



HUMAN | EQUALITY
RIGHTS
INDEPENDENCE
COMMUNITY | EQUITY
WORK CONFIDENCE
RESPECT

OPEN AGENDA for the Milingimbi
Local Authority
23 January 2026

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

Djambarrpuyngu

Dhuwandja dhäwu dhipunur EARC-nur bukmakku yolñuw mala nhämunha limurr ga nhina wänjakurr malañuwurr buku-liw'maram:

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

Dhañu

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

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

Gumatj

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

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

Marrañu

Dhuwanydji dhäwu barrañga'yun EARC-nur bukmakku yolñuw yukurr buku-liw'maram wäña mittji 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 Friday 23 January 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

LA Members:

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

Dial-in Details:**Microsoft Teams**

[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 410 936 397 032 76

Passcode: m3Q7s2ys

Dial in by phone

[+61 2 8318 0005, 143658672#](#) Australia, Sydney

[Find a local number](#)

Phone conference ID: 143 658 672#

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.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ITEM	SUBJECT	PAGE NO
1	MEETING ESTABLISHMENT	6
1.2	Opening of Meeting.....	6
1.3	Attendance	6
1.4	Conflict of Interest	6
1.5	Previous Local Authority Minutes.....	7
2	LOOKING FORWARD - DISCUSSIONS AND DECISIONS	14
3	NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT	14
3.1	Local Authority Action Items	14
3.2	CEO Report	21
3.3	Council Services Report	22
3.4	Technical and Infrastructure Services Report.....	34
3.5	Human Resources and Finance Report.....	40
4	CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS	45
5	GENERAL BUSINESS AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING	45
6	MEETING CLOSE	45

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 24 October 2025.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Milingimbi Local Authority- Minutes+24+ Oct+2025 [1.5.1 - 6 pages]



OPEN MINUTES for the Milingimbi
Local Authority
24 October 2025

MILINGIMBI LOCAL AUTHORITY MINUTES

24 OCTOBER 2025

1 Meeting Establishment

YOW NGILIMURR BUKU'LUNGTHUN DHIYAK MEETINGU GA MALA DJARRYUN ROM

Members in Attendance

President Lapulung Dhamarrandji (Chair)

Joanne Baker

Rosetta Wayatja

Arthur Murrupu

Joe Djakala

Jacinta Burukumalawuy

Cr. Ganygulpa Dhurrkay

East Arnhem Council Officers:

Signe Balodis (Director – Council Services)

Sonia Campbell (GM – Technical and Infrastructure Services)

Ullas Raman (Council Services Manager)

Paul Hyde Kaduru (Governance and Compliance Manager)

President Opened the meeting at 11:39 AM.

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 2025/31 **RESOLVED** (Cr. Ganygulpa Dhurrkay/Joe Djakala)

That the Local Authority:

- (a) Notes the absence of Rosetta Yirapawanga, Robert Yirapawanga.
- (b) Determines Rosetta Yirapawanga and Robert Yirapawanga are absent without permission of the Local Authority under Section 47(1) (0) of the Act.

MILINGIMBI LOCAL AUTHORITY MINUTES

24 OCTOBER 2025

- (c) The Governance Manager to forward the letter to Council Services manager regarding the resignation of Rosetta Yirapawanga as she has not attended two consecutive meetings without permission.

MEETING ESTABLISHMENT

1.4 Conflict of Interest

SUMMARY:

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

MIL 2025/32 **RESOLVED** (Joe Djakala/Arthur Murrupu)

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

MEETING ESTABLISHMENT

1.5 Previous Local Authority Minutes

MIL 2025/34 **RESOLVED** (Arthur Murrupu/Joe Djakala)

That the Local Authority approves the minutes of the previous meeting held on 27 May 2025.

2 Looking Forward - Discussions and Decisions

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

3 Noting Progress and Achievement

YOW GALKI MEETING DJA DHAWARYUNA YURRU NGILIMURR RONGIYI GA NHAMA
NGUNIYI

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

MILINGIMBI LOCAL AUTHORITY MINUTES

24 OCTOBER 2025

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 2025/30 **RESOLVED** (Cr. Ganygulpa Dhurrkay/Joe Djakala)

RECOMMENDATION

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

NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT

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 2025/37 **RESOLVED** (Cr. Ganygulpa Dhurrkay/Arthur Murrupu)

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

MIL 2025/38 **RESOLVED** (Joe Djakala/Joanne Baker)

That the Local Authority notes the Council Services Managers report.

MILINGIMBI LOCAL AUTHORITY MINUTES

24 OCTOBER 2025

NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT

3.4 Human Resources and Finance Report

SUMMARY

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

MIL 2025/39 **RESOLVED** (Arthur Murrupu/Cr. Ganygulpa Dhurrkay)

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

NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT

3.5 Technical and Infrastructure Service Report

SUMMARY:

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

MIL 2025/36 **RESOLVED** (Joanne Baker/Arthur Murrupu)

RECOMMENDATION:

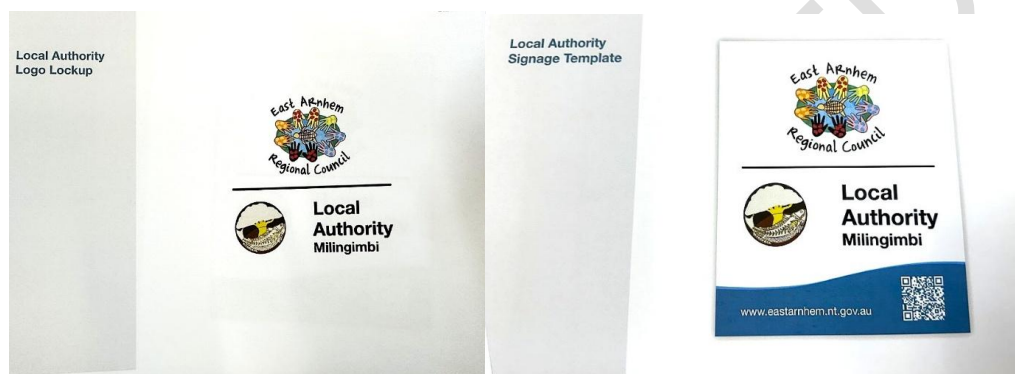
- (a) That the Local Authority notes the Technical and Infrastructure Services report.
- (b) Endorsement of allocation of Local Authority Project Funds (LAPF) to complete the critical access footpath works related to Madumungun Road – Pedestrian Footpath Extension and Easement Access Improvement.
- (c) Endorse to formalise the name Mägaya for the Ceremony grounds project that will be scoped for construction at the Jesse Smith Park.

MILINGIMBI LOCAL AUTHORITY MINUTES

24 OCTOBER 2025

GENERAL BUSINESS

4.1 Signage

MIL 2025/40 **RESOLVED** (Cr. Ganygulpa Dhurrkay/Jacinta Burukumalawuy)**RECOMMENDATION****The Local Authority endorses****(a) Artwork for the Local Authority Signage template and Local Authority Logo Lockup.****(b) To proceed with the Signage installation near the Council office entry doors.**

4.2 Child Care Service

MIL 2025/42 **RESOLVED** (Arthur Murrupu/Cr. Ganygulpa Dhurrkay)**RECOMMENDATION****Local Authority endorses to investigate the options for Child Care centre service in community that is delivered by EARC. The Child Care service is needed for community working parents and will provide additional employment opportunity for community residents.**

The next meeting is to be held on 27 January 2025.

5 Meeting Close

The meeting closed at 03:19 PM.

This page and the preceding pages are the minutes of the Local Authority Ordinary Meeting held on 24 October 2025.

2 Looking Forward - Discussions and Decisions

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

3 Noting Progress and Achievement

YOW GALKI MEETING DJA DHAWARYUNA YURRU NGILIMURR RONGIYI GA NHAMA
NGUNIYI

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

NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT

3.1 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 May 2025 1 [3.1.1 - 6 pages]

MILINGIMBI ACTIONS

ACTION ITEM	ACTIONS	STATUS
Kava	<p>That the Local Authority:</p> <p>a) Notes the report on the Kava Pilot: Allowing the commercial importation of kava.</p> <p>b) Supports comprehensive community consultation as highlighted in the Northern Territory Government's submission to the Australian Government's Kava Pilot Phase 2: Allowing the Commercial Importation of Kava consultation paper, and the call for Commonwealth funding to support either:</p> <p>1) increased compliance and policing for the increase in the illicit kava trade, or</p> <p>2) effective and informed local decision making about kava management to minimise potential harms.</p> <p>c) Supports the Northern Territory Government's request for funding to support research into the health and social impacts from increased kava availability.</p>	<p>12.05.2021 – Email was received, stating that there is no action regarding the Kava Pilot – Ongoing</p> <p>18.05.2021 – Update provided to LA, EARC will be provided update from government once received.</p> <p>12.01.2022 – A separate report was presented on this by the CEO – ongoing.</p> <p>15.03.2022 – A detail discussion took place with the members, President and the CEO.</p> <p>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'.</p> <p>19.07.2022 – Ongoing</p> <p>20.09.2022 - covered in CEO Report</p> <p>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.</p> <p>22.11.2022 – As above.</p> <p>17.01.2023 – Deferred until return of CEO from leave.</p> <p>21.03.23 – to be discussed in CEO Report. Good progress being made with the Government.</p> <p>26.10.23 – to be discussed and covered in the CEO Report.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>14.12.23 – As above.</p> <p>23.01.24 – Further discussions to be held ongoing with NIAA at the next Council meeting.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>26.03.24 – Ongoing</p> <p>24.04.24 – CEO to write to Department for an update.</p> <p>21.05.24 – NTG and NIAA to be invited to next Pre-Agenda day of Council</p> <p>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.</p> <p>16.07.24 – No progress since last discussion.</p>

MILINGIMBI ACTIONS

ACTION ITEM	ACTIONS	STATUS
		<p>21.01.25 – CEO has raised this issue with Jacinta Price’s office as one of 8 Advocacy Items.</p> <p>19.02.25 – Council is going to seek the support of Local Member Yingiya Guyula MLA for Milka to raise this issue.</p> <p>18.03.25 – Mr. Guyula spoke to the members via TEAMS and had a discussion regarding kava. Further update in the CEO Report.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>

MILINGIMBI ACTIONS

ACTION ITEM	ACTIONS	STATUS
Improved Access – footpaths located along the Church Road.	LA would like to see improvement here due to the flooding and damage caused out of LAPF.	<p>23.01.24 – Director of Technical and Infrastructure Services has been on leave and will look into this and provide update at next meeting.</p> <p>22.02.24 – Director Technical and Infrastructure Services will take this back to LA after costing has been done.</p> <p>26.03.24 - Director Technical and Infrastructure Services to update members at next meeting.</p> <p>24.04.24 – Director Technical Services to follow up and provide update.</p> <p>25.06.24 - No quotations received as yet, Director Technical and Infrastructure Services to follow up.</p> <p>16.07.24 – No update now. Still organising quotations.</p> <p>11.12.2024 – Last LA meeting it was discussed not enough quorum for decision. Quotes have been received decision will be made at the next Local Authority meeting. Confirm with Local Authority if they want an upgrade to the church road also.</p> <p>19.02.25 – A new footpath that goes behind the church and down past the houses need to be gazetted. GM has been speaking with the Roads Mgr. to put in a footpath or a rock road. – Worried about walking down there without tripping hazards. Church footpath was approved.</p> <p>23.04.25 – Ongoing has been awarded to NTM for a start date of mid-May.</p> <p>27.05.25 – Central Arnhem highway currently closed unable to move machinery equipment to Raminingining.</p> <p>25.06.25 – No update as yet, waiting on highway to open.</p> <p>24.10.25 – LA members endorse the extension of footpath by utilising the Local Authority Project Funding and to leave the church pavers intact.</p> <p>22.11.25 – Project nearing completion.</p>

MILINGIMBI ACTIONS

<p>Jesse Smith Park (in conjunction Makarata Field action above)</p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>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.</p>
<p>BJ The Buffalo</p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>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.</p>
<p>FUTURE ACTION ITEM/ACTION ON HOLD:</p> <p>Advocacy Items</p> <p>Water to be installed at the oval</p>		<p>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.</p>

MILINGIMBI ACTIONS

		<p>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.</p> <p>19.07.2022 – Water availability for the oval yet to be confirmed – EARC Tech Services to follow up.</p> <p>12.09.2022 – no change to the above.</p> <p>19.10.22 – Move to advocacy – as water will be an ongoing consideration noting the completion of the head works and proposed sub-division</p> <p>22.11.2022 – Question to be asked to PAW</p> <p>21.03.23 – potentially another presentation on water story in next round.</p> <p>14.12.23 – Ongoing.</p> <p>19.12.25 – With Power and Water.</p>
Community Barge Landing	Requests urgent upgrades and proper infrastructure for the community barge landing	<p>21.03.23 - Director Technical Services and Infrastructure to advise.</p> <p>27.04.23 – Discussions continue on ownership etc.,</p> <p>14.12.23 – Some movement here > submission to Deloitte report regarding Federal announcement of Funding.</p> <p>25.06.24 – No money for Milingimbi Barge Landing</p> <p>19.02.25 – this is NTG not EARC. Further discussion with LGANT</p>
Priority footpaths		<p>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.</p> <p>27.01.2021 – ongoing at this stage – CDP and Contractors still to recommence respective services in Community at this stage.</p> <p>12.05.2021 – Ongoing – Will bring information to next LA meeting.</p> <p>18.05.2021 – Will update at next LA meeting.</p> <p>16.11.2021 – Update progress in January/late January about the project.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>15.03.2022 – Tender will be re-released by the end of April 2022</p> <p>17.05.2022 – Tender will be re-released by end of May 2022.</p> <p>22.06.2022 – Tender currently out to the market and will await any submission when closed to consider.</p> <p>30.06.2022 – Out to tender – closes in 1 week.</p>

MILINGIMBI ACTIONS

		<p>19.07.2022 – Tender has closed but has not been evaluated as yet.</p> <p>12.09.2022 - Tender evaluated to go to council as a reduced scope in the October meeting dependant on funding extension for LAPF</p> <p>19.10.22 – report to be tabled at the December meeting and funds adjustments have been made in the budget revision</p> <p>17.01.2023 – Tenders have gone out and work is progressing.</p> <p>22.11.2022 - Report to be put forward to Council at December meeting and Tender being put forward.</p> <p>21.03.2023 – Asks the Local Authority to defer any progress on the footpaths until waterpark and other project tenders have been received.</p> <p>29.08.23 MOVED TO ADVOCACY</p> <p>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.</p> <p>19.02.25 – Ongoing – Access to field etc., to be taken into consideration of this action.</p>
Sealing of Bodia Road	Supports and approves any application for funding for Bodia Road to be sealed	<p>21.03.23 – Director Technical Services and Infrastructure to advise.</p> <p>29.06.23 – Waiting on possibility of grant becoming available.</p> <p>29.08.23 MOVED TO ADVOCACY</p> <p>25.06.24 - in talks with DIPL want link path from subdivision to basketball court – won't sign off unless part of design.</p>

NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT

3.2 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:

Happy New Year to all Local Authority Members, your families, communities and homelands. I have been spending time with family like you all over the end of year.

I look forward to another strong year of working with you, local leaders and members of our six Yolngu communities related homelands.

There are many issues, challenges and opportunities to help shape a better life for all, with our strong local Indigenous leaders at the heart of it all.

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

ATTACHMENTS:

Nil

NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT

3.3 Council Services Report

AUTHOR Ullas Raman**RECOMMENDATION****That Local Authority notes the 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.

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 Services Support

Council welcomed December with thoughtful preparation for the wet season and the festive holidays. Careful planning ensured that essential services continued seamlessly, unaffected by seasonal challenges. Despite staffing hurdles, we embraced the spirit of the season by celebrating the dedication and hard work of 2025 at the staff Christmas party. It was a joyful occasion filled with laughter, camaraderie, and a delicious feast, creating wonderful memories as we stepped into the new year together.



Figure 1. Staff gathered for the Christmas meal.



Our staff also celebrated a truly remarkable milestone — Mr. Robert Baker's 45th anniversary of dedicated service to Local Government in Milingimbi and with East Arnhem Regional Council since 2008 as Administration Manager.

This incredible achievement was honoured with heartfelt appreciation and warm congratulations, celebrating his unwavering commitment and invaluable contributions over the decades. It was a proud and joyous moment for everyone to share in his legacy of excellence.

Figure 2. Robert (Bob) Baker cutting a cake as he celebrates.

Municipal Services (MS)

Municipal Services ensured that routine rubbish collection continued without interruption, while also undertaking an extensive hard rubbish cleanup as part of pre-cyclone preparations. These proactive measures were implemented to reduce potential hazards and enhance community safety, reflecting Council's commitment to maintaining a clean and secure environment during the challenging wet season.



Figure 3. MS team members, Daniel & Neil sealing potholes before the next rain.

Municipal
Services staff

worked tirelessly to seal recently formed potholes whenever weather conditions allowed during the wet season. This swift and determined action was crucial to maintaining safe and reliable transportation routes, ensuring the community could stay connected despite the challenges posed by heavy rains and flooding.

Municipal Services staff also took the initiative to schedule the Cash for Cans program ahead of the heavy rainfall. This effort not only promoted recycling and environmental responsibility but also ensured the activity was completed before wet season conditions made it challenging.



Figure 4. Joseph, Neil and Daniel during Cash for Cans action.



Figure 5. MS team collecting hard rubbish from the road verges.

Community Night Patrol (CNP)

Community Night Patrol services have continued to operate smoothly and effectively, ensuring community safety throughout the season. Staff have also observed a positive trend with increased engagement from the community, reflecting growing trust and collaboration between

the service and the community. This strengthened partnership is a testament to the team's dedication to creating a safer and more supportive environment for everyone.

It's great that we also still have a full complement of staff, which has resulted in minimal operational downtime and has allowed us to have better coverage across the community.



Figure 6. The Community Night Patrol team is running a BBQ as part of their community engagement objectives.

Aged Care Services and Disability Services (ACDS)

Despite recent changes in both Care and Operations Coordinator roles, staff and clients have experienced a smooth and seamless transition. Service delivery has remained consistently high in quality, with clients expressing great satisfaction with the support provided.

Additionally, staff attendance has shown significant improvement in consistency, productivity, and timely completion of tasks. The introduction of one-on-one check-ins has played a key role in boosting morale and fostering enthusiasm among team members, contributing to this positive shift.

- Sreedevi Ullas, Care Coordinator, concluded her tenure on 8 December 2025.
- Dennis Miyalku, Support Worker, departed on 18 December 2025.
- Wayne Nicholas joined as Relief Care Coordinator on 19 December 2025 and is currently fulfilling the role until the recruitment process for a permanent Care Coordinator is completed.

The Client Christmas Party was held on 4 December 2025. Attendance included all clients except those who were away from the community. A buffet offering a range of nutritious meals and desserts was provided. Christmas music was played throughout the event, and activities included dancing led by a client. Feedback collected after the event rated the party highly, with an overall score of five stars.



Figure 7. ACDS Christmas celebration.

Activities have included:

- Scone Baking Competition:

On 30 December 2025, a friendly scone baking competition was held between Aged Care clients and National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) clients. In an unexpected twist, the NDIS team forgot to include baking powder in their recipe, resulting in a win for the Aged Care team. As a reward, they will have the privilege of choosing the movies to be screened at the centre throughout the next month.

- Canvas Painting Session:

Clients came together for a creative canvas painting activity, producing vibrant cultural totems and artworks. These pieces will be proudly displayed on the centre's walls, celebrating both artistic talent and cultural heritage

- Recreational Sports:

NDIS clients enjoyed an active session of hooping and basketball at the recreation hall, encouraging physical fitness, teamwork, and social engagement.

Staff will be enrolled in a Certificate III in Individual Support program. The enrolment process is currently underway, and the training will be provided through East Arnhem Regional Council (EARC).

Active Communities and Youth Services (ACYS)

The "Drop-in Space" at the Milingimbi ACYS Hall continues to be well-utilised, with excellent turnout also for afternoon activities such as volleyball, soccer, and dodgeball in the hall.

There has been ongoing participation and strong attendance from youth under 16 who also took part in the Gala Day Basketball 3x3 Championships in Galiwin'ku in December 2025.



Figure 8. Youth engaging with the cooking program.

Regular cooking programs and lunch club activities throughout the school holidays have provided the youth opportunities for skill-building, social interaction, and active recreation, contributing to the successful delivery of the program, working collaboratively with ACYS Coordinator Osiah Dhawaymirr.

ACYS worker Shevonna has been attending work consistently and has been actively contributing to the successful delivery of the program, working collaboratively with AC&YS Coordinator Osiah Dhawaymirr.



Figure 9. Youth enjoying their time in the ACYS Recreation Hall.

Waste and Environmental Update

With the Annual Leave of Council Services Manager, Ullas Raman over the Christmas period, for a much-deserved break. Municipal Services Supervisor, Damien Lumsden and the Municipal Services team have stepped up and maintained their busy schedule.

Kerbside collection is run normally over the Christmas & New Year period and the team were kept busy with maintenance at the landfill where trees had fallen due to saturated soils and needed to be removed so we could repair the fences lines. A huge thank you to the Milingimbi Municipal Services team.



Core Services

WS 2244-01 - Manage Landfill Milingimbi.

Table 1 below illustrates whether the landfill has complied with Council's Environmental Management Plan requirements for the months

Table 1. Landfill Environmental Compliance

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

Goal 2

2.2 Collaborate with Community and Stakeholder for Safer Communities.

2.2.1 Facilitate and Advocate for Community Safety, Improved Safety, Improved Health and other Services.

Pre-Cyclone Clean-Up Weeks had been moved forward across the EARC footprint in accordance with Bureau of Meteorology modelling, which indicates that the cyclone/wet season will commence earlier in the year. This saw us carry out a Pre Cyclone Clean Up week in Milingimbi between 27 – 31 October 2025.



Figure 12. The MS team collecting hard rubbish.



Figure 11. Clean Up Week Poster - Milingimbi

Goal 4

WS 4.1.5 Ensure Landfills at each Community are Licensed and Operate in Accordance with

NT Environmental Protection Agency requirements.

The Waste & Environment team are reviewing the landfill for compliance with its Northern Territory Environmental Protection Authority (NTEPA) license EP377. An annual inspection is now due after June 30, 2026.

The Waste and Communications team are working on a public awareness campaign focused on keeping fire out of our licensed landfill.

EARC Facebook post & Milingimbi Notice Board. 27/11/2025.

Let's Keep Milingimbi Safe - No Fires at the Landfill.

[East Arnhem Regional Council](#) is asking everyone to help keep the Milingimbi community safe and healthy.

The landfill at Milingimbi is licensed under the Northern Territory Environment Protection Authority, and their rules state that fires are not allowed at this site. When rubbish is burned, harmful gases can be released. It can make people sick, especially djamarrkuli (children) and elders. It can also harm animals and country.

Dangerous fires can start from hot ashes, tyres, and batteries. These items can cause serious harm if burned and must be disposed of safely.

- Dispose safely
 - Bring household batteries and mobile phones to the Council Office
 - Car batteries, tyres, and gas bottles must be disposed of in nominated bays at the landfill
- Only trained Council staff can make decisions about waste and fire safety. If you see a fire at the landfill, please report it to the Council straight away on 08 8970 1702.
Thank you for working together to look after Milingimbi and for respecting the rules that keep bukmaḱ (everyone) safe.

[#milingimbi #milingimbilandfill #wastesafety #firesafety #staysafe](#)



Figure 13. Images from the public awareness post.



Figure 14. Public Awareness poster

Animal Management Program UpdateReporting Month/Period: October – December 2025.Any Issues or Concerns that need to be Addressed at Local Authority or Council Meeting:

- Previous reports of aggressive dogs around bush camp – no further incidents reported. Suspected Lot 285. The team was unable to speak with owners of dogs at this lot; however, we have noted that the dogs at this lot have improved in their demeanour towards EARC Animal Management staff due to past efforts of providing treats etc.
- Reports of multiple dog attacks in bottom camp by a dog at Lot 38. One incident resulted in an elderly lady suffering significant wounds to her face, arm, and back. Owners of the aggressive dog did not permit euthanasia, however agreed to have her desexed. Dangerous dog signs were provided to the lot and suggestion put forward to have fencing around this Lot. There have been no further reported incidents since.
- An attempted break in at the Animal Management clinic left the door frame askew causing difficulties in closing and locking the door. A send snap solve has been lodged.

Overall Comments:

- Returning locum veterinarian Dr Cassandra covering Dr Kelso's maternity leave until December 2025
- Dr. Cassandra and Vet nurse Sarah Carrall visited Milingimbi on 6 – 10 October 2025, and 17 – 21 November 2025.
- High engagement including 630 engagements across the period.
- Upcoming visit: Dates to be confirmed, likely a nurse visit early 2026.

Service Delivery Table:

Milingimbi	October	November	December	25-26 FY	24-25 FY
Dogs Desexed	17	22	0	49	36
Cats Desexed	3	4	0	16	10
Community consultations	13	9	0	41	55
Remote/Phone consultations	0	0	0	7	27
EARC Veterinary Cabinet medication dispensed	0	0	0	4	14
Minor procedures/other surgeries	3	4	0	10	8
Parasite Treatments	250	298	0	790	899
Euthanasia	0	1	0	1	9
Private practice consultations (Mainland)	4	2	0	11	17
Total Engagements	290	340	0	929	1075

Additional Collaborations:

- Dr. Cassandra and Sarah visited Milingimbi school, conducting lessons for Transition year up to year five. Discussions on how to appropriately take care of our dogs and cats as well as games on cat breeding were conducted to explain to students why they should bring their animals in for operations.

Community Education Activities /Stakeholder Engagements:

- SERP study. Dr Maddy continues to be in discussions with Miwatj and QIMR team regarding the large scale Strongyloides research project in Gapuwiyak and Milingimbi in 2026-2027.

Staff Education/Training Activities:

- Dr Maddy is continuing the AVA Essential Veterinary Skills course to ensure she meets essential CPD criteria to maintain her NT veterinary registration and upskill as the Regional Manager.
- Saraya is continuing her Cert III in veterinary nursing, and the AMP team is supporting her by providing any opportunities to practice her veterinary nursing skills in community work.



Figure 15. Sarah with resident Jessie giving out parasite treatments at Lot 233



Figure 16. Kenisha, proud owner of Timone and Bruno who just got their parasite treatments!



Figure 17. Kimbo with persistent ringworm infection.



Figure 18. Mange is a continuous battle in community!

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

ATTACHMENTS:

Nil

NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT

3.4 Technical and Infrastructure Services Report

AUTHOR

Sonia Campbell (General Manager - Technical and Infrastructure Services)

RECOMMENDATION

That the Local Authority:

(a) Notes the Technical and Infrastructure Services report.

(b) That the LAPF members endorse the Phase 1 and 2 concept designs and approve moving forward to collate official cost estimates as per below:

- Subject to Local Authority considerations engage appropriate architectural and engineering consultants to advance designs to allow quantity survey and construction budget estimations including any electrical / hydraulic requirements.
- Lodge Expression of Interest with PWC and develop Site Service Plans for approval.
- Confirm any Development Permit requirements / exemptions under Sport and Recreation NTG DP Provisions.

SUMMARY:

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

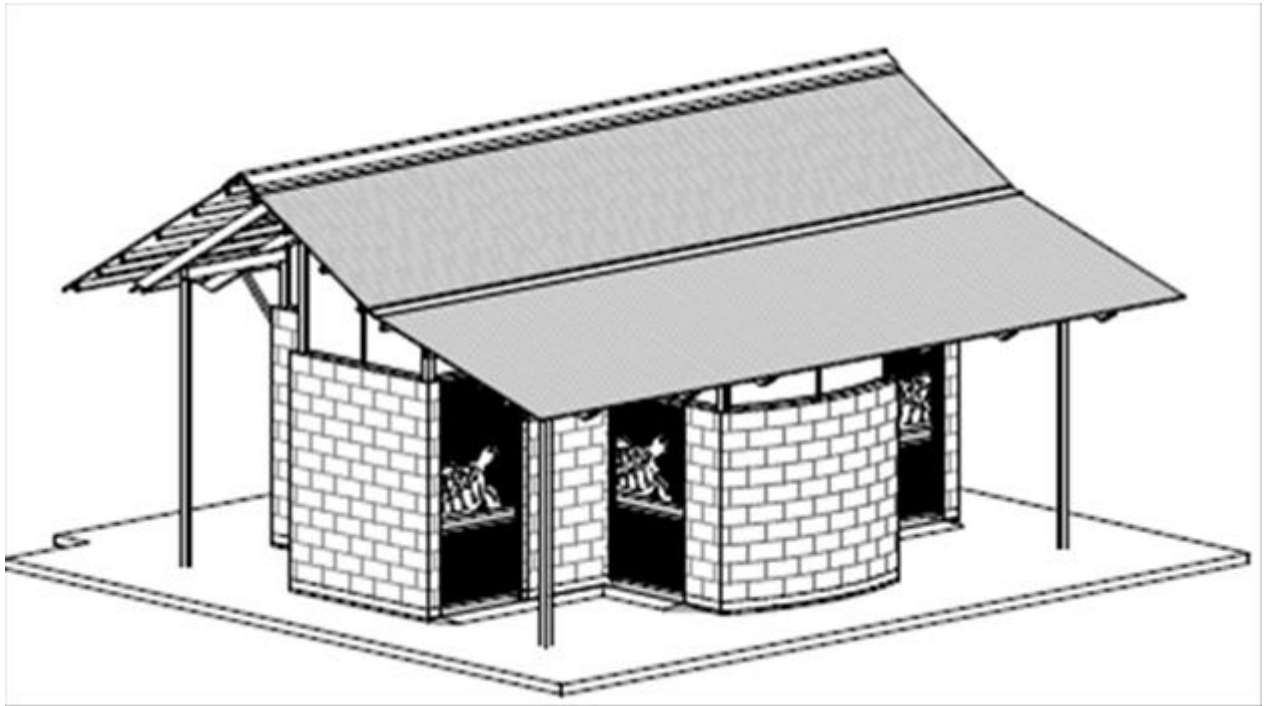
BACKGROUND:

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

REPORT STORY:Local Authority Projects:Construction of a Public Toilet – Jesse Smith Park - Lot 253

Mobilisation was held over to begin post-Christmas and New Year break to eliminate any potential risks related to public safety and security of onsite works and materials. Mobilisation date has been determined based on achievable procurement lead and delivery times.

- Mobilisation date – 27 January 2026.
- Construction crew onsite from - 3 February 2026.
- Proposed Completion date – 5 April 2026.
- Contract executed with Contractor DJC Build.
- Landowners Consent to Construct has been acquired from the NLC.
- Finalisation of construction management plans underway including work area. and exclusion zones, this information will be added to community notices.
- Concept images of building and aerial map of location below:



Milingimbi Toilet Block – Concept



Milingimbi Ceremony Area

Due to limited funding and the magnitude of the Ceremony Area project, the project is proposed to be completed in phases across financial years. Concept drawings have been received and will be reviewed over the next couple of weeks.



Milingimbi Ceremony – Anticipated Preliminary Area Location



Milingimbi Ceremony – Proposed Phase One (1) Concept



Milingimbi Ceremony – Proposed Phase Two (2) Concept (pending funding)

Next Steps:

- Undertake site feature survey plus map underground services of the newly proposed site at Lot 253 – Jessie Smith Park.
- Seek Landowners Consent to Construct from NLC.
- Undertake Geotechnical investigations.
- Local Authority review of design concepts and proposed phased construction delivery methodology.
- Subject to LA considerations engage appropriate architectural and engineering consultants to advance designs to allow quantity survey and construction budget estimations including any electrical / hydraulic requirements.
- Lodge Expression of Interest with PWC and develop Site Service Plans for approval.
- Confirm any Development Permit requirements / exemptions under Sport and Recreation NTG DP Provisions.

ATTACHMENTS:

Nil

NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT

3.5 Human Resources and Finance Report

AUTHOR Ralph Reddy (Finance Manager)**RECOMMENDATION**

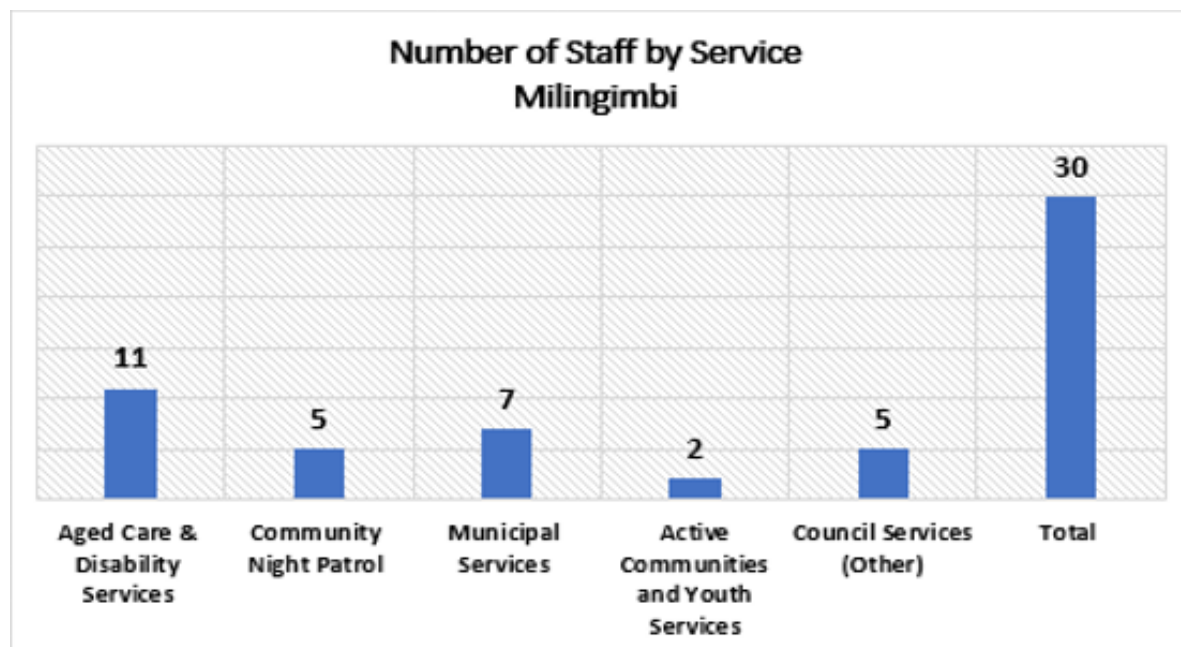
That the Local Authority receives the Human Resources and Employment information as of 31 December 2025.

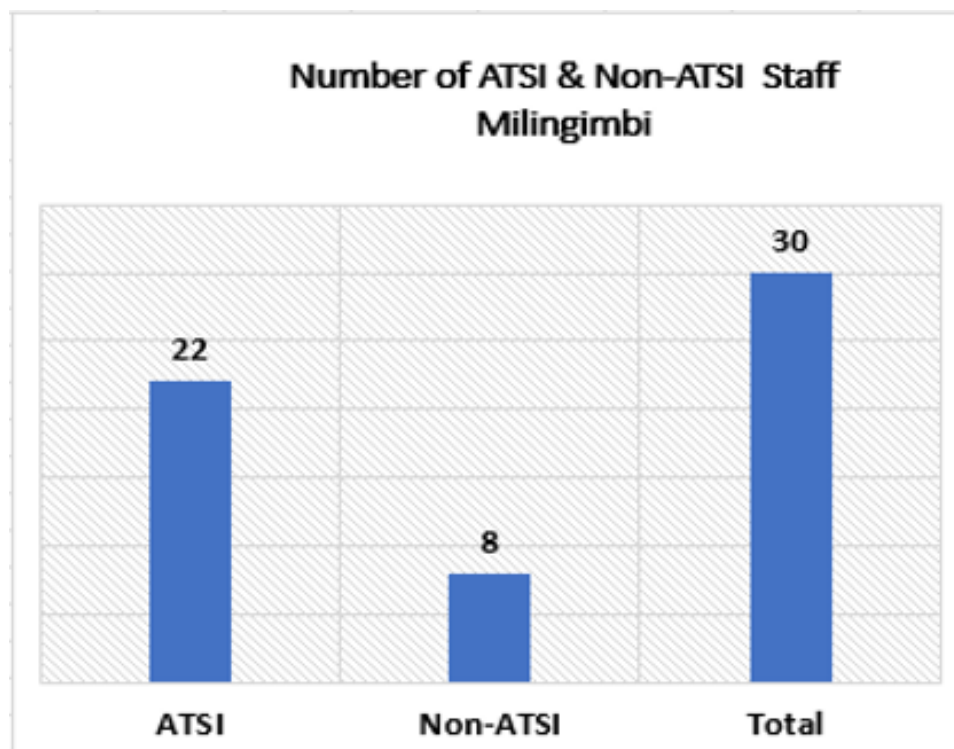
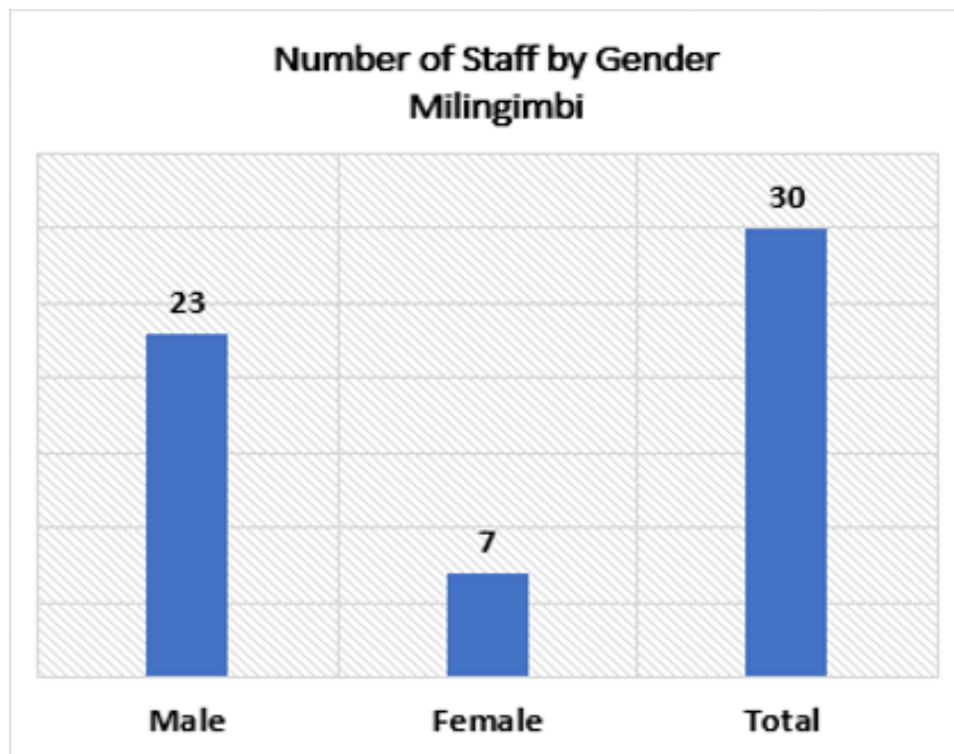
SUMMARY:

This report presents the financials plus employment statistics as of 31 December 2025 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 31 December 2025:

Job Title	Location	Employment Type	Recruitment Type	No. of Vacancies
Community Night Patrol Officer	Milingimbi	Casual	Community	1
Aged Care and Disability Services Support Worker	Milingimbi	Casual	Community	1
Aged Care and Disability Services Support Worker	Milingimbi	Casual	Community	1
Municipal Services Officer	Milingimbi	Casual	Community	1
Active Communities Worker	Milingimbi	Casual	Community	1
Active Community Worker	Milingimbi	Casual	Community	1
Active Community Worker	Milingimbi	Casual	Community	1
Library and Cultural Heritage Worker	Milingimbi	Community	Community	1
Library and Cultural Heritage Worker	Milingimbi	Community	Community	1
Active Community Worker	Milingimbi	Fixed Term	Community	1
ACDS Service Coodriantor	Milingimbi	Full Time Permanent	External	1
Youth Support Coordinator	Milingimbi	Full Time Permanent	External	1
Aged Care & Disability Services Care Coordinator	Milingimbi	Full time Permanent	External	1
Municipal Services Officer	Milingimbi	Casual	Community	1
Municipal Services Officer	Milingimbi	Casual	Community	1

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

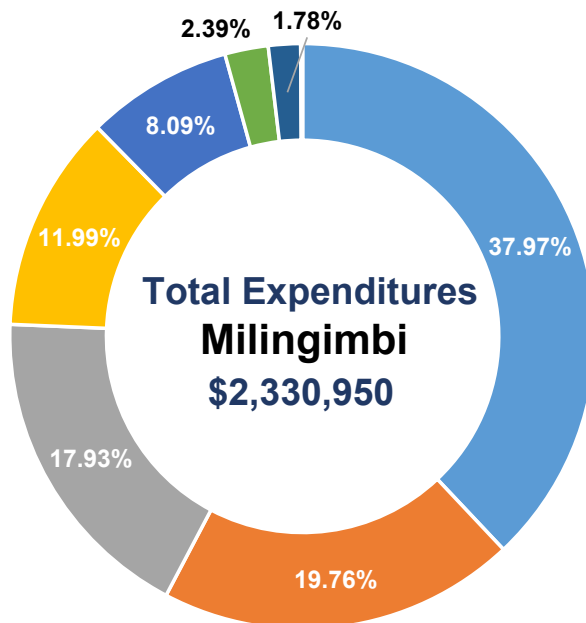
ATTACHMENTS:

1. 06. December 2025 Milingimbi LAPF Funds Left [3.5.1 - 1 page]
2. 06. December 2025 Milingimbi Chart LA Report [3.5.2 - 1 page]

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

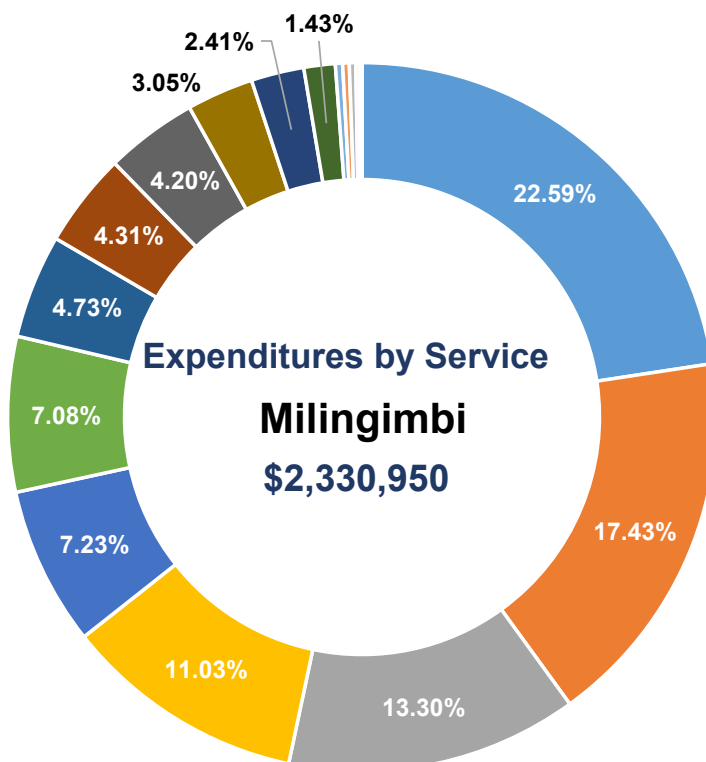
As at 31st December 2025

	Actual YTD	Commitments	Actuals + Commitments	Budget Revision FY26	Progress % (Actuals vs Budget)
CARRIED FORWARD LAPF FROM PRIOR YEAR	723,488	-	723,488	723,488	
LAPF RECEIVED THIS FINANCIAL YEAR	-	-	-	178,500	
TOTAL AVAILABLE LAPF THIS FINANCIAL YEAR	723,488	-	723,488	901,988	
LESS PROJECTS					
299515 - LAPF - Milingimbi - Public toilets near the foreshore	-	(576,626)	(576,626)	(581,276)	0%
310915 - LAPF - Milingimbi Ceremony Area	-	(9,125)	(9,125)	(269,125)	0%
293415 - LAPF - Milingimbi Instal of Footpaths	(86,120)	-	(86,120)	(193,899)	44%
TOTAL PROJECTS	(86,120)	(585,751)	(671,871)	(1,044,300)	8%
ESTIMATED LAPF - LEFT (OVERSPEND)/UNDERSPEND			51,616	(142,313)	



where money was spent?

- Employee Costs \$884,981
- Fleet & Buildings \$460,577
- Materials and Contracts \$417,847
- General \$279,469
- Core Recovery \$188,471
- Insurance & Finance \$55,755
- IT Charges \$41,381
- Allocations \$2,470



- 141 - Aged Care Services \$526,538
- 169 - Municipal Services \$406,335
- 107 - Council Services \$309,963
- 129 - Waste and Environmental Services \$257,186
- 147 - Community Patrol and SUS Services \$168,622
- 152 - Active Communities \$165,081
- 119 - Local Road Upgrade and Construction \$110,279
- 122 - Building and Infrastructure Services \$100,430
- 171 - Disability Services \$97,923
- 118 - Local Road Maintenance & Traffic Management \$71,117
- 170 - Youth Services \$56,117
- 108 - Veterinary and Animal Control Services \$33,292
- 146 - Community Media \$7,664
- 116 - Lighting for Public Safety \$7,003
- 115 - Library Services \$6,893
- 157 - Local Commercial Opportunities \$3,891
- 100 - Local Authorities Boards \$1,500
- 156 - Community Events \$1,048
- 139 - Visitor Accommodation \$66

4 Confidential Reports

5 General Business and Date of Next Meeting

GENERAL BUSINESS:

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

20 March 2025

6 Meeting Close