

AGENDA

Ordinary Meeting of Council
To be held on Tuesday 9 December 2025
At 6:00 pm

Godinyamyin Yijard Rivers Arts and Culture Centre
Lot 3238 Stuart Highway, Katherine

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
- Martene Johnson – Executive Assistant - Minute Taker
- Amanda Haigh – Manager Governance and Risk
- Brett Kimpton – Manager Environment and Municipal Services
- Matt Arnott - Manager Project Portfolio
- Rhett English - Manager Community Relations
- Jo Brosnan - Manager Strategic Communications
- Kimberly Worrigal – Contracts Coordinator

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.**

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1	Acknowledgement of Country	5
2	Opening Prayer.....	5
3	Opening of the Meeting	5
4	Attendance.....	5
4.1	Present.....	5
4.2	Apologies	5
4.3	Leave of Absence	5
5	Declaration of Interest.....	5
6	Presentations from External Agencies.....	5
7	Confirmation of Previous Minutes.....	5
7.1	Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council 25 November 2025	5
7.2	Minutes from the Special Meeting of Council - 14 November 2025.....	22
8	Business Arising from Previous Minutes	27
8.1	Action Update November 2025.....	27
9	Mayoral Business	31
9.1	Mayor Activities November 2025	31
9.2	Establishment of Community Safety Action Group	33
9.3	Service Assessment Proposal	36
9.4	Council Councillor Goals First 6 to 12 Months.....	41
10	Correspondence and Documents	43
10.1	Correspondence Incoming November 2025	43
10.2	Correspondence Outgoing November 2025	45
11	Petitions	51
12	Public Question Time (matters referred to the agenda).....	51
13	Notice of Motion.....	51
14	Reports of Officers.....	52
14.1	Audit and Risk Management Committee Charter	52

14.2	Audit and Risk Management Committee Independents extension of appointment	63
14.3	CBD speed changes	66
14.4	Centenary of Katherine Community Action Group - Terms of Reference.....	75
14.5	International Day of People with Disability Award Recipients.....	80
14.6	Corporate Administration Report for the Month of November 2025	82
14.7	Community Engagement Monthly Report.....	87
14.8	Community Relations Report For The Month of November 2025.....	90
14.9	Environmental and Municipal Services Report for the Month of November 2025	100
14.10	Infrastructure and Projects Report for the Month of November 2025	104
15	Reports from Committees.....	108
15.1	Minutes from Committees	108
16	Elected Member Activities	108
16.1	Elected Member Activities November 2025.....	108
17	Late Agenda	113
17.1	Finance Report November 2025.....	113
18	General Business	113
19	Closure of Meeting to Public.....	113
20	Confidential Items	113
20.1	Confirmation of Previous Confidential Minutes 25 November 2025	113
20.2	Minutes from the Confidential Special Meeting of Council 14 November 2025.....	113
20.3	Confidential Business Arising from previous minutes	113
20.4	Katherine Aquatic Centre Upgrade - Invoice Payment Approval.....	114
20.5	Citizen of the Year Award Recipients 2026	114
20.6	2025 Audit and Risk Management Committee Annual Assessment report	114
21	Resumption of Open Meeting	114
22	Closure of the Meeting.....	114

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

Leave of Absence was received by Councillor Kathryn Whitehouse for the following dates
12 December 2025 – 15 December 2025 inclusive and
19 January 2026 – 31 January 2026 inclusive

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

7 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

7.1 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL 25 NOVEMBER 2025

Report Type: Previous Minutes

Attachments: 1. Ordinary Council Meeting - 25 November 2025 - Minutes - Unconfirmed [7.1.1 - 16 pages]

Recommendation

That Council confirm the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 25 November 2025 as a true and accurate record.



MINUTES

**Ordinary Meeting of Council
Held on Tuesday 25 November 2025**

Godinyamyin Yijard Rivers Arts and Culture Centre
Lot 3238 Stuart Highway, Katherine



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 - 25 November 2025 open at 6:00 pm.

4 ATTENDANCE

4.1 PRESENT

ELECTED MEMBERS

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

OFFICERS

- Casey Anderson – Acting Chief Executive Officer
- Amanda Haigh – Manager Governance and Risk
- Martene Johnson - Executive Assistant, Minute Taker
- Brett Kimpton – Manager Environment and Municipal Services
- Matt Arnott - Manager Project Portfolio
- Rhett English - Manager Community Relations
- Jo Brosnan - Manager Strategic Communications - via video conferencing
- Shez Clemow - Rates and Regulatory Affairs Coordinator

PUBLIC - 12

4.2 APOLOGIES

Nil

4.3 LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Councillor King has submitted a leave of absence for 3rd December - 6th December 2025 inclusive

5 DECLARATION OF INTEREST



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

No conflicts of interest were declared for the open meeting.

6 PRESENTATIONS FROM EXTERNAL AGENCIES

UNCONFIRMED



7 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

7.1 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL 28 OCTOBER 2025

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

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

That Council confirm the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 28 October 2025 as a true and accurate record.

Discussion - 7.1 Amendment to Ordinary Meeting of Council dates Wednesday, 26 April 2028 to Tuesday, 26 April 2028.

9.1 To be noted in the Mayor activities, the meeting with Hugh King, Acting Director Sustainability and Compliance, Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development with Mayor Holden.

AMENDMENT RESOLUTION OMC-2025-281

Moved: Councillor Palmer; **Seconded:** Councillor Glass

That Council confirm the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 28 October 2025 as a true and accurate record subject to the amendments to 7.1 Change of date from Wednesday, 26 April 2028 to Tuesday, 26 April 2028 and 9.1 Mayor Activities to include the meeting between the Mayor and Hugh King, A/Director Sustainability and Compliance, Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development.

CARRIED 7|0

FOR: Mayor Holden, Councillor Whitehouse, Councillor King, Deputy Mayor Doyle, Councillor Tapp Coutts, Councillor Glass and Councillor Palmer
AGAINST: Nil



8 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

8.1 ACTION UPDATE OCTOBER 2025

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2025-282

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

That Council receive and note the Action update.

CARRIED 7|0

FOR: Mayor Holden, Councillor Whitehouse, Councillor King, Deputy Mayor Doyle, Councillor Tapp Coutts,
Councillor Glass and Councillor Palmer
AGAINST: Nil



9 MAYORAL BUSINESS

9.1 MAYOR ACTIVITIES OCTOBER 2025

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2025-283

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

That Council receive and note the Mayoral activities for October 2025.

CARRIED 7|0

FOR: Mayor Holden, Councillor Whitehouse, Councillor King, Deputy Mayor Doyle, Councillor Tapp Coutts, Councillor Glass and Councillor Palmer
AGAINST: Nil

10 CORRESPONDENCE AND DOCUMENTS

10.1 CORRESPONDENCE INCOMING OCTOBER 2025

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved: Councillor Palmer; **Seconded:** Councillor Glass

That Council receive and note the Incoming Correspondence:

- Attachments:
1. LGANT CEO - ALGA Board meeting communique - 11 Sept 2025 - ID 243827 **[10.1.1 - 1 page]**
 2. LGANT CEO - LGANT Board meeting Communique - 22 Oct 2025 - ID 24830 **[10.1.2 - 2 pages]**
 3. LGANT CEO - Review Guideline 3 - Borrowings 24 Oct 2025 - ID 242841 **[10.1.3 - 1 page]**
 4. LGANT CEO - Call for Nominations - NT Planning Commission - 24 Oct 2025 - ID 242842 **[10.1.4 - 2 pages]**
 5. LGANT CEO - Call for nominations - NT Place Names Committee - 24 Oct 2025 - ID 242843 **[10.1.5 - 1 page]**
 6. LGANT CEO - Call for Nominations - NT Water Safety Advisory Council- 28 Oct 2025 - ID 242838 **[10.1.6 - 1 page]**

Discussion - Councillor Tapp Coutts would like to nominate herself for the NT Place Names Committee noting nominations close on December 5, 2025.

AMENDMENT RESOLUTION OMC-2025-284

Moved: Councillor Palmer; **Seconded:** Councillor King

1. That Council receive and note the Incoming Correspondence:

Attachments:

1. LGANT CEO - ALGA Board meeting communique - 11 Sept 2025 - ID 243827 **[10.1.1 - 1 page]**
2. LGANT CEO - LGANT Board meeting Communique - 22 Oct 2025 - ID 24830 **[10.1.2 - 2 pages]**
3. LGANT CEO - Review Guideline 3 - Borrowings 24 Oct 2025 - ID 242841 **[10.1.3 - 1 page]**



4. LGANT CEO - Call for Nominations - NT Planning Commission - 24 Oct 2025 - ID 242842 [10.1.4 - 2 pages]
5. LGANT CEO - Call for nominations - NT Place Names Committee - 24 Oct 2025 - ID 242843 [10.1.5 - 1 page]
6. LGANT CEO - Call for Nominations - NT Water Safety Advisory Council- 28 Oct 2025 - ID 242838 [10.1.6 - 1 page]

2. That Council resolves to nominate Councillor Toni Tapp Coutts to the NT Place Names Committee on behalf of Katherine Town Council.

CARRIED 7|0

FOR: Mayor Holden, Councillor Whitehouse, Councillor King, Deputy Mayor Doyle, Councillor Tapp Coutts, Councillor Glass and Councillor Palmer
AGAINST: Nil

10.2 CORRESPONDENCE OUTGOING OCTOBER 2025

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2025-285

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

That Council receive and note the Outgoing Correspondence:

- Attachments:
1. Thank you Letter - Lis Clark - 21 Oct 2025 - ID 243411 [10.2.1 - 1 page]
 2. Thank you Letter - Denis Coburn - 21 Oct 2025 - ID 243415 [10.2.2 - 1 page]
 3. Thank you Letter - Maddy Bower - 21 Oct 2025 - ID 243412 [10.2.3 - 1 page]
 4. Thank you Letter - Amanda Kingdon - 21 Oct 2025 - ID 243416 [10.2.4 - 1 page]
 5. Thank you Letter - Peter McDougall - 21 Oct 2025 - ID 243410 [10.2.5 - 1 page]
 6. Thank you Letter - Kerrie Mott - 21 Oct 2025 - ID 243413 [10.2.6 - 1 page]
 7. Thank you Letter - Jeremy Trembath - 21 Oct 2025 - ID 243414 [10.2.7 - 1 page]
 8. Thank you Letter - Chief Minister Finocchiaro - 23 Oct 2025 - ID 242399 [10.2.8 - 1 page]
 9. Thank you Letter - Selena Ubio MLA - 23 Oct 2025 - ID 242400 [10.2.9 - 1 page]
 10. Letter - Joshua Burgoyne - DCA Katherine nominations - 29 Oct 2025 - ID 242495 [10.2.10 - 1 page]
 11. Minister Charls - Nomination for the Ministerial Advisory Council - 30 Oct 2025 - ID 242829 [10.2.11 - 1 page]
 12. Letter - Nitmiluk Park Board nomination - 31 Oct 2025 - ID 243250 [10.2.12 - 1 page]

CARRIED 7|0

FOR: Mayor Holden, Councillor Whitehouse, Councillor King, Deputy Mayor Doyle, Councillor Tapp Coutts, Councillor Glass and Councillor Palmer
AGAINST: Nil

11 PETITIONS

Nil



KATHERINE
TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES - Ordinary Meeting of Council - 25 November 2025

12 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (MATTERS REFERRED TO THE AGENDA)

Questions from the Gallery at the Ordinary Meeting of Council - 25 November 2025

Question	Response
A question about the online broadcasting of the meetings. Is there a plan for this in the future or not	We need to establish a policy on live streaming of meetings, once approved we will move forward with implementing the live streaming.
Regarding the financials - have the borrowings been drawn down. Has the council reduced the loan from \$5 million to \$3 million?	No, we have not reduced down the projected costs they are still the same as the previous Council approval for the loan.
What is happening with the speed limit, still no update? Where is council standing? What is the Council doing about it?	We are planning a meeting with the department to discuss the 40k/hr speed zone, we need to go back to department to confirm the meeting and provide an update.
Will the meeting with Minster Yan be minuted and recorded?	The elected members needs to have a briefing with the department and have a full understanding, we need to go back to the department in December and we will come back to you.
Why do the strategic and municipal plans within the reports be included, is there a reason for this?	Format was inherited, but we are looking at amending the format. We are discussing it as a Council and are looking at something more suited to us and easier to read.
Credit card policy. Why do elected members need to have a credit card, there is no reason for them to have one?	Elected members don't have credit cards, financial delegation would be required, however the policy is provisioned in the event the Mayor requires a card. It requires a change to the financial delegation. The policy only refers to CEO and Mayor.

13 NOTICE OF MOTION

14 REPORTS OF OFFICERS

14.1 DISPOSAL AND WRITE OFFS OF VARIOUS FIXED ASSETS

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

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

1. That Council approves the write-off of 11 assets as detailed in *Table 1. Assets to be Written off*, in accordance with Regulation 28 of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 and Section 267 of the *Local Government Act NT 2019*.
2. That Council approves the disposal of 36 assets as detailed in *Table 2. Assets to be Disposed*, ensuring all disposal actions comply with Ministerial Guideline 4: Assets and Katherine Town Council's Asset Management Policy.
3. 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.



Discussion - A query raised regarding Table 2, which is noted as having been “added in error.” Clarification.

That the item was not a Council asset. Accordingly, the resolution to be amended to reflect that it was not a Council asset.

AMENDMENT RESOLUTION OMC-2025-286

Moved: Councillor Whitehouse; **Seconded:** Councillor Palmer

1. That Council approves the write-off of 11 assets as detailed in *Table 1. Assets to be Written off*, in accordance with Regulation 28 of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 and Section 267 of the *Local Government Act NT 2019*.
2. That Council approves the disposal of 36 assets as detailed in *Table 2. Assets to be Disposed*, ensuring all disposal actions comply with Ministerial Guideline 4: Assets and Katherine Town Council’s Asset Management Policy and that the table to be amended in the report, the reason for disposal be amended to non Council asset added in error.
3. 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

FOR: Mayor Holden, Councillor Whitehouse, Councillor King, Deputy Mayor Doyle, Councillor Tapp Coutts, Councillor Glass and Councillor Palmer
AGAINST: Nil

Table 2. Assets to be Disposed

<u>Asset Number</u>	<u>Asset Description</u>	<u>Reason for Disposal</u>	<u>Method of Disposal</u>
BOS80018	Airport - Katherine Aerial Medical Hanger & Office Roofing	Not a Council Asset	Other - clerical
BOS80019	Airport - Katherine Aerial Medical Hanger & Office Internal Finishes	Not a Council Asset	Other - clerical
BOS80020	Airport - Katherine Aerial Medical Hanger & Office Flooring Finishes	Not a Council Asset	Other - clerical
BOS80021	Airport - Katherine Aerial Medical Hanger & Office Services - Plumbing	Not a Council Asset	Other - clerical
BOS80022	Airport - Katherine Aerial Medical Hanger & Office Services - Mechanic	Not a Council Asset	Other - clerical
BOS80023	Airport - Katherine Aerial Medical Hanger & Office Services - Electric	Not a Council Asset	Other - clerical
BOS80024	Airport - Katherine Aerial Medical Hanger & Office Services - Fire	Not a Council Asset	Other - clerical
BOS80025	Airport - Katherine Aerial Medical Hanger & Office Structure Exc Roof	Not a Council Asset	Other - clerical
RD40614	Pavement (Chambers Drive) Katherine East	Not a Council Asset	Other - clerical



RD40615	Seal (Chambers Drive) Katherine East	Not a Council Asset	Other - clerical
RD41000	Pavement (Donkey Camp) Lansdowne	Not a Council Asset	Other - clerical
RD41001	Seal (Donkey Camp) Lansdowne	Not a Council Asset	Other - clerical
IMP7101	Bore No 2 and fencing (SHG)	Capital Renewal	Demolished
IMP7102	Pump equipment on bore (SHG)	Capital Renewal	Demolished
IMP7034	Boundary fencing (SHG)	Capital Renewal	Demolished
IMP7035	Fencing (SHG)	Capital Renewal	Demolished
IMP7147	Cemetery - Security Fence (Paper Fence)	Capital Renewal	Demolished
PE5093	CE39LS - 2021 - Grey - Volkswagen T-Cross - S/Wagon - 4x2	Capital Renewal	Traded-In
BOS80500	Shade structure (x3 Upper Hot Springs)	Capital Upgrade	Demolished
BOS80501	Main staircase (Hot Springs)	Capital Upgrade	Demolished
BOS80502	Walkway & Retaining wall (Hot Springs)	Capital Upgrade	Demolished
BOS80503	Retaining wall to public toilets (Hot Springs)	Capital Upgrade	Demolished
BOS80504	Boardwalk & viewing platform (Hot Springs)	Capital Upgrade	Demolished
BOS81189	Rodeo Ablutions - Structure	Capital Upgrade	Demolished
BOS81190	Rodeo Ablutions - Roofing	Capital Upgrade	Demolished
BOS81191	Rodeo Ablutions - Services Electrical	Capital Upgrade	Demolished
BOS81192	Rodeo Ablutions - Services Plumbing	Capital Upgrade	Demolished
ODL61102	Sport & Rec Lighting - Sportsgrounds - Oval No. 2 Light Towers	Capital Upgrade	Scrapped
IMP7016	Boundary fencing (SPG)	Capital Upgrade	Demolished
IMP7026	Boundary fencing (SPG)	Capital Upgrade	Demolished
BOS81500	Automatic toilet (VIC)	Capital Upgrade	Scrap
BOS81100	ATCO demountable (near rodeo area)	Surplus to Needs	Demolished
BOS81311	Covered Area - Near Toilet Block No2	Surplus to Needs	Demolished
BOS81900	Automatic toilet (Ryan Park)	Surplus to Needs	Scrap
PE5108	Dickens & Mcleod Little Ripper Trencher	Surplus to Needs	Scrapped
BOS81703	Dump Oil Tank	Surplus to Needs	Scrap

14.2 KATHERINE AQUATIC CENTRE – YMCA - COMMUNITY BENEFIT PLAN AND PROGRAM DELIVERY

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2025-287

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



That Council:

1. Notes the progress and outcomes of the YMCA Northern Territory's Community Benefit Plan and Program Delivery Model under Contract T25-08 – Katherine Aquatic Centre Operational Management Services;
2. Acknowledges the YMCA Northern Territory's contribution to local employment, community wellbeing, inclusion, and reconciliation through the implementation of its approved community programs; and
3. Notes of ongoing performance monitoring and annual reporting will be provided to the Council on community participation, program delivery outcomes, and alignment with Katherine Town Council's Municipal Plan 2025–26 objectives.

CARRIED 7|0

FOR: Mayor Holden, Councillor Whitehouse, Councillor King, Deputy Mayor Doyle, Councillor Tapp Coutts, Councillor Glass and Councillor Palmer
AGAINST: Nil

Discussion - Noted page 59 to page 62 are the YMCA Key Performance Indicators.

14.3 RESCIND PROPOSED LAND LICENSE AGREEMENT

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2025-288

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

That Council rescind the resolution OMC-2025-155 the Proposed Land License Agreement over Lot 2787, Katherine NT

CARRIED 7|0

FOR: Mayor Holden, Councillor Whitehouse, Councillor King, Deputy Mayor Doyle, Councillor Tapp Coutts, Councillor Glass and Councillor Palmer
AGAINST: Nil

14.4 REVIEWED COUNCIL POLICIES

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2025-289

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

1. That Council approve and adopt the Attendance at Meetings via Audio or Audiovisual Conferencing System Policy version 3.
2. That Council approve and adopt the Council Delegates and Representation on External Organisations, Including Community Groups Policy version 2.
3. That Council approve and adopt the Credit Card for Council Members and Chief Executive Officer Policy version 2.
4. That Council approve and adopt the Filling Casual Vacancies Policy version 3.

CARRIED 7|0

FOR: Mayor Holden, Councillor Whitehouse, Councillor King, Deputy Mayor Doyle, Councillor Tapp Coutts, Councillor Glass and Councillor Palmer



AGAINST: Nil

14.5 FINANCE REPORT - OCTOBER 2025

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2025-290

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

That Council endorses the Finance Report for the month of October 2025.

CARRIED 7|0

FOR: Mayor Holden, Councillor Whitehouse, Councillor King, Deputy Mayor Doyle, Councillor Tapp Coutts, Councillor Glass and Councillor Palmer

AGAINST: Nil

14.6 COMMUNITY RELATIONS REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 2025

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2025-291

Moved: Councillor Whitehouse; **Seconded:** Councillor King

That Council receive and note the Community Relations Department report for the month of October 2025.

CARRIED 7|0

FOR: Mayor Holden, Councillor Whitehouse, Councillor King, Deputy Mayor Doyle, Councillor Tapp Coutts, Councillor Glass and Councillor Palmer

AGAINST: Nil

14.7 CORPORATE ADMINISTRATION REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 2025

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2025-292

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

That Council receives and note the Corporate Administration Report for the month of October 2025.

CARRIED 7|0

FOR: Mayor Holden, Councillor Whitehouse, Councillor King, Deputy Mayor Doyle, Councillor Tapp Coutts, Councillor Glass and Councillor Palmer

AGAINST: Nil

14.8 ENVIRONMENTAL AND MUNICIPAL SERVICES REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 2025

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2025-293

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

That Council receive and note the report of the Environmental Services Department for October 2025.

CARRIED 7|0

FOR: Mayor Holden, Councillor Whitehouse, Councillor King, Deputy Mayor Doyle, Councillor Tapp Coutts, Councillor Glass and Councillor Palmer

AGAINST: Nil

Discussion - The reports improvement was acknowledged, noting there has been increase in dog licenses. The door knock has encouraged the community to register their dogs, well done. Staff are doing a good job and have being responding very well to the dog issue in town.



14.9 INFRASTRUCTURE AND PROJECTS REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 2025

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2025-294

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

That Council receive and note the report of the Infrastructure Services Department for October 2025.

CARRIED 7|0

FOR: Mayor Holden, Councillor Whitehouse, Councillor King, Deputy Mayor Doyle, Councillor Tapp Coutts,
Councillor Glass and Councillor Palmer
AGAINST: Nil

Discussion - Councillors thanked staff for their quick response to get on top of the graffiti.

14.10 PEOPLE AND CULTURE QUARTERLY REPORT

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2025-295

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

That Council receive and note the People and Culture report for the quarter July to September 2025.

CARRIED 7|0

FOR: Mayor Holden, Councillor Whitehouse, Councillor King, Deputy Mayor Doyle, Councillor Tapp Coutts,
Councillor Glass and Councillor Palmer
AGAINST: Nil

Discussion - Council staff continue to out preform with the vacancies we have and it needs to be celebrated.

15 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

15.1 MINUTES FROM COMMITTEES

16 ELECTED MEMBER ACTIVITIES

16.1 ELECTED MEMBER ACTIVITIES OCTOBER 2025

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2025-296

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

That Council receive and note the Elected Member activities for October 2025.

CARRIED 7|0

FOR: Mayor Holden, Councillor Whitehouse, Councillor King, Deputy Mayor Doyle, Councillor Tapp Coutts,
Councillor Glass and Councillor Palmer
AGAINST: Nil

17 LATE AGENDA



18 GENERAL BUSINESS

Councillor Glass - Request the list of activities/projects of elected member for 6 to 12 months needs to be made public. The Mayor will include a report in the 9th December Council meeting.

Requested that Council representatives deliver the Acknowledgment of Country at events if it is not already done.

Councillor Tapp Coutts - Acknowledged the responsiveness and success of the *Snap, Send and Solve* initiative and expressed gratitude to staff for their prompt actions. A member of the public shared their appreciation for the excellent support received, and I encourage the wider community to continue making use of the service.

Katherine Region of Writers have received the Centenary Grant and is calling for contributions - of stories, recipes, photos with accompanying stories, a historical photos of past businesses, and reflections on the last 100 years. This collection will create a snapshot of our region for the Centenary celebration. Submissions can be up to 2,000 words and must be received by 23 February 2026. The completed book will be produced and launched next year.

The Mayor wishes to acknowledge the following community members:

Elizabeth (Bess) Hart - Seniors of Excellence award,

Jenny Duggan OAM - NT Senior Australian of the Year and

Ron Green BM ESM - NT Local Hero Australian of the Year.

Deputy Mayor Doyle - Noted the International Mens' Golf Day was great, it was booked out and \$2,000 was donated to Headspace.

19 CLOSURE OF MEETING TO PUBLIC

The open meeting was declared closed to the public at 6:43 pm.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2025-297

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.

CARRIED 7|0

FOR: Mayor Holden, Councillor Whitehouse, Councillor King, Deputy Mayor Doyle, Councillor Tapp Coutts, Councillor Glass and Councillor Palmer
AGAINST: Nil



KATHERINE
TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES - Ordinary Meeting of Council - 25 November 2025

20 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

20.1 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES 28 OCTOBER 2025

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-clause and Reason:	(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-clause and Reason:	(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-clause and Reason:	(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.

20.2 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-clause and Reason:	(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-clause and Reason:	(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-clause and Reason:	(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

20.3 TOURISM TOWN ASSET PROGRAM ROUND 5 - KATHERINE VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE RELOCATION TO CO-LOCATE WITH GYRACC



KATHERINE
TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES - Ordinary Meeting of Council - 25 November 2025

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-clause and Reason:	(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-2025-300

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

That Council:

1. Receives and notes the additional information contained within this report.
2. Approves affixing the Common Seal to the funding agreement for the Tourism Town Asset Program Round 5 – Katherine Visitor Information Centre Relocation to Co-locate with Godinymayin Yijard Rivers Arts and Culture Centre (GYRACC) valued at \$87,978.92 GST exclusive.
3. Approves the release of the resolutions to the Open Minutes.

CARRIED 7|0

FOR: Mayor Holden, Councillor Whitehouse, Councillor King, Deputy Mayor Doyle, Councillor Tapp Coutts, Councillor Glass and Councillor Palmer
AGAINST: Nil

20.4 KATHERINE AQUATIC CENTRE UPGRADE - INVOICE APPROVAL

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

21 RESUMPTION OF OPEN MEETING

The open meeting resumed at 7:04 pm.

22 CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

The Ordinary Meeting of Council - 25 November 2025 was declared closed at 7:04 pm.

The next Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held on Tuesday 9 December 2025.

7.2 MINUTES FROM THE SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL - 14 NOVEMBER 2025

Report Type: Previous Minutes

Attachments: 1. Special Meeting of Council - 14 November 2025 - Minutes Unconfirmed [7.2.1 - 4 pages]

Recommendation

That Council confirm the minutes of the Special Meeting of Council held on 14 November 2025 as a true and accurate record.



MINUTES

**Special Meeting of Council
Held on Friday 14 November 2025**

Katherine Library, Conference Room
15 Katherine Terrace, Katherine NT 0850



1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

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

2 OPENING PRAYER

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

3 OPENING OF THE MEETING

Mayor Holden declared the Special Meeting of Council - 14 November 2025 open at 12:33 pm.

4 ATTENDANCE

4.1 PRESENT

ELECTED MEMBERS

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

OFFICERS

- Martene Johnson - Executive Assistant - Minute Taker

4.2 APOLOGIES

Nil

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@krc.nt.gov.au

6 REPORTS OF OFFICERS



7 CLOSURE OF MEETING TO THE PUBLIC

The open meeting was declared closed to the public at 12:34 pm.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION SMC-2025-9

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.

CARRIED 7|0

FOR: Mayor Holden, Councillor Whitehouse, Councillor King, Deputy Mayor Doyle, Councillor Tapp Coutts, Councillor Glass and Councillor Palmer
AGAINST: Nil

8 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

8.1 FAIR WORK COMMISSION DECISION

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-clause and Reason:	(d) information subject to an obligation of confidentiality at law, or in equity.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION SMC-2025-140

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

That Council:

- Receive and note the decision of the Fair Work Commission C2025/5542 United Workers' Union v's Katherine Town Council; and
- Do not proceed with an appeal; and
- Accept the Determination of the Fair Work Commission C2025/5542 United Workers' Union v's Katherine Town Council and move to implement; and
- Request the financial impact be recommended to Council in the next budget review.
- Move the recommendations a., c., d., and h. to the open minutes.

CARRIED 7|0

FOR: Mayor Holden, Councillor Whitehouse, Councillor King, Deputy Mayor Doyle, Councillor Tapp Coutts, Councillor Glass and Councillor Palmer
AGAINST: Nil

8.2 COMPLIANCE REVIEW



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-clause and Reason:	(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.

8.3 MAYORAL BUSINESS

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

9 RESUMPTION OF OPEN MEETING

10 CLOSURE OF THE MEETING



8 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

8.1 ACTION UPDATE NOVEMBER 2025

Report Type: For noting

Attachments: 1. Action Report - 25 November 2025 [**8.1.1** - 3 pages]

Officer Recommendation

That Council receive and note the Action update.

22-10-2024	Ordinary Meeting of Council - 22 October 2024	14.2	Policies- Live streaming ability to be included in the upgrades to the Civic centre. Policy to be revised following the upgrade.	In Progress
<p>Policy being reviewed to table at the December Ordinary council meeting. Livestreaming capability being investigated.</p> <p>Options for live streaming are progressing. The policy is tabled to the next EMIS for Elected Member feedback and comment before tabling to council for approval.</p>				
25-03-2025	Ordinary Meeting of Council - 25 March 2025	14.1	CBD speed changes - That Council request a meeting between the NTG appropriate staff and KTC to discuss the proposed Stuart Highway 40km speed limit within Katherine Township.	In Progress
<p>Letter sent to Minister Yan cc CEO DoLI 7 April 2025</p> <p>DLI Executive Director Northern Region in discussions with CEO for information to assist with council decision</p> <p>Minister Hersey spoke to the matter at her meeting with elected members, but there was no resolution.</p> <p>Mininster Hersey said she would seek advice about the report sent to council stating which councillor spoke on councils behalf.</p> <p>OMC 17 June 2025 update - Noted no response from Minister Hersey regarding followup information on the CBD speed changes. Minister Yan advised he will meet with Council on his next visit regarding the CBD speed changes.</p> <p>ED DLI Jess De Masson emailed CEO Council 7 August to follow-up and has agreed to meet with the new council to seek decision and briefing on other matters, proposed 22 September.</p> <p>Letter sent to Minister Yan cc CEO DoLI 7 April 2025</p> <p>DLI Executive Director Northern Region in discussions with CEO for information to assist with council decision.</p> <p>Minister Hersey spoke to the matter at her meeting with elected members, but there was no resolution.</p> <p>Minister Hersey said she would seek advice about the report sent to council stating which Councillor spoke on Councils behalf.</p> <p>17 June 2025 - Noted no response from Minister Hersey regarding follow-up information on the CBD speed changes. Minister Yan advised he will meet with Council on his next visit regarding the CBD speed changes.</p> <p>ED DLI emailed CEO Council 7 August to follow-up and has agreed to meet with the new council to seek decision and briefing on other matters, date to finalised.</p> <p>Update 31 July – Letter from Minister Yan to Mayor acknowledging the speed restriction modifications.</p>				

22-04-2025	Ordinary Meeting of Council - 22 April 2025	10.1	Correspondence Incoming March 2025 - Request to raise with DLPE at next meeting to provide the data supporting the claim that the Materials Recovery Facility in Katherine is not viable.	Not yet started
23-09-2025	Ordinary Meeting of Council - 23 September 2025	14.10	Proposed NBN Telecommunication Lease - 26 Second Street Katherine- 26 Second Street Katherine - That Council will be provided with an updated report once the lease agreement with NBN Co Limited for a designated portion of Lot 73, 28 Second Street, Katherine NT is executed.	In Progress
12 November 2025 - Council officers are reviewing the Head of Terms for the telco lease.				
23-09-2025	Ordinary Meeting of Council - 23 September 2025	14.13	Legal Representation Costs for Elected Members and Council Employees Policy - That Council lay on the table the Legal Representation Costs for Elected Members and Council Employee Policy to allow Council more time to review.	Awaiting internal response
02 December 2025 - Recommend Council to place this policy on hold and consider in the future.				
25-11-2025	Ordinary Meeting of Council - 25 November 2025	7.1	Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council 28 October 2025 - That Council confirm the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 28 October 2025 as a true and accurate record subject to the amendments to 7.1 Change of date from Wednesday, 26 April 2028 to Tuesday, 26 April 2028.	In Progress
Correct date for the Ordinary Meeting of Council is Wednesday 26 April 2028. Awaiting Council approval of minutes.				

25-11-2025	Ordinary Meeting of Council - 25 November 2025	14.1	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Disposal and Write offs of Various Fixed Assets - That Council approves the write-off of 11 assets as detailed in <i>Table 1. Assets to be Written off</i>, in accordance with Regulation 28 of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 and Section 267 of the <i>Local Government Act NT 2019</i>. 2. That Council approves the disposal of 36 assets as detailed in <i>Table 2. Assets to be Disposed</i>, ensuring all disposal actions comply with Ministerial Guideline 4: Assets and Katherine Town Council's Asset Management Policy and that the table to be amended in the report, the reason for disposal be amended to non Council asset added in error. 3. 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 	Not yet started

9 MAYORAL BUSINESS

9.1 MAYOR ACTIVITIES NOVEMBER 2025

Report Type: For noting

Recommendation

That Council receive and note the Mayoral activities for November 2025.

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.

1.1.2 Ensure strong internal governance with updated policies and procedures in place.

1.1.3 Improve transparency around issues affecting the community.

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

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.

1. STRONG LEADERSHIP - 1.3 Community Engagement - Improve Council communications and engagement with the community.

1.3.2 Improve consistency of our communications and engagement in alignment with our strategy.

1. STRONG LEADERSHIP - 1.5 Financial - Have long-term financial sustainability in Council to allow for continued growth and development.

1.5.1 Collaborate with all three levels of government.

2. COMMUNITY AND FAMILIES - 2.2 Prioritise Recreation - Collaborate and innovate with the private and public sectors for positive social, economic, and environmental outcomes.

2.2.3 Promote an active community with family events, festivals, live music and sports.

2. COMMUNITY AND FAMILIES - 2.4 Support Our Youth - Support youth engagement.

2.4.1 Empower youths through youth-focused events and school-holiday activities.

November 2025

Mayor Joanna Holden	
Date	Activity attended
5 November	KTown Markets Discussion
6 November	Lego League Explore Showcase – Clyde Fenton Primary School
11 November	Elected Members Briefing
11 November	Remembrance Day Commemorative Service – Katherine Cenotaph
12 November	Meeting with former Deputy Mayor Denis Coburn
12 November	Meeting with Marion Scrymgour MP
14 November	Special Meeting of Council
14 November	Elected Members Information Session
18 – 19 November	LGANT Conference and Annual General Meeting
21 November	Elected Members Information Session
23 November	Youth Justice Reinvestment Committee Meeting
25 November	Ordinary Meeting of Council
28 November	Katherine High School Awards Ceremony
28 November	Young Territory Author Award Presentation - Katherine Region
29 November	Pool Opening

9.2 ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMUNITY SAFETY ACTION GROUP

Author: Joanna Holden, Mayor
Authoriser: Casey Anderson, Acting Chief Executive Officer
Report Type: For decision
Attachments: Nil

Officer Recommendation

1. That Council approval the establishment of a Katherine Community Safety Action Group with the purpose of addressing issues affecting community safety through:
 - a. giving the community a voice in community safety issues,
 - b. supporting the development of solutions designed by the community specifically to address Katherine's unique crime and safety challenges,
 - c. improve communication by providing structure which enables, community, police and council to share information,
 - d. advocate for solutions which address the root causes, factors such as housing, substances misuse,
 - e. work with the NTG to advise and implement Crime Prevention Through Environment Design (CPTED) to reduce crime in public spaces, workplaces and homes,
 - f. driving the delivery of community-based solutions, and
 - g. engagement in the development of Council By-Laws.
2. That Council approve the appointment of Councillors Palmer and Whitehouse be appointed as Co-Chairs of the Community Safety Action Group.

Purpose of Report

The purpose of the report is to seek Council approval for the establishment of a Community Safety Action Group.

Strategic Plan

- 2.1.2 Provide safe and accessible public amenities throughout Katherine.
- 3.4.3 Enhance public space with placemaking and activation
- 4.3.4 Enhance Katherine's livability so that people want to live here

Background

Crime Trends in Katherine

- According to recent data from NT Police, Fire & Emergency Services, in the 12-month period ending November 2023, total assaults in Katherine increased by 30% compared to the previous year; domestic-violence-related assaults increased by 29%. [NT Police, Fire & Emergency Services](#)
- Property crime is also increasing house break-ins rose increased by 26% over the same period. [NT Police, Fire & Emergency Services](#)
- Monthly crime data continues to show high levels of offending: as of August 2025, there were 89 assaults (65 domestic violence), 29 house break-ins, and 53 property damage incidents in that month alone. [NT Police, Fire & Emergency Services](#)
- According to NTPFES data, [Enhanced Proactive Policing in Katherine](#), there has been a 354% increase in the number of BDO's issued. With an increase from February of 73 persons to April of 332 persons. In the April period 145 people were rejected from purchasing alcohol due to an active BDO. From March to May 2025 280 Supportlink referrals were made by Katherine Police. These

referrals can be made to address issues such as domestic and family violence, drug and alcohol dependence, drug and alcohol diversions and homelessness.

These trends indicate a persistently elevated crime environment, making a coordinated approach to community safety solutions imperative.

Violent and Anti-Social Incidents

- There have been documented incidents of serious violence and property crime involving youths. For example, in March 2024, a group of youths carried out an armed robbery, entering a business with edged weapons, leading to arrests. [NT Police, Fire & Emergency Services](#)
- In April 2025, a disturbing “large disturbance” occurred near a service station: a vehicle was allegedly used to ram into unoccupied cars and to drive at people, injuring at least one person, with weapons found in the vehicle. [NT Police, Fire and Emergency Services](#)
- The local council acknowledges that anti-social behaviour has been a long-standing issue in Katherine, noting historical spikes in arrests, violence, and property damage. [Katherine Town Council](#)
- These incidents show not only crime, but community-level tensions (e.g., ongoing feuds), youth disengagement, and the presence of weapons — all of which call for a proactive, multi-stakeholder approach to safety.

Discussion

A formal Community Safety Action Group in Katherine will bring together police, Council, Community members and Youth to:

1. implement locally tailored violence-prevention and youth diversion programs.
2. promote behaviour-change programs, especially among young people and repeat offenders.
3. provide a structured forum for community voices and local leadership to engage with law enforcement and service providers.
4. collect local data, assess interventions, and adapt strategies over time to respond to evolving risks.

A Community Safety Action Group offers a structured, collaborative, and preventative approach: not just reacting to crime, but building long-term safety and resilience.

Purpose

That Council approval the establishment of a Katherine Community Safety Action Group with the purpose of addressing issues affecting community safety through:

- giving the community a voice in community safety issues,
- supporting the development of solutions designed by the community specifically to address Katherine’s unique crime and safety challenges,
- improve communication by providing structure which enables, community, police and council to share information,
- advocate for solutions which address the root causes, factors such as housing, substances misuse,
- work with the NTG to advise and implement Crime Prevention Through Environment Design (CPTED) to reduce crime in public spaces, workplaces and homes,
- driving the delivery of community-based solutions, and
- engagement in the development of Council By-Laws.
- Be a communication link between community and NTG Coordination committee enabling support and messaging for initiatives and outcomes against the priorities of the regional and NT wide Crime Reduction Strategy.

- Committee members can support promoting initiatives of Council and raising community safety issues.

Scope

The Community Safety Action Group would provide the opportunity for grassroots input into the issues affecting residents' and businesses' safety. This could include addressing issues such as anti-social behaviour in public spaces, animal control and vandalism.

The Group will be supported to identify local solutions to safety issues and drive the delivery of community-based solutions. The Group will provide both Council and other stakeholders with a mechanism to engage residents and businesses about the impacts and solutions.

Where relevant to support Council to deliver solutions within the scope of its service delivery remit. To work with other agencies and groups to support the delivery of solutions to safety issues in Katherine.

Foundations of the Scope and Group

To find solutions which are underpinned by data, information and community engagement. Beginning with a scoping paper to be used to develop solutions which are based on:

- knowledge of the issues affecting community safety,
- quantify and type the anti-social behaviour and crime that is occurring,
- understand the demographics of the offending cohort,
- understand the impact of crime and anti-social behaviour on the community and individuals

Proposed Membership Group Membership – Total of 12

At least one Senior Resident

At least one Youth Resident

4 other Residents

Commissioner of Police, Katherine

3 First Nation Leaders with Cultural Authority for the Katherine area

1 representative of the Katherine Youth Justice Reinvestment Committee (KYJRC)

1 representative of the KYJRC Youth group

Chief Minister Department/Department of Corrections

At least two representative of the Katherine Town Council

Consultation Process

Consultation process not undertaken.

Budget and Resource Implications

Support to the committee would require administrative position 5 hours per week, \$12,000 per annum. \$2,000 per annum incidentals e.g. attendance at CPTED workshops by committee members.

9.3 SERVICE ASSESSMENT PROPOSAL

Author: Joanna Holden , Mayor
Authoriser: Casey Anderson, Acting Chief Executive Officer
Report Type: For decision

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. Approves the delivery of a Service Level and Delivery Assessment (SLDA) in accordance with Council's responsibilities for effective and efficient service delivery under the *Local Government Act 2019 (NT)*.
2. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer, obtains quotes from suitably qualified external agencies to undertake the SLDA.
3. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer is to seek funding to support Council costs with the delivery of the SLDA.
4. Authorises Chief Executive Officer to prepare SLDA Project and implementation plan to be endorsed by Council, and
5. Requests the Chief Executive Officer to provide progress updates, with a final SLDA Report presented to Council for consideration and adoption.

Purpose of Report

The purpose of the report is to seek Council Approval to conduct a Service Level and Delivery Assessment (SLDA) of Council operations. The SLDA will assess how Council delivers its services, manages its assets, allocates its resources, and structures its workforce. It will identify opportunities to improve performance, streamline operations, and ensure services align with community priorities and long-term financial capacity.

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.

Background

Local governments across Australia are increasingly required to demonstrate efficient, effective, and financially sustainable service delivery. Katherine Town Council (KTC), delivers services in a geographically remote area and socially diverse population, faces additional pressures stemming from population fluctuations, ageing infrastructure, rising compliance requirements, and increasing community expectations.

A comprehensive Service Level and Delivery Assessment (SLDA) will enable Council to evaluate whether current services, organisational design, systems and asset management practices remain fit-for-purpose, financially sustainable, and aligned with community priorities.

Purpose of the Review

The SLDA aims to:

- Assess the efficiency, effectiveness, and relevance of all services delivered by Council.

- Identify opportunities to streamline operations and improve organisational structure.
- Evaluate the condition, utilisation, and lifecycle costs of Council assets.
- Support long-term financial sustainability.
- Clarify appropriate service levels and resource allocation.
- Strengthen governance, compliance and risk management.

Increasing Community Expectations

Residents expect higher levels of service in areas such as public amenity maintenance, community safety, waste, youth services, and customer service. Current operating models are stretched and increasingly reactive.

Organisational Structure Challenges

The existing structure has evolved incrementally and shows signs of misalignment, capability gaps, and duplication. Workforce pressures and recruitment challenges further impact service delivery consistency.

Ageing Infrastructure & Maintenance Backlogs

Council's asset base is extensive and ageing. Maintenance demands and renewal costs are rising, with reactive work often taking priority over planned asset management.

Financial Sustainability Pressures

Limited revenue growth, rising costs, and increased asset renewal needs are placing ongoing pressure on Council's operating budget and long-term financial position.

Service Relevance & Efficiency

Some services may no longer reflect core local government responsibilities or may overlap with NT Government or community service providers. A review will clarify which services should be maintained, enhanced, reformed, outsourced, or discontinued.

Governance & Compliance Requirements

Council faces growing obligations in procurement, WHS, environmental management, and regulatory compliance, requiring improved systems and clearer responsibility lines.

Risk Management

Audit and Risk Committee identified top five risk for Council as:

- Workplace/Community Health and safety
- Organizational Capacity to Deliver
- Financial Sustainability
- Compliance
- Reputation and Influence

Discussion**Increasing Community Expectations and Service Pressures**

Katherine is experiencing:

Higher demand for community safety initiatives, public space maintenance, youth services, and waste management.

Increased community expectations for customer service, transparency, digital engagement, and accountability.

Increased pressure on public amenities due to tourism peaks, itinerant populations, and major events.

An SLDA will ensure Council delivers services at the right level, in the right way, using the right resources.

Organisational Structure Challenges

Recent operational pressures indicate that the current organisational structure may not fully align with service delivery needs. Challenges include:

- Functional duplication across departments (e.g., multiple teams performing overlapping

maintenance or community engagement tasks).

- Gaps in capability in key areas such as asset planning, procurement, project management, and risk/compliance.
- Strained supervisory capacity, with some managers overseeing too many functions while others have narrow portfolios.
- Reactive workload patterns, where urgent maintenance or regulatory tasks divert staff from strategic priorities.
- Recruitment and retention issues, common in remote NT locations, affecting service continuity and institutional knowledge.

An SLDA can identify redesign options to create clearer lines of accountability, improve responsiveness, and support a sustainable workforce model.

Asset Management & Maintenance Challenges

Katherine Town Council manages a large and ageing asset base, including:

- Roads and footpaths
- Buildings, parks, recreational facilities
- Waste and landfill infrastructure
- Vehicle and plant fleets
- Cemeteries and public amenities

Common challenges faced by remote councils include:

- Reactive maintenance dominating schedules due to insufficient forward planning or asset degradation.
- Limited lifecycle costing, meaning assets may deteriorate faster or unexpectedly.
- Under-investment in renewal, increasing long-term costs.
- Inconsistent asset registers or gaps in condition data.
- Compliance pressures relating to safety, accessibility, and environmental standards.
- A structured review will establish a framework for determining:
 - The condition and performance of major asset classes
 - Whether maintenance budgets align with actual lifecycle needs
 - Options for outsourcing, shared services, or new technology
 - Long-term renewal funding gaps
 - Procurement efficiencies and contract management improvements

Scope of Service Delivery – Alignment with Community Priorities

The current range of services delivered by Council has expanded over time. Some services may no longer align with community needs or strategic priorities. Key issues include:

- Services that may no longer be core functions of local government.
- Programs delivered without clear performance measures.
- Effort spent on low-value or low-impact tasks due to historical expectations.
- Duplication with NT Government

- Spending patterns not aligned with community feedback or asset utilisation.

An SLDA will determine:

- Which services should be maintained, expanded, reduced, outsourced, or discontinued.
- Appropriate service levels for each functional area.
- Opportunities for shared services with other councils.

Financial Sustainability Pressures

Katherine Town Council, like many regional councils, faces financial pressures:

- Rising operational costs (materials, insurance, utilities, staffing).
- Stagnant or slow revenue growth.
- Increasing demand for infrastructure upgrades without equivalent increases in grant funding.
- Limited reserves to manage unexpected asset failures or emergencies.
- High cost of service delivery due to remoteness and supply chain challenges.

A Service Delivery Review will improve financial sustainability by:

- Identifying cost-savings and efficiency opportunities
- Prioritising services based on strategic and community value
- Ensuring asset maintenance is planned and cost-effective
- Supporting evidence-based budgeting and long-term financial planning
- Providing justification for external funding applications

Governance, Risk and Compliance Requirements

Local government governance standards are increasing. Areas of concern include:

- WHS obligations
- Procurement and contract management
- Asset and financial reporting
- Audit and compliance reviews
- Community safety responsibilities
- Environmental and waste regulatory requirements

A review will help ensure:

- Clear responsibilities across the organisation
- Reduced compliance gaps
- Stronger control frameworks
- Documented processes and standard operating procedures

Expected Outcomes

The SLDA will deliver councillors:

- A clear assessment of the value, cost, and performance of all services.

- Recommendations to optimise the organisational structure and workforce capacity.
- Comprehensive framework to enable the assessment of the condition, lifecycle costs, and renewal funding needs for Council assets.
- Clear service levels, KPIs and potentially alternative delivery models.
- Improved alignment between strategic planning, Municipal Plan, service delivery, and financial sustainability.

Benefits to Council and Community

- Better allocation of resources to priority areas.
- Enhanced community satisfaction and service reliability.
- Improved financial resilience and long-term sustainability.
- Increased organisational efficiency and reduced duplication.
- Strengthened risk management and compliance assurance.

The Service Delivery Review is a proactive step to ensure Katherine Town Council remains capable of meeting current and future community needs. The review will provide councillors with the evidence and options required to make informed decisions about service levels, resource allocation, and strategic priorities.

A Service Delivery Review is timely, necessary, and strategically important for Katherine Town Council. Rising community expectations, financial constraints, compliance demands, and ageing infrastructure all require a fresh, evidence-based assessment of how Council operates.

The SLDA will provide a robust foundation for:

- Better decision-making
- Improved organisational performance
- Sustainable asset management
- Stronger financial resilience
- Enhanced community trust and satisfaction

Undertaking this review will place Katherine Town Council in a strong position to meet current and future challenges and deliver high-quality services to the community.

Budget and Resource Implications

It is anticipated that the total cost for an external expert to undertake and prepare the SLDA is \$60,000 with 50% contribution from the Katherine Town Council. Council will need to seek co-funding from government.

9.4 COUNCIL COUNCILLOR GOALS FIRST 6 TO 12 MONTHS

Author: Joanna Holden, Mayor
Authoriser: Casey Anderson, Acting Chief Executive Officer
Report Type: For decision

Officer Recommendation

1. That Council approve the Elected Member first 6 to 12 month goals:
 - a. Deputy Mayor Mel Doyle to strengthen the relationships between Katherine Town Council, local businesses, industry leaders, tourism operators and community stakeholders through the establishment of a Business and Tourism Working Group.
 - b. Councillor Anjali Palmer to establish a Community Safety Action Group which delivers a structured, collaborative, and preventative approach: not just reacting to crime, but building long-term safety and resilience.
 - c. Councillor Toni Tapp Coutts to enhance safety and environs of Katherine by undertaking a sign audit with recommendations for improvements and the beautification of roundabouts.
 - d. Councillor Kathryn Whitehouse to reduce the impacts of crime on the community and enhance public spaces through establishing a partnership with the Department of Corrections which will enable Council to engage persons with community work orders.
 - e. Councillor Jim King to increase road safety for road trains install a “No Road Trains” allowed on Zimin Drive at Gillard Road to prevent trucks becoming stuck at the low level. Council to investigate having Google maps updated to clearly indicate no road trains are allowed on this road.
 - f. Councillor Kathy Glass reduce illegal dumping and enhance community appearance by changing the existing waste management facility opening hours to enable community members access when required to the facility to dump waste.
 - g. Mayor Joanna Holden to encourage community connect and wellbeing by enabling the community free entry to the Katherine pool throughout December 2025 and January 2026.

Purpose of Report

The purpose of the report is to seek Council’s endorsement of the individual goals nominated by each Councillor for achievement in the first 6 to 12 months of the Council term. This report also outlines the rationale for setting individual Councillor goals as requested by the Mayor.

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.

Background

At the commencement of the Council’s term of office, the Mayor invited Councillors to identify one

community outcome goal to work towards during the first 6 to 12 months. The Mayor's purpose in establishing these goals was to:

- Encourage proactive and focused contributions by each Councillor,
- Support clear alignment between individual efforts and Council's strategic priorities,
- Promote accountability and transparency,
- Enable Councillors to identify activities which deliver measurable benefits to the community, and
- Strengthen teamwork by making individual objectives visible.

Discussion

The proposed goals for completion within the first 6 to 12 months by Councillors is set out below.

Deputy Mayor Mel Doyle to strengthen the relationships between Katherine Town Council, local businesses, industry leaders, tourism operators and community stakeholders through the establishment of a Business and Tourism Working Group.

Councillor Anjali Palmer to establish a Community Safety Action Group which delivers a structured, collaborative, and preventative approach: not just reacting to crime, but building long-term safety and resilience.

Councillor Toni Tapp Coutts to enhance safety and environs of Katherine by undertaking a sign audit with recommendations for improvements and the beautification of roundabouts.

Councillor Kathryn Whitehouse to reduce the impacts of crime on the community and enhance public spaces through establishing a partnership with the Department of Corrections which will enable Council to engage persons with community work orders.

Councillor Jim King to increase road safety for road trains install a "No Road Trains" allowed on Zimin Drive at Gillard Road to prevent trucks becoming stuck at the low level. Council to investigate having Google maps updated to clearly indicate no road trains are allowed on this road.

Councillor Kathy Glass reduce illegal dumping and enhance community appearance by changing the existing waste management facility opening hours to enable community members access when required to the facility to dump waste.

Mayor Joanna Holden to encourage community connect and wellbeing by enabling the community free entry to the Katherine pool throughout December 2025 and January 2026.



10 CORRESPONDENCE AND DOCUMENTS

10.1 CORRESPONDENCE INCOMING NOVEMBER 2025

Report Type: For noting

Recommendation

That Council receive and note the Incoming Correspondence:

Attachments: 1. Letter - Katherine Senior Citizens Association Incorporated - 03 Nov 2025 - I D 243010 [**10.1.1** - 1 page]

Katherine Senior Citizens Association Incorporated

ABN: 44 198 176 815

1/18 Bernard Street
Katherine NT 0850
P O Box 1443
Katherine NT 0851

Phone: 0436030973
E-mail:
katherine
seniorcitizens@gmail.com

Dear Joanna

Congratulations on your recent appointment as Mayor of Katherine Town Council. Members wish you every success as you and your councillors seek to work together for the development of our town.

We would like to invite you to meet with us at a meeting early in the New Year
We commence meeting in February after the holiday break.

G. Hagger
Secretary – ph 0488269632
3/11/25

10.2 CORRESPONDENCE OUTGOING NOVEMBER 2025

Report Type: For noting

Recommendation

That Council receive and note the Outgoing Correspondence:

- Attachments:
1. Minister Hon Steven Edgington - Request for Extensions - Audited Financials - KTC - 30 Oct 2025 - I [10.2.1 - 2 pages]
 2. Hon Marion Scrymgour MP - Aquatic Centre - Funding - School Holiday Program - 13 Nov 2025 - I D 2442 [10.2.2 - 2 pages]
 3. Hon Steven Edgington - Minister for Local Government - Request for Funding - Aquatic Centre - 17 Nov [10.2.3 - 1 page]



24 Stuart Highway
PO Box 1071
Katherine NT 0851
records@ktc.nt.gov.au
Ph: 08 8972 5500
Fax: 08 8971 0305
ABN 4783 6889 865

The Hon. Steven Edgington
Minister for Local Government
Parliament House
State Square
Darwin NT 0800
Email: Minister.Edgington@nt.gov.au
Cc: Tom.Leeming@nt.gov.au

Dear Minister Edgington,

Subject: Request for Extension to Submit Audited Financial Statements – Katherine Town Council

We, the Katherine Town Council, are formally writing to request an extension for the submission of our audited financial statements for the year ending 30 June 2025. Our request is made in accordance with Regulation 16 of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021* and Part 10.7 of the *Local Government Act 2019*.

Due to exceptional and unforeseen circumstances, Council is unable to meet the statutory deadline of 15 November 2025. We are respectfully seeking an extension to 12 December 2025.

The delay in finalising our audited financials has been the result of a combination of critical staffing shortages and a significant escalation in waste management facility (WMF) landfill rehabilitation provisions.

Following the end of the financial year, Council experienced the departure of key leadership personnel, including the Finance Manager, and a complete turnover of finance staff within three months. This severely impacted our capacity to compile and audit the financial statements in a timely manner.

Despite these challenges, Council has worked diligently to support the audit process and provide all necessary documentation. However, the situation was further compounded by a substantial and unexpected increase in the WMF landfill rehabilitation provision.

The estimate, prepared by Resource Innovations, rose from \$7.48 million in 2023–24 to \$19.58 million in 2024/25 an increase of \$12.09 million.

This figure exceeds Council's budgeted provision of \$0.45 million and has resulted in a projected operating deficit of \$11.5 million and only effects Council's balance sheet and does not impact our actual operating financial position.

The primary driver of this increase is a \$11.3 million rise in capping costs, including:

- Capping – Clay: \$3,685,800
- Capping – Cover Soil: \$2,455,200
- Capping – Topsoil: \$320,408

These costs reflect updated engineering standards, market rates, and revised EPA guidelines, which now include trafficable roads, structures, and stockpiles.

Council anticipates finalising its audited financial statements by 12 December 2025.

Council regrets being in this position. We are committed to transparency, accountability, and service excellence. We will continue to keep your office and the Department informed. Any guidance or support you can provide would be appreciated.

If you would like to meet to discuss this further, please contact us at casey.anderson@ktc.nt.gov.au or (08) 8972 5500.

Kind Regards,



Joanna Holden
MAYOR OF KATHERINE



Casey Anderson
ACTING/CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



24 Stuart Highway
PO Box 1071
Katherine NT 0851
records@ktc.nt.gov.au
Ph: 08 8972 5500
Fax: 08 8971 0305
ABN 4783 6889 865

13 November 2025

The Hon Marion Scrymgour MP
House of Representatives
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600
Email: marion.scrymgour.mp@aph.gov.au

KATHERINE AQUATIC CENTRE – SEEKING FUNDING – SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMS

Dear Marion

I am pleased to report that the Katherine Aquatic Centre redevelopment is progressing well and remains on schedule to reopen to the public by the end of November 2025.

We look forward to welcoming you to the official reopening and showcasing this valued community asset made possible through your Government's support.

Since its closure in March 2024 due to safety concerns and ageing infrastructure, the Katherine Aquatic Centre has undergone a much-needed transformation. With Stage 1 nearing completion, the revitalised facility will soon provide a modern, inclusive space that promotes community connection, participation, and essential life-saving skills.

The reopening represents more than the return of a recreational facility, it is a vital step in reducing youth boredom, crime, and antisocial behaviour, particularly during school holidays and the wet season when recreational options are limited. Providing young people with free access to safe, engaging activities will help keep them active, connected, and off the streets, mirroring the success seen in Alice Springs.

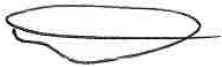
To sustain this momentum and strengthen early intervention and prevention efforts, free community access to the Centre would deliver significant social, health, wellbeing, and community safety outcomes.

Katherine Town Council seeks your support to secure funding that would provide free public access to the Centre during school holiday periods. This initiative would both enhance community engagement and acknowledge the patience and understanding shown by the community throughout the redevelopment.

Council remains committed to supporting the Northern Territory Government's Plan to Reduce Crime and looks forward to continuing our strong partnership to deliver lasting benefits for the Katherine community.

To discuss this further, I ask that a senior officer from your office engage with Ms Casey Anderson, Acting Chief Executive Officer of Katherine Town Council, on (08) 8972 5500 or via email at casey.anderson@ktc.nt.gov.au

Yours sincerely,



Joanna Holden

MAYOR OF KATHERINE



24 Stuart Highway
PO Box 1071
Katherine NT 0851
records@ktc.nt.gov.au
Ph: 08 8972 5500
Fax: 08 8971 0305
ABN 4783 6889 865

17 November 2025

The Hon. Steven Edgington
Minister for Local Government
Parliament House
State Square
Darwin NT 0800
Email: Minister.Edgington@nt.gov.au

Dear Minister,

SUBJECT: KATHERINE AQUATIC CENTRE – SEEKING FUNDING – SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMS

Since March 2024, the Katherine Aquatic Centre has been closed to the Katherine community while Katherine Town Council undertook important revitalisation of this aged infrastructure.

I am pleased to inform you that the Katherine Aquatic Centre should be reopened to the public by the end of November 2025. Once a date has been set it will be our pleasure to invite you to be a part of this important occasion.

Looking ahead to the upcoming school holidays, and acknowledging the existing public commitment to provide free pool access in Alice Springs, I am seeking your support to extend the same opportunity to the Katherine community by enabling free entry to the Katherine Aquatic Centre for children, young people, and their families during school holiday periods

Having the Katherine Aquatic Centre free for the public is a way of ensuring there are fun activities for families and will be a critical program to reduce youth crime and antisocial behaviour in Katherine.

Katherine Town Council is committed to supporting the NT Government's Plan to Reduce Crime, noting it is the first step in also restoring our unique lifestyle and rebuilding the economy which keeps towns such as Katherine alive, vibrant and safe.

It is our hope to secure funding for the Katherine Aquatic Centre to support activities during the upcoming wet season, on an ongoing basis for school holiday periods and which supports family engagement. We are seeking to replicate the successful approach taken in Alice Springs.

To discuss this further, I request that a senior officer from your Department contact Ms Casey Anderson, Acting CEO of Katherine Town Council, on 08 8972 5500 or at email: casey.anderson@ktc.nt.gov.au.

Yours Sincerely

Joanna Holden
MAYOR OF KATHERINE

11 PETITIONS

12 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (MATTERS REFERRED TO THE AGENDA)

Questions relating to the agenda, that you would like addressed, can be submitted via email at records@ktc.nt.gov.au, over the phone at 08 8972 5500, in person at the Civic Centre, or through an electronic submission via the [website](#).

Please submit your question/s pertaining to the current Ordinary Meeting of Council agenda. These will be responded to in full and in a public setting.

13 NOTICE OF MOTION

14 REPORTS OF OFFICERS

14.1 AUDIT AND RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE CHARTER

Author: Amanda Haigh, Manager Governance and Risk
Authoriser: Casey Anderson (Manager Corporate Administration)
Report Type: For decision
Attachments: 1. Audit and Risk Management Committee Charter - Review 2025 [14.1.1 - 9 pages]

Officer Recommendation

That Council approve the revised Audit and Risk Committee Charter Version 6.

Purpose of Report

To present the revised Audit and Risk Management Committee Charter.

Strategic Plan

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

1.1.2 Ensure strong internal governance with updated policies and procedures in place.

Municipal Plan

1.1.2.1 Workplace policies and Council By-Laws are reviewed regularly

Background

The council has established and maintains an Audit and Risk Management Committee (ARMC) to provide additional oversight of the audit process and outcomes, effectiveness of internal controls, and risk management processes. The ARMC 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 purpose of this Charter is to outline the functions and responsibilities of the Audit and Risk Management Committee (the Committee) in assisting the Council to fulfil its oversight and corporate governance responsibilities.

Discussion

The revised charter was endorsed by the ARMC at the meeting held on the 2 Decembers 2025 and the suggested amendments include:

- changing the 12-month calendar to work plan;
- to align with the organisational structure, therefore under membership, the Director Corporate Services has now been changed to Finance Manager and Manager Governance and Risk;
- added Reasonable Expenses for Travel and Accommodation by Elected Members with the recommendation to amend the policy to include Council Advisory Committee members; and
- The committee will meet four times a year.

Consultation Process

The ARMC was tabled at the committee meeting held on 2 December 2025 and endorsed the reviewed charter. The committee also endorsed having four meetings a year and the policy now being reviewed in line with the Advisory Committee Policy timeframes.

Policy Implications

The Council Policy and Procedure Framework details that Council policies are to be reviewed every four years, although the committee Work Plan outlined the requirement to be annually reviewed.

The Committee recommend the Audit and Risk Management Committee Charter now be reviewed as per the Council Policy and Procedure Framework (every four years).

Budget and Resource Implications

Within current service delivery budget and resource.

Remuneration for independent members is at the discretion of Katherine Town Council.

Risk, Legal and Legislative Implications

Section 86 of the Local Government Act 2019 requires Council to establish an Audit Committee to monitor and review the integrity of Council's financial management and its internal controls and to make recommendations to Council about matters within its remit that may require Council consideration.

Section 83 (4) of the Local Government Act 2019 requires a Council committee to have a terms of reference, approved by council resolution, that sets out its functions.

Section 82 of the Local Government Act 2019 requires person appointments by resolution of council to be members of the committee.

Environment Sustainability Implications

There are no environmental sustainability implications.

Council Officer Conflict of Interest

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



COUNCIL POLICY

AUDIT AND RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE CHARTER

Type:	Council Policy		
Owner:	Council		
Responsible Officer:	Chief Executive Officer		
Approval Date:	10/12/2024	Next Review:	01/05/ 2027 2029
Records Number:	196180	Council/CEO Decision:	Council - OMC-2024-124
Legislation Reference:	Section 86 of the <i>Local Government Act 2019</i>		

1 PURPOSE

Council has established and maintains an Audit and Risk Management Committee 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 purpose of this Charter is to outline the functions and responsibilities of the Audit and Risk Management Committee (the Committee) in assisting Council to fulfil its oversight and corporate governance responsibilities.

2 SCOPE

This policy applies to all elected members, employees and members who are appointed to or involved in Council's Audit and Risk Management Committee.

3 DETAILS

The Audit and Risk Management Committee's primary role is to provide independent assurance and advice to Council in the following areas:

- issues relevant to the integrity of Council's financial reporting
- financial and non-financial performance reporting
- risk management, including enterprise risk management, workplace health and safety, fraud and corruption prevention, business continuity planning and disaster recovery
- internal and external audit
- internal control framework including policies and procedures as they apply to:
 - financial reporting
 - management policies, for example entertainment expenses, use of corporate credit cards
 - administrative policies, for example information management, privacy and risk management

- compliance of Council policies and procedures with the overarching governance principles, the Act, the regulations, any Ministerial directions and other relevant legislation and regulations.

It does this through the provision of independent advice and recommendations on matters relevant to its Charter, to facilitate decision-making by Council.

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE AUDIT AND RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Section 86 of the *Local Government Act 2019* requires Council to establish an Audit and Risk Management Committee to monitor and review the integrity of Council's financial management and its internal controls and to make recommendations to Council about matters within its remit that may require Council consideration.

The Audit and Risk Management Committee can assist in identifying areas where changes are required to reduce the risk of Council's exposure to fraud or unauthorised transactions and may also act as a conduit between Council and its auditors to help improve financial reporting, accountability and transparency within Council.

The Audit and Risk Management Committee does not have executive powers or authority to implement actions in areas over which management has responsibility and does not have any delegated financial responsibility.

Members of the Audit and Risk Management Committee must be appointed by Council resolution.

All Elected Members, not elected to the Audit and Risk Management Committee, can attend the Audit and Risk Management Committee meetings as observers.

The Audit and Risk Management Committee will play an active role in:

- developing and maintaining a culture of accountability, transparency and integrity
- facilitating the integration of good financial and corporate governance practices into day-to-day business activities and processes
- promoting a culture of cost-consciousness, self-assessment and adherence to high ethical standards, and
- fostering a culture of performance and achievement of outcomes.

COMMITTEE ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The role of the Audit and Risk Management Committee is to:

1. Review Council's draft annual financial report and annual performance statement, focusing on:
 - the reporting requirements of accounting policies and Approved Accounting Standards
 - changes to reporting requirements due to changes in accounting policies and Approved Accounting Standards
 - the assumptions used and processes applied in making significant accounting estimates
 - significant adjustments to the financial report (if any) arising from the audit process
 - compliance with accounting standards and other reporting requirements of financial and non-financial information; and
 - significant changes to the content of reports, the operating results, financial position and performance indicators in comparison to the prior year.
2. Review and recommend appointment of internal and external auditor to council.
3. Review and recommend adoption of the Annual Financial and Performance Statements to Council and review any significant changes and the reasons for the changes that may arise subsequent to any such recommendation but before the financial report is signed.
4. Provide oversight of Council's Risk Management Framework
5. Provide oversight of activities conducted by auditors and any other assurance providers.
6. Monitor the risk exposure of Council by determining if management has appropriate risk management processes and adequate management information systems in place to report on Council's risk profile and changes to it

AUDIT AND RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE CHARTER

7. Escalate to Council when the Committee considers that management is not responding as it should on concerns about the Risk Management Framework, and
8. Monitor reported related party transactions, the implementation of recommendations arising from reports presented and review the effectiveness of Council's internal control systems
9. Review the Council's fraud and corruption reporting framework as established under the Fraud and Corruption Reporting Policy to ensure the Council has appropriate processes and systems in place to ensure material fraud risks to the Council are treated and any alleged fraud activities are investigated
10. Review the findings of any examinations by regulatory or other independent agencies, and any auditor (internal or external) observations and confirm that management have taken appropriate action as a result of the findings.

The Committee will address issues brought to its attention, including responding to requests from Council for advice.

The independent Chairperson is responsible for:

- recommending to the Elected Members and Chief Executive Officer the appointment of Audit and Risk Management Committee members
- assisting committee members to maintain a good understanding of Council's objectives, business needs, risks and priorities
- settling the agenda for each meeting with the committee secretariat
- leading discussion and encouraging the participation of other members, and focusing the committee's deliberations on the most important issues
- seeking the input of observers or other experts to maximise their contribution to the deliberations of the committee
- summarising discussion outcomes and actions, including assigning responsibility and timeframes for actions
- reporting formally and informally to the Elected Members and Chief Executive Officer
- attending formal and informal meetings with the Chief Executive Officer, Directors and external auditor as required, and
- arranging for a periodic review of the performance of the Committee against its charter.

The independent representative is responsible for:

- attending Audit and Risk Management Committee meetings
- at the request of the Chairperson, being available for discussion with the Chairperson, other members, management or the external auditor between meetings of the Committee
- whenever necessary to facilitate the effective performance of the Committee's duties, attends meetings, workshops or briefings of the Council
- engage in discussion and contribute to the debate at meetings so that all matters on the agenda are dealt with effectively and appropriately, and
- engage in regular assessments of the effectiveness of the Committee's performance.

A member of the Audit and Risk Management Committee will not:

- improperly use information acquired as a member of the Committee to gain, directly or indirectly, a financial advantage for that person or someone else
- improperly use information acquired as a member of the Committee to damage Council's reputation
- release information that the member knows or should reasonably know is information that is private or confidential to Council
- make public or media comment on behalf of Council, unless the Member is authorised in accordance with Council's Media Policy.

Conflicts of interest

Committee members will at all times discharge their duties and responsibilities honestly and with objectivity and will not engage knowingly in acts or activities that have the potential to bring discredit to Council or be considered a conflict of interest.

All committee members have an obligation to disclose to the committee, any material personal interest which relates to the business of Council. When an issue arises at a committee meeting, relating to such an interest, the Chairperson will advise the committee member not to attend the meeting while the matter is discussed and that they may not vote on such an issue, unless the non-conflicted members pass a resolution that the member may either remain for the discussion but not vote or remain for the discussion and vote.

The non-conflicted members will only pass such a resolution when they are strongly of the view that the nature of the conflict does not inhibit the conflicted member from deciding in the best interest of Council. Members have an obligation to disclose to the committee any other interest which the member believes is appropriate to disclose in order to ensure there is no actual or perceived conflict of interest.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Audit and Risk Management Committee will convene ~~a minimum of twice in a twelve-month period~~ four times a year as decided by the committee. Alternatively, a committee meeting can be convened when Council or the Chairperson so requests. In such situations, a minimum of seven days' notice must be given unless it is an emergency meeting.

The meeting agenda and previous minutes are provided to committee members no less than seven calendar days prior to a scheduled meeting.

Meetings are conducted to allow a full and frank exchange of views while at the same time ensuring that a positive committee culture is maintained. A full set of minutes is to be kept.

In order to provide an even distribution of work over each financial year, the committee will adopt a twelve-month ~~calendar~~ Work Plan, which includes all scheduled committee meetings.

Attendance at committee meetings by members can be in person and/or via audio/audio-visual conference. Audit and Risk Management Committee members should endeavour to attend at 100% of scheduled meetings.

Quorum

A quorum consists of no less than three voting members.

Voting rights

Those individuals who are officially appointed to the Audit and Risk Management Committee have equal voting rights. Where a vote is taken, and the result is undecided the Chairperson has the casting vote.

Alternate Elected Member has no formal voting rights unless attending as the replacement member.

REPORTING

As soon as practicable after each Committee Meeting, the Chief Executive Officer must give Council a written report about the matters reviewed at the meeting and the Committee's recommendations about the matters.

SECRETARIAT SUPPORT

Council will provide secretariat support to the Audit and Risk Management Committee to ensure minutes and agendas are provided to committee members.

Council will ensure the Audit and Risk Management Committee members have access to the agenda, meeting papers and prior unapproved minutes no less than seven (7) calendar days prior to a scheduled meeting.

AUDIT AND RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE CHARTER

COMMITTEE PERFORMANCE

The Committee will evaluate their own performance collectively against the Charter and provide a copy of the annual assessment to the Chief Executive Officer for tabling at the next Council meeting. The evaluation will include feedback from both Committee members and senior officers who have regular interactions with the Committee.

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

The Audit and Risk Management Committee will comprise a minimum of four (4) members. This includes an independent Chairperson, one independent representative and two Elected Member. Council may appoint an alternate Elected Member to the Committee.

Council's Chief Executive Officer and the Director of Corporate Services Manager Finance and Manager Governance and Risk are invited to attend all meetings as permanent attendees; however they have no voting rights.

Alternate Elected Member may attend and contribute at meetings but has no voting rights unless attending as a replacement member.

Non-permanent invitees may be requested to attend Committee meetings for the purpose of providing information to the Committee.

Selection process

New independent member appointments will be merit and skill based through an open process.

Consideration should be given to the type of skills, personal attributes and practical experience each independent representative must have before being considered. Factors to consider include:

- level of knowledge and practical exposure on governance and financial management practices
- general level of understanding of local government and Council's operations
- capacity to dedicate adequate time to the committee
- depth of knowledge of regulatory and legislative requirements, and
- ability to maintain professional relationships particularly with Elected Members, staff and other stakeholders.

Independent Chairperson

The independent Chairperson plays a pivotal role in the effective functioning of the Committee, with particular responsibilities to set the tone and direction of the committee's deliberations and is the most important appointee. The Chairperson needs to have expertise and experience in governance and to bring personal qualities and independence to the role that will openly and effectively involve all those the Committee needs to work with.

The requirements for the independent Chairperson include:

Skills

- High level managerial skills to work independently, exercise initiative and meet deadlines.
- Excellent communication skills, both verbal and written.
- The ability to interpret legislative requirements and develop appropriate strategies and responses.

Knowledge

- Significant experience in budget, financial and program management.
- The management of multi-disciplinary teams.
- Negotiating with external agencies and customer groups and delivering results in a complex environment.
- Familiarity with workplace health, safety and welfare and equity and diversity policies and practices.

Experience / Qualifications

- Desirable qualification up to Bachelor Degree level in administration, finance and/or business management.
- Ability to deal with several issues/projects concurrently.

Independent representative

The independent representative should have the ability to provide Elected Members, the Chief Executive Officer and Council's administration with well-rounded and professional advice concerning the adequacy of Council's administrative, operational, financial and accounting systems and controls, performance reporting regimes, and risk management processes.

Skills

- High level managerial skills to work independently, exercise initiative and meet deadlines.
- Excellent communication skills, both verbal and written.
- The ability to interpret legislative requirements and develop appropriate strategies and responses.

Knowledge

- The role of local government.
- Experience in budget and financial management.
- Familiarity with workplace health, safety and welfare and equity and diversity policies and practices.

Term of Appointment

All Audit and Risk Management Committee members (other than Council staff) are appointed for a minimum two-year period and can be re-appointed by Council resolution. An individual can only serve in the positions of independent Chairperson or member for a maximum of three terms (or six consecutive years).

Termination or resignation of Committee members

Audit and Risk Management Committee members can cease being a member of the committee if they provide, in writing, a letter of resignation to the Mayor through the Chief Executive Officer.

The Chairperson is appointed by Council for a set period and can be terminated by Council subject to the appointment agreement.

Remuneration

Remuneration for independent members is at the discretion of Katherine Town Council. The Council will consider, among other matters, the time, commitment, responsibility required in undertaking duties, and parity with other local government entities equivalent to Council's size and complexity.

Fees will be paid to independent members on a per meeting basis in arrears.

Bona fide expenses incurred by independent members will be paid or reimbursed in accordance with Council’s ~~e~~Expenses ~~p~~Policyies.

5 ASSOCIATED POLICIES/DOCUMENTS

Privacy policy

Confidential Information policy

Media policy

Advisory Committee Policy

Reasonable Expenses for Travel and Accommodation by Elected Members

6 REFERENCES AND RELATED LEGISLATION

Local Government Act 2019

Revision History

Version	Approval date	Details of change	Responsible officer
1	May 2015	Created	CEO
2	23 June 2020	Included risk management	CEO
3	7/06/2023	Revision for compliance with new <i>Local Government Act 2019</i>	Director, Corporate Services
4	12/07/2024	Changed independent members membership provision to be a minimum of two years	Manager Governance and Risk

AUDIT AND RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE CHARTER

5		Changed Elected Member presence at the Audit and Risk Committee Meetings as observers.	Manager Governance and Risk
<u>6</u>		<u>Annual review – Amended 12 month calendar to Work Plan; amended Director to Managers relevant to the role of the committee; added Reasonable Expenses for Travel and Accommodation by Elected Members with the recommendation to amend the policy to include Council Advisory Committee members; and changed the number of meetings of the committee from two to four.</u>	<u>Manager Governance and Risk</u>

14.2 AUDIT AND RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE INDEPENDENTS EXTENSION OF APPOINTMENT

Author: Amanda Haigh, Manager Governance and Risk
Authoriser: Casey Anderson (Manager Corporate Administration)
Report Type: For decision
Attachments: Nil

Officer Recommendation

That Council approve the appointment of Independent Chair Carolyn Eagle and Independent member Ross Springolo to the Audit and Risk Management Committee for a further two years ending 31 December 2027.

Purpose of Report

To approve the extension appointment of Independent Chair Carolyn Eagle and Independent member Ross Springolo to the Audit and Risk Management Committee (ARMC) for a further two years ending 31 December 2027.

Strategic Plan

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

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

Municipal Plan

1.1.2.2 Ensure compliance with local government legislation

Background

Council has established and maintains an Audit and Risk Management Committee (ARMC) to provide additional oversight of the audit process and outcomes, effectiveness of internal controls, and risk management processes. The ARMC 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 current membership of the ARMC is:

- Independent Chair Carolyn Eagle appointment till 31 December 2025
- Independent member Ross Springolo appointment till 31 December 2025
- Mayor Joanna Holden appointment till 31 September 2026
- Councillor Kathryn Whitehouse appointment till 31 September 2026
- Alternate member Councillor Anjali Palmer appointment till 31 September 2026

The independent Chairperson is responsible for:

- recommending to the Elected Members and Chief Executive Officer the appointment of Audit and Risk Management Committee members
- assisting committee members to maintain a good understanding of Council's objectives, business needs, risks and priorities
- settling the agenda for each meeting with the committee secretariat

- leading discussion and encouraging the participation of other members, and focusing the committee's deliberations on the most important issues
- seeking the input of observers or other experts to maximise their contribution to the deliberations of the committee
- summarising discussion outcomes and actions, including assigning responsibility and timeframes for actions
- reporting formally and informally to the Elected Members and Chief Executive Officer
- attending formal and informal meetings with the Chief Executive Officer, Managers and external auditor as required, and
- arranging for a periodic review of the performance of the Committee against its charter.

The independent representative is responsible for:

- attending Audit and Risk Management Committee meetings
- at the request of the Chairperson, being available for discussion with the Chairperson, other members, management or the external auditor between meetings of the Committee
- whenever necessary to facilitate the effective performance of the Committee's duties, attends meetings, workshops or briefings of the Council
- engage in discussion and contribute to the debate at meetings so that all matters on the agenda are dealt with effectively and appropriately, and
- engage in regular assessments of the effectiveness of the Committee's performance.

Discussion

In 2021 an Expression of Interest process was undertaken for independent committee members. Council appointed Carolyn Eagle as chairperson and Ross Spingolo to the Audit and Risk Management Committee on 25 November 2021.

On the 23 July 2024 extended the term of appointment for the independent members of the ARMC for a further two years, Council resolution OMC-2024-154.

It is recommended that the appointments be extended for the final two year extension that will meet the minimum appointment term being two years, and maximum term of appointment being three terms (six consecutive years) as per the ARMC Charter.

Consultation Process

Independent Chair Carolyn Eagle and Independent member Ross Springolo have expressed interest in an extension of appointment.

Mayor Holden advised to propose an extension for the independent members.

Policy Implications

The Council ARMC Charter (Terms of Reference) states the terms of appointment, membership and roles of members of the committee.

The Charter states the ARMC will comprise a minimum of four (4) members. This includes an independent Chairperson, one independent representative and two Elected Member.

All ARMC members (other than Council staff) are appointed for a minimum two-year period and can be re-appointed by Council resolution. An individual can only serve in the positions of independent Chairperson or member for a maximum of three terms (or six consecutive years).

Budget and Resource Implications

Within current service delivery budget and resource.

Remuneration for independent members is at the discretion of Katherine Town Council.

Risk, Legal and Legislative Implications

Section 86 of the *Local Government Act 2019* requires Council to establish an Audit and Risk Management Committee to monitor and review the integrity of Council's financial management and its internal controls and to make recommendations to Council about matters within its remit that may require Council consideration.

Members of the Audit and Risk Management Committee must be appointed by Council resolution.

Section 86 (4) states that the chairperson of an audit committee must not be a member of the council or a member of the council's staff.

Environment Sustainability Implications

There are no environmental sustainability implications.

Council Officer Conflict of Interest

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

14.3 CBD SPEED CHANGES

Author: Casey Anderson, Manager Corporate Administration
Authoriser: Casey Anderson, Acting Chief Executive Officer
Report Type: For decision
Attachments: 1. Stakeholder Notice - Speed change Katherine Terrace [14.3.1 - 2 pages]
2. Katherine Terrace Speed Limit Proposal Mapping [14.3.2 - 4 pages]
3. Katherine Terrace Speed Limit Change Evidence [14.3.3 - 1 page]

Officer Recommendation

1. That Council endorses and approves Option A, which involves the least number of new signposts and reduces the existing 50kph AREA to a 40kph AREA.

Purpose of Report

For Council to consider the proposal from the Department of Logistics and Infrastructure (DLI) to reduce the speed limit of Katherine Town Council Roads in the CBD 50km area.

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.

Municipal Plan

Not Applicable

Background

The Department of Logistics and Infrastructure (DLI) reduced the speed limit of Katherine Terrace between OShea Terrace and Chambers Drive to 40km on the 1 March 2025.

Discussion

Department of Logistics and Infrastructure have informed that an unintentional consequence of the reduction in speed limit on Katherine Terrace requires changes in signage on approaching roads, Council roads, to reduce road users' confusion of the speed limit.

DLI has provided options for council to consider that includes:

2. Option A is the DLI recommended option. It offers the least number of 'new' sign posts, and will result in reducing the existing 50 AREA to a 40 AREA. It will involve replacing existing (KTC) 50 AREA and END 50 AREA signs with equivalent 40 signs.
3. Option B is not recommended. This option requires a significant number (13) of new sign posts, and reflects poor practice regarding speed zones implementation i.e. multiple speed zones over short distances.
4. Option C – if Option A is not supported, this option is considered the next best option, but it will result in additional (9) sign posts including two on two along Katherine Terrace and one on Victoria Highway due to the need for repeated signs, and another 6 on Railway Terrace (2x), O'Shea Terrace, Warburton Street, Giles Street, and Lindsay Street.

Consultation Process

DLI consultation with the CEO, Ingrid Stonhill and previous Mayor, Elisabeth Clark and of the speed limit change once it had already been decided. Subsequently, the Mayor, Elisabeth Clark and CEO, Ingrid Stonhill

requested more information and discussion.

Policy Implications

There is no Council policy that guides on changing Council Road speed limits.

Budget and Resource Implications

The change of signage required is outside Councils budget and DLI would be responsible for the installation of the required signage and have been requested to return any removed signs to Council.

Risk, Legal and Legislative Implications

The *Local Government Act 2019* Part 12.3 details legislations in relation to Council roads.

S271 (4) If a council has the care, control and management of a road that is vested in someone else, then, subject to any contrary agreement between the council and the owner, the powers of the council to care, control and manage the road are exclusive of those of the owner.

S271 (5) (b) While a road remains under the care, control and management of a council, the following belongs to the council: anything erected on, or affixed to, the road except infrastructure or equipment belonging to the Commonwealth or the Territory or a statutory authority of the Commonwealth or the Territory.

The *Control of Roads Act 1953* is silent on speed limits for roads.

Although not related to changing of road speed limits, should Council propose to open or close a road a process that involves a public notice of the proposal is required under S272 and 273 of the *Local Government Act 2019* and R64 of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021* includes:

- The proposal being accessible on council's website; and
- The proposal available for inspection by interested members of the public at the council office; and
- The proposal published in a newspaper circulating the area.
- The notice must be available for at least 28 days with invitation for any person who may object to the proposal to lodge written submissions.
- Council to then consider any written submissions.

Environment Sustainability Implications

There are no environmental sustainability implications.

Council Officer Conflict of Interest

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

February 2025

Speed limit change on Katherine Terrace

Dear stakeholder

The Department of Logistics and Infrastructure (DLI) is changing the speed limit on Katherine Terrace, Katherine, between O'Shea Terrace and Chambers Drive.

From 1 March the speed limit will be reduced from 50 km/h to 40 km/h.

The department has an ongoing practice of improving safety across Territory roads for motorists, cyclists and pedestrians by implementing compatible and credible treatments, including speed reductions as per national best practice.

A recent review of the speed limit on Katherine Terrace recommends a change from 50 km/h to 40 km/h which better reflects the current speeds along this road.

This section of multi-lane road is the main route of travel for residents to the CBD, and traffic travelling on the Stuart and Victoria highways. It experiences a considerable mix of light and heavy vehicles, pedestrian and cyclist activity.

Part of the analytics used to determine changes to speed limits include but are not limited to acknowledging the actual speed vehicles can safely travel on a stretch of road, as well as other considerations such as density and pedestrian activity.

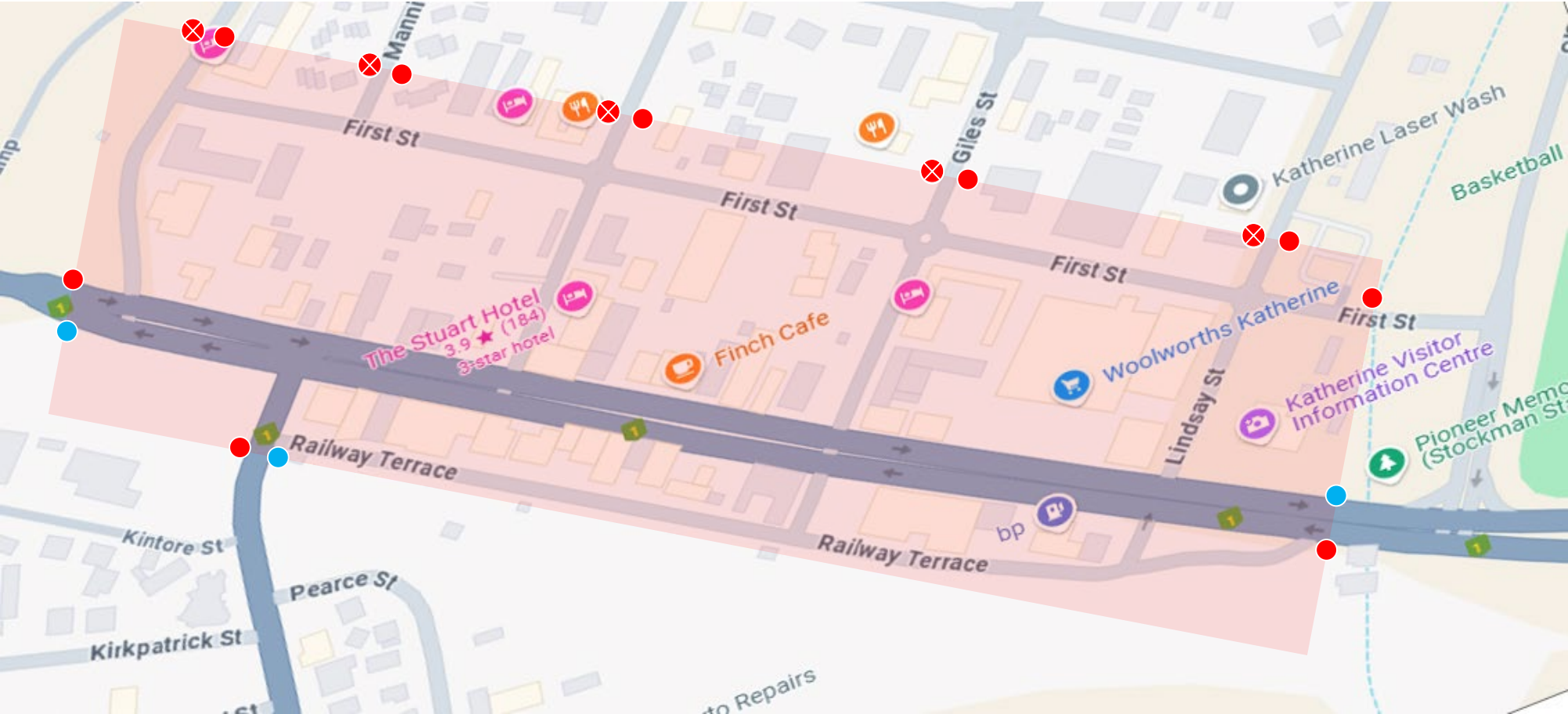
The new speed limit will reduce risk and reflect the speed at which most vehicles currently travel along Katherine Terrace.

For more information, contact DLI Project Manager John Kassaras on 8999 4788, or email john.kassaras@nt.gov.au



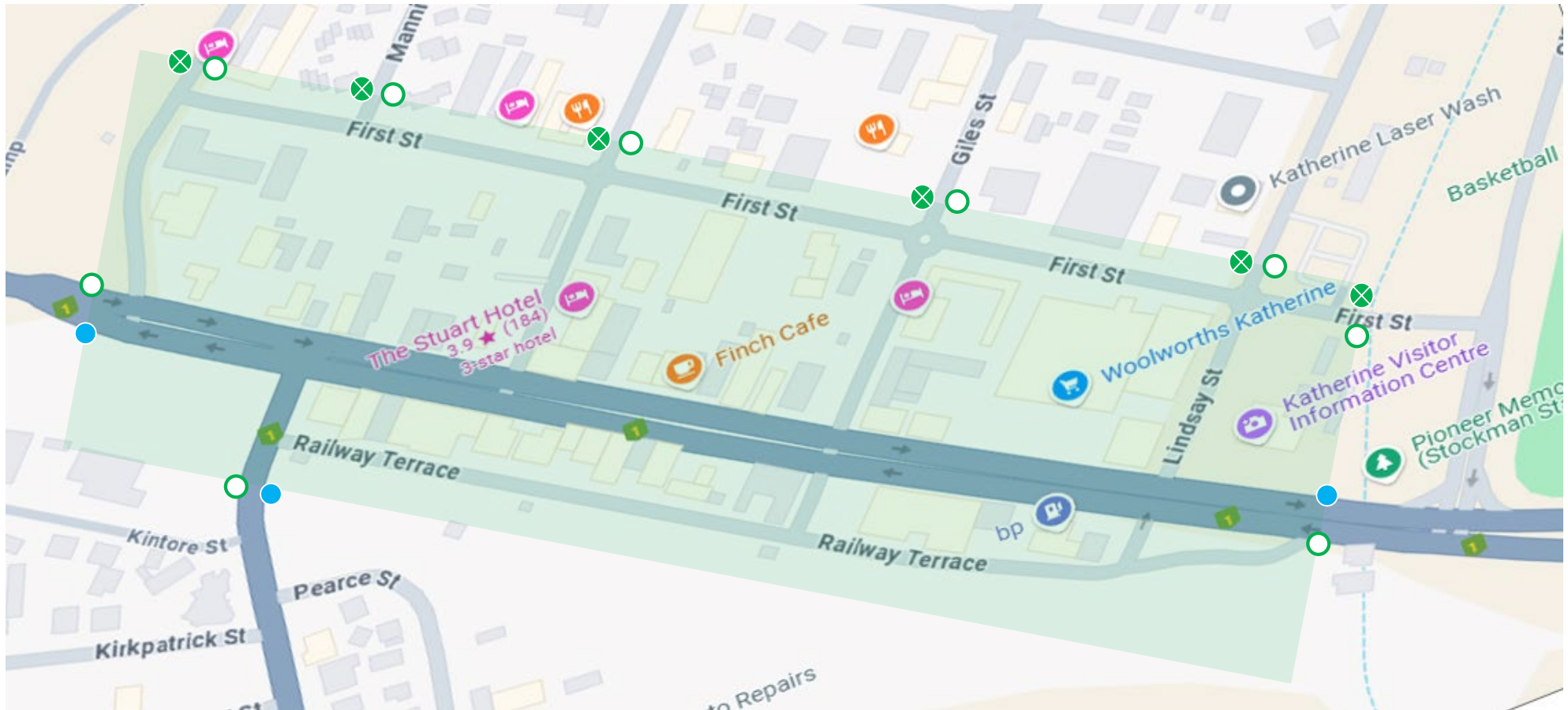
Map showing speed change on Katherine Terrace

CURRENT SIGNAGE



- 60 KPH
- 50 KPH AREA
- 40KPH
- END 50 KPH AREA

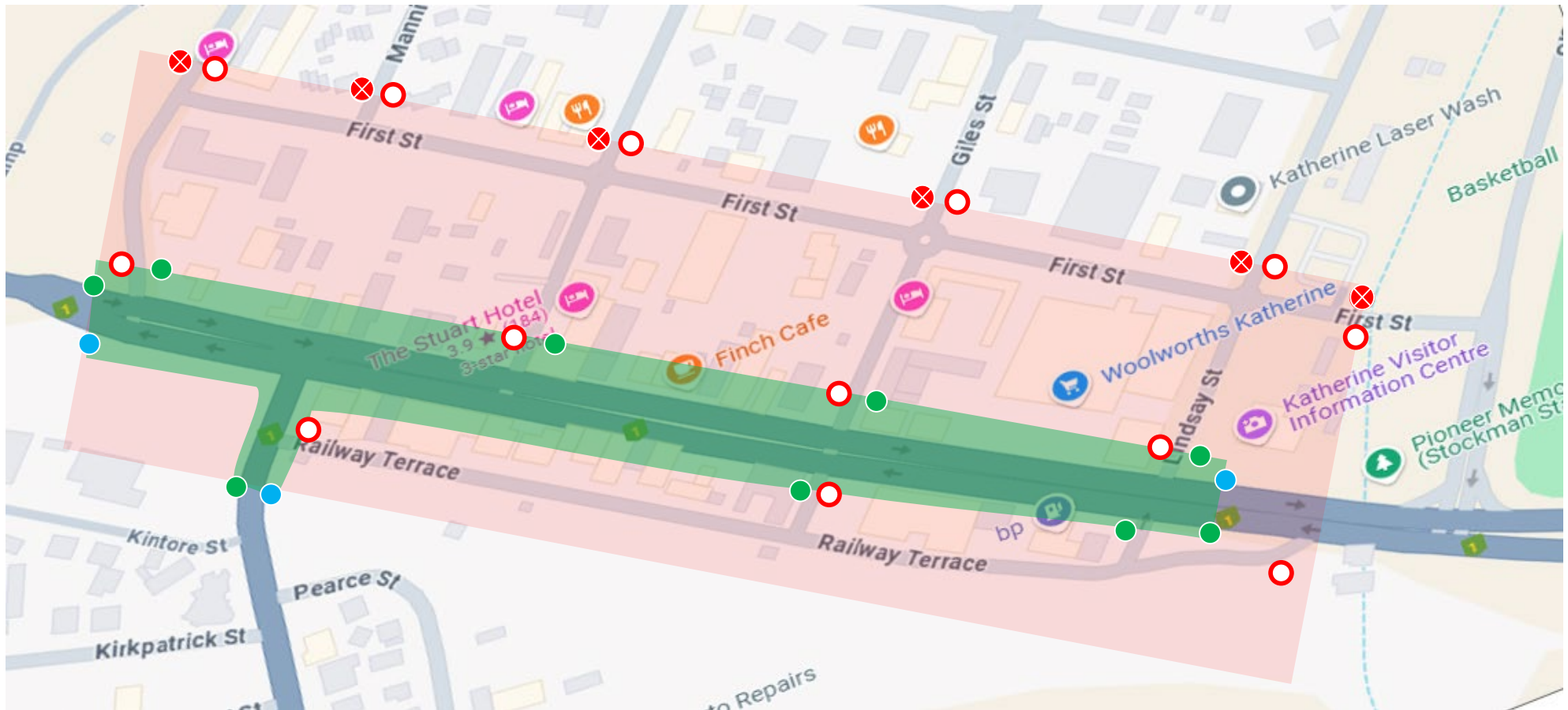
OPTION A – RECOMMENDED



- 60 KPH
- 40KPH AREA
- ✕ END 40 KPH AREA

Preferred option – creates a low speed, road user friendly environment within the 'green zone', and require minimal new sign locations by replacing existing signage. All areas beyond green zone default to 60kph.

OPTION B – NOT RECOMMENDED



- 60 KPH
- 50 KPH AREA
- 40KPH
- ⊗ END 50 KPH AREA

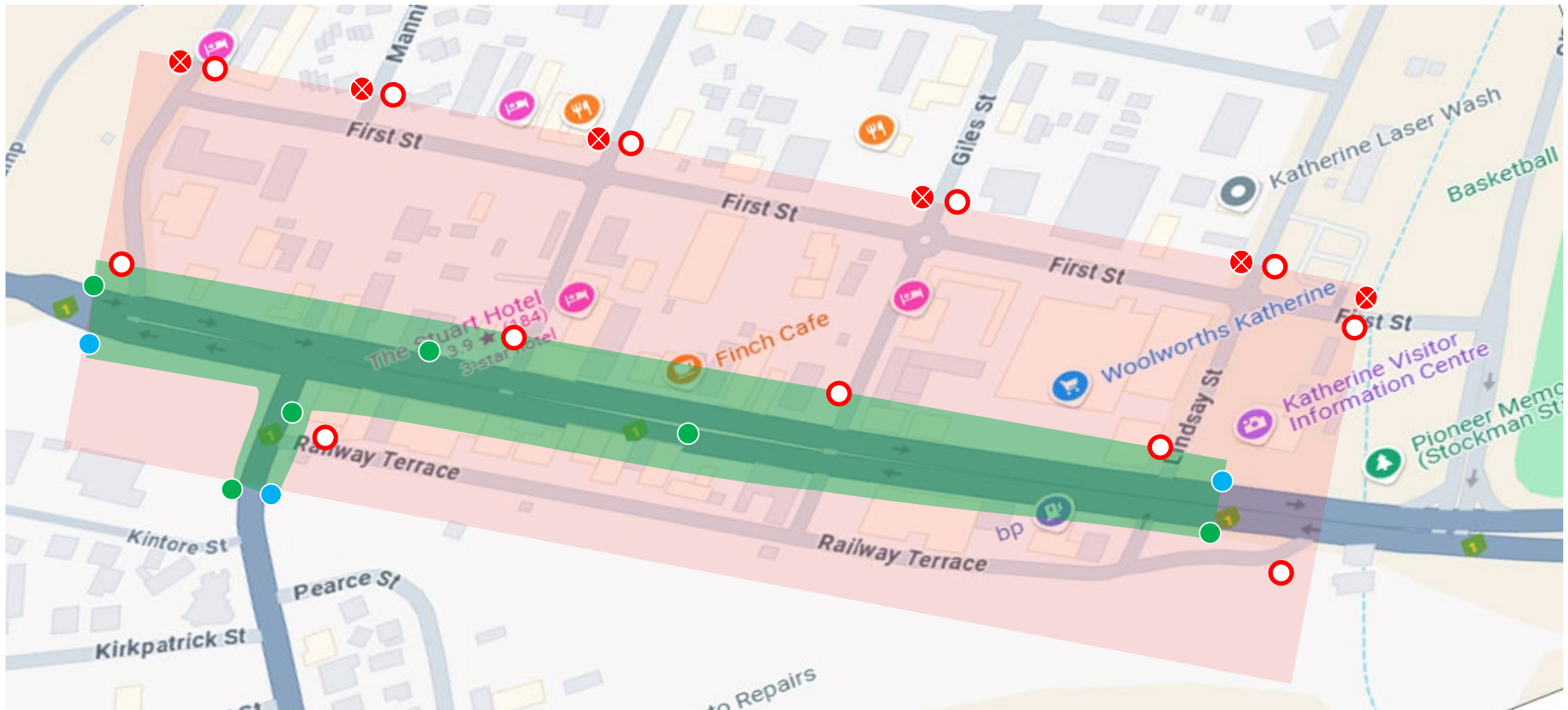
Not preferred due to the multiple speed zones over short distances, which can frustrate road users. Also results in multiple new/proliferation of signs which clutter streetscapes.

Green zone – 40kph

Red zone – 50kph

All areas outside green and red zone default to 60kph.

OPTION C – HYBRID OPTION



- 60 KPH
- 50 KPH AREA
- 40KPH
- ✕ END 50 KPH AREA

Hybrid option is not ideal but maintains the 50kph 'area' outside of Katherine Tce. May confuse road users due to multiple speed zones over short distances.

Some new signs required on Katherine Tce

Green zone – 40kph

Red zone – 50kph AREA

All areas outside green and red zone default to 60kph.

Katherine Terrace - Speed Limit Change

Speed Survey

A speed survey was conducted on Katherine Tce, 50m south of Victoria Highway, from 20 November to 1 December 2024 to investigate operational speed limits. Following are the findings:

Southbound Carriageway

- 92% of the total vehicles were travelling at or below the current speed limit of 50km/h.
- 51% of the total vehicles were travelling at or below 40km/h.
- Mean Speed is calculated at 39.5km/h.

Northbound Carriageway

- 86% of the total vehicles were travelling at or below the current speed limit of 50km/h.
- 38% of the total vehicles were travelling at or below 40km/h.
- Mean speed is calculated at 41.6km/h.

The findings from the survey suggest high compliance to the current speed limit of 50km/h. The mean speed is relatively close to 40km/h.

Proposal

- The findings of the survey present a good case for lowering the speed limit to 40km/h.
- It is expected that mean speed can be reduced to 35km/h or below if the speed limit is changed to 40km/h.
- A reduction of 10km/h will likely result in reduction in crashes (35% fatal crashes, 25% serious injury crashes).
- Initially, the new speed limit of 40km/h should be introduced through installing the '40' regulatory speed limit signs, implementing a communication strategy and enforcement by NT Police. Speed Check Signs are not considered in this situation due to multiple lane road and very busy road environment cluttered with signs and other structures.
- A trial for three months should be considered to allow motorists to adapt the new speed limit. A speed survey should be undertaken after three months to investigate compliance to the new speed limit of 40km/h.
- In case of significant lack of non-compliance, the infrastructure and enforcement strategies should be considered.

14.4 CENTENARY OF KATHERINE COMMUNITY ACTION GROUP - TERMS OF REFERENCE

Author: Isabella Murphy, Events and Engagement Coordinator
Authoriser: Jo Brosnan (Manager Strategic Communications and Engagement),
Casey Anderson (Manager Corporate Administration)
Report Type: For noting
Attachments: 1. Finalised Centenary of Katherine Community Action Group To R [14.4.1 - 3 pages]

Officer Recommendation

That Council endorse the Centenary of Katherine Community Action Groups Terms of Reference.

Purpose of Report

To table the proposed Centenary of Katherine Community Action Groups Terms of Reference.

Strategic Plan

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

1.1.2 Ensure strong internal governance with updated policies and procedures in place.

Municipal Plan

1.5.2.4 Implement the Centenary of Katherine 2026 Community Grants Program

Background

The Katherine Centenary Advisory Committee was formed in 2023 to guide the early planning of centenary events and projects. As planning has progressed into the delivery stage, Council has transitioned the committee into a working group to enable a more flexible, informal and collaborative approach.

Discussion

The proposed Terms of Reference outline the Community Action Groups purpose to:

- Offer feedback and community perspectives on event concepts, activities and priorities.
- Support Council's centenary program through advice, ideas, and local connections.
- Act as ambassadors within the community, encouraging participation and pride in the centenary.
- The group is advisory only. It does not make decisions on behalf of Council or manage event delivery.

The meetings will be hosted by an Elected Member representative. The administration of the meeting, including coordination and facilitation will remain the responsibility of the Council operational staff.

Consultation Process

There was no consultation process required for this report.

Policy Implications

There are no policy implications resulting from the decision.

Budget and Resource Implications

There are no budget and resource requirements.

Risk, Legal and Legislative Implications

There are no risk, legal and legislative implications.

Environment Sustainability Implications

There are no environmental sustainability implications.

Council Officer Conflict of Interest

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



COUNCIL

CENTENARY OF KATHERINE 2026 COMMUNITY ACTION GROUP TERMS OF REFERENCE

Type:	Council – Elected Member		
Owner:	Chief Executive Officer		
Responsible Officer:	Manager, Strategic Communication		
Approval Date:		Next Review:	December 2029
Records Number:		Council/CEO Decision:	Council
Legislation Reference:			

1 INTENT

The Katherine Centenary Advisory Committee was formed in 2023 to guide the early planning of centenary events and projects. As planning has progressed into the delivery stage, Council has transitioned the committee into a working group to enable a more flexible, informal and collaborative approach.

The Community Action Group will support and, where possible, provide advice to Council staff on the successful implementation of the Centenary events program.

2 SCOPE

These terms of reference apply to all members of the Centenary of Katherine 2026 Community Action Group.

3 POWERS OF COMMUNITY ACTION GROUP

This community action group is an informal working group with no legislated powers.

PURPOSE

The proposed Terms of Reference outline the Community Action Groups purpose to:

- Offer feedback and community perspectives on event concepts, activities and priorities.
- Support Council's centenary program through advice, ideas, and local connections.
- Act as ambassadors within the community, encouraging participation and pride in the centenary.
- The group is advisory only. It does not make decisions on behalf of Council or manage event delivery.

An Elected Member representative will host the meetings. The administration of the meeting, including coordination and facilitation, will be the responsibility of the Council operational staff.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the Community Action Group will remain the same as the previous Centenary Advisory Committee, with the elected member representatives to be determined by resolution at an Ordinary or Special Council Meeting.

COMMITTEE TERMS

Membership of the Community Action group is for the duration of the Centenary year.

MEETINGS

All members will ensure there is appropriate and suitable representation at all meetings unless alternative arrangements, such as reports submitted before meetings, are made.

Responsibility for normal day-to-day operational matters relating to the Centenary of Katherine 2026 will be handled through the Council's normal management structure.

The meetings will be scheduled as and when required, becoming more or less frequent as necessary.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Council is responsible for the adoption, amendment and repeal of these Terms of Reference.

Community Action Group members are responsible for:

- Attending meetings
- Providing advice and input into the Centenary program's implementation

The Group does not have the power to incur expenditure.

All Advisory Committee members, as well as other participants, are expected to observe the following protocols:

- Be courteous to other participants, Council staff and Councillors
- Help to create an environment that is free of harassment and discrimination
- Protect the health, safety and welfare of yourself and others at meetings and related activities
- Actively participate to support the efficient delivery of the Centenary program

Katherine Town Council will provide administrative support to the functions of the Advisory Committee through:

- Co-ordinating the meetings

- Updating group members on implementation progress.

5 ASSOCIATED POLICIES/DOCUMENTS

Nil

6 REFERENCES AND RELATED LEGISLATION

Nil

Revision History

Version	Approval date	Details of change	Responsible officer
1	3/12/2025	Created	Manager Strategic Communications

3 | Page

CENTENARY OF KATHERINE 2026 TERMS OF REFERENCE

14.5 INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITY AWARD RECIPIENTS

Author: Isabella Murphy, Events and Engagement Coordinator
Authoriser: Jo Brosnan (Manager Strategic Communications and Engagement),
Casey Anderson (Manager Corporate Administration)
Report Type: For noting
Attachments: Nil

Officer Recommendation

That Council acknowledge and endorse the award recipients for International Day of People with Disability.

- Outstanding Person with Disability – Christina Fowler
- Outstanding Young Person with Disability – Jackson Robertson
- Outstanding Support Person – Hillary Lenehan
- Excellence in Education and Employment – Kintore Street School

Purpose of Report

To provide Council with information surrounding the International Day of People with Disability Award ceremony and recipients.

Strategic Plan

2. COMMUNITY AND FAMILIES - 2.2 Prioritise Recreation - Collaborate and innovate with the private and public sectors for positive social, economic, and environmental outcomes.

2.2.3 Promote an active community with family events, festivals, live music and sports.

2. COMMUNITY AND FAMILIES - 2.3 Celebrate Diversity - Celebrate diversity in our community and recognise their needs and interests.

2.3.1 Support diversity by ensuring our communication and engagement is inclusive and accessible to all members of the community.

Municipal Plan

2.2.3.1 Provide an up-to-date calendar of free and accessible community events that cater for our diverse community

2.3.2.2 Consult with disability advocates in project stakeholder engagement activities

Background

International Day of People with Disability is held each year on December 3. Katherine Town Council hosts an annual awards ceremony to celebrate the sector, and individuals within.

This year, Katherine Town Council is working with NT Friendship and Support, and other service providers to host an inclusive and exciting celebration for International Day of People with Disability.

The event will consist of an awards ceremony, followed by light lunch, and a disco.

The panel members appointed undertook the assessment 1 December 2025:

- Mayor Joanna Holder
- Councillor Kathryn Whitehouse
- Councillor Toni Coutts-Tapp

Discussion

These awards are a great way to recognise the important work happening in the Disability sector.

Awards being presented at the International Day of People with Disability Awards Ceremony on 3 December, and the deserving recipients are:

- Outstanding Person with Disability – Christina Fowler
- Outstanding Young Person with Disability – Jackson Robertson
- Outstanding Support Person – Hillary Lenehan
- Excellence in Education and Employment – Kintore Street School

Thank you to everyone who nominated someone for an award, and participated in the Awards ceremony.

Consultation Process

There was no consultation process required for this report.

Policy Implications

There are no policy implications resulting from the decision.

Budget and Resource Implications

There are no budget and resource requirements.

Risk, Legal and Legislative Implications

There are no risk, legal and legislative implications.

Environment Sustainability Implications

There are no environmental sustainability implications.

Council Officer Conflict of Interest

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

14.6 CORPORATE ADMINISTRATION REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2025

Author: Casey Anderson, Manager Corporate Administration
Authoriser: Casey Anderson, Acting Chief Executive Officer
Report Type: For noting
Attachments: Nil

Officer Recommendation

That Council receives and note the Corporate Administration Report for the month of November 2025.

Purpose of Report

To provide Council with the Corporate Administration Report for the month of November 2025.

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.

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

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

Municipal Plan

1.1.2.2 Ensure compliance with local government legislation

1.1.3.2 Encourage and Educate the Community about the Services that is provided by Council

1.3.3.2 Snap Send Solve

Background

The monthly report of the Corporate Administration provides information that contains for the month of November regarding customer services requests and summary of the rates debtors.

Discussion

Customer Service Requests

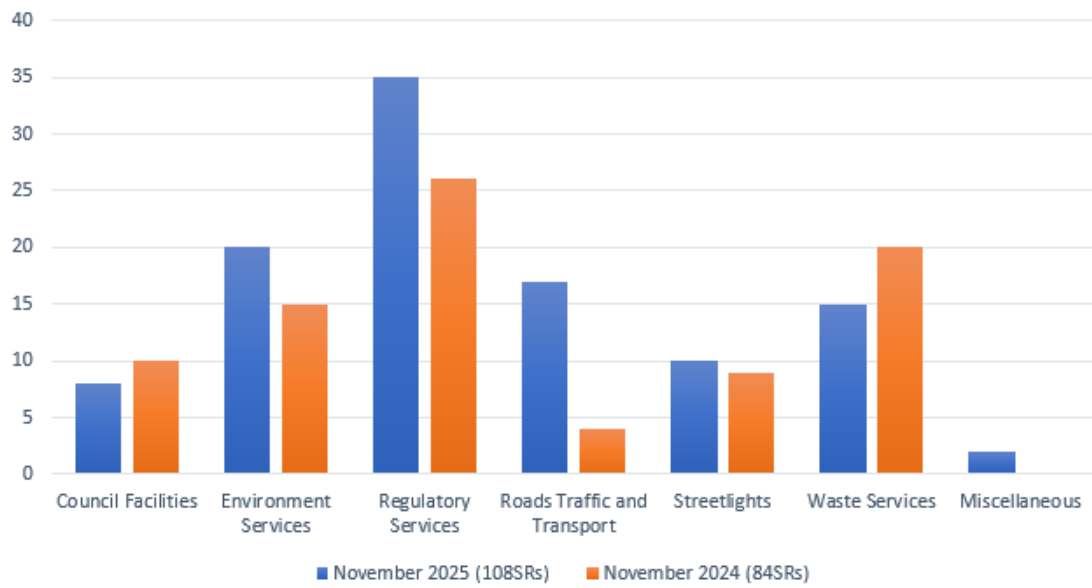
As of 25 November, the Council received a total of 108 service requests. Of these, 72 were resolved satisfactorily and 36 are still in progress.

During the same period, 72 Snap Send Solve (SSS) reports were submitted. The main issues reported was rubbish and bins general, request for bin repair or replacement and abandoned vehicles.

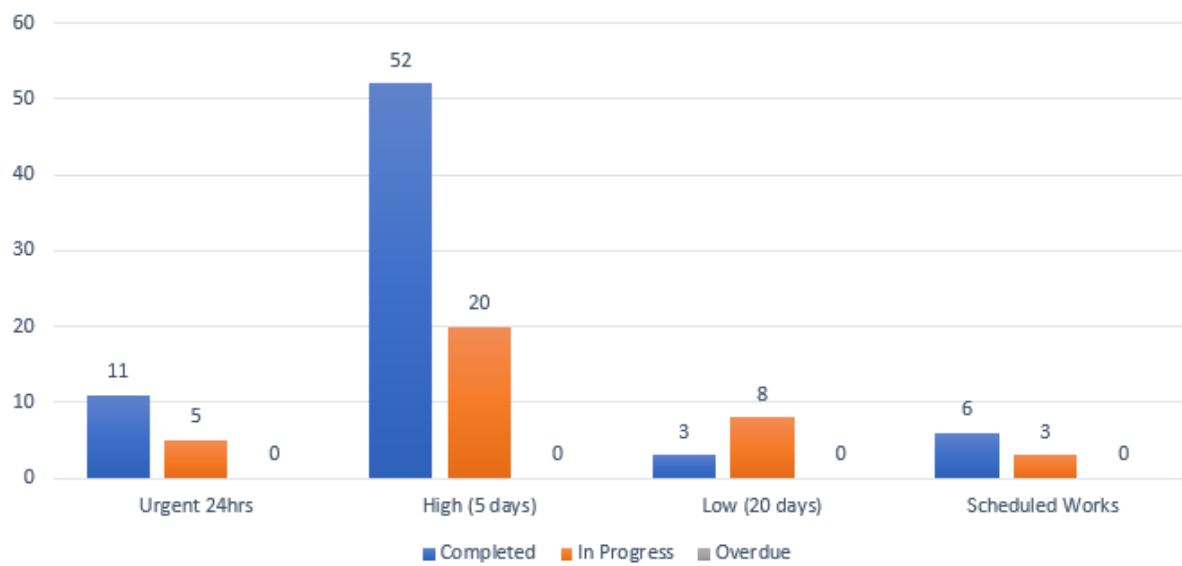
Additionally, service requests were received through other channels such as phone, email, or in person.



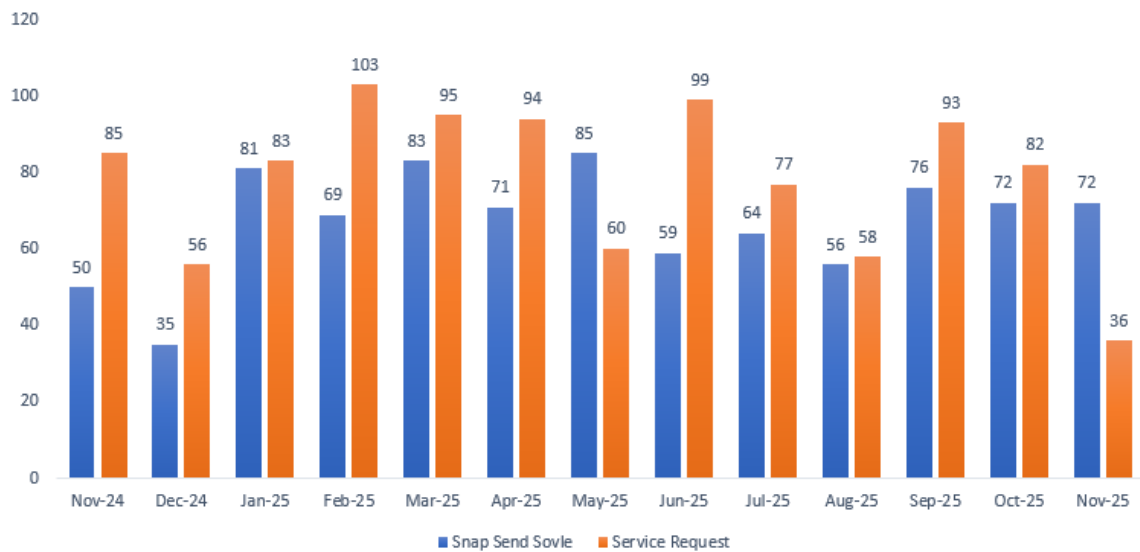
INCIDENT TYPES COMPARISON NOVEMBER



108 SERVICE REQUESTS - TRIAGING RESULTS - NOVEMBER



SNAP SEND SOLVE & SERVICE REQUESTS



1. Regulatory Services – 35 Requests

Regulatory Services managed a diverse range of compliance and animal management matters, with animal-related issues being the most frequent.

Breakdown of Requests:

- 8 reports of abandoned vehicles
- 4 reports of dogs at large or causing nuisance
- 3 reports of illegal dumping
- 10 reports of animal attacks or menacing behaviour
- 7 lost and found animal reports
- 1 animal cruelty/welfare report
- 1 report of illegal parking/obstruction
- 1 dwelling inspection

Insights:

- Abandoned vehicles remain the largest category, highlighting ongoing concerns around urban space management and enforcement.
- Animal-related issues (21 combined reports) represent a significant proportion, suggesting a need for continued community education and proactive compliance measures.
- Illegal dumping and welfare concerns, while fewer, carry high environmental and public health implications, warranting prioritised attention.

2. Environmental Services – 19 Requests

Requests focused on maintaining public spaces and managing vegetation to ensure community safety and amenity.

Breakdown of Requests:

- 1 miscellaneous environmental request
- 7 park, grounds, and oval maintenance requests (e.g., leaks, sprinkler repairs)
- 11 reports of vegetation and weeds

Insights:

- Vegetation and weed management accounts for more than half of all requests, indicating seasonal growth or heightened community awareness of amenity standards.
- Park and irrigation maintenance requests point to ongoing operational requirements to sustain public spaces.

Overall request volume remains moderate, suggesting Environmental Services are largely meeting community expectations for upkeep.

3. Roads, Traffic and Transportation – 17 Requests

Requests during the reporting period primarily related to infrastructure maintenance and signage.

Breakdown of Requests:

- 2 requests for drain lid repairs
- 1 report of damaged footpath
- 1 request for line marking
- 7 requests for signage
- 4 requests for road repairs (including potholes)
- 1 request for street cleaning
- 1 request for obstruction on the verge

Insights:

- Signage and road repair requests account for over half of all submissions, indicating a strong focus on road safety and asset upkeep.
- The single street cleaning and verge obstruction request suggests minimal issues with public space cleanliness and accessibility.
- The relatively low volume of requests overall may reflect stable road conditions, though recurring signage needs could point to wear-and-tear or visibility concerns.

CHRISTMAS CLOSURE – KATHERINE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Please note that the Christmas closure for the Katherine Public Library will close at 2pm on 24 December 2025 and will re-open to the public on Tuesday 6 January 2026.

RATES RECOVERY AND OUTSTANDING BALANCES UPDATE

Council Rates Overview as of 27 November 2025.

Category	Amount (AUD)	Details
Total Rates Balance (as of 27 Nov 2025)	\$6,103,102.05	Comprised of the 2025/2026 levy balance, prior-year outstanding rates, and cumulative pending interest.
2025/2026 Rates Levy Balance	\$4,476,403.98	Current financial year rates outstanding.
Outstanding Rates (2024/2025 & prior years)	\$1,574,408.89	Prior-year arrears included in total balance.
Cumulative Pending Interest	\$52,289.18	Includes \$16,900.89 accrued since 1 July 2025; interest is included in the overall outstanding amounts above.
Rates Under Formal Legal	\$765,920.22	Inclusive of penalties and legal costs; secured via

Proceedings		Overriding Statutory Charges (s.256 LGA) across 39 assessments.
Power of Sale – Preparations Underway	\$615,107.55	Subset of the above legal matters; 26 of the 39 assessments being ready to exercise Power of Sale.
Recovery Effort – Vacant Possession Outstanding	\$59,066.51	1 assessment where possession is not yet secured under Council's exercised Power of Sale rights (legal representatives engaged).
Letters of Demand – To Be Issued	\$808,488.67	Overdue rates from 2024/2025 and prior years; impacts approximately 369 assessments.
Financial Hardship / CEO Extensions	\$3,532.05	Outstanding under approved Special Payment Arrangements or Payment Extensions per the Rates Concessions Policy.

Pursuant to Section 38 of the Local Government Regulations, legal services are exempt from the requirement to obtain quotes or undertake tenders. All related legal expenses may be recovered from the relevant ratepayer by journaling the costs against their assessment and including them in the applicable recovery balance.

Council must initially incur these expenses before recovery from the ratepayer. Accordingly, provisions for such costs should be prudently factored into the proposed budget.

Consultation Process

There was no consultation process required for this report.

Policy Implications

There are no policy implications resulting from the decision.

Budget and Resource Implications

There are no budget and resource requirements.

Risk, Legal and Legislative Implications

There are no risk, legal and legislative implications.

Environment Sustainability Implications

There are no environmental sustainability implications.

Council Officer Conflict of Interest

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

14.7 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT MONTHLY REPORT

Author: Jo Brosnan, Manager Strategic Communications and Engagement
Authoriser: Casey Anderson, Manager Corporate Administration
Report Type: For noting
Attachments: Nil

Officer Recommendation

That Council receive and note the Strategic Communications report for November 2025

Purpose of Report

To provide Council with an overview of community engagement activities.

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.

1. STRONG LEADERSHIP - 1.3 Community Engagement - Improve Council communications and engagement with the community.

1.3.2 Improve consistency of our communications and engagement in alignment with our strategy.

Municipal Plan

1.3.2.1 Implement Communications and Engagement Strategy

1.3.3.1 Expand the number and type of community engagement tools used, including Have Your Say Katherine

2.3.1.1 Use a range of communication and engagement tools and methods to reach all members of the Katherine community

5.2.6.1 Develop Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP)

6.1.3.1 Promote Katherine's capacity to host regional events and conferences

Background

This report provides Council with a monthly overview of communications activities, stakeholder engagement, and events delivered during the previous reporting period. It is intended to provide visibility into how Council information is shared with the community, how engagement is undertaken with our stakeholders, and how events are planned and delivered in line with Council priorities.

The report summarises key activities across corporate communications, social media, media, community engagement and civic, and community events. It also highlights emerging issues and lessons learned to support continuous improvement in the Council's communications and engagement practices.

Discussion

MEDIA RELEASES

- A New Era for Katherine, Aquatic Centre Reopens After Major Redevelopment
- Katherine Town Council to Support Fair Work Decision
- Pre-Cyclone Clean-Up to Help Residents Prepare for the Wet Season
- Christmas in K-Town Calendar released

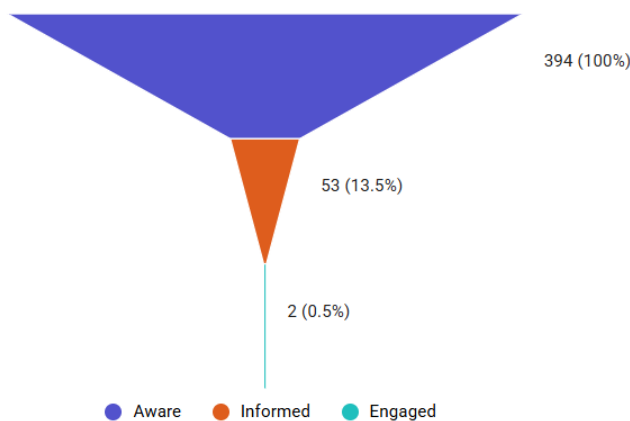
GRANT APPLICATIONS

- Australia Day Citizen of the Year NT – COTY dinner
- International Women’s Day

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

- Continued to grow community engagement through the Your Say Katherine platform, providing accessible project information and opportunities for residents to participate in consultation. Awareness-building activities are planned for December 2025 to February 2026 to further increase engagement with the platform.
- 439 people visited the website in November. The infographic below shows 53 people downloaded information to find out more (informed) and two people actively engaged by asking questions about projects (both questions were about the pool).

Visitor engagement ⓘ



The following projects were updated in November:

Level of engagement - Consult:

- Your Say Katherine – Zimin Drive Shared Pathway, consultation and project update – design phase
- Your Say Katherine Aquatic Centre – final updates

Level of engagement - Inform:

- Civic Centre upgrade and Council relocation

CAMPAIGNS AND PROJECTS

- Update the 2025 – 2026 Reconciliation Action Plan

SOCIAL MEDIA

- Increased Council’s social media reach and engagement, with particularly strong growth on Instagram. Over the past six months:
- **Facebook:**
 - Follows up 33.6%
 - Visits up 16%
- **Instagram:**
 - Views up 322%
 - Follows up 76%
 - Reach up 188%

- o Visits up 28%
 - o Content interactions up 294%
- Expanded the use of video to communicate news and information, improving accessibility and comprehension.

Events

- The team reviewed the 2026 events calendar, incorporating lessons learned and identifying improved approaches for delivering regular events next year.
- Christmas in KTown Calendar released, showcasing Christmas events across Katherine and encouraging community participation.
- Welcome to the Wet Saturday 8 November
Katherine Town Council hosted a native plant give away and provided an opportunity to take a look at the new dog pound at the waste management facility. The event was a huge success, with more than 300 cars through the gates. Stocks of free plants were exhausted at 10.45am but people were still coming in up until 12pm to buy plants. This initiative successfully reached over 800 people and encouraged the greening of Katherine.
- Remembrance Day Tuesday 11 November
This commemorative event was held at the Katherine Cenotaph supported by RAAF Tindal, NORFORCE and RSL Katherine Sub branch. Approximately 110 people attended to pay their respects to armed forces members who have died in the line of duty.
- International Mens Day Saturday 22 November
- Soft Opening Aquatic Centre Saturday 29 November
Katherine Town Council supported The Y to open the Katherine Aquatic Centre to the public. KTC staff and elected members ran a free BBQ which contributed to the enjoyment of the day. 250 sausages were given away, ensuring kids had plenty of energy to play in the new pool.

Upcoming Events

- Christmas Tree Lighting – 5:30-7:30 pm Monday, 1 December
- International Day of People with Disability Awards – 10:00-4:00 pm Wednesday, 3 December
- Carols by Candlelight – 5:00 – 9:00 pm Saturday, 6 December
- Official opening of the pool – 10:00 – 11:30 am Saturday, 13 December
- Katherine's Big Pool Party – 12:00 – 4:00 pm Saturday, 13 December.

Consultation Process

There was no consultation process required for this report.

Policy Implications

There are no policy implications resulting from the decision.

Budget and Resource Implications

There are no budget and resource requirements.

Risk, Legal and Legislative Implications

There are no risk, legal and legislative implications.

Environment Sustainability Implications

There are no environmental sustainability implications.

Council Officer Conflict of Interest

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

14.8 COMMUNITY RELATIONS REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2025

Author: Rhett English, Manager Community Relations
Authoriser: Casey Anderson (Manager Corporate Administration)
Report Type: For noting
Attachments: Nil

Officer Recommendation

That Council receive and note the Community Relations Department report for the month of November 2025.

Purpose of Report

To provide an overview of the Community Relations Department activities for the month of November 2025.

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.

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

1. STRONG LEADERSHIP - 1.3 Community Engagement - Improve Council communications and engagement with the community.

1.3.2 Improve consistency of our communications and engagement in alignment with our strategy.

1. STRONG LEADERSHIP - 1.4 Enhance Customer Experiences - Deliver positive customer experiences for visitors and residents.

1.4.1 Continually improve services and our tourism offerings.

1.4.3 Enhance customer experiences at our Visitor Information Centre.

Municipal Plan

1.1.3.2 Encourage and educate the community about the services that are provided by Council

1.4.1.1 Partner with Tourism Top End (TTE) and the Top End Visitor Information Centre

1.4.1.4 Active participation and completion of agreed actions as part of the Big Rivers Region Destination Management Plan implementation team

3.2.4.1 Active participation and completion of agreed actions as part of the Big Rivers Region Destination Management Plan Implementation Team

3.4.6.2 Undertake library operations as per the funding agreement

3.4.6.4 Increase community participation

3.4.6.5 Partner with local organisations to enhance library services and programs

3.4.6.6 Provide access to public computers and free public Wi-Fi

3.4.6.7 Deliver library programs and events for our community

3.4.6.8 Young Territory Author Awards

Background

The Community Relations Department is responsible for the provision of customer service and the delivery of public library service, and visitor services to the Katherine community.

Discussion

The November reports for both the Visitor Information Centre and Library show that community engagement is strong despite seasonal changes and some operational challenges. The VIC continued to attract steady visitor numbers even though most tourism operators had closed for the wet season. Retail sales remained positive, and the team managed unexpected issues—including a burst pipe, termite damage and a break-in—quickly and professionally.

At the Library, patron visitation increased significantly compared with the same period last year, highlighting its growing role as a welcoming and accessible community space. While traditional borrowing decreased, participation in programs such as Wiggle & Rhyme and the popular STEM Roadshow shows strong community demand for interactive and educational activities. The celebration of our Regional Young Territory Author winner also reinforced the Library's role in supporting local talent and literacy.

Across both facilities, November reflected a clear shift in how residents and visitors engage with Council services. People are seeking spaces for connection, learning and support, and both the VIC and Library teams continue to deliver high-quality customer service under changing conditions. These insights will be valuable as Council plans future programming, seasonal operations and community-focused improvements.

LIBRARY SERVICES

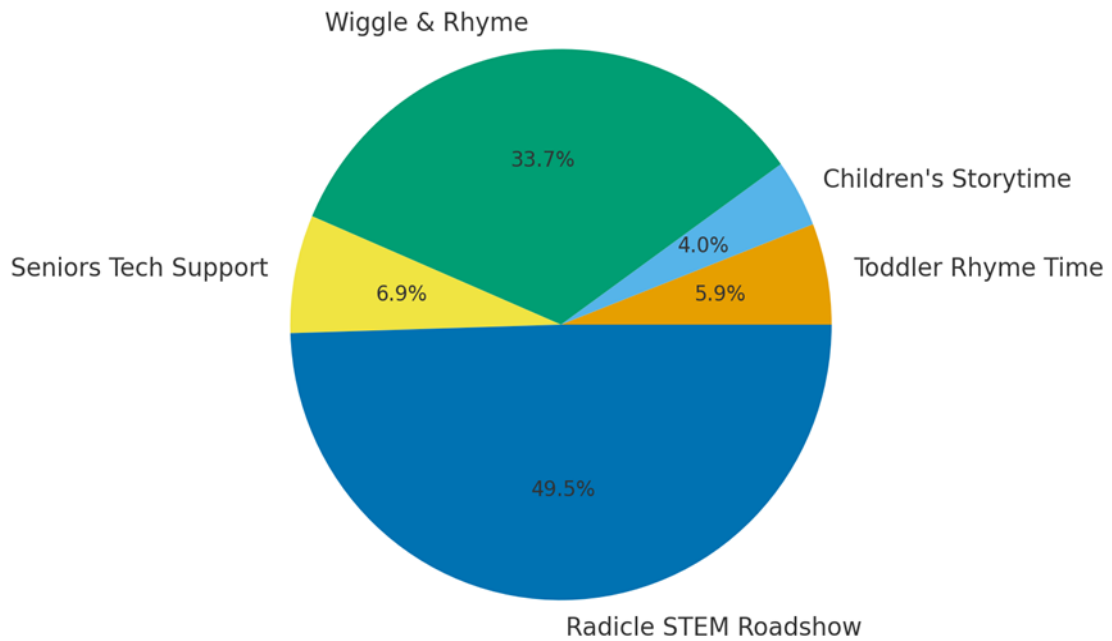
The Library saw a strong rise in visitors, increasing from 1,255 in November 2024 to 1,950 in November 2025. This shows more people are using the Library as a community space. New memberships also grew slightly, indicating steady interest from new users.

Even with more people coming in, traditional borrowing went down. Book loans, returns and soft loans were all lower than last year. This suggests that people are visiting more for programs, study, meetings and general use of the space rather than for borrowing alone. Public computer use stayed mostly the same, with only a small drop.

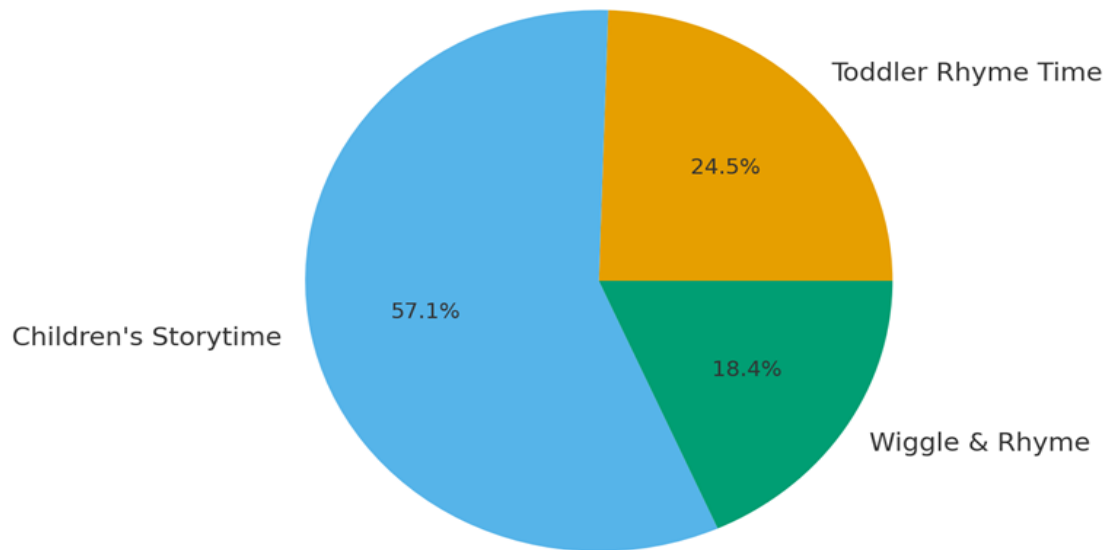
Program attendance varied. Wiggle & Rhyme continued to grow, while Toddler Rhyme Time and Storytime had fewer participants. Seniors Tech Support is emerging as a useful new service, and the STEM Roadshow attracted strong one-off attendance. Overall, the results show that people are using the Library in new ways, with increasing demand for programs, events and community activities.



November 2025 Program Attendance Breakdown

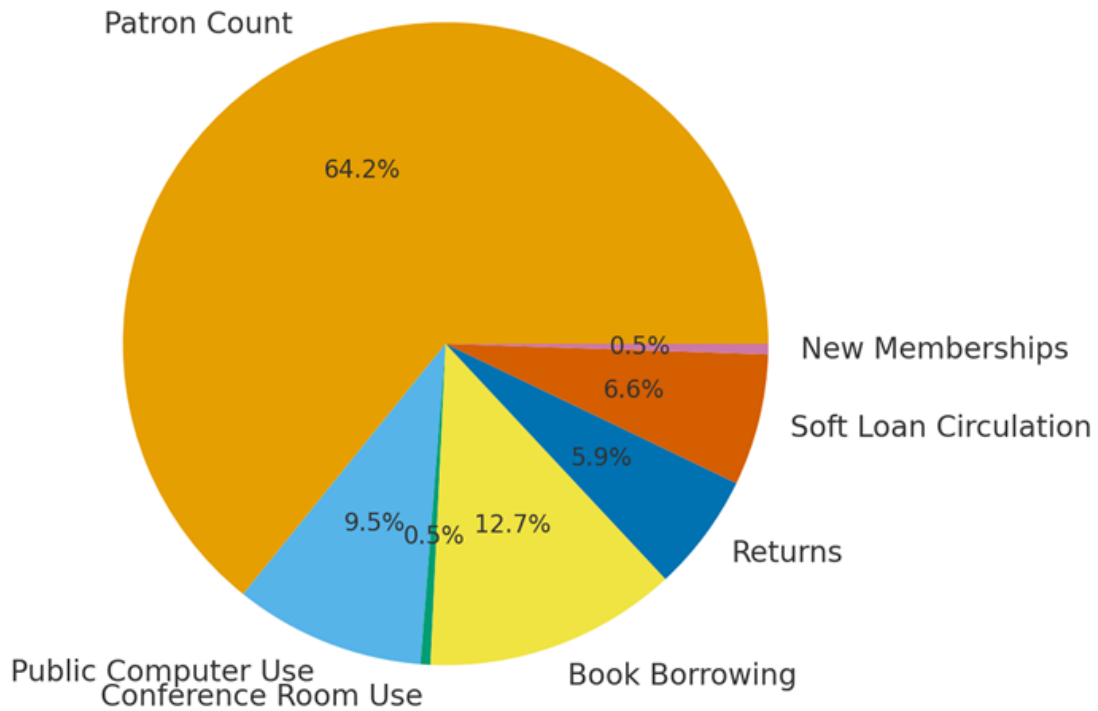


November 2024 Program Attendance Breakdown

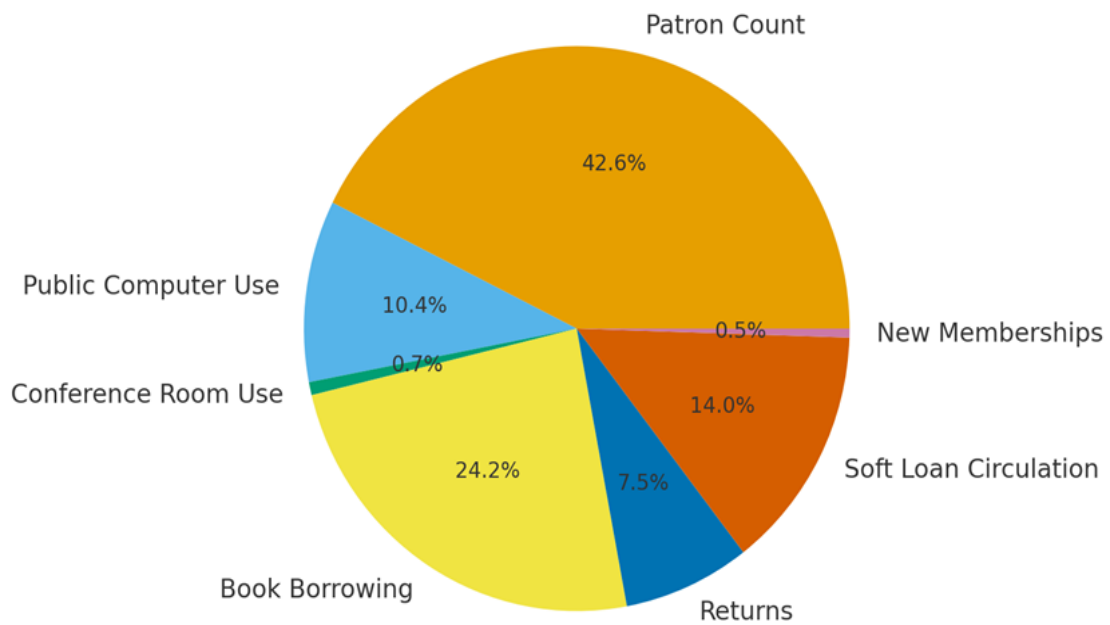




November 2025 Circulation Breakdown



November 2024 Circulation Breakdown

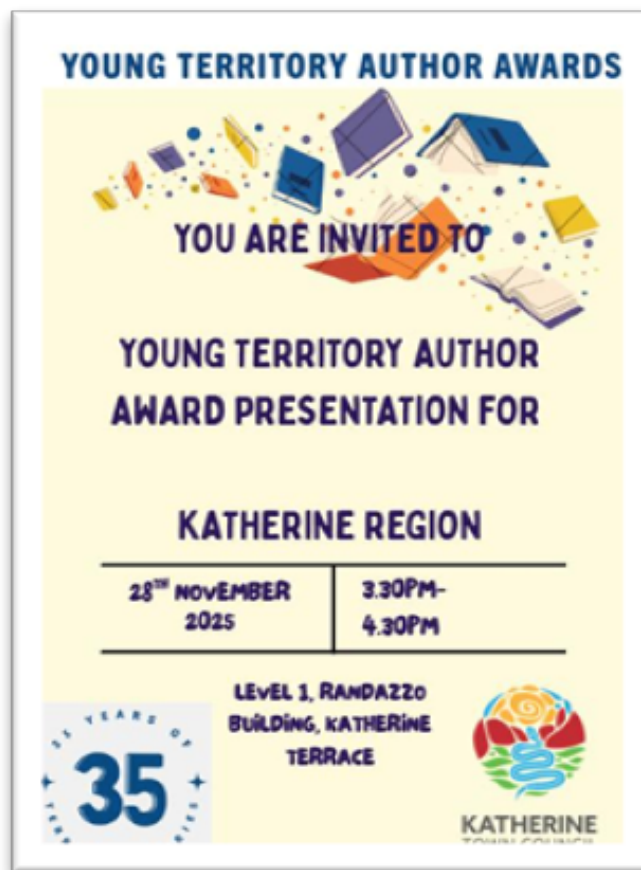


Young Territory Author Awards

The Young Territory Author Awards celebrate young writers across the NT and encourage creativity, literacy and storytelling. The awards give students an opportunity to share their work and build confidence in their writing.

Katherine is proud to recognise our Regional Winner, Lara Venter. Her work was acknowledged at the Territory presentation in Darwin on 5 November, where our Community Relations Coordinator accepted the award on her behalf. The event drew more than 500 people, showing how valued these awards are across the NT.

On 28 November, a local presentation was held at the Katherine Public Library, where Lara received the perpetual trophy, her own trophy, certificates, and a \$50 voucher. This celebration highlights our ongoing support for young writers and literacy in the region.



Radicle Stem Roadshow

The Radicle STEM Roadshow was held at the Katherine Public Library on 15 November and provided a fun, hands-on learning experience focused on science, technology, engineering and maths. More than 75 children and families took part in activities designed to spark curiosity and build confidence through interactive problem-solving.

The program is delivered by Charles Darwin University in partnership with NT libraries to give regional communities access to high-quality STEM education. Following the strong response to this event, the Library plans to expand its STEM programs next year, offering more activities that promote creativity, innovation and skill-building for young people and families.



VISITOR INFORMATION SERVICES

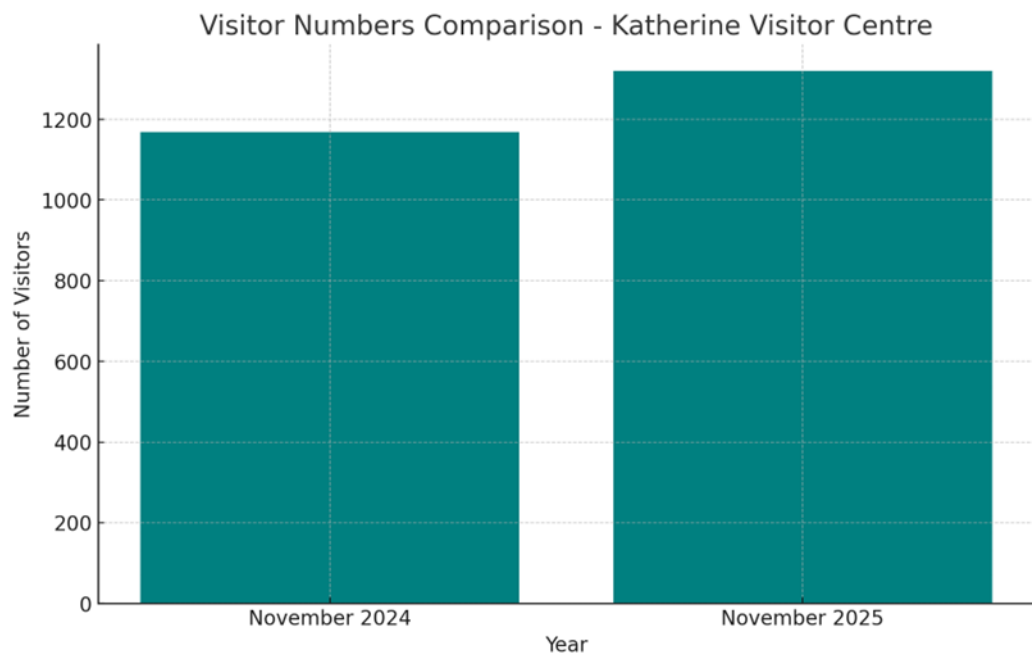
The November statistics show the usual wet season drop in tourism activity. By late October most tour operators had closed for the season, leaving only the Nitmiluk 2 Gorge Cruise running. This meant fewer tour options and limited booking opportunities through the Visitor Information Centre.

Even with reduced tour availability, visitation increased from 1,168 in November 2024 to 1,320 in November 2025, showing continued interest from travellers passing through town. However, booking revenue fell sharply due to most tours shutting down and reduced capacity at Nitmiluk. This is reflected in lower overall tour sales and commissions.

Retail sales were higher than last year, indicating visitors continued to purchase merchandise and seek information even though tours were limited.

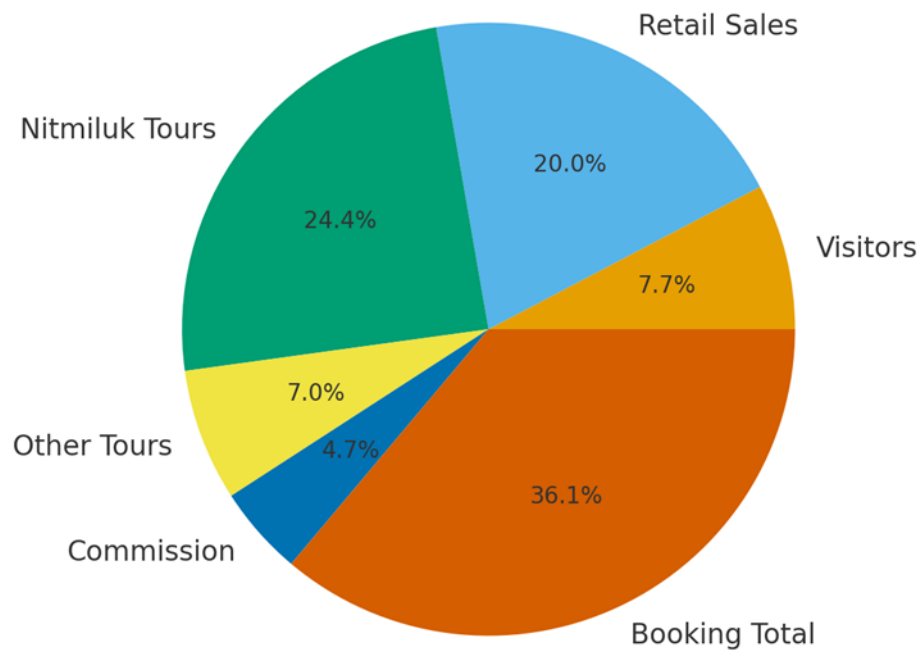
During the month, the Centre also dealt with two operational issues. A burst water pipe damaged part of a wall and carpet, and termite activity was found when repairs began. The pipe has been fixed, treatment completed, and we are now waiting on the carpenter to finish the wall repairs.

There was also a break-in, resulting in a broken window. This was replaced promptly, and a new security screen has been installed. The team responded quickly and reopened the Centre on time the same day.

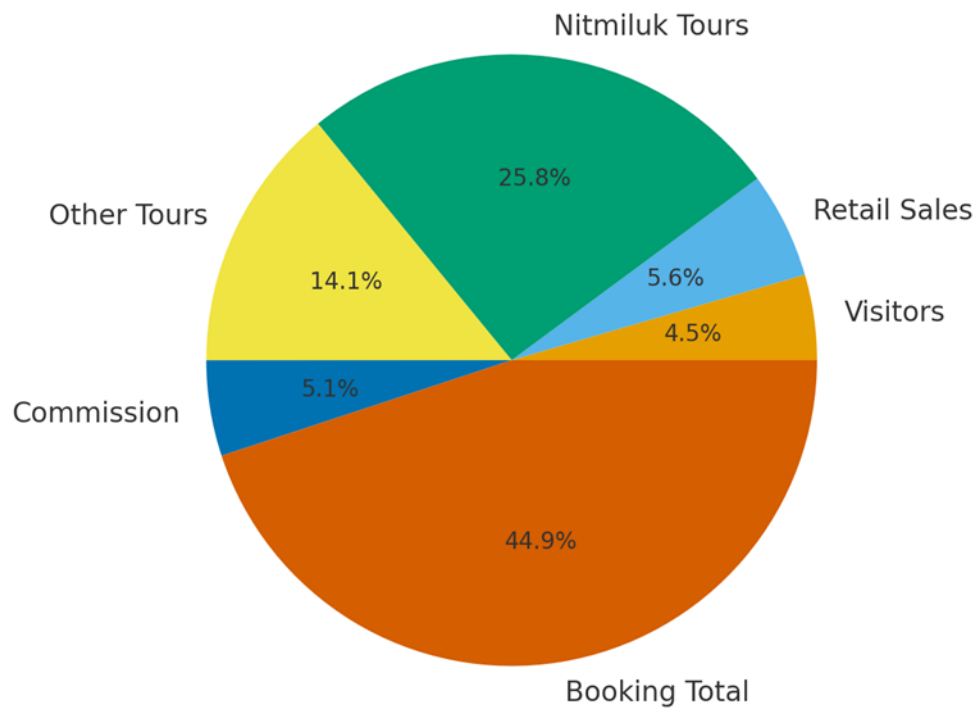




Visitor Centre Stats - November 2025



Visitor Centre Stats - November 2024



Destination NT Conference Attendance

The Community Relations Coordinator attended the Destination NT Conference, including the Aboriginal Tourism Forum, main conference sessions and the Brolga Tourism Awards. The event provided practical insight into current tourism trends, priorities and best practice in the NT, particularly around Aboriginal tourism, sustainable destinations and stronger regional promotion.

Key points included the need to keep building relationships with local operators and working closely with Tourism NT and Tourism Top End to increase visitation to the Big Rivers Region. There was a strong focus on regional storytelling, authentic experiences, and coordinated marketing to strengthen Katherine's position as a key NT destination.

The conference also highlighted opportunities for the Katherine Visitor Information Centre and local operators to enter future Brolga Tourism Awards. Katherine has a strong tourism offering, and greater representation would help lift the region's profile and recognition.

It was encouraging to see the teamwork and support shown by other Visitor Information Centres through their nominations and involvement. A similar level of recognition for our own hardworking team would be a valuable way to acknowledge their efforts in promoting the region.

Overall, the conference reinforced Council's commitment to strong tourism partnerships, regional excellence and positioning Katherine as a leading tourism hub in the NT.





Visit Katherine Website Upgrade

The Visit Katherine website upgrade is now underway, with a refreshed layout and enhanced user-friendly features currently being developed and refined to improve the overall visitor experience. The new design focuses on easier navigation, clearer presentation of information, and improved accessibility for users planning their visit to the region. This upgrade is scheduled to be completed and ready for launch by the end of March, aligning perfectly with the commencement of the Dry Season and ensuring the platform is optimised to support increased visitation during this peak tourism period.

Consultation Process

There was no consultation process required for this report.

Policy Implications

There are no policy implications resulting from the decision.

Budget and Resource Implications

There are no budget and resource requirements.

Risk, Legal and Legislative Implications

There are no risk, legal and legislative implications.

Environment Sustainability Implications

There are no environmental sustainability implications.

Council Officer Conflict of Interest

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

14.9 ENVIRONMENTAL AND MUNICIPAL SERVICES REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2025

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

Officer Recommendation

That Council receive and note the report of the Environmental Services Department for November 2025.

Purpose of Report

To provide the Elected Members an update regarding the Environmental Services Department's activities for the month of November 2025.

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.

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

2. COMMUNITY AND FAMILIES - 2.1 Safe Community - Foster a safer community.

2.1.3 Improve street lighting for safety.

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

7.1.6 Raise awareness to keep our town litter-free.

7.1.7 Implement the Katherine Town Council Waste Management Strategy 2021-2026.

7. ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY - 7.2 Katherine's Natural Beauty - Showcase the raw beauty of Katherine's natural attractions and protect our natural assets from pollution and overuse.

7.2.2 Embark on greening initiatives with the collective help of the community to beautify and increase green spaces.

7. ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY - 7.3 Protect Our Water - Sustainably manage our water resources.

7.3.3 Upgrade irrigation of our parks to minimize wastage of town and bore water.

Municipal Plan

2.1.2.1 Assess the condition of public amenities throughout Katherine and implement remediation where required

7.1.7.1 Continue to implement the Waste Management Strategy

Background

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

Discussion

Municipal Services Update:

Depot staff replaced 41 sprinkler heads in Ryan Park, O'Shea Park, The Cenotaph grounds, Rundle Park and the Cemetery. The heads are kicked off in acts of vandalism.

1.6 Tonne of litter was collected by hand from the Katherine CBD in November.

The low-level bridge was closed on Wednesday 19th November due to rising river levels; the bridge was subsequently reopened to traffic on Monday 24th November.



The Hot Springs was closed to the public due to rising river levels on Wednesday 19th November. The Hot Springs reopened to the public on Tuesday 25th November after council staff undertook crocodile surveys over multiple days to ensure public safety.

Waste Management Facility (KWMF)

The Waste Management Facility received approximately 1131 tonne of waste at the facility in November; this is an increase of approximately 202 tonne compared to November 2024.

1961 customers disposed of waste at the facility in November, which is comparable to this time last year

2304 tonne of kerbside residential waste was collected by our contractor in November this is an increase of approximately 30 tonne compared to November 2024.

719 tonne of commercial waste received in November, this is an increase of approximately 113 tonne compared to November 2024.

Commercial operators continue to dispose of higher volumes of mixed commercial waste compared to the

same time last year.

Pre Wet Season Clean Up

The pre-wet season clean up initiative was held at the Waste Management Facility on Saturday 15th November and Saturday 29th November. The initiative allowed domestic residents to dispose of some items that would normally attract a fee free of charge, a total of 173 residents took advantage of the Initiative.

- 168 Fridges / Freezers
- 19 Fire Extinguishers
- 47 Mattresses
- 33 Couches
- 41 Gas Bottles

Mosquito Testing

Mosquito Testing was conducted on 2 occasions in November by council staff on behalf of NT Health; no infected mosquitos were detected within the Katherine municipality in November.

Katherine Civil Airport

Katherine Town Council, in conjunction with the RAAF, were able to provide additional parking areas for aircraft seeking refuge from Tropical Cyclone Fina which impacted Darwin on Saturday 22nd November. Approximately 45 aircraft relocated from Darwin to Katherine for the weekend. Careflight and NT Police deployed aircraft to operate from Katherine during the weather event.



The acting CEO and Manager of Environmental and Municipal Services were invited by the RAAF to a tour of the new 9th Squadron prescient and hanger. The facility is located next to the Katherine Town Council lease area at the Katherine Civil Aerodrome.

Binjari Community

A Doggy day was held in the community during November; Vets provided health checks, immunizations and desexing to approximately 35 dogs in the community.

Regulatory Services

35 Service requests were received for November which included

- 4 Reports of dogs at large
- 10 Reports of animal attacks or menacing behavior
- 1 Report of animal cruelty
- 7 Reports of lost or found dogs
- 3 Reports of illegal dumping.

13 dogs were impounded by council staff in November with 2 returned to their owners and 1 dog adopted by a new family.

61 dogs have been impounded this financial year compared to 51 last year.

9 Infringements were issued for animal related matters in November.

Council staff undertook 2 joint operations with NT Police to address rough sleepers within CBD parks and reserves in the municipality.

548 dogs have been registered for this financial year compared to 382 dogs for the same time last year.

25 dog licences have been issued for this financial year compared to one licence for the same time last year.

Regulatory Parking Summary

Council staff continue to adopt an education over enforcement posture when undertaking parking enforcement duties in the municipality.

Council received 8 reports of abandoned vehicles and 1 report of an illegally parked vehicle.

57 verbal warnings were given to drivers relating to parking matters.

Staff undertook 44 hours of parking patrols in November.

Consultation Process

There was no consultation process required for this report.

Policy Implications

There are no policy implications resulting from the decision.

Budget and Resource Implications

There are no budget and resource requirements.

Risk, Legal and Legislative Implications

There are no risk, legal and legislative implications.

Environment Sustainability Implications

There are no environmental sustainability implications.

Council Officer Conflict of Interest

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

14.10 INFRASTRUCTURE AND PROJECTS REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2025

Author: Kimberly Worrigal, Contracts Coordinator
Authoriser: Casey Anderson, Acting Chief Executive Officer
Report Type: For noting
Attachments: Nil

Officer Recommendation

That Council receive and note the report of the Infrastructure Services Department for November 2025.

Purpose of Report

To provide the Elected Members an update regarding the Infrastructure Services Department's activities and projects for the month of November 2025.

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.

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

3.1.4 Develop future infrastructure such as a regional sporting precinct, updated aquatic centre and potential water recreation facility.

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.

7. ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY - 7.3 Protect Our Water - Sustainably manage our water resources.

7.3.2 Monitor Council's monthly water-use.

7.3.3 Upgrade irrigation of our parks to minimise wastage of town and bore water..

7. ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY - 7.4 Reduce Our Footprint - Optimise Council's products, services, and operations to increase efficiencies and reduce our emissions.

7.4.5 Develop a tree-planting strategy.

Municipal Plan

1.3.3.2 Snap Send Solve

1.3.3.3 Online Search - Cemetery

Background

Katherine Town Council's Infrastructure Services Department continues to provide core services through various service deliverables to the Katherine Community and Municipality.

Discussion

Project Updates

Aquatic Centre Upgrade

The project has reached practical completion.

The 25m shade structure, shade sails and the perimeter garrison security fencing are yet to be installed. These works may impact the availability of the facility to the public at times over the next 2-3 weeks. There will be some ongoing work by the lead contractor during the defects liability period, which is normal for a project of this size.

Council will install some further shade, storage and a BBQ using local contractors once we have full unimpeded possession of the site.

Thank you to lead contractor, Sitzler Pty Ltd, for delivering the design and construction of the Katherine Aquatic Centre Upgrade. The quality final product will support our community for many years. Thanks to all of Sitzler's subcontractors, especially to SCP, Liquid Blu, and Blueprint Aquatics. All contributors, on-site and off-site, should be proud of what has been delivered, and proud of achieving a clean safety record.



Thank you to Marion Scrymgour MP for committing \$10,000,000 toward the Katherine Aquatic Centre Upgrade project.

Thank you to the Commonwealth Government for providing a further \$162,000 to help ensure Katherine is equipped with a Changing Places facility.

Thank you to the Northern Territory Government for committing \$300,000 toward the project design.

Thank you to the Katherine Town Council for committing approximately \$2,000,000 toward the project. This funding helped to ensure a finished product was delivered which includes shading, splash zone and many other features. Katherine Town Council also provided the human resources who managed, provided contract administration and delivered the project on budget, to meet our funding commitments.

Civic Centre Refurbishment

The design phase remains underway with construction drawings in progress. Construction works are currently scheduled to begin in February 2026. The vast majority of the construction period will take place after the wet season.

Regional Sports, Recreation and Community Precinct Masterplan (rPPP)

The project will recommence once the funding agreement has been distributed to Katherine Town Council.

Zimin Drive Shared Path

The 25% design milestone has been reached.

Airport RPT Linemarking

The linemarking at the airport will be repainted in early December. This will improve safety for airport users and traffic managers.

Infrastructure Building Audit

Council are currently cataloging the maintenance, accessibility and functional status of existing council buildings. This will assist with long-term planning for the future refurbishment of our building assets, including public toilets.

Infrastructure Updates

Native Plant Giveaway

On the 8th of November, KTC hosted its first Native Plant Giveaway. The event held in conjunction with the new dog pound soft opening was a huge success. 1000 plants were given away to 271 Katherine households by 10.45am. With over 350 cars visiting the site on the day. The event was also attended by NT Weeds Branch, Parks and Wildlife, NT Landcare and Wildcare NT, all who gave great feedback on the chance to provide community engagement.



Release of Cleaning Tender

Towards the end of November, council has released for public tender the Cleaning Contract for all council facilities. The scope of works has been updated to include regular deep cleaning and pressure washing of council's public and sporting amenities. The tender will remain open for submissions until 5th January 2026.

Streetlight Maintenance

With the onset of the wet season council has started receiving more streetlight outage requests. This is due to aging and failing infrastructure. Common and more straight forward outages relate to blown fuses and tripped breakers. Reoccurring problem areas like Callistemon Drive, Katherine South and Giles Street are booked for further investigations pending contractor availability. Repairs to these sections will require more intense work and a bigger budget allocation.

Upcoming Roadworks Projects

The council has been successful with the funding of upcoming road works through Roads to Recovery. Byrnes Consultants was engaged through the use of Local Buy to develop scopes of work and recommendations for repairs. We are now beginning engagement with contractors through Local Buy to complete the first two projects, reseal works at Needham Terrace and Shepherd Street.

Consultation Process

There was no consultation process required for this report.

Policy Implications

There are no policy implications resulting from the decision.

Budget and Resource Implications

There are no budget and resource requirements.

Risk, Legal and Legislative Implications

There are no risk, legal and legislative implications.

Environment Sustainability Implications

There are no environmental sustainability implications.

Council Officer Conflict of Interest

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

15 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

15.1 MINUTES FROM COMMITTEES

16 ELECTED MEMBER ACTIVITIES

16.1 ELECTED MEMBER ACTIVITIES NOVEMBER 2025

Report Type: For noting

Recommendation

That Council receive and note the Elected Member activities for November 2025.

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.
- 1.1.2 Ensure strong internal governance with updated policies and procedures in place.
- 1.1.3 Improve transparency around issues affecting the community.
- 1.1.4 Learn what the community wants to know through community engagement strategies.

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.

1. STRONG LEADERSHIP - 1.3 Community Engagement - Improve Council communications and engagement with the community.

- 1.3.2 Improve consistency of our communications and engagement in alignment with our strategy.

2. COMMUNITY AND FAMILIES - 2.4 Support Our Youth - Support youth engagement.

- 2.4.1 Empower youths through youth-focused events and school-holiday activities.

Elected Members Activities – November 2025

Councillor Kathryn Whitehouse	
Date	Activity attended
7 November	50 th Katherine Prize - GYRACC
8 November	Welcome to Wet Season – Waste Management Facility
11 November	Elected Members Briefing
11 November	Remembrance Day – Katherine Cenotaph
14 November	Elected Members Information Session and Special Meeting
21 November	Elected Members Information Session
25 November	Ordinary Meeting of Council
26 November	Citizen of the Year Awards Assessment Panel

Councillor Jim King	
Date	Activity attended
11 November	Elected Members Briefing
12 November	Opening of the Foodbank
14 November	Elected Members Information Session and Special Meeting of Council
21 November	Elected Members Information Session
22 November	International Men's Day – Golf Club
25 November	Ordinary Meeting of Council

Deputy Mayor Mel Doyle	
Date	Activity attended
3 November	National Australian of the Year 2026 Presentation
7 November	50 th Katherine Prize - GYRACC
8 November	Welcome to Wet Season – Waste Management Facility
11 November	Elected Members Briefing

11 November	Remembrance Day – Katherine Cenotaph
14 November	Elected Members Information Session and Special Meeting of Council
17 November	Reception for the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory
18 and 19 November	LGANT Conference - Darwin
21 November	Elected Members Information Session
22 November	International Men’s Day – Golf Fun Day
25 November	Ordinary Meeting of Council
26 November	Citizen of the Year Awards Assessment Panel
28 November	St Joseph’s Catholic College Primary Thanksgiving & Liturgy
29 November	Katherine Pool Opening
30 November	2025 NT Youth Round Table End of Year Presentations

Councillor Toni Tapp Coutts	
Date	Activity Attended
7 November	50 th Katherine Prize - GYRACC
8 November	Welcome to Wet Season – Waste Management Facility
11 November	Elected Members Briefing
11 November	Remembrance Day – Katherine Cenotaph
11 November	Centenary Meeting – KTC Council Office
12 November	Food Bank Opening
13 November	Seniors Morning Tea – Marion Scrimgeour MP
13 November	Farewell Reception – NT Administrator
14 November	Elected Members Information Session and Special Meeting of Council
14 November	Coffee With A Cop – Black Russian Cafe
18 November	NT Arts Awards - GYRACC
21 November	Elected Members Information Session

22 November	Hero's and Legend International Men's Day – Golf Club
25 November	Ordinary Meeting of Council
25 November	16 Days of Activism against gender violence. Ryan Park March.
29 November	Katherine Aquatic Centre Opening

Councillor Kathy Glass	
Date	Activity attended
7 November 2025	50 th Katherine Prize – GYRACC (Visual Art Awards)
8 November 2025	Welcome to Wet Season - Katherine Waste Facility
11 November 25	Elected Members Briefing
11 November 25	Remembrance Day – Katherine Cenotaph
11 November 25	Centenary Meeting – KTC Council Office
13 November 25	Farewell Reception – NT Administrator
14 November 25	Elected Members Information Session and Special Meeting of Council
14 November 25	Coffee With A Cop – Black Russian Cafe
21 November 25	Elected Members Information Session
25 November 25	Ordinary Meeting of Council
25 November 25	16 Days of Activism against gender violence. Ryan Park March.
29 November 25	Katherine Aquatic Centre Opening

Councillor Anjali Palmer	
Date	Activity attended
3 Nov 2025	Katherine Aquatic Centre Visit and Briefing
8 Nov 2025	Welcome to the Wet event at Waste Management Facility
11 Nov 2025	Elected Members Briefing
11 Nov 2025	Remembrance Day Commemorative Service
14 Nov 2025	Elected Members Information Session and Special Meeting

10 Nov 2025	Meeting with past Mayor Lis Clark
11 Nov 2025	Remembrance Day Commemorative Service
14 Nov 2025	Special Meeting of Council
14 Nov 2025	Elected Members Information Session
18 to 19 Nov 2025	LGANT Conference - Darwin
21 Nov 2025	Elected Members Information Session
25 Nov 2025	NT Energy link Briefing
25 Nov 2025	Ordinary Meeting of Council
26 Nov 2025	Citizen of the year assessment panel

17 LATE AGENDA

17.1 FINANCE REPORT NOVEMBER 2025

18 GENERAL BUSINESS

19 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.

20 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

20.1 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES 25 NOVEMBER 2025

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

20.2 MINUTES FROM THE CONFIDENTIAL SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL 14 NOVEMBER 2025

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-clause and Reason:	(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-clause and Reason:	(d) information subject to an obligation of confidentiality at law, or in equity.

20.3 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-clause and Reason:	(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-clause and Reason:	(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-clause and Reason:	(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

20.4 KATHERINE AQUATIC CENTRE UPGRADE - INVOICE PAYMENT APPROVAL

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

20.5 CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AWARD RECIPIENTS 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-clause and Reason:	(d) information subject to an obligation of confidentiality at law, or in equity.

20.6 2025 AUDIT AND RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE ANNUAL ASSESSMENT REPORT

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-clause and Reason:	(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

21 RESUMPTION OF OPEN MEETING

22 CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

The next Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held on Tuesday, 27 January 2026.