

OPEN AGENDA for the Milingimbi Ordinary Local Authority 18 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 mit̲tji 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 Milingimbi Local Authority will be held at the Milingimbi Council Office offices on Wednesday 18 November 2026 at 10:00 am.

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:

President Lapulung Dhamarrandji
Cr Ganygulpa Dhurrkay
Joanne Baker
Robert Yirapawanga
Rosetta Wayatja
Arthur Murrupu
Joe Djakala
Jacinta Burukumalawuy
Karina Wunungmurra
Thomas Gaykamangu

Dial-in Details:

Microsoft Teams
Join the meeting now
Meeting ID: 480 839 451 092 42
Passcode: bq6Jn6W7

Dial in by phone
+61 2 8318 0005,,598745129# Australia, Sydney
Find a local number
Phone conference ID: 598 745 129#

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 following meetings:

(a) Milingimbi Ordinary Local Authority meeting held on 22 July 2026.

(b) Milingimbi Provisional Local Authority meeting held on 23 September 2026.

(c) Milingimbi Special Local Authority meeting held on 21 October 2026.

ATTACHMENTS:
1. Milingimbi Ordinary Local Authority Meeting Minutes 22 July 2026 [**1.5.1** - 5 pages]
2. Milingimbi Provisional Local Authority Meeting Minutes 23 September 2026 [**1.5.2** - 6 pages]
3. Milingimbi Special Local Authority Meeting Minutes 21 Oct 2026 [**1.5.3** - 3 pages]



OPEN MINUTES for the Milingimbi Ordinary Local Authority Meeting 22 July 2026

1 Meeting Establishment

YOW NGILIMURR BUKU'LUNGTHUN DHIYAK MEETINGU GA MALA DJARRYUN ROM

Chair opened the meeting at 11:52AM and welcomed all members and guests.

Members in Attendance:

President Lapulung Dhamarrandji
Cr. Ganygulpa Dhurrkay
Jacinta Burukumalawuy
Karina Wunungmurra
Joe Djakala
Arthur Murrupu
Joanne Baker

East Arnhem Regional Council Staff:

Dale Keehne (Chief Executive Officer)
Signe Balodis (Director – Council Services)
Vivek Gummalla (Strategic Coordinator)
Jamie Clarke (Communications Advisor)
Ullas Raman (Council Services Manager)
Ashleigh Waldron (Governance Support Officer) – Attended via Teams
Arvin Roping (Regional Manager) – Attended via Teams

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.

MIL 2025/73 **RESOLVED (Arthur Murrupu/Joe Djakala)**

That the Local Authority:

(a) Notes the absence of Robert Yirapawanga and Rosetta Wayatja
(b) No apologies provided
(c) Notes Robert Yirapawanga is absent with permission of the Local Authority.
(d) Determines Rosetta Wayatja is absent without permission of the Local Authority under Section 47(1) (0) of the Act.

UNCONFIRMED

MILINGIMBI LOCAL AUTHORITY MINUTES 22 JULY 2026

MEETING ESTABLISHMENT

1.4 Conflict of Interest

SUMMARY:

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

MIL 2025/74 **RESOLVED (Arthur Murrupu/Cr. Ganygulpa Dhurrkay)**

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

MEETING ESTABLISHMENT

1.5 Previous Local Authority Minutes

MIL 2025/75 **RESOLVED (Thomas Gaykamangu/Arthur Murrupu)**

That the Local Authority approves the minutes of the previous meeting held on 20 May 2026

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

SUMMARY:

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

MIL 2025/78 **RESOLVED (Cr. Ganygulpa Dhurrkay/Arthur Murrupu)**

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.

UNCONFIRMED

NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT

2.2 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.

MIL 2025/77 **RESOLVED (Arthur Murrupu/Joe Djakala)**

That the Local Authority:

(a) Notes the CEO Report.

(b) Supports the call by Council to tackle domestic violence, predominantly against women, and violence against and neglect of children by:

1. **Family, community members and all people calling out and reporting domestic violence and violence against and neglect of children when they see it.**
2. **Working in close collaboration with and support of the NT Police and the Lia Finocchiaro led Northern Territory Government.**
3. **Engaging with and supporting other Aboriginal controlled organisations, particularly the Yalu Aboriginal Corporation in building a properly coordinated, resourced and effective strategy to support community members to recognise, challenge and prevent further abuse.**
4. **The Council Services Manager to support Local Councillors and Authority Members to promote No More Violence to Women and Children at local sporting and other events.**
5. **Supports local Police officers to hold more sessions with children, boys and girls at the school to raise awareness about the problem of domestic violence.**

NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT

2.3 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.

MIL 2025/80 **RESOLVED (Arthur Murrupu/Joanne Baker)**

That the Local Authority notes the Council Services Managers report.

UNCONFIRMED

NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT

2.4 Technical and Infrastructure 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 2026-2027 Annual Plan.

MIL 2025/79 **RESOLVED (Cr. Ganygulpa Dhurrkay/Jacinta Burukumalawuy)**

That Local Authority notes the Technical and Infrastructure Services Report.

NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT

2.5 Human Resources and Finance Report

SUMMARY:

This report presents the financials plus employment statistics as of 30 June 2026 within the Local Authority area.

MIL 2025/81 **RESOLVED (Joe Djakala/Arthur Murrupu)**

That Local Authority receives the Human Resources and Employment information as of 30 June 2026.

3 General Business and Date of Next Meeting

GENERAL BUSINESS

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

MIL 2025/76 **RESOLVED (Arthur Murrupu/Thomas Gaykamangu)**

That the Local Authority notes the updates provided by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

23 September 2026.

4 Meeting Close

The meeting closed at 3:54pm.

This page and the preceding pages are the minutes of the Local Authority Ordinary Meeting held on 22 July 2026.

UNCONFIRMED



OPEN MINUTES for the Milingimbi Provisional Local Authority 23 September 2026

1 Meeting Establishment

YOW NGILIMURR BUKU'LUNGTHUN DHIYAK MEETINGU GA MALA DJARRYUN ROM

The chair opened the meeting with a prayer at 11:48 am.

Members in Attendance:

President Lapulung Dhamarrandji (Chair)
Cr. Ganygulpa Dhurrkay
Jacinta Burukmalawuy
Thomas Gaykamangu

East Arnhem Regional Council Staff:

Dale Keehne (Chief Executive Officer)
Ullas Raman (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.

MIL 2025/82 **RESOLVED (Thomas Gaykamangu/Cr. Ganygulpa Dhurrkay)**

That the Local Authority:

(a) Notes the absence of Joanne Baker, Karina Wunungmurra, Robert Yirapawanga, Rosetta Wayatja and Arthur Murrupu.

(b) Notes the apology received from Joanne Baker and Karina Wunungmurra.

(c) Notes Arthur Murrupu, Joanne Baker and Karina Wunungmurra are absent with permission of the Local Authority.

(d) Determines Rosetta Wayatja and Robert Yirapawanga are absent without permission of the Local Authority under Section 47(1) (0) of the Act.

(e) Requests a letter to be written to Robert Yirapawanga to encourage him to attend the next meeting.

UNCONFIRMED

MEETING ESTABLISHMENT

1.4 Conflict of Interest

SUMMARY:

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

MIL 2025/83 **RESOLVED (Jacinta Burukumalawuy/Thomas Gaykamangu)**

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

MEETING ESTABLISHMENT

1.5 Previous Local Authority Minutes

Approval of the previous meeting minutes is deferred due to the meeting being provisional.

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 Ramingining Local Authority regarding a proposed naming convention that incorporates both the community name and ward name in Local Authority names.

MIL 2025/85 **RESOLVED (Cr. Ganygulpa Dhurrkay/Jacinta Burukumalawuy)**

That the Milingimbi Local Authority supports the Local Authority's name to be changed to the Gumurr Gattjirrk - Milingimbi Local Authority, to properly reflect the language of the cultural Ward name.

UNCONFIRMED

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.

MIL 2025/88 **RESOLVED (Thomas Gaykamangu/Cr. Ganygulpa Dhurrkay)**

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.

MIL 2025/86 **RESOLVED (Thomas Gaykamangu/Cr. Lapulung Dhamarrandji)**

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.

MIL 2025/90 **RESOLVED (Thomas Gaykamangu/Cr. Ganygulpa Dhurrkay)**

That the Local Authority notes the Council Services Manager report.

UNCONFIRMED

NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT

3.4 Technical and Infrastructure Services Report

SUMMARY:

This report is submitted for the Local Authorities consideration and provides program updates from the Technical and Infrastructure Directorate. The updates pertain to capital projects and initiatives aligned with the 2026-2027 Annual Plan.

MIL 2025/87 **RESOLVED (Cr. Ganygulpa Dhurrkay/Thomas Gaykamangu)**

That Council notes the Technical and Infrastructure Services Report.

A lunch break was taken from 12:30 pm to 1:30 pm.

NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT

3.5 Human Resources and Finance Report

MIL 2025/89 **RESOLVED (Jacinta Burukumalawuy/Cr. Ganygulpa Dhurrkay)**

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

4 General Business and Date of Next Meeting

PRESENTATION

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

MIL 2025/92 **RESOLVED (Cr. Ganygulpa Dhurrkay/Thomas Gaykamangu)**

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

PRESENTATION

4.2 Discussion with the Local Police Department

MIL 2025/84 **RESOLVED (Jacinta Burukumalawuy/Thomas Gaykamangu)**

That the Local Authority:

(a) Notes the discussion with the Local Police.

(b) Supports the coordination with the Police and local stakeholders of a community event or events to bring the community together and to call out and challenge domestic and family violence.

UNCONFIRMED

5 Meeting Close

The meeting closed at 04:00 pm.

This page and the preceding pages are the minutes of the Milingimbi Local Authority Provisional Meeting held on 23 September 2026.

UNCONFIRMED



OPEN MINUTES for the Milingimbi Special Local Authority Meeting 21 October 2026

1 Meeting Establishment

YOW NGILIMURR BUKU'LUNGTHUN DHIYAK MEETINGU GA MALA DJARRYUN ROM

The Chair opened the meeting at 10:02 am.

Members in Attendance:

Cr. Ganygulpa Dhurrkay (Chair)
Karina Wunungmurra
Thomas Gaykamangu
Jacinta Burukumalawuy
Arthur Murrupu
Joanne Baker

East Arnhem Regional Council:

Dale Keehne (Chief Executive Officer)
Shannon Cervini (Director – Council Services)
Ullas Raman (Council Services 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.

MIL 2025/94 **RESOLVED (Cr. Ganygulpa Dhurrkay/Karina Wunungmurra)**

That the Local Authority:

(a) Notes the absence of President Lapulung Dhamarrandji, Joe Djakala, Robert Yirapawanga and Rosetta Wayatja.
(b) Notes the apology received from Joe Djakala, Robert Yirapawanga and Rosetta Wayatja.
(c) Notes President Lapulung Dhamarrandji, Joe Djakala, Robert Yirapawanga and Rosetta Wayatja are absent with permission of the Local Authority.

MEETING ESTABLISHMENT

1.4 Conflict of Interest

SUMMARY:

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

MIL 2025/95 **RESOLVED (Cr. Ganygulpa Dhurrkay/Thomas Gaykamangu)**

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

UNCONFIRMED

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 Allocation of expiring LAPF Funding to the refurbishment of the Milingimbi Disability Services Centre

SUMMARY:

This report seeks recommendation from the Milingimbi Local Authority to allocate expiring Local Authority Project Funding, including carried forward funds, toward the refurbishment for the creation of a Milingimbi Disability Services Centre. The proposal commits an estimated total of $313,556.66 to support delivery of critical disability services for the benefit of the community.

MIL 2025/93 **RESOLVED (Cr. Ganygulpa Dhurrkay/Joanne Baker)**

That Local Authority recommends the allocation of $313,556.66 expiring Milingimbi Local Authority Project Funding towards refurbishment to create a new Disability Services Centre in Milingimbi and other LAP funds for supporting the conversion of the old CDP facility for Domestic Violence and At-Risk Youth Support.

3 Meeting Close

The meeting closed at 10:25 am

This page and the preceding pages are the minutes of the Local Authority Special Meeting held on 21 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 Milingimbi 2026 (11) [**2.1.1** - 7 pages]

MILINGIMBI 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.	**12.05.2021** – Email was received, stating that there is no action regarding the Kava Pilot – Ongoing **18.05.2021** – Update provided to LA, EARC will be provided update from government once received. **12.01.2022** – A separate report was presented on this by the CEO – ongoing. **15.03.2022** – A detail discussion took place with the members, President and the CEO. **17.05.2022** - Call on the Northern Territory and Australian Governments to work with the Local Authorities and Regional Council to ensure genuine and thorough consultation and engagement with all communities and homelands of East Arnhem Land, on the important and pressing issues of the possible introduction of the legal sale of kava and alcohol'. **19.07.2022** – Ongoing **20.09.2022** - covered in CEO Report **19.10.22** - 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. **22.11.2022** – As above. **17.01.2023** – Deferred until return of CEO from leave. **21.03.23** – to be discussed in CEO Report. Good progress being made with the Government. **26.10.23** – to be discussed and covered in the CEO Report. **21.11.23** – Progress being made with discussions with Chief Ministers Office Dr Frank Daly. However, Dr Daly has since left NTG so further discussions to be had with his replacement. **14.12.23 –** As above. **23.01.24** – Further discussions to be held ongoing with NIAA at the next Council meeting. **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. **26.03.24** – Ongoing

MILINGIMBI ACTIONS

ACTION ITEM	ACTION OWNER	ACTIONS	STATUS
			24.04.24 – CEO to write to Department for an update**.** **21.05.24** – NTG and NIAA to be invited to next Pre-Agenda day of Council **25.06.24** - Response from Linda Burney received 23 May 2024 to CEO correspondence of September 2023 advising further discussion with Gerrit Wanganeen from NIAA. NIAA & NTG attending June 2024 Council meeting. **16.07.24** – No progress since last discussion. **21.01.25** – CEO has raised this issue with Jacinta Price's office as one of 8 Advocacy Items. **19.02.25** – Council is going to seek the support of Local Member Yingiya Guyula MLA for Milka to raise this issue. **18.03.25** – Mr. Guyula spoke to the members via TEAMS and had a discussion regarding kava. Further update in the CEO Report. **27.05.25** – Further talks occur with newly elected Government. Superintendent Jody Nobbs has been able to leverage NTG, with a support-based consultation with community to occur in next financial year. **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. **24.10.25** – Police in Nhulunbuy informed that they received a letter from the Minister stating that the NT Government is willing to conduct community consultations. **20.05.26-** 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.

MILINGIMBI ACTIONS

Jesse Smith Park (in conjunction Makarata Field action above)		Acting Director Technical and Infrastructure Services to investigate upgrades to Jesse Smith Park to include flower beds, blocking the roads to stop cars from driving on the park, and beautification. Also scope to create jobs to carry out this important work.	**11.12.2024 –** Manager Building services to raise this tomorrow and look at plan to see what is required. Further consultation with Local Authority required. **19.02.25 –** Mgr. Building services – want communities' involvement – with rocks etc., and garden beds. Looking at how best to do that. **23.04.25** – Ongoing in consultation with President Lapulung. 27.05.25 – Cultural Centre has now been approved for Jesse Smith Park. Proposal to be in conjunction with Makarata Field action above. **25.06.25** – Waiting on concept drawing to make a final drawing and come up with final plan. **24.10.25** –LA Members have recommended "Mägaya" as the name for the location. Purpose – Coming together, education, NAIDOC week, training sessions, Cultural events, Yolnu and Balanda sharing space. **22.11.25** – Concepts of design currently being created for circulation in Feb LAPF meetings. This will be a design that can be utilized in other communities and will be based off available funds. **24.02.26** – Shared the concept designs at LA Meeting, Work in progress. **18.03.26** – Tender documents being prepared, looking to release in the next couple of months. **22.07.26** – Cannot proceed any further until asbestos is safely removed and have the space made safe. Provide updates for the Ceremony area once asbestos is removed. **25.08.26 –** Still waiting on asbestos to be removed. **23.09.26 –** Asbestos investigations are concluded and proceeding with the tender documents.

MILINGIMBI ACTIONS

BJ The Buffalo		Request this removal of BJ the Buffalo be actioned as a matter of priority to avoid any potential injury to community, in particular children. Request that BJ the Buffalo is removed from Milingimbi community and taken to the fishing lodge via the barge with support of the Local Authority and additionally would like to understand who the Traditional Owner is that owns BJ the Buffalo.	**27.05.25** - Regional Manager to liaise with Council Services Manager and Local Authority members to understand who the Traditional Owner is that owns BJ. And additionally look at removal of BJ The Buffalo as a priority. **25.06.25** – In progress. **24.10.25**- Buffalo moved from Milingimbi to Ramingining, However Buffalo has returned, LA members to advocate for removal of the Buffalo by submitting petition to Police and petition to be signed by LA members. **18.03.26** –Police have informed that they cannot deal with Buffalo. Joe Djakala and Ganygulpa Dhurrkay to talk to the MOPRA rangers to confirm who the owner of BJ the Buffalo is and then talk to the owner about the concerns of community safety and need to keep the buffalo in a gated yard or fence area. **22.07.26** – Ganygulpa Dhurrkay and Joe Djakala to go and see the MOPRA rangers to raise that MOPRA need to remove BJ the Buffalo from the Island. **25.08.26 –** CSM to contact Barkhut and MOPRA rangers and present in the next LA round and council meeting. **23.09.26** – Barkhut informed that they do not have capacity to transfer BJ currently. LA request staff to find out the original owner.
FUTURE ACTION ITEM/ACTION ON HOLD: ***Advocacy Items*** Water to be installed at the oval			**19.05.2020** – Director of Technical & Infrastructure Services to follow up with Power & Water regarding current status of water sources, and when extra water may become available. To also investigate the use of brackish water for the Oval and report back to the LA. **18.01.2021** - Email and discussion are underway with Power and Water surrounding supply options – Brackish Test bore was not approved but other options have been suggested as possibilities – awaiting official Power and Water response.

MILINGIMBI ACTIONS

			12.05.2021 – Ongoing – Awaiting response from Power and Water. **12.10.2021** – Ongoing – Still waiting for response from Power and Water. **12.01.2022** – Ongoing with no approval from power and water obtained to date. **15.03.2022** – no update after previous report. **17.05.2022** – Power and Water will come back to us with requested information as per the agreement at the Guest speaker delivery at the LA on the Milingimbi water story. **19.07.2022** – Water availability for the oval yet to be confirmed – EARC Tech Services to follow up. **12.09.2022** – no change to the above. **19.10.22** – Move to advocacy – as water will be an ongoing consideration noting the completion of the head works and proposed sub-division **22.11.2022** – Question to be asked to PAW **21.03.23** – potentially another presentation on water story in next round. **14.12.23** – Ongoing. **19.12.25** – With Power and Water.
Community Barge Landing		Requests urgent upgrades and proper infrastructure for the community barge landing	**21.03.23** - Director Technical Services and Infrastructure to advise. **27.04.23** – Discussions continue on ownership etc., **14.12.23** – Some movement here > submission to Deloitte report regarding Federal announcement of Funding**.** **25.06.24** – No money for Milingimbi Barge Landing **19.02.25** – this is NTG not EARC. Further discussion with LGANT
Priority footpaths			**10.11.2020** – tender release to the market and evaluated – market pricing for the works significantly over budget and works of the same nature across multiple areas – this project will be re-assessed and delivered in a reduced scope or additional funds will need to be allocated – this

MILINGIMBI ACTIONS

			item will be discussed at the next LA meeting for suggested direction. **27.01.2021** – ongoing at this stage – CDP and Contractors still to recommence respective services in Community at this stage. **12.05.2021** – Ongoing – Will bring information to next LA meeting. **18.05.2021** – Will update at next LA meeting. **16.11.2021** – Update progress in January/late January about the project. **12.01.2022** - Project still pending tender re-release to test market pricing which exceeded all similar works of this type conducted to date – release at end of January. **15.03.2022** – Tender will be re-released by the end of April 2022 **17.05.2022** – Tender will be re-released by end of May 2022. **22.06.2022** – Tender currently out to the market and will await any submission when closed to consider. **30.06.2022** – Out to tender – closes in 1 week. **19.07.2022** – Tender has closed but has not been evaluated as yet. **12.09.2022** - Tender evaluated to go to council as a reduced scope in the October meeting dependant on funding extension for LAPF **19.10.22** – report to be tabled at the December meeting and funds adjustments have been made in the budget revision **17.01.2023** – Tenders have gone out and work is progressing. **22.11.2022** - Report to be put forward to Council at December meeting and Tender being put forward.

MILINGIMBI ACTIONS

			21.03.2023 – Asks the Local Authority to defer any progress on the footpaths until waterpark and other project tenders have been received. **29.08.23** MOVED TO ADVOCACY **11.12.2024** – Looking into funding from Transport Grant from the Federal Government, this grant is particularly for footpaths. Council is required to contribute 50% and Council approval required. Update to be provided next council meeting with a clear detailed proposal. **19.02.25** – Ongoing – Access to field etc., to be taken into consideration of this action.
Sealing of Bodia Road		Supports and approves any application for funding for Bodia Road to be sealed	**21.03.23** – Director Technical Services and Infrastructure to advise. **29.06.23** – Waiting on possibility of grant becoming available. **29.08.23** MOVED TO ADVOCACY **25.06.24** - in talks with DIPL want link path from subdivision to basketball court – won't sign off unless part of design.

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
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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 Manager Report

AUTHOR Ullas Raman (Council Services Manager)

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



An aerial view of Milingimbi Barge landing.

Over the past two months, essential services have continued without interruption, helping maintain a clean, safe, and welcoming environment for the Milingimbi community.

This reflects the dedication and resilience of our staff, who have remained committed to service delivery despite workforce challenges related to cultural obligations and periods of absenteeism. Their teamwork and strong sense of responsibility have ensured service standards remain high.

With the wet season approaching, Milingimbi is well prepared, supported by a hardworking team and a strong spirit of community cooperation.

Municipal Services (MS)

Over the past two months, a significant community cyclone clean-up effort has helped make Milingimbi cleaner and more welcoming. With the dedication of the Municipal Services team, large amounts of hard rubbish were removed from across the community, improving streets, public areas, and overall community pride.

The waste facility has significantly improved in both presentation and operational standards, supported by the efforts of staff and the valuable assistance provided by Hamish Regional Manager for Waste and Environment. The community remains committed to maintaining these improvements through responsible use of the facility and ongoing support for effective waste management practices.



MS team with their training certificates.





Tidied up old waste cells and new general waste cells – Milingimbi Landfill

Community Night Patrol (CNP)

The Community Night Patrol (CNP) team has continued to engage positively with the community, recently hosting two successful pizza nights, including one held alongside a basketball event at the Sport and Recreation Hall. These activities provided a safe and welcoming opportunity for young people, families, and community members to come together, build positive connections, and strengthen community spirit. Following the strong participation and positive feedback, CNP hopes to continue hosting regular pizza or BBQ nights in the future.



CNP team cooking and serving pizzas at Active Communities Basketball event.

The team has also been strengthened by the return of valued staff members. Sheryl Mulmulwuy has returned to work following an extended absence, and Warren Gaykamangu has re-joined the team. In addition, Germaine Atu has obtained a driver's licence and is now able to support Community Night Patrol driving operations, further enhancing the team's capacity to deliver services and support the community.

Aged Care Services and Disability Services

The Aged Care Centre continues to provide a welcoming and supportive environment for a regular group of community members who attend each morning for breakfast. Clients receive daily Meals on Wheels services, as well as ongoing assistance with transport and laundry, helping them maintain their wellbeing and independence.

The centre remains an important community space where clients can relax, socialise, watch television, and enjoy a comfortable and cool environment throughout the day. Recent improvements, including the installation of two new washing machines and a dryer, have enhanced the centre's capacity to support clients and will be particularly valuable during the upcoming wet season.

Several positive outcomes have also been achieved for clients. One client’s mobility scooter was repaired, restoring their ability to move around the community independently. Another client has returned home from Darwin Hospital and is pleased to be reunited with family and community. In addition, several clients have received new beds, improving safety, comfort, hygiene, and overall wellbeing.

The centre has also welcomed back staff Mathew Dharrgar, who recently returned to work after spending several months away from the community. Staff Helen Wulgawula is currently away supporting family members as an escort, reflecting the important role staff continue to play both within the service and the broader community.

Active Communities and Youth Services (ACYS)

ACYS continues to provide positive recreational and engagement activities for young people in Milingimbi, promoting wellbeing, teamwork, and community participation.



Participants at AFLX Competition.

ACYS has welcomed two new staff Russell Warrkala, Christella Ganambarr to the team lately.

The ACYS Basketball Competition continues to attract strong participation each Saturday, with the semi-finals and grand final scheduled for 14 November. A successful three-week Men's and Women's Basketball Competition was also completed during the reporting period.



Children at tye dye activity.

Milingimbi was proudly represented at the 2026 AFLX Competition in Gunyangara, where the Under 16 Girls team performed strongly. Congratulations to Bridget Gurruwiwi, who was named Best Player of the Competition.





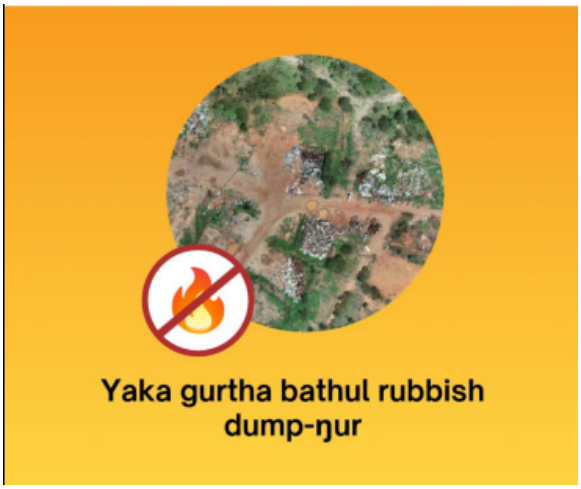
Active Communities Basketball sessions.

Regular basketball training, dodgeball activities, and school holiday programs were delivered throughout the period, providing young people with safe, active, and engaging opportunities while strengthening community connections.

Waste and Environmental Update

We're preparing new signage for the landfill. We'll install these and update the EARC website mapping. This is to update the sites as new waste bays are added and old bays are closed.

Uncontrolled fires are a risk factor in our remote landfills. To help reduce these fires, we created this communication with Yolngu Martha and published it on Facebook



Yaka gurtha bathul rubbish dump-ŋur.

Wiripu gurtha rubbish dump-ŋurdja yaka nhakun ḏiltjipuy gurtha.

Ŋunhi ŋanapurr ŋuli bathan gurtha ŋayi ŋuli botjin watay gäma garrwarkum.

Yaka dhuŋguryurr gurtha rubbish dump-ŋur marr ga djamarrkuḻi', ŋaḻapaḻmirr ga gurruṯumirr mala limurruŋ manymak ga nhina ga yaka walal dhu rerrikthun yätjkurryu ŋawululyu.

Ŋunhi nhe dhu nhäma gurtha rubbish dump-ŋur, riṉimap East Arnhem Regional Council dhipal number-lil 08 8986 8986

Gandjuḻ djämamirr mala ŋunhi walalaŋ ga gakal ŋorra walal ŋuli ga djäma rubbish dump-ŋur ga dharray ŋurikiyi wäŋaw. Walalaŋ ga ŋorra yoranhawuy walalwuy dhu yan ga gurtha bathan rubbish dump-ŋur

East Arnhem Regional Council walal ŋuli ga dharray rubbish dump-guny mala Miliṉinbi, Ramangiṉiŋ, Galiwin'ku ga Gapuwiyak.

No fires at the rubbish dump.

Fires at the rubbish dump are different from fires in the bush.

When we burn rubbish, poisonous smoke can go into the air.

Do not light fires at the landfill, so that you are helping to keep everyone safe. Our children, our Elders, our family members, everyone.

If you see a fire at the rubbish dump, ring the East Arnhem Regional Council on this number: 08 8986 8986

Sometimes Council workers with the right skills are using fires to look after the rubbish dump. The workers have askec for permission and they know how to use the fires in a safe way.

The East Arnhem Regional Council looks after the rubbish dumps in Miliṉinbi, Raminginiŋ, Galiwin'ku and Gapuwiyak.

English translation.

Recycling and Listed Wastes

Milingimbi Municipal Services team sent these Listed Wastes to Darwin for recycling.

Waste Stream	Device	Units
Damaged wheelie bins	Pallets	20
Tyres	1x Container	~60
Batteries	2x Battery Box	~60
E-waste	1x IBC	1m^3

Animal Management Program (AMP) Update

Community: Milingimbi
Reporting month/period: October/November 2026

Overall comments:

- Dr Vic and Saraya spent 2.5 days in Milingimbi at the start of November. Overall, the health of the dog community has improved throughout the year, with less mange and parasitic disease observed now compared to the first visit of the year, though it remains higher than observed in some other communities. With the wet season approaching we expect to see an increase in parasitic disease, which will be treated in our first visit of the 2027 around Feb/March time. Community engagement was generally good and the majority of the population appears to have been desexed.
- Our next veterinary visit will be Feb/March by Dr Celia and Saraya.

Service Delivery Table:

Milingimbi	Sept 26	FY 26-27 to date	FY 25-26
Dogs Desexed	12	42	78
Cats Desexed	0	8	21
Community consultations	6	30	63
Remote/Phone consultations	0	6	20
EARC Veterinary Cabinet medication dispensed	0	5	10
Minor procedures/other surgeries	1	4	17
Parasite Treatments	124	576	1105
Euthanasia	0	4	11
Private practice consultations (Mainland)	1	8	20
Total Engagements	**144**	**683**	**1345**

Community education activities: N/A

Staff Education/training activities: N/A

Additional Collaborations/Stakeholder engagements: N/A

Animal welfare concerns/cases:

- A baby wallaby has been brought on the island as a pet. The animal has fractures to both arms, potentially from human handling, and is under nourished.
- BJ the buffalo's presence continues to require monitoring, though no recent issues have been reported.

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

- Reminder of the importance of fresh water being available for dogs and cats during the hotter weather conditions.

Photos:



Nurse, Saraya applies coloured marker to a dog to indicate parasite treatment has been given.



Dogs coming up to see what snacks the AMP team have on offer.



Resident Pet Emu

ATTACHMENTS:
Nil

NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT

2.4 Public and Transport Infrastructure Services Report

AUTHOR Shannon Cervini (Director – Council Services)

RECOMMENDATION

That Local Authority notes the Public & Transport 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 capital projects and initiatives aligned with the 2026-2027 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 2026-2027 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 and report owners:

GENERAL:

116 – *Lighting for Public Safety*

BJH Electrical contractors have been carrying out lighting maintenance works in Milingimbi. During these works, they identified several additional lights requiring repairs and maintenance. These requirements are in addition to the maintenance works already being undertaken in the community. BJH Electrical will carry out additional repairs and maintenance in the coming weeks. The upcoming works will continue the maintenance effort and address the issues identified with these lights.

119 – Local Road Upgrade and Construction

As we are coming into the Wet Season, road works have been wound down. We are now identifying priority works for next year.

122 – Building Infrastructure Services

Lot 255 Aged Care Upgrade, New roof and patch and repair walls. These works should start in the next couple of weeks.

Lot 209, New Flooring and repaint. The Tender will be released soon for work to start in the New Year.

Lot 200, Disability Upgrade. This work is being prepared to go out to Tender in the New Year.

LAPF Projects

The Milingimbi public toilet construction has been cancelled due to asbestos contamination across the proposed site. This will now be integrated into the proposed Ceremony Area.

Future LAPF Projects are set to commence after being endorsed and approved from Council. They will include the conversion of the old CDP Building at Lot 209, into a centre for Domestic Violence and At-Risk Youth Support. The other project consists of works being undertaken at Lot 200 in preparation of it being utilised to deliver Disability Services.

The report authors do 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 Neil Moores (Finance Manager)

RECOMMENDATION

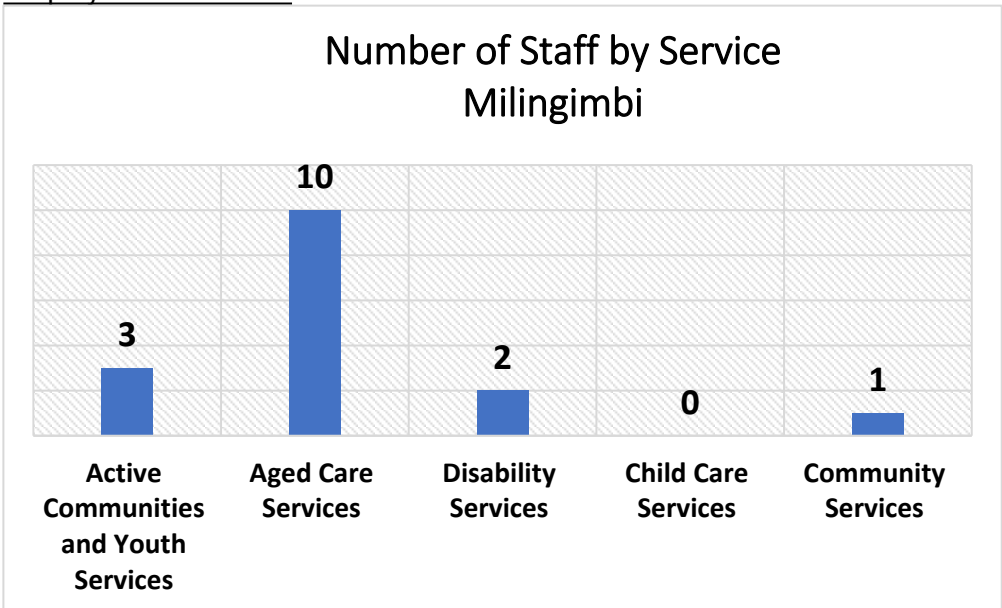
That Local Authority receives the Finance, Human Resources and Employment information as of 31 October 2026.

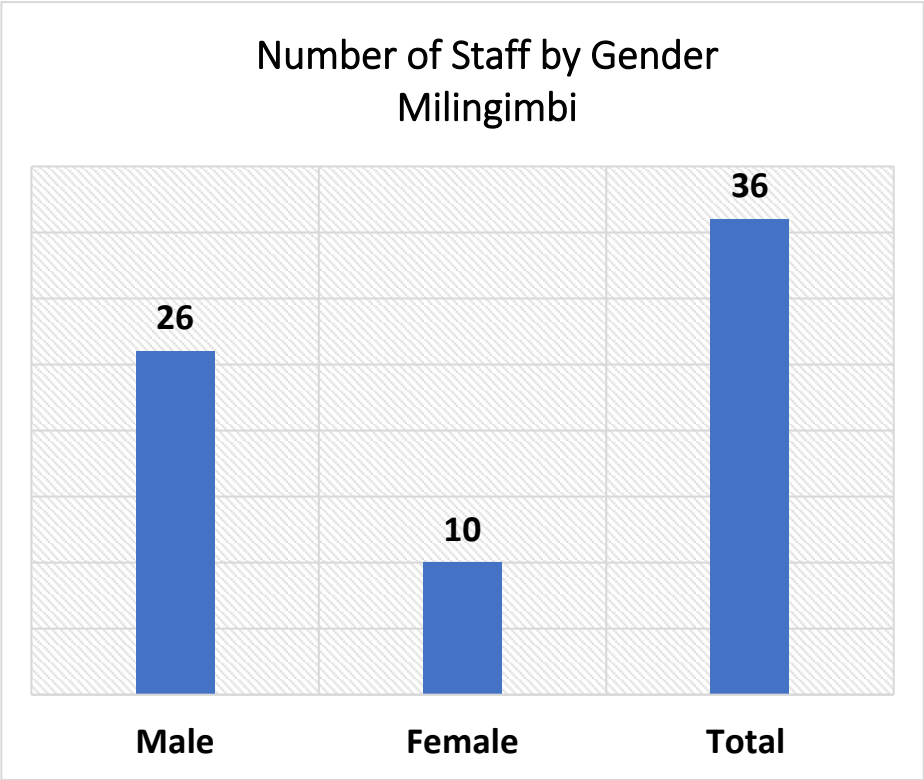
SUMMARY:

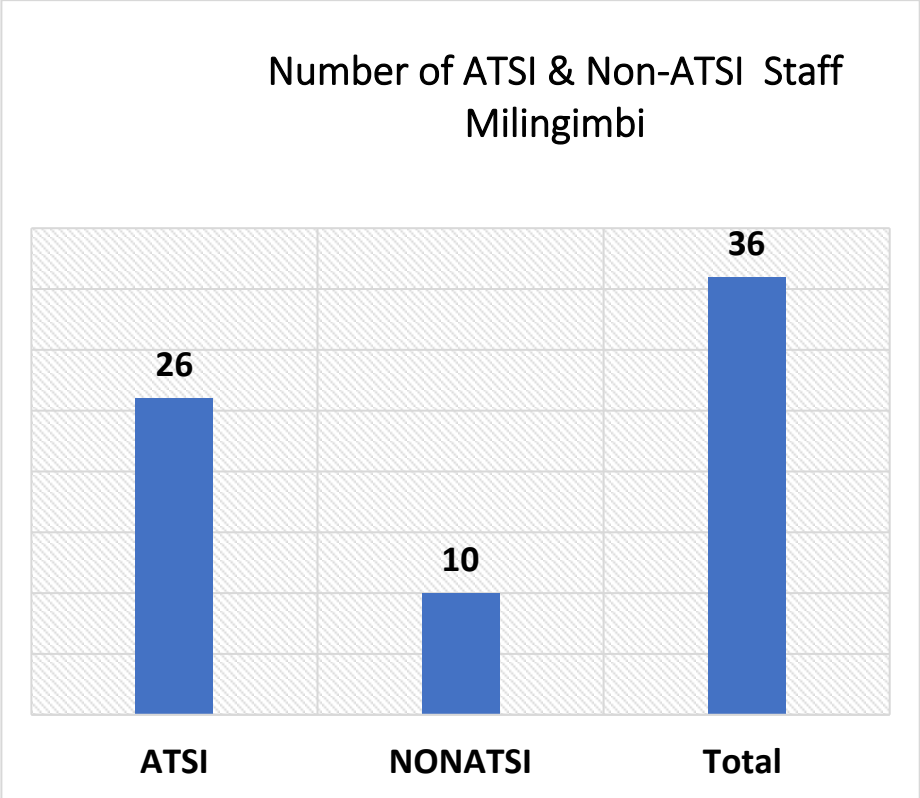
This is a report of the key broad issues since the last report to the Local Authority, in addition to those covered in other parts of the agenda.

GENERAL:

Employment Statistics




Number of Staff by Gender
Milingimbi
26
10
36
Male
Female
Total


Number of ATSI & Non-ATSI Staff
Milingimbi
26
10
36
ATSI
NONATSI
Total

VACANCIES AS AT 31.10.2026

Job Title	Location	Recruitment Type	Employment Type	Number of Vacancies
Active Communities Worker	Milingimbi	Community	Casual	1
Aged Care Services - Support Worker	Milingimbi	Community	Casual	1
Disability Services Support Worker	Milingimbi	Community	Casual	1
Library and Cultural Heritage Worker	Milingimbi	Community	Community	1
Library and Cultural Heritage Worker	Milingimbi	Community	Community	1

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

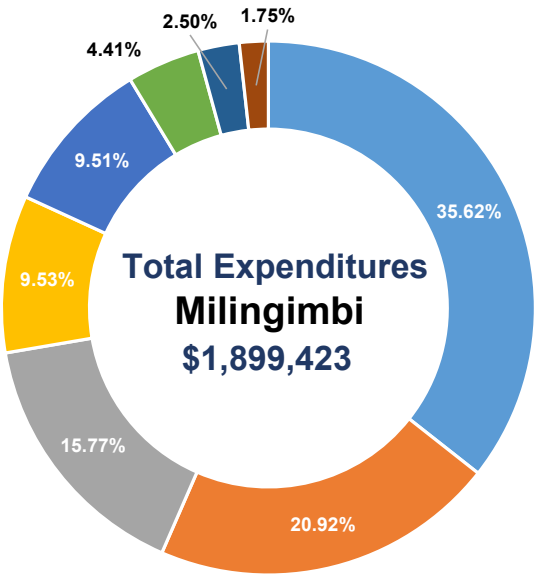
ATTACHMENTS:
1. Milingimbi [**2.5.1** - 2 pages]

LOCAL AUTHORITY PROJECT FUNDING (LAPF) - MILINGIMBI

FUNDS LEFT

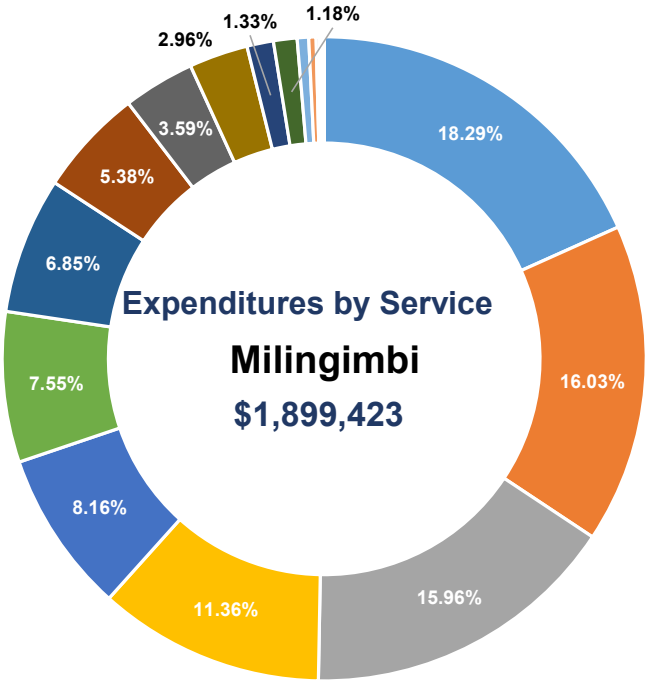
As at 31st October 2026

	YTD ACTUAL	COMMITMENTS	ACTUAL + COMMITMENTS	FULL YEAR BUDGET	PROGRESS % (ACTUAL vs BUDGET)
CARRIED FORWARD LAPF FROM PRIOR YEAR	**492,057**	**-**	**492,057**	**459,247**	
LAPF RECEIVED THIS FINANCIAL YEAR	**-**	**-**	**-**	**178,500**	
TOTAL AVAILABLE LAPF THIS FINANCIAL YEAR	**492,057**	**-**	**492,057**	**637,747**	
LESS LAPF PROJECTS					
299515 - LAPF - Milingimbi - Public toilets near the foreshore	(78,000)	(471,816)	(549,815)	(581,276)	13%
310915 - LAPF - Milingimbi Ceremony Area	(6,500)	(48,125)	(54,625)	(300,000)	2%
TOTAL PROJECTS	**(84,500)**	**(519,941)**	**(604,440)**	**(881,276)**	**10%**
ESTIMATED LAPF - LEFT (OVERSPEND) / UNDERSPEND			**(112,384)**	**(243,529)**	



where money was spent?

- Employee Costs $676,495
- Fleet & Buildings $397,295
- Materials and Contracts $299,578
- General $180,990
- Core Recovery $180,570
- Capital $83,840
- Insurance & Finance $47,464
- IT Charges $33,192



- 141 - Aged Care Services $347,472
- 169 - Municipal Services $304,508
- 129 - Waste and Environmental Services $303,216
- 107 - Council Services $215,861
- 171 - Disability Services $154,915
- 147 - Community Night Patrol and Sobering Up Shelter Services $143,443
- 152 - Active Communities $130,165
- 122 - Building and Infrastructure Services $102,206
- 170 - Youth Services $68,234
- 118 - Local Road Maintenance & Traffic Management $56,160
- 115 - Library Services $25,249
- 108 - Veterinary and Animal Control Services $22,477
- 100 - Local Authorities Boards $10,921
- 146 - Community Media $6,972
- 157 - Local Commercial Opportunities $3,145
- 116 - Lighting for Public Safety $2,377
- 139 - Visitor Accommodation $1,818
- 156 - Community Events $250
- 119 - Local Road Upgrade and Construction $36

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