



OPEN AGENDA for the Yirrkala Local Authority 29 October 2025

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

Djambarrpuynu

Dhuwandja dhäwu dhipunur EARC-nur bukmakku yolnuw mala nhämunha limurr ga nhina wänakurr malanuwurr buku-liwmaram:

- limurr dhu räl-manapanmirr ganydjarrwu limurrungalanaw rur'maranharaw,
- ga dharray walŋaw,
- ga ŋayaŋu-dapmaranhamirr bukmak bala-räli'yunmirr.

Dhanu

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

- ŋalma ŋarru räal-manapanmi ganydjarrwu nakanhaminyarawu ŋalmalinguwaywuru,
- ga dharray walnawu,
- ga nayanu-dapthumanmi bukmak bala-räli'yunmi.

Gumati

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

- njlimurru yurru räl-manapanmirri ganydjarrwu ganga'thinyarawu njlimurrungalanawu,
- ga dharray walnawu,
- ga nayanu-dapthunmaranhamirri bukmak bala-lili'yunmirri.

Marranu

Dhuwanydji dhäwu barranga'yun EARC-nur bukmakku yolnuw yukurr buku-liw'maram wäna mittji malanynha:

- Dalimurr wurruku räl-manapanmirr djäk ganydjarrwu nalimurrungalanaw
- Gangathinyamaranharaw wondanarrgunharaw,
- Ga djäga walnaw,
- Ga nayanu-dapmaranhamirr nalimurr 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 Yirrkala Local Authority will be held at the Yirrkala Council Office offices on Wednesday 29 October 2025 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

List of Members:

- Graham Mungurrapin Maymuru
- Lirrpiya Mununggurr
- Djapirri Mununggirritj
- Dipilinga Marika
- Adrian Gurruwiwi
- James Dhurrkay
- Fabian Marika
- Cr. Marrpalawuy Marika
- Cr. Priscilla Yunupingu

Dial-in Details:

Microsoft Teams

Join the meeting now

Meeting ID: 419 689 771 643 2

Passcode: 2ia6rT7v

Dial in by phone

+61 2 8318 0005,,510971821# Australia, Sydney

Find a local number

Phone conference ID: 510 971 821#

Schedule 1 Code of conduct

1 Honesty and integrity

A member must act honestly and with integrity in performing official functions.

2 Care and diligence

A member must act with reasonable care and diligence in performing official functions.

3 Courtesy

A member must act with courtesy towards other members, council staff, electors and members of the public.

4 Prohibition on bullying

A member must not bully another person in the course of performing official functions.

5 Conduct towards council staff

A member must not direct, reprimand, or interfere in the management of council staff.

6 Respect for cultural diversity and culture

- 6.1 A member must respect cultural diversity and must not therefore discriminate against others, or the opinions of others, on the ground of their cultural background.
- 6.2 A member must act with respect for cultural beliefs and practices in relation to other members, council staff, electors and members of the public.

7 Conflict of interest

- 7.1 A member must avoid any conflict of interest, whether actual or perceived, when undertaking official functions and responsibilities.
- 7.2 If a conflict of interest exists, the member must comply with any statutory obligations of disclosure.

8 Respect for confidences

- 8.1 A member must respect the confidentiality of information obtained in confidence in the member's official capacity.
- 8.2 A member must not make improper use of confidential information obtained in an official capacity to gain a private benefit or to cause harm to another.

9 Gifts

- 9.1 A member must not solicit, encourage or accept gifts or private benefits from any person who might have an interest in obtaining a benefit from the council.
- 9.2 A member must not accept a gift from a person that is given in relation to the person's interest in obtaining a benefit from the council.

10 Accountability

A member must be prepared at all times to account for the member's performance as a member and the member's use of council resources.

11 Interests of municipality, region or shire to be paramount

- 11.1 A member must act in what the member genuinely believes to be the best interests of the municipality, region or shire.
- 11.2 In particular, a member must seek to ensure that the member's decisions and actions are based on an honest, reasonable and properly informed judgment about what best advances the best interests of the municipality, region or shire.

12 Training

A member must undertake relevant training in good faith.

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1 Meeting Establishment

YOW NGILIMURR BUKU'LUNGTHUN DHIYAK MEETINGU GA MALA DJARRYUN ROM

The Chair may wish to open the meeting with a prayer.

MEETING ESTABLISHMENT

1.3 Attendance

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Local Authority:

- (a) Notes the absence of <>
- (b) Notes the apology received from <>
- (c) Notes <> are absent with permission of the Local Authority.
- (d) Determines <> are absent without permission of the Local Authority under Section 47(1) (0) of the Act.

SUMMARY:

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

ATTACHMENTS:

Nii

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 28 May 2025.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Yirrkala LA Meeting 28052025 Minutes [1.5.1 - 10 pages]





OPEN MINUTES for the Yirrkala Local Authority 28 May 2025

-1 of 10-

28 MAY 2025

1 Meeting Establishment

YOW NGILIMURR BUKU'LUNGTHUN DHIYAK MEETINGU GA MALA DJARRYUN ROM

MEMBERS:

In the Chair Graham Mungurrapin Maymuru, Cr. Banambi Wunungmurra, Cr Priscilla Yunupingu (joined at 12.08pm) - Local Authority Members Lirrpiya Mununggurr, Adrian Gurruwiwi and James Durrkay.

COUNCIL OFFICERS

Signe Balodis – Director - Council Services. Shannon Cervini - Regional Manager Council Services

Minute Taker - Wendy Miller, Executive Assistant to the CEO.

Chair opened the meeting at 11.35AM and welcomed all members and guests with prayer.

MEETING ESTABLISHMENT

1.3 Attendance

SUMMARY:

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

YIR 2025/22 RESOLVED (Cr. Banambi Wunungmurra/Graham Mungurrapin Maymuru)

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Local Authority:

- (a) Notes the absence of Cr Marrpalawuy Marika, Djapirri Mununggirritj, Diplinga Marika and Fabian Marika.
- (b) Notes the apologies received from Cr Marrpalawuy Marika, Diplinga Marika and Diapirri Mununggirriti.
- (c) Notes Cr Marrpalawuy Marika Diplinga Marika and Djapirri Mununggirritj. are absent with permission of the Local Authority.
- (d) Determines Fabian Marika is absent without permission of the Local Authority under Section 47(1) (0) of the Act.

28 MAY 2025

MEETING ESTABLISHMENT

1.4 Conflict of Interest

SUMMARY:

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

YIR 2025/23 RESOLVED (Graham Mungurrapin Maymuru/Lirrpiya Mununggurr)

RECOMMENDATION:

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

MEETING ESTABLISHMENT

1.5 Previous Local Authority Minutes

YIR 2025/24 RESOLVED (Cr. Banambi Wunungmurra/James Dhurrkay)

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Local Authority:

- (a) Approves the minutes of the previous provisional meeting held on 27 March 2025.
- (b) Unable to ratify the minutes of the quorum meeting of 3 February (deferred to 10 February 2025) due to today's meeting being Provisional.

2 Looking Forward - Discussions and Decisions

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

LOOKING FORWARD - DISCUSSIONS AND DECISIONS

2.1 Guest Speaker - Northern Territory Police

SUMMARY:

The Northern Territory Police will provide a current update on the community to the Local Authority members.

YIR 2025/28 RESOLVED (Graham Mungurrapin Maymuru/Adrian Gurruwiwi)

28 MAY 2025

RECOMMENDATION:

The Local Authority thanks Superintendent Jody Nobbs from the Northern Territory Police for his update.

In particular the Superintendent is seeking assistance with information on youth crime and offenders in the area, by providing statements to assist police in their investigations. Superintenant Nobbs stated that cctv may assist, noting there is currently planning in place for community cctv.

Volatile Substance Abuse (VSA) is also an issue in community and could be associated with the break ins. He stated that the justice system including treatment and programs may assist.

An update on kava - Superintendant Nobbs continues to push the Government and NT Government has just approved funding for support based consultation with community, which will start in next financial year.

Closure of roads from the rains have been majorly damaged, but the plan is to open in two weeks. Members from homelands are stuck in community and it is creating unrest. Police are assisting where required.

Cr Priscilla advised a meeting at the childcare centre this afternoon and has invited Local Authority members to attend.

28 MAY 2025

LOOKING FORWARD - DISCUSSIONS AND DECISIONS

2.2 Presentation - NT Electoral Commission

SUMMARY:

The Northern Territory Electoral Commission will provide a current update on the upcoming elections to the Local Authority members.

YIR 2025/25 RESOLVED (Graham Mungurrapin Maymuru/James Dhurrkay)

That Local Authority

- (a) Thanks the Regional Manager Council Services for his presentation on behalf of the Northern Territory Electoral Commission.
- (b) Recommends to the Northern Territory Electoral Commission that the upcoming Local Government Election be held at the community recreation hall to maximise participation.

Priscilla Yunupingu joined the meeting at 12.08pm. The meeting became at Quorum Meeting at this time.

3 Noting Progress and Achievement

YOW GALKI MEETING DJA DHAWARYUNA YURRU NGILIMURR RONGIYI GA NHAMA NGUNIYI

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

NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT

3.1 Local Authority Action Items

SUMMARY:

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

YIR 2025/26 RESOLVED (Graham Mungurrapin Maymuru/Lirrpiya Mununggurr)

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Local Authority

- (a) 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.
- (b) Endorses the new cemetery area as shown in Yirrkala Municipal map dated 12012015.

28 MAY 2025

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.

YIR 2025/31 RESOLVED (Lirrpiya Mununggurr/Cr. Banambi Wunungmurra)

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Local Authority notes the CEO Report.

28 MAY 2025

NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT

3.3 Council Services Manager Report

SUMMARY:

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

YIR 2025/29 RESOLVED (Cr. Banambi Wunungmurra/James Dhurrkay)

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Local Authority notes the Council Services report.

28 MAY 2025

NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT

3.4 Technical and Infrastructure Service Report

SUMMARY:

This report is tabled for the Local Authority to provide program updates within the Technical and Infrastructure directorate. In addition to progress updates associated with capital projects and initiatives associated with the 2024-2025 Annual Plan.

YIR 2025/27 RESOLVED (Lirrpiya Mununggurr/James Dhurrkay)

RECOMMENDATION:

That Local Authority notes the Technical and Infrastructure Services Report.

28 MAY 2025

NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT

3.5 Human Resources and Finance Report

SUMMARY

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

YIR 2025/30 RESOLVED (Adrian Gurruwiwi/Cr. Priscilla Yunupingu)

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

28 MAY 2025

4 Confidential Reports

There were no confidential reports presented this round.

5 Date of Next Meeting

Date of next meeting to be confirmed.

GENERAL BUSINESS

There was no General Business discussed at today's meeting.

6 Meeting Close

The meeting closed at 2.40pm

This page and the preceding pages are the minutes of the Local Authority Ordinary Meeting held on 28 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

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:

Local Authority Yirrkala [3.1.1 - 6 pages]

ACTION ITEM	ACTIONS	STATUS					
PA System	That the Local Authority:	12.05.2021 – Ongoing.					
	Requests the General Manager						
	Technical and Infrastructure Services to	25.11.2021 – Ongoing. Gained permission from Rirratjingu to place speaker on their					
	have discussions with Rirratjingu on options to improve the public	office building. Quotation being sourced.					
	announcement system coverage in	24.03.2022 – Permission has been granted, however obtaining trades to complete					
	Yirrkala.	work.					
		26.05.2022 – Ongoing					
		02.12.2022 – New ICT is exploring options for installation with expectations of					
		installation by Jan 2023.					
		03.2.23 – PA to be mounted on one of the new towers on the oval.					
		02.06.23 – Update needs to be obtained from Director Technical & Infrastructure					
		services.					
		27.07.23 – Project is underway.					
		26.10.23 - tied in with lighting replacement which will occur next week with pa system to be put on one of the towers.					
		05.02.24 Ongoing					
		08.04.24 – Ongoing.					
		24.04.24 – More work to be done electrically.					
		25.06.24 – No update.					
		25.07.24 – No update – meeting was cancelled with Rirratingu, to be rescheduled.					
		26.09.24 – Members to ask Rirratingu to attend next meeting.					
		28.11.24 – Ensure Rirratingu is invited to next Local Authority meeting for discussions.					
		Manager of Building and Infrastructure team to meet with Rirratingu and gain a					
		solution and provide follow up.					
		11.12.24 – Ongoing					
		10.02.25 – Ongoing – engage with talks to commence meeting (General Manager					
		Technical and Infrastructure Services)					

ACTION ITEM	ACTIONS	STATUS						
		27.03.25 – Have engaged with IT and coming up with a conclusion on how to get the PA						
		system working throughout the community.						
		23.04.25 – Ongoing						
		28.05.25 – Rirratingu as advised they would like to have a joint PA system with EARC.						
		Members have asked that this be a priority – General Manager Technical and						
		Infrastructure Services will work with Regional Manager Council Services and Council						
		Services Manager to ensure this is progressed as a matter of priority.						
		25.06.25 – To organise a meeting.						
Children's Playground \$60,000		18.01.2021 – application lodged with the NLC for approval to construct – awaiting consultative forum.						
		12.05.2021 – Ongoing						
		25.11.2021 – Was not approved. Will be discussed again in six months' time.						
		24.03.2021 – purchasing the kit – to be installed undercover – waiting on approval.						
		26.05.2022 – Waiting on approval.						
		22.06.2022 – Unit has been purchased – will await consultation on location.						
		02.12.2022 – Consultation timeframes have not been provided by the NLC.						
		03.02.23 – waiting on consultation and approvals.						
		02.06.23 – waiting on consultation and approvals.						
		27.07.23 – has been raised with Chief Minister.						
		29.08.23 – ongoing waiting on outcomes.						
		26.10.23 – been purchased waiting on consultations.						
		05.02.24 – still waiting on approvals.						
		08.04.24 – Awaiting for approval from NLC.						

ACTION ITEM	ACTIONS	STATUS
		24.04.24 – Waiting on Land Trust
		25.06.24 – As above
		27.07.24 – Still waiting on NLC approval for land usage.
		26.09.24 – Update to be provided by Director Technical and Infrastructure Services waiting on NLC. A letter to be compiled to NLC to ask when this will be resolved.
		31.10.24 – Council to raise its dissatisfaction in the lack of any progress in gaining approval from NLC regarding the approval use of land for children's playground and waste transfer station for Yirrkala.
		28.11.24 – Local Authority to invite the NLC East Arnhem Board Members Djawa, Yanawul and Craig Bonney to the next Local Authority meeting to discuss approval of the playground and waste transfer station for Yirrkala.
		11.12.24 – Ongoing as above.
		10.02.25 – Investigate and follow up with approval status. General Manager Technical and Infrastructure Services to speak with NLC and write a letter to invite them to the next meeting.
		27.03.25 – Ongoing as above.
		23.04.25 – No change.
		28.05.25 – An email was sent to NLC with no response. General Manager Technical and Infrastructure Services will attend the NLC office in person to progress this matter in a face to face discussion to gain traction.
		25.06.25 – Report findings has been delivered and waiting for the necessary processes to go through. Technical and Infrastructure team to organise meeting with Craig Bonney as there are few projects that EARC has been waiting on .
Alter current application for community toilet block and Ceremony area to change Location	28.05.25 – Action Item title changed to include Ceremony Area.	03.02.23 – Agreed location no problem. To potentially include a shower. Shane to update this item.

ACTION ITEM	ACTIONS	STATUS
from shady beach to ceremony		02.06.23 – WIP
ground.		26.10.23 – change to change rooms and toilet block at ceremony area. We have received funding for this.
		22.02.24 – LAPF Project. Ongoing.
		08.04.24 – Awaiting NLC approval.
		24.04.24 – waiting on Land Trust approval
		25.06.24 – As above.
		27.07.24 – Still waiting on NLC approval. Two ceremony areas in Yirrkala. Members request one toilet block at each. Director Technical & Infrastructure Services to write an additional letter to follow up for the members. Also to investigate resources for cleaning the toilet and to have it open on Saturdays.
		27.09.24 – As above
		26.09.24 – Ongoing Director Technical and Infrastructure Services – toilets for Webb way and recreation area – a letter be written to the NLC from LA requesting a timeline for approval.
		28.11.24 - Ongoing Manager Technical and Infrastructure Services – toilets for Webb way ceremony ground and recreation area – a letter be written to the NLC from LA requesting a timeline for approval. – Local Authority to invite the NLC East Arnhem Board Members Djawa Yunupingu , Yananymul Mununggurr and Craig Bonney to the next Local Authority meeting to discuss approval of the toilets for Webb Way ceremony ground and recreation area for Yirrkala. Building and Infrastructure Manager to consult and liaise with community members to develop a list of needs and map of locations.
		11.12.24 – Writing a letter to the NLC requesting a timeline for approval – still in progress.
		10.02.25 – Compile info to write letter for support. General Manager Technical and Infrastructure to engage with Rirratingu.

ACTION ITEM	ACTIONS	STATUS
		27.03.25 – Have engaged with Rirratingu in regards to ceremony area and toilet block project. 23.04.25 – Plans have been drawn up and are currently in costing. 28.05.25 – Rirratingu to be asked to join next Local Authority meeting to discuss – General Manager Technical and Infrastructure Services to pass on the invitation. 25.06.25- May need to seek new funding as previous funding was terminated.
New Cemetery	General manager to look into location for new cemetery.	23.04.25 – Ongoing there are three cemeteries in Yirrkala two of which Council have the lease on. General Manager Technical and Infrastructure Services and Director Council Services will review after walk around and revise. 28.05.25 – The members have endorsed the new cemetery area as show in the Yirrkala Municipal map dated 12012015. 25.06.25 – No further updates as yet.
<u>Yirrkala Future Actions/</u> <u>Advocacy:</u>		

ACTION ITEM	ACTIONS	STATUS
Marine Navigation Lights at Yirrkala Ramp		1.06.2020 – The Council does not have jurisdiction for the boat ramp, and in turn, any marine navigation lights for it. The Local Authority agreed for the Council to advocate for this in the future, as proposed by the Director of Technical & Infrastructure Services and the CEO of Council. 18.01.2021 – Issue for Advocacy ongoing.

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:

It is with great pleasure to report today to our newly elected Council for the next four year Council term.

I believe the return of ten of our Councillors who stood for election, demonstrates clear satisfaction from the people of the six Yolngu communities and many homelands of your strong representation of them.

The election of two new Councillors, following the retirement of former Presidents Banambi Wunungumurra and Kaye Thurlow, also represents a significant 'passing of the batton' of their long and tireless service to the people, from the very creation of the East Arnhem 'Shire' Regional Council over 17 years ago in July 2008.

New Councillor Murphy Yunupingu has been an active member of the Gunyangara Local Authority for many years, and strong Gumatj leader working directly to establish and develop the Dhupuma-Barker College, working in collaboration with Flinders University and Miwatj Health, and other initiatives to support our Yolngu youth.

New Councillor Cyril Bukulatjpi has been endorsed by Council over its last term ranging from hosting former Chief Minister Natasha Fyles in his home community of Galiwin'ku, chairing a meeting of the Secretaries and CEOs of 15 of the nation's Federal Agencies, to join significant delegations and taking an active role in discussions with the CEO of the National Indigenous Australians Agency, Federal Minister Malarndirri McCarthy, the Governor-General and Prime Minister.

Our new Councillors join an experienced and dedicated Council, with clear commitment and action to support and represent the people of your community, homelands across your cultural wards and whole Yolngu region.

I look forward to working to support our elected Council leaders over the coming years, to address significant issues and opportunities to improve the lives of the Yolngu people, from

the jamikuli (children) to elders – in Council's engagement and advocacy with the other two levels of Government.

ATTACHMENTS:

Nil

NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT

3.3 Council Services Report

AUTHOR

Shannon Cervini (Council Services Regional 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

Over the past couple of months East Arnhem Regional Council (EARC) in Yirrkala has continued to strengthen existing relationships with stakeholders and support local events and celebrations across the region.

We are pleased to welcome back Labh Bhullar as Administration Manager at the Yirrkala Council office, Labh rejoined us in August 2025. She previously worked with EARC for close to four years from September 2020 – May 2024.

Following Kate Thompson's departure from the Administration Manager role, Valentina Weber has been assisting by covering the Yirrkala office to ensure its continued operation. We sincerely thank Valentina for her support and dedication. We are also glad to welcome back our Customer Service Officer, Xena Gayakamangu, from maternity leave. With her return, we have resumed our regular office hours of 8am to 4pm.

Additionally, we're excited to share that our Yirrkala Post Office has received a new scanner for parcel processing. This will make it easier for community to receive immediate notifications when their parcels arrive at the Yirrkala Council Office.

The positions of Community Media Officer and Community Liaison Officer remain vacant, and we are actively seeking suitable candidates.

Municipal Services (MS)



Municipal Services team working around the oval.

Our Municipal Services team has been working hard around the community working on the collection of hard rubbish and recycling projects. The Municipal Services team have contributed to the Healthy Wanga Community Cleanup project held on 22 - 26 September 2025 by collecting cans/bottles around the community for the Container Deposit Scheme (CDS) program that was facilitated by EARC Waste Services and Enviro Bank.

Municipal Services Supervisor Brad Lena has now concluded his relief Council Services Manager role in Ramingining, and it is great to have him back in Yirrkala. Brad has made it his priority to seek additional people to come and join the Yirrkala Municipal Services team.

We are pleased to welcome Alfred Gondarra and Kingsley Dhamarrandji to our Municipal team as Municipal Services Officers.

One of the major projects that Brad and the team have been working on is digging out the sprinklers at the oval that have been buried under the grass and the replacement of the damaged irrigation components. With the local football season now over, it's great to see the oval in such great shape. Brad and his team have received many positive comments on the oval and it's great to see the community continuing to use the space.

The Municipal Services and Council Services support team has also provided opportunities for collaboration and support to many organisations Mowing at the Yirrkala oval. both within Yirrkala and surrounding areas by



providing our civic equipment in-kind for them to use at their events. Items include the BBQ trailer, LED Screen, gazebos, folding tables, benches, chairs and additional bins.

Community Night Patrol (CNP)

Community Night Patrol continues to engage with stakeholders and support agencies to encourage participation in community activities and initiatives. Due to the demanding schedules of various agencies and the challenges associated with the services late-hour operations, establishing collaborations with some service providers can be difficult. Recently, Community Night Patrol and the Sobering Up Shelter met with police to discuss ways to improve collaboration and coordination between our services.

Community Night Patrol collaborates continuously with partner agencies to support youth engagement initiatives. Community Night Patrol has been attending school holiday programs such as movie nights and basketball games.

It is encouraging to note that all three Community Night Patrol vehicles are now consistently operational, indicating increased participation from our Indigenous team members during their shifts. Additionally, there has been a positive development in children's attitudes toward night patrols, as they become more confident in engaging with patrol personnel. Engagement with youth through movie nights and sporting events has also increased.

Community Night Patrol is currently staffed with 75% Indigenous staff employed as Community Night Patrol Officers across Yirrkala community. The remaining non-Indigenous staff are designated to cover and ensure that patrols continue to operate during ceremonies.

We are looking into future training opportunities in the following areas. First Aid, Dual Diagnosis training to identify mental health and drug related issues and Personal Protection Strategies and de-scalation tactics.

Aged Care Services and Disability Services (AC&DS)

Our Aged Care team and clients continue to engage in fun activities, both in the centre and out in community.

Our National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) participants and support team member, Alex have been busy with activities from baking and crafts in the centre to cruise drives to the beach or picnics. Supporting Participants in their social aspects in life is just as important as anything else.

We continue to work with Flinders University's Physio and OT students; the group together have been busy collecting Larrakitj, exercising every Tuesday mornings, collecting weaving materials and occasionally fishing/bush trips.

We have been lucky to have senior students from Yirrkala Community School come and complete their work experience at the centre. Clients and participants were happy to see young people showing their interests in Aged Care and Disability.



Aged Care - Outdoor Activities.



Aged Care - Indoor Activities.

We farewelled our Cook/Support Worker Brenda Zappa. Brenda has played a vital part of cooking up good food in the kitchen, organising Christmas parties for clients, preparing meals for special occasions to jumping on the floor whenever help is needed. We wish Brenda all the best in her next journey and thank Brenda for her support in her three years with Yirrkala AC&DS team.

A great addition to the team is our new Support Worker, Alexander Ellenden. Alex graduated high school last year and has jumped straight into the workforce with enthusiasm and desire to learn more. Alex is excited to undergo necessary training and courses to gain more skills and knowledge in the sector. We look forward in working alongside Alex for the future.

We look forward to what the last few months of 2025 will bring. We thank our AC&DS Management team and the Council for continuous support.



Cooking at the Yirrkala Aged Care centre.

Child Care Services

Throughout this reporting period, our programming has focused on building children's independence and autonomy through consistent routines, self-help tasks, and hands-on learning. We have enhanced our indoor and outdoor learning environments to encourage exploration, problem-solving, and collaboration. Activities have included:

- Nature play experiences, such as collecting leaves and creating natural art.
- Cooking and food-preparation activities, supporting fine motor skills and healthy eating discussions.
- Cultural storytelling sessions, integrating traditional stories and songs.
- Art and sensory play, promoting creativity and self-expression



Children enjoying each other's company.

Our team has been actively engaging children meaningful community and experiences. We attended the Cultural Day at Yirrkala School, where children enjoyed exploring traditional activities, stories, and art, deepening their understanding of Yolnu culture. We have an excursion to Families are First Teachers (FaFT) scheduled for Monday 20 October 2025. providing children opportunities participate to new environments and engage in collaborative play. We are also planning upcoming joint community events with FaFT to foster family connections and strengthen our ties within the community.

We are thrilled to share some wonderful achievements within Child Care team this quarter. Hellen Wayambo has successfully completed her Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care and has stepped into the role of Team Leader. Hellen's commitment to her professional development and leadership has been an inspiration to the team.

We also welcomed Paige Harold as our new Project Officer. Paige has already demonstrated great enthusiasm and initiative in her new role. She has recently commenced her Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care, showing strong dedication to her professional growth and to the children and families we support.

Training and professional development have remained a strong focus for our team. All staff have refreshed their food handling courses to maintain compliance and best practice in food safety. Hellen and Roisin attended the CCCFR Conference in Darwin, which provided valuable Playtime at Yirrkala Child Care Centre. opportunities to network, share knowledge, and



gain insights into sector trends. Roisin has been approved to complete Food Safety Supervisor training. All staff are booked in to complete Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention / Mandatory Reporting training this month. Red Nose Safe Sleep training is also scheduled to ensure our team continues to uphold the highest standards of safety in rest environments.

Active Communities and Youth Services (AC&YS)

Gapuwiyak Active Communities Coordinator Sikeli Qounadovu facilitated Yirrkala AC&YS activities throughout September while Yirrkala Active Communities Coordinator Rob Kestle

was on annual leave.

wet weather approaching, outdoor multipurpose courts in Yirrkala will only have limited use as there is no roof for shade or wet weather use. Yirrkala Drop-in Centre is currently undergoing renovations. The space is still not accessible to young people. It is anticipated that the space will reopen in November 2025 which will assist with wet weather activities/programming. The space itself is looking great, and we cannot wait to be able to utilise it again.



On the back of the delivery of our *Under 15 Girls – AFLX Regional Championships, Yirrkala* successful September School Holiday

program, weekly activities include, Basketball Nights rotating in Yirrkala with participation from Dawurr boarding school, Volleyball, Skateboarding, Movie Nights and BBQ's.

Yirrkala hosted 4th Annual AFL X Under 15 Girls Regional Championships on Saturday 6 September 2025. This event saw participants from across the region fly into the community to play for desired title of being declared champions. Also, our Men's and Women's basketball teams participated in 4th annual Eastern Cup Basketball Championships in Galiwin'ku held over two days from 24 - 25 September 2025.

Next 9 Sports Academy facilitated successful Basketball Workshops in Yirrkala on 29 September -3 October 2025.



Yirrkala Women's Team - 4th Annual Eastern Cup Basketball Championships in Galiwin'ku



Next 9 Sports Academy in Yirrkala

In upcoming events we will participate in the 5th Annual AFL X Under 15 Boys Regional Championships in Gapuwiyak on 25 October 2025. There will also be a Community Gala Day held in Gapuwiyak on 24 November 2025.

Waste and Environmental Update



Hamish Brace (EARC Regional Manager – Waste & Environment

Hamish Brace has recently joined as the Regional Manager - Waste & Environment (RWEM). Hamish brings over 20 years of hands-on experience in environmental management, sustainable agriculture, and community engagement, working across local government, Aboriginal organisations, and private enterprise. Hamish has previously led operations and compliance at Coastal Feeds, coordinated large-scale conservation and traditional fire projects in the Kimberley, and managed composting, waste reduction, and carbon farming programs.

Hamish is known for his strategic program delivery, building strong relationships, securing funding, and leading diverse teams. He is passionate about sustainability and making a positive impact—skills and energy that will be a great addition to East Arnhem Regional Council and will help us to continue to achieve great outcomes in the Waste and Environment space.

Health Wanga (Homes) Community Clean Up Event

East Arnhem Regional Council assisted with the Healthy Wanga (Homes) Community Clean Up event held in Yirrkala from 22 – 26 September 2025. This was a good chance for Hamish to meet other operators within the East Arnhem Land waste community.

There was high community engagement and 27 m³ of mixed hard waste was removed from the community throughout the week and additional waste was picked up in the following weeks. A total volume of over 50m³ of hard waste has been removed from Yirrkala in September and October.



The event also included a BBQ Lunch on the Wednesday of the event that was also attended by some of our team from the Nhulunbuy Support Office.



Signe Balodis (EARC Director – Council Services), Dale Keehne (ERAC CEO), Filimon Tuipulotu (EARC Municipal Services Officer), Adam Johnson (EARC Relief Council Services Manager), Hamish Brace (EARC Regional Manager – Waste & Environment) & a representative FROM Miwati Health supporting the Healthy Home Community Clean Up Week in Yirrkala.



Hamish Barce (EARC Regional Manager – Waste & Environment) and representatives of the Northern Territory Environmental Protection Authority (NTEPA).

Training

The Waste & Environment team is commencing drone certificate training at the end of October. This training allows us to present real time mapping of the landfill and environmental issues. Creating increased level reporting and planning ability. Camera-based drone imagery is a vital tool in monitoring landfills in real time. Monitoring both issues and opportunities.

Animal Management Program

Reporting month/period: July to September 2025
Any issues or concerns that need to be addressed at LA or council meeting: Nil

Overall comments:

- Veterinarian Dr Maddy visit 16 July, and veterinarian Dr Cassandra visit 12 August, and Dr Cassandra visited with Melbourne university veterinary students on the 18 - 19 August, and 17 - 19 September with nurse Sarah.
- Returning locum veterinarian Dr Cassandra will be covering Dr Kelso's maternity leave until December.
- High engagement during the reporting period with a total 252 parasite treatments administered.
- Good regular community engagement with members of the community reaching out when animals require veterinary attention or parasite treatments with 26 community consults for the reporting period.
- Large percentage of the dog and cat population already desexed, population numbers appear stable.

Service Delivery Table:

										TOTAL	TOTAL
YIRRKALA	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	2025	2024
Dogs Desexed	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	4	39
Cats Desexed	0	0	0	12	0	1	0	2	4	19	12
Community										70	
consultations	6	13	7	3	2	13	7	10	9		87
Remote/Phone										21	
consultations	5	4	0	0	1	8	3	0	0		28
EARC Veterinary										21	
Cabinet											
medication											
dispensed	3	4	3	3	1	4	3	0	0		7
Minor										4	
procedures/other											
surgeries	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	1	0		11
Parasite										474	
Treatments	36	40	21	36	8	81	56	158	38		383
Euthanasia	0	0	0	3	0	0	1	1	1	6	7
Private practice										0	
consultations											
(Mainland)	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0		3
Total Engagements	50	61	31	59	12	111	70	174	52	620	577

Additional Collaborations:

- Melbourne University continues to collaborate with the EARC Animal Management Programme, sending both qualified veterinarians and students for training with the AMP team on working in remote communities. Final year students Fiona and Sylvia completed two weeks of training under the supervision of veterinarian Dr Cassandra, including two days in Yirrkala.
- Laynhapuy Homelands:
 - Or Maddy met with Laynhapuy Homelands in June to discuss collaborating on contracted veterinary services in their homelands. Even though our team has limited capacity, we have offered to assist where possible to increase the outcomes in the homelands from a One Health perspective. Our veterinary nurses Saraya and Sarah have been conducting veterinary nurse census and parasite control visits to Baniyala, Dhalinybuy, Gan Gan, Gurrumurru, Wandawuy and Garthalala. The team is then heading back out to Gan, Dhalinybuy and Baniyala to conduct intensive veterinary visits for surgical desexings. The EARC Animal Management Program has a commitment to assist the animals and people of East Arnhem where possible. We are hoping to continue this partnership again in 2026.

Stakeholder engagements:

• The AMP team took part in the Yirrkala Clean-up week with fellow Yirrkala Stakeholders from 22 – 26 September 2025. The team went house to house with the involved teams and handed out parasite treatments as well as desexing animals.

Community education activities: N/A

Photos:



Healthy mama dog feeding her puppies after everyone received parasite treatments.



Puppy being treated for ringworm.









Students: Sylvia and Fiona helping with cat treatments.

ATTACHMENTS:

Nil

NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT

3.4 Technical and Infrastructure Service Report

AUTHOR

Sonia Campbell (General Manager - Technical and Infrastructure Services)

RECOMMENDATION

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

SUMMARY:

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

BACKGROUND:

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

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

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

GENERAL:

122 - Fleet management

New Fleet

On 19th of August a New Hiace (F0693) was deliver to Yirrkala's childcare service. The 2025 Hiace offers increased interior space compared to the previous 2018 model. Providing greater ease and convenience when assisting children in and out of their car seats.



A Toro mower arrived in Yirrkala to the municipal service team to support ongoing grounds maintenance operations. On the 1^{st of} August, Jason, CEO of Pump and Power, travelled from Alice springs to provide training for operational staff on the safe and efficient use of the new equipment,



Daily Vehicle pre-start checks online

On the 25th of August Fleet distributed Lucidity QR codes to all staff operating EARC vehicles for the completion of daily vehicle pre-start checks. The QR code can be scanned using a smartphone, directing the user to the specific vehicle daily inspection form. Once completed, the check is automatically submitted to the Fleet department, streamlining reporting processes and enhancing the efficiency of the maintenance and repair workflow.

Scheduled Servicing update

During the month of October all EARC vehicles, plant and trailers in Yirrkala will have their scheduled six-monthly servicing in accordance with the maintenance policy.

116 - Lighting for Public Safety

Yirrkala Public Streetlights.

- KMJ Electrical were awarded the contract to undertake the repairs and maintenance of the street lighting infrastructure.
- These works are now 100% complete.

Community	LED Public Street Light out of service based on night-time audit inspection
Yirrkala	13 – Public LED Street lights

118 - Local Road Maintenance and Traffic Management

Civil Maintenance of Pavements and Drainage Program - East Arnhem Region

Australian and Niugini Services has recently been awarded the tender to undertake the Civil Maintenance of Pavements and Drainage Program for a 12-month period across the six communities within the East Arnhem Region, including Ramingining, Milingimbi, Gapuwiyak, Galiwin'ku, Yirrkala, and Gunyangara.

The scope of works for the 12 month period includes:

- Two (2) rounds of maintenance grading of unsealed roads
- Two (2) rounds of maintenance grading of road shoulders

This program aims to ensure continued accessibility and safety of the regional road network through regular, scheduled maintenance activities. The contractor will be mobilising plant and equipment on the following dates (pending weather).

Mobilisation dates 2025		
Gapuwiyak	October 28th	
Milingimbi	Nov 19th	
Galiwinku	November 27th	
Yirrkala	November 30th	
Gunyangara	December 14th	
Ramingining	December 19th	
Mobilisation dates 2026		
Gapuwiyak	May 1st	
Milingimbi	May 1st	
Galiwinku	May 11th	
Ramingining	June 1st	
Yirrkala	June 24th	
Gunyangara	July 6th	

Minor Civil Works - Vegetation Clearing and Culvert Cleanout

North East Arnhem Land Aboriginal Corporation (NEAL) were engaged to undertake the minor civil works on the existing culvert adjacent to the community store on Tuffin Road to ensure there was a clear path for water to flow and preventing blockages.

The works comprised of the following:

- Removal of heavy vegetation and debri (including invasive "coffee bush" leucaena plant) from within the open unlined drain. Chemical application of approximately 35 lineal meters of drain from existing culvert inlet/outlet as outlined in map
- Disposal of green and hard waste at the appropriate waste facility.



Before photo





After photos

Project status – 100% complete



119 - Local Road Upgrades and Construction

As outlined in previous reports, the annual plan internal upgrades work has been deferred until the Power and Water Corporation's Yirrkala Asbestos Cement Mains Replacement and Leak Reduction Works project is complete, projected to achieve practical completion year end of 2026.

112 - Building Infrastructure

Lot 122 Yirrkala - New 2 bedroom staff house

This scope of works comprised of the demolition of the existing dwelling and the construction of a new two-bedroom duplex on the lot. The contract was awarded to DJC Build. Major construction works are complete, with minor defect rectification currently in progress. The project is 95% complete and is anticipated to reach practical completion by early November 2025.





Lot 135 Drop-in Centre – New Donga & Various Upgrades Works

The scope of works encompasses a range of refurbishments, including the construction of an access ramp, the extension of rooms and toilet facilities, and the installation of a new demountable unit equipped with kitchen and laundry amenities to support a temporary aged-care centre space during the Centre upgrade works.

The contract was awarded to DJC Build. All internal refurbishment works have been completed, and the demountable unit, inclusive of kitchen and laundry facilities, has been successfully installed.

The project is presently 90% complete and is anticipated to reach full completion by the end of October.





Subject: Project Update - Lot 143 Yirrkala Aged Care Centre

The project is currently in the re-design phase, focusing on a simplified façade but also ensuring the design still meets critical compliance requirements.

Progress to date is at approximately 5% completion. Works are ongoing, with the redesign aimed at delivering a practical and cost-effective solution while meeting all necessary standards.

Further updates will be provided as the design is finalised and the project moves closer to construction.



ATTACHMENTS:

Nil

NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT

3.5 Human Resources and Finance Report

AUTHOR Merianne Bretag (General Manager People and Corporate

Services)

RECOMMENDATION

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

SUMMARY

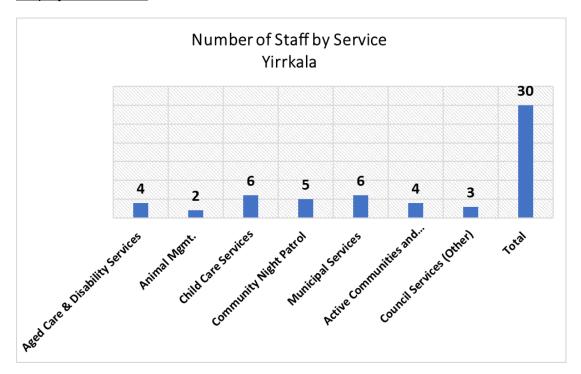
This report presents the financials plus employment statistics as of 30 September 2025 within the Local Authority area.

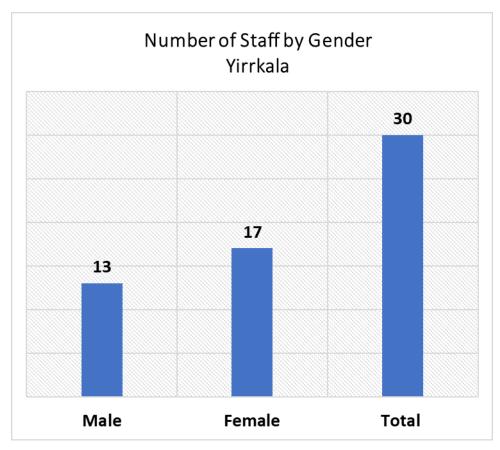
BACKGROUND

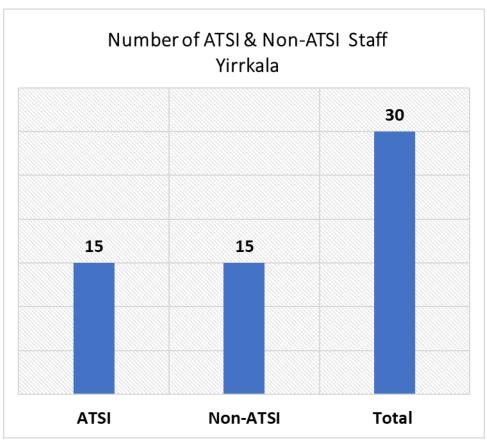
Local Authorities need to consider the Finance Report carefully as it details the current actual figures against the budget for the Local Authority area. Also, the report details the number of staff against the different service areas.

GENERAL

Employee Statistics:







Vacancies as of 30 September 2025:

Position	Community	Type c Employment	of Level	No. Vacancies	of
Community Media Officer	Yirrkala	Community	Level 1	1	
Municipal Services Officer	Yirrkala	Community	Level 1	1	
ACDS Support Worker	Yirrkala	Community	Level 2	1	
Child Care Worker	Yirrkala	Community	Level 1	1	

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

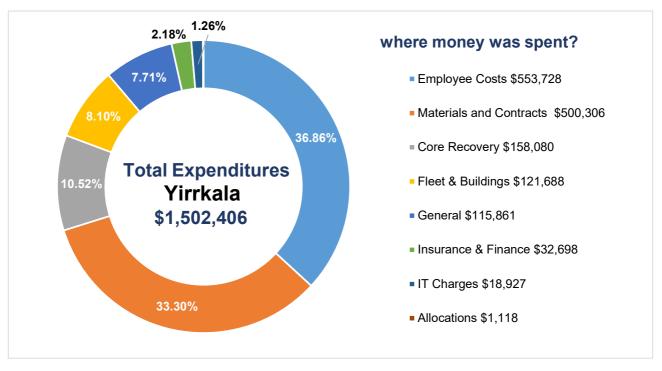
ATTACHMENTS:

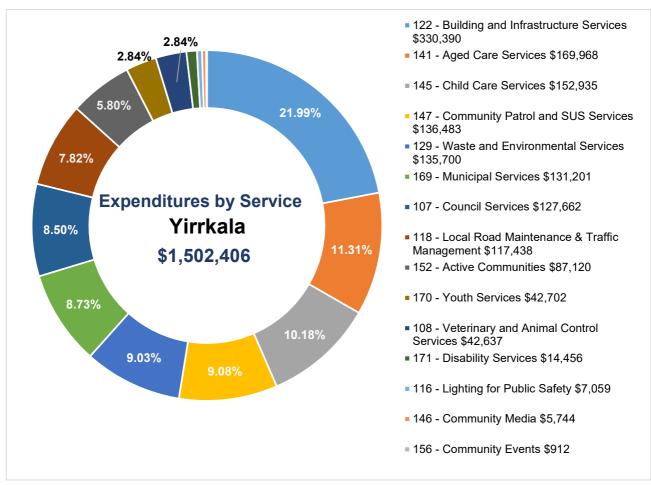
- 1. 03. September 2025 Yirrkala LAPF Funds Left [3.5.1 1 page]
- 2. 03. September 2025 Yirrkala LA Report [3.5.2 1 page]

LOCAL AUTHORITY PROJECT FUNDING (LAPF) - YIRRKALA FUNDS LEFT

As at 30th September 2025

	\$ AMOUNT
CARRIED FORWARD LAPF FROM PRIOR YEAR	302,245
LAPF RECEIVED THIS FINANCIAL YEAR	-
TOTAL AVAILABLE LAPF THIS FINANCIAL YEAR	302,245
LESS: PROJECTS BUDGETED	
301218 - LAPF - Yirrkala - Improved Oval Lighting	(113,300)
TOTAL PROJECTS BUDGETED	(113,300)
LESS: PROJECTS (ACTUAL COMMITTED FUNDS)	
277218 - Unallocated LAPF 2017-2018, Yirrkala	(13,440)
307718 - LAPF - Yirrkala Aged Care Upgrade Contribution	(117,790)
TOTAL PROJECTS (COMMITTED FUNDS)	(131,230)
ESTIMATED LAPF - LEFT (OVERSPEND)	57,715
COUNCIL CONTRIBUTION AVAILABLE FOR LOCAL AUTHORITY PROJECTS	646,757
ESTIMATED TOTAL FUNDING LEFT FOR LOCAL AUTHORITY PROJECTS	704,472





4 General Business and Date of Next Meeting

GENERAL BUSINESS:

5 Meeting Close