AGENDA

Ordinary Meeting of Council
To be held on Tuesday 24 November 2026
At 6:00 pm

Top Didj Aboriginal Art Gallery, Exhibition Room
363 Gorge Road, Lansdowne, Katherine NT 0850

The Acting Chief Executive Officer of Katherine Town Council hereby provides notice of the Ordinary Meeting of Council in accordance with Section 92 of the *Local Government Act 2019*

ELECTED MEMBERS

- Mayor Joanna Holden (Chair)
- Deputy Mayor Mel Doyle
- Councillor Kathryn Whitehouse
- Councillor Jim King
- Councillor Toni Tapp Coutts
- Councillor Kathy Glass
- Councillor Anjali Palmer

OFFICERS

- Casey Anderson – Acting Chief Executive Officer
- Yeshika Kandanaarachchi – Governance Officer – Minute Taker
- Amanda Haigh – Manager Governance and Risk
- Rebecca Baguley – Chief Financial Officer

VISION:	MISSION:	VALUES:
Katherine is a place of opportunities. We celebrate diversity as we live, work, learn and grow together.	**Together, we will work effectively today to shape our exceptional future tomorrows.**	**1. Accepting of diversity** **2. Sense of community** **3. Respect for people, environment, and culture.**

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1 Acknowledgement of Country 5
2 Opening Prayer 5
3 Opening of the Meeting 5
4 Attendance 5
4.1 Present 5
4.2 Apologies 5
4.3 Leave of Absence 5
5 Declaration of Interest 5
6 Presentations from External Agencies 6
6.1 NBN Fixed Wireless Upgrade Project 6
7 Confirmation of Previous Minutes 7
7.1 Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council 27 October 2026 7
7.2 Minutes of the Special Meeting of Council 21 October 2026 25
7.3 Minutes of the Special Meeting of Council 30 October 2026 30
8 Business Arising from Previous Minutes 34
8.1 Action Update November 2026 34
9 Mayoral Business 40
9.1 Mayor Activities October 2026 40
10 Correspondence and Documents 41
10.1 Correspondence Incoming 41
10.2 Correspondence Outgoing 47
11 Petitions 54
12 Notice of Motion 54
13 Reports of Officers 55
13.1 Free Pool Entry - Grant Agreement 55
13.2 Katherine Town Council - Grants Register 57
13.3 Environmental and Municipal Services Quarterly Report as at 31 October 2026 66

13.4 Katherine Centenary Mural 72
13.5 Financial Report as at 31 October 2026 79
13.6 Corporate Administration Quarterly Report as at 31 October 2026 92
13.7 Approval for Staff Standown Period Without Leave 2026 97
13.8 Katherine Town Council Public Library Forward Plan 2026/2027 99
14 Reports from Committees 117
14.1 Minutes from Committees 117
14.1.1 Drafted Meeting Notes from Katherine Community Safety Action Group 118
15 Elected Member Activities 125
15.1 Elected Member Activities October 2026 125
16 Late Agenda 129
17 General Business 129
18 Closure of Meeting to Public 129
19 Confidential Items 129
19.1 Confirmation of Previous Confidential Minutes 27 October 2026 129
19.2 Confirmation of Minutes CONFIDENTIAL Special Meeting of Council 21 September 2026 129
19.3 Confidential Business Arising from Previous Minutes 130
19.4 Confidential Correspondence 131
19.5 Katherine Town Council - Community Grants 2026 131
19.6 Civic Centre Refurbishment - Delegation of Powers and Functions 131
19.7 Civic Centre Refurbishment - Update 131
19.8 rPPP - Update 131
19.9 Zimin Drive Shared Path - Update 132
19.10 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) - Department of Corrections GRP 132
20 Resumption of Open Meeting 132
21 Closure of the Meeting 132

1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We would like to acknowledge that this meeting is being held on the traditional lands of the first nations people of the Katherine township and surrounding council communities. We recognise the first nations culture as one of the longest surviving cultures in the world and we pay our respects to Elders both past, present and future.

2 OPENING PRAYER

Grant O God to this Council wisdom, understanding and sincerity of purpose in the Governance of this Municipality. Amen

3 OPENING OF THE MEETING

4 ATTENDANCE

4.1 PRESENT

4.2 APOLOGIES

4.3 LEAVE OF ABSENCE

No Councillors' Leave of Absence Applications have been identified as part of this Agenda.

5 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Members Disclosure Conflict of Interest

Elected Members must declare any conflicts of interest in accordance with Councils Conflict-of-Interest Policy. A copy of this policy can be downloaded from www.katherine.nt.gov.au or obtained by emailing records@ktc.nt.gov.au

6 PRESENTATIONS FROM EXTERNAL AGENCIES

6.1 NBN FIXED WIRELESS UPGRADE PROJECT

Organisation: NBN Local
Presenter: Tim Nicol, Manager Regional Development and Engagement
Report Type: Presentations
Attachments: Nil

Strategic Plan

1. STRONG LEADERSHIP - 1.2 Partner in progress **- Provide strategic leadership on economic development issues to promote Katherine's reputation and improve business confidence.**
1.2.3 Act as a connector for businesses to foster collaboration and partnership opportunities.

Municipal Plan

Not applicable

7 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

7.1 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL 27 OCTOBER 2026

Report Type: Previous Minutes

Attachments: 1. Unconfirmed Minutes - Ordinary Meeting of Council - 27 October 2026 [**7.1.1** - 17 pages]

Recommendation

That Council confirm the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 27 October 2026 as a true and accurate record.

MINUTES

Ordinary Meeting of Council
Held on Tuesday 27 October 2026

Top Didj Aboriginal Art Gallery, Exhibition Room
363 Gorge Road, Lansdowne, Katherine NT 0850

1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We would like to acknowledge that this meeting is being held on the traditional lands of the first nations people of the Katherine township and surrounding council communities. We recognise the first nations culture as one of the longest surviving cultures in the world and we pay our respects to Elders both past, present and future.

2 OPENING PRAYER

Grant O God to this Council wisdom, understanding and sincerity of purpose in the Governance of this Municipality. Amen

3 OPENING OF THE MEETING

Mayor Holden declared the Ordinary Meeting of Council - 27 October 2026 open at 6:00 pm.

4 ATTENDANCE

4.1 PRESENT

ELECTED MEMBERS
- Mayor Joanna Holden (Chair)
- Deputy Mayor Mel Doyle
- Councillor Jim King
- Councillor Kathy Glass
- Councillor Anjali Palmer - Via video conferencing
- Councillor Toni Tapp Coutts

OFFICERS
- Casey Anderson – Acting Chief Executive Officer
- Yeshika Kandanaarachchi – Governance Officer - Minute Taker
- Amanda Haigh – Manager Governance and Risk
- Rebecca Baguley - Chief Financial Officer

PUBLIC - 3

4.2 APOLOGIES

Councillor Whitehouse was an apology for this meeting, due to leave of absence.

4.3 LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Councillor Whitehouse has submitted a leave of absence from 23 October to 1 November 2026 and from 14 November to 22 November 2026, on 29 September 2026.

5 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

The Chair reminded members of their responsibility to declare any conflicts of interest.

Nil conflicts declared.

UNCONFIRMED

6 PRESENTATIONS FROM EXTERNAL AGENCIES

6.1 LGANT PRESENTATION - LGANT MEMBER BENEFITS AND SERVICES

Peter Pangquee, president of the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory (LGANT) addressed the Council and explained his background and LGANT's background. Mary Watson, Chief Executive Officer of the LGANT presented the presentation on LGANT member benefits and services. Council was advised that LGANT has operated for approximately 30 years and has transitioned from an organisation established under the Local Government Act to a company limited by guarantee. All 18 Northern Territory councils are members of LGANT, and it was noted that the LGANT operates under a governance structure which is similar to a council, where the Board employs the Chief Executive Officer, and the Chief Executive Officer is responsible for engaging staff and implementing the decisions and directions of the Board.

The current board includes representatives from both municipal councils and regional shire councils, with President, Peter Pangquee serving as Chair of the board. Mayor Joanna Holden currently serves as a Municipal Director. It was advised that following the local government elections last year, three board members ceased their positions as a result of either resignation or not being re-elected. It was further noted that, in accordance with the constitution, a full board spill is conducted every two years. The next board election is scheduled to take place at the Annual General Meeting in November, and Deputy Mayor Mel Doyle has nominated for Municipal Director position.

The presentation outlined LGANT's operating framework, including its Constitution, Governance Charter, internal policies, Strategic Plan, and Annual Operational Plan. LGANT's strategic priorities focus on advocacy, development, engagement, and performance. Elected Members were informed of the benefits available through LGANT membership, including access to procurement exemptions and Local Buy arrangements for commonly purchased goods and services. Additional services available to members include industrial relations through Western Australia Local Government Association (WALGA), Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) membership, roads research and technical resources, professional staff networks, forums, Elected Member development opportunities, governance and election support, Conduct Panel Secretariat services (prior to 1 July 2026), Northern Territory Councils discretionary trust, office space and meeting rooms facilities.

The presentation also highlighted LGANT's advocacy activities, including engagement with ministers and government departments, submissions, media releases, inquiries, and committee participation. LGANT works closely with the ALGA and other state and territory associations on issues including roads, infrastructure, data centres, artificial intelligence, and Indigenous affairs. Recent advocacy has focused on addressing the impacts of fuel and electricity costs on local government operations.

Members were advised of LGANT's annual conference scheduled for 10 and 11 November, which is open to attendance by Elected Members and senior council staff. Other sector development initiatives include governance training, procurement and circular economy symposiums, staff networks, the development of a Local Government Cost Index to assist with rates and budget planning, recognition programs for long-serving sector employees, circular economy awards, and promotion of local government careers through the Career Council platform.

LGANT's intention to work with the Federal Government, Northern Territory Government and Northern Territory Police on safety protections for Elected Members. Discussion highlighted a perceived legislative gap whereby federal and state ministers receive specific protections that are not available to local government Elected Members, while CEOs do not receive the same protection as council employees. It was also discussed that the increasing prevalence of harmful online content directed at public officials and the importance of understanding reporting mechanisms and strategies to build resilience. It was noted that the eSafety Commissioner had been invited to attend the November conference but was unavailable, and LGANT may arrange a future session or online briefing on this matter.

UNCONFIRMED

UNCONFIRMED

7 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

7.1 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL 22 SEPTEMBER 2026

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2026-245
Moved: Deputy Mayor Doyle; **Seconded**: Councillor Tapp Coutts

That Council confirm the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 22 September 2026 as a true and accurate record.

CARRIED 6|0

UNCONFIRMED

8 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

8.1 ACTION UPDATE OCTOBER 2026

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2026-246
Moved: Councillor Tapp Coutts; **Seconded**: Councillor Glass

That Council receive and note the Action update.

CARRIED 6|0

UNCONFIRMED

8.2 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES - NIL

Nil

9 MAYORAL BUSINESS

9.1 MAYOR ACTIVITIES SEPTEMBER 2026

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2026-247
Moved: Councillor Tapp Coutts; **Seconded**: Deputy Mayor Doyle

That Council receive and note the Mayoral activities for September 2026.

CARRIED 6|0

10 CORRESPONDENCE AND DOCUMENTS

10.1 CORRESPONDENCE INCOMING

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2026-248
Moved: Councillor King; **Seconded**: Councillor Glass

That Council receive and note the Incoming Correspondence:

Attachments:
1. Communique - LGANT CEO - LGANT Board meeting Communique 2 September 2026 - 18 September 2026 - ID263727 [**10.1.1** - 2 pages]
2. Communique - LGANT CEO - 30 July 2026 ALGA Board Communique - 18 September 2026 - ID263728 [**10.1.2** - 1 page]
3. Letter - To Ms Casey Anderson - KTC - Katherine Memorial Cemetery Capacity and Future Planning - 09 October 2026 - ID264543 [**10.1.3** - 1 page]
4. Proposal to establish a university department of rural health - Concept Brief - 12 October 2026 - ID264559 [**10.1.4** - 8 pages]
5. Proposal to establish a university department of rural health - Flyer - 12 October 2026 - ID264560 [**10.1.5** - 2 pages]

CARRIED 6|0

10.2 CORRESPONDENCE OUTGOING

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2026-249
Moved: Councillor Tapp Coutts; **Seconded**: Deputy Mayor Doyle

That Council receive and note the Outgoing Correspondence:

Attachments:
1. Media Release - KTC - Nominate Katherine's 2027 Citizen of the Year - 21 September 2026 [**10.2.1** - 1 page]
2. Media Release - KTC - Calls for United Action on Low Level Bridge - 23 September 2026 [**10.2.2** - 1 page]
3. Letter - DLPE - CEO Ms Townsend - Katherine Memorial Cemetery Expansion and New Site - 29 September 2026 - ID264542 [**10.2.3** - 2 pages]
4. Media Release - KTC - Lithium Batteries in Household Bins Cause Fires - 01 October 2026 [**10.2.4** - 1 page]
5. Media Release - KTC - Sportsground Design Approach Consultation - 08 October 2026 [**10.2.5** - 1 page]

UNCONFIRMED

6. Image - Media Release - KTC - Sportsground Design Approach Consultation - 08 October 2026 [**10.2.6** - 1 page]
7. Letter - NTEPA - Katherine Ambient Air Quality - 19 October 2026 - ID264583 [**10.2.7** - 2 pages]

CARRIED 6|0

11 PETITIONS

Nil

12 NOTICE OF MOTION

Nil

13 REPORTS OF OFFICERS

13.1 COUNCIL ADVISORY COMMITTEES AND ASSESSMENT PANEL APPOINTMENTS

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2026-250
Moved: Councillor Tapp Coutts; **Seconded**: Deputy Mayor Doyle

That Council

1. Appoints Mayor Joanna Holden, Deputy Mayor Mel Doyle and Councillor Jim King to the Administrative Review Committee for the period to 30 September 2027.
2. Appoints Mayor Joanna Holden and Councillor Jim King to the Audit and Risk Management Committee for the period to 30 September 2027 and appoints Councillor Anjali Palmer as the alternate member to the Audit and Risk Management Committee for the period to 30 September 2027.
3. Appoints Councillor Kathy Glass and Councillor Kathryn Whitehouse to the Katherine Sportsground Advisory Committee for the period to 30 September 2027, and Councillor Kathryn Whitehouse be the Chair of the Katherine Sportsground Advisory Committee for the period to 30 September 2027.
4. Council appoints Councillor Anjali Palmer and Councillor Jim King to the Katherine Showgrounds Advisory Committee for the period to 30 September 2027, and Councillor Anjali Palmer be the Chair of the Katherine Showgrounds Advisory Committee for the period to 30 September 2027.
5. Council appoints Deputy Mayor Mel Doyle and Councillor Jim King to the Waste Management Strategy Review Working Group, and Deputy Mayor Mel Doyle be the Chair of the Waste Management Strategy Review Working Group.

CARRIED 6|0

13.2 KATHERINE WASTE MANAGEMENT TRIAL OPERATING HOURS

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2026-251
Moved: Deputy Mayor Doyle; **Seconded**: Councillor Glass

UNCONFIRMED

That Council:

1. Notes the results of the Katherine Waste Management Facility extended operating hours trial, which commenced on 25 May 2026.
2. Approves the continuation of the trial operating hours until 30 June 2027.
3. Receives a further report of the trial to consider the ongoing operating hours of the facility.

CARRIED 6|0

13.3 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ALLOWANCE - ELECTED MEMBER FACILITATED 12 MONTH REVIEW SESSION

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2026-252
Moved: Deputy Mayor Doyle; **Seconded**: Councillor King

That Council approve Mayor Holden and Deputy Mayor Doyle to utilise $5,537.50 each of their Professional Development Allowance allocation for Elected Member individual discussions to identify perspectives, facilitated small group discussions, facilitate 12-month review session, and post-session follow-up support provided by The Real Learning Experience.

CARRIED 6|0

Discussion
It was noted that the total shown in the "Total Allowance remaining" column was incorrect on page 69 of 112 under Budget and Resource Implications should be $59,009.50.

It was discussed that the cost should be split proportionately among all elected members, although the program included one-on-one sessions for Mayor and Deputy Mayor. As these sessions were considered individual professional development, the Mayor and Deputy Mayor would contribute toward the cost using their professional development allowances. Other elected members were advised that they may also choose to undertake one-on-one sessions and use their allocated professional development allowances for that purpose. It was agreed that the contribution arrangement would be reviewed at the November meeting.

13.4 CHRISTMAS CLOSURES

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2026-253
Moved: Councillor Tapp Coutts; **Seconded**: Councillor Palmer

That Council receive and note the Katherine Town Council Christmas and New Year arrangements for 2026/2027.

CARRIED 6|0

Discussion
Council were informed that these arrangements did not include the additional payment of benefit previously provided to staff for closure; a separate motion would be needed if Council wished to provide that benefit again.

UNCONFIRMED

13.5 EARLY BIRD DRAW 2026/2027 WINNER

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2026-254
Moved: Deputy Mayor Doyle; **Seconded**: Councillor King

That Council:

1. receives and notes the Early Bird Draw winner for 2026/2027, drawn by Deputy Mayor, being the ratepayer of Assessment 2577.

CARRIED 6|0

13.6 FINANCIAL REPORT AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2026

COUNCIL RESOLUTION
Moved: Councillor King; **Seconded**: Deputy Mayor Doyle

That Council endorses the financial report for the month of 30 September 2026.

Discussion

It was noted that figure errors had been identified within the report. The Chief Financial Officer mentioned the amendments to the Council, and the corrections for noting in the minutes.

1. Table 1.1 Monthly Income and Expenditure Statement on page 79
    i. YTD Variance for Total Operating Income 2,428,575 should be corrected as 2,407,294.
    ii. YTD Variance for Total Operating Expenditure (459,723) should be corrected as 2,884,737.
2. Table 1.2 Monthly Operating Position on page 81
    i. YTD Budget for Operating Surplus (Deficit) (1,518,879) should be corrected as 5,243,865.
    ii. YTD Actuals for Net Budgeted Operating Surplus (Deficit) 9,133,014 should be corrected as 9,831,595.
    iii. YTD Budget for Net Budgeted Operating Surplus (Deficit) (932,791) should be corrected as 5,829,913.
    iv. YTD Variance for Net Budgeted Operating Surplus (Deficit) 5,919,492 should be corrected as 4,001,642.
3. Table 2.1 Capital Expenditure and Funding on Page 82
    i. YTD Budget for Total Capital Expenditure funded by: 1,101,421 should be corrected as 1,547,385
    ii. YTD Variance for Total Capital Expenditure funded by: (387,431) should be corrected as (944,033).
4. Page 83 Current Capital Project(s) (WIP) Total Actual Spend - LOP 760,416 should be corrected as 885,416.
5. Table 2.2 Report on Planned Major Capital Works over $150K on page 86 Total Planned Budget Life of Project 8,241,029 should be corrected as 8,228,834.
6. Page 89 AMP 6 Effective Date 30.26.26 should be corrected as 30.06.2026.

It was noted that the figures for Asset - Trade Debtors and Liabilities - Accounts Payable were correct on page 87. The Balance Sheet includes credits and other adjustments, while the supporting tables do not currently show these amounts. To make the figures easier to understand and compare, future reports will include the relevant credits in the supporting tables.

AMENDMENT RESOLUTION OMC-2026-255
Moved: Councillor Tapp Coutts; **Seconded**: Councillor King

UNCONFIRMED

That Council endorses the financial report for the month of 30 September 2026, subject to changes noted in the minutes.

CARRIED 6|0

13.7 INFRASTRUCTURE AND PROJECTS QUARTERLY REPORT AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2026

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2026-256
Moved: Deputy Mayor Doyle; **Seconded**: Councillor Glass

That Council receives and notes the report of the Infrastructure and Projects Department for this quarter.

CARRIED 6|0

13.8 PEOPLE AND CULTURE QUARTERLY REPORT AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2026

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2026-257
Moved: Deputy Mayor Doyle; **Seconded**: Councillor Tapp Coutts

That Council receives and notes the People and Culture Quarterly Report for the quarter ending 30 September 2026.

CARRIED 6|0

14 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

14.1 MINUTES FROM COMMITTEES

Nil

15 ELECTED MEMBER ACTIVITIES

15.1 ELECTED MEMBER ACTIVITIES SEPTEMBER 2026

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2026-258
Moved: Councillor Glass; **Seconded**: Councillor Tapp Coutts

That Council receive and note the Elected Member activities for September 2026.

CARRIED 6|0

16 LATE AGENDA

16.1 ANNUAL REPORT 2025/2026

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2026-259
Moved: Councillor King; **Seconded**: Deputy Mayor Doyle

1. That Council approves the 2025/2026 Annual Report, including the Audited Financial Statement for the year ended 30 June 2026.
2. That Council notes that, in accordance with Section 290(1) of the *Local Government Act 2019*, the approved Katherine Town Council 2025/2026 Annual Report, incorporating the Audited Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2026, will be provided to the Minister for Local Government.

UNCONFIRMED

3. That Council notes that, in accordance with Section 290(2), the approved Annual Report 2025/2026, incorporating the Audited Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2026, will be published on Council's website once it has been provided to the Minister. A copy will also be provided to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development.

CARRIED 6|0

Discussion
It was noted that the Chair of Audit and Risk Management Committee had presented the audit financial statements at the last Elected Members Information Session (EMIS), and no significant concerns were raised by either auditors or the Audit and Risk Management Committee.

Council acknowledged and congratulated staff on the significant effort involved in preparing the annual report, particularly given that the financial statement preparation process had been brought in-house for the first time. It was noted that this resulted in an additional workload alongside normal resposibilities and the on boarding of new staff. Council further noted that preparing the financial statements internally had been beneficial for the organisation.

16.2 TEMPORARY DELEGATION INCREASE FOR THE ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER - DRFA RELATED WORKS

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2026-260
Moved: Councillor King; **Seconded**: Councillor Palmer

That Council approves the temporary increase to the Acting CEO delegation limit, for the approval of Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA) related repair works resulting from the March 2026 Flood Event up to $500,000.00 (Five Hundred Thousand Dollars), with all such approvals to be reported back to Council.

CARRIED 6|0

Discussion
It was queried whether the estimated $500,000 represented the total value of a single package of works. In response, it was advised that the final value would depend on the tender prices received.

It was noted that the works would initially be procured through the Local Buy Framework and depending on the responses received, may subsequently proceed to public tender. It was confirmed that Council would ordinarily award the tender; however, delegated authority was being sought to enable the urgent works to proceed without delay due to approaching wet season, it was considered necessary to expedite the procurement process.

17 GENERAL BUSINESS

Councillor Tapp Coutts raised concerns regarding the increasing use of smart glasses with built-in cameras and noted that a number of councils across Australia are developing policies to regulate their use in public facilities such as swimming pools and playgrounds. It was noted that such policies generally include appropriate exemptions for vision-impaired users and others who rely on assistive technology. Discussion

UNCONFIRMED

followed regarding whether any policy response should be limited to smart glass, noting that mobile phones and other recording devices can also be used to capture images and video. It was advised that it is currently undertaking work relating to AI, governance, and cybersecurity frameworks, and that the matter could be reviewed as part of that review. ACTION: To investigate policy proposal for smart glasses use in council public facilities.

18 CLOSURE OF MEETING TO PUBLIC

The open meeting was declared closed to the public at 7:12 pm.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2026-261
Moved: Mayor Holden; **Seconded**: Deputy Mayor Doyle

Members, pursuant with Section 99(2) and 293(1) of the *Local Government Act 2019* gives power to the council to close a meeting to the public to discuss the following confidential items, in relation to matters referred to in regulations 51 of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021*. This means that all members of the public are now asked to leave the Council Chambers.

I now move a motion to close the meeting to public.

Your Worship, I wish to second that the meeting be closed to public.

19 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

19.1 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES 22 SEPTEMBER 2026

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019.*
Sub-regulation and Reason:	Regulation 51(1)(a) information about the employment of a particular individual as a member of the staff or possible member of the staff of the council that could, if publicly disclosed, cause prejudice to the individual.

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019.*
Sub-regulation and Reason:	Regulation 51(1)(b) information about the personal circumstances of a resident or ratepayer;

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019.*
Sub-regulation and Reason:	Regulation 51(1)(c)(i) information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to: cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on, any person.

UNCONFIRMED

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019.*
Sub-regulation and Reason:	Regulation 51(1)(c)(ii) information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to: prejudice the maintenance or administration of the law.

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019.*
Sub-regulation and Reason:	Regulation 51(1)(d) information subject to an obligation of confidentiality at law, or in equity.

19.2 MINUTES OF THE AUDIT AND RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING - 10 FEBRUARY 2026

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part or the Council of Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019.*
Sub-regulation and Reason:	Regulation 51(1)(c)(iii) information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to: prejudice the security of the council, its members or staff.

19.3 MINUTES OF THE AUDIT AND RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING - 11 JUNE 2026

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part or the Council of Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019.*
Sub-regulation and Reason:	Regulation 51(1)(c)(iii) information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to: prejudice the security of the council, its members or staff.

19.4 CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019.*
Sub-regulation and Reason:	Regulation 51(1)(a) information about the employment of a particular individual as a member of the staff or possible member of the staff of the council that could, if publicly disclosed, cause prejudice to the individual.

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019.*
Sub-regulation and Reason:	Regulation 51(1)(b) information about the personal circumstances of a resident or ratepayer;

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019.*

UNCONFIRMED

Sub-regulation and Reason:	Regulation 51(1)(c)(i) information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to: cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on, any person.

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019*.
Sub-regulation and Reason:	Regulation 51(1)(c)(ii) information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to: prejudice the maintenance or administration of the law.

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019*.
Sub-regulation and Reason:	Regulation 51(1)(c)(iv) information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to: Subject to subregulation (3) – prejudice the interests of the council or some other person.

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019*.
Sub-regulation and Reason:	Regulation 51(1)(d) information subject to an obligation of confidentiality at law, or in equity.

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019*.
Sub-regulation and Reason:	Regulation 51(1)(e) subject to subregulation (3) – information provided to the council on condition that it be kept confidential and would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to be contrary to the public interest

19.5 CONFIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019*.
Sub-regulation and Reason:	Regulation 51(1)(a) information about the employment of a particular individual as a member of the staff or possible member of the staff of the council that could, if publicly disclosed, cause prejudice to the individual.

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019*.
Sub-regulation and Reason:	Regulation 51(1)(c)(ii) information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to: prejudice the maintenance or administration of the law.

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019*.
Sub-regulation and Reason:	Regulation 51(1)(d) information subject to an obligation of confidentiality at law, or in equity.

UNCONFIRMED

19.6 FAIR WORK REMUNERATION REMEDIATION

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019.*
Sub-regulation and Reason:	Regulation 51(1)(a) information about the employment of a particular individual as a member of the staff or possible member of the staff of the council that could, if publicly disclosed, cause prejudice to the individual.

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019.*
Sub-regulation and Reason:	Regulation 51(1)(d) information subject to an obligation of confidentiality at law, or in equity.

19.7 KATHERINE EAST CHILD CARE CENTRE - NEW LEASE, LOT 2974

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019.*
Sub-regulation and Reason:	Regulation 51(1)(d) information subject to an obligation of confidentiality at law, or in equity.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2026-268
Moved: Councillor Tapp Coutts; **Seconded**: Councillor King

That Council:

1. approve entering into negotiations with Katherine East Child Care Centre (KECCC) for the lease of Council property at 16 Grevillea Road, Katherine;

2. endorse that the approved rental subsidy of 74 per cent be applied to the new negotiated lease from 1 July 2026;

3. approves of the Mayor and Acting Chief Executive Officer to execute and affix the Common Seal to the new 5-year lease with KECCC; with the option to renew once;

4. approve moving resolution 1, 2 and 3 to the open minutes.

CARRIED 6|0

19.8 TENDER AWARD OF T26-03 – RURAL INTERSECTION UPGRADES - R2R FUNDED

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019.*
Sub-regulation and Reason:	Regulation 51(1)(c)(i) information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to: cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on, any person.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2026-269
Moved: Councillor Tapp Coutts; **Seconded**: Deputy Mayor Doyle

UNCONFIRMED

1. That Council award Tender T26-03 Rural Intersection Upgrades to F and J Bitumen for the amount of Seven hundred and two thousand, four hundred and ninety-four dollars and fifty-six cents excluding GST ($702,494.56)
2. That Council release the resolutions to the public minutes.

CARRIED 6|0

19.9 CIVIC CENTRE REFURBISHMENT - UPDATE

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019.*
Sub-regulation and Reason:	Regulation 51(1)(c)(i) information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to: cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on, any person.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2026-270
Moved: Councillor Glass; **Seconded**: Councillor Palmer

That the Council elects to:

1. Note this status report regarding the Civic Centre Refurbishment
2. Council releases the resolution to the public minutes.

CARRIED 6|0

20 RESUMPTION OF OPEN MEETING

The open meeting resumed at 7:35 pm.

21 CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

The Ordinary Meeting of Council - 27 October 2026 was declared closed at 7:35 pm.

The next Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held on 24 November 2026.

UNCONFIRMED

7.2 MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL 21 OCTOBER 2026

Report Type: Previous Minutes

Attachments: 1. Unconfirmed Minutes - Special Meeting of Council - 21 October 2026 [**7.2.1** - 4 pages]

Recommendation

That Council confirm the minutes of the Special Meeting of Council held on 21 October 2026 as a true and accurate record.

MINUTES

Special Meeting of Council
Held on Wednesday 21 October 2026

Civic Centre, Committee Room
29 Crawford Street, Katherine NT 0850

1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We would like to acknowledge that this meeting is being held on the traditional lands of the first nations people of the Katherine township and surrounding council communities. We recognise the first nations culture as one of the longest surviving cultures in the world and we pay our respects to Elders both past, present and future.

2 OPENING PRAYER

Grant O God to this Council wisdom, understanding and sincerity of purpose in the Governance of this Municipality. Amen

3 OPENING OF THE MEETING

Mayor Holden declared the Special Meeting of Council - 21 October 2026 open at 12:00 pm.

4 ATTENDANCE

4.1 PRESENT

ELECTED MEMBERS
- Mayor Joanna Holden (Chair)
- Deputy Mayor Mel Doyle
- Councillor Jim King
- Councillor Kathryn Whitehouse
- Councillor Kathy Glass - Via video conferencing
- Councillor Anjali Palmer - Via video conferencing
- Councillor Toni Tapp Coutts

OFFICERS
- Yeshika Kandanaarachchi – Governance Officer - Minute Taker
- Amanda Haigh – Manager Governance and Risk

PUBLIC
- Jamie Ling - Gilchrist Connell - Via video conferencing

4.2 APOLOGIES

Nil

4.3 LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil

5 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

The Chair reminded members of their responsibility to declare any conflicts of interest.

UNCONFIRMED

Nil conflicts declared.

6 REPORTS OF OFFICERS

7 CLOSURE OF MEETING TO THE PUBLIC

The open meeting was declared closed to the public at 12:02 pm.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION SMC-2026-26
Moved: Mayor Holden; **Seconded**: Deputy Mayor Doyle

Members, pursuant with Section 99(2) and 293(1) of the *Local Government Act 2019* gives power to the council to close a meeting to the public to discuss the following confidential items, in relation to matters referred to in regulations 51 of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021*. This means that all members of the public are now asked to leave the Council Chambers.

I now move a motion to close the meeting to public.

Your Worship, I wish to second that the meeting be closed to public.

8 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

8.1 LEGAL PROFESSIONAL PRIVILEGE - MEDIATION SETTLEMENT

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019.*
Sub-regulation and Reason:	Regulation 51(1)(a) information about the employment of a particular individual as a member of the staff or possible member of the staff of the council that could, if publicly disclosed, cause prejudice to the individual.

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019.*
Sub-regulation and Reason:	Regulation 51(1)(c)(i) information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to: cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on, any person.

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019.*
Sub-regulation and Reason:	Regulation 51(1)(c)(iv) information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to: Subject to subregulation (3) – prejudice the interests of the council or some other person.

UNCONFIRMED

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019.*
Sub-regulation and Reason:	Regulation 51(1)(d) information subject to an obligation of confidentiality at law, or in equity.

8.2 CEO RECRUITMENT

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019.*
Sub-regulation and Reason:	Regulation 51(1)(a) information about the employment of a particular individual as a member of the staff or possible member of the staff of the council that could, if publicly disclosed, cause prejudice to the individual.

9 RESUMPTION OF OPEN MEETING

The open meeting resumed at 1:06 pm.

10 CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

The Special Meeting of Council - 21 October 2026 was declared closed at 1:06 pm.

UNCONFIRMED

7.3 MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL 30 OCTOBER 2026

Report Type: Previous Minutes

Attachments: 1. Unconfirmed Minutes - Special Meeting of Council - 30 October 2026 [**7.3.1** - 3 pages]

Recommendation

That Council confirm the minutes of the Special Meeting of Council held on 30 October 2026 as a true and accurate record.

MINUTES

Special Meeting of Council
Held on Friday 30 October 2026

Civic Centre, Committee Room
29 Crawford Street, Katherine NT 0850

1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We would like to acknowledge that this meeting is being held on the traditional lands of the first nations people of the Katherine township and surrounding council communities. We recognise the first nations culture as one of the longest surviving cultures in the world and we pay our respects to Elders both past, present and future.

2 OPENING PRAYER

Grant O God to this Council wisdom, understanding and sincerity of purpose in the Governance of this Municipality. Amen

3 OPENING OF THE MEETING

Deputy Mayor Doyle declared the Special Meeting of Council - 30 October 2026 open at 9:30 am.

4 ATTENDANCE

4.1 PRESENT

ELECTED MEMBERS
- Deputy Mayor Mel Doyle (Chair)
- Councillor Jim King
- Councillor Kathy Glass
- Councillor Anjali Palmer
- Councillor Toni Tapp Coutts

OFFICERS
- Casey Anderson – Acting Chief Executive Officer
- Yeshika Kandanaarachchi – Governance Officer - Minute Taker
- Amanda Haigh – Manager Governance and Risk
- Rebecca Baguley - Chief Financial Officer - Via video conferencing

4.2 APOLOGIES

Mayor Holden was an apology for this meeting, due to leave of absence.
Councillor Whitehouse was an apology for this meeting, due to leave of absence.

4.3 LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil

5 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

The Chair reminded members of their responsibility to declare any conflicts of interest.

Nil conflicts declared.

UNCONFIRMED

6 REPORTS OF OFFICERS

6.1 ANNUAL REPORT 2025/2026 CORRECTIONS

COUNCIL RESOLUTION SMC-2026-30
Moved: Councillor Palmer; **Seconded**: Councillor Glass

1. That Council approves the amended 2025/2026 Annual Report, for the year ended 30 June 2026.
2. That Council notes that, in accordance with Section 290(1) of the *Local Government Act 2019*, the approved Katherine Town Council 2025/2026 Annual Report, incorporating the Audited Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2026, will be provided to the Minister for Local Government.
3. That Council notes that, in accordance with Section 290(2), the approved (amended) Annual Report 2025/2026, incorporating the Audited Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2026, will be published on Council's website once it has been provided to the Minister. A copy will also be provided to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development.
4. That Council endorse and approves the amendment to Note 10 (Employee Costs) in the Audited Financial Statements, with total full time employees for 2026 to be corrected from 34 to 32.

CARRIED 5|0

Discussion
It was noted that the corrections made to the Annual Report under the discussion in the report, item 2, second bullet point, should be changed from "Added brackets to Transfer from reserves to Final Budget Financial Year 2026 (1,933,738)" to "Added the line Transfer from reserves to Final Budget Financial Year 2026 1,933,738" in Table 2.1 Annual Operating Position, page 83 of the Annual Report.

7 CLOSURE OF MEETING TO THE PUBLIC

8 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

Nil

9 RESUMPTION OF OPEN MEETING

10 CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

The Special Meeting of Council - 30 October 2026 was declared closed at 9:35 am.

UNCONFIRMED

8 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

8.1 ACTION UPDATE NOVEMBER 2026

Report Type: For noting
Attachments: 1. Action Report 13 November 2026 [**8.1.1** - 5 pages]

Officer Recommendation

That Council receive and note the Action update.

Meeting Date	Meeting	Item #	Report name and Action	Status
23-06-2026	Ordinary Meeting of Council - 23 June 2026	13.2	Council Policies – Action per the following amended resolution 1. That Council approve the policy: a. Policy – Asset Revaluation Reserve – Version 1 2. That Council rescind the following policies: a. Policy – Elected Member Professional Development Allowance – Version 2 b. Policy - Other reasonable expenses and non-monetary benefits received by council members – Version 2 c. Policy - Reasonable expenses for travel and accommodation for elected members – Version 3 3. That Council lay on table following policies: a. Policy - Meeting Administration - Version 7 b. Policy - Attendance Meeting via Audio and Audio-Visual Conferencing System - Version 4	In Progress

15 July 2026: The approved and rescinded policies have been actioned.

The Meeting Administration and Audio-visual policies are being further worked on before tabling at the next ARMC meeting and then the Council meeting.

12 August 2026: The Meeting Administration and Audio-visual policies were tabled at the ARMC 11/08/2026. The policies will be tabled at an EMIS for further council discussion.

01 October 2026: Meeting Administration Policy - Version 7 and the Attendance Meeting via Audio and Audio-Visual Conferencing System -Version 4 distributed to the Elected Members to review and input. Feedback to be incorporated into the policies and tabled at the October OMC.

3 November 2026: Meeting Administration, Audio-visual attendance and social media draft reviewed polices EM feedback include request for independent review:

a. DHLGCD LGU - 19/10/2026 - provided the policies and elected member feedback for review

Meeting Date	Meeting	Item #	Report name and Action	Status
b. Legal - quote received for review of policies including the EM feedback – a report to council will be table at the December OMC for consideration as no budget is allocated c. ARMC - chair advised that the policies and EM feedback can be reviewed at committee meetings, if urgent a special meeting may be called or a flying minute.				
26-06-2026	Special Meeting of Council – 26 June 2026	6.3	Youth Offender Activities Project – Action per following resolutions 1. That Council approve the Mayor, Joanna Holden, to advocate to Ministers, government agencies, businesses, and other organisations to secure funding for the delivery of a short-term series of activities designed to interrupt the cycle of youth offending in Katherine. 2. That Council approve the Mayor, Joanna Holden, and Acting CEO, Casey Anderson, to facilitate funding for the delivery of these activities through Brother to Another, with a subcontracting arrangement to Jeremy Donovan, Native Artz, subject to satisfactory reference checks.	Complete
19 October 2026: Community Roundtable Meetings Since June, Council has been working with Aboriginal organisations and youth program partners to discuss and explore the development of a funded proposal. Practical proposals were presented at a recent Community Safety Roundtable. Council's discussion paper for the roundtable outlined six priorities: Safer public spaces: Improve lighting, vegetation management and CCTV, and develop a plan informed by Police intelligence and community feedback. Better community reporting: Explore reporting tools that could help residents and frontline workers pass information about suspicious activity to the appropriate authorities. Short-term youth emergency response: Seek funding for supervised activities, meals, transport and engagement with trusted Aboriginal youth workers during				

Meeting Date	Meeting	Item #	Report name and Action	Status
periods of high risk. A youth night-time space: Investigate a safe, supervised space that offers activities and connects young people with mentoring, wellbeing, education and employment support. Stronger support for families: Explore more coordinated and intensive support for families with complex needs. Reduce alcohol-related harm: Work with Aboriginal organisations, health services, Police and government agencies on evidence-based options, alongside treatment, rehabilitation and family support initiatives. Next meeting scheduled: 23 October 2026. Youth Emergency Response The proposed model aims to establish a Katherine Youth Emergency Response program that interrupts the cycle of youth offending in Katherine. Program activities would provide a structured, culturally grounded night-time alternative to street presence during peak risk periods. Discussions are currently underway with a Katherine-based Aboriginal organisation to auspice funding and deliver the program. Further updates on the program's status and progress will be provided as they become available. **Community Round Table – 23 October 2026 – Update** Stakeholders recommitted to improving service coordination and delivering practical action to address community safety issues in Katherine. NT Police reported recent spikes in crime driven by a small cohort of offenders and highlighted efforts to increase reporting and counter the influence of social media. Additional police resources, including mounted, canine, and traffic units, will be deployed over summer. Aboriginal organisations emphasised the need for stronger inter-agency coordination, cultural authority, and a whole-of-system approach. A regional leaders meeting, facilitated by the Northern Land Council and supported by NIAA, is planned for early December to focus on crime and community safety. Mayor Holden reaffirmed their commitment to progressing community safety initiatives. Priorities identified by the Community Safety Action Group include stronger community messaging, litter reduction and waste education, improved public lighting and environmental safety measures, and increased support for vulnerable groups and workforce wellbeing. The roundtable agreed to continue meeting with a strong focus on tangible outcomes and action.				

Meeting Date	Meeting	Item #	Report name and Action	Status
28-07-2026	Ordinary Meeting of Council - 28 July 2026	13.2	Council Policies - That Council lay the Policy - Social Media – Version 4 on table for review following Social Media training by Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development	In Progress
12 August 2026: Social Media training by DHLGCD is confirmed for the 11/09/2025. 11 September 2026: the policy will be tabled at the next EMIS for council discussion. 01 October 2026: Social Media Policy - Version 4 distributed to the Elected Members for review and input. Feedback to be incorporated into the policies and tabled at the October OMC. 3 November 2026: Meeting Administration, Audio-visual attendance and social media draft reviewed polices EM feedback include request for independent review: a. DHLGCD LGU - 19/10/2026 - provided the policies and elected member feedback for review b. Legal - quote received for review of policies including the EM feedback – a report to council will be table at the December OMC for consideration as no budget is allocated c. ARMC - chair advised that the policies and EM feedback can be reviewed at committee meetings, if urgent a special meeting may be called or a flying minute. Cr Palmer has been requested to provide the policy references for each item of the feedback on the policies to be received prior to legal review. As at 3/11/2026 not received.				
27-10-2026	Ordinary Meeting of Council - 27 October 2026	13.2	Katherine Waste Management Trial Operating Hours – 1. Notes the results of the Katherine Waste Management Facility extended operating hours trial, which commenced on 25 May 2026. 2. Approves the continuation of the trial operating hours until 30 June 2027. 3. Receives a further report of the trial to consider the ongoing	In progress

Meeting Date	Meeting	Item #	Report name and Action	Status
			operating hours of the facility.	
16/11/2026: October 2026 saw the trial of the operating hours at the facility extended till 30 June 2027. This will allow for further data to be collected, and a final report to be prepared for Council. The report will enable Council to make an informed decision regarding the future permanent operating hours of the facility.				

9 MAYORAL BUSINESS

9.1 MAYOR ACTIVITIES OCTOBER 2026

Report Type: For noting

Recommendation

That Council note that Mayor Holden was on leave of absence when the report was created and the Mayoral activities for October 2026 will table at the next Council meeting.

Purpose of Report

To provide an update on the Mayoral activities and engagements since the last Council meeting. The elected member reporting obligation forms part of the Katherine Town Council's Annual Report to the community, outlining elected members contribution to the Town council's service delivery.

Strategic Plan

1. STRONG LEADERSHIP - 1.1 Strong Leadership **- Lead a strong local democracy with a community that is actively engaged in Katherine's strategic direction.**
1.1.1 Strengthen our councillor profiles to increase community awareness of who they are.

1. STRONG LEADERSHIP - 1.2 Partner in progress **- Provide strategic leadership on economic development issues to promote Katherine's reputation and improve business confidence.**
1.2.1 Foster strong relationships with Territory and federal governments to ensure coordination and support for economic development initiatives affecting Katherine at the local level and in the Big Rivers Region.
1.2.2 Act as a connector on key issues affecting the community as a member in key reference groups.
1.2.3 Act as a connector for businesses to foster collaboration and partnership opportunities.

10 CORRESPONDENCE AND DOCUMENTS

10.1 CORRESPONDENCE INCOMING

Report Type: For noting

Recommendation

That Council receive and note the Incoming Correspondence:

Attachments:
1. Letter - NT EPA Chair - Cessation of Katherine Air Quality Monitoring Station - 3 November 2026 - ID265816 [**10.1.1** - 2 pages]
2. Communique - 21 October 2026 LGANT Board meeting Communique - 10 November 2026 - ID265816 [**10.1.2** - 2 pages]
3. Communique - 24 September 2026 ALGA Communique - 10 November 2026 - ID265817 [**10.1.3** - 1 page]

Northern Territory Environment Protection Authority

Environment Division
Arnhemica House, Level 1
16 Parap Road, PARAP NT 0820

Postal address
GPO Box 3675
DARWIN NT 0801

E ntepa@nt.gov.au

T 08 8924 4218

File reference
33-D26-18163

3 November 2026

Casey Anderson
Acting Chief Executive Officer
Katherine Town Council
PO Box 10771
Ktherine NT 0851

Dear Ms Anderson

Re: Request to Discontinue Katherine Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Station

Thank you for your letter of 19 October 2026 requesting the Northern Territory Environment Protection Authority (NT EPA) approve the cessation operations at the Katherine Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Station (AAQMS).

In 2020, under a performance agreement between the NT EPA and the Katherine Town Council (KTC), KTC was required to purchase, install and operate an ongoing ambient air quality station to measure particulates and various meteorological parameters in the Katherine Region.

Review of Katherine AAQMS

The Katherine AAQMS has monitored the levels of particulate matter (PM) with diameters of 10µm or less (PM10) and 2.5µm or less (PM2.5), as well as wind speed, wind direction, air temperature, and relative humidity since September 2020, as required by the performance agreement between NT EPA and KTC.

Results from the Katherine AAQMS have demonstrated that Katherine's air quality is affected by local and regional bushfire activity which cause elevated PM levels over short- to medium-terms. These results are typical of rural areas in the Top End. As elevated PM levels are caused by exceptional events (bushfires), these elevated levels are not considered exceedances of the standards set out in the National Environment Protection (Ambient Air Quality) Measure.

Data from the Katherine AAQMS have been made available on the NT EPA air quality website and have been reported in annual National Environment Protection Council compliance reports, available online: Ambient Air Quality reports.

Agreement to discontinue monitoring

Given the results to date, the NT EPA considers that continued monitoring is not necessary to ensure the protection of the environment or human health. The monitoring has established a consistent and well-understood pattern: short- to medium-term elevations in particulate matter in Katherine are predominantly associated with local and regional bushfire smoke. Continuing to collect the same data would confirm a known source and pattern but would not, in itself, reduce smoke exposure, prevent bushfires or materially change the practical response available to the

community. Sufficient data have been collected over a period of more than 6 years to inform future ambient air quality policy decisions if required. In these circumstances, the limited resources required to operate and maintain the station can be more effectively directed to community services and activities that contribute more directly to improved outcomes, including bushfire preparedness, risk reduction and mitigation.

The performance agreement was issued for a term of 10 years and may only be varied or replaced by a document executed by the Parties to the performance agreement. Please return the attached amendment to the performance agreement at your earliest convenience.

On behalf of the NT EPA, I extend my thanks to the Katherine Town Council for their commitment to monitoring to date. The monitoring has contributed to our understanding of air quality drivers and trends in Katherine. I look forward working constructively with Katherine Town Council in the future.

Yours sincerely



Dr Paul Vogel AM
Chairperson, NT EPA

ATTACHMENT A: Amendment to Performance Agreement 2020/01

21 OCTOBER 2026 LGANT BOARD MEETING COMMUNIQUE

The LGANT Board met on Wednesday 21 October at the LGANT office and online.

The Board received presentations from Shaneen Tilmouth, the Senior Executive Director at Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet's Aboriginal Partnerships and Reform, on Closing the Gap, and Alice Springs Town Council's Councillor Cherisse Buzzacott, LGANT's representative on the NT Strategic Tobacco Action Committee (NTSTAC), who provided an update on the NTSTAC and current community issues.

The Board approved the latest financial summary, and continued their annual review of LGANT policies, approving the final tranche. The Board also approved the 2027 Board and General Meeting dates for 2027 and business arising from previous General Meetings. The Board discussed and endorsed both the draft proposal to develop a 'Next Step Framework' for a future Partnership Agreement with the NT Government, LGANT's proposed Pre NT Government Budget Submission for the 2027-28 NT Budget, and the CEO's performance review.

Ahead of LGANT's Annual General Meeting, the Board approved the audited financial statements, directors report and annual report content for presentation to members. The Board also reviewed and endorsed the council motions and approved in principle eight proposed amendments to the LGANT Constitution for putting to members..

The LGANT President provided an update on his activities since the last Board Meeting including the 24 September 2026 ALGA Board meeting (refer Communique at Attachment 1) and recent NTECAA meeting, meetings with Minister Edgington, Senator Price, the Tiwi Land Council and the Northern Land Council, visits to Litchfield Council, Coomalie Community Government Council, and City of Darwin, and making representations for the Inquiry into Local Government Funding and Fiscal Sustainability.

The Board noted the CEOs report including a summary of her meetings, and updates on council CEO turnover, implementation of the code of conduct reforms, the Local Government Representation Review, and advocacy priorities. The report highlighted the successful Procurement Symposium and preparations for the November conference, as well as the RAP working group's activity. All 2026/27 membership invoices have been paid, most councils support a sector-wide electricity procurement initiative, and the Discretionary Trust is sponsoring a new WHS staff network.

The Board also noted the risk register and dashboard, the 2026 LGANT awards nominations, the results of the 2026 LGANT annual member engagement survey, Public Skills Australia's local government skills audit report for 2025-26, the WALGA quarterly usage report, the forward Board calendar, recent submissions lodged, and incoming and outgoing correspondence.

The Board will next meet on 24 February 2027.

Attachments:

1. 24 September 2026 ALGA Board Meeting Communique

P (08) 8944 9697
E info@lgant.asn.au
W lgant.asn.au
A 21 Parap Rd, Parap NT 0820
PO Box 2075, Parap NT 0804
ABN: 35 662 805 503

We are local. We connect.

If you have any questions or wish to discuss these matters further, please reach out to Mary Watson, LGANT CEO, at mary.watson@lgant.asn.au or on 0417 864 183.

Alternatively, you can contact members of the LGANT Board:

President: Cr Peter Pangquee	City of Darwin	peter.pangquee@darwin.nt.gov.au	0419 858 636
Vice President Municipal: Cr Allison Bitar	Alice Springs Town Council	abitar@alicesprings.nt.gov.au	0491 055 224
Vice President Regional and Shires: Mayor Brian Pedwell	Victoria Daly Regional Council	brian.pedwell@vicdaly.nt.gov.au	0429 341 336
Municipal Director - City of Darwin nominated representative: Cr Sam Weston	City of Darwin	sam.weston@darwin.nt.gov.au	0499 389 462
Municipal Director: Mayor Joanna Holden	Katherine Town Council	joanna.holden@ktc.nt.gov.au	0428 717 044
Municipal Director: Cr Mark Fraser	City of Palmerston	councillor.fraser@palmerston.nt.gov.au	0411 224 670
Regional and Shires Director: Cr Peter Clee	Wagait Shire Council	peter.clee@wagait.nt.gov.au	0418 894 404
Regional and Shires Director Mayor Lynette De Santis	Tiwi Islands Regional Council	lynettejane.desantis@tiwiislands.nt.gov.au	0419 033 821
Regional and Shire Director: Mayor James Woods	West Arnhem Regional Council	james.woods@westarnhem.nt.gov.au	0497 919 225

ALGA
Australian Local Government Association

24 September 2026 ALGA Board Meeting Communique

The Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) Board met in Canberra on 24 September 2026.

Regular governance, risk, compliance and financial reports highlighted ALGA's continued commitment to strong governance practices, effective risk management and sound financial oversight. Directors also considered ALGA's audited financial statements and received advice from the external auditors.

Directors welcomed the success of the 2026 National General Assembly, which brought councils together for constructive national policy debate, strong sector engagement and a united voice on local government priorities. They also discussed planning priorities for the 2027 NGA to build on this momentum and ensure the event remains the peak national forum for local government advocacy.

Proposed improvements to the NGA motions governance process were considered, with directors discussing options to ensure it remains transparent, strategically focused and fit-for-purpose while maintaining councils' ability to raise matters of national importance.

The Board held an initial discussion on the Australian Governments' proposed Federation Compact and how this could drive improvements for local government funding over the next five years. Discussion highlighted the importance of stronger intergovernmental partnerships that recognise local government as an essential sphere of government and delivery partner.

The Board also discussed ALGA's 2027-28 Federal Budget Submission priorities, identifying key funding and policy areas for further development.

Directors also considered the next phase of ALGA's national financial sustainability advocacy campaign. This campaign is proposed to create a consistent message to the federal politicians on why national funding is essential to the success of the communities that local governments serve. The Board reaffirmed the importance of securing long-term, sustainable funding arrangements for councils to enable communities to receive the infrastructure, services and local solutions they rely upon.

Reports from the Chief Executive Officer, ALGA President, State and Territory Association Presidents, and representatives serving on Ministerial Councils and other committees provided updates on current advocacy activities, engagement with the Australian Government and emerging issues affecting local governments across the country.

Building Better Communities.

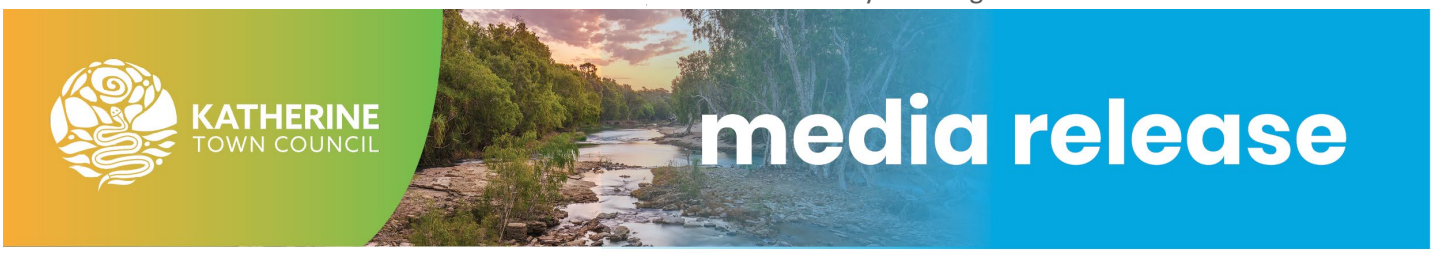
10.2 CORRESPONDENCE OUTGOING

Report Type: For noting

Recommendation

That Council receive and note the Outgoing Correspondence:

Attachments:
1. Media Release - KTC - Free Plant Giveaway to Welcome the Wet - 21 October 2026 [**10.2.1** - 1 page]
2. Letter - Commemorative Naming of Gorrie Dry River Road in Honour of Ross Christie - 28 October 2026 - ID265356 [**10.2.2** - 2 pages]
3. Media Release - KTC - International Day of People with Disability - 29 October 2026 [**10.2.3** - 1 page]
4. Image - Media Release - KTC - International Day of People with Disability - 29 October 2026 [**10.2.4** - 1 page]
5. Media Release - KTC - Light up Katherine - Christmas Lights Competition 2026 now open - 4 November 2026 [**10.2.5** - 1 page]



21 October 2026

Free Plant Giveaway to Welcome the Wet

The first rain has arrived, and Katherine Town Council is helping residents make the most of the planting season with the return of its Native Plant Giveaway.

Council will give away 2000 Top End native plants and visitors can get gardening advice, view interactive displays and join in activities led by local experts.

Katherine residents can take home up to three free plants per household to help make their gardens, and our community, cooler and greener. You must bring proof of address for the plant giveaway.

The selection includes flowering ground covers, feature grasses, shrubs that attract birds and butterflies, edible bush tucker plants and native shade trees. Additional plants will be available to buy.

This year's event will also feature a car boot sale, giving residents another way to put sustainability into practice by selling handmade creations and giving second-hand goods a new home.

From paintings and crochet to clothes someone else might love, community members are invited to bring along their wares and join a morning celebrating the wet season and greener living.

EVENT DETAILS
8 am – 12 pm
Sunday 8 November 2026
Katherine Showgrounds

To sell wares or have a stall on the day head to: https://www.katherine.nt.gov.au/sparkforms/eoi-car-boot-sale/4

Inquires: Christine Schindler – events@ktc.nt.gov.au – 08 8972 5500

Doc 1420349598.1

KATHERINE
TOWN COUNCIL

29 Crawford Street
PO Box 1071
KATHERINE NT 0851
records@ktc.nt.gov.au
Ph: 08 8972 5500
Fax 08 8971 0305
ABN 4783 6889 865

27 October 2026

Northern Territory Place Names Committee
PO Box 1680
Darwin NT 0801

To whom it may concern,

Re: Letter of Support for the Commemorative Naming of Gorrie Dry River Road in Honour of Ross Christie

I write on behalf of Katherine Town Council in support of the proposal to commemorate the late Mr Ross Christie through the naming of the road servicing the Gorrie Dry River area off Sturt Plateau Road in his honour.

While the proposed road is under the jurisdiction of the Northern Territory Government and is located outside the Katherine municipal boundary, Council recognises the significant contribution Ross Christie made to the Katherine region and surrounding areas of the Territory. His influence extended well beyond municipal boundaries and benefited communities across remote and regional Northern Territory.

Ross was widely respected for this extensive knowledge of roads, infrastructure, and rainfall history throughout the Katherine district and surrounding regions. Through his professional work and longstanding connection to the area, he became a valued source of practical knowledge and advice. His understanding of road networks and local conditions assisted government agencies, industry representatives, pastoral interests, and community members alike.

Ross's contribution to the development and maintenance of transport infrastructure helped improved connectivity and accessibility across the region. His commitment to the Territory and willingness to share his knowledge earned him the respect of many who worked alongside him. The lasting impact of his effort continues to be recognised by those who knew him both professionally and personally.

Although Council is not the responsible road authority for the proposed location, we acknowledge the significance of Ross Christie's contribution to the Katherine region and the Northern Territory more broadly. Council supports the Place Names Committee's consideration of commemorative recognition in his honour. Naming the road servicing the Gorrie Dry River off Sturt Plateau Road after Ross Christie would provide a lasting tribute to a person whose knowledge, dedication, and service have left a meaningful legacy in the Northern Territory.

Thank you for considering this submission. Should the committee require any further information regarding Council's support, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely,



Joanna Holden
Mayor of Katherine



29 October 2026

Nominations open for International Day of People with Disability Awards

Do you know someone who has achieved something special, made a difference to others, or contributed to their community, workplace, education, sports or other area of life? This year, people with disability are running the show! On Thursday, 3 December 2026 at 10am, the YMCA will turn into a tropical wonderland of bright shirts and dresses. It will include an awards ceremony, delicious food, music and a show of art.

The awards celebrate the disability community and the people who work every day to make Katherine a better place.

This year's awards include:

Outstanding Young Person With Disability - under 25
For a person with disability under 25 who has achieved something special, made a difference to others, or contributed to their community, workplace, education, sport or other area of life. Think about what they have achieved and the positive impact they have had.

Outstanding Person With Disability - 25 or over
For a person with disability aged 25 or over who has achieved something special, made a difference to others, or contributed to their community or wider society. Think about what they have achieved and the positive impact they have had.

Outstanding Support Person
For someone who goes above and beyond to support a person with disability. They might be a family member, friend, colleague, carer or someone else. Think about how they help the person live the life they want, make their own choices and feel valued and supported.

Outstanding Service Provider
For a service, organisation or business that makes a real difference to people with disability. Think about how well they listen to people, meet their individual needs, provide choice and help people take part in their community and achieve their goals.

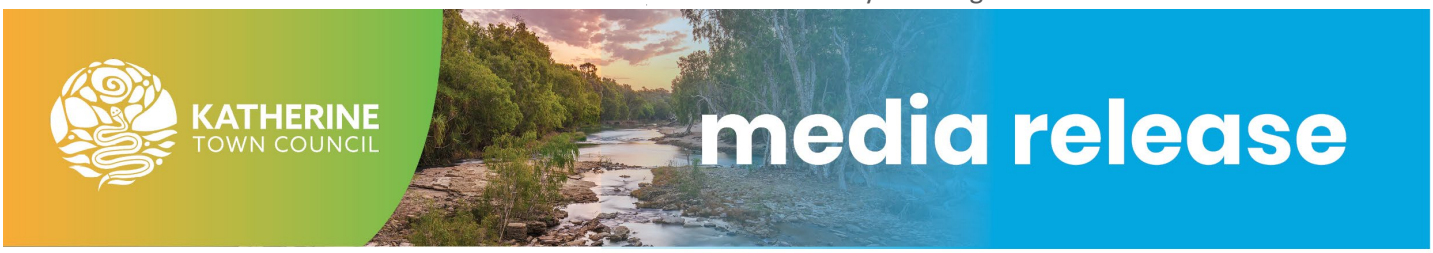
Excellence in Advocacy & Inclusion
Open to anyone – including people with disability, family members, support people, organisations, businesses and services. For someone who has helped make things more inclusive for people with disability or helped create positive change.

To nominate someone, head to: https://www.katherine.nt.gov.au/sparkforms/nomination-international-day-of-people-with-disability-awards-2026/5

Inquires: Mychelle Derksen – events@ktc.nt.gov.au – 08 8972 5500

Doc 1420349598.1


03 December, 2026
Everyone's invited to
International Day of
People with Disabilities
When: 10:00am - 2:00pm
Tropical Themed Awards Ceremony
Where: The YMCA
Awards
Ask your service provider for assistance in voting!
How to vote:
Phone call
In person
Online - follow the QR
KATHERINE TOWN COUNCIL
NT FRIENDSHIP & SUPPORT
Step Out
NT Respite Care Plus



4th November 2026

Light up Katherine - Christmas Lights Competition 2026 now open

It's time for Katherinites to bring the festive sparkle to their streets and enter the Katherine Town Council Christmas Lights Competition 2026, with $1,000 in prize money on offer.

With the dry season behind us and the wet season rolling in, Council is calling on residents to light up their yard or entrance with their most dazzling display.

A panel of Katherine Town Council elected members will judge entries by Sunday 20 December. Prizes are $500 for first place, $300 for second and $200 for third. Winners will be announced on Tuesday 22 December, just in time for Christmas. Judges will look for overall appeal, dazzling lighting and creative flair.

Residents on rural blocks are encouraged to enter too. If you live in a rural area, festoon your front gate or property entrance – you don't need to decorate your entire front yard to be in the running.

Registrations close Monday 14 December. To enter, click here, or email contactus@ktc.nt.gov.au

Doc 1420349598.1

11 PETITIONS

12 NOTICE OF MOTION

13 REPORTS OF OFFICERS

13.1 FREE POOL ENTRY - GRANT AGREEMENT

Author: Sanjay Kuhan, Financial Accountant
Authoriser: Casey Anderson, Acting Chief Executive Officer
Report Type: For decision
Attachments: Nil

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To seek Council approval to affix the Common Seal and sign the funding agreement for the Katherine Aquatic Centre Free Pool Entry Program, supporting free public access during the September/October 2026 and December 2026/January 2027 Northern Territory school holiday periods.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council approve affixing the Common Seal to the variation to the funding agreement for the Katherine Aquatic Centre Free Pool Entry Program and authorise the Mayor and Acting Chief Executive Officer to sign the variation, formalising the carry-forward and utilisation of $21,222.10 in unspent funds from the previous Katherine Aquatic Centre Free Entry 2025/2026 funding agreement.

SUMMARY

- **Approval to affix the Common Seal and sign the variation to the funding agreement for the Katherine Aquatic Centre Free Pool Entry Program.**
- **The variation formalizes the carry-forward and use of $21,222.10 in unspent funds from the previous funding agreement to support free pool entry during the 2026–2027 school holiday periods.**

DISCUSSION, OPTIONS AND ANALYSIS

The Katherine Aquatic Centre Free Pool Entry Program aims to provide free public access to the Katherine Aquatic Centre during the Northern Territory school holiday periods of September/October 2026 and December 2026/January 2027.

The program will also support healthy food options, including fresh fruit, lunchbox snacks and refreshments. The carried-forward funding of $21,222.10 will be used to support free public entry, additional staffing and supervision requirements, and the provision of healthy food, snacks and refreshments.

There was a delay from the Department in formally approving the carry-forward of the unspent funds through the funding agreement. However, Council received verbal confirmation from the Department to proceed with the program and, based on this confirmation, Council commenced the free pool entry initiative during the September/October 2026 school holiday period, despite

the formal agreement not yet being finalized.

Consultation Process

There was no consultation process required for this report.

Policy Implications

There are no policy implications resulting from the decision.

Budget and Resource Implications

The variation relates to the carry-forward of $21,222.10 in unspent funds from the previous Katherine Aquatic Centre Free Entry 2025–2026 funding agreement. No additional funding is being requested. The carried-forward amount will be utilised to support the free pool entry program, including free public access, additional staffing and supervision, and healthy food and refreshments.

Risk, Legal and Legislative Implications

There are no risk, legal and legislative implications.

Environment Sustainability Implications

There are no environmental sustainability implications.

Strategic Plan

2. COMMUNITY AND FAMILIES - 2.4 Support Our Youth **- Support youth engagement.**
2.4.1 Empower youths through youth-focused events and school-holiday activities.

Municipal Plan

1.5.2.1 Have a grants officer to seek and coordinate grant funding

13.2 KATHERINE TOWN COUNCIL - GRANTS REGISTER

Author: Sanjay Kuhan, Financial Accountant
Authoriser: Casey Anderson (Acting Chief Executive Officer)
Report Type: For noting
Attachments: 1. Grant Register for Ordinary Meeting of Council - 24 November 2026 [**13.2.1** - 4 pages]

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To provide the Council Meeting attendees with the current Grants Register and a summary of grant activities as at 31 October 2026.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the Grants Register update for the financial year 2026/2027.

SUMMARY

- **Received $300,000 from the Department of Logistics and Infrastructure under the Regional Precincts and Partnerships Program (rPPP) for the development and planning milestone.**
- **Received the first payment of $8,000 out of the total $10,000 grant funding from the National Australia Day Council for the 2026/2027 Australia Day Citizen Celebrations.**
- **Successfully completed the audit of the Commonwealth Roads to Recovery Grant, with the annual report submitted and approved by the Commonwealth Department.**
- **Successfully submitted acquittals for the Mosquito Monitoring Program, Seniors Month Grants and Public Library Funding, along with the audited annual financial statements for Financial Assistance Grants – General Purpose and Roads.**
- **Received the outcome of Council's grant application under the Safer Local Roads Infrastructure Program (SLRIP) for the Quarry Road Safety Upgrade.**
- **Binjari Municipal Services Grant – Allocation for 2 year-term of $180,000 per year approved by Department of Housing, Local Government & Community Development. Total commitment $360,000 for 2026 to 2028. Grant Agreement executed.**

DISCUSSION, OPTIONS AND ANALYSIS

Council receives grant funding from various government departments and organisations to support the delivery of community services, infrastructure projects and other initiatives. The updated Grant Register as at 31 October 2026 provides details of funding received, project progress, reporting requirements, acquittals and grant application outcomes. The register is maintained to monitor grant activities and ensure compliance with funding agreements and reporting obligations.

GRANT SUMMARY		NOTES
Total Grants Applied for	17	This includes funding programs across multiple years such as: Visitor Information Centre, Library, Binjari, Mosquito monitoring
Total Grants Successful	16	Includes multi-year programs
Total Grants Unsuccessful	01	SLRIP Grant for the Quarry Road Safety Upgrade.
Total Grants Acquitted by 31.10.2026	06	Based on acquittals, including annual acquittals for multi-year grants, due by 31.10.2026.
Grants yet to be acquitted for the period up to and including 31.10.2026	14	Grant acquittal timeframes due after 31.10.2026 Some grants are multi-year programs with multiple small projects approved in overall program funding.

MULTI-YEAR GRANT PROGRAMS - FUNDING APPROVED

Grant Description	26-27 $	25-26 $	24-25 $
Financial Assistance Grant - General Purpose (Cmwlth)	477,687 *(80% from FY 26)	563,402 *(80% from FY 25)	708,728
Financial Assistance grant – Roads (Cmwlth)	901,765 *(80% from FY 26)	1,134,449 *(80% from FY 25)	1,215,474
Visitor Information Centre – Dept Tourism, Hospitality (NTG)	302,400	302,400	302,400
Public Library – (NTG)	243,374	243,374	239,364
Binjari Community Grant	180,000	139,100	139,100
Mosquito Monitoring	40,576	41,826	40,000
Roads to Recovery - Gorge Road upgrade	235,000	0	0
Roads to Recovery – Zimin, Shadforth Shoulder Upgrade	235,000	0	0
Roads to Recovery – Florina Road, Rural Intersection Upgrade	360,000	0	0
Roads to Recovery – Collins Road , Rural Intersection Upgrade	360,000	0	0
**summary of multi-year grant programs only*			

TOTAL GRANTS RECEIVED TIED v UNTIED - 26-27 Financial year

Type	NTG	Commonwealth
Untied Funding	0	390,087
Tied Funding	552,526	81,870

Consultation Process

- Chief Financial Officer – provided information on funding received and recognised, compliance with accounting standards and funding conditions
- Senior Financial Accountant – Unspent grant balances, Acquittal Status
- Community Events Co-Ordinator – Acquittals for relevant grants
- Project Manager/s – Infrastructure & Capital Works – Progress on funded projects, achievement of milestones, delivery delays or cost overruns, variation requests, risks affecting project outcoments
- Department Managers – Operational delivery of grant funded activities, resource constraints
- Chief Executive Officer – Performance against grant objectives
- Governance Manager – Compliance with council policies, reporting obligations to council and committees, governance framework surrounding grant management, internal control effectiveness

Policy Implications

- Reporting and acquittal obligations are being met
- All grant funded programs are appropriately monitored
- Roles and responsibilities for grant administration remains clearly defined
- Grants are being managed in accordance with Council's policies
- Whether grants are being expended in according with approved spend guidelines
- Financial reporting compliance

Budget and Resource Implications

- Consideration of compliance with procurement thresholds
- Tender and quotation requirements
- Contract management practices
- Value for money of grant spend

Risk Implications

Providing a grant register report to the Council and Audit and Risk Committee assists Council in identifying, monitoring, and managing risks associated with grant funding. Key risks include:

- **Compliance Risk**: Failure to meet funding agreement conditions, performance obligations, reporting deadlines, or acquittal requirements may result in funding breaches, repayment obligations, or disqualification from future funding opportunities.
- **Financial Risk**: Incorrect use of grant funds, budget overruns, unspent funds, or inaccurate

financial reporting may lead to audit findings, funding recovery actions, or impacts on Council's financial position.

- **Project Delivery Risk**: Delays in project completion, inability to meet milestones, or failure to achieve agreed outcomes may jeopardise funding and Council's reputation with funding agencies.
- **Operational Risk**: Insufficient resources, inadequate monitoring processes, or poor record keeping may affect Council's ability to manage grant obligations effectively.
- **Reputational Risk**: Failure to comply with grant conditions or deliver funded projects can damage Council's reputation with funding providers, stakeholders, and the community.
- **Governance Risk**: Lack of oversight, ineffective controls, or incomplete grant information may weaken Council's governance framework and increase the likelihood of non-compliance.

Legal Implications

Grant agreements are legally binding contracts and create obligations that Council must fulfil. Key legal implications include:

- **Breach of Funding Agreements**: Non-compliance with grant conditions may constitute a breach of contract, potentially resulting in repayment of funds, termination of agreements, or legal action by the funding body.
- **Funding Recovery (Clawback) Provisions**: Many agreements contain clauses allowing funding providers to recover monies where conditions are not met or funds are not used for approved purposes.
- **Statutory Compliance**: Council must comply with relevant legislation, regulations, and funding program requirements when managing grants and delivering funded projects.
- **Procurement Compliance**: Expenditure of grant funding must comply with Council's procurement policies and legislative procurement requirements where applicable.
- **Record Keeping Obligations**: Funding agreements often require Council to maintain adequate records to support expenditure, reporting, and acquittals. Failure to do so may expose Council to compliance breaches and audit findings.
- **Misrepresentation Risk**: Providing inaccurate reports, milestone claims, or acquittal information to funding bodies may expose Council to legal, financial, and reputational consequences.

Environment Sustainability Implications

No environmental sustainability implications.

Strategic Plan

4. GROWTH AND SUSTAINABILITY - 4.2 Lead with Best Practice **- Lead by example and set a high benchmark.**
4.2.4 Be prudent with our financial management for stronger returns for ratepayers and

sustainable long-term finances with current risk management practices current at all times.

Municipal Plan

1.5.2.2 Support community-driven initiatives through the delivery of the Community Grants Program

Council Officer Conflict of Interest

We the Author and Approving Officer declare we do not have a conflict of interest in relation to thi s matter.

Note : The highlighted colours indicate the status of each grant
Green – Acquitted/ completed
Yellow – In Progress / Yet to be Completed
Red – Unsuccessful or Withdrawn

Funding #	Grant Program Name	Project Description	Funding Body	Status	Grant Approved (Commencement Date)	Agreement End Date	Total Project Budget	Funding Amount	Council Contribution	Next Report Due	Notes
PLNT00008	Public Libraries NT	Public Library Funding 2023-2028	Libraries & Archives NT	In progress	2023-07-01	2028-10-31	$1,835,920	$1,835,920		2027-10-31	
RH001800001	Mosquito Monitoring Program Katherine Region - 01/07/2025 to 30/06/2030	Katherine Town Council - EFILE2025/9403 - EDOC2025/78874 - Mosquito Monitoring Program Katherine Region – 1 July 2025 – 30 June 2030	Department of Health	In progress	2025-07-01	2030-10-31	$40,576	$40,576		2027-05-31	2025/2026 Acquittal Submitted
REV2500002	Binjari Local Government Services 2021-2026	Provision of local government services to the Binjari community	Department of Chief Minister and Cabinet	In progress	2021-07-01	2026-08-31	$695,500	$695,500		2027-09-30	
KTC2500001	Katherine Town Council - Visitor information Services Partnership Program	Katherine Visitor Information Funding 2025-2028	Department of Tourism and Hospitality	In progress	2025-07-01	2028-07-30	$907,200	$907,200		2027-01-31	FY 2025/26 Final Acquittal submitted
NOM-AT1-003639	Active Transport Fund	Katherine Town Council - Zimin Drive Shared Pathway	Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts/ Department of Logistics and Infrastructure	Successful	2025-03-04	2029-06-30	$1,150,000	$756,000	$394,000	2026-12-31	

RPPPDP000289	Regional Precincts and Partnerships Program - Precinct Development and Planning	Katherine and Big Rivers Multipurpose Sport and Recreation Precinct	Dept of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts	In progress			$1,607,918	$1,607,918		2027-04-15	
1OFF2600006	AICD Governance Essentials for Local Government	KTC will use a one-off $30,000 grant to fund attendance for council members and senior staff in the AICD Governance Essentials for Local Government course in 2025–26. The funding will be managed in line with NT regulations, used only for course fees, and fully acquitted by required deadlines, with any additional costs covered by Council. **Variation :** Expenditure of the grant is to occur by 30 Nov 2026, with a final acquittal due by 1 Feb 2027.	Department of HOUSING, LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	In progress	2026-03-16	2026-11-30	$30,000	$30,000		2027-02-01	Variation : Expenditure of the grant is to occur by 30 November 2026, with a final acquittal due by 1 February 2027.
BRRF2500001 (90K)	Centenary of Katherine - Big River Flexible Funding	The amount will support community-focused activities associated with the Centenary of Katherine. Funded activities	Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development	In progress	2026-06-19	2026-09-30	$90,000	$90,000		2027-06-21	
Territory Day 2026 (TENT)	Territory Day 2026	Territory Day 2026 celebrations in Katherine, delivered in conjunction with Katherine's centenary celebrations. The event includes a 10-minute professional fireworks display and live local entertainment featuring Tom Curtain, Dylan Wright and Jem Casser Daley.	Department of Tourism and Hospitality/ Tourism & Events NT	Completed	2026-07-01	2026-07-31	$52,909	$49,500	3,409.09	Acquitted	

SENM2600033	Seniors Month Grants 2026	The Katherine Town Council will hold a Mayoral Morning Tea event for seniors in the community during Seniors Month 2026.	Department of People, Sport and Culture	In progress	2026-07-22	2026-08-31		$2,000		Acquitted	
FAGP2600021	2026-27 Financial Assistance Grants	2026-27 Financial Assistance Grants - General Purpose : Untied funds allocated for broad local government priorities	NT Grants Commission	In progress	2026-07-01	2027-11-15	$333,910	$333,910		2026-12-13	Financial Assistance Grant – Early payment received for FY 2026/27
FALR2600010	2026-27 Financial Assistance Grants	2026-27 Financial Assistance Grants - Roads : Untied funds specifically designated for local road maintenance and infrastructure.	NT Grants Commission	In progress	2026-07-01	2027-11-15	$718,061	$718,061		2026-12-13	Financial Assistance Grant – Early payment received for FY 2026/27
134438-25NT-RTR	Roads to Recovery 2024/2029	Road upgrades and intersection improvements across Gorge Road, Zimin Drive, Florina Road and Collins Road.	Dept of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts	In progress	2026-11-01	2027-11-01	$1,190,000			2027-02-15	
KATHFPE00001	Big Rivers Youth Activities Grant	Big Rivers Youth Activities Grants Katherine Aquatic Centre Free Pool Entry 2026-27	Department of People, Sport and Culture	In progress	21/09/2026	26/01/2027	$21,222			2027-01-29	This grant relates to the unspent portion of the previous Free Pool Entry funding.
AD270424	Australia Day 2027 Community Events Grant Program	Australia Day 2027 – Katherine's Stories, Citizens and Celebrations	National Australia Day Council	In progress	2026-10-31	2027-04-30	$10,000	$10,000		2027-04-30	Application Submitted

YVHG2600030	Youth Vibe Holiday Grants 2026-27	2026-2027 School Holiday Activities - Barista Training and Colour Smash Fun Run	Department of People, Sport and Culture	In progress	2026-12-11	2027-01-26				2027-02-26	
	Safer Local Roads Infrastructure Program (SLRIP)	Safer Local Roads Infrastructure Program (SLRIP) - Quarry Road Safety Upgrade – Katherine, NT	Dept of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts	unsuccessful		2026-10-19					Unsuccessful

13.3 ENVIRONMENTAL AND MUNICIPAL SERVICES QUARTERLY REPORT AS AT 31 OCTOBER 2026

Author: Brett Kimpton, Manager Environment and Municipal
Authoriser: Casey Anderson, Acting Chief Executive Officer
Report Type: For noting
Attachments: Nil

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To provide the Elected Members with an update regarding the Environmental and Municipal Services Department's activities for the period of August 2026 to October 2026.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives and notes the report of the Environmental and Municipal Services Department for August 2026 to October 2026.

SUMMARY

- **3 tip face fires occurred at KWMF during the reporting period.**
- **3 Dogs were declared dangerous during the reporting period because of serious dog attacks.**
- **Council hosted a fun day for the residents of Binjari at the community oval.**
- **A fire occurred in a stockpile of tyres at KWMF.**
- **An education campaign commenced advising residents about responsible disposal of batteries.**

DISCUSSION, OPTIONS AND ANALYSIS

Background

Katherine Town Council's (KTC) Environmental and Municipal Services Department continues to provide core services through various service deliverables to the Katherine Community and Municipality.

Discussion

The Environmental and Municipal Services Department continued to deliver essential municipal, waste management, regulatory, airport, aquatic and environmental health services throughout the May to July 2026 reporting period. The department returned to a business-as-usual posture post the flood events that occurred earlier in the year with a focus on routine municipal maintenance, waste management operations, mosquito monitoring, aquatic services, and community safety activities across the municipality.

Municipal Services

Municipal Services staff continued routine maintenance and operational activities across the municipality throughout the reporting period.

Depot crews continue to respond to service requests from the community despite low staff numbers at the depot. The People and Culture Department is working hard to recruit vacant positions in preparation for the wet season.

Depot crews helped the Events Team bump in and bump out for the Binjari Fun Day.

Depot crews undertook a significant clean-up of the depot; items were identified for the Councils public auction which took place during the reporting period.

Katherine Waste Management Facility (KWMF)

October 2026 saw the trial of the operating hours at the facility extended till 30 June 2027. This will allow for further data to be collected, and a final report to be prepared for Council. The report will enable Council to make an informed decision regarding the future permanent operating hours of the facility.

Waste Stream	August 2026	September 2026	October 2026
Total Waste Accepted	1575t	1228t	1702t
Domestic Kerbside Bins	386t	231t	228t
General Mixed Commercial	600t	577t	630t
Commercial Green Waste	18.70t	20.54t	18.30t

A fire occurred on 16 September 2026 in a stockpile of tyres within the facility. Quick action from KWMF staff and contractors saw the fire extinguished in 5 hours. The cause of the fire was an ember from a nearby out of control bushfire.



3 x Tip Face fires occurred during the reporting period; each fire was extinguished on the same day with causes identified as a discarded battery on each occasion.

An education campaign commenced during the reporting period highlighting responsible disposal of batteries; additional high visibility signage will also be installed at KWMF.



Mosquito Testing

Council continued mosquito monitoring and testing programs across the municipality on behalf of NT Health throughout the reporting period.

Testing was not undertaken in September due to the unplanned leave of trained KTC staff. In October, NT Health attended and provided training to an additional KTC staff member to ensure the continuity of the testing program.

The testing regime was recommended in October 2026.

No infected mosquitos were identified in the Municipality during the reporting period.

Regulatory Services

Regulatory Services continued compliance, parking enforcement, and animal management activities throughout the reporting period.

The weekly joint operation with Northern Territory Police focused on rough sleepers within the municipality continued; several infringements have been issued for camping in a public place and littering.

3 dogs were declared dangerous during the reporting period after the dogs attacked people in 3 separate incidents. The owners of the dogs were identified and subsequently issued infringements.

KTC along Northern Territory Police and the Northern Territory Commercial Passenger Vehicle section under 4 joint operations focusing on Taxi Operators in the CBD.

The July early bird dog registration initiative was highly successful, with 338 dogs registered, compared to just 55 registrations in July 2025.

Service Activity	August 2026	September 2026	October2026
Dogs Impounded	11	5	5
Dogs Returned to Owners	2 returned & 2 adopted	3 returned & 1 adopted	2 returned
Parking	78 Warnings & 29 Infringements Issued	63 Warnings & 25 Infringements Issued	47 Warnings & 7 Infringements Issued
Parking Patrol Hours	49 hrs.	42 hrs.	41 hrs.

Katherine Civil Airport

Air movements for the reporting period were:

Month	Air Movements
August 2026	673
September 2026	791
October2026	839

Katherine Aquatic Centre

The Katherine Aquatic Centre continued to provide important recreational, health and wellbeing services to the community throughout the reporting period.

During the reporting period, the Katherine Aquatic Centre saw an increase in patronage compared to the previous reporting period; this can be attributed to the change of season and warmer temperatures.

Several temporary pool closures occurred throughout the reporting period. This was due to water quality, water contamination, staff training, and lightening activity in the vicinity of the facility.

Month	Attendance
August 2026	1229
September 2026	2523
October2026	2139

Katherine Aquatic Centre Programs Delivered and Attendance Comparison

Category	August 2026	September2026	October 2026
Child/Pens/Spec/KTC Staff	416	542	526
Aqua Aerobics / Aqua	0	0	0

Fitness			
School/Group Hire	1119	560	41
Learn to Swim Entries	203	102	256
Category	**August 2026**	**September2026**	**October2026**
Membership Visits/Passes	349	168	291

Binjari Community

KTC hosted a fun day in the community on Tuesday 22 September 2026. Several partner agencies attended including the day including Northern Territory Police, St John Ambulance, Northern Territory Fire and Rescue, Kalano, Wurli Health Service, AFL Northern Territory and various Northern Territory Government Departments.

Approximately 70 residents from the community attended, they took part in a tug of war, an AFL football clinic, slip and slide, face painting and BBQ



Consultation Process

There was no consultation process required for this report.

Policy Implications

There are no policy implications resulting from the decision.

Budget and Resource Implications

Within current service delivery budget and resource.

Risk, Legal and Legislative Implications

There are no risk, legal and legislative implications.

Environment Sustainability Implications

There are no environmental sustainability implications.

Strategic Plan

1. STRONG LEADERSHIP - 1.1 Strong Leadership **- Lead a strong local democracy with a community that is actively engaged in Katherine's strategic direction.**

1.1.2 Ensure strong internal governance with updated policies and procedures in place.
1.1.3 Improve transparency around issues affecting the community.

7. ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY - 7.1 Waste Management - Implement waste management actions that benefit our community and environment.
7.1.6 Raise awareness to keep our town litter-free.

Municipal Plan

7.1.7.2 Improve safety and security at the Waste Management Facility (WMF)

13.4 KATHERINE CENTENARY MURAL

Author: Barbara Mason, Manager People and Culture
Authoriser: Casey Anderson, Acting Chief Executive Officer
Report Type: For decision
Attachments: 1. Katherine Centenary Mural attachment [**13.4.1** - 4 pages]

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To seek Council's approval of the Katherine Centenary Mural concept by Jessie Bell and Rhenz Florez and authority to complete the mural, including installation of the official Centenary logo.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council

1. Approves the Katherine Centenary Mural 1926/2026 concept by Jessie Bell and Rhenz Florez, as described in this report and illustrated in Attachment 1.
2. Authorises the Manager People and Culture to work with the artists to complete the mural and install the official Centenary logo within the confirmed project budget, once the relevant cultural and image permissions are in place.

SUMMARY

- **The artists will tell Katherine's story through a shoebox of photographs and keepsakes spread across a kitchen table. Rhenz Florez is originally from Katherine and is a previous Katherine Art Prize winner.**
- **The design retains the existing fish artworks in place and gives the official Centenary logo a prominent position on the wall.**
- **The grant requires consultation with the Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development before final design approval, but they do not have veto power. The decision rests with Council.**

DISCUSSION, OPTIONS AND ANALYSIS

Development of the brief. The Centenary Working Group worked with Simmone Croft to identify and approve the elements that would tell Katherine's story. Simmone prepared the preliminary design. The group's choices formed the brief for Jessie Bell and Rhenz Florez. Rhenz is originally from Katherine and is a previous Katherine Art Prize winner.

Approved elements. The group selected the historic Katherine telegraph line, the Katherine Post Office, the Clyde Fenton Flying Doctor Service, the Ghan railway and the bombing of Katherine during World War II. It also selected flood markers showing the year and height of each flood, black cockatoos, and the Nitmiluk landscape as the broader setting.

The group included the stories of Bolung and Nabilil, subject to permission from the Jawoyn community, and Jack McGuinness, subject to the appropriate permissions. The brief also includes the dates 1926/2026 and the official Katherine Centenary logo.

Artists' interpretation. Bell and Florez propose to paint the historical scenes as Polaroid-style

photographs. A Katherine postcard, movie and rodeo tickets and cattle ear tags would sit between them. The centenary title and dates would frame the existing fish, with a red-tailed black cockatoo in flight at the top right. A separately mounted aluminium composite logo would echo the fish artworks and be large enough to stand out within the design.

Site and timing. The design proof identifies the west-facing wall of the Katherine Visitor Information Centre, on the corner of Lindsay Street and Katherine Terrace. This location was agreed upon by the Centenary Working Group through a survey. The mock-up shows the west wall.

The proposed commencement date of 30 November 2026 falls six calendar days after the Council meeting.



Consultation Process

The Working Group developed and approved the design elements with Simmone Croft. Council officers shared the artists' concept with the Department on 11 November 2026. Its formal feedback is pending. Officers will respond to those questions and present the outcome of consultation to Council before they vote on final design approval.

Policy Implications

There are no policy implications resulting from the decision.

Budget and Resource Implications

Within current service delivery budget and resource.

Risk, Legal and Legislative Implications

There are no risk, legal and legislative implications.

Environment Sustainability Implications

There are no environmental sustainability implications.

Strategic Plan

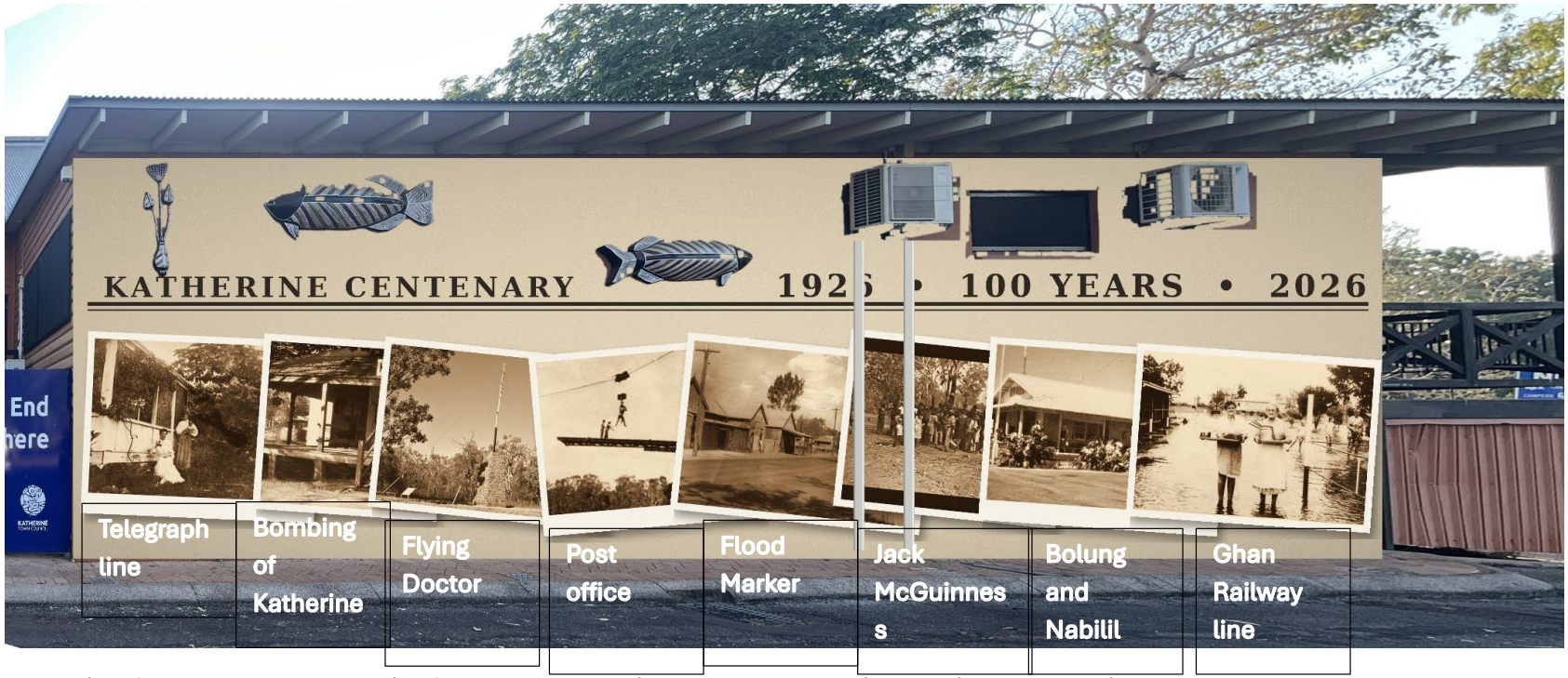
3. SPORTS AND CIVIC EVENTS - 3.2 Brand Identity - **Develop and implement a brand identity that is uniquely Katherine's**
3.2.1 Craft Katherine's personality and identity by playing to our strengths.

5. ARTS, CULTURE AND HERITAGE - 5.1 Vibrant Art **- Encourage the arts sector.**
5.1.1 Support the street art series and art organisations.
5.1.2 Support development of an arts trail.
5.1.3 Encourage knowledge of our art history, such as the Katherine Prize being the longest-running arts prize in the NT.

5. ARTS, CULTURE AND HERITAGE - 5.3 Our Rich Heritage - **Reinvigorate Katherine by preserving, embracing and showcasing our rich arts and heritage.**
5.3.2 Create opportunities and partnerships to develop the arts, culture, and heritage sector.

Municipal Plan

5.3.2.1 Support the growth of arts, culture and heritage through partnerships, programs and community initiatives



Katherine Centenary Mural – Artist Concept and Design Elements – the images in the Polaroid frames are placeholders used only to show the proposed layout. In the finished mural, each Polaroid will depict one of the historical elements agreed by the Centenary Working Group, subject to the relevant cultural and image permissions, the elements are not in any order and will possibly change.

Artists: Jessie Bell and Rhenz Florez
Project: Katherine Centenary Mural 1926–2026

Rhenz Florez is originally from Katherine and is a previous winner of the Katherine Art Prize.

Artist Concept

The mural celebrates Katherine's 100-year history through the concept of a shoebox of memories spread across a kitchen table.

The artwork will feature a collection of Polaroid-style photographs, historical keepsakes and local memorabilia, capturing the people, places and significant events that have shaped Katherine.

The design will be painted in a rich, realistic and tactile style, creating a warm, nostalgic and timeless artwork that encourages residents and visitors to explore Katherine's history.

Key Design Features

- Centenary Title: The top third of the mural will feature the Katherine Centenary title, recognising 1926–2026.
- Centenary Logo: The official Katherine Centenary logo will be reproduced on aluminium composite material and mounted onto the wall in a similar style to the existing fish artworks. The logo will be produced at a size that gives it the prominence and recognition it deserves, while ensuring it complements the overall mural design.
- Existing Fish Artworks: The existing fish artworks will remain in their current positions, with the mural designed around them to respect their place in Katherine's history.
- Red-tailed Black Cockatoo: Featured in flight in the top right corner of the mural.
- Polaroid-Style Photographs: The primary design elements, depicting Katherine's significant historical people, places and events.
- Katherine Postcard: A traditional postcard incorporated into the design, featuring either a vintage or playful nostalgic style.
- Historical Keepsakes: Small memorabilia scattered between the photographs, including old movie tickets, rodeo tickets, cattle ear tags and other items representing Katherine's history and community.

Historical Elements Featured in the Polaroids

- Historic Katherine Telegraph Line – Recognising Katherine's early communication history.
- Katherine Flood Markers – Depicting significant flood events, including corresponding years and flood heights.
- Bolung and Nabilil Stories – Recognising their cultural significance, subject to appropriate permission from the Jawoyn community.
- Katherine Post Office – Representing an important part of Katherine's early development.
- Jack McGuinness – Recognising his place in Katherine's history, subject to appropriate permissions.
- Clyde Fenton Flying Doctor Service – Celebrating the region's pioneering aviation and medical history.
- The Ghan Railway – Recognising the significance of rail transport to Katherine.
- Bombing of Katherine during World War II – Commemorating an important event in the town's wartime history.
- Nitmiluk Landscape – Capturing the iconic natural landscape associated with Katherine.

Overall Design Outcome

- A realistic, detailed and timeless mural that celebrates Katherine's centenary.
- A collection of historical images and keepsakes that tells Katherine's story in a personal and engaging way.
- A design that respects and incorporates the existing fish artworks.
- A prominent, separately mounted Centenary logo that complements the artwork and provides lasting recognition of the milestone.

- An artwork that encourages people to stop, explore and discover different elements of Katherine's history.
- A lasting public artwork that creates a sense of nostalgia, community pride and connection to Katherine.

The artists' vision is to create a mural that feels less like a monument and more like a collection of memories — familiar, warm and unmistakably Katherine.

13.5 FINANCIAL REPORT AS AT 31 OCTOBER 2026

Author: Rebecca Baguley, Chief Finance Officer
Authoriser: Casey Anderson, Acting Chief Executive Officer
Report Type: For noting
Attachments: 1. Financial Report as at 31 October 2026 [**13.5.1** - 10 pages]

PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report is to present the financial position of Council for the month ending 31 October 2026

RECOMMENDATION

That Council endorses the financial report for the month ending 31 October 2026.

SUMMARY

- **YTD Operating Income for October is $14,796,686**
- **Operating Expenditure for October is $7,426,663**
- **Operating Surplus after Depreciation is $7,370,022**
- **Capital Expenditure for the year Actuals is $633,038**
- **Tied Funds at October - $17,231,629**
- **Untied Funds at October - $13,785,450**

DISCUSSION, OPTIONS AND ANALYSIS

In accordance with the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 – Part 2 (Division 7), the attached monthly report must be presented to the Council at the monthly Ordinary Meeting of Council.

The financial report is compliant with Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 – Part 2 (Division 7) Clause 17, Items 1 and 2, whereby material variances between the most recent actual income and expenditure of the council have been identified in detail against the 26-27 Municipal Plan Annual Budget Adopted.

Accordingly, the commentary attached presents the preliminary financial position of the council at the end of September with the Acting Chief Executive Officer (Acting CEO) Certification.

Consultation Process

Consultation was undertaken with the Acting CEO to confirm report format, deadlines and attachments. The Management team was consulted to identify operational variances for operational revenue and expenditure and capital works, grants and project timeframes.

Policy Implications

Failure to present the monthly financial report may result in non-compliance with statutory reporting obligations, reduce financial transparency, limit Council's ability to monitor budget performance and financial risks, and weaken the assurance provided through CEO certification and internal controls.

Budget and Resource Implications

Within current service delivery budget and resource.

Legal and Legislative Implications

Based on Regulation 17(5) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021, the monthly financial report is to be accompanied by either:

a) A written CEO certification that internal controls are appropriate and the report best reflects council's financial affairs;
b) A written reason from the CEO for not providing the certification
The written CEO certification has been provided.

Council is compliant with the Statutory monthly reporting requirements that require the monthly financial report to be presented to Council.
Council has provided elected members with the required financial oversight information that allows them to monitor budget performance, cash position, reserves, capital expenditure and material variances.

Risk Implications

Review of Audit KPMG Audit Observations and recommendations underway to formulate a new Corrective Action Plan.
While councillors are not company directors, the Mayor, CEO and senior management are expected to exercise due diligence and make informed decisions whilst properly managing identified risks.

Audit Findings may be affected whereby the Auditors may examine where risks were identified and whether they were addressed, recommendations implemented and Management actions matched identified control weaknesses.

It is important to note that if Council does legitimately decide not to implement recommendations it also considers other options, whether the recommendation is based on risk tolerance rather than legal necessity and whether the cost of implementation may outweigh the benefit.

Environment Sustainability Implications

This financial report provides Council with oversight of waste and landfill obligations by providing monthly reports that track waste charges, waste management facility costs, depreciation and air space asset-related costs.

The capital project report identifies any delays with project delivery that may affect capital projects such as stormwater, drainage, irrigation and civic centre upgrades.

Strategic Plan

4. GROWTH AND SUSTAINABILITY - 4.2 Lead with Best Practice **- Lead by example and set a high benchmark.**
4.2.4 Be prudent with our financial management for stronger returns for ratepayers and sustainable long-term finances with current risk management practices current at all times.

Municipal Plan

4.2.4.2 Long term financial sustainability through improved budget processes incorporating timelines and assumptions
4.2.4.3 Stronger procurement processes in line with legislative requirements

Certification by the CEO to the Council

Council Name:	Katherine Town Council
Reporting Period	1st July 2026 to 31st October 2026

That , to the best of the CEO's knowledge, information and belief;

1) That internal controls implemented by the Council appear appropriate; and
2) The council's financial report best reflects the financial affairs of the council.

Acting CEO Signed: Casey Anderson

Date Signed: 13 / 11 / 2026

NOTE:

The monthly financial report to council must either be accompanied by a written certification by the CEO to the council as set out above, or the CEO is to provide written reasons for not providing the certification. (Regulation 17(5) of the General Regulations).

Table 1.1 Monthly Income and Expenditure Statement

	YTD Actuals $	YTD Budget $	YTD Variance $	Annual Budget $	Notes
OPERATING INCOME					
Rates	10,498,966	8,845,340	1,653,626	10,614,408	*Rates revenue invoiced
Waste Charges	1,732,786	1,298,074	434,712	1,730,765	**Waste revenue received
Fees and Charges	1,031,340	1,051,314	(19,975)	3,153,943	Includes User Charges, Rental and Waste Transfer Charges
Operating Grants and Subsidies	762,771	1,262,864	(500,093)	3,788,593	Grants, Visitor Info Centre, Library
Interest / Investment Income	442,090	200,000	242,090	600,000	Term Deposit interest
Commercial and Other Income	328,732	10,000	318,732	30,000	Fuel Tax Credits, Recoveries
TOTAL OPERATING INCOME	**14,796,686**	**12,667,592**	**2,129,093**	**19,917,709**	
OPERATING EXPENDITURE					
Employee Expenses	2,068,945	2,346,137	(277,192)	7,038,410	Several unfilled budgeted positions including grants officer, rangers and infrastructure group manager.
Materials and Contracts	2,093,805	3,815,312	(1,721,507)	11,445,937	Contracts, Admin, Grants, Commissions, Professional fees
Elected Member Allowances	85,522	138,347	(52,824)	415,040	
Elected Member Expenses	19,795	55,208	(35,413)	165,625	
Council Committee & LA Allowances	6,830	8,333	(1,503)	25,000	
Council Committee Expenses	(1,034)	12,667	(13,700)	38,000	
Prior Period Expenses	874,710	-	874,710	-	Expenses relating to 25-26 paid in 26-27
Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	2,127,154	2,041,927	85,227	6,125,782	25/26 asset addition capitalisation resulting depreciation expense increase
Other Expenses	90,810	15,189	75,621	45,568	Commissions,Sponsorship
Interest Expenses (Finance Costs)	60,125	21,333	38,792	64,000	Loan Fees
Finance Costs – Unwinding WMF	-	-	-	629,865	Adjustment required – Rehab Provision for 25-26
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURE	**7,426,663**	**8,454,454**	**(1,027,791)**	**25,993,227**	
OPERATING SURPLUS /(DEFICIT)	**7,370,022**	**4,213,138**	**3,156,884**	**(6,075,518)**	**Including Depreciation**

EXPLANATORY NOTES TO TABLE 1.1 - Review of Monthly Income and Expenditure

The total year to date (YTD) Operating Income at 31 October, is $ 14,796,686

The result displays a variance of $ **2,129,093** up on projected revenue forecast for October 2026

A summary of year to date variances:

a)	**Rates Revenue**	$10,498,966	General Rates received $ 9,906,535 up by $438,519 on same period last year
b)	**Fees & Charges - Cemetery**	$44,000	up by $16,990 on revenue received same period last financial year
c)	**Fees & Charges - Aiport**	$197,764	Up by $18,496 on revenue received same period last financial year
d)	**Fees & Charges - Waste trnsfr**	$474,835	Up by $27k on same period last financial year
e)	**Fees & Charges - Bins**	$59,482	Up by $10k on revenue returned for same period last financial year
f)	**Commissions Earned**	$43,421	Tour Operator returns - down $30k on revenue from same time last year
g)	**Other revenue**	$47,450	Electricity & Water Recoveries up by $39,966 on same period last financial year
h)	**Fuel Tax Credits**	$5,752	Down by $1,976 on same period last financial year

The total year to date (YTD) Operating Expenditure at 31 October is **$7,426,663**

A Summary of year to date variances:

a)	**Employee Expenses**	$2,068,945	Variance of $277,192 down on projection - staff vacancies
b)	**Materials and Contracts**	$2,093,805	Variance of $1,721,507 down on budget
c)	**Prior Period Expenses**	$874,710	Not budgeted - Expenses for prior year paid in 26-27
d)	**Elected Member Expenses**	$105,318	Elected Members
e)	**Depreciation**	$2,127,154	Variance of $85,227 - new additions (Aquatic Centre, Dog Pound, WMF Shed)
f)	**Other Expenses**	$45,768	Commissions paid, Donations, engagement
g)	**Other Expenses**	$45,042	GYRACC OpGrant, Katherine Art Prize Annual Grant; KTC Art Prize; Snrs Month

October Operating Position is showing a surplus of $7,370,022 including Depreciation expenses, excluding Capital Expenditure

Table 1.2 Monthly Operating Position

	YTD Actuals $	YTD Budget $	YTD Variance $	Annual Budget $
Operating Surplus (Deficit)	**7,370,022**	**4,213,138**	**3,156,884**	**(6,075,518)**
Remove Non-Cash Items				
- Less Non-Cash Income	-	-	-	-
Add back Non-Cash Expenses – Note (a)				
Depreciation & Unwinding WMF Asset	2,127,154	2,041,927	85,227	6,125,782
Net Gain (Loss) on Disposal of Assets	-	-	-	-
Less Additional Outflows				
Capital Expenditure	633,038	1,984,177	(1,351,139)	5,952,530
Borrowing Repayments (Principal only)	-	-	-	-
Transfers to Reserves	-	-	-	-
Other Outflows -	-	-	-	-
Total Additional Outflows	**633,038**	**1,984,177**	**(1,351,139)**	**5,952,530**
Add Additional Inflows				
Capital Grants Income	62,206	570,333	(508,127)	1,711,000
Prior Year carried forward funding	136,375	-	136,375	-
Other inflow of Funds (Sale of Assets)	-	-	-	-
Transfers from Reserves	-	-	-	1,241,530
Drawdown of Borrowings (26-27)	500,000	500,000	-	3,000,000
Total Additional Inflows	**698,581**	**1,070,333**	**(371,752)**	**5,952,530**
Net Budgeted Operating Surplus (Deficit)	**9,562,719**	**5,341,222**	**4,221,497**	**50,264**

NOTES TO TABLE 1.2 MONTHLY OPERATING POSITION

a) Capital Grants Expenditure Includes Civic Centre Upgrade,

b) Prior Year Carried Forward Funding AICD, Big Rivers, RRRP

BALANCE SHEET	YTD Actuals at 31 October 26	Note reference
ASSETS		
Cash at Bank		
Tied Funds	17,231,629	(1)
Untied Funds	13,785,450	(1)
Trade Debtors	632,099	(2)
Rates and Charges Debtors	8,055,579	(2)
Other Current Assets	399,979	
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	**40,104,735**	
Non-Currrent Financial Assets	-	
Property, Plant and Equipment	138,504,307	
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS	138,504,307	
TOTAL ASSETS	**178,609,042**	
LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable	134,276	(3)
ATO & Payroll Liabilities	100,512	(4)
Current Provisions	569,024	
Accruals	190,005	
Other Current Liabilities	275,815	
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	**1,269,633**	
Borrowings	2,500,000	
Non-Current Employee Provisions	21,738	
Waste Management Make Good Provision	24,664,074	
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES	**27,185,812**	
TOTAL LIABILITIES	**28,455,445**	
NET ASSETS	**150,153,597**	
EQUITY		
Asset Revaluation Reserve	97,647,221	
Reserves	14,651,023	(1)
Accumulated Surplus	37,855,352	
TOTAL EQUITY	**150,153,597**	

NOTE 1: TIED FUNDS	TIED FUNDS	TOTAL RESERVES
Imprest Petty Cash	1,269	
Employee Liabilities	590,763	
CapitaL Renewal Reserve	6,487,646	
Aquatic Centre Contingency Reserve	1,000,000	
Municipal Election Reserve	100,000	
Council Motion Funding Reserve	600,515	
WMF Make Good Provision Reserve	6,462,862	**14,651,023**
Unspent Loan Funds - Civic Centre	1,750,261	(drawndown lop)
Unspent Capital Grants	0	
Deposits Held	238,313	
TOTAL TIED FUNDS	**17,231,629**	

NOTE 1: UNTIED FUNDS	UNTIED FUNDS
Cash and Cash equivalents less Tied Funds	**13,785,450**

NOTE 1. DETAILS OF CASH AND INVESTMENTS HELD

Cash at Bank consists of Term Deposits of $22.3M with maturities as detailed in Investments summary below

GENERAL FUND - Commonwealth Bank		$
Balance as per bank statement at 31 October 2026		31,052,492.45
Credit card balances	-	36,682.54
Balance of Imprest & Petty Cash		1,268.51
Plus net outstanding deposits (withdrawals)		-
Adjusted Cash at Bank Balance - 31 October 2026	**$**	**31,017,078.42**

INVESTMENTS	PRINCIPAL	RATE	EFFECTIVE DATE	MATURITY DATE	TOTAL BY INSTITUTION	% BY INSTITUTION
AMP 1	$ 562,351.88	5.20%	1/04/2026	31/03/2027		
AMP 2	$ 1,000,000.00	5.35%	1/05/2026	3/05/2027		
AMP 3	$ 500,000.00	5.25%	14/05/2026	15/02/2027		
AMP 4	$ 1,682,382.24	5.35%	15/05/2026	15/05/2027		
AMP 5	$ 1,104,170.48	5.35%	29/06/2026	29/06/2027		
AMP 6	$ 1,544,903.75	5.35%	30/06/2026	30/06/2027	**$ 6,393,808.35**	28.6%
BOQ 3	$ 524,117.43	4.00%	6/11/2025	6/11/2026		
BOQ 5	$ 1,049,863.02	5.10%	6/08/2026	8/02/2027	**$ 1,573,980.45**	7.0%
CBA 1	$ 2,730,592.05	5.27%	26/05/2026	26/05/2027		
CBA	$ 547,284.31	5.35%	11/08/2026	7/07/2027		
CBA 4	$ 549,638.68	5.27%	26/05/2026	26/05/2027	**$ 3,827,515.04**	17.1%
NAB 1	$ 3,669,750.00	4.05%	11/11/2025	11/11/2026		
NAB 3	$ 539,104.98	4.90%	13/07/2026	10/12/2026		
NAB 4	$ 3,156,000.00	5.15%	30/07/2026	30/07/2027		
NAB 6	$ 1,097,683.82	5.30%	5/09/2026	6/09/2027		
NAB 7	$ 2,095,000.00	5.45%	14/10/2026	14/10/2027	**$ 10,557,538.80**	47.2%
AMP	$ 575,875.43	variable	30 days	on-call		
CBA	$ 2,200,059.78	Variable	30 days	on-call	**$ 2,775,935.21**	
TOTAL INVESTMENTS					**$ 25,128,777.85**	100.0%
TOTAL GENERAL CBA FUND					**$ 5,888,300.57**	
TOTAL FUNDS					**$ 31,017,078.42**	

NOTE 2: STATEMENT ON DEBTS OWED TO COUNCIL - ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE

Debtor Summary	Current	Past due 1-30 Days	Past Due 31-60 Days	Past Due 61-90 Days	Past Due 90+ Days	TOTAL
Rates Debtors	5,762,361	-	-	-	2,208,656	**7,971,017**
Rates Other Debtors	84,562					**84,562**
					TOTAL	**8,055,579**
Trade Debtors	351,839	215,768	15,246	3,073	46,171	**632,097**
TOTAL	**6,198,762**	**215,768**	**15,246**	**3,073**	**2,254,827**	**8,687,676**

NOTE 3: STATEMENT ON TRADE CREDITORS

	Current	Past due 1-30 Days	Past Due 31-60 Days	Past Due 61-90 Days	Past Due 90+ Days	TOTAL
Trade Creditors	120,825	11,902	-	(1)	(1,888)	130,838
Other Creditors	3,438	-	-	-	-	3,438
TOTAL PAYABLES	**124,263**	**11,902**	-	**(1)**	**(1,888)**	**134,276**

Accounts payable is processed weekly.

NOTE 4: STATEMENT ON AUSTRALIAN TAX OFFICE (ATO) OBLIGATIONS

Council is a large witholder for PAYG purposes and consequently remits witholdings to the ATO on the day of payroll. As its revenue is GST Free monthly net GST is generaly an amount payable to Council untless significant grants are received in the period. Payroll liabilities include Superannuation payable and Salary Sacrifice deductions.

KTC is due for this amount to be refunded by ATO for GST	3,712
Superannuation Payable Liability at 31 October 2026*	-
Prepaid Fringe Benefit Tax	(32,129)

*Payday Super now in force - Super liability paid same day as payroll

Timing of reports determines actuals vs estimates

NOTE 5. CURRENT RATIO

	%	
Current Ratio (Current Assets/ Current Liabilities	31.52	✅
Current Ratio adjusted for Tied Funds	18.02	✅
Rates Coverage Ratio	90%	✅

Table 2.1 Capital Expenditure and Funding - by class of Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE	YTD Actuals $	YTD Budget $	YTD Variance $	Current Year (Annual Budget)	
Buildings and Other Structures	367,871	902,843	(534,972)	2,708,530	
Improvements	172,452	97,000	75,452	291,000	
Plant & Equipment	8,406	98,333	(89,927)	295,000	
Furniture & Fittings	17,050	71,000	(53,950)	213,000	
Fleet	-	-	-	-	
Infrastructure Paths & Cycleways	23,403	343,333	(319,931)	1,030,000	
Infrastructure Roads	27,235	471,667	(444,432)	1,415,000	
Infrastructure Storm water & Drainage	16,622	33,333	(16,711)	100,000	
Infrastructure - Irrigation	-	50,000	(50,000)	150,000	
DRFA - Emergency Response Expenses*	-	-	-	-	
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE	**633,038**	**2,067,510**	**(1,434,472)**	**6,202,530**	**(a)**
Total Capital Expenditure funded by:	**YTD Actuals $**	**YTD Budget $**	**YTD Variance $**	**Current Year (Annual Budget)**	
Council Co-Contribution	186,339	413,843	(227,504)	1,241,530	
Council Annual contribution (Opex R&M)	16,622	180,791	(164,169)	250,000	
Capital Grants	62,206	570,033	(507,827)	1,711,000	
Borrowings Civic Centre	367,871	902,843	(534,972)	3,000,000	
DRFA Emergency Response	-	-	-	-	
Deferred Capital – Grants Carried Forward Prior Year	-	-	-	-	
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE	**633,038**	**2,067,510**	**(1,434,472)**	**6,202,530**	

(a) Approved Capital Budget $5,952,530 + contribution of $250k from OPEX budget for annual spend on Asset Classes Irrigation, Stormwater and Drainage R&M

TABLE 2.2 REPORT ON PLANNED MAJOR CAPITAL WORKS OVER $150K

Asset Class	By Major Capital Project	Total Planned Budget - Life of Project	Grant Funding Approved	Council Contribution - Life of Project	Council Contribution 26-27 Budget	Total Prior Year's Expenditure	YTD Actual Spend $	Total yet to spend $	Revised project completion Date
Buildings & Other Structures	Civic Centre Refurbishment	5,000,000	-	5,000,000	3,000,000	381,868	367,871	4,250,261	Mar-27
Buildings & Other Structures	WMF - Fitout	100,000	-	100,000	100,000	-	-	100,000	Jun-27
Buildings & Other Structures	Showgrounds - Electrical Upgrade	138,805	Insurance	138,805	111,000	27,805	85,260	25,740	Feb-27
Irrigation *	Various Locations	150,000	-	150,000	150,000		-	150,000	Mar-27
Drains & Stormwater *	Various Locations	100,000	-	100,000	100,000		16,622	83,378	Jun-27
Infrastructure - Footpaths & Cycleways	Zimin Drive	1,150,000	756,000	394,000	254,000	80,908	23,403	1,045,690	Jun-30
Infrastructure - Roads	Zimin, Shadforth Shoulder Upgrade	235,000	235,000	-	-	-	11,784	223,216	Jun-27
Infrastructure - Roads	Local Roads and Pavements: Giles st	635,029	635,029	-	-	-	-	635,029	Dec-27
Infrastructure - Roads	Rural Intersection Upgrades	720,000	720,000	-	-	-	-	720,000	Mar-27
Buildings & Other Structures	Sportsground Lighting	300,000	-	300,000	300,000	-	-	300,000	Feb-27
TOTAL		**8,528,834**	**2,346,029**	**6,182,805**	**4,015,000**	**490,581**	**504,940**	**7,533,314**	

*** Annual Budget for the asset class**

NOTE 2.3 CAPITAL WORKS - PROJECT COMPLETION TIMEFRAMES

CAPITAL PROJECTS - CURRENT WORK IN PROGRESS

PROJECT NAME	GRANT	KTC FUNDED	ACTUAL SPEND LOP	BALANCE YET TO SPEND	EST. COMPLETION DATE
Civic Centre Refurbishment	-	5,000,000	367,871	4,250,261	Mar-27
Zimin Drive Shared Pathway	756,000.00	394,000	104,311	1,045,690	Jun-30
Reinstatement of services post flood(insurance)	-	138,805	113,065	25,740	Feb-27
Irrigation Upgrades - Railway Terrace	-	150,000	-	150,000	Mar-27
Drains & Stormwater		100,000	16,622	83,378	Jun-27
Infrastructure Roads - Rural Intersection Upgrades	720,000	-	-	-	Mar-27
TOTAL	**1,476,000**	**5,782,805**	**601,869**	**5,555,069**	

CAPITAL PROJECTS - UPCOMING WORK (NOT YET STARTED)

PROJECT NAME	GRANT	KTC FUNDED	ACTUAL SPEND LOP	BALANCE YET TO SPEND	EST. COMPLETION DATE
Infrastructure Roads - Zimin, Shadforth Shoulder Upgrade	235,000	-	-	235,000	Jun-27
Fit-out Waste Facility Machinery Shed	-	100,000	-	100,000	Jun-27
Sportsground lighting	-	300,000	-	300,000	Feb-27
Infrastructure Roads - Giles st	635,029	-	-	635,029	Dec-27
TOTAL	**870,029**	**400,000**	**-**	**1,270,029**	

27-28 Budget	**Grant**	**$**	
Gorge Road Shoulder Upgrades	R2R	235,000	Jun-28

Table 4. Member and CEO Council Credit Card Transactions for the Month

Where a council credit card has been issued to an Elected Member and/or the CEO, a list per cardholder of all credit card transactions in the month is to be published including the name of the supplier, the amount for each transaction and the reason for the transaction.

Cardholder Name: Casey Anderson

Transaction Date	Amount $	Supplier's Name	Reason for the Transaction
1/10/2026	$ 86.59	Intuit Sydney AUS	Subscription
1/10/2026	$ 130.00	DoubleTree Esplanade D Darwin AUS	Accomodation for Brett, NT Emergency Management Symposium 2026
2/10/2026	$ 264.00	Calxa TOWNSVILLE AUS	Financial Subscription
5/10/2026	$ 12.00	NEWS PTY LIMITED SURRY HILLS NSW	Subscription
5/10/2026	$ 319.00	XPNA.CO LANE COVE WENSW	Financial Subscription
9/10/2026	$ 523.75	PESTROL.COM.AU ALEXANDRIA NSW	Bird Scare Cannon
12/10/2026	$ 337.00	XERO AU INV-56756095 HAWTHORN VIC	Financial Subscription
12/10/2026	$ 315.00	STARLINK INTERNET Sydney AUS	Financial Subscription
16/10/2026	$ 25.15	WOOLWORTHS 5636 KATHERINE NT	Catering for Katherine Community Safety Action Group Meeting
21/10/2026	$ 10.00	XRO: XERO CUSTOM CONNE MELBOURNE VIC	Financial Subscription
21/10/2026	$ 20.00	NEWS PTY LIMITED SURRY HILLS NSW	Subscription
26/10/2026	$ 787.89	Adobe Sydney AUS	Subscription
NOTE 4: STATE	$ 475.20	EZI*Happy HR Pty Ltd Essendon WesAUS	People and Culture Subscription
Total	**$3,305.58**		

13.6 CORPORATE ADMINISTRATION QUARTERLY REPORT AS AT 31 OCTOBER 2026

Author: Sheralea Clemow, Rates and Regulatory Affairs Coordinator
Authoriser: Casey Anderson, Acting Chief Executive Officer
Report Type: For noting
Attachments: Nil

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To provide Council with an overview of Corporate Administration service requests and service delivery trends for the quarterly period 1 August 2026 to 31 October 2026.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives and notes the Corporate Administration Report for the quarterly period of 1 August 2026 to 31 October 2026.

SUMMARY

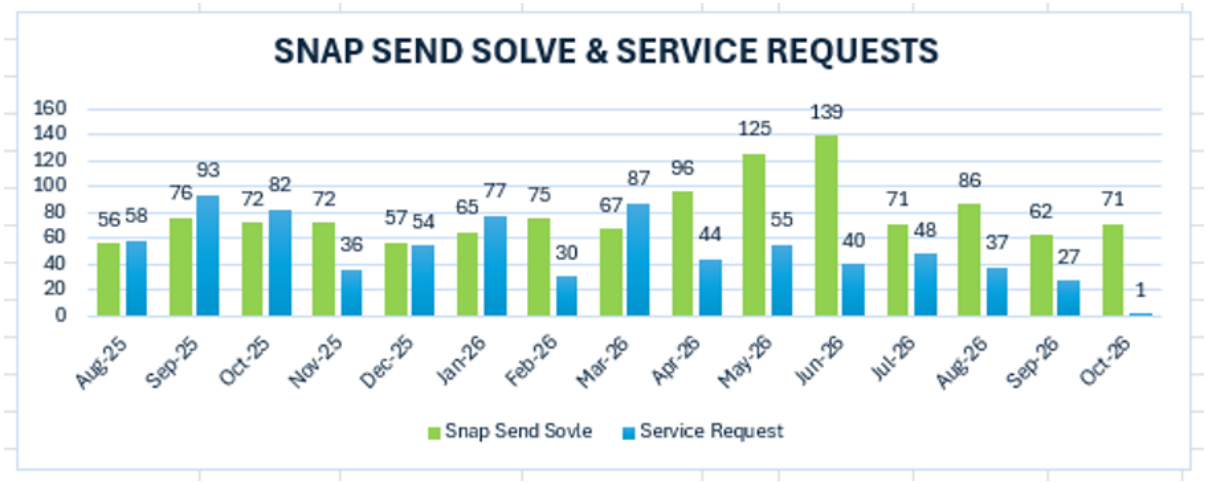
- **Council received 284 service requests during the quarter, with 219 requests (77%) lodged through Snap Send Solve, demonstrating strong community uptake of Council's preferred reporting platform.**
- **A total of 180 service requests were completed, achieving an overall completion rate of approximately 63%, while most remaining requests are progressing through ongoing operational, maintenance and capital works programs.**
- **Environment Management (70 requests) and Roads, Traffic & Transportation (37 requests) remained key demand areas, with outstanding matters largely linked to vegetation growth, flood recovery works, infrastructure repairs and programmed maintenance activities.**
- **Regulatory Services recorded the highest volume of requests (92 requests, 32% of total) and achieved the strongest performance, with a 93% completion rate. Common issues included dogs at large, lost and found animals, abandoned vehicles and animal welfare concerns.**
- **Council maintained strong customer service performance, with approximately 89% of completed requests finalised within Customer Service Charter timeframes, despite ongoing challenges associated with flood recovery, contractor availability and infrastructure restoration programs.**

DISCUSSION, OPTIONS AND ANALYSIS

The Corporate Administration report provides aggregated data on customer service requests received and processed over a three-month period, enabling Council to monitor service demand, performance, and emerging trends.

Quarterly Incident Summary:

During the reporting period, Council received 284 service requests across all channels. Out of the 284 service requests, 219 were submitted to Council by the preferred method, Snap Send Solve.

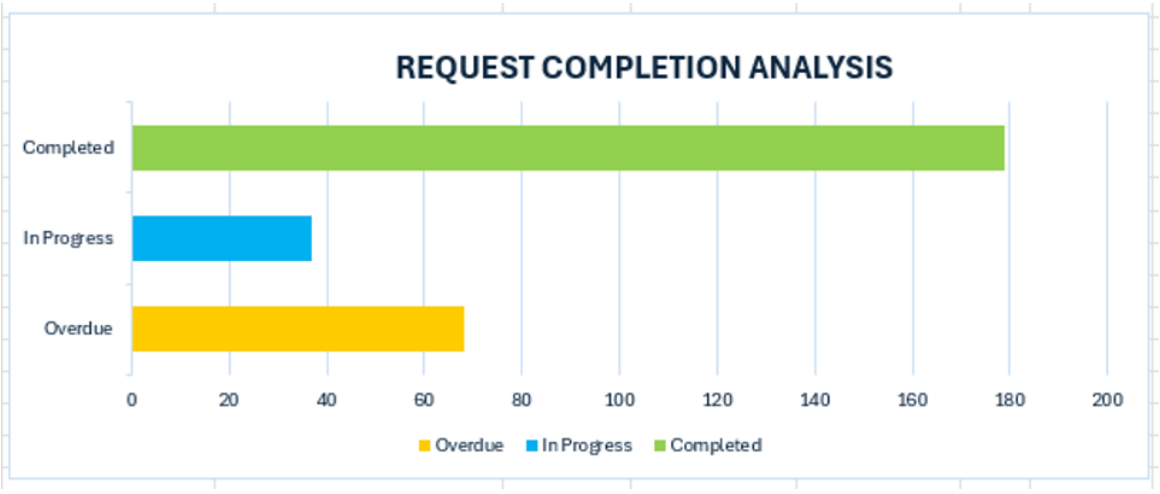


A total of 180 service requests were completed during the reporting period, representing an overall completion rate of approximately 63%. The remaining requests are either in progress or scheduled for completion through Council's ongoing maintenance, operational and capital works programs.

Outstanding requests are primarily associated with infrastructure repairs, flood recovery activities, contractor availability, procurement lead times and programmed works.

Council continued to maintain strong compliance with its Customer Service Charter, with approximately 89% of completed requests finalised within the applicable service delivery timeframes.

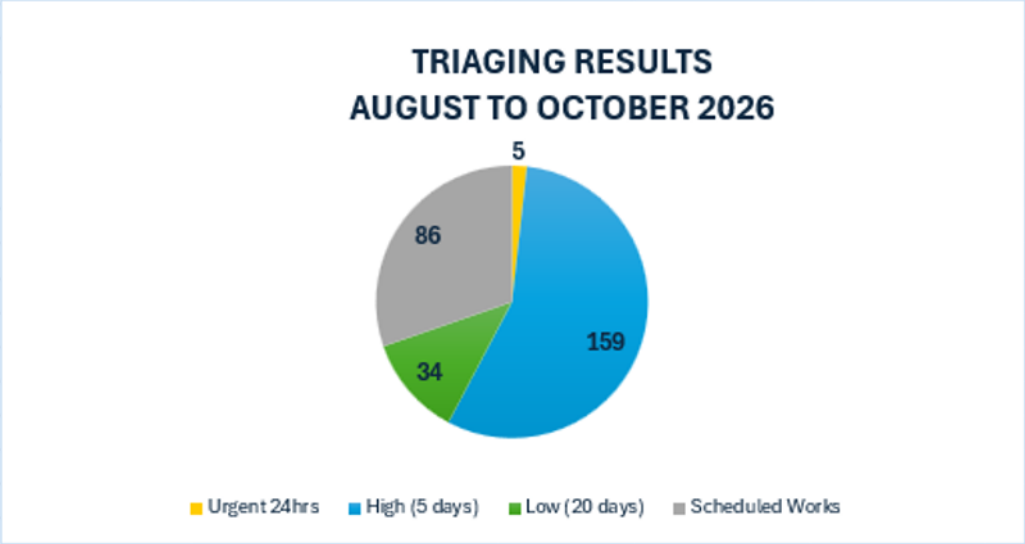
Based on the previous quarter, the data continues to reflect sustained demand across all service areas, with Regulatory Services, Environment Management and Roads, Traffic & Transportation generating the highest proportion of customer requests.



Several key trends emerged throughout this quarter:

- Regulatory Services maintained the highest workload while also achieving the strongest completion outcomes.
- Road and infrastructure-related requests continue to generate the largest backlog due to the complexity, cost and scheduling requirements associated with permanent repair works.
- Environment Management remains affected by increased vegetation growth, irrigation failures and flood-related impacts.
- Waste Management maintained consistent service delivery outcomes throughout the reporting period.
- Streetlight Maintenance continues to be impacted by reliance on external service providers and contractor schedules.
- Community utilisation of Snap Send Solve remains strong, accounting for more than three-quarters of all requests lodged with Council.

Overall, Council's service request data demonstrates a high level of responsiveness and effective prioritisation of community needs while continuing to manage the ongoing challenges associated with flood recovery, infrastructure restoration programs and contractor-dependent works.



Breakdown by Incident Types

Roads, Traffic & Transportation (37 requests)

- Potholes
- Road deterioration
- Footpaths
- Signage

Roads, Traffic & Transportation accounted for 13% of all service requests received during the quarter. Requests primarily related to potholes, road deterioration, footpaths and signage maintenance. More than 37% of requests were completed during the reporting period, with outstanding matters largely associated with programmed road repair projects, flood-damage restoration works, DRFA and insurance-related recovery activities scheduled across the 2026/27 works program.

Regulatory Services (92 requests)

- Dog at large or nuisance
- Lost and found animals
- Abandoned vehicles
- Animal welfare concerns

Regulatory Services recorded the highest volume of service requests, representing approximately 32% of all requests received. The majority of requests related to dogs at large, nuisance animals, lost and found animals, abandoned vehicles and animal welfare concerns. Animal management matters continued to account for the majority of regulatory workloads and remain a significant community concern. A completion rate of 93% was achieved, making Regulatory Services the strongest performing service area for the quarter again.

Environment Management (70 requests)

- Fallen trees
- Overgrown vegetation
- Open spaces maintenance
- Irrigation damage

Environment Management represented approximately 24% of all service requests and remained one of Council's busiest service areas. Requests primarily involved fallen trees, overgrown vegetation, irrigation damage and public open space maintenance. Approximately 58% of requests were completed during the quarter. Elevated demand continues to be driven by vegetation growth, irrigation failures and ongoing maintenance requirements associated with wet season and March 2026 flood recovery impacts.

Waste Management (32 requests)

- Wheelie bin replacement (including missing/damaged)
- Rubbish collection in public open spaces

Waste Management accounted for 11% of all customer requests received. Common requests related to wheelie bin replacements, missing bins and rubbish collection in public areas. Council staff continue to work closely with the external service provider to improve response times and ensure the timely closure of requests. Approximately 59% of requests were completed during the quarter.

Streetlight Maintenance (22 requests)

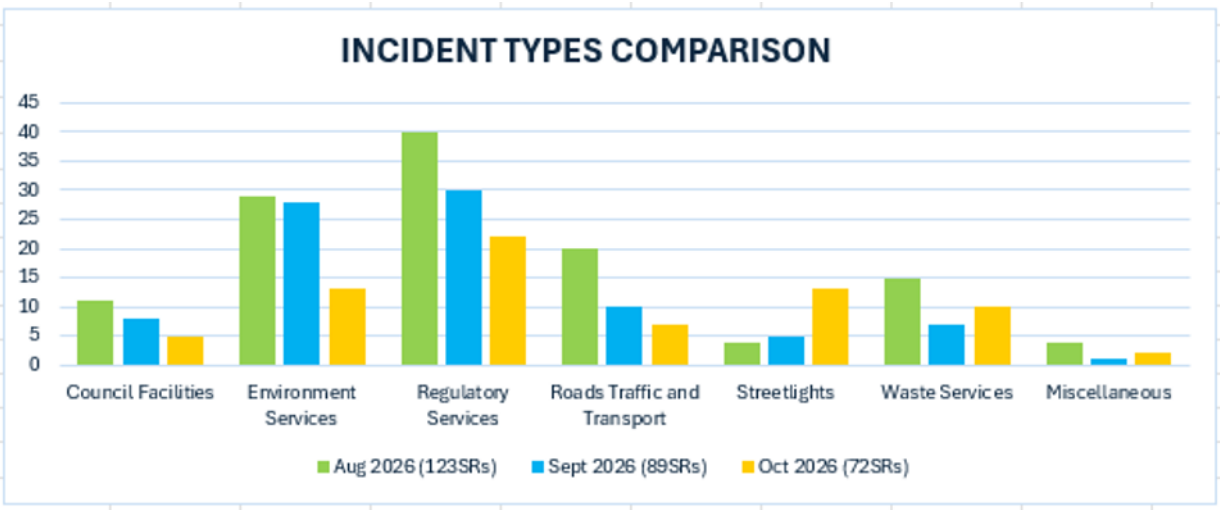
Streetlight Maintenance represented approximately 8% of service requests received. Requests generally related to streetlight outages and lighting faults across the municipality. While completion numbers remained low during the reporting period, response times for completed works were generally within acceptable timeframes. Service delivery outcomes continue to be influenced by reliance on external service providers responsible for these asset repairs and maintenance.

Council Facilities & Assets (24 requests)

- Asset Maintenance

- Vandalism and graffiti

Council Facilities & Assets accounted for 8% of total service requests. Requests primarily related to asset maintenance, cleaning and minor vandalism or graffiti across Council facilities. More than 66% of requests were completed during the quarter. Outstanding matters generally involve more complex repairs, specialised maintenance requirements or works incorporated into scheduled maintenance programs rather than immediate operational or safety concerns.



Consultation Process

There was no consultation process required for this report.

Policy Implications

There are no policy implications resulting from the decision.

Budget and Resource Implications

Within current service delivery budget and resource.

Risk, Legal and Legislative Implications

There are no Risk, Legal and Legislative Implications.

Environment Sustainability Implications

There are no environmental sustainability implications.

Strategic Plan

1. STRONG LEADERSHIP - 1.1 Strong Leadership **- Lead a strong local democracy with a community that is actively engaged in Katherine's strategic direction.**
1.1.2 Ensure strong internal governance with updated policies and procedures in place.

Municipal Plan

1.1.3.1 Encourage and educate the community about the services we provide

13.7 APPROVAL FOR STAFF STANDOWN PERIOD WITHOUT LEAVE 2026

Author: Barbara Mason, Manager People and Culture
Authoriser: Casey Anderson, Acting Chief Executive Officer
Report Type: For decision
Attachments: Nil

PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report seeks Council's approval to grant staff paid time off from 29 to 31 December 2026 inclusive without deducting annual or other leave. It also seeks approval for staff required to work during the closure to maintain essential Council services to receive equivalent time in lieu, to be taken as soon as practicable after the closure.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council approve and grant staff time off during the Christmas period without the requirement to use annual leave or other leave. Operations exempted from this closure period would be services which are mandated to deliver such as the Waste Management Facility, Visitors Information Centre, Municipal Services and the Ranger. Staff required to work during this period would be granted the equivalent time as "Time in Lieu" to be used as soon as practical after the Christmas closure period.

SUMMARY

- **Public holidays are as follows:**
    - **Christmas Day 25 December 2026**
    - **Boxing Day 28 December 2026**
    - **New Years Day 1 January 2026**
    - **In ordinary circumstances, staff *(excluding the Waste Management Facility, Visitors Information Centre and Municipal and Ranger Services)* will be required to use annual leave for 29, 30, 31 December 2026 (22.6 hours).**

DISCUSSION, OPTIONS AND ANALYSIS

The period between Christmas Day and New Year's Day is traditionally a time of reduced public demand for Council services. Historically, many Council services experience minimal activity during this period and staffing levels are often reduced due to the mandatd Christmas Closure.

Providing staff time off during a short, defined shutdown without deducting it from their leave balances would support staff wellbeing and recognise the hard work, dedication and extra hours staff have contributed to meet significant operational demands throughout the year. Allowing staff who need to work during the shutdown to take equivalent time off within a specified period would help Council apply the arrangement fairly and consistently across all teams.

Essential and mandated services will continue to operate where required, with appropriate staffing

arrangements managed by the relevant managers. Staff working during this period will be provided Time in Lieu.

Consultation Process

There was no consultation process required for this report.

Policy Implications

There are no policy implications resulting from the decision.

Budget and Resource Implications

There are no budget or resource implications.

Risk, Legal and Legislative Implications

There are no risk, legal and legislative implications.

Environment Sustainability Implications

There are no environmental sustainability implications.

Strategic Plan

Not Applicable

Municipal Plan

Not applicable

13.8 KATHERINE TOWN COUNCIL PUBLIC LIBRARY FORWARD PLAN 2026/2027

Author: Barbara Mason, Manager People and Culture
Authoriser: Casey Anderson, Acting Chief Executive Officer
Report Type: For noting
Attachments: 1. Draft - Katherine Town Council Public Library Forward Plan 2026-2027 [**13.8.1** - 15 pages]

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To present the Katherine Town Council's Public Library Forward Plan 2026/2027 for endorsement.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council reiceve and note the Katherine Town Council's Public Library Forward Plan 2026/2027 (Attachment 1)

SUMMARY

- **Katherine Town Council receives funding of $243,373.62, plus any applicable CPI adjustment, from the Library and Archives Northern Territory for operations and the delivery of community library programs in accordance with the six goals of Librarys Connecting Communities 2023/2028 Strategic Vision.**
- **The Library consulted young families and the Senior Citizens Group as part of its forward planning. The draft proposes a shared Music and Rhyme program for toddlers, their parents or carers and older residents.**
- **Investigate a Books on Wheels program that would reach library members who find it difficult to visit the Library. Seniors Digital Literacy sessions would offer practical help with devices and online services.**
- **The plan also covers collection renewal, school science and technology programs, writing and illustration workshops, and public access to Katherine's newspaper archives.**

DISCUSSION, OPTIONS AND ANALYSIS

Bringing generations together. The Library proposes one Intergenerational Music and Rhyme session a month for six months. Toddlers, parents or carers and older residents would share songs, rhymes, movement and play. The trial aims to attract an average of at least five seniors and five toddlers per session. Attendance and feedback from both groups would inform whether the program continues.

Reaching people at home. The proposed 12-month Books on Wheels pilot would start with a target of at least 10 registered participants. Staff will engage and explore monthly deliveries to people living independently and partnerships with Rocky Ridge Nursing Home and the Australian Regional and Remote Community Services (ARRCS) hostel. Large-print books and audiobooks would be available alongside other items chosen to suit participants' interests.

Building digital confidence. The draft proposes at least 12 digital literacy sessions a year, reaching at least 30 individual seniors. A suitably qualified provider or community partner would help participants use phones and tablets, access online services and recognise scams. Outreach sessions could also reach Books on Wheels participants.

Delivery options. The draft favours starting the new services as trials so staff can measure demand, workload and cost. If staffing or partner availability limits delivery, the Library could stagger the start

dates. Quarterly reviews would guide changes to session times, outreach frequency and the mix of programs.

School access and collections. The Library would work with schools on science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) activities, including remote participation through Katherine School of the Air. Young Territory Author Awards workshops would support writing and illustration. Collection priorities include local history, Indigenous languages and youth non-fiction.

Measuring progress. Quarterly reviews would track visits, loans, memberships and participation alongside feedback. The draft lists both two and six school STEM activities as annual targets.

Consultation Process

Library staff consulted library patrons and young families and the Senior Citizens Group about the Forward Plan. Staff also audited weekday playgroups and other activities for babies and toddlers across Katherine.

The audit found that families already had a wide choice throughout the week and that another playgroup would duplicate existing services.

The Library is therefore proposing an Intergenerational Music and Rhyme trial. Many families have moved from interstate to live and work in Katherine and are raising children without grandparents nearby. Regular sessions would give toddlers, their parents or carers and older residents a chance to make community connections by geting to know one another through singing, rhymes and play.

Library staff have attended the Senior Citizens Group's monthly meeting to explain what the Library offers, and hear which services and activities members would find useful, and discuss where, when and how they would like sessions delivered. During the trial, staff will ask families and older participants what is working and what would make it easier to attend.

Policy Implications

There are no policy implications resulting from the decision.

Budget and Resource Implications

Within current service delivery budget and resource.

Risk, Legal and Legislative Implications

There are no risk, legal and legislative implications.

Environment Sustainability Implications

There are no environmental sustainability implications.

Strategic Plan

1. STRONG LEADERSHIP - 1.2 Partner in progress **- Provide strategic leadership on economic development issues to promote Katherine's reputation and improve business confidence.**
1.2.1 Foster strong relationships with Territory and federal governments to ensure coordination and support for economic development initiatives affecting Katherine at the local level and in the Big Rivers Region.

1. STRONG LEADERSHIP - 1.4 Enhance Customer Experiences - **Deliver positive customer experiences for visitors and residents.**
1.4.1 Continually improve services and our tourism offerings.

Municipal Plan

3.4.6.1 Assess options to ensure the Katherine Public Library is accessible, fit-for-purpose and safe for

community use

Katherine Public Library Forward Plan 2026–2027

Introduction

The Katherine Public Library Forward Plan 2026–2027

As a dynamic community hub, the library plays a key role in fostering literacy, inclusion, cultural preservation, and lifelong learning. This plan aligns with the Katherine Town Council Strategic Plan 2027, Katherine Town Council's Municipal Plan 2026/2027 and the NT Public Library Operational Funding Agreement 2023/2028, reinforcing our shared goals of access, equity, and local identity.

Mission and Vision

Our vision is for Katherine to be a place of opportunities, where diversity is celebrated, and we thrive together. Our mission is to collaborate today to shape an exceptional future for tomorrow. The library upholds the values of inclusion, respect, and community connection in all its services.

Strategic Alignment

This plan supports the following strategic priorities:

- Investigate options to relocate the library.
- Undertake library operations as per NTG funding agreement.
- Develop the library collection.
- Increase community participation.
- Partner with local organisations to enhance library services.

Aligned NT Public Library goals include:

- **Literacy and Lifelong Learning:** Promoting reading, early literacy, and educational programs for all ages.
- **Online services and digital inclusion:** Providing online services and digital skills training so everyone can engage in the digital world.
- **Inclusive and Welcoming Spaces:** Ensuring the library (and outreach locations) are safe, accessible, and inviting for all community members.
- **Local History, language and culture preservation:** Supporting the preservation and sharing of local history, language, and cultural heritage.
- **Community Diversity and Engagement:** Celebrating diversity and partnering with local groups to engage all segments of our community.

DRAFT

- **Sector Strength and Governance:** Contributing to a strong library sector through best-practice management, staff development, and adherence to governance standards.

Key Priorities 2026/2027

In 2026/27, the library will activate, enhance and expand its services as a community hub, guided by these priorities:

- **Access for All:** Free access to books, internet, and digital tools so everyone can learn, no matter their background.
- **Inclusive Spaces:** Safe, welcoming places—both in the library and out—for people of all ages, cultures, and abilities.
- **Lifelong Learning:** Programs for all stages of life—from early literacy to adult and digital skills.
- **Celebrate Culture**: Events and displays that reflect Katherine's diverse community and shared history.
- **Support for All:** Help families, seniors, job seekers, and vulnerable groups with targeted programs and services.
- **Work Together:** Partner with local groups and schools to reach more people and build community.
- **Digital Access:** Free Wi-Fi, computers, and tech tools, plus training to boost skills and confidence—especially for those less connected.

These priorities frame the activities and initiatives in this Forward Plan. In the sections below, we outline the action steps, responsible staff, expected outcomes, and performance targets for the 2026–2027 period.

Programs and Service Development

1. Collection Management
Action: We will maintain a current, relevant and responsive library collection by maximising all available funding through the Library and Archives Library Resource Allocation to support regular collection renewal and development.

A full annual stocktake will be completed and complemented by regular and consistent weeding throughout the year to remove outdated, duplicate, damaged and low-use materials and ensure shelf space is used effectively.

Improved processes will be implemented for the management and recovery of overdue items, alongside increased promotion and use of interlibrary loan services to broaden community access to resources beyond the local collection.

Collection development will continue to respond to community needs, with targeted investment in priority areas including local history, Indigenous languages, youth non-fiction and themed collections.

Responsible: Library Services Coordinator (with Assistant)

Measurable Objective: 100% of available LANT Library Resource Allocation funding expended within the funding period, with a defined proportion of allocation of annual acquisition funding to local history, Indigenous languages and youth non-fiction. Use targeted displays to increase engagement with the collection by creating at least 6 themed collection displays/promotions annually. 100% of collection stocktake annually by the end of Quarter 2. Improve accuracy of catalogue and physical holdings by resolving 90% of discrepancies identified through stocktake within 3 months.100% of collection areas reviewed at least once annually, with weeding undertaken quarterly. Increase community awareness and use of interlibrary loans through promotion of the service to achieve a 10% increase in requests year on year.

2. School Engagement and Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Programs

Action: Develop a school engagement and STEM program through Katherine Public Library by partnering with Katherine-region schools and engaging qualified external presenters, educators and STEM organisations to bring high-quality educational experiences to Katherine.

Programs may include “Think of a Number” with Michael Connell, visiting science and mathematics presenters, Charles Darwin University (CDU) /Radicle STEM programs and roadshows, coding and robotics, LEGO engineering challenges, solar-car activities, drones, environmental and agricultural science, and other STEM programs available within the Northern Territory.

Katherine Town Council (KTC) will work with local schools to coordinate visiting presenters so activities can be delivered both at Katherine Public Library and within schools, maximising participation and value from visiting providers.

A specific partnership will be developed with Katherine School of the Air (KSA) to extend selected programs to children living in remote and geographically isolated areas. Where suitable, Library-based workshops and visiting STEM presentations will be made available live through Microsoft Teams, allowing KSA students to participate remotely, interact with presenters and undertake activities from their home classrooms.

KTC will also investigate partnerships with Charles Darwin University/Radicle, Inspired NT, National Science Week, NT Government agencies, Katherine Research Station and other STEM and education providers to increase the range of programs available to Katherine-region students.

Responsible: Library Programs Coordinator and Library Services Coordinator, in partnership with Katherine-region schools and external STEM and education providers.

Measurable Objective: Establish active partnerships with at least three Katherine-region schools, including Katherine School of the Air. Engage at least two external STEM providers or presenters annually. Deliver at least two school/STEM activities annually. Make at least two suitable STEM programs annually available to Katherine School of the Air students via Microsoft Teams. Engage at least 150 students annually, including students participating remotely. Include STEM activities within school holiday programming. Investigate available NT and national STEM programs, grants and partnership opportunities annually. Achieve at least 80% positive feedback from participating schools, teachers and/or students.

3. *New:* Investigate a Trial a Books on Wheels – Katherine Program

Action: KTC will investigate delivery models used by other Northern Territory libraries, including the use of Library staff, volunteers and partnerships with local aged-care, health and community service providers. Subject to above KTC will develop and trail a Book on Wheels Program. The pilot program will provide eligible community members with regular delivery and collection of library resources, including books, large-print materials, audiobooks and other suitable items based on individual interests and needs.

The program will explore opportunities to provide services directly to residents of local aged-care and supported accommodation facilities, including Rocky Ridge Nursing Home and the Australian Regional and Remote Community Services (ARRCS) hostel, as well as eligible residents living independently in the Katherine community.

The trial will initially operate on a manageable scale to determine community demand, resource requirements, delivery frequency, WHS considerations and the most sustainable model for an ongoing Katherine service.

Responsible: Library Services Coordinator, with support from relevant Council staff, volunteers and participating community service providers.

Measurable Objective: Develop the Books on Wheels – Katherine pilot model, including eligibility criteria, referral/registration processes, delivery arrangements, WHS requirements and volunteer procedures. Engage with Rocky Ridge Nursing Home, the ARRCS hostel and other relevant local service providers to identify potential participants and appropriate delivery arrangements. Establish partnerships or referral pathways with at least two local aged-care, health or community service providers. Commence a 12-month pilot program with a target of at least 10 registered participants. Provide participants with a regular delivery and collection service, initially monthly or at an agreed frequency based on demand and available resources. Record the number of

DRAFT

participants, participating facilities, deliveries completed and library items circulated through the program. Obtain participant and facility feedback, with a target of at least 80% satisfaction with the service. Complete a review at the conclusion of the pilot to determine community demand, costs, staffing and volunteer requirements, and the feasibility of establishing Books on Wheels as an ongoing KTC Library service.

4. New: Trial an Intergenerational Music and Rhyme Program

Action: Develop and trial a monthly intergenerational music and rhyme program at Katherine Public Library, bringing seniors and toddlers together with their parents or carers for shared singing, rhymes, movement, art & craft and interactive play. Sessions will support early language development, encourage social interaction and strengthen connections between generations.

Engage local seniors' groups, aged-care providers and families to encourage participation. Activities will be inclusive, accessible and suitable for the interests and abilities of both age groups.

Responsible: Library Programs Coordinator and Library Services Coordinator, supported by Library staff and participating seniors' groups, aged-care providers and community organisations.

Measurable Objective: Deliver one session per month over an initial six-month trial, targeting an average attendance of at least five seniors and five toddlers per session, with parents or carers attending alongside toddlers. Establish partnerships with at least two local seniors', aged-care or community organisations. Record attendance and collect participant, carer and partner feedback, targeting at least 80% positive feedback. Complete an evaluation at the end of the trial to assess participation, enjoyment, social connection and resource requirements, and recommend whether the program should continue or expand.

5. *New:* Seniors Digital Literacy

Action: Develop and deliver a Seniors Digital Literacy Program to improve digital confidence, skills and online safety for older members of the Katherine community.

Katherine Town Council will identify and engage a suitably qualified external provider or community partner to deliver practical digital literacy sessions using recognised resources such as the Be Connected program. Sessions will cover topics relevant to seniors, including using smartphones and tablets, email, accessing online services, identifying scams, cyber safety, online banking safety and maintaining privacy online.

DRAFT

Sessions will be delivered within the Library and, where appropriate, incorporated into the Books on Wheels – Katherine program to improve access for seniors who are unable to attend the Library due to age, illness or mobility limitations. Opportunities will also be explored to deliver sessions at participating aged-care and supported accommodation facilities.

Council will partner with local seniors groups, aged-care providers and community organisations to promote the program, identify participants and ensure the training responds to the needs of Katherine's senior community.

Responsible: Programs Coordinator and Library Services Coordinator, in partnership with a suitably qualified digital literacy provider and local seniors/community organisations.

Measurable Objective: Identify and engage at least one suitably qualified provider or partner to support delivery of the program. Establish partnerships with at least two local seniors, aged-care or community organisations to promote the program and encourage participation. Deliver a minimum of 12 digital literacy sessions annually, including Library-based and outreach sessions. Integrate digital literacy support into the Books on Wheels – Katherine program, where appropriate, for participants unable to attend Library sessions. Reach at least 30 individual seniors annually, with an average target attendance of 8 participants per group session. Cover a minimum of six key digital literacy topics during the annual program. Obtain participant feedback, with at least 80% of respondents reporting increased confidence in using digital technology and accessing online services. Review participation, feedback and community demand annually to inform future program delivery.

6. Young Territory Author Awards – Katherine Program

Action: Develop an annual Young Territory Author Awards (YTAA) – Katherine Program through Katherine Public Library to encourage young people aged 18 years and under to develop their writing, illustration and storytelling skills and increase Katherine-region participation in the Territory-wide awards.

KTC will partner with the NT Writers' Centre, local writers and/or suitably experienced authors and illustrators to deliver:

- a Writing Workshop focusing on story ideas, character development, story structure and commencing a YTAA entry; and
- an Illustration Workshop focusing on character design, visual storytelling, book covers and bringing a story to life through illustration.

The Library will also provide opportunities for young people to access computers, printing, library resources and support to complete their entries, including a potential "Finish Your Book" drop-in session prior to the YTAA closing date.

Promotion will focus strongly on Katherine-region schools, supported by school newsletters and communication channels, Council and Library social media, Library displays, youth organisations, home-school networks and local writing/community groups. Previous Katherine entries and winners will be promoted where appropriate to encourage participation.

Following judging, Katherine Public Library will recognise local participants and the Katherine Regional Winner through an annual presentation and/or Library display

Responsible: Programs Coordinator and Library Services Coordinator, in partnership with the NT Writers' Centre, local authors/illustrators, schools and relevant community organisations.
Measurable Objective: Deliver at least two YTAA workshops annually – one writing and one illustration-focused workshop. Engage with at least five Katherine-region schools to promote the program and YTAA entries. Achieve at least 20 participants across YTAA Library workshops and activities annually. Achieve a year-on-year increase in Katherine-region YTAA entries. Achieve at least 80% positive participant feedback. Hold an annual Katherine Regional Winner presentation and/or display at Katherine Public Library.

7. *New:* Digitise Newspaper Collection

Action: Investigate opportunities to partner with Trove and the National Library of Australia (NLA) to support the future digitisation and preservation of the Katherine local newspaper collection, noting that Council currently has no allocated budget for digitisation.

In the interim, improve community access to existing digital newspaper archives by establishing a dedicated public-access computer within the Library. The computer will provide direct access to Trove/NLA and the Katherine Times digital archives.

KTC's existing Katherine Times subscription will be configured to provide appropriate community access through a dedicated Library/community login, subject to the subscription provider's licensing and access conditions.

The longer-term digitisation project will include investigation of available NLA/Trove partnership opportunities, grant funding, copyright requirements, digitisation costs and an appropriate digital repository or hosting arrangement to ensure any digitised material is sustainably stored and publicly accessible.

Responsible: Library Services Coordinator, with support from Records Management and IT and, where required, the National Library of Australia/Trove

Measurable Objective: Establish one dedicated public-access computer providing access to Trove/NLA and Katherine Times archives. Establish an appropriate community-access login for the Katherine Times subscription, subject to licensing requirements. Promote availability of the digital newspaper archive service to the

DRAFT

community. Record and monitor use of the dedicated archive computer quarterly. Contact the NLA/Trove and investigate available digitisation partnership and funding opportunities.

Expected Outcomes – Service Development & Programs

Relevant and Well-Managed Library Collection: The Library collection remains current, diverse and responsive to community needs through maximising available Library Book Grant funding, regular purchasing, annual stocktakes and consistent weeding. Improved management of overdue items and promotion of interlibrary loans will increase access to resources, with continued development of priority areas including local history, Indigenous languages and youth non-fiction.

Greater Access and Community Inclusion: The Books on Wheels – Katherine program will extend Library services beyond the physical Library to residents who may experience barriers due to age, disability, illness or limited mobility. Partnerships with aged-care facilities, including Rocky Ridge Nursing Home and the ARRCS hostel, and other community service providers will improve equitable access to library resources and encourage ongoing participation in Library services.

Improved Digital Inclusion for Seniors: Partnerships with qualified digital literacy providers, seniors groups and aged-care services will provide older residents with practical and accessible digital skills training. Delivery through both the Library and outreach opportunities associated with Books on Wheels will increase access for seniors who may otherwise be unable to participate. Programs will build confidence in areas such as devices, email, online services, cyber safety, scams and safe online banking.

Increased School and STEM Engagement: Stronger partnerships with Katherine-region schools will increase access to high-quality science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) learning opportunities. Visiting presenters and partnerships with organisations such as CDU/Radicle, National Science Week and other NT education and STEM providers will expose students to programs including science, mathematics, coding, robotics, engineering and other interactive learning experiences.

Greater Access for Remote Students: Partnership with Katherine School of the Air and the use of Microsoft Teams will enable suitable Library and STEM programs to be extended to students who cannot physically attend activities in Katherine. This will broaden the Library's regional reach and provide geographically isolated students with opportunities to participate alongside Katherine-based students.

Youth Engagement in Literacy and Creativity: The Young Territory Author Awards – Katherine Program will provide structured opportunities for young people to develop writing, illustration and storytelling skills. Professional writing and illustration workshops, school partnerships, entry support and recognition of Katherine participants will aim to increase local participation in the YTAA and strengthen young people's engagement with literature and the Library.

Improved Access to Local History and Digital Resources: Greater access to historical newspaper collections will be provided through a dedicated Library computer with access to Trove/National Library of Australia and Katherine Times archives. Investigation of future digitisation partnerships and funding opportunities will support the long-term preservation and accessibility of Katherine's historical records.

Stronger Partnerships and Broader Community Reach: Increased collaboration with schools, aged-care providers, community organisations, education providers, specialist facilitators and other government and non-government partners will allow the Library to deliver a broader range of services without relying solely on internal resources and expertise.

Increased Participation and Lifelong Library Engagement: A more diverse mix of Library-based, school-based, outreach and digitally connected programs will increase participation across children, young people, adults, seniors and remote residents. Programs will position Katherine Public Library as an accessible community learning hub supporting literacy, digital inclusion, lifelong learning, creativity and community connection.

Performance Targets

To support accountability and continuous improvement, Katherine Public Library will monitor a focused range of key performance indicators (KPIs) aligned with Council's strategic priorities, relevant funding requirements and the measurable objectives contained within this Plan.

Performance will be reviewed throughout the year using available Library statistics, program attendance records, circulation data, partnership records and targeted participant feedback. Where baseline data is not currently available, 2026–27 will be used to establish reliable baseline measures against which future performance can be assessed.

Metric	Performance Target
Annual Library Visits	Maintain or increase annual visitation, with baseline and year-on-year trends reported

Program Participation	Increase total participation in Library, outreach, school and community programs year-on-year
Circulation – Library Loans	Achieve year-on-year growth in physical and digital resource usage
New Library Memberships	Increase new memberships year-on-year
Library Book Grant	Utilise 100% of available Library Book Grant funding for eligible collection development
Annual Stocktake	Complete 100% of the annual collection stocktake within the scheduled reporting period
Collection Weeding	Undertake collection review and weeding quarterly, with all major collection areas reviewed annually
Overdue Collection Management	Review overdue items monthly and demonstrate a year-on-year reduction in significantly overdue items
Interlibrary Loans	Promote interlibrary loans and achieve a year-on-year increase in requests/usage
Books on Wheels – Katherine	Establish a pilot service and achieve at least 10 registered participants, including engagement with local aged-care/community facilities
Seniors Digital Literacy	Deliver at least 12 sessions annually, reach at least 30 individual seniors, and achieve 80% positive participant feedback
School & STEM Engagement	Partner with at least 3 Katherine-region schools, deliver at least 6 activities and engage at least 150 students annually
Katherine School of the Air	Make at least 2 suitable programs available remotely via Microsoft Teams annually
Young Territory Author Awards	Deliver at least 2 workshops annually, engage at least 5 schools in promotion and achieve year-on-year growth in Katherine-region entries
External Program Providers	Engage at least 2 external STEM, literacy, digital or specialist program providers annually

DRAFT

Active Partnerships	Maintain or establish at least 5 active partnerships with schools, aged-care providers, community organisations, government agencies or specialist providers
Digital Historical Resources	Establish dedicated public access to Trove/NLA and Katherine Times archives and monitor usage quarterly
Participant Feedback	Achieve at least 80% positive feedback for programs where participant feedback is collected

Performance Monitoring and Feedback

Performance data will be drawn from existing Library management systems and operational records wherever possible, including visitor counts, circulation statistics, memberships, program registrations and attendance, interlibrary loan records, Books on Wheels delivery records, school participation and partnership activity.

Rather than applying a general Library-wide satisfaction target without an established data source, participant feedback will be collected for selected programs and initiatives. This may include short post-program surveys, QR-code feedback forms, school/teacher feedback, partner feedback and simple participant evaluation forms.

The Library will progressively establish baseline data for new initiatives so that future annual plans can set meaningful year-on-year improvement targets based on demonstrated performance rather than estimated figures.

Quarterly Review Schedule

Progress against the Library Plan will be reviewed quarterly to ensure actions remain on track, emerging issues are identified early, and programs can be adjusted in response to participation, community need and available resources.

- **Q1 – September:** Review commencement and progress of key initiatives, including collection purchasing and Library Book Grant expenditure, stocktake and weeding, overdue management, school and STEM partnerships, Young Territory Author Awards activities, Seniors Digital Literacy and development of the Books on Wheels – Katherine pilot. Confirm responsibilities, partnerships and delivery timeframes for new initiatives.
- **Q2 – December:** Undertake a mid-year performance review of library visitation, circulation, memberships, program participation and collection management activities. Review progress on Books on Wheels, seniors digital literacy, school/STEM engagement, Katherine School of the Air participation, interlibrary

loans and external partnerships. Identify initiatives that are below target and implement appropriate adjustments for the remainder of the year.

- **Q3 – March:** Undertake a detailed review of participation trends, program outcomes, participant and partner feedback, collection performance and progress against measurable objectives. Review Library Book Grant expenditure and other available funding opportunities. Assess the effectiveness of outreach programs, school partnerships and external providers and commence planning for the following year's programs and priorities.
- **Q4 – June:** Complete the annual evaluation of the Library Plan and assess performance against all established KPIs and measurable objectives. Review outcomes from collection development, Books on Wheels, Seniors Digital Literacy, school and STEM programs, Katherine School of the Air engagement, Young Territory Author Awards, digital access to historical resources, interlibrary loans and community partnerships. Identify successful initiatives for continuation or expansion and document programs that require modification or reconsideration.

Reporting and Continuous Improvement

Quarterly reviews will be used as an active management tool, with outcomes discussed with the Library team and reported through appropriate Council reporting processes.

Performance will be assessed using available evidence including Library management system statistics, visitation and circulation data, program attendance, membership data, grant expenditure, collection statistics, partnership activity and targeted participant or stakeholder feedback.

At the end of the reporting period, each action will be classified as Completed, In Progress or Not Completed, supported by a brief summary of results and relevant performance data.

The annual review will inform the Annual Report and development of the following year's Library Plan, ensuring future priorities and performance targets are based on demonstrated community demand, program outcomes and reliable baseline data.

Expected Outcomes – Performance & Evaluation

- **Clear and Accountable Performance Monitoring:** Library performance will be monitored against established KPIs and measurable objectives, providing Library management and Council with clear evidence of progress, achievements and areas requiring attention. This supports effective governance, accountability and informed decision-making.

DRAFT

- **Evidence-Based Service Delivery:** Performance will be assessed using reliable data including visitation, memberships, circulation, program participation, collection statistics, grant expenditure, partnership activity and targeted participant feedback. Where reliable baseline information is not currently available, baseline data will be established to support meaningful future targets.
- **Demonstrated Program Outcomes:** Evaluation will measure not only participation numbers but also the effectiveness and reach of new initiatives including Books on Wheels – Katherine, Seniors Digital Literacy, school and STEM programs, Katherine School of the Air engagement, Young Territory Author Awards activities and improved access to historical and digital resources.
- **Increased Community Reach and Participation:** Expanded outreach, school partnerships, remote participation and targeted programs will increase opportunities for people who may not traditionally access the Library, including seniors, people with mobility limitations, students, young people and geographically isolated residents.
- **Improved Collection Performance:** Regular monitoring of Library Book Grant expenditure, stocktake completion, collection weeding, overdue items, circulation and interlibrary loans will support a current, relevant and well-managed collection that responds to community needs.
- **Stronger and Measurable Partnerships:** The Library will monitor partnerships with schools, aged-care providers, community organisations, external facilitators, government agencies and education/STEM providers, demonstrating how collaboration expands the range and accessibility of services available to the Katherine community.
- **Responsive Service Improvement:** Quarterly reviews will enable emerging issues, lower-than-expected participation or delays in implementation to be identified early. Programs, promotion, partnerships and resource allocation can then be adjusted where required to improve outcomes.
- **Better Future Planning:** Annual evaluation will identify initiatives that should be continued, expanded, modified or discontinued. Results will inform Council's Annual Report, future Library Plans, budget and grant priorities and the development of realistic performance targets based on demonstrated community demand and reliable data.

Overall, the performance and evaluation framework will ensure Katherine Public Library can demonstrate the value and reach of its services, continuously improve program delivery and make evidence-based decisions about future Library priorities and investment.

Conclusion

The Katherine Public Library Forward Plan establishes a clear direction for the continued development of Library services, with a stronger focus on accessibility, outreach, literacy, digital inclusion, education, collection development and community partnerships.

The Plan builds on the Library's core services while introducing targeted initiatives that extend its reach beyond the physical Library. Programs such as Books on Wheels – Katherine, Seniors Digital Literacy, school and STEM partnerships, Katherine School of the Air engagement and the Young Territory Author Awards – Katherine Program will provide new opportunities for residents of different ages, abilities and locations to participate in Library services.

Continued investment in a current and relevant collection, improved collection management, greater use of interlibrary loans and enhanced access to Katherine's historical newspaper resources will ensure the Library continues to respond to the changing needs of the community.

Strong partnerships with schools, aged-care and community organisations, specialist program providers, government agencies and other NT organisations will enable Council to broaden the range of programs and services available to the Katherine community while making effective use of external expertise, funding and resources.

Through measurable objectives, quarterly performance reviews and evidence-based evaluation, Council will be able to monitor outcomes, respond to community demand and make informed decisions about future Library priorities and investment.

Overall, the Plan positions Katherine Public Library as more than a traditional library. It strengthens its role as an accessible community hub for learning, literacy, creativity, digital participation and connection, while ensuring services remain practical, inclusive and responsive to the needs of the Katherine community.

Definitions

KTC	Katherine Town Council
STEM	Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics
NLA	National Library of Australia
KSA	Katherine School of the Air
LANT	Library and Archives Northern Territory

CDU Charles Darwin University

NTG Northen Territory Government

DRAFT

14 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

14.1 MINUTES FROM COMMITTEES

14.1.1 Drafted Meeting Notes from Katherine Community Safety Action Group

Author: Andrea Stari, Governance Officer - Working Group
Authoriser: Amanda Haigh (Manager Governance and Risk), Casey Anderson (Acting Chief Executive Officer)
Report Type: Previous Meeting Notes
Attachments: 1. Drafted Meeting Notes - Katherine Community Safety Action Group (KCSA G) - 15 October 2026 [**14.1.1.1** - 6 pages]

Recommendation

1. That Council receive and note the minutes of the Katherine Community Safety Action Group held on 15 October 2026.
2. That Council note that Freya Barlte resigned from Katherine Community Safety Action Group on 2 September 2026.
3. That Council note that Lesly Pitt resigned from Katherine Community Safety Action Group on 5 October 2026.
4. That Council approve to undertake an Expression of Interest for the membership First Nation Representative.

MEETING NOTES

Katherine Community Safety Action Group (KCSAG)

Held on Thursday 15 October 2026

At 12:00 pm

Civic Centre, Committee Room
29 Crawford Street, Katherine NT 0850

1 ATTENDANCE

1.1 PRESENT

ACTION GROUP MEMBERS

– Mayor Joanna Holden
– Deputy Mayor Mel Doyle
– Councilor Anjali Palmer
– Annie Hesse, Resident
– Antony King, Resident
– Christine Butler, Resident
– Denis Hannah, Business Owner
– Jennifer Duggan, Senior
– Natalie Ellis, Youth

OFFICERS

– Casey Andreson - Acting Chief Executive Officer
– Brett Kimpton - Manager for Environment and Municipal
– Shena Damayanti - Executive Assistant
– Andrea Stari - Governance Officer

1.2 APOLOGIES

– Mayor Joanna Holden
– Samantha Phelan, Resident

DRAFT

2 ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

2.1 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Each group member introduced themselves, outlined their reasons for joining the group, provided a brief overview of their current connection to Katherine, highlighted the experience and expertise they would bring, and discussed key community safety priorities.

Deputy Mayor Mel Doyle

Provided an update on the Bodhi Bus initiative and its potential introduction to Katherine supported by bilingual television message.
Messaging about community expectations and by-laws breaches and penalties.
Discussed the ongoing review of local by-laws.
Highlighted the use of television CBD messaging and community awareness campaigns to promote safety initiatives.

Action Required: Review and strengthen community messaging and signage to improve awareness and understanding of local by-laws, community expectations, and the penalties associated with non-

compliance. Identify and develop opportunities to engage and collaborate with service providers and key stakeholders to promote community expectations, public safety, and community well-being through coordinated communication and education initiatives.

Jennifer Duggan

Provided an overview of Neighbourhood Watch activities, including opportunities to strengthen local participation through initiatives such as the “Adopt-a-Park” program in partnership with Neighbourhood Watch groups.
Emphasised the importance of strengthening community connections and returning to basic community values to support safer neighbourhoods.

Action Required: Explore and identify opportunities that strengthen community connectedness through events, activities, and engagement initiatives. Facilitate and invite community safety organisations to participate in these opportunities to promote their services, increase community awareness, and provide information on programs and initiatives that support personal safety, home security, and neighbourhood watch principles. Encourage community participation and shared responsibility to help build safer neighbourhoods and a stronger, more connected community.

Denis Hannah

Raised concerns regarding litter control and the need to maintain community cleanliness.
Reported issues relating to residents taking or using other people rubbish bins.
suggest a community awareness campaign focused on litter prevention and responsible waste management.

Action Required: Deliver a targeted litter prevention and education campaign to increase awareness of community expectations, Council by-laws, and penalties for littering offences. Undertake a review of public waste infrastructure, including the location, design, and capacity of bins, to improve amenity and accessibility. Explore strategies to prevent vandalism and damage to waste receptacles while promoting community pride and responsible waste disposal behaviours.

Christine Butler

Encouraged community members to utilise the Snap, Send and Solve platform to improve reporting, response times, and resolution outcomes.
Raised concerns regarding service delivery and maintenance of footpaths.
Discussed low security workers camps and opportunities to support workers in developing skills and community engagement.
Highlighted ongoing issues with lack of bins around CBD litter along local roads.

Action Required: Develop and implement a community awareness campaign promoting the use of Snap Send Solve as an easy and effective tool for reporting vandalism, maintenance issues, and other local concerns. Educate residents on how the platform works, the types of issues that can be reported, and the benefits of timely reporting in helping Council respond efficiently and maintain safe, clean, and well-managed public spaces.

Anjali Palmer

Shared information regarding community gardens, including examples from New South Wales. Highlighted the value of community gardens and shared spaces in fostering social connections. Discussed strategies to increase community engagement and participation.

DRAFT

Action Required: Explore and identify opportunities to strengthen community connectedness by fostering meaningful social connections and increasing community participation. Develop and implement strategies that encourage engagement across all sectors of the community, build social inclusion, and enhance residents' sense of belonging. This action will align with and support initiatives being led by Jenny Duggan, ensuring a coordinated and collaborative approach to achieving shared community outcomes.

Antony King

Raised concerns about community members feeling unsafe in public spaces e.g. lighting and transportation in Katherine particularly with the Bus Operators.
Highlighted challenges associated with the local workforce in health and the impact on community wellbeing.

Action Required: Explore initiatives to enhance public safety, including improved lighting, identify vulnerable groups during high-risk periods, and investigate opportunities to support the wellbeing and resilience of the local workforce.

2.2 GOVERNANCE AND INFORMATION PACK

Governance and Information pack provided, and members are required to send back their signed forms to Council by Friday, 23 October 2026.

2.3 BACKGROUND AND CURRENT INITIATIVES

Councillor Palmer informed the group of the background work currently being undertaken by council. A full-time governance working group officer has been appointed to support the administration and operation of councils working groups.

In June 2026, Council resolved to seek support for a short-term youth engagement program aimed at addressing periods of heightened risk young people. Since then, Council has worked with Aboriginal organisations and youth sector partners to develop a proposal.
At the community Safety Roundtable, Council presented a discussion paper outlining six key priorities:

- Safer public spaces: Assess locations where improved lighting, clearer sightlines, vegetation management, or CCTV may enhance community safety, and develop a staged implementation plan informed by police intelligence and community feedback.
- Improved community reporting: Explore the feasibility of a reporting tool to assist residents and frontline workers in reporting suspicious activity to the appropriate authorities and identifying recurring problem areas.
- Short-term youth emergency response: Seek support for supervised activities, meals, transport, and engagement with trusted Aboriginal youth workers during periods when young people may be at heightened risk.
- Youth night space: Investigate the establishment of a safe, supervised facility that provides activities and connects young people with mentoring, wellbeing, education, and employment support services.
- Stronger family support: Explore more coordinated and intensive assistance for families with complex needs, including opportunities to improve access to support services.
- Reducing alcohol-related harm: Work collaboratively with Aboriginal organisations, health services, police, and government agencies to identify evidence-based strategies, alongside treatment, rehabilitation, and family support initiatives.

DRAFT

The next Community Safety Roundtable meeting is scheduled for 23 October 2026. The Katherine Community Safety Action Group (KCSAG) will continue to receive updates on the progress of these discussions and related developments.

Regarding the Youth Emergency Response initiative, Kalano has provided a briefing to the National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA) and is awaiting an invitation to submit a formal funding application.

The Katherine Town Council By-laws Consultation Paper is currently being drafted by the Office of Parliamentary Counsel. Once available, it will be presented to the group for discussion on the proposed amendments and the public consultation process.

2.4 GROUP OBJECTIVES AND ACTION ITEMS

1. Action Required: Review and strengthen community messaging and signage to improve awareness and understanding of local by-laws, community expectations, and the penalties associated with non-compliance. Identify and develop opportunities to engage and collaborate with service providers and key stakeholders to promote community expectations, public safety, and community well-being through coordinated communication and education initiatives.

2. Action Required: Explore and identify opportunities that strengthen community connectedness through events, activities, and engagement initiatives. Facilitate and invite community safety organisations to participate in these opportunities to promote their services, increase community awareness, and provide information on programs and initiatives that support personal safety, home security, and neighbourhood watch principles. Encourage community participation and shared responsibility to help build safer neighbourhoods and a stronger, more connected community.

3. Action Required: Deliver a targeted litter prevention and education campaign to increase awareness of community expectations, Council by-laws, and penalties for littering offences. Undertake a review of public waste infrastructure, including the location, design, and capacity of bins, to improve amenity and accessibility. Explore strategies to prevent vandalism and damage to waste receptacles while promoting community pride and responsible waste disposal behaviours.

4. Action Required: Explore and identify opportunities to strengthen community connectedness by fostering meaningful social connections and increasing community participation. Develop and implement strategies that encourage engagement across all sectors of the community, build social inclusion, and enhance residents' sense of belonging. This action will align with and support initiatives being led by Jenny Duggan, ensuring a coordinated and collaborative approach to achieving shared community outcomes.

5. Action Required: Explore initiatives to enhance public safety, including improved lighting, identify vulnerable groups during high-risk periods, and investigate opportunities to support the wellbeing and resilience of the local workforce.

6. Action Required: Exploring opportunities to engage with the Low Security Workers Camp to support initiatives that benefit the wider Katherine community. Promote Snap Send Solve to educate the public and enhance reporting through campaigns.

2.5 FUTURE MEETING ARRANGEMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

The working group agreed to meet monthly, during the second week of each month

DRAFT

3 GROUP MEMBER BUSINESS

3.1 GROUP MEMBER BUSINESS

Correspondence regarding Woolworths Katherine opening hours was noted for discussion.

The media release on Woolworth Trading Hours by KTC on 25th May 2025 will be incorporated into the business papers.

4 CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

The Katherine Community Safety Action Group (KCSAG) - 15 October 2026 was declared closed at 12:55 pm.

The next Katherine Community Safety Action Group (KCSAG) will be held on 12 November 2026.

DRAFT

15 ELECTED MEMBER ACTIVITIES

15.1 ELECTED MEMBER ACTIVITIES OCTOBER 2026

Report Type: For noting

Recommendation

That Council receive and note the Elected Member activities for October 2026.

Purpose of Report

To provide an update on the elected member activities and engagements since the last Council meeting. The elected member reporting obligation forms part of the Katherine Town Council's Annual Report to the community, outlining elected members contribution to the Town council's service delivery.

Strategic Plan

1. STRONG LEADERSHIP - 1.1 Strong Leadership **- Lead a strong local democracy with a community that is actively engaged in Katherine's strategic direction.**
1.1.1 Strengthen our councillor profiles to increase community awareness of who they are.

1. STRONG LEADERSHIP - 1.2 Partner in progress **- Provide strategic leadership on economic development issues to promote Katherine's reputation and improve business confidence.**
1.2.1 Foster strong relationships with Territory and federal governments to ensure coordination and support for economic development initiatives affecting Katherine at the local level and in the Big Rivers Region.
1.2.2 Act as a connector on key issues affecting the community as a member in key reference groups.
1.2.3 Act as a connector for businesses to foster collaboration and partnership opportunities.

Deputy Mayor Mel Doyle	
Date	**Activity attended**
6 October	Meeting on Beetaloo Gas Project Update
7 October	Meeting with Australian Red Cross Team
8 October	Katherine Regional Executive Committee Meeting
15 October	Katherine Community Safety Action Group
16 October	Elected Members Information Session
19 October	CDU Bushfood Community Precinct Meeting
21 October	Special Meeting of Council
22 October	Audit and Risk Management Committee Meeting
23 October	Elected Members Information Session
27 October	Ordinary Meeting of Council
29 October	Chief Executive Officer Recruitment Briefing
30 October	Special Meeting of Council
30 October	Corrections - Katherine Workers Camp - Site Visit

Councillor Kathryn Whitehouse	
Date	**Activity attended**
14 October	Katherine Sportsground Precinct Community Workshop
16 October	Elected Members Information Session
20 October	Awards Ceremony – St Joseph's Catholic College
21 October	Special Meeting of Council
29 October	Chief Executive Officer Recruitment Briefing

Councillor Jim King	
Date	**Activity attended**
6 October	Meeting on Beetaloo Gas Project Update
14 October	Katherine Sportsground Precinct Community Workshop
16 October	Elected Members Information Session
21 October	Special Meeting of Council

22 October	Audit and Risk Management Committee Meeting
23 October	Elected Members Information Session
27 October	Ordinary Meeting of Council
29 October	Chief Executive Officer Recruitment Briefing
30 October	Special Meeting of Council

Councillor Toni Tapp-Coutts	
Date	**Activity attended**
14 October	Big Rivers Festival of Women
16 October	Elected Members Information Session
21 October	Special Meeting of Council
23 October	Round Table Community Crime Katherine
27 October	Ordinary Meeting of Council
30 October	Special Meeting of Council
30 October	Corrections - Katherine Workers Camp - Site Visit

Councillor Kathy Glass	
Date	**Activity attended**
14 October	Katherine Sportsground Precinct Community Workshop
16 October	Elected Members Information Session
21October	Special Meeting of Council
27 October	Ordinary Meeting of Council
30 October	Special Meeting of Council
30 October	Corrections - Katherine Workers Camp - Site Visit

Councillor Anjali Palmer	
Date	**Activity attended**
6 October	Meeting on Beetaloo Gas Project Update
14 October	Katherine Sportsground Precinct Community Workshop
15 October	Katherine Community Safety Action Group
16 October	Elected Members Information Session

21October	Special Meeting of Council
27 October	Ordinary Meeting of Council
30 October	Special Meeting of Council
30 October	Corrections - Katherine Workers Camp - Site Visit

16 LATE AGENDA

17 GENERAL BUSINESS

18 CLOSURE OF MEETING TO PUBLIC

Members, pursuant with Section 99(2) and 293(1) of the *Local Government Act 2019* gives power to the council to close a meeting to the public to discuss the following confidential items, in relation to matters referred to in regulations 51 of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021*. This means that all members of the public are now asked to leave the Council Chambers.

I now move a motion to close the meeting to public.

Your Worship, I wish to second that the meeting be closed to public.

19 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

19.1 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES 27 OCTOBER 2026

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019.*
Sub-regulation and Reason:	Regulation 51(1)(a) information about the employment of a particular individual as a member of the staff or possible member of the staff of the council that could, if publicly disclosed, cause prejudice to the individual.

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019.*
Sub-regulation and Reason:	Regulation 51(1)(c)(i) information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to: cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on, any person.

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019.*
Sub-regulation and Reason:	Regulation 51(1)(c)(ii) information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to: prejudice the maintenance or administration of the law.

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019.*
Sub-regulation and Reason:	Regulation 51(1)(d) information subject to an obligation of confidentiality at law, or in equity.

19.2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES CONFIDENTIAL SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL 21 SEPTEMBER 2026

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019.*

Sub-regulation and Reason:	Regulation 51(1)(a) information about the employment of a particular individual as a member of the staff or possible member of the staff of the council that could, if publicly disclosed, cause prejudice to the individual.

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019.*
Sub-regulation and Reason:	Regulation 51(1)(c)(i) information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to: cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on, any person.

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019.*
Sub-regulation and Reason:	Regulation 51(1)(c)(iv) information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to: Subject to subregulation (3) – prejudice the interests of the council or some other person.

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019.*
Sub-regulation and Reason:	Regulation 51(1)(d) information subject to an obligation of confidentiality at law, or in equity.

19.3 CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019.*
Sub-regulation and Reason:	Regulation 51(1)(a) information about the employment of a particular individual as a member of the staff or possible member of the staff of the council that could, if publicly disclosed, cause prejudice to the individual.

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019.*
Sub-regulation and Reason:	Regulation 51(1)(b) information about the personal circumstances of a resident or ratepayer;

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019.*
Sub-regulation and Reason:	Regulation 51(1)(c)(i) information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to: cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on, any person.

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019.*
Sub-regulation and Reason:	Regulation 51(1)(c)(ii) information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to: prejudice the maintenance or administration of the law.

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019.*
Sub-regulation and Reason:	Regulation 51(1)(c)(iv) information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to: Subject to subregulation (3) – prejudice the interests of the council or some other person.

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019.*
Sub-regulation and Reason:	Regulation 51(1)(d) information subject to an obligation of confidentiality at law, or in equity.

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019.*
Sub-regulation and Reason:	Regulation 51(1)(e) subject to subregulation (3) – information provided to the council on condition that it be kept confidential and would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to be contrary to the public interest

19.4 CONFIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019.*
Sub-regulation and Reason:	Regulation 51(1)(c)(ii) information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to: prejudice the maintenance or administration of the law.

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019.*
Sub-regulation and Reason:	Regulation 51(1)(d) information subject to an obligation of confidentiality at law, or in equity.

19.5 KATHERINE TOWN COUNCIL - COMMUNITY GRANTS 2026

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019.*
Sub-regulation and Reason:	Regulation 51(1)(c)(i) information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to: cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on, any person.

19.6 CIVIC CENTRE REFURBISHMENT - DELEGATION OF POWERS AND FUNCTIONS

19.7 CIVIC CENTRE REFURBISHMENT - UPDATE

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019.*
Sub-regulation and Reason:	Regulation 51(1)(c)(i) information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to: cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on, any person.

19.8 RPPP - UPDATE

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019.*
Sub-regulation and Reason:	Regulation 51(1)(c)(iv) information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to: Subject to subregulation (3) – prejudice the interests of the council or some other person.

19.9 ZIMIN DRIVE SHARED PATH - UPDATE

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019.*
Sub-regulation and Reason:	Regulation 51(1)(c)(iv) information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to: Subject to subregulation (3) – prejudice the interests of the council or some other person.

19.10 MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) - DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS GRP

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019.*
Sub-regulation and Reason:	Regulation 51(1)(c)(ii) information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to: prejudice the maintenance or administration of the law.

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019.*
Sub-regulation and Reason:	Regulation 51(1)(d) information subject to an obligation of confidentiality at law, or in equity.

20 RESUMPTION OF OPEN MEETING

21 CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

The next Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held on 8 December 2026.