



KATHERINE
TOWN COUNCIL

Municipal Plan

2023/24

Cover art by Katherine artist and Gurindji man Kamahi Djordon King. The painting on corrugated iron is part of his BLAK on a Hot Tin Roof exhibit, paying homage to the simple shanty homes he remembers as a kid.

○ Wardaman

○ Dagoman

○ Jawoyn

○ We acknowledge the traditional owners...

○ ...of the country on which we work and live

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Introduction

This Municipal Plan is Katherine Town Council's action plan on the services, programs, events, facilities, and infrastructure it will deliver and maintain for the community over the financial year from July 2023 to June 2024.

The following document contains our annual budget, which outlines proposed Council rates and our long-term financial plan. To view the full Fees and Charges document on our website, go to www.katherine.nt.gov.au

The art and pictures in this year's plan acknowledge the multicultural aspect of Katherine, with 29% of our population born overseas.

Council's Vision: Katherine is a place of opportunities. We celebrate diversity as we live, work, learn and grow together.

Council's Mission: Together, we will work effectively today to shape our exceptional future tomorrows.

Council's Values:

- Accepting of diversity
- Sense of community
- Respect for people, environment and culture

Consultation

To ensure that Council aligns its vision with Katherine's future, there will be 21-day consultation period from June 7 to June 27, 2023.

As per advice from the Department of the Chief Minister & Cabinet NOTE: "A copy of the draft plan must be provided to the Elected Members at least six (6) business days before the meeting to adopt the draft plan to begin public consultation."

Elected Members received the draft Municipal Plan two (2) weeks prior to adopting the draft plan for consultation. The advertisement was placed on the Council website on 7 June 2023 and the Katherine Times on 14 June 2023. Elected Members conducted consultations with the community during this period.

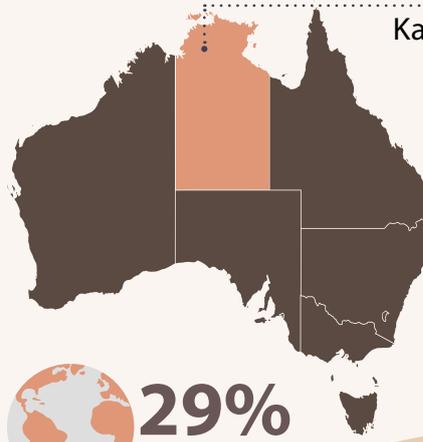
The Municipal Plan was adopted by Special Meeting of Council on 29 June 2023.

All photography contained within this publication was taken at the Katherine 'Joy of Many Colours' Multicultural Festival hosted by the Katherine Red Cross Connected Womens Group - April 2023

About Katherine

At the heart of the Big Rivers Region* is Katherine, the fourth largest township in the Northern Territory. Katherine is located at a critical crossroads point for northern Australia and the Top End, connecting Perth to Darwin from the west and Adelaide to Darwin through the north/south highway and rail corridor. Katherine services the wider Big Rivers Region with access to education and medical services.

Around 8,000 people live in the Katherine municipality. The local RAAF Airbase at the Katherine suburb of Tindal adds around 2,000 to this figure making it over 10,000 people living and working in Katherine.



Katherine is the fourth largest town in the Northern Territory.



Population
Approx. **10,000**



23 parks

Council manages recreational areas through maintenance of facilities, mowing and beautifying



29%

were born overseas

25.5%

identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.

6.6%

of the Katherine population work in defence

18.9%

of business in construction industry

33 years

the median age in Katherine

\$130M+

worth of total infrastructure assets including roads, sporting venues, and community facilities



Over 3600

rateable properties

60+ staff

at Katherine Town Council

* The Big Rivers Region is the entire southern part of the Top End and encompasses Katherine, the Roper Gulf and Victoria Daly Regions from the Gulf of Carpentaria to Western Australia border.

Message from the Mayor



Lis Clark

Council has achieved much over the last year. This Municipal Plan is what we plan to do in the next financial year, continuing the great work of our team.

This plan and Council's goals are guided by our Katherine 2027 Five Year Strategic Plan. These goals were defined after consultation with our community and what our community highlighted as important.

One exciting project in the next financial year we will be working towards is the development of our Aquatic Centre upgrade, ensuring it is fit-for-purpose of our expanding community.

We will also continue working with our neighbouring Councils, Roper Gulf Regional Council and Victoria Daly Regional Council as Katherine sees development in agriculture, mining and the air force base at Tindal.

At Council, we provide a vital service to our ratepayers and it is important that they feel heard and listened to.

We will continue to consult with the community and focus on our strategic priorities.

Despite staff shortages, our staff continue to work hard and fill in the gaps. We continue to maintain our roads, parks and facilities to a high standard and ensure waste collection runs smoothly.

We also do what we can to enhance the liveability and vibrancy of our Katherine community. We will continue to provide and extend an exciting list of events throughout the year.

We endeavour to keep our community feeling safe and positive and for Katherine to be a place that we are proud to live in. Council works with relevant organisations and authorities to achieve this.

It is a great pleasure to present the Katherine Town Council Municipal Plan for the financial year of 2023/24. I look forward to the exciting opportunities on offer for our Katherine community.

Lis Clark

Chief Executive Summary



Ingrid Stonhill

In my first year with Council, I have gained insight into Katherine as a community and a clear understanding of community expectations of its Council.

Our Municipal Plan outlines our work plan, as aligned with our budget, the Katherine 2027 Five Year Strategic Plan, and our capital works program and how Council as a part of and representative of our community will work to provide high levels of service across all areas of Council.

Like many businesses and agencies in Katherine, and indeed the Northern Territory, we have been suffering from staffing shortages and have been hampered in attracting a capable workforce, due to issues beyond our control. This will impact our business operations this year. Increased costs of goods and services and supply shortages have also affected our planning of new and maintenance works.

This year there has been a revaluation of land within the Council area. Most categories generally had their land values increase. Properties zoned Rural increased the most in value. Council's rates modelling approach has been to maintain individual categories, but calculate a new differential rate, based on the new land valuations. This means that the rate for each category will change due to the revaluation, which is based on the increase in levy required from that category. Council continued to streamline the rates categories and grouped those alike categories by bringing them closer together, resulting in a 4.8% overall average increase, which is same as the last year's increase.

Recently we also saw the removal of the Council's "Multiple Dwelling Policy". We were the only Council in the Northern Territory to have such a policy. Its removal will now make us compliant with legislation and be in line with all other rating best practice standards.

We have needed to spend considerable time addressing our waste policy, practice and long-term strategy. I am excited to announce that we are about to commence our first kerbside recycling initiative. Once we have trialled it, monitored it and ironed out any

kinks we will be rolling it across all Katherine ratepayer properties.

Reducing our waste tonnage into our current waste facility is paramount to keeping costs down into the future and being environmentally responsible. Our commercial waste charges are being brought into line with those of our neighbours, ensuring that we are not receiving larger waste deposits of commercial unsorted waste from further afield. Whilst our fees and charges enter their second year of a planned three-year implementation plan, we are holding charges for sporting codes disrupted by the delays in opening the new sports pavilion.

The federal budget has been announced and it is disappointing that there is little to celebrate for our region. There is no direct injection of funds into the Big Rivers Region. Local governments like ours are struggling in many areas, with increased supply chain costs, inflation, increased contractor and staffing costs. Despite this I am proud that we have worked hard to hold our rates rise to an overall average 4.8% increase being same as the last year's increase, and as per our Long-Term Financial Plan.

As a Council we are striving to achieve economic development opportunities that will see more money coming into our region, create jobs for locals and for Council to have an independent income stream. Whilst there are no certainties in the outcomes of projects, we will be pleased to commence the Aquatic Centre upgrade this year, upgrading its ageing facilities and focusing on overdue capital works and a dedicated plan for asset protection.

Most importantly though, we are investing in our staff's wellness and ensuring that we are contributing the best we can to our people, ensuring that they in turn contribute the best they can to you, our community.

It is my pleasure to present to you our first Municipal Plan, that sits within our first ever Katherine 2027 Five Year Strategic Plan. We have a big year ahead, but I look forward to leading our team, and implementing positive change into our town of Katherine and our Big Rivers Region.

Ingrid Stonhill

(Honourable Mention - Local Government Woman of the Year Award 2023)

Elected Members



Lis Clark
Mayor



Denis Coburn
Deputy Mayor



Amanda Kingdon
Councillor

Councillors are elected by democratic vote. They are a vital part of the community and they represent the municipality.

The Mayor and six Councillors are elected for a term of four years. Council will hold a by-election for two vacant Councillor seats in July 2023. The next general election will be in 2025.



Maddy Bower
Councillor



Jeremy Trembath
Councillor



Vacant
Councillor



Vacant
Councillor

ORGANISATION CHART





Strategic Priorities

Katherine's 2027 Five Year Strategic Plan outlines the roadmap for the Katherine municipality over the next five years. This plan was driven by community input. Following are our seven strategic priorities and highlighted projects for 2023/24.



Strong Leadership



Community and Families



Sports and Civic Events



Growth and Sustainability



Arts, Culture and Heritage



Big Rivers Inter-Government Collaboration



Environmental Sustainability

Highlighted Projects for 2023/24

Reconciliation Action Plan

About 25.5% of Katherine's population are Indigenous. A Reconciliation Action Plan will help staff integrate the culture and history of our region with Council's work. The process to create this document will start in FY 2023/24.



SP05 Arts, Culture and Heritage
Supports culture in Katherine and provide ways to work in the future as a self-aware community.

July 2023 By-Election

Staff to be trained for the voting centre and Council will raise awareness in the community to increase interest in voting.



SP01 Strong Leadership
Increases community awareness of Council and elected members, engaging the community in municipal matters.

Wellbeing Strategy

Council will provide a program of support activities to promote staff engagement and improve employee health and mindfulness. This will attract capable staff.



SP04 Growth and Sustainability
Provides the right conditions for staff and enhances liveability.

Civic Centre Upgrade

As part of the wellbeing strategy, upgrade building to be compliant with building code and Work, Health and Safety (WHS) standards and improve the staff and visitor experience.



SP04 Growth and Sustainability
Helps provide the right conditions for staff

Community Grants Information Session

Along with this annual program, Council will provide an information session to the public to encourage more applications.



SP02 Community and Families
Helps support business and community leaders in promoting Katherine and having an active community.

Advanced Payroll System

The finance team will invest in an advanced payroll system that integrates with human resources, workplace health and safety, and accounting systems. This new payroll system will provide functionalities like attendance, employee clock-in/clock-out, and award interpretation.



SP01 Strong Leadership
Achieves efficiencies and aligns with our strategic goals to lead by example, have strong internal governance, and improve financial management.

Safer Territory Project

Receive funds to consult with the community and carry out activities to improve lighting and safety in Katherine.



SP02 Community and Families
Meets strategic goals to foster a safer community and upgrade infrastructure.

Online Search – Cemetery

This search will be embedded on Council's website. Allows users to search and view records. Users can see what sites are available to reserve and pick a site for a loved one.



SP01 Strong Leadership
Fits our strategic priorities to enhance customer experiences and improve Council services.

Aquatic Centre

Council has a \$10million federal promise to redevelop the pool. Council will do public consultation on plans.



SP03 Sports and Civic Events
Fits our strategic priorities in prioritising community infrastructure and recreation and engage with the community.

Recycling Trial

Continue Council-led workplace initiative as well as a six-month sample household recycling trial in East Katherine.



SP07 Environmental Sustainability
Implements a recycling initiative that inspires the community. Engages residents with a community education program to minimise our footprint. Provides opportunities for the community to recycle.

Tip Shop

Operate the newly opened tip shop at the Waste Management Facility.



SP07 Environmental Sustainability
Provides opportunities for the community to repurpose and recycle resources, reducing our landfill waste.

Supporting EV Station

Provide land and work with Northern Territory Government (NTG) and partners to install an Electric Vehicle station in Katherine.



SP06 Big Rivers Inter-Government Collaboration
Collaborate to work on infrastructure goals to achieve the best outcomes for the Big Rivers Region.

Capital Projects

- Civic Centre upgrades
- Aquatic centre upgrades
- River Trail upgrades/repair
- Civil Airport taxiway and apron upgrades
- Biosecurity truck wash project



Our Service Delivery Plan

Council's departments deliver services and projects which are guided by the strategic priorities identified in the Katherine 2027 Five Year Strategic Plan. Following are our 2023/24 deliverables.

Governance

Governance and Elected Members

2023/24 Deliverables

- Regularly update our workplace policies and procedures and Council bylaws
- Ensure compliance with local government legislation
- Organise Council meetings, elected member information sessions, and special meetings
- Support elected members to participate in community engagement forums
- Support development of a Reconciliation Action Plan
- Strengthen Councillor profiles to increase community awareness of who they are
- Work with NTG on its Big Rivers Regional Economic Growth Plan
- Continue strong relationships with regional, Territory and Federal Governments
- Participate in reference groups, working on issues that affect the community
- Advocate for the interests of the Katherine community
- Develop an elected member-led advocacy agenda on key areas of concern

Human Resources

2023/24 Deliverables

- Manage staffing levels to ensure a continuous service
- Encourage participation in Council's school-trainee program
- Keep up to date with workplace health and safety training
- Offer staff training and development opportunities
- Celebrate our successes

Media and Community Engagement

2023/24 Deliverables

- Manage communication channels of social media, website, media enquiries
- Engage with the community and highlight positive aspects of Katherine
- Provide consistent communications and implement Council's communication plan
- Support by-election through encouraging the community to vote
- Provide information to improve transparency of Council
- Learn what the community wants to know through community engagement strategies

Corporate Services

Financial Services

2023/24 Deliverables

- Adhere to internal financial procedures
- Comply with legislative requirements
- Prudent financial management for stronger returns for ratepayers
- Sustainable long-term finances and current risk management practices
- Implement advanced payroll system

Administration Services

2023/24 Deliverables

- Service requests to be actioned in accordance with the Customer Service Charter
- Maintain Council's Information Technology and Electronic Record Management System
- Deliver positive customer service

Community Services

Community Events and Collaboration

2023/24 Deliverables

- Provide vibrant calendar of events that promote diversity and accessibility
- Collaborate with community partners
- Provide annual community grants program with an information session
- Coordinate celebrations and civic events
- Empower youth through youth-focused events and school holiday activities
- Support National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee (NAIDOC) Week events
- Participate in the Katherine Youth Interagency Group
- Well-attended and frequent Activate Katherine events
- Carry out events as part of Council's Wellbeing Strategy
- Increased participation and community connectedness at Council activities

Visitor Information Services

2023/24 Deliverables

- Increase total sales
- Deliver positive customer experiences
- Promote Katherine and educate customers on local culture and experiences
- Collaborate with Tourism Northern Territory (NT) on its tourism strategy for the NT

Library Services

2023/24 Deliverables

- Provide interactive library programs and initiatives to engage patrons
- Provide a safe space
- Provide an informed and community-driven library collection
- Improve digital community connectivity through this facility

Regulatory Services

2023/24 Deliverables

- Service requests to be actioned in accordance with the Customer Service Charter
- Audit unkept properties
- Complete annual controlled parking audit
- Undertake dog registration audits
- Educate public on updated Katherine Town Council Bylaws



Infrastructure

Assets include the Civic Centre, depot, library, visitor information centre, cemetery, community halls, sportsgrounds, showgrounds, hot springs reserve, light-emitting diode (LED) streetlights and Council's network of urban and rural roads.

Katherine Civil Airport

2023/24 Deliverables

Compliance with Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) regulations.

Adhere to partnership agreement with Oz Airports

Roads, Footpaths, Nature Strips and Cycleways

2023/24 Deliverables

Provide and maintain a safe network of road, cycleway and footpath infrastructure

Begin works on high priority areas as per 2022-23 footpath audit

Allocate grant funding from Roads to Recovery and Black Spot programs

Deliver capital works program for road resealing and pavement rehabilitation

Grade rural roads to stabilise and shape shoulders and table drains

Make potholes safe and repair within 21 days

Make trip hazards safe and repair within 21 days

Carry out signage renewal program

Carry out line marking renewal program

Stormwater Management

2023/24 Deliverables

Maintain stormwater drainage

Maintain all-weather access to sealed rural roads in flood prone areas and at non-permanent creek crossings through culverts and open channels.

Undertake assessments to develop staged renewal program for kerbs and gutters

Carry out scheduled Closed-circuit television (CCTV) inspections and cleaning of underground pipe

Carry out scheduled CCTV inspections and cleaning of under road culverts

Make Side Entry Pit (SEP) lids and grates safe and repair within 21 days

Streetlighting

2023/24 Deliverables

Expenditure for annual streetlighting program within budget

Urgent service requests to be actioned in accordance with the Customer Service Charter

Non-urgent service requests to be actioned in accordance with the Customer Service Charter

Carry out Safer Territory Grant

Weed Management

2023/24 Deliverables

Compliance with legislative requirements with the control of noxious weeds

Track weed infestations

Non-urgent service requests to be actioned in accordance with the Customer Service Charter

Binjari

2023/24 Deliverables

Provide services in line with NTG operational funding arrangements

Cemetery

2023/24 Deliverables

- Compliance with legislative requirements
- Provide safe and appropriate burial options
- Provide positive customer service
- Complete annual plinth installation program
- Implement byondcloud online search

Waste

2023/24 Deliverables

- Ensure contractor provides kerbside collection in accordance with agreed service levels
- Work with waste contractor to respond to customer issues
- Investigate residential recycling through six-week trial
- Recycling trial - educate residents on separating their waste
- Conduct environmental monitoring and reporting required by Northern Territory Environment Protection Authority and National Pollutant Inventory regulations
- Participate in programs such as Clean Up Australia Day
- Promote Council's Waste Management Strategy
- Assist where needed in the Municipal Recycling Facility feasibility study
- Progress work to close the existing landfill
- Progress development of new landfill
- Participate in Big Rivers Regional Waste Management Group and Waste Industry Forums
- Install a tip shop at waste facility, encouraging the reuse of goods
- Educate residents on their environmental impact through communication strategies
- Implement Waste Management Strategy 2021-2026

Open Spaces

2023/24 Deliverables

- Complete scheduled grounds maintenance of playgrounds, parks, gardens and reserves
- Service requests to be actioned in accordance with the Customer Service Charter
- Inspect playground equipment monthly at Adventure Play Park
- Progressively remove playgrounds from small local parks
- Carry out annual playground safety audit

Recreation and Leisure Facilities

2023/24 Deliverables

- Manage and maintain Council-owned facilities
- Begin development of Katherine Recreation Strategy and Facility Management Plan
- Begin audit and condition assessment of Council community facilities and spaces
- Conduct stakeholder meetings
- Service requests to be actioned in accordance with the Customer Service Charter
- Begin public consultation on the Katherine Aquatic Centre redevelopment

Long-Term Asset Management Plan

2023/24 Deliverables

- Update Asset Register, Asset Management Plan and Long-Term Financial Plan
- Carry out asset renewal and replacement program
- Conduct annual asset audit and condition assessments
- Develop a continuous business improvement cycle for each service
- Carry out vehicle renewal replacements

Rates, Waste and Charges

Know your rates

Council calculates its general rates by using a method by multiplying the unimproved capital valuation (UCV) amount by the differential rate or the fixed minimum amount, whichever is greater. This is known as the Differential Rating System.

A UCV is the valuation of the land excluding any improvements that have been made.

This method also involves using the NT Planning Scheme Zones to categorise the rateable land.

Each zoning category will have its own description, a differential rate, and a fixed minimum amount.



The Valuer General sets the UCV and a review is undertaken every three years to effect the following financial year.

Waste Service Charges

A full waste management charge of \$393.87 is applied for the purpose of assisting Council to meet the costs of garbage collection and waste disposal services that are provided to residential land holders.

Where Council is not willing or able to provide a weekly kerbside collection, a minimum of \$139.75 will be applied to the land.

All allotments within the Katherine municipality will receive a waste management levy of \$139.75 to contribute to the management and project costs of the facility.

Fees and Charges

Fees and Charges have increased by 6.2% for the 2023/24 year. Council continues to analyse our fees and charges' structure. We will now be entering into phase 2 of a 3-year plan with the charges that relate to hiring of Council facilities.

The Council will not be increasing the hireable fees for the sportsground due to the delay and disruption that prolonged the opening and usage of the facility. In addition to this, the mobile food vending permits will also not increase for 2023/24.

Fees and Charges can be viewed in person at the Civic Centre as well as on our website: www.katherine.nt.gov.au/documents/publications-and-policies/fees-and-charges

Your Rates

Council intends to raise \$8,756,737 in rates for the 2023/24 financial year. An extensive review involving the previous rating elements and cost of delivering Council services has been undertaken.

Council has included an overall average rate increase of 4.8% for 2023/24, which is same as the last year's increase. The new valuations have been adopted and most categories saw an increase, with properties zoned Rural increased the most in value.

We continue to bring and group the alike categories closer together, and bringing the rate in the dollar closer, which enables Council to apply rates in a fair and equitable manner.

Council has also introduced two new rating classifications, Major Shopping Centres and Major Cattle Facility.

The Major Shopping Centre will apply to classes of allotments within the municipality zoned Commercial or Central Business (CB) under the NT Planning Scheme. Major Shopping Centre applies to a parcel area equal to or greater than 10,000m².

The Major Cattle Facility will apply to classes of allotments within the municipality zoned Agricultural or Rural under the NT Planning Scheme. Major Cattle Facility applies to a parcel area equal to greater than 100,000m².

Katherine Municipality also has Multi Zoned allotments, this means that the allotment has more than one zone e.g. Agriculture and Rural.

For the purpose of rating Multi Zoned allotments, the valuation services will provide Council with the percentage of zoned areas which make up the allotment, and the unimproved capital value which pertains to each zone. Council will use the zone with the greater percentage to rate the land accordingly.

Description	Category	c in \$	Min - 23/24	Levy 2023/24	Levy Change \$	New Valuation
Non Rateable		0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$29,688,000
Pastoral Lease	Rural	0.0566	\$696	\$8,210	\$3,611	\$14,045,000
Agriculture (A)	Rural	0.249	\$1,470	\$500,033	\$37,339	\$108,240,000
Binjari	Residential	0.00001	\$1,385	\$49,860	\$2,160	\$1,326,000
Commercial (C)	Commercial	2.258	\$1,470	\$31,289	\$1,452	\$1,328,000
Central Business	Commercial	2.9038	\$1,470	\$918,681	\$42,856	\$29,658,500
Central Business 2 (CB2)	Commercial	2.23	\$1,470	\$271,901	\$20,503	\$11,970,000
Community Living, Community Purpose (CL, CP)	Commercial	3.4976	\$1,385	\$124,735	\$8,351	\$2,305,000
Caravan Parks (CV)	Commercial	2.9038	\$1,470	\$119,927	\$5,321	\$4,130,000
Future Development (FD)	Commercial	27.7771	\$1,470	\$1,470	\$70	\$5,000
General Industry (GI)	Commercial	1.7087	\$1,470	\$774,512	\$57,698	\$44,846,000
Light Industry (LI)	Commercial	1.7087	\$1,470	\$218,749	\$17,336	\$12,798,000
Low Density Residential (LR)	Residential	1.7087	\$1,385	\$3,029,679	\$82,067	\$171,898,000
Low-Medium Density Residential (LMR)	Residential	1.7087	\$1,385	\$842,773	\$40,608	\$27,478,000
Medium Density Residential (MR)	Residential	1.7087	\$1,385	\$140,339	\$6,211	\$3,415,000
No NT Planning Scheme Zone Applies (NOZONE)	Residential	0.2795	\$1,385	\$21,289	\$935	\$3,170,000
Organised Recreation (OR)	Commercial	1.17183	\$1,470	\$15,532	\$714	\$1,285,000
Rural (R)	Rural	0.3759	\$1,385	\$611,101	\$27,202	\$91,780,000
Rural Living (RL)	Residential	0.68321	\$1,385	\$328,373	\$14,796	\$42,955,000
Railway (RW)	Commercial	16.66425	\$1,470	\$10,969	\$505	\$62,000
Service Commercial (SC)	Commercial	4.30011	\$1,470	\$21,501	\$0	\$500,000
Specific Use 1, Specific Use 4 (SK1, SK4)	Commercial	1.9039	\$1,470	\$7,711	\$353	\$405,000
Specific Use 2 (SK2)	Commercial	2.4217	\$1,470	\$5,691	\$261	\$235,000
Tourist Commercial (TC)	Commercial	2.9038	\$1,470	\$94,664	\$4,293	\$3,260,000
Water Management (WM)	Rural	0.54442	\$1,470	\$84,577	\$4,776	\$11,785,000
Major Shopping Centre	Commercial	2.9038	\$1,470	\$70,417	\$3,238	\$2,425,000
Major Cattle Facility	Commercial	0.3759	\$1,470	\$5,920	\$221	\$1,575,000
Specific Use 5 (SK5)	Residential	1.7087	\$1,385	\$58,181	\$3,696	\$3,405,000
Total for Differential Categories shown				\$ 8,368,085	\$ 386,573	\$ 635,627,500

Description	c in \$	Min - 23/24	2023/24 Levy
Tindal	0.00001	1606	\$388,652

Annual Budget Assumptions

Income:

- Rates income is to increase on average 4.8% (same increase as the last financial year).
- Waste Management Levy is to increase on average 4.8%.
- Council's Fees and Charges have been increased by CPI (All Groups Darwin march 2023 Annual Change Index, which was 6.2%) unless otherwise stated.
- Operating Grants and Subsidies are forecast as remaining constant.
- Interest income is forecast as remaining strong. However, this will be reviewed regularly and may need to be adjusted based on the actual cash flow.

Expenditure:

- There is an increase in employee expenses due to the Enterprise Bargaining Agreement (EBA), 3% increment rises and resource allocations for the planned activities.
- Materials and contracts expenses are forecast to increase in 2023/24, mainly due to high inflation, rising costs of doing business and the planned activities.
- All elected members will be paid 100% as per the Northern Territory of Australia Remuneration Tribunal's Determination of Allowances for Members of Local Government Councils.
- Council Committee Allowances and Expenses have been provided for.
- Depreciation charges are based on modelling undertaken in the National Asset Management Strategy (NAMS) Plus Module data.
- Finance Costs relating to the rehabilitation of Katherine Waste Management Landfill have been provided for.
- Capital Expenditure is based on the NAMS Plus Module data and estimates.

Government grants are currently forecast to account for 15% of overall Council revenue. This is expected to increase with further grant applications during the financial year.

Currently rates and waste charges represent 57% of Council income.

ANNUAL BUDGET INCOME AND EXPENDITURE (2023-2024)

	Annual Budget \$
OPERATING INCOME	
Rates	8,756,737
Waste Charges	1,439,006
Fees and Charges	2,297,644
Operating Grants and Subsidies	2,221,500
Interest / Investment Income	450,000
Commercial and Other Income	85,425
TOTAL OPERATING INCOME	15,250,312
OPERATING EXPENDITURE	
Employee Expenses	6,292,582
Materials and Contracts (including Asset Protection)	7,409,822
Elected Member Allowances	238,000
Elected Member Expenses	60,208
Council Committee Allowances	24,000
Council Committee Expenses	6,000
Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	3,477,522
Finance Costs - Landfill Rehabilitation Provision (WMF)	140,806
Interest Expenses	-
Other Expenses	-
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURE	17,648,940
BUDGETED OPERATING SURPLUS / DEFICIT	(2,398,628)

ANNUAL BUDGET OPERATING POSITION (2023-2024)

	Annual Budget \$
BUDGETED OPERATING SURPLUS / DEFICIT	(2,398,628)
Remove NON-CASH ITEMS	
<i>Less</i> Non-Cash Income	
<i>Add Back</i> Non-Cash Expenses	3,618,328
TOTAL NON-CASH ITEMS	3,618,328
Less ADDITIONAL OUTFLOWS	
Capital Expenditure	2,219,600
Borrowing Repayments (Principal Only)	-
Transfers to Reserves	-
Other Outflows	
TOTAL ADDITIONAL OUTFLOWS	2,219,600
Add ADDITIONAL INFLOWS	
Capital Grants Income	1,000,000
Prior Year Carry Forward Tied Funding	
Other Inflow of Funds	
Transfers from Reserves	
TOTAL ADDITIONAL INFLOWS	1,000,000
NET BUDGETED OPERATING POSITION	100

LONG-TERM FINANCIAL PLAN

LONG-TERM FINANCIAL PLAN	Budget 2023/2024 \$	Estimate 2024/2025 \$	Estimate 2025/2026 \$	Estimate 2026/2027 \$
OPERATING INCOME				
Rates	8,756,737	9,177,060	9,617,559	10,079,202
Waste Charges	1,439,006	1,508,078	1,580,466	1,656,328
Fees and Charges	2,297,644	2,373,466	2,451,790	2,532,699
Operating Grants and Subsidies	2,221,500	2,232,608	2,243,771	2,254,989
Interest / Investment Income	450,000	450,000	450,000	450,000
Commercial and Other Income	85,425	85,852	86,281	86,713
TOTAL OPERATING INCOME	15,250,312	15,827,064	16,429,868	17,059,932
OPERATING EXPENDITURE				
Employee Expenses	6,292,582	6,670,137	7,070,345	7,494,566
Materials and Contracts (including Asset Protection)	7,409,822	7,654,346	7,906,939	8,167,868
Elected Member Allowances	238,000	240,380	242,784	245,212
Elected Member Expenses	60,208	60,810	61,418	62,032
Council Committee Allowances	24,000	24,240	24,482	24,727
Council Committee Expenses	6,000	6,060	6,121	6,182
Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	3,477,522	3,477,522	3,477,522	3,477,522
Finance Costs - Landfill Rehabilitation Provision (WMF)	140,806	406,116	335,713	132,349
Interest Expenses	-	-	-	-
Other Expenses	-	-	-	-
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURE	17,648,940	18,539,611	19,125,325	19,610,459
BUDGETED OPERATING SURPLUS / DEFICIT	(2,398,628)	(2,712,547)	(2,695,457)	(2,550,527)

LONG-TERM FINANCIAL PLAN	Budget 2023/2024 \$	Estimate 2024/2025 \$	Estimate 2025/2026 \$	Estimate 2026/2027 \$
BUDGETED OPERATING SURPLUS / DEFICIT	(2,398,628)	(2,712,547)	(2,695,457)	(2,550,527)
Remove NON-CASH ITEMS				
<i>Less</i> Non-Cash Income				
<i>Add Back</i> Non-Cash Expenses	3,618,328	3,883,638	3,813,235	3,609,872
TOTAL NON-CASH ITEMS	3,618,328	3,883,638	3,813,235	3,609,872
Less ADDITIONAL OUTFLOWS				
Capital Expenditure	2,219,600	1,918,600	1,885,518	2,390,408
Borrowing Repayments (Principal Only)	-	-	-	-
Transfers to Reserves	-	252,091	232,060	-
Other Outflows				
TOTAL ADDITIONAL OUTFLOWS	2,219,600	2,170,691	2,117,578	2,390,408
Add ADDITIONAL INFLOWS				
Capital Grants Income	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
Prior Year Carry Forward Tied Funding				
Other Inflow of Funds				
Transfers from Reserves		-		331,363
TOTAL ADDITIONAL INFLOWS	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,331,363
NET BUDGETED OPERATING POSITION	100	400	200	300

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

	Budget 2023/2024	Estimate 2024/2025	Estimate 2025/2026	Estimate 2026/2027
	\$	\$	\$	\$
ASSETS				
CURRENT ASSETS				
Cash and Cash Equivalent	17,530,844	18,206,000	18,003,172	18,130,160
Receivables	1,690,753	1,371,540	1,689,879	1,361,062
Inventories	10,588	11,012	11,452	11,910
Total Current Assets	19,232,184	19,588,552	19,704,503	19,503,132
NON-CURRENT ASSETS				
Property Plant and Equipment	88,662,560	87,103,637	85,511,633	84,424,518
Other Non-Current Assets	9,608,154	9,608,154	9,608,154	9,608,154
Total Non-Current Assets	98,270,714	96,711,791	95,119,787	94,032,672
TOTAL ASSETS	117,502,898	116,300,344	114,824,290	113,535,805
LIABILITIES				
CURRENT LIABILITIES				
Payables	2,398,732	2,499,182	2,379,430	2,505,662
Provisions	621,813	624,922	628,046	631,186
Total Current Liabilities	3,020,544	3,124,104	3,007,476	3,136,848
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES				
Employee Entitlements (including costs)	63,381	63,698	64,017	64,337
Landfill Rehabilitation Provision (WMF)	7,327,461	7,733,577	8,069,290	8,201,639
Total Non-Current Liabilities	7,390,842	7,797,275	8,133,306	8,265,976
TOTAL LIABILITIES	10,411,386	10,921,379	11,140,782	11,402,824
NET ASSETS	107,091,512	105,378,965	103,683,508	102,132,981
EQUITY				
Acummulated Surplus	24,853,949	22,889,311	20,961,793	19,742,630
Asset Revaluation Reserves	75,549,402	75,549,402	75,549,402	75,549,402
Other Reserves	6,688,162	6,940,253	7,172,313	6,840,950
TOTAL COUNCIL EQUITY	107,091,512	105,378,965	103,683,508	102,132,981

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW

	Budget 2023/2024 \$	Estimate 2024/2025 \$	Estimate 2025/2026 \$	Estimate 2026/2027 \$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES				
RECEIPTS				
Rates	8,494,035	9,452,372	9,329,032	10,381,578
Waste Charges	1,510,956	1,432,674	1,659,489	1,573,512
Operating Grants, Subsidies & Contributions	2,221,500	2,232,608	2,243,771	2,254,989
Fees & Charges	2,182,761	2,492,139	2,329,201	2,659,334
Interest Earnings	463,500	454,500	459,000	436,500
Other Revenue	89,696	81,560	90,595	82,377
Sub-total	14,962,449	16,145,853	16,111,089	17,388,291
PAYMENTS				
Employee Costs	(6,607,211)	(6,336,630)	(7,423,862)	(7,119,838)
Materials & Contracts	(7,187,527)	(7,883,976)	(7,669,731)	(8,412,904)
Elected Members Allowances & Expenses	(298,208)	(301,190)	(304,202)	(307,244)
Council Committee Allowances & Expenses	(30,000)	(30,300)	(30,603)	(30,909)
Sub-total	(14,122,946)	(14,552,096)	(15,428,399)	(15,870,895)
Net Cash Provided by (Used in) Operating Activities	839,503	1,593,756	682,690	1,517,396
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES				
RECEIPTS:				
Amounts Specifically for New or Upgraded Assets	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
Sale of Replaced Assets	-	-	-	-
PAYMENTS:				
Expenditure on Renewal/Replacement of Asset	(2,219,600)	(1,918,600)	(1,885,518)	(2,390,408)
Net Cash Provided by (Used in) Investing Activities	(1,219,600)	(918,600)	(885,518)	(1,390,408)
NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH HELD	(380,097)	675,156	(202,828)	126,988
Cash & Cash Equivalents at Beginning of Period	17,910,941	17,530,844	18,206,000	18,003,172
Cash & Cash Equivalents at End of Period	17,530,844	18,206,000	18,003,172	18,130,160

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE AND FUNDING BUDGET

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE	Budget	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate
	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Buildings & Other Structures	511,825	1,337,890	1,156,310	864,220	878,560
Improvements	93,500	177,300	240,596	993,100	110,900
Plant & Equipment	1,144,125	195,560	343,803	153,588	307,550
Furniture, Fittings & Equipment	70,150	207,850	20,809	17,115	96,360
Infrastructure - Footpaths & Cycleways	-	-	124,000	355,000	-
Infrastructure - Roads	400,000	-	-	-	-
Infrastructure - Kerbing	-	-	-	-	-
Infrastructure - Other	-	-	-	7,385	-
Infrastructure - Stormwater & Drainage	-	-	-	-	-
Infrastructure - Street Lighting	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE	2,219,600	1,918,600	1,885,518	2,390,408	1,393,370
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE FUNDED BY:	-	-	-	-	-
Operating Income (amount allocated to fund capital)	1,219,600	918,600	885,518	1,390,408	393,370
Capital Grants	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
Transfers from Cash Reserves (by council resolution)	-	-	-	-	-
Borrowings	-	-	-	-	-
Sale of Assets (including trade-ins)	-	-	-	-	-
Other Funding	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE FUNDING	2,219,600	1,918,600	1,885,518	2,390,408	1,393,370

PLANNED MAJOR CAPITAL WORKS BUDGET

Class of Assets	By Major Capital Project	Actuals	Budget	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate	Total Planned	Expected
		2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025	2025/2026	2026/2027	2027/2028	Expenditure	Project Completion Date
		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	
Buildings & Other Structures	Estimate Capex towards Building & Other Structures (Various)	-	280,250	-	-	-	-	280,250	30/06/2024
Plant & Equipment	Caterpillar 963K Waste Handler Track Loader - TK6	-	600,000	-	-	-	-	600,000	30/06/2024
Infrastructure - Roads	Estimate Capex towards Roads	-	400,000	-	-	-	-	400,000	30/06/2024
Buildings & Other Structures	Civic Centre: Mechanical	-	-	742,000	-	-	-	742,000	30/06/2025
Buildings & Other Structures	Civic Centre: Flooring Finishes	-	-	185,500	-	-	-	185,500	30/06/2025
Buildings & Other Structures	Buntine Pavilion - Roofing	-	-	157,500	-	-	-	157,500	30/06/2025
Furniture, Fittings & Equipment	Internal Displays	-	-	165,000	-	-	-	165,000	30/06/2025
Plant & Equipment	New Hook Truck for Dump	-	-	-	249,150	-	-	249,150	30/06/2026
Buildings & Other Structures	Airport - Charter Air Hangar Roofing	-	-	-	-	162,400	-	162,400	30/06/2027
Buildings & Other Structures	Airport Workshop/Carport/Store - Roofing	-	-	-	-	-	156,600	156,600	30/06/2028
Buildings & Other Structures	Automatic toilet	-	-	-	-	-	165,000	165,000	30/06/2028
	TOTAL	-	1,280,250	1,250,000	249,150	162,400	321,600	3,263,400	

PROPOSED CAPITAL PROJECTS

Name	Co-funding amount	Council funding	Total Project Cost	Co Funding Source
Sports Ground Fencing Renewal	\$160,220	\$0	\$160,220	NTG
Katherine Civil Airport Taxiway and RPT Apron Upgrade	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Katherine Aquatic Centre Upgrade	\$10,300,000	TBD	\$>10,300,000	AUSTRALIAN GOVT & NTG
Civic Office Upgrade	TBD	\$1,200,000	\$>1,200,000	TBD
Indoor Multipurpose Sports Stadium	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Big River Region AFL Precinct	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
River Trail Rehabilitation	\$1,000,000	TBD	\$>1,000,000	AUSTRALIAN GOVT.
Lindsay Street Car Park Upgrade	\$190,000	TBD	\$190,000	NTG
Giles Street Solar Lighting Community Safety Upgrade	\$120,000	TBD	\$120,000	NTG
Economic Development Bio Security Truck Wash - Feasibility Study	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Economic Development Bio Security Truck Wash - Plan Development	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Bi-Centennial Linear Pathway Stage 1	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
3 Chilled Water Drinking Fountains (CBD)	TBD	TBD	TBD	LENDLEASE

ASSUMPTIONS

	Budget 2023/2024	Estimate 2024/2025	Estimate 2025/2026	Estimate 2026/2027
INCOME: REVENUES FROM ORDINARY ACTIVITIES				
Rates	4.8%	4.8%	4.8%	4.8%
Waste Charges	4.8%	4.8%	4.8%	4.8%
Operating Grants, Subsidies & Contributions	0.0%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%
Non-operating Grants, Subsidies, Contbns	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Fees & Charges	6.2%	3.3%	3.3%	3.3%
Interest Earnings	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Other Revenue	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%
EXPENDITURE: EXPENSES FROM ORDINARY ACTIVITIES				
Employee Costs	8.9%	6.0%	6.0%	6.0%
Materials & Contracts	8.8%	3.3%	3.3%	3.3%
Elected Member Allowances & Expenses	10.9%	1.0%	1.0%	1.0%
Depreciation on Non-current Assets (see below)				
Interest Expense (based on estimated borrowings)				
Council Committee Allowances and Expenses	0.0%	1.0%	1.0%	1.0%
Other Expenditure	0.0%	1.0%	1.0%	1.0%
CAPITAL ASSETS				
Average Depreciation - Buildings	2%	2%	2%	2%
Average Depreciation - Other	8%	8%	8%	8%
Average Depreciation - Infrastructure Roads	2%	2%	2%	2%
Average Depreciation - Infrastructure Other	2%	2%	2%	2%

