



HUMAN RIGHTS | EQUALITY

INDEPENDENCE

COMMUNITY | EQUITY  
WORK CONFIDENCE

RESPECT

**OPEN MINUTES for the Meeting of  
Council  
23 April 2026**

## 1 Meeting Establishment

YOW NGILIMURR BUKU'LUNGTHUN DHIYAK MEETINGU GA MALA DJARRYUN ROM

President Lapulung Dhamarrandji opened the meeting with prayer at 09:26 am.

### Members in Attendance:

President Lapulung Dhamarrandji (Attended online)

Deputy President Stephen Dhamarrandji

Cr. Bandi Bandi Wunungmurra

Cr. Cyril Bukulatjpi

Cr. David Warraya

Cr. Ganygulpa Dhurrkay

Cr. Jason Mirritjawuy (left the meeting at 11:20 pm and returned at 3:00 pm)

Cr. Marrpalawuy Marika

Cr. Priscilla Yunupingu (Attended online from 09:54 am to 12:00 pm)

### East Arnhem Regional Council Staff:

Dale Keehne (Chief Executive Officer)

Signe Balodis (Director – Council Services)

Divyan Ahimaz (Director – Community Services)

Sonia Campbell (GM – Technical and Infrastructure Services)

Innoc Ndhlovu (HR/IR Manager) – Attended Online

Paul Hyde Kaduru (Governance and Compliance Manager)

## MEETING ESTABLISHMENT

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### 1.1 Attendance

#### SUMMARY:

This report is to table, for the Councils record, any absences or apologies. Council need to make a decision on whether absences are granted permission. Any request for a leave of absence received can be considered.

MOC 2025/246 **RESOLVED (Cr. David Warraya/Cr. Bandi Bandi Wunungmurra)**

#### That Council:

- (a) **Notes the absence of Cr. Evelynna Dhamarrandji and Cr. Bobby Wunungmurra.**
- (b) **Notes the apology received from Cr. Evelynna Dhamarrandji.**
- (c) **Notes Cr. Evelynna Dhamarrandji and Cr. Bobby Wunungmurra are absent with permission of the Council.**

## MEETING ESTABLISHMENT

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### 1.2 Declarations of Interest

#### SUMMARY:

Elected members are required to disclose an interest in a matter under consideration by Council.

MOC 2025/247 **RESOLVED (Cr. Ganygulpa Dhurrkay/Cr. Cyril Bukulatjpi)**

**That Council notes the Conflict of Interest and Related Parties Register.**

## MEETING ESTABLISHMENT

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### 1.3 Previous Council Minutes

MOC 2025/248 **RESOLVED (Cr. Cyril Bukulatjpi/Cr. Stephen Malwarriwuy Dhamarrandji)**

**That Council endorses the minutes of the previous Meeting of Council held on 26 February 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

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#### 2.1 Local Authority Membership - Resignation

MOC 2025/249 **RESOLVED (Cr. Stephen Malwarriwuy Dhamarrandji/Cr. David Warraya)**

**That the Council approve the resignation of Ivan Wanambi for Gapuwiyak Local Authority.**

### LOOKING FORWARD - DISCUSSIONS AND DECISIONS

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#### 2.2 Youth Representation in Local Authorities and Formation of a Regional Youth Committee

#### SUMMARY:

Council previously endorsed the inclusion of young people in Local Authorities. Since then, all LAs have formally approved this initiative. This report seeks Council's approval to begin recruiting youth members for each LA and to endorse the creation of a Regional Youth Committee. The Regional Youth Committee will strengthen youth participation at a regional level and support leadership development. Ongoing updates will be provided as the process moves forward.

MOC 2025/250 **RESOLVED (Cr. Cyril Bukulatjpi/Cr. David Warraya)**

That the Council:

- (a) Note that all Local Authorities (LAs) have now endorsed the inclusion of two youth members (one male and one female, aged 16–25) in their Local Authorities, following Council’s earlier endorsement.
- (b) Endorse the proposal to establish a Regional Youth Committee, with two youth representatives (one male and one female, aged 16–25) from each community.
- (c) Note that progress updates will be provided to Council at future meetings.

## LOOKING FORWARD - DISCUSSIONS AND DECISIONS

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### 2.3 Strategic Plan 2027-2031

#### SUMMARY:

The Strategic Plan 2027–2031 sets out the goals and priorities that will guide East Arnhem Regional Council for the next five years. It was developed with input from Community Members, Local Authorities, Councillors and the Senior Leadership Team. The Plan includes four main goals, each with outcomes and strategies that will set the direction for actions within the Regional Plans. The Strategic Plan 2027-2031 is based on the Council’s financial year and therefore will commence from 1 July 2026 through to 30 June 2031.

MOC 2025/251 **RESOLVED** (Cr. Cyril Bukulatjpi/Cr. Ganygulpa Dhurrkay)

**That Council endorses the East Arnhem Regional Council Strategic Plan 2027–2031 and approves it for implementation.**

### 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

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### 3.1 Minutes of Committees

MOC 2025/252 **RESOLVED** (Cr. Cyril Bukulatjpi/Cr. Marrpalawuy Marika)

**That Council endorses the minutes of the previous Finance Committee meeting held on 19 March 2026.**

## NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT

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### 3.2 Minutes of Local Authorities

MOC 2025/253 **RESOLVED** (Cr. Cyril Bukulatjpi/Cr. David Warraya)

**That Council endorses the minutes of the following Local Authority meetings:**

- (a) Ramingining Local Authority Meeting held on 17 March 2026.**
- (b) Milingimbi Local Authority Meeting held on 18 March 2026.**
- (c) Yirrkala Local Authority Meeting held on 25 March 2026.**
- (d) Gunyangara Local Authority Meeting held on 26 March 2026.**
- (e) Galiwinku Local Authority Meeting held on 13 April 2026.**

## NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT

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### 3.3 Local Authority Action Registers

#### **SUMMARY:**

This report provides a summary list of actions arising from Local Authority meetings in each of the East Arnhem Regional Council communities.

MOC 2025/254 **RESOLVED** (Cr. Jason Mirritjawuy/Cr. Ganygulpa Dhurrkay)

**That Council:**

- (a) Endorses the actions included in the Local Authority Actions List as recommended by each Local Authority, or as amended.**
- (b) Approves the removal of completed actions and as recommended by each Local Authority.**

## NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT

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### 3.4 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.

MOC 2025/256 **RESOLVED** (Cr. Stephen Malwarriwuy Dhamarrandji/Cr. Bandi Bandi Wunungmurra)

**That Council notes the CEO Report.**

**NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT**

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## 3.5 Council Services Report

**SUMMARY:**

This report is to provide information on the progress, successes, challenges, and future opportunities of the Council Services Directorate.

**MOC 2025/257 RESOLVED (Cr. Cyril Bukulatjpi/Cr. Priscilla Yunupingu)**

**That Council notes the Council Services Report.**

**NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT**

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## 3.6 Community Services Report

**SUMMARY:**

This report provides information on the progress, successes, challenges, and future opportunities of the Council's Community Services Directorate.

**MOC 2025/258 RESOLVED (Cr. Ganygulpa Dhurrkay/Cr. Cyril Bukulatjpi)**

**That Council notes the Community Services Report.**

**NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT**

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## 3.7 Technical and Infrastructure Services Report

**SUMMARY:**

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

**MOC 2025/263 RESOLVED (Cr. Bandi Bandi Wunungmurra/Cr. Ganygulpa Dhurrkay)**

**That Council notes the Technical and Infrastructure Report.**

**NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT**

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## 3.8 Human Resources and Finance Report

**SUMMARY:**

This report is tabled to the Council to provide the Finance and Human Resources Report for the period ended 31 March 2026 for its approval.

**MOC 2025/259 RESOLVED (Cr. Stephen Malwarriwuy Dhamarrandji/Cr. David Warraya)**

**That Council approves the Finance and Human Resources Report for the period ended 31 March 2026.**

## NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT

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### 3.9 Second Revised Budget 2025-2026

#### **SUMMARY:**

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

The revised budget prepared in December 2025 was developed using assumptions and provisional estimates based on the information available at the time. With the preparation of the second revision, updated financial data is now available and has been used to adjust the budget accordingly.

**MOC 2025/260 RESOLVED (Cr. Cyril Bukulatjpi/Cr. Marrpalawuy Marika)**

**That Council approve the second budget revision of the 2025-2026 Financial Year.**

## **4 Confidential Reports**

#### **RECOMMENDATION: Cr. Cyril Bukulatjpi/Cr. Stephen Dhamarrandji**

Members of the press and public be excluded from the meeting of the Closed Session and access to the correspondence and reports relating to the items considered during the course of the Closed Session be withheld. This action is taken in accordance with Section 99 of the Local Government Act, 2019 as the items lists come within the following provisions.

That the decisions of Closed Session be noted as follows:- As noted in the Confidential Minutes.

## **5 Date of Next Meeting**

25 June 2026.

## **6 Meeting Close**

The meeting concluded at 04:35 pm.

This page and the preceding pages are the minutes of the Meeting of Council held on 23 April 2026, and are to be confirmed.