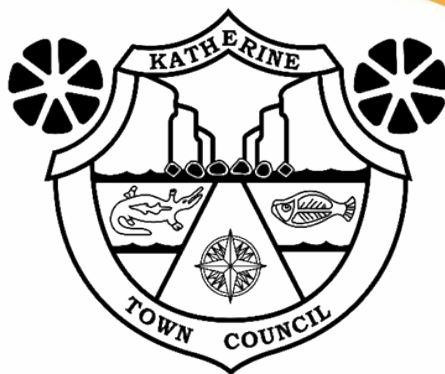




AGENDA

Ordinary Meeting of Council
To be held on Tuesday 27 October 2026
At 6:00 pm

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

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

ELECTED MEMBERS

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

OFFICERS

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

VISION:

Katherine is a place of opportunities. We celebrate diversity as we live, work, learn and grow together.

MISSION:

Together, we will work effectively today to shape our exceptional future tomorrows.

VALUES:

- 1. Accepting of diversity**
- 2. Sense of community**
- 3. Respect for people, environment, and culture.**

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1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

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

2 OPENING PRAYER

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

3 OPENING OF THE MEETING

4 ATTENDANCE

4.1 PRESENT

4.2 APOLOGIES

4.3 LEAVE OF ABSENCE

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

5 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Members Disclosure Conflict of Interest

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

6 PRESENTATIONS FROM EXTERNAL AGENCIES

6.1 LGANT PRESENTATION - LGANT MEMBER BENEFITS AND SERVICES

Organisation: Local Government Association of the Northern Territory (LGANT)
Presenter: LGANT President and CEO
Report Type: Presentations
Attachments: Nil

Strategic Plan

1. STRONG LEADERSHIP - 1.2 Partner in progress - Provide strategic leadership on economic development issues to promote Katherine's reputation and improve business confidence.

1.2.1 Foster strong relationships with Territory and federal governments to ensure coordination and support for economic development initiatives affecting Katherine at the local level and in the Big Rivers Region.

1.2.2 Act as a connector on key issues affecting the community as a member in key reference groups.

1.2.3 Act as a connector for businesses to foster collaboration and partnership opportunities.

Municipal Plan

1.2.2.1 Act as a connector on issues affecting the community through active involvement in relevant groups and committees

7 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

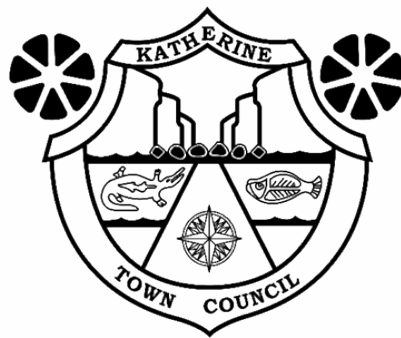
7.1 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL 22 SEPTEMBER 2026

Report Type: Previous Minutes

Attachments: 1. Unconfirmed Minutes - Ordinary Meeting of Council - 22 September 2026 [**7.1.1** - 18 pages]

Recommendation

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



MINUTES

**Ordinary Meeting of Council
Held on Tuesday 22 September 2026**

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



KATHERINE
TOWN COUNCIL

1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

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

2 OPENING PRAYER

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

3 OPENING OF THE MEETING

Mayor Holden declared the Ordinary Meeting of Council - 22 September 2026 open at 6:00 pm.

4 ATTENDANCE

4.1 PRESENT

ELECTED MEMBERS

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

OFFICERS

- Casey Anderson – Acting Chief Executive Officer
- Yeshika Kandanaarachchi – Governance Officer - Minute Taker
- Rebecca Baguley - Chief Financial Officer - Via Video Conferencing
- Matt Arnott - Manager Projects Portfolio
- Brett Kimpton – Manager Environment and Municipal
- Shena Damayanti - Executive Assistant

PUBLIC - 7

4.2 APOLOGIES

Nil

4.3 LEAVE OF ABSENCE

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2026-221

Moved: Councillor King; **Seconded:** Councillor Tapp Coutts

1. That Council note the leave of absence form received from Councillor Glass from 12 October to 16 October, from 5 November to 9 November, from 9 November to 17 November, and from 23 November to 30 November 2026.



-
2. That Council note the leave of absence form received from Councillor Palmer from 20 October to 29 October 2026.
 3. Council note the Mayor Holden is on leave of absence from 30 September to 9 October, from 28 October to 20 November 2026, and approve the Deputy Mayor to serve as Mayor in the Mayor's Absence for those periods.

CARRIED 7|0

5 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

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

Nil conflicts declared.

6 PRESENTATIONS FROM EXTERNAL AGENCIES

Nil



7 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

7.1 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL 25 AUGUST 2026

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2026-222

Moved: Deputy Mayor Doyle; **Seconded:** Councillor Whitehouse

That Council confirm the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 25 August 2026 as a true and accurate record.

CARRIED 7|0



7.2 MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL 8 SEPTEMBER 2026

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

That Council confirm the minutes of the Special Meeting of Council held on 8 September 2026 as a true and accurate record.

AMENDMENT RESOLUTION OMC-2026-223

Moved: Councillor Tapp Coutts; **Seconded:** Councillor Whitehouse

That Council confirm the minutes of the Special Meeting of Council held on 8 September 2026 as a true and accurate record subject to the amendment of the apologies 4.2 to include Councillor Glass.

CARRIED 7|0

UNCONFIRMED



8 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

8.1 ACTION UPDATE SEPTEMBER 2026

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2026-224

Moved: Councillor King; **Seconded:** Councillor Tapp Coutts

That Council receive and note the Action update.

CARRIED 7|0

Discussion

Clarification was sought regarding the use of word "us" on page 27 of 145, under action item 14.5 - Petition - Eloise Simudvara - Community Information Session Territory Energy Link, was clarified that "us" refers to Territory Energy Link.

It was noted that Council had previously resolved to advocate for Katherine Hospital as opportunities arose and that this advocacy was being undertaken. It was agreed that the Katherine Hospital and Territory Energy Link action items be removed from the outstanding action items list.

Council noted that the report on Waste Management Operating hours will be presented at the next council meeting, and action item 6.3 - Youth Offender Activities Report on page 28 is to be updated to reflect the work undertaken to date, with the updated information to be provided at the next meeting.



KATHERINE
TOWN COUNCIL

9 MAYORAL BUSINESS

9.1 MAYOR ACTIVITIES JULY & AUGUST 2026

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2026-225

Moved: Deputy Mayor Doyle; **Seconded:** Councillor Glass

1. That Council receive and note the amended Mayoral activities for July 2026.
2. That Council receive and note the Mayoral activities for August 2026.

CARRIED 7|0

9.2 COUNCILLOR GOALS FIRST 6 TO 12 MONTHS UPDATE

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2026-226

Moved: Councillor Tapp Coutts; **Seconded:** Councillor King

That Council receive and note the Councillor First 6 to 12 Months Goals update.

CARRIED 7|0

Discussion

It was discussed that the majority of the Councillor goals have either been completed or are being addressed through other Council reporting mechanisms. It was suggested that this report be removed from future agendas, with future priorities to be considered as part of the 12-month review.

Discussion was also held regarding roundabout beautification and maintenance. It was clarified that budget for roundabout beautification is included within the Municipal Plan and that progress will be captured through regular Municipal Plan reporting to ensure the matter is not lost.

10 CORRESPONDENCE AND DOCUMENTS

10.1 CORRESPONDENCE OUTGOING

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2026-227

Moved: Councillor Glass; **Seconded:** Deputy Mayor Doyle

That Council receive and note the Outgoing Correspondence:

- Attachments:
1. Media Release - KTC - Freedom of Entry - 24 August 2026 [**10.1.1** - 2 pages]
 2. A4 Poster - Media Release - KTC - Freedom of Entry - 24 August 2026 [**10.1.2** - 1 page]
 3. Media Release - KTC - Katherine Sportground Masterplan - Community Consultation - 01 September 2026 [**10.1.3** - 1 page]
 4. Image 1 - Media Release - KTC - Katherine Sportground Masterplan - Community Consultation - 01 September 2026 [**10.1.4** - 1 page]
 5. Image 2 - Media Release - KTC - Katherine Sportground Masterplan - Community Consultation - 01 September 2026 [**10.1.5** - 1 page]
 6. Image 3 - Media Release - KTC - Katherine Sportground Masterplan - Community Consultation - 01 September 2026 [**10.1.6** - 1 page]
 7. Media Release - KTC - Community Safety Action Group Appointed - 3 September 2026 [**10.1.7** - 1 page]

CARRIED 7|0



10.2 CORRESPONDENCE INCOMING

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2026-228

Moved: Councillor King; **Seconded:** Councillor Glass

That Council receive and note the Incoming Correspondence:

Attachments: 1. Letter - Mary Watson - Local Government Representation Review Now Open - KTC - 23 July 2026 - ID 262824 [10.2.1 - 2 pages]

CARRIED 7|0

Discussion

Council considered the timing of incoming correspondence and its inclusion in Council agendas. It was suggested that incoming correspondence be date-stamped or otherwise recorded with the actual date of receipt to provide transparency and clarity regarding when it was received by Council.

It was clarified that the correspondence relating to the review was received via email and had previously been circulated to the elected members. It was also noted that Council has not made a submission to date, and no feedback had been received from elected members following circulation of the correspondence. Relevant information and supporting materials are available through the links provided in the correspondence, and the review committee will provide a presentation to elected members with a suitable date and time currently being arranged.

11 PETITIONS

Nil

12 NOTICE OF MOTION

Nil

13 REPORTS OF OFFICERS

13.1 DISCONTINUATION OF PARTICULATES MONITORING IN KATHERINE

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2026-229

Moved: Deputy Mayor Doyle; **Seconded:** Councillor Whitehouse

That Council authorises the Chief Executive Officer to formally engage with the NT EPA to undertake the required review and seek approval to cease operation of the Katherine Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Station.

CARRIED 7|0

Discussion

Discussion took place regarding the ongoing monitoring requirements following the tyre fire and Council's obligations under the relevant agreement. It was noted that Council had undertaken monitoring for several



years and had exceeded its obligations under the agreement.

Clarification was sought as to whether monitoring was still required and whether an alternative monitoring arrangement should be considered if there was an ongoing need. It was noted that the monitoring equipment was old, had experienced equipment faults and power outages, and required staff attendance for troubleshooting and resetting.

It was confirmed that the monitoring was originally undertaken as a regulatory requirement following the tyre fire and that Council had fulfilled and exceeded its obligations. It was suggested to consider that alternative arrangements should monitoring be required in the future.

Clarification was also sought regarding references to the Chief Executive Officer position in Council reports while the position is being filled in an acting capacity. It was confirmed that delegations and authorisations are attached to the position of Chief Executive Officer, and the person appointed to act in the position exercises those delegations and authorisations.

13.2 DISPOSAL AND WRITE OFFS OF VARIOUS COUNCILS ASSETS

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2026-230

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

That Council:

1. That Council approves and authorises the disposal of 55 assets as detailed in Table 1. Assets to be Disposed, ensuring all disposal actions comply with Ministerial Guideline 4: Assets and Katherine Town Council's Asset Management Policy.
2. That Council directs that all write-offs and disposals be recorded in the Council's asset register to maintain compliance with legislative requirements and audit standards.

CARRIED 7|0

Discussion

Clarification was sought regarding whether information on asset valuations, reserve prices and condition assessments would be available prior to the auction. It was advised that assessments and book values had been undertaken and relevant information would be made available through the tender and bidding process.

It was confirmed that the disposal would be conducted through a public auction, facilitated by a local auction provider, with the auction to be conducted online.

Clarification was also sought regarding the auction provider's commission. It was advised that this information may be commercial-in-confidence and would not be discussed in the public meeting. It was further informed that the appropriate procurement process had been undertaken in engaging the auction provider.

13.3 LGANT BOARD DIRECTOR NOMINATION

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

That Council



KATHERINE
TOWN COUNCIL

1. Note the resignation of the Mayor Joanna Holden from the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory (LGANT) Board Director Position.
2. Nominates [Name of Elected Member] as Katherine Town Council's representative for the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory (LGANT) Board Director election.

Discussion

Clarification was sought regarding the role and benefits of director on the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory, it was noted that representation provides Council with an opportunity to participate in discussions on local government matters across the Northern Territory, provide a voice for municipal Councils, and remain informed of potential opportunities and relevant matters affecting the sector.

A matter was raised regarding a member of the public filming the meeting using a mobile phone. It was clarified that such recording was not permitted. It was further noted that Council's recording of the meeting is undertaken only for the minute taking purposes and then destroyed. As the public recording was not being undertaken for the same purpose, filming was not permitted.

The discussion then moved again to nominate a representative from the Council to the director position for the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory. Deputy Mayor Doyle and Councillor Palmer were nominated for the positions. As two nominations had been received, a ballot was proposed to determine Council's representative. Councillor Palmer subsequently withdrew her nomination and expressed support for the Deputy Mayor to take up the position.

AMENDMENT RESOLUTION OMC-2026-231

Moved: Councillor Tapp Coutts; **Seconded:** Councillor Whitehouse

That Council

1. Note the resignation of the Mayor Joanna Holden from the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory (LGANT) Board Director Position.
2. Nominate Deputy Mayor Mel Doyle as Katherine Town Council's representative for the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory (LGANT) Board Director election.

CARRIED 7|0

13.4 FINANCIAL REPORT AS AT 31 AUGUST 2026

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

That Council endorses the financial report for the month of 31 August 2026.

Discussion

Clarification was sought regarding several figures contained within the Financial report. Discrepancies were identified between figure presented in the summary, balance sheet and supporting tables. It was clarified that some of the discrepancies were due to a syncing issue within the reporting system, where updated figures had not flowed through consistently across all sections and tables of the report. The identified figures were reviewed during the discussion, and it was agreed that the relevant changes could be recorded in the minutes.



A query was raised regarding the monthly balance sheet and the reporting of year-to-date actuals, noting that comparative information from previous reporting periods was not included. It was suggested that comparative figures would provide greater context and assist Council in assessing financial performance. It was clarified that the prior year financial statements had not yet been finalised and, therefore, final comparative figures were not currently available. These would be available following completion and approval of the audited financial statements. It was also noted that the current reporting template is statutory. The possibility of providing additional comparative information in future financial reports was raised, with further discussion to occur regarding its inclusion.

Clarification was also sought regarding the level of outstanding rated debtors and whether this was associated with delays in the distribution of rates notices. It was explained that the reported amount represented the full rates levied for the 2026/27 financial year and would reduce as ratepayers made their quarterly installments. As Council was only two months into the financial year and rates notices had been issued at the end of July, the higher outstanding balance was considered reflective of the timing of the reporting period.

It was requested that the balance sheet be discussed further in future, and this was noted.

AMENDMENT RESOLUTION OMC-2026-232

Moved: Deputy Mayor Doyle; **Seconded:** Councillor Whitehouse

That Council endorses the financial report for the month of 31 August 2026 subject to the following changes.

1. Page 68 summary, Untied Funds at August \$11,258,283 to be corrected to the amount shown on page 79 on the balance sheet, \$11,528,283.
2. Page 74 Table 2.1, YTD Actual \$ Improvements and Total Capital Expenditure of \$114,430 to be corrected to the amount on page 68 in the summary of Capital Expenditure, \$148,035.
3. On page 68, 71 and 72, the Operating Position surplus reported as \$9,880,279 to be corrected to \$9,935,575 .
4. On page 81, Tables Council's Debtor Summary and Statement on Trade Creditors, totals do not reconcile the reported amounts, tables to be amended accordingly.

CARRIED 7|0

13.5 COMMUNITY RELATIONS QUARTERLY REPORT AS AT 31 AUGUST 2026

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2026-233

Moved: Councillor King; **Seconded:** Councillor Glass

That Council receive and note the Community Relations Department Quarterly Report for the period 1 June 2026 to 31 August 2026.

CARRIED 7|0

Discussion

Council congratulated and acknowledged the Visitor Information Centre team on their performance. A query was raised regarding Visitor Information Centre sales, and it was confirmed that the reported sales figures represented wholesale amounts. It was advised that the Council would have the opportunity to review the Library Forward Plan before any programs for young children were reduced and redirected.



KATHERINE
TOWN COUNCIL

13.6 STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS AND EVENTS QUARTERLY REPORT AS AT 31 AUGUST 2026

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2026-234

Moved: Deputy Mayor Doyle; **Seconded:** Councillor Glass

That Council receives and notes the Strategic Communications report for June – August 2026.

CARRIED 7|0

Discussion

A request was made for the tables in the report to be enlarged to improve readability.

Discussion was held regarding opportunities to obtain broader feedback from the community, including from first nations residents, young people, seniors and community members who may not use online platforms. It was noted that the upcoming Service Level Delivery Assessment review and review of strategic plan would provide further opportunities for community engagement.

Accessibility concerns at community events, particularly for people using wheelchairs or with mobility issues, were also raised. It was advised that this feedback be provided to Council's event team for consideration in planning future events.

14 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

14.1 MINUTES FROM COMMITTEES

Nil

15 ELECTED MEMBER ACTIVITIES

15.1 ELECTED MEMBER ACTIVITIES AUGUST 2026

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2026-235

Moved: Councillor Tapp Coutts; **Seconded:** Deputy Mayor Doyle

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

CARRIED 7|0

16 LATE AGENDA

17 GENERAL BUSINESS

Mayor Holden acknowledged the first anniversary of the current Council, noting that Councillors were sworn in on 23 September 2025. Congratulations and thanks were extended to Councillors and Council staff for their support, teamwork and commitment in addressing the challenges experienced over the past year. Mayor Holden expressed appreciation for the work undertaken and looked forward to the year ahead.

Rebecca Baguley left the meeting at 7:01 pm.

Councillor Glass raised a query regarding access to Council's risk register and was advised that it is regularly considered by the Audit and Risk Management Committee and is available to Elected Members through the portal. It was further advised that any identified risks could be raised with the Chair of the Audit and Risk Management committee for appropriate consideration. It was also confirmed that the correspondence regarding that Binjari funding surplus would be tabled, noting that no further response had been received at this stage.



Councillor Palmer raised a query regarding a motion presented at the July Ordinary Meeting of Council, noting concern that the minutes recorded the motion as defeated. It was confirmed that the motion has been defeated 3 to 4, and that later in the meeting, under a separate agenda item, Council agreed to lay the relevant policy on the table for further consideration, and was noted that the policy had been distributed for feedback and would return to Council.

18 CLOSURE OF MEETING TO PUBLIC

The open meeting was declared closed to the public at 7:07 pm.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2026-236

Moved: Mayor Holden; **Seconded:** Deputy Mayor Doyle

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

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

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

19 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

19.1 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES 25 AUGUST 2026

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the <i>Local Government Act 2019</i> .
Sub-regulation and Reason:	Regulation 51(1)(f) subject to subregulation (2) – information in relation to a complaint of a contravention of the code of conduct.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2026-237

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

2. That Council move item 19.6 Katherine Community Safety Action Group - Appoint Memberships resolution OMC-2026-219 to the open minutes:

Moved: Councillor King; Seconded: Councillor Palmer

That Council approves of the Katherine Community Safety Action Group (CSAG) membership as follows:

1. Freya Bartle – Membership Type: Resident
2. Anne Hesse – Membership Type: Resident
3. Christine Butler – Membership Type: Resident
4. Samantha Phelan - Membership Type: Resident
5. Dennis Hannah - Membership Type: Business Owner
6. Lesley Pitt – Membership Type: First Nation
7. Jennifer Duggan – Membership Type: Senior
8. Natalie Ellis – Membership Type: Youth Representative

CARRIED 7|0

19.2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES CONFIDENTIAL SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL 8 SEPTEMBER 2026



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

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

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

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2026-238

Moved: Councillor Tapp Coutts; **Seconded:** Councillor King

2. That Council release item 8.1 Fair Work Remuneration resolution 1 (a) to the public minutes:

COUNCIL RESOLUTION SMC-2026-22

Moved: Councillor King; Seconded: Councillor Whitehouse

1. That Council:

(a) Endorses the remuneration remediation calculations prepared in response to the Fair Work Commission decision C2025/5542 United Workers' Union v's Katherine Town Council dated 3 November 2025, relating to eligible employees who did not receive the applicable annual pay step increment from 1 July 2022.

CARRIED 7|0

19.3 CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

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

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



KATHERINE
TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES - Ordinary Meeting of Council - 22 September 2026

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

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

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

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

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

19.4 ANTI-DISCRIMINATION COMMISSION

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

19.5 CIVIC CENTRE REFURBISHMENT - UPDATE

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

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2026-241

Moved: Councillor Whitehouse; **Seconded:** Councillor Glass

That the Council elects to:



KATHERINE
TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES - Ordinary Meeting of Council - 22 September 2026

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

CARRIED 7|0

19.6 KATHERINE COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTION GROUP - APPOINT MEMBERSHIPS

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

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2026-242

Moved: Deputy Mayor Doyle; **Seconded:** Councillor Glass

1. That Council approves Antony King's appointment to the Katherine Community Safety Action Group (KCSAG).
2. Release resolution 1 to the public minutes.

CARRIED 7|0

19.7 MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) - DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

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

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

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2026-243

Moved: Councillor King; **Seconded:** Councillor Glass

1. That Council endorses the Memorandum of Understanding for Prisoner Community Service Work between Department of Corrections and Katherine Town Council for a period commencing from the date of execution and;
2. That Council authorises the Chief Executive Officer to execute the Memorandum on behalf of Council and;
3. That Council approve moving the resolutions to the public minutes.

CARRIED 7|0

19.8 PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT - KATHERINE REGIONAL CULTURE PRECINCT LIMITED FOR GYRACC

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the <i>Local Government Act 2019</i> .
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Sub-regulation and Reason:	Regulation 51(1)(d) information subject to an obligation of confidentiality at law, or in equity.
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AMENDMENT RESOLUTION OMC-2026-244

Moved: Deputy Mayor Doyle; **Seconded:** Councillor Whitehouse

1. That Council approve option 2, reduced contribution with three complimentary venue hires for the continuation of the Partnership Agreement between Katherine Town Council and Katherine Regional Cultural Precinct Limited for a period of one (1) year commencing on the 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027.
2. Authorise the Acting Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute the 2026/27 Partnership Agreement with GYRACC in accordance with the existing agreement.
3. Release resolution 1 and 2 into the public minutes.

CARRIED 7|0

20 RESUMPTION OF OPEN MEETING

The open meeting resumed at 8:00 pm.

21 CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

The Ordinary Meeting of Council - 22 September 2026 was declared closed at 8:00 pm.

The next Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held on 27 October 2026.



8 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

8.1 ACTION UPDATE OCTOBER 2026

Report Type: For noting

Attachments: 1. Action Report 19 October 2026 [**8.1.1** - 4 pages]

Officer Recommendation

That Council receive and note the Action update.

Meeting Date	Meeting	Item #	Report name and Action	Status
24-02-2026	Ordinary Meeting of Council - 24 February 2026	14.5	Waste Management Facility - Operational Hours Trial That Council approves a 3-month trial of changing the operating hours at the Katherine Waste Management Facility commencing March 2026. • Monday to Sunday: 8:00am – 4:00pm • Public Holidays: 8:00am – 4:00pm • Closed: Good Friday	In Progress
21 April 2026: Waste Management Hours are to be implemented post flood waste management plan. May 2026: Staff conversations undertaken with trial to commence on next cycle of roster. Trial is due to commence on Monday 25th May 2026 and will conclude on Tuesday 25th August 2026. 15 June 2026: Waste Management trial hours are progressing. To date we have had 3 weekends with extended hours. Community notifications were shared via Facebook posts, and updated trading hours were also displayed on signage at the front of the facility. On average, the number of additional customers attending during the extended hours is as follows: • Friday: 4 customers • Saturday: 5 customers • Sunday: 5 customers • Public Holiday: 5 customers 18 August 2026: Trail to conclude 25 August 2026, Council officers will present a post-trial report to the September OMC for Council's consideration. 15 September 2026: Report to be provided in October OMC after further stakeholder and staff consultation regarding the possibility of extending the trial into 2027.				
23-06-2026	Ordinary Meeting of Council - 23 June 2026	13.2	Council Policies – Action per the following amended resolution 1. That Council approve the policy: a. Policy – Asset Revaluation Reserve – Version 1	In Progress

Meeting Date	Meeting	Item #	Report name and Action	Status
			2. That Council rescind the following policies: a. Policy – Elected Member Professional Development Allowance – Version 2 b. Policy - Other reasonable expenses and non-monetary benefits received by council members – Version 2 c. Policy - Reasonable expenses for travel and accommodation for elected members – Version 3 3. That Council lay on table following policies: a. Policy - Meeting Administration - Version 7 b. Policy - Attendance Meeting via Audio and Audio-Visual Conferencing System - Version 4	
15 July 2026: The approved and rescinded policies have been actioned. The Meeting Administration and Audio-visual policies are being further worked on before tabling at the next ARMC meeting and then the Council meeting. 12 August 2026: The Meeting Administration and Audio-visual policies were tabled at the ARMC 11/08/2026. The policies will be tabled at an EMIS for further council discussion. 01 October 2026: Meeting Administration Policy - Version 7 and the Attendance Meeting via Audio and Audio-Visual Conferencing System -Version 4 distributed to the Elected Members to review and input. Feedback to be incorporated into the policies. Council has requested independent legal, department and ARMC chair review of the polices. Quotes have been requested and a report will be tabled to council to allocate budget once received.				
26-06-2026	Special Meeting of Council – 26 June 2026	6.3	Youth Offender Activities Project – Action per following resolutions 1. That Council approve the Mayor, Joanna Holden, to advocate to Ministers, government agencies, businesses, and other organisations to secure funding for the delivery of a short-	In Progress

Meeting Date	Meeting	Item #	Report name and Action	Status
			term series of activities designed to interrupt the cycle of youth offending in Katherine. 2. That Council approve the Mayor, Joanna Holden, and Acting CEO, Casey Anderson, to facilitate funding for the delivery of these activities through Brother to Another, with a subcontracting arrangement to Jeremy Donovan, Native Artz, subject to satisfactory reference checks.	
19 October 2026: Youth Emergency Response The proposed model aims to establish a Katherine Youth Emergency Response program that interrupts the cycle of youth offending in Katherine. Program activities would provide a structured, culturally grounded night-time alternative to street presence during peak risk periods. The proposed program no longer includes B2A. Kalano Community Association has prepared and submitted a project brief to the funding body and is currently awaiting an invitation to submit a funding application. Further updates on the program's progress and any funding outcomes will be provided as they become available.				
28-07-2026	Ordinary Meeting of Council - 28 July 2026	13.2	Council Policies - That Council lay the Policy - Social Media – Version 4 on table for review following Social Media training by Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development	In Progress
12 August 2026: Social Media training by DHLGCD is confirmed for the 11/09/2025. 11 September 2026: the policy will be tabled at the next EMIS for council discussion. 01 October 2026: Social Media Policy - Version 4 distributed to the Elected Members for review and input. Feedback to be incorporated into the policies. Council has requested independent legal, department and ARMC chair review of the policies. Quotes have been requested and a report will be tabled to council to allocate				

Meeting Date	Meeting	Item #	Report name and Action	Status
budget once received				
22-09-2026	Ordinary Meeting of Council - 22 September 2026	13.1	Discontinuation of Particulates Monitoring in Katherine - That Council authorised the Chief Executive Officer to formally engage with the NT EPA to undertake the required review and seek approval to cease operation of the Katherine Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Station.	In Progress
19 October 2026: Letter has been sent to NTEPA for consideration.				
22-09-2026	Ordinary Meeting of Council - 22 September 2026	13.5	Community Relations Quarterly Report as at 31 August 2026 - Provide Council with the Library Forward Plan for review before any programs for young children are reduced or resources are redirected.	In progress
09 October 2026: Separate report to be presented to council.				

9 MAYORAL BUSINESS

9.1 MAYOR ACTIVITIES SEPTEMBER 2026

Report Type: For noting

Recommendation

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

Purpose of Report

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

Strategic Plan

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

1.1.1 Strengthen our councillor profiles to increase community awareness of who they are.

1. STRONG LEADERSHIP - 1.2 Partner in progress - Provide strategic leadership on economic development issues to promote Katherine's reputation and improve business confidence.

1.2.1 Foster strong relationships with Territory and federal governments to ensure coordination and support for economic development initiatives affecting Katherine at the local level and in the Big Rivers Region.

1.2.2 Act as a connector on key issues affecting the community as a member in key reference groups.

1.2.3 Act as a connector for businesses to foster collaboration and partnership opportunities.

Mayor Joanna Holden	
Date	Activity attended
16 September	Katherine Community Safety Action Working Group - Catch Up
17 September	Local Government Association of Northern Territory - Annual Member Survey - Interview - Katherine
18 September	Citizenship Ceremony
18 September	Elected Members Information Session
21 September	Local Government Disaster Reform Advisory Group
22 September	Binjari Fun Day
22 September	Ordinary Meeting of Council
23 September	Katherine Regional Cultural Precinct Board Meeting
29 September	New Code of Conduct and Social Media Training

10 CORRESPONDENCE AND DOCUMENTS

10.1 CORRESPONDENCE INCOMING

Report Type: For noting

Recommendation

That Council receive and note the Incoming Correspondence:

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



2 SEPTEMBER 2026 LGANT BOARD MEETING COMMUNIQUE

The LGANT Board met for on Wednesday 2 September at the LGANT office and online.

The Board received presentations from LGANT's Director Corporate Services on Local Buy and City of Darwin's Reece Ravlich, LGANT's representative on the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (AWAC), who provided an update on AWAC and current animal welfare issues.

The Board endorsed the end-of financial year financial summary that has been provided in anticipation of audited financials at the next Board meeting. The Board approved the LGANT roadworks program for 2026-2027, and continued their annual review of LGANT policies, approving the second tranche. The Board also provided in principle approval of a new investment policy and endorsed the engagement of an independent facilitator to complete a Board evaluation in early 2027, and the proposed timeline for the CEO's annual review.

In preparation for LGANT's upcoming Annual General Meeting, the Board endorsed briefing papers regarding the proposed amendments to the LGANT Constitution and a new set of Rules of Debate. The Board also approved renewal of the service agreement with WALGA for the member employee relations service.

The LGANT President provided an update on his activities since the last Board meeting including the 30 July 2026 ALGA Board meeting (refer communique at Attachment 1) and meetings with the Chief Minister, the Treasurer, both the Central and Tiwi Land Councils, and the NT Executive Council on Aboriginal Affairs (NTECAA). The President also made visits to Wagait Shire Council and Litchfield Council, as part of LGANT's annual council visit program.

The Board noted the CEOs report including a summary of her meetings, updates on the LGANT member survey and key advocacy activities (including bird flu, emergency waste management, cyber security and road safety) and events (including the Circular Economy Symposium, and preparations for the Procurement Symposium and LGANT November conference).

The Board also noted LGANT's cyber security review update, the forward Board calendar, recent submissions lodged, and incoming and outgoing correspondence.

The Board will next meet on 21 October 2026.

Attachments:

1. 30 July 2026 ALGA Board Meeting Communique

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

Alternatively, you can contact members of the LGANT Board:

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



30 July 2026 ALGA Board Meeting Communique

The ALGA Board met on Thursday 30 July 2026.

The Board considered a focused agenda covering governance, risk, financial oversight and key policy decisions following the 2026 National General Assembly.

A key focus of the meeting was the consideration of the 244 motions debated at the 2026 National General Assembly. The Board discussed recommendations arising from the debate process and considered how these resolutions will inform engagement with the Australian Government over the coming year.

The Board agreed to undertake a governance review and identify improvements to the National General Assembly motions process.

The Board discussed ALGA's Disaster Recovery Funding Framework (DRFF) submission, which is due to the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) by 19 August. The Board supported the ALGA submission and its recommendations being that no council should be worse off by any proposed changes to disaster recovery funding.

**Building Better
Communities.**



Department of LANDS,
PLANNING AND
ENVIRONMENT

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18-20 Cavenagh Street Darwin NT 0800

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File reference
KLM2016/0003-0134

Casey Anderson
Acting Chief Executive Officer
Katherine Town Council
PO BOX 1071
Katherine NT 0851
Via email: records@ktc.nt.gov.au

Dear Ms Anderson,

KATHERINE MEMORIAL LAWN CEMETERY CAPACITY AND FUTURE CEMETERY PLANNING

Thank you for your letter of 29 September 2026 regarding capacity at the Katherine Memorial Lawn Cemetery and Council's request for assistance in considering options for future cemetery expansion and planning.

I acknowledge Council's advice that the existing cemetery is experiencing capacity constraints and that it is seeking to plan for the longer-term burial needs of Katherine and the broader Big Rivers Region.

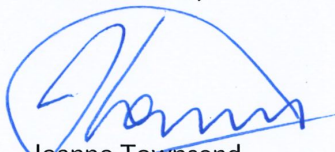
I can confirm that Lot 3004, Town of Katherine is Crown land and has previously been the subject of enquiries regarding its potential use for expansion of the existing cemetery. The Department's records indicate that the site has been considered for this purpose on more than one occasion, including in the early 1990s and again around 2016. Those previous enquiries identified a range of matters requiring consideration in relation to the location of the site, and the proposals did not proceed at those times.

Given Council's current capacity concerns, the Department would be pleased to work with Council and relevant Government agencies and authorities to consider potential options for future cemetery provision.

As part of this work, potential sites would need to be considered against relevant land tenure, planning, native title, environmental, heritage, infrastructure and other regulatory requirements. This process will help inform whether there are suitable options that can be progressed for more detailed consideration.

The Departmental contact for this matter is Allison Hooper, Regional Director Northern Region, who will be available from 20 November 2026 on 8973 8925 or at Allison.hooper@nt.gov.au.

Yours sincerely


Joanne Townsend
Chief Executive Officer

9 October 2026

*Casey,
happy to share
our advice on
lot 3004 in the
interim*



**KATHERINE WEST
HEALTH BOARD**
Aboriginal Corporation



Concept Brief

University Department of Rural Health (UDRH)

A consortium for primary health care workforce development, research, innovation and infrastructure across Central Australia and the Big Rivers Region

Growing our own workforce | Strengthening community-led primary health care | Improving health outcomes for future generations

Summary

This proposal seeks to establish a University Department of Rural Health (UDRH) through a consortium between Charles Darwin University (CDU) and Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services (ACCHSs) across Central Australia and the Big Rivers Region.

The UDRH will strengthen a locally trained, culturally safe, responsive and sustainable primary health care workforce in remote and very remote communities through education, workforce development, research, evaluation and enabling infrastructure. The model will be embedded within ACCHSs and guided by First Nations leadership, community priorities and place-based partnerships.

Core activities will include expanding high-quality rural and remote student placements, strengthening Aboriginal workforce pathways, developing supervision and mentoring capacity, supporting community-led research and evaluation, and investing in student accommodation, teaching, simulation and digital infrastructure. Using Alice Springs and Katherine as regional hubs, the UDRH will support multidisciplinary training and workforce pathways across regional centres, remote communities, homelands and outstations.

The proposal is closely aligned with the Independent Evaluation of the Rural Health Multidisciplinary Training (RHMT) Program, particularly its emphasis on longer and higher-quality placements, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leadership, cultural safety, community engagement, supervision quality, local investment and rural research capacity.

Background and rationale

The Northern Territory has distinctive demographic, health and service delivery challenges requiring tailored workforce and education responses. Remote and very remote communities experience high levels of complex and chronic disease, significant public health challenges and persistent shortages of suitably prepared health professionals. Comprehensive and culturally responsive primary health care is essential in these settings.

ACCHSs play a central role in delivering comprehensive primary health care across the Northern Territory. In very remote communities, this role often extends beyond mainstream primary care to include clinical support for older people, people with disability and people experiencing mental health challenges.

Despite this critical role, services continue to experience workforce shortages, high staff turnover, increasing demand, limited teaching space, insufficient student accommodation and constrained supervision capacity. These limitations reduce the ability of services to host students, provide high-quality training experiences and translate student placements into longer-term employment.

Evidence from the RHMT evaluation indicates that high-quality, longer and cumulative rural placements are associated with stronger rural workforce outcomes, while service-learning and student-led models can contribute both to authentic student learning and local service capacity.



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CDU brings established regional expertise in remote health education, training, research and workforce development, together with nationally recognised strengths in Australian First Nations education and community-engaged research. These capabilities provide a strong foundation for a UDRH that is responsive to local priorities and workforce needs.

Strategic purpose and consortium model

The proposed UDRH aims to support healthy, thriving remote and very remote communities across Modified Monash Model 6 and 7 locations by building a locally trained, culturally safe, responsive and sustainable primary health care workforce.

The UDRH will be established through a consortium involving:

- Charles Darwin University;
- Central Australian Aboriginal Congress;
- Katherine West Health Board;
- Sunrise Health Service Aboriginal Corporation and Dijan Training; and
- Wurli-Wurlinjang Health Service.

The partnership combines the cultural authority, community leadership and local service knowledge of ACCHSs with CDU's education, research, evaluation and workforce-development expertise. It is designed as a UDRH embedded within Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services, with First Nations leadership and community priorities informing governance and program design.

Operating across Central Australia and the Big Rivers Region, the model will complement the existing rural health training footprint in the Northern Territory through a distinctive focus on Aboriginal health leadership, primary health care, community-based training pathways and multidisciplinary workforce development.

The UDRH will focus primarily on nursing and midwifery, allied health, Aboriginal Health Practitioners, public health, mental health, oral health and other community-based primary health care disciplines.

Strategic priorities

1. Grow the future workforce

Develop pathways from school, career change, VET and university education into local employment and leadership in nursing, midwifery, allied health, Aboriginal Health Practitioner, public health, mental health and oral health roles.

2. Strengthen Aboriginal workforce participation

Support Aboriginal students, staff, cultural educators, community researchers and health professionals to enter, succeed and lead within education, research and health service systems.

3. Expand remote and very remote placements

Increase the number, duration and quality of multidisciplinary placements in ACCHSs, primary health care and community settings, with particular emphasis on smaller and more remote communities.

4. Create graduate employment pathways

Strengthen links between training and employment by establishing graduate career opportunities within the Aboriginal community-controlled health sector.



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5. Embed cultural safety and community accountability

Ensure cultural safety is contextualised to place and guided by local Aboriginal leadership, with cultural safety embedded in student preparation, supervision, placement design and workplace practices.

6. Build supervision and local capability

Develop local supervisor networks, clinical education support, mentoring, adjunct and conjoint appointments, and professional development for health service staff.

7. Advance community-led research and evaluation

Build on existing research relationships between CDU, Menzies School of Health Research and ACCHSs to undertake research and evaluation driven by community and service priorities, including health workforce retention, primary health care models, Aboriginal health outcomes and training effectiveness.

8. Invest in enabling infrastructure

Develop student accommodation, clinical teaching spaces, simulation and skills facilities, telehealth-enabled supervision, digital learning infrastructure and regional health and education hubs.

Geographic focus

The UDRH will operate across two strategically important regions.

Central Australia will be anchored through Central Australian Aboriginal Congress in Alice Springs, supporting education and workforce activity across Alice Springs and surrounding remote communities.

The Big Rivers Region will be anchored through Katherine, working with Katherine West Health Board, Sunrise Health Service Aboriginal Corporation and Dijan Training, and Wurli-Wurlinjang Health Service. Together, these organisations provide a substantial footprint across regional centres, remote communities, homelands and outstations.

Alice Springs and Katherine will function as regional hubs for placement coordination, student accommodation, supervision, student wellbeing, cultural learning, telehealth-enabled education and research. The hubs will also support outreach and educational activity in smaller communities where workforce need is greatest.

Core functions

Education and training

Place-based learning; undergraduate and pre-registration programs; placements in and with ACCHSs and PHC settings; postgraduate and continuing education; interprofessional learning; cultural safety education; clinical supervision and mentoring.

Infrastructure

Student accommodation; clinical teaching spaces; simulation and skills laboratories; telehealth-enabled supervision suites; research and innovation spaces; flexible community learning environments.

Research and evaluation

Community-led research priorities; evaluation of workforce and service innovation; Aboriginal data governance; research skills development for local staff, students, supervisors and community researchers.

Community benefit

The intended benefits include a better prepared health workforce, improved access to primary health care, stronger continuity of care, locally relevant workforce pathways, culturally safer services and greater community ownership of education and research.



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Strengths of the model

A major strength of the proposal is its community-led governance, placing ACCHSs at the centre of decision-making and supporting community responsiveness and social accountability. A formal Memorandum of Understanding has been established between CDU and the ACCHS consortium partners.

The model embeds Aboriginal leadership and participation across governance, employment, student support and cultural leadership. It also draws on CDU's existing regional infrastructure, First Nations education expertise, remote workforce development capability and research partnerships.

The proposal is intended to generate broader economic and social benefit through local employment, investment, education, infrastructure and reciprocal relationships between students, clinicians, health services and communities.

Importantly, the model prioritises quality rather than simply increasing placement numbers. Placements will emphasise clear learning outcomes, preparation and orientation, cultural engagement, high-quality supervision, community involvement and evaluation.

Longer immersive placements, strengthened local supervision, interprofessional education and greater placement activity in smaller MMM 6 and MMM 7 communities are central components of the model.

Alignment with national rural health priorities

The proposal closely reflects recommendations from the RHMT evaluation, including stronger Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leadership, high-quality and longer rural placements, culturally safe learning environments, improved supervision, interprofessional education, community engagement, rural research capacity and investment that remains within local communities.

The UDRH will also operate as a complementary and collaborative model, expanding rather than duplicating existing Commonwealth investment and the current UDRH footprint in the Northern Territory. It will increase placement and training capacity while strengthening coordinated workforce pathways and partnerships across the broader rural health training system.

Expected outcomes and measures of success

Success will be assessed through a balanced set of workforce, education, community, infrastructure and research indicators, including:

- expansion of place-based tertiary education opportunities in Alice Springs and Katherine;
- increased number, duration and quality of placements in ACCHSs and primary health care settings;
- increased Aboriginal student participation, completion, employment and leadership;
- stronger local supervision and clinical education capacity;
- increased graduate employment in rural and remote health roles;
- positive community and ACCHS assessment of placement quality, cultural safety, reciprocity and local benefit;
- research and evaluation linked to locally defined priorities and service improvement;
- increased student accommodation and infrastructure capacity; and



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- evidence of local investment through employment, procurement, infrastructure and community engagement.

Future direction

Within ten years, the UDRH Consortium aims to be recognised as a national example of how universities and Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services can work together to build a sustainable, culturally safe and community-responsive rural and remote primary health care workforce.

Purpose-built or refurbished accommodation, contemporary learning facilities and integrated regional health and education hubs in Alice Springs and Katherine will provide enduring assets for the Northern Territory. The long-term goal is stronger communities, stronger health services, stronger local workforce pipelines and improved health outcomes across Central Australia and the Big Rivers Region.

References

Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care. (2025, April 10). Modified Monash Model. <https://www.health.gov.au/topics/rural-health-workforce/classifications/mmm>

Battye, K., Roufeil, L., Edwards, M., Hardaker, L., Janssen, T., & Wilkins, R. (2019). Strategies for increasing allied health recruitment and retention in Australia: A rapid review. Services for Australian Rural and Remote Allied Health.

Department of Health. (2020). Rural Health Commissioner report: Improvement of access, quality and distribution of allied health services in regional, rural and remote Australia. Australian Government Department of Health.

KBC Australia. (2020). Independent evaluation of the Rural Health Multidisciplinary Training Program: Summary of final report to the Commonwealth Department of Health. Commonwealth Department of Health.



**KATHERINE WEST
HEALTH BOARD**
Aboriginal Corporation



Appendix 1 – Geographical Focus

Big Rivers Region



The Big Rivers region stretches approximately 200 km south of Darwin, extending from the Western Australia border in the west to the Gulf of Carpentaria along the Queensland border in the east, and over 200 km south of Katherine. It covers roughly 340,000 km², nearly five times the size of Tasmania. The region includes three local government areas: Katherine Town Council, Victoria Daly and Roper Gulf, with Lajamanu part of the Central Desert Regional Council. The area comprises 23 communities, over 100 homelands and outstations, and 105 pastoral properties. There are three Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services in the region.



**KATHERINE WEST
HEALTH BOARD**
Aboriginal Corporation



The Katherine-based hub will support activities across:

Katherine West Health Board



- Kalkaringi
- Lajamanu
- Timber Creek
- Yarralin
 - Lingara
- Bulla
- Nitjpurru (Pigeon Hole)
- Amanbidji (Kildurk)

Sunrise Health Service Aboriginal Corporation and Dijan Training



- Ngukurr
- Urapunga
- Minyerri
- Jilkminggan
- Mataranka
- Barunga
- Wugularr
- Manyallaluk
- Bulman
- Weemol

Wurli-Wurlinjang Aboriginal Health Services



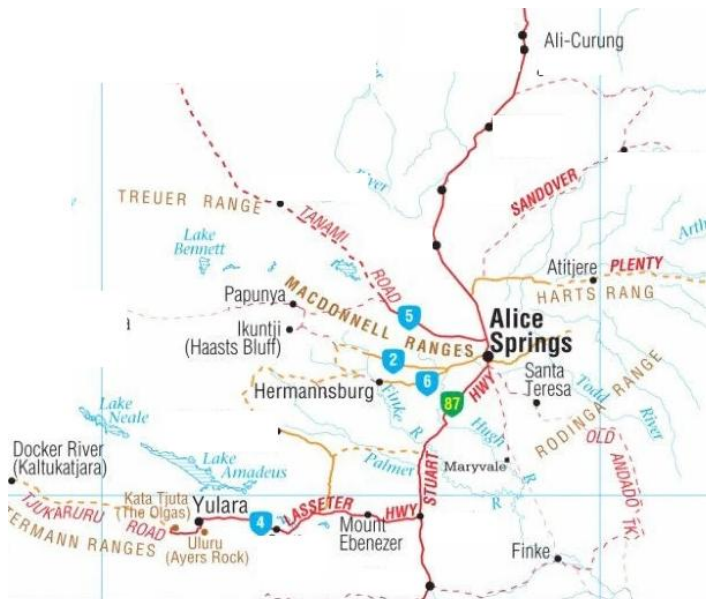
- Katherine
- Rockhole
- Myallim Brumby (also known as Kalano)
- Geyulkgan Ngurra (also known as Walpiri camp)
- Binjaru
- Jodetluk (also known as Gorge camp)



**KATHERINE WEST
HEALTH BOARD**
Aboriginal Corporation



Central Australia



Central Australian Aboriginal Congress (Congress)

- Alice Springs including:-
 - Gap Clinic
 - Inggintja: Wurra apa artwuka pmara (Men's Health)
 - Larainta Clinic
 - Sadadeen Clinic
 - Alukura Women's Health Service
 - Congress Kids Apmere
 - Headspace.
- Amoonguna
- Mutitjulu
- Imanpa
- Ltyentye Apurte (Santa Teresa)
- Ntaria (Hermannsburg)
- Kaltukatjara (Docker River)
- Yulara Clinic
- Utju (Areyonga)

Congress is currently expanding to include:

- Papunya
- Haasts Bluff
- Mount Liebig



A PROPOSAL FOR A NEW UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF RURAL HEALTH

Growing our Own: A Primary Health Care Workforce for Big Rivers and Central Australia

What Our UDRH Will Deliver

- A stronger, locally trained primary health care workforce
- Culturally safe education, training and practice
- Support that is First Nations led, and co-designed with the Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services.
- Local education & training
- Community-led research & evaluation
- Extensive footprint covering 2/3 of the NT
- Regional training and accommodation infrastructure



Key Priorities

Grow the Local Primary Health Care Workforce

- Pathways from study to employment
- Nursing, midwifery, allied health, Aboriginal Health Practice, Public health, mental health, oral health
- Recruit and retain local workforce from local community

Strengthen Remote Placements

- More placements in remote communities
- Longer, higher-quality, multidisciplinary experiences
- Better support and better experience

Build Local Capability

- Clinical supervision & mentoring
- Cultural education and workforce support
- Ongoing professional development



Investment in the Regions

- Student accommodation
- Teaching & simulation facilities
- Digital health training infrastructure



Support Community-Led Research

- Focus on local priorities
- Strengthen evaluation and evidence base



The Impact

For Communities

- Stronger local workforce
- Culturally safer care
- Better continuity of care

For Health Services

- Increased training & supervision capacity
- Improved recruitment and retention

For Students

- Immersive remote learning
- Clear pathways to local employment

For the NT

- Sustainable, Territory-grown workforce
- Reduced reliance on FIFO and locums



Led by:



Key Contact: UDRH@cdu.edu.au

A PROPOSAL FOR A NEW UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF RURAL HEALTH: BUILDING ON SUCCESS OF EXISTING PROGRAMS



CDU Danggalg First Nations Health Education Hub students.

Delphine

"This journey has been amazing. The program was well set up and really helped me grow. I'm excited to tell my family what I've achieved—they're going to be so proud! I'm looking forward to coming back and doing the next units in the Health Pathways Program, because I'm on my way to becoming a nurse."



The Wurlu Trainees Johanna, Cammie and Bee.



Casey, Nikkita and Declan (all Sunrise Health Trainee AHP) working through one of their practical assessments applying principles of infection control.

Vanessa

"It was important for me to come and study because I want to be a midwife. I hope to work at the Health Clinic and help my people. My family is very proud of me; they support me and always tell me to keep going. The support I got at CDU was excellent and helped me finish the program."



Hayden (Trainee AHP from the Sunrise Mataranka Clinic) and Johanna (Wurlu Wurlinjang Trainee AHP) learning CPR as part of the Certificate IV in Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Primary Health Care Practice.



**KATHERINE WEST
HEALTH BOARD**
Aboriginal Corporation



10.2 CORRESPONDENCE OUTGOING

Report Type: For noting

Recommendation

That Council receive and note the Outgoing Correspondence:

- Attachments:
1. Media Release - KTC - Nominate Katherine's 2027 Citizen of the Year - 21 September 2026 [**10.2.1** - 1 page]
 2. Media Release - KTC - Calls for United Action on Low Level Bridge - 23 September 2026 [**10.2.2** - 1 page]
 3. Letter - DLPE - CEO Ms Townsend - Katherine Memorial Cemetery Expansion and New Site - 29 September 2026 - ID264542 [**10.2.3** - 2 pages]
 4. Media Release - KTC - Lithium Batteries in Household Bins Cause Fires - 01 October 2026 [**10.2.4** - 1 page]
 5. Media Release - KTC - Sportsground Design Approach Consultation - 08 October 2026 [**10.2.5** - 1 page]
 6. Image - Media Release - KTC - Sportsground Design Approach Consultation - 08 October 2026 [**10.2.6** - 1 page]
 7. Letter - NTEPA - Katherine Ambient Air Quality - 19 October 2026 - ID264583 [**10.2.7** - 2 pages]



KATHERINE
TOWN COUNCIL

media release

21/09/2026

Nominate Katherine's 2027 Citizen of the Year

Katherine Town Council is inviting nominations for the 2027 Citizen of the Year Awards.

This is your chance to recognise the unsung heroes of 2026.

Katherine is what it is, because of the countless individuals who bring us all together. From neighbours who quietly lend a hand to young leaders and volunteers who inspire the next generation, the awards are our chance to recognise effort, reward dedication, and say thank you.

Nominations are open in three categories:

- Citizen of the Year – Australian citizens aged 30 and over who have made an exceptional contribution throughout the year.
- Young Citizen of the Year – Australian citizens aged 16-29 who inspired through leadership, service or achievement throughout 2026.
- Community Event of the Year – for groups, organisations or volunteers who delivered events that united and strengthened Katherine in 2026.

"This year has been nothing less than historic for Katherine. It has shown us that the spirit of Katherine is its people and their willingness to give a helping hand whatever the circumstances," Mayor Joanna Holden said.

"From those who unfailingly wash sports jerseys each week to those who respond to emergencies, Katherine's spirit is its people, the volunteers and community groups.

"Know a person, group or event that has made an exceptional voluntary contribution to Katherine? The legends who show up, pitch in and make things happen? Nominate them today. Don't leave it to someone else — help us celebrate those shaping Katherine's next 100 years."

Nominations close Sunday, 15 November 2026. Shortlisted nominees will be invited to an evening of celebration on Monday 25 January 2027.

Winners will be announced at the Australia Day Citizenship Ceremony.

Last year's winners were Simmone Croft (Citizen of the Year), Kate McTaggart (Young Citizen of the Year), and the Katherine Community Projects Association – Christmas Lights (Community Event of the Year).

Local winners may go on to be considered for the Territorian of the Year Awards, with Territory recipients eligible for the Australian of the Year Awards.

Nomination forms and details are on [our website](#). For more information, contact the Events team on (08) 8972 5500 or email events@ktc.nt.gov.au



media release

23 September 2026

Katherine Town Council calls for united action on Low Level Bridge

Katherine Town Council extends its deepest condolences to the family and loved ones of the young boy who tragically lost his life at the Katherine Low Level Bridge yesterday. This is a devastating loss for his family and for our community. Our thoughts are also with the emergency services personnel involved in the search and recovery operation.

The Low Level Bridge was built in 1942 as an urgent wartime project and has now served the Katherine community for more than 80 years. It is an important part of our town's history and still provides a convenient river crossing, but it was designed and built for a very different purpose and time.

The bridge has also been repeatedly affected by major wet season flooding, but no major work has taken place on it other than post-flood repairs since it was built. Council believes it is time to look beyond continuing repairs and patch-ups and begin planning for a safer, modern replacement.

The history of the Low Level Bridge is intertwined with different levels of government. It was originally constructed as part of the Commonwealth's wartime infrastructure program, and responsibility for infrastructure in and around the crossing has shifted among different levels of government over its long history.

Given the bridge's long history and in light of this recent tragedy, in addition to past drownings at the same site, Council believes the Australian Government, Northern Territory Government, and Katherine Town Council must come together to determine and implement a long-term solution for this important piece of infrastructure.

Our community requires a river crossing designed for today's Katherine, one that retains the important connection the Low Level Bridge provides while addressing the safety risks associated with an 84-year-old bridge and weir.

Council is calling on all three levels of government to work together to investigate replacing the Low Level Bridge with a safer structure and secure the investment needed to deliver it.

Doc 1420349598.1



29 Crawford Street
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KATHERINE NT 0851
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ABN 4783 6889 865

29 September 2026

Joanne Townsend
Chief Executive Officer
Department of Lands, Planning and Environment
E: oceo.dlpe@nt.gov.au

Dear Ms Townsend,

KATHERINE MEMORIAL LAWN CEMETERY CAPACITY AND FUTURE CEMETERY PLANNING

The Katherine Town Council seeks the Department's assistance in reviewing cemetery capacity constraints at the Katherine Memorial Lawn Cemetery and exploring future cemetery expansion and planning options to ensure the long-term provision of burial services for Katherine and the broader Big Rivers Region.

The Katherine Memorial Lawn Cemetery, located at Lot 1481, 154 Giles Street, Katherine, is the municipality's primary cemetery facility and comprises both the original cemetery and newer cemetery sections.

A recent cemetery occupancy assessment indicates that there are approximately 2,554 burial plots across both cemetery sections. Of these, 226 plots are designated as "Do Not Use" due to underlying water infrastructure, unknown burial records, and other constraints that prevent their utilisation.

Additionally, 477 plots are currently reserved under an Exclusive Right of Burial, which provides reservation of a burial plot for a period of 50 years from the date of approval. As a result, there are approximately 454 burial plots currently available for future use.

Council is presently experiencing an average of 60 burials per annum, with demand continuing to increase. This growth has been influenced by ongoing engagement with Katherine Funeral Services and growing regional demand, with more families from across the Big Rivers Region choosing Katherine as their preferred burial location. Based on current burial rates and projected demand, Council anticipates that the remaining capacity within the cemetery may be exhausted within the next three to four years.

Council has also undertaken a preliminary review of Lot 3004, 172 Giles Street, which is adjacent to the existing cemetery. The Record of Administrative Interest and Information contains parcel comments indicating that the lot was intended for cemetery extension. However, Council has been unable to locate any additional documentation to determine whether this proposal was formally approved, implemented, or subsequently revoked.

Given the limited remaining capacity and projected future demand, Council respectfully requests the Department's assistance in:

1. Providing advice regarding the suitability of Lot 3004, 172 Giles Street, or other available land options for cemetery expansion;
2. Clarifying any historical planning decisions relating to the identification of Lot 3004 for cemetery purposes;
3. Identifying any planning, tenure, environmental, heritage, or regulatory considerations associated with future cemetery expansion; and
4. Commencing discussions with Council regarding the identification and acquisition of a suitable long-term cemetery site.

In addition to considering short-term expansion opportunities, Council wishes to explore more options for a future cemetery site located outside of the flood zone, with sufficient area to accommodate long-term burial demand and associated infrastructure. Such planning would support the future needs of Katherine and the broader Big Rivers Region, reflecting the increasing number of burials being undertaken in Katherine on behalf of surrounding communities.

Council is also interested in investigating opportunities for the inclusion of a local crematorium facility as part of future cemetery planning. The provision of local cremation services has the potential to reduce costs and logistical challenges currently experienced by families who must travel to Darwin to access cremation facilities, while also improving service accessibility for residents across the region.

Given the projected exhaustion of available burial plots within the next three to four years, Council considers this matter a priority and would welcome the opportunity to meet the Department representatives to discuss these matters further and establish a collaborative approach to future cemetery planning for the region.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



Casey Anderson
ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



KATHERINE
TOWN COUNCIL

media release

:

1 October 2026

Keep batteries out of your wheelie bin

Four fires at Katherine's waste facility in five weeks have prompted Katherine Town Council to remind residents not to put batteries in their wheelie bins.

Batteries can catch fire when crushed or damaged during rubbish collection or waste processing, putting workers at risk, damaging equipment and disrupting services.

Many everyday items contain batteries that can be easily overlooked when throwing them away, including broken toys, wireless earbuds and used vapes. Even a small battery can start a serious fire, so we need to keep batteries and battery-powered items out of wheelie bins.

Rechargeable lithium-ion batteries are a particular concern. They are commonly found in phones, laptops, power tools, portable chargers, e-bikes and e-scooters.

Residents can drop off household batteries, lithium-ion batteries and car batteries free of charge at the designated collection area at the Katherine Waste Management Facility, Lot 5043 Novis Quarry Road. Staff can help residents find the correct collection point.

Cover loose battery terminals with clear tape before dropping them off. Anyone with a swollen, leaking or damaged battery should contact Council for advice before bringing it in and speak to staff before placing it in a collection bin.

Mobile phones and their batteries can also be dropped off for recycling at the Council office and Katherine Public Library.

For advice about disposing of batteries or items with batteries inside them, contact Katherine Town Council on (08) 8972 5500 or visit www.katherine.nt.gov.au.



KATHERINE
TOWN COUNCIL

media release

8 October 2026

Community invited to view first Masterplan design directions for the Sportsground Precinct

Katherine residents are invited to see how the community ideas are shaping the future of the Katherine Sportsground Precinct at an open workshop on Wednesday, 14 October.

Ashford Lamaya Architects will share the findings from recent consultation and present the first masterplan design directions for the 29-hectare precinct.

The workshop will be held at **5.30 pm at the Henry Scott Recreation Centre.**

Consultation closed on 30 September, with feedback gathered through an online survey, a community workshop on 7 September and face-to-face stakeholder meetings. The upcoming workshop will show how that feedback has informed the proposed direction for the precinct.

Katherine Town Council secured funding through the Regional Precincts and Partnerships Program to plan a modern, all-weather regional sports, recreation and community precinct that also links the Katherine Aquatic Centre with surrounding sporting facilities.

The project has two stages. Stage A will deliver an illustrative masterplan to guide future improvements across the precinct. Stage B will develop a construction-ready design for precinct improvements, supporting future funding commitments for construction.

The project brings together Council, the Northern Territory Government, Katherine-based NGOs, Indigenous organisations, and local sporting and community groups.

Media enquiries: Jo Brosnan 0428 976 979





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19 October 2026

Dr Paul Vogel
Chairperson
Northern Territory
Environment Protection Authority
E: ntepa@nt.gov.au

Dear Dr Vogel,

Re: Request to Discontinue Katherine Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Station

Katherine Town Council seeks the Northern Territory Environment Protection Authority (NTEPA) to undertake the required review under the Performance Agreement established following the 2019 Katherine Tyre Fire and approve the cessation of operations at the Katherine Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Station (AAQMS).

The AAQMS was installed in response to the 2019 Katherine Tyre Fire and became fully operational in January 2021. Under the Performance Agreement between Council and the NT EPA, Council was required to operate the station for a minimum period of three years and participate in a joint review regarding its future operation. The mandatory monitoring period concluded in January 2024; however, Council has continued operating the station for a further two years beyond this requirement, demonstrating its ongoing commitment to environmental monitoring and community reassurance.

Council has fulfilled all obligations under the Performance Agreement and has exceeded the original requirements by the NTEPA. The financial and resource commitment required to maintain the station has been significant. Since January 2021, Council has incurred approximately \$319,099 in operating, maintenance and equipment replacement costs, including \$316,899 in operational and maintenance expenditure and further \$2,200 to replace the station's air-conditioning unit.

During the past 12 months, Council officers attended the site on ten separate occasions to reset or repair equipment following power outages and system failures. The station has also experienced recurring equipment damage, including three separate bird strike incidents affecting wind monitoring sensors, resulting in additional repair costs and maintenance requirements.

Given that Council has met the obligations under the Performance Agreement, and considering the substantial ongoing operational costs, equipment reliability issues and staff resources required to maintain the facility. Council believes there is a strong and reasonable basis to conclude the monitoring program.

Council respectfully requests that the NTEPA undertake the required review to determine whether continued data collection from the AAQMS site remains necessary. The cessation of operations would also enable Council to redirect ongoing operational and maintenance funding towards other priority services and community initiatives, consistent with Council's commitment to prudent financial

management, sustainable long-term outcomes and delivering value to ratepayers. This approach aligns with Council's strategic objective of leading with best practice and maintaining strong financial stewardship.

Council appreciates NTEPA's consideration of this request and welcomes the opportunity to discuss any alternative use or ownership arrangements for the monitoring equipment should such opportunities arise.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Casey Anderson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Casey Anderson
Acting Chief Executive Officer



11 PETITIONS

12 NOTICE OF MOTION

13 REPORTS OF OFFICERS

13.1 COUNCIL ADVISORY COMMITTEES AND ASSESSMENT PANEL APPOINTMENTS

Author: Yeshika Kandanaarachchi, Governance Officer
Authoriser: Casey Anderson, Acting Chief Executive Officer
Report Type: For decision
Attachments: Nil

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To appoint Elected Members to the Council Advisory Committees for a period of 12 months ending 30 September 2027.

To provide updated information on working groups and assessment panels of the Katherine Town Council.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council

1. Appoints.... to the Administrative Review Committee for the period to 30 September 2027.
 2. Appoints and to the Audit and Risk Management Committee for the period to 30 September 2027 and appoints as the alternate member to the Audit and Risk Management Committee for the period to 30 September 2027.
 3. Appoints and to the Katherine Sportsground Advisory Committee for the period to 30 September 2027, and be the Chair of the Katherine Sportsground Advisory Committee for the period to 30 September 2027.
 4. Council appoints and to the Katherine Showgrounds Advisory Committee for the period to 30 September 2027, and be the Chair of the Katherine Showgrounds Advisory Committee for the period to 30 September 2027.
 5. Council appoints and to the Waste Management Strategy Review Working Group, and be the Chair of the Waste Management Strategy Review Working Group.
-

SUMMARY

- **The Council is required to appoint elected member committee members for the next 12-month term for the Administrative Review Committee, Audit and Risk Management Committee, Katherine Sportsground Advisory Committee, and Katherine Showgrounds Advisory Committee as the current membership term expired on 30 September 2026.**
- **The Assessment Panels membership will continue in accordance with the Council appointments made on 23 September 2025.**

DISCUSSION, OPTIONS AND ANALYSIS

Katherine Town Council encourages input from the community about its services, operations and facilities. Council Advisory Committees are one way for the community to provide input or advice to Council on a specific topic or the strategic management of a facility on an ongoing basis.

The Council Advisory Committees memberships is to include two (2) Councillors as per the Council Advisory Committee Policy. Council has the following advisory committees:

Advisory Committee	Council Representative <i>(expired on 30 September 2026)</i>
Administrative Review Committee	Mayor Joanna Holden Deputy Mayor Mel Doyle Councillor Jim King
Audit and Risk Management Committee	Mayor Joanna Holden Councillor Kathryn Whitehouse Councillor Anjali Palmer (Alternate Member)
Katherine Sportsground Advisory Committee	Councillor Jim King (Chair) Councillor Kathryn Whitehouse
Katherine Showgrounds Advisory Committee	Councillor Anjali Palmer (Chair) Councillor Jim King

Administrative Review Committee

Only meets upon receiving an application for review of a reviewable decision. The Administrative Review Committee Terms of Reference membership comprises of the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and one Councillor appointed on an annual basis.

Audit and Risk Management Committee (ARMC)

The role of the Committee is to provide additional oversight of the audit process and outcomes, effectiveness of internal controls, and risk management processes. The Audit and Risk Management Committee play a central role in independently reviewing Council's internal control processes and provides Elected Members with a level of assurance on the effectiveness of the Council's financial and corporate governance practices as well as compliance with legislative and regulatory requirements.

The ARMC meets a minimum of (4) times per annum. The committee membership includes an independent Chairperson, one independent representative and two Elected Members. Council may appoint an alternate Elected Member to the Committee.

Katherine Sportsground Advisory Committee

This committee contributes to the further development of the Sportsgrounds and is an advisory committee to Council. Membership requires two councillors with one being appointed as the Chairperson. As per the Terms of Reference, meetings are scheduled bi-monthly. The committee has not met since 11 September 2024.

Katherine Showgrounds Advisory Committee

This committee contributes to the development of the Showgrounds and is an advisory committee to Council. Membership requires two councillors with one being appointed as the Chairperson. As per the Terms of Reference, meetings are scheduled bi-monthly. The committee has not met since 3 September 2024.

Working Group	Council Representative
Centenary of Katherine 2026 Working Group	Mayor Joanna Holden (Chair) Councillor Mel Doyle Councillor Toni Tapp Coutts
Waste Management Strategy Review Working Group	Not yet finalised
Katherine Community Safety Action Group	Mayor Joanna Holden Councillor Mel Doyle (Co-Chair) Councillor Anjali Palmer (Co-Chair)

Centenary of Katherine 2026 Working Group

The Centenary of Katherine 2026 Advisory Committee was dissolved and replaced with a community working group on 28 October 2025 (OMC-2025-258) after considering the significant administrative burden of managing as an advisory committee.

The Working Group was established to continue to draw on the knowledge, experience and community connections of existing members while providing a more flexible and efficient structure to assist with event planning and delivery.

The Working Group supported Katherine Town Council in celebrating 100 years since the gazettal of the township, providing community input and practical assistance to help deliver priority centenary activities and events.

Waste Management Strategy Review Working Group

The Waste Management Strategy Review Working Group is established to provide advice and stakeholder input into the review and redevelopment of Council's Waste Management Strategy. The group will assist Council in identifying future waste management priorities, opportunities and challenges, ensuring the new Strategy is practical, sustainable, financially responsible and aligned with community needs, industry best practice and regulatory requirements. The Working Group will bring together representatives from Council, NT government agencies, regional councils, commercial operators, industry specialists, community representatives to support the development of a contemporary waste management framework for Katherine's future.

The Waste Management Strategy Review Working Group was established on 24 March 2026 (OMC-2026-63), approved membership (OMC-2026-163) of the working group.

Council representatives to the working group remains subject to appointment by Council. Council are requested to appoint elected member, staff and the chairperson to the working group.

Katherine Community Safety Action Group

The Katherine Community Safety Action Group (KCSAG) brings people together to improve community safety and wellbeing in Katherine. It provides a space for the community, Council, Police and government agencies to share information, raise concerns, listen to each other, work towards practical, local solutions. The group focuses on connection, communication and shared understanding, not operational decision-making. The KCSAG will provide a safe and respectful forum for community voices, strengthen communication between community, Council, Police and

government, share local insights about safety issues and community concerns, help identify practical, community-led ideas to improve safety and support awareness of existing programs, services and initiatives. The meetings of the KCSAG will be held every two months (or as needed), and co-chaired by Councillors appointed by the Council.

The Katherine Community Safety Action Group (KCSAG) was established on 26 May 2026 (OMC-2026-128), approved membership of the working group (OMC-2026-219) and Council appointed Deputy Mayor Mel Doyle and Councillor Anjali Palmer as the co-chairs of the KCSAG (OMC-2026-128).

Assessment Panels

Council provides an annual community grant program, awards and competitions. Elected Member assessment panels are convened as required to make recommendations to Council for decision. Assessment Panels are not advisory committees and therefore do not have terms of reference. Council representatives were appointed 23 September 2025.

Council has the following assessment panels:

Assessment Panel	Council Representative
Community Grants Assessment Panel	Councillor Mel Doyle Councillor Kathryn Whitehouse Councillor Toni Tapp Coutts
Citizen of the Year Awards Assessment Panel	Councillor Anjali Palmer Councillor Mel Doyle Councillor Kathryn Whitehouse
International Day of People with Disability Awards Assessment Panel	Mayor Joanna Holden Councillor Toni Tapp Coutts Councillor Kathryn Whitehouse
Christmas Light Judging Assessment Panel	Mayor Joanna Holden Councillor Mel Doyle Councillor Kathryn Whitehouse

Community Grants Assessment Panel

Council has appointed three elected members to the panel that assess applications for the Katherine Town Council's Community Grants Program. This annual program is dedicated to supporting local individuals, organisations and groups who are passionate about making a positive impact within our community.

These grants are to help fund initiatives that align with Katherine Town Council's 5-year strategic plan, promoting community development, enhancing social cohesion and address local needs. Katherine Town Council's Community Grants Program opened the 22 August through to 17 October 2026.

Citizen of the Year Awards Assessment Panel

On Australia Day communities across the Northern Territory present Citizen of the Year Awards in three categories: Citizen of the Year, Young Citizen of the Year and Community Event of the Year. Sponsored by the Northern Territory Government, these awards are free for communities to participate in and recognise personal achievements and community contribution by individuals and groups. Katherine Town Council panel is formed to select the Citizen, Young Citizen, and Community Event according to a pre-approved judging criteria. Nominations close on 15 November 2026.

International Day of People with Disability Awards Assessment Panel

International Day of People with Disability is celebrated on Wednesday 3 December 2026, with festivities and International Day of People with Disability Awards. The panel's responsibility is to select the Outstanding Person with Disability, Outstanding Young Person with Disability, Outstanding Support Person, and Outstanding Service provider according to a pre-approved judging criteria.

Christmas Light Judging Assessment Panel

The Christmas Light Competition is held annually. The competition is for both commercial and residential properties. The event is to engage community and promote the Christmas spirit. Residential entrants can light up and decorate their homes with Christmas lights. All commercial businesses with Window Displays will be included unless opted out. The panel travels to all residential properties who entered the competition and select the top three according to a preapproved judging criteria. The panel judge commercial Christmas light displays in the Central Business District according to a preapproved judging criteria.

Consultation Process

There was no consultation process required for this report.

Policy Implications

As per the Advisory Committee Policy each year on the twelve-month anniversary of the establishment of an Advisory Committee, Council may resolve to provide the opportunity to rotate the existing members (including Councillor/s) of that Advisory Committee with other Councillor/s and members.

Budget and Resource Implications

There are no budget and resource requirements.

Risk, Legal and Legislative Implications

An Advisory Committee must be appointed in accordance with Section 82 of the *Local Government Act 2019* and:

- may only be appointed by Council resolution,
- may include in its members persons who are not Councillors, and
- must have terms of reference, approved by council resolution, that set out its membership and functions.

Environment Sustainability Implications

There are no environmental sustainability implications.

Strategic Plan

1. STRONG LEADERSHIP - 1.2 Partner in progress - Provide strategic leadership on economic



development issues to promote Katherine's reputation and improve business confidence.

1.2.2 Act as a connector on key issues affecting the community as a member in key reference groups.

Municipal Plan

Not applicable

13.2 KATHERINE WASTE MANAGEMENT TRIAL OPERATING HOURS

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

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To provide Council with an update on the extended operating hours trial at the Katherine Waste Management Facility and seek approval to continue the trial until 30 June 2027.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

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

SUMMARY

- Council previously approved a three-month trial of revised operating hours at the Katherine Waste Management Facility. The purpose was to better understand community and commercial demand and determine whether extended operating hours were justified.
- The extended operating periods continue to attract a consistent number of customers, demonstrating ongoing community use of the service.
- The trial commenced on 25 May 2026 and was scheduled to conclude on 25 August 2026, however the trial has continued pending this report.
- To support an informed decision on future operating hours, it is recommended that the trial be extended until 30 June 2027, allowing Council to monitor demand, seasonal trends, and operational impacts over a longer period before considering permanent arrangements.

DISCUSSION, OPTIONS AND ANALYSIS

The previous operating hours were:

- Monday to Thursday: 7:30 am to 4:00 pm
- Friday: 7:30 am to 2:30 pm
- Saturday: 8:00 am to 2:00 pm
- Sunday: 8:00 am to 2:00 pm
- Public Holidays: 8:00 am to 2:00 pm
- Closed on Good Friday and Christmas Day

The current trial operating hours are:

- Monday to Sunday: 8:00am – 4:00pm
- Public Holidays: 8:00am – 4:00pm
- Closed: Good Friday and Christmas Day

The main changes during the trial were:

- Later opening on weekdays (8:00 am instead of 7:30 am).
- Extended afternoon hours on Fridays, weekends, and public holidays to 4:00 pm.
- Consistent hours every day of the week.
- Improve accessibility to waste disposal facilities for Katherine residents, supporting efforts to deter illegal dumping across the municipality.

The trial, which commenced on 25 May 2026, introduced a simplified and more consistent operating schedule of 8:00 am to 4:00 pm, seven days a week, including public holidays, except on Good Friday and Christmas Day.

Compared with the previous operating hours, the trial opened 30 minutes later on weekdays but provided significantly greater access in the afternoons, particularly on Fridays, weekends, and public holidays. Under the previous schedule, the facility closed at 2:30 pm on Fridays and 2:00 pm on weekends and public holidays, whereas the trial extended closing times to 4:00 pm every day.

Overall, the trial increased weekly operating hours from 53 hours to 56 hours, while creating a uniform daily schedule that was easier for residents to remember and provided more opportunity for waste disposal and weekend clean-up activities

Customer numbers during the additional operating periods have demonstrated a steady level of use.

Average customer numbers are:

Day	Time	Average Customers	Customer Type
Friday	2:30pm – 4:00pm	11	Commercial and domestic
Saturday	2:00pm – 4:00pm	12	Mainly domestic
Sunday	2:00pm – 4:00pm	11	Mainly domestic

The extended operating hours continue to be utilised by both domestic and commercial customers, with an average of 11 customers accessing the facility during the extended Friday period and a combined average of 23 customers accessing the facility during the extended weekend periods.

While customer numbers are moderate, the results demonstrate ongoing demand for afternoon access beyond the previous closing times, particularly from domestic users undertaking weekend clean-up activities.

Given the steady uptake, it is recommended that the trial continue until 30 June 2027 to allow Council to further assess demand, seasonal trends and operational impacts before determining permanent operating hours.

A further report will be presented to Council before the end of the extended trial in June 2027.

Consultation Process

Operational staff will continue to monitor customer numbers and service demand during the extended trial. Any ongoing rostering requirements will be managed within existing operational arrangements. The original trial included consultation with affected staff and adjustments to staff rostering.

Policy Implications

There are no policy implications resulting from the decision.

Budget and Resource Implications

Within the current service delivery budget and resources.

Risk, Legal and Legislative Implications

There are no risk, legal and legislative implications.

Environment Sustainability Implications

Continuing the extended operating hours provides greater community access to the Waste Management Facility and may assist in reducing illegal dumping. This is consistent with the environmental sustainability benefits identified when the original trial was established.

Strategic Plan

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

1.1.3 Improve transparency around issues affecting the community.

1.1.4 Learn what the community wants to know through community engagement strategies.

7. ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY - 7.1 Waste Management - Implement waste management actions that benefit our community and environment.

7.1.4 Provide opportunities for the community to repurpose, recycle and reuse all types of resources, reducing our landfill waste.

7.1.6 Raise awareness to keep our town litter-free.

Municipal Plan

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.

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

Author: Amanda Haigh, Manager Governance and Risk
Authoriser: Casey Anderson, Acting Chief Executive Officer
Report Type: For decision
Attachments: Nil

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To seek Council approval for utilising the Professional Development Allowance for Elected Member individual discussions to identify perspectives, facilitated small group discussions, facilitate 12-month review session, and post-session follow-up support provided by The Real Learning Experience.

RECOMMENDATION

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

SUMMARY

- **Elected Members completed the required conflict resolution training delivered by The Real Learning Experience on 14 August 2026.**
- **The proposed next stage of the program, will include individual consultations to identify perspectives, facilitated small-group discussions, facilitation of the 12-month review session, and post-session follow-up support.**
- **The total cost of the program is \$11,075 (GST exclusive).**
- **Mayor Holden and Deputy Mayor have offered to utilise their allocated professional development allowance for the cost of this training.**
- **The use of professional development allowance requires approval by the Council.**

DISCUSSION, OPTIONS AND ANALYSIS

Elected Members completed the required conflict resolution training delivered by The Real Learning Experience on 14 August 2026.

As an outcome of the training, Elected Members were offered ongoing professional development through a series of one-on-one coaching sessions and a facilitated 12-month review session.

The Real Learning Experience has proposed the next stage of the program, which will include individual consultations to identify perspectives, facilitated small-group discussions, facilitation of the 12-month review session, and post-session follow-up support. The total cost of the program is \$11,075 (GST exclusive).

Professional development allowances for Elected Members are budgeted in accordance with the prescribed Remuneration Determination rates. No additional budget has been allocated for training and professional development activities.

To cover the cost of the training Mayor Holden and Deputy Mayor Doyle have offered to utilise their allocated professional development allowance for the cost of this training. Resulting in the use of \$5,537.50 each of the available professional development allowance.

The training is proposed to be held on 27 November 2026.

Consultation Process

Discussion occurred at EMIS on 16 October 2026.

Policy Implications

The Elected Member Allowance and Expenses Policy outlines that council is committed to ensuring that elected members have access to ongoing professional development to assist them to develop and maintain the skills and knowledge required to effectively perform their roles and responsibilities under the *Local Government Act 2019*.

The policy states that throughout their term, elected members will receive ongoing governance training, as well as additional training activities addressing specific training needs identified by elected members and management.

As per the policy, the professional development allowance may be expended by approval from the Council for training, mediation or counselling recommended by the Mayor.

Council will use Local Buy for the procurement of this service, LB327.

Budget and Resource Implications

Current Professional Development Allowance allocation:

- 2025-26 \$4,167; only 50% of unused allowance can be carried forward to the next year = \$2,083.50
- 2026-27 \$7,500

Total professional development allowance available per Elected Member = \$9,583.50

Total cost of the training is \$11,075 gst exclusive.

Elected Member Professional Development						
Elected Member	2025/26 Budget carry forward	2026/27 Allowance	2026-27 Expenditure	Total available	Allowance used for the training	Allowance remaining
Mayor Holden	\$ 2,083.50	\$ 7,500.00	\$ -	\$ 9,583.50	\$ 5,537.50	\$4,046.00
Deputy Mayor Doyle	\$ 2,083.50	\$ 7,500.00	\$ -	\$ 9,583.50	\$ 5,537.50	\$4,046.00
Councillor Coutts	\$ 2,083.50	\$ 7,500.00	\$ -	\$ 9,583.50	\$ 0	\$9,583.50
Councillor Glass	\$ 2,083.50	\$ 7,500.00	\$ -	\$ 9,583.50	\$ 0	\$9,583.50
Councillor King	\$ 2,083.50	\$ 7,500.00	\$ -	\$ 9,583.50	\$ 0	\$9,583.50
Councillor Palmer	\$ 2,083.50	\$ 7,500.00	\$ -	\$ 9,583.50	\$ 0	\$9,583.50
Councillor Whitehouse	\$ 2,083.50	\$ 7,500.00	\$ -	\$ 9,583.50	\$ 0	\$9,583.50
TOTAL	\$ 14,584.50	\$ 52,500.00	\$ -	\$ 67,084.50	\$ 11,075.00	\$ 11,075.00

Risk, Legal and Legislative Implications

An elected member of a council is entitled to receive the professional development allowance determined by the Remuneration Tribunal under section 7B of the *Assembly Members and Statutory Officers*

(Remuneration and Other Entitlements) Act 2006. As only 50% of any unused allowance may be carried forward to the following year, any unspent balance from 2025-26 and up to 50% of the unused 2026-27 allowance will expire on 30 June 2027.

Procurement requirements must be in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2019*, its Regulations and Council Procurement Policy.

Environment Sustainability Implications

There are no environmental sustainability implications.

Strategic Plan

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

1.1.1 Strengthen our councillor profiles to increase community awareness of who they are.

Municipal Plan

1.1.1.1 Strengthen Elected Member capability to fulfil their roles, responsibilities, and decision-making duties

13.4 CHRISTMAS CLOSURES

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

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To inform Elected Members of the Katherine Town Council about Christmas and New Year arrangements for Council facilities and services during the holiday period.

RECOMMENDATION

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

SUMMARY

- This report provides Council with advice on the 2026/2027 Christmas and New Year service closure arrangements approved by the Acting Chief Executive Officer.
- Council facilities and services will operate under adjusted closure dates and hours during the holiday period, balancing operational requirements with community service needs.
- Essential services, including Ranger emergency responses and Council's after-hours emergency service, will remain available throughout the closure period.
- The Waste Management Facility will provide limited public holiday operating hours to maintain access to waste disposal services for residents and visitors.
- A communications campaign will be implemented to ensure the community is informed of holiday operating hours, service closures and available emergency contacts well in advance of the shutdown period.

DISCUSSION, OPTIONS AND ANALYSIS

The 2026/2027 Christmas and New Year shutdown period is proposed to commence on Thursday, 24 December 2026 and conclude on Monday, 4 January 2027, with services operating as outlined below.

Civic Centre

The Civic Centre will close at 2.00 pm on Thursday, 24 December 2026 and reopen on Monday, 4 January 2027.

Library

The Library will close at 2.00 pm on Thursday, 24 December 2026 and reopen on Tuesday, 5 January 2027.

Visitor Information Centre

The Visitor Information Centre will remain open throughout the holiday period except on declared

public holidays:

- Friday, 25 December 2026 (Christmas Day)
- Monday, 28 December 2026 (Boxing Day public holiday observed)
- Friday, 1 January 2027 (New Year's Day).

Depot

The Council Depot will remain open throughout the holiday period except on declared public holidays:

- Friday, 25 December 2026 (Christmas Day)
- Monday, 28 December 2026 (Boxing Day public holiday observed)
- Friday, 1 January 2027 (New Year's Day).

Waste Management Facility

The Waste Management Facility will be closed on Friday, 25 December 2026 (Christmas Day).

The facility will operate on Monday, 28 December 2026 and Friday, 1 January 2027 from 8.00 am to 4.00 pm to provide continuity of waste disposal services for the community.

Regulatory Services

Council Rangers will remain available for emergency responses throughout the closure period from Friday, 25 December 2026 to Monday, 4 January 2027.

After-Hours Emergency Services

All Council emergency after-hours services will continue to operate throughout the closure period to ensure urgent matters can be addressed in a timely manner.

Declared Public Holidays

The following public holidays apply during the 2026/2027 Christmas and New Year period:

- Christmas Day - Friday, 25 December 2026
- Boxing Day Public Holiday (observed) - Monday, 28 December 2026
- New Year's Day - Friday, 1 January 2027.

Consultation Process

There was no consultation process required for this report.

Policy Implications

There are no policy implications resulting from the decision.

Budget and Resource Implications

Within current service delivery budget and resource.

Risk, Legal and Legislative Implications

There are no risk, legal and legislative implications.

Environment Sustainability Implications

There are no environmental sustainability implications.

Strategic Plan

Not Applicable

Municipal Plan

1.1.3.1 Encourage and educate the community about the services we provide

13.5 EARLY BIRD DRAW 2026/2027 WINNER

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

PURPOSE OF REPORT

In accordance with the *Local Government Act 2019*, section 243, the Council may, by resolution, allow a discount, or some other form of concession or benefit, for prompt payment of rates in full.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

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

SUMMARY

- Council adopted an Early Bird Draw incentive as part of the Declaration of Rates and Charges 2026/2027.
 - Eligible ratepayers who paid all rates and charges in full by 30 September 2026 were entered into the draw.
 - A total of 778 ratepayers met the eligibility criteria and were entered into the draw.
 - The prize value is the lesser of the current year's rates payable or \$1,568.00, excluding the waste management charge.
 - The successful ratepayer has been selected and will be notified in writing.
 - The draw was conducted by Deputy Mayor Mel Doyle on 16 October 2026.
-

DISCUSSION, OPTIONS AND ANALYSIS

Eligible ratepayers were entered into the Early Bird Draw by paying their rates and charges in full on or before 30 September 2026.

Pursuant to section 243 of the Local Government Act 2019, and in conjunction with Council's Declaration of Rates and Charges 2026/2027 adopted by Council, a benefit was provided to encourage the prompt payment of rates and charges for the financial year ending 30 June 2027 through the conduct of an Early Bird Draw.

Council offered a monetary prize to one eligible ratepayer selected from the draw in an amount equal to the lesser of the current year's rates payable and \$1,568.00, subject to the following conditions:

- The total amount of all rates and charges levied for the financial year ending 30 June 2027

in respect of any parcel of rateable land owned by the winning ratepayer, together with any arrears, must have been paid in full on or before 30 September 2026.

- The payment does not extend to any portion of the waste management charge.
- All Government agencies, Elected Members and Council employees are excluded from the draw.
- The winning ratepayer will be notified in writing.

A total of 778 ratepayers satisfied the eligibility criteria and were entered into the draw for the 2026/2027 financial year.

The Early Bird Draw continues to provide an incentive for ratepayers to pay rates promptly, supporting improved cash flow and reducing arrears while rewarding eligible ratepayers.

The winner for the Early Bird Draw for 2026/2027 is the ratepayer/s of Assessment 2577.

Consultation Process

There was no consultation process required for this report. ☐

Policy Implications

There are no policy implications resulting from the decision.

Budget and Resource Implications

Within current service delivery budget and resource.

Risk, Legal and Legislative Implications

There are no risk, legal and legislative implications.

Environment Sustainability Implications

There are no environmental sustainability implications.

Strategic Plan

4. GROWTH AND SUSTAINABILITY - 4.2 Lead with Best Practice - Lead by example and set a high benchmark.

4.2.4 Be prudent with our financial management for stronger returns for ratepayers and sustainable long-term finances with current risk management practices current at all times.

Municipal Plan

Not applicable

13.6 FINANCIAL REPORT AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2026

Author: Rebecca Baguley, Chief Finance Officer
Authoriser: Casey Anderson, Acting Chief Executive Officer
Report Type: For noting
Attachments: 1. Acting CEO approval on Finance Report - 19 October 2026 [**13.6.1** - 1 page]
2. 30 September Financial Report to October Council Meeting [**13.6.2** - 13 pages]

PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report is to present the financial position of Council for the month ending 30 September 2026.

RECOMMENDATION

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

SUMMARY

- **YTD Operating Income for September is \$13,991,997**
- **Operating Expenditure for September is \$5,863,395**
- **Operating Surplus after adding back Depreciation non-cash expense is \$9,133,014**
- **Capital Expenditure for the year Actuals is \$603,352**
- **Tied Funds at September - \$17,618,246**
- **Untied Funds at September - \$13,812,708**

DISCUSSION, OPTIONS AND ANALYSIS

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

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

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

Consultation Process

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

Policy Implications

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

internal controls.

Budget and Resource Implications

Within current service delivery budget and resource.

Risk, Legal and Legislative Implications

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

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

Council is compliant with the Statutory monthly reporting requirements that require the monthly financial report to be presented to Council.

Council has provided elected members with the required financial oversight information that allows them to monitor budget performance, cash position, reserves, capital expenditure and material variances.

Risk implications

Review of Grants Register underway to ensure Audit compliance and up to date.

Internal audit plan to be created for 26-27 financial year.

Environment Sustainability Implications

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

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

Strategic Plan

- Lead by example and set a high benchmark.

Review Council's fees and charges system to ensure the sustainability of council's

Be prudent with our financial management for stronger returns for ratepayers and sustainable long-term finances with current risk management practices current

☐

Municipal Plan

4.2.4.1 Provide effective asset management and valuation across Council

4.2.4.2 Long term financial sustainability through improved budget processes incorporating timelines and assumptions

4.2.4.3 Stronger procurement processes in line with legislative requirements

f

Certification by the CEO to the Council

Council Name:	Katherine Town Council
Reporting Period:	19/10/2026

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

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

Acting CEO Signed:

_____

Date Signed:

19 OCTOBER 2026

NOTE:

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

Table 1.1 Monthly Income and Expenditure Statement

	YTD Actuals \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Variance \$	Annual Budget \$	Notes
OPERATING INCOME					
Rates*	10,490,937	7,960,806	2,530,131	10,614,408	*Rates revenue invoiced
Waste Charges**	1,733,057	1,730,765	2,292	1,730,765	**Waste revenue received
Fees and Charges	806,192	788,485	17,707	3,153,943	Includes User Charges, Rental and Waste Transfer Charges
Operating Grants and Subsidies	462,771	947,148	(484,377)	3,788,593	Grants, Visitor Info Centre, Library
Interest / Investment Income	311,942	150,000	161,842	600,000	Term Deposit interest
Commercial and Other Income	187,099	7,500	179,599	30,000	Fuel Tax Credits, Recoveries
TOTAL OPERATING INCOME	13,991,997	11,584,704	2,428,575	19,917,709	
OPERATING EXPENDITURE					
Employee Expenses	1,570,911	1,759,602	(188,691)	7,038,410	Several unfilled budgeted positions including grants officer, rangers and infrastructure group manager.
Materials and Contracts	1,669,470	2,861,484	(1,192,014)	11,445,937	Contracts, Admin, Grants, Commissions, Professional fees
Elected Member Allowances	62,630	103,760	(41,130)	415,040	
Elected Member Expenses	16,162	41,406	(26,522)	165,625	
Council Committee & LA Allowances	6,830	6,250	580	25,000	
Council Committee Expenses	(1,278)	9,500	8,222	38,000	
Prior Period Expenses	866,614	0	866,614	0	Expenses relating to 25-26
Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	1,607,764	1,531,445	76,319	6,125,782	25/26 asset addition capitalisation resulting depreciation expense increase
Other Expenses	34,844	11,392	23,452	45,568	Commissions, Sponsorship
Interest Expenses (Finance Costs)	29,447	16,000	13,447	64,000	Loan Fees
Finance Costs – Unwinding WMF	0	0	0	629,865	Adjustment required – Rehab Provision for 25-26
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURE	5,863,395	6,340,839	(459,723)	25,993,227	
OPERATING SURPLUS /(DEFICIT)	8,128,602	5,243,865	1,968,852	(6,075,518)	Including Depreciation

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

The total year-to-date (YTD) Operating Income at 30 September, is \$13,991,997 displaying a variance of **\$2,428,575 up** on projected forecast for September.

A summary of YTD variances:

- (a) **Rates Revenue** – \$10,490,937 Rates Levied for 26-27 year. \$2,498 received in advance
- (b) **Waste Charges Revenue** – \$1,733,057 up on budgeted forecast for the year by \$2,292
- (c) **Rates Penalties and Interest** - \$53,347 received as at 30 September
- (d) **Statutory Charges** – \$36,887 in total including \$20k in dog registrations
- (e) **Fees and Charges** – \$806,192; Waste transfer revenue \$357,175
- (f) **Interest Income** – \$311,941
- (g) **Insurance recoveries** – \$12,895

The total year-to-date (YTD) Operating Expenditure is \$5,863,395 (excluding capital expense)

Summary of variances include:

- (a) Salaries and Wages - \$188,691 down on forecast of \$1,759,602
- (b) Materials and Contracts - \$1,669,470 down by \$1,192,014 on budget
- (c) Elected Member Expenses down by \$26,522 on projected year to date
- (d) Workers compensation credit for prior year adjustment of \$15,017
- (e) IT Licenses and subscriptions – \$74k expenses for prior year paid in 26-27
- (f) Depreciation Expenses - \$1,607,764
- (g) Prior Period Expenses – Council has paid \$866,614 expenditure relating to the 25-26 financial year in 26-27.
- (h) Roads to Recovery grant – Total of \$366,153 to be received from Federal government for Capital expenditure on completed R2R projects – Shepherd and Needham Streets. This has been accrued to prior year to offset expenses incurred in 25-26.

September Budget Operating Position is showing a surplus of \$8,128,602 including Depreciation expense, prior to capitalisation of \$603,352 to offset capital expenses year to date.

Table 1.2 Monthly Operating Position

	YTD Actuals \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Variance \$	Annual Budget \$
Operating Surplus (Deficit)	8,128,602	(1,518,879)	6,609,723	(6,075,518)
Remove Non-Cash Items				
- Less Non-Cash Income	0	0	0	0
Add back Non-Cash Expenses – Note (a)				
Depreciation & Unwinding WMF Asset	1,607,764	1,531,445	76,319	6,125,782
Net Gain (Loss) on Disposal of Assets	0	0	0	0
Total Non-Cash Items	1,607,764	1,531,445	76,319	6,125,782
Less Additional Outflows				
Capital Expenditure	603,352	1,488,132	(922,356)	5,952,530
Borrowing Repayments (Principal only)	0	0	0	0
Transfers to Reserves	0	0	0	0
Other Outflows -	0	0	0	0
Total Additional Outflows	603,352	1,488,132	(922,356)	5,952,530
Add Additional Inflows				
Capital Grants Income	62,206	42,775	19,431	1,711,000
Prior Year carried forward funding	136,375	0	136,375	0
Other inflow of Funds (Sale of Assets)	0	0	0	0
Transfers from Reserves	0	0	0	1,241,530
Drawdown of Borrowings (26-27)	500,000	500,000	0	3,000,000
Total Additional Inflows	698,581	542,775	155,806	5,952,530
Net Budgeted Operating Surplus (Deficit)	9,133,014	(932,791)	5,919,492	50,264

NOTES TO TABLE 1.2 Monthly operating Position**Non-Cash Items**

- (a) **Depreciation Expenditure** – \$1,607,764 includes WMF Air Space Asset depreciation calculated on closing written down value at 30.06.2026 (increased air space asset)
- (b) **Capital Expenditure – \$603,352** - of this \$603,352 is Council's contribution to Capital projects and is funded by the Civic Centre Loan and council own sourced revenue.
- (c) **Drawdown on Borrowings** – Loan for Civic Centre – \$500,000 drawdown received in August. Total Loan drawn down \$2,500,000.
- (d) **Other Outflows - (\$366,154)** Roads to Recovery Project – project completed at 30th June, 2026. Expenses and revenue accrued back to 25-26 financial year in line with commonwealth grant reporting requirements.

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

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE	YTD Actuals \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Variance \$	Current Year (Annual Budget)
Buildings and Other Structures	363,288	677,135	313,847	2,708,530
Improvements	172,451	72,750	99,701	291,000
Plant & Equipment	8,406	73,750	(65,344)	295,000
Furniture & Fittings	25,456	50,000	(24,544)	213,000
Fleet	0	0	0	0
Infrastructure Paths & Cycleways	23,402	257,500	(234,098)	1,030,000
Infrastructure Roads	0	353,750	(353,750)	1,415,000
Infrastructure Storm water & Drainage	10,349	25,000	(14,651)	100,000
Infrastructure - Irrigation	0	37,500	(37,500)	150,000
DRFA - Emergency Response Expenses*	0	0	0	0
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE	603,352	1,547,385	(944,033)	5,952,530

Total Capital Expenditure funded by:	YTD Actuals \$	YTD Budget \$	YTD Variance \$	Current Year (Annual Budget)
Council Co-Contribution	240,064	310,383	70,319	1,241,530
DRFA - Council Contribution	0	0	0	0
Capital Grants	0	427,750	(427,750)	1,711,000
Borrowings – Civic Centre Loan	363,288	363,288	0	3,000,000
Sales of Assets	0	0	0	0
Deferred Capital – Grants Carried Forward Prior Year	0	0	0	0
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE	603,352	1,101,421	(357,431)	5,952,530

Capital grants revenue variances due to Roads to Recovery grant received in 26-27 for the 25-26 completed project.

Sportsground Lighting upgrade - \$300,000 council approved to fund from Capital Renewal reserve.

Capital Projects – Financial Summaries

Capital Projects over \$150,000

Fig 1 – Current Capital Projects

Current Capital Project(s) (WIP)	Planned Budget – Life of Project				
	Grant	KTC Funded	Actual Spend - LOP	Balance	Est Completion Date
Civic Centre Refurbishment	\$0	\$5,000,000	\$ 363,288	\$4,636,712	March 2027
Zimin Drive Shared Path	\$756,000	\$394,000	\$ 124,118	\$1,025,882	December 2026
DRFA – (NEMA)	TBC	\$400,000	\$ 259,205	\$140,795	Jun 2027
Showgrounds – Reinststate services post flood	\$0	\$138,805	\$138,805	\$0	September 2026
Irrigation upgrades - Railway Terrace	\$0	\$150,000	\$0	\$150,000	March 2027
TOTAL	\$756,000	\$6,082,805	\$760,416	\$5,953,389	

Fig 2 – Upcoming Capital Projects

Upcoming Capital Project(s)	Planned Budget 26-27 Budget				
	Grants	KTC Funded 26-27	Actual Spend 26-27	Balance	Estimated Completion Date
Infrastructure/Roads - Zimmin Drive Shoulder Upgrades	\$235,000	\$0	\$0	\$235,000	Nov 2026
Infrastructure/Roads - Rural intersection upgrades	\$720,000	\$0	\$0	\$720,000	Nov 2026
Fit-out of Waste Management Facility	\$0	\$100,000	\$0	\$100,000	Dec 2026
Sportsground Lighting Upgrade	\$0	\$300,000*	\$0	\$300,000	Dec 2026
TOTAL	\$ 955,000	\$400,000	\$0	\$1,355,000	
Upcoming Capital Projects	Planned Budget 27-28				

	Grants	KTC Funded	Actual Spend 26-27	Balance	Est Completion Date
Infrastructure/Roads - Gorge Road Shoulder upgrades	\$235,000	\$ 0	\$0	\$235,000	Nov 2027

Fig 3 – Upcoming Capital Projects 27-28

**Table 2.2. Report on Planned Major Capital Works
Works over \$150K**

Class of Assets	By Major Capital Project	Total Planned Budget \$ Life of Project	Grant Funding approved	Council Contribution - Life of Project	Council Contribution 26-27 Budget	Total Prior Year(s) Expenditure\$	YTD Actual Spend \$	TOTAL Spent LOP \$	Total Yet to Spend \$	Revised Project Completion Date
Buildings & Other Structures	Civic Centre Upgrade	5,000,000		5,000,000	3,000,000	0	363,288	363,288	4,636,712	March 2027
Buildings & Other Structures	Waste management Facility Fitout	100,000		100,000	100,000	0	0	0	100,000	Dec 2026
Buildings & Other Structures	Showgrounds – electrical upgrade	138,805	Insurance claim	138,805	111,000	27,805	85,259	138,805	0	Sept 2026
Irrigation	Various Locations – incl Railway Tce	150,000		150,000	150,000	-	0	0	150,000	March 2027
Drains and Stormwater	Drains & Stormwater	100,000	-	100,000	100,000	-	10,349	10,349	89,651	June 2027
Infrastructure - Footpaths & Cycleways	New Shared Path - Zimin Drive	1,150,000	756,000	394,000	254,000	100,716	23,402	124,118	1,025,882	December 2026
Infrastructure - Roads	Zimmin Drive Shoulder upgrade	235,000	235,000	0	0	-	0	0	235,000	Nov 2026
Infrastructure - Roads	Local Road & Pavements: Zimmin & Giles	635,029	635,029	-	-	-	0	0	635,029	Dec-26
Infrastructure - Roads	Rural Intersection Upgrades: Helena/ Florina, Hendry/ Florina, Collins/Byers, Collins/Craigborn	720,000	720,000		0	-	0	0	720,000	November -26

**Table 2.2. Report on Planned Major Capital Works
Works over \$150K**

Class of Assets	By Major Capital Project	Total Planned Budget \$ Life of Project	Grant Funding approved	Council Contribution - Life of Project	Council Contribution 26-27 Budget	Total Prior Year(s) Expenditure\$	YTD Actual Spend \$	TOTAL Spent LOP \$	Total Yet to Spend \$	Revised Project Completion Date
TOTAL		8,241,029	2,346,209	5,744,000	2,715,000	128,521	482,298	636,560	7,592,274	N/A
NOTE: Council has adopted by ARMC resolution a definition for capital works consistent with the NT Government guidelines a minimum threshold for major capital works of \$150,000.										

BALANCE SHEET	YTD Actuals Sept 2026	Note Reference*
ASSETS		
Cash at Bank		
Tied Funds	17,618,247	(1)
Untied Funds	13,812,708	(1)
Trade Debtors	534,209	(2)
Rates & Charges Debtors	9,051,987	(2)
Other Current Assets	376,036	
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	41,393,186	
Non-Current Financial Assets		
Property, Plant and Equipment	139,023,697	
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS	139,023,697	
TOTAL ASSETS	180,416,883	
LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable	905,330	(3)
ATO & Payroll Liabilities	-52,503	(4)
Current Provisions	569,024	
Accruals	190,005	
Other Current Liabilities	597,034	
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	2,208,890	
Borrowings	2,500,000	
Non-Current Employee Provisions	21,738	
Waste Management Make Good Provision	24,664,074	
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES	2,718,5812	
TOTAL LIABILITIES	29,394,703	
NET ASSETS	151,022,180	
EQUITY		
Asset Revaluation Reserve	97,647,221	
Reserves	14,651,023	(1)
Accumulated Surplus	38,723,936	
TOTAL EQUITY	151,022,180	

NOTE 1. TIED AND UNTIED FUNDS	\$	\$
Imprest Petty Cash	868.00	
Employee Liabilities (Provisions)	590,763	
Capital Renewal Reserve	6,487,646	
Aquatic Centre Contingency Reserve	1,000,000	
Municipal Election Reserve	100,000	
Council Motion Funding Reserve	600,515	
WMF Make Good Provision Reserve	6,462,862	
TOTAL RESERVES		15,242,654
Unspent Loan funds for Civic Centre (from loan drawdown YTD)		2,136,712
Unspent Capital Grants		0
Deposits Held		238,881
TOTAL TIED FUNDS		17,618,246
UNTIED FUNDS		13,812,708
Cash and Cash Equivalents -less Tied Funds		

Note 1. Details of Cash and Investments Held

Cash at Bank consists of Term Deposits of \$22,352,843 with maturities as detailed below, with the remaining \$2,768,066M available at call. Cash Balance general fund \$6,313,472.

GENERAL FUND – Commonwealth Bank	\$
Balance as per bank statement as at 30 September 2026	\$6,313,472
Credit card balances	(5,754)
Balance of Imprest and Petty Cash	\$868
Plus net outstanding deposits/(withdrawals)	
Adjusted cash at bank balance, 30 September 2026	\$6,308,586

INSTITUTION	PRINCIPAL	INTEREST RATE	EFFECTIVE DATE	MATURITY DATE	TOTALS BY INSTITUTION	INSTITUTION %
AMP 1	\$562,351.88	5.20%	01.04.26	31/03/27		
AMP 2	\$1,000,000.00	5.35%	01.05.26	3/05/27		
AMP 3	\$500,000.00	5.25%	14.05.26	15/02/27		
AMP 4	\$1,682,382.24	5.35%	15.05.26	15/05/27		
AMP 5	\$1,104,170.48	5.35%	29.06.26	29/06/27		
AMP 6	\$1,544,903.75	5.35%	30.26.26	30/06/27	\$	28.6%
BOQ 3	\$524,117.43	4.00%	06.11.25	6/11/26		
BOQ 5	\$1,049,863.02	5.10%	06.08.25	08/02/27	\$	7%
CBA 1	\$2,730,592.05	5.27%	26.05.26	26/05/27		
CBA 3	\$547,284.31	4.05%	01.08.26	31/07/27		
CBA 4	\$549,638.68	5.27%	26.05.26	26/05/27	\$	17.1%
NAB 1	\$3,669,750.00	4.05%	11.11.25	11/11/26		
NAB 3	\$539,104.98	4.90%	11.07.26	13/07/27		
NAB 4	\$3,156,000.00	5.15%	30.07.25	30/07/27		
NAB 6	\$1,097,683.82	5.30%	05.09.26	06/09/27		
NAB 7	\$2,095,000.00	4.00%	14.10.25	14/10/26	\$	47.2%
AMP ON CALL	\$574,781.23	VARIABLE	30 DAYS			
CBA ON CALL	\$2,193,284.63	VARIABLE	30 DAYS	AT CALL TOTAL	\$	2,768,066
TOTAL INVESTMENTS					\$	22,352,843
TOTAL FUNDS					\$	25,120,909

NOTE 2 Statement on Trade Debtors

Council's Debtor Summary	Current	Past Due	Past Due	Past Due	Past Due	Total
		1 – 30 Days	31 – 60 Days	61-90 Days	90+ Days	
Rates Debtors	\$6,684,375	0	0	0	\$2,300,773	\$8,985,148
Trade Debtors	\$337,801	\$102,603	\$26,612	\$6,566	\$69,923	\$543,505
TOTAL	\$7,022,176	\$102,603	\$26,612	\$6,566	\$2,370,696	\$9,528,653

NOTE 3 Statement on Trade Creditors

	Current	Past Due	Past Due	Past Due	Past Due	Total
		1 – 30 Days	31 – 60 Days	61-90 Days	90+ Days	
Trade Creditors*	\$365,347	\$510,999	\$27,614	\$76	(\$1,888)	\$902,148
Other Creditors	\$3,231	0	0	0	0	\$3,231
Total Accounts Payable	\$368,578	\$510,999	\$27,614	\$76	(\$1,888)	\$905,379

Note 4. Statement on Australian Tax Office (ATO) and Payroll Obligations

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

**KTC is due for refund this amount from ATO - GST	\$(105,513)
**Superannuation Payable Liability at 30 September	\$887
**Prepaid Fringe Benefits Tax	\$(27,432)

**Note this is an estimate only due to timing of reports

Note 5. Ratios – Current and Rates

	%	
Current Ratio (current assets/current liabilities)	18.74	
Current Ratio adjusted for Tied Funds	10.76	
Rates coverage Percentage	93	



Phocas Software

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Liquidity ratios: comparing current assets to current liabilities

A **current ratio** of 1.5 to 2 is generally considered **good**. This means the company has \$1.50 to \$2 of current **assets** for every \$1 of current **liabilities**.

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

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

Cardholder Name: Casey Anderson

Transaction date	Amount	Suppliers Name	Reason for transaction
03/09/2026	319	XPNA.Co	Financial Subscription
04/09/2026	84.70	Intuit Mailchimp Sydney AUS	Subscription
07/09/2026	12	NT News Limited	Subscription
10/09/2026	337	XERO	Financial Subscription
11/09/2026	315	Starlink	CEO House & WMF
21/09/2026	10	XERO	Financial Subscription
23/09/2026	20	News Limited – NT News	Subscription
25/09/2026	475.20	EZL. Happy HR	Subscription
28/09/2026	787.89	ADOBE	Subscription
29/09/2026	264	Calxa	Financial Subscription - Aug
29/09/2026	264	Calxa	Financial Subscription - Sept
30/09/2026	1031.30	Woolworths Online	Purchases for Pool Day
TOTAL	\$ 3,920.09		

13.7 INFRASTRUCTURE AND PROJECTS QUARTERLY REPORT AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2026

Author: Matthew Arnott, Projects Portfolio Manager
Authoriser: Casey Anderson, Acting Chief Executive Officer
Report Type: For noting
Attachments: Nil

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To provide the Elected Members an update regarding the Infrastructure Services Department's activities and projects for the quarter July to September 2026.

RECOMMENDATION

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

SUMMARY

- Procurement and planning for upcoming projects continued during the quarter.
- Staffing shortages required staff to backfill key roles and responsibilities.
- Cockatoo activity caused ongoing damage to ovals, trees, and infrastructure.
- Surplus assets were auctioned, with proceeds returned to the Plant and Equipment budget.
- Vandalism has increased maintenance demands across Council assets.
- Sportsground Masterplan design development now begins.

DISCUSSION, OPTIONS AND ANALYSIS

INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATES

Maintenance and Projects Procurement

During the reporting period, Infrastructure staff have been heavily engaged in the procurement, planning and preparation of upcoming capital works, municipal plan deliverables and the renewal of ongoing maintenance contracts ensuring council is compliant with the legislation and policies.

Upcoming projects include:

- R2R funded Rural Intersection Upgrades
- Cemetery Amenities Refurbishment
- Flood Damage Repairs – Causeways
- Cemetery Landscaping
- Sports Grounds Oval 2 Lighting Replacement
- Murray Street Edge Repairs
- Native Plant Giveaway

Staffing

Staffing capacity and vacancies within the Infrastructure and Environment Administration team has continued to present challenges. To maintain continuation of services, other team members have undertaken backfill responsibilities and provided support across affected areas.

Bird Damage

The cockatoos have moved back in on the council's ovals; this is causing major damage to oval surfaces, trees and electrical cabling at both the Showgrounds and the Sportsgrounds. Putting more pressure on the team to repair public safety issues and contractor costs for repairs.

In 2025 we tried some Cat Silhouettes to scare the birds away, on suggestion from the Golf Club, however that only worked for a short period of time. After much consultation with staff, council is trialing a bird scaring noise device at the Sportsgrounds for 1 month in hopes of deterring the birds from continuing their destruction.



Assets

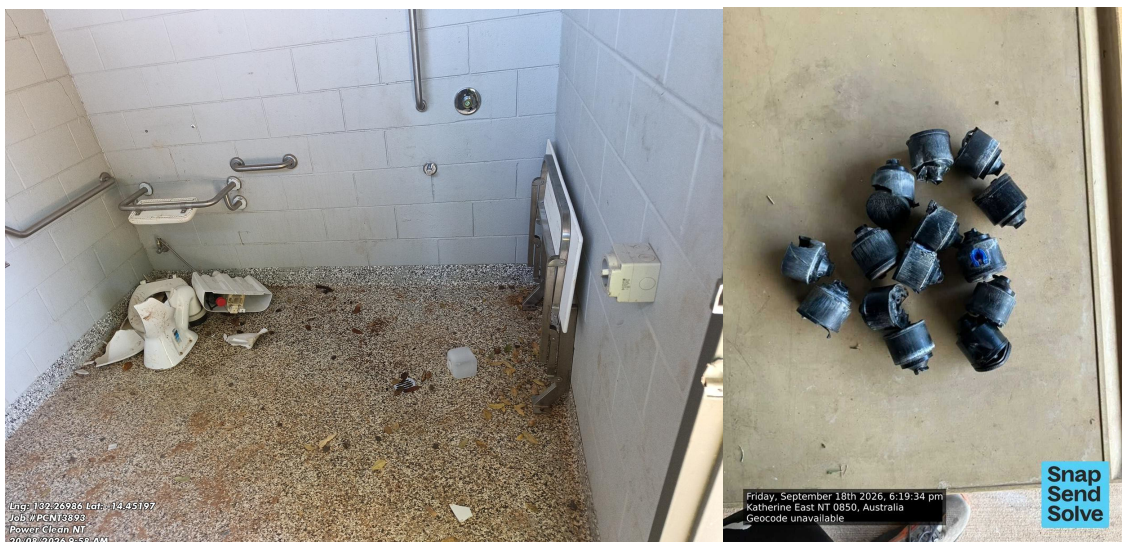
Following Council's resolution at the September meeting, surplus assets were disposed of through auction. Proceeds from these sales will be reinvested into the Plant and Equipment budget to support the purchase of appropriate replacement assets and maintain operational capability.

The proceeds from the sale came to \$84,604.00.

Vandalism

Vandalism continues to be an issue across the municipality with vandalism of sprinklers systems high. Repair works result in unplanned expenditure and has diverted resources from other planned works, impacting overall service delivery and the condition of our parks and open spaces.

Fencing at the Sports Grounds Play Park has been replaced with Garrison Fencing in hopes of minimising vandalism to the playground, amenities and irrigation system in this area. Public amenities are also a continued target, with the netball disabled toilet being broken into and vandalised twice in August and September.



Streetlights

Council is currently undertaking procurement for a new streetlighting maintenance and repair contractor following the cessation of services by the previous provider, whose capacity to effectively deliver the required service has ended.

In the interim, a local contractor has been engaged to undertake essential maintenance to councils' streetlights while the procurement and tender process is completed.

PROJECT UPDATES

Civic Centre Refurbishment (4.1.2.4)

Stage: Construction



The Civic Centre Refurbishment is progressing toward imminent roof replacement works. New and larger sized window holes have been cut to dramatically increase the natural light available to the interior. The lift shaft is complete, which will soon help to effortlessly bring wheelchairs, prams and people directly from the carpark into the upper public spaces.

Works will continue rapidly throughout the wet season to meet the recently revised program. The upcoming months include some high-risk construction work. The Council will continue to work with the construction team at Northern Building and Property Services, focusing on site safety and producing the highest quality building possible from within the budget.

Regional Sports, Recreation and Community Precinct Masterplan (rPPP) (#4.1.2.3)

Stage: Design

The lead contractor, Ashford Lamaya Architects, have now completed their stakeholder engagement period. Every conversation, letter, email, drawing and online survey result has been compiled into a thorough report which the Council can rely on well into the future.

A community presentation was recently held by the architects, on behalf of the Council, to show the first iteration of their design. The conceptual suggestions presented were the first stage of the

design process, which has followed a lengthy engagement period. The community may continue to have their say via Your Say Katherine and the elected members. All sporting organisations may directly email projects@ktc.nt.gov.au throughout the design period.

The project is being delivered with 100% Commonwealth funding under the Regional Precincts and Partnerships Program.

Cooling the Town Square (Options Analysis) (#7.2.5.2)

Stage: Procurement

From 7 February to 8 March 2025, Council invited community feedback on ideas to cool and improve the Town Square, results from this community consultation can be found via <https://www.yoursaykatherine.com.au/cooling-the-town-square-have-you-say>

Selected contractors are now being invited to quote on the preparation of an Options Analysis paper to determine the foreseeable costs and timeline to upgrade the town square. This is the first step before seeking funding to improve, or to significantly upgrading, one of our most visible and active town assets. Patrons of the Meeting Place can expect shading and cooling improvements to be a very high priority, but it may take multiple seasons to commit the funds and then complete the work.

Zimin Drive Shared Path (#3.3.2.1)

Stage: Procurement

The Zimin Drive Shared Path is likely to experience delays associated with permission to cross crown land and funding commitments. The documentation has been complete for some time now, but permissions are needed to construct the completed design before a construction timeframe can be planned with certainty. The Council has a plan of action if the preferred path alignment permissions become too challenging, but this will result in some further delays to the project until early next dry season.

The project is being delivered with 70% Commonwealth funding under the Active Transport Fund.

Waste Management Facility Fit-out (Construction) (#4.1.2.1)

Stage: Construction

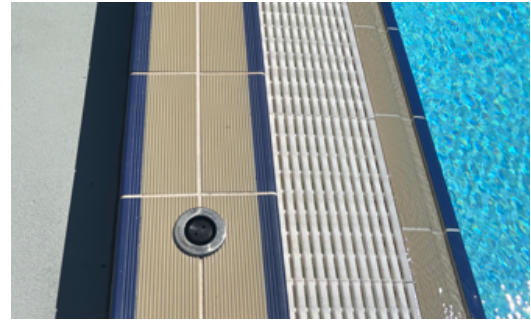
This small project is now moving into construction. The achievable priorities have been determined based on the available budget. Over the next 8 months, minor fit-out works will improve the two recently completed barebones facilities, the Dog Pound and the Machinery Shed. The work will improve operational capacity, comfort, and decrease time spent on mundane tasks.

These fit-out works were planned as a necessary future year spend before the Council committed to constructing the buildings on limited budgets to retain a time-limited grant funding source. The total budget to construct was much less than the estimated minimum cost to build at the time. Two structures were built which satisfied the minimum functional compliance requirements, had sound bones that exceeded the minimum structural requirements, and ensured our grant funding source didn't lapse.

Katherine Aquatic Centre Upgrade I (#4.2.4.1)

Stage: Defects Liability Period

The upgrade is nearing the end of the defects liability period (DLP). Throughout the DLP the contractor has returned to entirely replace the slippery concourse, alongside many other minor works. They've recently drilled and installed 4x new pole inserts for false start ropes. All post-handover works have been completed at no additional cost to the Council.



The DLP expires at the end of November. It's now helpful to relay any KAC concerns to the projects team, in case they're not already listed for rectification. Please use Snap-Send-Solve and remember that not all concerns will be structural or workmanship defects, but the council will consider and prioritise all notifications.

Other

- Defects Liability Period (DLP) Management (#4.2.4.1): Dog Pound
- Hot Springs Amenities Upgrade (Seek Funding Only) (#2.1.2.1): To improve the services available at the Katherine Hot Springs. Construction may be in a future financial year and will be subject to grant funding success.
- Procurement Framework Revisions (Internal) (#4.2.4.3): Further improvements to Katherine Town Council's procurement and project management framework.

Consultation Process

There was no consultation process required for this report.

Policy Implications

There are no policy implications resulting from the decision.

Budget and Resource Implications

Within current service delivery budget and resource.

Risk, Legal and Legislative Implications

There are no risk, legal and legislative implications.

Environment Sustainability Implications

There are no environmental sustainability implications.

Strategic Plan

3. SPORTS AND CIVIC EVENTS - 3.1 Sports and Civic Events - Provide sporting infrastructure and appropriate events to encourage community connectedness.

3.1.3 Develop key sporting infrastructure such as an all-weather/multipurpose sports arena.

3. SPORTS AND CIVIC EVENTS - 3.3 Accessibility and Mobility - Improve the accessibility of facilities and transport infrastructure and provide alternative transport solutions.

3.3.2 Provide and maintain footpaths and bike paths for ease of movement around town, with a shared pathway strategy.

3. SPORTS AND CIVIC EVENTS - 3.4 Activation and Revitalisation - Maximise developmental

potential of Council's land assets and create an attractive town through revitalisation.

3.4.5 Provide more drinking water access.

4. GROWTH AND SUSTAINABILITY - 4.1 Better Infrastructure - Identify infrastructure in need of upgrading, potential for new infrastructure, and develop long-term plans to anticipate opportunities for better infrastructure.

4.1.4 Investigate an all-weather multipurpose facility.

Municipal Plan

1.4.1.1 Deliver improvements and new infrastructure additions to the cemetery to support community need

3.3.2.1 Create shared pathways to support active transport

4.1.2.2 Deliver infrastructure projects in line with approved scope, budget and timeframes

4.1.2.4 Deliver the Civic Centre Refurbishment project

7.3.3.1 Improve sustainable water use across our operations through monitoring and upgraded irrigation infrastructure systems

13.8 PEOPLE AND CULTURE QUARTERLY REPORT AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2026

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

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To update Council on People and Culture activities, workforce initiatives and emerging workforce risks for the quarter ending 30 September 2026.

RECOMMENDATION

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

SUMMARY

- **Recruitment and workforce planning continued across operational, governance and corporate service areas, including commencement of the dedicated Workplace Health and Safety Officer, Works Coordinator and a Working Groups Governance Officer.**
- **A workforce skills audit commenced to identify capability gaps, inform training priorities and support succession planning and workforce resilience.**
- **Workplace health and safety systems and supporting documents are being developed following an external desktop review, with increased focus on risk assessments, corrective actions and mandatory training.**
- **Enterprise agreement planning and payroll remuneration remediation required significant People and Culture resources, with a focus on employee communication, accuracy and compliance.**
- **Employee relations, return-to-work arrangements and operational workforce changes continued to require coordinated management and appropriate documentation.**

DISCUSSION, OPTIONS AND ANALYSIS

Recruitment and Workforce Planning

During the quarter, Council continued recruitment and workforce planning to strengthen service delivery and address vacancies in key operational and corporate functions. The Workplace Health and Safety Officer commenced in August 2026. Recruitment activity and position review work also progressed for roles including the Human Resources Officer and Working Groups Governance Officer.

Council is currently recruiting for a Communications and Events Coordinator and an Infrastructure and Environment Administration Officer. Recruitment to these vacancies is a priority to maintain

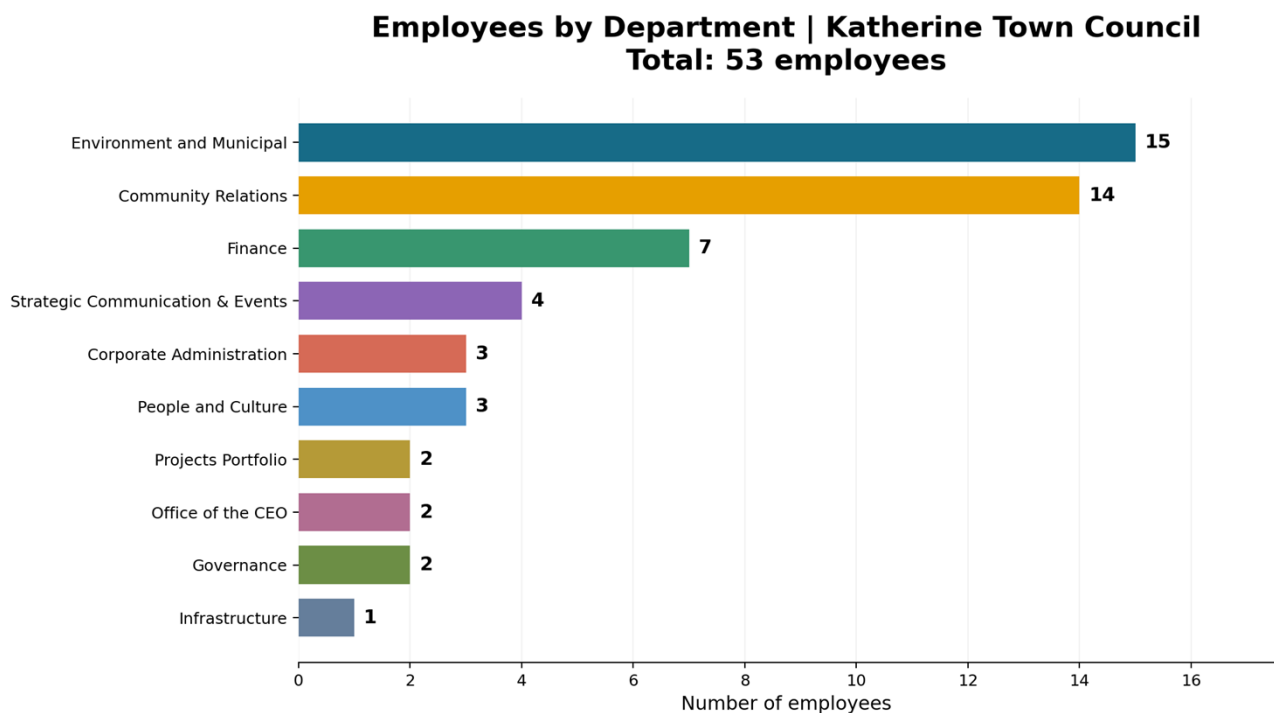
continuity of service delivery, support existing employees and ensure operational and administrative responsibilities continue to be effectively managed.

Council reviewed position descriptions and organisational arrangements to better align responsibilities, reporting lines and operational requirements. Temporary higher duties and acting arrangements continued to support continuity of services and internal capability development. Seasonal staffing at the Visitor Information Centre supported more consistent service coverage during the peak visitor period.

Recruitment priorities remain subject to approved budgets, organisational requirements, and final appointment decisions. A confirmed schedule of appointments, separations, and vacancies for the September quarter should be inserted once payroll, and recruitment records have been reconciled.

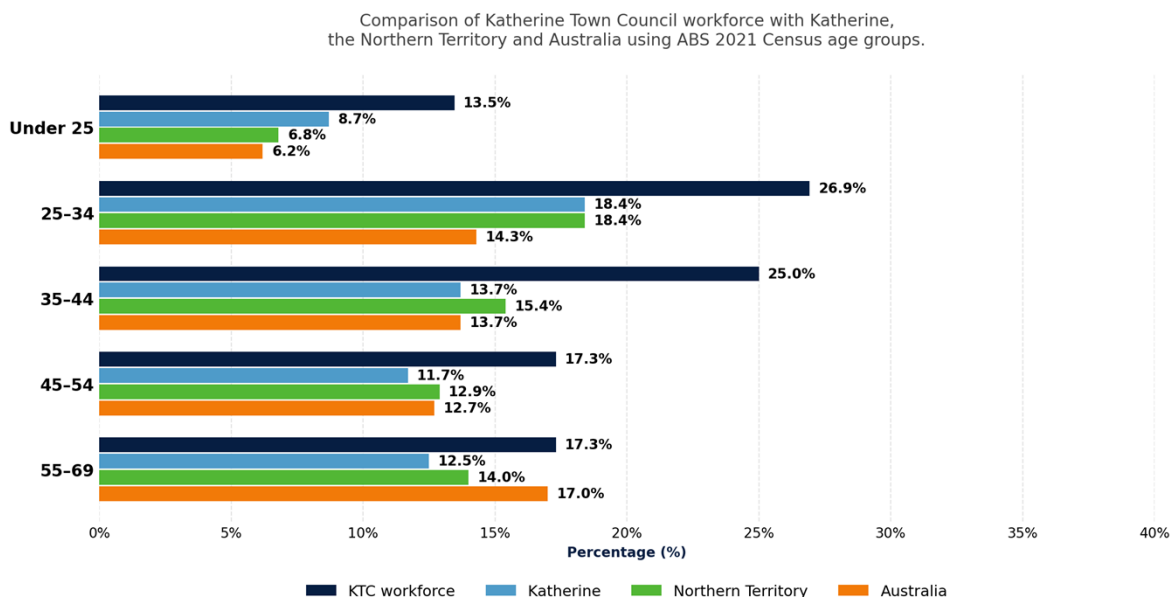
Workforce Demographics

53 employees as of 30 September 2026, comprising 36 permanent full-time, 5 permanent part-time and 9 casual employees and staff on maternity leave.



Source: Payroll Masterfile, Employees worksheet. Includes active staff and employees on leave/compensation; excludes terminated records.

Age Profile Comparison - KTC Workforce and ABS 2021 Census



Source: KTC payroll masterfile and employee contact details; workforce ages at 30 September 2026 (n=52).
Comparison: ABS 2021 Census QuickStats, figures reproduced from previous Council graph.
One current employee has no verified date of birth match and is excluded from KTC percentages.

Learning, Development and Workforce Capability

A workforce skills audit commenced during the quarter. This work includes mapping position description requirements, surveying staff capability, and identifying skills gaps to inform training priorities and future workforce planning. A skills register is being developed, together with a training matrix for incorporation into SkyTrust.

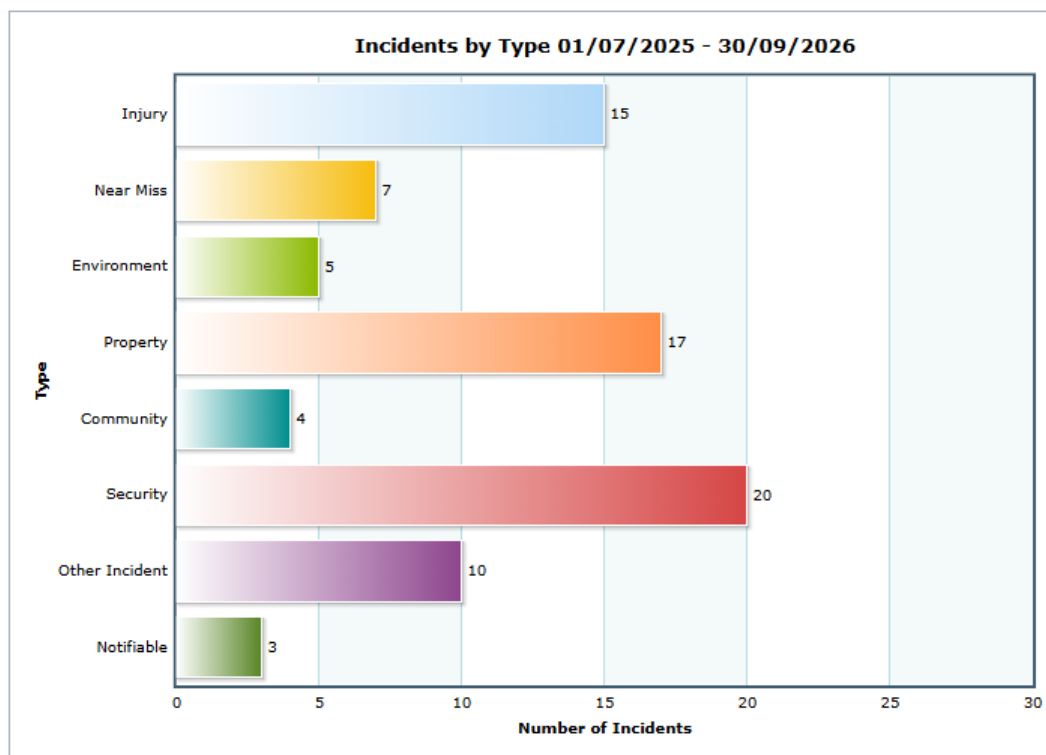
Mandatory and role-specific training requirements are being reviewed jointly by People and Culture and the Workplace Health and Safety function. This work will support clearer training schedules, evidence of competency, and reporting to the Audit and Risk Management Committee. Cultural awareness training has also been identified as a workforce-wide development priority, with consideration being given to independent external delivery and inclusion in induction processes.

Workplace Health and Safety

The dedicated Workplace Health and Safety Officer commenced in August 2026, providing additional capacity to progress hazard management, inspections, investigations, training, and corrective actions. SkyTrust remains the central system for recording and monitoring workplace safety matters.

An external desktop review identified that Council did not yet have a fully established Workplace Health and Safety Management System aligned with ISO 45001. In response, development of the WHS document framework, document control rules, and supporting operational documents has progressed. Supporting materials include plans, plant risk assessments, job safety analyses, and training resources. The framework remains under development and will require ongoing implementation, consultation, and verification of effectiveness.

Operational safety matters during the quarter included incidents and hazards at waste facilities, including a fire in August and security-related concerns. These matters reinforce the importance of documented risk controls, incident follow-up and clear operational responsibilities.



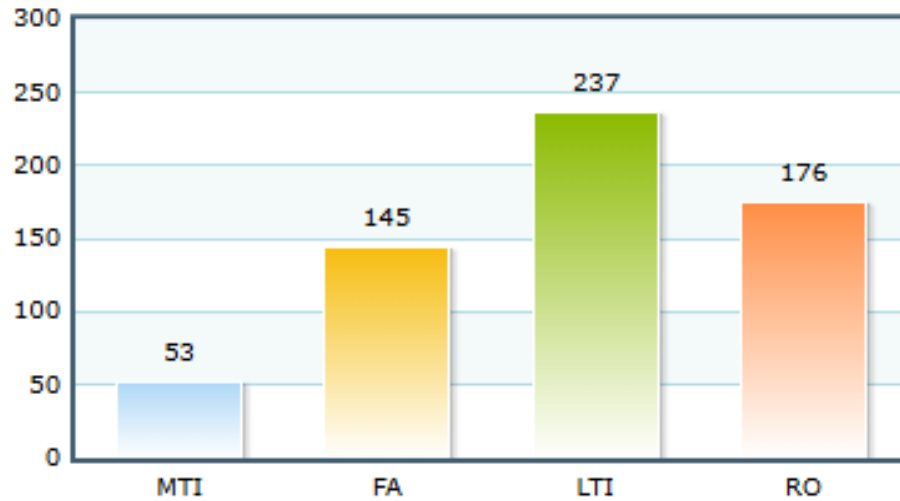
The graph provides a breakdown of incidents recorded by Council between 1 July 2025 and 30 September 2026, categorised by incident type. Security incidents were the most frequently reported (20), followed by property incidents (17) and injuries (15). Other incident categories included other incidents (10), near misses (7), environmental incidents (5), community incidents (4) and notifiable incidents (3).

It is important to note that a single incident may be recorded under more than one incident type. For example, an incident involving property damage and a security breach may be classified under both categories. Consequently, the combined total of incident types shown in the graph does not necessarily represent the total number of individual incidents reported.

This information assists Council in identifying recurring incident types, monitoring workplace health and safety trends, and prioritising risk management and preventative measures.



Days Since Last Injury - Employees Only



MTI	FA	LTI	RO
Medical Treatment Incident	First Aid	Lost Time Incident	Report Only

Investigations Open/Closed





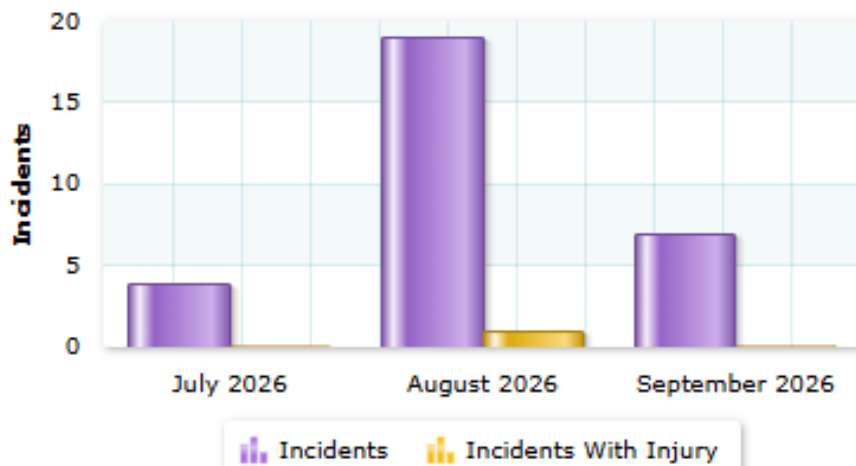
Recorded Injuries - Employees Only

Employee Recorded Injuries Between July 2026 AND September 2026



Injury Incident Ratio - Employees Only

Incident to Injury Ratio



Industrial Relations and Payroll Compliance

People and Culture continued preparatory work for enterprise agreement bargaining, including consideration of remuneration, classification and progression arrangements, the coverage of senior positions and legislative process requirements. The bargaining process will require continued engagement with employees, representatives, and relevant advisers.

Council also progressed the administration of remuneration remediation arising from historical pay and progression of matters. Work during the quarter included calculation and validation of entitlements, consideration of superannuation and tax treatment, planning employee communications, and coordinating payment arrangements with Finance and external legal advisers. This is a significant compliance and employee confidence priority.

Systems, Policies and Governance

Work continued to improve workforce administration, including induction, employee records, approved-driver and access-fob processes, delegations, training records and position description consistency. The People and Culture function is also strengthening the linkage between workforce risks, training needs and Council's broader governance and strategic risk reporting.

Consultation Process

There was no consultation process required for this report.

Policy Implications

There are no policy implications resulting from the decision.

Budget and Resource Implications

Within current service delivery budget and resource.

Risk, Legal and Legislative Implications

There are no risk, legal and legislative implications.

Environment Sustainability Implications

There are no environmental sustainability implications.

Strategic Plan**4. GROWTH AND SUSTAINABILITY - 4.2 Lead with Best Practice - Lead by example and set a high benchmark.**

4.2.1 Keep up to date with workplace health and safety training and be safety conscious when carrying out tasks.

4.2.1 Regularly update our workplace policies and procedures, and Council bylaws.

4.2.2 Keep up to date with workplace health and safety training and be safety conscious when carrying out tasks.

4. GROWTH AND SUSTAINABILITY - 4.3 Attract Skilled Workers - Attract and retain skilled workers.

4.3.1 Offer Council staff training and development opportunities.

4.3.2 Celebrate our successes.

4.3.3 Provide the right conditions and right opportunities.

Municipal Plan

Not applicable

14 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

14.1 MINUTES FROM COMMITTEES

15 ELECTED MEMBER ACTIVITIES

15.1 ELECTED MEMBER ACTIVITIES SEPTEMBER 2026

Report Type: For noting

Recommendation

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

Purpose of Report

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

Strategic Plan

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

1.1.1 Strengthen our councillor profiles to increase community awareness of who they are.

1. STRONG LEADERSHIP - 1.2 Partner in progress - Provide strategic leadership on economic development issues to promote Katherine's reputation and improve business confidence.

1.2.1 Foster strong relationships with Territory and federal governments to ensure coordination and support for economic development initiatives affecting Katherine at the local level and in the Big Rivers Region.

1.2.2 Act as a connector on key issues affecting the community as a member in key reference groups.

1.2.3 Act as a connector for businesses to foster collaboration and partnership opportunities.

Deputy Mayor Mel Doyle	
Date	Activity attended
2 September	Aboriginal Hostels Limited National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee (NAIDOC) Awards 2026
5 September	2026 Doug Kelly Medal
7 September	Community Information Session – Katherine Sportsground Precinct
8 September	Special Meeting of Council
9 September	AICD Governance Essentials for Local Government
10 September	AICD Governance Essentials for Local Government
11 September	New Code of Conduct and Social Media Training
15 September	Kintore Street Specialist School Concert
16 September	Katherine Community Safety Action Working Group – Catch Up
18 September	Elected Members Information Session (EMIS)
22 September	Binjari Fun Day
22 September	Ordinary Meeting of Council

Councillor Kathryn Whitehouse	
Date	Activity attended
8 September	Special Meeting of Council
9 September	AICD Governance Essentials for Local Government
10 September	AICD Governance Essentials for Local Government
11 September	New Code of Conduct and Social Media Training
22 September	Ordinary Meeting of Council
30 September	Wurli Day Celebrations 2026

Councillor Jim King	
Date	Activity attended
8 September	Special Meeting of Council
11 September	New Code of Conduct and Social Media Training
18 September	Elected Members Information Session
22 September	Ordinary Meeting of Council

30 September	Local Government Representation Review Briefing
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Councillor Toni Tapp-Coutts	
Date	Activity attended
4 September	Katherine 2026 Regional Business Awards
8 September	Special Meeting of Council
9 September	AICD Governance Essentials for Local Government
10 September	AICD Governance Essentials for Local Government
11 September	New Code of Conduct and Social Media Training
18 September	Elected Members Information Session (EMIS)
22 September	Ordinary Meeting of Council
30 September	Local Government Representations Review Briefing

Councillor Kathy Glass	
Date	Activity attended
8 September	Special Meeting of Council
9 September	AICD Governance Essentials for Local Government
10 September	AICD Governance Essentials for Local Government
15 September	Conflict of Resolution Training
18 September	Elected Members Information Session (EMIS)
22 September	Ordinary Council Meeting
29 September	New Code of Conduct and Social Media Training
30 September	Local Government Representations Review Briefing

Councillor Anjali Palmer	
Date	Activity attended
8 September	Special Meeting of Council
9 September	AICD Governance Essentials for Local Government
10 September	AICD Governance Essentials for Local Government
11 September	New Code of Conduct and Social Media Training

15 September	Conflict of Resolution Training
16 September	Katherine Community Safety Action Working Group – Catch Up
18 September	Elected Members Information Session (EMIS)
22 September	Ordinary Council Meeting
30 September	Local Government Representations Review Briefing

16 LATE AGENDA

17 GENERAL BUSINESS

18 CLOSURE OF MEETING TO PUBLIC

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

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

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

19 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

19.1 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES 22 SEPTEMBER 2026

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

19.4 CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

19.5 CONFIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE

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

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

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

19.6 FAIR WORK RENUMERATION REMEDIATION

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

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

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

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the <i>Local Government Act 2019</i> .
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Sub-regulation and Reason:	Regulation 51(1)(d) information subject to an obligation of confidentiality at law, or in equity.
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19.8 TENDER AWARD OF T26-03 – RURAL INTERSECTION UPGRADES - R2R FUNDED

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

19.9 CIVIC CENTRE REFURBISHMENT - UPDATE

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

20 RESUMPTION OF OPEN MEETING

21 CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

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