



HUMAN | EQUALITY
RIGHTS
INDEPENDENCE
COMMUNITY | EQUITY
WORK CONFIDENCE
RESPECT

**OPEN AGENDA for the Yirrkala Local
Authority
29 July 2026**

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

Djambarrpuyngu

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

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

Dhañu

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

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

Gumatj

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

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

Marrañu

Dhuwanydji dhäwu barrañga'yun EARC-njur bukmakku yolñuw yukurr buku-liw'maram wäñja miñtji malanyinha:

- Dalimurr wurruku räi-manapanmirr djäk ganydjarrwu ñalimurrungalañaw
- Gangathinyamaranharaw wonḍañarrgunharaw,
- Ga djäga walñaw,
- Ga ñayanju-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 Yirrkala Local Authority will be held at the Yirrkala Council Office offices on Wednesday 29 July 2026 at 11:30 am.

Agendas and minutes are available on the Council website www.eastarnhem.nt.gov.au and can be viewed at the Councils public office.

Dale Keehne
Chief Executive Officer

Members:

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

Dial-in Details:**Microsoft Teams**

[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 429 588 022 715 93

Passcode: jM9RT38D

Dial in by phone

[+61 2 8318 0005,,318573346#](#) Australia, Sydney

[Find a local number](#)

Phone conference ID: 318 573 346#

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 NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT		13
2.1	Local Authority Action Items	13
2.2	CEO Report	21
2.3	Council Services Report	32
2.4	Technical and Infrastructure Services Report	49
2.5	Human Resources and Finance Report	53
3 GENERAL BUSINESS AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING		57
3.1	Discussion with Local Police	57
3.2	Presentation from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development	57
4 MEETING CLOSE		60

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 27 May 2026

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Yirrkala Local Authority- _27 May 2026 [1.5.1 - 5 pages]



**OPEN MINUTES for the Yirrkala Local
Authority
27 May 2026**

YIRRKALA LOCAL AUTHORITY MINUTES

27 MAY 2026

1 Meeting Establishment

YOW NGILIMURR BUKU'LUNGTHUN DHIYAK MEETINGU GA MALA DJARRYUN ROM

The Chair opened the meeting with a prayer at 11:43 am.

Members in Attendance:

Graham Mungurrapin Maymuru (Chair)

Cr. Marrpalawuy Marika

Cr. Priscilla Yunupingu

Adrian Gurruwiwi

Dipilinga Marika

Fabian Marika

Lirrpiya Mununggurr

East Arnhem Regional Council Staff:

Dale Keehne (Chief Executive Officer)

Sonia Campbell (GM – Technical and Infrastructure Services) – Attended online

Vivek Gummalla (Strategic Coordinator – Council Services)

Labhjeet Bhullar (Administration Manager)

Paul Hyde Kaduru (Governance and Compliance Manager) – Attended online

MEETING ESTABLISHMENT

1.3 Attendance**SUMMARY:**

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

YIR 2025/72 **RESOLVED** (Lirrpiya Mununggurr/Dipilinga Marika)

That the Local Authority:

- (a) Notes the absence of Djapirri Mununggiritj and James Dhurrkay.
- (b) Notes the apology received from James Dhurrkay.
- (c) Notes James Dhurrkay is absent with permission of the Local Authority.
- (d) Determines Djapirri Mununggiritj is absent without permission of the Local Authority under Section 47(1) (0) of the Act.

MEETING ESTABLISHMENT

1.4 Conflict of Interest**SUMMARY:**

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

YIR 2025/62 **RESOLVED** (Cr. Priscilla Yunupingu/Fabian Marika)

YIRRKALA LOCAL AUTHORITY MINUTES**27 MAY 2026**

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

MEETING ESTABLISHMENT

1.5 Previous Local Authority Minutes

YIR 2025/63 **RESOLVED (Cr. Marrpalawuy Marika/Lirrpiya Mununggurr)**

That the Local Authority approves the minutes of the previous meeting held on 25 March 2026.

2 Noting Progress and Achievement

YOW GALKI MEETING DJA DHAWARYUNA YURRU NGILIMURR RONGIYI GA NHAMA NGUNIYI

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

NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT

2.1 Local Authority Action Items

SUMMARY:

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

YIR 2025/67 **RESOLVED (Cr. Marrpalawuy Marika/Graham Mungurrapin Maymuru)**

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

NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT

2.2 CEO Report

SUMMARY:

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

YIR 2025/66 **RESOLVED (Lirrpiya Mununggurr/Fabian Marika)**

That the Local Authority notes the CEO Report.

YIRRKALA LOCAL AUTHORITY MINUTES

27 MAY 2026

NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT

2.3 Council Services Report

SUMMARY:

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

YIR 2025/69 **RESOLVED (Lirrpiya Mununggurr/Adrian Gurruwiwi)**

That the Local Authority notes the Council Services Manager's report.

NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT

2.4 Technical and Infrastructure Services Report

SUMMARY:

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

YIR 2025/68 **RESOLVED (Lirrpiya Mununggurr/Fabian Marika)**

That Council notes the Technical and Infrastructure Services Report.

NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT

2.5 Human Resources and Finance Report

SUMMARY:

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

YIR 2025/70 **RESOLVED (Lirrpiya Mununggurr/Adrian Gurruwiwi)**

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

3 Confidential Reports**RECOMMENDATION: Adrian Gurruwiwi/Cr. Marrpalawuy Marika**

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

YIR 2025/74 **RESOLVED (Lirrpiya Mununggurr/Adrian Gurruwiwi)**

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

YIRRKALA LOCAL AUTHORITY MINUTES

27 MAY 2026

A lunch break was taken from 12:30 pm to 1:00 pm during the meeting.

4 Presentations and General Business

PRESENTATION

4.1 Presentation from the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries

YIR 2025/64 **RESOLVED** (Lirrpiya Mununggurr/Adrian Gurruwiwi)

That the Local Authority notes the updates provided by the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries and invites them to attend the next Local Authority meeting to provide an update on the Barramundi Fishery reform.

PRESENTATION

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

YIR 2025/65 **RESOLVED** (Lirrpiya Mununggurr/Adrian Gurruwiwi)

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

5 Meeting Close

The meeting closed at 04:20 pm.

This page and the preceding pages are the minutes of the Local Authority Ordinary Meeting held on 27 May 2026.

2 Noting Progress and Achievement

YOW GALKI MEETING DJA DHAWARYUNA YURRU NGILIMURR RONGIYI GA NHAMA NGUNIYI

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

NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT

2.1 Local Authority Action Items

RECOMMENDATION

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

SUMMARY:

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

BACKGROUND:

The current Local Authority Action Items List, and updates on progress to complete them, is attached.

GENERAL:

The attached report gives the Local Authority an opportunity to check that actions from previous meetings are being implemented. New actions will be added to the Action Register.

If an action is completed the Local Authority need to request the item to be removed from the Action Register, for the Council to endorse.

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

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Local Authority Yirrkala 2026 5 [2.1.1 - 7 pages]

YIRRKALA ACTIONS

ACTION ITEM	ACTION OWNER	ACTIONS	STATUS
PA System		That the Local Authority: Requests the General Manager Technical and Infrastructure Services to have discussions with Rirratjingu on options to improve the public announcement system coverage in Yirrkala.	12.05.2021 – Ongoing. 25.11.2021 – Ongoing. Gained permission from Rirratjingu to place speaker on their office building. Quotation being sourced. 24.03.2022 – Permission has been granted, however obtaining trades to complete work. 26.05.2022 – Ongoing 02.12.2022 – New ICT is exploring options for installation with expectations of installation by Jan 2023. 03.02.23 – 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) 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.

YIRRKALA ACTIONS

ACTION ITEM	ACTION OWNER	ACTIONS	STATUS
			25.06.25 – To organise a meeting. 29.10.25 – GMTIS to organise a meeting with Rirratjingu to explore the option of connecting PA to EARC system. 24.02.26 – IT department is working with Rirratjingu. 25.03.26 – IT Manager waiting on information from Rirratjingu. The Local Authority invites the Rirratjingu Aboriginal Corporation Chair, CEO and other nominated board members to meet together at the next Local Authority meeting to discuss these and any other issues of importance of how we can work together. 27.05.26 – Paul to follow up.
Alter current application for community toilet block and Ceremony area to change Location from shady beach to ceremony ground.		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. 02.06.23 – WIP 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 , Yananyumul 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

YIRRKALA ACTIONS

ACTION ITEM	ACTION OWNER	ACTIONS	STATUS
			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. 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. 29.10.25 – GMTIS to confirm the location and the stage of works for this project. Seek new funding revenue for this project. 24.02.26 – To apply for the grant funding to be able to complete the Ceremony area. 25.03.26 – The Local Authority confirm that the current location of the ceremony area on Webb Way, and the Infrastructure on it is the location that the GMTIS will apply for a Section 19 lease, following discussions to seek support from the Rirratjingu Aboriginal Corporation.
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. 29.10.25 – GMTIS to follow up the progress of NLC submission for section 19 lease on the proposed new cemetery area and update in the next LA Meeting. 24.02.26 – Civil works to be completed current cemetery, new cemetery not required at this stage. 25.03.26 – Work to commence at the end of wet season including Rirritjingu Aboriginal Corporation indigenous training facility participants and using the earth works as a training opportunity.

YIRRKALA ACTIONS

ACTION ITEM	ACTION OWNER	ACTIONS	STATUS
			27.05.26 – GMTIS to provide updates in the next meeting.
<u>Yirrkala Future Actions/ Advocacy:</u>			
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. 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.

YIRRKALA ACTIONS

ACTION ITEM	ACTION OWNER	ACTIONS	STATUS
			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 . 29.10.25 – GMTIS to follow up with NLC Regional Manager Craig Bonney and to provide map of the planned playground site at the next LA Meeting. 22.11.25 – Ongoing 26.11.25 – Move to Advocacy till we obtain funding for the project.
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.
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.

YIRRKALA ACTIONS

ACTION ITEM	ACTION OWNER	ACTIONS	STATUS
			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. 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. 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. 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 . 29.10.25 – GMTIS to follow up with NLC Regional Manager Craig Bonney and to provide map of the planned playground site at the next LA Meeting. 22.11.25 – Ongoing 26.11.25 – Move to Advocacy till we obtain funding for the project.

YIRRKALA ACTIONS

ACTION ITEM	ACTION OWNER	ACTIONS	STATUS

NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT

2.2 CEO Report**AUTHOR**

Dale Keehne (Chief Executive Officer)

RECOMMENDATION**That the Local Authority notes the CEO Report.****SUMMARY:**

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

GENERAL:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

ATTACHMENTS:

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



08 8986 8986
info@eastarnhem.nt.gov.au
PO Box 1060, Nhulunbuy NT 0881
www.eastarnhem.nt.gov.au
ABN 92 334 301 078

Media Release

9 July 2026

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

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

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

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

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

President Lapulung Dhamarrandji

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

Councillor Ganygulpa Dhurrkay

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

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

President Lapulung Dhamarrandji

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

Deputy President Stephen Dhamarrandji

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

Yalu Aboriginal Corporation Chairperson Jasmine Yunupingu and CEO, Anahita Tonkin

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

Councillor Marrpalawuy Marika

"People, family and community members need to call out violence when they see it. People need to be responsible for their actions."

Councillor Ganygulpa Dhurrkay





08 8986 8986
info@eastarnhem.nt.gov.au
PO Box 1060, Nhulunbuy NT 0881
www.eastarnhem.nt.gov.au
ABN 92 334 301 078

Additional Quotes:

President Lapulung Dhamarrandji

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

Councillor Ganygulpa Dhurrkay

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

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

Councillor Marrpalawuy Marika

"Domestic violence is a crime."

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

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

"We need real action."

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

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

ENDS

For more information, please contact:

East Arnhem Regional Council CEO Dale Keehne

dale.keehne@eastarnhem.nt.gov.au

0458 039 348

Page 2 of 2



NT News

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

[Camden Smith](#)

July 9, 2026 - 6:29PM

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



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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

National Indigenous Times

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

[Dechlan Brennan](#)

Published July 9, 2026 at 12.24pm (AWST)



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

1800 Respect (1800 737 732)

Lifeline (13 11 14)

13YARN (13 92 76)

Yarning Safe'N'Strong (1800 959 563)

Beyond Blue (1300 22 46 36)

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

NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT

2.3 Council Services Report

AUTHOR

Shannon Cervini (Council Services Regional Manager)

RECOMMENDATION**That the Local Authority notes the 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.

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

War Memorial Monument – Yirrkala.

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

We have supported many community events including the Yarrapay Festival, Community engagement events held by Rirratjingu Aboriginal Corporation and Laynhapuy Homelands Aboriginal Corporations, Dhadalal Festival.

East Arnhem Regional Council recently undertook beautification works at the war memorial monument at the waterfront in Yirrkala. Works included relocating the commemorative plaques from ground level to feature at the base of the monument and the inclusion of a larger concrete slab. This has significantly enhanced the appearance of the site and provides a respectful and

attractive point for community members and visitors to Yirrkala.

East Arnhem Regional Council sponsored and participated in the NAIDOC Day event on 9 July 2026 held at the Yirrkala Oval. This event provided us an opportunity to participate in a variety of cultural and recreational activities, while also encouraging social connection and community

engagement. Council merchandise, including hats and wristbands were distributed and was warmly received by people, with many hats being worn those who attended on the day.

This was a great day to celebrate with the wider community and stakeholders and also featured other Council Services such as the Active Communities and Youth Services, Community Night Patrol, Sobering Up Shelter, Child Care and Animal Management teams. The Animal Management team also ran a kids colouring in competition with prizes given out to the winners.



The Municipal Services team at one of the EARC stalls at the Yirrkala NAIDOC Day event.



Children participating in the EARC Animal Management colouring in competition.

Municipal Services (MS)

Our Municipal Services team has been working hard across the community on general clean-ups, mowing and brush cutting, weed spraying, hard rubbish removal and recycling projects. With the dry season bring many tourists to the region our focus has been ensuring that the community is looking at its best and in a clean and tidy state.

The Municipal Services and Council Services support team has also provided opportunities for collaboration and support to many organisations 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, gazebos, folding tables, chairs, bins, and LED Screen etc.

A huge thank you to our Municipal Services team for the fantastic work at Yirrkala Oval. It's been cleaned, mowed and is being well maintained, with the irrigation sprinklers operating well to make sure that the grass coverage remains green throughout the dry season. With the Oval being one of the main areas in community for civic and sporting events the Oval is looking excellent for the remainder of local football games to come and future events.



Yirrkala Oval

Our Municipal Services Team has done an outstanding job collecting, sorting and counting cans and bottles as part of the July Container Deposit Scheme (CDS). It is wonderful to see the strong support from community members each month for this recycling program. The combined efforts are helping to reduce waste, protect the environment, and keep our community clean.



Yirrkala Municipal Services team counting cans and bottles.

Community Night Patrol (CNP)

The current Community Night Patrol Yirrkala team is 80% Indigenous staffed. It consists of Renee Blythe (CNP Coordinator), Emily Perry (CNP Team Leader), Lee-Anne Tawhi, Kasey Buckley, Sid Yunupingu, Lilarni Dhurrkay. Additionally, we have Heather Yunupingu, Jamie Wurrugmurru, Laylani Gumbula, Janet Gurruwiwi. Who will work at times in Yirrkala if the regular team are absent, this is to ensure that the services is more likely to operate if the Yirrkala team are unable to attend for any reason



Gove Peninsula Community Night Patrol team.

Community Night Patrol continues to strengthen as a team. We are increasingly collaborating with other organisations and actively engaging with youth.

Recently, Community Night Patrol (CNP) has launched a new initiative called the Chill Zone. This is a more stationary patrol, where CNP officers will be present at the Active Communities program for a couple of hours, offering a safe and welcoming space for young people to visit.

The CNP Chill Zone is ran every second Thursday and Milo at the basketball every second Wednesday

Participants can enjoy refreshments such as homemade food, Milo, or water, engage in conversations with CNP officers, or participate in activities like drawing, colouring, or reading.

While there have been some challenges, we are pleased with the positive response from the children, who value having access to this space until 10pm on Thursdays. The Chill Zone is held biweekly, alternating between Gunyangara and Yirrkala. This initiative is effectively helping to strengthen the relationship between youth and the Community Night Patrol team.



Community Night Patrol engagement in Yirrkala.



Community Night Patrol team playing Volleyball in Yirrkala.



Healthy food provided by the CNP team.



Healthy food provided by the CNP team.

Community Night Patrol have participated in NAIDOC events during the week of the 5 -12 July 2026. The Community Night Patrol team also participated the NAIDOC event at the Yirrkala Oval on 9 July 2026. It was a great opportunity to connect with stakeholders and community members and share what we do.



The Community Night Patrol team at the Yirrkala NAIDOC Day event.

The service hasn't been without its challenges with some children entering the new chill zone with the intention of being disruptive to other kids and the CNP team. We have had to ask some children to leave, as this is a safe and quiet space intended for children to unwind and relax. When we request parental or caregiver support, we sometimes cannot locate them because they are engaged in activities such as drinking or gambling, or because the community heavily relies on team to care for the children and caregivers are unwilling to help.

We often take children home to empty houses, which can be time-consuming, as we then need to find a responsible and sober adult willing to care for them. Despite these efforts, we frequently see these children roaming the community later in the evening. These children then are at a higher risk of self-destructive activities such as Sniffing and unlawful behaviours.

Aged Care and Disability Services (AC&DS)

The relocation of the Aged Care Centre (Lot 134) has been successfully completed in preparation for the upcoming renovation works. Aged Care and Disability Services are now operating from the Drop-In Centre alongside Active Communities. The shared workspace has been functioning smoothly, with staff working collaboratively to ensure there has been no disruption to service delivery.

At the beginning of June 2026, we welcomed William Collins and Chloe Munungurritj to the Aged Care team as Support Workers. William has since resigned to pursue another career opportunity. We sincerely thank William for his valuable contribution and dedication during his time with us and wish him every success in his future endeavours.

Clients and Staff have attended the Midawarr Day out held on 6 May 2026 at the Gove Peninsula Surf Life Saving Club. The event was organised by Anglicare NT in partnership with a range of local stakeholders. The theme this year was "Yaka Sniffing-Strong Communities" focused on promoting healthy lifestyle and strengthening community wellbeing. Clients and staff were pleased to participate in the event and activities on the day.



Midawarr Day Out Event 2026.



Clients attending Midawarr 2026.

The Men's Group meets every Monday morning, giving male clients the opportunity to participate in activities of their choice. Fishing at the wharf has been the most popular activity during the reporting period.



Clients enjoying their fishing trip.

Certificate III in individual support training is ongoing. Staff continue to develop their skills and knowledge to enhance the quality of care and support provided to clients.

Child Care Services

The capitol building work was completed in June 2026, and the outdoor yard looks great and well-maintained. It has enhanced the overall appearance and functionality of the centre. In addition, the Child Care team continues to do an excellent job maintaining a clean, safe and welcoming environment for children and families. Their ongoing dedication and commitment are greatly appreciated

Our team currently consist of Kalesita Fale (Child Care Coordinator), Hanisivae Makisi and Tenelle Daniels – Casual Childcare Worker (Yet to commence).

Unfortunately, we have had staff shortages, and we are continuously trying to improve the staffing availability. We are constantly recruiting staff members prioritising recruitment for the Team Leader role along with and a few other roles that we have available.

The team joined the Yirrkala NAIDOC Day event on 9 July 2026 to encourage community engagement and building relationships with the community.

We have received new toys for the home corner along with some indigenous patterned cushions for the reading corner and a lot of indigenous puzzles and books. The children are really enjoying exploring these new toys and they spend time in the reading corner looking through the books while enjoying the comfort of the cushions.

We have also received new climbing equipment which we are yet to be assembled. The children are very excited, and this will help develop their gross motor skills.

Training on the Australian Government's training platform, Geccko, was completed in June for National Mandatory reporting this helps educators understand their role as a mandatory reporter in the childcare sector.

Active Communities and Youth Services (ACYS)

We are pleased to welcome Jada Crowdey, who commenced as the Active Communities Team Leader in June 2026.

The ACYS team continue to note anti-social behaviour, particularly at night. Young people have been bringing weapons to activities. ACYS is working with Police and CNP to help mitigate, but the issue requires more community attention and input. We encourage and would love more elders to attend ACYS activities and ACYS spaces, particularly at night.

The ACYS team continued delivering regular recreational and cultural activities, including volleyball, basketball, tag games, music sessions, cooking activities and movie nights, providing young people with safe, engaging and enjoyable after-hours programs. We continued our collaboration with the Community Night Patrol team, who regularly attend ACYS evening programs and access the Yirrkala Recreation Hall after-hours to engage with and support vulnerable young people.

Active Communities and Youth Services participated in the 5th Annual Eastern Cup Basketball Championships held in Galiwin'ku from 23 – 25 June 2026. Teams from Yirrkala and Gunyangara represented the communities, with a Yirrkala player, Dey Dev Yunupingu, receiving the Men's Rising Star Award.



Yirrkala Basketball team with the ACYS team at the Eastern Cup.



Yirrkala Women's team – Eastern Cup 2026



Yirrkala Men's team – Eastern Cup 2026.

Yirrkala hosted Project Love and Kennyon Brown at the Yirrkala Drop-in Centre on 2 June 2026. We worked in partnership with Miwatj Health to deliver a community BBQ, face painting, haircuts, volleyball, basketball and music, promoting community engagement and wellbeing.



Project Love and Kennyon Brown in Yirrkala.



Bringing the Community Together Through Connection and Wellbeing.

Active Communities and Youth Services, engaged with Rhythm Village to deliver music workshops from 29 June 2026 at the Yirrkala Drop-in Centre and Yirrkala Art Centre stage area.



Rhythm Village Workshop.

ACYS team continued delivering the weekly Wednesday Night Basketball program in partnership with Miwatj Health and Dawurr Boarding School.

This activity continues to see strong community participation, and we participated in the Dawurr at Dusk Volleyball competition on 25 May 2026 with a team representing Yirrkala.

There has been ongoing collaboration with the Miwatj Health Raypirri Rom team to deliver regular "Safer Together" community BBQs at the Yirrkala and Gunyangara ACYS activities.



Supporting youth with community engagement activities.

Active Communities Coordinator – Rob Kestle and Active Communities Worker – Denzel Marika attended Youth Vulnerabilities Training with Sand Plam Consulting in Gapuwiyak 9-12 June 2026.

Waste and Environmental UpdateLitter Rating Index

	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June
Yirrkala	100%	75%	90%	85%	90%	90%	90%	90%	85%	75%	75%	95%

76 - 100 (*excellent, clean, tidy & recycling, community engagement, ownership, pride*)

Monthly Litter Rating Index consistently high. Very little to No litter on ground. Waste Management Plans in use. Waste separation in place. Council no longer spending hours picking up ground rubbish. Beautification programs implemented. Highly motivated proud Community.

Yirrkala and Gapuwiyak lead the communities in litter control, with Yirrkala average litter rating of 87%. Well done all involved in this motivated community.

Animal Management Program (AMP) Update

Reporting month/period: May-June 2026

Overall comments:

- Yirrkala received the following veterinary visits:
 - 12-14 May 2026 veterinary nurse visit – Sarah serviced the community and performed three field consultations and gave out 12 parasite treatments. Roaming buffalo was followed up on by Dhimurru Rangers. Dangerous dog incidents were followed up on by the AMP team.
 - Veterinary visit by Dr Celia and Dr Maddy: 16-18 June 2026:
 - A week of surgical desexings undertaken by Dr Celia and consults and parasite treatments conducted in the community by the team. In the week spent in Yirrkala, Dr Celia was able to focus mostly on new suburb (due to ceremonies in other camps) and get many pets here desexed and treated for parasites.
 - It was enjoyable to engage with preschool kids at the Bilingual School and talk about keeping dogs happy and healthy.
 - We will continue to talk to community members about desexing dogs and cats to reduce overpopulation and improve hygiene, particularly for homes that have numerous cats and refuse desexing.
- Remote consultations: The AMP team performed six remote consultations in Yirrkala when they were not in community, improving consistency of care in the region. These were mostly sick, injured animals or for parasite control.
- Upcoming visits for Yirrkala community:
 - Veterinary visit: 4-7 August 2026 by Dr Celia and Sarah.

Service Delivery Table:

Yirrkala	May/Jun 26	FY 25-26 to date	FY 24-25
Dogs Desexed	8	26	21
Cats Desexed	9	22	22
Community consultations	7	63	95
Remote/Phone consultations	6	38	38
EARC Veterinary Cabinet medication dispensed	3	18	21

Minor procedures/other surgeries	0	5	7
Parasite Treatments	81	300	426
Euthanasia	2	9	7
Private practice consultations (Mainland)	1	3	2
Total Engagements	117	481	639

Staff Education/training activities: none this period

Community education activities:

- Visit by Dr Celia to Yirrkala Bilingual School Preschool, learning about what dogs and cats need to be happy and healthy
 - We spoke about giving dogs good food and vets giving them medicine and leaving the dogs to sleep in their beds without kids bothering them. We also talked about washing our hands after playing with dogs and cats.
 - The children greatly enjoyed dressing up in the dog costume and practicing their barks and woofs and they were so engaged with the game and loved telling me about their pets.
 - That afternoon Dr Celia visited a home to give parasite treatment and two preschool kids who lived there were so excited to tell their family about the medicines and what vets do.

Additional Collaborations:

- Dr Celia spoke with art centre employees about cat trapping, would try to continue trapping and desexing cats there as they are frequently seen with young kittens. Someone at the art centre reported that daycare also has lots of kittens underneath the building. The AMP team will follow up again at the daycare to perform cat trapping.

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

Concerns/Challenges:

- Animal welfare concerns/cases:
 - It is noted that canine parvovirus is circulating Yirrkala with a few puppies seen for consults that on follow up had passed away. Parvovirus is associated with overcrowding and poor hygiene in puppies and has a high morbidity and mortality rate.
- Dangerous Dog incidents:
 - The police requested assistance of animal management to euthanise a dog that had been reported to bite and injure many people. The Animal Management team, with direction from police and permission from the owners of the animal, were able to safely contain the dog and then returned the body for burial after euthanasia. Understandably the family was upset about losing their pet when many other dogs in town are cheeky and expressed their frustration at their dog being singled out. This is a good reminder that cheeky dogs can be reported to animal management earlier so we can chat to owners about what we can do to avoid injury and change the dog's behaviour if possible before euthanasia is the only option. Interventions include putting up signage, discussing cheeky behaviour and keeping the animal indoors/gates closed, desexing to reduce hormones associated with guarding and aggression.

- A report of a cheeky dog biting a worker attending the home was followed up on and we found the female entire dog had recently had puppies and become more protective of them and the home. Owners were receptive to advice and put up a dangerous dog sign in addition to keeping the gate shut more. We will desex the female when we are next in Yirrkala and advise the owners to rehome the puppies once old enough.
- A known dangerous dog living at 55b was seen to have escaped its house and yard multiple times. This dog has been followed up on several times by our team after numerous complaints. We will continue to monitor this dog, and we are working with the female owner to desex the cats that also live at the house.

Photos:



East Arnhem Regional Council – Animal Management team at the NAIDOC Day event in Yirrkala.



East Arnhem Regional Council – Animal Management team at the NAIDOC Day event in Yirrkala.



Dr. Celia in action during surgery in Yirrkala.

NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT**2.4 Technical and Infrastructure Services Report**

AUTHOR	Sonia Campbell (General Manager – Technical and Infrastructure Services)
RECOMMENDATION That Council notes the Technical and Infrastructure Report	

SUMMARY:

This report is submitted for the Local Authorities consideration and provides program updates from the Technical and Infrastructure Directorate.

BACKGROUND:

Ongoing updates on these projects will be provided at each meeting. In addition, any new initiatives or emerging matters of relevance to the community will also be discussed.

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

Fleet Services

Imogen Weighill – Acting Regional Manager - Fleet

112 - Fleet Services

Transport and Infrastructure Department

Arvin Roping – Transport and Infrastructure Manager

116 - Lighting for Public Safety

118 - Local Road Maintenance & Traffic Management

119 - Local Road Upgrade and Construction

REPORT STORY:

112 - Fleet Services (Report Owner –Imogen Weighill)

New GPS tracker software

All EARC fleet Vehicles and plant have been fitted with a new GPS tracking system. Fleet are now utilising the Navman TN360 platform for vehicle tracking and monitoring.

New Vehicles

- Tipper truck F0552 Hino is to be replaced with an Isuzu FVR 170-300 Tipper. The new Isuzu truck is estimated to arrive in community on the 23 July 2026.
- New Fleet number: F0735
- A new Toyota Hilux arrived in the community in June 2026, replacing Hilux Tray Back F0629. The replacement vehicle has been fitted with a sealed canopy to support mail collection and transport requirements.
- New Fleet number: F0729

**116 – Lighting for Public Safety (Report Owner – Arvin Roping)****Repair and Maintenance of Public Streetlighting**

Community	LED Public Streetlights out of service	Tentative mobilisation date	Progress update
Yirrkala	13 - LED street lights 4 – GFS200 solar street lights	NIL	100% complete

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

Revised Round 2 2025/26	Mobilisation Date	Expected Completion Date	Project Status
Yirrkala	14 September 2026	24 September 2026	Note: Subject to current production rates, grading maintenance underway at Gapuwiyak

- Yirrkala dates are indicative and based on current production rates (grading maintenance underway at Gapuwiyak), access constraints



Gunyipinya Road (Yirrkala Access Road) Potholes Patching Works

- Gunyipinya Road (Yirrkala access road) sustained significant pothole damage following a torrential wet weather event, which was further exacerbated by the deteriorated condition of the existing road pavement.
- Lamm Transport was engaged to undertake pothole repair works due to public road safety concerns.
- Pothole patching works were completed on 11 July 2026.



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

Assessment of capital upgrade works is ongoing to confirm that priority areas are appropriately targeted based on severity and that the proposed solutions are suitable and fit for purpose.

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

ATTACHMENTS:

Nil

NOTING PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT

2.5 Human Resources and Finance Report

AUTHOR Ralph Reddy (Finance Manager)

RECOMMENDATION

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

SUMMARY:

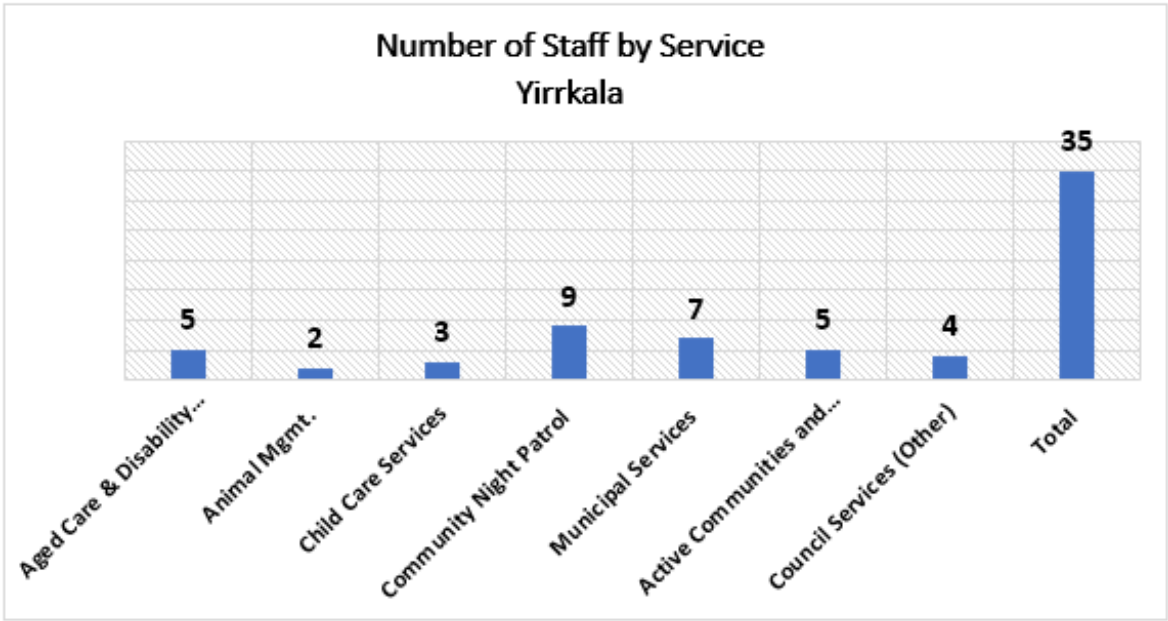
This report presents the financials plus employment statistics as of 30 June 2026 within the Local Authority area.

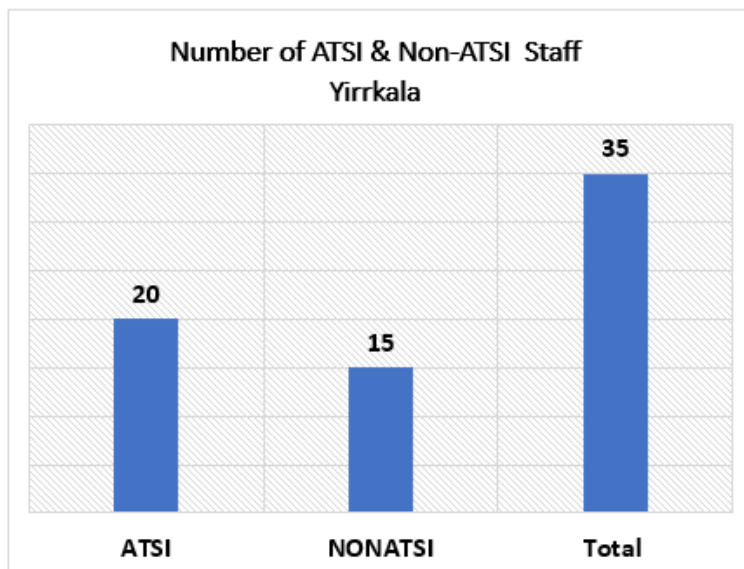
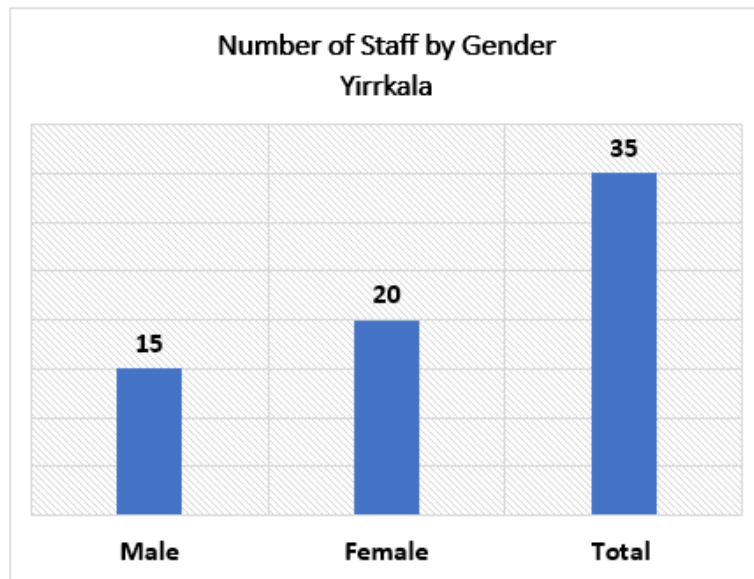
BACKGROUND:

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

GENERAL:

Employee Statistics:





Vacancies as of 30 June 2026:

Job Title	Location	Recruitment Type	Employment Type	Number of Vacancies
Community Media Officer	Yirrkala	Community	Casual	1
Aged Care and Disability Services Care Coordinator	Yirrkala	External	Full Time	1
Municipal Services Officer	Yirrkala	Community	Casual	1
Child Care Team Leader	Yirrkala	External	Full Time	1
Child Care Worker	Yirrkala	Community	Casual	2
Child Care Educator	Yirrkala	Community	Full Time	1
Child Care Worker	Yirrkala	Community	Casual	1
Child Cre Project Officer	Yirrkala	Community	Full Time	1
Aged Care Services Support Worker	Yirrkala	Community	Casual	1
Council Services Manager	Yirrkala	External	Full time	1

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

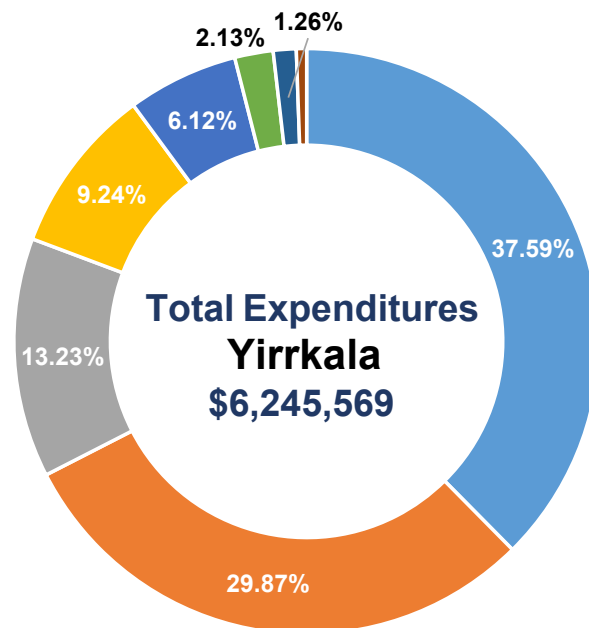
ATTACHMENTS:

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

LOCAL AUTHORITY PROJECT FUNDING (LAPF) - YIRRKALA FUNDS LEFT

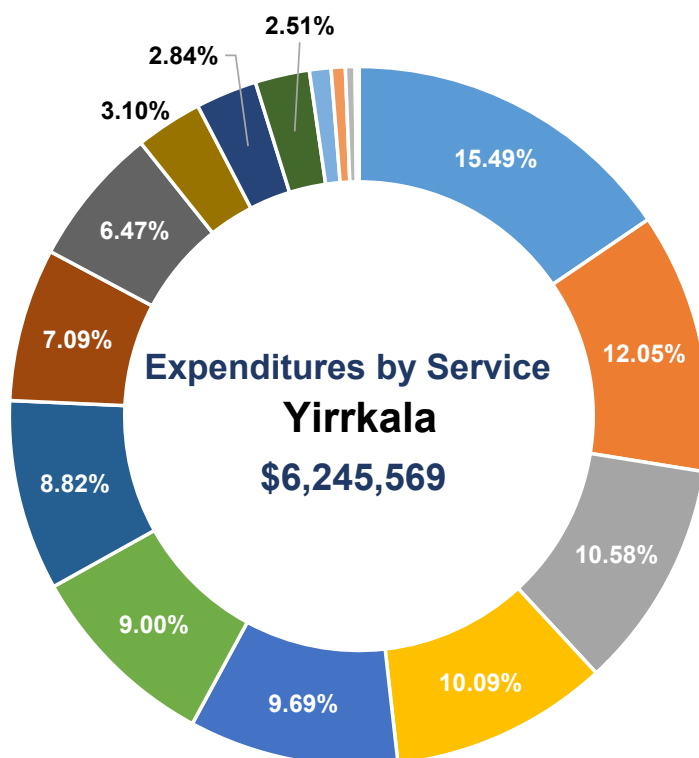
As at 30th June 2026

	YTD ACTUAL	COMMITMENTS	ACTUAL + COMMITMENTS	FULL YEAR BUDGET	PROGRESS % (ACTUAL vs BUDGET)
CARRIED FORWARD LAPF FROM PRIOR YEAR	302,245	-	302,245	302,245	
LAPF RECEIVED THIS FINANCIAL YEAR	107,700	-	107,700	107,700	
TOTAL AVAILABLE LAPF THIS FINANCIAL YEAR	409,945	-	409,945	409,945	
LESS LAPF PROJECTS					
277218 - Unallocated LAPF 2017-2018, Yirrkala	-	(13,440)	(13,440)	-	0%
304918 - Local Authority Project Funding Yirrkala - Revenue	(594)	-	(594)	-	0%
307718 - LAPF - Yirrkala Aged Care Upgrade Contribution	(112,016)	(55,828)	(167,844)	(409,945)	27%
TOTAL PROJECTS	(112,610)	(69,268)	(181,878)	(409,945)	27%
ESTIMATED LAPF - LEFT (OVERSPEND) / UNDERSPEND			228,068	-	



where money was spent?

- Employee Costs \$2,347,785
- Materials and Contracts \$1,865,509
- General \$825,992
- Fleet & Buildings \$577,087
- Core Recovery \$382,339
- Insurance & Finance \$132,895
- IT Charges \$78,575
- Allocations \$35,387



- 145 - Child Care Services \$967,559
- 141 - Aged Care Services \$752,611
- 122 - Building and Infrastructure Services \$660,925
- 169 - Municipal Services \$630,321
- 147 - Community Night Patrol and Sobering Up Shelter Services \$604,992
- 118 - Local Road Maintenance & Traffic Management \$561,839
- 107 - Council Services \$550,753
- 129 - Waste and Environmental Services \$442,506
- 152 - Active Communities \$404,301
- 170 - Youth Services \$193,477
- 171 - Disability Services \$177,422
- 108 - Veterinary and Animal Control Services \$157,017
- 167 - People and Corporate Services \$62,074
- 116 - Lighting for Public Safety \$41,027
- 146 - Community Media \$27,726
- 100 - Local Authorities Boards \$8,878
- 119 - Local Road Upgrade and Construction \$1,229
- 156 - Community Events \$912

3 General Business and Date of Next Meeting

PRESENTATION

3.1 Discussion with Local Police

RECOMMENDATION

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

ATTACHMENTS:

Nil

PRESENTATION

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

RECOMMENDATION

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

ATTACHMENTS:

Nil



08 8986 8986
 info@eastarnhem.nt.gov.au
 PO Box 1060, Nhulunbuy NT 0881
 www.eastarnhem.nt.gov.au
 ABN 92 334 301 078

Request to Present at a Local Authority Meeting

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

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

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

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

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



08 8986 8986
 info@eastarnhem.nt.gov.au
 PO Box 1060, Nhulunbuy NT 0881
 www.eastarnhem.nt.gov.au
 ABN 92 334 301 078

Other Information (where applicable)				
When is attendance at a local authority meeting required? <i>(Please indicate any time sensitivities)</i>				
☒ Next Available Meeting _____ (date)	☐ Before _____ (date)	☐ After _____ (date)		
What communication materials are expected to be used? <i>(Please indicate and attach copies where possible, and consider whether interpreter services are needed)</i>				
Do you require use of any of the following:				
☐ Laptop	☒ Projector	☐ Video Teleconference		
☐ Documents Printed (Charges apply)		☐ Whiteboard		
If a scheduled local authority meeting does not meet your requirements, a special meeting may be called at a cost of \$1,710 per meeting, <i>Subject to availability of members.</i>				
Do you require a special meeting to be called?				
Proposed Dates: _____ or _____ or _____ (1st Choice) (2nd Choice) (3rd Choice)		<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Yes ☐</td> <td>No ☒</td> </tr> </table>	Yes ☐	No ☒
Yes ☐	No ☒			

Official use Only

Date Received _____

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

30 September 2026

4 Meeting Close