



20.6 DRAFT 2026-2027 MUNICIPAL PLAN

Author: Amanda Haigh, Manager Governance and Risk
Authoriser: Casey Amderson, Acting Chief Executive Officer
Report Type: For decision
Attachments: 1. Municipal Plan V 3 [20.6.1 - 26 pages]
2. Budget Assumptions and Explanatory notes [20.6.2 - 2 pages]
3. 2026-2027 Rates Waste and Fees and Charges - 28 April 2026 [20.6.3 - 3 pages]
4. Fees-and-Charges-20262027 - Draft V3 [20.6.4 - 26 pages]

Table with 2 columns: Section Under the Act, Sub-clause and Reason. Content: 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. (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.

Officer Recommendation

- 1. That Council approve the Draft 2026-2027 Municipal Plan; including budget, long term financial plan, rates and fees and charges; for public consultation from 2 June 2026 to 22 June 2026 with the following amendments
a. Front page to include the word Draft
b. Page 5 – addition of Acting to Chief Executive Officer, add the Mayor and Acting CEO signature, include the link for the 2027 Strategic Plan
c. Page 9 – under Planning, Governance and Compliance include the link to the 2027 Strategic Plan and add a Community Consultation blurb “A 21-day consultation period ran from 2 to 22 June 2026 to ensure our plans reflect local priorities. Elected Members received the draft Municipal Plan on 15 May 2026, 6 business days before endorsing it for public consultation at an Ordinary Meeting of Council 26 May 2026. Council promoted the consultation through Your Say Katherine www.yoursaykatherine.com.au and Council website, and Elected Members engaged with residents throughout the period to seek feedback. The final 2026-2027 Municipal Plan will be adopted at the Special Meeting of Council on 25 June 2026.”
d. Page 13 – under Office of CEO remove Museum
e. Page 15 – replace Corporate Administration blurb with “The Corporate Administration team delivers a broad range of internal and external services that support Council operations, including information and communication technology (ICT), rates administration, records compliance, facility leasing and insurance management. Frontline responsibilities include revenue services, such as managing rates, fees, charges, and fines through regulatory processes. The team is dedicated, and highly skilled across key administrative functions. Their focus is to optimise operational efficiency, enabling other departments to concentrate on their core functions”
f. Page 18 – remove the black vertical line
g. Page 19 – remove from highlights “Improving Access to Council meetings” and replace with Hot Springs toilet and that the Hot Springs toilet and cooling town square are subject to grant



funding

- h. Page 21 – remove highlight tables and replace with an image
- i. Change colour of pages 22 to 33 to align with the Strategic Plan Priorities colouring
- j. Page 26 – remove words {update table content}
- k. Page 35 and 36 – Replace wording and rating table with attachment 20.6.3 2026-2027 Rates Waste and Fees and Charges - 28 April 2026
- l. Page 37 – add Finance 2026-2027 Heading and the Budget Assumptions with attachment 20.6.2 Budget Assumptions and Explanatory notes
- m. Page 38 – remove decimal points in the Budget Operating Surplus/Deficit line
- n. Page 39 – remove decimal points in the Budget Operating Surplus/Deficit line, remove Total Operating Income line
- o. Page 41 – remove word Equity in the middle of table under Liabilities
- p. Page 43 – add image
- q. Last page to be added to incorporate image and contact details

2. That Council move the resolution, report and attachments to the open minutes.

**Purpose of Report**

To seek approval for the Katherine Town Council Draft 2026-2027 Municipal Plan to be placed on public exhibition for 21 days.

**Strategic Plan**

- 4. **GROWTH AND SUSTAINABILITY - 4.2 Lead with Best Practice - Lead by example and set a high benchmark.**
- 4.2.3 Review Council’s fees and charges system to ensure the sustainability of council’s facilities and services.
- 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**

4.2.4.7 Comply with financial legislative requirements

**Background**

The *Local Government Act 2019* requires Council to prepare, on an annual basis, a Municipal Plan. The Katherine Town Council Municipal Plan includes Council's annual budget, long term financial plan, Elected Member Allowances, Rates, and Fees and Charges.

The *Local Government Act 2019* requires that the Municipal Plan be placed on public exhibition for a period of 21 days prior to adoption. During this time written submissions may be made to Council.

**Discussion**

To facilitate the process the following timetable is proposed:

26 May 2026 6pm	Ordinary Meeting of Council - Approval of Draft Municipal Plan for public consultation
2 June 2026	Advertise Public Exhibition of the Draft Municipal Plan on the Council's website and Your Say Katherine.
22 June 2025	Closing date for written submissions.
25 June 2025	Special Meeting of Council - Consideration of submissions and adoption of



12pm	Municipal Plan
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Hard copies of the draft Municipal Plan will be available at the Main Office and Library. An electronic copy will be available to download from [www.katherine.nt.gov.au](http://www.katherine.nt.gov.au) and Your Say Katherine [Your Say Katherine](#)

Written Submission will be accepted via Your Say Katherine, email to [contactus@ktc.nt.gov.au](mailto:contactus@ktc.nt.gov.au) or hand delivered at the Main Office.

This Municipal Plan is Katherine Town Council’s action plan on the services, programs, events, facilities, and infrastructure it will deliver and maintain for the community over the financial year from 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027.

The Service Delivery Plan captures priorities to be delivered from the Katherine 2027 Strategic Plan and measure of performance against each deliverable.

The Plan includes the annual budget and long-term financial plan. Assumptions to the budget provide an explanation of the formation of the budget.

**The Fees and Charges changes for 2026/2027 include:**

- 1. General Increase:** A modest 3.3% increase, in line with the Long-Term Financial Plan (LTFP), has been applied to fees and charges, excluding facility hire fees and additional kerbside collection services.
- 2. Facility Hire:** Modelling conducted by Mead Perry Group with an objective of maintaining a link between the cost of providing the service and the charge to users of that service. The specific areas included in the review included function and training rooms, Showgrounds, Sportsgrounds and the Lindsay Street complex.

Recommendations are based on a forecast of expenses over the next three budget cycles and maintaining a relationship between income and expenses across the hireable facilities. Charges are:

<b>Non-Commercial Rates</b>	<b>2026/27</b>	<b>2027/28</b>	<b>2028/29</b>
Function & Training Rooms	\$240 (+\$30)	\$270 (+\$20)	\$290 (+\$20)
Lindsay Street & Town Square	\$270(+\$10)	\$280(+\$10)	\$290(+\$10)
Showgrounds	\$340 (+\$30)	\$350 (+\$10)	\$365 (+\$15)
Sportsgrounds	\$230 (+\$10)	\$240 (+\$10)	\$250 (+\$10)
<b>Commercial Rates</b>	<b>2026/27</b>	<b>2027/28</b>	<b>2028/29</b>
Function & Training Rooms	\$520 (+\$0)	\$540 (+\$20)	\$560 (+\$20)
Lindsay Street & Town Square	\$540 (+\$20)	\$560 (+\$20)	\$580 (+\$20)
Showgrounds	\$1,200 (+\$80)	\$1,250 (+\$50)	\$1,300 (+\$50)
Sportsgrounds	\$820 (+\$30)	\$850 (+\$30)	\$870 (+\$20)

- 3. Parks & Reserves Hire:** A handful of fees for commercial operators have been increased by 30% to better align these fees with other facility hire charges, and to maintain a consistent ratio between non-commercial and commercial hire rates.
- 4. Waste Charges:** The fee-for-service will continue to be available to commercial operators, and residential customers will retain the option of an additional kerbside collection. Fees have increased by 5.9% in line with the Long-Term Financial Plan (LTFP), equating to a rise of \$26.00.

5. **Animal Regulatory Fees:** Pro-rata dog registration rates will continue in 2026/2027, with periods set as:

- 1 August to 31 December
- 1 January to 30 June

These changes streamline fee structures and support the introduction of future online payment capabilities. Early bird fees are also included again, with provisions for lifetime registrations.

### **General Rates**

After considering service delivery costs, inflation, and the financial impact on the Katherine Municipality, Council has adopted a balanced budget for 2026/2027 that maintains both long-term sustainability and affordability.

The total revenue to be raised from General Rates is projected at \$10,387,770.95, subject to any supplementary adjustments during the rating period.

In line with previous years, Council has endorsed an overall rates increase of 4.8%. Lower rate-in-the-dollar increases have been applied to residential, central business, and service commercial properties. This results in overall increases of 4.5% for LR, LMR, and MR zoned allotments, and 3.8% for CB zoned allotments.

Council sets general rates using a Differential Rating System, where the Unimproved Capital Value (UCV) of a property is multiplied by the applicable differential rate or set at the fixed minimum amount, whichever is higher. Each parcel of rateable land is categorised according to the Northern Territory Planning Scheme Zones, with each category assigned a specific description, differential rate, and minimum charge.

For the 2026/2027 financial year, rating categories still exist:

- Workers' Accommodation
- Major Cattle Facilities
- Solar Farms
- Cotton Gins
- Major Shopping Centre

All rating categories will be subject to a differential rate based on their assessed value, whilst Workers Accommodation will incur a fixed rate based on the number of rooms.

In the case of multi-zoned properties—those spanning multiple zones—Council will apply the rate associated with the zone covering the largest portion of the land, based on data provided by valuation services.

### **Waste Management Charges**

Katherine Town Council's waste management charges support the operational costs and significant capital investments required to maintain an environmentally compliant and sustainable Waste Management Facility.

For the 2026/2027 financial year, the Council targets collecting \$1,730,765.00 through waste levies. These funds ensure the effective operation, maintenance, and future rehabilitation of the facility.

- The full waste management charge will increase by 5.9%, rising to \$466.00, an increase of \$26.00 from the previous year. This covers both weekly kerbside garbage collection and access to the Waste Management Facility. The increase equates to approximately \$0.50 per week.
- For properties without a regular weekly kerbside collection service, a minimum waste management charge of \$195.00 will apply, up to \$25.00 from the previous year approximately \$0.29 per week.

- All other allotments within the municipality will also be subject to the \$195.00 minimum levy. This funding is critical to maintaining and improving waste services across the Katherine region.

Written submissions will be tabled at the Ordinary Meeting of Council 17 June 2025 12.00pm for Council consideration before adopting the 2026/2027 Municipal Plan, budget, Long Term Financial Plan, Rates and Fees and Charges.

The draft 2026-2027 Municipal Plan was distributed to the Elected Members on the 15 May 2026. The following changes are required to this draft before consultation:

- Front page to include the word Draft
- Page 5 – addition of Acting to Chief Executive Officer, add the Mayor and Acting CEO signature, include the link for the 2027 Strategic Plan
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### **Consultation Process**

Council was provided the draft Municipal Plan information on the 21 April and 13 May 2026. A full-designed version of the Draft Municipal Plan is provided to the Elected Members on the 15 May 2026.

All Senior Council staff have had the opportunity to provide input into the document.

The 21-day consultation period will occur from 2 June to 22 June 2026 (inclusive) inviting written submissions via Your Say Katherine, email [contactus@ktc.nt.gov.au](mailto:contactus@ktc.nt.gov.au), or hand deliver to the Civic Centre.

An iPad will be available at the Main Office Reception to assist community members to register on Your Say Katherine and ability to provide written submissions.

The Draft Municipal Plan will be available at the Katherine Public Library for viewing and access to Your Say Katherine.

### **Policy Implications**

The Yearly Municipal Plan sets the priorities for Council to meet the Katherine Town Council Strategic Plan 2027.

### **Budget and Resource Implications**

The Budget has been drafted to meet Council operations and projects for 2026-2027. Budget assumptions are detailed in the Draft Municipal Plan.

### **Risk, Legal and Legislative Implications**

The legislative requirements under the *Local Government Act 2019 (Act)* Part 3.3 and 10.5 and *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 (Regulations)* Division 4 for the Council's adoption of the Annual Plan, budget, rates declaration and member allowances.

Under the Act the Council must by resolution circulate its annual plan and budget for community consultation for at least 21 days and adopt its annual plan and budget by 30 June 2026.

**Note:** Council cannot declare its rates at the same meeting in which it approved the draft annual plan to go out to consultation. The legislation provides that consultation must take place for at least 21 days. The legislation also provides that a rates declaration must be published within 21 days of the council making the declaration. As such the council should only declare its rates after the consultation period on the draft plan and budget, and the Council has considered any submissions. This is because the consultation could affect the rates declaration and therefore the amount to be raised by rates.

#### **Before public consultation**

1. Approve the draft plan which is to include the service delivery plan, budget, fees and charges, long-term financial plan, and must define indicators for judging the standard of the council's performance (section 34 and 35 of the Act):
  - a. A copy of the draft plan must be provided to the elected members at least 6 business days before the meeting to adopt the draft plan to begin public consultation.
  - b. The consultation period commences on the date of the publication notice on the Council website.

#### **After the public consultation submissions received have been considered and then the final plan prepared**

2. Declare the rates for the financial year (sections 237 and 238 of the Act)
  - a. Before the Council adopts the budget for the financial year, the CEO must check the rate records and certify in writing to the council that to the best of the CEO's knowledge,



information and belief, the assessment record is a comprehensive record of all rateable land within the area (regulation 29)

4. Adopt the budget for a financial year (section 203 of the Act), fees and charges, long term financial plan
5. Adopt the Municipal Plan (section 35(1) of the Act)

Elected Member Allowances and expenses are to be paid in accordance with Section 106 of the Act. If the Remuneration Tribunal determines an allowance for members of a council that is not a fixed amount, the council may fix the amount of that allowance payable to members in respect of each financial year as part of the council's budget. As part of the budget process, council may fix allowances at a rate less than the maximum amount in the determination; the allowance payable must be proportionate for all council members. The allowances and expenses must be published on the council website.

Under the Act the Council is required to adopt its 2026-2027 Municipal Plan, budget, and declare its rates on or before 30 June 2026. It is important to note that the Act does not provide the Minister or the Department with the power to defer or waive the stipulated 30 June date.

#### **Environment Sustainability Implications**

Priority projects for 2026-2027 have been included in the Service Delivery Plan deliverables and budget.

#### **Council Officer Conflict of Interest**

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



**KATHERINE**  
TOWN COUNCIL



# MUNICIPAL PLAN 2026-2027

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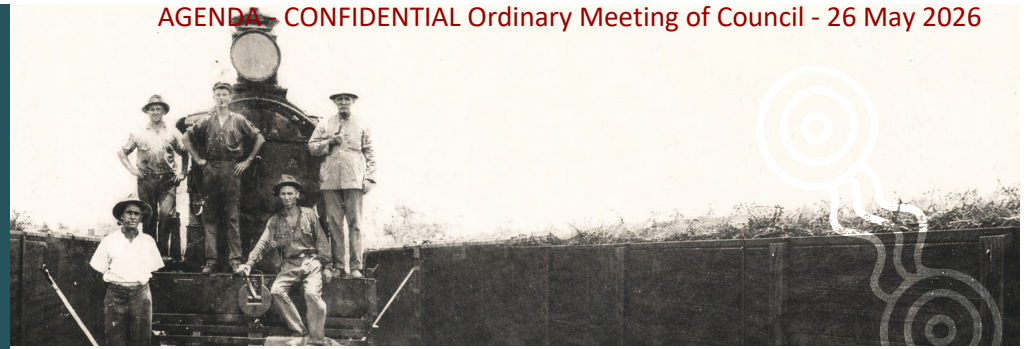
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WE RECOGNISE THE FIRST NATIONS CULTURE AS ONE OF THE LONGEST SURVIVING CULTURES IN THE WORLD AND PAY OUR RESPECTS TO ELDERS PAST, PRESENT AND EMERGING.

WE ACKNOWLEDGE THE TRADITIONAL OWNERS OF THE KATHERINE REGION AND THEIR ONGOING CONNECTION TO LAND, WATER AND COMMUNITY.

WARNING: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander readers are advised that this document may include the images of people who are deceased.



## ABOUT THIS PLAN

This Municipal Plan sets out what Katherine Town Council will deliver over the 2026–2027 financial year. It focuses on the services people rely on every day, the projects we are advancing, and how public funds are used to support a strong, liveable community.

Prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2019* (NT), and the Katherine 2027 Strategic Plan. It is an opportunity to complete what we set out to do and to begin shaping the next phase of Katherine’s future with the community.

### MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

This year’s Municipal Plan is about delivering what matters most to the Katherine community.

As Elected Members, we hear directly from residents about what is important in their day-to-day lives, safe roads, public spaces that suit our unique environment, community facilities, and a town that remains connected and livable.

This plan reflects those priorities. It focuses on delivering real outcomes, using public funds responsibly, and making steady improvements that people can see and experience.

This is also the final year of our current Strategic Plan. It is an opportunity to complete the work we have committed to, while also starting the conversation about what comes next.

Over the coming year, we will be asking our community to help shape the next Strategic Plan. That will be an important opportunity for people to have their say and be part of Katherine’s future.

On behalf of the Council, I thank the community for its ongoing input and involvement. We are committed to working with you to continue building a strong, connected and resilient Katherine.



[add signature]

### MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

This Municipal Plan sets out a clear and practical program of work for the year ahead.

Our role is to deliver reliable services, maintain and improve infrastructure, and ensure Council operates in a way that is efficient, accountable and responsive to the community.

This plan reflects a strong focus on delivery, on progressing key projects, on improving access to services, and on strengthening how we operate as an organisation.

At the same time, we are preparing for the future. As we complete the final year of the current Strategic Plan, we will begin work on the next phase of planning for Katherine.

This includes reviewing what we have achieved, identifying opportunities for improvement, and supporting Elected Members to engage with the community on future priorities.

Council remains committed to responsible financial management, continuous improvement, and delivering value for the community we serve.



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# ABOUT KATHERINE

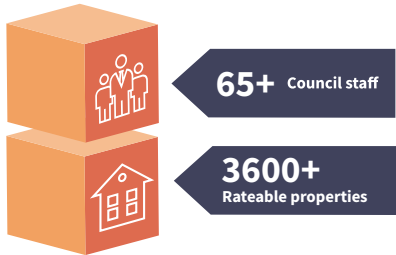
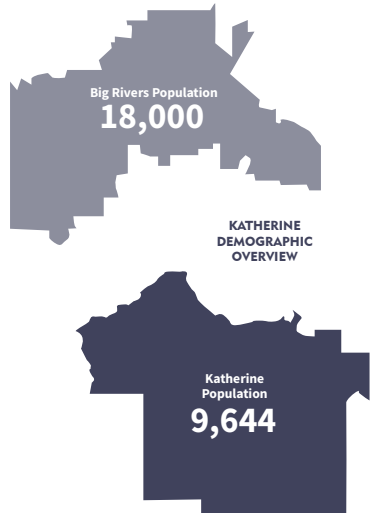
**KATHERINE IS A PLACE WHERE PEOPLE COME FOR OPPORTUNITY AND STAY FOR THE SENSE OF COMMUNITY.**

As the heart of the Big Rivers region, Katherine plays an important role as a service centre. As a regional hub, it supports a wide range of industries including government, health, education, tourism, construction and Defence. This creates demand for skilled workers and opportunities to build careers or grow a business.

Its strategic position at the junction of major transport routes, connecting north-south rail and road corridors with east-west links, makes Katherine a vital hub for the movement of freight and people.

Katherine also offers strong employment and business opportunities, particularly compared to many similar-sized towns. The scale of the town means there is room to step into leadership roles and help shape the local economy.

Katherine is also a social town. Whether it's sport, camping, community events or spending time with friends and family, there are plenty of ways for people to connect.



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2021 Census (LGA: Katherine, NT)

Male population **51.6%**

Female population **48.4%**

Median age **33** years

**25.5%** of the population identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander

Non-Indigenous: 61.2%  
Not stated: 13.2%



# ROLE OF COUNCIL AND ELECTED MEMBERS

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT IS THE LEVEL OF GOVERNMENT CLOSEST TO THE COMMUNITY, AND MUCH OF COUNCIL'S WORK IS PART OF EVERYDAY LIFE IN KATHERINE.**

Katherine Town Council is responsible for services and infrastructure that keep the town running. This includes maintaining local roads, managing waste, caring for parks and public spaces, supporting community facilities like the library and aquatic centre, and helping ensure public health and safety standards are met.

Council also plans for the future of Katherine, identifying infrastructure needs, supporting growth, and advocating to other levels of government for funding and services that benefit the community.

Some issues raised with Council fall outside local government responsibilities, such as policing, housing, or major health services. In these cases, Council plays an important role in advocating on behalf of the community and working with the relevant agencies.



## Elected Members set the direction, staff deliver the work, and community input helps shape priorities and decisions.



### THE ROLE OF ELECTED MEMBERS

Elected Members are chosen by the community to represent local views and make decisions about how Council operates.

Their role is to set direction, consider community priorities, and make decisions at Council meetings that guide how services are delivered and how public funds are used.

Elected Members are not involved in the day-to-day running of Council. Their focus is on leadership, decision-making and ensuring Council is working in the best interests of the community.

### THE MAYOR, CEO AND STAFF

The Mayor provides leadership to Council and represents Katherine at the local, Territory, and national levels, supported by the Deputy Mayor.

The Chief Executive Officer and Council staff are responsible for delivering services, managing operations, and implementing Council's decisions.

### WORKING TOGETHER

Local government works best when there is a clear partnership between Elected Members, Council staff and the community.

Elected Members set the direction, staff deliver the work, and community input helps shape priorities and decisions.

## PLANNING, GOVERNANCE AND COMPLIANCE



### HOW COUNCIL PLANS, DELIVERS AND REPORTS

Council operates within a clear planning and governance framework to ensure decisions are transparent, accountable and financially responsible.

This Municipal Plan has been prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2019* (NT) and supports the delivery of the Katherine 2027 Strategic Plan.

### IT ALIGNS WITH:

- Council's annual budget
- Long Term Financial Plan
- policies and operational frameworks

### IN PRACTICAL TERMS:

- The Strategic Plan sets the long-term direction
- This Municipal Plan sets what we are delivering this year
- The Budget shows how it is funded

Council is responsible for ensuring these elements work together and that the community can clearly see how decisions are made and how resources are used.

# ELECTED MEMBERS



**MAYOR**

**MAYOR JOANNA HOLDEN**  
Term: Elected 2025 to the 13th Katherine Town Council



**COUNCILLOR**

**COUNCILLOR TONI COUTTS**  
Term: Elected 2025 to the 13th Katherine Town Council



**DEPUTY MAYOR**

**COUNCILLOR MEL DOYLE**  
Term: Elected 2025 to the 13th Katherine Town Council



**COUNCILLOR**

**COUNCILLOR KATHY GLASS**  
Term: Elected 2025 to the 13th Katherine Town Council



**COUNCILLOR**

**COUNCILLOR JIM KING**  
Term: Elected 2025 to the 13th Katherine Town Council



**COUNCILLOR**

**COUNCILLOR ANJALI PALMER**  
Term: Elected 2025 to the 13th Katherine Town Council



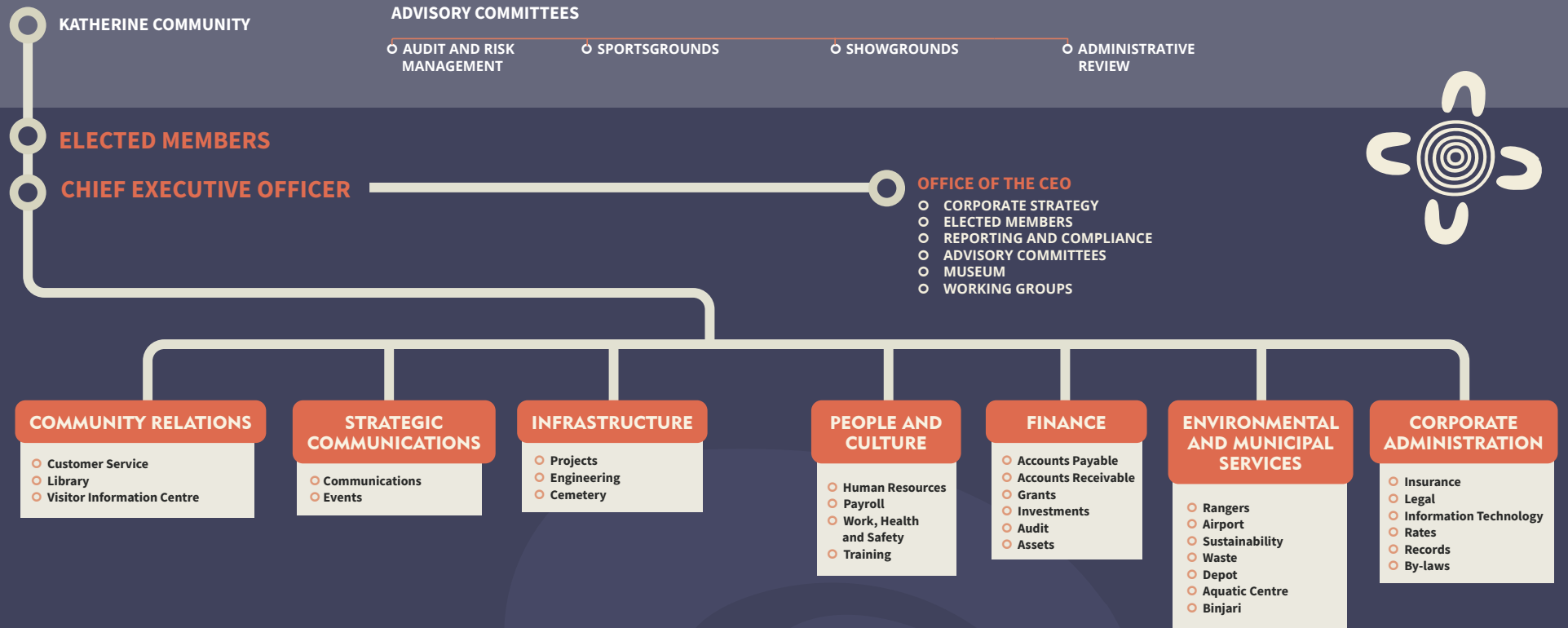
**COUNCILLOR**

**COUNCILLOR KATHRYN WHITEHOUSE**  
Term: Elected 2025 to the 13th Katherine Town Council



# ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE AND SERVICES

COUNCIL DELIVERS ITS SERVICES THROUGH SEVERAL KEY AREAS. EACH PLAYS A DISTINCT ROLE, BUT ALL CONTRIBUTE TO DELIVERING SERVICES TO THE COMMUNITY AND SUPPORTING THE DAY-TO-DAY RUNNING OF THE ORGANISATION.



**OFFICE OF THE CEO**

The Office of the CEO supports good governance and ensures Council operates efficiently, ethically and in line with community priorities.

The team provides leadership, coordination and oversight across the organisation. This includes supporting Elected Members, managing Council meetings, committees, and working groups, maintaining policies, and ensuring compliance with legislation.

The Office also leads key planning and reporting processes, supports risk management, and advocates for investment in Katherine and the broader region.



**STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION**

Strategic Communications plays a key role in keeping our community informed and acting as a conduit to gather feedback on projects and services.

An important part of this role is strategic communication. This includes corporate communication, marketing, events management and community consultation, helping ensure the community is informed, connected, and has opportunities to provide input, and understands how and why decisions are made.



“  
**THE COMMUNITY IS INFORMED, CONNECTED, AND HAS OPPORTUNITIES TO PROVIDE INPUT, AND UNDERSTANDS HOW AND WHY DECISIONS ARE MADE.**”

**COMMUNITY RELATIONS**

The Community Relations Department provides frontline services that connect Council with residents, visitors and the wider community.

This includes the Katherine Public Library, the Visitor Information Centre, and Customer Service.

The Library offers a welcoming and inclusive space that supports learning, connection and community use, with programs that reflect local needs and interests.

The Visitor Information Centre supports tourism by providing information, facilitating bookings, and promoting local experiences.

Customer Service ensures the community can easily access Council services, make payments, and connect with Council across a range of channels.

**PEOPLE AND CULTURE**

The People and Culture Department focuses on building a capable, engaged and resilient workforce.

The team supports employees through training, development and wellbeing initiatives, helping staff build skills and contribute to organisational goals.

There is a strong focus on creating a positive workplace culture and embedding workplace health and safety as part of everyday practice.

**FINANCE**

The Finance team manages Council’s financial operations and ensures public funds are managed responsibly.

This includes budgeting, reporting, payroll, accounts and grant management.

The team supports informed decision-making through accurate data and works closely with other departments to support service delivery.



**INFRASTRUCTURE**

The Infrastructure team is responsible for planning, delivering and managing Council’s physical assets. This includes roads, drainage, public facilities, and recreational spaces.

The team leads capital works projects, manages contractors, and plans for long-term growth, ensuring infrastructure supports safety, accessibility and community needs.

**ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES**

Environmental Services delivers a wide range of essential services that support the day-to-day functioning of the town, such as the Katherine Civil Airport.

This includes waste management, regulatory services, maintenance of public spaces, and support for emergency management.

The team plays a key role in keeping Katherine clean, safe and well-maintained.

**CORPORATE ADMINISTRATION**

The Corporate Administration team supports Council’s day-to-day operations through customer service, information and communication technology, rates, and records management. The team provides essential internal and external services that help Council operate efficiently and allow other departments to focus on their core functions.

**THE TEAM PLAYS A KEY ROLE IN KEEPING KATHERINE CLEAN, SAFE AND WELL-MAINTAINED.**



# WHAT THE COMMUNITY TOLD US



Feedback gathered through consultations on Council projects and services over the past year shows the community wants Council to focus on getting the basics right.

These basics include roads, drainage, waste services, and public spaces that suit our climate and lifestyle.

All of these contribute to making Katherine a more liveable town.

**THERE IS ALSO A STRONG DESIRE FOR CONNECTION.**

People value spaces and activities that bring the community together and support young people, families and the vulnerable.

People also want clear and honest communication about what the Council is doing and how decisions are made.

This plan reflects those priorities.



# HIGHLIGHTED PROJECTS

## WHAT WE'RE DELIVERING THIS YEAR

This year's program focuses on finishing current projects, planning new ones and seeking funding to support improved services.

THESE PROJECTS ARE GUIDED BY THE PRIORITIES SET OUT IN THE KATHERINE 2027 STRATEGIC PLAN, PARTICULARLY:

**STRONG LEADERSHIP**  
Ensuring transparent, accountable decision-making and responsive services

**ARTS, CULTURE AND HERITAGE**  
Recognising and supporting Katherine's identity, history and culture

**COMMUNITY AND FAMILIES**  
Supporting safe, inclusive spaces and everyday services people rely on

**BIG RIVERS INTER-GOVERNMENT COLLABORATION**  
Working with other levels of government to deliver outcomes for the region

**SPORTS AND CIVIC EVENTS**  
Maintaining and improving facilities that bring the community together

**ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY**  
Managing resources responsibly and protecting the natural environment

**GROWTH AND SUSTAINABILITY**  
Planning for infrastructure, economic development and future needs

TOGETHER, THESE PRIORITIES SHAPE THE DELIVERABLES IN THIS MUNICIPAL PLAN AND ENSURE THAT THE WORK WE ARE UNDERTAKING ALIGNS WITH THE LONG-TERM DIRECTION SET BY COUNCIL AND THE COMMUNITY.  
This year represents the final stage of delivering on those commitments, with a focus on completing key projects and building a strong foundation for the next Strategic Plan.

**IMPROVING ACCESS TO COUNCIL MEETINGS**  
Upgrade Council's video conferencing and livestreaming systems to improve reliability and quality, making Council meetings more accessible to the public.

**COOLING THE TOWN SQUARE**  
Invest in design work to create a shovel-ready plan for cooling the Town Square, supporting future grant applications for construction funding.

**CEMETERY IMPROVEMENTS**  
Deliver improvements and new infrastructure at the cemetery to better support community needs, including rotunda seating, landscaping, a water cooler, upgraded amenities and completion of the plinth installation.

**NATIVE TREE GIVEAWAY**  
Continue the annual Native Tree Giveaway, started in 2026, to help cool and green Katherine.

**WASTE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY REVIEW**  
Update Council's Waste Management Strategy to guide future waste infrastructure, services, recycling initiatives, Tip Shop operations and compliance priorities.

**SERVICE LEVEL AND DELIVERY ASSESSMENT**  
Undertake a Service Level and Delivery Assessment to help identify Council's current and future priorities, informing the new strategic plan and long-term financial plan.



# 100 YEARS

## CENTENARY OF KATHERINE EVENTS

2026 is a big year for Katherine, marking 100 years since the town was officially gazetted. It's a chance to recognise our history and bring the community together through a range of centenary events across the year.

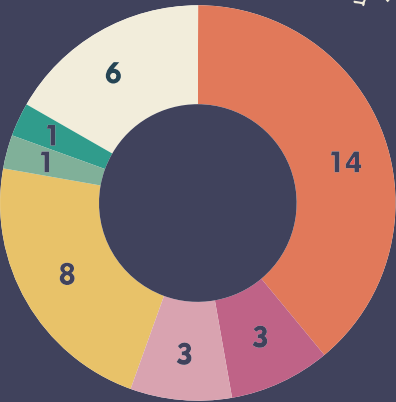
Council will continue working alongside the community-based Centenary Working Group to deliver events and activities that reflect Katherine's character and community spirit.

# DELIVERABLES BY STRATEGIC PRIORITY

These graphics provide a snapshot of how Council's work program is delivered.

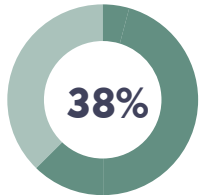
They show how this year's deliverables are distributed across the Strategic Plan priorities and how they are funded through a mix of the operational budget, capital investment, and external funding.

Together, they highlight the balance between maintaining day-to-day services and investing in projects that support Katherine's long-term growth and liveability.

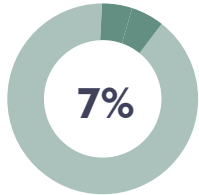


- STRONG LEADERSHIP
- COMMUNITY AND FAMILIES
- SPORTS AND CIVIC EVENTS
- GROWTH AND SUSTAINABILITY
- ARTS, CULTURE AND HERITAGE
- BIG RIVERS INTER-GOVERNMENT COLLABORATION
- ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

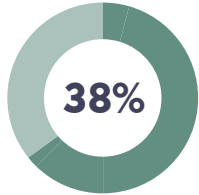
# DELIVERABLES BY FUNDING SOURCE



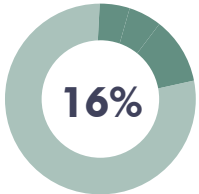
GRANT-ONLY FUNDING



CO-CONTRIBUTION



CAPEX BUDGET



CO-CONTRIBUTION

# PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

As Council reaches the final stages of the current Strategic Plan, this Municipal Plan provides an opportunity to pause, reset and realign our long-term direction. This transition period will allow Council to review current priorities, assess what is achievable, and strengthen the link between strategic planning, service delivery, infrastructure needs and financial capacity.

A key focus will be the Service Level Delivery Assessment and the future Asset Plan. Together, these bodies of work will help Council better understand the services it provides, the level of service the community needs and expects, and the infrastructure and assets required to support those services.

This reset is intended to provide a more stable and realistic foundation for long-term planning. By establishing clear, achievable budget forecasts and financial projections, Council will be better placed to plan, deliver and maintain services and infrastructure in a way that is responsible, sustainable and aligned with community needs.

## HIGHLIGHT PROJECTS SUBJECT TO GRANT FUNDING

SAFE COMMUNITY
5.3.2.1 - Hot springs toilet upgrades to improve community access and comfort
KATHERINE'S NATURAL BEAUTY
1.1.1.3 - Cooling the Town Square initiatives including a permanent shade structure

## BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

STRONG LEADERSHIP
1.1.1.3 - Service Level Delivery Assessment
1.4.1.1 - Cemetery infrastructure improvements
ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY
7.1.7.1 - Waste Management Strategy
7.2.5.1 - Native Plant Giveaway event



# STRONG LEADERSHIP



STRONG LEADERSHIP		
#	DELIVERABLE	MEASURES
1.1.1.1	Strengthen Elected Member capability to fulfil their roles, responsibilities, and decision making duties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Elected Members attend at least two (2) professional development sessions</li> <li>Number of Council policies reviewed</li> <li>Number of new Council policies</li> </ul>
1.1.1.2	Enhance the reliability and quality of our video conferencing and livestreaming capability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of Ordinary Meetings of Council that are livestreamed</li> <li>Number of public views</li> </ul>
1.1.1.3	Update our long-term strategies so they reflect current priorities and community stakeholder input	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Service Level and Delivery Assessment (SLDA) completed</li> <li>Number of SLDA recommendations implemented</li> </ul>
1.1.2.1	Develop a Digital IT Roadmap and Strategy to guide our future technology, systems, and digital service improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Digital IT Roadmap and Strategy endorsed</li> <li>Digitised Fees and Charges document</li> </ul>
1.1.2.2	Implement effective strategic, consistent and proactive enterprise-wide approach to risk management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Four (4) Corporate Risk Register reviews undertaken annually</li> <li>Number of Corporate Risk Register controls actioned</li> <li>Percentage of compliance with Legislation, Australian Standards, Accounting Standards and NT Government frameworks</li> <li>Number of audit recommendations implemented</li> <li>Percentage or number of corrective actions taken and reported as working</li> </ul>
1.1.3.1	Encourage and educate the community about the services we provide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of educational campaigns delivered</li> <li>Total website traffic across Council websites</li> <li>Number of open Council meetings held</li> <li>Number of public question time held</li> </ul>



PARTNER IN PROGRESS		
#	DELIVERABLE	MEASURES
1.2.2.1	Act as a connector on issues affecting the community through active involvement in relevant groups and committees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of active User and Working Groups</li> <li>Number of Council committees</li> </ul>

ENHANCE CUSTOMER EXPERIENCES		
#	DELIVERABLE	MEASURES
1.4.1.1	Deliver improvements and new infrastructure additions to the cemetery to support community need	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of headstones and plaques with photos on the website</li> <li>Lawn Cemetery guideline compliance</li> <li>Number of cemetery improvements</li> </ul>
1.4.3.1	Enhance Katherine's tourism experience through improved Visitor Information Centre services and stronger community connection to local attractions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of wet season visitor experiences available</li> <li>Increase in tourism bookings (year-on-year)</li> <li>Completion of feasibility assessment for reinvestment into the VIC</li> </ul>

FINANCIAL		
#	DELIVERABLE	MEASURES
1.5.1.1	Provision services and negotiate further extension of funding for the Binjari community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Successful negotiations to deliver municipal services</li> <li>Binjari Local Government services delivered</li> </ul>
1.5.2.1	Have a grants officer to seek and coordinate grant funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Value of successful grants</li> <li>Number of grants submitted</li> <li>Number of grants acquitted within funding agreement terms</li> <li>Grants management process review completed</li> <li>Up to date Grants Register</li> </ul>
1.5.2.2	Support community-driven initiatives through the delivery of the Community Grants Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of community grants provided</li> </ul>
1.5.3.1	Maintain an active funding pipeline aligned to our strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Value of co-contribution for grant applications</li> </ul>



# COMMUNITY AND FAMILIES

## SAFE COMMUNITY

#	DELIVERABLE	MEASURES
2.1.2.1	Upgrade our public amenities to improve safety and disabled accessibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of remediated public amenities</li> </ul>
2.1.3.1	Improve road and pedestrian safety in Katherine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of recommendations implemented from the CBD road safety audit</li> </ul>
2.1.4.1	Implement our Laneway Management Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trial closed</li> <li>Number of requests for additional laneway closures</li> <li>Number of laneways closed</li> </ul>

## SUPPORT OUR YOUTH

#	DELIVERABLE	MEASURES
2.4.1.2	Award annual perpetual leadership trophies for Katherine Schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of trophies awarded</li> <li>Number of participating schools</li> <li>Perpetual Leadership Award guideline established</li> </ul>

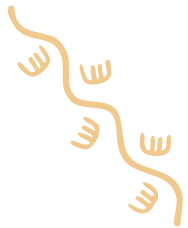
# SPORTS AND CIVIC EVENTS

[update table content]

SPORTS AND CIVIC EVENTS		
#	DELIVERABLE	MEASURES
3.1.1.1	Deliver a coordinated annual program of community events that reflect local identity and priorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of events held that celebrate Katherine's centenary program of events delivered</li> <li>Number of other events held</li> <li>Complete a review of the events calendar</li> <li>Number of partnership agreements developed with community organisations</li> <li>Incorporate Indigenous-led content or partnerships in at least three (3) Centenary events or initiatives</li> </ul>

ACCESSIBILITY AND MOBILITY		
#	DELIVERABLE	MEASURES
3.3.2.1	Create shared pathways to support active transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Completion of Zimin Drive Shared Pathway</li> </ul>

ACCESSIBILITY AND MOBILITY		
#	DELIVERABLE	MEASURES
3.4.6.1	Assess options to ensure the Katherine Public Library is accessible, fit-for-purpose and safe for community use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Options analysis completed and Council decision made</li> <li>Preferred option for future library infrastructure identified</li> <li>Number of stakeholder engagement activities undertaken</li> </ul>



# GROWTH AND SUSTAINABILITY



## BETTER INFRASTRUCTURE

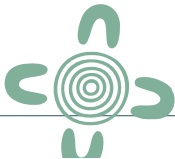
#	DELIVERABLE	MEASURES
4.1.2.1	Develop a prioritised pipeline of shovel ready projects supported by project planning documentation and funding applications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of shovel ready projects with completed planning documentation</li> <li>Number of feasibility studies undertaken to support funding applications</li> </ul>
4.1.2.2	Deliver infrastructure projects in line with approved scope, budget and timeframes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of infrastructure projects delivered</li> <li>Number of rural roads identified for upgrades</li> <li>Number of rural road upgrades</li> <li>Completion of R2R approved projects</li> </ul>
4.1.2.3	Advance precinct scale planning and prepare proposals for funding to support community infrastructure development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Precinct planning completed for rPPP Stream 1 funding</li> <li>Number of rPPP Stream 2 funding applications submitted</li> </ul>
4.1.2.4	Deliver the Civic Centre Refurbishment project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>100% of project completed</li> </ul>

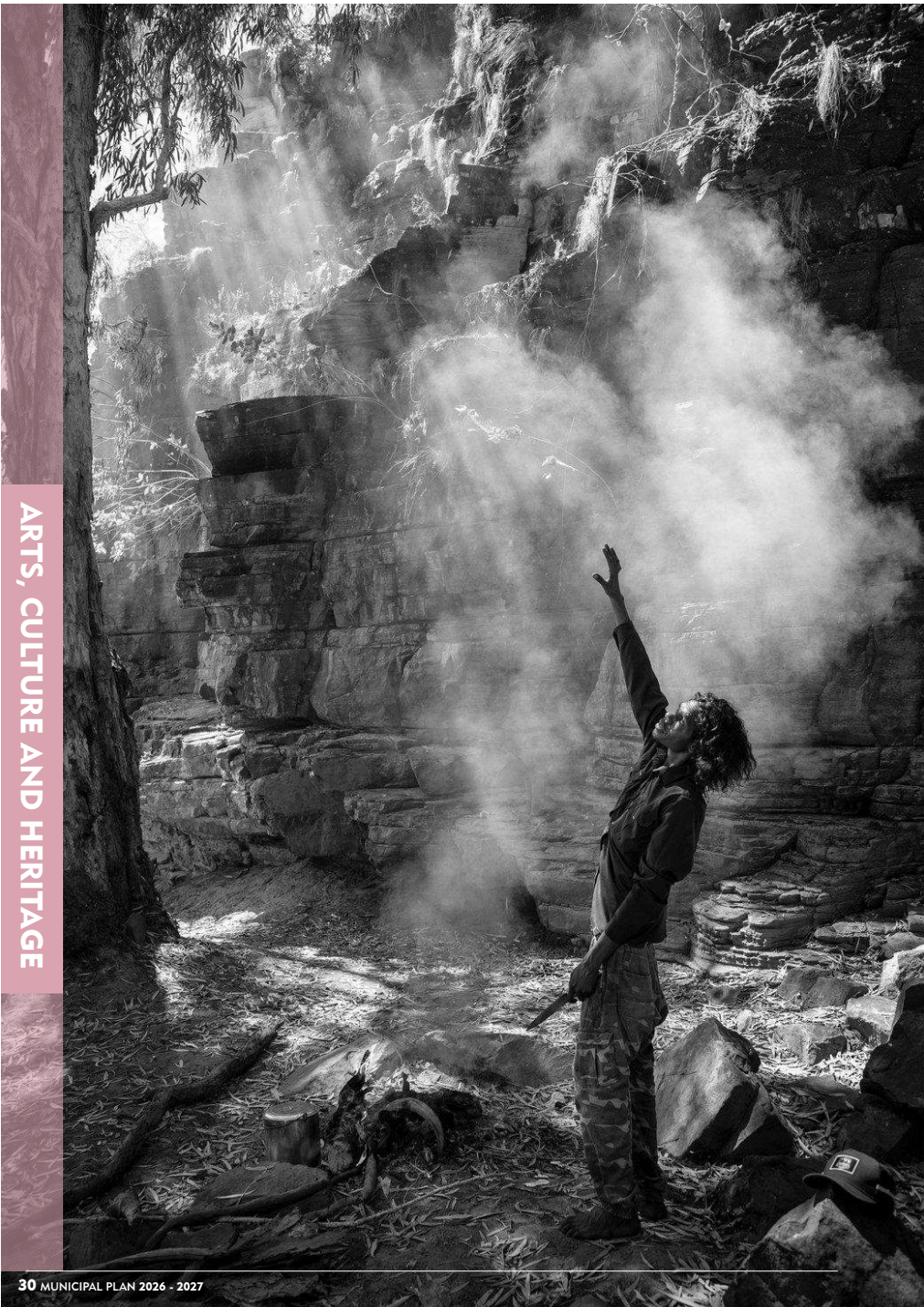
## LEAD WITH BEST PRACTICE

#	DELIVERABLE	MEASURES
4.2.4.1	Provide effective asset management and valuation across Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Revaluation of Council assets</li> <li>Implement a new Asset Management System</li> <li>Asset sustainability/asset renewal ratio maintained &gt;90%</li> <li>Percentage of assets valued within required valuation cycle by statutory deadline</li> </ul>
4.2.4.2	Long-term financial sustainability through improved budget processes, incorporating timelines and assumptions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Percentage of operating expenses vs. operating income</li> <li>Percentage of current ratio adjusted for tied funds</li> <li>Reduce rates debt liability</li> </ul>
4.2.4.3	Stronger procurement processes in line with legislative requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Internal audit program undertaken</li> <li>Number of procurement improvements implemented</li> <li>Number of procurement methods used</li> </ul>

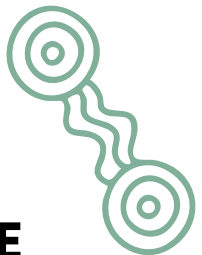
## ATTRACT SKILLED WORKERS

#	DELIVERABLE	MEASURES
4.3.3.1	Strengthen workforce governance through a finalised Enterprise Bargaining Agreement (EBA) and plant upgrades that improve workplace safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New Enterprise Bargaining Agreement approved</li> <li>Number of plant upgrades</li> </ul>





ARTS, CULTURE AND HERITAGE



# ARTS, CULTURE AND HERITAGE

VIBRANT ART		
#	DELIVERABLE	MEASURES
5.3.2.1	Support the growth of arts, culture and heritage through partnerships, programs and community initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Partnership agreements in place</li> <li>Number of subsidies provided</li> </ul>



## BIG RIVERS INTER-GOVERNMENT COLLABORATION



### COLLABORATE WITH REGIONAL COUNCILS

#	DELIVERABLE	MEASURES
6.2.4.1	Advocate to government agencies on Katherine's Land Use Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New cemetery site identified</li> </ul>

## ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

### WASTE MANAGEMENT

#	DELIVERABLE	MEASURES
7.1.7.1	Update our Waste Management Strategy to guide future waste infrastructure, services, recycling initiatives, operation of the Tip Shop, and compliance priorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Completion of the Waste Management Strategy</li> <li>Number of Waste Management Working Group meetings</li> <li>Number of days the Tip Shop operated during the dry season</li> <li>Hold a Wet Season hard rubbish collection</li> </ul>
7.1.7.2	Improve safety and security at the Waste Management Facility (WMF)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of improvements at the WMF</li> </ul>

### KATHERINE'S NATURAL BEAUTY

#	DELIVERABLE	MEASURES
7.2.5.1	Cooling and greening Katherine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of trees planted</li> <li>Hold the Native Plant Giveaway event</li> </ul>
7.2.5.2	Cooling the Town Square	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Shovel-ready design completed for grant-funding applications</li> </ul>

### PROTECT OUR WATER

#	DELIVERABLE	MEASURES
7.3.3.1	Improve sustainable water use across our operations through monitoring and upgraded irrigation infrastructure systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implementation of the Irrigation Infrastructure Replacement program</li> <li>Number of parks with irrigation upgrades</li> <li>Bore meter readings</li> </ul>

### REDUCE OUR FOOTPRINT

#	DELIVERABLE	MEASURES
7.4.1.1	Digitise our forms, applications, and permits to streamline processes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of applications downloaded or submitted through the website</li> <li>Number of internal forms digitised</li> <li>Number of external applications digitised</li> </ul>



Rates are Council’s main source of income and are used to deliver the services and facilities our community relies on every day — including parks and reserves, roads and footpaths, libraries, recreational facilities, and many other essential community services.

General rates are calculated using a differential rating system based on a property’s value (known as the Unimproved Capital Value, or UCV) and its zoning under the Northern Territory Planning Scheme. Each category has its own rate and minimum charge. The rates are then calculated using either the minimum amount or the UCV-based rate — whichever is higher.

In addition, fixed rates will apply to specific land use categories such as workers accommodation, major cattle facility, cotton gins and solar farms.

For multi-zoned allotments — properties within the Katherine Municipality that span more than one zone — valuation services will provide Council with the percentage split and UCV for each zone. Council will apply the general rate associated with the zone that represents the highest percentage of the property’s area. After reviewing service costs, inflation, and the impact on the Katherine Municipality, Council has set a balanced approach for 2026/2027 that supports both financial sustainability and affordability.

Council has applied a 4.8% increase to rates across all categories. This reflects rising costs while recognising ongoing cost-of-living pressures in the community. For most households, this means an average increase of about \$66 per year.

The total amount Council expects to raise from general rates is **\$10,422,980 million**. This includes updated property values set by the Valuer-General as part of the latest revaluation.

Overall, this approach helps ensure Council can continue to provide essential services while keeping rates fair, transparent and as affordable as possible for the community.

NEW CATEGORY DESCRIPTION	26/27 RID	26/27 MIN	LEVY 2026/27
Residential (LR LMR MR SK1, SK2 SK4, SK5)	2.1342	\$1,567	\$4,689,630
Agricultural (A H HCP)	0.2946	\$1,756	\$267,450
Water Management (WM)	0.4943	\$1,756	\$104,480
Rural (R)	0.3932	\$1,604	\$741,380
Rural Living (RL)	0.6804	\$1,567	\$401,150
Community Living/ Purpose (CL CP)	3.9966	\$1,658	\$141,330
Central Business (CB)	3.0864	\$1,703	\$1,392,510
Tourism (TC) Caravan Park (CV)	3.4060	\$1,756	\$251,700
Commercial (C)	2.4676	\$1,756	\$51,030
Service Commercial (SC)	4.7229	\$1,756	\$23,610
Future Development FD	4.7229	\$1,787	\$1,790
Railway (RW)	19.5032	\$1,756	\$14,630
Industry (GI LI)	1.8927	\$1,756	\$1,200,510
Organised Recreation (OR)	1.3388	\$1,756	\$17,820
Zone CB (Residential Use)	0.5444	\$1,567	\$23,140
Tindal Ex Gratia	0	\$1,849	\$447,460
Zone Binjari	0	\$1,604	\$73,780
Pastoral Lease	0.0789	\$1,018	\$12,620
Mining Tenement	0.8960	\$2,408	\$0
Zone NOZONE	0.2989	\$1,703	\$379,330
Major Shopping Centre	3.3252	\$1,920	\$88,950
Workers Accom < 30	0	\$3,547	\$10,640
Workers Accom 30-60	0	\$12,624	\$0
Workers Accom 60- 120	0	\$20,198	\$0
Workers Accom 120-240	0	\$35,345	\$0
Workers Accom >240	0	\$60,592	\$60,590
Major Cattle Facility	0.5065	\$1,920	\$7,980
Solar Farm	0.7877	\$1,756	\$6,850
Cotton Gin	3.3252	\$12,624	\$12,620
			<b>\$10,422,980</b>



**GENERAL RATES AND WASTE CHARGES**



Katherine Town Council's waste management charges support both the ongoing operational costs and the significant capital investments required to keep the Katherine Waste Management Facility environmentally compliant and sustainable. For the 2026/2027 financial year, Council aims to collect \$1,719,828.00 through waste levies, ensuring that the costs of operating, maintaining, and rehabilitating the facility are met now and in the future.

The full waste management charge for 2026/2027 will increase by 5.9%. The full waste management charge will be \$466.00, representing a \$26.00 increase from the previous year. This fee covers both the weekly kerbside garbage collection and access to the

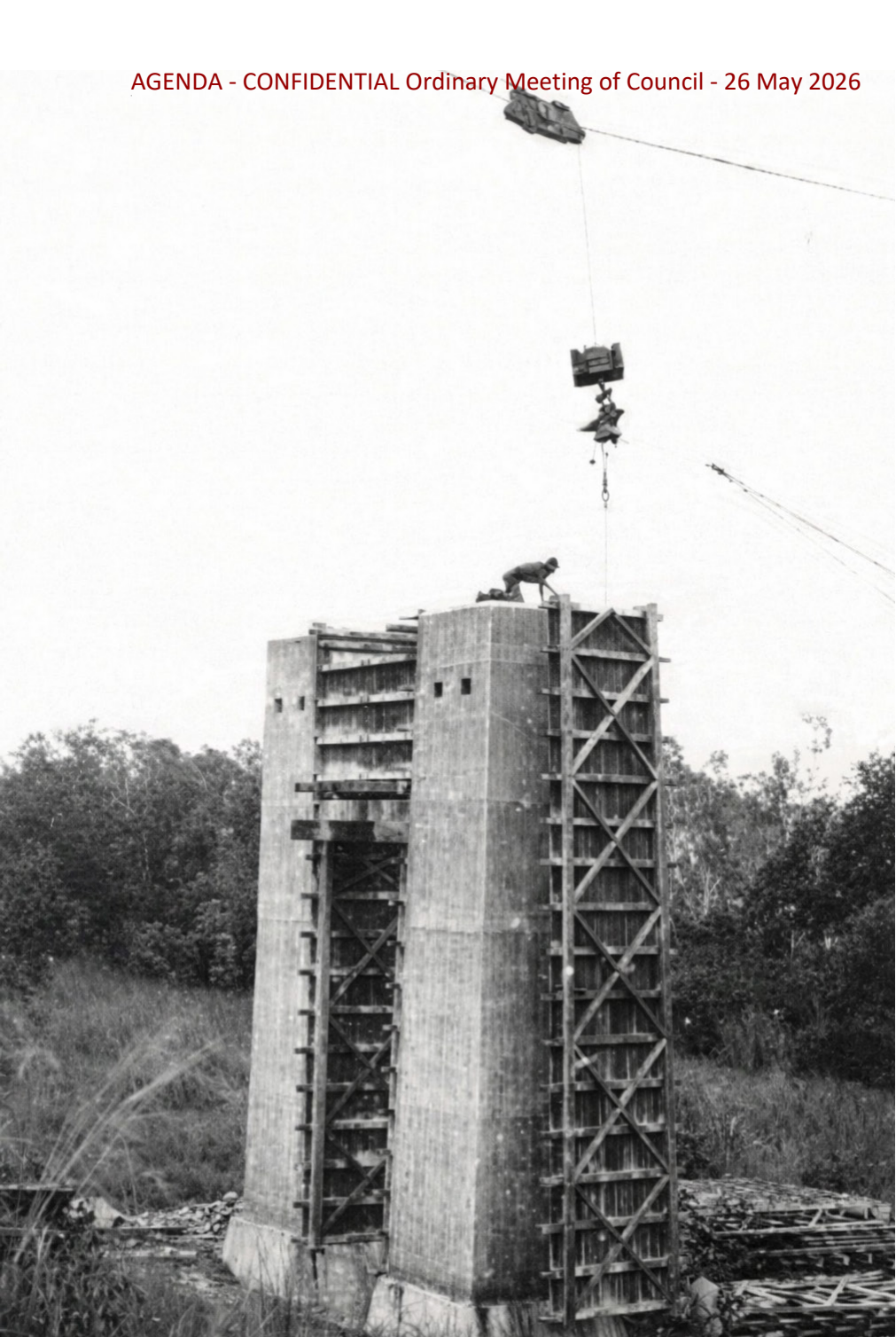
Katherine Waste Management Facility to dispose free for disposal items as per the Fees and Charges 2026/2027. The adjustment equates to an increase of approximately \$0.50 per week.

For properties where Council is unable to provide a regular weekly kerbside collection service, a minimum waste management charge of \$180.00 will apply. This represents an increase of \$10.00 from the previous year, equating to approximately \$0.19 more per week.

All other allotments within the municipality will also be subject to the \$180.00 minimum waste management levy. This levy is essential for supporting the operation and maintenance of the Katherine Waste Management Facility,

ensures landowners have access to the facility, and funds important waste management projects across the municipality.

Council remains committed to the delivery of waste services that are sustainable, accessible, and environmentally responsible, supporting positive long term outcomes for the Katherine community.



# FEES AND CHARGES

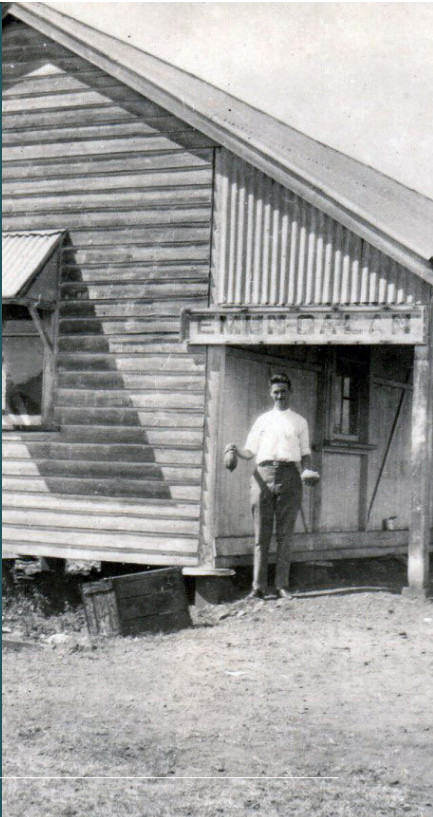


For 2026/2027, Council will implement a 3.3% increase to fees and charges, with targeted adjustments to better align revenue with the cost of service delivery.

The impact on most households is expected to be limited, with green waste—representing the largest proportion of domestic disposal—remaining free of charge.

Council will also adjust facility hire fees to better reflect the cost of operating and maintaining Council-owned assets, while continuing to support accessible and equitable community use.

These initiatives support Council's commitment to financial sustainability, responsible asset management and efficient service delivery.





# ANNUAL BUDGET AND LONG-TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2026-2027

## ANNUAL BUDGET INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT

ANNUAL BUDGET INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT	DRAFT BUDGET 2026-2027 \$	FORECAST 2027-2028 \$	FORECAST 2028-2029 \$	FORECAST 2029-2030 \$	FORECAST 2030-2031 \$
<b>OPERATING INCOME</b>					
Rates	10,614,408	11,123,900	11,657,847	12,217,423	12,803,860
Waste Charges	1,730,765	1,832,880	1,941,020	2,055,540	2,176,817
Fees and Charges	3,153,943	3,258,023	3,365,538	3,476,601	3,591,328
Operating Grants & Subsidies	3,788,593	2,362,776	2,433,659	2,506,669	2,581,869
Bank & Investment Income	600,000	700,000	728,700	758,577	789,678
Other revenue	30,000	346,846	362,108	378,040	394,674
<b>TOTAL OPERATING INCOME</b>	<b>19,917,709</b>	<b>19,624,425</b>	<b>20,488,872</b>	<b>21,392,850</b>	<b>22,338,227</b>
<b>OPERATING EXPENDITURE</b>					
Employment Expenses	7,038,410	7,249,562	7,467,049	7,691,061	7,921,792
Materials & Contracts	11,445,937	11,674,856	11,908,353	12,146,520	12,389,450
Elected Member Allowances	415,040	415,040	415,040	415,040	415,040
Elected Member Expenses	165,625	165,625	165,625	165,625	165,625
Council Committee Allowances	25,000	56,100	57,222	58,366	59,534
Council Committee Costs	38,000	8,160	8,323	8,490	8,659
Depreciation, Amortisation & Impairment	6,125,782	6,488,298	6,541,918	6,912,756	7,291,012
Interest Expenses	64,000	156,353	238,645	243,418	248,286
Other Expenses	70,000	71,400	72,828	74,285	75,770
Finance Costs - Unwinding of WMF Discounting	629,865	664,603	692,849	711,902	731,480
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>26,017,659</b>	<b>26,949,997</b>	<b>27,567,852</b>	<b>28,427,462</b>	<b>29,306,649</b>
<b>BUDGETED OPERATING SURPLUS / DEFICIT</b>	<b>( 6,099,950.00)</b>	<b>( 7,325,572)</b>	<b>( 7,078,980)</b>	<b>( 7,034,612)</b>	<b>( 6,968,422)</b>

# ANNUAL BUDGET OPERATING POSITION - DRAFT 2026-2027

## ANNUAL BUDGET INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT



ANNUAL BUDGET OPERATING POSITION	DRAFT BUDGET 2026-2027 \$	FORECAST 2027-2028 \$	FORECAST 2028-2029 \$	FORECAST 2029-2030 \$	FORECAST 2030-2031 \$
<b>BUDGETED OPERATING SURPLUS / DEFICIT</b>	<b>( 6,099,950.00)</b>	<b>( 7,325,572)</b>	<b>( 7,078,980)</b>	<b>( 7,034,612)</b>	<b>( 6,968,422)</b>
less Non-Cash Income	-	-	-	-	-
Add Back Non-Cash Expenses	6,125,782	7,152,901	7,234,767	7,624,658	8,022,492
<b>TOTAL NON-CASH ITEMS</b>	<b>6,125,782</b>	<b>7,152,901</b>	<b>7,234,767</b>	<b>7,624,658</b>	<b>8,022,492</b>
<b>TOTAL OPERATING INCOME</b>	<b>19,917,709</b>	<b>19,624,425</b>	<b>20,488,872</b>	<b>21,392,850</b>	<b>22,338,227</b>
<b>Less ADDITIONAL OUTFLOWS</b>					
Capital Expenditure	5,952,530	2,420,177	1,486,029	1,445,817	991,709
Borrowing Repayments (Principal Only)	-	250,000	333,333	333,333	333,333
Transfers to Reserves	-	-	-	200,000	635,000
Other Outflows - Repayments	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL ADDITIONAL OUTFLOWS</b>	<b>5,952,530</b>	<b>2,670,177</b>	<b>1,819,362</b>	<b>1,979,150</b>	<b>1,960,042</b>
<b>Add ADDITIONAL INFLOWS</b>					
Capital Grants Income	1,711,000	1,090,177	635,029	743,797	288,649
Prior Year Carry Forward Tied Funding	30,000	-	-	-	-
Other Inflow of Funds	-	45,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
Drawdown of Borrowings	3,000,000	-	-	-	-
Transfers from Reserves	1,241,530	1,707,671	127,546	595,307	632,324
<b>TOTAL ADDITIONAL INFLOWS</b>	<b>5,982,530</b>	<b>2,842,848</b>	<b>812,575</b>	<b>1,389,104</b>	<b>970,973</b>
<b>NET BUDGETED OPERATING POSITION</b>	<b>55,832</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>65,000</b>

# CAPITAL EXPENDITURE AND FUNDING BUDGET - DRAFT 2026-2027

BY CLASS OF INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

BY CLASS OF INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT	DRAFT BUDGET 2026-2027 \$	FORECAST 2027-2028 \$	FORECAST 2028-2029 \$	FORECAST 2029-2030 \$	FORECAST 2030-2031 \$
<b>CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</b>					
Buildings & Other Structures	2,708,530	710,000	150,000	50,000	-
Improvements	291,000	79,960	-	-	-
Plant & Equipment	195,000	150,000	150,000	-	-
Furniture, Fittings & Equipment	213,000	50,000	51,000	52,020	53,060
Infrastructure - Footpaths & Cycleways	1,030,000	175,069	-	-	-
Infrastructure - Roads	1,415,000	855,148	1,035,029	1,143,797	738,649
Infrastructure - Stormwater & Drainage	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
Infrastructure - Street Lighting	-	150,000	-	-	-
Infrastructure - Irrigation	150,000	150,000	-	100,000	100,000
<b>TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>5,952,530</b>	<b>2,420,177</b>	<b>1,486,029</b>	<b>1,445,817</b>	<b>991,709</b>

<b>CAPITAL EXPENDITURE FUNDING</b>					
Council Operational Contribution	-	1,230,000	781,000	667,020	668,060
Utilisation of Retained Earnings	-	-	-	-	-
Capital Grants	1,711,000	1,090,177	635,029	743,797	288,649
Deferred Capital Grants	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers from Capital Reserves	1,241,530	-	-	-	-
Borrowings	3,000,000	-	-	-	-
Sale of Assets (Including Trade-In)	-	100,000	70,000	35,000	35,000
Other Funding	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE FUNDING</b>	<b>5,952,530</b>	<b>2,420,177</b>	<b>1,486,029</b>	<b>1,445,817</b>	<b>991,709</b>

# STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION - DRAFT 2026-2027

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION	DRAFT BUDGET 2026-2027 \$	FORECAST 2027-2028 \$	FORECAST 2028-2029 \$	FORECAST 2029-2030 \$	FORECAST 2030-2031 \$
<b>ASSETS</b>					
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Cash at Bank and On Hand	25,839,505	23,809,161	24,761,527	21,847,785	20,430,052
Trade and other receivables	2,590,449	2,668,162	2,748,207	3,048,824	3,640,131
Inventories	22,339	23,165	23,721	24,290	24,873
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>28,452,293</b>	<b>26,500,488</b>	<b>27,533,456</b>	<b>24,920,899</b>	<b>24,095,056</b>

<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Infrastructure, Property, Plant and Equipment	149,704,342	152,124,519	151,190,371	152,636,188	153,627,897
<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>	<b>149,704,342</b>	<b>152,124,519</b>	<b>151,190,371</b>	<b>152,636,188</b>	<b>153,627,897</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>178,156,635</b>	<b>178,625,007</b>	<b>178,723,827</b>	<b>177,557,087</b>	<b>177,722,953</b>

<b>LIABILITIES</b>					
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>					
Current Payables	1,218,373	2,840,895	2,909,077	2,978,895	3,050,388
Deferred Revenue	-	-	-	-	-
Current Provisions	627,225	646,042	665,423	685,385	705,947
Current Borrowings	-	250,000	333,333	333,333	333,333
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>1,845,598</b>	<b>3,736,937</b>	<b>3,907,833</b>	<b>3,997,613</b>	<b>4,089,668</b>

<b>NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>					
Employee Entitlements	34,820	35,181	36,237	37,324	38,443
Landfill Rehabilitation Provision	20,391,239	21,055,842	21,748,691	22,460,593	23,192,073
Borrowings	5,000,000	4,750,000	4,416,667	4,083,334	3,750,000
<b>Total Non-Current Liabilities</b>	<b>25,426,059</b>	<b>25,841,023</b>	<b>26,201,595</b>	<b>26,581,251</b>	<b>26,980,516</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>27,271,657</b>	<b>29,577,960</b>	<b>30,109,428</b>	<b>30,578,864</b>	<b>31,070,184</b>

<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>150,884,978</b>	<b>149,047,047</b>	<b>148,614,399</b>	<b>146,978,223</b>	<b>146,652,769</b>
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<b>EQUITY</b>					
Asset Revaluation Reserve	98,420,174	98,420,174	98,420,174	98,420,174	98,420,174
Other Reserves	14,651,023	13,421,023	12,640,023	11,973,003	14,651,023
Accumulated Surplus	37,813,782	37,205,850	37,554,202	36,585,046	33,581,572
<b>TOTAL COUNCIL EQUITY</b>	<b>150,884,979</b>	<b>149,047,047</b>	<b>148,614,399</b>	<b>146,978,223</b>	<b>146,652,769</b>



# STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW - DRAFT 2026-2027

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW	DRAFT BUDGET 2026-2027 \$	FORECAST 2027-2028 \$	FORECAST 2028-2029 \$	FORECAST 2029-2030 \$	FORECAST 2030-2031 \$
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>					
<b>RECEIPTS</b>					
Rates	10,614,408	10,486,817	10,990,031	11,517,393	12,070,064
Waste Charges	1,730,765	1,751,047	1,854,519	1,964,104	2,080,162
Fees and Charges	3,153,943	2,512,754	2,570,155	2,627,750	2,686,681
Operating Grants & Subsidies	3,788,593	2,259,019	2,259,019	2,259,019	2,259,019
Bank & Investment Income	600,000	624,600	759,930	589,533	506,356
Other revenue	30,000	346,281	361,552	377,471	394,091
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>19,917,709</b>	<b>17,980,518</b>	<b>18,795,206</b>	<b>19,335,270</b>	<b>19,996,373</b>

<b>PAYMENTS</b>					
Employee Costs	( 7,038,410.00)	( 7,249,562)	( 7,467,049)	( 7,691,060)	( 7,921,792)
Materials & Contracts	( 11,445,937.00)	( 11,674,856)	( 11,908,343)	( 12,146,519)	( 12,389,450)
Elected Members Allowances & Expenses	( 580,665.00)	( 580,665)	( 598,085)	( 616,027)	( 634,508)
Council Committee Allowances & Expenses	( 63,000.00)	( 64,890)	( 56,135)	( 57,819)	( 59,554)
Interest Paid	( 64,000.00)	( 156,353)	( 238,645)	( 222,942)	( 206,875)
Other Expenses	( 70,000.00)	( 72,100)	( 74,263)	( 76,491)	( 81,149)
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>( 19,192,012)</b>	<b>( 19,726,326)</b>	<b>( 20,268,257)</b>	<b>( 20,810,859)</b>	<b>( 21,212,179)</b>
<b>Net Cash Provided by (Used in) Operating Activities</b>	<b>725,697</b>	<b>( 1,745,808)</b>	<b>( 1,473,051)</b>	<b>( 1,475,589)</b>	<b>( 1,215,806)</b>

<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>					
<b>RECEIPTS:</b>					
Amounts Specifically for New or Upgraded Assets	1,711,000	1,090,177	635,029	1,090,177	288,649
Sale of Replaced Assets	-	45,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
<b>PAYMENTS:</b>					
Expenditure on Renewal/ Replacement of Assets	( 5,952,530)	( 2,420,177)	( 1,486,029)	( 1,445,817)	( 991,709)
<b>Net Cash Provided by (Used in) Investing Activities</b>	<b>( 4,241,530)</b>	<b>( 1,285,000)</b>	<b>( 801,000)</b>	<b>( 305,640)</b>	<b>( 653,060)</b>

<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>					
<b>RECEIPTS:</b>					
Proceeds from Borrowings	3,000,000	-	-	-	-
<b>PAYMENTS:</b>					
Repayment of Borrowings	-	( 250,000)	( 333,333)	( 333,333)	( 333,333)
<b>Net Cash Provided by (Used in) Financing Activities</b>	<b>3,000,000</b>	<b>( 250,000)</b>	<b>( 333,333)</b>	<b>( 333,333)</b>	<b>( 333,333)</b>
<b>NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH HELD</b>	<b>( 515,833)</b>	<b>( 3,280,808)</b>	<b>( 2,607,384)</b>	<b>( 2,114,562)</b>	<b>( 2,202,199)</b>
<b>Cash &amp; Cash Equivalents at Beginning of Period</b>	<b>25,839,505</b>	<b>25,323,672</b>	<b>22,042,864</b>	<b>19,435,480</b>	<b>17,320,918</b>
<b>Cash &amp; Cash Equivalents at End of Period</b>	<b>25,323,672</b>	<b>22,042,864</b>	<b>19,435,480</b>	<b>17,320,918</b>	<b>15,118,719</b>



# PLANNED MAJOR CAPITAL WORKS

PLANNED MAJOR CAPITAL WORKS		CURRENT YEAR BUDGET 2026-2027	FORECAST 30-JUN-28	FORECAST 30-JUN-29	FORECAST 30-JUN-30	FORECAST 30-JUN-31	TOTAL PLANNED BUDGET	EXPECTED COMPLETION DATE
ASSET CLASS	PROJECT	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$		
Buildings and Other Structures	Civic Centre Upgrade	\$2,465,000	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$5,000,000	Dec-26
Buildings and Other Structures	Outhouses & Park Upgrades	\$-	\$710,000	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$710,000,000	Dec-28
Infrastructure - Footpaths and Cycleways	Zimin Drive Upgrade	\$1,010,000	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$1,150,000	Mar-27
Infrastructure - Roads	Rural Road Upgrades		\$855,148	\$1,035,029	\$1,143,797	\$738,649	\$3,772,623	Jun-27
	Zimmin & Shadforth							
	Collins, Craigbourn, Helena,Hendry,Byers	\$1,355,000	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$1,355,000	Jun-27
Infrastructure - Street Lighting	Lighting the CBD	\$200,000					\$200,000	Jun-27
	General Upgrades	\$-	\$150,000.00	\$-	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00	\$350,000	Jun-27
Infrastructure - Irrigation	General Upgrades							
	Railway Terrace	\$150,000	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$150,000	Jun-27
	Bore upgrades	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$200,000	Jun-27
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>\$5,180,000</b>	<b>\$1,715,148</b>	<b>\$1,035,029</b>	<b>\$1,343,797</b>	<b>\$938,649</b>	<b>\$12,887,623</b>	



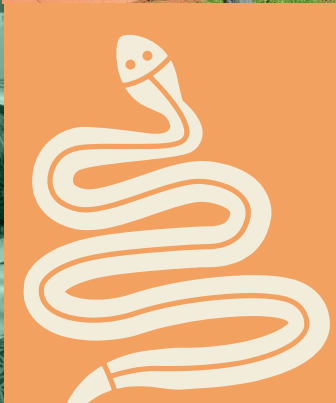


# 100 YEARS



  
**KATHERINE IS A PLACE WHERE PEOPLE COME FOR OPPORTUNITY AND STAY FOR THE SENSE OF COMMUNITY.**

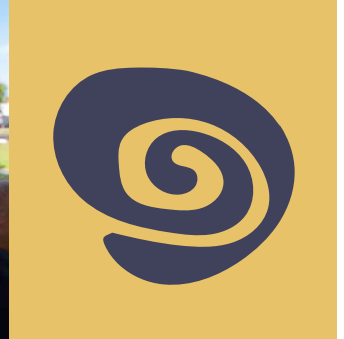
  
**2026 IS A BIG YEAR FOR KATHERINE, MARKING 100 YEARS SINCE THE TOWN WAS OFFICIALLY GAZETTED.**



LOCAL GOVERNMENT IS THE LEVEL OF GOVERNMENT CLOSEST TO THE COMMUNITY, AND MUCH OF COUNCIL'S WORK IS PART OF EVERYDAY LIFE IN KATHERINE.



KATHERINE TOWN COUNCIL IS RESPONSIBLE FOR SERVICES AND INFRASTRUCTURE THAT KEEP THE TOWN RUNNING.



WHETHER IT'S SPORT, CAMPING, COMMUNITY EVENTS OR SPENDING TIME WITH FRIENDS AND FAMILY, THERE ARE PLENTY OF WAYS FOR PEOPLE TO CONNECT.



add back page

## ANNUAL BUDGET ASSUMPTIONS

### INCOME

- Rates Income will increase on average 4.8%
- Waste charges will increase on average 5.9%
- 3.3% Increase has been applied to Fees and charges
- At the time of budget preparation, the Federal Government is yet to publish Financial Assistance Grants for the 26-27 Financial year. All other Government grants were forecast by analysing historical data to identify trends. Expected grant inflows are based on prior agreements and forecast to remain consistent with the prior year.
- Interest Income is forecast using anticipated interest rates based on current or near-term rates tied broadly to RBA Cash Rate – discounted to reflect conservative investment duration and liquidity requirements.

### EXPENDITURE

- An increase in Employee expenses is due to the Enterprise Bargaining Agreement (EBA), 3% increment rises and resource allocation increases.
- Increases in legal fees aligned to commencement of negotiations to replace Council's expired EBA currently in force.
- Materials and Contracts expenses are forecast to increase due to inflation
- Electricity forecast to increase by a minimum of 37% based on cost reflective tariff pricing to local government
- Road Transport Contractual Chain Order – Fuel Cost Recovery – 2026 (“RTCCO”) made by the Fair Work Commission came into force on 21 April 2026. Primary parties to contracts now required to adjust rates for road transport services to ensure increased fuel costs are recovered. Base Fuel Price (AIP TGP) forecast to increase by up to 76%
- Elected Members allowances and expenses will be paid as per the [Northern Territory of Australia Remuneration Tribunal – Determination of Allowances for members of Local Councils](#).

### EXPLANATORY NOTES

- Council committee allowances and expenses have been provided for the Independent members of the Audit and Risk Management Committee
- The Budgeted operating Deficit is due to non-cash expenses of depreciation and the Unwinding of the discount for Waste Management Facility Make Good provision. Regulation 10 of the Local Government General Regulations 2021 states a council may budget for a deficit if the reason for the deficit can be attributed to:

depreciation, amortisation, asset write-downs, expenditure of tied grant funding recorded as income in a prior year or other non-cash items.

- Total Prior year actuals forecast based on the approved 2<sup>nd</sup> Budget review 2025-2026 and the Long Term Financial Plan assumptions.

## Rating Strategy

### Objectives

Katherine Town Council Rating Strategy for the 2026/2027 financial year with the following objectives:

- Delivering projects and services within a financially sustainable framework
- Responding to community needs and expectations through the delivery of priority capital works
- Clearly outlining the principles used by Council when determining the mix of rates and annual charges
- Ensuring future Councils are appropriately positioned to fund ongoing maintenance, replacement, and rehabilitation of assets

### Principles

In developing its rating approach, Council considers the broader social and economic impacts on the community, with particular regard to promoting equitable access to essential services, infrastructure, and community facilities.

Council seeks to raise sufficient general rate revenue to fully fund its operating costs, including depreciation, whilst also contributing to the capital works program that underpins the municipality's long-term growth and sustainability.

This approach is guided by the following principles:

- **Equity** – achieving an appropriate balance between user-pays principles and residents' capacity to pay
- **Effectiveness and Efficiency** – supporting Council's financial, social, economic, environmental, and corporate objectives as outlined in the Long-Term Financial Plan
- **Simplicity** – ensuring the rating system is transparent, easily understood by the community, and free from unnecessary complexity, perceived bias, or hidden costs
- **Sustainability** – aligning revenue decisions with financial strategies for the delivery and renewal of infrastructure and services identified in Council's Municipal Plan

Council remains committed to actively seeking and securing alternative funding sources in order to reduce reliance on rate revenue and alleviate the financial burden on the community.

## General Rates and Waste Charges

Rates are Council's main source of income and are used to deliver the services and facilities our community relies on every day — including parks and reserves, roads and footpaths, libraries, recreational facilities, and many other essential community services.

General rates are calculated using a differential rating system based on a property's value (known as the Unimproved Capital Value, or UCV) and its zoning under the Northern Territory Planning Scheme. Each category has its own rate and minimum charge. The rates are then calculated using either the minimum amount or the UCV-based rate — whichever is higher.

In addition, fixed rates will apply to specific land use categories such as workers accommodation, major cattle facility, cotton gins and solar farms.

For multi-zoned allotments — properties within the Katherine Municipality that span more than one zone — valuation services will provide Council with the percentage split and UCV for each zone.

Council will apply the general rate associated with the zone that represents the highest percentage of the property's area.

After reviewing service costs, inflation, and the impact on the Katherine Municipality, Council has set a balanced approach for 2026/2027 that supports both financial sustainability and affordability.

The total amount expected to be raised from **General Rates** is **\$10,387,770.95**, subject to any supplementary adjustments during the levying period.

As in previous years, Council has resolved to apply an overall rates increase of 4.8%. Reduced rate dollar increases have been applied to residential, central business and service commercial properties, with overall increases of 4.5% for LR, LMR and MR zoned allotments, and 3.8% for CB zoned allotments.

This mixed increase balances the need to meet rising operational costs while remaining mindful of ongoing cost of living pressures within the community. For most households, this equates to a median annual increase of \$159 for residential, \$96 for central business and \$75 for rural zoned properties. This also takes into consideration updated property values set by the Valuer-General as part of the latest revaluation.

Overall, this approach helps ensure Council can continue to provide essential services while keeping rates fair, transparent and as affordable as possible for the community.

Rating Category/Zone	26/27 RID	26/27 Min	Levy Estimate 2026/27
<b>Binjari</b>	0.0000001	\$1,605.00	\$73,830.00
<b>Cotton Gin</b>	3.4076	\$13,256.00	\$13,256.00
<b>Major Cattle Facility</b>	0.5067	\$1,921.00	\$7,980.53
<b>Major Shopping Centre</b>	3.4076	\$1,921.00	\$91,153.30
<b>Mining Tenement</b>	0.9238	\$2,368.42	\$0.00
<b>Pastoral Lease</b>	0.0813	\$1,000.70	\$12,951.80
<b>Solar Farm</b>	0.7881	\$1,757.00	\$6,856.47
<b>Tindal Ex Gratia</b>	0.0000001	\$1,850.00	\$447,700.00
<b>Workers Accom Less Than 120</b>	0.0000001	\$20,207.00	\$0.00
<b>Workers Accom Less Than 240</b>	0.0000001	\$35,362.00	\$0.00
<b>Workers Accom Less Than 30</b>	0.0000001	\$3,725.00	\$11,175.00
<b>Workers Accom Less Than 60</b>	0.0000001	\$12,630.00	\$0.00
<b>Workers Accom More Than 240</b>	0.0000001	\$63,626.00	\$63,626.00
<b>Zone A H HCP</b>	0.299	\$1,757.00	\$262,772.95
<b>Zone C</b>	2.4688	\$1,757.00	\$51,059.16
<b>Zone CB</b>	3.0584	\$1,704.00	\$1,369,559.12
<b>Zone CB (Residential Use)</b>	0.5443	\$1,568.00	\$32,553.30
<b>Zone CL CP</b>	3.9948	\$1,659.00	\$144,681.24
<b>Zone CV TC</b>	3.4076	\$1,757.00	\$242,280.36
<b>Zone FD</b>	3.4076	\$1,788.00	\$1,788.00
<b>Zone GI LI</b>	1.9116	\$1,757.00	\$1,215,686.80
<b>Zone LR LMR MR</b>	2.1289	\$1,568.00	\$4,586,138.67

<b>Zone NOZONE</b>	0.299	\$1,704.00	\$377,807.00
<b>Zone OR</b>	1.3386	\$1,757.00	\$17,820.20
<b>Zone R</b>	0.3919	\$1,605.00	\$732,065.81
<b>Zone RL</b>	0.6801	\$1,568.00	\$396,902.18
<b>Zone RW</b>	19.5123	\$1,757.00	\$14,636.01
<b>Zone SC</b>	4.5066	\$1,757.00	\$22,533.00
<b>Zone SK1 SK2 SK4 SK5</b>	2.1289	\$1,568.00	\$86,487.28
<b>Zone WM</b>	0.4939	\$1,757.00	\$104,470.77

Katherine Town Council’s waste management charges support both the ongoing operational costs and the significant capital investments required to keep the **Katherine Waste Management Facility** environmentally compliant and sustainable. For the 2026/2027 financial year, Council aims to collect **\$1,730,765.00** through waste levies, ensuring that the costs of operating, maintaining, and rehabilitating the facility are met now and in the future.

The full waste management charge for 2026/2027 will increase by 5.9% in line with the Long-Term Financial Plan. The full waste management charge will be \$466.00, representing a \$26.00 increase from the previous year. This fee covers both the weekly kerbside garbage collection and access to the Katherine Waste Management Facility to dispose free for disposal items as per the Fees and Charges 2026/2027. The adjustment equates to an increase of approximately \$0.50 per week.

For properties where Council is unable to provide a regular weekly kerbside collection service, a minimum waste management charge of \$195.00 will apply. This represents an increase of \$25.00 from the previous year, equating to approximately \$0.29 more per week.

All other allotments within the municipality will also be subject to the \$195.00 minimum waste management levy. This levy is essential for supporting the operation and maintenance of the Katherine Waste Management Facility, ensures landowners have access to the facility, and funds important waste management projects across the municipality.

Council remains committed to the delivery of waste services that are sustainable, accessible, and environmentally responsible, supporting positive long-term outcomes for the Katherine community.

**Fees and Charges**

For 2026/2027, Council will implement a modest 3.3% increase to Fees and Charges, with targeted adjustments to better align revenue with the cost of service delivery.

As a result, hire charges for Council facilities have been adjusted to continue to reflect the actual cost of delivering these services, while supporting the ongoing sustainability and availability of facilities for the community.

The review balanced affordability for community and non-commercial users with the need to recover costs from commercial use. These initiatives support Council’s commitment to financial sustainability, responsible asset management and efficient service delivery.



KATHERINE  
TOWN COUNCIL



KATHERINE TOWN COUNCIL  
**Fees and Charges**  
2026/2027

# ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF COUNTRY

**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.**

*The logo featured on the 2026/2027 Municipal Plan cover was designed by Katherine-based artist Kim Maskell. It was her winning entry in the Katherine Town Council Centenary Logo Competition in April 2025.*

**WARNING:** *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander readers are advised that this document may include the images of people who are deceased.*



JAWOYN  DAGOMAN  WARDAMAN

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# FACILITY HIRE

**Hirable spaces include a range of sporting venues, halls and conference facilities that can be hired on a full day, short term seasonal or long- term seasonal basis (excluding commercial).**

## General hire terms

Council requirements take precedence over all bookings. In the event a booking must be cancelled due to Council needs, every effort will be made to provide an alternative venue where possible, or the full hire fee will be refunded to the hirer.

Hirers are responsible for any damage caused during the hire period, as well as for leaving the facility in a clean and tidy condition. All rubbish must be disposed of in the bins provided. If the facility is left excessively dirty, the hirer will be notified and given a specific timeframe to rectify the issue. If not addressed within the given period, Council will arrange cleaning and any associated costs will be invoiced to the hirer.

Additional hire days will incur additional charges.

All items and equipment must be returned to their original positions at the end of the hire period.

## Non – Commercial

Non-Commercial groups who can be identified as being a Community Group, i.e., Not-For-Profit organisation, are groups who are not operating for the profit or gain of its individual members. This means that the group operate exclusively for charitable, civil or social purposes and does not share or allocate its funds or profits to its owners, shareholders or executives. A Not-For-Profit community group must be incorporated and/or partnered with an incorporated group.

Individuals who wish to hire a Council facility can do so for a non-business (private) reason only. A personal or private hire is only available on a daily basis.

## Commercial group

A commercial organisation is any group with a particular set of skills, priorities, strategies, and resources that organise to collectively achieve the specific aim of making a profit. This type of hire is only available on a daily basis.

## Short-term hire (Community groups only)

Short-term hire allocations will be made on a 10- week basis (sporting season). If additional weeks are required, a weekly hire cost can be arranged with Council. Allocation of specific grounds is made for both training and competitions. A short- term hire does not provide clubs and/or associations with exclusive use of the facility.

Each individual short-term hire is for one organisation only. Short term hires are only available for consistent/regular users.

Short-term hires are not guaranteed from year to year and will be subject to the hire application process.

## Long-term hire (Community groups only)

Long-term hire allocations will be made on a yearly calendar basis. Allocation of specific grounds is made for the designated application purpose only. A long-term hire does not provide clubs and/or associations with exclusive use of the facility. Long-term hires are only available for consistent/regular users.

A long-term hire applies to the calendar year, i.e., 1 January to 31 December and subject to the annual application process.

Initial charges for both short-term and long-term hires will be calculated for each hirer based on up to three facilities e.g. the oval, toilets/change rooms, and storage. Charges will be assessed according to the number of days used for training and competitions. Training days will be billed at 50% of the full day rate, while competition days will be billed at 100% of the full day rate. Once these charges are established, a subsidy formula will be applied to determine the level of financial support. Please be aware that you may be required to provide additional documentation to support your request for a hire fee subsidy.

## Key and facility deposits

Where applicable, key deposits are required at the following rates:

- \$47.70 per individual key
- \$190.80 per full set of keys (as required for the hire)

Keys can be collected on the working day prior to the event and must be returned promptly at the conclusion of the hire. Failure to return keys will result in the hirer being invoiced for the full cost of replacing the locks and issuing new keys.

If Council determines that a particular hire presents a higher risk of damage to the facility, **a facility deposit may be required.** The standard facility deposit is \$520.00; however, this amount may be increased at Council's discretion based on the nature of the event or hire.

## Administartion fee

An administration fee of \$25.85 per occasion will be incurred if any alterations are made after the hirer has accepted the facility hire quote and the booking confirmation has been sent. This includes cancellations or alterations to the hire.

## Damage and cost recovery

The hirer, including any permit or licence holder, is responsible for any damage to Council property. Council will recover the full cost of repairs from the hirer. This cost will be calculated based on:

- The actual invoiced cost to Council for all materials and services used;
- Council labour, plant, and stores involved, including associated overheads.

The total cost to be recovered will be calculated as follows:

- **Subtotal:** Materials, services, labour, plant, and overheads
- **Plus** 15% surcharge
- **= Total Cost** to be recovered from the hirer

Council will conduct both a pre-hire and post-hire inspection of the facility to assess any damage.

### Events with alcohol

Katherine is subject to strict alcohol regulations under the Liquor Act 2019. The consumption and possession of alcohol in public places is prohibited, and restrictions apply in other locations.

For open-access events (i.e., those open to all ages), the service of alcohol must not restrict or compromise access to the event for any attendees.

All hirers intending to supply alcohol—whether for sale or free of charge—must obtain the appropriate liquor licences and/or permits. Detailed information is available on the Northern Territory Government website: <https://nt.gov.au/industry/hospitality>.

If you wish to apply for a Consume Liquor in a Public Place Permit in conjunction with a Hire Agreement, please contact our Customer Service team for assistance. Please note that such permits are only issued for Council-owned land.

Council reserves the right to impose additional conditions at its discretion, including but not limited to: security requirements, recovery of cleaning costs, and an increased bond, as determined by the Chief Executive Officer.

### Indemnity

All hirers are required to have public liability cover and proof of insurance must be supplied for your hire to be approved.

All hirers must provide proof that they hold current public liability insurance cover to indemnify the Northern Territory Government and the Katherine Town Council of any liability which may arise from operations at the hire location.

Minimum cover \$10,000,000.

### Equipment hire

Use of Council equipment is subject to the following conditions:

- The hirer must hold current public liability insurance with coverage of no less than \$10,000,000.
- Equipment is only available for hire within the Katherine Municipality.
- Equipment will not be released until Council has received the completed hire agreement, full payment, and a valid certificate of currency for public liability insurance.
- A refundable equipment deposit is required. The deposit will be returned following a Council inspection confirming that all equipment has been returned in full and undamaged. Council reserves the right to deduct costs from the deposit for any repairs, replacements, or cleaning required.
- The hirer is responsible for all transportation of the equipment, including collection and return.
- Equipment must be collected from and returned to the Council Depot on Crawford Street by 8:00am on the first working day following the hire period.
- If Council determines there is a higher risk of damage to the equipment, it reserves the right to increase the deposit amount at its discretion.

Description	2026/2027	Unit	Comments	GST
Mobile cool room (\$1,000 deposit)	\$185.40	Per day	Non-commercial	Yes
Mobile cool room (\$1,000 deposit)	\$1,167.90	Per day	Commercial	Yes
Portable stage (\$250 deposit)	\$107.00	Per half day	Non-commercial	Yes
Portable stage (\$250 deposit)	\$214.75	Per half day	Commercial	Yes
Portable stage (\$250 deposit)	\$214.05	Per day	Non-commercial	Yes
Portable stage (\$250 deposit)	\$429.50	Per day	Commercial	Yes
Portable lighting tower (\$1,000 deposit)	\$177.15	Per day	Non-commercial	Yes
Portable lighting tower (\$1,000 deposit)	\$354.25	Per day	Commercial	Yes
Red carpet	\$25.85	Per day	Hirer	Yes

### Electric vehicle charging

Travelers can charge their vehicles at the Katherine Showgrounds. You will be required to contact Council to obtain an access code and pay a **\$16.55** fee for each instance of using the charging station.

### Graffiti kits

Kits are available from the Civic Centre for **\$41.30**. Each kit contains graffiti cleaning product, cleaning equipment and a personal safety equipment and user guide.

## Meeting rooms

Description	2026/2027	Unit	Comments	GST
Meeting room	\$240.00	Per day	Non-commercial	Yes
Meeting room	\$520.00	Per day	Commercial	Yes
Tea and coffee	\$3.75	Per person	Commercial	Yes

## Lindsay Street Complex

The Lindsay Street Complex is a multi-purpose complex utilised by many organisations, groups, and schools in Katherine.

Description	2026/2027	Unit	Comments	GST
Complex	\$270.00	Per day	Non-commercial	Yes
Complex	\$540.00	Per day	Commercial	Yes

## Town Square

Description	2026/2027	Unit	Comments	GST
Town Square	\$270.00	Per day	Non-commercial	Yes
Town Square	\$540.00	Per day	Commercial	Yes



## Broadcasting events

Katherine Town Council supports the use of its facilities for broadcast events, subject to the following conditions:

- Broadcast content must be rated P, C, G, or PG. Content with any other classification will not be permitted.
- Broadcasts must be in image or video format, including films, television programs, or livestreams.
- The hirer is solely responsible for ensuring all legal, copyright, and distribution obligations are met.
- In public spaces, broadcasts may only take place between sunset and midnight.
- Broadcast content must not incite violence, harassment, vilification, or intimidation and must comply with reasonable community standards for public display.

Broadcast events may include live music performances, film screenings, livestreamed functions, or similar activities. Hirers are required to submit proposed broadcast content (images, video files, or livestream links) to Council for review and scheduling approval.

## Showgrounds

Parking within Council grounds is not permitted without prior written approval from Council.

Some facility lighting operates on a token system. Tokens are available for purchase at the Civic Centre for **\$5.70** each. As token systems may vary between sites, Council will provide specific operating instructions upon request.

If Council determines that a particular hire presents a higher risk of damage to a facility, it reserves the right to increase the required deposit amount at its discretion.

Description	2026/2027	Unit	Comments	GST
Showgrounds	\$340.00	Per day	Non-commercial	Yes
Code	\$16.95	Per code	Non-commercial	Yes
Showgrounds	\$1,200.00	Per day	Commercial	Yes
Code	\$16.95	Per code	Commercial	Yes



## Sportsground

Oval lighting is operated via a token system. Tokens can be purchased from the Civic Centre at a cost of **\$5.70** each. As each lighting system may function differently, Council will provide operating instructions upon request.

If Council considers there to be a heightened risk of damage to a facility, it reserves the right to increase the security deposit at its discretion.

Description	2026/2027	Unit	Comments	GST
Sportsground	\$230.00	Per day	Non-commercial	Yes
Code	\$16.95	Per code	Non-commercial	Yes
Sportsground	\$820.00	Per day	Commercial	Yes
Code	\$16.95	Per code	Commercial	

## Sportsground office spaces

Three office spaces are available for hire at the sportsgrounds. These spaces are offered under a special hiring arrangement designed for long-term use and are not covered by the Council's general hiring agreement.

Description	2026/2027	Unit	Comments	GST
6 Months	\$1,387.20	Per office	Long term hire	Yes
12 Months	\$2,774.10	Per office	Long term hire	Yes
Code	\$16.95	Per code	Long term hire	Yes

### Camping at the Showgrounds

Camping at the showgrounds is permitted exclusively for facility hirers and individuals travelling with livestock (year-round).

Outside of facility hire periods, Council will only permit camping during the tourism season, and only when required to accommodate overflow from local caravan parks. Council reserves the right to increase the required deposit if, in its opinion, the nature of the activity presents a higher risk of damage to Council property.

Description	2026/2027	Unit	Comments	GST
Unpowered site - 2 adults	\$31.80	Per day	Daily camping fees	Yes
Unpowered site - additional adult	\$11.35	Per day	Daily camping fees	Yes
Powered site - 2 adults	\$54.60	Per day	Daily camping fees	Yes
Powered site - additional adult	\$11.65	Per day	Daily camping fees	Yes
Unpowered site - 2 adults	\$188.00	Per week	Weekly camping fees	Yes
Unpowered site - additional adult	\$68.05	Per week	Weekly camping fees	Yes
Powered site - 2 adults	\$326.75	Per week	Weekly camping fees	Yes
Powered site - additional adult	\$68.05	Per week	Weekly camping fees	Yes

#### Children under 12 free

Daily	\$2.40	Per head	Stock fees	Yes
Weekly	\$13.95	Per week	Stock fees	Yes





\*GST inclusive unless otherwise stated or exempt from GST per ATO Division 81

## Parks and reserves

Description	2026/2027	Unit	Comments	GST
Half day	\$66.20	Per half day	Non-commercial	Yes
Full day	\$132.40	Per day	Non-commercial	Yes
Short term	\$424.80	Per season	Non-commercial	Yes
Long term	\$708.45	Per season	Non-commercial	Yes
Half day	\$83.35	Per half day	Commercial	Yes
Full day	\$167.00	Per day	Commercial	Yes
Short term	\$535.00	Per season	Commercial	Yes
Long term	\$894.00	Per season	Commercial	Yes
Low	\$5.70	User Contribution	Power and water	No
Medium	\$11.05	User Contribution	Power and water	No
High	\$30.55	User Contribution	Power and water	No

Hirers should note that parks and reserves cannot be hired exclusively, as these are public spaces.

All equipment set up within the park must be dismantled and removed at the conclusion of the hire period.

If Council assesses a higher risk of damage to its facilities, it reserves the right to increase the required deposit.

Appendix 1 – Available Parks and Reserves.

## Exercise class permits

To encourage healthy lifestyles and activate community spaces, Council permits commercial operators to use designated parks and reserves for personal training and group fitness classes. Please note that these areas remain public spaces and cannot be exclusively hired.

A permit fee applies upon application, and the permit remains valid for the selected period (e.g., annual, 6-month, or 3-month terms). A list of available sites for personal training and/or group fitness classes is provided in the schedule below.

To apply for a permit, applicants must complete the “Application for Approval to Operate” form, available from Council. The following conditions apply:

1. The application must not receive objections from permanent businesses offering similar services in the area.
2. The permit holder is responsible for ensuring the site and its surroundings remain free of litter.
3. The permit holder must maintain current public liability insurance with coverage of no less than

\$10,000,000 to indemnify Katherine Town Council against any liabilities arising from activities conducted at the designated location.

Description	2026/2027	Unit	Comments	GST
Under 3+ sessions per week	\$911.60	Per annum	Annual Permit	No
4+ sessions per week	\$1,186.30	Per annum	Annual Permit	No
Under 3+ sessions per week	\$470.50	Per annum	6 Month permit	No
4+ sessions per week	\$705.80	Per annum	6 Month permit	No
Under 3+ sessions per week	\$294.10	Per annum	3 Month permit	No
4+ sessions per week	\$411.70	Per annum	3 Month permit	No



# ADMINISTRATION

Administrative services can be accessed at the Katherine Town Council Civic Centre, Visitor Information Centre, and the Public Library during business hours.

Description	2026/2027	Unit	Comments	GST
Strategic plan, municipal plan, annual report, agendas, minutes and policies	Free	Document	Electronic copy	Yes
Strategic plan, municipal plan, annual report, agendas, minutes and policies	\$20.50	Document	Hard copy (B/W)	Yes
Plan printing	\$4.20	Per print	A1	Yes
Plan printing	\$5.90	Per print	A0	Yes
By-laws	Free	Document	Electronic copy	Yes
By-laws	\$20.50	Document	Hard copy (B/W)	Yes
Binding	\$8.15	Document	Up to 50 pages	Yes
Binding	\$14.90	Document	Over to 50 pages	Yes
Laminating	\$3.30	Per page	A4	Yes
Laminating	\$7.15	Per page	A3	Yes

Other laminating (Library Only) See Library Page 23

Photo copying	\$0.50	Per side	A4 black	Yes
Photo copying	\$0.60	Per side	A3 black	Yes
Photo copying	\$0.60	Per side	A4 colour	Yes
Photo copying	\$2.40	Per side	A3 colour	Yes
Facsimile	\$2.55	Per document	Outcoming	Yes
Facsimile	Free	Per document	Incoming	Yes
Scanning	\$2.55	Per document	Colour	Yes
Disability parking permits - individual	\$11.65	Per permit	first time application fee	Yes
Disability parking permits - individual	Free	Per renewal	Renewals - permanent holders	Yes
Disability parking permits - individual	\$4.45	Per permit	Parking permit replacement	Yes
Disability parking permits - individual	\$4.45	Per pouch	Parking permit pouch	Yes
Disability parking permits - organisation	\$11.65	Per permit	Application fee	Yes
Disability parking permits - organisation	\$4.45	Per permit	Parking permit replacement	Yes

## Rates administration

Description	2026/2027	Unit	Comments	GST
Rates search	\$92.30	Per search	Search Fee (1 business day prior notice)	No
Rates search	\$117.05	Per search	Search Fee (urgent same day)	No
Dishonoured transactions	\$27.10	Per transaction	Dishonoured direct debit	Yes
Dishonoured transactions	\$27.10	Per transaction	Dishonoured cheque	Yes
Rate notice - reprint	\$28.20	Per reprint	Current and previous years	Yes
Supplementary rate notice	Free	Per page	Current year only	Yes

## Freedom of information

The Information Act (*The Act*) gives people the right to access information from Northern Territory Government agencies, including councils, subject to several exemptions to protect public and private interests. This does not include information that is already available under an existing "access arrangement", such as council minutes, which are available without applying under the Act. An application fee of \$30.00 (including GST) must be made before an application for information is accepted, as well as search, processing and copying fees. Once your request for information has been assessed, Council may ask you to pay a processing fee.

*The Act* has three main aims, which fall under the following categories:

### Availability

Council is required to make available to you documents about its functions and operations. This includes information about its structure, decision-making processes, public participation through boards, councils or committees, and policy documents. You can download some of these documents from Council's website. You can also ask to see such documents or purchase copies at the Civic Centre.

### Access

The Act also gives you the right to apply for documents, including those about you, held by Council. If approved, you can examine and have copies of these documents. You also have rights of appeal if Council does not give you access to documents you want to see.

### Amendment

You can apply for information about your personal affairs to be changed if you believe it is inaccurate, incomplete, out-of-date or misleading.

Some documents are exempt under The Act to protect essential public interests or the personal or business affairs of others. Sometimes part of a document may not be available if it contains information which is exempt (i.e., name and address of complainant/s). If you are refused access to a document or given partial access only, Council must give you written reasons for the decision. Council must also tell you of your rights of appeal.

You will first need to pay a deposit for this processing fee. Once you've paid the deposit, Council will process your request and then tell you what access is available. You'll then be asked to pay the balance of the processing fee and the information that has been determined to be released will be given to you.

See <http://www.oaic.gov.au/> for the fee structure under the Act.

Applications can be made in writing, please address your letter to:

Katherine Town Council  
 PO Box 1071  
 KATHERINE NT 0851  
 Email: [records@ktc.nt.gov.au](mailto:records@ktc.nt.gov.au)

Description	2026/2027	Unit	Comments	GST
Freedom of information	Free	Per inspection	Personal affairs – visual inspection	No
Freedom of information	\$0.20	Per A4 page	Personal affairs – hard copy	No
Freedom of information	\$30.00	Per application	Application fee - non personal affairs	No

# COMMERCIAL WASTE CHARGES

Description	2026/2027	Unit	Comments	GST
General commercial disposal	\$160.35	Per tonne	General waste mixed	Yes
Building timber	\$79.30	Per tonne	General commercial separated	Yes
Steel degas A	\$79.30	Per tonne	General commercial separated	Yes
Concrete	\$79.30	Per tonne	General commercial separated	Yes
Green waste	\$64.10	Per tonne	General commercial separated	Yes
Mattress	\$48.05	Per mattress	General commercial separated	Yes
Glass	\$79.30	Per tonne	General commercial separated	Yes
Rocks	\$79.30	Per tonne	General commercial separated	Yes
Couch	\$48.05	Per couch	General commercial separated	Yes
Scrap metal	\$79.30	Per tonne	General commercial separated	Yes
Tyres - whole	\$1,280.50	Per tonne	Tyres	Yes
Tyres - shredded	\$1,280.50	Per tonne	Tyres	Yes
Bicycle	\$8.50	Per tyre	Tyres	Yes
Quadbike	\$19.20	Per tyre	Tyres	Yes
Motorbike	\$23.50	Per tyre	Tyres	Yes
Passenger	\$36.25	Per tyre	Tyres	Yes
4WD/LT	\$40.55	Per tyre	Tyres	Yes
Truck	\$58.70	Per tyre	Tyres	Yes
Tractor	\$69.35	Per tyre	Tyres	Yes
Tyres with rims + applicable tyre charge	\$44.10	Per tyre	Tyres	Yes
Large animal	\$192.30	Per animal	Disposal of animal carcasses	Yes
Small animal	\$126.85	Per animal	Disposal of animal carcasses	Yes
Subsequent small animal	\$15.90	Per animal	Disposal of animal carcasses	Yes
Operator/machinery hire to bury/move/destroy waste at facility	\$282.00	Per hour	Disposal of animal carcasses	Yes
Degassed	Free	Per item	Fridge, freezers and airconditioners	Yes
With gas or no documentation	\$76.90	Per item	Fridge, freezers and airconditioners	Yes

*Proof of degassing is a certificate from a qualified tradesperson.*

Gas bottles/Fire extinguishers	\$8.55	Per item		Yes
Drum muster	Free	Per item		No
Car batteries	Free	Per item		No
E-Waste	Free	Per item		Yes
Clean fill (proof of testing required)	Free	Per tonne		Yes
Fee for Service – Kerbside 240L	\$466.00	Per year	Existing services	Yes
Disposal application	Free	Per application	Asbestos	Yes
Asbestos Disposal	\$641.00	Per tonne	Asbestos	No

*Minimum Charges of 1 tonne per application.*

# DOMESTIC WASTE CHARGES

Description	2026/2027	Unit	Comments	GST
General domestic disposal	Free	Per tonne	General waste mixed	No
Building timber	\$79.30	Per tonne	Domestic disposal separated	Yes
Concrete	\$79.30	Per tonne	Domestic disposal separated	Yes
Green waste	Free	Per tonne	Domestic disposal separated	No
Mattress	\$48.05	Per mattress	Domestic disposal separated	Yes
Glass	\$79.30	Per tonne	Domestic disposal separated	Yes
Rocks	\$79.30	Per tonne	Domestic disposal separated	Yes
Couch	\$48.05	Per couch	Domestic disposal separated	Yes
Scrap metal	Free	Per tonne	Domestic disposal separated	No
Tyres - whole	\$1,280.50	Per tonne	Tyres	Yes
Tyres - shredded	\$1,280.50	Per tonne	Tyres	Yes
Bicycle	\$8.50	Per tyre	Tyres	Yes
Quadbike	\$19.20	Per tyre	Tyres	Yes
Motorbike	\$23.50	Per tyre	Tyres	Yes
Passenger	\$36.25	Per tyre	Tyres	Yes
4WD/LT	\$40.55	Per tyre	Tyres	Yes
Truck	\$58.65	Per tyre	Tyres	Yes
Tractor	\$69.35	Per tyre	Tyres	Yes
Tyres with rims + applicable tyre charge	\$44.10	Per tyre	Tyres	Yes
Large animal	Free	Per animal	Disposal of animal carcasses	No
Small animal	Free	Per animal	Disposal of animal carcasses	No
Subsequent small animal	Free	Per animal	Disposal of animal carcasses	No
Operator/machinery hire to bury/move/destroy waste at facility	\$282.00	Per hour	Disposal of animal carcasses	Yes
Degassed	Free	Per item	Fridge, freezers and airconditioners	Yes
With gas or no documentation	\$76.90	Per item	Fridge, freezers and airconditioners	Yes

*Proof of degassing is a certificate from a qualified tradesperson.*

Gas bottles/Fire extinguishers	\$64.10	Per item	Fridge, freezers and airconditioners	Yes
Drum muster	Free	Per item	Fridge, freezers and airconditioners	No
Car batteries	Free	Per item	Fridge, freezers and airconditioners	No
E-Waste	Free	Per item	Fridge, freezers and airconditioners	Yes
Clean fill (proof of testing required)	Free	Per tonne	Fridge, freezers and airconditioners	Yes
240L Wheelie Bin and Kerb Collection	\$466.00	Per bin Per annum	Existing services	No
Disposal application	Free	Per application	Asbestos	No
Asbestos Disposal	\$641.00	Per tonne	Asbestos	Yes

*Minimum Charges of 1 tonne per application.*



# KATHERINE CIVIL AIRPORT

**The fee for landing an aircraft at the airport is based on the certified maximum take-off weight of the aircraft. The fee is calculated and charged by AvData. It applies to the entry to or departure from the leased area by the aircraft.**

All fees are for the period of time specified, or part thereof. A day is a period of 24 hours, starting from the time of the aircraft beginning its landing. Additional parking fee for aircraft over 5.7 tonnes is calculated on the entire weight of the aircraft, not just the amount above 5.7 tonnes. Sites for Vending Machines are inclusive of electricity.

Description	2026/2027	Unit	Comments	GST
Aircraft management fees	\$31.80	Per tonne / per event	Landing fee	Yes
Aircraft management fees	\$13.00	Per day	Parking fee – overnight to 7 days	Yes
Aircraft management fees	\$227.70	Per month	Parking fee – longer than 7 days	Yes
Aircraft management fees	\$7.40	Per tonne/ Per day	Additional parking fee – aircraft over 5.7 tonne	Yes
Ground handling fee	\$304.45	Per hour	Monday – Friday, 8am – 4.36pm	Yes
Ground handling fee	\$362.10	Per hour	Weekends, public holidays, out of business hours	Yes
Ground handling fee	\$641.00	Per event	Spillages clean up charge	Yes
Ground handling fee	\$321.15	Per event	Luggage handling	Yes
Ground handling fee	\$128.20	Per event	Passenger aid (e.g. assist disabled, provide transport, crowd control)	Yes
Ground handling fee	\$320.45	Per event	Other as negotiated	Yes
Airport management fees	Invoice	Per event	Cleaning and repairs	Yes
Airport management fees	\$84.50	Per event	Administration of cleaning and repairs	Yes
Tenancy fees	\$12.80	Per m <sup>2</sup> per month	Warehouse space (eg Long Term)	Yes
Tenancy fees	\$256.45	Per month	Terminal building - secure counter/ storage space	Yes
Tenancy fees	\$24.10	Per m <sup>2</sup> per month	Terminal building - office space	Yes
Tenancy fees	\$64.15	per month	Terminal building - use of baggage handling area	Yes
Tenancy fees	\$1.75	Per m <sup>2</sup> per month	Site for private buildings (offices, hangars, fuel depots, storage)	Yes
Tenancy fees	\$102.60	Per month	Site for vending machines	Yes
Tenancy fees	\$12.80	Per m <sup>2</sup> per month	Site for advertising	Yes
Tenancy fees	\$16.55	Per day	Reserved car park	Yes
Tenancy fees	\$132.35	Per month	Reserved car park – monthly	Yes

# ANIMAL MANAGEMENT & REGULATORY SERVICES

**Authorised Officers of Council are responsible for enforcing the Katherine Town Council's By-Laws in the Katherine Municipality. You can find a copy of the By-Laws on Councils website.**

[www.katherine.nt.gov.au](http://www.katherine.nt.gov.au).

**Pound operating hours 8.00am – 4.00pm**

The pound operates by appointment only with a Council Ranger. Dogs will only be impounded or released during pound operating hours.

## Dog registration

In accordance with Council's By-Laws, all dogs must be registered. Council offers both annual and lifetime registrations.

An Early Bird discount fee is applicable to annual registrations received by 31 July every year.

After 31 July, Pro rata registration rates apply exclusively to newly arrived dogs in town and/or puppies.

Concession card holders will receive a further discounted flat rate annually.

Your dog must be both desexed and microchipped to qualify for a lifetime registration. Proof of desexing must be provided unless your dog is already in Council's database as desexed.

Statutory Declarations will not be accepted as a suitable form of evidence.

In all other circumstances the owner is to pay the full amount for the yearly registration fee (i.e., fined for an unregistered dog).

Guide/Service Dogs are exempt from Council's registration requirements.

## Dog registration

The following are acceptable to approve refund:

- proof of dog re-registration at a new location – i.e., outside Katherine Town Council Municipality.
- or formal proof of animal's status (i.e., death certificate).
- Refund is in line with Council's pro-rata guide.
- Lifetime registrations are non-refundable.

## Dog licence (More than 2 dogs)

To keep more than two dogs at premises a special dog licence must be obtained. Contact Customer Service to obtain a dog licence application. Once the application has been completed an appointment will be made. The Ranger will inspect your premises to ensure your property is suitable for more than two (2) dogs. There is a maximum of four (4) dogs in all areas of the municipality (excluding rural, agricultural and water management zone).

## Dogs trial or adoption

Dog/s may be purchased at the registration cost. (unless you take the dog under the provisions of a dog trial). A dog trial will be 14-days, and if the dog trial is successful the dog must be registered.

## Surrender of dogs to the pound

A declaration form and proof of ownership must be signed by the owner(s) and a fee of \$271.50 is levied to assist in covering the cost. Council will only accept dogs of good health and wellbeing, dogs that are whelping or pregnant will not be accepted. No dog shall be housed for more than four working days. Concluding this period, if the dog is not rehoused, the dog shall be euthanised.

## Use of the pound by approved animal welfare organisations

All costs and services, including vet care when required, i.e., euthanasia will be covered by the organisation. Any loss or injury to any dog will be covered by the organisation, the dog shall not be kept for more than eight (8) working days. Council will only accept dogs of good health and wellbeing, dogs that are whelping or pregnant will not be accepted.

## Pound / Impound fees

Release of an animal is conditional upon payment of the impound fees, registration and any other outstanding infringements; and further expenses will be passed on to the animal's owner.

Description	2026/2027	Unit	Comments	GST
Dog registration 1 Aug - 31 Dec	\$76.55	Per dog	Non-desexed	No
Dog registration 1 Aug - 31 Dec	\$37.25	Per dog	Desexed	No
Dog registration 1 Aug - 31 Dec	\$38.25	Per dog	Non-desexed Concession holder	No
Dog registration 1 Aug - 31 Dec	\$17.10	Per dog	Desexed Concession holder	No

Description	2026/2027	Unit	Comments	GST
Pro-Rata 1 Jan - 30 Jun	\$37.95	Per dog	Non-desexed	No
Pro-Rata 1 Jan - 30 Jun	\$18.50	Per dog	Desexed	No
Pro-Rata 1 Jan - 30 Jun	\$18.95	Per dog	Non-desexed Concession holder	No
Pro-Rata 1 Jan - 30 Jun	\$8.45	Per dog	Desexed Concession holder	No
Early bird fee Month of July	\$62.00	Per dog	Non-desexed	No
Early bird fee Month of July	\$20.65	Per dog	Desexed	No
Early bird fee Month of July	\$145.60	Per dog	Lifetime (only desexed and microchipped)	No
Lifetime registration	\$166.25	Per dog	Standard	No
Lifetime registration	\$84.45	Per dog	Concession holder	No
Dog licence (over 2 dogs)	\$129.75	Per year	Annual fee	No
Pro-Rata dog licence fee	\$118.90	Part thereof	August	No
Pro-Rata dog licence fee	\$108.05	Part thereof	September	No
Pro-Rata dog licence fee	\$97.30	Part thereof	October	No
Pro-Rata dog licence fee	\$86.45	Part thereof	November	No
Pro-Rata dog licence fee	\$78.50	Part thereof	December to June	No
Surrender of dog to pound	\$262.85	Per dog	Surrender Fee	No
Impound fees - unregistered	\$233.70	Per impound	First 24 hours	No
Impound fees - unregistered	\$24.90	Per day	Additional day	No
Impound fees - registered	\$139.05	Per impound	First 24 hours	No
Impound fees - registered	\$24.90	Per day	Additional day	No
Out of hours animal collection	\$271.50	Per collection	Collection of animal	Yes

### Hire dog and cat traps

Dogs and cats that are caught in Council traps will only be collected between normal pound operating hours. It is the hirers' responsibility to collect and return the traps to the Civic Centre. If Council staff are required to collect a dog or cat outside normal pound times, additional fees apply.

Traps are available for two (2) weeks only. You will be required to pay a deposit of **\$145.00** for a cat trap and **\$230.00** for a dog trap, and an additional fee of **\$46.50** will apply for late returns. Where deemed necessary, the Chief Executive Officer or Delegate will authorise the set of dog/cat traps on private land with permission from the landowner.

### Citronella barking collars

Barking Collars are available for two (2) weeks only, you will be required to pay a deposit of **\$120.00** per collar. An additional fee will apply for late returns.

Description	2026/2027	Unit	Comments	GST
Citronella barking collars	Free	Per collar/ fortnight	Barking collar hire	No
Citronella barking collars	\$124.00	Per collar	Refundable deposit	No
Citronella barking collars	\$23.50	Per canister	Citronella canister	Yes
Citronella barking collars	\$24.95	Per day	Late fee	No

### Shopping trolley - Release fee

Shopping Trolley cannot be left in a public place other than in an area that is set aside for the storage of shopping trolley (trolley storage/ parking bay).

Shopping trolleys that have been abandoned in public places will impounded and a release fee will be payable **\$139.45** per trolley.

### Impounding of vehicles

Description	2026/2027	Unit	Comments	GST
Impound vehicles fees	At cost	Per occasion	Towage Fees	No
Impound vehicles fees	\$47.60	Per week	Storage Fees	No
Impound vehicles fees	\$92.65	Per occasion	Administration Fees	No
Impound vehicles fees	\$142.00	Per advert	Advertisement costs	No
Impound vehicles fees	\$238.30	Per occasion	Inspector's costs	No
Impound vehicles fees	\$21.20	Per occasion	Council vehicle use	No
Sale of impounded vehicles	\$92.65	Per occasion	Administration Fees	No
Sale of impounded vehicles	\$142.00	Per advert	Advertisement costs	No
Sale of impounded vehicles	\$238.30	Per occasion	Inspector's costs	No
Sale of impounded vehicles	\$21.20	Per occasion	Council vehicle use	No

### Vacant land

Council will issue a notice to comply for those allotments that are deemed unkempt land. Unkempt land is where land is overgrown with plants, grass or weeds, land that imposes a risk and litter (including unsightly car bodies, machinery, or other chattels). Notice will be served for a period not less than two (2) days and no more than 21- days after the date of notice which the work will be required to be executed. If failing to do so, Council will execute the works and where the Council is unable to ascertain the identity of the occupier, the landowner will be charged the cost of the necessary work plus any other fees associated (such as an administration fee).

Description	2026/2027	Unit	Comments	GST
Vacant land	At Cost plus administrative fee	Per occasion	Maintenance of land (mowing, rubbish removal etc.)	Yes
Vacant land	\$92.65	Per occasion	Administrative fee	Yes



\*GST inclusive unless otherwise stated or exempt from GST per ATO Division 81

# PERMITS

## Display goods in a public place / handbill permit

Applications are valid for a 12-month period and permit fee apply upon application. Permits are subject to the following conditions:

- Completed application.
- No objections are received from or on behalf of fixed businesses selling similar goods/merchandises.
- The vendor must ensure the surrounding area is kept free of litter.
- The vendor must have a current public liability insurance cover to indemnify the Council of any liability which may arise from exercising the permit. Cover minimum must be \$10,000,000.00.
- Sites will be approved by Council's CEO.

## Mobile & fixed food vendors

Applications for a mobile food vendor vary from three (3) months to an annual permit, and permit fees apply upon application. Applications for a fixed food vendor are valid for 12-months and permit fees apply.

Council has a mobile food van policy and assessment criteria that stipulates the process and vendor requirements to exercise the permit.

Permits will be subject to the following conditions:

- Completed application.
- Advertising the intent to operate.
- No objections are received from or on behalf of fixed businesses selling similar goods/merchandises.
- The vendor must ensure the surrounding area is kept free of litter.
- The vendor must hold current legislative requirements and licences.
- The vendor must hold a current public liability insurance cover to indemnify the Council of any liability which may arise from exercising the permit. Cover minimum must be \$10,000,000.00.

- \$10,000,000.00.
- Location and timeframes will be approved by Council's CEO.

## Busking

Permit fees are payable upon application and valid for 1 calendar month.

Permits are subject to the following conditions:

- Permits are only valid between 10.00am – 6.00pm daily or as otherwise determined by Council.
- Permits are valid for maximum four (4) sessions per permit.
- The permit holder cannot transfer a permit.
- The permit holder must avoid behaviour which may cause annoyance to the general public.
- Periods of activity are not to be longer than one (1) hour at any one place.
- Permits will only apply per person.
- Amplification is not permitted unless approved by Council.
- The permit holder must hold a current public liability insurance cover to indemnify the Council of any liability which may arise from exercising the permit. Cover minimum must be \$10,000,000.00.
- Permits must be readily accessible is asked to display.
- Failure to comply with any of these conditions may cause the permit to be revoked.

## Sidewalk cafes

Permit fee payable upon application and are valid for 12-month period. Permits are subject to the following conditions:

- Maximum 4 chairs per table
- Ensure that the area is not causing an obstruction.
- Ensure the area and surrounds are litter free.
- Holds a current public liability insurance cover to indemnify the Council of any liability which may arise from exercising the permit. Cover minimum must be \$10,000,000.00.

Description	2026/2027	Unit	Comments	GST
Vendors	\$192.00	Per month	Display goods in public place / handbill permit - Commercial	No
Vendors	\$19.85	Per month	Display goods in public place / handbill permit - Non-Commercial	No
Vendors	\$2,304.05	Per annum	Display goods in public place / handbill permit - Commercial	No
Vendors	\$238.30	Per annum	Display goods in public place / handbill permit - Non-Commercial	No
Vendors	\$617.20	Per 3 months	Mobile food vendors	No
Vendors	\$2,468.70	Per annum	Mobile food vendors	No
Vendors	\$529.20	Per month	Fixed food vendors	No
Vendors	\$6,355.95	Per annum	Fixed food vendors	No
Vendors	\$192.00	Per annum	Sidewalk cafes – per table and four chairs	No
Vendors	\$38.45	Per month	Busking	No
Vendors	Free	Per month	Photography/filming permit	No

# SIGNS

Signs can be erected displaying and advertising business in numerous approved locations in the Katherine Town Council municipality including Cluster Signs, Information Bay Signs and Freestanding Signs. Applications and approvals need to be completed before the erection of signs. Please contact Council to obtain information regarding the Sign Code and application process.

Description	2026/2027	Unit	Comments	GST
Signs - Cluster and information bays	\$91.70	Per annums	Annual fee	No
Pro Rata	\$84.00	Per annum or part thereof	August	No
Pro Rata	\$76.30	Per annum or part thereof	September	No
Pro Rata	\$68.75	Per annum or part thereof	October	No
Pro Rata	\$61.20	Per annum or part thereof	November	No
Pro Rata	\$53.55	Per annum or part thereof	December to June	No

## Banners

All banner posts and message boards are reserved exclusively for Not-For-Profit community groups and community service announcements i.e., Police, Fire etc.

Due to safety and access issues, all banners will be erected and dismantled by a suitable qualified Council staff member.

Application fee for the North, South, and West posts is **\$46.85**, this includes the erecting and dismantling of the banners. Please ensure you detail the banner schedule. The banner schedule cannot consist of more than five (5) instances or be longer than an eight (8)-month period. If your schedule is outside of these parameters, you will need to submit another application.

Main street flags attract a **\$6.45** per banner fee and **\$160.20** for erection and removal of the banners.

Once the banners have been dismantled the applicant has seven (7) days to collect the banner/s from the Civic Centre.

## Work in a Road Reserve Permit

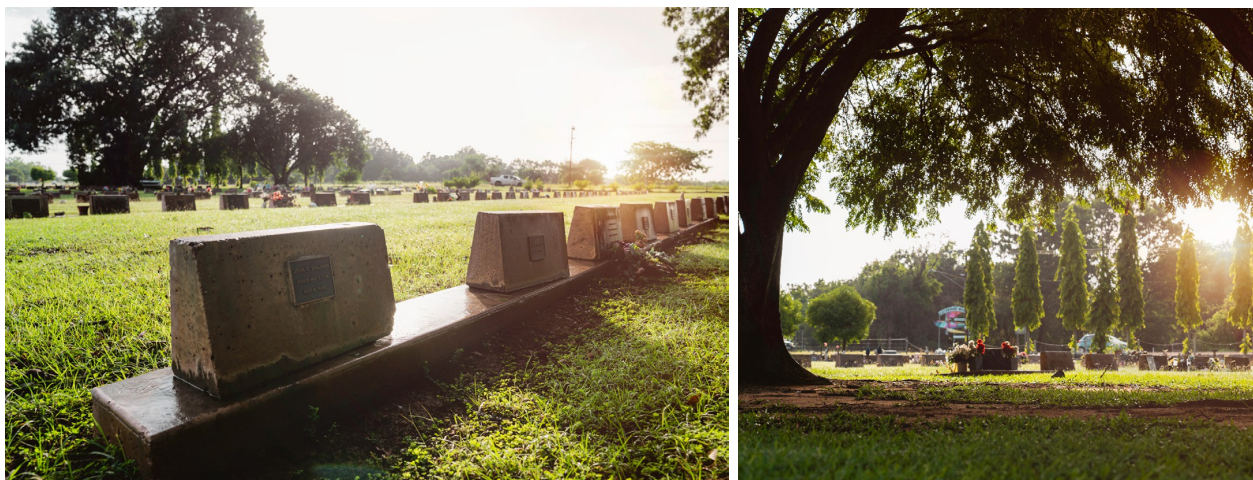
Before the commencement of works relating to driveways, kerbing, roadways, footpaths and thoroughfares on council owned property, (including verges), a road opening/closing permit must be applied for. Plans must also be submitted along with your completed application. More information is available on Council's website.

Description	2026/2027	Unit	Comments	GST
Work in a Road Reserve Permit	\$139.00	Per application	Application fee	No



\*GST inclusive unless otherwise stated or exempt from GST per ATO Division 81

# CEMETERY



The cemetery has toilet facilities, a rotunda as a shady retreat for families and visitors and a mobile shade structure that can be used for funerals. However, the shade structure will be the responsibility of the funeral director.

## Graves and plaques

Council assumed control of the Katherine Cemetery on the first day of July 1978 and acknowledges that precise identification of some specific grave sites prior to this date has proved difficult. In these cases, Council will supply a plaque measuring 203mm x 76mm of bronze that will be mounted in the rotunda at the cemetery.

Vacant grave sites will not be allocated until a minimum of 12-months after the use of the neighbouring site. Graves will be dug to a minimum depth of 2.1 metres to accommodate a double grave. The grave will be backfilled with the original excavated material and when the grave begins to settle the site will be re-topped with soil as required. Grass seed will be sown, and Council will supply each grave site with a single head stone measuring at the base 600mm x 200mm and at the top 100m x 600m and 300m high. Relatives may purchase headstones of marble or similar material. However, headstones must remain the same dimensions.

Council will supply each grave site with a bronze plaque measuring 137mm x 102mm, relatives may order larger plaques at their own cost. Plaques will be installed as soon as possible after the burial.

## Cremated remains

Council will provide a specific area at the cemetery in which cremated remains may be interred, either permanently or temporarily. A plaque, measuring 229mm x 229mm will be provided for these internments. A request to remove cremated remains must be in writing to the Chief Executive Officer and must be in the form as required by Council.

## Flower and ornament guidelines

Katherine Town Council is committed to maintaining Katherine Memorial Cemetery's tidy presentation. We understand that people want to decorate a grave or memorial for sentimental or religious reasons. To ensure this is done in a safe and tidy way please ask Council for a copy of the Flower and Ornament Guidelines. The erection of fencing or private decorative gardens are prohibited.

## Cemetery fees

Cemetery fees will be reviewed annually and will be set on a cost recovery basis. Where relatives, at their own cost provide alternative headstones and plaques, burial fees will be adjusted accordingly.

Description	2026/2027	Unit	Comments	GST
Burial Charges	\$3,226.35	Per burial	Adult	Yes
Burial Charges	\$3,531.20	Weekend/ public holiday per burial	Adult	Yes
Burial Charges	\$2,422.70	Per burial	Child	Yes
Burial Charges	\$2,727.50	Weekend/ public holiday per burial	Child	Yes
Burial of ashes	\$660.90	Per burial	Ashes	Yes
Exclusive right to burial	\$117.05	Per gravesite	Exclusive right	No
Undertakers fee	\$1,654.85	Per annum	Annual license	No
Information	Free	Per enquiry	Research service	No

# KATHERINE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Description	2026/2027	Unit	Comments	GST
Strategic plan, municipal plan, annual report, agendas, minutes and policies.	Free	Document	Electronic copy	Yes
Strategic plan, municipal plan, annual report, agendas, minutes and policies.	\$20.50	Document	Hard copy (black and white)	Yes

By-laws	Free	Document	Electronic copy	Yes
By-laws	\$20.50	Document	Hard copy (black and white)	Yes

Binding	\$8.15	Small per document	Up to 50 pages	Yes
Binding	\$14.90	Large per document	Over to 50 pages	Yes

Laminating	\$3.30	Per page	A4 pages	Yes
Laminating	\$7.15	Per page	A4 pages	Yes

Photocopying	\$0.50	Per side	A4 black	Yes
Photocopying	\$0.60	Per side	A3 black	Yes
Photocopying	\$0.60	Per side	A4 Colour	Yes
Photocopying	\$2.40	Per side	A3 Colour	Yes

Facsimile	\$2.55	Per document	Outgoing	Yes
Facsimile	Free	Per document	Incoming	Yes

Scanning	\$2.55	Per document	Colour	Yes
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Description	2026/2027	Unit	Comments	GST
Library Fees	\$63.95	Per borrower	Temporary borrowers – deposit (max 4 books)	No
Library Fees	Free	Pet item	Inter library loans	Yes
Library Fees	Cost of replacing plus, a 10% admin fee up to max \$25.85	Per item	Lost/damage items – inter library loan	Yes
Library Fees	Cost of replacing plus, a 10% admin fee up to max \$25.85	Per item	Lost/damage/overdue items – local item	Yes
Admin Fee – Inter Library loan	10% admin fee up to max \$25.85	Per item	Admin Fee – Inter Library loan	No

Description	2026/2027	Unit	Comments	GST
Computer and internet use	Free	Per session	Access for members	No
Computer and internet use	Free	Free for first hour	Access for non-members	No
Computer and internet use	1 hour free	24-hour period	Wi-fi access	No



\*GST inclusive unless otherwise stated or exempt from GST per ATO Division 81

# APPENDIX ONE

## Civic Centre and miscellaneous:

- Civic Centre – Committee Room
- Katherine Public Library - Training Room
- Visitor Information Centre – Training Room
- Lindsay Street Complex
- Town Square – Projector, Misters, Sound and Lighting.

## Showgrounds:

- Ablutions (Disabled)
- Ablutions (Near Old Secretaries Office)
- Ablutions (Camping Area - Demountable)
- Ablutions (Rodeo Arena)
- Ablutions (Norforce)
- Ablutions (Rotary)
- Ablutions (Stables)
- Agricultural Pavilion
- Buntine Pavilion
- Campgrounds
- Commerce Pavilion
- Cooking Pavilion
- Equestrian Storage Shed
- Grandstand (Kiosk 1)
- Grandstand (Kiosk 2)
- Grandstand (Changerooms)
- Needlework Pavilion
- Nitmiluk Oval
- Parks and Wildlife Timber Pavilion
- Polocrosse Field
- Poultry Pavilion
- Racecourse
- Rodeo Arena
- Rodeo Secretaries Office
- Rotary Pavilion
- Dog Arena

## Sportsgrounds:

- Oval No 1
- Oval No 2
- Oval No 3 (Baseball Field)
- Oval No 4 (Cricket Oval)
- Katherine and Big Rivers Community, Sports, and Recreation Venue
- Ablutions (BMX Track)
- Ablutions (Near Stuart Hwy)
- Ablutions (Near Netball Courts)
- Ablutions (Softball Oval)
- Baseball Kiosk
- Baseball Shed
- BMX Facility
- Cricket Storage Shed (Near Oval No 4)
- Netball Kiosk
- Skate Park
- Storage Facility (Near Play Park) (No 1)
- Storage Facility (Near end of Oval No 1) (No 2)

## Parks and reserves:

- Acacia Park
- Casuarina Park
- Dakota Park
- De Julia Park
- Fordham Park
- Forscutt Park
- Fuller Park
- Giles Park
- Glencoe Park
- Grevillea Park
- Hot Springs Reserve ablutions available
- Jukes Park
- Knott's Crossing
- Lockheed Park
- Maluka Park
- Morris Park
- O'Shea Park
- Prior Park
- Richard Milner Park
- Ronan Park
- Roney Park
- Rundle Park
- Ryan Park ablutions available
- Styles Park
- Wallace Park
- Walter Young Park



