

AGENDA

**Special Meeting of Council
To be held on Friday 26 June 2026**

At 12:00 pm

Main Office, Conference Room
29 Crawford Street, Katherine NT 0850

The Acting Chief Executive Officer of Katherine Town Council
hereby provides notice of the Special Meeting of Council
in accordance with Section 90 and 92 of the *Local Government Act 2019*



ELECTED MEMBERS

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

OFFICERS

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

VISION:

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

MISSION:

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

VALUES:

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



ORDER OF BUSINESS

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1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

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

2 OPENING PRAYER

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

3 OPENING OF THE MEETING

4 ATTENDANCE

4.1 PRESENT

4.2 APOLOGIES

4.3 LEAVE OF ABSENCE

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 REPORTS OF OFFICERS

6.1 DECLARATION OF RATES AND CHARGES 2026/2027

Author: Sheralea Clemow, Rates and Regulatory Affairs Coordinator
Authoriser: Casey Anderson, Acting Chief Executive Officer
Report Type: For decision
Attachments: 1. Declaration of Rates and Charges 2026-2027 - Draft - 25 June 2026 [6.1.1 - 8 pages]
2. Katherine Town Council - Certification of Assessment Record - 2026-2027 - Signed - 24 June 2026 [6.1.2 - 1 page]

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To declare the Katherine Town Council's Declaration of Rates and Waste Charges for 2026/2027.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council acknowledges the Chief Executive Officer, certified the Certification of Assessment Record as true and accurate record; and
2. That Council declare:
 - (a) Items one (1) to seven (7) in the attached Declaration of Rates and Waste Charges 2026/2027 for the financial year ending 30 June 2027, pursuant to Section 237 and 238 of the *Local Government Act NT 2019*.

SUMMARY

- Council plans to raise \$10.39 million in general rates for 2026/2027, using a mix of differential and fixed rates, with payments available in four instalments.
- Rates are based on Unimproved Capital Values (UCV) set by the Valuer-General as at 1 July 2025.
- Conditionally rateable land (e.g. pastoral leases and mining tenements) requires Ministerial approval, with ratability confirmed via a 23 April 2026 Gazette notice.
- Multiple rating categories apply (e.g. RAAF Base Tindal, shopping centres, worker accommodation tiers, solar farms), and additional charges may apply depending on property use.
- Council will raise \$1.73 million from waste charges, with the standard fee increasing to \$466 (+5.9%) and a minimum charge of \$195 for properties with limited or no collection service.

DISCUSSION, OPTIONS AND ANALYSIS

In 2026/2027, Council intends to raise **\$10,387,770.95** in general rates on the basis of a combination of differential and fixed rates for specific categories and the NT Planning Scheme, subject to any supplementary adjustments during the levying period.

This 4.8% mixed increase balances the need to meet rising operational costs while remaining mindful of ongoing cost-of-living pressures within the community. For most households, this equates to a median annual increase of \$159 for residential, \$96 for central business and \$75 for rural zoned properties. This also takes into consideration updated property values set by the Valuer-General as part of the latest revaluation.

Rates are levied with the option of payment in four instalments as depicted in the draft Declaration of Rates and Charges 2026/2027.

Rates payable are calculated on the basis of the UCV determined by the Valuer-Generals Office as of 1 July 2025.

Rates are levied as one, or the amount of rates multiplied by the separate parts or units that are adapted for separate occupation on each such allotment of rateable land, for each applicable zone.

There may be other rates, charges or levies that apply to a particular property. These could include waste collection charges. These costs are applied on top of the general rates charge and are only applied to affected ratepayers.

Under the *Act*, pastoral leases and mining tenements are conditionally rateable land.

Conditionally rateable land is subject to Ministerial approval; determining the ratability pursuant to *Government Gazette – Notice of Ratability of Conditionally Rateable Land for 2026/2027* financial year: published on 23 April 2026.

Rating Categories by Use

- Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) Base Tindal
- Binjari Community
- Major Cattle Facility
- Central Business (Residential)
- Major Shopping Centre
- Solar Farms
- Cotton Gin
- Workers Accommodation less than 30 rooms
- Workers Accommodation more than 30 rooms less than 60 rooms
- Workers Accommodation more than 60 rooms less than 120 rooms
- Workers Accommodation more than 120 rooms and less than 240 rooms
- Workers Accommodation more than 240 rooms; and
- Multizone allotments
- Allotments not covered by the NT Planning Scheme.

The *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021* requires the Chief Executive Officer to check all available records to ensure that all rateable land is recorded in the assessment. The certification has been completed and attached to this report.

In the 2026/2027 financial year, Council plans to raise \$1,730,765.00 through waste management charges.

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

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

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

Consultation Process

The rates schedule is described in the draft Municipal Plan 2026/2027. The draft Municipal Plan was required by legislation to undertake community consultation for a 21-day period.

Policy Implications

There are no policy implications

Budget and Resource Implications

2026/2027 budget has been developed utilising the proposed general rates revenue.

Risk, Legal and Legislative Implications

Legal advice (MagiQ Document ID 253032) confirms that the attached Declaration of Rates and Waste Charges 2026/2027 meets the requirements of the *Act*.

Under the section 237 and 238 of the *Act*, Council must declare the rates for the financial year:

- a) Note: Before Council adopts the budget for the financial year, the CEO must review the rate records and provide written certification to Council stating that, to the best of their knowledge, information, and belief, the assessment record accurately reflects all rateable land within the municipality, in accordance with Regulation 29.

Environment Sustainability Implications

There are no environmental sustainability implications.

Strategic Plan

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

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

Municipal Plan

1.1.2.2 Ensure compliance with local government legislation

4.2.4.7 Comply with financial legislative requirements



DECLARATION OF RATES AND CHARGES FOR 2026/2027

1. Basis of Assessed Value

Pursuant to section 227(1) of the *Local Government Act 2019* (the **Act**), Council adopts the unimproved capital value (as it appears on the valuation roll prepared by the Valuer-General under the *Valuation of Land Act 1963*) as the basis of the assessed value of allotments in the Katherine municipality.

2. General Rates

Council declares that in respect to the financial year ending 30 June 2027 Council intends to raise **\$10,387,770.95** by way of rates for general purposes which will be raised by the application of differential valuation-based amounts (**differential rates**) with differential minimum amounts (**minimum amounts**) being payable in application of each of those differential rates and fixed amounts.

3. Basis of Rates Calculation

For the purposes of this paragraph 3, a "separate part or unit" means a part of or a unit on an allotment that is adapted for separate occupation or use as described in section 226(5) of the Act, whether for residential, commercial, or industrial purposes, and the expression "separate parts or units" has a corresponding meaning.

Council hereby declares the following differential rates and minimum amounts payable in the application of those differential rates for the financial year ending 30 June 2027:

- a) In respect of the allotments of rateable land within those parts of the municipality being the different planning zones under the NT Planning Scheme as set out in the differential rates schedule below (the **schedule**), rates are calculated by multiplying the applicable differential rate, as set out in the schedule, by the assessed value of each allotment with the minimum amount payable in the application of the differential rate being the applicable minimum amount set out in the schedule multiplied by the greater of:
 - i) the number of separate parts or units that are adapted for separate occupation or use pursuant to section 226(5) of the Act on each such allotment of rateable land; and
 - ii) the number one (1).



DIFFERENTIAL RATES SCHEDULE		
DIFFERENTIAL RATE	PLANNING ZONES ACCORDING TO NT PLANNING SCHEME OR OTHER PLANNING INSTRUMENT	MINIMUM AMOUNT
0.021289	Low Density Residential (LR), Low-Medium Density Residential (LMR), Medium Density Residential (MR), Specific Use 1 (SK1), Specific Use 2 (SK2), Specific Use 4 (SK4), Specific Use 5 (SK5)	\$1,568.00
0.002990	Agriculture (A) subject to the applicable sub-paragraphs within this paragraph 3 as set out below, Horticulture (H), Highway Control Plan (HCP)	\$1,757.00
0.004939	Water Management (WM)	\$1,757.00
0.003919	Rural (R) subject to the applicable sub-paragraphs within this paragraph 3 as set out below	\$1,605.00
0.006801	Rural Living (RL)	\$1,568.00
0.039948	Community Living (CL), Community Purpose (CP)	\$1,659.00
0.030584	Central Business (CB) subject to sub-paragraphs 3(b) and (3)(i) below	\$1,704.00
0.034076	Caravan Parks (CV), Tourist Commercial (TC)	\$1,757.00
0.024688	Commercial (C) subject to sub-paragraph 3(i) below	\$1,757.00
0.045066	Service Commercial (SC)	\$1,757.00
0.034076	Future Development (FD)	\$1,788.00
0.195123	Railway (RW)	\$1,757.00
0.019116	Light Industry (LI), General Industry (GI)	\$1,757.00
0.013386	Organised Recreation (OR)	\$1,757.00



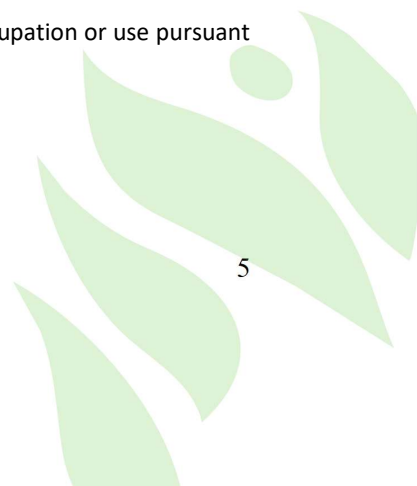
- b)** In respect of those classes of allotments within the municipality zoned Central Business (CB) under the NT Planning Scheme used solely for residential purposes, rates will be raised by the application of a differential rate of 0.005443 multiplied by the assessed value of such land, with the minimum amount payable in the application of that rate being \$1,568.00 multiplied by the greater of:
- i)** the number of separate parts or units that are adapted for separate occupation or use pursuant to section 226(5) of the Act on each such allotment of rateable land; and
 - ii)** the number one (1).
- c)** In respect of those classes of allotments within the municipality zoned Multi-Zone (MZ) which are subject to more than one applicable zone under the NT Planning Scheme and are identified as Multi-Zone (MZ) allotments:
- i)** the 'predominant zone' of a Multi-Zone (MZ) allotment will be the zone which covers greatest percentage area of the allotment as against all other zones in the allotment as assessed by the Valuer-General;
 - ii)** rates will be raised on each Multi-Zone allotment by applying the differential rate set out in sub-paragraph 3(a) for the zone which is the 'predominant zone' of the allotment, multiplied by the assessed value of such allotment, with the minimum amount payable in the application of that rate being the corresponding minimum amount recorded in sub-paragraph 3(a) for the same 'predominant zone' of the allotment multiplied by the greater of:
 - a)** the number of separate parts or units that are adapted for separate occupation or use pursuant to section 226(5) of the Act on each such allotment of rateable land; and
 - b)** the number one (1).
- d)** In respect of rateable land within that those parts of the municipality known as RAAF Base Tindal; rates will be raised by application of a differential rate of 0.00000001 multiplied by the minimum amount payable in the application of that rate being \$1,850.00 multiplied by the greater of:
- i)** the number of separate parts or units that are adapted for separate occupation or use pursuant to section 226(5) of the Act on each such allotment of rateable land; and
 - ii)** the number one (1).
- e)** In respect of rateable land within that those parts of the municipality known as Binjari Community; rates will be raised by application of a differential rate of 0.00000001 multiplied by the minimum amount payable in the application of that rate being \$1,605.00 multiplied by the greater of:
- i)** the number of separate parts or units that are adapted for separate occupation or use pursuant to section 226(5) of the Act on each such allotment of rateable land; and
 - ii)** the number one (1).



- f) In respect of rateable land within that part of the municipality over which there is a pastoral lease as defined in the *Pastoral Land Act 1992*, rates will be raised by the application of a differential rate of 0.000813 multiplied by the assessed value of the land within each such pastoral lease with a minimum amount payable in the application of that rate being \$1,000.70.
- g) In respect of rateable land within that part of the municipality that is occupied under a mining tenement as defined in the Act, rates will be raised by the application of a differential rate of 0.009238 multiplied by the assessed value with a minimum amount payable in the application of that rate being \$2,368.42 and on the basis that:
 - i) contiguous tenements or reasonably adjacent tenements held by the same person are to be rated as if they were a single tenement; and
 - ii) if the owner of the mining tenement is also the owner of another interest in land (the **other interest**) then:
 - a. if the rate calculated in accordance with this sub-paragraph (g) is less than or equal to the rate payable for the other interest - no rate is payable for the mining tenement; or
 - b. if the rate calculated in accordance with this sub-paragraph (g) (**amount A**) is greater than the rate payable for the other interest (**amount B**) - the rate payable for the mining tenement is the difference between amount A and amount B.
- h) In respect of all other rateable land within the municipality (including allotments not covered by the NT Planning Scheme but not allotments otherwise provided for in this paragraph (3), rates will be raised by application of a differential rate of 0.00299 multiplied by the assessed value of each allotment of rateable land within that part of the municipality with a minimum amount payable in the application of that rate being \$1,704.00 multiplied by the greater of:
 - i) the number of separate parts or units that are adapted for separate occupation or use pursuant to section 226(5) of the Act on each such allotment of rateable land; and
 - ii) the number one (1).
- i) In respect of that class of allotments within the municipality zoned Commercial (C) or Central Business (CB) under the NT Planning Scheme with a parcel area equal to or greater than 10,000m² and being allotments on which there is situated a Major Shopping Centre, rates will be raised by application of a differential rate of 0.034076 multiplied by the assessed value of each such allotment of that class with the minimum amount payable in the application of that rate being \$1,921.00 multiplied by the greater of:
 - i) the number of separate parts or units that are adapted for separate occupation or use pursuant to section 226(5) of the Act on each such allotment of rateable land; and
 - ii) the number one (1).
- j) In respect of that class of allotments within the municipality on which there is situated Workers Accommodation comprising of less than 30 rooms, rates will be raised by application of a fixed rate of \$3,725.00.



- k)** In respect of that class of allotments within the municipality on which there is situated Workers Accommodation comprising 30 or more rooms, but less than 60 rooms, rates will be raised by application of a fixed rate of \$12,630.00.
- l)** In respect of all that class of allotments within the municipality on which there is situated Workers Accommodation comprising 60 or more rooms, but less than 120 rooms, rates will be raised by application of a fixed rate of \$20,207.00.
- m)** In respect of all that class of allotments within the municipality on which there is situated Workers Accommodation comprising 120 or more rooms, but less than 240 rooms, rates will be raised by application of a fixed rate of \$35,362.00.
- n)** In respect of all that class of allotments within the municipality on which there is situated Workers Accommodation comprising of 240 or more rooms, rates will be raised by application of a fixed rate of \$63,626.00.
- o)** In respect of that class of allotments within the municipality with a parcel area equal to or greater than 100,000m² and being allotments on which there are situated a Major Cattle Facility, rates will be raised by application of a differential rate of 0.005067 multiplied by the assessed value of each such allotment with the minimum amount payable in the application of that rate being \$1,921.00 multiplied by the greater of:
 - i)** the number of separate parts or units that are adapted for separate occupation or use pursuant to section 226(5) of the Act on each such allotment of rateable land; and
 - ii)** the number one (1).
- p)** In respect of that class of allotments within the municipality on which there is situated a Solar Farm, rates will be raised by application of a differential rate of 0.007881 multiplied by the assessed value of each such allotment with the minimum amount payable in the application of that rate being \$1,757.00 multiplied by the greater of:
 - i)** the number of separate parts or units that are adapted for separate occupation or use pursuant to section 226(5) of the Act on each such allotment of rateable land; and
 - ii)** the number one (1).
- q)** In respect of that class of allotments within the municipality on which there is situated a Cotton Gin, rates will be raised by application of a differential rate of 0.034076 multiplied by the assessed value of each such allotment with the minimum amount payable in the application of that rate being \$13,256.00 multiplied by the greater of:
 - i)** the number of separate parts or units that are adapted for separate occupation or use pursuant to section 226(5) of the Act on each such allotment of rateable land; and
 - ii)** the number one (1).



4. Waste Management Charges

Pursuant to section 239 of the Act, Council declares that in respect to the financial year ending 30 June 2027 Council intends to raise **\$1,730,765.00** for the purpose of enabling or assisting Council to meet the costs of garbage collection and the waste disposal service it provides for the benefit of land within the municipality and the occupiers of such land.

For the purpose of this paragraph 4:

“allotment” has the meaning set out in section 225 of the Act.

“commercial land” means land in the Katherine municipality used or capable of being used for commercial purposes.

“residential dwelling” means dwelling house, flat or other substantially self-contained residential unit or building on residential land used or capable of being used for residential purposes and includes a unit within the meaning of the *Unit Titles Act 1975* and the *Unit Titles Schemes Act 2009* but does not include a room within workers accommodation described in sub-paragraphs 3(j) to 3(n) above.

“residential land” means land in the Katherine municipality used or capable of being used for residential purposes.

The following charges are declared:

- a) Council declares a charge of \$466.00 per annum, per residential dwelling, for the provision of the following waste management services to each residential dwelling other than allotments described in sub-paragraph 4(c) below. The services are:
 - i) a kerbside collection of one (1) garbage collection service per week, collecting waste contained in a maximum of one 240 litre mobile garbage bin per garbage collection visit, where Council is willing and able to provide a kerbside collection to that allotment; and
 - ii) unlimited access by the occupiers of residential dwellings within the municipality to Council’s Waste Management Facility solely for the deposit of waste generated from such residential land, and subject wholly to payment of the domestic waste charges provided in Council’s Fees and Charges 2026/2027.
- b) Council declares a charge of \$466.00 per annum, per allotment on commercial land, for the provision of the following waste management services which Council elects at its sole discretion to provide to nominated allotments on commercial land within the municipality, subject to sub-paragraph 4(d) below. The services are:
 - i) a kerbside collection of one (1) garbage collection service per week per allotment, collecting waste contained in a maximum of one 240 litre mobile garbage bin per garbage collection visit.
- c) Council declares a charge of \$195.00 per annum per residential allotment for the provision of the following waste management services, where Council is unwilling or unable to provide a kerbside collection to that allotment under sub-paragraph 4(a). The services are:



- i) unlimited access by the occupiers of such residential allotments to Council's Waste Management Facility solely for the deposit of waste generated from such allotment, and subject wholly to payment of the domestic waste charges provided in Council's Fees and Charges 2026/2027.
- d) Council declares a charge of \$195.00 per annum per allotment for the provision of the following waste management services to all allotments within the Katherine Municipality that are not residential land and including allotments on commercial land whether or not Council provides a kerbside collection to that allotment under sub-paragraph 4(b). The services are:
 - i) unlimited access by the occupiers of these allotments to Council's Waste Management Facility solely for the deposit of waste generated from the allotment and subject wholly to payment of the commercial waste charges provided in Council's Fees and Charges 2026/2027.

5. Payment of Rates and Charges

Pursuant to section 244 of the Act, Council determines that rates and charges for the year 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027 inclusive, shall be due and payable by four (4) approximately equal instalments on the following dates, namely:

First Instalment - 30 September 2026

Second Instalment - 30 November 2026

Third Instalment - 31 January 2027

Fourth Instalment - 31 March 2027

- a) Payment of all or any remaining instalments may be made on or before the due date of the next instalment. Instalments falling due on a weekend or public holiday may be paid by the following business day, without incurring any penalty.
- b) In accordance with section 243 of the Act, Council determines that the benefit to be given for the prompt payment of rates and charges and to encourage the early payment for the financial year ending 30 June 2027 shall be the conduct of an 'Early Bird Draw' whereby Council will offer a monetary prize to one (1) eligible ratepayer selected from the draw in an amount being the lesser of the current year's rates and \$1,568.00 subject to the following conditions:
 - i) that the total amount of all rates and charges levied for the financial year ending 30 June 2027 in respect of any parcel of rateable land owned by the winning ratepayer, together with arrears (if any) must have been paid in full on or before the 30 September 2026.
 - ii) the payment will not extend to any part of the waste management charge.
 - iii) all Government agencies, Elected Members and Council employees are excluded from the draw.
 - iv) the winning ratepayer shall be notified by the preferred contact method as recorded in the assessment record.



6. Interest and Penalty for Late Payment

Pursuant to section 245 of the Act, Council determines that the relevant interest rate which accrues on overdue rates and charges will be 9% per annum which is to be calculated on a daily basis.

7. Recovery of Outstanding Rates and Charges

A ratepayer who fails to pay rates and charges on the due date for payment may face legal action for recovery of the principal amount of the rates and charges, interest accrued on the late payment and costs reasonably incurred by Council in recovering or attempting to recover rates and charges.

If rates are payable by the owner of the land and are not paid by the due date, they become a charge on the land to which they relate, except within an Aboriginal community living area.

Under section 258 of the Act, if rates and charges have been in arrears for at least three (3) years, and an Overriding Statutory Charge securing liability for the rates and charges has been registered for at least six (6) months, Council may sell the land.

DRAFT





CERTIFICATION OF ASSESSMENT RECORD

SECTION 29 – Local Government (General) Regulations 2021

I, Casey Anderson, Acting Chief Executive Officer of Katherine Town Council certify to Council that to the best of my knowledge, information and belief, the assessment record is a comprehensive record of all rateable land within the Municipality of Katherine.



Casey Anderson
ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Wednesday, 24 June 2026



6.2 2026-2027 MUNICIPAL PLAN, BUDGET, AND FEES AND CHARGES

Author:	Amanda Haigh, Manager Governance and Risk
Authoriser:	Casey Anderson, Acting Chief Executive Officer
Report Type:	For decision
Attachments:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Report - Have Your Say - Municipal Plan 2026-27 -24 Jun 2026 - ID 255895 [6.2.1 - 5 pages]2. Survey - Have Your Say - Feedback Municipal Plan 2026-27 -24 June 2026 - ID 255894 [6.2.2 - 9 pages]3. Email - Feedback Katherine Municipal Plan 2026-27 - 3 June 2026 - ID 255009 Redacted [6.2.3 - 5 pages]4. Letter - DHLGCD - KTC Annual Plans Feedback Letter 2026-27 - 23 Jun 2026 - ID 255841 [6.2.4 - 2 pages]5. Draft Municipal Plan 2026-27 Feedback Submissions Responses [6.2.5 - 12 pages]6. Draft 2026-27 Municipal Plan final for consult [6.2.6 - 26 pages]7. Draft 2026-27 Fees and Charges Booklet for consult [6.2.7 - 14 pages]8. 2026-2027 Municipal Plan Snapshot final [6.2.8 - 4 pages]

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To present consultation submissions for the Katherine Town Council Municipal Plan, including annual budget, long term financial plan, and Fee and Charges for the 2026-2027 financial year and adopt amendments.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council adopt the Budget for 2026-2027.
2. That Council adopt the Municipal Plan for 2026-2027 with the following changes:
 - a. Page 2 added the Council Vision, Mission and Values
 - b. Page 3 Acting CEO signature straight alignment
 - c. Page 8 the dates changed to reflect the consultation period (2 to 23 June 2026) and the meeting date (26 June 2026) for approval of the plan
 - d. Page 33 including category descriptions for all Zones
 - e. Page 34 replacing the photo with the original photo
 - f. Page 38 change Council Committee Costs to Council Committee Expenses
 - g. Page 42 note added under the table: 'Loan funding for Civic Centre Refurbishment - Council has secured a Loan of \$5M from the Commonwealth Bank.'
 - h. Page 44 change spelling of Craighbourn to Cragborn, and Zimmin to Zimin
3. That Council adopt the Fees and Charges for 2026-2027.
4. That Council adopt the 2026-2027 Municipal Plan Snapshot.
5. That Council rescind the Rating Strategy Policy – Version 9.

SUMMARY

- **Consultation for the Draft 2026-2027 Municipal Plan including the budget, long-term financial plan, rates, and the fees and charges was undertaken from 2 to 23 June 2026 via Have Your Survey and written feedback responses.**
- **Eight responses were received, two written and six via the survey.**
- **Recommended changes from the feedback include eight changes as detailed in the report.**

DISCUSSION, OPTIONS AND ANALYSIS

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

Council approved the Draft Municipal Plan 2026-2027; including budget, long term financial plan, rates and fees and charges; for public consultation from 2 June to 22 June 2026. Due to delay in releasing the plan out to public consultation on 2 June the consultation period was extended to close on the 23 June. The consultation was advertised on the Council website and on the Your Say Katherine platform. Feedback was also accepted through email. An iPad was available at the Main Office Reception and Library to assist community members complete feedback submissions on Your Say Katherine.

Elected Members also held two consultation sessions on the 12 June at Katherine Central 10am to 2 pm, and 13 June 2026 at the Katherine Research Station Field Day 9am to 1pm.

Council received eight submissions, two written and six responses via the Your Say Katherine providing feedback for suggested amendments to the Draft Municipal Plan 2026-2027.

Council are requested to consider the submissions and feedback. The submission responses are acknowledged and we thank the public for their valued submissions. All responses have been considered and a response provided for clarification and any amendments to the 2026-27 Municipal Plan.

The changes to the plan include:

- Page 2 added the Council Vision, Mission and Values
- Page 3 Acting CEO signature straight alignment
- Page 8 the dates changed to reflect the consultation period (2 to 23 June 2026) and the meeting date (26 June 2026) for approval of the plan
- Page 33 including category descriptions for all Zones
- Page 34 replacing the photo with the original photo
- Page 38 change Council Committee Costs to Council Committee Expenses
- Page 42 note added under the table: 'Loan funding for Civic Centre Refurbishment - Council has secured a Loan of \$5M from the Commonwealth Bank.'
- Page 44 change spelling of Craighbourn to Cragborn, and Zimmin to Zimin

Once the changes are approved the amendments will be finalised in the document and released by the 30 June 2026.

Consultation Process

Katherine Town Council released its draft Municipal Plan 2026-2027 with the proposed draft budget, long-term financial plan, rates and fees and charges for a 21-day period of community consultation.

Council approved the public consultation to be undertaken from 2 June to 22 June 2026 at the meeting on 26 May 2026. Due to delay in releasing the plan out to public consultation on the 2 June, the consultation

period was extended to close on the 23 June to ensure the full 21 days were met. The consultation was advertised on the Council website, Your Say Katherine platform and socials. Feedback was also accepted through email, hand delivered and the Have Your Say survey. An iPad was available at the Main Office Reception and Library to assist community members to view the draft plan and complete survey submissions on Your Say Katherine.

Elected Members also held two consultation sessions on the 12 at Katherine Central 10am to 2 pm, and 13 June 2026 at the Katherine Research Station Field Day 9am to 1pm.

Policy Implications

The Rating Strategy has now been incorporated into the Municipal Plan and Council are requested to rescind the current policy version 9.

Budget and Resource Implications

The adopted Budget, and Fees and Charges will be applicable from the 1 July 2026.

Risk, Legal and Legislative Implications

The legislative requirements under the *Local Government Act 2019 (Act)* and *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021 (Regulations)* for the council's adoption of the annual Plan, budget, long term financial plan, fees and charges and rates declaration.

After the public consultation submissions received have been considered and then the final plan prepared Council must:

1. Declare the rates for the financial year (sections 237 and 238 of the Act) a. NOTE before the council adopts the budget for the financial year, the CEO must check the rate records and certify in writing to the council that to the best of the CEO's knowledge, information and belief, the assessment record is a comprehensive record of all rateable land within the area (regulation 29)
2. Adopt the budget for a financial year (section 203 of the Act)
3. Adopt the plan (section 35(1) of the Act)

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

Council's Fees and Charges 2026-2027 are in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2019* Section 289 – Fees for Services.

As soon as practical after adopting the budget council must:

- publish the budget on the council's website;
- notify the Agency in writing of the adoption of the budget; and
- publish on the council website circulating in the area informing the public that copies may be downloaded from council's website or obtained from the council's public office.

Environment Sustainability Implications

There are no environmental sustainability implications.

Strategic Plan

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

4.2.3 Review Council's fees and charges system to ensure the sustainability of council's facilities and services.

Municipal Plan

1.1.2 Ensure compliance with local government legislation.

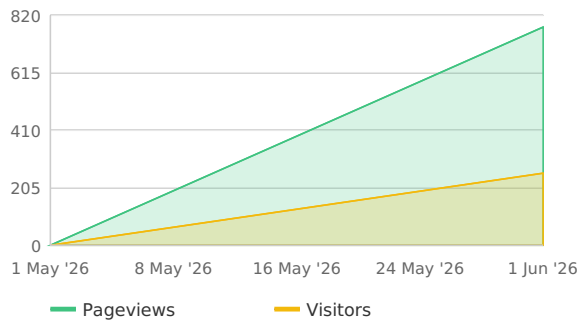
Project Report

25 May 2026 - 23 June 2026

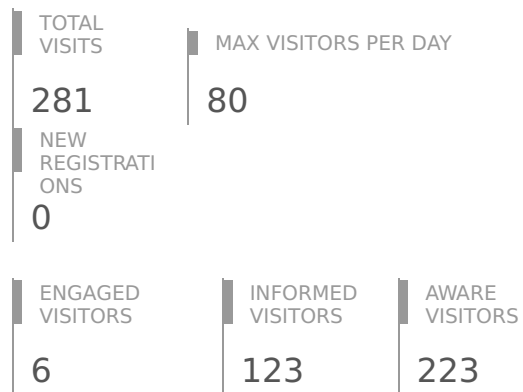
Your Say Katherine Municipal Plan 2026/27



Visitors Summary

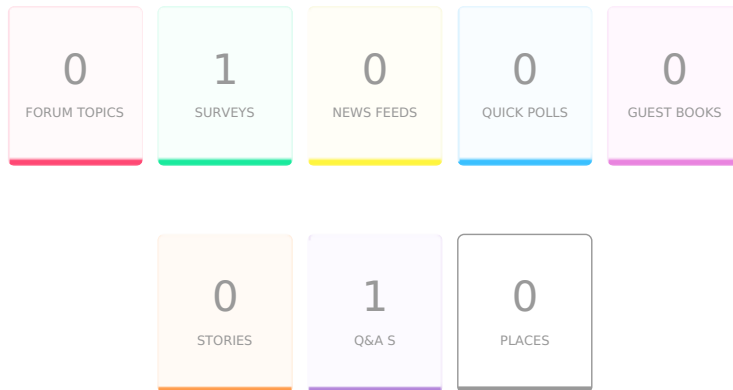


Highlights



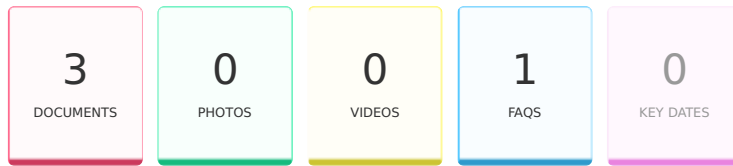
Aware Participants		Engaged Participants			
223		6			
Aware Actions Performed		Engaged Actions Performed			
Participants		Registered	Unverified	Anonymous	
Visited a Project or Tool Page	223				
Informed Participants					
123					
Informed Actions Performed		Participants			
Viewed a video	0	Contributed on Forums	0	0	0
Viewed a photo	0	Participated in Surveys	0	0	6
Downloaded a document	106	Contributed to Newsfeeds	0	0	0
Visited the Key Dates page	0	Participated in Quick Polls	0	0	0
Visited an FAQ list Page	16	Posted on Guestbooks	0	0	0
Visited Instagram Page	0	Contributed to Stories	0	0	0
Visited Multiple Project Pages	113	Asked Questions	0	0	0
Contributed to a tool (engaged)	6	Placed Pins on Places	0	0	0
		Contributed to Ideas	0	0	0

ENGAGEMENT TOOLS SUMMARY



Tool Type	Engagement Tool Name	Tool Status	Visitors	Contributors		
				Registered	Unverified	Anonymous
Qanda	Feedback	Published	3	0	0	0
Survey Tool	Municipal Plan 2026/27 Feedback	Published	34	0	0	6

INFORMATION WIDGET SUMMARY



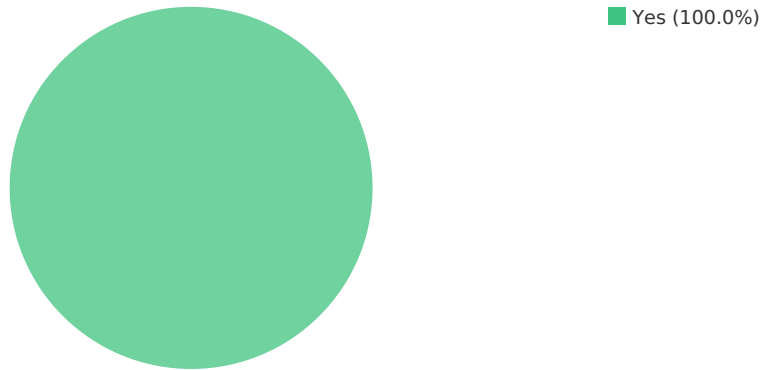
Widget Type	Engagement Tool Name	Visitors	Views/Downloads
Document	Municipal Plan 2026_final for consult.pdf	49	58
Document	deleted document from	41	44
Document	Draft Fees Charges Booklet for consult.pdf	24	27
Document	202757 - Municipal Plan 2026_Snapshot_final.pdf	20	20
Faqs	faqs	16	17

ENGAGEMENT TOOL: SURVEY TOOL

Municipal Plan 2026/27 Feedback

Visitors 34	Contributors 6	CONTRIBUTIONS 6
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Q1. Have you read Katherine's Draft Municipal Plan 2026/27?

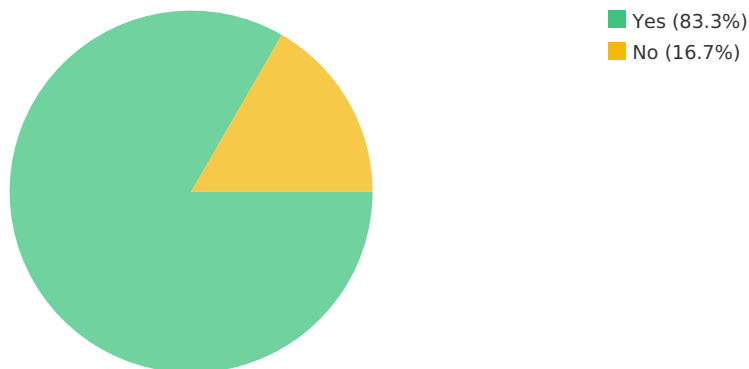


Question options	responses	%
● Yes	6	100.0

6 responses · 0 skipped

Question type : Radio Button Question

Q2. Have you read Katherine's Draft Fees and Charges 2026/27?



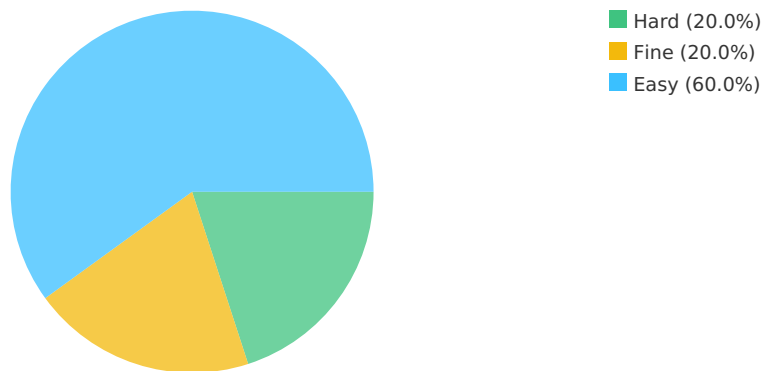
Question options	responses	%
● Yes	5	83.3
● No	1	16.7

6 responses · 0 skipped

Question type : Radio Button Question

Your Say Katherine : Summary Report for 25 May 2026 to 23 June 2026

Q3. How did you find this form?



Question options	responses	%
● Hard	1	20.0
● Fine	1	20.0
● Easy	3	60.0

Optional question · 5 responses · 1 skipped

Question type : Emoji Question

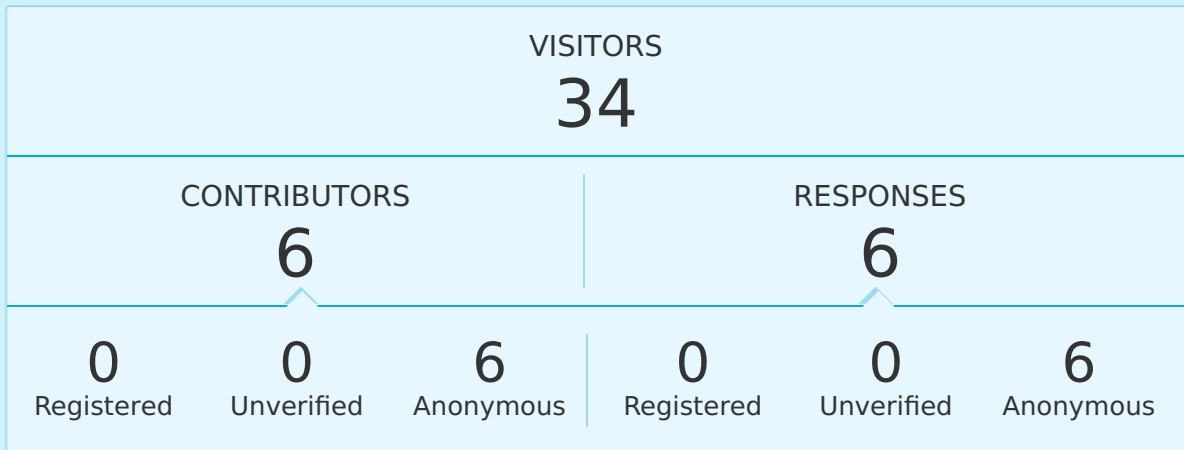
Survey Responses


25 May 2026 - 23 June 2026

Municipal Plan 2026/27 Feedback

Your Say Katherine

Project: Municipal Plan 2026/27



	Respondent No: 1	Responded	Jun 03, 2026 16:20:31 pm
	Login: Anonymous	At:	
	Email: n/a	Last Seen:	Jun 03, 2026 16:20:31 pm
		IP Address:	n/a

Q1. **Have you read Katherine's Draft Municipal Plan 2026/27?** Yes

Q2. **Have you read Katherine's Draft Fees and Charges 2026/27?** Yes

Q3. **What are your thoughts on our budget initiatives and highlighted projects for 2026/27?**
 there is no initiatives for local rate payers, All is noted higher expenses for those who do pay rates in Katherine


Q4. **Do you have any feedback on our Service Delivery Plan?**
 What service delivery? Still no boat ramp works noted, no cycle / foot path from Katherine east to clyde / town apart from the old rape central that is through the scrub.

Q5. **Do you have feedback on our 2026/27 annual budget?**
 rip off rates payers.

Q6. **Do you have any feedback on Rates, Waste, Fees and Charges? See pages 41-42 in the Draft Municipal Plan 2026/27, and the Draft Fees and Charges document.**
 Again rip off the rates payers, start charging the big companies more

Q7. **Do you have any other feedback about the Draft Municipal Plan 2026/27 that you would like to provide?**
 not answered

Q8. **How did you find this form?** not answered

	Respondent No: 2	Responded	Jun 04, 2026 08:23:29 am
	Login: Anonymous	At:	
	Email: n/a	Last Seen:	Jun 04, 2026 08:23:29 am
		IP Address:	n/a

Q1. **Have you read Katherine's Draft Municipal Plan 2026/27?** Yes

Q2. **Have you read Katherine's Draft Fees and Charges 2026/27?** Yes

Q3. **What are your thoughts on our budget initiatives and highlighted projects for 2026/27?**
So far I have seen improvement so hope this continues

Q4. **Do you have any feedback on our Service Delivery Plan?**
Not really. Living rurally I only seem to benefit occasionally

Q5. **Do you have feedback on our 2026/27 annual budget?**
Disappointed that there is an increase. Especially considering the high costs that everyone is experiencing both because of the flood and the cost of living

Q6. **Do you have any feedback on Rates, Waste, Fees and Charges? See pages 41-42 in the Draft Municipal Plan 2026/27, and the Draft Fees and Charges document.**
As above

Q7. **Do you have any other feedback about the Draft Municipal Plan 2026/27 that you would like to provide?**
not answered

Q8. **How did you find this form?** Easy



Respondent No: 3

Login: Anonymous

Email: n/a

Responded At: Jun 12, 2026 10:28:43 am

Last Seen: Jun 12, 2026 10:28:43 am

IP Address: n/a

Q1. **Have you read Katherine's Draft Municipal Plan 2026/27?** Yes

Q2. **Have you read Katherine's Draft Fees and Charges 2026/27?** Yes

Q3. **What are your thoughts on our budget initiatives and highlighted projects for 2026/27?**

not answered

Q4. **Do you have any feedback on our Service Delivery Plan?**

not answered

Q5. **Do you have feedback on our 2026/27 annual budget?**

not answered


Q6. **Do you have any feedback on Rates, Waste, Fees and Charges? See pages 41-42 in the Draft Municipal Plan 2026/27, and the Draft Fees and Charges document.**

not answered

Q7. **Do you have any other feedback about the Draft Municipal Plan 2026/27 that you would like to provide?**

not answered

Q8. **How did you find this form?** Easy

	Respondent No: 4	Responded	Jun 12, 2026 10:42:45 am
	Login: Anonymous	At:	
	Email: n/a	Last Seen:	Jun 12, 2026 10:42:45 am
		IP Address:	n/a

Q1. **Have you read Katherine's Draft Municipal Plan 2026/27?** Yes

Q2. **Have you read Katherine's Draft Fees and Charges 2026/27?** Yes

Q3. **What are your thoughts on our budget initiatives and highlighted projects for 2026/27?**
X


Q4. **Do you have any feedback on our Service Delivery Plan?**
X

Q5. **Do you have feedback on our 2026/27 annual budget?**
X

Q6. **Do you have any feedback on Rates, Waste, Fees and Charges? See pages 41-42 in the Draft Municipal Plan 2026/27, and the Draft Fees and Charges document.**
X

Q7. **Do you have any other feedback about the Draft Municipal Plan 2026/27 that you would like to provide?**
X

Q8. **How did you find this form?** Hard

	Respondent No: 5	Responded	Jun 12, 2026 20:22:55 pm
	Login: Anonymous	At:	
	Email: n/a	Last Seen:	Jun 12, 2026 20:22:55 pm
		IP Address:	n/a

Q1. Have you read Katherine's Draft Municipal Plan 2026/27? Yes

Q2. Have you read Katherine's Draft Fees and Charges 2026/27? No

Q3. What are your thoughts on our budget initiatives and highlighted projects for 2026/27?

A very brief plan with nothing of substance. Apart from a new cycle track and upgrade to the Council chambers there does not seem anything happening. A non plan in my opinion. As for the budget, really difficult to understand the ratings applied as there is no key to the abbreviations used.

Q4. Do you have any feedback on our Service Delivery Plan?

Maintenance of existing assets is crucial but not highlighted and there are still areas requiring major maintenance works such as the loop cycle track and pedestrian paths in the CBD. It is not clear what amount is being set for maintenance and this is a concern, the Tick market was closed for a substantial part of last year for maintenance and the Library closed for "unscheduled" maintenance. A clear plan of what needs maintaining and budgeting for will allow you to determine what if anything is left over for new projects. There is no actual idea of what or what not will be done in the plan. There is a mention of improving toilet facilities at the hot springs - this was only built a couple of years ago so what is the story there? Also how is this expenditure offset by the business that operates on that site, most of the people that frequent that establishment do not go to the hot springs themselves but for a coffee or a meal. Surely they should be paying for the use of the toilets and any upgrade that is required?

Q5. Do you have feedback on our 2026/27 annual budget?

The council has borrowed a lot of money to redo the council chambers but there is no clue as to how much the council is in debt and how the borrowings will be repaid and over what time. In other words it is not possible to determine if the council is solvent. Preexisting plans looked at massive outlay for new waste disposal sites but this is not mentioned in any area now. Has the need gone or just overlooked? Balance of expenditure and income is non existant and a lot of what happens not accounted for. I met the "events manager" at the Q&A in Woolworths but there is no mention in the plan of where such a person would even fit into council operations - what events? what expenditure? what income? Not even an outline of what the centenary celebrations budget is!!!! A staff structure outline and budgets allocated to each area would be very useful. By the way what happened to the several million dollars received from the PFAS payout?


Q6. Do you have any feedback on Rates, Waste, Fees and Charges? See pages 41-42 in the Draft Municipal Plan 2026/27, and the Draft Fees and Charges document.

Have not read these

Q7. Do you have any other feedback about the Draft Municipal Plan 2026/27 that you would like to provide?

This is the worst plan document I have ever encountered. It has no substance and no tangible evidence of matching income and expenditure. Grants are not documented nor separate to ongoing costs so impossible to see what is paid for by grants or needing the ratepayer to fund. There is no tangible plan, not even a vision of what the council hopes to achieve.

Q8. How did you find this form? Easy

	Respondent No: 6	Responded	Jun 18, 2026 09:02:20 am
	Login: Anonymous	At:	
	Email: n/a	Last Seen:	Jun 18, 2026 09:02:20 am
		IP Address:	n/a

Q1. **Have you read Katherine's Draft Municipal Plan 2026/27?** Yes

Q2. **Have you read Katherine's Draft Fees and Charges 2026/27?** Yes

Q3. **What are your thoughts on our budget initiatives and highlighted projects for 2026/27?**

What projects? Your fees are going up and the services are not changing.

Q4. **Do you have any feedback on our Service Delivery Plan?**

This is to vague to even have a point of view.

Q5. **Do you have feedback on our 2026/27 annual budget?**

The bank account is the only thing that is going down.

Q6. **Do you have any feedback on Rates, Waste, Fees and Charges? See pages 41-42 in the Draft Municipal Plan 2026/27, and the Draft Fees and Charges document.**

All of these are going up to the point that people will not be able to afford anything. Its nearly a 10% increase to rates and waste fees alone. The fees and charges for everything else has been for years over priced for the average resident in Katherine.

Q7. **Do you have any other feedback about the Draft Municipal Plan 2026/27 that you would like to provide?**

The only thing I got out of this, reading it cover to cover, was - rates and charges are all going up, council wages are all going up, services are being cut back and the bank account is disappearing quickly. However I know you will not take any of this on board and the plan will be rubber stamped regardless.

Q8. **How did you find this form?** Fine

From:
To:
Cc:
Subject:
Date:
Attachments:

MP submission for consideration.

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, June 3, 2026 7:10:00 AM
To: Records (KTC) <records@ktc.nt.gov.au>
Subject: Community Feedback – Katherine Municipal Plan 2026/27

You don't often get email from [REDACTED]. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Katherine Town Council,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the Draft Municipal Plan 2026/27.

As a resident living and working in Katherine, I would like to respectfully share several suggestions regarding community safety, infrastructure, and wellbeing.

Over time, I have personally observed and experienced situations that made me concerned about public safety, particularly when travelling through pedestrian areas. I believe Katherine is a welcoming and unique regional town, but there are opportunities to improve safety, confidence and liveability for residents and visitors.

1. Improve Public Safety Infrastructure

I strongly encourage Council to consider:

- Installing additional CCTV cameras in public pedestrian areas, especially walkways, parks, shopping areas, town centre locations and areas with repeated safety concerns.
- Increasing street lighting coverage in pedestrian walkways and poorly lit locations to improve visibility and personal safety at night.
- Installing additional emergency help points (for example, emergency contact stations or blue-light emergency points where appropriate) in key public areas.

For a regional town like Katherine, many pedestrian routes are limited and predictable. Therefore, ensuring safer walking pathways would significantly improve confidence for residents, workers and visitors.

2. Ensure CCTV Systems Are Properly Maintained

Public safety infrastructure should not only be installed, but also properly maintained.

CCTV systems should be regularly tested, audited and maintained to ensure they are functional when incidents occur. Functional infrastructure is important for both crime prevention and investigation.

3. Community Safety Patrols and Volunteer Safety Programs

I would encourage consideration of a community safety patrol or volunteer support program working alongside police and community organisations.

This could include trained volunteers, community wardens or local safety groups supporting visible community presence, particularly during high-risk periods or in public gathering areas.

Visible presence often improves public confidence and may discourage antisocial behaviour.

4. More Positive Community Gathering and Recreation Spaces

Council may wish to consider additional recreation, community engagement or culturally appropriate gathering spaces and outreach programs for young people and vulnerable community members.

Providing safe, structured and welcoming places to gather may reduce unsafe congregation in high pedestrian areas and support stronger community wellbeing.

5. Better Communication and Support for Victims of Crime

When residents report incidents, clearer communication regarding public safety measures and investigation processes may improve community confidence.

Many residents simply want reassurance that concerns are being taken seriously and that systems intended to support public safety are functioning effectively.

6. Flood and Emergency Preparedness

Given Katherine's experience with flooding and severe weather events, continued investment in emergency planning, public communication systems and resilient community infrastructure would be valuable.

7. General Liveability Improvements

Additional shaded seating, public rest areas, improved pedestrian connectivity, safer lighting and public amenities would also improve comfort and quality of life in Katherine.

I appreciate Council's willingness to seek community feedback. Katherine has many

strengths, and I believe thoughtful investment in safety, infrastructure and community wellbeing can make it an even safer and more welcoming town for everyone.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

Katherine Resident

----- Forwarded message -----

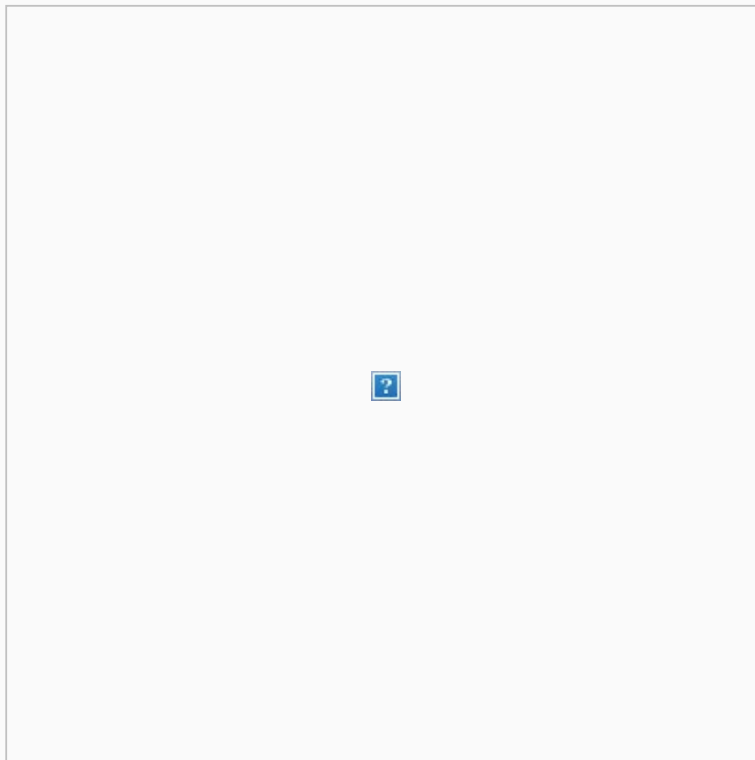
From: **Katherine** <contactus@ktc.nt.gov.au>

Date: Tue, 2 Jun 2026 at 13:59

Subject: Katherine Town Council's Draft Municipal Plan 2026/27 is now open for public consultation

To: <[REDACTED]>

[View this email in your browser](#)



Have Your Say on Council's 2026/27 Municipal Plan

Katherine Town Council is inviting the community to have its say on the Draft Municipal Plan 2026/27.

The Municipal Plan outlines the services, projects, budget, rates, fees and charges proposed for the year ahead. It helps guide Council's work and decision-making and sets out how community priorities will be delivered over the next 12 months.

Community feedback is an important part of the process before the final plan is considered for adoption by Council.

We encourage residents, businesses and community organisations to take a look at the draft plan and let us know what you think.

You can:

- Complete the online survey
- Email your feedback to records@ktc.nt.gov.au
- Deliver a written submission to Council's Customer Service Office at 29 Crawford Street

Meet Your Elected Members

Council's Elected Members will also be available to discuss the draft plan and answer questions:

- Friday 12 June, 10am–2pm – Woolworths, Oasis Shopping Centre
- Saturday 13 June – Katherine Research Station Open Day

Consultation closes on 23 June 2026.

To view the Draft Municipal Plan 2026/27 and provide feedback, visit [Your Say Katherine](#).

Your feedback will help inform the final Municipal Plan before it is presented to Council for adoption.

Thank you for helping shape Katherine's future.



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Our mailing address is:

Katherine Town Council
PO Box 1071
Katherine, NT 0851
Australia

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Council: Katherine Town Council

Released on: 02/06/2026

Submission closes: 23/06/2026

Our Ref: 38-F26-2708-3~014

Ms Casey Anderson
A/Chief Executive Officer
Katherine Town Council
PO Box 1071
Katherine NT 0851

Email: records@ktc.nt.gov.au

Dear Ms Anderson,

Re: Feedback on Council's draft 2026–27 Annual Plan out for Public Consultation

Every year the Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development (DHLGCD) as the Agency responsible for regulating the Local Government sector, provides feedback on the draft Annual Plan and budget (draft plan) published by councils.

Although the general public are invited to make written submissions on the draft plan, this letter is not a formal submission on Katherine Town Council's (Council) draft plan. Rather, it is a contribution to support the Council to meet its legislative obligations in relation to its planning and budgeting process under the *Local Government Act 2019* (Act).

Provided at **Attachment A** are sections in the draft plan suggested for review by the Council. Please note, the feedback on the draft plan does not include any assessment or comment on the Council's rates declaration. Council is encouraged to seek independent legal advice in relation to its rates declaration.

Once the Council has considered any written submissions and the final plan and budget is ready to be adopted, it is recommended the Council separately resolves to:

1. Declare the rates (under sections 237 and 238 of the Act).

NOTE: before the Council can adopt the budget, the CEO must check the rate records and certify in writing to the Council that to the best of the CEO's knowledge, information and belief, the assessment record is a comprehensive record of all rateable land within the area (Regulation 29).

2. Adopt the budget (under section 203 of the Act).
3. Adopt the regional plan (under section 35(1) of the Act).

Under the Act the Council must adopt its 2026-27 Annual Plan including the budget on or before 30 June 2026. It is important to note that the Act does not provide the Minister or DHLGCD with the power to defer or waive the stipulated 30 June date.

Should you have any queries in relation to this feedback please email jg.compliance@nt.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

The Sustainability and Compliance Team

Attachment A

Draft Annual Plan Feedback

Feedback – for consideration

1. The budget provides for a drawdown of borrowings of \$3,000,000 in 2026-27 (pages 39, 40, and 43), with non-current borrowings of \$5,000,000 reflected in the statement of financial position (page 41). To fully meet clause 7.5 of Guideline 3, Council may wish to state explicitly, within the plan, the purpose of the projected borrowing and the type of borrowing being undertaken.
2. On page 38, under “Annual Budget Income and Expenditure Statement”, it is suggested that Council Committee Costs instead be amended to Expenses to remain consistent with other line items in the Operating Expenditure column.

Draft Municipal Plan 2026-2027 Feedback Submissions			
Date	Doc ID	Comments received via email	Council Response
3/06/2026	255009	<p>1. Improve Public Safety Infrastructure I strongly encourage Council to consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installing additional CCTV cameras in public pedestrian areas, especially walkways, parks, shopping areas, town centre locations and areas with repeated safety concerns. • Increasing street lighting coverage in pedestrian walkways and poorly lit locations to improve visibility and personal safety at night. • Installing additional emergency help points (for example, emergency contact stations or blue-light emergency points where appropriate) in key public areas. <p>For a regional town like Katherine, many pedestrian routes are limited and predictable. Therefore, ensuring safer walking pathways would significantly improve confidence for residents, workers and visitors.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council Community Safety Action Group will provide a respectful and practical forum for sharing information, raising community concerns, improving communication, discussing local safety and wellbeing issues, and identifying practical, community-led ideas and opportunities. The feedback will be tabled at a group meeting. • Council has budgeted to undertake a CBD road safety audit (deliverable 2.1.3.1) and \$200,000 capital works for street lighting and other improvements in 2026-2027. • The Council Shared Pathways Strategy 2025-2035 sets a ten-year plan for safe, convenient and accessible pathways for all. The strategy will be reviewed regularly and guide future pathway projects and improvements.
		<p>2. Ensure CCTV Systems Are Properly Maintained Public safety infrastructure should not only be installed, but also properly maintained. CCTV systems should be regularly tested, audited and maintained to ensure they are functional when incidents occur. Functional infrastructure is important for both crime prevention and investigation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council maintains CCTV surveillance on council owned land such as the sportsground, visitor information centre and hot springs. Council's 2026-27 Municipal plan approach to Asset and Infrastructure includes implementing a new Asset Management System (deliverable 4.2.4.1) to manage council assets with accurate, compliant asset information and condition insights enabling to plan effectively, meet legislative and accounting obligations, prioritise investment, and make informed long-term renewal and lifecycle decisions.
		<p>3. Community Safety Patrols and Volunteer Safety Programs I would encourage consideration of a community safety patrol or volunteer support program working alongside police and community organisations. This could include trained volunteers, community wardens or local safety groups supporting visible community presence,</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council is an active member of the Katherine Community Safety Collaboration (lead by CMC) that enables information sharing and a joint operation with police, housing and KTC that focuses on community engagement to enhance community wellbeing and safety. The approach takes a high visible community presence, particularly in known locations

Draft Municipal Plan 2026-2027 Feedback Submissions			
Date	Doc ID	Comments received via email	Council Response
		<p>particularly during high-risk periods or in public gathering areas. Visible presence often improves public confidence and may discourage antisocial behaviour.</p>	<p>that are high-risk or gathering areas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The feedback will also be tabled at a Community Safety Action Group meeting.
		<p>5. Better Communication and Support for Victims of Crime When residents report incidents, clearer communication regarding public safety measures and investigation processes may improve community confidence. Many residents simply want reassurance that concerns are being taken seriously and that systems intended to support public safety are functioning effectively.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Katherine Town Council By-Laws are under review and will be going out for consultation in the near future. It is worthy to note the By-Laws are council local laws that have certain parameters within our jurisdiction. • The feedback will also be tabled at a Community Safety Action Group meeting.
		<p>6. Flood and Emergency Preparedness Given Katherine’s experience with flooding and severe weather events, continued investment in emergency planning, public communication systems and resilient community infrastructure would be valuable.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emergency Management in the Northern Territory is led by the NTG. Council is a member of the of the Local Emergency Committee (LEC), which are an integral part of our ability to prevent, prepare, respond and recover from emergencies within our communities. • The Katherine Local Emergency Management Plan is part of the Northern Territory Emergency Services (NTES) framework, designed to guide local authorities, emergency services, and the community in preparing for, responding to, and recovering from emergencies. It provides a structured approach to managing incidents, including activation of emergency operations, stakeholder notifications, and public warnings. • The NTG manage the communications, and Council shares this information as requested. This ensures that consistent accurate information from one true source is always available to the public. • As part of the Asset and Infrastructure Planning council will incorporate future resilience for our infrastructure.

Draft Municipal Plan 2026-2027 Feedback Submissions			
Date	Doc ID	Comments received via email	Council Response
		<p>7. General Liveability Improvements Additional shaded seating, public rest areas, improved pedestrian connectivity, safer lighting and public amenities would also improve comfort and quality of life in Katherine.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 2026-27 plan highlights that Council will seek funding to cool the town square which will include a permanent shade structure. • Council has budgeted to undertake a CBD road safety audit (deliverable 2.1.3.1) to improve road and pedestrian safety in Katherine including lighting. • Council have budgeted to upgrade public amenities to improve safety and disabled accessibility (deliverable 2.1.2.1) • The feedback will also be considered in the Council Shared Pathways Strategy 2025-2035 review.
23/06/2026	255841	<p>The budget provides for a drawdown of borrowings of \$3,000,000 in 2026-27 (pages 39, 40, and 43), with non-current borrowings of \$5,000,000 reflected in the statement of financial position (page 41). To fully meet clause 7.5 of Guideline 3, Council may wish to state explicitly, within the plan, the purpose of the projected borrowing and the type of borrowing being undertaken.</p> <p>On page 38, under “Annual Budget Income and Expenditure Statement”, it is suggested that Council Committee Costs instead be amended to Expenses to remain consistent with other line items in the Operating Expenditure column.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • on page 42 a note will be added under the table: 'Loan funding for Civic Centre Refurbishment - Council has secured a Loan of \$5M from the Commonwealth Bank.' • Change recommended to be made as per feedback.

Draft Municipal Plan 2026-2027 Feedback Submissions				
Date	Have Your Say Survey	Survey Question	Feedback	Council Response
3/06/2026	Respondent 1	Have you read Katherine's Draft Municipal Plan 2026/27?	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council will undertake a Service Level and Delivery Assessment (SLDA) to review our current priorities and service delivery footprint with community stakeholder input (Deliverable 1.1.1.3). This assessment will enhance our long-term strategies, financial sustainability and be the foundation for future planning. • The feedback will also be considered in the Council Shared Pathways Strategy 2025-2035 review.
		Have you read Katherine's Draft Fees and Charges 2026/27?	Yes	
		What are your thoughts on our budget initiatives and highlighted projects for 2026/27?	there is no initiatives for local rate payers, All is noted higher expenses for those who do pay rates in Katherine	
		Do you have any feedback on our Service Delivery Plan?	What service delivery? Still no boat ramp works noted, no cycle / foot path from Katherine east to clyde / town apart from the old rape central that is through the scrub.	
		Do you have feedback on our 2026/27 annual budget?	rip off rates payers.	
		Do you have any feedback on Rates, Waste, Fees and Charges? See pages 41-42 in the Draft Municipal Plan 2026/27, and the Draft Fees and Charges document.	Again rip off the rates payers, start charging the big companies more	
		Do you have any other feedback about the Draft Municipal Plan 2026/27 that you would like to provide?		

Draft Municipal Plan 2026-2027 Feedback Submissions				
Date	Have Your Say Survey	Survey Question	Feedback	Council Response
4/06/2026	Respondent 2	Have you read Katherine's Draft Municipal Plan 2026/27?	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council acknowledges your feedback on improvement in budget initiatives and project highlights. • Council rates, fees and charges are in accordance with the Long-Term Financial Plan modelling. • Council has a rates concession policy for ratepayers who are experiencing financial hardship. • In 2026-27 Council has budgeted for rural road upgrades and the Zimin Drive shared pathway to the value of \$2,365,000. • Other initiatives in 2026-27 that rural residents benefit from may include the Native Plant Giveaway, the new Waste Management Strategy which may include the operation of the Tip Shop and a Wet Season rubbish collection, the annual events calendar and public asset improvements and upgrades.
		Have you read Katherine's Draft Fees and Charges 2026/27?	Yes	
		What are your thoughts on our budget initiatives and highlighted projects for 2026/27?	So far I have seen improvement so hope this continues	
		Do you have any feedback on our Service Delivery Plan?	Not really. Living rurally I only seem to benefit occasionally	
		Do you have feedback on our 2026/27 annual budget?	Disappointed that there is an increase. Especially considering the high costs that everyone is experiencing both because of the flood and the cost of living	
		Do you have any feedback on Rates, Waste, Fees and Charges? See pages 41-42 in the Draft Municipal Plan 2026/27, and the Draft Fees and Charges document.	As above (previous answer)	
		Do you have any other feedback about the Draft Municipal Plan 2026/27 that you would like to provide?		
12/06/2026	Respondent 3	Have you read Katherine's Draft Municipal Plan 2026/27?	Yes	Acknowledge that the respondent has read the Plan and Fees and Charges with no further feedback.
		Have you read Katherine's Draft Fees and Charges 2026/27?	Yes	

Draft Municipal Plan 2026-2027 Feedback Submissions				
Date	Have Your Say Survey	Survey Question	Feedback	Council Response
		What are your thoughts on our budget initiatives and highlighted projects for 2026/27?		
		Do you have any feedback on our Service Delivery Plan?		
		Do you have feedback on our 2026/27 annual budget?		
		Do you have any feedback on Rates, Waste, Fees and Charges? See pages 41-42 in the Draft Municipal Plan 2026/27, and the Draft Fees and Charges document.		
		Do you have any other feedback about the Draft Municipal Plan 2026/27 that you would like to provide?		
12/06/2026	Respondent 4	Have you read Katherine's Draft Municipal Plan 2026/27?	Yes	Acknowledge that the respondent has read the Plan and Fees and Charges with no further feedback.
		Have you read Katherine's Draft Fees and Charges 2026/27?	Yes	
		What are your thoughts on our budget initiatives and highlighted projects for 2026/27?	X	
		Do you have any feedback on our Service Delivery Plan?	X	
		Do you have feedback on our 2026/27 annual budget?	X	

Draft Municipal Plan 2026-2027 Feedback Submissions				
Date	Have Your Say Survey	Survey Question	Feedback	Council Response
		<p>Do you have any feedback on Rates, Waste, Fees and Charges? See pages 41-42 in the Draft Municipal Plan 2026/27, and the Draft Fees and Charges document.</p>	X	
		<p>Do you have any other feedback about the Draft Municipal Plan 2026/27 that you would like to provide?</p>	X	
12/06/2026	Respondent 5	<p>Have you read Katherine's Draft Municipal Plan 2026/27?</p>	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Category descriptions for the Zones in the Rating table will be added. We note this as an oversight and was included in the municipal plans of previous years. • The Council 2026/27 budget includes implementing a new Asset Management System (Deliverable 4.2.4.1). • Council has budgeted \$5,952,530 for capital expenditure in 2026-27 and planned for the next 4 years to 2031 (Page 40). • The Major Capital works budget (works over \$150,000) planned for 2026-27 is over \$5 million. Projects include Civic Centre upgrade, Zimin Drive shared pathway, rural road upgrades, lighting improvements in the CBD, and irrigation upgrades on Railway Terrace (Page 44). • Council will seek grant funding for the Hot Springs amenities upgrades required for disability accessibility improvements.
		<p>Have you read Katherine's Draft Fees and Charges 2026/27?</p>	No	
		<p>What are your thoughts on our budget initiatives and highlighted projects for 2026/27?</p>	<p>A very brief plan with nothing of substance. Apart from a new cycle track and upgrade to the Council chambers there does not seem anything happening. A non plan in my opinion. As for the budget, really difficult to understand the ratings applied as there is no key to the abbreviations used.</p>	

Draft Municipal Plan 2026-2027 Feedback Submissions				
Date	Have Your Say Survey	Survey Question	Feedback	Council Response
		<p>Do you have any feedback on our Service Delivery Plan?</p>	<p>Maintenance of existing assets is crucial but not highlighted and there are still areas requiring major maintenance works such as the loop cycle track and pedestrian paths in the CBD. It is not clear what amount is being set for maintenance and this is a concern, the Tick market was closed for a substantial part of last year for maintenance and the Library closed for "unscheduled" maintenance. A clear plan of what needs maintaining and budgeting for will allow you to determine what if anything is left over for new projects. There is no actual idea of what or what not will be done in the plan. There is a mention of improving toilet facilities at the hot springs - this was only built a couple of years ago so what is the story there? Also how is this expenditure offset by the business that operates on that site, most of the people that frequent that establishment do not go to the hot springs themselves but for a coffee or a</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council’s Leasing Policy sets out how Councils property portfolio is leased and managed, including responsibilities for maintenance, outgoings and improvements. These responsibilities are then further defined within each lease agreement. The expectation that a lessee would be responsible for maintaining facilities used by their patrons, but not necessarily leased to them, is noted; however, the toilets remain a public amenity accessible to all community members. • Council has committed to the refurbishment of the Katherine Town Council Civic Centre to ensure the facility remains compliant, functional, and fit-for-purpose for community use and administrative operations. The project will address structural upgrades, accessibility improvements, modernisation of facilities, and energy efficiency enhancements. To fund the project, Council secured a loan of \$5 million. This borrowing will enable the timely delivery of the refurbishment while maintaining Council’s current cash reserves for operational stability and other infrastructure priorities. Annual loan repayments have been incorporated into Council’s operating budget and Long-Term Financial Plan for the life of loan. The borrowing is expected to have a manageable impact on Council’s debt ratios and remains within prudent financial sustainability benchmarks. The refurbishment is anticipated to reduce ongoing maintenance costs and improve operational efficiencies over time. • The 2026-27 budget includes the development of a new Waste Management Strategy (Deliverable 7.1.7.1). The Waste Management Strategy Review Working Group will undertake a comprehensive review of the Waste Management Strategy to ensure long-term sustainability,

Draft Municipal Plan 2026-2027 Feedback Submissions				
Date	Have Your Say Survey	Survey Question	Feedback	Council Response
			meal. Surely they should be paying for the use of the toilets and any upgrade that is required?	<p>compliance with NT EPA obligations, alignment with NT Government policy, and the delivery of modern, efficient waste services for the Katherine community. The current Katherine Waste Management Strategy 2021–2026 expires at the end of 2026. The Working Group has been established to guide and support the development of a renewed Strategy that reflects current challenges, industry trends, new technologies, regulatory requirements and regional priorities. Council has budgeted for unwinding of the Waste Management Facility in 2026-27 \$629,865 (Page 38) and forecasted in outer years to meet the required Landfill Make Good provision (Page 41).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Events come under the Strategic Communications Department in the Organisational Structure (Page 10/11). Council has budgeted \$198,650 in 2026-27 for the annual events program including a review of the event program being undertaken following engagement and consultation feedback (3.1.1). The budget also includes \$100,000 for events equipment. The Centenary program was budgeted in 2025-26, the final centenary event budgeted in 2026-27, included in the events budget, will be the Freedom of Entry that is ceremonial parade symbolising trust between RAAF Tindal and the Katherine Town on the 28 August 2026. • Council has budgeted \$40,000 for the Council Community Grants Program, which supports local groups and community initiatives with a review of the program guidelines to be undertaken (3.1.1.1). • Council also provides support funding for Partnership agreements with community organisations (5.3.2.1) • Council informed through the Media Release Council Receives PFAS Funds 11 March 2021 (ID142628) that council
		Do you have feedback on our 2026/27 annual budget?	<p>The council has borrowed a lot of money to redo the council chambers but there is no clue as to how much the council is in debt and how the borrowings will be repaid and over what time. In other words it is not possible to determine if the council is solvent. Preexisting plans looked at massive outlay for new waste disposal sites but this is not mentioned in any area now Balance of expenditure and income is non existant and a lot of what happens not accounted for. I met the "events manager" at the Q&A in Woolworths but there is no mention in the plan of where such a person would even fit into council operations - what events? what expenditure? what income? Not even an outline of what the</p>	

Draft Municipal Plan 2026-2027 Feedback Submissions				
Date	Have Your Say Survey	Survey Question	Feedback	Council Response
			centenary celebrations budget is!!!! A staff structure outline and budgets allocated to each area would be very useful. By the way what happened to the several million dollars received from the PFAS payout?	had received payment of the PFAS Class Action of \$1.6 million that was utilised to offset rates increase in 2021-22 and the remainder placed in Council Reserves. This resulted in the then 10-year financial plan rates increase for the 2021-22 budget of 7.2% reduced to 4.9%. The portion of the payment transferred to the Council Motion Reserve of \$600,515 remains in the reserve to date.
		Do you have any feedback on Rates, Waste, Fees and Charges? See pages 41-42 in the Draft Municipal Plan 2026/27, and the Draft Fees and Charges document.	Have not read these	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council has budgeted to receive over \$3 million in grant funding (Page 38) and the breakdown of the deliverables by funding source is shown on page 20. We acknowledge that this may not have been the most effective way to show this. Council receive funding for services and projects for example Library operations, the Visitor Information Centre, Binjari Local Government Services, Roads and the Mosquito Monitoring Program, with a full listing included in the Annual Report each year of what funding council receives and its purpose.
		Do you have any other feedback about the Draft Municipal Plan 2026/27 that you would like to provide?	This is the worst plan document I have ever encountered. It has no substance and no tangible evidence of matching income and expenditure. Grants are not documented nor separate to ongoing costs so impossible to see what is paid for by grants or needing the ratepayer to fund. There is no tangible plan, not even a vision of what the council hopes to achieve.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2026-27 represents the final stage of delivering on the Katherine 2027 Strategic Plan commitments, with a focus on completing key projects and building a strong foundation for the next Strategic Plan. Council will undertake a Service Level and Delivery Assessment (SLDA) to review our current priorities and service delivery footprint with community stakeholder input (Deliverable 1.1.1.3). This assessment will enhance our long-term strategies, financial sustainability and be the foundation for future planning. • On page 2 the Council Vision Mission and Values as stated in the Katherine 2027 Strategic Plan and previous Municipal Plan will be added.

Draft Municipal Plan 2026-2027 Feedback Submissions				
Date	Have Your Say Survey	Survey Question	Feedback	Council Response
18/06/2026	Respondent 6	Have you read Katherine's Draft Municipal Plan 2026/27?	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2026-27 the Council project program focuses on finishing current projects, planning new ones and seeking funding to support improved services. Council will undertake a Service Delivery Assessment (SLDA), Cemetery infrastructure improvements, Waste Management Strategy review, and the Native Plant Giveaway event. Council will seek funding for a permanent shade structure at the Town Square and improve safety and disabled accessibility at the Hot Springs toilets. This year is the final stages of the current Katherine 2027 Strategic Plan, the 2026-27 Municipal Plan provides an opportunity to pause, reset and re-align our strategic direction. Council is taking a focus on better understanding the services it provides, the level of service the community needs and expects, and the infrastructure and assets required to support these services. This reset is intended to provide more stable and realistic foundation for long-term planning and financial sustainability. Council rates, fees and charges are in accordance with the Long-Term Financial Plan modelling. Council are mindful of the ongoing cost of living pressures in the community, therefore in 2026-27 this equates to a maximum annual increase of \$159 for rates and \$26 for waste. This approach helps ensure council can continue to provide essential services while keeping rates as affordable as possible for the ratepayers. Council's employee costs continue to increase as a result of the 3% wage increase provided under the Enterprise Bargaining Agreement. This increase is a legally binding obligation and is below the current Consumer Price Index (CPI) increase of 4.75%, demonstrating that wage growth remains lower than inflationary pressures. Council is also
		Have you read Katherine's Draft Fees and Charges 2026/27?	Yes	
		What are your thoughts on our budget initiatives and highlighted projects for 2026/27?	What projects? Your fees are going up and the services are not changing.	
		Do you have any feedback on our Service Delivery Plan?	This is too vague to even have a point of view.	
		Do you have feedback on our 2026/27 annual budget?	The bank account is the only thing that is going down.	
		Do you have any feedback on Rates, Waste, Fees and Charges? See pages 41-42 in the Draft Municipal Plan 2026/27, and the Draft Fees and Charges document.	All of these are going up to the point that people will not be able to afford anything. Its nearly a 10% increase to rates and waste fees alone. The fees and charges for everything else has been for years over priced for the average resident in Katherine.	
		Do you have any other feedback about the Draft Municipal Plan 2026/27 that you would like to provide?	The only thing I got out of this, reading it cover to cover, was - rates and charges are all going up, council wages are all going up, services are being cut back and the bank account is disappearing quickly. However I know you will not take any of	

Draft Municipal Plan 2026-2027 Feedback Submissions				
Date	Have Your Say Survey	Survey Question	Feedback	Council Response
			this on board and the plan will be rubber stamped regardless.	actively recruiting to fill approved positions within the organisational structure. While this increases employee costs in the short term, it is expected to improve operational efficiency, productivity and service delivery by building internal capability and reducing reliance on external contractors and outsourced services. In the longer term, filling these positions should provide better value for money and greater organisational resilience.



KATHERINE
TOWN COUNCIL



DRAFT
MUNICIPAL PLAN
2026–2027

ABOUT THIS PLAN

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

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

MAYOR’S INTRODUCTION

This year’s Municipal Plan marks a fresh start for Council — and for Katherine.

Following the election of an entirely new Council in September 2025, this is the first plan we have delivered together. We didn’t want it to be just another document — we wanted it to reflect what you’ve told us really matters.

And you’ve been clear.

We’ve heard about the importance of safe, reliable roads (especially after a big wet), well-maintained public spaces that suit our unique environment, practical and accessible community facilities, and keeping Katherine a connected, liveable place to call home.

This plan is our first step in responding to those priorities.

You will notice it is focused, measured and—quite deliberately—a little conservative. As a new Council, we are taking the time to properly understand our financial position, including the liabilities we carry and what it will take to meet them responsibly into the future. That means being careful with how we spend today, so we can deliver when it really counts tomorrow.

In simple terms: we’re focused on getting the basics right. Delivering core services well, maintaining what we have, and making steady, visible improvements where we can. That might not sound flashy—but it’s the foundation of a Council that works.

Over the coming year, this work will also help shape our longer-term direction, and we will continue listening to the community as we plan for Katherine’s future.

On behalf of Council, thank you for your ongoing input, honesty and engagement. We value it, and it is helping guide the decisions we are making every day.

We’re committed to building a Katherine that is strong, sustainable and ready for what comes next — and we’re glad to be on that journey with you.



J. Allen

MESSAGE FROM THE ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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

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

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

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

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

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

Clara Anderson



ABOUT KATHERINE

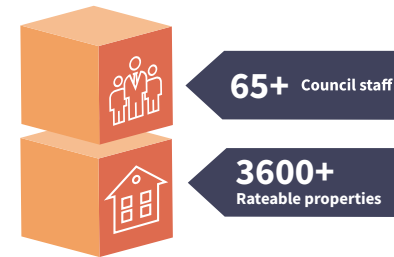
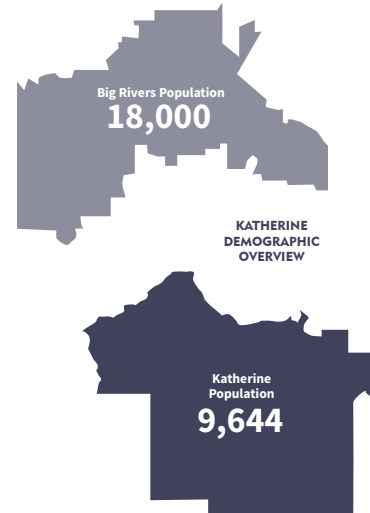
KATHERINE IS A PLACE WHERE PEOPLE COME FOR OPPORTUNITY AND STAY FOR THE SENSE OF COMMUNITY.

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

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

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

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



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



ROLE OF COUNCIL AND ELECTED MEMBERS

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

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

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

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

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



THE ROLE OF ELECTED MEMBERS

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

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

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

THE MAYOR, CEO AND STAFF

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

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

WORKING TOGETHER

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

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

PLANNING, GOVERNANCE AND COMPLIANCE

HOW COUNCIL PLANS, DELIVERS AND REPORTS

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

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

IT ALIGNS WITH:

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

IN PRACTICAL TERMS:

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

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





COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

A 21-day consultation period ran from 2 to 23 June 2026 to ensure our plans reflect local priorities. Elected Members received the draft Municipal Plan on 15 May 2026, 6 business days before endorsing it for public consultation at an Ordinary Meeting of Council 26 May 2026.

Council promoted the consultation through Your Say Katherine www.yoursaykatherine.com.au and Council website, and Elected Members engaged with residents throughout the period to seek feedback. The final 2026-2027 Municipal Plan will be adopted at the Special Meeting of Council on 26 June 2026.



ELECTED MEMBERS



MAYOR



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



COUNCILLOR

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



DEPUTY MAYOR

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



COUNCILLOR

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



COUNCILLOR

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



COUNCILLOR

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



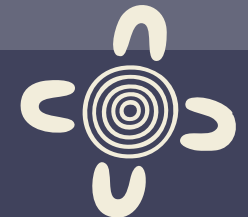
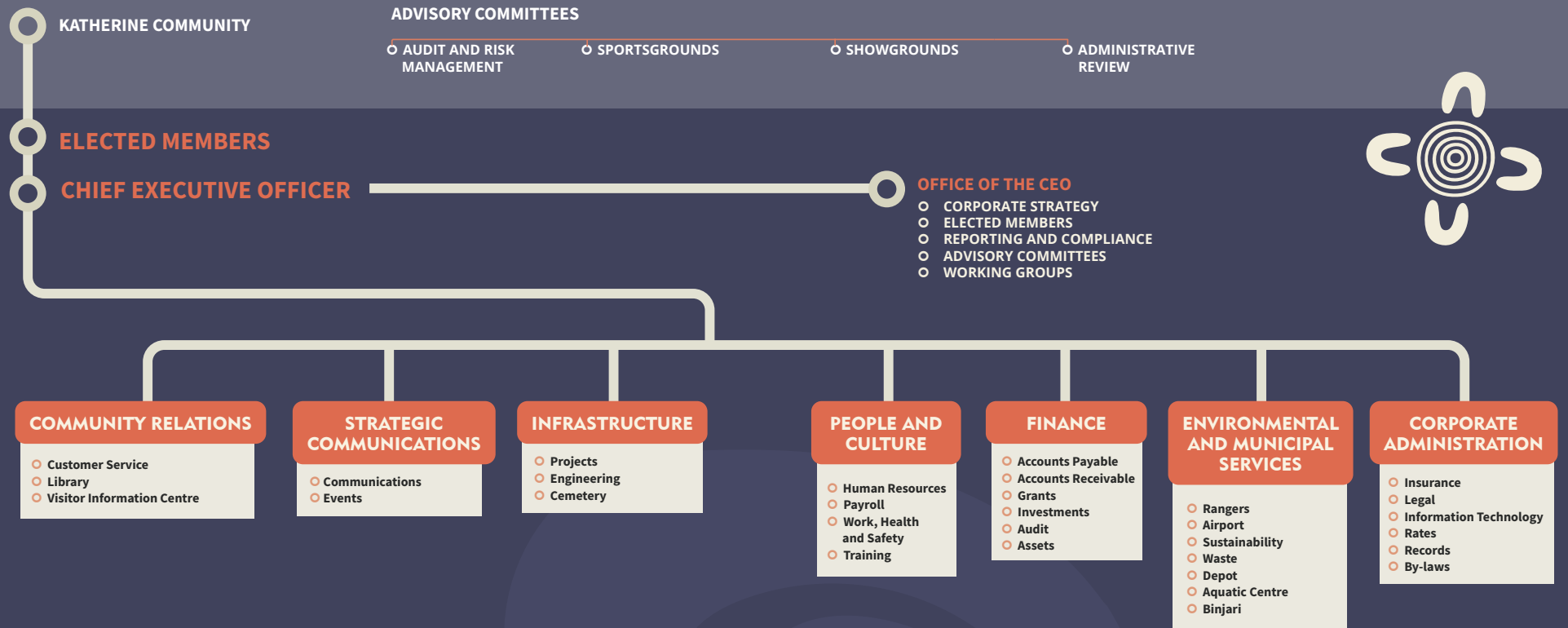
COUNCILLOR

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



ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE AND SERVICES

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



OFFICE OF THE CEO

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

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

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



STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION

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

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



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

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

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

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

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

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

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

PEOPLE AND CULTURE

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

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

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

FINANCE

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

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

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



INFRASTRUCTURE

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

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

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

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

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

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

CORPORATE ADMINISTRATION

The Corporate Administration team delivers a broad range of internal and external services that support Council operations, including information and communication technology (ICT), rates administration, records compliance, facility leasing and insurance management.

Frontline responsibilities include revenue services, such as managing rates, fees, charges, and fines through regulatory processes.

The team is dedicated, and highly skilled across key administrative functions. Their focus is to optimise operational efficiency, enabling other departments to concentrate on their core functions



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

WHAT THE COMMUNITY TOLD US



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

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

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

THERE IS ALSO A STRONG DESIRE FOR CONNECTION.

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

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

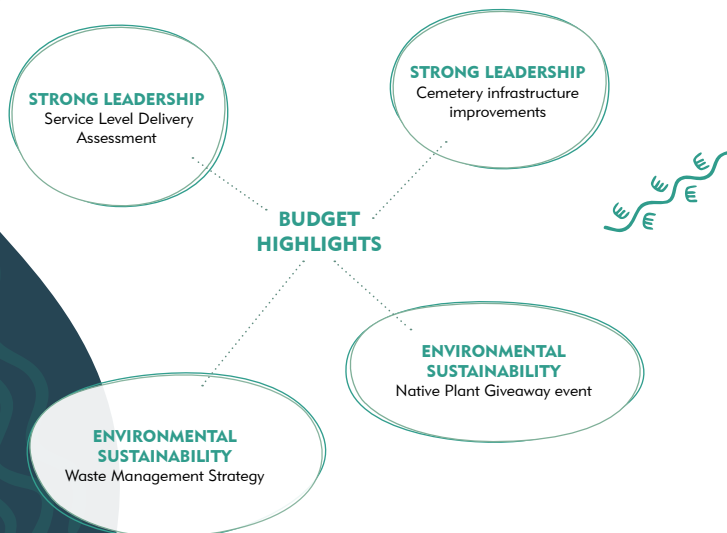
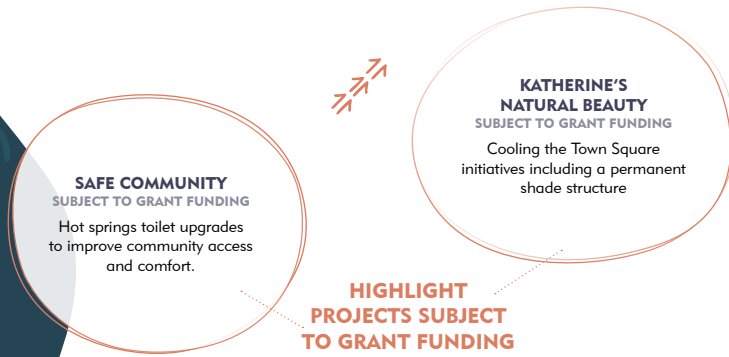
This plan reflects those priorities.



HIGHLIGHTED PROJECTS

WHAT WE'RE DELIVERING THIS YEAR

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



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

- STRONG LEADERSHIP**
Ensuring transparent, accountable decision-making and responsive services
- ARTS, CULTURE AND HERITAGE**
Recognising and supporting Katherine's identity, history and culture
- COMMUNITY AND FAMILIES**
Supporting safe, inclusive spaces and everyday services people rely on
- BIG RIVERS INTER-GOVERNMENT COLLABORATION**
Working with other levels of government to deliver outcomes for the region
- SPORTS AND CIVIC EVENTS**
Maintaining and improving facilities that bring the community together
- ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY**
Managing resources responsibly and protecting the natural environment
- GROWTH AND SUSTAINABILITY**
Planning for infrastructure, economic development and future needs

TOGETHER, THESE PRIORITIES SHAPE THE DELIVERABLES IN THIS MUNICIPAL PLAN AND ENSURE THAT THE WORK WE ARE UNDERTAKING ALIGNS WITH THE LONG-TERM DIRECTION SET BY COUNCIL AND THE COMMUNITY.

This year represents the final stage of delivering on those commitments, with a focus on completing key projects and building a strong foundation for the next Strategic Plan.

100 YEARS

CENTENARY OF KATHERINE EVENTS

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

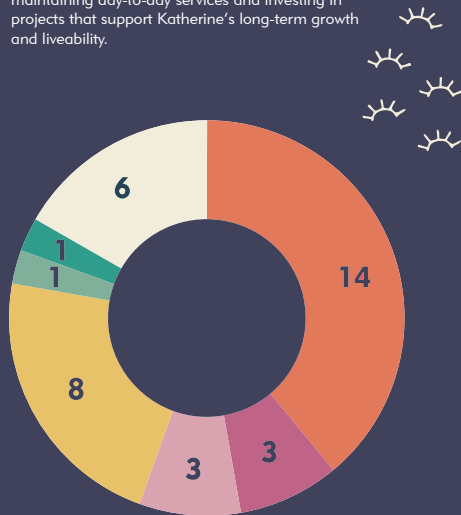
Council will continue working alongside the community-based Centenary Working Group to deliver events and activities that reflect Katherine's character and community spirit.

DELIVERABLES BY STRATEGIC PRIORITY

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

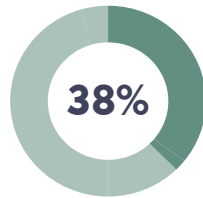
They show how this year's deliverables are distributed across the Strategic Plan priorities and how they are funded through a mix of the operational budget, capital investment, and external funding.

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

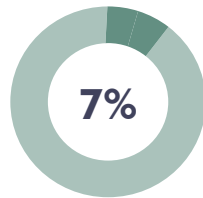


- STRONG LEADERSHIP
- COMMUNITY AND FAMILIES
- SPORTS AND CIVIC EVENTS
- GROWTH AND SUSTAINABILITY
- ARTS, CULTURE AND HERITAGE
- BIG RIVERS INTER-GOVERNMENT COLLABORATION
- ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

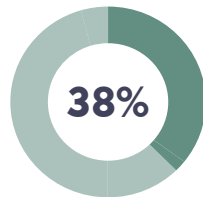
DELIVERABLES BY FUNDING SOURCE



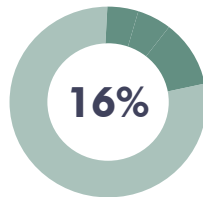
GRANT-ONLY FUNDING



CO-CONTRIBUTION



CAPEX BUDGET



OPERATING BUDGET



PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE



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

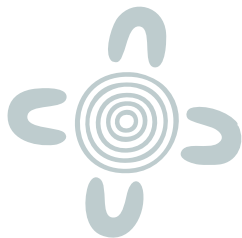
A key focus will be the Service Level Delivery Assessment and the future Asset Plan. Together, these bodies of work will help Council better understand the services it provides, the level of service the community needs and expects, and the infrastructure and assets required to support those services.

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

STRONG LEADERSHIP



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



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

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

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



COMMUNITY AND FAMILIES

SAFE COMMUNITY

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

SUPPORT OUR YOUTH

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

SPORTS AND CIVIC EVENTS

SPORTS AND CIVIC EVENTS

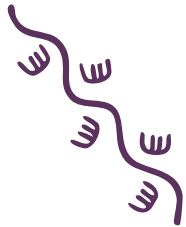
#	DELIVERABLE	MEASURES
3.1.1.1	Deliver a coordinated annual program of community events that reflect local identity and priorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of events held that celebrate Katherine's centenary program of events delivered Number of other events held Complete a review of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

ACCESSIBILITY AND MOBILITY

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

ACCESSIBILITY AND MOBILITY

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



GROWTH AND SUSTAINABILITY



BETTER INFRASTRUCTURE

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

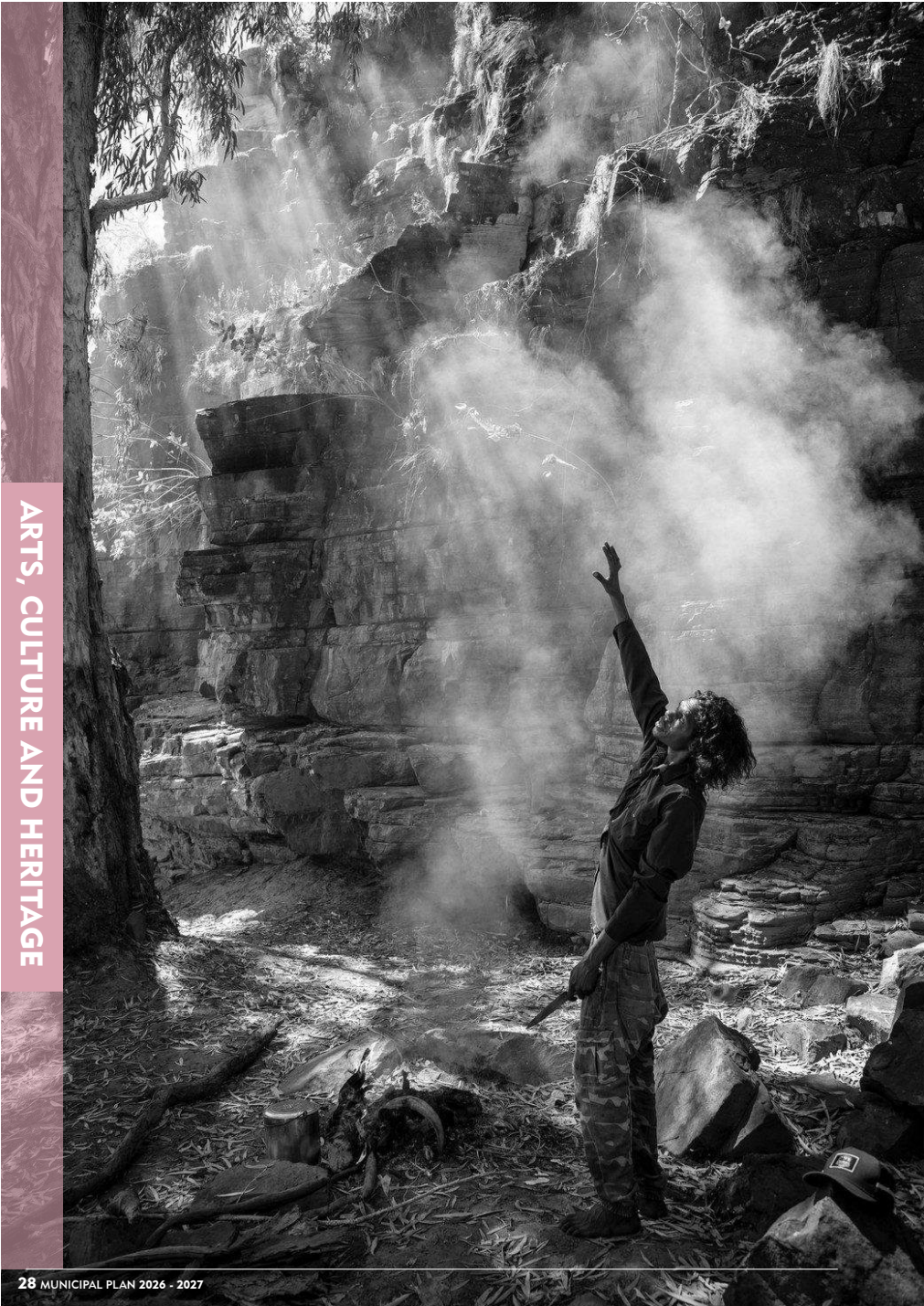
LEAD WITH BEST PRACTICE

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

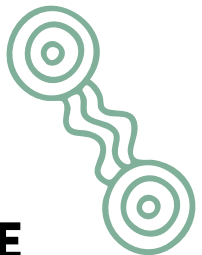
ATTRACT SKILLED WORKERS

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





ARTS, CULTURE AND HERITAGE



ARTS, CULTURE AND HERITAGE

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



BIG RIVERS INTER-GOVERNMENT COLLABORATION



COLLABORATE WITH REGIONAL COUNCILS

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

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

WASTE MANAGEMENT

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

KATHERINE'S NATURAL BEAUTY

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

PROTECT OUR WATER

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

REDUCE OUR FOOTPRINT

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





RATING STRATEGY

OBJECTIVES

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

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

PRINCIPLES

In developing its rating approach, Council considers the broader social and economic impacts on the community, with particular regard to promoting equitable access to essential services, infrastructure, and community facilities. Council seeks to raise sufficient general rate revenue to fully fund its operating costs, including depreciation, whilst also contributing to the capital works program that underpins the municipality's long-term growth and sustainability.

This approach is guided by the following principles:

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

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

RATING CATEGORY/ZONE	26/27 RID	26/27 MIN	LEVY 2026/27
Binjari	0.0000001	\$1,605.00	\$73,830.00
Cotton Gin	3.4076	\$13,256.00	\$13,256.00
Major Cattle Facility	0.5067	\$1,921.00	\$7,980.53
Major Shopping Centre	3.4076	\$1,921.00	\$91,153.30
Mining Tenement	0.9238	\$2,368.42	\$0.00
Pastoral Lease	0.0813	\$1,000.70	\$12,951.80
Solar Farm	0.7881	\$1,757.00	\$6,856.47
Tindal Ex Gratia	0.0000001	\$1,850.00	\$447,700.00
Workers Accom Less Than 120	0.0000001	\$20,207.00	\$0.00
Workers Accom Less Than 240	0.0000001	\$35,362.00	\$0.00
Workers Accom Less Than 30	0.0000001	\$3,725.00	\$11,175.00
Workers Accom Less Than 60	0.0000001	\$12,630.00	\$0.00
Workers Accom More Than 240	0.0000001	\$63,626.00	\$63,626.00
Zone A H HCP	0.299	\$1,757.00	\$262,772.95
Zone C	2.4688	\$1,757.00	\$51,059.16
Zone CB	3.0584	\$1,704.00	\$1,369,559.12
Zone CB (Residential Use)	0.5443	\$1,568.00	\$32,553.30
Zone CL CP	3.9948	\$1,659.00	\$144,681.24
Zone CV TC	3.4076	\$1,757.00	\$242,280.36
Zone FD	3.4076	\$1,788.00	\$1,788.00
Zone GI LI	1.9116	\$1,757.00	\$1,215,686.80
Zone LR LMR MR	2.1289	\$1,568.00	\$4,586,138.67
Zone NOZONE	0.299	\$1,704.00	\$377,807.00
Zone OR	1.3386	\$1,757.00	\$17,820.20
Zone R	0.3919	\$1,605.00	\$732,065.81
Zone RL	0.6801	\$1,568.00	\$396,902.18
Zone RW	19.5123	\$1,757.00	\$14,636.01
Zone SC	4.5066	\$1,757.00	\$22,533.00
Zone SK1 SK2 SK4 SK5	2.1289	\$1,568.00	\$86,487.28
Zone WM	0.4939	\$1,757.00	\$104,470.77





GENERAL RATES AND WASTE CHARGES

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

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

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

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

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

As in previous years, Council has resolved to apply an overall rates increase of 4.8%. Reduced rate-in-the-dollar increases have been applied to residential, central business

and service commercial properties, with overall increases of 4.5% for LR, LMR and MR zoned allotments, and 3.8% for CB zoned allotments.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



FEES AND CHARGES

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

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

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

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

View all fees and charges on our website: katherine.nt.gov.au/documents/publications-and-policies/fees-and-charges

ANNUAL BUDGET ASSUMPTIONS 2026-2027



INCOME

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

EXPENDITURE

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

EXPLANATION NOTES

- Council committee allowances and expenses have been provided for the Independent members of the Audit and Risk Management Committee
- The Budgeted operating Deficit is due to non-cash expenses of depreciation and the Unwinding of the discount for Waste Management Facility Make Good provision. Regulation 10 of the Local Government General Regulations 2021 states a council may budget for a deficit if the reason for the deficit can be attributed to: depreciation, amortisation, asset write-downs, expenditure of tied grant funding recorded as income in a prior year or other non-cash items.
- Total Prior year actuals forecast based on the approved 2nd Budget review 2025-2026 and the Long Term Financial Plan assumptions.



ANNUAL BUDGET AND LONG-TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2026-2027

ANNUAL BUDGET INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT

ANNUAL BUDGET INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT	DRAFT BUDGET 2026-2027 \$	FORECAST 2027-2028 \$	FORECAST 2028-2029 \$	FORECAST 2029-2030 \$	FORECAST 2030-2031 \$
OPERATING INCOME					
Rates	10,614,408	11,123,900	11,657,847	12,217,423	12,803,860
Waste Charges	1,730,765	1,832,880	1,941,020	2,055,540	2,176,817
Fees and Charges	3,153,943	3,258,023	3,365,538	3,476,601	3,591,328
Operating Grants & Subsidies	3,788,593	2,362,776	2,433,659	2,506,669	2,581,869
Bank & Investment Income	600,000	700,000	728,700	758,577	789,678
Other revenue	30,000	346,846	362,108	378,040	394,674
TOTAL OPERATING INCOME	19,917,709	19,624,425	20,488,872	21,392,850	22,338,227
OPERATING EXPENDITURE					
Employment Expenses	7,038,410	7,249,562	7,467,049	7,691,061	7,921,792
Materials & Contracts	11,445,937	11,674,856	11,908,353	12,146,520	12,389,450
Elected Member Allowances	415,040	415,040	415,040	415,040	415,040
Elected Member Expenses	165,625	165,625	165,625	165,625	165,625
Council Committee Allowances	25,000	56,100	57,222	58,366	59,534
Council Committee Costs	38,000	8,160	8,323	8,490	8,659
Depreciation, Amortisation & Impairment	6,125,782	6,488,298	6,541,918	6,912,756	7,291,012
Interest Expenses	64,000	156,353	238,645	243,418	248,286
Other Expenses	70,000	71,400	72,828	74,285	75,770
Finance Costs - Unwinding of WMF Discounting	629,865	664,603	692,849	711,902	731,480
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURE	26,017,659	26,949,997	27,567,852	28,427,462	29,306,649
BUDGETED OPERATING SURPLUS / DEFICIT	(6,099,950)	(7,325,572)	(7,078,980)	(7,034,612)	(6,968,422)

ANNUAL BUDGET OPERATING POSITION - DRAFT 2026-2027

ANNUAL BUDGET INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT



ANNUAL BUDGET OPERATING POSITION	DRAFT BUDGET 2026-2027 \$	FORECAST 2027-2028 \$	FORECAST 2028-2029 \$	FORECAST 2029-2030 \$	FORECAST 2030-2031 \$
BUDGETED OPERATING SURPLUS / DEFICIT	(6,099,950)	(7,325,572)	(7,078,980)	(7,034,612)	(6,968,422)
less Non-Cash Income	-	-	-	-	-
Add Back Non-Cash Expenses	6,125,782	7,152,901	7,234,767	7,624,658	8,022,492
TOTAL NON-CASH ITEMS	6,125,782	7,152,901	7,234,767	7,624,658	8,022,492
Less ADDITIONAL OUTFLOWS					
Capital Expenditure	5,952,530	2,420,177	1,486,029	1,445,817	991,709
Borrowing Repayments (Principal Only)	-	250,000	333,333	333,333	333,333
Transfers to Reserves	-	-	-	200,000	635,000
Other Outflows - Repayments	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL ADDITIONAL OUTFLOWS	5,952,530	2,670,177	1,819,362	1,979,150	1,960,042
Add ADDITIONAL INFLOWS					
Capital Grants Income	1,711,000	1,090,177	635,029	743,797	288,649
Prior Year Carry Forward Tied Funding	30,000	-	-	-	-
Other Inflow of Funds	-	45,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
Drawdown of Borrowings	3,000,000	-	-	-	-
Transfers from Reserves	1,241,530	1,707,671	127,546	595,307	632,324
TOTAL ADDITIONAL INFLOWS	5,982,530	2,842,848	812,575	1,389,104	970,973
NET BUDGETED OPERATING POSITION	55,832	-	-	-	65,000

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE AND FUNDING BUDGET - DRAFT 2026-2027

BY CLASS OF INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

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

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

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION - DRAFT 2026-2027

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

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

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

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

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



STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW - DRAFT 2026-2027

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

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

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

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



PLANNED MAJOR CAPITAL WORKS

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





100 YEARS



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

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



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



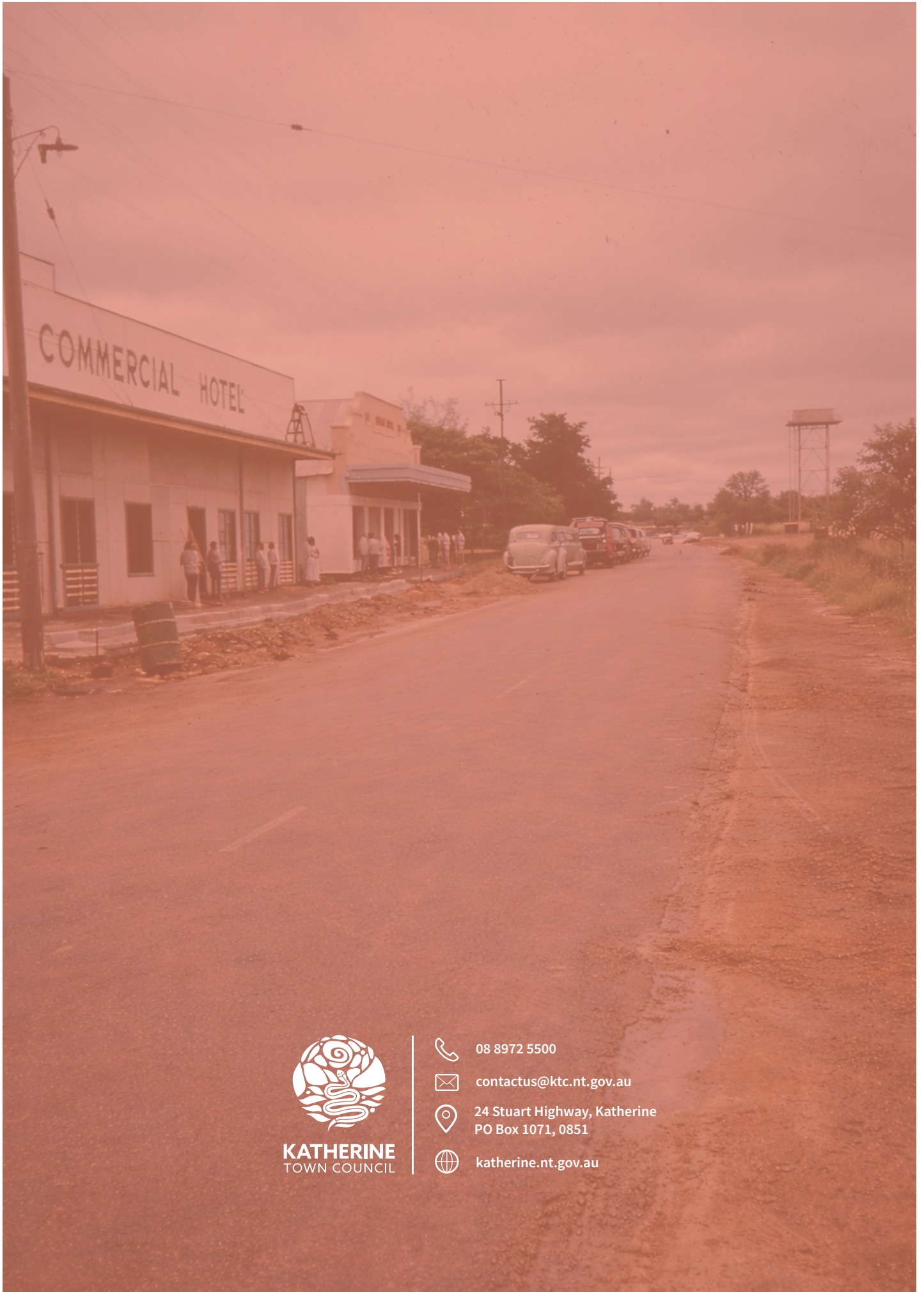
KATHERINE TOWN COUNCIL IS RESPONSIBLE FOR SERVICES AND INFRASTRUCTURE THAT KEEP THE TOWN RUNNING.

AGENDA - Special Meeting of Council | 26 June 2026



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





KATHERINE
TOWN COUNCIL



08 8972 5500



contactus@ktc.nt.gov.au



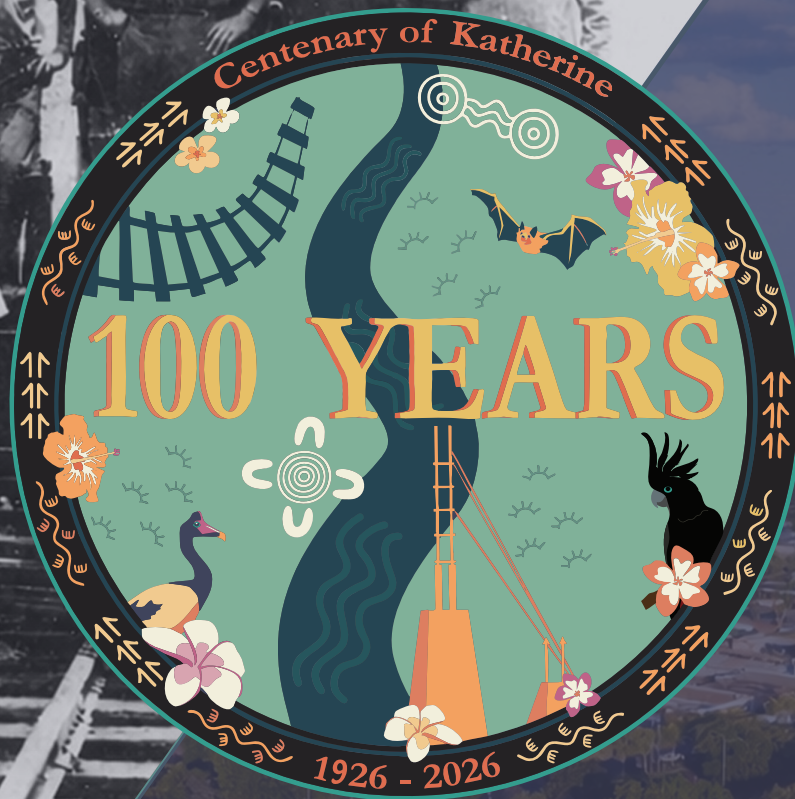
24 Stuart Highway, Katherine
PO Box 1071, 0851



katherine.nt.gov.au



KATHERINE
TOWN COUNCIL



DRAFT
KATHERINE TOWN COUNCIL
Fees and Charges
2026/2027



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

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

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



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FACILITY HIRE

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

General hire terms

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

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

Additional hire days will incur additional charges.

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

Non – Commercial

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

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

Commercial group

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

Short-term hire (Community groups only)

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

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

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

Long-term hire (Community groups only)

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

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

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

Key and facility deposits

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

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

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

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

Administration fee

An administration fee of \$25.00 per occasion will be incurred if any alterations are made after the hirer has accepted the facility hire quote and the booking confirmation has been sent. This includes cancellations or alterations to the hire.

Damage and cost recovery

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

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

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

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

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

Events with alcohol

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

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

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

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

Equipment hire

Use of Council equipment is subject to the following conditions:

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

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

Electric vehicle charging

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

Graffiti kits

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

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

Indemnity

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

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

Minimum cover \$10,000,000.

Meeting rooms

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

Lindsay Street Complex

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

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

Town Square

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



Broadcasting events

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

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

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

Showgrounds

- Parking within Council grounds is not permitted without prior written approval from Council.
- Some facility lighting operates on a token system. Tokens are available for purchase at the Civic Centre for **\$5.70** each. As token systems may vary between sites, Council will provide specific operating instructions upon request.
- If Council determines that a particular hire presents a higher risk of damage to a facility, it reserves the right to increase the required deposit amount at its discretion.

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



Sportsground

Parking within Council grounds is not permitted without prior written approval from Council. Some facility lighting operates on a token system. Tokens are available for purchase at the Civic Centre for \$5.70 each. As token systems may vary between sites, Council will provide specific operating instructions upon request.

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

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

Sportsground office spaces

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

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

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

Camping at the Showgrounds

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

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

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

Children under 12 free

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



Parks and reserves

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

Hirers should note that parks and reserves cannot be hired exclusively, as these are public spaces. All equipment set up within the park must be dismantled and removed at the conclusion of the hire period. If Council assesses a higher risk of damage to its facilities, it reserves the right to increase the required deposit.

Appendix 1 – Available Parks and Reserves.

Exercise class permits

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

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

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

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

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

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



ADMINISTRATION

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

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

Other laminating (Library Only) See Library Page 23

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

Rates administration

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

Freedom of information

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

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

Availability

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

Access

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

Amendment

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

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

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

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

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

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Katherine Town Council
PO Box 1071 KATHERINE NT 0850
email: records@kctc.nt.gov.au

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

COMMERCIAL WASTE CHARGES

Description	2026/2027	Unit	Comments	GST
General commercial disposal	\$160.35	Per tonne	General waste mixed	Yes
Building timber	\$79.30	Per tonne	General commercial separated	Yes
Steel degas A	\$79.30	Per tonne	General commercial separated	Yes
Concrete	\$79.30	Per tonne	General commercial separated	Yes
Green waste	\$64.10	Per tonne	General commercial separated	Yes
Mattress	\$48.05	Per mattress	General commercial separated	Yes
Glass	\$79.30	Per tonne	General commercial separated	Yes
Rocks	\$79.30	Per tonne	General commercial separated	Yes
Couch	\$48.05	Per couch	General commercial separated	Yes
Scrap metal	\$79.30	Per tonne	General commercial separated	Yes
Tyres - whole	\$1,280.50	Per tonne	Tyres	Yes
Tyres - shredded	\$1,280.50	Per tonne	Tyres	Yes
Bicycle	\$8.50	Per tyre	Tyres	Yes
Quadbike	\$19.20	Per tyre	Tyres	Yes
Motorbike	\$23.50	Per tyre	Tyres	Yes
Passenger	\$36.25	Per tyre	Tyres	Yes
4WD/LT	\$40.55	Per tyre	Tyres	Yes
Truck	\$58.70	Per tyre	Tyres	Yes
Tractor	\$69.35	Per tyre	Tyres	Yes
Tyres with rims + applicable tyre charge	\$44.10	Per tyre	Tyres	Yes
Large animal	\$192.30	Per animal	Disposal of animal carcasses	Yes
Small animal	\$126.85	Per animal	Disposal of animal carcasses	Yes
Subsequent small animal	\$15.90	Per animal	Disposal of animal carcasses	Yes
Operator/machinery hire to bury/move/destroy waste at facility	\$282.00	Per hour	Disposal of animal carcasses	Yes
Degassed	Free	Per item	Fridge, freezers and airconditioners	Yes
With gas or no documentation	\$76.90	Per item	Fridge, freezers and airconditioners	Yes
Gas bottles/Fire extinguishers	\$64.10	Per item		Yes
Drum muster	Free	Per item		No
Car batteries	Free	Per item		No
E-Waste	Free	Per item		Yes
Clean fill (proof of testing required)	Free	Per tonne		Yes
Fee for Service – Kerbside 240L	\$466.00	Per year	Existing services	Yes
Disposal application	Free	Per application	Asbestos	Yes
Asbestos Disposal	\$641.00	Per tonne	Asbestos	No

Proof of degassing is a certificate from a qualified tradesperson.

Minimum Charges of 1 tonne per application.

DOMESTIC WASTE CHARGES

Description	2026/2027	Unit	Comments	GST
General domestic disposal	Free	Per tonne	General waste mixed	No
Building timber	\$79.30	Per tonne	Domestic disposal separated	Yes
Concrete	\$79.30	Per tonne	Domestic disposal separated	Yes
Green waste	Free	Per tonne	Domestic disposal separated	No
Mattress	\$48.05	Per mattress	Domestic disposal separated	Yes
Glass	\$79.30	Per tonne	Domestic disposal separated	Yes
Rocks	\$79.30	Per tonne	Domestic disposal separated	Yes
Couch	\$48.05	Per couch	Domestic disposal separated	Yes
Scrap metal	Free	Per tonne	Domestic disposal separated	No
Tyres - whole	\$1,280.50	Per tonne	Tyres	Yes
Tyres - shredded	\$1,280.50	Per tonne	Tyres	Yes
Bicycle	\$8.50	Per tyre	Tyres	Yes
Quadbike	\$19.20	Per tyre	Tyres	Yes
Motorbike	\$23.50	Per tyre	Tyres	Yes
Passenger	\$36.25	Per tyre	Tyres	Yes
4WD/LT	\$40.55	Per tyre	Tyres	Yes
Truck	\$58.65	Per tyre	Tyres	Yes
Tractor	\$69.35	Per tyre	Tyres	Yes
Tyres with rims + applicable tyre charge	\$44.10	Per tyre	Tyres	Yes
Large animal	Free	Per animal	Disposal of animal carcasses	No
Small animal	Free	Per animal	Disposal of animal carcasses	No
Subsequent small animal	Free	Per animal	Disposal of animal carcasses	No
Operator/machinery hire to bury/move/destroy waste at facility	\$282.00	Per hour	Disposal of animal carcasses	Yes
Degassed	Free	Per item	Fridge, freezers and airconditioners	Yes
With gas or no documentation	\$76.90	Per item	Fridge, freezers and airconditioners	Yes
Gas bottles/Fire extinguishers	\$64.10	Per item	Fridge, freezers and airconditioners	Yes
Drum muster	Free	Per item	Fridge, freezers and airconditioners	No
Car batteries	Free	Per item	Fridge, freezers and airconditioners	No
E-Waste	Free	Per item	Fridge, freezers and airconditioners	Yes
Clean fill (proof of testing required)	Free	Per tonne	Fridge, freezers and airconditioners	Yes
240L Wheelie Bin and Kerb Collection	\$466.00	Per bin Per annum	Fridge, freezers and airconditioners	No
Disposal application	Free	Per application	Asbestos	No
Asbestos Disposal	\$641.00	Per tonne	Asbestos	Yes

Proof of degassing is a certificate from a qualified tradesperson.

Minimum Charges of 1 tonne per application.



KATHERINE CIVIL AIRPORT

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

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

Description	2026/2027	Unit	Comments	GST
Aircraft management fees	\$31.80	Per tonne / per event	Landing fee	Yes
Aircraft management fees	\$13.00	Per day	Parking fee – overnight to 7 days	Yes
Aircraft management fees	\$227.70	Per month	Parking fee – longer than 7 days	Yes
Aircraft management fees	\$7.40	Per tonne/ Per day	Additional parking fee – aircraft over 5.7 tonne	Yes
Ground handling fee	\$304.45	Per hour	Monday – Friday, 8am – 4.36pm	Yes
Ground handling fee	\$362.10	Per hour	Weekends, public holidays, out of business hours	Yes
Ground handling fee	\$641.00	Per event	Spillages clean up charge	Yes
Ground handling fee	\$321.15	Per event	Luggage handling	Yes
Ground handling fee	\$128.20	Per event	Passenger aid (e.g. assist disabled, provide transport, crowd control)	Yes
Ground handling fee	\$320.45	Per event	Other as negotiated	Yes
Airport management fees	Invoice	Per event	Cleaning and repairs	Yes
Airport management fees	\$84.50	Per event	Administration of cleaning and repairs	Yes
Tenancy fees	\$12.80	Per m2 per month	Warehouse space (eg Long Term)	Yes
Tenancy fees	\$256.45	Per month	Terminal building - secure counter/ storage space	Yes
Tenancy fees	\$24.10	Per m2 per month	Terminal building - office space	Yes
Tenancy fees	\$64.15	per month	Terminal building - use of baggage handling area	Yes
Tenancy fees	\$1.75	Per m2 per month	Site for private buildings (offices, hangars, fuel depots, storage)	Yes
Tenancy fees	\$102.60	Per month	Site for vending machines	Yes
Tenancy fees	\$12.80	Per m2 per month	Site for advertising	Yes
Tenancy fees	\$16.55	Per day	Reserved car park	Yes
Tenancy fees	\$132.35	Per month	Reserved car park – monthly	Yes

ANIMAL MANAGEMENT & REGULATORY SERVICES

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

www.katherine.nt.gov.au

Pound operating hours 8.00am – 4.00pm

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

Dog registration

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Dog registration

The following are acceptable to approve refund:

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

Dog licence (More than 2 dogs)

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

Dog trial or adoption

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

Surrender of dogs to the pound

A declaration form and proof of ownership must be signed by the owner(s) and a fee of \$262.85 is levied to assist in covering the cost. Council will only accept dogs of good health and wellbeing, dogs that are whelping or pregnant will not be accepted. No dog shall be housed for more than four working days. Concluding this period, if the dog is not rehoused, the dog shall be euthanised.

Use of the pound by approved animal welfare organisations

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

Pound / Impound fees

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

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

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

Hire dog and cat traps

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

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

Citronella barking collars

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

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

Shopping trolley - Release fee

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

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

Impounding of vehicles

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

Vacant land

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

Description	2025/2026	Unit	Comments	GST
Vacant land	At Cost plus administrative fee	Per occasion	Maintenance of land (mowing, rubbish removal etc.)	Yes
Vacant land	\$92.65	Per occasion	Administrative fee	Yes



PERMITS

Display goods in a public place / handbill permit

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

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

Mobile & fixed food vendors

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

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

Permits will be subject to the following conditions:

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

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

Busking

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

Permits are subject to the following conditions:

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

Sidewalk cafes

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

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

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

SIGNS

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

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

Banners

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

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

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

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

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

Road opening/closing

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

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



CEMETERY



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

Graves and plaques

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

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

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

Cremated remains

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

Flower and ornament guidelines

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

Cemetery fees

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

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

KATHERINE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Description	2026/2027	Unit	Comments	GST
Strategic plan, municipal plan, annual report, agendas, minutes and policies.	Free	Document	Electronic copy	Yes
Strategic plan, municipal plan, annual report, agendas, minutes and policies.	\$20.50	Document	Hard copy (black and white)	Yes
By-laws	Free	Document	Electronic copy	Yes
By-laws	\$20.50	Document	Hard copy (black and white)	Yes
Binding	\$8.15	Small per document	Up to 50 pages	Yes
Binding	\$14.90	Large per document	Over to 50 pages	Yes
Laminating	\$3.30	Per page	A4 pages	Yes
Laminating	\$7.15	Per page	A4 pages	Yes
Photocopying	\$0.50	Per side	A4 black	Yes
Photocopying	\$0.60	Per side	A3 black	Yes
Photocopying	\$0.60	Per side	A4 Colour	Yes
Photocopying	\$2.40	Per side	A3 Colour	Yes
Facsimile	\$2.55	Per document	Outgoing	Yes
Facsimile	Free	Per document	Incoming	Yes
Scanning	\$2.55	Per document	Colour	Yes

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

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



APPENDIX ONE

Civic Centre and miscellaneous:

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

Showgrounds:

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

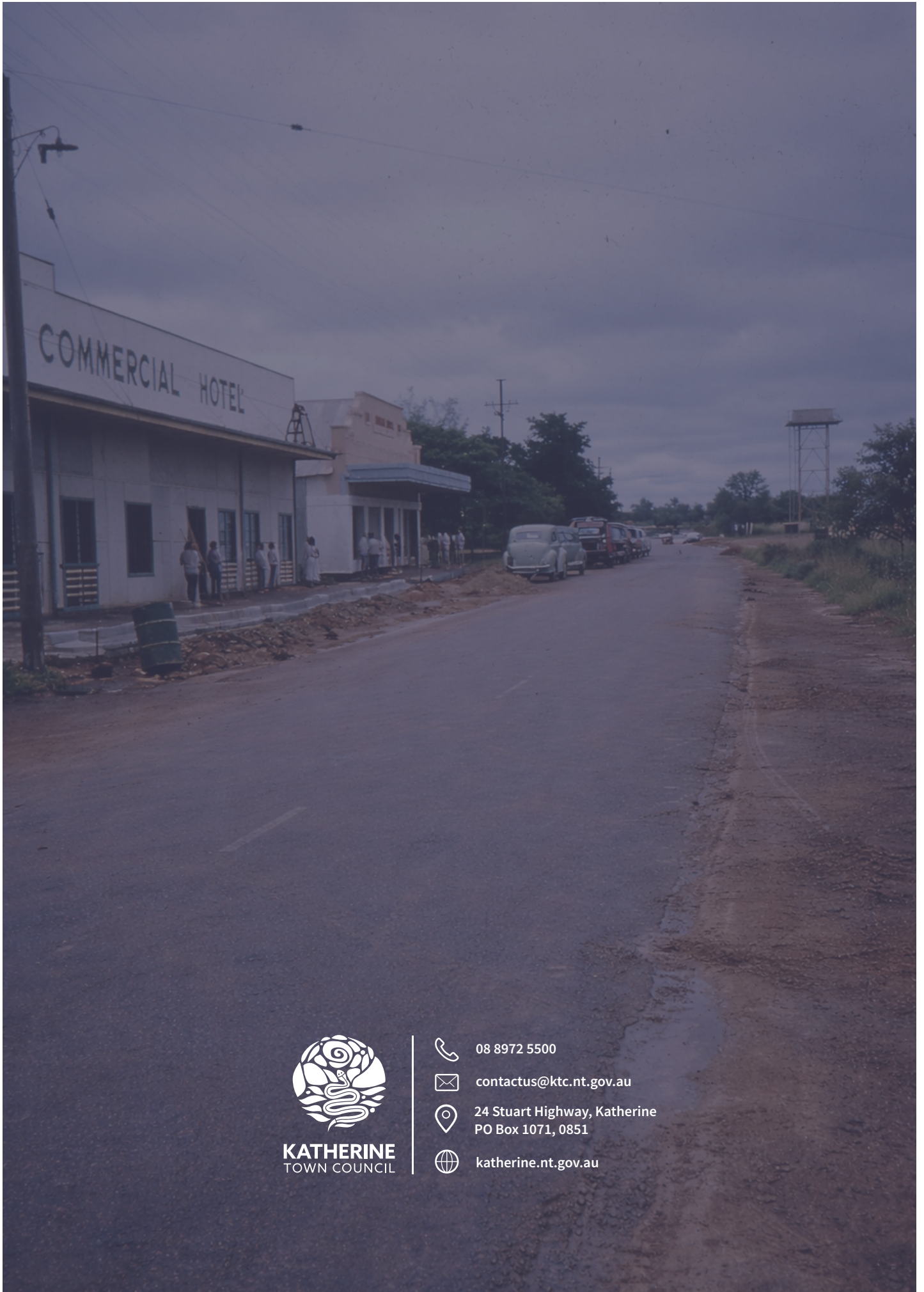
Sportsgrounds:

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

Parks and reserves:

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





KATHERINE
TOWN COUNCIL



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KATHERINE
TOWN COUNCIL



SNAPSHOT MUNICIPAL PLAN 2026–2027

ABOUT THIS PLAN

The Draft Municipal Plan 2026/27 outlines the services, projects and priorities Katherine Town Council will deliver over the coming year. It focuses on maintaining essential services, investing in community infrastructure and ensuring Council remains financially sustainable.

This is the first Municipal Plan developed by the newly elected Council and reflects feedback from the community gathered through consultations on Council projects and services.



WHAT THE COMMUNITY TOLD US

THE COMMUNITY TOLD US THEY WANT COUNCIL TO FOCUS ON GETTING THE BASICS RIGHT.

Key priorities included:

- Well-maintained roads and drainage
- Reliable waste services
- Safe and attractive parks and public spaces
- Community facilities that are practical and accessible
- Activities and spaces that bring people together
- Clear and honest communication from Council

This Draft Municipal Plan has been developed with these priorities in mind.



OUR FOCUS FOR 2026/27

THIS YEAR COUNCIL IS FOCUSED ON:

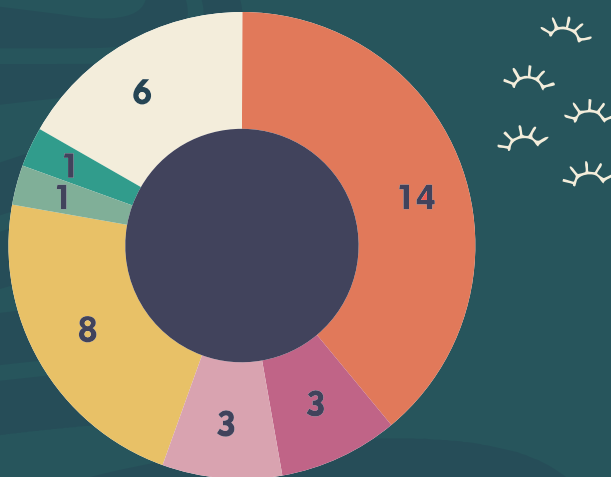
- Delivering core services efficiently
- Maintaining and improving community assets
- Investing in priority infrastructure projects
- Supporting a connected and inclusive community
- Managing public funds responsibly
- Planning for Katherine’s long-term future

DELIVERABLES BY STRATEGIC PRIORITY

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

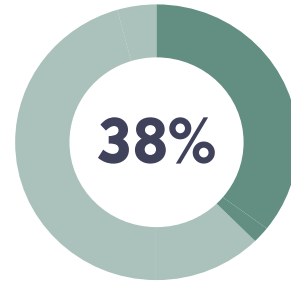
They show how this year’s deliverables are distributed across the Strategic Plan priorities and how they are funded through a mix of the operational budget, capital investment, and external funding.

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

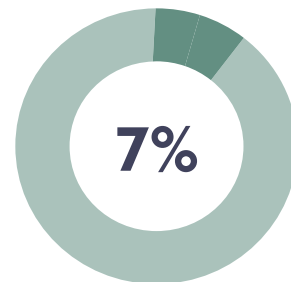


- STRONG LEADERSHIP
- COMMUNITY AND FAMILIES
- SPORTS AND CIVIC EVENTS
- GROWTH AND SUSTAINABILITY
- ARTS, CULTURE AND HERITAGE
- BIG RIVERS INTER-GOVERNMENT COLLABORATION
- ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

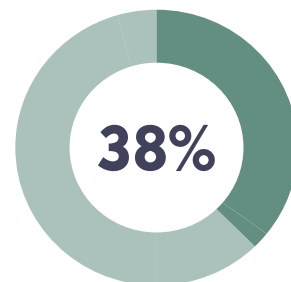
DELIVERABLES BY FUNDING SOURCE



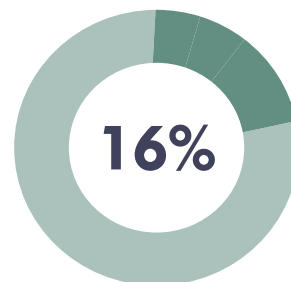
GRANT-ONLY FUNDING



CO-CONTRIBUTION



CAPEX BUDGET



OPERATING BUDGET

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

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



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

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

HIGHLIGHTED PROJECTS

SAFE COMMUNITY
SUBJECT TO GRANT FUNDING
Hot springs toilet upgrades to improve community access and comfort.

KATHERINE'S NATURAL BEAUTY
SUBJECT TO GRANT FUNDING
Cooling the Town Square initiatives including a permanent shade structure

HIGHLIGHT PROJECTS SUBJECT TO GRANT FUNDING



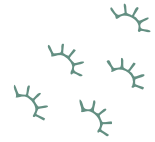
STRONG LEADERSHIP
Service Level Delivery Assessment

STRONG LEADERSHIP
Cemetery infrastructure improvements

BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY
Waste Management Strategy

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY
Native Plant Giveaway event



RATES, WASTE CHARGES AND FEES

COUNCIL HAS WORKED TO BALANCE RISING COSTS WITH AFFORDABILITY FOR RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES.

FOR 2026/27:

- General rates will increase by an average of 4.8%. For most households, this equates to a median annual increase of \$159 for residential, \$96 for central business and \$75 for rural zoned properties.
- Waste charges will increase by 5.9%. The full waste management charge increase of \$26.00 equates to an increase of approximately \$0.50 per week. For properties where Council is unable to provide a regular weekly kerbside collection service, an increase of \$25.00 equating to approximately \$0.29 more per week.
- Fees and charges will increase by 3.3%

These increases help ensure Council can continue to provide essential services, maintain community facilities and invest in infrastructure while remaining financially sustainable.

YOUR MONEY AT WORK

COUNCIL'S BUDGET FUNDS A WIDE RANGE OF SERVICES AND FACILITIES THAT SUPPORT EVERYDAY LIFE IN KATHERINE, INCLUDING:

- Roads, footpaths and drainage
- Parks, playgrounds and public spaces
- Waste management services
- Community facilities and recreation
- Libraries and community programs
- Planning and infrastructure projects

Have your say on the Draft Municipal Plan 2026/27 by visiting Your Say Katherine's website.



yoursaykatherine.com.au

6.3 YOUTH OFFENDER ACTIVITIES PROJECT

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

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To seek Council approval for the Mayor, Joanna Holden, to actively advocate to Ministers, government bodies, businesses, and other stakeholders to secure funding and support for a series of short-term activities designed to engage young offenders and interrupt the cycle of offending.

To seek Council approval for the Mayor, Joanna Holden, and Acting CEO, Casey Anderson, to facilitate and support the process of obtaining funding for Brother to Another, which will subcontract Jeremy Donovan of Native Artz to deliver these activities in Katherine.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council approve the Mayor, Joanna Holden, to advocate to Ministers, government agencies, businesses, and other organisations to secure funding for the delivery of a short-term series of activities designed to interrupt the cycle of youth offending in Katherine.
 2. That Council approve the Mayor, Joanna Holden, and Acting CEO, Casey Anderson, to facilitate funding for the delivery of these activities through Brother to Another, with a subcontracting arrangement to Jeremy Donovan, Native Artz, subject to satisfactory reference checks.
-

DISCUSSION, OPTIONS AND ANALYSIS

On Monday, 22 June 2026, Council representatives, together with local Indigenous youth service providers, met with Mr Adrian McCann, CEO of Kununurra Waringarri Aboriginal Corporation (KWAC), and Mr Jeremy Donovan of Native Artz. Both have been involved in the development of the Kununurra Youth Night Space Co-Design initiative.

Kununurra experienced a similar escalation in youth crime during September and October 2025. Mr McCann and Mr Donovan outlined the approach taken by KWAC, in partnership with Native Artz, to address this issue. This included the delivery of targeted activities known as "Circuit Breakers" (distinct from the Northern Territory Government program).

Circuit Breaker activities are short-term, high-impact interventions designed to interrupt the cycle of offending, with a focus on engaging young people and connecting them to support services. These activities specifically target identified offender groups.

The program is delivered on weekend nights between 11:00 pm and 4:00 am and is designed to be highly engaging and impactful. Activities are facilitated by 6 to 8 youth workers and delivered across multiple locations. Examples include structured activities such as late-night football accompanied by meals.

On the night of 22 June 2026, Mr McCann and Mr Donovan engaged directly with young people in Katherine. They presented their findings and observations to Council representatives at a meeting on 23 June 2026.

Based on their engagement with local youth, as well as discussions with community members experienced in youth engagement and service delivery, Mr McCann and Mr Donovan advised that the Circuit Breaker



model is likely to be effective in Katherine.

To implement this program locally, external funding would need to be secured. There is strong community confidence that 6 to 8 suitably qualified youth workers could be sourced within Katherine. The estimated cost to deliver two nights of activities is approximately \$40,000.

Brother to Another is a not-for-profit organisation with experience in delivering youth services and has the capacity to oversee program management. Native Artz has successfully delivered similar programs in Kununurra and has existing relationships with youth workers, positioning them well to deliver the activities in Katherine.

Advice from Mr McCann and Mr Donovan is that Council, through the Mayor, should leverage the current heightened awareness and community focus to advocate for funding and support. This includes engaging with the Federal Member, Senators, Ministers, government agencies, businesses, and non-government organisations.

It is proposed that any secured funding be provided directly to Brother to Another, which would then engage Native Artz to undertake on-the-ground delivery. Council would not be directly involved in program delivery.

These activities would act as an immediate “circuit breaker,” providing short-term relief for the community while longer-term initiatives, such as the establishment of a Youth Night Space and improved coordination among youth service providers, are progressed.

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 will be a minor resource impact on Council associated with officer time and administrative support to facilitate advocacy activities, assist in the establishment of the delivery framework, and support coordination and facilitation efforts.

Risk, Legal and Legislative Implications

Nil

Environment Sustainability Implications

Nil



7 CLOSURE OF MEETING TO THE 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.

8 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

9 RESUMPTION OF OPEN MEETING

10 CLOSURE OF THE MEETING