



**OPEN AGENDA for the Gunyangara  
Local Authority  
26 March 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-ŋiwŋaram:

- limurr dhu räŋ-manapanmirr ganydjarrwu limurrŋgalaŋaw rur'maranharaw,
- ga dharray walŋaw,
- ga ŋayaŋu-ŋapmaranhamirr bukmak bala-räli'yunmirr.

**Dhaŋu**

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

- ŋalma ŋarru räŋ-manapanmi ganydjarrwu ŋakanhaminyarawu ŋalmaliŋuwaywuru,
- ga dharray walŋawu,
- ga ŋayaŋu-ŋapthumanmi bukmak bala-räli'yunmi.

**Gumatj**

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

- ŋilimurru yurru räŋ-manapanmirri ganydjarrwu gaŋga'thinyarawu ŋilimurrŋgalaŋawu,
- ga dharray walŋawu,
- ga ŋayaŋu-ŋapthunmaranhamirr bukmak bala-lili'yunmirri.

**Marraŋu**

Dhuwanydji dhäwu barranŋa'yun EARC-ŋur bukmakku yolŋuw yukurr buku-ŋiw'maram wäŋa mittji malanyha:

- Dalimurr wurruku räŋ-manapanmirr djäk ganydjarrwu ŋalimurrŋgalaŋaw
- Gaŋgathinyamaranharaw woŋdanŋarrgunharaw,
- Ga djäga walŋaw,
- Ga ŋayaŋu-ŋapmaranhamirr 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 offices on Thursday 26 March 2026 at 11:30 am.

Agendas and minutes are available on the Council website [www.eastarnhem.nt.gov.au](http://www.eastarnhem.nt.gov.au) and can be viewed at the Councils public office.

Dale Keehne  
**Chief Executive Officer**

**Members:**

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

**Dial-in Details:**

**Microsoft Teams**

[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 447 171 903 951 38

Passcode: SQ3aP6dV

**Dial in by phone**

[+61 2 8318 0005,,926178234#](tel:+61283180005926178234) Australia, Sydney

[Find a local number](#)

Phone conference ID: 926 178 234#

**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

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#### 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 from the Council members and what absences that the Council given permission for.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Nil

### MEETING ESTABLISHMENT

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#### 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**

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1.5 Previous Local Authority Minutes

**RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Local Authority approves the minutes of the previous meetings held on 29 January 2026 and 30 October 2025.**

**ATTACHMENTS:**

- 1. Gunyangara Local Authority- Minutes 29 Jan 2026 [1.5.1 - 5 pages]
- 2. Gunyangara Local Authority- Minutes 30 Oct 2025 [1.5.2 - 6 pages]



**OPEN MINUTES for the Gunyangara  
Provisional Local Authority  
29 January 2026**

## 1 Meeting Establishment

YOW NGILIMURR BUKU'LUNGTHUN DHIYAK MEETINGU GA MALA DJARRYUN ROM

The Chair opened the meeting at 11:50 AM.

### Members in Attendance:

Cr. Murphy Yunupingu  
Antoine Gintz  
Doug Yunupingu  
Kingsley Dhamarrandji

### East Arnhem Council Officers:

Dale Keehne (Chief Executive Officer)  
Signe Balodis (Director – Council Services)  
Ralph Reddy (Finance Manager) - Attended online  
Aaron McKenna (Senior Project Manager) - Attended Online  
Adam Johnson (Relief Council Services Manager)  
Paul Hyde Kaduru (Governance and Compliance Manager) - Attended online  
Ben Waugh (External)

## MEETING ESTABLISHMENT

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### 1.3 Attendance

#### SUMMARY:

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

GUN 2025/24 **RESOLVED** (Cr. Murphy Yunupingu/Antoine Gintz)

#### That the Local Authority:

- (a) **Notes the absence of Priscilla Yunupingu, Syd Yunupingu, Elizika Puertollano and Malakhi Puertollano.**
- (b) **Notes Priscilla Yunupingu, Syd Yunupingu, Elizika Puertollano and Malakhi Puertollano are absent with permission of the Local Authority.**
- (c) **Requested to write a letter to members regarding the attendance.**

## GUNYANGARA LOCAL AUTHORITY MINUTES

29 JANUARY 2026

**MEETING ESTABLISHMENT**

## 1.4 Conflict of Interest

**SUMMARY:**

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

GUN 2025/25 **RESOLVED (Doug Yunupingu/Antoine Gintz)**

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

**MEETING ESTABLISHMENT**

## 1.5 Previous Local Authority Minutes

The meeting was provisional due to lack of quorum. As a result, the proposed resolution to approve the minutes of 30 October 2025 did not pass and will be considered at the next meeting.

**2 Looking Forward - Discussions and Decisions**

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

**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

**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 2025/31 **RESOLVED (Antoine Gintz/Kingsley Dhamarrandji)**

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

## GUNYANGARA LOCAL AUTHORITY MINUTES

29 JANUARY 2026

**NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT**

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## 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 2025/30 **RESOLVED (Antoine Gintz/Doug Yunupingu)**

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

**NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT**

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## 3.3 Council Services Report

**SUMMARY:**

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

GUN 2025/26 **RESOLVED (Cr. Murphy Yunupingu/Doug Yunupingu)**

**That the Local Authority notes the Council Services Manager Report.**

**NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT**

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## 3.4 Human Resources and Finance Report

**SUMMARY:**

This report presents the financials plus employment statistics as of 31 December 2025 within the Local Authority area.

GUN 2025/27 **RESOLVED (Antoine Gintz/Kingsley Dhamarrandji)**

**That the Local Authority receives the Human Resources and Employment information as of 31 December 2025.**

**NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT**

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## 3.5 Presentation from Ben Waugh

GUN 2025/28 **RESOLVED (Antoine Gintz/Doug Yunupingu)**

**That the Local Authority endorses the community consultation report for the five year Strategic Plan.**

**NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT**

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3.6 Presentation from Local Police

GUN 2025/32 **RESOLVED (Antoine Gintz/Doug Yunupingu)**

**That the Local Authority notes the updates provided by Police.**

**4 Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting is to be held on 26 March 2026.

**5 Meeting Close**

The meeting closed at 02:22 PM

This page and the preceding pages are the minutes of the Gunyangara Local Authority Provisional Meeting held on 29 January 2026.

UNCONFIRMED



**OPEN MINUTES for the Gunyangara  
Local Authority  
30 October 2025**

## 1 Meeting Establishment

YOW NGILIMURR BUKU'LUNGTHUN DHIYAK MEETINGU GA MALA DJARRYUN ROM

### Members in Attendance:

Antoine Gintz

Elizika Puertollano

Cr. Murphy Yunupingu

Cr. Priscilla Yunupingu

### East Arnhem Regional Council Officers:

Signe Balodis (Director- Council Services)

Adam Johnson (Council Services Manager)

Paul Hyde Kaduru (Governance and Compliance Manager)

## MEETING ESTABLISHMENT

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### 1.3 Attendance

#### SUMMARY:

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

GUN 2025/13 **RESOLVED (Antoine Gintz/Elizika Puertollano)**

#### That the Local Authority:

- (a) Notes the absence of Malakhi Puertollano, Syd Yunupingu and Doug Yunupingu.
- (b) Notes the apology received from Malakhi Puertollano.
- (c) Notes Malakhi Puertollano is absent with permission of the Local Authority.
- (d) Determines Syd Yunupingu and Doug Yunupingu are absent without permission of the Local Authority under Section 47(1) (0) of the Act.

## GUNYANGARA LOCAL AUTHORITY MINUTES

30 OCTOBER 2025

**MEETING ESTABLISHMENT**

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1.4 Conflict of Interest

**SUMMARY:**

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

GUN 2025/14 **RESOLVED** (Cr. Priscilla Yunupingu/Elizika Puertollano)

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

**MEETING ESTABLISHMENT**

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1.5 Previous Local Authority Minutes

GUN 2025/15 **RESOLVED** (Cr. Priscilla Yunupingu/Antoine Gintz)

**That the Local Authority approves of the minutes of the previous meeting held on 28 March 2025.**

**2 Looking Forward - Discussions and Decisions**

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

**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

## GUNYANGARA LOCAL AUTHORITY MINUTES

30 OCTOBER 2025

**NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT**

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## 3.1 Local Authority Action Items

**SUMMARY:**

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

GUN 2025/16 **RESOLVED** (Cr. Priscilla Yunupingu/Cr. Murphy Yunupingu)

**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.**

**NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT**

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## 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 2025/17 **RESOLVED** (Elizika Puertollano/Cr. Priscilla Yunupingu)

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

**NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT**

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## 3.3 Council Services Report

**SUMMARY:**

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

GUN 2025/18 **RESOLVED** (Antoine Gintz/Cr. Priscilla Yunupingu)

**That the Local Authority notes the Council Services Managers report.**

## GUNYANGARA LOCAL AUTHORITY MINUTES

30 OCTOBER 2025

**NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT**

## 3.4 Technical and Infrastructure Service Report

**SUMMARY:**

This report is submitted for the Local Authority's consideration and provides program updates from the Technical and Infrastructure Directorate. The updates pertain to capital projects and initiatives aligned with the 2025–2026 Annual Plan.

GUN 2025/19 **RESOLVED** (Elizika Puertollano/Antoine Gintz)

**That the Local Authority notes the Technical and Infrastructure Services report.**

**NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT**

## 3.5 Human Resources and Finance Report

**SUMMARY**

This report presents the financials plus employment statistics as of 30 September 2025 within the Local Authority area.

GUN 2025/20 **RESOLVED** (Cr. Priscilla Yunupingu/Antoine Gintz)

**That the Local Authority receives the Human Resources and Employment information as of 30 September 2025.**

**NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT**

## 4.1 Bulk Waste Management

GUN 2025/21 **RESOLVED** (Elizika Puertollano/Cr. Priscilla Yunupingu)

**RECOMMENDATION:**

**Local Authority recommends EARC and Gumatj representatives to meet and discuss the bulk waste management solutions for Gunyangara community.**

## 4.2 Pause on Infrastructure Works Pending Engineering Audit

GUN 2025/23 **RESOLVED** (Cr. Priscilla Yunupingu/Antoine Gintz)

**RECOMMENDATION:**

**Any current works involving Infrastructure to be paused until the engineering Audit has been completed through Gumatj engagement for Gunyangara community.**

**GUNYANGARA LOCAL AUTHORITY MINUTES**

**30 OCTOBER 2025**

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The next meeting is to be held on 30 October 2025.

**5 Meeting Close**

The meeting closed at 01:25 PM.

This page and the preceding pages are the minutes of the Local Authority Ordinary Meeting held on 30/10/2025.

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 [2.1.1 - 5 pages]

**GUNYANGARA ACTIONS**

ACTION ITEM	ACTIONS	STATUS
Kava Pilot	<p>That the Local Authority:</p> <p>a) Notes the report on the Kava Pilot: Allowing the commercial importation of kava.</p> <p>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:</p> <p>1) increased compliance and policing for the increase in the illicit kava trade, or</p> <p>2) effective and informed local decision making about kava management to minimise potential harms.</p> <p>c) Supports the Northern Territory Government’s request for funding to support research into the health and social impacts from increased kava availability</p>	<p><b>20.10.22</b> - 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.</p> <p><b>28.09.23</b> – CEO to provide update in his report during meeting.</p> <p><b>14.12.23</b> – 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.</p> <p>02.02.24 – NIAA and NTG and Police to attend next Council meeting to continue discussions.</p> <p><b>21.02.24</b> – 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.</p> <p><b>09.04.24</b> – Ongoing.</p> <p><b>24.04.24</b> – CEO to follow up with Department.</p> <p>03.06.24 NIAA and NTG to be invited to next Council meeting to provide an update.</p> <p><b>25.06.24</b> – NIAA and NTG attending June Council meeting to provide update and discuss.</p> <p><b>29.07.24</b> – No further updates to provide.</p> <p><b>31.01.25</b> – No further updates, Jacinta Price’s office has been engaged in line with the 8 Advocacy items.</p> <p><b>19.02.25</b> – Council is going to seek the support of Local Member Mark Yingiya Guyula MLA for Mulka to raise this issue.</p> <p>03/04/2025 – Further information in CEO Report.</p> <p><b>23.04.25</b> – No change will re-address with newly elected Government.</p> <p><b>25.06.25</b> – 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.</p> <p><b>30.10.25</b> - Police in Nhulunbuy informed that they received a letter from the Minister stating that the NT Government is willing to conduct community consultations.</p>

**GUNYANGARA ACTIONS**

ACTION ITEM	ACTIONS	STATUS
<p>Speed safety signage and merged action 'Council to provide stickers for bins, providing correct orientation.'</p>	<p>Members request speed/safety signage be added to both sides of rubbish bins.</p>	<p><b>27.09.24</b> – 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.  <b>09.04.24</b> – Council Services Manager to work with Murphy to get the wording to start the sticker process.  <b>24.04.24</b> – Stickers to be provided.  <b>03.06.24</b> – Council Services/MSS to find out where current stickers are located and get them out to community.  <b>25.06.24</b> – Ongoing Council Services Manager to update.  <b>27.09.24</b> – Request waste services Manager provide stickers be attached to rubbish bins.  <b>31.01.25</b> – 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'.  <b>03.04.2025</b> — 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 further discussion with Murphy prior to next LA Meeting. Also correct spelling on the other side.  <b>23.04.25</b> – 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.  <b>25.06.25-</b> stickers have been ordered, once received they will be applied to the bins.</p>

**GUNYANGARA ACTIONS**

ACTION ITEM	ACTIONS	STATUS
		<p><b>30.10.25</b> – The stickers have been received and will be installed on the bins by 30<sup>th</sup> of November.</p> <p><b>26.11.25</b> – Completed.</p>
Speed humps.	Speed Humps are required across community.	<p><b>03.04.25</b> – General Manager Infrastructure Services to implement with audit and requires a map of community to show where the community wants the speed humps. Working with Council Services Manager and members – sit down and map it out.</p> <p><b>23.04.25</b> – Engaged with contractor for new speed humps.</p> <p><b>25.06.25</b> – No further update yet.</p> <p><b>30.10.25</b> - TransportWise has finished the audit and submitted their report. The GM Technical &amp; Infrastructure Services and RM Transport Infrastructure will meet with TransportWise to go through the recommendations and plan a 5–10 year strategy for transport infrastructure. To make sure grant money is used for the most important repairs, maintenance, and upgrades.</p> <p><b>22.11.25</b> – Review of report has been completed waiting on community signage maps to undertake installation of signage and speed humps.</p> <p><b>24.02.25</b> – Currently being procured.</p>
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.	<p><b>27.09.24</b> – Director Technical and Infrastructure Services to investigate and provide an update.</p> <p><b>11.12.24</b> – Ongoing</p> <p><b>31.01.25</b> – Regional Manager Transport and Infrastructure currently investigating and looking at different solutions.</p> <p><b>03.04.25</b> - Currently in discussions with ARRCOS requested them to look at it and provide a solution.</p> <p><b>23.04.25</b> – Ongoing with ARRCOS</p> <p><b>25.06.25</b> – Further update to be provided once received.</p> <p><b>30.10.25</b> - RM Transport Infrastructure seeking confirmation on the location and extent of work/water bodies area so further investigation can be undertaken appropriately.</p> <p><b>24.10.25</b> – Needed to Seek External funding.</p>

**GUNYANGARA ACTIONS**

ACTION ITEM	ACTIONS	STATUS
Footpath from Boat club to EARC council office road corner along the Drimmie Head road and additional solar lights installed.	This Footpath is needed for safety reasons as residents are walking along the road in the dark.	<p><b>30.10.25</b> – Proceed with further works when the Gunyangara Infrastructure assessment has been finalised.</p> <p><b>22.11.25</b> – To be mapped in the new year and released as Tender pending funding available.</p> <p><b>24.02.25</b> – Will be mapped in Grant Funding in the New Financial Year.</p>
Pause works in Gunyangara		<p><b>26.11.25</b> - To pause all works in Gunyangara until Audit has been completed by Gumatj.</p> <p><b>24.02.25</b> – Completed.</p>

**ADVOCACY ITEMS/ITEMS ON HOLD:**

Gunyangara Roads Upgrade Project		<p><b>28.09</b> – Waiting on tenders to close. To hopefully be taken to October Council meeting. Updating at next meeting.</p> <p><b>26.10</b> Tenders will be going to special meeting in 2 to 3 weeks. Update to be provided.</p> <p><b>02.02.24</b> – Ongoing awaiting further negotiation of the contract.</p> <p><b>09.04.24</b> – Ongoing.</p> <p><b>24.04.24</b> – Going back to Tender.</p> <p><b>03.06.24</b> – Still out to tender.</p> <p><b>25.06.24</b> – As above - rolled over as part of draft budget and annual plan.</p> <p><b>27.07.24</b> to be placed in Advocacy.</p> <p><b>11.12.24</b> 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.</p> <p><b>31.01.25</b> 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.</p> <p><b>23.04.25</b> Will commence early May.</p>
Growing Regions Grant Round.	Gunyangara Oval Cyclone and sports building.	<p><b>28.09</b> – EOI still underway – hopefully have made the second round in the application process – more updates next meeting.</p>

**GUNYANGARA ACTIONS**

		<p>26.10 Has made the 2<sup>nd</sup> round. NO NTG funding required. Will provide update.</p> <p><b>14.12.23</b> – Contact from Grant Dept states this has made the 2<sup>nd</sup> round of Grant process. New Letter of Support submitted.</p> <p><b>02.02.24</b> – Application lodged in December and waiting to hear back on result of application. Will keep updating the members.</p> <p><b>09.04.24</b> – No update. Waiting to hear back on result of application. Will keep updating the members.</p> <p><b>24.04.24</b> – as above, still waiting on information.</p> <p><b>03.06.24</b> unsuccessful – covered in Tech report.</p> <p><b>31.01.25</b> – Move to Advocacy</p>
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**NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT**

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## 2.2 CEO Report

**AUTHOR** Dale Keehne (Chief Executive Officer)**RECOMMENDATION****That the Local Authority :****(a) Notes the CEO report.****(b) Endorses the improved and expanded Advocacy issues as endorsed by Council.****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:**Advocacy

Council and the Local Authorities have formally considered and endorsed a growing number of important issues to advocate for action from the Northern Territory and Australian Governments, for the social well-being of the communities and homelands of East Arnhem Land.

The Local Authority is asked to consider and endorse the following improved and expanded Key Advocacy Issues.

1. Youth Justice and new ways of addressing a high and growing level of youth crime focused on community based facilities, where young offenders are required to stay but be provided support from Council and other relevant service providers – for alcohol and other substance mis-use, trauma and family neglect, and engage the offenders in genuine and effective learning on country of traditional culture, identity and respect, community service, sport and recreation, vocational training, and a clear pathway to jobs – and if anyone fails to do this, they will be sent away to the standard prison system.
2. Shift from dependency on government payments and programs like the previous Community Development Program (CDP), and the new Remote Australia Employment Service (RAES), to include the genuine mutual obligation of community members to participate in work or training to continue to receive payments, to support genuine personal and family responsibility and accountability.
3. Real Local Decision Making - a shift from ignoring and excluding our Indigenous controlled Local Authorities and Council to facilitate open, legitimate, and transparent engagement with all communities and homelands to hear the voices of all people, and support genuine engagement, collaboration, and partnership with the other two levels of government, to gain meaningful and practical outcomes.

4. The ongoing and unaddressed problem of the illegal sale of kava, alcohol and other drugs, illegal card games and the damaging effect they have on communities and homelands.
5. The need for genuine co-design of new housing developments, that Council assess and approve, to comply with National Standards.
6. 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.
7. 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.
8. The de-registration of providers or related companies of disability services that are involved in exploitation and abuse of clients, and other illegal activities.
9. Effective funding of essential and other support services to residents of small to large homelands, across East Arnhem Land.
10. The need for effective consultation, engagement, planning and the commitment of required funding from Rio Tinto, the Northern Territory Government, Federal Government, and other relevant stakeholders, to secure the future of Gove as a regional centre.

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

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Nil

**NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT**

## 2.3 Council Services Report

**AUTHOR** Signe Balodis (Director - Council Services)**RECOMMENDATION****That the Local Authority notes the Council Services Managers report.****SUMMARY:**

This report is provided by the Council Operations 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 East Arnhem Regional Council in Gunyangara has continued to strengthen existing relationships with stakeholders and support local events and celebrations across the region.



*Gunyangara Oval.*

Municipal Services (MS)

It has been a busy month of general works around the community. Maintenance and beautification of public areas have continued throughout this wet period we have been

experiencing, and things are looking good in Gunyangara. Pothole repairs have also been undertaken.

A hard rubbish collection day was held and went well. The community responded positively, with many people participating and taking the opportunity to clear out quite a lot of rubbish during this time.

A big “Shout Out” to the team from Yirrkala for coming into Gunyangara to help facilitate this process. It was also a great opportunity to catch up with fellow team members and achieve a great result for the community.

The combined Municipal Services team from Gunyangara and Yirrkala were fortunate enough to undertake Skid Steer competency training facilitated by Kullaru. The opportunity was well received and participation in the course was excellent. It was a great chance for team members to come together, support one another in learning new skills, and work together to obtain their tickets.



*Skid Steer training – Practical operations held out in Yirrkala.*



*Skid Steer training – Gunyangara / Yirrkala MS Teams.*

The course was held over several days, and it was great to see the commitment from fellow workmates. These skills will help the team perform their duties and continue to deliver results that we are proud to provide to the Gunyangara community. Another great team effort.



We have received the new educational messaging decals for the kerbside wheelie bins in Gungahyamba. Application of the decals has now begun. These stickers include the messages “Slow Down” and “Fill Me Up” written in both English and Yolngu Matha.

This concept has been received very well in the community, particularly the “Slow Down Along Here” slogan, and the stickers continue to be applied.

We are in the process of hiring a new Municipal Services Officer for Gungahyamba. A successful candidate will be appointed to join the team in the coming weeks.

*New Bin Decals – Gungahyamba.*

Community Night Patrol (CNP)

Community Night Patrol continues to strengthen as a team. We are increasingly collaborating with other organisations and actively engaging with youth. Community Night Patrol is putting additional efforts into connecting with young people during community activities.



We are pleased to extend a warm welcome to Kasey-Jade Buckley. Kasey brings valuable experience in working with community and, as an Indigenous person from South Australia, has a deep understanding and respect for culture and community. Community Night Patrol – Gove Peninsula are now fully staffed.

*Community Night Patrol Coordinator, Renee with some of the local children.*

Community Night Patrol has recently successfully completed their First Aid training. Matthew and Myah completed dual diagnosis training, which helps in understanding that there may be more to a person than just intoxication and provides guidance on identifying potential mental health issues.



Matthew and Myah with their certificates.



First Aid training.

CNP continue to support Active Communities with their activities and events. We plan to collaborate with community organisations and youth programs and will begin hosting a bi-weekly barbecue for children towards the end of March.

Community Night Patrol staff occasionally feel some frustration due to differences between what community members think their expectations and the actual scope of their responsibilities. A few team members have shared concerns that their efforts may not always be fully recognised, and that efforts to communicate the purpose of Night Patrol to clients can sometimes lead to misunderstandings or discomfort, especially when interacting with intoxicated individuals. Additionally, Night Patrol officers sometime experience verbal abuse from clients.

#### Active Communities and Youth Services (ACYS)

During the period of January and February 2026 the basketball programs have continued to run successfully on Wednesday nights. These sessions are delivered fortnightly in Gunyangara and alternate between Yirrkala and Gunyangara and they consistently attract young people from both Marngarr and Dawurr boarding school.

Attendance has remained strong, and the activity provides a positive weekly outcome for participants.

An upcoming event, the AFLX U17 Boys is scheduled to take place on Saturday 28 March 2026 in Gunyangara.

Waste and Environmental Update

Bulk Waste Clean Up poster - Gunyangara

Goal 22.2 Collaborate with community and stakeholder for safer communities.2.2.1 Facilitate and advocate for community safety, improved safety, improved health and other services.

Community bulk waste clean ups were held across the region with the Gunyangara Bulk Waste Clean Up Week event running from 9 – 13 February 2026. These clean-up initiatives are scheduled to take place quarterly

Animal Management Program (AMP) Update

Reporting month/period: Jan-Feb 2026

Overall comments:

- The team has already been performing ad hoc veterinary visits to Gunyangara community this year. We have followed up on several sick animals as well as the euthanasia of an aggressive dog.
- Upcoming vet visit: The first planned veterinary visits is from 3 - 4 March 2026.

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

- The aggressive dog mentioned in the previous report has been euthanised by Dr Maddy and Sarah at the request of the family during this period. This has been a long ongoing case with extensive consultation with relevant stakeholders in this community.

Service Delivery Table:

<b>Gunyangara</b>	<b>Jan/Feb 26</b>	<b>FY 25-26 to FY 24-25 date</b>	
Dogs Desexed	0	6	10
Cats Desexed	0	5	13
Community consultations	2	15	59
Remote/Phone consultations	6	10	24
EARC Veterinary Cabinet medication dispensed	2	5	12
Minor procedures/other surgeries	0	3	3
Parasite Treatments	0	128	387
Euthanasia	1	8	0
Private practice consultations (Mainland)	0	0	0

<b>Total Engagements</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>508</b>
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Staff Education/training activities:

- Sarah Carrall and Saraya Aston attended the CDU First Aid and CPR training course in February. They are now up to date on all first aid training.
- Dr Maddy attended the NT AVA veterinary conference in Darwin in February and learnt new surgical techniques and updated medication regimes that can now be used by our veterinary program this year.
- Dr Maddy is going to perform EARC Veterinary Cabinet training with all CSMs and ancillary staff coming up in March

Additional Collaborations/Community education activities:

- The AMP team will be contacting the local community school soon to book in education visits throughout the 2026 school year.

Photographs:



*Saraya and Sarah in the CDU First Aid course.*

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Nil

**NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT**

2.4 Technical and Infrastructure Services Report

**AUTHOR** Sonia Campbell (General Manager - Technical and Infrastructure Services)

**RECOMMENDATION**

**That Local Authority note the Technical Services Report.**

**SUMMARY:**

This report is submitted for the Local Authority’s consideration and provides program updates from the Technical and Infrastructure Directorate. The updates pertain to capital projects and initiatives aligned with the 2025-2026 Annual Plan.

**BACKGROUND:**

As part of Council’s Annual Plan, a range of projects and initiatives were tabled and subsequently approved by the Local Authorities and Council for the 2025-2026 financial year. Ongoing updates on these projects will be provided at each meeting. In addition, any new initiatives or emerging matters of relevance to the community will also be discussed.

The information within this report covers actions associated with the below Technical Services areas:

- 112 - Fleet Services
- 116 - Lighting for Public Safety
- 118 - Local Road Maintenance & Traffic Management
- 119 - Local Road Upgrade and Construction
- 122 - Building and Public Infrastructure Services

**REPORT STORY:**

112 – Fleet Services

Nothing to report

The ongoing monsoonal weather and resulting access issues have delayed any further scheduled works across our remote communities for the Transport and Infrastructure and Building and Infrastructure Areas. If conditions change closer to the meeting date, we will provide the most up-to-date information during the meeting.

116 – Lighting for Public Safety

**Repair and maintenance of public streetlights**

Community	LED Streetlights out of service based on night-time inspection	Public out of audit	Tentative mobilisation, commencement & expected completion date	Progress update
Gunyangara	4 - LED street lights		16 March 2026	50% complete

	6 – GFS200 solar street lights	
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118 – Local Road Maintenance & Traffic Management

**T25-203320.1 Civil Maintenance of Pavements and Drainage for a Period of 12 Months**

<b>Round 1 Mobilisation Dates 2025/26</b>		<b>Project Status</b>
Gapuwiyak	28 October 2025 (mobilised)  Expected to re-mobilise on 20 May 2026	57% completed, demobilised due to wet season late December 2025
Ramingining	20 April 2026	Note: To be confirmed, pending wet season and road conditions (truck access)
Milingimbi	4 May 2026	Note: To be confirmed, pending wet season and road conditions (truck access)
Galiwin'ku	25 May 2026	Note: To be confirmed, pending wet season and road conditions (truck access)
Yirrkala	19 June 2026	Note: To be confirmed, pending wet season and road conditions (truck access)
Gunyangara	9 July 2026	Note: To be confirmed, pending wet season and road conditions (truck access)
<b>Round 2 Mobilisation Dates 2025/2026</b>		<b>Project Status</b>
Milingimbi	17 May 2026	Scheduled
Gapuwiyak	30 May 2026	Scheduled
Galiwin'ku	17 June 2026	Scheduled
Yirrkala	31 July 2026	Scheduled
Gunyangara	11 August 2026	Scheduled
Ramingining	3 September 2026	Scheduled

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

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Nil

**NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT**

2.5 Human Resources and Finance Report

**AUTHOR** Ralph Reddy (Finance Manager)

**RECOMMENDATION**

**That Local Authority receives the Human Resources and Employment information as of 28 February 2026.**

**SUMMARY:**

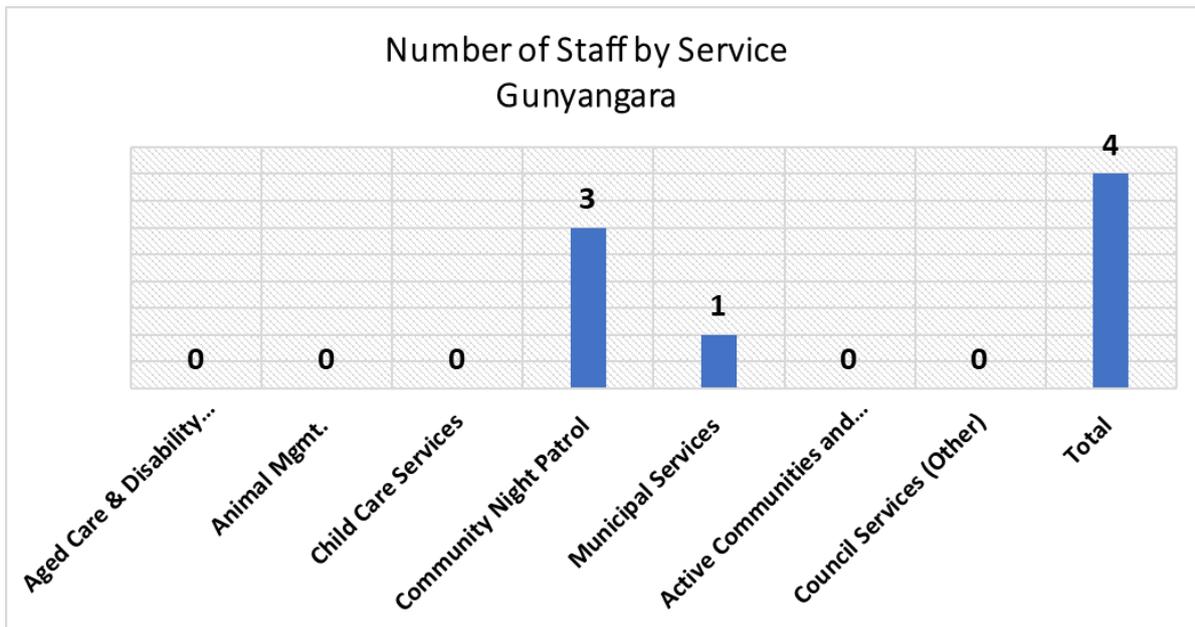
This report presents the financials plus employment statistics as of 28 February 2026 within the Local Authority area.

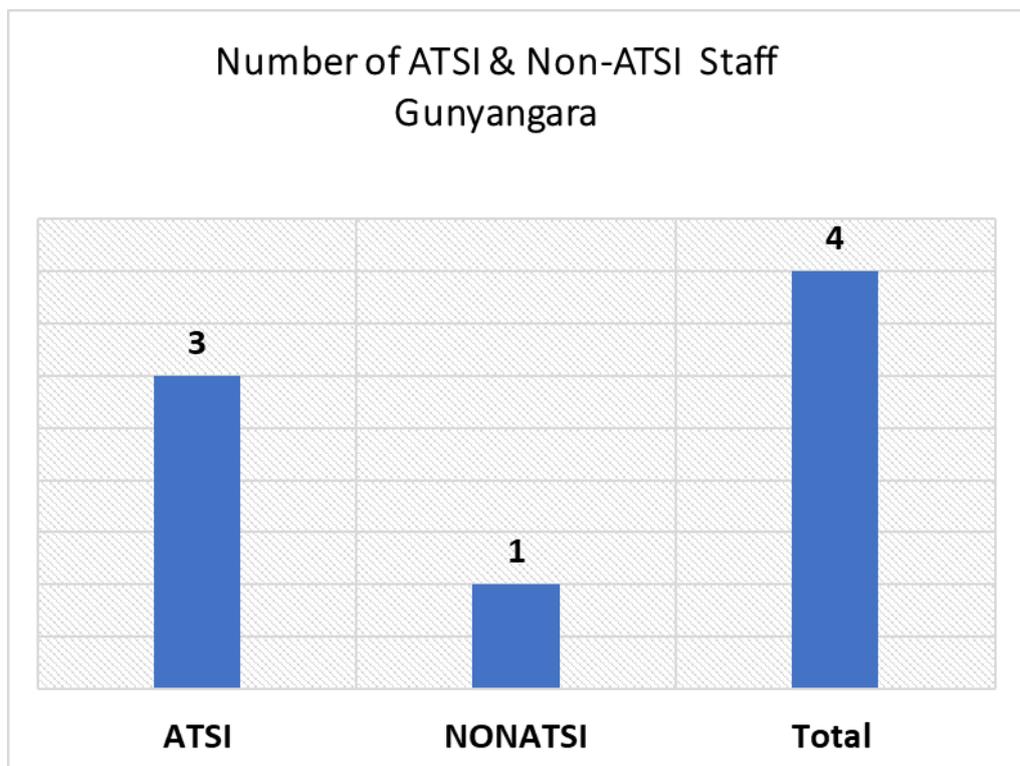
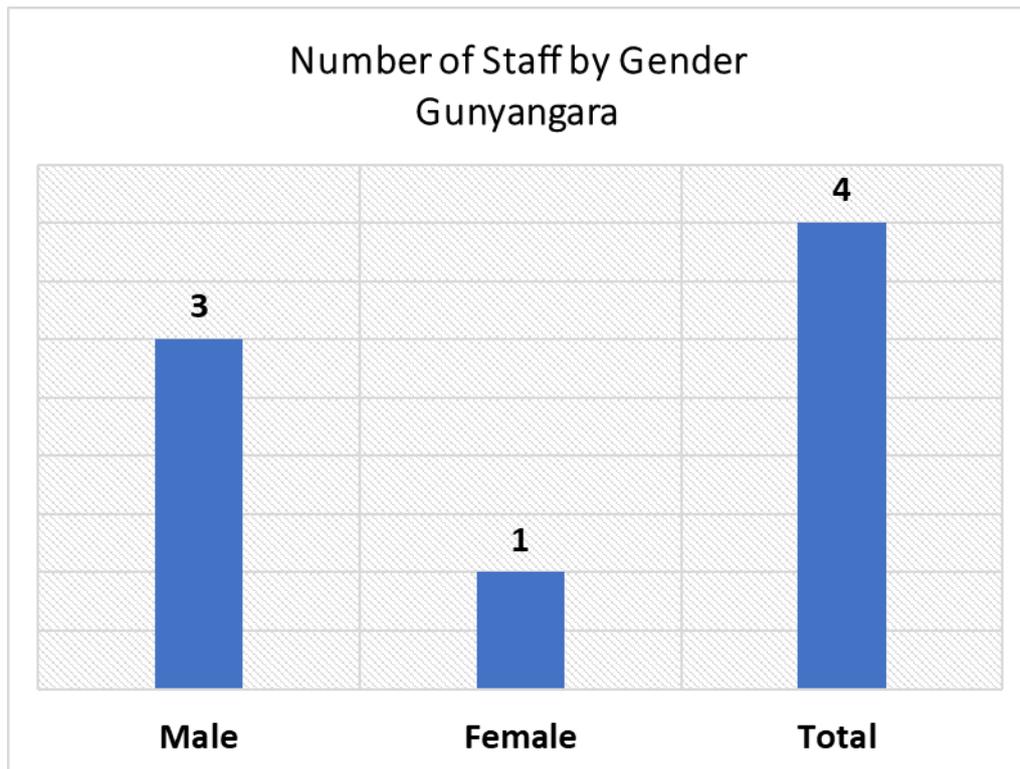
**BACKGROUND:**

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 28 February 2026:

Job Title	Location	Employment Type	Recruitment Type	No. of Vacancies
Municipal Services Officer	Gunyangara	Casual	Community	1
Active Communities Worker	Gunyangara	Casual	Community	1

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

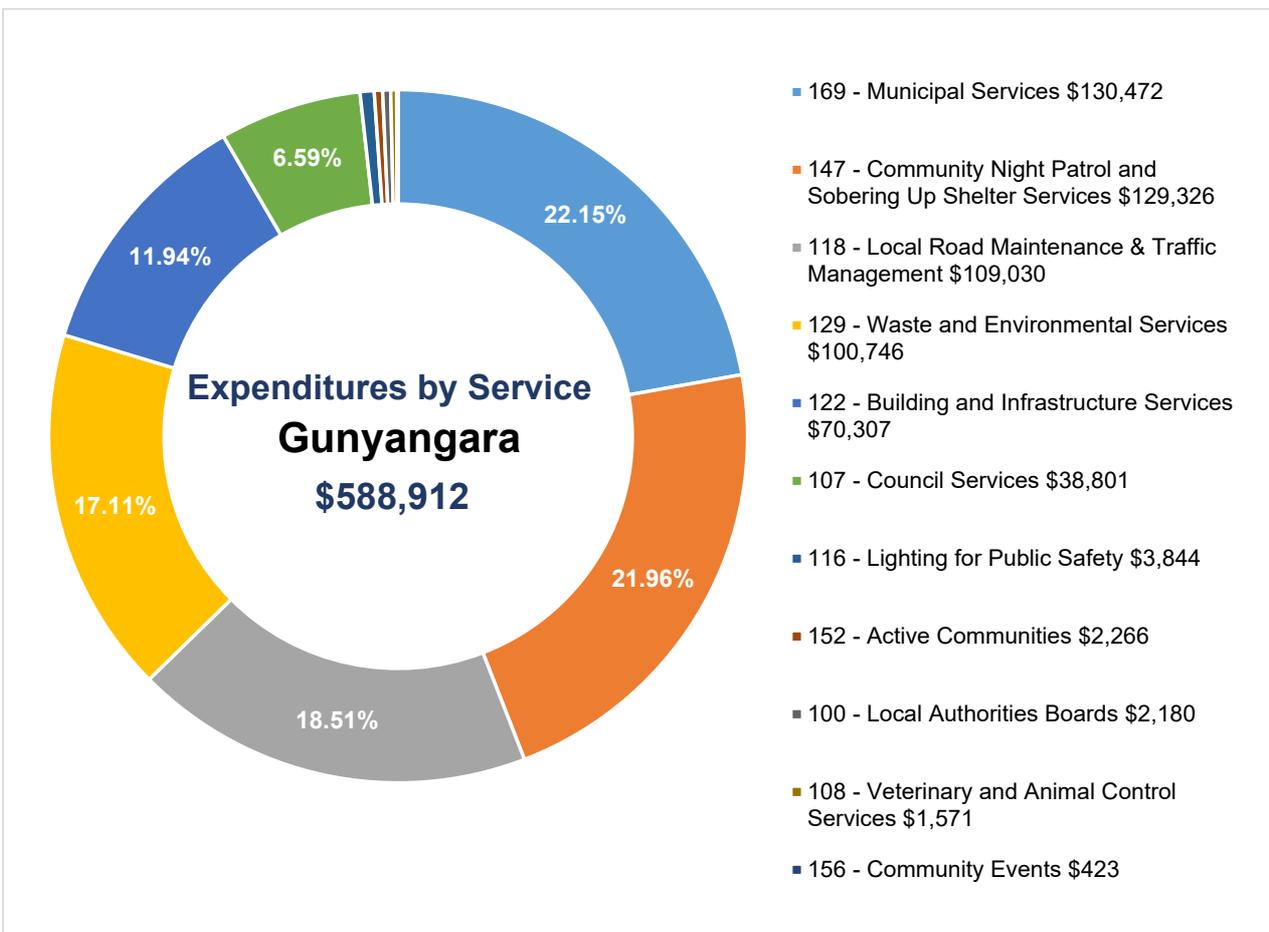
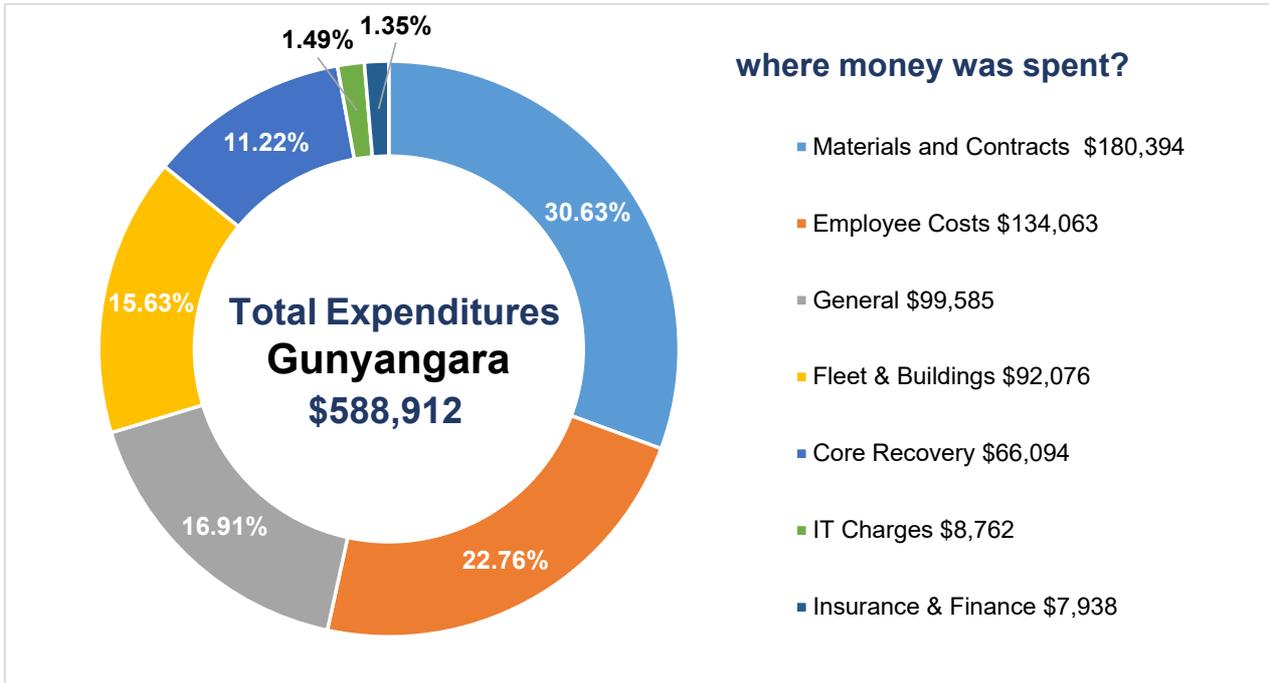
**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. 08. February 2026 Gunyangara LAPF Funds Left [2.5.1 - 1 page]
2. 08. February 2026 Gunyangara Chart LA Report [2.5.2 - 1 page]

**LOCAL AUTHORITY PROJECT FUNDING (LAPF) - GUNYANGARA FUNDS LEFT**

As at 28th February 2026

	YTD ACTUAL	COMMITMENTS	ACTUAL + COMMITMENTS	FULL YEAR BUDGET	PROGRESS % (ACTUAL vs BUDGET)
<b>CARRIED FORWARD LAPF FROM PRIOR YEAR</b>	121,795	-	121,795	121,795	
<b>LAPF RECEIVED THIS FINANCIAL YEAR</b>	-	-	-	34,900	
<b>TOTAL AVAILABLE LAPF THIS FINANCIAL YEAR</b>	121,795	-	121,795	156,695	
<b>LESS LAPF PROJECTS</b>					
301419 - LAPF - Gunyangara - Footpaths (school to Gumatj Office)	-	(143,799)	(143,799)	(156,695)	0%
<b>TOTAL PROJECTS</b>	-	<b>(143,799)</b>	<b>(143,799)</b>	<b>(156,695)</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>ESTIMATED LAPF - LEFT (OVERSPEND) / UNDERSPEND</b>			(22,004)	-	



### **3 General Business and Date of Next Meeting**

#### **GENERAL BUSINESS**

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3.1 Discussion with the Local Police Department

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Local Authority notes the updates provided by the local Police Department.**

#### **ATTACHMENTS:**

Nil

#### **GENERAL BUSINESS**

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3.2 Discussion with the Australian Border Force

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Local Authority notes the updates provided by the Australian Border Force.**

#### **ATTACHMENTS:**

Nil

### **4 Meeting Close**