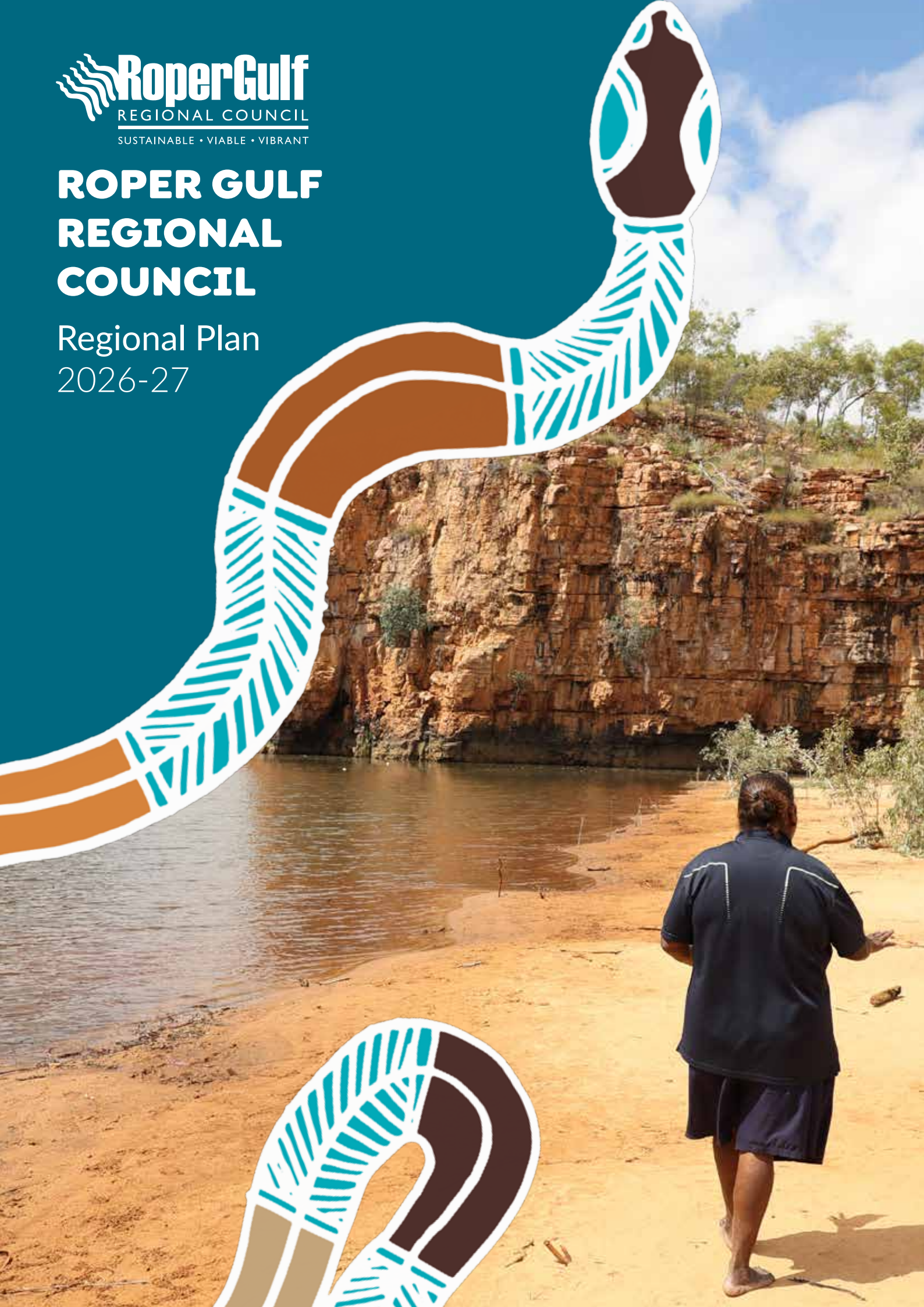


# ROPER GULF REGIONAL COUNCIL

Regional Plan  
2026-27





## Acknowledgement of Country

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Roper Gulf Regional Council acknowledges the First Nations people of the land and pays respect to Elders past, present and emerging, and all members of the communities in the Roper Gulf region.

## Warning

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

## Disclaimer

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While care has been taken to ensure the content in this regional plan is accurate, Council cannot guarantee that it is completely error free. Council also values your feedback on how the information in this report is presented. If you wish to share your feedback with us, please send an email to [communications@ropergulf.nt.gov.au](mailto:communications@ropergulf.nt.gov.au).

## Design

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Photography: Roper Gulf Regional Council

Design: Moogie Down Productions  
<https://moogiedownproductions.com.au/>

## Public Consultation

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Roper Gulf Regional Council has developed its Regional Plan in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2019*. The Council welcomed feedback from the public during a 21-day consultation period.

The Regional Plan was adopted by Council on Thursday, 11 June 2026, at its Ordinary Meeting of Council.

## Contact Us

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### Postal Address

PO Box 1321 Katherine NT 0851

### Katherine Support Centre:

2 Crawford Street Katherine NT 0850

**Phone:** 08 8972 9000

**Email:** [info@ropergulf.nt.gov.au](mailto:info@ropergulf.nt.gov.au)

**Website:** [ropergulf.nt.gov.au](http://ropergulf.nt.gov.au)

# HIGHLIGHTS FOR THE YEAR AHEAD



Development of Workforce Development Framework



Development of Cultural Competency Framework



Implementation of Reconciliation Action Plan 2026 - 2028



Numbulwar Age Care facility upgrades



Rollout of Cultural Advisors

## OVERVIEW OF OPERATING BUDGET

Continued on page 65

### Expected Operational Revenue – \$42.714 million

**67.59%**

Grants

**EXPECTED REVENUE**

**8.94%**

Rates and remaining

**17.51%**

Government contracts and agency services

**5.96%**

Other sources

### Expected Operational Expenditure – \$53.976 million

It is expected that **\$34.789 million** will be spent with the five largest service delivery program areas for the Council: Wages and Salaries, RAES (Remote Australia Employment Service), Night Patrol, Municipal Services, and Council Services General.



#### How much is expected to be spent on staff wages?

A total of \$28.529 million or 52.86% of the Operational Expenditure

### Expected Capital Expenditure – \$24.455 million



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# INTRODUCTION

**The 2026-2027 Regional Plan outlines Roper Gulf Regional Council's plan of action for the upcoming financial year. It plays a vital role in outlining the necessary actions to enhance our region for residents, staff, businesses, visitors and the environment.**

This Regional Plan is supported by the Strategic Plan 2022-2027 and its five (5) strategic priorities: well-being, environment, infrastructure, economic development, and governance. It details Council's approach to implement these priorities and identifies areas for improvement, achievements and principles for monitoring our progress and success. Additionally, it includes the proposed expenditures, revenue rates, and fees and charges outlined in the annual budget.

The strategic priorities and budget reflect the Council's overall vision for the region and its goals as a local government entity in the remote Northern Territory.

We sincerely acknowledge the valuable contributions of our constituents, elected members, staff, and stakeholders, whose efforts were essential to the development of this Regional Plan.





## MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR AND CEO

---

**As the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer of Roper Gulf Regional Council, we are pleased to present the Regional Plan 2026–2027.**

The Regional Plan outlines Council's priorities, services, projects and budget for the year ahead. It provides a clear direction for how Council will continue to deliver services, maintain infrastructure and support communities across the Roper Gulf region. The Plan also reflects Council's commitment to remaining sustainable, responsive and accountable in the way we operate and deliver outcomes for our communities.

Aligned with the Strategic Plan 2022–2027, this Plan continues to focus on Council's five strategic priorities: well-being, environment, infrastructure, economic development and governance. These priorities guide Council's decision-making and help ensure our day-to-day work remains focused on the long-term needs of the region.

As we move into the fifth year of implementing our Strategic Plan, Council remains focused on strengthening both community outcomes and organisational capability. In the next year, Council will improve its long-term planning processes through the development of supporting plans and frameworks that guide service delivery, workforce development, infrastructure investment and operational improvements across the organisation.

This includes the ongoing implementation of Council's Reconciliation Action Plan 2026–2028, which reflects our commitment to strengthening relationships, promoting cultural respect and embedding reconciliation into all areas of Council operations. Council also continues to progress the Workforce Development Framework and Cultural Competency Framework, supporting local employment opportunities, leadership development and culturally informed service delivery across the region.

Council maintains to invest in services and infrastructure that improve the quality of life for residents. In the year ahead, upgrades to the Numbulwar Aged Care facility will remain a key focus, supporting improved facilities and care outcomes for Elders in the community. Across the region, Council will continue to deliver and maintain essential infrastructure, municipal services, recreation programs, aged care services and community programs that support the well-being of residents across our communities.

Like many remote local governments, Council continues to face challenges associated with rising costs, workforce shortages and the complexity of delivering services across a large and geographically dispersed region. Seasonal weather events, freight challenges, contractor availability and increasing operational costs continue to place pressure on service delivery and infrastructure projects in remote communities.

At the same time, Council advocates strongly for the needs of the region, particularly in areas such as infrastructure investment, disaster resilience and long-term community planning. We recognise the importance of greater local input into land use planning, public infrastructure and the future development of our communities, and will continue working collaboratively with the Northern Territory Government, Australian Government, Traditional Owners, local organisations and stakeholders to improve outcomes across the region.

The second half of this Regional Plan contains Council's Annual Budget and outlines the financial resources required to deliver services and projects throughout 2026–2027. Careful financial planning and responsible use of funding remain essential to ensuring Council can continue investing in infrastructure, maintaining services and supporting community well-being into the future.

We thank our Elected Members, staff, Traditional Owners, community members, stakeholders and funding partners for their ongoing support and contribution to Council's work across the region and development of this year's plan.

We look forward to another year of delivering services, strengthen communities and work towards a sustainable, viable and vibrant future for the Roper Gulf region.



**Tony Jack**  
Mayor

Handwritten signature of Tony Jack in black ink.



**David Hurst**  
Chief Executive Officer

Handwritten signature of David Hurst in black ink.





# OUR ROPER GULF TERRITORY

**Roper Gulf Regional Council delivers services across one of the largest and most diverse regions in the Northern Territory, covering more than 201,000 square kilometres.**

The Council's boundaries extend from the Kakadu escarpment in the north to the Barkly Tablelands in the south, and from the Stuart Highway in the west across to the Gulf of Carpentaria and the Queensland border in the east. Within this area, the landscape is shaped by tropical savannahs, dry grasslands, open woodlands, sandstone formations and limestone escarpments.

A significant proportion of the land is protected under Aboriginal freehold title through the *Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976 (Cth)*.

The region is also defined by its major river systems. The Roper, Rose, McArthur, Robinson, and Limmen rivers carve their stories into our land, are central to the region's identity and are represented in Council's logo. Also, within our region, rivers like Katherine, Edith, Fergusson, East Alligator, and King begin their journeys.

With a rich and diverse Indigenous culture deeply embedded in the region, the Council area spans across five (5) Wards (Niyrranggulung, Never Never, Yugul Mangi, Numbulwar Numburindi, and South West Gulf). Each ward presents individual characteristics, languages, and arts, with the last one widely recognised.

Australian Bureau of Statistics data shows that the Roper Gulf region had a population of 7,516 in 2024. More than 75% of the population identifies as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander, reflecting the region's strong cultural presence.



## AUSTRALIAN INDIGENOUS LANGUAGES USED AT HOME

**4,069 / 83.4%**

## HOUSEHOLDS WHERE ENGLISH ONLY USED AT HOME

**749 / 15.4%**



## ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION

**7,516**

**MALES  
3,794**

**FEMALES  
3,722**



**Kriol: 3,433 / 70%**

Njirranggulung, Never Never, and Yugul Mangi. Considered the most widely spoken Indigenous language.

**Nunggubuyu: 277 / 6%**

Numbulwar

**Garrwa: 121 / 2.5%**

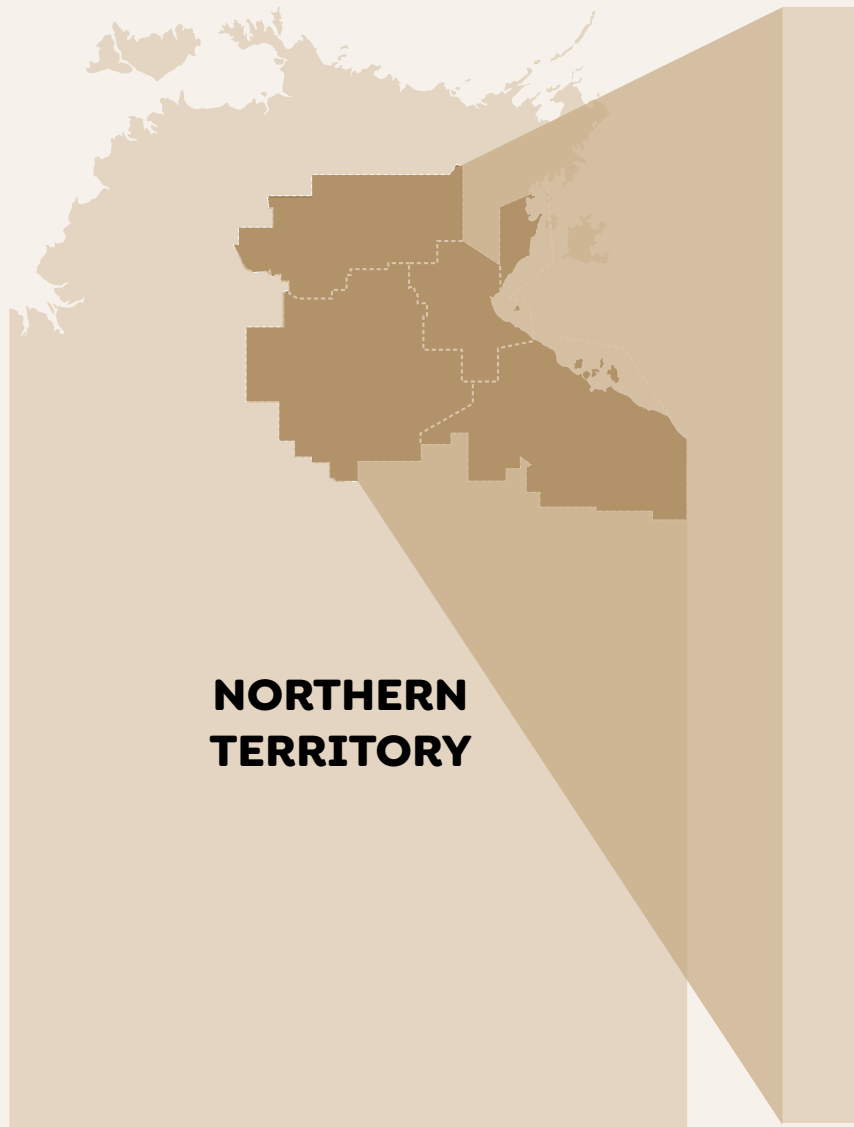
South West Gulf Ward

**Anindilyakwa: 37 / 1%**

Groote Eylandt

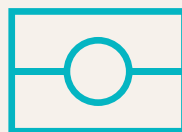
**Yanyuwa: 34 / 1%**

Pellew Group of Islands in the Gulf of Carpentaria



## NORTHERN TERRITORY

## ABORIGINAL & TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER POPULATION



**4,879  
(75.2%)**





**MEDIAN AGE**  
**30.4**  
 MALE 30 FEMALE 30.8



**WORKING AGE POPULATION**  
**5,411 / 72%**



**GEOGRAPHICAL AREA**  
**201,000 KM<sup>2</sup>**



**MAIN RIVERS**  
 Limmen Roper  
 McArthur Rose  
 Robinson

**OUTSTATIONS (HOMELANDS)**

- |            |              |
|------------|--------------|
| Badawarrka | Mole Hill    |
| Baghetti   | Mount Catt   |
| Barrapunta | Mulggan Camp |
| Costello   | Nulawan      |
| Kewulyi    | Wubalawan    |

Data source: 2023 ABS Data by Region, Key Statistics 2021 ABS Census Data

# OUR VISION, MISSION & VALUES



## OUR VISION

Sustainable, Viable  
and Vibrant

## OUR MISSION

To work as a well-informed  
organisation to deliver  
services to all Roper Gulf  
Council residents which  
meet their needs and  
improve their quality of life.

## OUR VALUES

1.

**Honesty**

all dealings and  
decisions are  
transparent, backed by  
integrity, and truth.

2.

**Equality**

all people treated  
fairly, with dignity,  
without bias, based  
on facts.

3.

**Accountability**

actions and decisions  
comply with policies,  
procedures, and legislative  
requirements.

4.

**Respect**

understanding and  
acceptance of the  
feelings, rights and  
culture of all with  
whom we deal.

5.

**Trust**

a focus on building  
mutually supportive,  
healthy relationships  
built and maintained  
over time.





# OUR COUNCIL

**Under the leadership of Mayor Tony Jack and Deputy Mayor Helen Lee, the Roper Gulf Regional Council consists of thirteen elected members chosen by their communities to advocate for the interests of the five Wards of the Roper Gulf Region (Niyrranggulung, Yugul Mangi, South West Gulf, Numbulwar Numburindi and Never Never).**

It is the responsibility of the elected members to provide leadership and guidance, present arguments and solution ideas for the community's issues, and be the advocates of the vision that improves their communities' quality of life.

Given the remote locations of many Indigenous communities and the vast, rugged terrain, councillors play a crucial role in ensuring the provision of essential goods and services, while recognising and supporting unique characteristics, languages, and arts to maintain the culture and heritage of the Land's Traditional Owners.

The Council addresses the community's needs, protects their rights, and preserves their culture and ecosystems. Nonetheless, this critical function, is also essential for the elected member to bring communities closer together and the administrative organisation.



# ELECTED MEMBERS

The Elected Members who represent the Roper Gulf region.



**Mayor**  
Tony Jack  
South West Gulf Ward



**Deputy Mayor**  
Helen Lee Nyirranggulung Ward  
(Manyallaluk, Barunga, Wugularr and Bulman - Weemol)

## Never Never Ward

Mataranka, Jilkminggan, Minyerri, Larrimah and Daly Waters



**Councillor**  
Patricia Farrell



**Councillor**  
Des Barritt



**Councillor**  
Sue Edwards

## Numbulwar-Numburindi Ward

Numbulwar



**Councillor**  
Edwin Nunggumajbarr



**Councillor**  
Kathy-Anne Numamurdirdi

## Nyirranggulung Ward

Manyallaluk, Barunga, Wugularr and Bulman - Weemol



**Councillor**  
John Dalywater



**Councillor**  
Preston Lee

## South West Gulf Ward

Borroloola and Robinson River



**Councillor**  
Samuel Evans



**Councillor**  
Ash Garner

## Yugul Mangi Ward

Ngukurr and Urapunga



**Councillor**  
Michelle Farrell



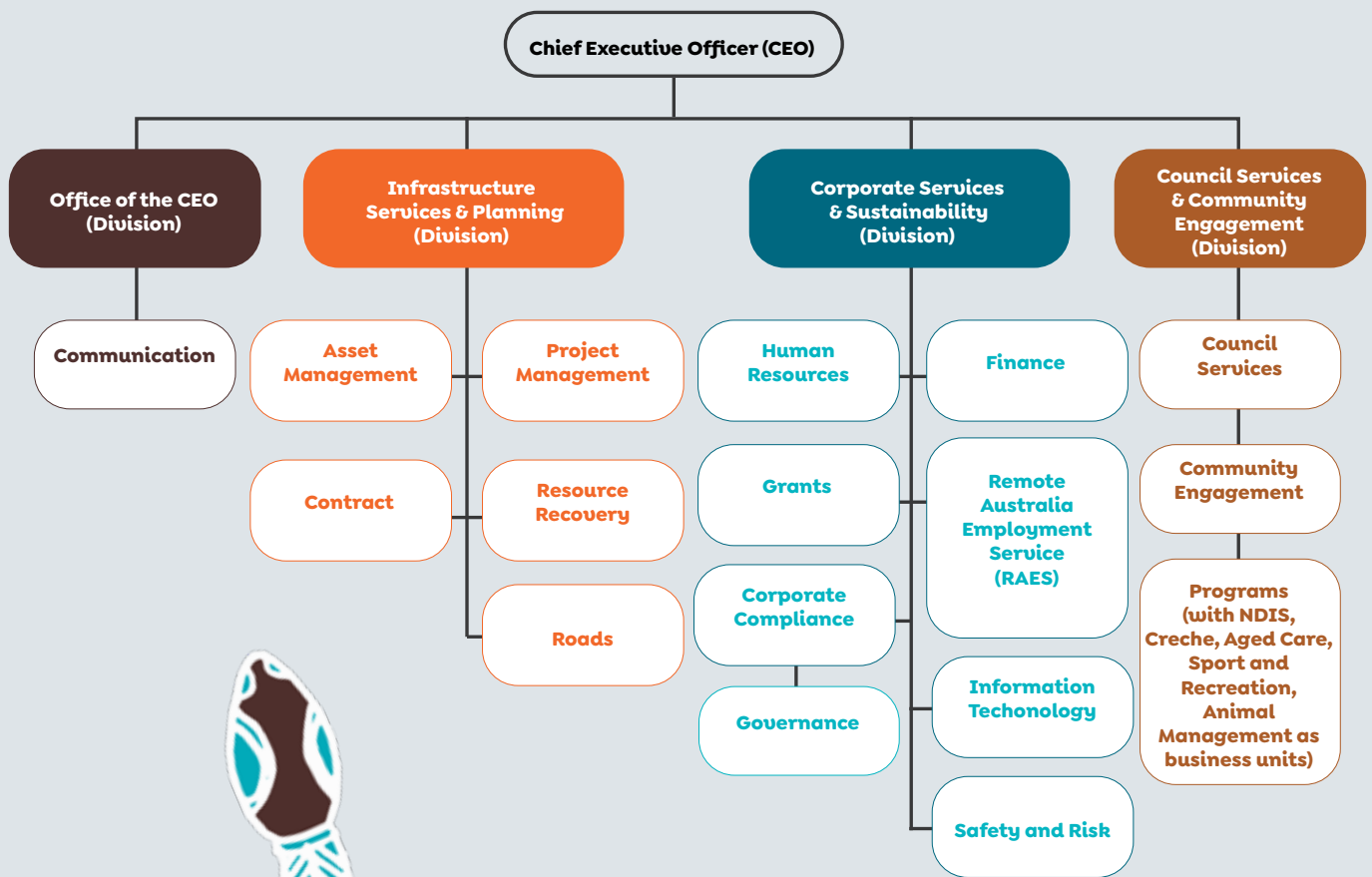
**Councillor**  
(Vacant Position)

# ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

Roper Gulf Regional Council delivers more than 40 services to residents, ranging from the maintenance of public spaces and waste management to antisocial diversion activities and individual care services. These community led services are essential to the well-being and functioning of local communities.

Council also provides professional support to service delivery across the region through the provision of administrative, human resources, accounting, information technology, governance and planning services delivered from our Katherine Support Centre and Workshop Depot.

Our organisational structure is designed to support the delivery of the key outcome areas, strategic objectives and goals set out in the Strategic Plan 2022-27.



# EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT TEAM

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**The Executive Management Team includes the Chief Executive Officer, and the three General Managers responsible for key divisions: Corporate Services and Sustainability, Council Services and Community Engagement, and Infrastructure Services and Planning.**

This team is responsible for advising the Council and implementing its decisions, as well as those of its committees and local authorities. Additionally, the Executive Management Team coordinates regional management, engages in high-level decision-making, and monitors compliance, service delivery, and major projects.



**David Hurst**  
**Chief Executive Officer**

David commenced employment with Council in April 2021 and was appointed General Manager of Council Services and Community Engagement in October 2022. In May 2024, he stepped into the role of Acting Chief Executive Officer and was formally appointed as Chief Executive Officer in October 2024.

David brings 30 years of leadership experience in Local Government, State Government, Aboriginal Corporations and the not for profit sector across Australian Capital Territory, New South Wales, Queensland and the Northern Territory. He has lived

and worked in remote Aboriginal communities for 7 years in senior leadership roles.

David has a Bachelor degree in Business and Post Graduate certificate in Case Management. With a passion for community development and organisational capacity building, David's goal is to promote an integrated approach to local employment and economic development through job creation and high quality service delivery.



**Cindy Haddow**  
**General Manager Corporate Services & Sustainability**

Cindy was appointed General Manager Corporate Services and Sustainability in October 2022. Cindy has spent the past 20 years living in Katherine and has worked in senior leadership roles in the Australian Government, Northern Territory Government and the not for profit sector. Cindy is committed to working collaboratively to ensure Council has high quality corporate support to deliver services to communities.

Cindy holds a Master's Degree in Business Administration and a Postgraduate Certificate in Public Sector Management. Cindy is passionate about Indigenous workforce development and developing community capacity to meet the social and economic challenges faced in remote communities.



**Tony Hopp**

**General Manager Council Services & Community Engagement**

Tony has been with Roper Gulf Regional Council for five years, progressing through roles as HR Advisor, Training Coordinator, and HR Manager before stepping into the Acting General Manager of Council Services and Community Engagement position in August 2024 and officially appointed the position in May 2025.

With a background in human resources and training, Tony has extensive experience in workforce development and leadership. Before moving to the

Northern Territory 19 years ago, he served as a long-term member of the Australian Defence Force. He holds a Bachelor of Administrative Leadership and a Diploma in Security (Risk Assessment).

Tony aspires to improve the lives of the regions community members and staff by creating employment and training opportunities that contribute to long-term development and strengthen local communities.



**Luke Haddow**

**General Manager Infrastructure Services & Planning**

Luke joined Roper Gulf Regional Council in 2023 and was appointed General Manager Infrastructure Services and Planning in March 2025, after acting in the role since June 2024. He brings over 30 years of local knowledge and industry experience to the position.

With a strong background across all aspects of the infrastructure service division, including fleet, mechanical operations, engineering, project management, and asset management, Luke also draws on over a decade of experience running his own engineering business in Katherine.

Luke holds an Advanced Diploma of Engineering and is trade-qualified as both a Fitter Machinist and Mechanic. He began his career in Katherine, completing his apprenticeship locally and working on a variety of regional projects in mining and defence.

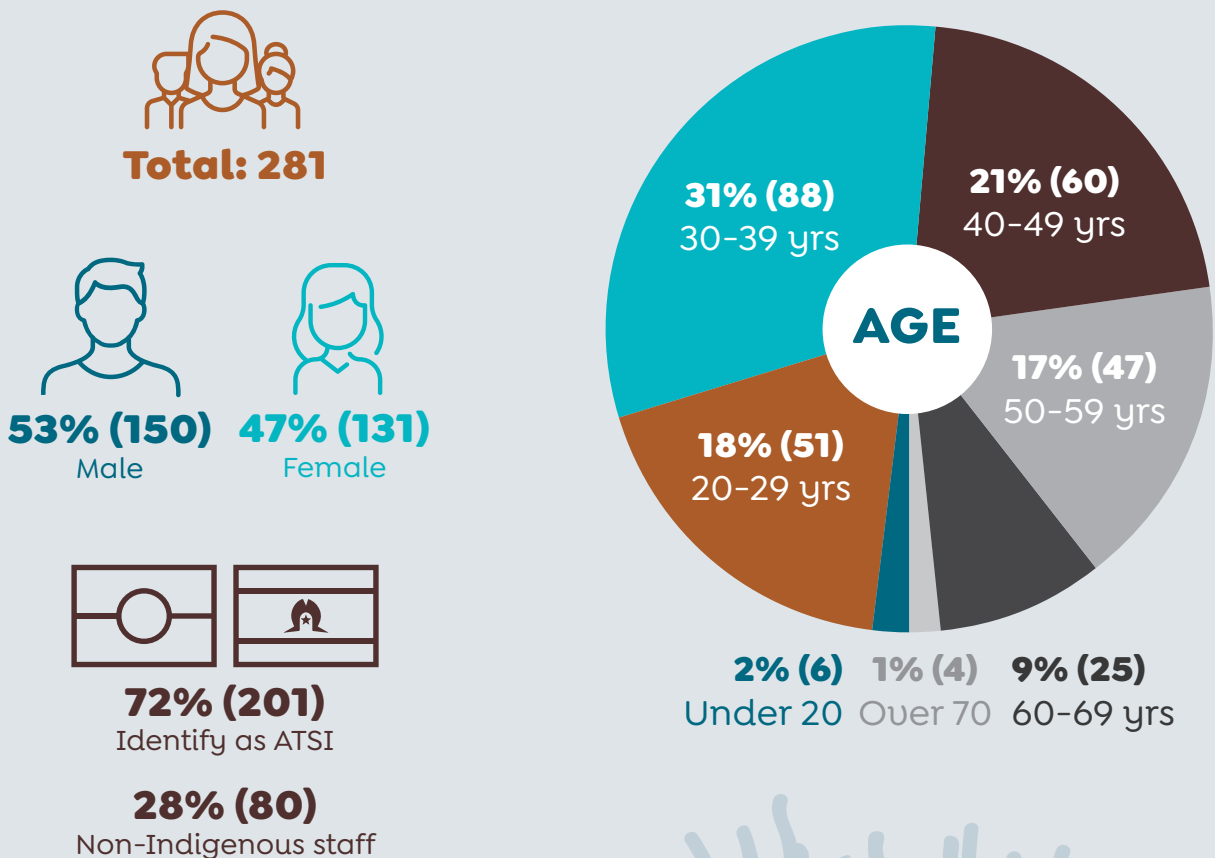
Luke is focused on developing structured processes and procedures to improve efficiency and reduce costs across the infrastructure division. He is passionate about projects that deliver practical outcomes for communities, turning ideas into substantial, on-the-ground results.

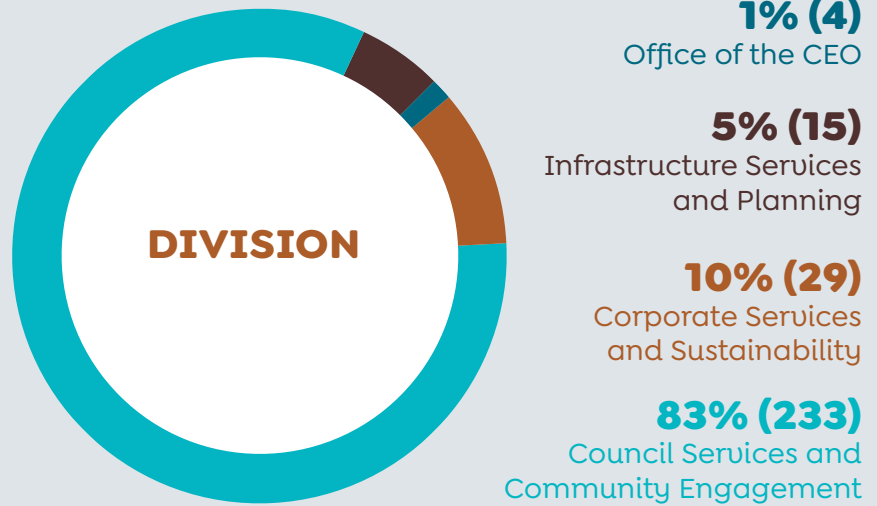
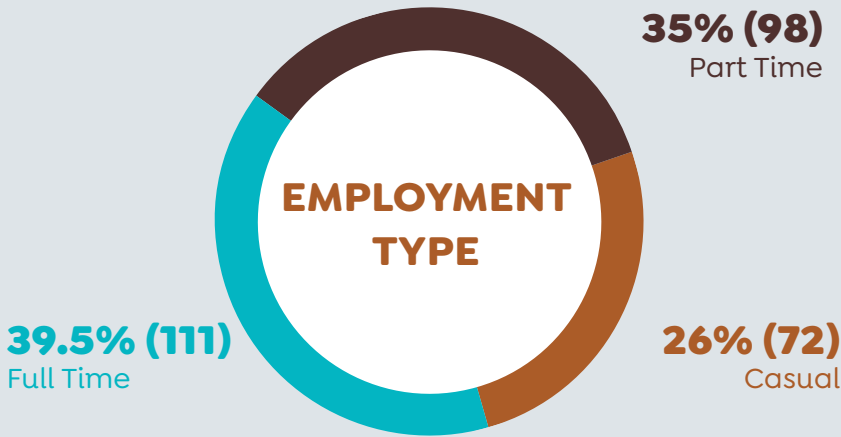
# OUR EMPLOYEES

Employees form the foundation of Roper Gulf Regional Council and play a critical role in delivering the objectives outlined in the Regional Plan. Their work is contributing directly to improved outcomes to enhance the quality of life for all residents across the region.

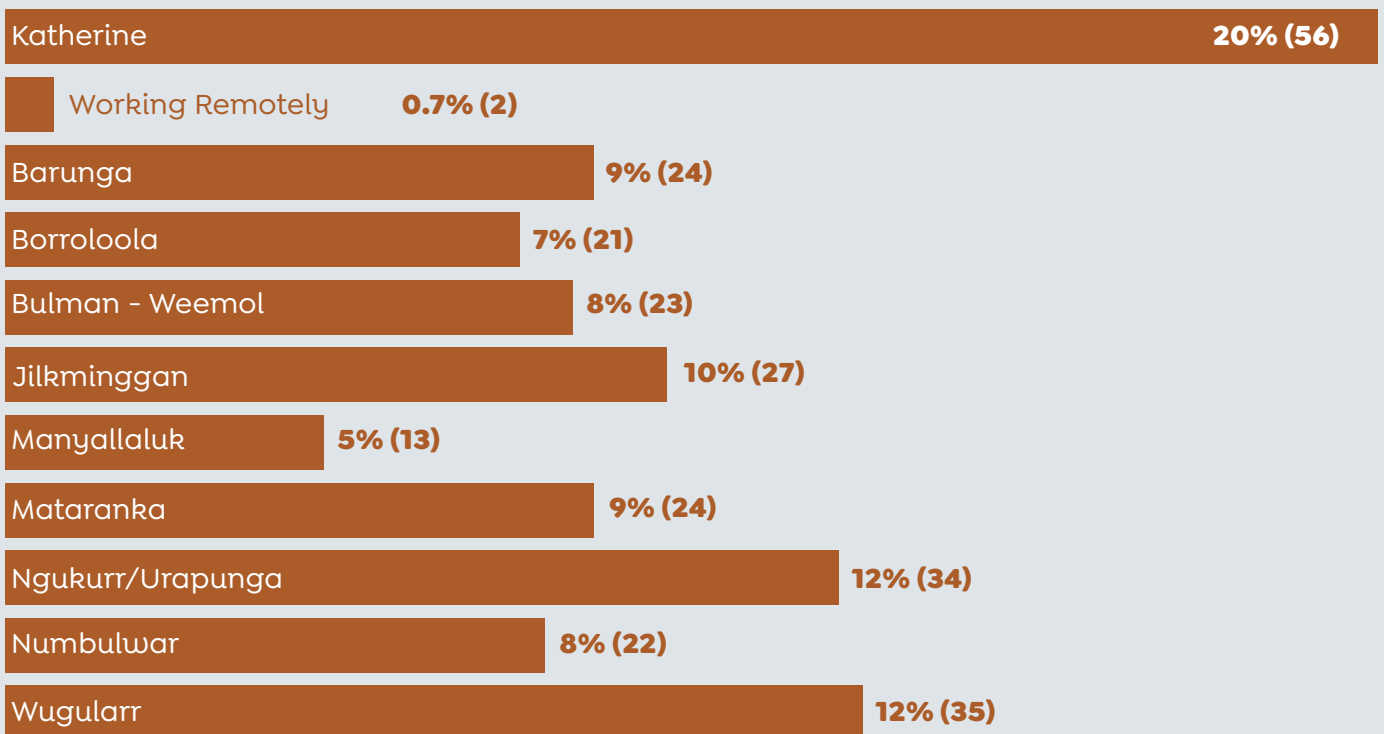
The organisation is structured into four divisions, each comprising various departments, with employees based throughout the Roper Gulf region and Katherine.

Roper Gulf Regional Council employs a total of 281 staff members, with 71.5% identifying as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander. The largest division by workforce is Council Services and Community Engagement, accounting for 82.9% of staff. This division is responsible for service delivery across communities and holds a central role within the organisation's structure.





## STAFF BY LOCATION





# GOVERNANCE

**Roper Gulf Regional Council is a local government body established under the Local Government Act 2019. The Act sets out the roles and responsibilities of Council, its committees and Local Authorities.**

The Council works in the best interests of its communities by making informed and responsible decisions. It supports a good quality of life for residents by fairly and sustainably managing resources and delivering public facilities and services.

Open and transparent communication is fundamental to how the Council operates. Community members are encouraged to take part in planning and decision making through Ordinary Council Meetings, Committee Meetings and advice provided by Local Authorities.

## ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

The Council meets six (6) times a year to discuss the Organisation's core business and operations. A briefing session is held the day before each meeting, allowing Councillors to discuss and clarify information; however, no decisions are made during these sessions.

Ordinary Council Meetings are open to the public, and residents and stakeholders are encouraged to attend. These meetings provide an opportunity to raise concerns, ask questions and learn more about Council activities. Please note that some matters may be considered confidential in accordance with Chapter 6 of the Local Government Act 2019.

A full schedule of these meetings can be found at <https://ropergulf.nt.gov.au/our-council/meetings/council-meetings>



## LOCAL AUTHORITIES

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**Local Authorities are small, community nominated groups that help ensure remote communities are involved in local government decision making.**

They provide a way for communities to share their views, raise local issues and help guide Council planning and priorities.

Local Authorities operate in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2019* and meet at least four (4) times each year in their respective communities.

Roper Gulf Regional Council encourages community members to get involved with their Local Authority, as Council relies on the input from these meetings to stay informed about community priorities, project needs, upcoming events and emerging issues.

A full schedule of Local Authority meetings is available at <https://ropergulf.nt.gov.au/our-council/local-authorities>

## COUNCIL COMMITTEES

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**Roper Gulf Regional Council operates two committees to support its legal responsibilities under the *Local Government Act 2019*.**

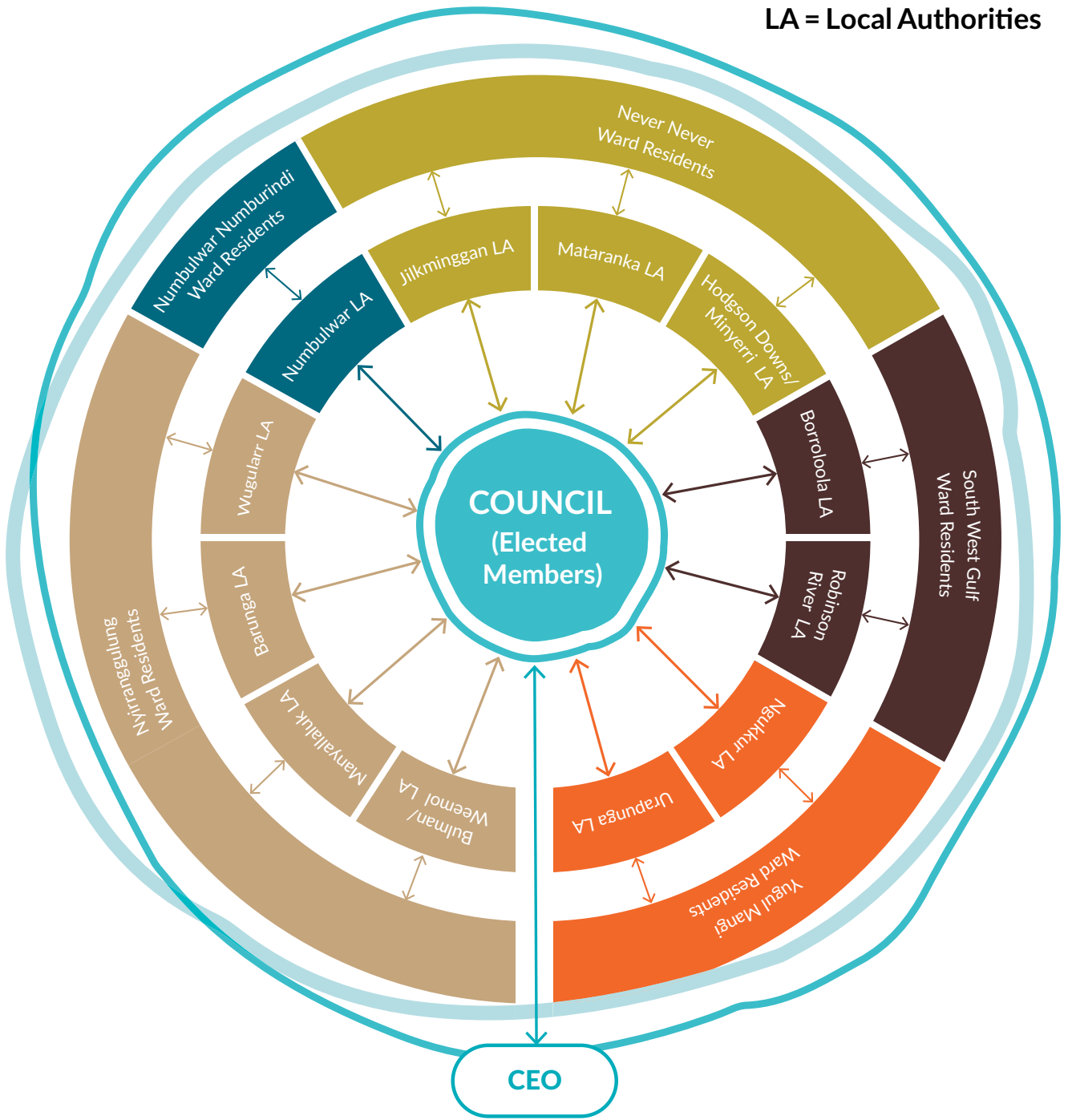
- The Finance and Infrastructure Committee meets every two months to oversee key financial and infrastructure matters, including budget alignment, performance monitoring, reporting, investment planning and making urgent decisions when required.  
The committee operates under Part 5.2 of the *Local Government Act 2019*.
- The Audit and Risk Committee meets four times each year to independently review Council's financial management and internal controls. The committee provides advice and recommendations to the Council, Chief Executive Officer and management on risk, control, compliance and financial matters without executive powers.

The committee operates under Part 5.3 of the *Local Government Act 2019*.

The Terms of Reference for both committees are available at <https://ropergulf.nt.gov.au/our-council/committees>



LA = Local Authorities



## STRATEGIC PLAN: OUR FRAMEWORK

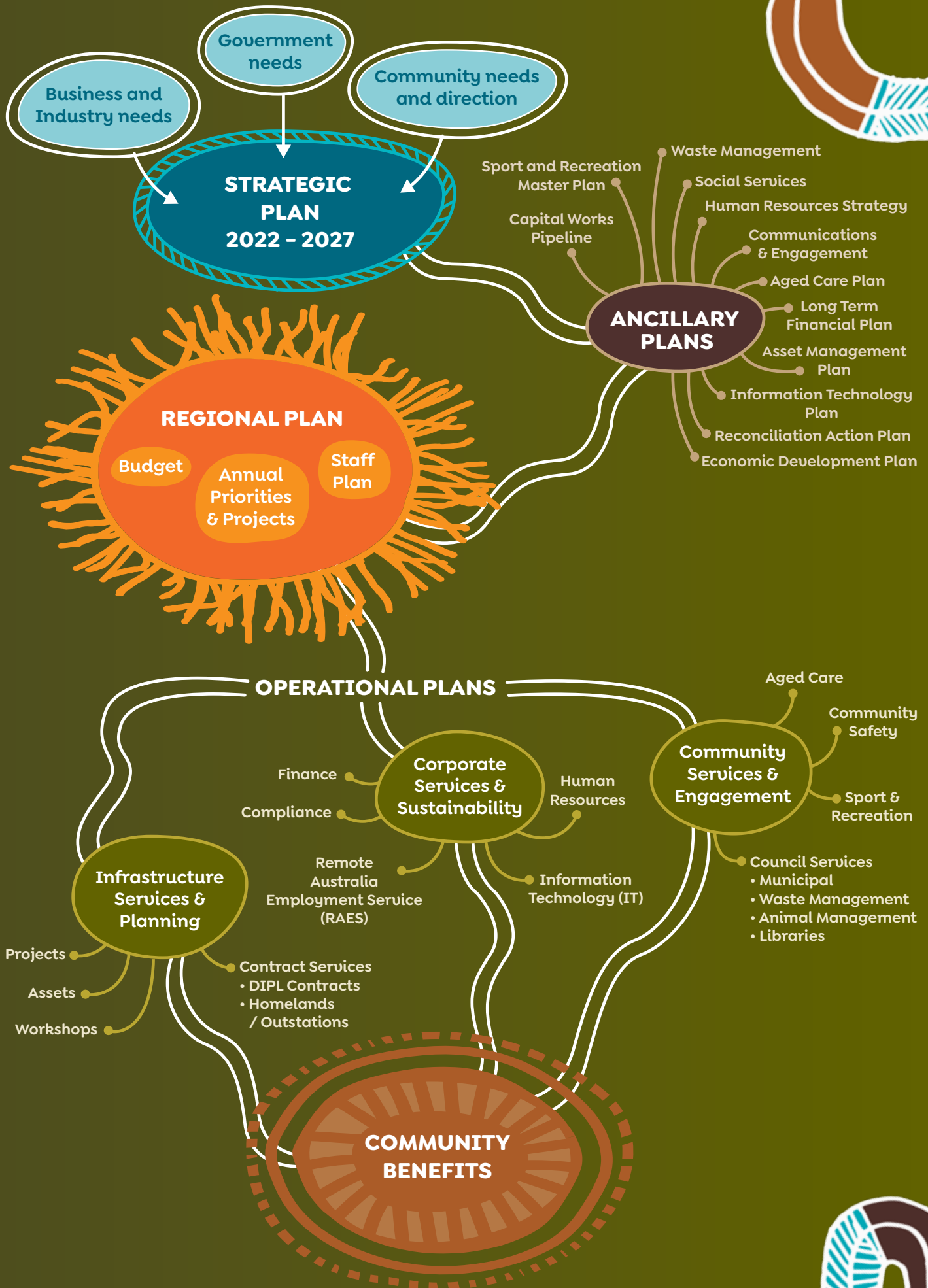
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The Strategic Plan 2022-2027 is a long-term document that sets out the Council's vision for the organisation, along with its goals and objectives, and the strategies to achieve them. It outlines how the Council engages with stakeholders to plan services and guide investment in community infrastructure, ensuring decisions are coordinated and reflect community needs.

The Strategic Plan serves as the roadmap for improving quality of life across the Roper Gulf region, with Council remaining focused on delivering the plan, responding to challenges and opportunities, and completing the five year plan as it enters its fifth and final year.

This framework ensures all parts of the organisation are aligned with Council's strategic priorities and overall vision.









# OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

The Regional Plan outlines Council's direction for the upcoming financial year and identifies actions to strengthen outcomes for communities, the environment and the local economy.

Effective future planning requires Council to identify emerging opportunities and anticipate challenges that may arise. Assessing these factors is essential to informed decision making and the efficient and strategic allocation of resources.



# OPPORTUNITIES

## EMBRACING TECHNOLOGY

---

Advancements in Information Technology (IT) presents a number of opportunities for our Council including improved service delivery, enhanced communication and streamlined operations. Our staff are currently researching and testing various digital platforms that will enable us to engage with residents more effectively, manage documents, heighten security and strengthen compliance. Additionally, innovative technologies are available that empower organisations to make data-driven decisions regarding infrastructure development, town planning and resource allocation, leading to more efficient and sustainable outcomes.

Embracing technological advancements will not only enhance the overall effectiveness of Council's operations but also help to create and retain a more efficient and motivated workforce which will lead to a shift in man hours from administration tasks to the actual delivery of services on the ground.

## ROAD UPGRADES

---

Multiple road upgrades are being planned by the Northern Territory Government in the upcoming financial year, a development that holds immense significance for our region. These upgrades will hopefully improve connectivity between our communities and townships, enhance safety for residents and tourists when travelling within our region, provide resilience against extreme weather events and deliver more opportunities for economic growth and future development.

## PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATION

---

By working in partnership with all community organisations and stakeholders, we can leverage expertise, resources, perspectives and experiences to address community needs more effectively and efficiently. Embracing this opportunity for collaboration enables all of us to strengthen community relationships, provide consistent information and engagement, and ultimately achieve better outcomes for all residents.



# CHALLENGES

## RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION

---

Working in a remote area like the Roper Gulf region presents unique challenges for staff recruitment and retention. The geographical isolation and limited infrastructure in remote areas may deter potential candidates from considering employment opportunities, reducing the pool of available talent.

Remote areas typically experience higher turnover rates due to factors such as limited career advancement opportunities and feelings of isolation. Addressing these challenges requires strategic initiatives aimed at improving infrastructure, providing professional development opportunities, and offering incentives to attract and retain skilled personnel in the region.

## GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT POLICIES

---

The Northern Territory Government has adopted a policy that places a priority on engaging Indigenous organisations in procurement processes and service delivery operations. As a result, several contracts have been redirected from the Council to these Indigenous entities. However, there have been instances where these services are not adequately delivered, or in some cases, not delivered at all. Consequently, the contracts are returned to the Northern Territory Government.

This trend has led to considerable disruptions in service delivery and contract outcomes within the communities. Furthermore, insufficient communication and misinformation regarding contract leads and responsibilities has resulted in misguided expectations of the Council.







# PROVISION OF SERVICES

Roper Gulf Regional Council is aware of each community's individuality. Therefore, we adapt our approach based on these specialty characteristics to frame our service delivery.

This section outlines the core, agency, and commercial service delivery functions carried out by the Council in the townships, communities, and outstations.



# CORE SERVICES

---

They refer to the priority services that the Council must provide, represent the anchor of our propositions, and guide our work in promoting our communities' welfare. They are prescribed by the Local Government Act 2019 and its statutory instruments.

Our core services range from administering local authorities, advocating and representing local and regional issues, and training and employing local people in Council operations. In total, we deliver 17 core services distributed in 27 homelands.

Administration of Council, Local Authorities, advisory bodies and management committees

#### Administration of local laws

- Control of animal management By-Laws, problem animals and mediation
- Control of litter and garbage By-Laws

Advocacy and representation on local and regional issues

#### Asset Management

- Procurement, monitoring, repairs and maintenance of Council infrastructure, plant, equipment and fleet assets

#### Civic events

- Coordination of in community Australia Day and ANZAC Day events
- Promotional support of Council-endorsed festivals and events

Control of litter and garbage By-Laws

Customer relationship management, including complaints and responses

Library and cultural heritage services

Lighting for public safety/street lighting

Local road upgrade and management

Maintenance and upkeep of parks, ovals and gardens

#### Maintenance and management of cemeteries

- Mowing and repair and maintenance of cemetery infrastructure
- Grave excavations and burials (by request/fee for service)

#### Public and corporate relations

- Media relations and corporate affairs

#### Traffic Management

- Provision of local traffic management systems, including speed bumps, wombat crossing and signage

Training and employment of local people in Council operations

#### Waste Management Services

- Operation of Waste Management Facilities and landfills
- Rubbish collection

#### Weeds control and fire hazard reduction in and around community areas

- Vegetation management, including weed and fuel reduction management

	BARUNGA	WUGULARR	BORROLOOLA	BULMAN-WEEMOL	JILKMINGGAN	MANYALLALUK	MATARANKA	NGUKURR	NUMBULWAR	DALY WATERS	LARRIMAH	MINYERRI	ROBINSON RIVER	URA PUNGA	BADAWARRKA	BAGHETTI	BARRAPUNTA	COSTELLO	KEWULYI	MOLE HILL	MOUNT GATT	MULGAN CAMP	NULAWAN
	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓									
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# AGENCY SERVICES

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Agency services refer to those not prescribed by Local Government legislation; however, the Council chooses to provide them for the benefit of our constituents. Those services include the Animal Health Program, Crèche, and Indigenous Youth Reconnect, among 13 others benefiting our homelands.

## Animal Health Program

- In-community vet visits, public education and awareness about responsible pet ownership

## Centrelink Agency/Access Point

- Provision of in-community access to Centrelink services on behalf of DHS
- Support eligible jobseekers to build skills

## Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP)

- Provision of in-community assistance for frail, older residents to maintain independence and remain in their homes

## Community Night Patrol

- Vehicular and pedestrian patrols during set shift times
- Providing assistance to residents to a place of safety within the community
- Recording details on community issues and providing to emergency services and stakeholders

## Crèche

- Provision of in-community educational programs to enhance learning and development of participating children

## National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)

- Provision of in-home assistance – including meal delivery, domestic assistance, social support and transport – for disabled clients on behalf of DoH. Council is not an approved NDIS provider

## Alcohol and Other Drugs Program

### Support at Home

- Provision of in-community assistance residents with complex needs to allow them to remain in their homes longer, and have choice and flexibility in how care is provided

## Indigenous Aged Care and Employment Program

- Support to develop sustainable, highly-skilled Indigenous workforce in aged care sector through Indigenous employment and professional development

## Indigenous Broadcasting Program

- Operation of in-community radio stations (four hours per day/five days per week) to provide local content and promote Council, community and stakeholder issues and events

## Indigenous Sport and Recreation Program

- Provision of daily activities to promote a healthy lifestyle, participation and the benefits of physical activity to Indigenous participants

## Indigenous Youth Reconnect

- Provision of case management, support services and activities for youth up to 24 years who have been involved in the justice system or rehabilitation, or at-risk behaviours

	BARUNGA	WUGULARR	BORROLOOLA	BULMAN-WEEMOL	JILKMINGGAN	MANYALLALUK	MATARANKA	NGUKURR	NUMBULWAR	DALY WATERS	LARRIMAH	MINYERRI	ROBINSON RIVER	URAPUNGA	BADAWARRKA	BAGHETTI	BARRAPUNTA	COSTELLO	KEWULYI	MOLE HILL	MOUNT CATT	MULGAN CAMP	NULAWAN
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## AGENCY SERVICES (CONTINUED)

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### Management and upkeep of swimming pool

- Operation and maintenance of facilities
- Employment of pool supervisors and lifeguards

### Outside School Hours Care

- Facilitation of sport and recreation activities for school-aged children to prevent at-risk behaviour and boredom through participation

### School Nutrition Program

- Provision of breakfast and lunch five days per week for participating children
- Support for school attendance, educational outcomes and parental engagement

### Active Regional & Remote Communities Program

- Support to improve and sustain sporting opportunities and competitions in remote communities

## COMMERCIAL SERVICES

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**These are services that the Council provides on behalf of another agency on a fee-for-service basis.**

**Local Government legislation does not prescribe these services; however, the Council provides them to improve its overall financial viability and benefit its constituents and the public in general.**

### Airstrip maintenance and reporting

- Slashing of aerodrome and infrastructure maintenance
- Appointment of Aerodrome Reporting Officers to inspect facilities on behalf of operator (Territory)
- Providing after-hours emergency services access to aerodrome

### Australia Post

- In-community mail sorting and distribution

### Remote Australia Employment Services (RAES)

- Provision of community development projects that upskill participants and prepare them for employment

### Homeland (Outstation) Services

- Municipal service delivery of water, electrical and sewerage services

### Slashing Contract

- Slashing of public spaces (Larrimah and Daly Waters) and Crown Land (Mataranka)

	BARUNGA	WUGULARR	BORROLOOLA	BULMAN-WEEMOL	JILKMINGGAN	MANYALLALUK	MATARANKA	NGUKURR	NUMBULWAR	DALY WATERS	LARRIMAH	MINYERRI	ROBINSON RIVER	URAPUNGA	BADAWARRKA	BAGHETTI	BARRAPUNTA	COSTELLO	KEWULYI	MOLE HILL	MOUNT CATT	MULGAN CAMP	NULAWAN
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# STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

The Roper Gulf Regional Council's Strategic Plan for 2022-2027 outlines five key outcome areas identified through a SWOT analysis. These outcome areas highlight our impact on the organisation and the region, and they serve as the foundation for our efforts to improve community wellbeing and promote sustainable development. The key outcome areas are as follows:



## WELLBEING

**Goal:** 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.



## ENVIRONMENT

**Goal:** Protect and care for the physical environment, including development and maintenance of clean and environmentally focused communities.



## INFRASTRUCTURE

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



## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

**Goal:** Foster strengthening and growing jobs, industries, and investment attraction.



## GOVERNANCE

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

The subsequent pages outline the tasks, strategies, and key performance indicators representing our organisation's objectives for the upcoming financial year. These actions are aligned with the five key outcome areas and our strategic priorities, demonstrating our commitment to addressing community needs and progressing toward our vision. Additionally, these indicators will help us track our performance and progress.

Please note that while the tasks, strategies, and key performance indicators are directly derived from the Strategic Plan 2022-2027 for consistency, updates and additions have been made to reflect new insights and available resources since the plan was developed in 2022. Any changes are marked with an asterisk (\*) to ensure transparency throughout the document.



# WELLBEING

**Goal:** 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.

STRATEGIC FOCUS	KEY TASKS / STRATEGIES
<b>Increase public safety.</b>	Review historical records of adverse incidents and events over the past 5 years.
	Engage with police service and develop collaborative actions.
	Regular community safety audits undertaken in company with community opinion leaders.
	Lobby for appropriate technologies & incorporate techniques for 'Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design' (CPTED) as a deterrent to property damage.
	Continue night patrols.
	Consult with communities on safe house needs and advocate to fill identified needs.
	Safety audit of all Council facilities and assets.*
<b>Increase participation in healthy activities.</b>	Audit sport and recreation facilities and identify gaps.
	Prepare practical designs for water parks consistent with resources available.
	Maintain a sport & recreation strategy in consultation with communities.
	Collaborate with Dept. of Health on delivery of healthy eating and exercise programs
<b>Aged health care.</b>	Develop an Aged Care Strategy. Determine feasibility of Mataranka becoming RGRC aged care community hub. Work in partnerships with industry and community organisations for shared service and facility.*



**WHY DO IT?**

**KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS**

- Reduce number of injuries sustained
- Improve individual and community feeling of wellbeing.
- Reduce property damage.
- Reduce lost time at work.

- Annual reporting to be supplied to Council.

- Agreement on collaboration in place.
- Program for collaboration in place.
- Progress reports submitted to Council.

- Regular Community Safety reporting to Council and Local Authorities.

- To be tabled (as part of the Risk Register) to the Audit and Risk Committee and subsequently reported to Council.

- Regular Community Safety Reporting to Council and Local Authorities.

- Safe house requirements defined, and reporting to Council on advocacy work for the same.

- Residual Critical Risk to be tabled (as part of the Risk Register) to the Audit and Risk Committee and subsequently reported to Council.

- Improve resident health.
- Increase life expectancy.
- Improve individual and community feeling of wellbeing.
- Provide opportunities for youth physical and social development.
- Divert young people from unhealthy, anti-social behaviour.
- Reduce pressure on health services, facilitating better service levels.
- Address community aspirations for more sport and recreational facilities.

- Regular reporting to Council and Local Authorities as part of Community Safety Reports.

- Third party advocacy and collaboration.

- Completed, implementation stage to be reported to Council and Local Authorities.

- Reported in Community Safety reports to Council and Local Authorities.

- Aging population likely to require more care services.
- Larger community, conveniently located.
- Council owns land in Mataranka
- Satisfy communities' wish for increased aged care, including facilities, meals & in home care.

- Regular reporting to Council as required by Funding Agreement.

<b>Improve Council service delivery.</b>	Engage with adjoining Councils to determine feasibility/practicality of shared service delivery. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Investigate opportunities for training.*</li> <li>- Fleet maintenance and management.*</li> <li>- Social Planning.*</li> <li>- Establishment of Big Rivers 'Regional Organisation of Councils' meetings.*</li> </ul>
	Develop Community Plans.*, inclusive of operational and fleet management.
	Develop Local Authority Priority Plans.*
	Ongoing feedback reporting on performance through Local Authority meetings. Establish Service Delivery Standards with associated policies.
<b>Increase engagement with young people.</b>	Develop and implement a Community Services (Social Needs) Coordination
	Invite school staff, police and other relevant organisations to Local Authority and community based council meetings to discuss local youth issues.
	Invite <b>youth</b> representatives of local sporting and recreational groups to present views to Local Authority meetings.
	Presentations to schools on jobs /career paths available in Council.
<b>Increase access to educational resources.</b>	Review libraries in the context of increasing their utilisation as learning/drop in centres.
	Collaborate with schools and other learning institutions to access online learning tools and resources.
	Identify opportunities for funding to build up cultural records and resources
	Develop and implement strategy for building cultural records and resources through our libraries.
	Collation of formalisation of all cemetery records throughout Council.*
	Collaboration with institutes and community organisations to establish Adult Literacy Learning Opportunities.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contain Council costs.</li> <li>• Improve individual and community wellbeing and lifestyles.</li> <li>• Better manage and monitor assets</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reported to Council in the Mayor's and Chief Executive Officer's reports as applicable.</li> </ul> <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Delivery of Community Plans.*</li> </ul> <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual consultation with Local Authorities on Town Priorities.</li> </ul> <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regular Local Authority meetings (four x per annum) with quorum.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is a perceived need for greater, wider and improved social services, extending beyond, but including addressing young people's needs.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure local youth and Stakeholder input on service delivery.</li> <li>• Reported to Council and Local Authorities in the Community Safety Reports.</li> <li>• Part of Town Priorities consultations with Local Authorities.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High representation of young people in the regional population.</li> <li>• Future impacts of Council decisions will disproportionately fall on younger.</li> <li>• Address evidence of disengagement of many young people from education, work and society.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Captured in Minutes, and Mayoral reporting to Council.</li> </ul> <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Captured in Local Authority Minutes.</li> </ul> <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reported on as part of the Reconciliation Action Plan implementation.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide opportunities for better, quieter learning environment.</li> <li>• Recognise limited access to internet and computers.</li> <li>• Provide better access to educational resources.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reported to Local Authorities in the Council Services Manager reports.</li> </ul> <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Captured in Council Services Manager and Programs Reporting to Council and Local Authorities.</li> </ul> <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reported to Council and Local Authorities as applicable.</li> </ul> <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cultural Competency Framework to be available at Council's libraries on completion and adoption.</li> </ul> <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reported to Council and Local Authorities as appropriate.</li> </ul> <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advocacy and support to be reported to Council.</li> </ul>



# ENVIRONMENT

**Goal:** Protect and care for the physical environment, including development and maintenance of clean and environmentally focused communities.

STRATEGIC FOCUS	KEY TASKS/STRATEGIES
<b>Create an overarching framework to improve and safeguard the RGRC region environment.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review and update the <i>RGRC Green Plan 2013-2016</i>.</li> <li>Coordinate and mesh with the relevant environmental strategy areas.</li> </ul>
<b>Improve effectiveness and efficiency of waste management.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engagement with and implementation of Big Rivers Region Waste Management Strategy.</li> <li>Map waste streams to source.</li> <li>Complete and operate regional waste management facility in Mataranka and Borroloola.*</li> <li>Investigate cost effective options for re-cycling.</li> <li>Develop a container deposit scheme.</li> <li>Establish methods for collection and disposal of derelict vehicles.</li> <li>Deliver waste management education program for communities.</li> </ul>
<b>Increase community resilience to environmental impacts.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop models for impacts for future flooding events.</li> <li>Review cyclone shelter needs and put in place appropriate capital works program.</li> <li>Develop fire management plans.</li> <li>Develop storm water management and harvesting plans.</li> <li>Council participation in disaster management preparation response and recovery initiatives.</li> </ul>
<b>Improve community visual amenity.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implement parks development, street scaping, street greening and way finding plans.</li> </ul>
<b>Improve animal health and control over pets.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engage community members in animal health and responsible pet ownership programs.</li> <li>Continue implementation and enforcement of animal control By-laws.</li> </ul>



**WHY DO IT?**

**KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS**

- Would provide a focus platform for strategic oversight.
- Likely to lead to improved efficiencies in delivery of the streams of strategic focus.

- Reported to Council and Local Authorities as appropriate.

- Improve visual amenity of communities.
- Reduce risks to health.
- Reduce adverse impacts on the environment, including native plants and animals.
- Reuse of waste streams.
- Potentially new revenue streams.

- Reported to Council as required/applicable.
- Periodic reports to Council on operations, and developments.
- Reported to Council as required.
- Reported to Council and Local Authorities.
- Forms part of Operational Reporting to Council and Local Authorities.
- Forms part of reporting on Waste Management Strategy implementation.
- Program sourced and/or developed.
- Number of programs delivered.
- Time series photographs of communities.

- Protect property and life.
- Increase water supply access.

- Reported to Council and Local Authorities as required.
- Advocacy work as required.
- Advocacy for the Numbulwar Cyclone Shelter.
- Advocacy for appropriate evacuation sites for communities throughout Council region.
- Reported to Local Authorities as part of Council Services Managers reports.
- Reported to Council and Local Authorities as applicable.
- Reported to Council and Local Authorities as applicable.
- Advocacy and participation in preparedness and debriefing after events.

- Increase community sense of wellbeing and lifestyle.

- To be implemented in consultation with Local Authorities, as part of Local Authority projects, and reported accordingly to the same, and to Council.

- Improve quality of life for community residents.
- Avoid animal suffering.

- Regular reporting to be provided to Council.



# INFRASTRUCTURE

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

STRATEGIC FOCUS	KEY TASKS/STRATEGIES
<p><b>Improve liveability of each community.</b></p>	<p>Develop a 10 year capital works program.</p> <hr/> <p>Develop and implement a roads re-seal plan.</p> <hr/> <p>Develop a community specific plan for cemeteries strategy.</p> <hr/> <p>Develop and implement an asset management plan</p>
<p><b>Manage community development expectations.</b></p>	<p>Ongoing community engagement / education regarding the 10 year capital works program and Master Planning projects, constraints and opportunities.</p>





### WHY DO IT?

### KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

- Provide a map against which budgets and advocacy can be developed.
- Provide rationale for priorities set for major projects across the region.
- Provide a tool to better align community expectations against achievable goals.

- Capital Works program presented to Council.

- Meet fundamental Council role and responsibility.
- Reduce vehicle wear and tear.
- Increase liveability.

- Plan developed.

- Increase demonstration of respect for past generations.
- Address instances of neglect.
- Increase community pride and wellbeing.
- Facilitate future expansion.

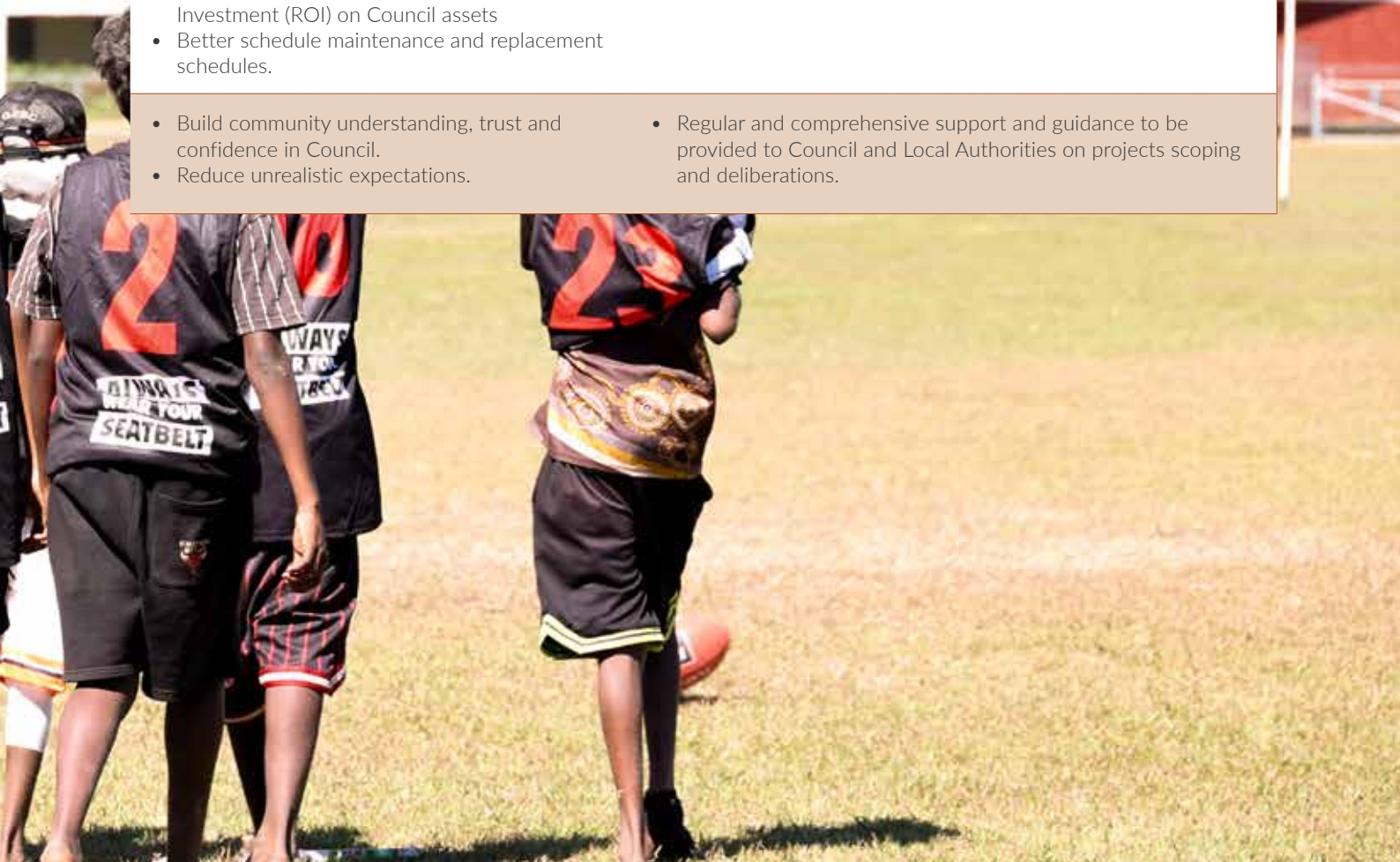
- Works and strategies reported to Council on development and guided by Local Authorities.

- Increase efficient and effective use of Council resources.
- Provide ability to monitor Return on Investment (ROI) on Council assets
- Better schedule maintenance and replacement schedules.

- Implementation of an Asset Management System.
- Plan to be developed and put to Council, and Audit and Risk Committee.

- Build community understanding, trust and confidence in Council.
- Reduce unrealistic expectations.

- Regular and comprehensive support and guidance to be provided to Council and Local Authorities on projects scoping and deliberations.

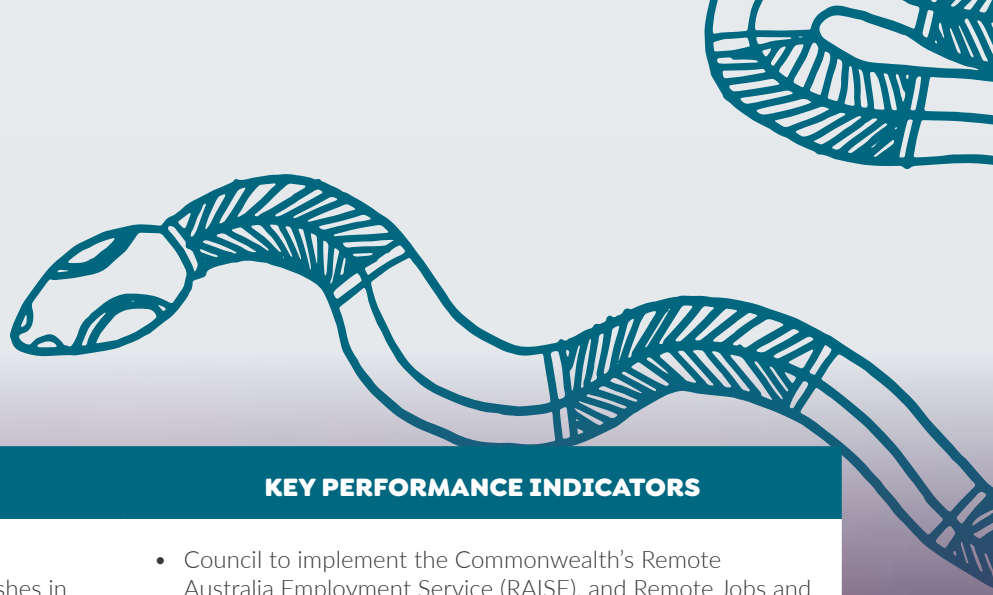




# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

**Goal:** Foster strengthening and growing jobs, industries, and investment attraction.

STRATEGIC FOCUS	KEY TASKS/STRATEGIES
<p><b>Strengthen resources to deliver economic development services.</b></p>	<p>Identify existing capacities and skills.</p> <p>Develop the scope and nature of the role the RGRC should play.</p> <p>Define the resources required to undertake the defined role.</p> <p>Develop a strategy to secure the resources – in house and / or outsourced.</p>
<p><b>Optimise flow on impacts from existing / developing regional industries.</b></p>	<p>Engagement / consultation program with industry stakeholders.</p> <hr/> <p>Definition of scope and type of business and employment opportunities.</p> <hr/> <p>Skills and capacity audit against identified opportunities.</p> <hr/> <p>Training, support and mentoring targeted at securing opportunities.</p> <hr/> <p>Mesh with Wellbeing strategies as to <i>engagement with young people</i></p>
<p><b>Build local partnerships.</b></p>	<p>Engage and/or partner with Aboriginal Corporations to secure joint contracts for infrastructure projects or service delivery.</p> <p>Review prospects for the Roper Gulf Regional Council being declared an Aboriginal Council based organisation for the purposes of tendering and contract manners.</p>



### WHY DO IT?

- Not currently a primary Council role.
- Strong feedback as to community wishes in this area.
- Existing resources not likely to be adequate.

### KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

- Council to implement the Commonwealth's Remote Australia Employment Service (RAISE), and Remote Jobs and Economic Development (RJED) programmes.
- Council to explore further commercial opportunities.

- Reduce unemployment.
- Increase pride and confidence.
- Facilitate positive changes in family and community Wellbeing and self-sufficiency.

- Develop Regional Workforce Development Plan as part of the Remote Australia Employment Service (RAES).

- Mitigate the threat to Council revenues posed by Commonwealth government policies to preference Aboriginal Corporations for service delivery.
- Increase engagement and build on relationships with constituents.
- Secure more surplus revenues to support Council services and initiatives on behalf of constituents.

- Reported on in Local Decision Making (LDM) mechanisms, and to Council as applicable.
- Advocacy and collaboration, including through LGANT and ALGA;
- Reported to Audit and Risk Committee and Council.





# GOVERNANCE

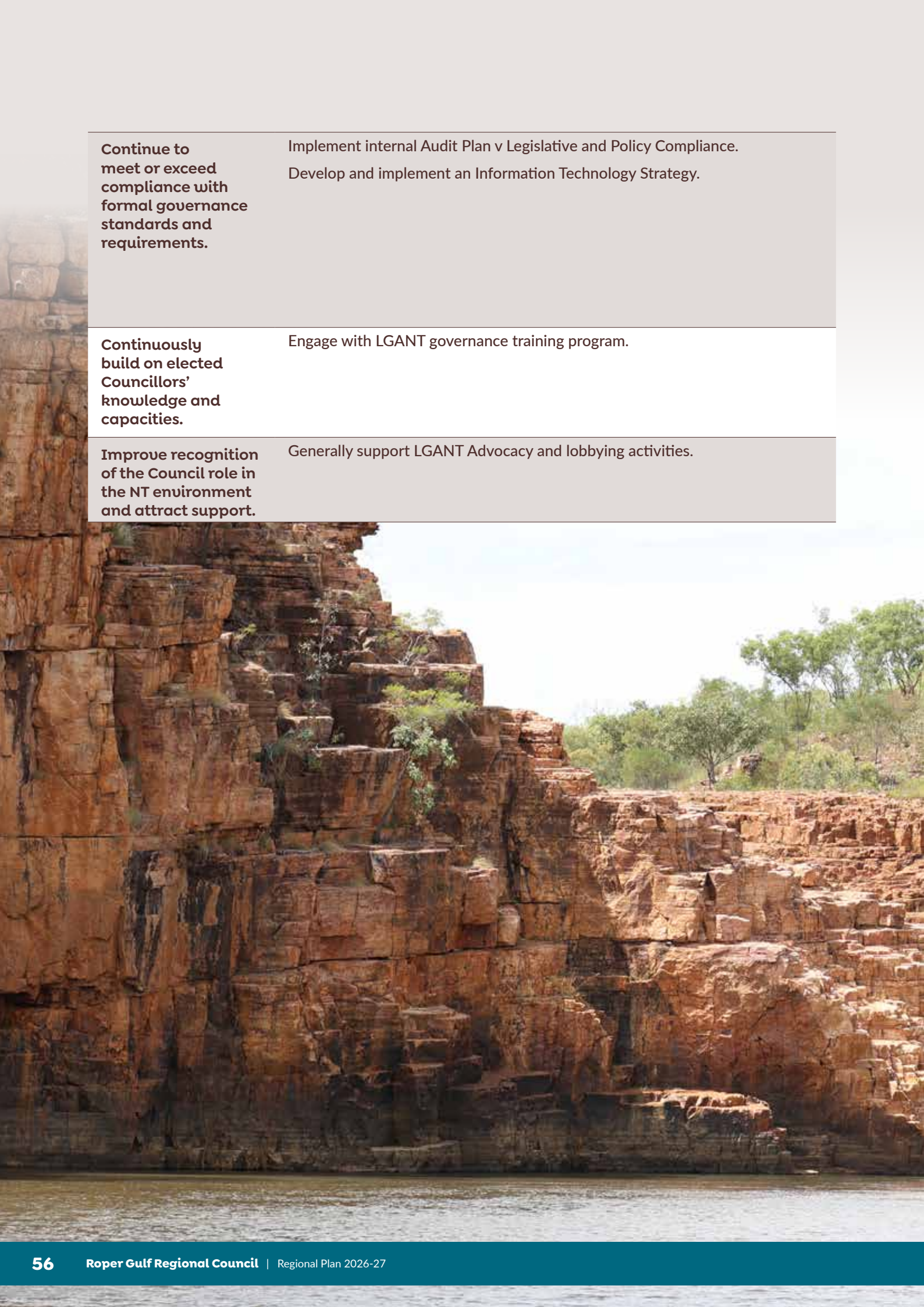
**Goal:** Increase the effectiveness and efficiency of the organisation, including in engagement with staff members, residents and external stakeholders.

STRATEGIC FOCUS	KEY TASKS/STRATEGIES
<p><b>Increase workforce effectiveness and engagement.</b></p>	<p>Create and implement a Workforce Development Plan to include at a minimum:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Council recruitment policy</li> <li>2. Mandatory Induction and staff training process – tailored to each location.</li> <li>3. Cultural Awareness Program</li> <li>4. Revision of position descriptions and titles, written in plain English, easily understood for applicants where English is a second language.</li> <li>5. Operations manual developed for each Local Council Office, recording particular processes and policies required for individual communities/towns</li> <li>6. Employee review and performance management process</li> <li>7. Employee reward and recognition program</li> <li>8. Council sponsored continued or higher learning policy</li> <li>9. Council employee housing policy</li> <li>10. Succession planning / career pathways</li> </ol> <hr/> <p>Develop and implement a community communications strategy.</p>
<p><b>Optimise performance in key outcome areas.</b></p>	<p>Align organisation structure and human resources behind Key Outcome Areas.</p> <hr/> <p>Align Council staff reporting behind key outcome areas, Strategic focus and KPIs.</p>
<p><b>Increase awareness /acknowledgement of Indigenous culture and history of the region.</b></p>	<p>Develop and implement a Reconciliation Action Plan and Cultural Safety Framework..</p> <hr/> <p>Review all external organisations with which Council is involved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Define reason for engagement</li> <li>• Establish objectives and optimal outcomes.</li> <li>• Strategy for optimal engagement.</li> </ul> <p>Allocate suitable resources.</p>



WHY DO IT?	KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce costs of operation.</li> <li>• Maintain and improve service delivery and standards.</li> <li>• Recognise and address the special circumstances of Aboriginal staff members.</li> <li>• Contribute to addressing issues associated with operating in a large and remote area.</li> <li>• Improve staff morale, performance and commitment.</li> <li>• Provide performance monitoring tools.</li> <li>• Facilitate employee attraction, training and retention.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reported to Council and Local Authorities.</li> <li>• Reported in Annual Report.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce misinformation.</li> <li>• Increase mutual understanding between Council and communities.</li> <li>• Increase support for Council.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain strategy and report to Council as required.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimise low value staff activities.</li> <li>• Optimise outcomes in Key Outcome Areas.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organisational Structure to be reviewed and any changes to reported to Council.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Facilitate ability to monitor and measure progress and identify successes.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reporting aligned and incorporated into Council, Committee, and Local Authority agendas.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deepen the relationships and mutual respect between people that work for Council, communities, TOs and other key stakeholders.</li> <li>• Increase workforce and other stakeholders' awareness of cultural protocols and sensitivities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop and implement the Reconciliation Action Plan.</li> <li>• Develop and implement a Cultural Safety Framework.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Optimise effectiveness of staff time involved.</li> <li>• Align resource utilisation behind priorities.</li> <li>• Increase outcomes from time invested.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reported to Council as applicable.</li> </ul>





**Continue to meet or exceed compliance with formal governance standards and requirements.**

Implement internal Audit Plan v Legislative and Policy Compliance.  
Develop and implement an Information Technology Strategy.

**Continuously build on elected Councillors' knowledge and capacities.**

Engage with LGANT governance training program.

**Improve recognition of the Council role in the NT environment and attract support.**

Generally support LGANT Advocacy and lobbying activities.

- NT Government legislation is prescriptive in nature.
- Compliance is essential to maximise ongoing funding streams
- Information Technology (IT) available changes over time
- IT security challenges and standards required are increasing.
- State of the art IT tends to support facilitation of effective internal and external communications.

- Compliance Review is a standing agenda item for Council and Audit and Risk Committee Meetings.
- Strategic Information Technology matters reported to Council and Audit and Risk Committee as required.

- Contribute to protecting both Councillors and Council from governance errors.
- Increase Councillors capacity, understanding and ability to contribute.
- Increase alignment of decision making behind strategic intent

- Elected Members offered opportunity to engage with and undertake LGANT training as available.

- Improve the standing and influence of Local Government in the NT
- Increase viability, sustainability of Council.

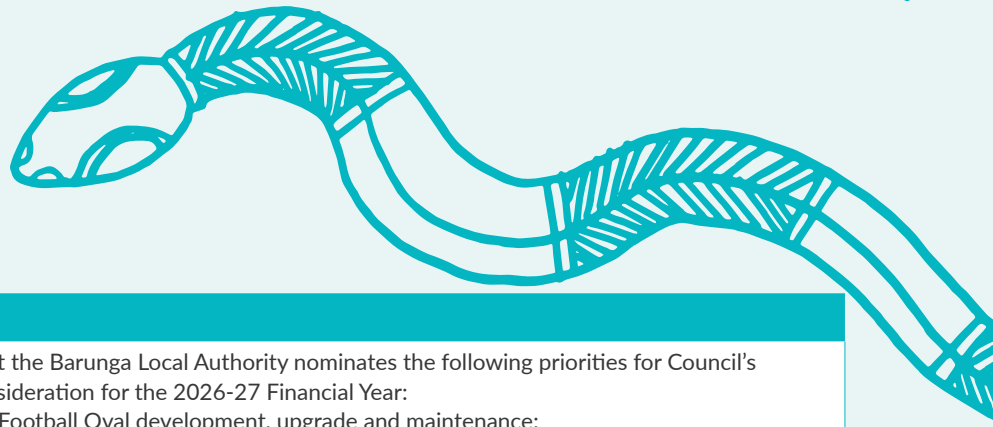
- Material prepared & LGANT submission support.
- Active participation at LGANT and ALGA level, and report on advocacy activity to Council.



# TOWN PRIORITIES

As part of the Regional Planning process, Council's Local Authorities were requested to consider and resolve to nominate local (town) priorities. The following Town Priorities were adopted by Council's Local Authorities via Resolution.

WARD/HOMELAND	LEGISLATION
Barunga 12.2 Town Priorities	BAR Q/2025-5 Resolved (LA member Danielle Bush/LA member Anne-Marie Lee)
Bulman - Weemol 14.2 Town Priorities	BUL Q/2025 10 Resolved (Councillor John Dalywater/LA member Francis Murry)
Daly Waters 13.2 Town Priorities	
Larrimah 13.2 Town Priorities	
Hodgson Downs (Minyerri) 12.6 Town Priorities	HOD Q/2024-38
Manyallaluk 14.1 Town Priorities	MAN Q/2025-9 Resolved
Numbulwar 12.3 Town Priorities	NUM Q/2024-34



**RESOLUTION**

<p><i>Carried</i></p>	<p>That the Barunga Local Authority nominates the following priorities for Council's consideration for the 2026-27 Financial Year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Football Oval development, upgrade and maintenance;</li> <li>b) Adequate appropriate public ablution block within the Community;</li> <li>c) Barunga Statement Memorial Project; and</li> <li>d) Internal roads maintenance.</li> </ul>
<p><i>Carried</i></p>	<p>That the Bulman-Weemol Local Authority nominates the following priorities for Council's consideration for the 2026-27 Financial Year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Cemetery Access;</li> <li>b) Waste Management Facility fencing;</li> <li>c) Aerodrome security, amenity and connectivity;</li> <li>d) Community safety and beautification; and</li> <li>e) Roads maintenance</li> </ul>
	<p>Daly Waters community residents nominates the following priorities for Council's consideration for the 2026-27 Financial Year:</p> <p>Daly Waters community residents nominates the following priorities for Council's consideration for the 2026-27 Financial Year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Municipal services (slashing and maintenance);</li> <li>b) Infrastructure and road maintenance (potholes and airstrip road repair); and</li> <li>c) Signage (road and tourism / information)</li> </ul>
	<p>Larrimah community residents nominates the following priorities for Council's consideration for the 2026-27 Financial Year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Town beautification;</li> <li>b) Town growth - tourism;</li> <li>c) Town and road signage; and</li> <li>d) Public ablution.</li> </ul>
<p><i>Carried</i></p>	<p>That the Hodgson Downs (Minyerri) Local Authority nominates the following priority projects for Council's consideration for the 2026 27 Financial Year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Water Park refurbishment in collaboration with Alawa Aboriginal Corporation (AAC); and</li> <li>b) Traffic management.</li> </ul>
<p><i>Carried</i></p>	<p>That the Manyallaluk Local Authority nominates the following priorities for Council's consideration for the 2026-27 Financial Year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Cemetery shelter and shading;</li> <li>b) Community lightning;</li> <li>c) Roads and drainage upgrades, upkeep and maintenance including (Community) Access Road; and</li> <li>d) Basketball Court fencing.</li> </ul>
<p><i>Carried</i></p>	<p>That the Numbulwar Local Authority nominates the following priority projects for Council's consideration for the 2026-27 Financial Year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Road maintenance and development;</li> <li>b) Community recycling;</li> <li>c) Community gravel access;</li> <li>d) New Cemetery development;</li> <li>e) Women's Shelter;</li> <li>f) Creche / Childcare facility; and</li> <li>g) Cyclone Shelter.</li> </ul>

WARD/HOMELAND	LEGISLATION
<b>Ngukurr</b> <b>12.7 Town Priorities</b>	<i>NGU Q/2024-11</i>
<b>Wugularr</b> <b>14.2 Town Priorities</b>	<i>WUG Q/2025-10</i> <b>Resolved</b>
<b>Urapunga</b> <b>12.4 Town Priorities</b>	<i>URA P/2024-8</i>
<b>Borroloola</b> <b>13.1 Town Priorities</b>	<i>BOR P-6/2025</i> <b>Resolved</b>
<b>Jilkminggan</b> <b>12.5 Town Priorities</b>	<i>JIL Q-8/2025</i> <b>Resolved</b>
<b>Mataranka</b> <b>13.3 Town Priorities</b>	<i>MAT Q-7/2025</i> <b>Resolved</b>



## RESOLUTION

<i>Carried</i>	That the Ngukurr Local Authority nominates the following priority projects for Council's consideration for the 2026-27 Financial Year: a) Community recycling; b) Road repairs and upgrades; c) Heavy vehicle traffic management; d) Community Cyclone Shelter; and e) Town beautification.
<i>Carried</i>	That the Wugularr Local Authority nominates the following priorities for Council's consideration for the 2026-27 Financial Year: a) Ride-on mower for Municipal team; b) Basketball Court fencing and refurbishment; c) traffic management and safety; d) Roads maintenance and repair; and e) Community safety.
<i>Carried</i>	That the Provisional Urapunga Local Authority nominates the following priority projects for Council's consideration for the 2026-27 Financial Year: a) Telecommunication connectivity advocacy; b) Accessible Waste Management facility; c) Playground refurbishment; and d) Community recycling.
<i>Carried</i>	That the Borroloola Local Authority nominates the following priorities for Council's consideration for the 2026-27 Financial Year: a) Internal Roads maintenance and safety upgrades; b) Scopes footpaths; and c) Town beautification.
<i>Carried</i>	That the Jilkminggan Local Authority nominates the following priorities for Council's consideration for the 2026-27 Financial Year: a) Roads upgrades including sealing and dust control; b) Sports and Recreation facilities and amenities; c) Security upgrades for Council facilities and assets; and d) Lighting for Emergency Response and Management.
<i>Carried</i>	That the Mataranka Local Authority nominates the following priorities for Council's consideration for the 2026-27 Financial Year: a) Museum upgrades and renovation.









# BUDGET 2026-2027

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# 1. INTRODUCTION

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The Council, in accordance with Part 10.5 of the Local Government Act 2019, must prepare an Annual Budget (the budget). The budget outlines the financial expectations for the Council in delivering its services to the communities.

The budget process involves meeting with the managers who deliver the services and those providing support services to establish a baseline cost of delivery. The expenditure estimate includes salaries and wages for direct and indirect staff, materials, contracts to external parties and overheads required at the community and support centre level. The funding required to deliver services is established through rate income, user charges, contract and grant income and miscellaneous revenues. Capital needs is also considered to provide the assets and infrastructure required to support the services delivery.

# 2. GOALS & OBJECTIVES

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The Roper Gulf Regional Council has adopted the following Key Outcome Areas:

## 1. 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.

## 2. Environment

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

## 3. Infrastructure

Support building and maintaining community infrastructure that positively contributes to resident needs and aspirations.

## 4. Economic Development

Foster strengthening and growing jobs, industries, and investment attraction.

## 5. Governance

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

The preparation is required by legislation but also meets the values of Key Outcome Area 5 by providing an element of good governance to increase the effectiveness and efficiency of the organisation. The finance department, which manages the development and monitoring of the budget, also provides operational support to all the various councils departments delivering services to the communities.

### **3. INCOME & EXPENDITURE BUDGET 2026-2027**

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The budget for 2026-2027 has been completed on a consultative basis and aims to address the needs of residents and the programs under the Roper Gulf Regional Council's direction.

During the 2026-2027 financial year, Roper Gulf Regional Council is expected to receive operational revenue of \$42,714,159. Of this revenue, \$28,871,215 is expected to be sourced from grants, \$7,478,370 from government contracts and agency services, \$3,818,892 from rates and remaining amounts from other sources.

#### **BUDGET ASSUMPTIONS AND FACTS**

- All current services will continue to be provided by the Regional Council.
- Use of Reserves are used for covering Capital Expenditure.
- In the absence of a significant rates base, the Commonwealth and Territory Governments will continue to fund services
- The budget has been set with the assumption that there will be some CPI increase in government funding.
- No direct control on Grants and agency income for future years
- There are no additional major initiatives planned over the next five years, outside the Council Plan. This is largely due to any major initiatives being wholly dependent on additional funding and there is currently no indication of significant increases that would enable major increases to be considered
- It is assumed the whole of the annual Financial Assistance Grant for 2026/27 financial year will be paid in 2026/27 financial year. It is anticipated that the same prepayment will apply in 2026/27 and has been included in the proposed budget.

## Budget and Long Term Financial Plan 2026-2027

	BUDGET 2026/27	BUDGET 2027/28	BUDGET 2028/29	BUDGET 2029/30
Income Rates	-3,818,892	-4,009,837	-4,130,132	-4,254,036
Income Council Fees and Charges	-826,427	-867,749	-893,781	-920,595
Income Operating Grants Subsidies	-28,871,215	-30,314,776	-31,224,219	-32,160,946
Income Investments	-1,525,270	-1,601,533	-1,649,579	-1,699,066
Income Agency and Commercial Services	-7,478,370	-7,852,289	-8,087,857	-8,330,493
Other Income	-193,984	-203,683	-209,794	-216,087
Operating Income	-42,714,159	-44,849,866	-46,195,362	-47,581,223
Employee Expenses	28,529,097	29,955,552	30,854,218	31,779,845
Contract and Material Expenses	7,421,223	7,792,284	8,026,053	8,266,834
Depreciation, Amortisation & Impairment	6,878,670	8,144,579	8,824,956	9,382,833
Other Operating Expenses	10,581,765	11,110,853	11,444,178	11,787,504
Finance Expenses	14,528	15,255	15,712	16,184
Elected Member Allow & Expenses	515,822	541,614	557,862	574,598
Committee & LA Allow & Expenses	34,960	36,708	37,809	38,943
Operating Expenses	53,976,065	57,596,844	59,760,789	61,846,741
Budgeted Operating Surplus/Deficit	11,261,906	12,746,977	13,565,426	14,265,517
Income Capital Grants	-12,886,009	-2,823,581	-2,823,581	-2,823,581
Budgeted Surplus/Deficit	-1,624,102	9,923,396	10,741,845	11,441,936
WIP Assets	24,454,952	6,418,581	5,943,581	5,418,581
Depreciation, Amortisation & Impairment	-6,878,670	-8,144,579	-8,824,956	-9,382,833
Net Budget Surplus/(Deficit)	15,952,180	8,197,399	7,860,470	7,477,685
Allocated from Reserves	-15,952,180	-8,197,399	-7,860,470	-7,477,685
Net budgeted operating position	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

## 4. INFRASTRUCTURE MAINTENANCE BUDGET

<b>INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS</b>	<b>\$9,982,224</b>
<b>MAJOR WORKS</b>	<b>\$6,969,133</b>
Barunga Night Patrol Building	\$290,000
Borrooloola Recycling Centre, Shed & Yard Upgrades	\$70,000
Borrooloola 7 Sayle Court	\$100,000
Bulman Staff Accommodation	\$50,000
Mataranka Carew House	\$200,000
Ngkurr Carry over from 25/26 projects	\$15,000
Ngkurr Staff Housing	\$1,800,000
Numbulwar Aged Care Centre Upgrade	\$150,000
Numbulwar office design	\$200,000
Numbulwar Staff Housing	\$2,150,000
Numbulwar Carry over from 25/26 projects	\$30,000
Urapunga Community Hall	\$650,000
Weemol Construct undercover basketball court	\$350,000
Katherine Office internal fit-out modifications	\$200,000
Various Communities minor projects	\$559,132
Various Communities Distribution / switch boards will need replacing	\$370,000
<b>ROADS MAINTENANCE &amp; UPGRADE</b>	<b>\$ 2,568,595</b>
Borrooloola Footpath Council Office	\$40,000
Numbulwar Clinic Road	\$100,000
Roads to Recovery	\$2,348,595
Manyallaluk Minor Roadworks	\$75,000
Mataranka Footpath	\$5,000
<b>FLEET, PLANT &amp; EQUIPMENT</b>	<b>\$ 4,935,000</b>
Operational Fleet Vehicles	\$2,500,000
Plant & Equipment	\$2,435,000

## 5. RATES SUMMARY 2026-2027

The following rates proposal has been prepared as per section 201 of the *Local Government Act 2019*. Adjustments have been made to incorporate the Minister for Local Government's approved conditional rating levies for mining and pastoral leases.

Please note that revenue estimates for pastoral and mining leases are based on declared Conditional Rates by the Minister for Local Government.

Please note that rate increases on Pastoral leases and Mineral Leases valued have been capped at an annual increase of 500%.

The Rates and User Charges for 2026 – 2027 are:

<b>ZONE/CLASS (MINIMUM)</b>	<b>2025-26</b>	<b>2026-27</b>
Residential Rate 1 – excl BMLDW	\$1,494.00	\$1,568.70
Residential Rate 2 - BMLDW incl GOV EMP Houses	\$1,391.00	\$1,460.55
Residential Rate 3 – Vacant on Aboriginal Land	\$1,391.00	\$1,460.55
Other – Territory Housing Community	\$1,494.00	\$1,546.65
Other – Territory Housing GOV EMP Houses	\$1,494.00	\$1,546.65
Rural Rate 1 – 1 Hectare to 50 Hectares	\$1,416.00	\$1,486.80
Rural Rate 2 - Greater than 50 Hectares	\$1,494.00	\$1,568.70
Commercial Rate 1 – excl BMLDW	\$1,736.00	\$1,822.80
Commercial Rate 2 – Borroloola, Mataranka, Larrimah & Daly Waters	\$1,669.00	\$1,752.45
Pastoral Leases	\$970.61	\$1,000.70
Land Occupied under a mining tenement	\$2,297.21	\$2,368.42

## 6. ASSESSMENT OF THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC EFFECTS OF THE RATING POLICY AND DECLARATION

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The Council has considered social and economic factors are important for its residents. While recognising this much of the economic decision is guided by the Commonwealth and Northern Territory Governments, and global impacts.

Rates to be levied on property owners by Roper Gulf Regional Council in 2026-2027 remain affordable and at very low levels compared to other local government jurisdictions in Australia. A rates comparison report was developed by Mead Perry to guide Council on the appropriate approach to rating properties for 2024/25, taking into consideration equity, fairness and the ability to use revenue on community projects. Council implemented the recommendations of the Mead Perry report in 2025/26 with amendment to incorporate CPI increases in the 2025/26 year. Council has amended these rates to incorporate forecast CPI increases in the 2026/27 year.

Additionally, rates revenue remains a small proportion of the Council's total budget, at less than 8 per cent of the total operating revenue. This underlies the fact that the Council is effective in securing significant non-rate revenue for all of its communities, including government grants and contracts. This allows for services and employment opportunities to be delivered to Council residents far above what the rates revenue would alone enable, resulting in a net positive socio-economic impact for residents.

Despite having mining and pastoral properties in the council's area, the rate capping imposed by the Territory Government for this category, restricts council's ability to generate increased revenue. This adversely affects council to provide increased services to the communities.

## 7. ELECTED MEMBER ALLOWANCES

### Table of maximum Council Member Allowances for 2026-2027

As per the determination of allowance of members of Local Government Councils, Determination 1 of 2026 (not formally advised at time of draft document).

A Council must resolve to fix member allowances for the financial year when it adopts the budget for the financial year. A Council must adopt its 2026-2027 budget on or before 30 June 2026.

	APPROVED AMOUNT \$	BUDGET AMOUNT \$
Councillor – base (1)	\$21,960.00	\$241,560.00
Professional Development	\$7,500.00	\$97,500.00
Deputy Mayor – base (1)	\$37,960.00	\$37,960.00
Extra Meeting	\$12,000.00	\$36,000.00
Mayor – base (2)	\$110,280.00	\$110,280.00
<b>Total Base + Electoral Allowance</b>		<b>\$523,300.00</b>

#### 1. Base Allowance Claims

The base allowance is automatically paid to council members each month or at such frequency as resolved by council, in arrears.

#### 2. Electoral Allowance Claims

The electoral allowance is automatically paid to council members each month or at such frequency as resolved by council, in arrears.

#### 3. Professional Development Allowance Claims

(i) The allowance is available to all council members.

(ii) The professional development allowance may be claimed multiple times each year, but the total value of those claims must not exceed the maximum specified in the table.

(iii) The professional development allowance is to be used to cover the cost of travel to the course or conference, course or conference fees, meals and accommodation for the duration of the course or conference.

(iv) Claims must be made using the forms approved by council. (v) Only approved courses/conferences consistent with council policy attract professional development allowance.

#### 4. Extra Meeting Allowance Claims

(i) Council members may only claim an extra meeting allowance for meetings referred to in the council policy.

(ii) An extra meeting allowance may be claimed for up to a maximum of two meetings per day. (iii) Council

members must not claim for an extra meeting more than once for the same meeting.

(iv) When a council member is required to travel in order to attend an approved extra meeting, the council member may claim an extra meeting allowance for each full day of travel, unless that travel falls on the same day on which the meeting is held. In this context, a full day of travelling means at least four hours of travelling, which may include time in transit.

(v) Claims must be made using the forms approved by council.

(vi) Forms must include the date on which the meeting was held and indicate the period of time the member was present at the meeting.

(vii) The member must have attended at least 75 per cent of the duration of the meeting to claim an extra meeting allowance.

(viii) Claims for extra meeting allowance must be made by the second working day in the month following the meeting for which the claim is made, or as resolved by council. Payment of extra meeting allowance is monthly or as resolved by council.

(ix) Claims for extra meeting allowance not made in accordance with (viii) will be regarded as a late claim and paid with the next monthly payment. However, if the claim is not made within three months of the meeting for which the extra meeting allowance is claimed, the right to an extra meeting allowance for that meeting is forfeited.

(x) Claims forms must be submitted by the approved method.

## 8. LOCAL AUTHORITY AREA BUDGET

### Operating Income and Expenditure for Local Authorities for the Period Ending June 30 2027

	REGIONAL OFFICE	BARUNGA	WUGULARR	BORROLOOLA	BULMAN - WEEMOL	EVA VALLEY	JILKMINGGAN
<b>OPERATING INCOME</b>							
Rates	2,095,940	0	0	0	0	0	0
Charges	1,722,952	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fees and Charges	2,888	36,186	22,109	28,256	33,642	1,179	3,200
Operating Grants and Subsidies	13,502,518	654,924	1,740,666	731,029	563,501	605,136	1,222,846
Interest / Investment Income	1,525,270	0	0	0	0	0	0
Commercial and Other Income	1,915,240	99,526	116,486	4,179,742	160,225	66,829	40,563
Other Income	168,465	0	0	6,454	11,703	0	0
<b>TOTAL OPERATING INCOME</b>	<b>20,933,272</b>	<b>790,636</b>	<b>1,879,261</b>	<b>4,945,482</b>	<b>769,071</b>	<b>673,144</b>	<b>1,266,610</b>
<b>OPERATING EXPENDITURE</b>							
Employee Expenses	11,453,676	1,444,254	2,288,952	2,466,576	1,226,407	718,885	1,536,664
Contract and Material Expenses	3,248,226	197,571	517,645	636,589	242,135	224,575	247,054
Other Operating Expenses	4,368,195	471,545	585,887	1,253,360	438,082	255,959	438,551
Finance Expenses	10,910	68	393	118	1,020	84	95
Management Fees / Allocations	6,235,501	(1,408,143)	(1,524,513)	512,130	(1,167,733)	(529,980)	(966,341)
Elected Member Allowance & Expenses	0	78,724	6,646	73,244	27,114	0	7,436
Council Committee & LA Allow & Exp	0	6,616	4,251	3,466	2,046	3,621	3,151
Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	6,878,670	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>32,195,178</b>	<b>790,636</b>	<b>1,879,261</b>	<b>4,945,482</b>	<b>769,071</b>	<b>673,144</b>	<b>1,266,610</b>
<b>OPERATING SURPLUS / DEFICIT</b>	<b>(11,261,906)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(0)</b>	<b>0</b>

MATARANKA	MINYERRI	NGUKURR	NUMBULWAR	ROBINSON RIVER	URAPUNGA	LARRIMAH	OTHER	TOTAL ANNUAL BUDGET
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,095,940
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,722,952
17,271	0	128,125	553,570	0	0	0	0	826,427
1,002,008	228,360	1,250,952	1,275,674	197,587	56,184	0	5,839,829	28,871,215
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,525,270
260,582	10,552	226,439	332,630	0	37,308	23,914	8,334	7,478,370
194	0	6,748	420	0	0	0	0	193,984
1,280,055	238,912	1,612,265	2,162,294	197,587	93,493	23,914	5,848,163	42,714,159
2,213,468	0	3,016,185	2,017,607	0	146,422	0	0	28,529,097
265,710	619,441	597,310	353,492	118,508	29,749	1,570	121,649	7,421,223
673,771	32,457	806,007	1,134,281	12,780	54,696	4,929	51,266	10,581,765
158	0	213	1,469	0	0	0	0	14,528
(1,928,901)	(458,773)	(2,858,719)	(1,412,749)	(45,653)	(138,790)	17,415	5,675,249	0
51,282	44,057	49,694	65,673	111,953	0	0	0	515,822
4,566	1,731	1,575	2,521	0	1,416	0	0	34,960
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6,878,670
1,280,055	238,912	1,612,265	2,162,294	197,587	93,493	23,914	5,848,163	53,976,065
(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(11,261,907)

## 9. APPENDIX A: CAPITAL BUDGET

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Asset management is increasingly becoming important to Roper Gulf Regional Council. With over \$ 65 million in depreciating physical assets and the need for financial sustainability and economical practices, it is prudent that asset management is a key focus for Council in the years to come and that it is to the highest standards possible. Council's asset management team focuses on delivering the following services to Council:

- Acquisitions and disposal of assets;
- Fleet and pool vehicle management;
- Financial asset management (maintenance of asset registers, ledgers, commissioning, insurance);
- Long term planning for assets (10 year plans);
- Staff housing tenancy management;
- Visitor Accommodation management; and Commercial tenancy management

The primary role of assets is to support the delivery of services that serves Council's long-term objectives. As Council's assets are aging, there are increases in maintenance, refurbishment and disposal cost which increase the cost of the services that they support. The main aim of Council's asset management is to ensure that assets are managed in accordance with the National Asset Management Strategy (NAMS) - a national framework for local governments to manage their assets, and this framework outlines minimal 'core' asset management actions based around the framework. The national frameworks for asset management are:

- **Framework 1:** Criteria for Assessing Financial Sustainability
- **Framework 2:** Asset Planning and Management
- **Framework 3:** Financial Planning and Reporting

A gap analysis has been undertaken to gain an understanding of Council's current level of asset management and to highlight areas for improvement and best practice to further develop Council's asset management planning practices. Thus, Council's main asset management focus for the forthcoming year is implementing strategies identified from this analysis.

## Capital Expenditure Budget 2026-2027

COUNCIL BUDGET		FUNDED BY
<b>SUPPORT CENTRE 29 CRAWFORD STREET</b>		
\$100,000	Compliance upgrade	Council
<b>SUPPORT CENTRE 2 CRAWFORD STREET</b>		
\$205,000	Head Office - Internal Fit Out Modifications and IT	Council
\$4,650,000	Replacement program, Fleet, Plant, Fuel Infrastructure, Boats, Switchboards (All Communities)	Council
\$500,000	Flood Recovery Work (All communities)	Insurance or Grant
\$2,348,595	Roads to Recovery (All Communities)	Government Grant
\$650,000	Car Crusher	Government Grant
<b>BARUNGA</b>		
\$160,000	Upgrade to Sport and Rec Hall	Government Grant
\$105,000	Minor Projects, roads and maintenance	Council and Operational Subsidies
\$20,000	Oval upgrade to AFLNT Specifications	Local Authority
\$290,000	Barunga Night Patrol Building	Local Authority / Council
<b>WUGULAR</b>		
\$100,000	Cameron / Maddigan Intersection & Road Upgrade	Government Grant
\$120,000	Minor Projects, roads and maintenance	Council and Operational Subsidies
\$107,133	25/26 carry-over – Ablution Block and new door	Local Authority
\$25,000	Cemetery Arch scope and quote	Local Authority
<b>BORROLOOLA</b>		
\$70,000	25/26 carry-over – Tamarind Park power & Garawa St	Local Authority and Council
\$70,000	Recycling Shed & Yard Upgrades	Australian Government Grants and Council
\$100,000	Minor Projects and Road Maintenance	Council and Operational Subsidies
\$40,000	Footpath Council Office	Council
\$100,000	7 Sayle Court	Council
<b>BULMAN - WEEMOL</b>		
\$100,000	Minor Projects and Road Maintenance	Council and Operational Subsidies
\$30,000	25/26 carry-over – SNP Kitchen & Ablution Block	Government Grant
\$50,000	Staff Accommodation	Grant and Council

<b>MANYALLALUK</b>		
\$45,000	Night Patrol – replace floor	Government Grant
\$50,000	Park repairs	Grant / Council
\$90,000	Minor roads maintenance	Council and Operational subsidies
\$49,265	25/26 carry-over – SNP Kitchen & Cemetery Fencing	Council, Grant and Local Authority Funding
<b>MATARANKA</b>		
\$2,000,000	Airstrip Upgrade	Government Grant
\$200,000	Carew Road House Development	Council
\$200,000	Showgrounds sewerage system	Council
\$100,000	Minor Projects and Road Maintenance	Council and Operational Subsidies
\$120,000	25/26 carry-over Airstrip repairs, Stan Martin Park Dump, footpath	Council, Grant and Local Authority Funding
<b>NGUKURR</b>		
\$1,800,000	Lot 223 & 226 repair / replace	Council
\$170,000	Ngukurr new landfill site - design	Grant / Council
\$140,000	25/26 carry-over – Media Centre, Pool Shed, Lot 224	Council, Grant and Local Authority Funding
\$120,000	Minor Projects and Road Maintenance	Council and Operational Subsidies
<b>NUMBULWAR</b>		
\$200,000	Office design concept	Council
\$30,000	Workshop Equipment	Council
\$2,150,000	Lot 161& 156 Replacement	Council
\$250,000	Numbulwar new landfill site - design	Grant / Council
\$242,000	Festival Ablution Block	NT Government Grant
\$120,000	Minor Projects and Road Maintenance	Council and Operational Subsidies
\$647,545	25/26 carry-over – Aged care, toilet airport, Clinic Road, office design, new landfill design, cemetery works, solar lights	
<b>OTHER</b>		
\$130,000	JILKMINNGAN and Minyerri - Minor Projects and Road Maintenance	Council and Operational Subsidies
\$275,000	URAPUNGA – Community Hall	Grant / Council
\$350,000	WEEMOL – Undercover basketball court	Council
\$4,990,414	OUTSTATIONS – Homelands and housing infrastructure	Grant Funds
\$45,000	URAPUNGA – Replace office floor	Council
<b>TOTAL \$24,454,952</b>		

**Note :** Projects identified as funded by grant will only proceed if sufficient funding is sourced from external agencies.

## Table 2.1 Capital Expenditure and Funding

By class of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment

<b>CAPITAL EXPENDITURE**</b>	<b>TOTAL PROGRAM BUDGET \$</b>	<b>2026 2027 BUDGET \$</b>	<b>2027 2028 BUDGET \$</b>	<b>2028 2029 BUDGET \$</b>	<b>2029 2030 BUDGET \$</b>	<b>2030 2031 BUDGET \$</b>
Land and Buildings	12,915,000	6,969,132	0	0	0	0
Infrastructure	18,784,265	9,982,224	1,845,000	1,845,000	1,845,000	845,000
Plant and Machinery	6,950,000	2,435,000	1,020,000	1,295,000	770,000	1,025,000
Roads	8,017,919	2,568,595	1,053,581	1,053,581	1,053,581	1,053,581
Fleet	10,725,000	2,500,000	2,500,000	1,750,000	1,750,000	1,375,000
<b>Total Expenditure*</b>	<b>57,392,184</b>	<b>24,454,952</b>	<b>6,418,581</b>	<b>5,943,581</b>	<b>5,418,581</b>	<b>4,298,581</b>
<b>FUNDED BY *</b>						
Operating Income (Depreciation)		6,878,670	8,144,579	8,824,956	9,382,833	9,888,209
Capital Grants *		12,886,009	2,823,581	2,823,581	2,823,581	1,823,581
Transfers from / (to) Cash Reserves / Future Grants		4,690,273	-4,549,579	-5,704,956	-6,787,833	-7,413,209
Borrowings						
Sale of Assets						
Other						
<b>Total Capital Expenditure Funding</b>	<b>57,392,184</b>	<b>24,454,952</b>	<b>6,418,581</b>	<b>5,943,581</b>	<b>5,418,581</b>	<b>4,298,581</b>

## Table 3.1 Planned Major Capital Works and Project Costing

CLASS OF ASSETS	BY MAJOR CAPITAL PROJECT*
Buildings	Katherine Compliance Upgrades and internal office fitout
Buildings	Numbulwar lots 156 and 161 replacement
Buildings	Ngukurr lots 223 and 226 repair or replace
Buildings	Weemol Construct undercover basketball court
Buildings	Barunga Night Patrol Building
Buildings	Distribution / switch boards need replacing to meet new legislative requirements
Buildings	Numbulwar Festival Ablution Block
Infrastructure	Outstations – Homelands & Housing
Infrastructure	Mataranka Airstrip upgrade
Infrastructure	Ngukurr and Numbulwar landfill design
Infrastructure	Beswick – Cameron / Maddigan Intersection
Plant & Equipment	Major and Light Plant for operational activities
Vehicles	Operational 4wd Utility & Passenger Vehicles
Roadworks	Roads to Recovery
Roadworks	Numbulwar Clinic Road
	<b>TOTAL</b>

<b>TOTAL PRIOR YEAR(S)</b>		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>TOTAL PLANNED</b>	<b>TOTAL YET</b>	<b>EXPECTED PROJECT COMPLETION DATE</b>
<b>ACTUALS \$</b>	<b>YTD ACTUALS \$</b>	<b>ACTUALS \$</b>	<b>BUDGET \$</b>	<b>TO SPEND \$</b>	
0	0	0	300,000	300,000	30/06/2027
0	0	0	2,150,000	2,150,000	30/06/2027
0	100,000	100,000	1,900,000	1,800,00	30/06/2027
0	300,000	300,000	650,000	350,000	30/06/2027
0	30,000	30,000	290,000	260,000	30/06/2027
0	130,000	130,000	500,000	370,000	30/06/2027
0	25,000	25,000	267,000	242,000	30/06/2027
0	9,586	9,586	5,000,000	4,990,414	30/06/2027
0	80,000	80,000	3,000,000	2,920,000	30/06/2028
0	0	0	2,500,000	2,500,000	30/06/2030
0	1,100,000	1,100,000	1,200,000	100,000	30/06/2027
0	850,000	850,000	6,150,000	5,300,000	30/06/2031
0	850,000	850,000	10,725,000	9,875,000	30/06/2031
0	0	0	6,262,919	6,262,919	30/06/2031
0	1,100,000	1,100,000	1,200,000	100,000	30/06/2027
<b>0</b>	<b>4,574,586</b>	<b>4,574,586</b>	<b>42,094,919</b>	<b>37,520,333</b>	

## 10. APPENDIX B: FEES AND CHARGES SCHEDULE

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Fees and Charges Schedule 2026-2027:

- A senior discount of 15% applies to all the below listed fees and charges for residents holding a Seniors Card. This discount does not apply to Rates & Post Boxes.
- Concession Card holders receive a 30% discount on veterinary services relating to euthanasia and desexing surgeries (card must be sighted prior to delivery of service).
- The below charges are for short term hire of Plant, Machinery & Labour subject to availability. Long term hire, lease or other arrangements need to be negotiated with the Council.
- A request for waiver must be written correspondence to the Council. Any waiver of fee or charge must be approved by the Council.

DESCRIPTION	2026-27 GST INC (where applicable)	UNIT	COMMENTS
<b>Trades and Labour</b>			
All of RGRC Where Available			
Tradesman - (excluding Mechanic)	\$160.00	per hour	All Trades excluding Mechanic
Mechanic	\$160.00	per hour	Katherine Town
Mechanic	\$170.00	per hour	Remote Communities (additional accommodation and travel costs may apply)
Trades Assistant - includes apprentice	\$108.50	per hour	
Travel (light vehicles)	\$3.30	per km	Includes sealed and unsealed
Travel (medium rigid)	\$4.40	per km	Includes sealed and unsealed
Travel (heavy)	\$6.60	per km	Includes sealed and unsealed
Labour - Operator	\$134.00	per hour	Travel time charges based on hourly rate
Labour - Supervisor	\$170.00	per hour	Travel time charges based on hourly rate
Emergency call out fee	\$315.00	per call out	Outside of council operating hours + Additional minimum 3 hour charge at applicable labour rate
Administration Labour	\$108.50	per hour	
Specialist Labour	\$141.00	per hour	
Professional Fees	\$271.00	per hour	Engineers, Project Manager
<b>Plant and Equipment - Wet Hire</b>			
Elevated Work Platform	\$368.00	per hour	Includes 2 Elevated platform license holders to operate
3-6 Tonne Truck	\$217.00	per hour	
>6 Tonne Truck	\$260.50	per hour	
Backhoe	\$271.00	per hour	Includes attachments
Grader (Cat 12M)	\$390.00	per hour	
Forklift (Manitou Telehandler)	\$238.50	per hour	
Bobcat with Attachments	\$238.50	per hour	
Mini Excavator	\$238.50	per hour	
24 Tonne Excavator (Hitachi)	\$390.00	per hour	
Rock-hammer	\$108.50	per hour	Mini Excavator only
Front End Loader	\$326.00	per hour	Includes attachments

<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>2026-27 GST INC</b> (where applicable)	<b>UNIT</b>	<b>COMMENTS</b>
Tractor - up to 100hp with Slasher or Post Hole Borer	\$238.50	per hour	Need to check locations for availability
Gator	\$163.00	per hour	
Quad Bike & spray pack	\$163.00	per hour	Does not include chemicals
Ride -On - mower	\$216.50	per hour	
Box Trailer	\$65.10	half day	
Box Trailer	\$120.00	per day	
Chainsaw	\$152.50	per hour	
<b>Waste Management</b>			
Service Charge	\$485.50	per bin	Multiplied by number of collections per week
Replacement Household Wheelie Bin	\$194.80	per bin	Where allocated bins have been vandalised or stolen
Commercial Waste Dump Fee	\$96.60	per m3	Excluding concrete waste
<b>Whitegoods</b>			
Fridge, Freezer, Air Conditioners	Free	Per unit	Degassed with documentation
Fridge, Freezer, Air Conditioners (with gas)	\$100.00	Per unit	
Washing Machines	Free	Per unit	
<b>Waste Oil</b>			
Waste Oil Disposal	\$1.25	per litre	Katherine only
Waste Oil Disposal	\$1.80	per litre	Remote
Waste Cooking Oil Disposal	\$0.15	per litre	
<b>Steel</b>			
Dead Car Fee	\$130.500	per car	
Scrap Steel	Free	per unit	Clean
Scrap Steel	\$95.50	per cubic metre	Mixed / Contaminated
<b>Tyres</b>			
Tyres - Standard Sedan	\$30.00	per tyre	
Tyres - 4WD	\$52.50	per tyre	
Tyres - Truck / Tractor	\$140.70	per tyre	

DESCRIPTION	2026-27 GST INC (where applicable)	UNIT	COMMENTS
<b>Veterinary Fees with Nurse Treatment Visits</b>			
Town camps and outstations - Full Day	\$2,058.00	per day	
Town camps and outstations - Half Day	\$1,082.00	half day	Applicable to day drip town camps and outstations ex Katherine only
Town camps and outstations - Travel	\$3.26	per km	Ex Katherine
<b>Veterinary Nurse Fees and Treatment Visits</b>			
Nurse Vaccinations	\$25.00	per vaccination	
Town camps and outstations - Travel	\$3.26	per km	Ex Katherine
<b>Individual Fees for Service</b> (Where owner does not fall under outstation or town camp service provision)			
Consultation Short	\$44.00	15 min	
Consultation Long	\$81.50	30 min	
Nail Clip	\$20.00	per animal	Performed by nurse
IV fluid therapy	\$108.20	per bag	Emergency only under vet supervision
Subcutaneous fluid therapy	\$54.20	per animal	Emergency only under vet supervision
Parental drug administration	\$38.00	per injection	Emergency only under vet supervision
Euthanasia without burial	\$162.50	per animal	
Euthanasia with burial	\$141.00	per animal	
<b>Cemetery services</b>			
Burial charges include digging and backfilling of grave	\$541.00	per burial	Where available. Where unavailable, contractors may be engaged at an additional cost. Weekday rate only.
<b>Communications, publications and administration</b>			
Rates Search	\$108.20	per property	
Post Box - Small	\$56.70	per year	
Post Box - Medium	\$84.60	per year	
Post Box - Large	\$119.00	per year	
Establishment fee	\$37.80	per box	
New lock	\$37.80	per lock	

<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>2026-27 GST INC</b> (where applicable)	<b>UNIT</b>	<b>COMMENTS</b>
Extra keys	\$27.30	per key	
Reactivation	\$37.80	each reactivation	
Internet Café	\$3.90	per 15 mins	
Printing - A4 Black & White single sided	\$1.40	per page	
Printing - A4 Black & White double sided	\$2.35	per page	
Printing - A3 Black & White single sided	\$2.35	per page	
Printing - A3 Black & White double sided	\$2.85	per page	
Printing - A4 Colour single sided	\$2.35	per page	
Printing - A4 Colour double sided	\$4.00	per page	
Printing - A3 Colour single sided	\$2.85	per page	
Printing - A3 Colour double sided	\$5.70	per page	
Transmit or receive a fax per A4 page	\$2.55	per page	Local
Transmit or receive a fax per A4 page	\$3.95	per page	Interstate
Transmit or receive a fax per A4 page	\$14.50	per page	International
Laminate - A4 sheet	\$5.00	per page	
Laminate - A3 sheet	\$6.75	per page	
Laminate Business Card	\$2.35	per card	
Binding of documents	\$13.55	up to 30 pages	
Binding of documents	\$22.80	up to 50 pages	
Binding of documents	\$28.50	over 50 pages	
Annual Report or Regional Plan black and white copy	\$374.10		Free copies can be downloaded at: <a href="http://www.ropergulf.nt.gov.au">www.ropergulf.nt.gov.au</a> . Copies of the document are free to read at all any SDC's
Annual Report or Regional Plan Colour copy	\$2.85	per page	One sided print

DESCRIPTION	2026-27 GST INC (where applicable)	UNIT	COMMENTS
Annual Report or Regional Plan printers Copy	\$65.20	per copy	
Ads in Newsletter-Banner Advertisement	\$76.20	per ad	
Ads in Newsletter-Quarter page	\$195.00	per ad	To place Advertisements in RGRC Newsletter
Ads in Newsletter-Half page	\$287.00	per ad	
Ads in Newsletter-Full page	\$380.00	per ad	
Copy of Minutes black and white copy	\$16.30	per meeting	Free copies can be downloaded at: <a href="http://www.ropergulf.nt.gov.au">www.ropergulf.nt.gov.au</a> . Copies of the document are free to read at all any SDC's
Additional Local Authority Meeting Fee		per meeting	Price on application - varies with town
Scanning & Email	\$0.81	per page	
<b>Venue Hire</b>			
Basic Facility Hire	\$258.00	per day - Flat Rate	Includes main building such as Community Halls, Board Rooms, Training Rooms and Singular Sport and Rec Building
Basic Facility Hire	\$206.00	minimum 4 hours + \$25 per additional hour	Includes main building such as Community Halls, Board Rooms, Training Rooms and Singular Sport and Rec Building
Whole Facility Hire	\$360.50	per day - Flat Rate	Incorporates the hire of several buildings on the same grounds including kitchen, toilets and showers
Whole Facility Hire	\$283.30	minimum 4 hours + \$40 per additional hour	Incorporates the hire of several buildings on the same grounds including kitchen, toilets and showers
Office Space	\$257.50	per week	3x2 metre area. Long term leases can be negotiated
Visitor Accommodation - Service Charge	\$154.50	per room per day.	"Booking up to 5 nights - \$154.50 per room per night Bookings >5 nights to 4 weeks \$134.00 per room per night Bookings >4 weeks \$113.50 per room per night"

<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>2026-27 GST INC</b> (where applicable)	<b>UNIT</b>	<b>COMMENTS</b>
Oval For Organised Competition	\$1,180.00	per season (12-14 weeks)	Facility hire agreement must be signed and approved by Council before access to the facility is approved.
Long Term Development Program Fee	\$3,520.00	per season (30-40 weeks)	Facility hire agreement must be signed and approved by Council before access to the facility is approved.
Tables	\$4.10	per day	per table, payable in advance
Chairs	\$1.75	per day	per chair, payable in advance
Delivery of Tables/Chairs	\$102.80	per event	Local delivery only
Laptop	\$59.60	per event	
Projector	\$34.70	per event	
White Board	\$18.90	per event	
Flip Chart Book	\$23.80	per pad	
BBQ	\$54.10	per day	\$100.00 deposit required. Hire includes a gas bottle with gas. The hirer is responsible for ensuring they have adequate gas as hire does not include a full gas bottle
Camping Fees	\$21.65	per day	per site per vehicle
Storage Facility Fee	\$27.05	per pallet per week	Insurance to be borne by the customer
Livestock Adjustment Roper Gulf residents	\$2.75		per head. Max 2 nights
Livestock Adjustment other5	\$6.00	for 5 head	per head. Max 2 nights
<b>Home Care Packages</b>			
Nursing care	\$186.00	per hour	GST not applicable
Registered Nurse	\$193.00	per hour	GST not applicable
Enrolled Nurse	\$170.00	per hour	GST not applicable
Nursing Assistant	\$149.50	per hour	GST not applicable
Allied health & other therapeutic services	\$229.00	per hour	GST not applicable
Allied health therapy assistant	\$173.50	per hour	GST not applicable
Counsellor or Psychotherapist	\$234.00	per hour	GST not applicable
Dietitian or Nutritionist	\$227.00	per hour	GST not applicable

<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>2026-27 GST INC</b> (where applicable)	<b>UNIT</b>	<b>COMMENTS</b>
Exercise physiologist	\$227.00	per hour	GST not applicable
Occupational therapist	\$229.00	per hour	GST not applicable
Physiotherapist	\$218.40	per hour	GST not applicable
Podiatrist	\$216.30	per hour	GST not applicable
Psychologist	\$258.30	per hour	GST not applicable
Social worker	\$247.00	per hour	GST not applicable
Speech pathologist	\$245.00	per hour	GST not applicable
Care management	\$155.40	per hour	GST not applicable
Restorative care management	\$180.60	per hour	GST not applicable
Personal Care	\$118.70	per hour	GST not applicable
Social support and community engagement	\$113.40	per hour	GST not applicable
Therapeutic services for independent living	\$228.00	per hour	GST not applicable
Remedial masseuse	\$213.50	per hour	GST not applicable
Respite	\$117.00	per hour	GST not applicable
Transport	\$100.90	per trip	GST not applicable
Domestic assistance	\$112.50	per hour	GST not applicable
Home maintenance and repairs	\$124.00	per hour	GST not applicable
Meal delivery	\$22.10	per hour	GST not applicable
Meal preparation	\$113.40	per hour	GST not applicable
<b>Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP) &amp; Disability In Home Support (DIHS)</b>			
Meals	\$14.85	per meal	GST not applicable
<b>SUPPORT SERVICES:</b>			
Transport	\$41.30	per one way trip	GST not applicable
Social Support Group	\$30.70	per hour	GST not applicable
Social Support Individual	\$68.20	per hour	GST not applicable
Domestic Assistance	\$69.30	per hour	GST not applicable
Personal Care	\$79.40	per hour	GST not applicable

DESCRIPTION	2026-27 GST INC (where applicable)	UNIT	COMMENTS
<b>National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) Very Remote</b>			
Establishment Fee for personal care/ participation	\$1,062.10	per establishment	GST not applicable
Group Activities - standard weekday daytime	\$106.30	per hour	GST not applicable
Group Activities - standard weekday evening	\$117.10	per hour	GST not applicable
Group Activities - standard Saturday	\$149.50	per hour	GST not applicable
Group Activities - standard Sunday	\$192.80	per hour	GST not applicable
Group Activities - standard Public Holiday	\$236.00	per hour	GST not applicable
Access Community Social and Rec Activity - standard - weekday daytime	\$106.30	per hour	GST not applicable
Access Community Social and Rec Activity - standard - weekday evening	\$117.10	per hour	GST not applicable
Access Community Social and Rec Activity - standard - Saturday	\$149.50	per hour	GST not applicable
Access Community Social and Rec Activity - standard - Sunday	\$192.80	per hour	GST not applicable
Access Community Social and Rec Activity - standard - Public Holiday	\$235.95	per hour	GST not applicable
Level 1 Support Coordination/ Connection	\$121.15	per hour	GST not applicable
Level 2 Support Coordination	\$162.50	per hour	GST not applicable
Level 3 Support Coordination	\$308.70	per hour	GST not applicable
Assistance with Self Care Activities - standard weekday daytime	\$106.30	per hour	GST not applicable
Assistance with Self Care Activities - standard weekday evening	\$117.10	per hour	GST not applicable
Assistance with Self Care Activities - standard Saturday	\$149.50	per hour	GST not applicable
Assistance with Self Care Activities - standard Sunday	\$192.80	per hour	GST not applicable

DESCRIPTION	2026-27 GST INC (where applicable)	UNIT	COMMENTS
Assistance with Self Care Activities - standard Public Holiday	\$236.00	per hour	GST not applicable
Supports in Employment - weekday daytime	\$106.30	per hour	GST not applicable
Supports in Employment - weekday evening	\$117.10	per hour	GST not applicable
Supports in Employment - Saturday	\$149.50	per hour	GST not applicable
Supports in Employment - Sunday	\$192.80	per hour	GST not applicable
Supports in Employment - Public Holiday	\$236.00	per hour	GST not applicable
House or Yard Maintenance	\$86.20	per hour	GST not applicable
House Cleaning and Other Household Activities	\$87.50	per hour	GST not applicable
A comprehensive listing of all the charges related to NDIS can be obtained with below link: <a href="https://www.ndis.gov.au/providers/price-guides-and-information/annual-price-review">https://www.ndis.gov.au/providers/price-guides-and-information/annual-price-review</a>			
<b>General</b>			
School nutrition program - breakfast and lunch	\$8.70	per person per day	per person per day
Creche (Relevant Arrangement Fee)	\$7.05	per person per day	per person per day
Creche (Complying Written Arrangement Fee)	\$28.10	per person per day	per person per day
Beswick Aged Care Room Rent - single room	\$308.70	per person per week	per person per week
Beswick Aged Care Room Rent - double room	\$156.90	per person per week	per person per week
<b>Airports</b>			
Landing Fees (All airports) except Mataranka	\$28.20	per tonne- min charge \$75	
Landing Fees - Mataranka	\$28.20	per tonne- min charge \$30	
<b>Contracts</b>			
Work within Road Reserve – Application Fee	\$350.00	Per application	
Work within Road Reserve – Deposit	\$5,675.00	Per application	
Mataranka Information Bay Signage	\$88.75	Per sign	GST Exempt
Vehicle and Officer Hire	\$200.00	Per hour	

\* POA - Price on Application

# 11. APPENDIX C: DECLARATION OF RATES AND CHARGES 2026-27

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Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 241 of the *Local Government Act 2019* that the following rates and charges were declared by Roper Gulf Regional Council (the "Council") at the Ordinary Council Meeting held 11th June 2026 and pursuant to Sections 237-240 of the *Local Government Act 2019* (the "Act") in respect of the financial year ending 30 June 2027.

## Rates:

The Roper Gulf Regional Council makes the following declaration of rates pursuant to sections 237-240 of the *Local Government Act 2019*.

1. Council, pursuant to Section 227 of the Act and section 6.1 of the Roper Gulf Regional Council Rating Policy (FIN008 – Rating Policy), adopts the Unimproved Capital Value (UCV) method as the basis for determining the assessed value of allotments within the Roper Gulf Region boundaries.
2. Council intends to raise, for general purposes by way of rates the amount of \$3,680,177.96 which will be raised by application of:
  - a. Differential valuation-based charges ("differential rates") with a differential minimum charge ("minimum amounts") being payable in each application of those differential rates.
  - b. A fixed charge ("Flat Rate") for Other Rate and Animal Management.
3. Council declared the following differential rates with minimum amounts being payable in application of each of those differential rates subject to paragraphs 1,2,3, and 4 of this rates declaration. These rates are calculated at UCV into cents in the dollar, or minimum rate whichever is greater.
  - a. RESIDENTIAL RATE 1: With respect to every allotment of rateable land within the Region area that is used for residential purposes in the council assessment record and for which the rural classification is not applicable, and which conditional rating is not applicable in areas excluding Borroloola, Mataranka, Larrimah and Daly Waters townships, the rate based on the property UCV at the rate of 0.87473883 cents in the dollar or minimum rate of \$1,568.70 for each allotment.
  - b. RESIDENTIAL RATE 2: With respect to every allotment of rateable land within the localities of Borroloola, Mataranka, Larrimah and Daly Waters that is used for residential purposes in the council assessment record, and for which the rural classification is not applicable, and which conditional rating is not applicable, the rate based on the property UCV at the rate of 0.34380885 cents in the dollar or minimum rate of \$1,460.55 for each allotment.
  - c. RESIDENTIAL RATE 3: With respect to every allotment within the Region boundaries that is vacant land and is not exempt land in the council assessment record, and is not conditionally rateable, and for which the rural classification is not applicable, the rate based on the property UCV at the rate of 0.8212911 cents in the dollar or minimum rate of \$1,460.55 for each allotment.
  - d. COMMERCIAL RATE 1: With respect to every allotment of rateable land within the Region area that is used for commercial purposes in the council assessment record in areas excluding Borroloola, Mataranka, Larrimah, and Daly Waters townships, the rate based on the property UCV at the rate of 0.1743378 cents in the dollar or minimum rate of \$1,822.80 for each allotment.
  - e. COMMERCIAL RATE 2: With respect to every allotment of rateable land within the localities of Borroloola, Mataranka, Larrimah, and Daly Waters that is used for commercial purposes in the council assessment record, the rate based on the property UCV at the rate of 0.31149363 cents in the dollar or minimum rate of \$1,752.45 for each allotment.

- f. RURAL RATE 1: With respect to every allotment of rateable land **under 50 hectares** within the Region boundaries that is used for rural living purposes, horticultural, farming, or agricultural purposes in the council assessment record that is not conditionally rateable and is not an allotment for which a pastoral lease is applicable, and is not exempt land, the rate based on the property UCV at the rate of 0.8652000 cents in the dollar or minimum rate of \$1,486.80 for each allotment.
- g. RURAL RATE 2: With respect to every allotment of rateable land **over 50 hectares** in size within the Region boundaries and is used for rural living purposes, horticultural, farming, or agricultural purposes in the council assessment record and is not conditionally rateable and is not an allotment for which a pastoral lease is applicable, and is not exempt land, the rate based on the property UCV at the rate of 0.13940535 cents in the dollar or minimum rate of \$1,568.70 for each allotment.
- h. CONDITIONAL RATE 1 – PASTORAL LEASES: With respect to every allotment of conditionally rateable land within the Region boundaries held under a Pastoral Lease, as defined in section 3 of the Pastoral Land Act, the applicable rate to be charged per allotment **is the greater of**:
  - i. a differential rate of 0.0813 of cents in the dollar of Unimproved Capital Value of the property capped at an annual increase of 500%;
  - ii. The minimum rate amount of \$1,000.70 for each allotment.
- i. CONDITIONAL RATE 2 – LAND OCCUPIED UNDER A MINING TENEMENT: With respect to every allotment of conditionally rateable land within the regional boundaries held under a mining, extractive, or petroleum lease as defined in the Act, the applicable rate to be charged per allotment **is the greater of**:
  - i. a differential rate of 0.9238 of cents in the dollar of the Unimproved Capital Value of the property capped at an annual increase of 500%;
  - ii. The minimum rate amount of \$2,368.42 for each allotment.
- j. OTHER RATE: With respect to every allotment of rateable land within the Region boundaries that is not otherwise described elsewhere in this declaration, and which is not exempt from paying rates in the council assessment record under the *Section 222 of the Act* a flat rate of \$1,546.65 for each allotment will apply. In the event that the allotment contains separate residential parts or units, then the flat rate of \$1,546.65 multiplied by the number of residential parts or units.
- k. SPECIAL RATE – ANIMAL MANAGEMENT: With respect to every allotment of rateable land within the localities of Barunga, Beswick, Bulman, Jilkminggan, Eva Valley, Minyerri, Ngukurr, Numbulwar & Weemol that is for residential use in the council assessment record, and for which the rural classification is not applicable, Council declared a Special rate “Animal Control” to assist with the implementation of Animal management in the area, a flat rate of \$154.35 for each allotment. The total of \$109,434.15 will be collected with special rates and will solely be used for Animal Management.

## Charges

### 4. Waste Management / Garbage Collection Charge

- a. Pursuant to Section 239 of the Act, Council declared the following charges in respect to the garbage collection services it provides for the benefit of eligible ratepayers within or near the following designated communities and townships within the Region area (except such land as the Council from time to time determines to be exempt or excluded from the provision of such services or for which the Council has determined impractical to provide such services) and the occupiers of such land.

- b. The designated communities, localities, and townships subject to the garbage collection service charge are Barunga, Beswick, Borroloola, Bulman, Jilkminggan, Manyallaluk, Mataranka, Ngukurr, Numbulwar, Urapunga, and Weemol.
- c. The Council intends to raise \$1,474,803.75 by way of garbage collection charges.
- d. A charge of \$498.75 per annum, regardless of whether the service is utilised or not, for each allotment used for residential, commercial, industrial, or government activity in the council assessment record. This is charged, per standard bin assigned to a property as well as the pickup frequency. Pickup frequency alters by region and is listed like so as well as charges:

**Waste Management Charge = \$498.75 x #bins assigned x #assigned collection services**

The standard Collection Services are:

LOCATION / COMMUNITY / TOWNSHIP	# WEEKLY SERVICE COLLECTIONS	STANDARD #BINS ASSIGNED	CALCULATION
Barunga	2	2	\$1,995.00
Beswick	2	2	\$1,995.00
Borroloola	2	1	\$997.50
Bulman	2	2	\$1,995.00
Jilkminggan	2	2	\$1,995.00
Manyallaluk	2	1	\$997.50
Mataranka	1	1	\$498.75
Ngukurr	2	1	\$997.50
Numbulwar	3	1	\$1,496.25
Urapunga	2	2	\$1,995.00
Weemol	2	2	\$1,995.00

**Relevant Interest Rate**

- 5. The relevant interest rate for late payment and charges is fixed in accordance with *Section 245 of the Act* at a rate of 18% per annum and is calculated on a daily basis.

## Payment

6. Rates and charges declared under this declaration may be paid by:
  - a. Instalments of two (2) payments approximately equal instalments on the following dates,
    - i. First instalment **to be paid on or before 30 September 2026**
    - ii. Second instalment **to be paid on or before 31 January 2027**
7. Failure to pay either instalment or full payment by the due date will result in interest accruing.
8. Instalments falling due on a weekend or public holiday may be paid by the following business day, without incurring any penalty
9. In accordance with *Section 253 of the Act*, any money paid to a council in respect of rates or charges is, despite a direction by the person paying the money, to be applied towards payment of those rates and charges in the order in which the rates and charges became due.
10. Details of due date and specified amounts are listed on the relevant Rates Notice.
11. Variations to those options for payment will be administered according to the conditions outlined on the front and reverse of the Rates Notice.
12. A ratepayer who fails to pay the rates and charges notified under the relevant rates notice, under section 254 of the Act may be sued for recovery of the principal amount of the rates and charges, late payment penalties and costs reasonably incurred by Council in recovering or attempting to recover the rates and charges.
13. The Council under Section 258 of the *Local Government Act 2019* may sell the land on which the Rates have been in arrears for at least 3 years. More information on this is available in Council's rating policy.



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