

OPEN AGENDA for the Gunyangara Ordinary Local Authority Meeting 19 November 2026

Dedicated to promoting the power of people, protection of community and respect for cultural diversity.

Djambarrpuyŋu

Dhuwandja dhäwu dhipuŋur EARC-ŋur bukmakku yolŋuw mala nhämunha limurr ga nhina wäŋakurr malaŋuwurr buku-l̲iwmaram:

- limurr dhu räl-manapanmirr ganydjarrwu limurruŋgalaŋaw rur'maranharaw,
- ga dharray walŋaw,
- ga ŋayaŋu-d̲apmaranhamirr bukmak bala-räli'yunmirr.

Dhaŋu

Dhaŋum dhäwu EARC-ŋur bukmakku yolŋuwu warrawu nhämunha ŋalma yaka nyena ŋayambalmurru buku-l̲iw'yuman:

- ŋalma ŋarru räal-manapanmi ganydjarrwu n̲akanhaminyarawu ŋalmaliŋguwaywuru,
- ga dharray walŋawu,
- ga ŋayaŋu-d̲apthumanmi bukmak bala-räli'yunmi.

Gumatj

Dhuwalanydja dhäwu EARC-ŋuru bukmakku yolŋuwu mala nhämunha ŋilimurru yukurra nhina wäŋakurru buku-l̲iw'yunmarama:

- ŋilimurru yurru räl-manapanmirri ganydjarrwu gaŋga'thinyarawu ŋilimurruŋgalaŋawu,
- ga dharray walŋawu,
- ga ŋayaŋu-d̲apthunmaranhamirri bukmak bala-lili'yunmirri.

Marraŋu

Dhuwanydji dhäwu barraŋga'yun EARC-ŋur bukmakku yolŋuw yukurr buku-l̲iw'maram wäŋa mi̲tji malanynha:

- Dalimurr wurruku räl-manapanmirr djäk ganydjarrwu ŋalimurruŋgalaŋaw
- Gaŋgathinyamaranharaw wo̲n̲d̲aŋarrgunharaw,
- Ga djäga walŋaw,
- Ga ŋayaŋu-d̲apmaranhamirr ŋalimurr wurruku bukmak bala-räli'yunmirr.

Under closing the gap priority reforms, socio economic outcome 16 – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages are strong, supported and flourishing and it is standard practice for reports to be considered, discussed and debated in the traditional dialects of the East Arnhem region, Yolngu Matha.

EAST ARNHEM REGIONAL COUNCIL

Notice is hereby given that a Meeting of the Gunyangara Local Authority will be held at the Gunyangara Council Office on Thursday 19 November 2026 at 12:30 pm.

Agendas and minutes are available on the Council website www.eastarnhem.nt.gov.au and can be viewed at the Councils public office.

Dale Keehne
Chief Executive Officer

Members:

Cr Lirrpiya Mununggurr
Cr Priscilla Yunupingu
Antoine Gintz
Doug Yunupingu
Elizika Puertollano
Syd Yunupingu
Malakhi Puertollano
Kingsley Dhamarrandji

Dial-in Details:

Microsoft Teams
Join the meeting now
Meeting ID: 453 074 652 674 21
Passcode: 9LM7Qo7D

Dial in by phone
+61 2 8318 0005,,913186033#
Find a local number
Phone conference ID: 913 186 033#

Schedule 1 Code of conduct

1 Honesty and integrity
A member must act honestly and with integrity in performing official functions.

2 Care and diligence
A member must act with reasonable care and diligence in performing official functions.

3 Courtesy
A member must act with courtesy towards other members, council staff, electors and members of the public.

4 Prohibition on bullying
A member must not bully another person in the course of performing official functions.

5 Conduct towards council staff
A member must not direct, reprimand, or interfere in the management of council staff.

6 Respect for cultural diversity and culture
6.1 A member must respect cultural diversity and must not therefore discriminate against others, or the opinions of others, on the ground of their cultural background.

6.2 A member must act with respect for cultural beliefs and practices in relation to other members, council staff, electors and members of the public.

7 Conflict of interest
7.1 A member must avoid any conflict of interest, whether actual or perceived, when undertaking official functions and responsibilities.

7.2 If a conflict of interest exists, the member must comply with any statutory obligations of disclosure.

8 Respect for confidences
8.1 A member must respect the confidentiality of information obtained in confidence in the member's official capacity.

8.2 A member must not make improper use of confidential information obtained in an official capacity to gain a private benefit or to cause harm to another.

9 Gifts
9.1 A member must not solicit, encourage or accept gifts or private benefits from any person who might have an interest in obtaining a benefit from the council.

9.2 A member must not accept a gift from a person that is given in relation to the person's interest in obtaining a benefit from the council.

10 Accountability
A member must be prepared at all times to account for the member's performance as a member and the member's use of council resources.

11 Interests of municipality, region or shire to be paramount
11.1 A member must act in what the member genuinely believes to be the best interests of the municipality, region or shire.

11.2 In particular, a member must seek to ensure that the member's decisions and actions are based on an honest, reasonable and properly informed judgment about what best advances the best interests of the municipality, region or shire.

12 Training
A member must undertake relevant training in good faith.

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1 Meeting Establishment

YOW NGILIMURR BUKU'LUNGTHUN DHIYAK MEETINGU GA MALA DJARRYUN ROM

The Chair may wish to open the meeting with a prayer.

MEETING ESTABLISHMENT

1.3 Attendance

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Local Authority:

(a) Notes the absence of <>.
(b) Notes the apology received from <>.
(c) Notes <> are absent with permission of the Local Authority.
(d) Determines <> are absent without permission of the Local Authority under Section 47(1) (0) of the Act.

SUMMARY:

This report is also to table, for the Councils record, any absences, apologies and requests for leave of absence received form the Council members and what absences that the Council given permission for.

ATTACHMENTS:
Nil

MEETING ESTABLISHMENT

1.4 Conflict of Interest

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.

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 themselves from the decision-making process.

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

ATTACHMENTS:
Nil

MEETING ESTABLISHMENT

1.5 Previous Local Authority Minutes

RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority approves the minutes of the previous meeting held on 01 October 2026.

ATTACHMENTS:
1. Gunyangara Oridnary Local Authority- Minutes 01 O Ct 2026 [**1.5.1** - 6 pages]



OPEN MINUTES for the Gunyangara Ordinary Local Authority Meeting 1 October 2026

1 Meeting Establishment

YOW NGILIMURR BUKU'LUNGTHUN DHIYAK MEETINGU GA MALA DJARRYUN ROM

The Chair opened the meeting at 11:37 am.

Members in Attendance:

Antoine Gintz (Chair)
Doug Yunupingu (left the meeting at 01:50 pm)
Elizika Puertollano
Malakhi Puertollano
Syd Yunupingu (left the meeting at 01:50 pm)

East Arnhem Regional Council Staff:

Dale Keehne (Chief Executive Officer)
Shannon Cervini (Director – Council Services)
Labhjeet Bhullar (Council Services Manager)
Vivek Gummalla (Acting Regional Manager)
Paul Hyde Kaduru (Governance and Compliance Manager)

MEETING ESTABLISHMENT

1.3 Attendance

SUMMARY:

This report is also to table, for the Councils record, any absences, apologies and requests for leave of absence received form the Council members and what absences that the Council given permission for.

GUN 2025/51 **RESOLVED (Elizika Puertollano/Antoine Gintz)**

That the Local Authority:

(a) Notes the absence of Cr. Priscilla Yunugpingu, Cr. Lirrpiya Mununggurr, Murphy Yunupingu and Kingsley Dhamarrandji.

(b) Notes the apology received from Cr. Priscilla Yunupingu, Cr. Lirrpiya Mununggurr, Murphy Yunupingu and Kingsley Dhamrrandji.

(c) Notes Cr. Prscilla Yunupingu, Cr. Lirrpiya Mununggurr, Murphy Yunupingu and Kingsley Dhamarrandji are absent with permission of the Local Authority.

UNCONFIRMED

MEETING ESTABLISHMENT

1.4 Conflict of Interest

SUMMARY:

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

GUN 2025/52 **RESOLVED (Malakhi Puertollano/Doug Yunupingu)**

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

MEETING ESTABLISHMENT

1.5 Previous Local Authority Minutes

GUN 2025/53 **RESOLVED (Syd Yunupingu/Antoine Gintz)**

That the Local Authority approves the minutes of the previous meeting held on 28 May 2026.

2 Looking Forward - Discussions and Decisions

GO NGILIMURR MALA DJARRYUN GA YURAM GA YAKAYUN GA BALWAK NGUPAN DHUWAL DHARUK

LOOKING FORWARD - DISCUSSIONS AND DECISIONS

2.1 Inclusion of Ward Names in Local Authority Titles

SUMMARY:

To seek feedback from the Gunyangara Local Authority regarding a proposed naming convention that incorporates both the community name and ward name in Local Authority names.

GUN 2025/55 **RESOLVED (Antoine Gintz/Doug Yunupingu)**

That the Gunyangara Local Authority supports the Local Authority's name to remain the same.

3 Noting Progress and Achievement

YOW GALKI MEETING DJA DHAWARYUNA YURRU NGILIMURR RONGIYI GA NHAMA NGUNIYI

NANYTJAK NGU DHARUK MALAN GA YURUM GA BUKU WEKAM DHIYAKU MEETING GU

UNCONFIRMED

NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT

3.1 Local Authority Action Items

SUMMARY:

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

GUN 2025/58 **RESOLVED (Elizika Puertollano/Malakhi Puertollano)**

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

NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT

3.2 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.

GUN 2025/56 **RESOLVED (Doug Yunupingu/Malakhi Puertollano)**

That the Local Authority notes the CEO Report.

NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT

3.3 Council Services Report

SUMMARY:

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

GUN 2025/54 **RESOLVED (Elizika Puertollano/Malakhi Puertollano)**

That the Local Authority notes the Council Services Managers report.

NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT

3.4 Human Resources and Finance Report

SUMMARY:

This report presents the financials plus employment statistics as of 31 August 2026 within the Local Authority area.

GUN 2025/59 **RESOLVED (Malakhi Puertollano/Antoine Gintz)**

That Local Authority receives the Finance, Human Resources and Employment information as of 31 August 2026.

UNCONFIRMED

4 General Business and Date of Next Meeting

PRESENTATION

4.1 Discussion with the Local Police Department

GUN 2025/57 **RESOLVED (Elizika Puertollano/Antoine Gintz)**

That the Local Authority:

(a) Notes the discussion with the Local Police Department.

(b) Calls for real action to address the high level of crime including:

1. **Tackle the illegal sale of Kava and other substances that is having a devastating affect on our people.**
2. **Family Responsibility Agreements and Parental Responsibility Orders to be developed and implemented to have real consequences.**
3. **All community members to call out any domestic or family violence, which is not part of our culture.**
4. **Support council, the NT Police, and other organisations to coordinate camps for deep and genuine engagement with young offenders and their parents / key family members, and other activities and engagement with young offenders.**
5. **The collection of clear data to demonstrate the effect of all these actions.**

(c) Supports signing the Gunanygara Mutual Respect agreement with Northern Territory Police Service.

PRESENTATION

4.2 Presentation from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development

GUN 2025/60 **RESOLVED (Elizika Puertollano/Antoine Gintz)**

That the Local Authority notes the presentation from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development.

GENERAL BUSINESS

4.3 Change in upcoming meeting dates

GUN 2025/61 **RESOLVED (Malakhi Puertollano/Antoine Gintz)**

That the Gunyangara Local Authority approves to move the meeting date of next Local Authority to the 19 November 2026 and following rounds of meetings to be a week earlier.

UNCONFIRMED

GENERAL BUSINESS

4.3 General Business

GUN 2025/62 **RESOLVED (Elizika Puertollano/Malakhi Puertollano)**

That the Local Authority:

(a) Requests Council Services Manager to investigate a grounded Fishing trawler can be removed to avoid environment damage.

(b) Requests Council Services Manager to express its appreciation to Gumatj Corporation to removal of fencing around the park in Gumatj Office and the old school, and suggests the removal of fence between the Gumatj office and the Clinic.

5 Meeting Close

The meeting closed at 02:53 pm

This page and the preceding pages are the minutes of the Gunyangara Local Authority Ordinary Meeting held on 01 October 2026.

UNCONFIRMED

2 Noting Progress and Achievement

YOW GALKI MEETING DJA DHAWARYUNA YURRU NGILIMURR RONGIYI GA NHAMA NGUNIYI

NANYTJAK NGU DHARUK MALAN GA YURUM GA BUKU WEKAM DHIYAKU MEETING GU

NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT

2.1 Local Authority Action Items

RECOMMENDATION

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

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 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).

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Local Authority Gunyangara 2026 [**2.1.1** - 5 pages]

GUNYANGARA ACTIONS

ACTION ITEM	ACTION OWNER	ACTIONS	STATUS
Kava		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. **28.09.23** – CEO to provide update in his report during meeting. **14.12.23** – Dr Frank Daly no longer works for NTG, waiting on replacement to continue discussions. Meeting with Jim Rogers and NIAA postponed until Feb Council meeting. 02.02.24 – NIAA and NTG and Police to attend next Council meeting to continue discussions. **21.02.24** – Discussion took place among the PFES and NTG regarding issues relating to Kava and Alcohol in the communities. PFES requested continuous support from communities to provide information so that these can be addressed. **09.04.24** – Ongoing. **24.04.24** – CEO to follow up with Department. 03.06.24 NIAA and NTG to be invited to next Council meeting to provide an update. **25.06.24** – NIAA and NTG attending June Council meeting to provide update and discuss**.** **29.07.24** – No further updates to provide. **31.01.25** – No further updates, Jacinta Price's office has been engaged in line with the 8 Advocacy items. **19.02.25** – Council is going to seek the support of Local Member Mark Yingiya Guyula MLA for Mulka to raise this issue. 03/04/2025 – Further information in CEO Report. **23.04.25** – No change will re-address with newly elected Government. **25.06.25** – Councillors want to form a committee and travel to Darwin to raise their concerns and get some action. They are tired of no action and are especially worried about the harm the illegal sale of kava is causing in the community, particularly to children. **30.10.25 -** Police in Nhulunbuy informed that they received a letter from the Minister stating that the NT Government is willing to conduct community consultations.

GUNYANGARA ACTIONS

ACTION ITEM	ACTION OWNER	ACTIONS	STATUS
			28.05.26 - CEO, with Northern Land Council, has commenced discussions with senior officers of Chief Minister and Cabinet to secure support and develop the process to trial the regulation of kava in a community, for later expansion. **25.08.2026** – CEO and Councillors met with Chief Minister and her Department, Chief Minister expressed that she would like to work with Local Authorities on how to go forward regarding the distribution and sale of Kava in East Arnhem communities.
Speed safety signage and merged action 'Council to provide stickers for bins, providing correct orientation.'		Members request speed/safety signage be added to both sides of rubbish bins.	**27.09.24** – Director Council Services to action with Manager Council Services and provide update. From merged action - 09.04.24 – Murphy Yunupingu to provide translation wording for the sticker. **09.04.24** – Council Services Manager to work with Murphy to get the wording to start the sticker process. **24.04.24** – Stickers to be provided. **03.06.24** – Council Services/MSS to find out where current stickers are located and get them out to community. **25.06.24** – Ongoing Council Services Manager to update. **27.09.24** – Request waste services Manager provide stickers be attached to rubbish bins. **31.01.25 –** No further updates. Decision to be made on what signs need to say on the bins. Look at one for top of bin showing direction to point to street, - speed signs in language - 'fill me up' being one suggestion. General Manger Technical and Infrastructure Services waiting on signage suggestions from members. Do members want 'slow down' in Yolngu? Options to be provided at next LA meeting. 'Correct orientation for the bin'. **03.04.2025** –– Members looked at the handout provided by Communications Advisor which was written in Gumatj – it stated, 'fill me up'. On other side it says 'slow down 40ks' – Members would like signage just to say 'Slow Down' with a pedestrian with a child to show people walking. Without a speed limit. (Members also noted that 40ks and hour is too fast. General Manager Technical Services advised the current audit that also includes road safety will be able to investigate this as well) Review the artwork and provide Council Services Manager with revised artwork and

GUNYANGARA ACTIONS

ACTION ITEM	ACTION OWNER	ACTIONS	STATUS
			further discussion with Murphy prior to next LA Meeting. Also correct spelling on the other side. **23.04.25 –** In last LA meeting some artwork was presented to members and the chair has approved the latest signage, so production of the stickers for the bins will commence. **25.06.25-** stickers have been ordered, once received they will be applied to the bins. **30.10.25 –** The stickers have been received and will be installed on the bins by 30th of November. **26.11.25** – In progress. **26.03.26 -** In progress. **28.05.26 –** Application of stickers need to be completed. **01.10.26 –** Sticker application to be completed by 12 October.
Need for the provision of environmental flows to be re-established between north and south water bodies currently separated by the causeway accessing Gunyangara.		The lack of tidal flow has resulted in the silting up of the south water body.	**27.09.24** – Director Technical and Infrastructure Services to investigate and provide an update. **11.12.24** – Ongoing **31.01.25** – Regional Manager Transport and Infrastructure currently investigating and looking at different solutions. **03.04.25** - Currently in discussions with ARRCOS requested them to look at it and provide a solution**.** **23.04.25** – Onging with ARRCOS **25.06.25 –** Further update to be provided once received. **30.10.25 -** RM Transport Infrastructure seeking confirmation on the location and extent of work/water bodies area so further investigation can be undertaken appropriately. **24.10.25** – Needed to Seek External funding. **26.03.26 -** Needed to Seek External funding. **28.05.26 –** Engineering report required. **25.08.26 –** Ongoing, need to have an engineer report to proceed. **01.10.26 – Ongoing, DCS to provide an update on next Local Authority meeting.**
Footpath from Boat club to EARC council office road corner along the Drimmie		This Footpath is needed for safety reasons as residents are walking along the road in the dark.	**30.10.25** – Proceed with further works when the Gunyangara Infrastructure assessment has been finalised. **22.11.25** – To be mapped in the new year and released as Tender pending funding available.

GUNYANGARA ACTIONS

ACTION ITEM	ACTION OWNER	ACTIONS	STATUS
Head roadand additional solar lights installed.			**24.02.26** – Will be mapped in Grant Funding in the New Financial Year. **26.03.26 –** Seeking the funds. **28.05.26 –** LA to be provided the staged project approach. In the next meeting Phase 1 estimate will be provided with approximate costing. **25.08.26 –** Will be grant submission submitted for these works for footpath and solar lights. **01.10.26 – Updates to be provided in next meeting with consultations with Gumatj.**
Shade shelter, Grand Stand		Provide the costings for Local Authority to consider.	**28.05.26 –** Shade shelter and Grand stand costings to be provided first. **25.08.26 –** Shade shelter and Grand stand costings to be provided in next LA Meeting. Regarding Cyclone Shelter/Hall more information required before proceeding. **01.10.26 – Costings to be provided for Steel Shade shelter for Basketball court. Shade Selter and Grand stands for Oval and Basketball court. Council to approach Gumatj Corporation about possibility of joint funding.**

ADVOCACY ITEMS/ITEMS ON HOLD:

Gunyangara Roads Stormwater Drainage Upgrade Project		**28.09** – Waiting on tenders to close. To hopefully be taken to October Council meeting. Updating at next meeting. **26.10** Tenders will be going to special meeting in 2 to 3 weeks. Update to be provided. **02.02.24** – Ongoing awaiting further negotiation of the contract. **09.04.24** – Ongoing. **24.04.24** – Going back to Tender.

GUNYANGARA ACTIONS

		03.06.24 – Still out to tender. **25.06.24** – As above - rolled over as part of draft budget and annual plan. **27.07.24** to be placed in Advocacy. **11.12.24** May be able to access additional funding, may be able to advertise for third round – give an update once tender submissions received in next couple of months. **31.01.25** a Road audit is coming through for road safety – waiting on it's completion to understand what needs to occur – current potholes will be filled in next week. **23.04.25** Will commence early May. **26.03.26 –** Waiting for Survey plans of community roads infrastructure from Gumatj. Seek external funding for this project.
Growing Regions Grant Round.	Gunyangara Oval Cyclone and sports building.	**28.09 –** EOI still underway – hopefully have made the second round in the application process – more updates next meeting. 26.10 Has made the 2nd round. NO NTG funding required. Will provide update. **14.12.23** – Contact from Grant Dept states this has made the 2nd round of Grant process. New Letter of Support submitted. **02.02.24** – Application lodged in December and waiting to hear back on result of application. Will keep updating the members. **09.04.24** – No update. Waiting to hear back on result of application. Will keep updating the members. **24.04.24** – as above, still waiting on information. **03.06.24** unsuccessful – covered in Tech report. **31.01.25** – Move to Advocacy
Cyclone shelter/Hall		

NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT

2.2 CEO Report

AUTHOR Dale Keehne (Chief Executive Officer)

RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority notes the 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.

GENERAL:

Engagement on Allocation of Social Housing:

I have reached out to and met with the Northern Land Council to seek to work with them to advance some of Council's Key Advocacy Points calling for:

The use of a reasonable percentage of the $4 billion of committed funds to Indigenous housing in the Northern Territory to be provided for units, duplexes, and houses for local Indigenous workers and vulnerable aged and disabled people, as well as residents of small to large homelands.

Other closely related Key Advocacy Positions of Council are the call for:

Effective funding of essential and other support services to residents of small to large homelands, across East Arnhem Land.

The provision of government housing and other infrastructure necessary for the effective delivery of essential services including Police, Education, Health, Local Government and Community Services, and;

The need for genuine co-design of new housing developments, that Council assess and approve, to comply with National Standards.

A letter from President Lapulung Dhamarrandji (as attached) has been sent to the Northern Land Council Chair Matthew Ryan seeking support to engage with Council and its Local Authorities to help progress and gain real outcomes on these important issues.

The Northern Land Council has confirmed it will raise the recommendations of the Council and its Local Authorities at the December meeting of the Joint Steering Committee Housing NT.

Council's advocacy position was also raised at a meeting with Marion Scrymgour Special Envoy for Remote Communities and Northern Territory Member of Parliament Chansey Paech, at the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory on 11 November in Alice Springs.

I also raised Council's commitment to the need for the new CDP / Remote Australia Employment Service to bring back genuine mutual obligation as a real incentive to shift to

training and employment. Marion Scrymgour and Chansey Paech were receptive to these key advocacy points and committed to talk further with Council about them.

Engagement on Domestic and Family Violence and Young Offenders & Their Families:

Congratulations to the Ramingining Councillors, Local Authority Members, staff and a range of stakeholders for recently holding a very successful No More Violence Community Day, with Vicki Wassens, our Ramingining Council Services Manager playing a key role bringing it all together. The event was promoted on social media and in a media release, as attached.

Each Local Authority can consider what sort of event or events it may want held to call out and challenge domestic and family violence.

Council reviewed and endorsed the resolutions from the last round of Local Authority meetings to tackle domestic and family violence, and achieve genuine engagement with young offenders and their families, and genuine outcomes.

Based on the range of resolutions, and following a meeting with the Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet Council endorsed the following resolution.

That Council:

Calls for real action to address domestic and family violence, and achieve genuine engagement with young offenders and their families and genuine outcomes, including:

1. **Tackle the illegal sale of kava and other substances that are having a devastating affect on our people.**

2. **All community members to call out any domestic violence, which is not part of our culture.**

3. **Support community events to call out Domestic and Family violence.**

4. **Coordination with the NT Police and local stakeholders of community events to call out and challenge domestic and family violence.**

5. **Family Responsibility Agreements and Parental Responsibility Orders to be developed and implemented to have real consequences, and additional necessary funding to be provided.**

6. **Support Council, the NT Police, and other organisations to coordinate camps for deep and genuine engagement with young offenders and their parents / key family members, and other activities and engagement with young offenders, and the provision of effective funding from the Northern Territory and Australian Governments.**

7. **The collection of clear data to demonstrate the effect of all these actions.**

Another key development for Council to be aware of is the release of the Report of the Independent Review into the Conduct of the Department of Children and Families, which was tabled in the Northern Territory Parliament on 20 October. The NT Government and Opposition have supported the implementation of the 45 recommendations of the Independent Review. The Executive Summary and Summary of Recommendations are attached.

Creation of New Youth Centres and Disability Support Centres

Council also endorsed the decision by the Galiwinku, Yirrkala and Gapuwiyak Local Authorities to close the Childcare Centres in their communities due to ongoing challenges to staff and operate them. The Galiwinku and Yirrkala Local Authorities approved the use Local Authority Project Funds to convert the centres into Youth Centres, to support better, targeted engagement with young people and their families.

The Gapuwiyak Local Authority approved use of its Local Authority Project Funds for the conversion of their Council office building into a new Disability Services Centre, as the Galiwinku, Yirrkala and Milingimbi Local Authorities also decided.

As Gapuwiyak has a major Recreation Hall and newly built Youth Centre, the old Child Care Centre will be used for other purposes.

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

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Letter to NLC Chairman Matthew Ryan Re Engagement on Social Housing 21 Oct 26 [**2.2.1** - 2 pages]
2. Media Release - Leading The Way - No More Violence [**2.2.2** - 2 pages]
3. Social Media Post on No More Voilence - Ramingining [**2.2.3** - 1 page]
4. Executive Summary and Recommendations Pages 9-11 [**2.2.4** - 3 pages]

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21 October 2026

Matthew Ryan
Chair
Northern Land Council
ryanma@nlc.org.au

Re: Engagement on Allocation of Social Housing

Dear Matthew,

I write following a very productive meeting on 16 October of EARC CEO Dale Keehne with the Northern Land Council Engagement Officer, Remote Housing Reforms Mia Christophersen and Policy & Advocacy Officer Ged Shearer, as recommended by Regional Manager East Arnhem Craig Bonney. As requested by your officers, I am writing to you to formally raise a key advocacy position of our elected Council calling for:

The use of a reasonable percentage of the $4 billion of committed funds to Indigenous housing in the Northern Territory to be provided for units, duplexes, and houses for local Indigenous workers and vulnerable aged and disabled people, as well as residents of small to large homelands.

The Council's Local Authorities across the five respective cultural based wards across East Arnhem Land, and in turn Council, have considered and formally endorsed this and the other Key Advocacy Positions, as attached.

A delegation of our Councilors raised this advocacy point regarding housing for Yolngu workers, and aged and disabled people, directly with the former NIAA CEO Jody Braun in Canberra back in July 2024, who made a general statement that they have a similar view and this would be developed.

Two plus years later Federal Minister Malarndirri McCarthy has expressed that the priority is to maximize the number of people who can have a 'roof over their head', and there is no provision for the allocation of housing to local Aboriginal workers in their communities. This view has been reiterated to me on a number of occasions by high ranking NT Government officials.

Our Council recognises the highly important role of the Northern Land Council in the Joint Steering Committee Housing NT, with the Australian Government, Northern Territory Government, the other NT Land Councils and Aboriginal Housing NT, to oversee the $4 billion Northern Territory Remote Housing Package.

We would like to seek the NLC's support as such an important party to the joint arrangement to use this historic opportunity over the remaining eight years of the $4 billion program, to shift to greater empowerment of Aboriginal people, by actively supporting local Indigenous people to gain and keep employment, through the provision of part of the total new social housing.

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This would also involve the re-design of planned housing to allow for one and two bedroom units that provide the opportunity for local workers to escape the burden of overcrowding, including maintaining food, and being able to sleep and be ready for work.

Council sees these as fundamental human rights that are met through public housing allocations 'down south' but continue to not be provided in remote Indigenous communities in the Northern Territory. We see this is linked to the false, harmful and patronising generalisation that 'all Indigenous people want to live together'.

Through Council's support of aged and disabled community members we have also raised the need for them to live in their own housing, as is also the case 'down south' or in metropolitan Darwin, and so they are included in Council's advocacy point on housing.

Homelands are included as a key part of Council's advocacy position, as Council recognises the great value of Yolngu to live and work in their homelands across the region. All our Local Government, like all Northern Land Council Councillors for East Arnhem, are inherently linked to our respective homelands and call for the proper funding of social, worker and aged / disability housing across the homelands from the $4 billion NT Remote Housing Package, and other funding sources.

Other closely related Key Advocacy Positions of Council are the call for:

Effective funding of essential and other support services to residents of small to large homelands, across East Arnhem Land.

The provision of government housing and other infrastructure necessary for the effective delivery of essential services including Police, Education, Health, Local Government and Community Services, and;

The need for genuine co-design of new housing developments, that Council assess and approve, to comply with National Standards.

In order to progress these important shared objectives for our joint communities and homelands, I would like to propose as EARC President to you as the NLC Chair, that a formal connection and role be established between the Housing Reference Group's in each community, and the Local Authorities in the five respective cultural based wards across East Arnhem Land, and in turn the East Arnhem Regional Council, to provide a broader and formally elected and endorsed representative structure than currently exists through the Housing Reference Group structure.

This formal connection and role would form an important part of broader engagement with the Northern Land Council's East Arnhem Regional Council, your East Arnhem Executive Members of the Full Council Yananymul Mununggurr, and Djawa Yunupingu, the Housing and Homelands Committee, and the Joint Steering Committee Remote Housing NT.

Yours sincerely,

Lapulung Dhamarrandji
President
East Arnhem Regional Council

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Media Release 20 October 2026

Leading The Way - No More Violence

East Arnhem Regional Council's Local Authority Members for Ramingining proactively supported the call by Council to tackle domestic violence through the 'No More Violence' community event held on 17 October 2026 in Ramingining.

Driven by East Arnhem Regional Council and the Council's Local Authority Members, the event engaged multiple stakeholders throughout the region to deliver an important message – No More Violence.

East Arnhem Regional Councillor Jason Mirritjawuy and Local Authority Members Gilbert Walkuli, John Djoma, Jason Mirritjawuy, Fabian Garawirrtja and Lizzy Mindhili spoke throughout the day with community members about violence, calling back to their Local Authority resolution on 21 July 2026 for:

> Family, community members and all people calling out and reporting domestic violence and violence against and neglect of children when they see it.

Council was proud to see strong support from many stakeholders who were involved including: Biṉipiliŋmirriŋ Djägaginin Mala (BDM), Miwatj Health Aboriginal Corporation, Bula'bula Arts Aboriginal Corporation, Ramingining School, NT Police, NO MORE AU, Durack Civil, Deltareef (Gumatj Group), AFL Northern Territory, Arafura Swamp Rangers Aboriginal Corporation, ALPA Store, ALPA RAES and the Defence Force.

Daman Ryan reflected on Norman Daymirringu's speech saying, "Norman Daymirringu is a powerful community leader, he got everyone in a huge circle with arms linked [#linkup] and spoke in the middle of the circle about violence, social behaviours and social media and his words and passion was infectious."

Vicki Wassens (Ramingining Council Services Manager) reflected on the day saying, "We achieved our goal of spreading the message and education of 'No More Violence' and we gave the community an opportunity to come together for a fun and social afternoon."

East Arnhem Regional Council's 100% Aboriginal elected Council and its Local Authorities in each community remain committed to work in close collaboration with the NT Police and the Northern Territory Government to tackle domestic violence and other crime.

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Additional Quotes:

"No more violence. Ramingining need to stand together. Yaka Mari. Stand together."
Norman Daymirringu

"Glad we could be a part of an important message to Ramingining."
Cameron Baker, Operations Manager – Ramingining, Gumatj Construction

"We value the role of the Police. We support there being more Police Officers, based in community."
President Lapulung Dhamarrandji

"People, family and community members need to call out violence when they see it. People need to be responsible for their actions."
Councillor Ganygulpa Dhurrkay

ENDS

For more information, please contact:

East Arnhem Regional Council CEO Dale Keehne
dale.keehne@eastarnhem.nt.gov.au
0458 039 348

East Arnhem Regional Council

Ramingining – No More Violence

A big thank you to everyone who came along and took part in the No More Violence community event held in Ramingining over the weekend.

Together, our Local Authority Members, stakeholders and community members helped create a fun-filled and educational day with plenty of food, prizes, stalls, activities and footy games.

We're excited to share some photos from the event and celebrate everyone who helped make the day such a success.

Learn More: https://eastarnhem.nt.gov.au/leading-the-way-no-more...

#workingtogether #nomoreviolence #linkup #ramingining #strongertogether #localgovernment

Thank you: Bi̱nipili̱mirri̱ Djägaginin Mala (BDM), Miwatj Health Aboriginal Corporation , Bula'bula Arts Aboriginal Corporation , Ramingining School, Northern Territory Police Force , NO MORE AU , Durack Civil, Deltareef (Gumatj Group), AFL Northern Territory , Arafura Swamp Rangers Aboriginal Corporation, ALPA Store, ALPA RAES and the Defence Force. See less



Executive Summary

The Review examined the Department of Children and Families' (DCF) management of the circumstances concerning Kumanjayi Little Baby (KLB), including the Department's response to notifications, reports and concerns about the child's safety and wellbeing. The Review considered the adequacy, timeliness and appropriateness of DCF's response; compliance with legislative and policy requirements; the effectiveness of its systems, policies, procedures and operational practices; and broader systemic issues that may affect DCF's capacity to meet its statutory child protection responsibilities.

The Review found that the circumstances concerning KLB cannot be considered solely as an individual case management failure. They highlight interconnected shortcomings across the child protection system, including statutory practice, the assessment and management of risk where domestic and family violence (DFV) is present, information sharing, workforce capacity and capability, organisational and operating arrangements, timeliness, governance and leadership.

A central finding is the DCF requires a clearer, more consistent and effective child protection practice framework, grounded in the *Care and Protection of Children Act 2007*. Practitioners need clear guidance on statutory intervention, the assessment of significant and cumulative harm, escalating risk, safety planning, decision-making and case closure. Where DFV is identified, its nature, pattern, severity and impact on children must be explicitly assessed, including the risks posed by perpetrators and the protective capacity of the non-offending parent. Safety arrangements must be appropriate to the child's circumstances, with the suitability and capacity of those relied upon to protect the child properly assessed and reviewed as risks change.

The Review also identified the need for more effective information sharing and interagency collaboration, alongside significant workforce pressures arising from increasing demand, case complexity, vacancies, turnover, varying practitioner experience and growing backlogs. These pressures affect the timeliness and quality of assessment, continuity of case management and effective supervision. Addressing them requires a sustained commitment to workforce capability, professional development, recruitment and retention, as well as operating arrangements that make effective use of existing capacity and direct organisational effort towards frontline child protection.

Improving timeliness requires systemic action rather than simply expecting practitioners to complete work more quickly. DCF needs clearer performance expectations, reliable reporting, active monitoring of delays and backlogs, and stronger management oversight to ensure that risks and outstanding actions are identified and addressed promptly. These improvements must be supported by effective governance, clear accountability, visible leadership and a sustained, coordinated approach to reform.

Taken together, the findings point to the need for a system-wide reset of DCF's child protection function. The recommendations address immediate practice and operational weaknesses while establishing the foundations for longer-term reform. Their implementation will require executive ownership, clear priorities, accountability for delivery and active assurance that changes are translating into improved practice and outcomes for children and families.

Summary of Recommendations

The Review makes recommendations directed at strengthening the child protection system across DCF, with a focus on improving the safety and wellbeing of children, strengthening statutory practice and ensuring that identified risks are recognised, assessed and acted upon in a timely and effective manner.

The recommendations are directed towards the following priority areas:

1. Statutory child protection practice and risk assessment: Establish a clear practice framework grounded in DCF's legislative responsibilities, evaluate the effectiveness of Signs of Safety, introduce evidence-informed risk assessment tools and consolidate policies, procedures and practice guidance to support consistent, defensible decision-making.
2. Domestic and family violence and safety planning: Integrate DFV risk assessment into child protection practice, strengthen practitioner capability to identify cumulative and escalating harm, and ensure that safety plans are appropriate, effective and regularly reviewed. This includes an immediate audit of current Safety Plans and stronger requirements for assessing the suitability of adults nominated to a child's safety network.
3. Information sharing and interagency collaboration: Strengthen the proactive and systemic sharing of information between DCF and partner agencies, including police, corrections, health, education and housing, and ensure that relevant information is integrated into risk assessment, safety planning and decisions about protective intervention.
4. Workforce capability, capacity and sustainability: Develop a comprehensive workforce strategy addressing recruitment, retention, professional development, supervision and competency, supported by a robust assessment of workforce demand, case complexity and the distribution of experienced practitioners across the Territory.
5. Organisational structure and operating model: Review the allocation of functions, resources and decision-making authority to ensure that DCF's operating arrangements support its statutory responsibilities, reduce unnecessary administrative burden and strengthen frontline child protection capacity.
6. Timeliness, early intervention and service responsiveness: Establish an end-to-end framework for monitoring and managing timeliness, cumulative delay and escalating risk. Strengthen management oversight, escalation processes and improve prevention and early intervention pathways so that children and families receive the support earlier and statutory resources can be prioritised according to risk and need.
7. Governance, performance, assurance and leadership: Establish a comprehensive Child Protection Performance and Accountability Framework, supported by reliable performance information, clear accountability, regular executive oversight and effective monitoring of improvement actions. Strengthen business continuity arrangements and visible leadership, including direct engagement with regional and remote frontline operations.

Taken together, these recommendations are intended to support a sustained and coordinated reform of the child protection system. Implementation should be guided by DCF's statutory responsibilities and focused

on whether changes improve the quality, timeliness and effectiveness of practice and, ultimately, the safety and wellbeing of children.

Background and Context

1. Overview of the case

KLB's family was known to DCF prior to her birth through notifications concerning her older sibling, including a notification received while KLB's mother was pregnant with her. These earlier notifications provide important context to the Review's consideration of the information available to DCF and its understanding of the family's circumstances before and after KLB's birth. The Review has considered the history of DCF involvement as a whole, while distinguishing the circumstances and allegations relating to KLB from those concerning her older sibling.

KLB was 5 years old when it is alleged she was abducted from the Old Timers town camp, Alice Springs and later murdered in April 2026. The matter is currently before the court.

2. Notification and intervention history

The notification history provides important context for understanding the nature and progression of DCF's involvement with KLB and her family. Over the period reviewed, DCF received repeated notifications concerning the child's exposure to domestic and family violence (DFV), predominantly involving her father, RG. The notifications span a number of years and include reports of verbal and physical violence, breaches of domestic violence orders, coercive and controlling behaviour and, on some occasions, the child's direct or potential exposure to incidents of violence.

The publicly reported court proceedings concerning RG have also referred to an ongoing pattern of DFV against the same complainant and repeated breaches of domestic violence orders. These reports provide additional context to the concerns recorded in DCF's notification history, although the Review's assessment is based on the departmental records and evidence examined.

The history is significant not only because of the number of notifications, but because of the recurring nature of the concerns and the increasing recognition of DFV-related risk over time. In the 7 August 2021 notification, for example, DCF identified exposure to DFV and a breach of a DVO as concerns and recorded a safety goal and safety scale of 2/10. The assessment also identified the need to obtain the DVO history and a custody/corrections chronology for the father. The matter was subsequently finalised on 4 October 2021 when DCF closed the case.

A further notification was received on 4 August 2022 concerning exposure to DFV, a breach of a DVO and an assault, including a concern about the child's involvement. The Signs of Safety assessment again recorded a safety scale of 2/10 and identified no signs of safety. The assessment described dangerous behaviour involving a child and recorded that the father had been arrested. The notification was ultimately closed on 21 March 2023, with reference to a Strengthening Families case.

By January 2023, DCF's assessment of the circumstances reflected an increasing level of concern. The 20 January 2023 notification was assessed as a three-day response, with a safety scale of 3/10. The assessment specifically noted the frequency of DFV incidents, the vulnerability of the child because of her young age and that there appeared to be an escalating pattern.

NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT

2.3 Council Services Managers Report

AUTHOR Labhjeet Kaur Bhullar (Council Services Manager)

RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority notes the Council Services Managers report.

SUMMARY:

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

BACKGROUND:

In line with Guideline 1: Local Authorities, it is a requirement for a report to be included on service delivery issues in the Local Authority area.

GENERAL:

Council Support Services

Over the past couple of months, the East Arnhem Regional Council in Gunyangara has continued to strengthen existing relationships with stakeholders and support local events and celebrations across the region.

Municipal Services (MS)

During the reporting period of October and November 2026, the Gunyangara Municipal Services team continued to undertake routine maintenance and general upkeep of public spaces throughout the community. These activities included regular mowing, litter collection, and general cleaning to ensure communal areas remained clean, safe, and well maintained.

Following damage to the oval irrigation infrastructure, the necessary repairs have now been completed, and the irrigation system has resumed operation. With the system functioning again and the anticipated rainfall, it is expected that the oval condition will gradually improve and return to its previous standard.

The Municipal Services team also completed another round of hard rubbish collection as part of the community's preparations for the upcoming cyclone season. The initiative received a positive response from community members, who actively participated by disposing of unwanted household items and hard rubbish. This contributed to improving the overall cleanliness of the community and reducing potential hazards ahead of the cyclone season.



Gunyangara – Public area space.

The Municipal Services team also worked collaboratively with the Active Communities Youth Services team to assist with preparations for the AFLX Under 15 Girls competition held at Gunyangara Oval on 31 October 2026. The team provided support with event setup, contributing to the successful preparation of the venue for this regional sporting event.

There were no new staff appointments during the reporting period. No additional activities or formal staff training sessions were undertaken.

The Gunyangara Municipal Services team remains committed to maintaining community facilities, supporting local events and ensuring public spaces are appropriately maintained. Ongoing maintenance and cyclone season preparedness will continue to be key priorities to support community safety and wellbeing.

Community Night Patrol (CNP)

The Community Night Patrol team continues to strengthen its engagement with local youth, with a noticeable improvement in the way young people interact with patrol officers. Youth are increasingly approaching team members with positive attitudes, greeting them with smiles, waving and engaging in more frequent conversations. This represents a significant improvement in community relationships and reflects the positive outcomes of the Night Patrol team's ongoing collaboration with other Council departments and key stakeholders.

The Gunyangara Night Patrol team is also looking forward to receiving a new patrol vehicle in the coming weeks, which will further support the delivery of services within the community.



Collaboration with the Active Communities Team



CNP Team Gunyangara

The Gunyangara Night Patrol team consists of Emily Perry (Team Leader), Janet Gurruwiwi (Night Patrol Matriarch) and Heather Yunupingu. The Gunyangara team is entirely staffed by Indigenous employees, reflecting a strong commitment to local employment and community participation.

During periods of staff absence, particularly due to cultural or ceremonial commitments, operational support is provided by Renee Blythe (CNP Coordinator) along with Kasey Buckley, Alica Marika, Zeniah Farrell, Laylani Gumbula, Sid Yunupingu and Wilisoni Lotu. Overall, the Community Night Patrol workforce comprises 80% Indigenous employees, with the remaining 20% providing additional operational support to ensure continuity of services during periods of reduced staffing availability.

The Night Patrol team is scheduled to attend the upcoming Safer Communities Together BBQ, organised by Roypirri Rom, at the Gunyangara basketball courts. Participation in this event will provide an opportunity to further strengthen community relationships, promote positive engagement, and support collaborative efforts towards community safety and wellbeing.

The Night Patrol team continues to undertake scheduled static patrols as part of its community engagement activities. During these patrols, team members remain stationed at the Youth Drop-In Centre for several hours, providing a safe and welcoming environment for young people seeking a place to relax and engage with staff. This initiative, commonly referred to as the “Chill Zone”, offers a range of healthy food options, including chicken salad wraps, fresh fruit, egg and salad sandwiches, as well as occasional refreshments such as Milo and biscuits.

The initiative has been positively received by local youth and continues to encourage meaningful engagement between young people and Night Patrol officers.



CNP and Active Communities engagements.

Upcoming professional development opportunities include driver training for Night Patrol staff, focusing on safe driving practices within the community, four-wheel-drive operation, and basic vehicle maintenance. The training will also cover practical skills, including tyre changing, to enhance staff confidence, safety awareness, and operational capability.

Incidents of property damage and vandalism within the community have presented ongoing challenges for the Night Patrol team. Following a recent break-in at the Youth Drop-In Centre, which resulted in significant damage to the facility and its contents, the Chill Zone initiative has been temporarily suspended while cleaning and repairs are undertaken, and replacement

keys are arranged. This incident is particularly disappointing given the considerable effort invested by staff and stakeholders in establishing a welcoming and supportive environment for local youth. The team remains committed to restoring the facility and resuming activities as soon as it is safe and appropriate to do so.

The Night Patrol team also continues to experience challenges relating to community expectations of its transport services. Staff have reported instances of verbal abuse and inappropriate behaviour when transport requests cannot be met. While the team remains committed to supporting community safety and assisting residents to return home safely, transport assistance must be prioritised according to individual circumstances and vulnerability. Priority may be given to elderly residents, mothers with young children, and other vulnerable community members. Night Patrol is not intended to operate as a general taxi service, and the team continues to encourage greater community understanding of its role and responsibilities. Despite these challenges, staff remain dedicated to delivering a safe, respectful, and reliable service to the community.

Active Communities and Youth Services (ACYS)

During the reporting period of September and October 2026, Kai Tosomeen, the Relief Active Communities Coordinator, provided operational support across Yirrkala and Gunyangara from 8 to 29 October, while Rob Kestle was on leave. This arrangement ensured continuity of Active Communities programs and activities throughout the reporting period.

The AFLX Under 15 Girls Regional Championships were successfully held at Gunyangara Oval on 31 October 2026. The event brought together 38 participants from Ramingining, Milingimbi, Galiwin'ku, Gapuwiyak, Yirrkala and Gunyangara, providing an opportunity for young female athletes from across the region to participate in organised sporting activities and strengthen connections between communities.

The Active Communities team continued to deliver a range of recreational and sporting activities throughout the reporting period to encourage community participation and promote active and healthy lifestyles. Regular Saturday evening movie nights were facilitated by Kai and Jada at the rear of the Gumatj office, providing an opportunity for community members to participate in social and recreational activities.

There are currently two vacant Active Communities Worker positions in Gunyangara.

Waste and Environmental Update

Hard rubbish collections have continually been undertaken as required within Gunyangara, with waste then taken to the Waste Management Facility in Nhulunbuy.

Animal Management Program (AMP) Update

Community: Gunyangara
Reporting month/period: October 2026

Overall comments:

- The community at Gunyangara is going well, with the overall condition of the dogs in the community being very good, with the parasite prevention program appearing to be very effective. No cases of mange or similar parasitic disease were noted this visit. The majority of owner's were very engaging well with parasite control for their animals and receptiveness to surgery for desexing procedures. Only one cheeky dog was noted, which was observed to be chained to the owner's property, a couple of other cheeky

dogs had recently been taken by the Baru. The issue with feral cats remains ongoing, however, a trapping program is now in place, with 4 cats trapped and euthanised during the week of the visit. Due to the proximity of the community to Nhulunbuy, it will be possible to continue this program over the coming weeks as required. Dr Vic, Sarah and Saraya visited Gunyangara from 22-23 October.

- The team performed their remote consultations across the period when not working in community. The bulk of these related to canine cough, which has spread through the dog population of Gunyangara. The condition tends to be self-limiting over a couple of weeks, though does cause a pronounced honking cough than can cause concern to owners.
- Upcoming vet visit:
    - The next veterinary visit to Gunyangara will be by Dr Celia and Sarah on Feb/March 27 (TBC).

Service Delivery Table:

Gunyangara	Sept 26	FY 26-27 to date	FY 25-26
Dogs Desexed	11	15	20
Cats Desexed	0	3	7
Community consultations	1	7	39
Remote/Phone consultations	3	12	17
EARC Veterinary Cabinet medication dispensed	1	4	12
Minor procedures/other surgeries	0	1	5
Parasite Treatments	26	86	175
Euthanasia	4	5	9
Private practice consultations	0	2	2
Total Engagements	**46**	**135**	**286**

Staff Education/training activities: N/A
Community education activities: N/A

Additional Collaborations/Stakeholder engagements:

- Feral cat population management in collaboration with CSM Troy. 4 feral cats trapped and euthanised this month.

Concerns/Challenges:

- The baru continues to take dogs, with several community dogs now deceased.

Any issues or concerns that need to be addressed at LA or council meeting: N/A

Photos:



Dog treated for wound on back continuing to heal well. Suspected baru attack, although wound appears more consistent with single sharp edge trauma.



Litter of puppies' recovery post desexing.



Feral cat trapped as part of population management.



Nurse Saraya with a community puppy post desexing, vaccination, microchipping and parasite treatment.

ATTACHMENTS:
Nil

NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT

2.4 Human Resources and Finance Report

AUTHOR Neil Moores (Finance Manager)

RECOMMENDATION

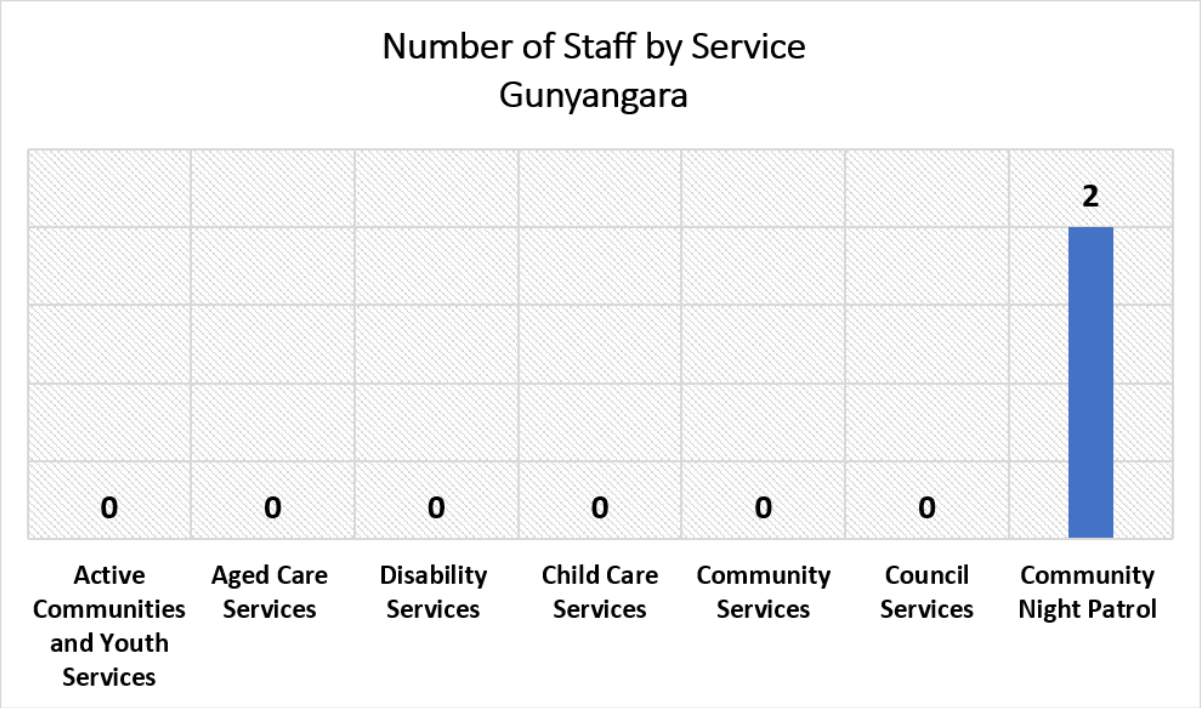
That Local Authority receives the Finance, Human Resources and Employment information as of 31 October 2026.

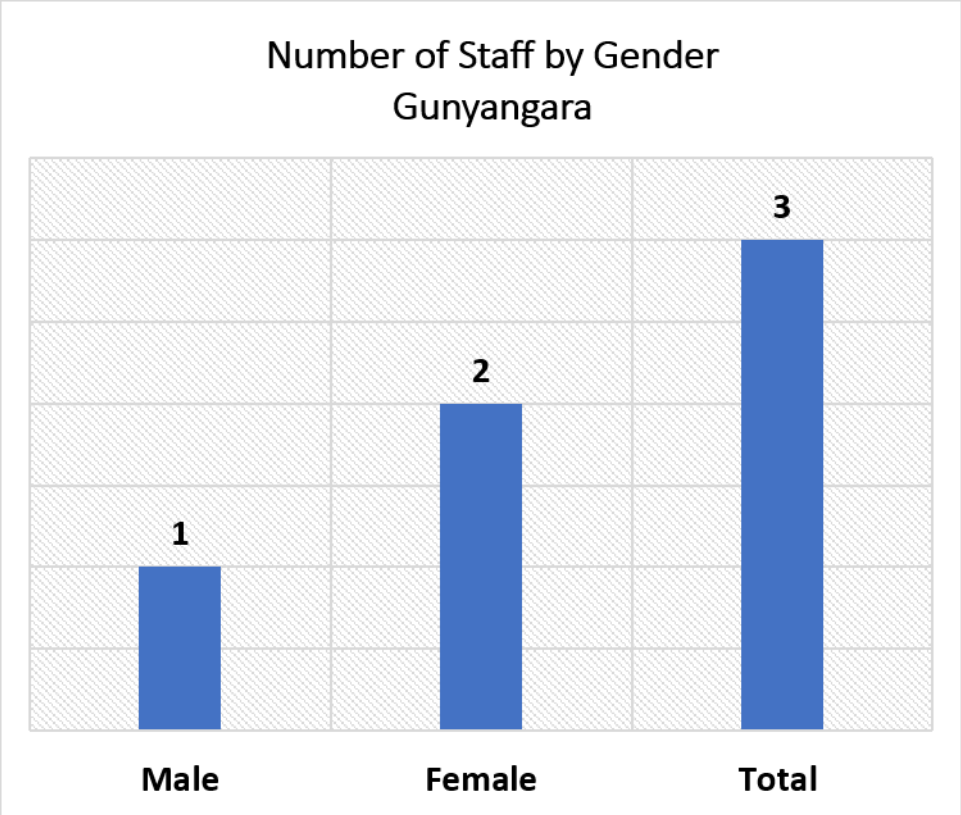
SUMMARY:

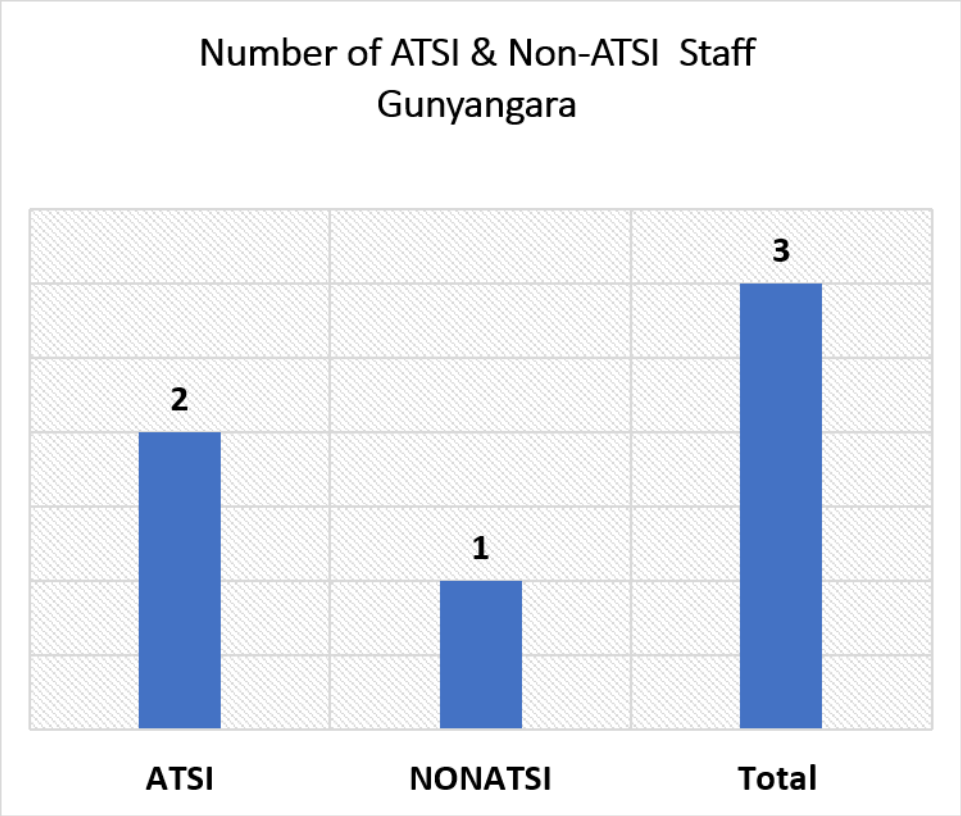
This is a report of the key broad issues since the last report to the Local Authority, in addition to those covered in other parts of the agenda.

GENERAL:

Employment Statistics:




Number of Staff by Gender
Gunyangara
1
2
3
Male
Female
Total


Number of ATSI & Non-ATSI Staff
Gunyangara
2
1
3
ATSI
NONATSI
Total

VACANCIES AS AT 31.10.2026

Job Title	Location	Recruitment Type	Employment Type	Number of Vacancies
Active Communities Worker	Gunyangara	Community	Casual	1
Active Communities Worker	Gunyangara	Community	Casual	1
Municipal Services Officer	Gunyangara	Community	Casual	1

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

ATTACHMENTS:

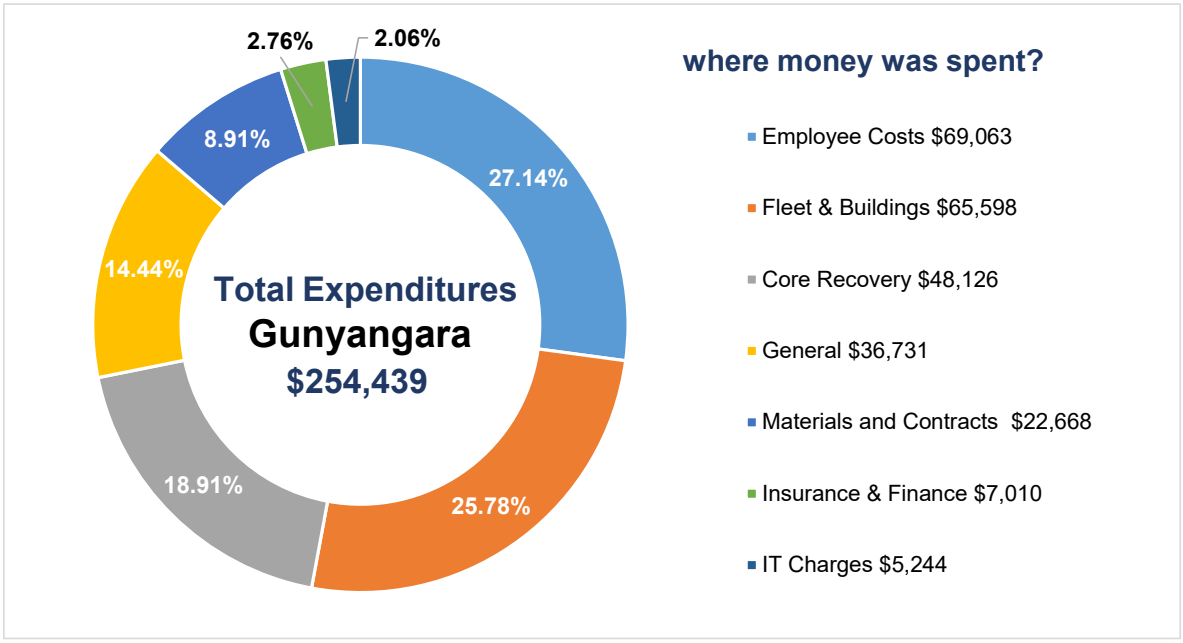
1. Gunyangara [**2.4.1** - 2 pages]

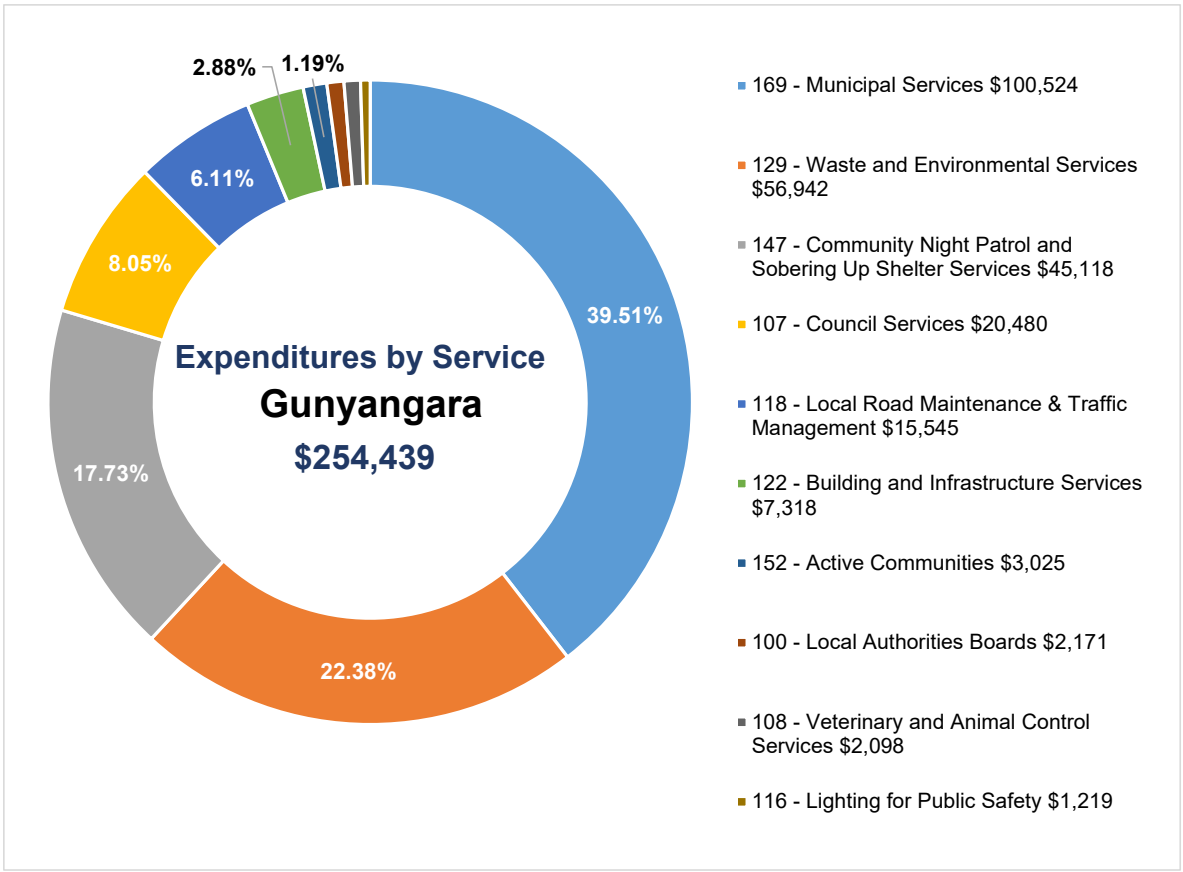
LOCAL AUTHORITY PROJECT FUNDING (LAPF) - GUNYANGARA

FUNDS LEFT

As at 31st October 2026

	YTD ACTUAL	COMMITMENTS	ACTUAL + COMMITMENTS	FULL YEAR BUDGET	PROGRESS % (ACTUAL vs BUDGET)
CARRIED FORWARD LAPF FROM PRIOR YEAR	**156,695**	**-**	**156,695**	**103,276**	
LAPF RECEIVED THIS FINANCIAL YEAR	**-**	**-**	**-**	**34,900**	
TOTAL AVAILABLE LAPF THIS FINANCIAL YEAR	**156,695**	**-**	**156,695**	**138,176**	
LESS LAPF PROJECTS					
301419 - LAPF - Gunyagara - Footpaths (school to Gumatj Office)	-	-	-	(156,695)	0%
TOTAL PROJECTS	**-**	**-**	**-**	**(156,695)**	**0%**
ESTIMATED LAPF - LEFT (OVERSPEND) / UNDERSPEND			**156,695**	**(18,519)**	


2.76%
2.06%
8.91%
27.14%
14.44%
Total Expenditures
Gunyangara
$254,439
18.91%
25.78%
where money was spent?
Employee Costs $69,063
Fleet & Buildings $65,598
Core Recovery $48,126
General $36,731
Materials and Contracts $22,668
Insurance & Finance $7,010
IT Charges $5,244


2.88%
1.19%
6.11%
8.05%
39.51%
Expenditures by Service
Gunyangara
$254,439
17.73%
22.38%
169 - Municipal Services $100,524
129 - Waste and Environmental Services $56,942
147 - Community Night Patrol and Sobering Up Shelter Services $45,118
107 - Council Services $20,480
118 - Local Road Maintenance & Traffic Management $15,545
122 - Building and Infrastructure Services $7,318
152 - Active Communities $3,025
100 - Local Authorities Boards $2,171
108 - Veterinary and Animal Control Services $2,098
116 - Lighting for Public Safety $1,219

3 General Business and Date of Next Meeting

PRESENTATION

3.1 Discussion with the Local Police Department

RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority notes the updates from the Local Police Department.

ATTACHMENTS:
Nil

4 Meeting Close