Council can then review the resolutions of all Local Authorities, and make a regional wide resolution at its Ordinary Council Meeting in December, reflecting the particular position of the different Local Authorities, and any shared positions, and inform the Minister of Local Government Chansey Paech of this.

Following input from the range of Councils across the Territory, a Reference Group will be formed in January 2024 to develop an Implementation Plan on the strengthening of Local Authorities. The Reference Group will be led by the Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet, and include representatives from the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory (LGANT), regional Councils and Local Authorities.

Council is being asked to endorse the nomination of Council President Lapulung Dhamarrandji, CEO Dale Keehne and a Local Authority member, as our nominated representatives.

The Implementation Plan is due to be developed from January to March to then be provided to the Minister for Local Government Chansey Paech for consideration and approval. The plan and any changes in it are due to be implemented from 1 July 2023.

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

RECOMMENDATION

1.

That the Local Authority, to further strengthen and empower their role endorses:

(a)	The f	ollowing	recommen	dations r	aised in	the L	ocal Au	thority F	Review F	Report.

2.3.<.....further recommendations>

(b) The following other recommendations:

2.
 3.
 -----further recommendations>

ATTACHMENTS:

1 LA Review Report - 12 October 2022 Draft.docx

1. Background

Local authorities (LAs) were established in 2014 under section 53B of the former Local Government Act 2008 (the 2008 Act). LAs were established as a response to concerns from communities that the transition from the former community government councils to regional councils led to a loss of communities' voices in the planning and delivery of council programs and services in their community.

The inclusion of LAs in the structure of regional councils is intended to ensure communities have a say in their regional councils' planning, prioritisation, funding and delivery of services and infrastructure for their community; and the provision of information and feedback to communities about the councils' decisions and activities in that community. The ultimate goal is effective, responsive council services for remote communities.

2. Intent of the Legislative Framework

On 1 July 2021, the intent of the 2008 Act was further strengthened when it was replaced with the Local Government Act 2019 (the 2019 Act). In addition, the previous Guideline 8: Regional councils and local authorities (Guideline 8) was replaced by the new Guideline 1: Local Authorities (Guideline 1). The provisions in the 2019 Act were in a new chapter entitled Local Decision Making to reinforce the intent and purpose of LAs.

The 2019 Act requires regional councils to seek their LAs' advice and recommendations in relation to the council's budget; their priorities for expenditure; their service delivery; regional plans; strategic directions; and funding. Regional councils must also ensure their strategies and plans are informed by the vision and priorities of the LAs, and must work with their LAs to foster constructive working relationships between the council and community.

The 2019 Act specifically provides for expanded roles for LAs and a mechanism for giving communities a stronger voice in local government matters that affect them. Section 78 defines the functions of a LA:

- to involve local communities more closely in issues related to local government;
- ensure that local communities are given an opportunity to express their opinions on questions affecting local government;
- to allow local communities a voice in the formulation of policies for the locality as well as policies for the area and the region;
- to take the views of local communities back to the council and act as advocates on their behalf;
- to contribute to the development of the regional plan;
- to make recommendations to the council in relation to the council's budget and the part of the council's
 area within which the LA performs its functions.

Guideline 1 provides how LAs are to operate and be administered by their respective regional councils, including appointments and resignations, meetings, LA member payments and reporting.

3. Local Authority Review

In 2021, before the commencement of the 2019 Act, the Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet (CM&C) started a desktop review (Review 1) of how well regional councils and LAs were meeting the intent of the 2008 Act and Guideline 8. The aim of Review 1 was to identify good practice across the NT as well as areas that could be further strengthened, and to determine what actions could be considered to better support the delivery of the intent

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of LAs given their expanded roles under the 2019 Act. Review 1 focused on the 66 LAs established across the Northern Territory for the period 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020.

Review 1 was informed by the information available on regional councils' websites, information held and observations made by CM&C and some feedback and insights provided by regional councils. The findings and draft recommendations were provided to councils and other stakeholders in early 2022 for comment.

The Review 1 report acknowledged limitations associated with any desktop process. However it provided a platform for more discussion with councils, LA members and others, resulting in the direction outlined in this report.

Review 1 confirmed that there is noticeable diversity in the functioning of LAs and the way councils work with them, with some LAs engaging strongly with their communities and working with their councils to deliver on community priorities and aspirations, and some others struggling to meet or attain quorum to enable recommendations to be made about community priorities. Some LAs, with their councils' support, consider broader matters than council business, acting as a forum and conduit for community engagement in matters including local, Territory and Commonwealth government priorities.

In addition, feedback from councils and LA members has indicated that some of the requirements placed on them by the NT Government, or interpretations of these requirements, are impeding their ability to achieve their core functions.

Feedback on Review 1 included the following:

Role of LAs:

- a need for greater recognition, promotion and celebration of the strengths of the LA model and more sharing
 of examples of LAs and their councils successfully achieving the intent of the Act;
- the need for CM&C, councils and LAs to have a clear and common understanding of the definition and scope of their core functions and requirements;

Flexibility:

- the need for flexibility in how LAs and their councils deliver on the core functions (or choose to move beyond the core) to respond to differences between communities, their aspirations and the capacity of LAs;
- providing for flexibility for those communities, LAs and councils who want to have more integrated
 engagement, not just on local government matters. For example, some communities would like to see a
 single body coordinating community input into local government and NT Government (or broader) planning,
 services and prioritisation; while others have indicated a preference that LA members continue to focus on
 local government and other groups are established or continue to provide input into NT Government and
 broader matters;
- recognition that some LAs are well established with consistent membership who deliver well-regarded
 outcomes for their communities and council, and others are less established; and that, over time, LAs may
 cycle through these stages. This impacts on the levels of support needed from councils for their LAs and the
 level of autonomy LAs may have, and needs to be accommodated in expectations set by CM&C and required
 of councils;

Decision making

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LAs should have as much influence and decision-making power as is appropriate to their stage of
development and the delegations of the council; for example, some councils have already delegated decision
making in the use of LA Project Funding (LAPF) to their LA, and some have delegated decision making over
other community funding. The council is the decision-maker about the level of delegation relevant for their
LA/s;

LA Members:

- a need for greater role clarity, capacity building and support for LA members and LA chairs;
- the need to revisit whether proxies should be permitted for LA members;

Administration:

- CM&C should remove any administrative requirements that detract from the ability of the LA and council to
 deliver on their core function. This needs to be balanced with good governance and accountable
 administrative process, reflecting that LAs are involved in the use of public resources and should be
 respected in their communities as informed, well governed and responsive structures;
- performance reporting should be focused on the intended outcome; ie the demonstration by councils of the
 engagement of communities through their LAs, and of the council's responsiveness to the advice, input and
 advocacy of their LA, including through the delivery of agreed community priorities;
- LAs should be able to set their own agendas and conducttheir own meetings, while recognising the role of
 councils in managing administration, building capacity and responding to the varying levels of experience
 and capacity of members;

Resourcing/support

- some LAs and their councils continue to see benefit in having CM&C representatives at meetings at least
 occasionally, to coordinate responses to questions from community and LAs about NT Government matters,
 as well as to support engagement with other NT Government agencies;
- LAPF is a valuable resource for LAs and their councils to respond to community priorities. However, some
 councils struggle to spend these funds in the required time frames. The support role of CM&C is important
 in helping councils to address any barriers to the timely expenditure of funding on community priorities as
 determined by the LA and council;
- Accessible information should be provided to enable communities to understand how priorities for the use
 of LAPF are determined, and where they are spent;
- . A need for a review of the LAPF guidelines to ensure their alignment with the core intent of the LAs;
- Any changes to the LA model should avoid requiring additional council resourcing. For example, where
 communities and their LAs want to have a broader role than council matters, there may need to be
 negotiation of partnering with NTG or others to share costs.

As a result of feedback and further discussions, the focus of the Review 1 report changed considerably into this report. This report emphasises the intent of the legislative framework for LAs and provides a principles-based direction for how this intent will be strengthened across the diverse councils of regional NT.

This review does not anticipate a change in the 2019 Act in relation to the role of LAs; LAs will remain part of their regional council structure, and continue to be subject to the control and direction of their relevant regional council.

4. Principles

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The following principles have been developed to guide the way in which CM&C, regional councils and LAs will support the effective integration and involvement of communities in the system of local government, as intended in the 2019 Act. An amendment to Guideline 1 will be required to fulfil the aspirations below.

PRINCIPLE: Fle	xible governance
What does this mean?	All LAs have a core role: to enable their community to have a say in their regional councils' planning, prioritisation, budgeting, and service delivery for their community; and to support the provision of regular feedback to their communities about council activities and the achievement of LA priorities.
	Councils and their LAs, with their communities, will determine how they deliver the role so it is adaptable to different locations, community aspirations, and capacity. CM&C will facilitate the sharing of examples of good practice from LAs across the NT
	Whether they and their community prefer that the LA focus on council business or take a broader approach with a wider range of community matters. If a broader approach is
	agreed this may need negotiation of support from CM&C or other partners for non- council activities. Also, if a broader approach is agreed community input should ensure it avoids duplicating other community structures, authority or roles and that the role is understood and supported;
	how the LA will conduct meetings and engage with their community;
	 how the LA will prioritise LAPF funds including how community input will be heard, how priorities will be decided, and how decisions and outcomes will be communicated to the community;
	whether delegated decision making will be requested from the council;
What does	 the nomination process for LA members, with councils seeking LA and community input into their policy on criteria for selecting LA members;
this look like?	the number of appointed members up to a maximum of 14;
	 whether the Mayor/President will be a member of LAs beyond their own ward;
	 the frequency of LA meetings (minimum four per year, with timing to enable input into, and feedback from, council planning);
	 the location of LA meetings - they should be held in public places to maximise opportunity for community members to attend; and
	 whether attendance at meetings via phone/video conference will be allowed.
	First LA meetings to recommend to council:
	nomination of LA chair;
	 the kinds of priorities the LA would like to focus on for their community;
	 how information about meetings and decisions will be publicised. This must be at least on the council website for transparency for community members; and
	the use of interpreters

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What does this mean?	The way the council and LA engage with each other and the community is place-based and adapts to local needs, languages, time frames and cultural protocols to encourage community involvement.
What does this look like?	 LAs will recommend to their council the process for community engagement and two-way communication between the council, LA and community Community engagement is supported by principles of the Remote Engagement and Coordination Strategy Communication is clear and accessible. LAs with their councils decide the nature and format of reports to be provided by councils to LAs — brief, diagrammatic reports are enough LAs and their councils decide how the feedback about priorities is given to the LA and community in a timely way such as through the Council Community Based Manager, local council member or LA chair outside of meetings if needed Regional councils support their LAs to host at least one community based event each year to support community input into LA priorities, and council planning. These events may be funded through some LAPF. For example, some LAs may hold community barbecues twice per year: to provide input into LA priorities and council plans for their area; and to receive feedback about how the LA and council has responded to that input. Information is provided by regional councils in LA meeting agenda papers on: Decisions that council has made based on the LA's recommendations and advice
	Council resources and service delivery in the community. Progress / status updates on LA project recommendations.
	 The amount of funding that is available to the LA for community priorities.

PRINCIPLE: Emp	powerment
What does this mean?	LAs have authority to effectively carry out their core role as intended in the Act.
What does	Where LAs seek to do so, regional councils consider opportunities for delegation of relevant decisions to LAs consistent with the <i>Local Government Act 2019</i> , including decision making about priorities for LA project funds
this look like?	Councils, with CM&C assistance, provide training and resources to support professional development of LA chairs and members in governance and the LA role; and clearly communicate the role of LAs and regional councils to communities.

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PRINCIPLE: Out	come-focused
What does this mean?	LAs (and communities) can see that their recommendations to the council, based on community engagement, are being acted on; where this is not the case, they are informed of the reason.
What does this look like?	Council annual reports include information that demonstrates how they have engaged with communities via their LA, and the outcomes delivered in response to LA recommendations/decisions. Compliance activity by CM&C will focus on the intended outcome of LAs

PRINCIPLE: Acc	RINCIPLE: Accountability			
What does this mean?	LAs and their councils continue to demonstrate high standards in governance and the use of public resources			
	LAs have opportunities for professional development in governance consistent with their core role through their council and/or with support from CM&C if requested Decision making is transparent, focused on the best interests of the community as a whole, and			
What does this look like?	conflicts of interest are managed. Information is accessible to community members about meetings, meeting proceedings, and opportunities for participation. Meetings are generally open to community members unless there is a defined need for confidentiality consistent with the provisions in the Local Government Act 2019.			

5. Examples of Good Practice

To be discussed with, and provided by, regional councils.

Next Steps

This report will be provided to regional councils and other stakeholders for comment and input. Regional councils are encouraged to engage with their LAs in developing feedback. CM&C is available to assist as needed.

An implementation plan will be drafted for feedback from regional councils and LAs through their respective councils. The implementation plan will be developed through a reference group led by CM&C with the Local Government Association of the NT, and council and LA representatives.

The final LA Review report and Implementation Plan will be provided to the Minister for Local Government for consideration and approval. It is intended that this will be completed within the first quarter of 2023.

The LA Project Fund grant funding guidelines will be reviewed in 2022-23 in consultation with regional councils along with Guideline 1. Any recommendations for changes will then be advised to the Minister for Local Government for consideration for implementation in 2023-24.

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GENERAL BUSINESS

ITEM NUMBER 8.3

TITLE Technical and Infrastructure Program and Capital

Project Updates

REFERENCE 1693273

AUTHOR Shane Marshall, Director Technical & Infrastructure Services

SUMMARY

This report is tabled for the Local Authority to provide program updates within the Technical and Infrastructure directorate, in addition to progress updates associated with capital projects and initiatives associated with the 2022-2023 Annual Plan.

BACKGROUND

As part of the annual plan, there were a range of tabled projects and initiatives subsequently approved by the Local Authorities and Council for the current financial year.

Each meeting will have updates associated with the annual plan actions, in addition to the reporting of any new initiatives or business arising for the community.

The information below covers actions associated with the below services:

108 - Veterinary and Animal Control Services.

116 - Lighting for Public Safety.

118 – Local Road Maintenance & Traffic Management.

119 – Local Road Upgrade and Construction.

122 - Building Infrastructure Services.

129 - Waste and Environmental Services.

169 - Municipal Services and Cemeteries.

GENERAL

Service Profile: 108 - Core - Veterinary and Animal Control Services

Business Unit: Veterinary and Animal Control

Action ID:

2.3.10.12 - Provide program outcome statistics to Local Authority and Council meetings.

The recent round of visits have been a great success across multiple localities, with Doctor Tania Mitchell and AMO Sarah Carrall servicing the community on a regular basis.

Doctor Tania spreads her time on a monthly rotation between Yirrkala and Galiwin'ku serving the surrounding communities, and is due back in Yirrkala/Gunyangara for a week next month, in line with the community scheduled visit plan.

Some surgery statistics as part of the last month are as follows:

GUNYANGARA

- 7 animals de-sexed.
- 19 parasite treatments given.
- 8 cats euthanized.
- 2 cases treated for abscess.
- 1 cat with old eye injury.
- Dispensed 4 tick collars, recovery food and lectade from first aid cabinet.



Service Profile: 116 - Core - Lighting for Public Safety

Business Unit: Transport Infrastructure

Action ID:

4.2.6.9 Manage, maintain and upgrade streetlights in Gunyangara

Audits have been undertaken on a range of lighting within the community via the Konect Inspection software by the Municipal/Public Works team.



As part of the audit, three lights were identified as not working correctly. The lighting units have been replaced by local electrical contractor.

As part of the ongoing improvement in this area, monthly inspection audits and reporting will form part of the Public Works/Municipal Services work plan, with an order based on the lighting replacement requirements actioned every three months.



Audit Repairs Completed 100%

In addition to the repairs, the current plan budget includes funding for seven more solar lights for the causeway area towards the boat club for improved pedestrian safety these have been ordered and now arrived in community.

RFQ sent to the contractors for install.



Service Profile: 118 - Core - Local Road Maintenance and Traffic Management
Business Unit: Transport and Infrastructure

Action ID:

- 4.2.1.1 Manage the maintenance and upgrade of local roads, drainage and pedestrian infrastructure under core allocated funds and grant project funding.
- 4.2.4.6 Local Road Maintenance Gunyangara.

Traffic Calming Devices

2 x Watts Profile 6.5m x 2m x 75mm.

1 x Watts Profile 6.5m x 3m x 75mm – Pedestrian Crossing have arrived in Darwin and will be transported via Seaswift within the next few weeks.

Service Profile: 119 - Core - Local Road Upgrade and Construction
Business Unit: Transport and Infrastructure

business offic. Transport and infrastructure

Action ID:

4.2.2.1 - Upgrade Local Roads - Gunyangarra kerbing and drainage improvements.

As part of the Roads Program in Gunyangara, the major initiatives are the improvements to surface seals, kerbing and drainage within the community, in line with this year's plan.

Engagements are currently underway with an initial site visit from engineering consultants, to establish a staged approach to the improvement plan to meet the communities' requirements.

Project Objectives

The overall project objective is to formalise the storm water drainage and kerbing throughout key areas in the Gunyangara community.

The desired outcomes of the project are to:

- Protect the sealed roads, limit edge break and excessive longitudinal erosion.
- Limit the overland flow through lots via direction kerbing.
- Provide a verge than can be used for a footpath in the future (although control of storm water should take precedence).

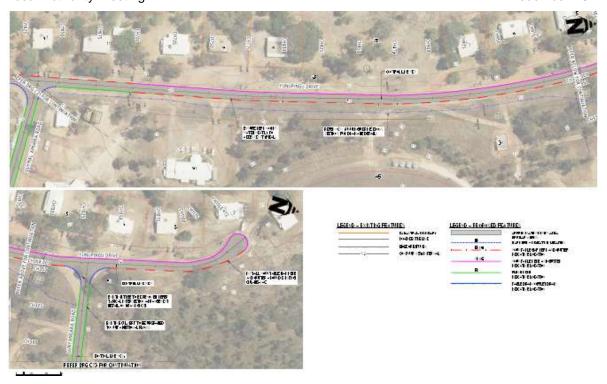
Proposed Scope of Works (All Stages)

Develop a storm water management plan based on contour and aerial data.

It is anticipated that this plan will define existing and desired catchment areas (noting some of the existing stream paths pass through properties), standard treatment types and areas of concern, and define a proposed staging of works for detailed design.

The plan will include high level conceptual designs for the required works within the community.

Develop detailed design for kerbing, drainage and road works required for a single project or for a group of projects.







Project completion 10%

Service Profile: 122 - Support - Building and Infrastructure Services

Business Unit: Technical and Infrastructure

Action ID

1.4.2.1 - Provide relevant Program/Project updates to every Local Authority community meeting as required.

4.3.14.2 - Conduct minor and capital upgrades to various council controlled buildings throughout the region, in line with the allocated budget and completion time lines per community.

Gunyangara

Lot 84 - Staff Housing - Boundary fence/roofing replacement - Completion August.

This action now includes the roofing replacement element which was rolled over from the 21-22 period due to capacity and availability, the completion date will now be projected to November 2022.



Yet to Commence 0%

<u>All Lots</u> - Electrical Compliance works - completion November 2022.



Yet to Commence 0%

Service Profile: 129 - Core - Waste and Environmental Services
Business Unit: Regional Waste and Environment

Action ID

- 4.1.2.2 Construct a residential waste transfer station at Gunyangara.
- 4.1.4.1 Manage a regular residential kerb side waste collection service in Gunyangara.
- 4.1.6.2 Install a site monitoring CCTV Camera at the Gunyangara Waste Management Facility.
- 4.1.9.11 Implement an aerial mosquito and weed spray program within locations.
- 4.1.5.2 Develop and implement environmental management plans for all Council operated Waste Management and Transfer Station Facilities.

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 space would be unmanned, but regularly checked and managed by the Council's Municipal Services 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 the 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.
- Improve and increase recycling initiatives in the community.

The site would initially be for community residents only and 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.







Percentage completed 20%

All material ordered and contractor engaged

Aerial Spraying and Weed Control Program

One of the major initiatives for the Environmental and Waste program, in conjunction with the Municipal/Public Works team, is the focused implementation of aerial and ground spraying to address the noxious weed issue in the peninsula communities. In addition to programed mosquito spraying.

Council have already ordered the below units as part of this initiative with an ETA at the end of September, with staff training also forming a crucial part of the program roll out and into the future.





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

RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority:

- (a) Notes the report.
- (b) Supports the development of a transfer station for Gunyangara in the proposed location noting this has been approved by the 99 year lease boards.

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no attachments to this report.

GENERAL BUSINESS

ITEM NUMBER 8.4

TITLE Council Operations Report

REFERENCE 1694086

AUTHOR Adam Johnson, Council Operations Manager

SUMMARY:

This report is provided by the Council Operations Manager at every Local Authority meeting to provide information and updates to members.

BACKGROUND

As per Guideline1: Local Authorities requirement for a report to be included on service delivery issues in the local authority area.

GENERAL

Governor General David Hurley visited the East Arnhem Regional for presentations, and to meet the community members of Gunyangara Dhupuma Barker School.

Warning signs about dangerous dogs are being taken down, creating a dangerous situation for families, friends and visitors coming to the community. One particular dog is of concern and the family has been advised several times to relocate the animal to the homeland for the safety of the community.

Please advise community members to be cautious while driving around the community, as there have also been dogs hit by vehicles.

The next visit from Dr. Sarah Carrall is in early December 2022, for community animal general observation and treatment for ticks, worms and scabies mange in dogs & cats.

The oval irrigation has been running from the power and water tanks, due to the hose from the quarry being burnt during a recent bush fire at the quarry.

At the last Community Night Patrol quarterly meeting, suggestions were made around installing solar lights at the playground for safety and visibility. This will give the CNP team sight of children playing at night time in the Gumatj playground area.

The Municipal Services team has sighted numerous spray cans, plastic bottles and cups used for sniffing paint. Graffiti has increased around the community, now visible on road signs, buildings, footpaths and seating areas. Members of the community assume the spray cans are coming from town based areas.

Meals on Wheels from the Yirrkala Aged care and Disability centre, are currently catering for the Community members in Gunyangara.

East Arnhem Regional Council Gunyangara, would like to thank all members of the community and Local authority members for your contribution, input and support throughout 2022.

We would like to wish you a safe, festive Christmas with families, friends and for 2023 to bring prosperity joy and wishes.

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

RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority notes the Council Operations Report.

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no attachments to this report.

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GENERAL BUSINESS

ITEM NUMBER 8.5

TITLE Corporate Services Report

REFERENCE 1691057

AUTHOR Michael Freeman, Corporate Services Manager

SUMMARY

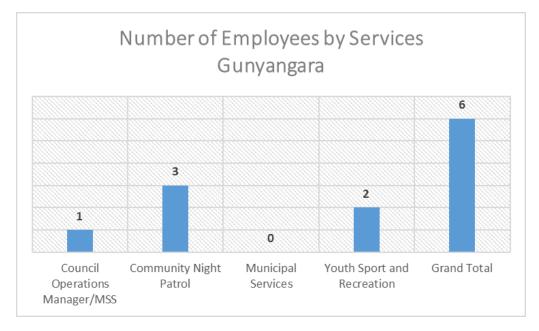
This report presents the financial expenditure plus employment statistics as of 31 October 2022 within the Local Authority area.

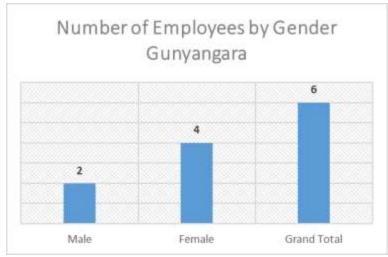
BACKGROUND

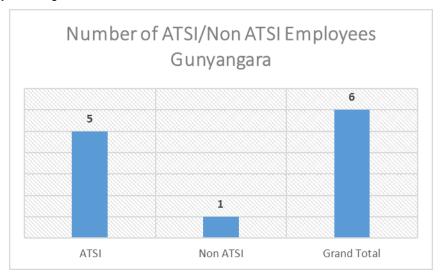
Local Authorities need to consider the Finance Report carefully as it details the current actual figures against the budget for the Local Authority area. Also the report details the number of staff against the different service areas.

GENERAL

Employee Statistics:







Vacancies as of 31 October 2022:

Position	Level
Community Night Patrol Officer - Gove peninsula	Level 2
Municipal Services Officer	Level 1

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 as of 31 October 2022.

ATTACHMENTS:

15 Financial Results - Gunyangara

Each Reporting Location

		Gunyangara	
INCOME AND EXPENSE STATEMENT	ACTUALS	BUDGET YTD	VARIANCE
YEAR TO DATE 31 OCTOBER 2022	YTD	DODGETTID	YTD
OPERATING REVENUE			
Grants	130,485	345,987	(215,502)
User Charges and Fees	602	567	36
Rates and Annual Charges		347,536	(347,536)
Interest Income		36	
Other Operating Revenues	192	1,000	(808)
Council Internal Allocations		53	-
Untied Revenue Allocation	139,638	139,638	
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES	270,917	834,727	(563,810)
OPERATING EXPENSES	2 CONTO - 24 CONTO	1812 1802 -	
Employee Expenses	90,550	121,444	(30,893)
Materials and Contracts	22,420	786,677	(764,256)
Elected Member Allowances	-	¥3	-
Council Committee & LA Allowances	316	3,258	(2,942)
Depreciation and Amortisation	-	-	-
Interest Expenses	- 2	20	-
Other Operating Expenses	84,471	223,361	(138,891)
Council Internal Allocations	65,025	65,017	8
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	262,782	1,199,757	(936,975)
OPERATING SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	8,136	(365,030)	373,166
Capital Grants Income	75	*:	6
SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	8,136	(365,030)	373,166
Capital Expenses	-	(99,700)	99,700
Transfer to Reserves	G	(721)	721
Add Back Non-Cash Expenses	12		
NET SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	8,136	(465,451)	473,586
Carried Forward Grants Revenue	95,317	122,679	(27,362)
Transfer from General Equity	_	2	-
Transfer from Reserves		484,864	(484,864)
TOTAL ADDITIONAL INFLOWS	95,317	607,543	(512,226)
NET OPERATING POSITION	103,453	142,093	(38,640)

Attachment 1 Page 49

GENERAL BUSINESS

ITEM NUMBER 8.6

TITLE Library Services Principles

REFERENCE 1695526

AUTHOR Andrew Walsh, Director Community Development

SUMMARY

This report is to inform and seek direction from the Local Authorities on the provision and design of East Arnhem Regional Council's Library services.

BACKGROUND

Public libraries are vital and trusted resources for local communities. They support literacy and education, community building and skills development through:

Collections of print, audio-visual and digital resources, for education and recreation, with a stock of over 400,000 items

- accessible internet and technology
- inclusive and welcoming community spaces
- supportive and skilled staff

There are 32 public libraries in the Northern Territory, serving a culturally and linguistically diverse, mobile and often remote population of 240,000 people.

These libraries receive over a million visits every year. They service urban areas such as Darwin, Alice Springs, Palmerston and Katherine, smaller towns, and 16 Aboriginal communities including the communities Ramingining, Milingimbi, Galiwin'ku, Angurugu, Umbakumba and Nhulunbuy in East Arnhem.

Whilst many remote communities do not currently have a local library, free community internet is provided as a baseline public library service to 34 communities, rising to 46 by the end of 2017, for East Arnhem this includes Gapuwiyak.

Territory public libraries are well connected. Membership at one library enables Territorians to borrow from any other library in the Territory.

Books can be requested from other libraries and interstate, and extensive online collections of books, magazines and information resources are available across the Territory.

Evidence suggests the way in which public libraries are being used is changing, which is an exciting prospect for East Arnhem Regional Council and provides opportunity to provide services in a way that is more reflective of our area and our peoples and communities needs

The annual Australian Public Libraries Statistical Report indicates that whilst visitor numbers to Territory libraries are holding steady at over a million visits per year, lending is decreasing, in line with a national trend. At the same time, the number of library programs on offer to the Territory community has increased to nearly 9,000 programs with over 77,000 participants.

It has been ten years since the last comprehensive look was taken at how public libraries could best serve Territory communities. Much has changed since then.

Expectations about how and when people access information have been transformed by mobile connectivity. Increasing satellite internet coverage and the NBN has improved the availability of internet access.

Local government boundaries have changed. Greater opportunities for innovative library partnerships with community groups and between government agencies.

In October 2016 the Northern Territory Library engaged KPMG to conduct a consultation process to get a clearer picture about what Territorians most value about their current library services, and how they wish to see them developed in the future.

Findings

KPMG received strong feedback from the community about how passionately local library services were valued. The key findings from the public consultation process included:

- Print collections remain highly relevant. Digital collections are also highly valued, but as a supplement rather than a replacement.
- Collections need to reflect all elements of the community, and include diverse languages. Audiovisual materials are also a critical part of collection development.
- The most highly valued programs provided by libraries are those that support children, especially early childhood literacy programs and after school programs.
- Technology access is critical, but so is training and support for technology use. Along
 with early childhood programs and after school programs, technology programs are
 most in demand.
- Libraries are valued as flexible spaces for community use, such as meeting spaces for community groups and places for community members to run their own programs.
- Libraries play an important role in supporting individual small business and work activities, particularly by providing access to the internet and spaces to work.
- There is a demand for longer or alternative opening hours, the nature of which will vary between communities.

Consultation was also undertaken with local government staff, which confirmed the findings of the public consultation process and also highlighted issues to be considered in the development of a new Agreement between the Northern Territory Government and local government for the funding for public library services.

The full report from the public consultation is available on the Northern Territory Library website.

GENERAL

On the basis of the consultation process a number of principles have been formulated which will be used to guide the future development of Territory public libraries.

Access for all

All Territorians, no matter where they are located, should have access to library services. Where access to a physical library building is not feasible, services should be provided through a mix of digital and outreach services and through partnerships with other local service providers. Core library services should be free to the community and not dependent on the ability to pay.

Responsive to local community needs

The type and scope of library services required, including opening hours, depends on the needs and desires of the community it is serving. One size does not fit all.

Libraries provide a platform for individual and community development and should provide opportunities for local organisations, community groups and businesses to utilise their spaces and resources.

Inclusive services

Library services should support the diversity of Territory communities and ensure that services are accessible for people with different languages and cultural backgrounds, for people of all ages and abilities.

Respect for Aboriginal culture

Libraries should support the continued strengthening of Aboriginal languages and cultures.

Customer focused

People should enjoy their visit to the library, feel comfortable in the spaces and supported by staff.

Innovative solutions and partnerships

With a clear focus on community requirements and outcomes, libraries should explore new opportunities to deliver services, particularly through partnerships with other community organisations and expansion of online services.

Effective and efficient services

Libraries should ensure that public funding is used to deliver community benefits and outcomes effectively and efficiently through the development of a culture of evaluation and evidence based decision making.

The Northern Territory Library should provide centralised Territory-wide services where this is the most effective and efficient solution.

Sustainable services

Funding and service delivery frameworks should be developed to ensure that they are sustainable into the future.

Effective network

The Northern Territory public library network is strengthened through collaboration, communication and shared skills development between library services.

Libraries change lives. When design is right Libraries provide a rich mixture of collections, spaces, programs, technologies and supportive staff to enable individuals and communities to learn, grow and develop.

They are free and accessible to all members of the community and support lifelong learning, for children, students, adult individuals, families, and seniors. The variety of resources made available by libraries enables them to provide value to their communities across a wide range of areas.

The Australian Public Library Alliance and the Australian Library and Information Association have recently released Guidelines, Standards and Outcome Measures for Australian Public Libraries, which identifies six areas in which libraries make a difference to their communities:

- Literacy and lifelong learning
- Informed and connected citizens
- Digital inclusion
- Personal development and wellbeing
- Stronger and more creative communities
- Economic and workforce development

For Council to consider: when applying these principles and the six areas in which libraries can make a deference to design, how would Council like to see library services in their community? The principles allow Council a lot of flexibility, whether they choose to employ one or many of the principles to meet the communities library needs.

Service design, can now remove the four walls of the library, make library services an outreach program, culturally based programing, focused on early education or development or fully involved in the digital revolution. The flexibility in applying the principles to design also means that Council has the ability to potentially include all locations in the library design.

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

RECOMMENDATION

That Local Authorities:

- (a) Notes the report.
- (b) Recommend the following be included in Library design and programming;
 - a. ...
 - b. ...
 - C. ...
 - d. ...

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no attachments to this report.

GENERAL BUSINESS

ITEM NUMBER 8.7

TITLE Revised Budget 2022 - 23

REFERENCE 1698042

AUTHOR Michael Freeman, Corporate Services Manager

SUMMARY:

This report presents a draft Revised Budget for consideration.

BACKGROUND

The Local Government (General) Regulations state in section 9 that the council budget must be reviewed on at least one occasion between 1 July and 31 December; and again between 1 January and 30 April.

The current original budget was prepared in April 2022, prior to the start of the year. Therefore it contains assumptions and estimates for end of year figures. With the completion of the audit of the 2021/22 year those figures are now known and require adjustment in the budget. In addition, funding agencies have provided funding contracts for 2022/23 that require adjustment of the figures.

The budget revision does not, and cannot, alter rates and waste charges for the year, which have already been charged to property owners. Additionally, the law continues to state that Council cannot budget for a deficit.

The draft budget revision was included on each of the Local Authority meeting agendas for feedback. This Finance Committee meeting has the opportunity to review and provide feedback. The final budget revision will be presented at the 15 December 2022 Council meeting for approval as required within the timeframe of the law.

GENERAL

Overall

Overall, the revised budget is currently showing a surplus of \$69,316 compared to the original budget of \$48,312.

Revenue Sources

Carried forward revenue from previous years is 65.24% Tied Funds (\$7.79M) for a specific grant purpose. The remaining 34.76% (\$4.15M) consists of payment in advance by the Northern Territory Government for general operational purposes (\$2.76M), FAA Roads Carried Forward (\$851K), Training (\$200K), IT Systems Project (\$140K), Public Relations (\$140K) and Civic Events (\$58K).

The revenue for the current year is 37.46% tied funds (\$15.58M), 17.68% rates (\$7.38M), 17.75% untied funds that includes NTG operational grant \$7.44M. User Charges and Fees are 19.53% (\$8.12M) and Other Operating Revenue is 6.66% (\$2.77M).



Major Highlighted Changes to Revision Budget:

Service Code 119 Local Road Upgrade and construction carried forward revenue has increased by \$1M, Current Year revenue has decreased by \$215K. Operating expenditure has increased by \$2.74M due to recognition of expenditure \$784K with Roads to Recovery Program, Angurugu Internal Roads Upgrade \$1.8M, and increased expenditure of \$147K with Gapuwiyak Access Road Upgrade.

Fleet Capital Expenditure (Service 112) has been increased by \$451K.

Waste Management activity (Service 129) increased salary expenditure by \$40K and Angurugu Waste Transfer Station material and expenditure by \$36K. These additional costs will be funded by utilising 70K waste management reserve.

IT expenditure has been increased by \$47K due to addition of contractor expenses (\$25K), Software License (\$12K) and increasing asset expenditure by \$10K.

Street Lighting expenditure (Service 116) has been increased by \$71K.

Gapuwiyak council controlled building expenditure (Service 122) has been increased by \$148k. Also Milingimbi fire expenditure has been increased by \$45K.

Aged Care Workforce Bonus revenue (Service 141) has increased by \$50K. Carried forward Revenue has increased by \$547K, Operating expenditure has increased by \$260K due to \$160K increase in Indigenous Employment Initiative Expenses, \$68K increase with Home Care Transitional Support and \$50K increase with Remote Community Connector program.

Community Child Care Fund expenditure (Service 145), has been increased by \$173K.

Corporate services expenditure has been reduced by \$50K for council planning and reporting and by \$30K for new IT systems project. \$598K carry over reserve has been used for \$200K training, \$140K IT systems Project and \$258K employment carry over funds.

The Natural Account By Account very detailed report provides a four page full list of every budget account line.

Local Authority Projects

Expenditure on Local Authority Projects is \$10,786,927.

Available funds carried over from previous years of \$4,098,966 plus additional funding of \$1,742,200 gives \$5,841,166. Council funds of \$6.7M from the Public Area Infrastructure Reserve and the Community Benefit Reserve gives \$11,953,772 available to allocate to projects.

Attached is the full list of projects. Where the project description is nonspecific 'Local Authority Project Funding" – these funds are yet to be allocated by the Local Authority to a specific project. The budget does contain a non-specific expenditure line for these funds.

The unallocated funds will be the subject of a separate report from the Director Technical and Infrastructure.

Unallocated Funds	Amount
Angurugu	151,744
Umbakumba	111,636
Milyakburra	30,409
Ramingining	136,792
Milingimbi	189,630
Gapuwiyak	272,380
Galiwinku	713,238
Yirrkala	114,465
Gunyangara	33,945
Total	1,754,239

Reserves

Council created specific reserves, which totaled \$32,514,943 at the start of the year are budgeted to total \$10,959,481 at the end of the year.

Aged & Disability Program – Increased its reserves draw for capital and resources from the original budget to \$4,451,502, this is to accommodate for under estimated items in the original budget including building upgrades and generator installations. Aged & Disability have also committed to additional required upgrades to the Ramingining Aged & Disability center. Other expenditure items are tied to replacement of critical resources required for delivery. All expenditure is aligned with providing quality, consistent, culturally appropriate care for our clients.

Local Authority Projects – Council also increased its draw from reserves from the original budget of \$6M to \$6.7M to cover the increase in project expenditures in the revised budget.

Local Roads Upgrade and Construction – the increase in contract labour expenditure in the revised budget also increased the draw from roads reserves by \$1.97M.

Unexpended Allocated Projects Carry Over Reserve has a beginning balance of \$938,250. \$796,778 of this reserve is budgeted to be used this financial year for civic and community events, training, staffing resources and new IT systems project.

Attached is the detailed movements per reserve for the community.

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

RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority notes the 2022-23 Budget Revision.

- ATTACHMENTS:

 1 Use Budget for E
 2 Use Budget Rev
- Budget for Each Local Authority Area_Gunyangara
 Budget Revision2_FY2023 Community Reports_Gunyangara
- **3**<u>↑</u>
- LAPF Projects_Gunyangara **4**Ū

Table 7. Budget for Each Local Authority Area

		Gunyangara	
INCOME AND EXPENSE STATEMENT YEAR TO DATE 30 JUNE 2023	Revised Budget	Current Adopted Budget	Variance
OPERATING REVENUE			
Grants	294,616	510,095 🤚	(215,479)
User Charges and Fees	1,700	1,700	-
Rates and Annual Charges	347,536	347,536	7.4
Interest Income		- 12	
Other Operating Revenue	3,700	3,700	
Untied Revenue Allocation	269,393	248,385 🧥	21,008
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE	916,945	1,111,416 🍑	(194,471)
OPERATING EXPENSES			
Employee Expenses	358,961	364,331 🌵	(5,370)
Materials and Contracts	941,801	944,197 🍑	(2,396)
Elected Member Allowances			-
Council Committee & LA Allowances	9,774	9,774	
Depreciation and Amortisation	-	-	-
Other Operating Expenses	610,519	641,343 🎍	(30,824)
Council Internal Costs Allocations	200,252	195,051 🥎	5,201
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	2,121,307	2,154,696	(33,389)
OPERATING DEFICIT	(1,204,362)	(1,043,280)	(161,081)
Capital Grants Income			
DEFICIT AFTER CAPITAL GRANTS INCOME	(1,204,362)	(1,043,280)	(161,081)
Capital Expenditure	(276,054)	(299,100) 🍑	23,046
Transfer to Reserves	(5,565)	(2,162)	(3,403)
Add Back Depreciation			
NET BUDGET DEFICIT	(1,485,981)	(1,344,542)	(141,439)
Carried Forward Grants Revenue	300,997	169,617 🥎	131,380
Carried Forward Revenue for FY2023/24	(33,945)	- 1	(33,945)
Transfer from General Equity	-	94	
Transfer from Reserves	1,196,161	1,154,591 🧌	41,571
TOTAL ADDITIONAL INFLOWS	1,463,213	1,324,207	139,005
NET BUDGET OPERATING POSITION - SURPLUS (DEFICIT)		(20,335) 🎍	(2,433)

Attachment 1 Page 58





Attachment 2 Page 59

Attachment 3 LAPF Reporting



CARRIED FORWARD GRANTS REVENUE										
	(608,599)	(318,768)	(49,221)	(492,433)	(769,696)	(463,074)	(943,238)	(377,885)	(76,054)	(4,098,966)
CURRENT YEAR REVENUE	(150 200)	(110 500)	(30 100)	(135 400)	(187 700)	(140 300)	(341 100)	(113 300)	(33,600)	(1 747 700)
6362 - Income Others (Pledge)		×	,	ĸ		ř	(250,000)	(250,000)	٠	(500,000)
TOTAL CURRENT YEAR REVENUE	(150,200)	(110,500)	(30,100)	(135,400)	(187,700)	(140,300)	(591,100)	(363,300)	(33,600)	(1,742,200)
RESERVES TRANSFERS	(743,993)	(819,969)	(575,035)	(470,125)	(957,414)	(739,006)	(892,315)	(823,380)	(678,761)	(6,700,000)
TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE	(1,502,791)	(1,249,237)	(654,356)	(1,097,958)	(1,914,811)	(1,342,380)	(2,426,653)	(1,564,565)	(788,415)	(12,541,166)
LESS: PROJECTS ALLOCATED										
288111 - LAPF - Angurugu - Footpath installation	204,000	30		30		ÿ.		æ	·	204,000
288411 - LAPF - Angurugu waterline and taps installation	25,000	×		×	,	ж	÷		î	25,000
292416 - LAPF - Gapuwiyak PA Upgrade 293415 - LAPF - Milingimbi Instal of Footpaths					465 181	70,000			, ,	70,000
293712 - LAPF - Umbakumba Playground Installations	•	120,000					٠	90		120,000
294012 - LAPF - Umbakumba Installation of Priority Footpaths	*	677,601		×	,	,	ř	×		677,601
294818 - LAPF - Yirrkala Oval Sign	*	,	÷	£	ř	×	ŕ	6,000	•	6,000
296011 - LAPF - Angurugu Identify Gravesites/Purchase Materials	60,000	10		ĸ		: 10		· 10	ŕ	60,000
29/811 - LAPF - Angurugu - Public Toilets	450,000	e 30		6 ,6		C 10		ë e		450,000
298011 - LAPE - Angurugu - Riverside Market Space	30,000	. ,			. ,	к 1				30,000
298111 - LAPF - Angurugu - Seating Church Area	29,115	ю		κ		e:		e		29,115
298412 - LAPF - Umbakumba - Floating pontoon/jetty		250,000		ĸ	ř	×	8	*	·	250,000
298612 - LAPF - Umbakumba - Solar lighting – Beach Front		90,000		×		*		×	ï	90,000
298813 - LAPF - Milyakburra - Oval \$100k contribution	•		83,947	. 18	,	- 60		10		83,947
298913 - LAPF - Milyakburra - Public Toilets		6	350,000	6 6	٠	9 16		0 10		350,000
29013 - LAPE - Milyakburra - Jetty		(8-)	160,000	(8-)		(2.)		e)		160,000
299314 - LAPF - Ramingining - Oval Lights		Œ		961,166		Œ	Ü	Œ		961,166
299515 - LAPF - Milingimbi - Public toilets near the foreshore	•	€		(1)	450,000	Œ	•		•	450,000
299615 - LAPF - Milingimbi - Water Park	•	e		c	650,000	e	6	e		650,000
299715 - LAPF - Milingimbi - Ceremony area contribution		C	500	c	160,000	0		0.0		160,000
299916 - LAPF - Gapuwiyak - Two Public Tollets						750,000			ı	750,000
300116 - LAPF - Gapuwiyak - Two Playgrounds		(S - ((C t)		200,000		6 0		50,000
300417 - LAPF - Galiwinku - Outdoor Youth Recreation Facilities		(0)		(8			930,000	¢s.		930,000
300517 - LAPF - Galiwinku - Public Toilets at Airport	•	i e	i.		i.	10	450,000	us:		450,000
300617 - LAPF - Galiwinku - Additional Foothpath Stage 2	•	·			•		153,415		,	153,415
300717 - LAPF - Galiwinku - Buthan Recreation Area					•		100,000	· C	,	100,000
300817 - LAPF - Galiwinku - Co-contribution to a ceremony area	٠						80,000			80,000
300918 - LAPF - Yirrkala - Sport and Recreation Hall	٠		٠		•	25500		400,000		400,000
201010 - LAPE Virtuin Improvements to Coremony Areas		000		000		059		430,000		000,000
301218 - LAPF - Yirrkala - Improved Oval Lighting	•				•	9033	•	564,100		564,100
301319 - LAPF - Gunyagara - Multi-purpose Building at Oval			•	O) (4	() ()	ă.	•	400,000	400,000
301419 - LAPF - Gunyagara - Footpaths (school to Gumatj Office)		0	0	9 :	ĵį.	0	(0	(9	276,054	276,054
301519 - LAPF - Gunvagara - Landscaping and beautification								59	78,415	78,415
Service and Confederation Principles and Confederation	10 (0.10	10	,	89	i					

Attachment 3 Page 60

Location	Current Adopted Budget	Revised Budget	Mo	vement
19 - Gunyangara	777,515	754,469	4	(23,046)
277219 - Unallocated LAPF 2017-2018, Gunyangara	-	- 3		5.0
284019 - Unallocated LAPF 2018-2019, Gunyangara	5,457	-	4	(5,457)
288819 - Unallocated LAPF 2019-2020, Gunyangara	6,443	2	4	(6,443)
291519 - Unallocated LAPF 2020-2021, Gunyangara	33,600	S# 11	4	(33,600)
295319 - LAPF - Gunyangara Bus Shelters	20,000	*	4	(20,000)
301319 - LAPF - Gunyagara - Multi-purpose Building at Oval	400,000	400,000		
301419 - LAPF - Gunyagara - Footpaths (school to Gumatj Office)	200,000	276,054	介	76,054
301519 - LAPF - Gunyagara - Landscaping and beautification	78,415	78,415	9	5.5
303919 - Unallocated LAPF 2022-2023, Gunyangara	33,600		4	(33,600)

Attachment 4 Page 61