



# **AGENDA**

## **BESWICK LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING**

### **MONDAY, 9 JANUARY 2023**

Notice is given that the next Beswick Local Authority Meeting of the Roper Gulf Regional Council will be held on:

Monday, 9 January 2023 at 10:00am  
The Conference Room Council Service Delivery Centre, Beswick  
Or  
Via Video/Teleconferencing  
ID #: (03) 9260 6977  
Pin: 7830

Your attendance at the meeting will be appreciated.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marc Gardner", is positioned above the name and title of the Chief Executive Officer.

**Marc GARDNER**  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

**BESWICK CURRENT MEMBERSHIP:****Elected Members**

1. Councillor Selina ASHLEY.

**Appointed Members**

1. Raelene BULUMBARA;
2. Trepina BUSH;
3. Eddie KENNEDY;
4. Anne-Marie THOMPSON-KENNY;
5. Brett CAMERON; and
6. Anne-Marie RYAN.

**MEMBERS:** 7

**COUNCIL:** 1

**LOCAL AUTHORITY:** 6

**QUORUM:** 5 (minimum requirement)

**PROVISIONAL:** 2 (minimum requirement)

**EXPLANATORY NOTE:**

Meetings must meet a quorum of 50% + 1 of all Members.

If no quorum is achieved, a provisional meeting can be held in one third of the total members (elected members and appointed members) are present.

During a provisional meeting, all agenda items may be discussed, and minutes must be kept.

Members at a provisional meeting may by majority vote make recommendations to Council. However, the recommendations shall be considered as those of a provisional meeting rather than a quorum meeting of the Local Authority.

A provisional meeting does not have the power or functions delegated to a Local Authority and cannot approve minutes of a Local Authority meeting.

Local Authority appointed members are paid for attending meetings (not for informal meetings or Roper Gulf Regional Council Employees during their hours of work).

## PLEDGE

“We pledge to work as one towards a better future through effective use of all resources.

We have identified these key values and principles of Honesty, Equality, Accountability, Respect and Trust as being integral in the achievement of our vision, that the Roper Gulf Regional Council is Sustainable, Viable and Vibrant.”

## PRAMIS BLA WI

“Mela pramis bla wek gudbalawei bla meigim futja bla wi wanwei, en bla yusim ola gudwan ting bla helpum wi luk lida.

Mela bin luk ol dijlod rul, ebrobodi gada tok trubalawei, wi gada meik so wi gibit firgo en lisin misalp, abum rispek en trastim misalp bla jinggabat bla luk lida, Roper Galf Rijinul Kaunsul deya maindim en kipbum bla wi pramis, dum wek brabli gudbalawei, en im laibliwan.”



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**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

---

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>PAGE NO</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>PRESENT MEMBERS/STAFF/GUESTS</b>	
<b>2</b>	<b>MEETING OPENED</b>	
<b>3</b>	<b>WELCOME TO COUNTRY</b>	
<b>4</b>	<b>APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE</b>	
<b>5</b>	<b>QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC</b>	
<b>6</b>	<b>DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST</b>	
<b>7</b>	<b>CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES</b>	
7.1	Beswick Local Authority Meeting Previous Minutes .....	6
<b>8</b>	<b>BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES</b>	
8.1	Action List .....	11
<b>9</b>	<b>CALL FOR ITEMS OF OTHER BUSINESS</b>	
<b>10</b>	<b>INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE</b>	
	Nil.	
<b>11</b>	<b>OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE</b>	
	Nil.	
<b>12</b>	<b>OPERATIONAL REPORTS</b>	
12.1	Re-Election of Chairperson .....	13
12.2	Local Authority Review Report .....	14
12.3	Council Financial Report for the period 01.07.2022 - 30.11.2022.....	22
<b>13</b>	<b>GENERAL BUSINESS</b>	
13.1	Beswick Local Authority Projects Update.....	28
13.2	Local Authority Member Attendance Report .....	30
13.3	Elected Member Report.....	31
13.4	Council Services Report.....	34
<b>14</b>	<b>OTHER BUSINESS</b>	
	Nil.	
<b>15</b>	<b>CLOSE OF MEETING</b>	

## **CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

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<b>ITEM NUMBER</b>	7.1
<b>TITLE</b>	Beswick Local Authority Meeting Previous Minutes
<b>REFERENCE</b>	1313899
<b>AUTHOR</b>	Chloe IRLAM, Governance Engagement Coordinator

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the Beswick Local Authority confirms the minutes from the meeting held on 03 November 2022 and affirms them to be a true and accurate record of the meetings decisions and proceedings.

### **KEY OUTCOME AREA**

Governance: Increase the effectiveness and efficiency of the organisation, including in engagement with staff members, residents and external stakeholders.

### **BACKGROUND**

The Beswick Local Authority met with a **QUORUM** on Thursday, 03 November 2022. Attached are the recorded minutes from that meeting for the Local Authority to confirm.

### **ISSUES/OPTIONS/SWOT**

The next Beswick Local Authority Meeting is scheduled to be held on 03 April 2023.

### **FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

Nil.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

- 1 BES\_03112022\_MIN\_SAVED.pdf



MINUTES OF THE ROPER GULF REGIONAL COUNCIL, BESWICK LOCAL  
AUTHORITY MEETING HELD AT THE CONFERENCE ROOM COUNCIL SERVICE  
DELIVERY CENTRE, BESWICK  
ON THURSDAY, 3 NOVEMBER 2022 AT 09:30AM

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**1 PRESENT MEMBERS/STAFF/GUESTS**

**1.1 Members**

- Councillor Selina ASHLEY;
- Raelene BULUMBARA;
- Trepina BUSH;
- Anne-Marie THOMPSON-KENNY (Chairperson); and
- Brett CAMERON (*via teleconference*).

**1.2 Staff**

- David HURST, General Manager Community Services and Engagement;
- Cindy HADDOW, General Manager Corporate Services and Sustainability;
- Andreea CADDY, General Manager Infrastructure; and
- Chloe IRLAM, Governance Engagement Coordinator.

**1.3 Guests**

- William BRIDGEMAN, Department of Chief Minister and Cabinet;
- Melina DAVIDSON, Office of Selena UIBO MLA; and
- Jessie HILLEN, Office of Selena UIBO MLA.

**2 MEETING OPENED**

The Beswick Local Authority Meeting opened at 10:20am with **QUORUM**. The Chairperson welcomed members, staff and guests to the meeting and the Roper Gulf Regional Council Pledge was read.

**3 WELCOME TO COUNTRY**

**4 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

**4.1 APOLOGIES**

BES Q-11/2022

(Raelene BULUMBARA/Selina ASHLEY)

**CARRIED**

That the Beswick Local Authority;

- (a) accepts the tendered apology from Local Authority Member Anne-Marie RYAN and
- (b) notes the absence with no tendered apologies from Local Authority Member Eddie KENNEDY.

**5 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Nil

## 6 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest at this Beswick Local Authority Meeting.

## 7 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

### 7.1 BESWICK LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING PREVIOUS MINUTES

*BES Q-12/2022* (Raelene BULUMBARA/Selina ASHLEY) **CARRIED**

That the Beswick Local Authority confirms the minutes from the meeting held on 17 January 2022 and 19 July 2022, including the confidential minutes, and affirms them to be a true and accurate record of the meetings decisions and proceedings.

## 8 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

### 8.1 ACTION LIST

*BES Q-13/2022* (Raelene BULUMBARA/Trephina BUSH) **CARRIED**

That the Beswick Local Authority receives and notes the Action List.

## 9 CALL FOR ITEMS OF OTHER BUSINESS

Nil.

## 10 INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE

### 10.1 INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE

*BES Q-14/2022* (Brett CAMERON/Trephina BUSH) **CARRIED**

That the Beswick Local Authority notes the incoming correspondence.

## 11 OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE

### 11.1 OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE

*BES Q-15/2022* (Selina ASHLEY/Trephina BUSH) **CARRIED**

That the Beswick Local Authority receives and notes the outgoing correspondence.

## 12 OPERATIONAL REPORTS

Nil.

## 13 GENERAL BUSINESS

### 13.1 ELDERS VISITING PROGRAM

*BES Q-16/2022* (Raelene BULUMBARA/Trephina BUSH) **CARRIED**

That the Beswick Local Authority receives and notes the Elders Visiting Program report.

### 13.2 LOCAL AUTHORITY MEMBER ATTENDANCE REPORT

*BES Q-17/2022* (Trephina BUSH/Selina ASHLEY) **CARRIED**

That the Beswick Local Authority;

- (a) receives and notes the Local Authority Member Attendance;
- (b) requests Governance Engagement Coordinator to follow up the one (1) Vacancy on the Beswick Local Authority; and



- (c) noted the advice provided from the Department of Chief Minister and Cabinet's representative regarding the Local Authorities ability to reduce the total number of members on the Beswick Local Authority.

### 13.3 ELECTED MEMBER REPORT

BES Q-18/2022 (Brett CAMERON/Raelene BULUMBARA) **CARRIED**

That the Beswick Local Authority receives and notes the Elected Member report.

### 13.4 COUNCIL SERVICES REPORT

BES Q-19/2022 (Raelene BULUMBARA/Selina ASHLEY) **CARRIED**

That the Beswick Local Authority receives and notes the Council Services Report.

### 13.5 COUNCIL FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD 01.07.2022 - 31.08.2022

BES Q-20/2022 (Raelene BULUMBARA/Selina ASHLEY) **CARRIED**

That the Beswick Local Authority receives and notes the Council Financial Report for the period July 2022 to August 2022

### 13.6 BESWICK LOCAL AUTHORITY PROJECTS UPDATE

BES Q-21/2022 (Brett CAMERON/Trephina BUSH) **CARRIED**

That the Beswick Local Authority;

- (a) receives and notes the Local Authority Projects Update Report;
- (b) requests a new power meter box for the Beswick Church;
- (c) requests the toilet block be scoped for repairs and maintenance; and
- (d) requests the General Manager of Community Services and Engagement investigate and provide a report back to the Beswick Local Authority regarding Aged Care Services in Roper Gulf Regional Council.

*Local Authority Member Raelene BULUMBARA left the meeting, the time being 11:06 AM*

*Local Authority Member Raelene BULUMBARA returned to the meeting, the time being 11:08 AM*

### 13.7 LA PROJECT FUNDING CERTIFICATION

BES Q-22/2022 (Trephina BUSH/Selina ASHLEY) **CARRIED**

That Local Authority approves the Certification of Local Authority Project Funding Report for 2021-22.

### 13.8 FEDERAL DIRECT ENROLMENT UPDATE - TRIAL FOR PEOPLE LIVING IN REMOTE COMMUNITIES

BES Q-23/2022 (Selina ASHLEY/Raelene BULUMBARA) **CARRIED**

That the Beswick Local Authority receives and notes the Federal Direct Enrolment Update - Trial for People Living in Remote Communities report.

## 14 OTHER BUSINESS

Nil.

**15 CLOSE OF MEETING**

The meeting closed at 11:27 am.

This page and the proceeding pages are the Minutes of the Beswick Local Authority Meeting held on Thursday, 03 November 2022 and confirmed Monday, 09 January 2023.

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Chairperson Anne-Marie THOMPSON-KENNY  
Confirmed on Monday, 09 January 2023.

UNCONFIRMED

## **BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

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<b>ITEM NUMBER</b>	8.1
<b>TITLE</b>	Action List
<b>REFERENCE</b>	1313898
<b>AUTHOR</b>	Chloe IRLAM, Governance Engagement Coordinator

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the Beswick Local Authority receives and notes the Action List.

### **KEY OUTCOME AREA**

Governance: Increase the effectiveness and efficiency of the organisation, including in engagement with staff members, residents and external stakeholders.

### **BACKGROUND**

The Action List is a **non-authoritative** reference document for Business Arising out of Previous Minutes.

### **BESWICK ACTION LIST**

#### **13.6 BESWICK LOCAL AUTHORITY PROJECTS UPDATE**

*BES Q-21/2022*

That the Beswick Local Authority;

- (a) receives and notes the Local Authority Projects Update Report;
- (b) requests a new power meter box for the Beswick Church;
- (c) requests the toilet block be scoped for repairs and maintenance; and
- (d) requests the General Manager of Community Services and Engagement investigate and provide a report back to the Beswick Local Authority regarding Aged Care Services in Roper Gulf Regional Council.

#### **13.8 COUNCIL SERVICES REPORT**

*BES P-1/2022*

That the Beswick Local Authority;

- (a) receives and notes the Council Services Report; and
- (b) requests the Chief Executive Officer write a letter to Power and Water and Telstra regarding the number of power outages and Telstra service interruptions and submit a report back to the 10 October 2022 Beswick Local Authority Meeting.

**ATTACHMENTS**

Nil.

**OPERATIONAL REPORTS**

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<b>ITEM NUMBER</b>	12.1
<b>TITLE</b>	Re-Election of Chairperson
<b>REFERENCE</b>	1314554
<b>AUTHOR</b>	Chloe IRLAM, Governance Engagement Coordinator

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Beswick Local Authority;

- (a) receives and notes the Re-Election of Chairperson report; and
- (b) elects ... as Chairperson for a term of ...

**KEY OUTCOME AREA**

Governance: Increase the effectiveness and efficiency of the organisation, including in engagement with staff members, residents and external stakeholders.

**BACKGROUND**

At the 18 July 2022 Beswick Local Authority Meeting, it was resolved to appoint Local Authority Member Anne-Marie THOMPSON-KENNY as the Chairperson for the period of six (6) months (Term date ends on 18 January 2023).

The Chairperson of the Beswick Local Authority is a position of the Local Authority that requires dedication and a passion to support your community. The Chairperson is entitled to an increased sitting fee amount and will walk the Appointment Members and Public through the Agenda during the Local Authority Meeting.

The Chairperson can be elected for any of the following terms;

1. 3 Months
2. 6 Months
3. 12 Months
4. X Years
5. Elected at the end of every Bulman Local Authority Meeting.

**ISSUES/OPTIONS/SWOT**

The Beswick Local Authority are being asked to nominate a Local Authority Member to be the Chairperson of the Beswick Local Authority.

**FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

Nil.

**ATTACHMENTS**

Nil.

**OPERATIONAL REPORTS**

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<b>ITEM NUMBER</b>	12.2
<b>TITLE</b>	Local Authority Review Report
<b>REFERENCE</b>	1304990
<b>AUTHOR</b>	Marc GARDNER, Chief Executive Officer

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Beswick Local Authority receives and notes the Local Authority Review report.

**KEY OUTCOME AREA**

Governance: Increase the effectiveness and efficiency of the organisation, including in engagement with staff members, residents and external stakeholders.

**BACKGROUND**

In March 2022 Council was provided a copy of the Local Government Desktop Review report which was sent to all regional councils for feedback. Feedback was provided and subsequent discussions took place with CEOs, Elected Members, Local Authority Members and representatives from the Northern Territory Government.

The next draft review report is attached. The document focuses on the core role of Local Authorities, and aims to strip back requirements that might detract from councils' and Local Authority ability to carry out that core role. It also provides flexibility for the Local Authorities to have a broader focus.

As outlined in the reports, Local Authorities were initially established as part of the regional local government structure, to respond to the concerns raised by community members that the creation of regional councils would mean they would lose their voices with local government. They were included in the *Local Government Act 2008*, and their role was strengthened in the 2019 Act. They are part of the regional council structure, and their role is essentially to support their council with two-way communication between their community and the council; to assist their community to have input into the council's planning, prioritisation, service delivery and funding in that community; to advocate for their community with council; recommend (or decide if delegated) where LA project funding should be prioritised, and, in turn, help the council to keep communities informed about planning and services.

Regional councils are encouraged to engage with their Local Authorities in developing feedback. Feedback on the document is to be submitted to the Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet by 20 January 2023.

A representative from the Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet will be invited to present to the Local Authority and provide assistance.

**ISSUES/OPTIONS/SWOT**

For discussion.

**FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

Nil.

**ATTACHMENTS**

- 1 LA Review Report - 12 October 2022 Draft.pdf

# Local Authority Review Report

## 1. Background

Local authorities (LAs) were established in 2014 under section 53B of the former *Local Government Act 2008* (the 2008 Act). LAs were established as a response to concerns from communities that the transition from the former community government councils to regional councils led to a loss of communities' voices in the planning and delivery of council programs and services in their community.

The inclusion of LAs in the structure of regional councils is intended to ensure communities have a say in their regional councils' planning, prioritisation, funding and delivery of services and infrastructure for their community; and the provision of information and feedback to communities about the councils' decisions and activities in that community. The ultimate goal is effective, responsive council services for remote communities.

## 2. Intent of the Legislative Framework

On 1 July 2021, the intent of the 2008 Act was further strengthened when it was replaced with the *Local Government Act 2019* (the 2019 Act). In addition, the previous *Guideline 8: Regional councils and local authorities* (Guideline 8) was replaced by the new *Guideline 1: Local Authorities* (Guideline 1). The provisions in the 2019 Act were in a new chapter entitled Local Decision Making to reinforce the intent and purpose of LAs.

The 2019 Act requires regional councils to seek their LAs' advice and recommendations in relation to the council's budget; their priorities for expenditure; their service delivery; regional plans; strategic directions; and funding. Regional councils must also ensure their strategies and plans are informed by the vision and priorities of the LAs, and must work with their LAs to foster constructive working relationships between the council and community.

The 2019 Act specifically provides for expanded roles for LAs and a mechanism for giving communities a stronger voice in local government matters that affect them. Section 78 defines the functions of a LA:

- to involve local communities more closely in issues related to local government;
- ensure that local communities are given an opportunity to express their opinions on questions affecting local government;
- to allow local communities a voice in the formulation of policies for the locality as well as policies for the area and the region;
- to take the views of local communities back to the council and act as advocates on their behalf;
- to contribute to the development of the regional plan;
- to make recommendations to the council in relation to the council's budget and the part of the council's area within which the LA performs its functions.

Guideline 1 provides how LAs are to operate and be administered by their respective regional councils, including appointments and resignations, meetings, LA member payments and reporting.

## 3. Local Authority Review

In 2021, before the commencement of the 2019 Act, the Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet (CM&C) started a desktop review (Review 1) of how well regional councils and LAs were meeting the intent of the 2008 Act and Guideline 8. The aim of Review 1 was to identify good practice across the NT as well as areas that could be further strengthened, and to determine what actions could be considered to better support the delivery of the intent



## Local Authority Review Report

of LAs given their expanded roles under the 2019 Act. Review 1 focused on the 66 LAs established across the Northern Territory for the period 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020.

Review 1 was informed by the information available on regional councils' websites, information held and observations made by CM&C and some feedback and insights provided by regional councils. The findings and draft recommendations were provided to councils and other stakeholders in early 2022 for comment.

The Review 1 report acknowledged limitations associated with any desktop process. However it provided a platform for more discussion with councils, LA members and others, resulting in the direction outlined in this report.

Review 1 confirmed that there is noticeable diversity in the functioning of LAs and the way councils work with them, with some LAs engaging strongly with their communities and working with their councils to deliver on community priorities and aspirations, and some others struggling to meet or attain quorum to enable recommendations to be made about community priorities. Some LAs, with their councils' support, consider broader matters than council business, acting as a forum and conduit for community engagement in matters including local, Territory and Commonwealth government priorities.

In addition, feedback from councils and LA members has indicated that some of the requirements placed on them by the NT Government, or interpretations of these requirements, are impeding their ability to achieve their core functions.

Feedback on Review 1 included the following:

**Role of LAs:**

- a need for greater recognition, promotion and celebration of the strengths of the LA model and more sharing of examples of LAs and their councils successfully achieving the intent of the Act;
- the need for CM&C, councils and LAs to have a clear and common understanding of the definition and scope of their core functions and requirements;

**Flexibility:**

- the need for flexibility in how LAs and their councils deliver on the core functions (or choose to move beyond the core) to respond to differences between communities, their aspirations and the capacity of LAs;
- providing for flexibility for those communities, LAs and councils who want to have more integrated engagement, not just on local government matters. For example, some communities would like to see a single body coordinating community input into local government and NT Government (or broader) planning, services and prioritisation; while others have indicated a preference that LA members continue to focus on local government and other groups are established or continue to provide input into NT Government and broader matters;
- recognition that some LAs are well established with consistent membership who deliver well-regarded outcomes for their communities and council, and others are less established; and that, over time, LAs may cycle through these stages. This impacts on the levels of support needed from councils for their LAs and the level of autonomy LAs may have, and needs to be accommodated in expectations set by CM&C and required of councils;

**Decision making**

## Local Authority Review Report

- LAs should have as much influence and decision-making power as is appropriate to their stage of development and the delegations of the council; for example, some councils have already delegated decision making in the use of LA Project Funding (LAPF) to their LA, and some have delegated decision making over other community funding. The council is the decision-maker about the level of delegation relevant for their LA/s;

**LA Members:**

- a need for greater role clarity, capacity building and support for LA members and LA chairs;
- the need to revisit whether proxies should be permitted for LA members;

**Administration:**

- CM&C should remove any administrative requirements that detract from the ability of the LA and council to deliver on their core function. This needs to be balanced with good governance and accountable administrative process, reflecting that LAs are involved in the use of public resources and should be respected in their communities as informed, well governed and responsive structures;
- performance reporting should be focused on the intended outcome; ie the demonstration by councils of the engagement of communities through their LAs, and of the council's responsiveness to the advice, input and advocacy of their LA, including through the delivery of agreed community priorities;
- LAs should be able to set their own agendas and conduct their own meetings, while recognising the role of councils in managing administration, building capacity and responding to the varying levels of experience and capacity of members;

**Resourcing/support**

- some LAs and their councils continue to see benefit in having CM&C representatives at meetings at least occasionally, to coordinate responses to questions from community and LAs about NT Government matters, as well as to support engagement with other NT Government agencies;
- LAPF is a valuable resource for LAs and their councils to respond to community priorities. However, some councils struggle to spend these funds in the required time frames. The support role of CM&C is important in helping councils to address any barriers to the timely expenditure of funding on community priorities as determined by the LA and council;
- Accessible information should be provided to enable communities to understand how priorities for the use of LAPF are determined, and where they are spent;
- A need for a review of the LAPF guidelines to ensure their alignment with the core intent of the LAs;
- Any changes to the LA model should avoid requiring additional council resourcing. For example, where communities and their LAs want to have a broader role than council matters, there may need to be negotiation of partnering with NTG or others to share costs.

As a result of feedback and further discussions, the focus of the Review 1 report changed considerably into this report. This report emphasises the intent of the legislative framework for LAs and provides a principles-based direction for how this intent will be strengthened across the diverse councils of regional NT.

This review does not anticipate a change in the 2019 Act in relation to the role of LAs; LAs will remain part of their regional council structure, and continue to be subject to the control and direction of their relevant regional council.

## 4. Principles

## Local Authority Review Report

The following principles have been developed to guide the way in which CM&C, regional councils and LAs will support the effective integration and involvement of communities in the system of local government, as intended in the 2019 Act. An amendment to Guideline 1 will be required to fulfil the aspirations below.

<b>PRINCIPLE: Flexible governance</b>	
<i><b>What does this mean?</b></i>	<p>All LAs have a core role: to enable their community to have a say in their regional councils' planning, prioritisation, budgeting, and service delivery for their community; and to support the provision of regular feedback to their communities about council activities and the achievement of LA priorities.</p> <p>Councils and their LAs, with their communities, will determine how they deliver the role so it is adaptable to different locations, community aspirations, and capacity. CM&amp;C will facilitate the sharing of examples of good practice from LAs across the NT</p>
<i><b>What does this look like?</b></i>	<p>LAs, with their councils, decide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• whether they and their community prefer that the LA focus on council business or take a broader approach with a wider range of community matters. If a broader approach is agreed this may need negotiation of support from CM&amp;C or other partners for non-council activities. Also, if a broader approach is agreed community input should ensure it avoids duplicating other community structures, authority or roles and that the role is understood and supported;</li> <li>• how the LA will conduct meetings and engage with their community;</li> <li>• how the LA will prioritise LAMP funds including how community input will be heard, how priorities will be decided, and how decisions and outcomes will be communicated to the community;</li> <li>• whether delegated decision making will be requested from the council;</li> <li>• the nomination process for LA members, with councils seeking LA and community input into their policy on criteria for selecting LA members;</li> <li>• the number of appointed members up to a maximum of 14;</li> <li>• whether the Mayor/President will be a member of LAs beyond their own ward;</li> <li>• the frequency of LA meetings (minimum four per year, with timing to enable input into, and feedback from, council planning);</li> <li>• the location of LA meetings - they should be held in public places to maximise opportunity for community members to attend; and</li> <li>• whether attendance at meetings via phone/video conference will be allowed.</li> </ul> <p>First LA meetings to recommend to council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• nomination of LA chair;</li> <li>• the kinds of priorities the LA would like to focus on for their community;</li> <li>• how information about meetings and decisions will be publicised. This must be at least on the council website for transparency for community members; and</li> <li>• the use of interpreters</li> </ul>

<b>PRINCIPLE: Community-centred, place based engagement</b>	
<b>What does this mean?</b>	The way the council and LA engage with each other and the community is place-based and adapts to local needs, languages, time frames and cultural protocols to encourage community involvement.
<b>What does this look like?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LAs will recommend to their council the process for community engagement and two-way communication between the council, LA and community</li> <li>• Community engagement is supported by principles of the Remote Engagement and Coordination Strategy</li> <li>• Communication is clear and accessible.</li> <li>• LAs with their councils decide the nature and format of reports to be provided by councils to LAs – brief, diagrammatic reports are enough</li> <li>• LAs and their councils decide how the feedback about priorities is given to the LA and community in a timely way such as through the Council Community Based Manager, local council member or LA chair outside of meetings if needed</li> <li>• Regional councils support their LAs to host at least one community based event each year to support community input into LA priorities, and council planning. These events may be funded through some LAPF. For example, some LAs may hold community barbecues twice per year: to provide input into LA priorities and council plans for their area; and to receive feedback about how the LA and council has responded to that input.</li> <li>• Information is provided by regional councils in LA meeting agenda papers on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Decisions that council has made based on the LA's recommendations and advice</li> <li>○ Council resources and service delivery in the community.</li> <li>○ Progress / status updates on LA project recommendations.</li> <li>○ The amount of funding that is available to the LA for community priorities.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

<b>PRINCIPLE: Empowerment</b>	
<b>What does this mean?</b>	LAs have authority to effectively carry out their core role as intended in the Act.
<b>What does this look like?</b>	<p>Where LAs seek to do so, regional councils consider opportunities for delegation of relevant decisions to LAs consistent with the <i>Local Government Act 2019</i>, including decision making about priorities for LA project funds</p> <p>Councils, with CM&amp;C assistance, provide training and resources to support professional development of LA chairs and members in governance and the LA role; and clearly communicate the role of LAs and regional councils to communities.</p>

PRINCIPLE: Outcome-focused	
<i>What does this mean?</i>	LAs (and communities) can see that their recommendations to the council, based on community engagement, are being acted on; where this is not the case, they are informed of the reason.
<i>What does this look like?</i>	Council annual reports include information that demonstrates how they have engaged with communities via their LA, and the outcomes delivered in response to LA recommendations/decisions.  Compliance activity by CM&C will focus on the intended outcome of LAs

PRINCIPLE: Accountability	
<i>What does this mean?</i>	LAs and their councils continue to demonstrate high standards in governance and the use of public resources
<i>What does this look like?</i>	LAs have opportunities for professional development in governance consistent with their core role through their council and/or with support from CM&C if requested  Decision making is transparent, focused on the best interests of the community as a whole, and conflicts of interest are managed. Information is accessible to community members about meetings, meeting proceedings, and opportunities for participation. Meetings are generally open to community members unless there is a defined need for confidentiality consistent with the provisions in the <i>Local Government Act 2019</i> .

## 5. Examples of Good Practice

To be discussed with, and provided by, regional councils.

## 6. Next Steps

This report will be provided to regional councils and other stakeholders for comment and input. Regional councils are encouraged to engage with their LAs in developing feedback. CM&C is available to assist as needed.

An implementation plan will be drafted for feedback from regional councils and LAs through their respective councils. The implementation plan will be developed through a reference group led by CM&C with the Local Government Association of the NT, and council and LA representatives.

The final LA Review report and Implementation Plan will be provided to the Minister for Local Government for consideration and approval. It is intended that this will be completed within the first quarter of 2023.

The LA Project Fund grant funding guidelines will be reviewed in 2022-23 in consultation with regional councils along with Guideline 1. Any recommendations for changes will then be advised to the Minister for Local Government for consideration for implementation in 2023-24.

**OPERATIONAL REPORTS**



<b>ITEM NUMBER</b>	12.3
<b>TITLE</b>	Council Financial Report for the period 01.07.2022 - 30.11.2022
<b>REFERENCE</b>	1313110
<b>AUTHOR</b>	Manisha CHAMKUR, Financial Accountant

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Beswick Local Authority receives and notes the Council Financial Report for the period July 2022 to November 2022

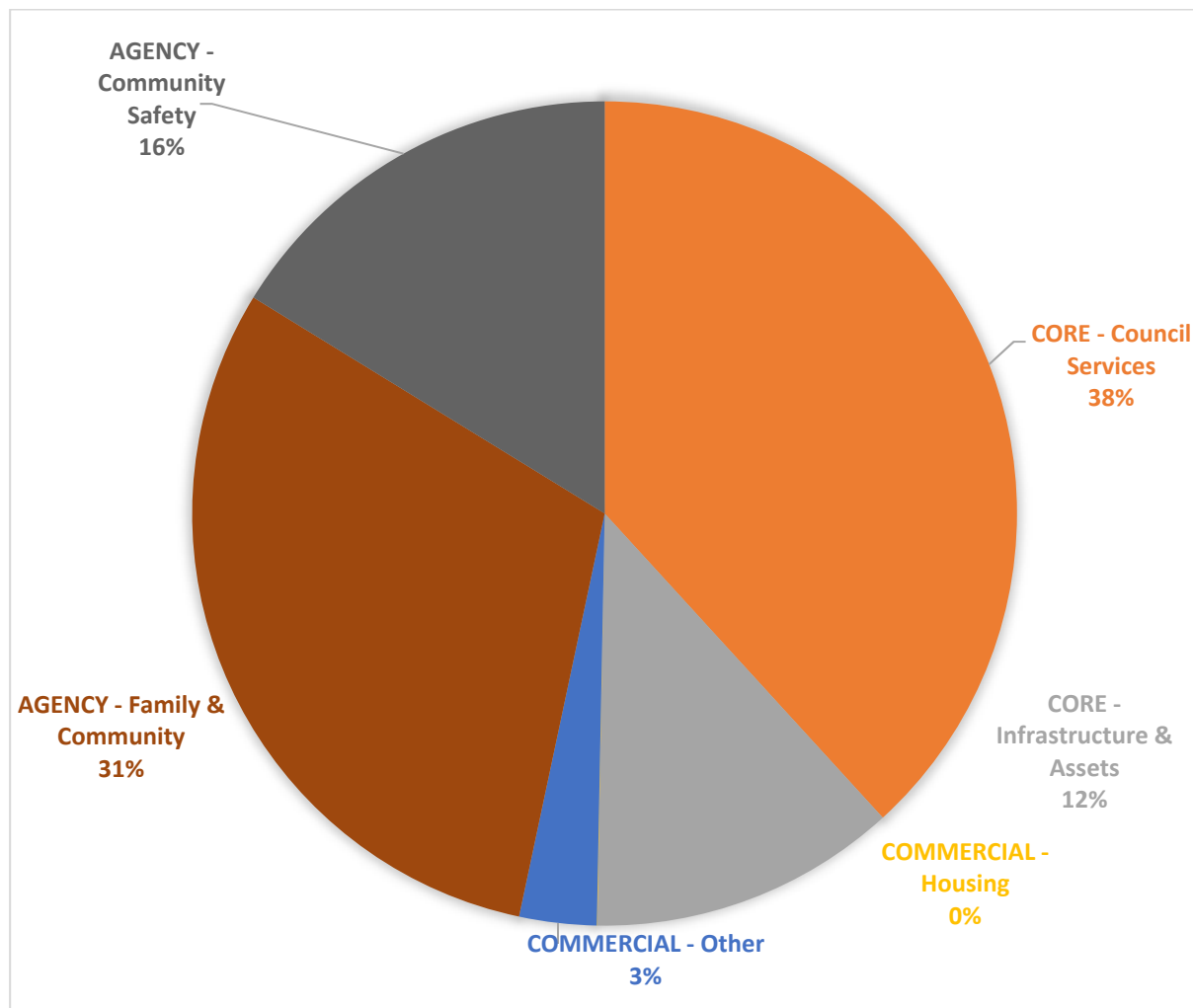
**KEY OUTCOME AREA**

Economic Development: Foster strengthening and growing jobs, industries, and investment attraction.

**BACKGROUND**

As per the *Local Government Act 2019* and its' statutory instruments, the council is to submit a current financial report of actual expenditure against the latest approved budget for the Local Authority area.

The below graph depicts the proportion of accumulated expenditures by service category in the community.



**ISSUES/OPTIONS/SWOT**

There are underspends/overspends in few activities as outlined in the attached expenditure report. The brief explanation for these underspends/overspends for each division is as follow:

**Operating Income:**

Council received \$181,080 in operating income for Beswick which is leading to a variance of \$130,735. The major cause in variance is from Local Authority funding. Due to recently adopted accounting standards, income can only be recognised from tied funds as projects reach further stages of progression.

**Operating Expenditure:**

The total underspend in operating expenditure is \$143,257. The major cause in underspend is from Employee expenses due to staff vacancies and absence and also due to Contract and Materials due to less expenditure incurred for Local Authority Projects and roads maintenance.

**Capital Expenditure:**


The total underspend for capital expenditure is \$184,255. Please see the project register/ fleet management for further detail.

**FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

Nil.

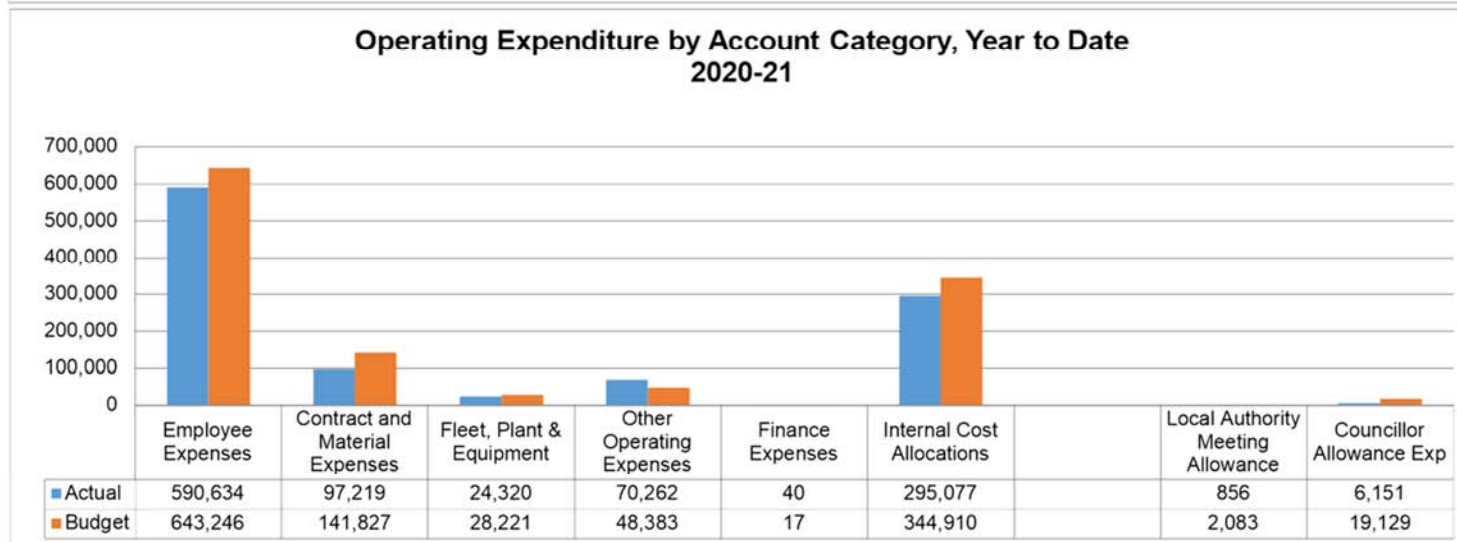
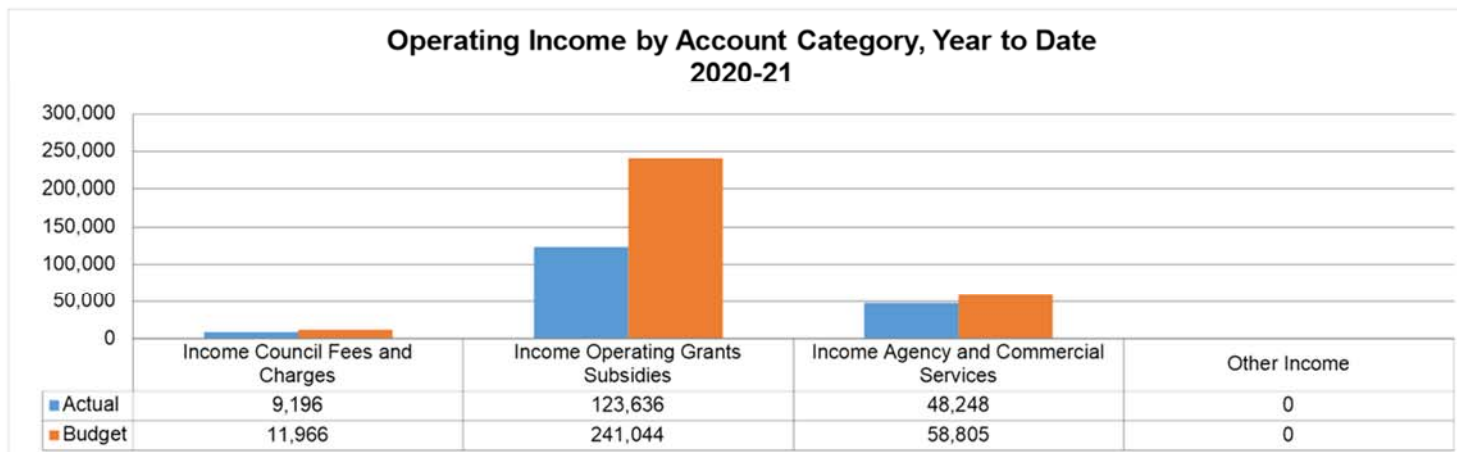
**ATTACHMENTS**

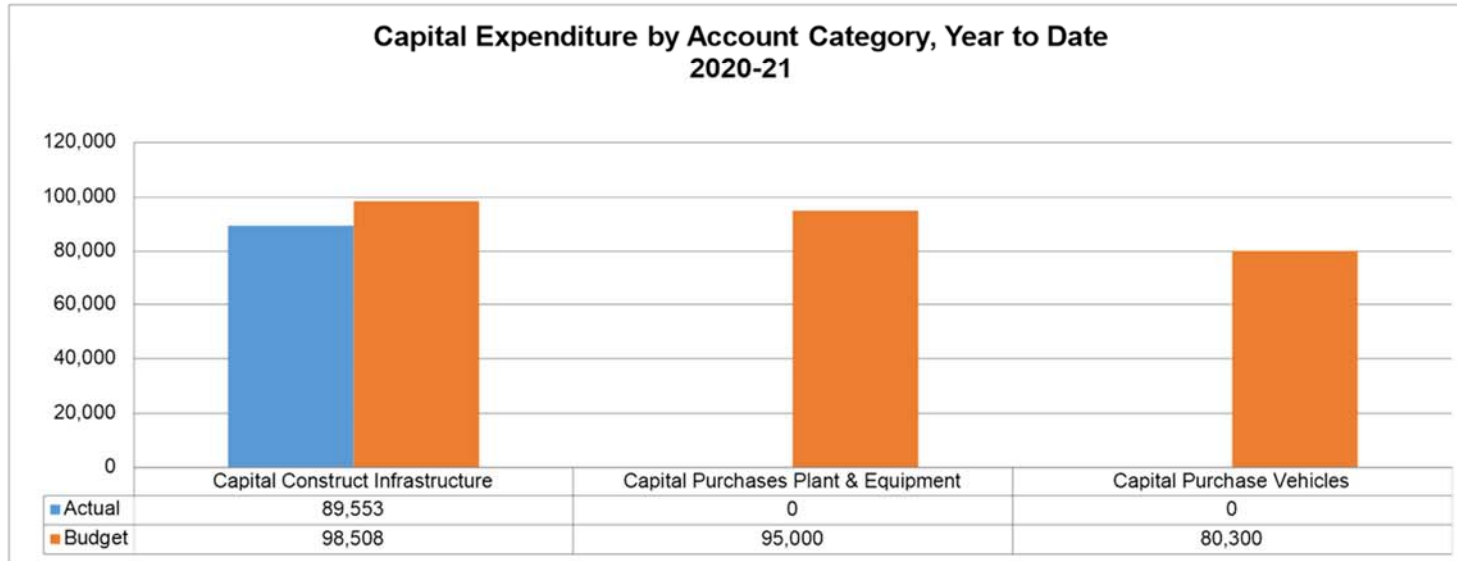
- 1 Financial Report 30.11.2022.pdf

<b>Roper Gulf Regional Council</b>					
Financial Report as at					
30-November-2022					
<b>Beswick</b>					
	<b>Year to Date Actual (\$)</b>	<b>Year to Date Budget (\$)</b>	<b>Variance (\$)</b>	<b>Full Year Budget (\$)</b>	<b>Explanation</b>
<b>Income</b>					
Income Council Fees and Charges	9,196	11,966	-2,770	28,717	
Income Operating Grants Subsidies	123,636	241,044	-117,408	578,505	The variance is mostly from Creche and Local Authority Funding. As per recently adopted accounting standards, income can only be recognised from tied funds as obligations of the agreement are met. Income will be recognised as projects reach further stages of progression
Income Agency and Commercial Services	48,248	58,805	-10,557	141,132	
Other Income	0	0	0	0	
<b>Total Operating Income</b>	<b>181,080</b>	<b>311,814</b>	<b>-130,735</b>	<b>748,354</b>	
<b>Operating Expenditure</b>					
Employee Expenses	590,634	643,246	-52,612	1,543,791	The underspend is mainly due to staff vacancy and absence in various positions.
Contract and Material Expenses	97,219	141,827	-44,608	340,385	The underspend is mostly due to less expenses incurred for Local Authority projects and road maintenance
Fleet, Plant & Equipment	24,320	28,221	-3,901	67,730	
Other Operating Expenses	70,262	48,383	21,879	116,120	The overspend is mostly due to rental expenses incurred to pay section 19 rental lease upfront.
Finance Expenses	40	17	23	40	



Internal Cost Allocations	295,077	344,910	-49,833	827,783	The underspend is mostly due to less internal cost allocated to office space sharing.
Local Authority Meeting Allowance	856	2,083	-1,227	5,000	
Councillor Allowance Exp	6,151	19,129	-12,978	45,910	
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>1,084,560</b>	<b>1,227,817</b>	<b>-143,257</b>	<b>2,946,760</b>	
<b>Operating Surplus/Deficit</b>	<b>-903,480</b>	<b>-916,003</b>	<b>12,522</b>	<b>-2,198,406</b>	
<b>Capital Funding</b>					
	0	0	0	0	
	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>Capital Expenditure</b>					
Capital Construct Infrastructure	89,553	98,508	-8,955	98,508	
Capital Purchases Plant & Equipment	0	95,000	-95,000	95,000	Please refer to fleet management for further details.
Capital Purchase Vehicles	0	80,300	-80,300	80,300	Please refer to fleet management for further details.
<b>Total Capital Expenditure</b>	<b>89,553</b>	<b>273,808</b>	<b>-184,255</b>	<b>273,808</b>	
<b>Net Operating Position</b>	<b>-993,033</b>	<b>-1,189,811</b>	<b>196,777</b>	<b>-2,472,214</b>	





**GENERAL BUSINESS**

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<b>ITEM NUMBER</b>	13.1
<b>TITLE</b>	Beswick Local Authority Projects Update
<b>REFERENCE</b>	1313497
<b>AUTHOR</b>	Puspa KARKI, Executive Assistant Community Services and Engagement

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Beswick Local Authority;

- (a) receives and notes the Local Authority Projects Update Report.
- (b) decides whether to request contribution of \$105,188.69 from the Council or await 2022-2023 annual budget allocation from the Department, to cover the overspent on Shade over Playground project.

**KEY OUTCOME AREA**

Wellbeing: Contribute to the wellbeing of residents individually and communities as a whole; by fostering increased participation in community activities, education, healthy lifestyles, and a safe living environment.

Infrastructure: Support building and maintaining community infrastructure which positively contributes to resident needs and aspirations.

**BACKGROUND**

Since 2014 the Beswick Local Authority has received a total of \$528,821.00 from the Northern Territory Government and RGRC for the Local Authority Project Fund. Annual allocations provided by the Department of Local Government are based on a formula related to population. To date the Beswick Local Authority has allocated \$471,711.60, accounting for surplus funds from completed projects.

**ISSUES/OPTIONS/SWOT**

- Solid Shade construction over Playground has been completed. The actual expenditure incurred was \$275,683.74 against the project budget of \$170,495.05 resulting in deficit of \$105,188.69. To cover this overspent LA has two options;
  - a) Request contribution from the Council.
  - b) Await 2022-2023 annual budget allocation from the Department.
- Playground seating and lighting installation completed with underspent of \$2166.07.
- Please refer to the attached LA funding report.

**FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS****Funds**

The Beswick Local Authority, over the years has overspent \$22,418.85 till date.

**ATTACHMENTS**

- 1 Beswick LA projects attachment 30.11.2022.pdf

<b>Beswick Local Authority Project Funding</b>		<b>30 November 2022</b>
Funding Received from Department	\$	528,821.00
Funds Allocated by Local Authority Members	\$	471,711.60
Surplus/(Deficit) from completed projects	\$	(79,528.25)
<b>Remaining Unallocated Funds</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>(22,418.85)</b>

<b>Date Approved</b>	<b>Project ID</b>	<b>Projects</b>	<b>Project Budget</b>	<b>Actual Expenditure</b>	<b>Project Status</b>
24/04/2020	1213820	Solid Shade over playground	\$ 170,495.05	\$ 275,683.74	Costs estimated at \$ 170,000. Scope has been prepared. LA Allocated \$ 50k extra 9/2/2021. Tender awarded. <b>Construction Completed.</b>
9/08/2021	1213821	Catering for community events	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 1,328.83	CSC to arrange
9/8/2021	1213822	Playground seating and lighting	\$ 14,000.00	\$ 11,833.93	Playground seating installation by the MUNS team has begun. <b>Completed.</b>
Total for Current projects			\$ 3,000.00	\$ 1,328.83	
Total for Completed projects			\$ 468,711.60	\$ 548,239.85	
<b>Grand Total</b>			<b>\$ 471,711.60</b>	<b>\$ 549,568.68</b>	

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

<b>ITEM NUMBER</b>	13.2
<b>TITLE</b>	Local Authority Member Attendance Report
<b>REFERENCE</b>	1313902
<b>AUTHOR</b>	Chloe IRLAM, Governance Engagement Coordinator

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Beswick Local Authority;

- receives and notes the Local Authority Member Attendance; and
- considers the revoking of membership from Eddie KENNEDY.

**KEY OUTCOME AREA**

Governance: Increase the effectiveness and efficiency of the organisation, including in engagement with staff members, residents and external stakeholders.

**BACKGROUND**

The *Local Government Act 2019* states that Local Authority Members may be removed from a Local Authority if they are absent from two (2) consecutive meetings without approved apologies.

**Local Authority member attendance of Beswick Local Authority Meetings**

Local Authority Meeting Members	17 January 2022	04 April 2022	04 July 2022	19 July 2022	12 October 2022	03 November 2022
		Cancelled	Postponed		Postponed	
Mayor Tony JACK	AP	-	-	P	-	AP
Councillor Selina Ashley	P	-	-	P	-	P
Trephina Bush	P	-	-	P	-	P
Raelene Bulumbara	P	-	-	NO AP	-	P
Anne-Marie Ryan	Resign Rcvd	-	-	Appointed	-	AP
Eddie Kennedy	P	-	-	NO AP	-	NO AP
Anne-Marie Thompson-Kenny	NO AP	-	-	P	-	P

\*\* Table Key

P Present

AP Apologies given and accepted

NO AP No apologies given and not present at meeting

**ISSUES/OPTIONS/SWOT**

Nil.

**FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

Nil.

**ATTACHMENTS**

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

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<b>ITEM NUMBER</b>	13.3
<b>TITLE</b>	Elected Member Report
<b>REFERENCE</b>	1314355
<b>AUTHOR</b>	Chloe IRLAM, Governance Engagement Coordinator

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Beswick Local Authority receives and notes the Elected Member report.

**KEY OUTCOME AREA**

Governance: Increase the effectiveness and efficiency of the organisation, including in engagement with staff members, residents and external stakeholders.

**BACKGROUND**

The Elected Member Report provides Local Authorities with a summary of the decisions made at Ordinary Meetings of Council and Committee meetings since the previous Local Authority Meeting. The aim of this report is to convey the information from those meetings to the Local Authority members, and then from the Local Authority to the wider community.

Complete details of all Council, Committee and Local Authority agendas and minutes, are publicly available at [www.ropergulf.nt.gov.au](http://www.ropergulf.nt.gov.au) and can be provided upon request at all the Roper Gulf Regional Council offices.

**ISSUES/OPTIONS/SWOT****Ordinary Meeting of Council – 14 December 2022**

Council approved the recommendations submitted by the following Local Authorities:

- Bulman Local Authority Meeting held on 13 October 2022;
- Barunga Local Authority Meeting held on 03 November 2022; and
- Beswick Local Authority Meeting held on 03 November 2022.

Council called for a '21 day nomination period' for the following:

- Manyallaluk called to fill two (2) open vacancies; and
- Barunga called to fill one (1) open vacancy.

Council approved the contact for the Extension of Grant Agreement for Children and schooling Program – for Bulman and Manyallaluk 2023/2024.

Council discussed the Sport and Recreation – Night Patrol in the Beswick Community regarding a previous resolution made to investigate unsupervised activities, reporting vehicle incidents and safety issues associated with passengers.

**Finance and Infrastructure Committee Meeting – 27 July 2022**

The Finance and Infrastructure Committee consists of the following members:

- Independent Member Awaiz UR REHMAN;
- Mayor Tony JACK;
- Deputy Mayor Judy MacFARLANE;
- Councillor Samuel EVANS;
- Councillor Helen LEE;
- Councillor Owen TURNER;
- Councillor Annabelle DAYLIGHT; and
- Councillor Edwin NUNGGUMAJBARR

There were no matters discussed relating to the Nyirranggulong Ward.

**Ordinary Meeting of Council – 26 October 2022**

There were no current minutes from the Nyirranggulung ward available for Council to consider or approve.

Council accepted and noted the resignation from long term Barunga Local Authority member Freddy SCRUBBY and thank him for his time on the Local Authority. Council then called for a nomination period to fill the vacancy, which currently is still open with no nominations submitted.

A motion was also moved to discuss the Barunga, Mulgan Camp, and Weemol playground shade structures at the December Ordinary meeting of Council.

Council approved the appointment of membership to two new Bulman Local Authority Members, Desmond LINDSAY and Francis MURRAY and approved the request to minimise the total number of memberships on the Bulman Local Authority. The Bulman Local Authority is now full with no vacancies.

Council approved the rescinding of membership from two (2) Manyallaluk Local Authority members, Ben ULAMARI and Sherese DOOLEY. Council then called for a nomination period to fill the two (2) vacancies, which are currently still open with no nominations submitted.

**Audit and Risk Committee meeting – 17 August 2022**

The Audit Committee consists of the following members:

- Independent Member Ian SWAN;
- Independent Member Carolyn EAGLE;
- Councillor John DALYWATER; and
- Councillor Patricia FARELL

There were no matters discussed relating to the Nyirranggulung Ward

**UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS**

**25 January 2023	9:00am	<b>Finance and Infrastructure Committee Meeting</b>	RGRC Support Centre, Katherine
22 February 2023	8:30am	<b>Ordinary Meeting of Council</b>	Briefing day to be held in Jilkminggan RGRC Office <i>AND</i> OMC to be held in Mataranka Community Hall
12 April 2023	10:00am	<b>Audit and Risk Committee Meeting</b>	RGRC Support Centre, Katherine

*Unless indicated otherwise, all Council meetings are open to the public.*

\*\* Date subject to change due to Public Holiday

**MEETINGS ATTENDED BY THE MAYOR**

<b>November</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meeting with Mornington Peninsula Shire – Gulf to Peninsula Partnership</li> <li>• Australian Local Government Association – National Local Roads and Transport Congress in Tasmania</li> <li>• Local Government Association of the Northern Territory (LGANT) annual conference in Darwin 16-18 November 2022.</li> <li>• Finance and Infrastructure Committee Meeting – 23 November 2022</li> </ul>
<b>December</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Borroloola Local Authority meeting – 01 December 2022</li> <li>• Ordinary Meeting of Council – 14 December 2022</li> </ul>
<b>January</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Beswick Local Authority meeting – 09 January 2023</li> <li>• Manyallaluk Local Authority meeting – 09 January 2023</li> </ul>



<b>LOCAL AUTHORITY</b>	<b>NUMBER OF VACANCIES</b>
<b>Barunga Local Authority</b>	<i>1</i>
<b>Beswick Local Authority</b>	<i>0</i>
<b>Bulman Local Authority</b>	<i>0</i>
<b>Manyallaluk Local Authority</b>	<i>2</i>

**FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

Nil.

**ATTACHMENTS**

Nil.

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

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<b>ITEM NUMBER</b>	13.4
<b>TITLE</b>	Council Services Report
<b>REFERENCE</b>	1314546
<b>AUTHOR</b>	Susan WEDLOCK, Acting Council Services Coordinator

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Beswick Local Authority receives and notes the Council Services Report.

**KEY OUTCOME AREA**

Environment: Protect and care for the physical environment, including developing and maintenance of clean and environmentally focused communities.

**BACKGROUND**

This report provides an outline of Council's service delivery in Beswick.

**ISSUES/OPTIONS/SWOT****CORE SERVICES**111 – *Councils Services General*

- Construction of the Beswick playground shade shelter is completed.
- Replacement of playground equipment is completed.
- Several water leaks around Beswick at the moment Power Water have been fixed and constantly maintained.
- Weather has created issues with the road (potholes), Municipal Team will be concentrating on this in the coming months.
- Have discussed with Selena Uibo member for Arnhem for urgent repairs for water leaks and electrical issues at Lot 3 Beswick who has contacted Department of Remote Housing.
- First of the Emergency Evacuation and Flood Planning meetings has happened in Beswick and discussions were based around increasing the Major Flood Level for the Waterhouse River from 8.3 to 8.7.
- Great response to the NYE and Christmas Eve BBQ.
- Council is looking at installing taps at both the basketball court and cemetery, locations have been decided and we are waiting on works to commence.

160 – *Municipal Services*

- Municipal Team have been doing a great job maintaining parks and gardens, trying to keep up with the current rainfall.
- T construction of 11 block houses are now complete with tenants moved in. Stage two is due to begin after Christmas.
- Council has been utilising court appointed community work participants mainly for litter collection in the community

**AGENCY SERVICES**314 – *Community Development Program (CDP)*

Nil.

348 – *Library*

- Nothing to report still operating Wi Fi only

350 – *Centrelink*

- Continuing as per contract. Martina has been doing a great job also helping Susan with the SASO duties.

404 – *Indigenous Sports and Recreation*

- New staff member Doons Cooper were appointed, to help at Aged Care whilst Caroline is on Long Service Leave
- Hoops for Health has been in town, with a high level of participation
- Duane has been appointed to Sport & Rec for Beswick.

**FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

Nil.

**ATTACHMENTS**

Nil.