



HUMAN | EQUALITY
RIGHTS
INDEPENDENCE
COMMUNITY | EQUITY
WORK CONFIDENCE
RESPECT

OPEN AGENDA for the Milingimbi
Local Authority
22 July 2026

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

Djambarrpuyngu

Dhuwandja dhäwu dhipunjur EARC-njur bukmakku yolñuw mala nhämunha limurr ga nhina wäñakurr malañuwurr buku-liw'maram:

- limurr dhu räi-manapanmirr ganydjarrwu limurrungalañaw rur'maranharaw,
- ga dharay walñaw,
- ga ñayanu-ḍapmaranhamirr bukmak bala-räli'yunmirr.

Dhañu

Dhañum dhäwu EARC-njur bukmakku yolñuwu warrawu nhämunha ñalma yaka nyena ñayambalmurru buku-liw'yuman:

- ñalma ñarru räi-manapanmi ganydjarrwu ñakanhaminyarawu ñalmalinguwaywuru,
- ga dharay walñawu,
- ga ñayanu-ḍapthumanmi bukmak bala-räli'yunmi.

Gumatj

Dhuwalanydja dhäwu EARC-njuru bukmakku yolñuwu mala nhämunha ñilimurru yukurra nhina wäñakurru buku-liw'yunmarama:

- ñilimurru yurru räi-manapanmirri ganydjarrwu ganga'thinyarawu ñilimurrungalañawu,
- ga dharay walñawu,
- ga ñayanu-ḍapthunmaranhamirri bukmak bala-lili'yunmirri.

Marrañu

Dhuwanydji dhäwu barranğa'yun EARC-njur bukmakku yolñuw yukurr buku-liw'maram wäñga miṯṯji malanyha:

- Dalimurr wurruku räi-manapanmirr djäk ganydjarrwu ñalimurrungalañaw
- Gangathinyamaranharaw wonḍañarrgunharaw,
- Ga djäga walñaw,
- Ga ñayanu-ḍapmaranhamirr ñalimurr 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 22 July 2026 at 11:30 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:

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

Dial-in Details:**Microsoft Teams**

[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 465 550 421 702 42

Passcode: tT6qU7EM

Dial in by phone

[+61 2 8318 0005,,579275389#](#) Australia, Sydney

[Find a local number](#)

Phone conference ID: 579 275 389#

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

ATTACHMENTS:

Nil

MEETING ESTABLISHMENT

1.4 Conflict of Interest

RECOMMENDATION:

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

OR

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

SUMMARY:

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

BACKGROUND:

The Local Government Act (Chapter 7, Part 7.2, Section 114 – Conflict of Interest) details that “A member has a conflict of interest in a question arising for decision by the audit committee,

council, council committee or Local Authority if the member or an associate of the member has any of the following interests in how the question is decided:

- (a) A direct interest
- (b) An indirect financial interest
- (c) An indirect interest by close association
- (d) An indirect interest due to conflicting duties”.

GENERAL:

A conflict of interest is a situation that has the potential to undermine a person’s ability to be impartial because of the possibility of a clash between the person’s self-interest and professional interest or public interest.

When this occurs, the Local Authority Member should declare the interest and remove themselves from the decision-making process.

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

ATTACHMENTS:

Nil

MEETING ESTABLISHMENT

1.5 Previous Local Authority Minutes**RECOMMENDATION**

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

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Milingimbi Local Authority Minutes 20 May 2026 [1.5.1 - 5 pages]



OPEN MINUTES for the Milingimbi
Local Authority
20 May 2026

MILINGIMBI LOCAL AUTHORITY MINUTES

20 MAY 2026

1 Meeting Establishment

YOW NGILIMURR BUKU'LUNGTHUN DHIYAK MEETINGU GA MALA DJARRYUN ROM

President opened the meeting with prayer at 11:43 am.

Members in Attendance:

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

East Arnhem Regional Council Staff:

Dale Keehne (Chief Executive Officer)
Signe Balodis (Director – Council Services)
Sonia Campbell (GM – Technical and Infrastructure Services) – Attended online
Ullas Raman (Council Services Manager)
Paul Hyde Kaduru (Governance and Compliance Manager) – Attended online

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

MIL 2025/63 **RESOLVED** (Joanne Baker/Joe Djakala)**That the Local Authority:**

- (a) **Notes the absence of Rosetta Wayatja.**
- (b) **Determines Rosetta Wayaja is absent without permission of the Local Authority under Section 47(1) (0) of the Act.**

MILINGIMBI LOCAL AUTHORITY MINUTES

20 MAY 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 2025/64 **RESOLVED** (Cr. Ganygulpa Dhurrkay/Thomas Gaykamangu)

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

MEETING ESTABLISHMENT

1.5 Previous Local Authority Minutes

MIL 2025/68 **RESOLVED** (Joe Djakala/Thomas Gaykamangu)

That the Local Authority approves the minutes of the previous meeting held on 18 March 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 2025/69 **RESOLVED** (Joe Djakala/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.

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.

MILINGIMBI LOCAL AUTHORITY MINUTES**20 MAY 2026**

MIL 2025/67 **RESOLVED (Arthur Murrupu/Thomas Gaykamangu)**

That the Local Authority notes the CEO Report.

NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT

2.3 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 2025/71 **RESOLVED (Arthur Murrupu/Karina Wunungmurra)**

That the Local Authority notes the Council Services Manager report.

NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT

2.4 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 capital projects and initiatives aligned with the 2025-2026 Annual Plan.

MIL 2025/70 **RESOLVED (Robert Yirapawanga/Thomas Gaykamangu)**

That Council notes the Technical and Infrastructure Report.

NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT

2.5 Human Resources and Finance Report**SUMMARY:**

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

MIL 2025/72 **RESOLVED (Arthur Murrupu/Jacinta Burukumalawuy)**

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

MILINGIMBI LOCAL AUTHORITY MINUTES

20 MAY 2026

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

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

MIL 2025/66 **RESOLVED (Robert Yirapawanga/Jacinta Burukumalawuy)**

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

PRESENTATION

- 3.2 Discussion with the Local Police Department

MIL 2025/66 **RESOLVED (Robert Yirapawanga/Jacinta Burukumalawuy)**

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

SUMMARY:

Police discussed with Local Authority members about problems with cars speeding in the community and issues with rubbish.

They asked community members to get more involved in helping to fix these problems. Community members also took part in the discussion and shared their views.

PRESENTATION

- 3.2 Presentation from the Australian Border Force

MIL 2025/66 **RESOLVED (Robert Yirapawanga/Jacinta Burukumalawuy)**

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

4 Meeting Close

The meeting closed at 04:06 pm.

This page and the preceding pages are the minutes of the Local Authority Ordinary 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

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 6 [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.

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.
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.

MILINGIMBI ACTIONS

			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.
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. 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

MILINGIMBI ACTIONS

			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 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.

MILINGIMBI ACTIONS

			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. 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.
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MILINGIMBI ACTIONS

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.
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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:

I would like to acknowledge the contribution of Councillor Murphy Yunupingu who resigned as one of our Gumurr Miwatj Councillors earlier this year. Murphy continues to provide leadership as a key member of the Gunyangara Local Authority.

I am also very pleased to note the election of the new Councillor for the Gumurr Miwatj Ward, Mr. Lirrpiya Mununggurr. Lirrpiya has been a long serving member of the Yirrkala Local Authority and well respected community leader for Yirrkala and beyond.

I would also like to congratulate our Director of Council Services Signe Balodis on securing a CEO position with a rural Council south of Perth in Western Australia. Signe has brought so much to Council, regularly reviewing and improving our service delivery and outcomes for community members, over the last two years as Director and as Regional Manager of Council Services for the two years before that.

I have continued to advocate on national post Cyclone Narelle forums with the Federal Minister for Indigenous Australians and senior officials of the Australian Government and Northern Territory Governments for a significant improvement in preparation for future cyclones. Specifically seeking confirmation of funding for a formal engineering assessment of the cyclone rating of the range of houses and other buildings across all coastal communities of the Northern Territory to allow for clear advice to community and homeland members on where to shelter.

The other key point is to confirm the level of remaining need for cyclone shelters to protect all people, and the commitment of funding to the building of Cyclone Shelters / Multipurpose Halls, that can be operated everyday in multiple ways for community benefit and be 'stood up' as shelters when needed.

The last major issue I have been involved with is engagement with President Lapulung Dhamarrandji, Deputy President Stephen Dhamarrandji, Councillor Marrpalawuy Marika and Councillor Ganygulpa Dhurrkay following the death of a 17 year old girl in Galiwin'ku.

The NT News, National Indigenous Times, ABC and a number of other media outlets responded to Council's Media Release - Yaka Bulu Mari' Miyal'ku – No More Violence to Women, publishing a number of news articles in print and online. Some examples are attached, and the full print copies that will be distributed to Local Authority Members on the day for your reference and review.

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

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Yaka Bulu Mari' Miyalk'ku - No More Violence to Women [**2.2.1** - 2 pages]
2. Media N T- News 09072026 [**2.2.2** - 4 pages]
3. Media National- Indigenous- Times 09072026 [**2.2.3** - 3 pages]



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Media Release

9 July 2026

Yaka Bulu Mari' Miyalk'ku - No More Violence to Women

Council President Lapulung Dhamarrandji, Deputy President Stephen Dhamarrandji, Councillor Marrpalawuy Marika and Councillor Ganygulpa Dhurrkay have met about the tragic loss of a 17-year-old Yolŋu girl in Galiwin'ku as reported by ABC News on 6 July 2026.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the family, clan and community of this young woman.

Our Council representatives are strong and united in making clear this violence does not reflect traditional Yolŋu culture and is completely unacceptable.

"Domestic violence is not our way. In our culture women are sacred. They need to be nurtured."

President Lapulung Dhamarrandji

"It's not Yolŋu culture. This issue can't go any further. We can't turn a blind eye. There are bāyŋu (no) consequences."

Councillor Ganygulpa Dhurrkay

Our 100% Aboriginal elected Council and its Local Authorities in each community are committed to work in close collaboration with the NT Police and the Lia Finocchiario led Northern Territory Government to tackle domestic violence and other crime.

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

President Lapulung Dhamarrandji

"It is also important to engage with other Aboriginal organisations (including Yalu, Rirratjingu, Gumatj and Laynhapuy) and community members to stop domestic violence across the remote communities of East Arnhem Land."

Deputy President Stephen Dhamarrandji

"We have created fit for purpose community education on family violence in Yolŋu Matha (language) ranging from understanding all forms of violence, coercive control, lateral violence and sexual violence."

Yalu Aboriginal Corporation Chairperson Jasmine Yunupingu and CEO, Anahita Tonkin

"We need to get more support for Yalu to train our people on domestic violence."

Councillor Marrpalawuy Marika

"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





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Additional Quotes:

President Lapulung Dhamarrandji

"Women are the bearers of life, they need to be honoured and respected."

Councillor Ganygulpa Dhurrkay

"People are not getting consequences, and it happens again and again."

"Families need to love and care for each other."

Councillor Marrpalawuy Marika

"Domestic violence is a crime."

"We have Aboriginal Corporations, Rirratjingu, Gumatj, Laynhapuy, Yalu and others who we can work with on this big problem."

Yalu Aboriginal Corporation Chairperson, Jasmine Yunupingu and CEO, Anahita Tonkin

"We need real action."

"This type of violence doesn't belong anywhere in the world. It's a global problem and we all need to stand up."

"It's time men, elders and leaders step up with us against family violence."

ENDS

For more information, please contact:

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Page 2 of 2



NT News

East Arnhem Regional Council demands action on violence after death of 17-year-old girl

[Camden Smith](#)

July 9, 2026 - 6:29PM

East Arnhem Regional Council leaders have united to condemn domestic violence across society after the death of a teenage Galiwinku girl, declaring any violence “not our way.”



The senior leaders of a Top End regional council have united to condemn domestic violence across society after the tragic death of a 17-year-old Galiwinku woman this week and domestic violence in remote communities.

Their in-language message, Yaka Bulu Mari' Miyalk'ku, translates as No More Violence to Women.

[NT Police on Thursday charged a 34-year-old man with murder following the discovery](#) of the girl's body on Monday.

Police received a report shortly after 11am Monday a 17-year-old girl had been found unconscious in a home in Galiwinku.

Police, assisted by staff from the health clinic, attended the scene, where she was declared dead.

Source: <https://www.ntnews.com.au/business/northern-territory/east-arnhem-regional-council-demands-action-on-violence-after-death-of-17yearold-girl/news-story/d041f31d8f071fdbcf65905386c2bd2>



Regional community leaders met this week following the tragedy, issuing a statement mourning the loss, condemning all forms of domestic violence, and calling for the violence to end.

East Arnhem Regional Council president Lapulung Dhamarrandji, deputy president Stephen Dhamarrandji, councillor Marrpalawuy Marika and councillor Ganygulpa Dhurrkay also issued statements mourning the child.

“Our thoughts and prayers are with the family, clan and community of this young woman,” East Arnhem Regional Council said in the joint statement.

“Our council representatives are strong and united in making clear this (alleged) violence does not reflect traditional Yolŋu culture and is completely unacceptable.

“Council has stated that our 100 per cent Aboriginal elected council and its local authorities in each community are committed to work in close collaboration with the NT Police and the Lia Finocchiaro-led Northern Territory Government to tackle domestic violence and other crime.”

Source: <https://www.ntnews.com.au/business/northern-territory/east-arnhem-regional-council-demands-action-on-violence-after-death-of-17-year-old-girl/news-story/d041f31d8f071fdbdcf65905386c2bd2>



President Lapulung Dhamarrandji condemned domestic violence across the board and affirmed the status of women in Aboriginal culture.

“We value the role of the police,” he said.

“We support there being more police officers, based in community. Women are the bearers of life, they need to be honoured and respected.”

Cr Ganygulpa Dhurrkay said any violence was not reflective of Yolŋu people and culture.



“It’s not Yolŋu culture. This issue can’t go any further. We can’t turn a blind eye. There are bāyŋu (no) consequences,” she said.

“People, family and community members need to call out violence when they see it. People need to be responsible for their actions. People are not getting consequences and it happens again and again. Families need to love and care for each other.”

Deputy president Stephen Dhamarrandji raised the importance of involvement by Aboriginal organisations including Yalu, Rirratjingu, Gumatj and Laynhapuy.

Source: <https://www.ntnews.com.au/business/northern-territory/east-arnhem-regional-council-demands-action-on-violence-after-death-of-17yearold-girl/news-story/d041f31d8f071fdbcf65905386c2bd2>

"It's also important to engage with Aboriginal organisations and community members to stop domestic violence across remote communities of East Arnhem Land."



Yalu Aboriginal Corporation chairperson Jasmine Yunupingu said programs existed within the communities to help combat domestic violence.

"We have created fit for purpose community education on family violence in Yolnu Matha (language) ranging from understanding all forms of violence, coercive control, lateral violence and sexual violence," she said.

"We need real action. This type of violence doesn't belong anywhere in the world. It's a global problem and we all need to stand up.

"It's time men, elders and leaders step up with us against family violence."

Councillor Marrpalawuy Marika called for more support for organisations working in this area. "We need to get more support for Yalu to train our people in domestic violence," she said. "Domestic violence is a crime."

National Indigenous Times

Yolŋu leaders condemn violence after teenage girl's death in Galiwin'ku

[Dechlan Brennan](#)

Published July 9, 2026 at 12.24pm (AWST)



The alleged murder of a Yolŋu girl in East Arnhem Land in a suspected domestic violence incident has prompted community leaders to speak out against the "completely unacceptable" issue of violence.

On Monday, [Northern Territory Police said a 17-year-old girl had been found dead in Galiwin'ku](#) — a Yolŋu community on Elcho Island — after receiving a report shortly after 11 am that she was unconscious.

A 34-year-old man was arrested, with police alleging the two knew each other. They are treating the death as a domestic violence incident.

After an autopsy was completed this week, NT Police charged the man on Thursday with one count of murder. He is expected to appear before Darwin Local Court on Friday.

"This has been a complex investigation, and our investigations indicate the deceased has died of blunt forced injuries," Detective Acting Superintendent Paul Lawson said.

"A young woman has lost her life, and our thoughts are with her family and community. Our local members remain in the community and are working closely

Source: <https://nit.com.au/09-07-2026/25280/yolnu-leaders-condemn-violence-after-teenage-girls-death-in-galiwinku>

with those affected. Police would like to thank the community for their assistance during this period.

"A file will also be prepared for the Coroner."



East Arnhem Regional Council President Lapulung Dhamarrandji, Deputy President Stephen Dhamarrandji, Councillor Marrpalawuy Marika and Councillor Ganygulpa Dhurrkay met in the wake of the girl's death, releasing a statement condemning the violence and offering condolences to the girl's family, community and clan.

"Our Council representatives are strong and united in making clear this violence does not reflect traditional Yolŋu culture and is completely unacceptable," Lapulung Dhamarrandji said.

"Domestic violence is not our way. In our culture, women are sacred. They need to be nurtured. Women are the bearers of life, they need to be honoured and respected."

He said the council and local communities were "committed" to working with NT Police, Premier Lia Finocchiaro and the CLP Government to "tackle domestic violence and other crime".

"We value the role of the Police. We support there being more Police Officers, based in community," he added.



Ganygulpa Dhurrkay said the acts of violence are not a part of Yolŋu culture. She said family and community members needed to "call out violence when they see it".

"This issue can't go any further. We can't turn a blind eye. There are bāyŋu (no) consequences," she said.

"People are not getting consequences, and it happens again and again. Families need to love and care for each other."

In a joint statement, Yalu Aboriginal Corporation Chairperson Jasmine Yunupingu and CEO Anahita Tonkin said real action is needed.

"This type of violence doesn't belong anywhere in the world. It's a global problem and we all need to stand up," they said.

"It's time men, elders and leaders step up with us against family violence."

1800 Respect (1800 737 732)

Lifeline (13 11 14)

13YARN (13 92 76)

Yarning Safe'N'Strong (1800 959 563)

Beyond Blue (1300 22 46 36)

Source: <https://nit.com.au/09-07-2026/25280/yolnu-leaders-condemn-violence-after-teenage-girls-death-in-galiwinku>

NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT

2.3 Council Services 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 Services Manager at every Local Authority Meeting to provide information and updates to members.

BACKGROUND:

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

GENERAL:Council Support Services

Milingimbi has welcomed another dry season with renewed optimism and many promising opportunities ahead. The significant changes in the landscape have required considerable effort from staff and community members to ensure the township remains clean, presentable, and well-maintained.



Barge arriving at the Milingimbi barge landing.

The most recent Local Authority (LA) meeting was highly productive, with a wide range of important topics discussed. The outcomes and initiatives identified during the meeting have the potential to make a significant and lasting impact on the Milingimbi community.

The last Local Authority (LA) meeting also formally acknowledged the valuable contributions of Mr Lyle Janke in his role as Community Night Patrol Coordinator and Mr Robert Baker in his role as Administration Manager for serving East Arnhem Regional Council (EARC) for more than 25 years. The meeting recognised their dedication, commitment, and the important work they continue to undertake in supporting the community.



Lyle Janke receiving his certificate from EARC president, Lapulung Dhamarrandji.



Robert Baker, presented with his certificate from EARC CEO, Dale Keehne.



Milingimbi Local Authority Members with EARC Staff after the last Local Authority Meeting.



Director – Council Services, Signe Balodis with her team.

Recently, Council Services Director, Signe Balodis announced her resignation and will be concluding her time with East Arnhem Regional Council at the end of July. Signe's leadership has been outstanding, and her contribution to the Council Services Department has been both pivotal and transformative. Through her dedication, professionalism, and strategic guidance, she has played a key role in strengthening service delivery and supporting communities across the region.

On behalf of the Milingimbi Council Services team, we extend our sincere gratitude to Signe for her unwavering support, mentorship, and commitment. Her guidance has helped us continually improve the services we provide to the community, and her positive influence will be greatly missed. We wish Signe every success and happiness in her future endeavours.

The Milingimbi Council Services Manager joined colleagues from other communities in Darwin to participate in a four-day professional development workshop with senior management. The workshop provided valuable opportunities for learning, collaboration, and knowledge sharing across communities. The training was highly informative and also enhancing participants' understanding of key organisational priorities and strengthening their capacity to effectively support community outcomes.



East Arnhem Regional Council, Council Services team with facilitator, Jodi Truman.

We are proud to introduce Thomas Gaykamangu as the newest Remote Indigenous Broadcasting Service (RIBS) Broadcaster for TEABBA, based here in Milingimbi. Thomas recently completed two days of in-house training on Thursday 11 June 2026 and Friday 12 June 2026, where he developed skills in operating the ZETTA software to broadcast *live* to the Milingimbi community, with future connections across the wider TEABBA network.

Thomas has always shown a strong passion for broadcasting and running the station from the office. While past break-in incidents have made it difficult to sustain operations, we are encouraged to see these challenges being addressed, allowing the station to move forward once again.

Ongoing training and support will continue through online and phone assistance, ensuring that the Milingimbi RIBS service remains strong, delivering localised music, important community messages, and valuable information.

We are excited to see Thomas grow in his role and take pride in his work. It is wonderful to know that everyone in the community can once again listen, connect, and stay informed through Milingimbi Radio.



Thomas Gaykamangu enjoying his time as Community Media Officer in Milingimbi.



Thomas Power (left) with his team.

Municipal Services (MS)

Municipal Services is pleased to welcome Mr Thomas Power as the new Milingimbi Municipal Services Supervisor. The team is excited to have Thomas on board and looks forward to working alongside him.

Since joining the team, Thomas has already demonstrated strong leadership, a positive attitude, and a genuine commitment to teamwork. He has quickly established himself as a valued team player and has worked closely with staff to achieve noticeable improvements in the cleanliness and presentation of the community.

Thomas's proactive approach and dedication to maintaining a tidy and welcoming environment have already delivered positive results, and we are confident that his leadership will continue to strengthen Municipal Services and benefit the Milingimbi community. We warmly welcome Thomas to the team and wish him every success in his role.

The Municipal Services team recently welcomed two new Municipal Services Officers, Desmond and Benjamin, to the East Arnhem Regional Council family. Both have joined the team with great enthusiasm and a strong commitment to serving the Milingimbi community.

What is particularly encouraging is that Desmond and Benjamin had expressed a keen interest in becoming part of the team while working elsewhere. Their eagerness to join

reflects the positive reputation that East Arnhem Regional Council has built as a supportive, inclusive, and rewarding workplace.

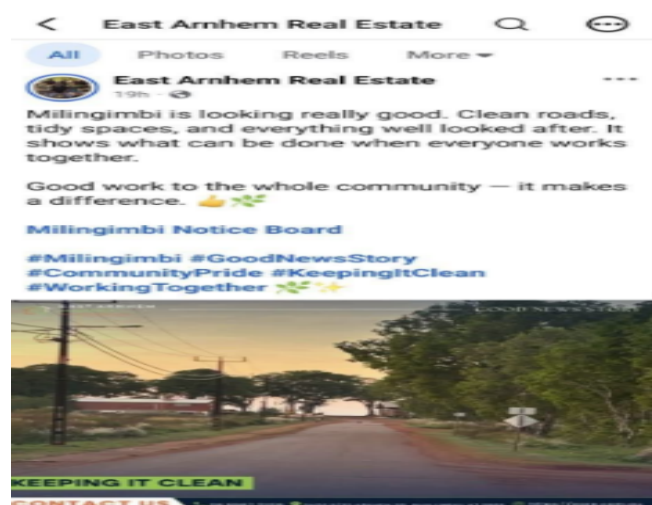


Benjamin (left) and Desmond (right).



Benjamin and Desmond with their MS team.

We are delighted to have them on board and look forward to the valuable contributions they will make alongside their colleagues. Their addition further strengthens the Municipal Services team and demonstrates EARC's ability to attract dedicated individuals who are passionate about making a positive difference in their community. We warmly welcome Desmond and Benjamin and wish them every success in their new roles.



Social Media post regarding the cleanliness of Milingimbi.

The Milingimbi community has received positive feedback from a range of stakeholders, including through social media, recognising the improved cleanliness and presentation of the community in recent months.

The Municipal Services team sincerely appreciates everyone who has taken the time to acknowledge their efforts. This recognition reflects the team's hard work and dedication and motivates them to continue maintaining a clean, safe, and welcoming community for all.

The team recently completed Weed Spray Unit Training, providing participants with the knowledge and practical skills required for the safe and effective operation of chemical spraying equipment. All team members successfully completed the training and are now qualified to operate the weed spraying unit in accordance with safety procedures, environmental requirements, and best-practice weed management standards. The training has strengthened the team's capacity to undertake weed control activities efficiently while maintaining a strong focus on workplace health and safety.

A highly successful joint operation was recently undertaken by the Municipal Services team and Milingimbi Outstations and Progress Resource Aboriginal Corporation (MOPRA) Rangers at the waste management facility to address excessive weed growth across the site. The one-

day project highlighted the value of collaboration, teamwork, and shared commitment to maintaining community infrastructure.

By working together and combining resources and expertise, both teams together achieved excellent results, significantly improving the condition of the facility. The operation demonstrated how strong partnerships and coordinated action can deliver effective outcomes and support the ongoing management of Council assets.



MS team in action.



Fire control next to the waste cells.



Planning at the site.



EARC MS and MOPRA teams together.

Community Night Patrol (CNP)

The Community Night Patrol team has continued to provide valuable support to the Milingimbi community, with increased community engagement over recent months. One of the highlights has been the highly successful Pizza and Movie Night, which brought together children, young people, and adults in a safe and enjoyable community setting. Attendees enjoyed pizzas while watching *Avatar*, a movie selected at the request of local young people.

The strong turnout and positive participation at events such as these reflect the growing trust and engagement between the Night Patrol team and the community. Recent participation numbers indicate that the team is receiving an increasingly positive response for its efforts in promoting community wellbeing and creating positive recreational opportunities.



Avatar movie on the screen.



Lyle preparing pizzas.



CSM and CNP Staff.



Warren Gaykamangu.

The team also recently welcomed Mr Warren Gaykamangu, who previously worked with Community Night Patrol and was eager to return to the role.

Warren has settled back into the team well and is enjoying his responsibilities, particularly while supporting operations during the coordinator's absence. His experience, commitment, and local knowledge have been a valuable addition to the team.

Aged Care and Disability Services (ACDS)

Service delivery has continued, with a noticeable return of peace and calm within the community. Consistent staff attendance has ensured continuity of care and uninterrupted service delivery for all clients. During this reporting period, Kellie Knevett commenced in the role of Care Coordinator and has transitioned into the position successfully. Kellie has adapted well to internal systems and processes and has established strong professional relationships with both staff and clients.



ACDS Clients on a trip to the new subdivision.

A NAIDOC Week lunch event is planned for 9 July 2026 at the Oval for Aged Care and Disability Services clients and staff. The event will provide an opportunity for clients and staff to come together to share a meal, enjoy light refreshments, participate in games, and celebrate the spirit of NAIDOC Week.

Client engagement activities have remained positive, including a recent bus trip to view the progress of the new subdivision currently under construction. Clients were excited to visit the site and learn more about the development, particularly the location and future opportunities it may bring to the community.

Training and workforce development continue to be a priority, with Aged Care and Disability Services staff actively participating in Certificate III in Individual Support training. Staff are demonstrating their commitment to professional growth by applying newly acquired knowledge and skills directly to their daily interactions and support of clients.

A current operational challenge relates to ongoing inconsistencies in barge scheduling, which have resulted in delays to orders and deliveries. While services have continued to operate effectively, more reliable scheduling would assist in ensuring timely access to supplies and reducing disruptions to service delivery.

There have been no staffing changes during this period; however, recruitment remains ongoing for Support Worker positions across both Aged Care and Disability Services.

Active Communities & Youth Services (ACYS)

This reporting period has been marked by strong community engagement and participation across a range of youth programs and sporting activities. Several members of the Men's and Women's basketball teams travelled to Galiwinku to participate in the 5th Annual Eastern Cup Regional Basketball Championships, held from 23–25 June 2026. The event provided an excellent opportunity for participants to showcase their skills, strengthen connections with other communities, and promote positive health and wellbeing outcomes through sport.



Eastern Cup 2026.



ACYS program participants.

During the school holiday period, the team collaborated with Milingimbi Art and Culture Centre staff on a community project to construct a beach-front shelter, providing young people with a meaningful opportunity to develop practical skills while contributing to a valued community space. The Drop-In Space at the ACYS Centre in Milingimbi Hall also continued to be well utilised, with strong attendance at evening recreational activities including basketball, volleyball, and AFL. These activities have provided safe, inclusive, and engaging opportunities for young people to connect, remain active, and build positive social relationships.

Looking ahead, preparations are underway for the upcoming Gala Day to be hosted in Milingimbi on 22–23 July 2026. The event is expected to bring together young people, families, and community members for a range of sporting and recreational activities that promote community participation and healthy lifestyles.

The team is committed to strengthening its partnership with Miwatj Health to deliver public health education initiatives and community engagement activities. Recent collaborative programs have included a Colour Run and Tie-Dye activities delivered alongside the Arnhem



**Active Communities
& Youth Services**
Milingimbi



June & July 2026

School Holiday Activities

Monday 22 Breakfast 9:00 - 10:30 Indoor Activities Hall 10:30 - 12:30 Movie Night Hall 6:00 - 9:00PM	Tuesday 23 Eastern Cup Basketball Championships Galiwin'ku	Wednesday 24 Eastern Cup Basketball Championships Galiwin'ku	Thursday 25 Eastern Cup Basketball Championships Galiwin'ku	Friday 26 Tie Dye 9:00 - 12:00 Hall Basketball 3x3 5:00 - 7:00 (Juniors) 8:00 - 10pm (Seniors)
Monday 29 Shelter Making With Milingimbi Art Centre 1:00 - 5pm	Tuesday 30 Shelter Making With Milingimbi Art Centre 1:00 - 5pm	Wednesday 1 Shelter Making With Milingimbi Art Centre 1:00 - 5pm	Thursday 2 NO ACTIVITIES	Friday 3 Drop - In space Hall 9:00 - 12:00 Tin Game Dhuwa v Yirritja Oval 5:00 - 9:00PM
Monday 6 Breakfast 9:00 - 10:30 Indoor Activities Hall 11:30 - 12:30 Movie Night Hall 6:00 - 9:00 PM	Tuesday 7 Tie Dye 9:00 - 12:00 Hall Basketball 3x3 5:00 - 7:00 (Juniors) 8:00 - 10pm (Seniors)	Wednesday 8 NAIDOC WEEK 50 Years of Deadly 12:00 - 4:30pm Beach clean up & Volleyball	Thursday 9 Fishing at Beach front 2:30 - 4:30PM Ultimate Frisbee Mix Oval 6:00 - 9:00PM Dhuwa v Yirritja	Friday 10 NO ACTIVITIES



Connection to Body, Mind, Kinship and Culture

Active Communities and Youth Services, School Holidays Activity Calendar – Milingimbi.

Land Progress Association (ALPA) Women's Group, providing fun and engaging opportunities to promote health, wellbeing, and community connection.

Waste and Environmental Update

The Milingimbi MS team has been focusing on Listed Waste handling and updating handling procedures. Preparations for earthworks at the landfill are underway.

Waste Management Facility Earthworks

Milingimbi landfill has 2 new general waste bays approved by NTEPA.

- Contractor engaged
- Awaiting commencement date confirmation.

Milingimbi landfill experienced drainage issues during the rainy season. A drone survey was performed to identify the topography of this site. The survey shows higher ground in green and

lower areas in red, with drainage falling from the south-west corner to the north-east corner of the landfill.



Topography of the Milingimbi Waste Management Facility.

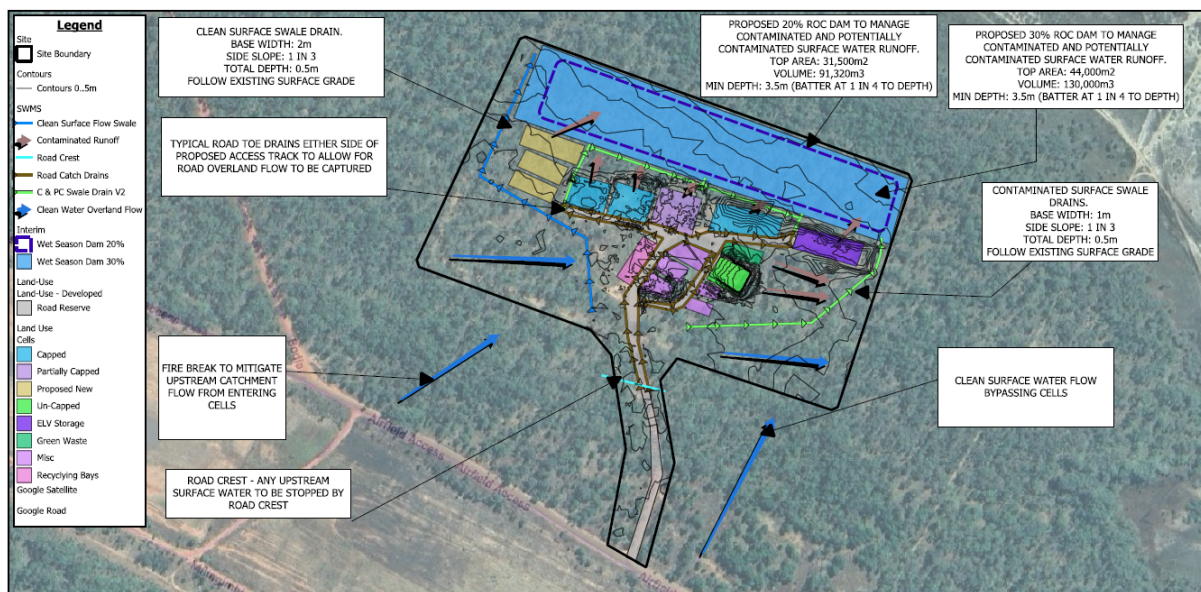
The first draft of a surface water management plan (SWMP) has been reviewed, and this version has been provided.

This draft has been sent back to the consultant for substantial changes. The leachate pond will be greatly reduced to the north-west corner.

The SWMP will be implemented in three phases:

- removing run-off surface water from the surrounding environment.
- Stage two: access roadside swales,
- Leachate pond stage 3.

The East Arnhem Regional Council Waste and Environment team will present the final draft SWMP as soon as it is completed.



Surface Water Management Plan – Milingimbi Waste Facility.

WS 2244-02 – Recycling Services

Listed Waste

Municipal Services have a 10-foot container of used tyres that is due to be transported to Tyre Cycle in Darwin. This is to ensure that recyclable materials are constantly shipped out of the community to limit holdings in community and manage environmental risks.

In June, Regional Manager Waste & Environment, Hamish Brace spent two weeks at Milingimbi. Week one was focused on training the new Municipal Services Supervisor, Thomas Power, on his role regarding general waste, Listed Wastes, and recycling. Hamish invested some more time with the Municipal Services team, revisiting 'List Waste' handling and its vital importance to waste services compliance with NTEPA guidelines.

The Waste team spent the second week performing the annual wheelie bin audit; the information collected will be used to plan ongoing bin purchases and to assist the rates team with capturing the waste services used by commercial entries in Milingimbi.

July to June 2026 Monthly Litter Rating Index.

	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June
Milingimbi	NO DATA	55%	60%	60%	55%	55%	60%	60%	65%	70%	65%	70%

The rating data has consistently averaged around 65%

51 - 75 (good, getting better, cleaner, tidier, commenced resource recovery)

Monthly litter index monitoring in use. Small amount of litter on ground only every now and again in 'Hot Spots'. Regular Community Clean-up planned and conducted with good level of support.

Litter Master 9000

To build capacity within Milingimbi, East Arnhem Regional Council, is repairing the 'Litter Master' 9000.

LitterMaster™ 9000



Figure 1 photo includes optional boom

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This device will be available in the coming months. The Littermaster has proven itself in litter hot spots across our EARC communities.

Landfill Environmental Compliance

	<i>FY 2025-26 Monthly Environmental Compliance</i>											
	<i>July</i>	<i>Aug</i>	<i>Sept</i>	<i>Oct</i>	<i>Nov</i>	<i>Dec</i>	<i>Jan</i>	<i>Feb</i>	<i>Mar</i>	<i>Apr</i>	<i>May</i>	<i>Jun</i>
Milingimbi WMF												

Animal Management Program (AMP) Update

Reporting month/period: May-June 2026

Overall comments:

- Milingimbi received two veterinary visits during this period as one of the visits was a previously postponed veterinary visit:
 - Veterinary nurse visited on 5 May 2026 for day trip by Sarah and Saraya:
 - The team visited Bottom Camp (see comments below) after receiving several reports of animals left with no food due to family being displaced following an incident. Overall animals in Milingimbi are looking well, the team gave out 121 parasite treatments during this visit and performed six community consultations.
 - Veterinary visit by Dr Celia and Sarah from 2-5 June 2026:
 - Dogs and cats seen were mostly in great body condition, with no ticks noted on any animals and very few fleas. A handful of dogs were seen with poor coat and skin, and owners generally were receptive to recommendations on shampooing and medicated baths for these dogs. Dr Celia performed 23 desexings during this visit. The team followed up on several requests to euthanise by owners with cheeky dogs.
- Remote consultations: The team performed three remote consultations across this period outside of veterinary visits.
- Our next veterinary visit will be:
 - The next full veterinary visit will be by Dr Celia Peters and Sarah from 13– 17 July 2026.

Service Delivery Table:

Milingimbi	May/Jun 26	FY 25-26 to date	FY 24-25
Dogs Desexed	19	78	36
Cats Desexed	4	21	10
Community consultations	13	63	55
Remote/Phone consultations	3	20	27
EARC Veterinary Cabinet medication dispensed	2	10	14
Minor procedures/other surgeries	4	17	8
Parasite Treatments	285	1105	899
Euthanasia	10	11	9
Private practice consultations (Mainland)	6	20	17
Total Engagements	346	1345	1075

Community education activities: none this period

Staff Education/training activities: none this period

Additional Collaborations/Stakeholder engagements: none this period

Concerns/Challenges:

- Animal Welfare concerns/cases:
 - The AMP team checked the welfare of the animals in Bottom Camp following reports of dogs being left behind after families left the area due to recent events. Animal appeared to be in satisfactory condition during both visits and the team treated any animals for parasites or injuries as needed.
 - Concerns for welfare of Emu in Bottom Camp being kept in less than ideal conditions – the AMP team followed up during the May visit to discuss with owners, however unable to speak to anyone.
- Dangerous Dog or Animal incidents:
 - The week prior to the visit new MS worker was attacked by a pack of dogs at Top Camp, had to attend hospital in Nhulunbuy. We did not confirm which dogs were involved in this incident however upon owners request we did remove and euthanise 5x dingo cross dogs from a household in Top Camp due to cheeky and aggressive pack behaviour. This was done at the request of the owner.
 - One property had dangerous dog sign placed (Lot 118) and owners were advised to castrate males and keep gates locked.
 - One owner requested euthanasia of a cheeky dog that was chasing cars and people.
 - BJ the tame buffalo still present in town, has burns on his back possibly been hit with hot water. He is now very large and roaming the community. The AMP team still has serious concerns for the safety of the community with such a large animal walking around. We would strongly encourage his removal from community to a safer location.
- Other: Government and other NGO workers are noted to be taking in animals when working on the island and then leaving them behind when they finish contracts. Also are reluctant to pay for services and claiming that the animals are 'community owned' and they are just feeding them. One particular Ranger worker was noted to ask for veterinary care and desexing but was unwilling to pay full fees and admitted that would not be taking the two dogs with them when they left in a few months – despite putting a collar on one dog, taking them to work and also walking them around the town daily. These cases are challenging because the animals are often not given to a new owner and so may become a nuisance to new workers or Yolngu community, and it exploits the main purpose of the EARC Animal Management program which is to provide community care and empower community members to care for their pets. All efforts were made to be consistent with messaging that if workers are going to feed animals they should commit to keep them and must pay for veterinary care or should leave them and report welfare concerns to the council.

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

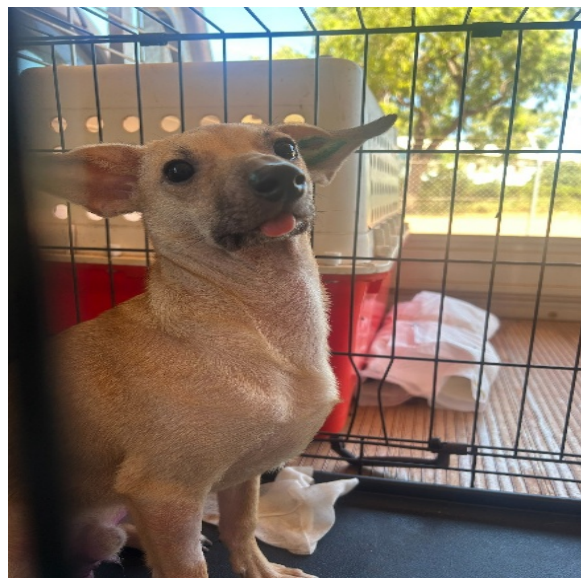
- Ongoing issues reported by BJ the buffalo – temperament becoming questionable. Our AMP team is still concerned he may injury or kill community member either deliberately or accidentally. We would strongly encourage his removal from community to a safer location for his own welfare and the safety of Milingimbi community.

Photos:

We welcome Dr. Celia to our team who will working with us from June to August 2026.



Pet python with a group of children. The AMP team discussed husbandry with the owners of the snake and recommendations for hand washing and feeding of the pet python.



A dog ready for surgery by Dr. Celia and Sarah being taken to the clinic area.



Saraya during the veterinary nurse visit on 5 May 2026, giving out parasite treatments to a pack of dogs in Bottom Camp.

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 notes the Technical and Infrastructure 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.

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:

Fleet Services

Imogen Weighill – Acting Regional Manager - Fleet

112 - Fleet Services

Transport and Infrastructure Department

Arvin Roping – Transport and Infrastructure Manager

116 - Lighting for Public Safety

118 - Local Road Maintenance & Traffic Management

119 - Local Road Upgrade and Construction

Building and Infrastructure Department – Capital Projects

Bruce Hall – Project Manager

122 - Building and Public Infrastructure Services

LAPF Projects

Aaron Mc Kenna – Senior Project Manager

REPORT STORY:**112 - Fleet Services (Report Owner – Imogen Weighill)**Vehicles damages

On the morning of June 29, damage was discovered to the driver side mirror of the Aged Care Toyota Hiace bus (F0704). Following an inspection, it appears the damage was caused by a rock being thrown into the yard where the bus was parked overnight. A repair job has now been raised with the mechanical repairer.

New GPS tracker software

All EARC fleet Vehicles and plant equipment are currently being transitioned to a new GPS tracking system. Fleet are now utilising the Navman TN360 platform for vehicle tracking and monitoring. Installation across the fleet is progressing well, with the Milingimbi fit-out scheduled for the weekend of 31 July. Once completed, all vehicles and plant in Milingimbi will be operating on the new system.

New Vehicles

- Tipper truck F0551 Hino is to be replaced with an Isuzu FVR 170-300 Tipper. The new Isuzu truck has arrived in Darwin and is estimated to be delivered to Darwin Sea Swift the week commencing 13th July.

116 – Lighting for Public Safety (Report Owner – Arvin Roping)**Repair and maintenance of public streetlights**

Community	LED Public Streetlights out of service based on night-time audit inspection	Tentative mobilisation, commencement & expected completion date	Progress update
Milingimbi	6 - LED street lights 6 – GFS200 solar street lights	20 – 27 July 2026	Scheduled (pending Sea Swift and/or MOPRA barge schedule)

118 – Local Road Maintenance & Traffic Management (Report Owner – Arvin Roping)**T25-203320.1 Civil Maintenance of Pavements and Drainage for a Period of 12 Months**

Revised Round 2 2025/26	Mobilisation Date	Expected Completion Date	Project Status
Milingimbi	17 August 2026	21 August 2026	Note: Subject to Sea Swift barge scheduling from Nhulunbuy

Notes:

- Milingimbi dates are indicative and based on current production rates (grading maintenance underway at Gapuwiyak), access constraints and barge availability/scheduling for island mobilisation

119 – Local Road Upgrade and Construction (Report Owner – Arvin Roping)

The Transport Infrastructure team is currently undertaking scoping, and potential upgrade works outside of the standard maintenance grading activities across various Milingimbi internal sealed road sections.

122 – Building Infrastructure Services (Report Owner – Bruce Hall)

We are currently in the process of scoping the replacement of Lot 117 Milingimbi. This scope will involve demolition of the current existing structure and replacing with a new 2 bedroom residence. This project will provide valuable housing stock for use by Council and essential external service providers. Repair and upgrade works will also be undertaken in the Aged Care Centre, Lot 209 and Lot 200.

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**

Ralph Reddy (Finance Manager)

RECOMMENDATION

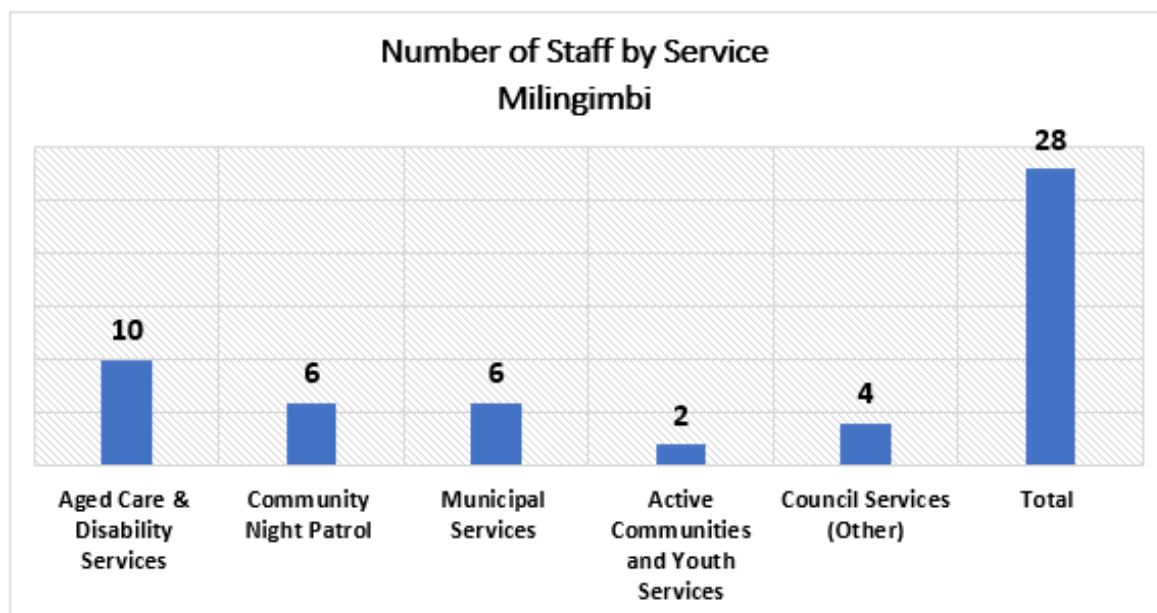
That Local Authority receives the Human Resources and Employment information as of 30 June 2026.

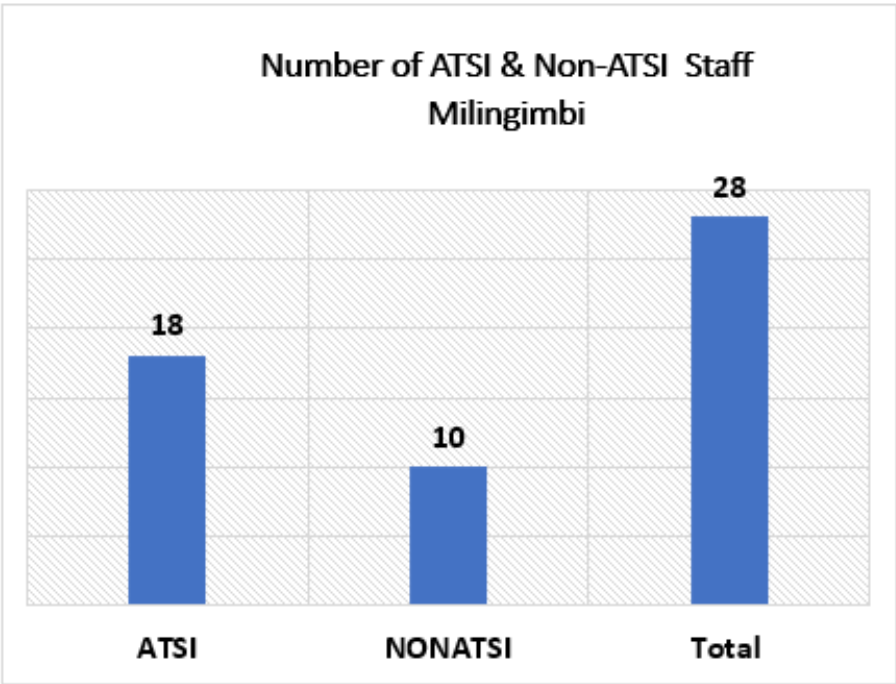
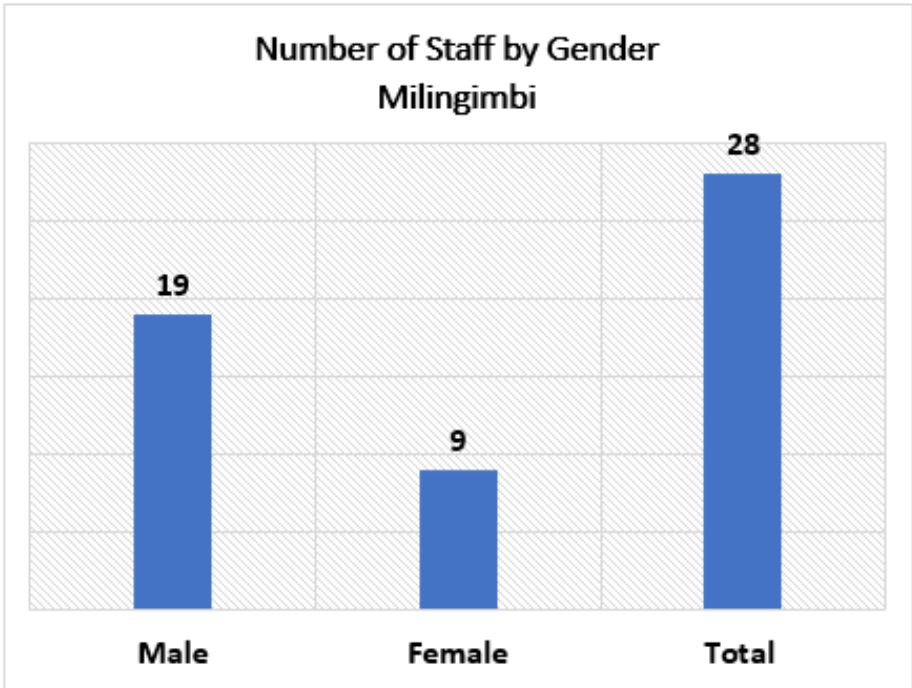
SUMMARY:

This report presents the financials plus employment statistics as of 30 June 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 30 June 2026:

Job Title	Location	Recruitment Type	Employment Type	Number of Vacancies
Community Night Patrol Officer	Milingimbi	Community	Casual	1
Municipal Services Officer	Milingimbi	Community	Casual	1
Disability Support Worker	Milingimbi	Community	Casual	1
Active Communities Worker	Milingimbi	Community	Casual	1
Active Community Worker	Milingimbi	Community	Fixed Term	2
Library and Cultural Heritage Worker	Milingimbi	Community	Community	1
Disability Services Support Worker	Milingimbi	Community	Casual	1
Disability Services Support Worker	Milingimbi	Community	Casual	1
Disability Services Support Worker	Milingimbi	Community	Casual	1
Library & Cultural Heritage Worker	Milingimbi	Community	Casual	1
Library & Cultural Heritage Worker	Milingimbi	Community	Casual	1

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

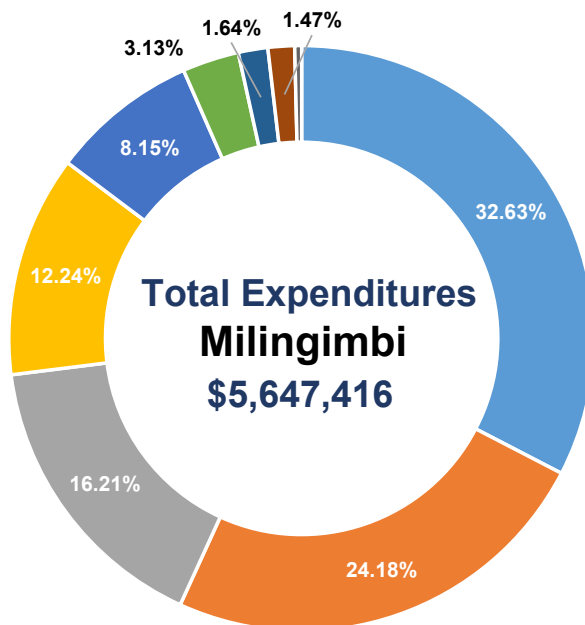
ATTACHMENTS:

1. 12. June 2026 Milingimbi LAPF and Chart Reports [2.5.1 - 2 pages]

LOCAL AUTHORITY PROJECT FUNDING (LAPF) - MILINGIMBI FUNDS LEFT

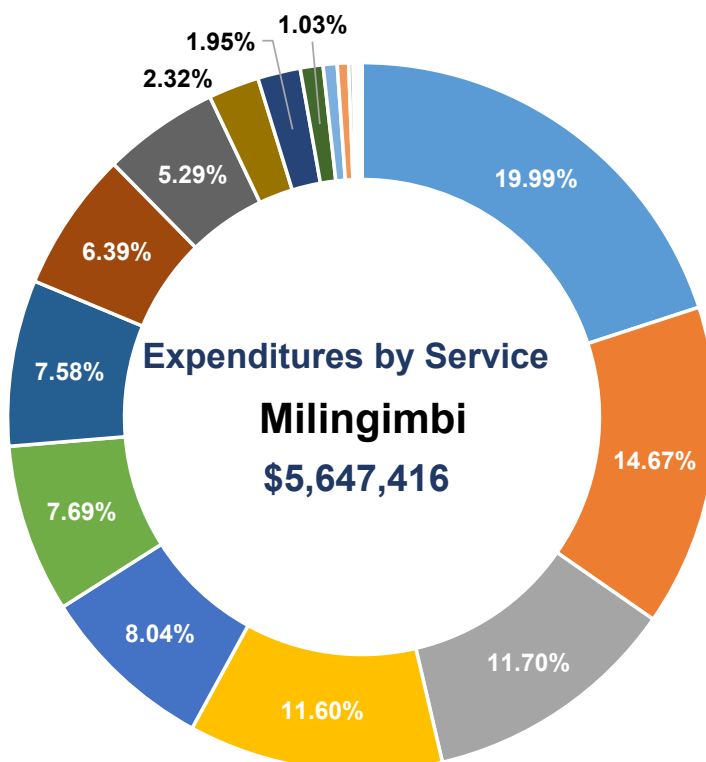
As at 30th June 2026

	YTD ACTUAL	COMMITMENTS	ACTUAL + COMMITMENTS	FULL YEAR BUDGET	PROGRESS % (ACTUAL vs BUDGET)
CARRIED FORWARD LAPF FROM PRIOR YEAR	723,488	-	723,488	723,488	
LAPF RECEIVED THIS FINANCIAL YEAR	178,500	-	178,500	178,500	
TOTAL AVAILABLE LAPF THIS FINANCIAL YEAR	901,988	-	901,988	901,988	
LESS LAPF PROJECTS					
293415 - LAPF - Milingimbi Instal of Footpaths	(86,714)	-	(86,714)	(193,899)	45%
299515 - LAPF - Milingimbi - Public toilets near the foreshore	(319,150)	(485,731)	(804,880)	(581,276)	55%
304915 - Local Authority Project Funding Milingimbi - Revenue	(594)	-	(594)	-	0%
310915 - LAPF - Milingimbi Ceremony Area	(5,139)	-	(5,139)	(269,125)	2%
TOTAL PROJECTS	(411,597)	(485,731)	(897,327)	(1,044,300)	39%
ESTIMATED LAPF - LEFT (OVERSPEND) / UNDERSPEND			4,661	(142,313)	



where money was spent?

- Employee Costs \$1,842,519
- Materials and Contracts \$1,365,603
- Fleet & Buildings \$915,171
- General \$691,057
- Core Recovery \$460,229
- Capital \$176,555
- Insurance & Finance \$92,353
- IT Charges \$82,762
- Allocations \$21,166



- 141 - Aged Care Services \$1,128,914
- 169 - Municipal Services \$828,478
- 107 - Council Services \$660,554
- 118 - Local Road Maintenance & Traffic Management \$654,996
- 129 - Waste and Environmental Services \$454,294
- 122 - Building and Infrastructure Services \$434,016
- 152 - Active Communities \$427,876
- 147 - Community Night Patrol and Sobering Up Shelter Services \$360,888
- 171 - Disability Services \$298,653
- 170 - Youth Services \$130,821
- 119 - Local Road Upgrade and Construction \$110,279
- 108 - Veterinary and Animal Control Services \$58,402
- 115 - Library Services \$36,109
- 146 - Community Media \$29,159
- 100 - Local Authorities Boards \$11,561
- 157 - Local Commercial Opportunities \$9,872
- 116 - Lighting for Public Safety \$7,028
- 156 - Community Events \$5,207
- 139 - Visitor Accommodation \$309

3 General Business and Date of Next Meeting

PRESENTATION

3.1 Discussion with Local Police

RECOMMENDATION

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

ATTACHMENTS:

Nil

PRESENTATION

3.2 Presentation from Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development

RECOMMENDATION

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

ATTACHMENTS:

Nil



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www.eastarnhem.nt.gov.au
 ABN 92 334 301 078

Request to Present at a Local Authority Meeting

EARC have requested that **ALL ORGANISATIONS** provide the following information as part of any request to present at a local authority meeting. This info must be provided at least 10 days prior to Local Authority meeting.

Please complete this form and return it to paulhyde.kaduru@eastarnhem.nt.gov.au. Prior to submitting a request, please review the NT Government **Remote Engagement and Coordination Strategy** at www.dlgcs.nt.gov.au.

We respectfully request that all presentations be kept to 30 Minutes (15 minute presentation time and 15 minutes of question time).

Please enter your contact details below	
Name:	Kirstie Hutchinson
Organisation:	NTG
Position:	Community Development Manager
Department:	Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development
Contact number:	0417 055 649
Email:	Kirstie.Hutchinson@nt.gov.au

Agenda Item
1. Which Local Authorities do you wish to attend? ☒ Galiwinku ☒ Gapuwiyak ☐ Gunyangara ☒ Mililingimbi ☒ Ramingining ☒ Yirrkala
2. What is the purpose of the presentation? Introduce the NTG Community Development team and the newly developed NTG framework <i>Empowering the Bush</i> .
3. For the agenda item, do you expect to: <i>(please complete the option/s that are relevant)</i> ☒ Provide information to the local authority about: The NTG Community Development team. Close the loop on queries and questions raised at the last LA Meetings. Take note of any questions / queries raised during these LA Meetings that the Community Development team could support in future. ☐ Seek information from the local authority about: ☐ Seek a decision from the local authority about:

Official use Only

Date Received_____

3.3 Date of Next Meeting

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

23 September 2026

4 Meeting Close