AGENDA

16th Ordinary Council Meeting

12th Council of Litchfield

Monday 16 November 2026

Meeting to be held commencing 6:00 PM
in Council Chambers at 7 Bees Creek Road, Freds Pass
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCdM3M5gfh6-wQ0KiL89_2eg/live

Community Forum
Will be held from 5:30pm – 6:00pm



Stephen Hoyne

Chief Executive Officer

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1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS OF THE LAND

2 OPENING OF MEETING

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3.2 Apologies

3.3 Leave of Absence previously granted

3.4 Leave of Absence Request

4 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

4.1 Elected Members

4.2 Staff

5 PUBLIC QUESTIONS

6 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

6.1 Confirmation of Minutes

RECOMMENDATION

That the full minutes (including confidential minutes) of the Ordinary Council Meeting held Monday 19 October 2026, 19 pages be confirmed.

RECOMMENDATION

That the full minutes (including confidential minutes) of the Extraordinary Council Meeting held Tuesday 3 November 2026, 5 pages be confirmed.

MINUTES

14th Ordinary Council Meeting

12th Council of Litchfield

Monday 19th October 2026

Meeting to be held commencing 6:00 PM
in Council Chambers at 7 Bees Creek Road, Freds Pass
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCdM3M5gfh6-wQ0KiL89_2eg/live

Community Forum
Will be held from 5:30pm-6:00pm

Stephen Hoyne

Chief Executive Officer

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Present	Rachael Wright	Mayor (Chair)
	Emma Sharp	Councillor South Ward
	Kris Civitarese	Councillor South Ward
	Kevin Harlan	Councillor Central Ward
	Pauline Cass	Councillor Central Ward
	Daisy Crawford	Councillor North Ward
	Plaxy Purich	Councillor North Ward
Apology		
Staff	Stephen Hoyne	Chief Executive Officer
	Geoff Thomas	Director Infrastructure and Operations
	Ankit Pansal	Acting Director Corporate Services
	Rebecca Taylor	Acting Director Governance and Community
	Deb Boyko	Executive Assistant to Mayor and CEO
	Claire Jones	Executive Assistant to Mayor and CEO
	Allana Fletcher	Executive & Business Support Officer
Public Gallery		As per Attendance Register
Streamed Online via YouTube:		https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sSy2T5m4ArM

UNCONFIRMED

1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS OF THE LAND

On behalf of Council, the Mayor acknowledged the Traditional Custodians of the land on which they meet. The Mayor also conveyed Council's respect to the Elders past, present and future for their continuing custodianship of the land and the children of the land across generations.

2 OPENING OF MEETING

The Mayor opened the meeting at 6:00pm.

The Mayor advised that an audio and visual recording of the meeting was live streamed to Council's online platform and will remain online for public viewing in accordance with Council's Recording of Council Meetings Policy. By attending the meeting, those present agreed to comply by Council's Recording of Council Meetings Policy. It is noted that there were technical difficulties with the visual component of the recording and the meeting proceeded with Audio only.

3 ELECTRONIC ATTENDANCE / APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

3.1 Electronic Attendance

Deputy Mayor Kris Civitarese

3.2 Apologies

Nil

3.3 Leave of Absence previously granted

Nil

3.4 Leave of Absence Request

Nil

4 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

The Mayor advised that any member of Council who may have a conflict of interest, or a possible conflict of interest regarding any item of business to be discussed at a Council meeting or a Committee meeting should declare the conflict of interest to enable Council to manage the conflict in accordance with its obligations under the Local Government Act and its policies regarding the same.

4.1 Elected Members

Nil

4.2 Staff

Nil

5 PUBLIC QUESTIONS

Mandy Hall

Question: Mandy Hall raised concerns about the lack of after-hours ranger services for injured and wandering animals**.**

Response: Council advised that any change to ranger service levels would need to be formally presented to Council for consideration, including assessment of costs and operational impacts.

Jenna Lacey

Question: Could Council please provide an update on the anticipated opening date of the first public park in Asche, including whether any outstanding works, approvals or land transfers are preventing the park from opening to residents?

Response: Council advised that the park forms part of a staged development and is still being completed by the developer. Outstanding works include final playground audits, rectification of defects and other compliance requirements before handover to Council. Council is working with the developer to achieve completion and indicated it expects the park to be opened well before Christmas 2026.

UNCONFIRMED

Andrew Mackay

Question 1: When did Litchfield Council resolve to change the service level being provided to residents on Warren Rd and other Lambells Lagoon Roads?

Response: Council stated that no decision has been made by Council to change service levels on Warren Road or other private/right-of-way roads.

Question 2: Were elected members briefed that council was changing a service level to ratepayers without a vote taking place by council?

Response: Council advised that neither Council nor staff have made a decision to change service levels.

Question 3: What procedures are in place to prevent misinformation being provided to residents by Council Staff when a quick google search can reveal that Council has in fact graded this road historically and in 2017 resheeted the road?

Response: Council acknowledged the importance of accurate communication and advised that improvement opportunities are addressed through feedback and staff training processes

Question 4: Will Council commit to grading Warren Rd and other historical right of way roads as it has done over the past 4 decades?

Response: Staff intend to prepare a report to Council regarding Warren Road and how maintenance aligns with Council's Private Roads Policy. No commitment to grading was made at the meeting.

Question 5: Will the other right of way roads in Lambells Lagoon and within the Council will council no longer be servicing?

Response: Council stated no decision has been made to change service arrangements for private roads

Question 6: Will this proposed cessation of maintenance also include roadside slashing, weed control, drainage and other routine maintenance?

Response: Council again advised that no decision has been made regarding changes to maintenance arrangements for private roads.

Supplementary Question: Will Council commit to grading Warren Road and Canarium Road before the commencement of the wet season?

Response: The CEO acknowledged historical maintenance had occurred on these roads and confirmed Council had not determined that maintenance would cease. However, concerns have arisen regarding ownership, legal status and potential liabilities associated with undertaking works on rights-of-way, not vested in the Council or the public. Council will investigate the history, legal position and risks before bringing a report back to elected members for consideration.

Dave Evans

Question 1: Why were the answers to my questions on 17 August 2026 at the Litchfield Council meeting and replied to by Litchfield Council on the 14 September not recorded in the Agenda minutes?

Response: These were classified as administrative matters. Taken on notice.

UNCONFIRMED

Question 2: Why have the answers to my questions on 21 September 2026 at the Litchfield Council meeting not been replied to?

Response: These were classified as administrative matters. The Mayor and CEO advised that responses to the September questions had been provided via email and would be noted in the meeting minutes. During discussion later in the meeting, councillors agreed that future questions taken on notice should have the responses or summary outcomes recorded in the minutes to improve transparency.

Question 3: Table 1.1 Page 71
Operating Expenses
Employee Expenses 14.9% over budget Why?
Elected Member Expenses 276% over budget Why?

Response: No specific response was provided during public question time. The questions were taken on notice by administration for a written response.

Question 4: Task No. 2026-10 Reserves Page 81
Work is scheduled for completion by late October yet only 8.44% spent. Why hasn't the completion date been changed?

Response: No response was provided during public question time. The question was taken on notice for administration to respond separately**.**

Question 5: Accounts Payable Report Page 93
Chq. 1759.70-0 Annual Memberships $42,060.68
What do these memberships cover?

Response: No response was provided during the meeting. The question was taken on notice by administration for a later response

NOTE: At 6:34 pm Cr Kevin Harlan left the meeting. At 6:34:41 pm, Cr Kevin Harlan returned to the meeting.

6 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

6.1 Confirmation of Minutes

RESOLUTION OCM/26/173

Moved: Cr Plaxy Purich

Seconded: Cr Daisy Crawford

That the full minutes (including confidential minutes) of the Ordinary Council Meeting held Monday 21 September 2026, 20 pages be confirmed.

CARRIED 6/1

UNCONFIRMED

7 BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

7.1 Business Arising

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides an update on actions arising from previous Council meetings and outlines progress made on outstanding items.

RESOLUTION OCM/26/174

Moved: Cr Kevin Harlan

Seconded: Cr Plaxy Purich

1. That Council receive and note the business arising as at attachment.

CARRIED7/0

8 PETITIONS

Nil

9 DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Nil

10 ACCEPTING OR DECLINING LATE ITEMS

RESOLUTION OCM/26/175

Moved: Cr Plaxy Purich

Seconded: Cr Kevin Harlan

THAT the following late reports be accepted and included under Officer's Reports Section of the meeting for consideration;

- 14.3.6 Annual Community Survey Results
- 14.4.2 LGANT Call for Motions - Planning and Development Decision Making

CARRIED7/0

11 NOTICES OF MOTIONS

Nil

12 MAYORS REPORT

12.1 Mayors Monthly Report September

RESOLUTION OCM/26/176

Moved: Mayor Rachael Wright

Seconded: Cr Daisy Crawford

CARRIED7/0

13 REPORTS FROM COUNCIL APPOINTED REPRESENTATIVES

14 OFFICER REPORTS

14.1 Corporate Services

14.1.1 Municipal Plan 2026-2027 Quarterly Performance Review - July to September 2026

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Municipal Plan 2026 - 2027 Quarterly Performance Report July to September 2026 is presented to Council to highlight the organisation's progress towards implementing the Municipal Plan.

RESOLUTION OCM/26/177

Moved: Deputy Mayor Kris Civitarese

Seconded: Cr Emma Sharp

1. That Council receive the Municipal Plan 2026 - 2027 Quarterly Performance Report for the first quarter ending 30 September 2026 to include specific data on KPI tables.

CARRIED 6/1

CONFIRMED

14.1.2 Litchfield Council Finance Report - September 2026

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report presents the Litchfield Council Finance Report for 30 September 2026. Annual Budget 2026/27 figures are shown.

Operational Income reflects the entire year of rates levied. As expenses are incurred over the year, the current surplus position will gradually decrease.

The Balance Sheet has been updated in accordance with 2025/26 unaudited financial statements and Financial Reserves has been updated with original budget figures 2026/27.

The annual rates and waste charges were levied in July 2026. As instalment dates pass, the outstanding rates ratio will continue to decline.

RESOLUTION OCM/26/178

Moved: Cr Kevin Harlan

Seconded: Cr Emma Sharp

1. That Council note the Litchfield Council Finance Report 30 September 2026.

CARRIED6/1

14.1.3 People and Performance Report – September 2026

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides Council with key staffing information, workplace health and safety information and proposed major policy updates and reviews.
This report provides a monthly update to ensure that both staffing and budget measures are in accordance with the Council approved staffing plan and budget. The metrics provided in this report track activity and report full-time equivalent (FTE) numbers, retention and Work Health and Safety performance

RESOLUTION OCM/26/179

Moved: Cr Emma Sharp

Seconded: Cr Plaxy Purich

1. That Council note the People, Performance and Governance Report for September 2026.

CARRIED7/0

14.1.4 Related Party Disclosure FIN11

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This policy assists Council in complying with the disclosure requirements under AASB 124 Related Party Disclosures.

This policy provides the tools to:

- Identify related parties, information, and transactions about those parties;
- Establish a system to capture and record transactions and information about those transactions;
- Identify circumstances in which a disclosure is required; and
- Determine the disclosures to be made about those items in the Annual Financial Statements for complying with AASB 124.

RESOLUTION OCM/26/180

Moved: Cr Emma Sharp

Seconded: Cr Daisy Crawford

1. That Council adopts the revised FIN11 Related Party Disclosure Policy, as attached to this report.

CARRIED7/0

14.1 Governance and Community

14.2.1 Governance and Community Monthly Report - September 2026

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides a monthly update on key activities and services across the Governance and Community for September 2026.

RESOLUTION OCM/26/181

Moved: Cr Daisy Crawford

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Kris Civitarese

1. That Council receive and note the Governance and Community Monthly Report for September 2026 as at attachment 1 and 2.

CARRIED7/0

14.2.2 DRAFT Strategic Plan 2026 - 2029

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's approval to release the draft Strategic Plan 2026–2029 for community consultation.

RESOLUTION OCM/26/182

Moved: Cr Kevin Harlan

Seconded: Cr Emma Sharp

THAT Council endorse the Litchfield Council Draft Strategic Plan 2026-2029 as provided in Attachment A for the purpose of public exhibition and consultation for 28 days commencing 21 October 2026 and concluding 17 November 2026.

CARRIED7/0

14.2.3 Recreation Reserve Management Committee Minutes

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report presents the minutes from recent meetings of the Knuckey Lagoon Recreation Reserve Management Committee and Howard Park Recreation Reserve Management Committee for Council to receive and note.

RESOLUTION OCM/26/183

Moved: Cr Daisy Crawford

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Kris Civitarese

That Council receive and note:

1. the Knuckey Lagoon Recreation Reserve Management Committee meeting minutes 13 August, as attachment 1.
2. the Howard Park Recreation Reserve Management Committee meeting minutes 09 September 2026 as attachment 2.

CARRIED7/0

14.2.4 Sponsorship Request: 2026 Rural Carols by Candlelight Event

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's consideration of a $4,657.00 sponsorship request from the Darwin Rural Community Carols by Candlelight Committee in support of their Rural Carols by Candlelight Event October 2026.

RESOLUTION OCM/26/184

Moved: Mayor Rachael Wright

Seconded: Cr Pauline Cass

1. That Council approves a one-off sponsorship of $4,657.00 to the Darwin Rural Community Carols by Candlelight Committee towards the delivery of the 2026 Rural Carols by Candlelight event.
2. That Council approves the allocation of $4,657.00 from the 2026/27 Sponsorship budget and authorises the Chief Executive Officer to enter into a sponsorship agreement with the Committee.

CARRIED7/0

14.2.5 Sponsorship Request: 2026 Mango Festival Event

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's consideration of a $5,000 sponsorship request from the Berry Springs Community Market NT in support of their Mango Festival Event on the 25th of October 2026.

RESOLUTION OCM/26/185

Moved: Cr Pauline Cass

Seconded: Cr Kevin Harlan

1. That Council approves a one-off sponsorship of up to $5,000 to Berry Springs Community Market NT towards the delivery of the 2026 Mango Festival.
2. That Council approves the allocation of up to $5,000 from the 2026/27 Sponsorship budget and authorises the Chief Executive Officer to enter into a sponsorship agreement with Berry Springs Community Market NT.

CARRIED6/0

COI TO NOTE: Deputy Mayor Kris Civitarese - Declared a COI (Conflict of Interest) for 14.2. 5 and advised he would abstain from the item. The Mayor directed that he be muted during consideration of the item as he was attending electronically.

At 7:28 pm, Deputy Mayor Kris Civitarese left the meeting.

At 7:30 pm, Deputy Mayor Kris Civitarese returned to the meeting.

14.2.6 Annual Community Survey Results – Late Report

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report presents to Council the results of the 2026 Litchfield Council Community Survey.

RESOLUTION OCM/26/186

Moved: Cr Kevin Harlan

Seconded: Cr Pauline Cass

That Council

1. thank the community members that provided feedback via the survey; and
2. receive and note the Litchfield Council 2026 Community Survey Report, as at Attachment A, and open responses at Attachment 2.

CARRIED7/0

UNCONFIRMED

14.2 Infrastructure and Operations

14.3.1 Planning Summary Report - September 2026

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide to Council a summary of applications received, and comments provided, for the period of 1-30 September 2026. The following is a summary of all applications during the noted period.

Type of Application	No. Applications
Planning Scheme Amendment	0
Development Applications	6
Clearances for Development Permit Conditions	4
Sale, Lease, or Occupation of Crown Land Applications	0
Development Permits Issued	4
Liquor Licence Applications	2
Water Licence Applications	0
Mining Applications	0
Stormwater (Building Certification)/ Driveway Plan Reviews	28
Works Permits	41

Letters of comment for the noted development applications are provided for information in the attachments to this report.

UNCONFIRMED

RESOLUTION OCM/26/187

Moved: Cr Daisy Crawford

Seconded: Cr Kevin Harlan

THAT Council:

1. Receive the Summary Planning and Development Report for 1-30 September 2026.
2. Note for information the responses provided to relevant agencies within Attachments A to F of this report.

CARRIED6/0

COI TO NOTE: Councillor Emma Sharp - Declared a COI (Conflict of Interest) due to prior involvement with a DCA matter being considered under Item 14.3.1

At 7.36 pm, Cr Emma Sharp left the meeting.

At 7:42 pm, Cr Emma Sharp returned to the meeting.

14.3.2 LGANT Call for Motions - Planning and Development Decision Making

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council has an opportunity to submit a motion to the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory (LGANT) seeking reform of the Northern Territory planning and development framework to strengthen local government participation in decisions affecting matters of local significance.

The proposed motion responds to the disconnect between Territory-level planning decisions and the responsibility of local governments for managing resulting impacts on local infrastructure, services and communities. It seeks a review of the allocation of planning responsibilities, including consideration of defined local decision-making, concurrence or referral powers where appropriate, while retaining the Territory Government's responsibility for Territory-wide and regional planning policy and specialist regulation.

RESOLUTION OCM/26/188

Moved: Cr Plaxy Purich

Seconded: Cr Pauline Cass

That Council:

a. resolve to submit the attached motion, *Strengthening Local Government Participation in Planning and Development Decision-Making*, to LGANT for consideration through its Call for Motions process.

CARRIED7/0

15 OTHER BUSINESS

Business raised by Councillor Cass as follows:

- **Lloyd Creek Rural Village Development**: Councillor Cass expressed concerns about the proposed development's environmental impacts, particularly water supply, septic setbacks, bore requirements, staging of the development, and broader planning issues. She requested that Council prepare and submit a response under the EPBC Act consultation process.
- **Humpty Doo Community Gardens**: Councillor Cass sought confirmation that Council would continue mowing services at the gardens due to the age and capacity of volunteers**.** Staff confirmed ongoing.
- **Council KPIs**: Councillor Cass questioned whether some key performance indicators, particularly social media measures, remain contemporary and relevant. Rebecca Taylor (Director Governance & Community) advised KPIs would be reviewed as part of future planning and budget workshops in the next financial year.
- **Produce Road**: Councillor Cass highlighted ongoing complaints regarding the road's condition and drainage issues. Director of Infrastructure (DoI) advised investigations were underway to determine a long-term reconstruction solution rather than relying solely on patching.

Business raised by Deputy Mayor Kris Civitarese as follows:

- Concerns regarding the condition of roads entering the wet season and requested that, if additional staff or financial resources were needed to accelerate repairs, a report be brought to Council for consideration.

Business raised by Councillor Plaxy Purich:

- Referred to concerns raised by residents during Public Question Time about Warren Road and other Lambells Lagoon right-of-way roads and recommended that Council support interim repairs.
- CEO responded that Council must first consider legal, insurance and financial risks associated with undertaking works on roads.

Business raised by Councillor Kevin Harlan:

- Requested a list of roads previously maintained by Council that will no longer be maintained.
- Sought updates on Stockwell Road, Lorton Road and the Anglesey Rd/Pioneer Drive traffic signal project. DoI advised work and engagement were progressing on these matters.
- Foreshadowed a Notice of Motion for a future meeting regarding after-hours animal management services, following concerns raised by animal welfare advocate Mandy Hall earlier in the meeting.

Business raised by Councillor Daisy Crawford:

- Thanked fellow councillors for supporting her nomination to the LGANT Municipal Committee.
- Raised the benefit of a clearer Council communications plan, helping residents understand the most appropriate channels to contact Council and seek information.

UNCONFIRMED

16 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

RESOLUTION OCM/26/189

Moved: Cr Kevin Harlan

Seconded: Cr Daisy Crawford

Pursuant to Section 93 of the Local Government Act and Regulation 51 of Local Government (General) Regulations the meeting be closed to the public to consider the following confidential item(s):

16.1 Confidential Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 21 September 2026

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 99(2) - ci of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on, any person.

16.2 Remission of Interest - Financial Hardship

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 99(2) - b of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with information about the personal circumstances of a resident or ratepayer;.

16.3 Appointment of RMAC Chair

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 99(2) - civ of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to subject to subregulation (3) - prejudice the interest of the council or some other person.

16.4 Planning Summary Report - Confidential item

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 99(2) - e of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with subject to subregulation (3) - information provided to the council on condition that ir be kept confidential and would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to be contrary to the public interest.

16.5 RFT26-564 - Sealed Pavement Maintenance Period Contract

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 99(2) - ci of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on, any person.

RECOMMENDATION

Resume in Open Session and note the Mayor's report on Confidential Resolutions.

NOTE: At 8:20 pm, Cr Kevin Harlan declared a COI and left the meeting. He did not return.

17 REPORT OF CONFIDENTIAL RESOLUTIONS

MOTION

RESOLUTION OCM/26/190

Moved: Cr Pauline Cass

Seconded: Cr Plaxy Purich

1. That Council nominates Cr Plaxy Purich to the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory Executive Board for the position of Vice-President and/or President - Municipal.

   CEO advised his understanding from CEO LGANT provided on 16/10/26 that as the deadline for nominations had passed no changes would be accepted.

CARRIED5/0

18 CLOSE OF MEETING

The Meeting closed at 8:42pm.

19 NEXT MEETING

Monday, 16 November 2026

20 MINUTES TO BE CONFIRMED

Monday, 16 November 2026

Mayor

Rachael Wright

Chief Executive Officer

Stephen Hoyne

UNCONFIRMED

MINUTES

Special Council Meeting

12th Council of Litchfield

Tuesday 3rd November 2026

Meeting to be held commencing 7:00 PM
in Council Chambers at 7 Bees Creek Road, Freds Pass

Stephen Hoyne

Chief Executive Officer

UNCONFIRMED

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UNCONFIRMED

1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS OF THE LAND

On behalf of Council, the Mayor acknowledged the Traditional Custodians of the land on which they meet. The Mayor also conveyed Council's respect to the Elders past, present and future for their continuing custodianship of the land and the children of the land across generations.

2 OPENING OF MEETING

The Mayor opened the meeting at 7:15pm

3 ELECTRONIC ATTENDANCE / APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

3.1 Electronic Attendance

Cr Pauline Cass

3.2 Apologies

Nil

3.3 Leave of Absence previously granted

Nil

3.4 Leave of Absence Request

Nil

4 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

The Mayor advised that any member of Council who may have a conflict of interest, or a possible conflict of interest regarding any item of business to be discussed at a Council meeting or a Committee meeting should declare the conflict of interest to enable Council to manage the conflict in accordance with its obligations under the Local Government Act and its policies regarding the same.

4.1 Elected Members

Nil

4.2 Staff

Nil

5 OFFICER REPORTS

5.1 Council Leadership

5.1.1 DRAFT Litchfield Council Annual Report 2025-2026

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report presents to Council the Draft Annual Report 2025-2026 for adoption.

RESOLUTION OCM/26/175

Moved: Cr Kevin Harlan

Seconded: Cr Daisy Crawford

THAT Council:

1. receive and adopt the Draft Litchfield Council Annual Report 2025-2026, as at attachment 1;
2. authorise the Chief Executive Officer to provide a copy of the Litchfield Council Annual Report 2025-2026 to the Minister for Local Government;
3. publish the Litchfield Council Annual Report 2025-2026 on Council's website and make copies of the report available at the Council office; and
4. authorise the Chief Executive Officer to make minor editorial amendments.

CARRIED 6/1

UNCONFIRMED

6 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

RESOLUTION OCM/26/176

Moved: Cr Emma Sharp

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Kris Civitarese

Pursuant to Section 93 of the Local Government Act and Regulation 51 of Local Government (General) Regulations the meeting be closed to the public to consider the following confidential item(s):

6.1 RFT26-562 - Girraween Rd Upgrade - Blackspot Program

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 99(2) - ci of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on, any person.

CARRIED 7/0

RECOMMENDATION

Resume in Open Session and note the Mayor's report on Confidential Resolutions.

7 REPORT OF CONFIDENTIAL RESOLUTIONS

8 CLOSE OF MEETING

The Meeting closed at 7:30pm

9 NEXT MEETING

Monday, 16 November 2026

10 MINUTES TO BE CONFIRMED

Monday, 16 November 2026

Mayor

Name

Chief Executive Officer

UNCONFIRMED

7 BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

7.1 Business Arising

AUTHOR: Deb Boyko, Executive Assistant to the CEO and Mayor

AUTHORISER: Geoff Thomas, Director Infrastructure and Operations

ATTACHMENTS: 1. Business Arising from Council Meetings.docx

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides an update on actions arising from previous Council meetings and outlines progress made on outstanding items.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council receive and note the business arising as at attachment.

Business Arising from the Minutes

In Progress	Ongoing
Completed	Superseded

Resolution	Resolution	Meeting Date	Officer	Current Status
ORD 2024 11-183	**Disposal of Contaminated Concrete Waste Stockpiles from Council's Waste Transfer Stations** THAT Council resolve to commit a Budget of $3,000,000.00 to disposing of the contaminated concrete waste piles from Howard Springs and Humpty Doo Waste Transfer Stations. The budget is to come from the Waste Asset Reserve.	20/08/2024	DIO	**In Progress** 9/11/2026 Works required to satisfy the conditions of the Pollution Abatement Notice are progressing with all ACM from HDWTS and ACM stockpiles from HSWTS relocated to the containment cell with validation pending.
ORD 2024 11-265	**Private Roads – No Name Road** THAT Council: 1. Commit to the trial of running through the process of a Road Opening for a Private Road and driving the process for residents. 2. Allocate No Name Road as the proposed road for the trial. 3. Allocate $100,000 of consultant budget to come from Financial Reserves. 4. Renew the policy as it stands with no changes for a further 12 months.	10/12/2024	DIO	**In Progress** 9/11/2026 Final review of documentation pending possible additional legal advice to inform stakeholders of overall approach and council requirements. The planned timeframe for consultation has been delayed by a vacancy in the Communications team and unforeseen reduction in staff capacity.

OCM26/070	**Meade Road - Proposed Road Closure, Opening and Land Transfer** That Council: 1. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to undertake stakeholder and community consultation regarding the proposed closure and opening of sections of Meade Road, including potential impacts to public access to the Blackmore River and adjacent crown land; 2. Requests the Chief Executive Officer provide a further report to Council following completion of the consultation process, including the outcomes of consultation and any recommendations arising from the process; 3. Notes that any future proposal relating to road closure, road opening or associated land transfer actions will remain subject to: a. a future Council resolution supporting the proposed land transfer to Crown ownership in accordance with Council Policy FIN01 Asset Disposal Policy; b. in-principal agreement from the Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Lands, Planning and Environment; c. consideration and approval by the Minister for Lands, Planning and Environment; d. any land valuation requirements as may be required by Council and / or determined by the Northern Territory Government. e. further investigations required to assess the suitability and feasibility of the proposed replacement road alignment, including environmental, cultural heritage, infrastructure, servicing and engineering considerations; and f. That all investigations, assessments, approvals, engineering reviews, servicing relocations, valuations and associated costs required to demonstrate the suitability of the proposed alignment are to be undertaken at the cost of the proponent to the satisfaction of Council and relevant statutory authorities;	18/05/2026	DIO	**In progress** 9/11/2026 Stakeholder / community consultation is complete. A summary report to Council will be presented to Council in this OCM.

ORD2023 11-142	**Freds Pass Reserve Expansion** THAT Council: 1. adopt the Freds Pass Reserve land expansion concept to include: a. Crown Land parcel Section 2889 (580) Stuart Highway, Hundred of Strangways; and b. Part Crown land parcel Section 2639 (100) Bees Creek Road, Hundred of Strangways; 2. adopt the concept to acquire land from Power and Water Corporation's Section 6003 Hundred of Strangways for the Freds Pass Reserve safe cycle, pedestrian and bridle way connection to Coolalinga and adjacent Park and Ride; and 3. approve the consolidation of Section 1817 (20A) Bees Creek Road, Hundred of Strangways and Section 5467 (20) Bees Creek Road, Hundred of Strangways and authorise all appropriate documents to be signed and common seal affixed by the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer for the closing of the road, as required.	15/08/2023	DIO	**Part 1a,1b Ongoing** Crown discussions postponed for development of proposed use plan for the new area. **Part 2 Ongoing** 9/11/2026 DLI closed a Tender T25-1527 for detail design of the shared path from Coolalinga to Arnhem Hwy on 20/10/2026. Council has requested details on the proposed alignment. Favouring an alignment that connects to the Freds Pass locality (Bees Creek Road) and a new subdivision further south north of Arnhem Hwy intersection **Part 3 Completed** 22/04/2026

8 PETITIONS

9 DEPUTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Nil

10 ACCEPTING OR DECLINING LATE ITEMS

11 NOTICES OF MOTIONS

11.1 Notice of Motion - After Hours Animal Management

ATTACHMENTS: Nil

I, Councillor Kevin Harlan give notice that at the next Ordinary Meeting of Council be held on 16 November 2026, I intend to move the following motion:

MOTION

That Council

1. That provide a 24 hour after hours contact number and Ranger who can respond in person to attacks, aggressive wandering and dogs and animals in distress. acknowledging that this will be a cost to rate payers.
2. Provide industry accepted training and along with other identified resources for animal management, to all workers that will be involved with responding to the afterhours management of animals including dogs.

BACKGROUND

Information posted on social media and the attended of residents at the October 2026 Ordinary meeting residents has highlighted the need for afterhours animal management, in particular dogs.

The most recent incident occurred on 14 October 2026, when a resident witnessed a dog being hit in the Litchfield Municipality. Four cars stopped and six people tried to help, including the person who hit the dog. They called Litchfield Council rangers, but Council was closed for the day. The dog was injured and responded fearfully and aggressively. None of the members of the public that stopped to render assistance were trained to handle an injured or aggressive dog, with two of them being bitten by the dog while trying to help. The dog then ran off into the bush, and in the dark losing sight of him.

I

Dated: 9 November 2026

12 MAYORS REPORT

12.1 Mayors Monthly Report October

AUTHOR: Deb Boyko, Executive Assistant to the CEO and Mayor

AUTHORISER: Rachael Wright, Mayor

ATTACHMENTS: Nil

MONTHLY UPDATE

A summary of the mayor's attendance at meetings and functions representing Council for the period from 19 October 2026 to 15 November 2026.

Summary	
Date	**Event / Meeting**
8 October 2026	Opportunity Ready | NT Business Month Event
19 October 2026	Netball Facilities Construction Site Visit
19 October 2026	Ordinary Council Meeting
23 October 2026	Celebration of Territorians that drive our business community
2 November 2026	ABC Radio | Holtze
2 November 2026	ABC Evening News
3 November 2026	1049 Radio | Katie Woolf
3 November 2026	Strategic Discussion & Briefing | Special Ordinary Council Meeting
4 November 2026	2026 Young Territory Author Awards
5 November 2026	Meeting | Mayor Pascoe-Bell

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council receive and note the mayor's monthly report for the period of 19 October 2026 to 15 November 2026.

13 REPORTS FROM COUNCIL APPOINTED REPRESENTATIVES

14 OFFICER REPORTS

14.1 Council Leadership

Nil

14.2 Corporate Services

14.2.1 Litchfield Council Finance Report - October 2026

AUTHOR: Xixi Li, Finance Program Leader

AUTHORISER: Ankit Pansal, Director Corporate Services

ATTACHMENTS: 1. Litchfield Council Finance Report October 2026.docx

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report presents the Litchfield Council Finance Report for 31 October 2026. Annual Budget 2026/27 figures are shown.

Operational Income reflects the entire year of rates levied. As expenses are incurred over the year, the current surplus position will gradually decrease.

The Balance Sheet has been updated in accordance with 2025/26 audited financial statements and Financial Reserves has been updated with original budget figures 2026/27.

The annual rates and waste charges were levied in July 2026. As instalment dates pass, the outstanding rates ratio will continue to decline.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council note the Litchfield Council Finance Report 31 October 2026.

BACKGROUND

Detailed financial information is presented on the following pages.

LINKS WITH STRATEGIC PLAN

Performance - An Effective and Efficient Organisation

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

This report complies with the Local Government Act 2019, Local Government (General) Regulations 2021, Division 7, Financial Matters, Department of the Chief Minister, and Cabinet - Form: Monthly Financial Reports, Council's policies, and Australian Accounting Standards.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

RISKS Financial

The Council's current revenue levels fall short of funding the required asset renewal expenditure. As a result, there are long-term financial sustainability challenges concerning the renewal and upgrade of existing assets, including buildings, roads, and irrigation infrastructure. Therefore, council continues to discuss avenues to increase investment in this area.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Nil

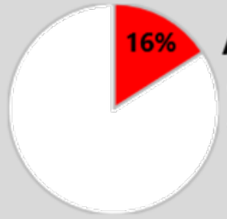
Finance Report

October 2026

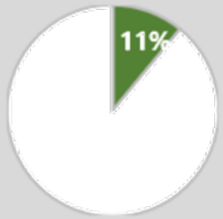
October 2026

DASHBOARD REPORTING





Asset Sustainability Ratio
Capital Expenditure
Actuals $5.18m
Municipal Plan Target – 30%



Rates Outstanding
$ 2.16m Outstanding
Municipal Plan Target – <18%
(Less than 3.30Mn)



Current Cash Investments
$ 32.07m

0 of 15	Budgeted Capital Programs 2026/27 Completed
7 of 20	Budgeted Capital Programs 2025/26 Completed
28 of 31	Carry Forward Programs from 2024/25 Completed
$15.82m	Budgeted Financial Reserves Annual Budget

$ 21.04m
OPERATIONAL REVENUE
$23.88m Budget – 88.10% Target Achieved

$ 10.93m
OPERATIONAL EXPENSES
$35.55m Budget – 30.73% Spent

$ 10.11m
OPERATING SURPLUS
Budget Deficit ($11.67m)

$ 3.40m
CAPITAL REVENUE
$ 3.98m Budget- 86% Achieved

$5.18m
CAPITAL EXPENSES
$ 9.87m Budget- 52% Spent

$ 1.78m
CAPITAL DEFICIT
Budget Deficit ($ 5.89m)

RATIOS

16%	Asset Sustainability *Target 30% and more*	Not Achieved
11%	Rates Outstanding Target less than 18%	Achieved
76%	Own Source Revenue Ratio *Target 60% and more*	Achieved
13.5	Current Ratio *Target 1 and more*	Achieved
0	Debt Service Ratio *Target less than 1*	Achieved

2

STATEMENT 1. COMPARISON ACTUAL PERFORMANCE AGAINST BUDGET[1]

The consolidated Financial Statements, including Thorak Regional Cemetery operations, are presented in the prescribed format required by Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet - Form: Monthly Financial Reports. Year-to-date budget figures represent four-twelfths of annual budget except for Rates, which is represented in full as it is levied in July in full.

Table 1.1 Monthly Income and Expenditure Statement

	YTD Actuals $	YTD Budget $	YTD Variance $	2026/27 Annual Budget $
OPERATING INCOME				
Rates	19,078,258.48	18,808,636.00	(269,622.48)	18,808,636.00
Charges	114,085.00	61,250.00	(52,835.00)	183,750.00
Fees and Charges	1,163,209.82	738,274.33	(424,935.49)	2,214,823.00
Operating Grants and Subsidies	49,088.00	324,533.00	275,445.00	973,599.00
Interest / Investment Income	590,702.56	519,253.00	(71,449.56)	1,557,759.00
Other Income	40,814.57	46,666.67	5,852.10	140,000.00
TOTAL OPERATING INCOME	**21,036,158.43**	**20,498,613.00**	**(537,545.43)**	**23,878,567.00**
OPERATING EXPENDITURE				
Employee Expenses	3,007,034.02	3,006,087.67	(946.35)	9,018,263.00
Materials and Contracts	3,193,527.26	3,647,081.67	453,554.41	10,941,245.00
Elected Member Allowances	81,911.01	120,494.67	38,583.66	361,484.00
Elected Member Expenses	39,767.50	19,035.33	(20,732.17)	57,106.00
Council Committee & LA Allowances	1,749.00	3,333.33	1,584.33	10,000.00
Council Committee & LA Expenses	-	-	-	-
Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	-	-	-	-
Accumulated Depreciation	4,279,000.00	4,279,000.00	-	12,837,000.00
Interest Expenses	-	-	-	-
Other Expenses	322,772.61	775,960.67	453,188.06	2,327,882.00
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURE	**10,925,761.40**	**11,850,993.33**	**925,231.93**	**35,552,980.00**
OPERATING SURPLUS / DEFICIT	**10,110,397.03**	**8,647,619.67**	**(1,462,777.36)**	**(11,674,413.00)**

[1] Numbers in statements include minor rounding differences.

Table 1.2 Monthly Operating Position

	YTD Actuals $	YTD Budget $	YTD Variance $	2026/27 Annual Budget $
BUDGETED OPERATING SURPLUS/DEFICIT	**10,110,397.03**	**8,647,619.67**	**(1,462,777.36)**	**(11,674,413.00)**
***Remove* NON-CASH ITEMS**				
Less Non-Cash Income	-	-	-	-
Add Back Non-Cash Expenses	4,279,000.00	4,279,000.00	-	12,837,000.00
TOTAL NON-CASH ITEMS	**4,279,000.00**	**4,279,000.00**	**-**	**12,837,000.00**
***Less* ADDITIONAL OUTFLOWS**				
Capital Expenditure	(5,177,632.77)	(3,289,507.67)	1,888,125.10	(9,868,523.00)
Borrowing Repayments (Principal Only)	-	-	-	-
Transfer to Reserves	-	(387,529.00)	(387,529.00)	(1,162,587.00)
Other Outflows	-	-	-	-
TOTAL ADDITIONAL OUTFLOWS	**(5,177,632.77)**	**(3,677,036.67)**	**1,500,596.10**	**(11,031,110.00)**
***Add* ADDITIONAL INFLOWS**				
Capital Grants Income	3,372,000.00	1,230,658.33	(2,141,341.67)	3,691,975.00
Prior Year Carry Forward Tied Funding	-	-	-	-
Other Inflow of Funds	3,094.50	387,529.00	384,434.50	1,162,587.00
Road Seal Levy	28,809.70	23,790.00	(5,019.70)	71,370.00
Transfers from Reserves	-	1,647,530.20	1,647,530.20	4,942,590.60
TOTAL ADDITIONAL INFLOWS	**3,403,904.20**	**3,289,507.53**	**(114,396.67)**	**9,868,522.60**
NET OPERATING POSITION	**12,615,668.46**		**(76,577.93)**	

Operating Position by Department

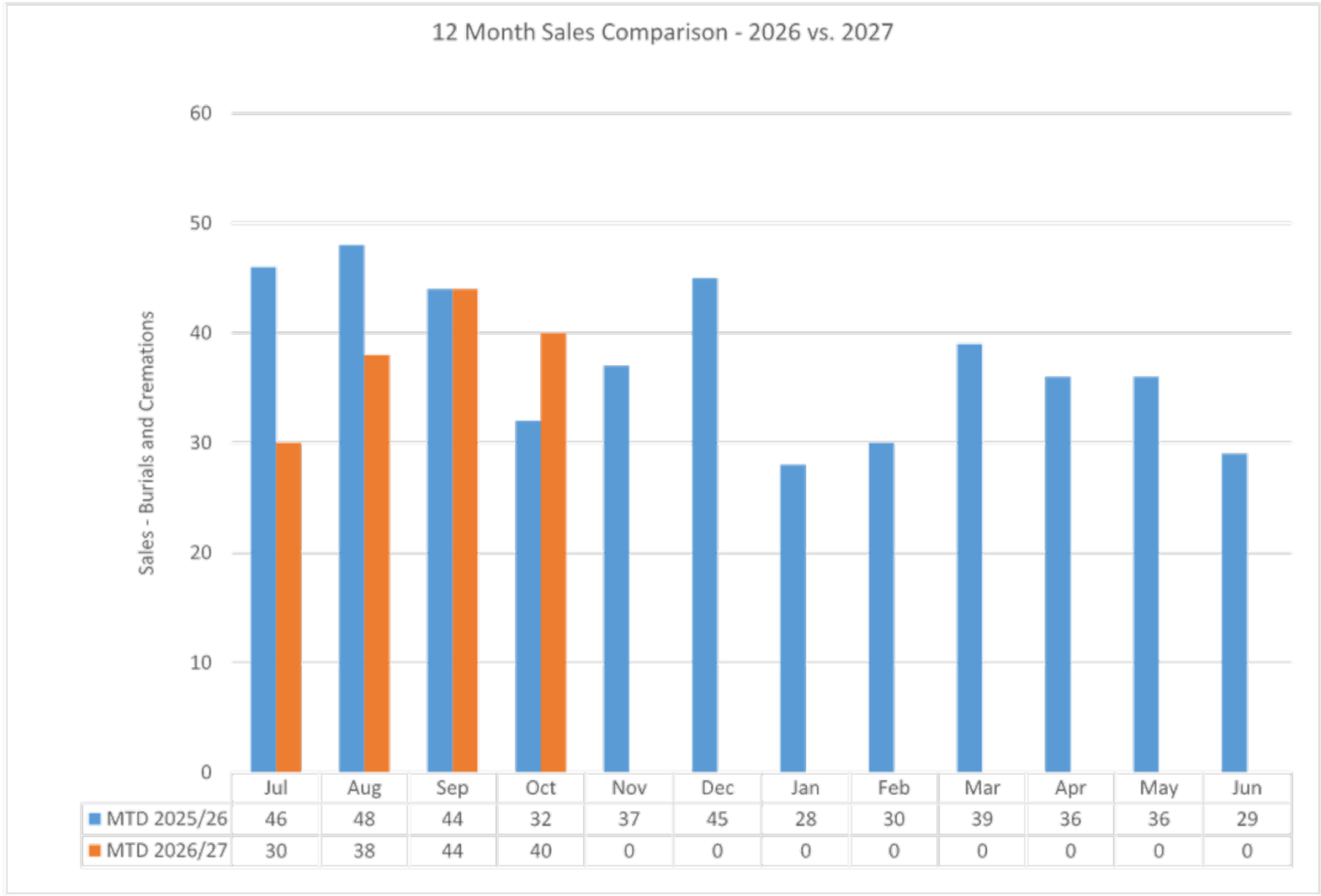
Finance and Waste Management income represents a high percentage of total yearly income due to rates and waste charges levied in full in July 2026.

	2026/27 YTD Actuals	2026/27 Annual Budget	% of Budget
REVENUE	**$**	**$**	
Council Leadership	30.00	-	-
Corporate	-	-	-
Information Services	-	-	-
Finance & Customer Service	15,846,371.71	17,402,390.00	91.1%
Infrastructure & Assets	225,995.03	367,341.00	61.5%
Waste Management	3,936,365.87	3,796,811.00	103.7%
Community	67,280.73	144,674.00	46.5%
Community - Library	6,374.97	308,722.00	2.1%
Mobile Workforce	-	-	-
Regulatory Services	122,016.10	183,750.00	66.4%
Thorak Cemetery	831,724.02	1,674,879.00	49.7%
TOTAL REVENUE	**21,036,158.43**	**23,878,567.00**	**88.10%**
EXPENSES			
Council Leadership	351,579.68	1,511,671.00	23.3%
Corporate	241,311.37	1,043,146.00	23.1%
Information Services	283,810.83	751,122.00	37.8%
Finance & Customer Service	1,065,277.65	1,876,066.00	56.8%
Infrastructure & Assets	1,068,852.11	5,258,162.00	20.3%
Waste Management	1,263,970.40	5,148,725.00	24.5%
Community	1,070,403.88	2,663,876.00	40.2%
Community - Library	353,294.57	1,007,198.00	35.1%
Mobile Workforce	307,303.30	1,482,091.00	20.7%
Regulatory Services	230,901.34	725,607.00	31.8%
Thorak Cemetery	410,056.27	1,248,317.00	32.8%
TOTAL EXPENSES	**6,646,761.40**	**22,715,981.00**	**29.26%**
OPERATING RESULT	**14,389,397.03**	**1,162,587.00**	

Thorak Regional Cemetery Sales

To date, Thorak Regional Cemetery has completed 152 Interments and cremations, a decrease of 18 from the same time last year.

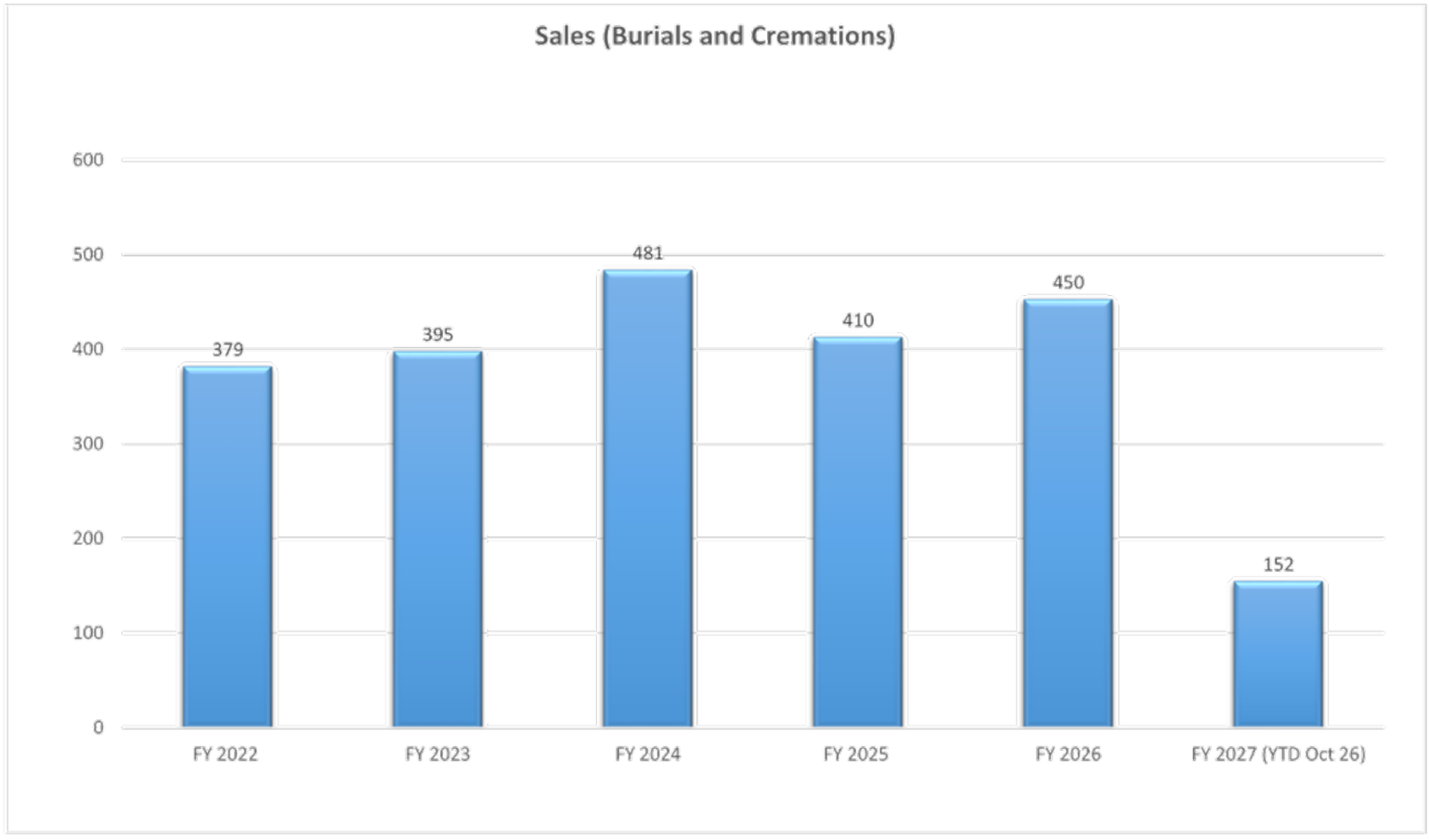
Below is a comparison by month against last year:



	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
MTD 2025/26	46	48	44	32	37	45	28	30	39	36	36	29
MTD 2026/27	30	38	44	40	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

6

Below presents a sales comparison over the last six years, with an average over the five years to date of 378.



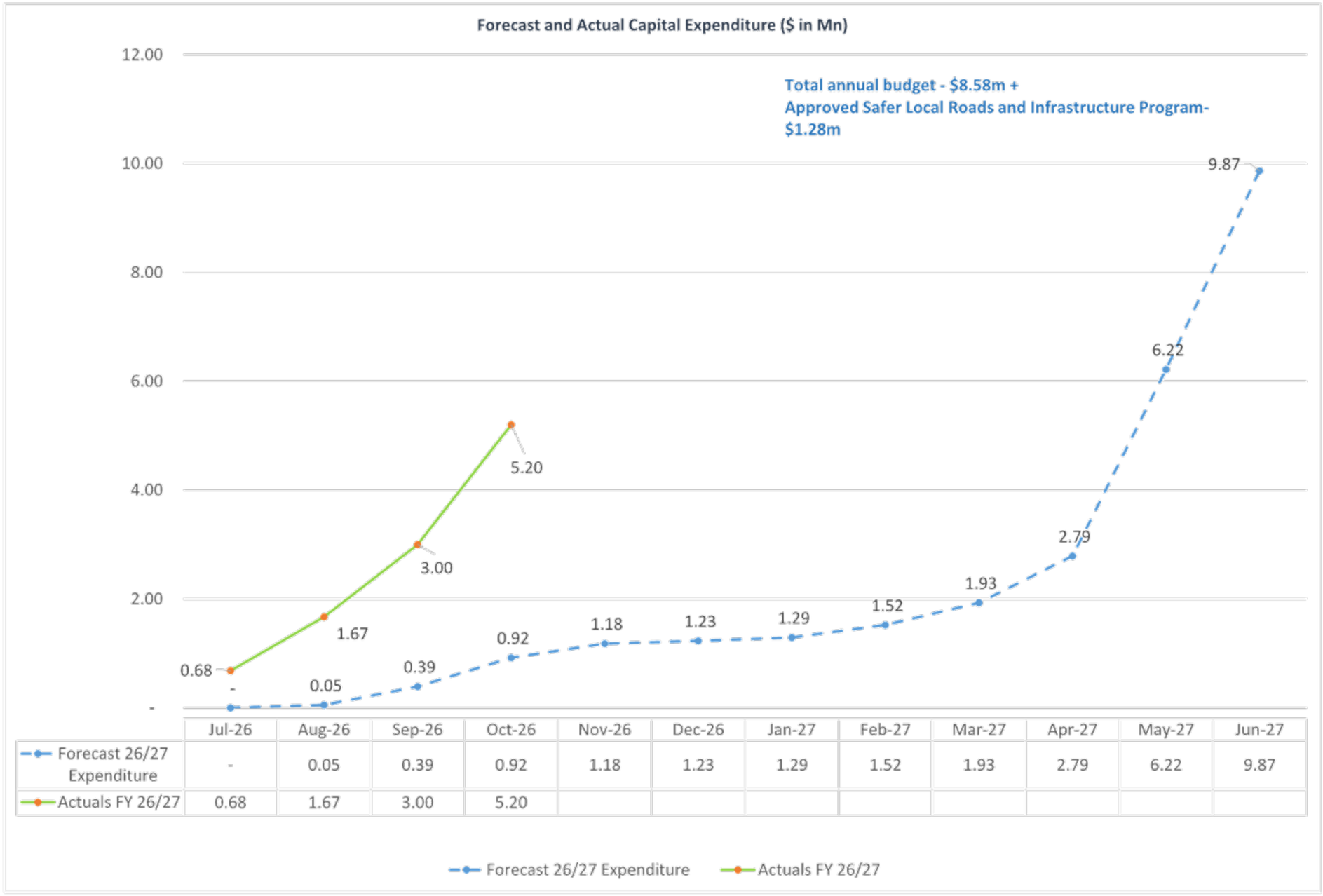
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STATEMENT 2. CAPITAL EXPENDITURE AND FUNDING

Table 2.1 By class of infrastructure, property, plant, and equipment

The table below compares capital revenue and expenditure to budget. Expenses will increase as projects progress.

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE	YTD Actuals $	YTD Budget $	YTD Variance $	2026/27 Annual Budget
Land and Buildings	3,518,070.24	100,333.33	(3,417,736.91)	301,000.00
Infrastructure (including roads, footpaths, park furniture)	1,621,236.63	3,032,841.00	1,411,604.37	9,098,523.00
Plant and Machinery	38,325.90	156,333.33	118,007.43	469,000.00
Fleet	-	-	-	-
Other Assets (including furniture and office equipment)	-	-	-	-
Leased Land and Buildings	-	-	-	-
Other Leased Assets	-	-	-	-
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE	**5,177,632.77**	**3,289,507.67**	**(1,888,125.10)**	**9,868,522.60**
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE FUNDED BY:				
Operating Income (amount allocated to fund capital items)	3,094.50	324,533.00	321,438.50	973,599.00
Capital Grants	3,372,000.00	1,230,658.33	(2,141,341.67)	3,691,975.00
Transfers from Cash Reserves	-	1,710,526.20	1,710,526.20	5,131,578.60
Borrowings	-	-	-	-
Sale of Assets (including trade-ins)	-	-	-	-
Other Funding	-	-		
Special Road Seal Levy	28,809.70	23,790.00	(5,019.70)	71,370.00
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE	**3,403,904.20**	**3,289,507.53**	**(114,396.67)**	**9,868,522.60**
FUNDING				



	Jul-26	Aug-26	Sep-26	Oct-26	Nov-26	Dec-26	Jan-27	Feb-27	Mar-27	Apr-27	May-27	Jun-27
Forecast 26/27 Expenditure	-	0.05	0.39	0.92	1.18	1.23	1.29	1.52	1.93	2.79	6.22	9.87
Actuals FY 26/27	0.68	1.67	3.00	5.20								

9

Table 2.2 Monthly Report on Planned Major Capital Works

Task No.	Asset Type	Municipal Plan Program	FY2026/27 Year to Date Actuals $	Total Actuals $	Annual Budget 26-27	Total yet To Spend $	Budget Spent %	Scheduled Completion Date	On Time	On Budget	Project Stage	Status Update
2027-1	Roads	Road Seal Renewal	-	-	1,498,523.00	1,498,523.00	0.00%	Jun-27	Yes	Yes	Planning	As per reseal list, currently reviewing to scope priority roads
2027-2	Roads	Pavement Renewal	-	-	-	1,280,000.00	-	Jun-27	TBA	Yes	**Thorngate Road** Planning	Design being amended; utility conflicts under assessment. Significant stakeholder consultation required due to works traffic impacts. Localised inundation constrains the site and may delay delivery. Approved Safer Local Roads and Infrastructure Program - April 2026
2027-2-1	Roads	Pavement Renewal	-	-	1,800,000.00	1,800,000.00	0.00%	Jun-27	TBA	Yes	**Thorngate Road** Planning	Design being amended; utility conflicts under assessment. Significant stakeholder consultation required due to works traffic impacts. Localised inundation constrains the site and may delay delivery.
2027-3	Roads	Heavy Patches	-	-	300,000.00	300,000.00	0.00%	Jun-27	Yes	Yes	Planning	As per priority list, currently under review.
2027-4	Roads	Gravel Surface Renewal	-	-	350,000.00	350,000.00	0.00%	Jun-27	Yes	Yes	Delivery	No Name Road - Completed Mira Road South (2 identified sections) - Works to Commence in mid-November
2027-5	Roads	Road Safety Upgrades - Shoulder Widening	-	-	400,000.00	400,000.00	0.00%	Jun-27	Yes	Yes	Delivery	Pangola Road - Due to commence early November Melaleuca Road - Commenced
2027-6	Roads	Road Safety Upgrades - Schools	-	-	10,000.00	10,000.00	0.00%	TBA	Yes	Yes	**Freds Pass Road** Planning	Fencing project to follow DLI project new Humpty Doo Primary School Kiss n Go facility. Arnhem Highway duplication design to be considered.
2027-7	Drainage	Drainage Renewal	62,404.00	62,404.00	190,000.00	127,596.00	32.84%	Jun-27	Yes	Yes	**Chibnall/Leonino** Delivery	Chibnall Rd/Leonino Rd drainage upgrade at intersection. Works have been completed. Remainder of budget as per priority list, possibly Hopewell and Deloraine Road

Task No.	Asset Type	Municipal Plan Program	FY2026/27 Year to Date Actuals $	Total Actuals $	Annual Budget 26-27	Total yet To Spend $	Budget Spent %	Scheduled Completion Date	On Time	On Budget	Project Stage	Status Update
2027-8	Drainage	Drainage Upgrade - Floodways	-	-	50,000.00	50,000.00	0.00%	Dec-27	Yes	Yes	**Floodway signage & warning upgrades** Planning	As per priority list, currently under review.
2027-9	Building	Council Administration Building	-	-	81,000.00	81,000.00	0.00%	Jun-27	Yes	Yes	**Dog Pound Design & Works** Planning **Office Walkway Roof** Procurement	**Dog Pound Design & Works:** Scope of works under development. **Office Walkway Roof:** Quotations received exceeded the allocated budget. The RFQ will be readvertised.
2027-10	Thorak	Thorak Asset New	-	-	120,000.00	120,000.00	0.00%	Jun-27	Yes	Yes	**Shed Hardstand** Planning **Section H Works** Planning	Scope of works under development.
2027-11	Waste	Waste Asset New	9,150.00	9,150.00	3,220,000.00	3,210,850.00	0.28%	Dec-26 Jun-27	Yes	Yes	**ACM Cell** Delivery **HD WTS Design & Works BS WTS CCTV** Planning	**ACM Cell:** Asbestos Remediation contract awarded to NTEX. Construction of the containment cell has commenced. **HD WTS Design & Works, and BS WTS CCTV:** Scope of works under development.
2027-12	Reserves	Freds Pass Reserve Asset Renewal	-	-	200,000.00	200,000.00	0.00%	Jun-27	Yes	Yes	**Ablutions & Market Car Park Design** Planning	Scope of works under development.
2027-13	Library	Coolalinga Library (leased asset)	-	-	20,000.00	20,000.00	0.00%	Dec-26	Yes	Yes	**Storage at Library** Planning	Scope of works under development.
2027-14	Fleet	Council Vehicle Replacement	30,125.90	30,125.90	349,000.00	318,874.10	8.63%	Dec-26	Yes	Yes	**MWF Plant** Delivery **WTS Plant** Procurement	**MWF Spray buggies and spray units:** Spray Units Received. Buggies are being fitted with required accessories. **WTS Backhoe with vibratory attachment:** Developing procurement documents.
			101,679.90	**101,679.90**	**8,588,523.00**	**9,766,843.10**						

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2025-26 projects

Task No.	Asset Type	Municipal Plan Program	FY 2026/27 YTD Actuals	Total Actuals $	Budget 25-26 Review 2 Inc Rollover $	Total yet To Spend $	Budget Rollover Spent %	Scheduled Completion Date	On Time	On Budget	Project Stage	Status Update
2026-1	Roads	Road Seal Renewal	1,232.00	1,232.00	1,293,492.00	1,292,260	0.10%	Sep-26	No	Yes	Delivery	**Shoulder works:** Complete **Patching & Repair Works:** Complete **Reseal:** Complete **Line Marking:** To be completed in December
2026-4	Roads	Unsealed to Sealed Road Keleson Road and Bees Creek Road	-	1,125,095.03	1,500,000.00	374,904.97	75.01%	Oct-26	No	Yes	**Bees Creek Rd** Delivery - Powerlines Planning - Road Works **Keleson Rd** Delivery	**Bees Creek Rd:** • PWC power poles and conductors realigned for future civil works, section of o/h powerline may need to be installed underground pending PWC investigation. • Civil works design to be amended. • Civil works project deferred potentially to 27/28 FY. • $1,000,000 allocated to Road Recovery Works (new task 2026-19). • $5,000 on interim drainage and crossover works. **Keleson Rd:** Works nearly complete: drainage works and driveway seals, road shoulder treatment still to finish.
2026-7	Buildings	Council Administration Building Upgrade effluent system and dog pound area	84,254.00	196,453.13	200,000.00	3,546.87	98.23%	Sep-26	Yes	Yes	**Effluent** Complete **Dog Pound** Complete	**Effluent System Upgrade:** Works have now been completed and commissioned. **Dog Pound Upgrade:** Works are complete
2026-8	Thorak	Thorak Asset Renewal Concrete beams and irrigation	8,200.00	16,150.00	30,000.00	13,850.00	53.83%	Jun-26	Yes	Yes	Delivery	A further beam has been ordered, with installation expected to be completed by mid-November.

Task No.	Asset Type	Municipal Plan Program	FY 2026/27 YTD Actuals	Total Actuals $	Budget 25-26 Review 2 Inc Rollover $	Total yet To Spend $	Budget Rollover Spent %	Scheduled Completion Date	On Time	On Budget	Project Stage	Status Update
2026-9	Waste	Waste Asset Renewal New HD WTS Office building, operator's tearoom and bins	-57,981.00	-54,074.00	280,000.00	334,074.00	-19.31%	Oct-26	No	Yes	Design	Design and Construct contract has been awarded to JK Constructions. Council has endorsed the 75% design drawings. Fabrication and install to be completed by December, weather dependant.
2026-10	Reserves	Freds Pass Sports & Recreation Reserve Bore outlet manifold, Effluent systems upgrades.	105,947.15	132,392.15	420,000.00	287,607.85	31.52%	Oct-26	Yes	Yes	**Bore** Complete **Effluent System** Complete	**Bore Outlet Manifold:** Works are complete and bore recommissioned. **Effluent System:** Contract has been awarded to Earthform Civil and Plumbing and work has commenced on site. Works are scheduled for completion by late October.
2026-12	Reserves	Humpty Doo Village Green Masterplan	-	-	60,000.00	60,000.00	0.00%	Nov-26	Yes	Yes	Planning	Not Started
2026-13	Reserves	Knuckey Lagoon Recreation Reserve Masterplan, BBQ upgrade and Disabilty access	-2,003.91	-2,003.91	120,000.00	122,003.91	-1.67%	Nov-26	Yes	Yes	**Masterplan** Planning **BBQ Upgrade** Planning **Disability Access** Complete	**Masterplan:** Not started, pending Council consideration **BBQ Upgrade:** Not started **Disability Access:** Complete

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Task No.	Asset Type	Municipal Plan Program	FY 2026/27 YTD Actuals	Total Actuals $	Budget 25-26 Review 2 Inc Rollover $	Total yet To Spend $	Budget Rollover Spent %	Scheduled Completion Date	On Time	On Budget	Project Stage	Status Update
2026-14	Reserves	McMinns Lagoon Recreation Reserve Masterplan, Building upgrades	-	19,689.09	179,000.00	159,310.91	11.00%	Nov-26	Yes	Yes	**Masterplan** Planning **Building Upgrades** Complete **Bore** Delivery	**Masterplan:** Not started, pending Council consideration **Building Upgrades:** Works complete **Bore:** Mains powered bore contract awarded. Drilling Contractor delayed anticipated commence works November with completion anticipated mid-December.
2026-15	Reserves	Howard Park Recreation Reserve Masterplan	-	-	50,000.00	50,000.00	0.00%	Nov-26	Yes	Yes	Planning	Not Started
2026-16	Reserves	Livingstone Recreation Reserve Masterplan	-	-	46,285.00	46,285.00	0.00%	Nov-26	Yes	Yes	Planning	Not Started
2026-17	Reserves	Berry Springs Recreation Reserve Masterplan, Roof Painting and Disability access	24,694.15	62,694.15	120,000.00	57,305.85	52.25%	Nov-26	Yes	Yes	**Masterplan** Planning **Disability Access** Completed **Roof Painting** Completed	**Masterplan:** Not started, pending Council consideration **Disability Access:** Complete **Roof Painting:** Complete
2026-19		Road Recovery Works	1,137,852.86	1,137,852.86	1,683,884.95	1,683,884.95	67.57%	Dec-26	Yes	Yes	**Trippe Rd -** Complete **Ewart Rd -** Complete **Wheewall Rd -** Complete **Hopewell & Finn Rds -** Complete **Deloraine Floodway** Complete **Kennedy Road** Complete **Northstar Road** Procurement **Pothole Reparis** Delivery **Mill & Fill** Complete	**Trippe Road:** Complete - Lavercombe Grader Services (LGS) **Ewart Road:** Complete - Sage Civil **Wheewall Road:** Complete - LGS **Hopewell & Finn Road:** Complete - LGS **Deloraine Road Floodway:** Complete - Clare Civil Construction **Kennedy Road:** Complete **Northstar Road:** Tenders under evaluation **Pothole Repairs:** Works continuing - ATLindsay **Mill and Fill:** Complete - Downer
			1,305,773.85	**3,558,218.97**	**7,178,777.00**	**4,758,410.89**						

Carry forward projects

Task No.	Asset Type	Municipal Plan Program	FY 2026/27 Year to Date Actuals $	Total Actuals $	Budget 25-26 Review 2 Inc Rollover $	Total yet To Spend $	Budget Rollover Spent %	Scheduled Completion Date	On Time	On Budget	Project Stage	Status Update
7	Roads	Road Safety Upgrades - Intersections Pioneer Road / Anglesey Road	-	-	465,129.42	465,129.42	0.00%	Dec-26	Yes	Yes	Complete Design Planning	Linemarking and signage upgrades are complete. Larger stop sign installed replacing existing. Street lighting design now with PWC for connection design and application. Future stages of upgrades for this intersection are under consideration by Council.
23	Roads	Blackspot Girraween Road (Rogers Road to Mango Road)	2,800.00	2,800.00	643,170.33	640,370.33	0.44%	Oct-26	Yes	Yes	Procurement	Blackspot variation funding confirmed. Tenders received and reviewed, for Council approval and award in early November. Works likely completed by late Jan 27.

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Task No.	Asset Type	Municipal Plan Program	FY 2026/27 Year to Date Actuals $	Total Actuals $	Budget 25-26 Review 2 Inc Rollover $	Total yet To Spend $	Budget Rollover Spent %	Scheduled Completion Date	On Time	On Budget	Project Stage	Status Update
29	Reserves	Freds Pass Sport and Recreation Reserve Upgrades	3,347,991.29	5,001,436.23	9,635,745.07	4,634,308.84	34.75%	Jan-27	Yes	Yes	Practically Complete Delivery Delivery	**AFL Lighting:** Towers installed, lights commissioned, pending final lighting adjustments **Rugby and Soccer Lighting:** All towers for ruby installed and wired. Final wiring to MSB to be done in November All towers for soccer installed. Switchboard installation and final wiring to be completed in November Both sites to be commissioned by end of November. **Netball:** Works underway: demolition and tree clearing complete and 80% of civil works completed Inground services 95% complete All concrete complete for 4 courts All concrete for surrounds have been completed except for the verandahs of the buildings. Public amenity building vertical lift complete and roof install commenced. Player amenity building vertical lift approximately 60% complete
			5,075,952.87	**14,489,738.61**	**24,993,678.93**	**11,641,793.18**						
			5,177,632.77	**14,591,418.51**	**33,582,201.93**	**21,408,636.28**						

No	Indicates that the relevant aspect is not as planned and not on schedule for various reasons
	Indicates that there are external aspects that are impacting the schedule, whether it be weather dependent or reliant on a 3rd party approval

Notes:

1. Projects that are planned to be completed in the following financial year, are considered to be 'on time', provided they are meeting the projects planned proposed project timeline.
2. Grant funded projects do not necessarily have financial year completion dates. Reporting on 'on time' and 'on budget' will be reported based on the specific projects project planned timeline.
3. Projects in the Carried Forward table, are not necessarily considered 'not on time' if planned to be completed to be that way. (noting as per the above)
4. Projects that are marginally behind their 'on time' OR considered that they will still be completed by the project end date, are being considered as 'on time'.

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STATEMENT 3. MONTHLY BALANCE SHEET

The Balance Sheet and Financial Reserves closing balances have been updated to reflect the finalised 2025/26 annual audited financial statements.

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 OCTOBER 2026	YTD Actuals $	Note Reference*
ASSETS		
Cash at Bank		**(1)**
Tied Funds	32,070,808.41	
Untied Funds	3,296,060.89	
Accounts Receivable		
Trade Debtors	2,414,202.93	**(2)**
Rates & Charges Debtors	8,062,122.82	
Other Current Assets	530,548.06	
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	**46,373,743.11**	
Non-Current Financial Assets	9,227,212.33	
Property, Plant and Equipment	494,011,078.27	
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS	**503,238,290.60**	
TOTAL ASSETS	**549,612,033.71**	
LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable	1,585,258.96	**(3)**
ATO & Payroll Liabilities	1,120.66	**(4)**
Current Provisions	1,281,591.00	
Accruals	(97,060.74)	
Other Current Liabilities	656,683.44	
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	**3,427,593.32**	
Non-Current Liabilities		
Non-Current Provisions	382,261.00	
Other Non-Current Liabilities	-	
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES	**382,261.00**	
TOTAL LIABILITIES	**3,809,854.32**	
NET ASSETS	**545,802,179.39**	
EQUITY		
Asset Revaluation reserve	482,151,459.71	
Reserves	32,685,113.52	
Accumulated Surplus	30,965,606.16	
TOTAL EQUITY	**545,802,179.39**	

Note 1: Details of Cash and Investments Held

Investment Schedule

Council invests cash from its operational and business maxi accounts to ensure Council is receiving the best return on its cash holdings. Councils Investment Policy – FIN14 instates controls regarding the credit quality on the entire portfolio.

Counter Party	Date Invested	Invested Amount $	Interest rate	Maturity Date	Days Invested	Institution Totals	% Counter party	Expected return to Maturity Date $
Bendigo (S&P A2)	27/10/2026	1,000,000.00	5.60%	27/07/2027	273	4,500,000.00	14.03%	41,884.93
	15/09/2026	2,000,000.00	5.45%	11/05/2027	238			71,073.97
	14/07/2026	1,500,000.00	5.15%	15/06/2027	336			71,112.33
Defence Bank (S&P A2)	22/04/2026	1,000,000.00	5.40%	2/02/2027	286	1,000,000.00	3.12%	42,312.33
NAB (S&P A1+)	12/02/2026	1,500,000.00	4.65%	10/11/2026	271	13,000,000.00	40.54%	51,786.99
	10/03/2026	1,000,000.00	4.95%	22/12/2026	287			38,921.92
	8/04/2026	1,000,000.00	5.30%	19/01/2027	286			41,528.77
	5/06/2026	1,000,000.00	5.30%	16/03/2027	284			41,238.36
	28/07/2026	1,000,000.00	5.35%	30/03/2027	245			35,910.96
	11/09/2026	2,000,000.00	5.48%	27/04/2027	228			68,462.47
	18/09/2026	1,500,000.00	5.55%	1/06/2027	256			58,389.04
	26/06/2026	2,000,000.00	5.29%	16/07/2027	385			111,597.26
	26/06/2026	2,000,000.00	5.28%	23/07/2027	392			113,411.51
	27/02/2026	1,000,000.00	4.97%	27/11/2026	273			37,172.88
	27/02/2026	1,000,000.00	4.97%	8/12/2026	283			38,534.52
	25/03/2026	1,500,000.00	5.31%	5/01/2027	286			62,410.68
	6/05/2026	1,500,000.00	5.43%	16/02/2027	286			63,821.10
	19/05/2026	1,000,000.00	5.50%	2/03/2027	287			43,246.58
Westpac	28/05/2025	70,808.41	3.50%	27/05/2027	729	13,570,808.41	42.32%	4,949.80
	25/08/2026	1,500,000.00	5.28%	13/04/2027	251			54,463.56
	15/09/2026	2,000,000.00	5.51%	25/05/2027	252			76,083.29
	29/09/2026	1,000,000.00	5.66%	6/07/2027	280			78,906.30
	13/10/2026	2,000,000.00	5.56%	29/06/2027	259			43,419.18
	13/10/2026	1,000,000.00	5.60%	3/08/2027	294			45,106.85
TOTAL INVESTMENTS		**32,070,808.41**				**32,070,808.41**	**100%**	**1,335,745.58**

% of Total Investment Portfolio	S&P Short term rating (max 100%)	42.32 %	A1+ 40.54%	A2 17.15%
Total Investments/ Tied Funds	$ 32,070,808.41		Total Year to date Investments Earnings	$ 490,470.77
General Bank Funds	$ 3,297,162.69			
Council Till and Petty Cash float	$ 1,275.00			
Total Untied Funds	$ 3,298,437.69			
Total all funds	$ 35,369,246.10			

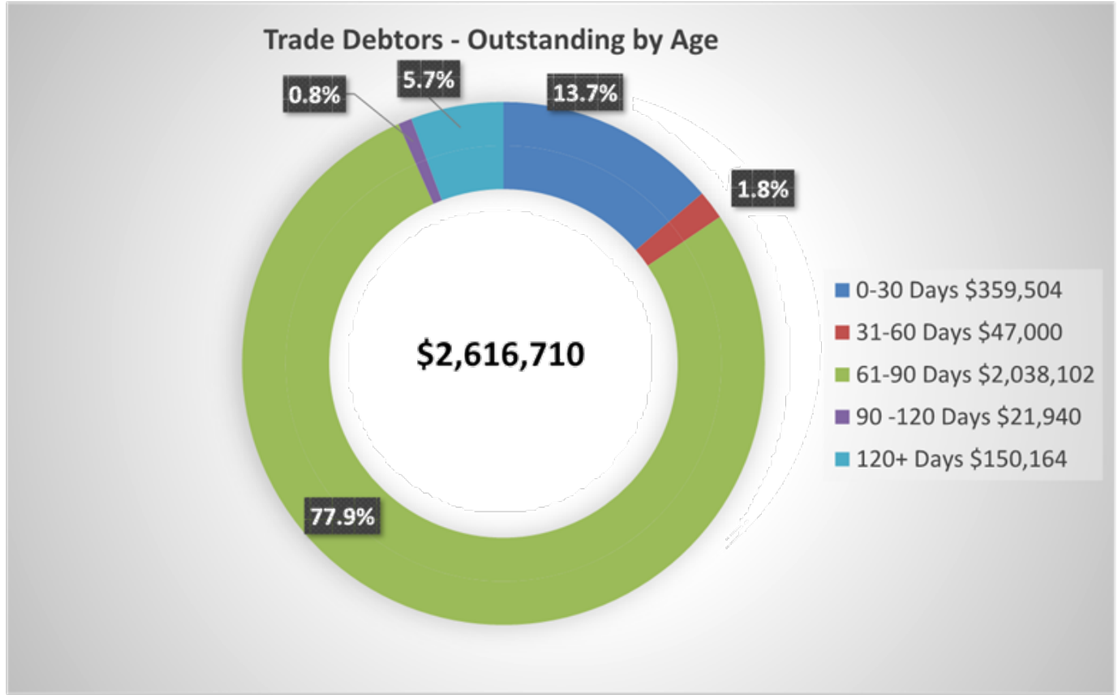
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Note 2: Statement of Trade Debtors

Total Debtors as of 30 October 2026 is $2,616,710.34; $150,164.13 to invoices outstanding over 90 days. $90,723.96 of the 90+ days debtors relate to the charge of legal fees on regulatory service orders. A provision for doubtful debt was made during the preparation of the end-of-year financial statements.

Fines and Infringements - Council has Three hundred and Thirty-Eight (338) infringements outstanding with a total balance of $98,282.96, a decrease of $2,521.70 from September. Two (2) issued, Five (5) Reminder notices produced and Three Hundred and Thirty-One (331) are with the Fines Recovery Unit (FRU).

Age of Trade Debtors:	Current	Past Due 1-30 Days	Past Due 31-60 Days	Past Due 61-90 Days	Past Due 90+ Days	Total
Sundry Debtor	0.00	6,832.84	2,000,688.36	0.00	51,979.37	2,059,500.57
Cemetery	0.00	23,800.98	31,761.00	17,402.20	7,460.80	80,424.98
Waste	0.00	442.10	273.00	0.00	0.00	715.10
Recreation Reserves	0.00	14,816.16	-0.05	42.00	0.00	14,858.11
Planning	0.00	720.00	2,837.00	-132.00	0.00	3,425.00
GST Receivable	359,503.62	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	359,503.62
Infringements	0.00	388.00	2,543.00	4,628.00	90,723.96	98,282.96
Total	**359,503.62**	**47,000.08**	**2,038,102.31**	**21,940.20**	**150,164.13**	**2,616,710.34**



Note 3: Statement of Trade Creditors

Age of Trade Creditors:	Current	Past Due 1-30 Days	Past Due 31–60 Days	Past Due 61-90 Days	Past Due 90+ Days	Total
General	42,431.18	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	42,431.18
Cemetery	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total	**42,431.18**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**42,431.18**

Note 4: Statement on Australian Tax Office, Payroll, and Insurance Obligations

Age of Trade Creditors:	Current	Past Due 1-30 Days	Past Due 31–60 Days	Past Due 61-90 Days	Past Due 90+ Days	Total
GST Creditor	11,220.52	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	11,220.52
Payroll	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-
Total	**11,220.52**	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	**11,220.52**

Financial Reserves

	2025-2026 Budget Review 2	2026/27 Net Movement $	2026-2027 Annual Budget
Externally Restricted			
Developer Contribution Reserve	1,070,519.00	-	1,070,519.00
Waste Management Reserve	5,274,555.00	(3,220,000.00)	2,054,555.00
Total Externally Restricted Reserves	**6,345,074.00**	**(3,220,000.00)**	**3,125,074.00**
Internally Restricted Reserves			
Asset Reserve	7,131,740.00	717,062.00	7,848,802.00
Thorak Regional Cemetary Reserve	3,799,047.00	(120,000.00)	3,679,047.00
Election Reserve	200,000.00	-	200,000.00
Disaster Recovery Reserve	400,000.00	-	400,000.00
Strategic Initiatives Reserve	400,000.00	-	400,000.00
Cash for Cans Reserve	170,445.00	-	170,445.00
Total Internally Restricted Reserves	**12,101,232.00**	**597,062.00**	**12,698,294.00**
TOTAL RESERVES	**18,446,306.00**	**(2,622,938.00)**	**15,823,368.00**

The Financial Reserves has been updated with 2026-27 annual budget figures.

Outstanding Rates

Prior Years Rates Outstanding[2]

The below table illustrates the split of prior year outstanding rates, currently at $2.16 million.

Council continues to promote awareness among ratepayers on obligations and implications of unpaid Rates and Charges, ensuring rates collectible remains at acceptable levels as Council fulfils its Municipal Plan targets to remain financially sustainable.

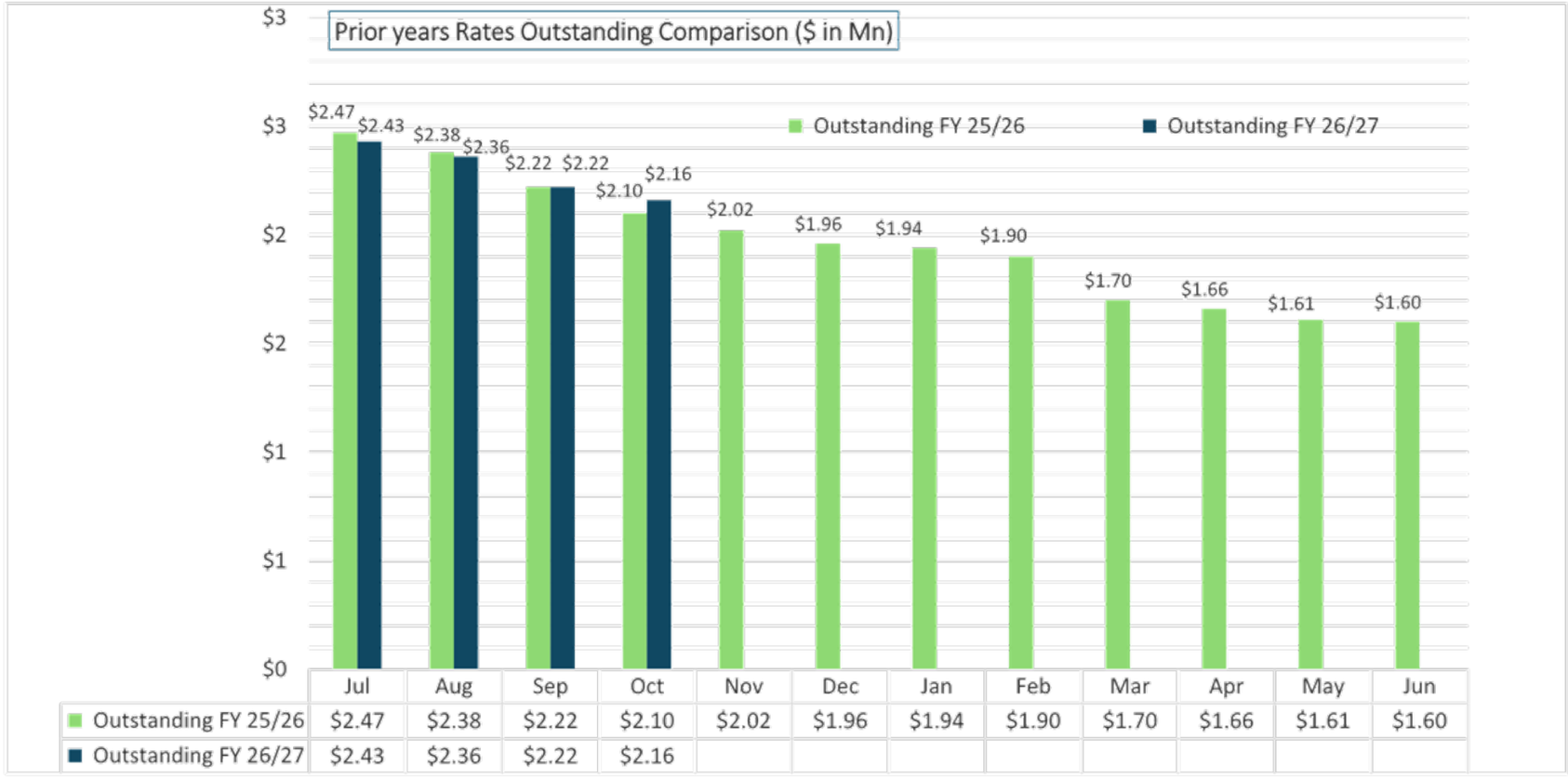
The table below shows the balance of the prior year's rates as at the beginning of the financial year, last month and the current month.

	Beginning of 2025/26 Prior Years Rates Outstanding ($)	Previous Month (September 2026) ($)	Current Month (October 2026) ($)
CANCELLED ASSESSMENT	67,095.04	106,760.07	106,791.90
COMMERCIAL	37,958.58	45,053.00	44,800.44
GAS PLANT	2.61	-	-
MINING	174,931.50	184,132.43	185,866.56
HORTICULTURE AGRICULTURE	66,653.04	67,656.95	64,815.50
NON-RATEABLE GENERAL	21,544.54	23,168.04	23,288.69
NON-RATEABLE WASTE	43,014.91	48,482.93	48,742.77
PASTORAL	-	-	-
TOWN URBAN RESIDENTIAL	-	9.90	209.76
RURAL RESIDENTIAL	1,859,360.67	1,729,962.89	1,663,274.39
URBAN RESIDENTIAL	196,845.84	24,612.41	22,924.96
TOTAL	2,467,406.73	2,229,838.62	2,160,714.97
Arrears LESS Legal	2,315,355.59	2,133,082.93	2,064,451.10

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The graph below compares prior years rates outstanding between 2025/26 and 2026/27 financial years.

Current Year Rates[3]

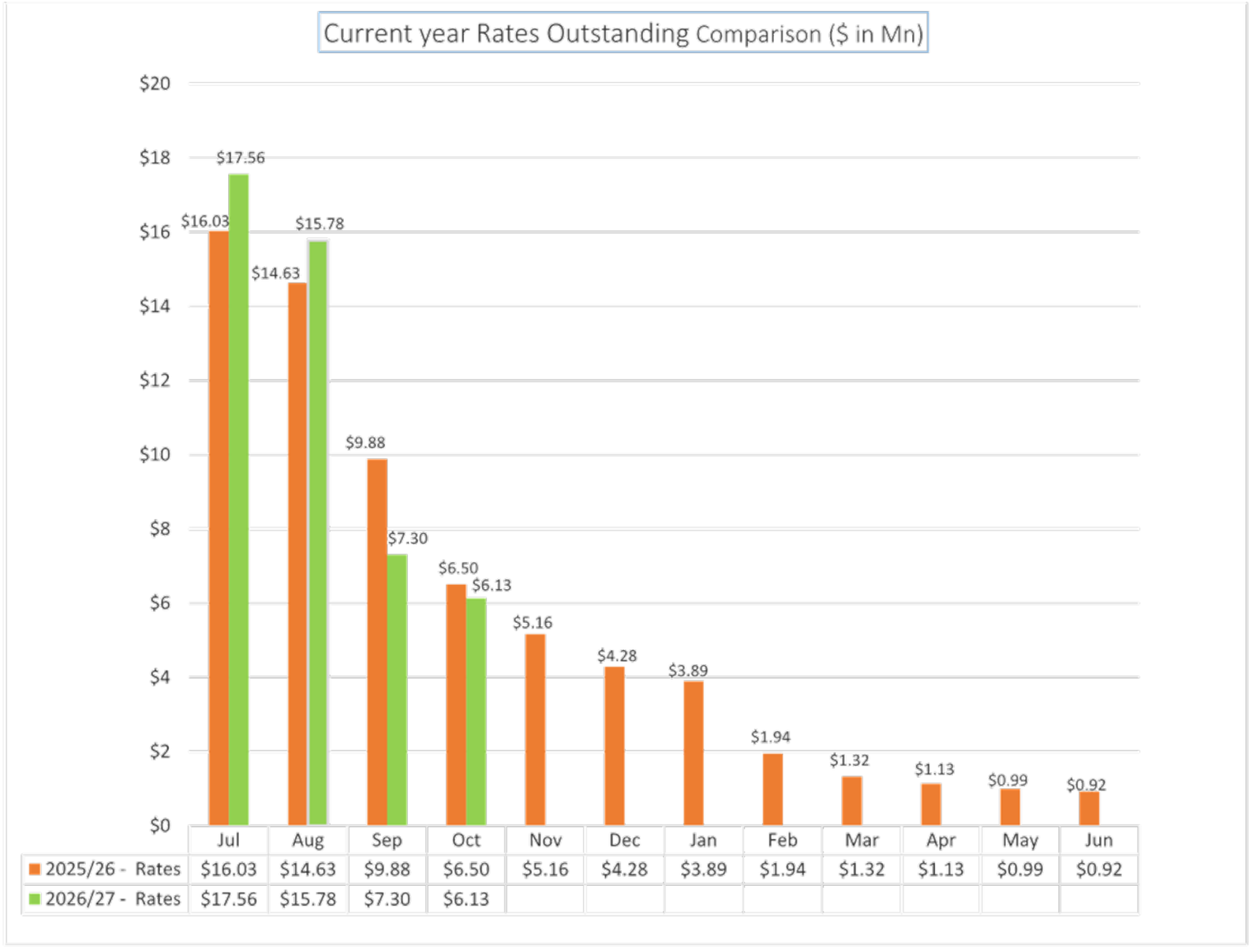


The table below shows the movement in current year rates compared to last month. The below table illustrates the split of current year outstanding rates. Current year rates levied outstanding total $6,131,011.79 and the second instalment was due on 30 November 2026.

The graph below compares annual rates between 2025/26 and 2026/27.

	Previous Month (September 2026) ($)	Current Month (October 2026) ($)	Variance ($)	Due Dates
Instalment 1	1,416,043.82	850,913.43	565,130.39	30-Sep-26
Instalment 2	2,836,157.33	2,497,882.76	338,274.57	30-Nov-26
Instalment 3	3,053,541.07	2,782,215.60	271,325.47	28-Feb-27
TOTAL	7,305,742.22	6,131,011.79	1,174,730.43	

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	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
2025/26 - Rates	$16.03	$14.63	$9.88	$6.50	$5.16	$4.28	$3.89	$1.94	$1.32	$1.13	$0.99	$0.92
2026/27 - Rates	$17.56	$15.78	$7.30	$6.13								

Accounts Payable Report

Cheque No.	Payee	Description	Amount
1764.3340-01	ASPIRE DESIGN & CONSTRUCT	RFT26-531 FPRR Construction of Netball Courts and Player Amenities	$955,461.42
1760.1686-01	DUITS ELECTRICAL	RFT25-507 - FPRR Electrical & Lighting Upgrades	$563,528.63
1760.1137-01	ALLAN KING & SONS CONSTRUCTION PTY LTD	RFT25-493 - Reconstruction of Whitewood Road	$533,772.81
1761.60-01	FREDS PASS SPORT & RECREATION	2nd Quarter Operational and R & M Payment	$348,436.55
1760.8-01	DOWNEREDI WORKS PTY LTD	Litchfield Council Mill & Fill 552	$311,182.00
1763.1000-01	LAVERCOMBE GRADER SERVICES	RFT26-553 Rehabilitation of Hopewell and Finn Road	$209,221.04
1762.1890-01	CLARE CONSTRUCTION & CIVIL PTY LTD	RFQ26-561 Pavement Rehabilitation Deloraine Road	$160,913.90
1762.280-01	CITY OF DARWIN	Sep 2026 - HS, BS & HD Waste Stations DCC Land	$118,217.60
1762.2750-01	TMH SERVICES	Verge Works- Hamilton Road	$109,481.68
1764.3370-01	EARTHFORM CIVIL & PLUMBIMG PTY LTD	RFT26-543 Lakeview Hall Wastewater Treatment System	$101,317.87
1762.874-01	VTG WASTE & RECYCLING	Sept 2026 - Waste Collection Services	$90,274.65
1761.1000-01	LAVERCOMBE GRADER SERVICES	RFT26-553 Rehabilitation of Hopewell and Finn Road	$85,346.57
1763.3350-01	A T. LINDSAY PTY LTD	RFQ26-554 Road Repair Maintenance Works	$80,379.19
1764.1000-01	LAVERCOMBE GRADER SERVICES	RFT26-553 Rehabilitation of Hopewell and Finn Road	$67,551.00
1764.374-01	AUSTRALIAN TAXATION OFFICE (ATO)	PAYG Payable Pay 09(26/27) - Cyc 1 WE: 25 Oct 26	$62,116.00
1760.374-01	AUSTRALIAN TAXATION OFFICE (ATO)	PAYG Payable Pay 07 (26/27) - Cyc 1 WE: 27 Sep 26	$58,316.00
1762.374-01	AUSTRALIAN TAXATION OFFICE (ATO)	PAYG Payable Pay 08 (26/27) - Cyc 1 WE: 11 Oct 26	$57,973.00
1762.1000-01	LAVERCOMBE GRADER SERVICES	RFT26-553 Rehabilitation of Hopewell and Finn Road	$38,658.94
1764.1884-01	WESTPAC BANK - QUICK SUPER ACCOUNT	Superannuation-Py 9 2027-13 WE: 25 Oct 26	$37,721.68
1760.1884-01	WESTPAC BANK - QUICK SUPER ACCOUNT	Superannuation-Py 7 2027-13 WE: 27 Sep 26	$35,413.51
1762.1884-01	WESTPAC BANK - QUICK SUPER ACCOUNT	Superannuation-Py 8 2027-13 WE: 11 Oct 26	$34,646.60
1761.2845-01	ART OUT - DCA RURAL	2nd Quarter Operational and R & M Payment 26/27	$33,543.15

1761.1319-01	MOWER WORLD DARWIN (CAMPING WORLD & COMPLETE ANGLER)	RFQ26-565- Supply and Delivery of Mobile Workforce	$33,138.49
1760.2348-01	D OMEGA CIVIL CONSTRUCTIONS	Repair works completed- Freds Pass Reserve	$27,846.50
1761.16-01	BERRY SPRINGS RESERVE	2nd Quarter Operational and R & M Payment 26/27	$26,625.23
1762.2348-01	D OMEGA CIVIL CONSTRUCTIONS	140 Cornelius Circuit - Easement Clearing	$25,960.00
1763.2335-01	SAVILLS RETAIL MANAGEMENT PTY LTD	Nov 2026- Rent- Coolalinga Central - Library Facility	$25,319.82
1762.3350-01	A T . LINDSAY PTY LTD	RFQ26-554 Road Repair Maintenance Works	$24,962.09
1761.2815-01	JLM CONTRACTING SERVICES PTY LTD	Excavation and Earthworks and Fill - Bastin, Honeysuckle, Hillier & Evelina	$23,581.83
1761.72-01	LIVINGSTONE RECREATION RESERVE INC	2nd Quarter Operational and R & M Payment 26/27	$23,236.68
1763.1564-01	FOURIER TECHNOLOGIES PTY LTD	Oct 2026 - ICT Managed Services Contract #LB308/Anti-Spam/Sophos/DRaaS	$19,967.73
1760.1564-01	FOURIER TECHNOLOGIES PTY LTD	Sep 2026 - ICT Managed Services Contract #LB308/Anti-Spam/Sophos/DRaaS	$19,952.05
1763.770-01	HAYS SPECIALIST RECRUITMENT (AUST)	Temporary Staff WE: 18 Oct 26	$18,656.54
1760.770-01	HAYS SPECIALIST RECRUITMENT (AUST)	Temporary Staff WE: 13 Sep 26	$15,974.44
1760.2092-01	GOLD MEDAL SERVICES (MACENTEE INVESTMENTS PTY LTD)	RFT25-515 Litchfield Council Office - Wastewater	$15,485.80
1761.792-01	VRAHOS CONTRACTORS	Works at bridge on Finn Road	$15,451.70
1762.849-01	WEX AUSTRALIA (PUMA CARD)	Sep 2026 - Litchfield Council/ Thorak Fuel Account	$12,932.10
1764.792-01	VRAHOS CONTRACTORS	Remove excess material from both sides of the Road	$10,557.80
1761.75-01	MCMINNS LAGOON RESERVE ASSOCIATION	2nd Quarter Operational and R & M Payment 26/27	$10,179.68
1764.3138-01	ENVIRONMENTAL EARTH SCIENCES QLD	Contaminated Land Audit HSWTS	$10,065.00
1763.1023-01	AUSLINE ENGINEERING	Flail Mower repair	$9,856.00
1761.2249-01	MAYOR R A WRIGHT	Sep 2026 - Elected Members Allowances	$9,244.60
1764.2815-01	JLM CONTRACTING SERVICES PTY LTD	Excavation and Earthworks and Fill - Acacia Road	$9,228.45
1764.2092-01	GOLD MEDAL SERVICES (MACENTEE INVESTMENTS PTY LTD)	RFT25-515 Litchfield Office- Wastewater Treatment, KLRR & HPRR backflow device testing	$9,211.95
1764.2247-01	OUTSIDESIGN	Landscape Architectural services - Thorak Regional	$9,020.00
1761.183-01	CHRIS'S BACKHOE HIRE PTY LTD	Sep 2026 - Grave Preparation Thorak Cemetery	$8,976.00

1761.454-01	TRAFFICWERX NT PTY LTD	Traffic Management for Thorngate Rd	$8,961.57
1761.132-01	AIRPOWER NT PTY LTD	Kubota Tractor Repairs	$8,921.00
1762.1428-01	HANNA'S COOLING PTY LTD (B&A HANNA	Air Conditioner Maintenance - Litchfield Council	$8,834.10
1760.78-01	POWER & WATER CORPORATION	Aug 2026 - HDWTS Fire Hydrant	$8,550.18
1764.770-01	HAYS SPECIALIST RECRUITMENT (AUST)	Temporary Staff WE: 25 Oct 26	$8,314.74
1762.926-01	JACANA ENERGY	Sep 2026 - Electricity HDWTS, BSWTS, HSWTS, LC Office, KLRR, HPRR & Thorak	$8,077.17
1761.770-01	HAYS SPECIALIST RECRUITMENT (AUST)	Temporary Staff WE: 27 Sep 26	$7,775.22
1761.2795-01	ABSOLUTE SIGNAGE	Replacement Signage - Various Locations	$7,289.07
1763.454-01	TRAFFICWERX NT PTY LTD	Traffic Management for Thorngate Rd	$7,260.00
1760.2815-01	JLM CONTRACTING SERVICES PTY LTD	Excavation and Earthworks and Fill - Levey Rd	$6,806.14
1760.2776-01	LITCHFIELD COUNCIL RATE PAYER	Rates Refund	$6,000.00
1763.2983-01	FOURIER INFOSEC	Oct 26 - Managed Security Services Agreement	$5,956.17
1762.770-01	HAYS SPECIALIST RECRUITMENT (AUST)	Temporary Staff WE: 04 Oct 26	$5,904.13
1761.356-01	SOUTHPORT PROGRESS ASSOCIATION	2nd Quarter Operational and R & M Payment 26/27	$5,708.18
1760.2983-01	FOURIER INFOSEC	Sep 26 - Managed Security Services Agreement	$5,694.08
1762.78-01	POWER & WATER CORPORATION	Sep 2026 - Water HDWTS, HPRR & Litchfield Council Office	$5,448.41
1762.2477-01	ECO-TREAT SOLUTIONS PTY LTD	Supply of 3 portable toilets at FPRR	$5,276.00
1764.3113-01	BERRY SPRINGS COMMUNITY MARKET NT	Community Grant- Mango Festival/Sponsorship 2026	$5,000.00
1764.268-01	BYRNE CONSULTANTS	RFQ26-530 TC FINA Damage Assessment, recommendation	$4,955.50
1760.268-01	BYRNE CONSULTANTS	STAGE 9 The Parks (Holtze) Construction Surve	$4,787.20
1760.1600-01	TERRITORY FUNERALS	Refund	$4,702.30
1762.2089-01	ELGAS LTD	Gas Delivery - Thorak Cemetery WE: 30 Sept 2026	$4,670.55
1761.1023-01	AUSLINE ENGINEERING	Slasher repairs and modifications	$4,545.75
1762.132-01	AIRPOWER NT PTY LTD	Kubota Tractor Repairs	$4,462.93
1762.454-01	TRAFFICWERX NT PTY LTD	Traffic Management for Thorngate Rd	$4,431.63

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1763.2169-01	KILLARA SERVICES (NETRONIX PTY LTD)	Oct 26 - Cleaning LC Office, Cemetery, Library	$4,303.68
1761.3405-01	LITCHFIELD COUNCIL RATE PAYER	Rates Refund	$4,125.52
1764.2015-01	SLR CONSULTING AUSTRALIA PTY LTD	Wet Season WTS Water Sampling	$3,911.60
1764.1767-01	INDUSTRIAL ROPE ACCESS & NT PRESSUR	Pressure Clean of Litchfield Building Outdoor Area	$3,894.00
1764.436-01	DeltaNAE	Solar Panel Cleaning, Generator Servicing & Gregg Park light cable repair	$3,886.46
1760.1581-01	SALARY PACKAGING AUSTRALIA	Salary Sacrifice for LC Employees WE 27 Sep 26	$3,813.92
1762.1581-01	SALARY PACKAGING AUSTRALIA	Salary Sacrifice for LC Employees WE 11 Oct 26	$3,813.92
1764.1581-01	SALARY PACKAGING AUSTRALIA	Salary Sacrifice for LC Employees WE 25 Oct 26	$3,813.92
1760.454-01	TRAFFICWERX NT PTY LTD	Traffic Management for Thorngate Rd	$3,630.00
1761.3028-01	DM K M CIVITARESE	Sep 2026 - Elected Members Allowances	$3,600.49
1764.941-01	EVERLON BRONZE	Memorial plaque - Thorak Customer	$3,549.70
1760.926-01	JACANA ENERGY	Aug 2026 - Electricity Street Lighting	$3,321.15
1761.2252-01	CR E SHARP	Sep 2026 - Elected Members Allowances	$3,085.42
1761.3198-01	CR P CASS	Sep 2026 - Elected Members Allowances	$3,085.42
1761.3251-01	CR P Q F PURICH	Sep 2026 - Elected Members Allowances	$3,085.42
1763.867-01	ALL ASPECTS RECRUITMENT & HR SERVICES	Temp Staff - Ranger WE: 11 Oct 26	$2,960.28
1762.3138-01	ENVIRONMENTAL EARTH SCIENCES QLD	Contaminated Land Audit HSWTS	$2,915.00
1764.1428-01	HANNA'S COOLING PTY LTD (B&A HANNA	BSWTS Air Con Replacement	$2,849.00
1761.690-01	TOTAL HYDRAULIC CONNECTIONS (NT) PT	Repairs to BSWTS Backhoe hydraulics	$2,796.75
1760.2247-01	OUTSIDESIGN	Landscape Architectural services - Thorak Regional	$2,706.00
1760.3222-01	NORTHERN TERRITORY TRAFFIC CONTROL	Traffic Control - Acacia Hills / Brougham Roads	$2,638.35
1763.1141-01	NORTHERN GROUND MAINTENANCE (ANNACAM INDUSTRIES)	Sept- RFQ24-424 Ground Maintenance Parks / Reserves	$2,585.00
1761.3407-01	LINTIN GEOTECHNICAL HOLDINGS PTY LT	RFT26-529- Maintenance of Pavement at Litchfield Council	$2,561.35
1761.3196-01	CR D B CRAWFORD	Sep 2026 - Elected Members Allowances	$2,485.42

1761.2188-01	GTG IRRIGATION PTY LTD	HPRR irrigation repairs	$2,464.00
1760.2647-01	GOAL INDIGENOUS SERVICES NT PTY LTD	Casual Labor - Ground person Thorak Cemetery	$2,421.20
1764.2676-01	MAHER RAUMTEEN SOLICITORS	Interim - Livingstone FB lease	$2,310.00
1762.2270-01	TYRECYCLE PTY LTD	Tyre Collection/Recycling HDWTS WE: 21 Sept 2026	$2,307.03
1761.2238-01	CR K R HARLAN	Sep 2026 - Elected Members Allowances	$2,285.42
1761.3047-01	AJ SECRITY DARWIN (TERRITORY NEXUS	Sep 26 - Open/Close Gates and Security - Thorak Cemetery and HPRR	$2,217.60
1763.1103-01	HASTINGS DEERING	BSWTS Dash Repairs	$2,169.78
1761.2647-01	GOAL INDIGENOUS SERVICES NT PTY LTD	Casual Labor - Ground person Thorak Cemetery	$2,123.44
1764.2795-01	ABSOLUTE SIGNAGE	Signage for Road maintenance	$2,110.24
1760.1288-01	ABBOTT CLEANING SERVICE	Annual steam clean- Litchfield Community Library	$1,980.00
1763.3361-01	TOPEND TECH SOLUTIONS (MNR VENTURES	Oct 2026 - Onsite IT Support	$1,920.50
1763.1961-01	HUMPTY DOO WELDING AND FABRICATION	Repairs to tractor slashing deck	$1,859.00
1762.1674-01	FRESH START - FOR CLEANING	Cleaning Services. MWF, HDWTS, BSWTS, HSWTS, KLRR, HPRR	$1,837.50
1760.85-01	TELSTRA CORPORATION LIMITED	Sep 26- Data Charges for LC Community Library	$1,817.67
1764.1674-01	FRESH START - FOR CLEANING	Cleaning Services. MWF, HDWTS, BSWTS, HSWTS, KLRR, HPRR	$1,747.50
1761.3399-01	LITCHFIELD COUNCIL RATE PAYER	Rates Refund	$1,744.39
1761.51-01	SOUTHERN CROSS PROTECTION PTY LTD	Sep 2026 - Security Patrols HDWTS & Litchfield	$1,723.02
1764.2089-01	ELGAS LTD	Gas Delivery - Thorak Cemetery WE: 14 Oct 2026	$1,683.20
1762.3411-01	ALLIANZ AUSTRALIA INSURANCE- TIO	Motor Vehicle Insurance Excess Payment - Waste	$1,679.00
1761.512-01	SELTER SHAW PLUMBING PTY LTD	Replace Backflow prevention device	$1,666.82
1762.1742-01	ASHBURNER FRANCIS	FPRR Soccer and Rugby Lights Electrical Compliance	$1,650.00
1763.1412-01	HAPPIER ENDING FUNERALS	Transportation of Deceased to Thorak Cemetery	$1,650.00
1762.2647-01	GOAL INDIGENOUS SERVICES NT PTY LTD	Casual Labor - Ground person Thorak Cemetery	$1,649.04
1763.60-01	FREDS PASS SPORT & RECREATION	Repair of Central Corridor Leak	$1,614.25
1762.1471-01	RICOH AUSTRALIA PTY LTD	Sep 26 - MWF - Photocopier Rental and Consumables	$1,586.00

1763.1566-01	WINC AUSTRALIA PTY LTD	Stationary Replenishment - Thorak Cemetery, Litchfield Council & Community Library	$1,547.27
1761.1674-01	FRESH START - FOR CLEANING	Cleaning Services Weekly - HPRR & KLRR	$1,500.00
1764.1107-01	MCARTHUR (VIC) PTY LTD	Professional Services - CEO Performance Review	$1,485.00
1764.1023-01	AUSLINE ENGINEERING	Repair and Modify Slasher Trailing arms	$1,397.00
1760.2270-01	TYRECYCLE PTY LTD	Tyre Collection/Recycling HDWTS WE: 7 Sept 2026	$1,345.65
1760.3049-01	DREAMEDIA CREATIVE (DREAMEDIA PTY LTD)	Live stream & Recording - Thorak Cemetery	$1,342.00
1761.279-01	AUSTRALASIAN CEMETERIES & CREMATORIA ASSOCIATION	ACCA Full Membership 26-27	$1,328.40
1763.2188-01	GTG IRRIGATION PTY LTD	Irrigation Repairs - LC Office, HPRR & Gregg Park	$1,327.70
1761.638-01	FORECAST MACHINERY	2 x Solid Cushion Tyre and Hub Assemblies	$1,326.00
1761.2089-01	ELGAS LTD	Gas Delivery - Thorak Cemetery WE: 23 Sept 2026	$1,247.54
1762.2295-01	COLEMANS PRINTING (COLEMANS INK PTY	Compliments Slips & Window face envelopes	$1,235.42
1760.3246-01	S SHAH (CYBERTECHENTHUSIAST)	Consultation for Information Management (5/10/2026 to 18/10/2026)	$1,232.00
1763.3246-01	S SHAH (CYBERTECHENTHUSIAST)	Consultation for Information Management (21/9/2026 to 4/10/2026)	$1,232.00
1764.3246-01	S SHAH (CYBERTECHENTHUSIAST)	Consultation for Information Management (7/9/2026 to 20/9/2026)	$1,232.00
1760.3361-01	TOPEND TECH SOLUTIONS (MNR VENTURES PTY LTD)	Sep 2026 - Onsite IT Support	$1,188.00
1762.36-01	BRIDGE TOYOTA	Vehicle Service of CF70XG	$1,107.55
1762.2660-01	STONE MONKEY	Assorted Books for Litchfield Library	$1,105.00
1762.1412-01	HAPPIER ENDING FUNERALS	Transportation of Deceased to Thorak Cemetery	$1,100.00
1762.3379-01	CIVIL CONTRACTORS FEDERATION VICTOR	TMD1 Online- Traffic Management Designer Skill	$1,099.00
1763.205-01	SAFEWAY TEST & TAG (DAVID MILNER)	Test and Tag Equipment- Council Chambers	$1,097.25
1762.1789-01	GREAT NORTHERN AIR CONDITIONING &	Thorak Cemetery Ice Machine Fault	$1,092.72
1764.3260-01	AV INDUSTRY SERVICES PTY LTD	Compactor 6 Monthly Service	$1,066.78
1764.1278-01	SEEK LIMITED	Advertisement - EA to CEO, IT and System Administrator	$995.50
1762.941-01	EVERLON BRONZE	Memorial plaque - Thorak Customer	$959.75

1764.2270-01	TYRECYCLE PTY LTD	Tyre Collection/Recycling HDWTS WE: 19 Oct 2026	$947.63
1761.2270-01	TYRECYCLE PTY LTD	Tyre Collection/Recycling HDWTS WE: 14 Sept 2026	$936.25
1762.1566-01	WINC AUSTRALIA PTY LTD	Stationary Replenishment - Thorak Cemetery, Litchfield Council & Community Library	$926.96
1761.55-01	CHUBB FIRE & SECURITY PTY LTD	Replace Movement Detector	$902.53
1762.389-01	LITCHFIELD VET HOSPITAL	Redemption of Desexing Voucher	$895.00
1761.36-01	BRIDGE TOYOTA	Vehicle Service of CF91JL	$891.47
1762.3222-01	NORTHERN TERRITORY TRAFFIC CONTROL	Traffic Control - Acacia Hills / Brougham Roads	$861.85
1761.953-01	HWL EBSWORTH LAWYERS	Rates Recovery Legal Support	$839.30
1761.3049-01	DREAMEDIA CREATIVE (DREAMEDIA PTY LTD)	Live stream & Recording - Thorak Cemetery	$803.00
1764.1253-01	C BURGDORF	Repairs to HDWTS Komatsu	$802.26
1763.2270-01	TYRECYCLE PTY LTD	Tyre Collection/Recycling HDWTS WE: 10 Oct 2026	$781.13
1762.3021-01	JUST PEACHY PRODUCTIONS	Open Day MC- HPRR	$750.00
1761.2641-01	DAMN STRAIGHT FENCING	Fence Repairs at Howard Springs Waste Transfer Station	$748.00
1763.2490-01	NT HEALTH (DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH)	Hospital Emergency Attendance	$720.00
1763.1274-01	GRACE RECORD MANAGEMENT (AUSTRALIA)	Oct 2026 - Litchfield Council Archive Storage	$692.21
1760.560-01	JOBFIT HEALTH GROUP PTY LTD	Pre-Employment Medical New Litchfield Council Employment	$673.20
1762.560-01	JOBFIT HEALTH GROUP PTY LTD	Pre-Employment Medical New Litchfield Council Employment	$673.20
1764.3222-01	NORTHERN TERRITORY TRAFFIC CONTROL	Traffic Management - Northstar Road Acacia Hills	$668.80
1762.1237-01	THE BOOKSHOP DARWIN	Assorted Books for Litchfield Community Library	$663.96
1761.896-01	MUIRS (E.E Muirs & Sons Pty Ltd)	Spray Logbooks- MWF Crews	$630.96
1761.3400-01	LITCHFIELD COUNCIL RATE PAYER	Rates Refund	$620.10
1761.2375-01	NTIT (NT-IT PTY LTD)	Yealink Handset for Library	$613.80
1763.1237-01	THE BOOKSHOP DARWIN	Assorted Books for Litchfield Community Library	$600.97
1762.111-01	STICKERS AND STUFF	Waste Promotion Stickers	$600.00

1761.1566-01	WINC AUSTRALIA PTY LTD	Stationary Replenishment - Thorak Cemetery, Litchfield Council & Community Library	$580.51
1764.3230-01	LITCHFIELD COUNCIL RATE PAYER	Rates Refund	$550.00
1762.367-01	BUNNINGS GROUP LIMITED	Consumable Hardware Items - Waste Station	$546.54
1762.1152-01	LANE COMMUNICATIONS	SMS Reminder Rates 30/9/2026	$544.19
1764.2063-01	QUALITY INDOOR PLANTS HIRE (LEE FAM	Oct 2026 - Plant Maintenance and Hire Litchfield Council	$538.60
1761.3406-01	LITCHFIELD COUNCIL RATE PAYER	Rates Refund	$536.89
1762.3383-01	OCHRE SOCIAL ENTERPRISES INCORPORAT	School Holidays Term 3 2026	$531.00
1762.130-01	LITCHFIELD COUNCIL RATE PAYER	2 x 334 MID LENGTH PADLOCK	$528.00
1760.690-01	TOTAL HYDRAULIC CONNECTIONS (NT) PT	Inspect pressure pump to remove off Honda Motor	$511.50
1760.1100-01	AUSTRALIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION	ALGA Conference Dinner	$490.00
1760.1830-01	PALMERSTON AND REGIONAL BASKETBALL	Level Up Gaming June 26- School Holidays	$473.00
1761.1253-01	C BURGDORF	Repairs to HDWTS Komatsu	$462.00
1763.896-01	MUIRS (E.E Muirs & Sons Pty Ltd)	Grease Cartridges x3 MWF	$455.40
1760.828-01	HOWARD SPRINGS VETERINARY CLINIC	Redemption of Desexing Voucher	$450.00
1763.220-01	THE BIG MOWER	1 x blower and accessories	$439.90
1760.1237-01	THE BOOKSHOP DARWIN	Assorted Books for Litchfield Community Library	$434.54
1763.1278-01	SEEK LIMITED	Advertisement - WTS Plant Operator	$434.50
1764.690-01	TOTAL HYDRAULIC CONNECTIONS (NT) PT	2 Drums of Gear Oil	$433.03
1763.2295-01	COLEMANS PRINTING (COLEMANS INK PTY	Window Envelop	$423.40
1760.1566-01	WINC AUSTRALIA PTY LTD	Stationary Replenishment - Thorak Cemetery, Litchfield Council & Community Library	$406.27
1764.1152-01	LANE COMMUNICATIONS	26-27 Dog Rego Overdue Letters & Ezybill	$394.92
1761.287-01	HARVEY DISTRIBUTORS	Replacement Bin Liners- Consumables	$380.49
1761.2378-01	PACK & SEND DARWIN	July 2026 - Courier Services for Litchfield Community Library	$375.00
1761.1237-01	THE BOOKSHOP DARWIN	Assorted Books for Litchfield Community Library	$364.34

1763.1809-01	RGM MAINTENANCE DARWIN	Fuso Truck Spare tyre carrier	$358.05
1762.1008-01	OUTBACK BATTERIES P/L	Replacement Battery	$356.00
1760.3200-01	A&F WINDSCREENS	Remove Komatsu Window tint	$350.00
1762.3235-01	Janie Andrews	Art Workshops - School Holiday Program Sept 2026	$350.00
1763.752-01	TOTALLY WORKWEAR PALMERSTON	Waste Transfer Station Staff Boots	$342.00
1760.1674-01	FRESH START - FOR CLEANING	Sept 2026 - Cleaning Services. MWF, HDWTS, BSWT, HSWTS	$337.50
1764.3049-01	DREAMEDIA CREATIVE (DREAMEDIA PTY L	Live stream & Recording - Thorak Cemetery	$335.50
1761.3222-01	NORTHERN TERRITORY TRAFFIC CONTROL	Traffic Management - Northstar Road Acacia Hills	$334.40
1760.1396-01	CSE CROSSCOM	Sep 26 - Radio Communications Tracking 26	$330.00
1760.1911-01	KERRY'S BODY THERAPY	Sep 26 - Wellbeing Massage	$313.50
1760.3170-01	UNIQUE GIFTS AND NEWSAGENTS PTY LTD	July- Sep 26 - Newspapers & Magazine for LC Library	$307.50
1762.1264-01	DARWIN LARGE ANIMAL MOBILE VET SERVICE	Redemption of Desexing Voucher	$300.00
1764.3422-01	LITCHFIELD COUNCIL RATE PAYER - DEPENDANT	Youth Development Grant	$300.00
1761.3402-01	LITCHFIELD COUNCIL RATE PAYER - DEPENDANT	Youth Development Grant	$300.00
1761.3403-01	LITCHFIELD COUNCIL RATE PAYER - DEPENDANT	Youth Development Grant	$300.00
1761.3404-01	LITCHFIELD COUNCIL RATE PAYER - DEPENDANT	Youth Development Grant	$300.00
1761.3408-01	LITCHFIELD COUNCIL RATE PAYER - DEPENDANT	Youth Development Grant	$300.00
1761.3409-01	LITCHFIELD COUNCIL RATE PAYER - DEPENDANT	Youth Development Grant	$300.00
1761.3413-01	NORTHERN TERRITORY RUGBY UNION INC	Youth Development Grant	$300.00
1760.2378-01	PACK & SEND DARWIN	Aug 2026 - Courier Services for Litchfield Community Library	$300.00
1763.2795-01	ABSOLUTE SIGNAGE	Replacement Signage - Various Locations	$295.85
1762.3313-01	HOLLY ANDREW ART	Workshops - "Dogman" to 12 Children	$295.00
1761.1809-01	RGM MAINTENANCE DARWIN	BSWTS TRUCK DRIVE BELT REPLACEMENT	$288.84
1761.508-01	EASA	EAP Counselling Sessions from 16-30 Sept 2026	$282.10
1764.1143-01	WORKPRO (RISK SOLUTIONS AUSTRALIA	Police Checks x4 - New Litchfield Council Employees	$264.00

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1763.1181-01	ODD JOB BOB	Whiteboard Installation and Relocation	$256.85
1760.506-01	TURBO'S TYRES	Front tyre rotation of the tractor	$253.00
1761.941-01	EVERLON BRONZE	Memorial plaque - Thorak Customer	$246.40
1763.108-01	DEPT OF CORPORATE AND DIGITAL DEVELOPMENT (RTM)	Jul-Sep 2026 Admin Enforcement Fees	$220.00
1761.367-01	BUNNINGS GROUP LIMITED	Consumable Hardware Items - MWF Crew	$215.27
1762.3080-01	LITCHFIELD COUNCIL STAFF MEMBER	Reimbursement for work expense done out	$212.65
1763.1911-01	KERRY'S BODY THERAPY	Oct 26 - Wellbeing Massage	$209.00
1762.3387-01	KYNIC PTY LTD	HDVG Community Garden mowing Oct2026	$209.00
1764.2849-01	ARMAGUARD PTY LTD	Collect Council Banking - WE: 16 Oct 2026	$205.26
1762.1746-01	KOMATSU AUSTRALIA	Komatsu WA150 Keys and Wiper Blade	$186.58
1764.855-01	TENDERLINK	RFT26-562 Litchfield Council Blackspot Program Upgrade	$184.80
1762.3416-01	LITCHFIELD COUNCIL RATE PAYER	Rates Refund	$180.00
1764.78-01	POWER & WATER CORPORATION	Sep 2026 - Water Bill HWSTS	$173.46
1762.1186-01	ADVANCED SAFETY SYSTEMS AUSTRALIA P	Oct 26 - ASSA Monthly Membership	$165.00
1762.2564-01	LITCHFIELD COUNCIL RATE PAYER	Reimbursement- Fuel for council vehicle	$162.38
1764.1264-01	DARWIN LARGE ANIMAL MOBILE VET SERVICE	Redemption of Desexing Voucher	$150.00
1763.2930-01	GIRRAWEEN VETINARY HOSPITAL	Redemption of Desex Voucher	$150.00
1763.828-01	HOWARD SPRINGS VETERINARY CLINIC	Redemption of Desexing Voucher	$150.00
1763.3418-01	LITCHFIELD COUNCIL RATE PAYER	Rates Refund	$150.00
1763.3214-01	NORTHERN TERRITORY VETERINARY SERVICES	Redemption of Desexing Vouchers	$150.00
1761.2849-01	ARMAGUARD PTY LTD	Collect Council Banking - WE: 18 Sep 2026	$136.84
1763.968-01	NTF CONSTRUCTION SUPPLY SPECIALISTS	Nuts and lubricant supplies	$133.29
1762.1866-01	NUTRIEN AG SOLUTIONS	Bulk Purchase of GP Cement Powder	$133.10
1761.2063-01	QUALITY INDOOR PLANTS HIRE (LEE FAM	Sep 2026 - Plant Maintenance and Hire Thorak Cemetery	$132.05

1763.2063-01	QUALITY INDOOR PLANTS HIRE (LEE FAM	Oct 2026 - Plant Maintenance and Hire Thorak Cemetery	$132.05
1761.3381-01	LITCHFIELD COUNCIL RATE PAYER	Refund for overpayment of Building Certificate	$132.00
1761.1133-01	NT WATER FILTERS	Replacement Water Bottles - LC office	$125.00
1761.3255-01	LITCHFIELD COUNCIL RATE PAYER	Refund of Trap Bond after Hire Period	$120.00
1761.3412-01	LITCHFIELD COUNCIL RATE PAYER	Refund of Trap Bond after Hire Period	$120.00
1762.3401-01	LITCHFIELD COUNCIL RATE PAYER	Refund of Trap Bond after Hire Period	$120.00
1763.1471-01	RICOH AUSTRALIA PTY LTD	Sep 2026 - Cemetery Photocopier & Consumables	$117.85
1762.3417-01	LITCHFIELD COUNCIL STAFF MEMBER	Reimbursement for training	$109.00
1764.25-01	LAND TITLES OFFICE	Planning Tittle Searches	$103.50
1762.1697-01	RSPCA	Sep 26 - Pound Transfers for Impounded/Surrendered	$100.00
1764.2434-01	BELLS PURE ICE	Oct 26 - Bagged Ice Delivered to MWF Shed HDWTS	$96.25
1760.367-01	BUNNINGS GROUP LIMITED	Consumable Hardware - Thorak Cemetery	$91.24
1763.25-01	LAND TITLES OFFICE	Planning Tittle Searches	$69.00
1762.2849-01	ARMAGUARD PTY LTD	Collect Council Banking - WE: 09 Oct 2026	$68.42
1763.1772-01	WATER DYNAMICS PTY LTD	Irrigation Pipes	$23.93
1764.926-01	JACANA ENERGY	Sep 26 - Electricity Gregg Park Jakirra Estate	$21.71
1764.3423-01	DEPARTMENT OF CORPORATE AND DIGITAL DEVELOPMENT - FRU	Refund for overpayment of infringement	$2.00
		Total	$4,867,743.91

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STATEMENT 4. MEMBER AND CEO COUNCIL CREDIT CARD TRANSACTION FOR THE MONTH

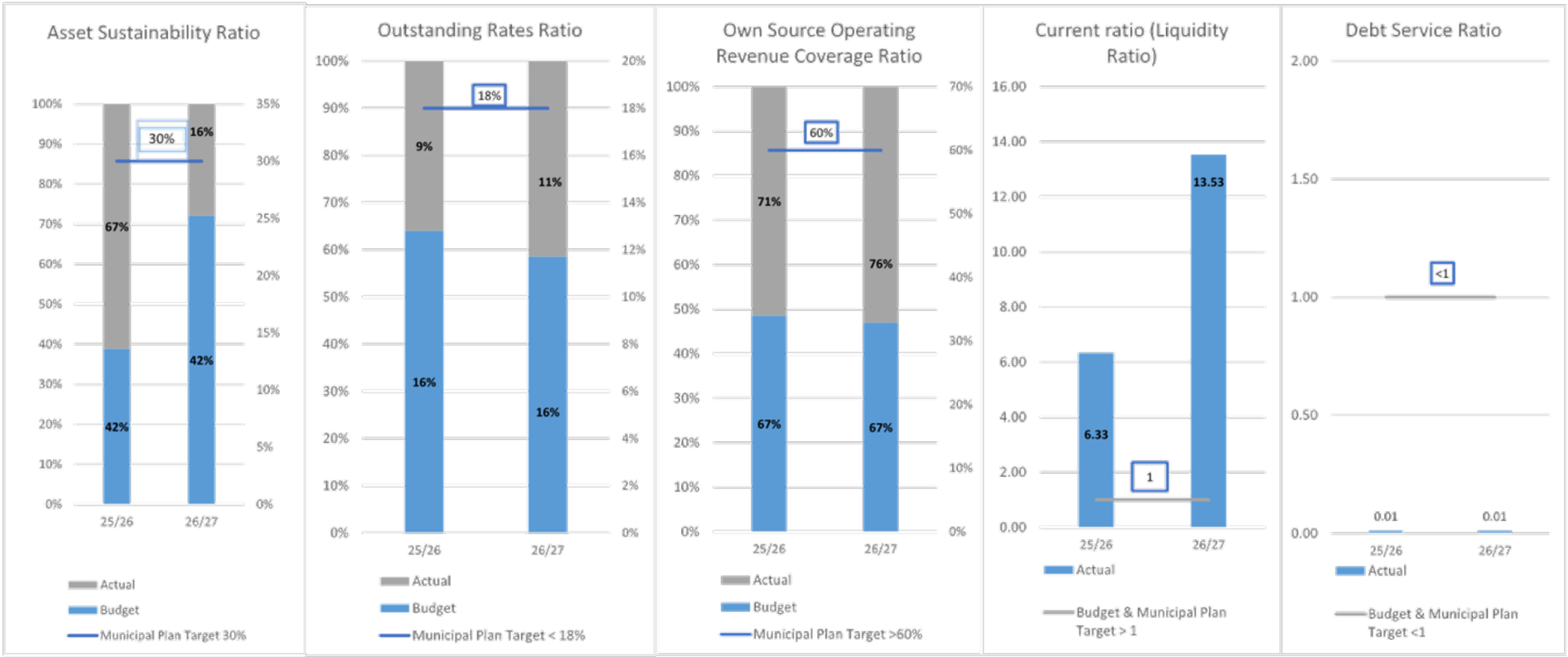
Card Holder Name:	Stephen Hoyne		
Transaction Date	**Amount**	**Supplier's Name**	**Details**
30/09/2026	$35.00	Caltex	Caltex AD Blue for council vehicle
12/10/2026	$24.00	NT News	News PTY Ltd subscription
19/10/2026	$15.00	NT Independent	NT Independent monthly subscription
Total	**$74.00**		

STATEMENT 5. ALLOWANCE AND EXPENSES FOR MEMBERS OF COUNCIL (AS PER LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2019 SECTION 109 (3)

Transaction Date	**Amount $**	**Supplier's Name**	**Reason for the Transaction**
October 2026	$9,244.60	MAYOR R A WRIGHT	September 2026 - Elected Members Allowances
October 2026	$3,600.49	DM K M CIVITARESE	September 2026 - Elected Members Allowances
October 2026	$3,085.42	CR E SHARP	September 2026 - Elected Members Allowances
October 2026	$3,085.42	CR P CASS	September 2026 - Elected Members Allowances
October 2026	$3,085.42	CR P Q F PURICH	September 2026 - Elected Members Allowances
October 2026	$2,485.42	CR D B CRAWFORD	September 2026 - Elected Members Allowances
October 2026	$2,285.42	CR K R HARLAN	September 2026 - Elected Members Allowances
Total	**$26,872.19**		

FINANCE KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS (KPI)

Council's 2026/27 Municipal Plan includes the following financial KPIs.



Indicates if Council is replacing or renewing existing assets in a timely manner as the assets are used up.	Identifies if Council is collecting rates and charges in a timely manner and the effectiveness of debt recovery efforts.	This ratio measures the degree to which Council relies on external funding to cover its operational expenses.	Identifies Council's ability to meet its short-term financial commitments as and when they fall due.	Indicates Council's ability to repay loans.

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KPI	Explanation
Asset Sustainability Ratio	Council's Asset Sustainability Ratio for the month of October is 16% which is below the Municipal Plan target of greater than 30%. However, the current Long-term Financial Plan shows insufficient levels of revenue to fund long-term infrastructure renewal needs of the Council. The risk exists that Council's current levels of revenue will not be sustainable in the long-term to address a growing backlog of infrastructure replacement needs in the future.
Outstanding Rates Ratio	In the absence of a local government industry standard benchmark, a benchmark of 5% for City Councils and 10% for Regional Councils is considered best practice and is used by many jurisdictions across Australia. Council's Outstanding Rates Ratio of 11% is less than the Municipal Plan target of less than 18%. However, council needs to continue work in this area as a growing outstanding rates ratio increases liquidity risk and places a burden on Council's existing resources.
Own Source Revenue Ratio	This ratio indicates Council's ability to pay for its operational expenditure through its own revenue sources. The higher the ratio the more self-reliant a Council. In other words, the higher the ratio the less Council must rely on external grants to provide services to the community. A ratio of 40% to 60% is considered as a basic level, between 60% to 90% is considered intermediate level and more than 90% is considered advanced level. Council's Own Source Operating Revenue Coverage ratio of 76% is above the Municipal Plan target of greater than 60%.
Current Ratio (Liquidity Ratio)	A ratio of greater than 1 is required to provide assurance that Council has enough funds to pay its short-term financial commitments. Council's Current Ratio of 13.53 sits favourably against the Municipal Plan target and benchmark of 1. This ratio indicates Council is well placed to fulfill its short-term liabilities as and when they fall due.
Debt Service Ratio	Council has no debt and therefore fully meets the Municipal Plan Target of less than 1.

*Infrastructure back-log refers to capital replacement (renewal) cost not spent to bring assets to a satisfactory condition. ** Own Source Revenue refers to revenue raising capacity excluding all external grants, that is, through rates, charges, user fees, interest income, profit on disposal of assets etc.

CERTIFICATION BY THE CEO TO THE COUNCIL

Council Name: Litchfield Council
Reporting Period: 31.10.2026

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

(1) The internal controls implemented by the council are appropriate; and

(2) The council's financial report best reflects the financial affairs of the council.

CEO Signed:  **Date Signed:** 11/11/2026

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14.2.2 People and Performance Report – October 2026

AUTHOR: Ankit Pansal, Director Corporate Services

AUTHORISER: Stephen Hoyne, Chief Executive Officer

ATTACHMENTS: 1. People and Performance Report October.pdf

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides Council with key staffing information, workplace health and safety information and proposed major policy updates and reviews.
This report provides a monthly update to ensure that both staffing and budget measures are in accordance with the Council approved staffing plan and budget. The metrics provided in this report track activity and report full-time equivalent (FTE) numbers, retention and Work Health and Safety performance

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council note the People, Performance and Governance Report for October 2026.

BACKGROUND

Litchfield Council strongly values our people and good governance. This monthly report will ensure that important information is presented to understand any trends occurring and for the organisation to understand the factors influencing staff, their safety and policy initiatives.

LINKS WITH STRATEGIC PLAN

Performance - An Effective and Efficient Organisation

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

Risks Public liability issues result from safety breaches by residents at Council's Waste Transfer Stations. Risk registers, standard operating procedures, and implementation of safety measures (e.g., education, signage etc) are used to reduce hazards during tasks and operations.

Service Delivery

Due to our location and market position, ongoing risks exist around the attraction of qualified staff into critical roles and retention of critical staff needed to deliver Council's business plans. Risks are being managed through several means, including implementing innovative HR practices and strengthening council's positive work culture to attract and retain talent.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Nil

PEOPLE AND PERFORMANCE MONTHLY REPORT
October 2026

Internal Appointments

Position	Department	Commenced	Permanent/Temporary
NA			

External Appointments

Position	Department	Start date	Permanent/Temporary
Accountant	Corporate	07/10/2026	Permanent
Policy & Governance Officer	Governance & Community	12/10/2026	Permanent

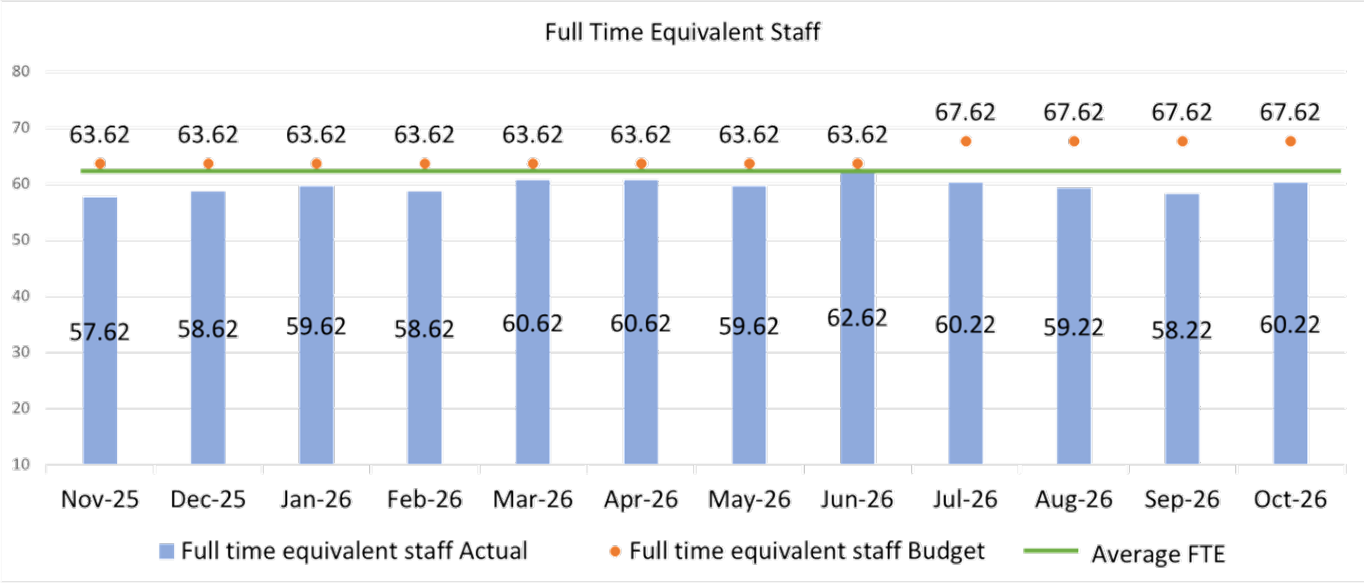
Employment Separation Permanent

Position	Department	End date	Permanent/Temporary
NA	NA	NA	NA

	Allocated	Actual	Difference
Full Time Equivalent	54.00	47.00	-7
Part-time	4.32	3.92	-0.40
Contract	4.00	4.00	0
Casual	5.30	5.30	0
Total	67.62	60.22	-7.40

Recruitment Overview:

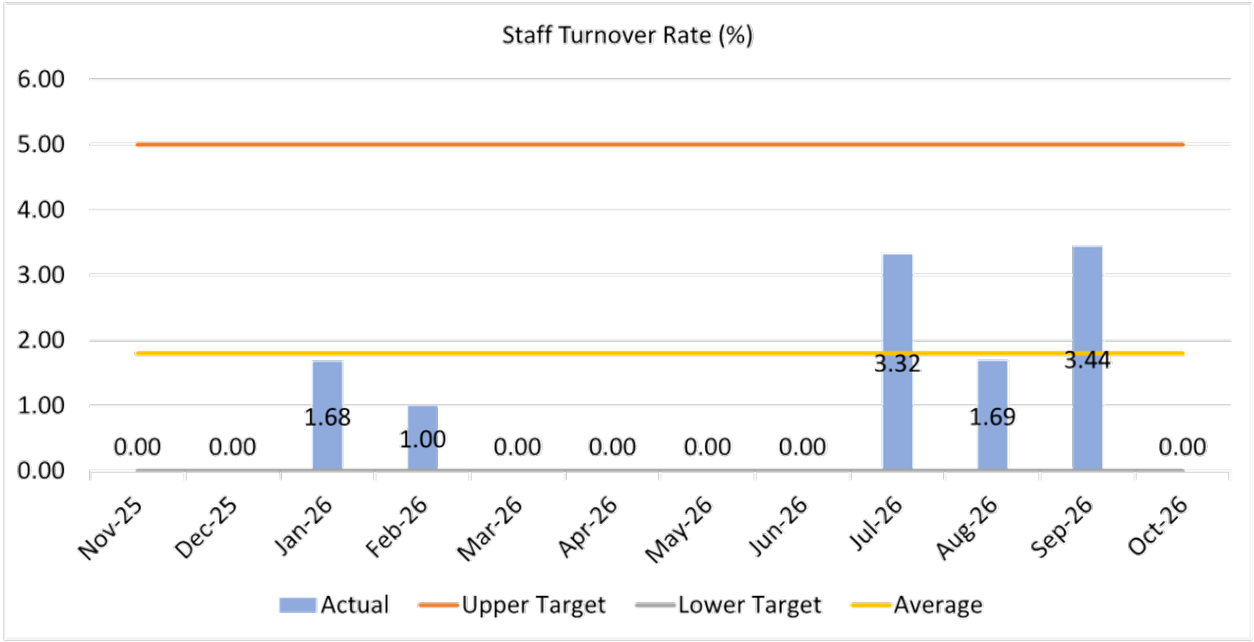
Role	In Progress	Completed	Expected Time
HR & WHS Program Leader	✓		November
Policy & Governance Officer		✓	October
Ranger		✓	October
EA to CEO & Mayor	✓		December
IT & Systems Administrator	✓		December
WTS Casual Plant Operator	✓		November



Turnover Rate:

The number of staff leaving council employment during the reporting period.

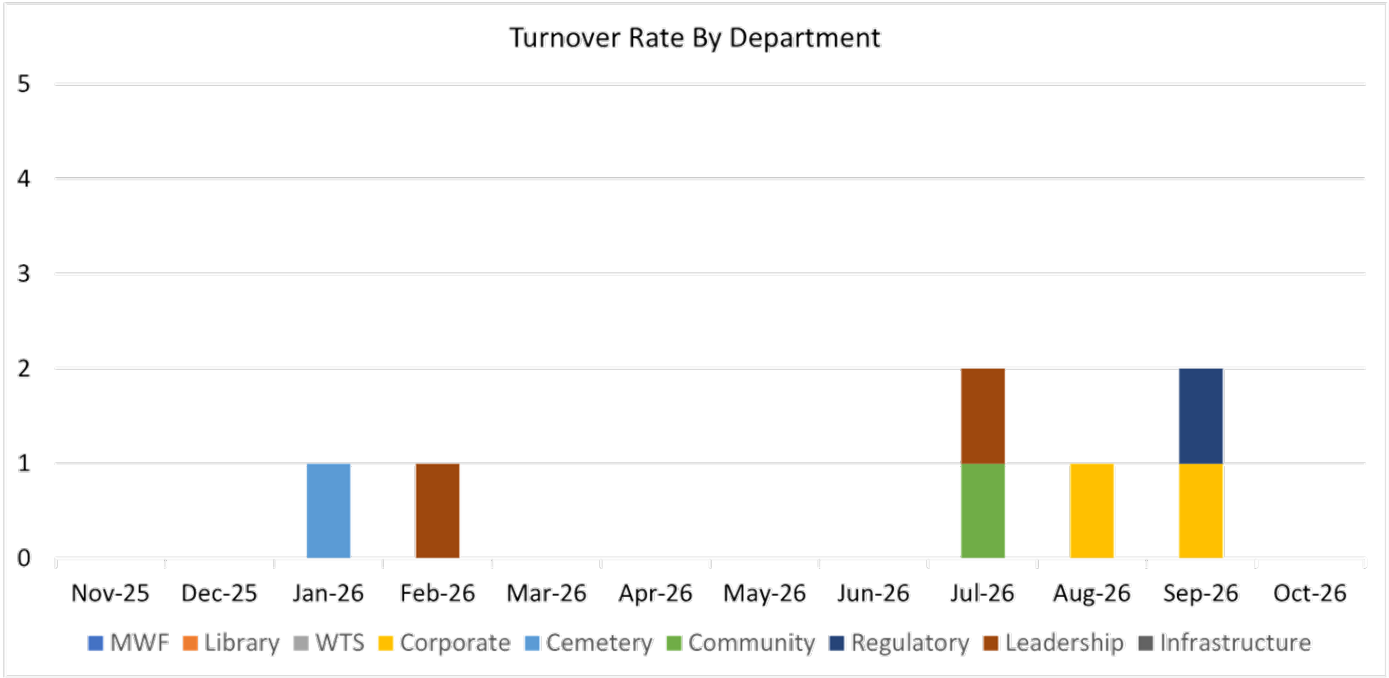
(# staff leaving divided by the total number of people employed (Actual FTE) multiplied by 100)



Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Average
0%	0%	1.68%	1.71%	0%	0%	0%	0%	3.32%	1.69%	3.44%	0%	0.99 %
0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	2	1	2	0	0.58

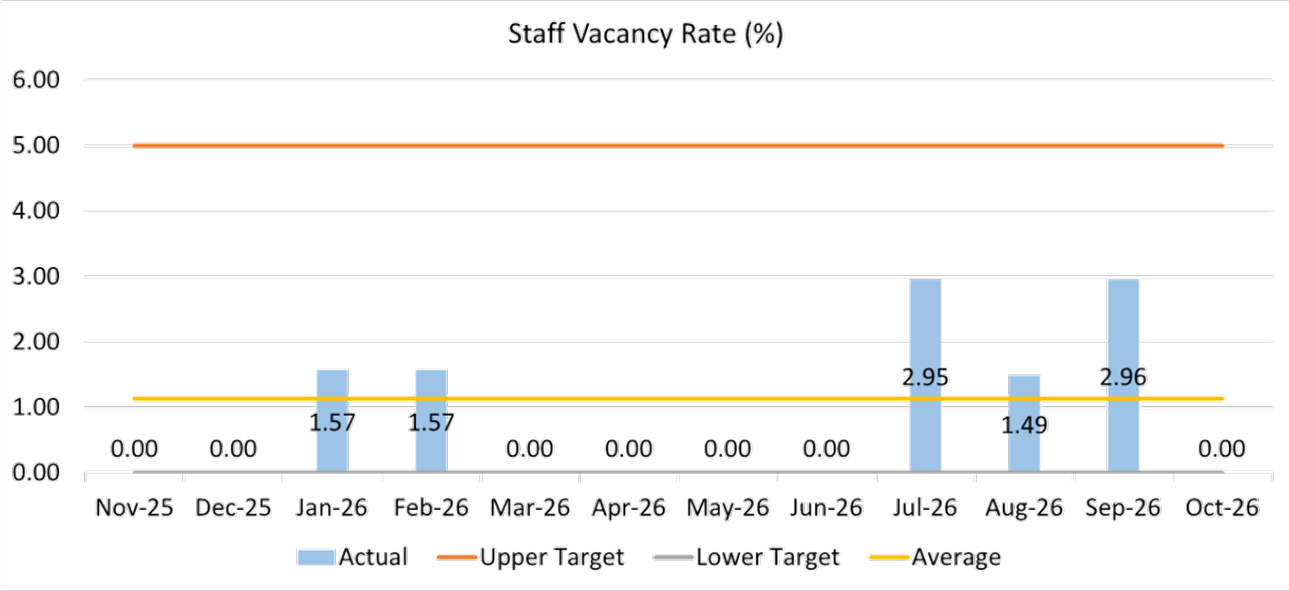
Target Average: Between 0% to 5%

Turnover Rate by Department:


Turnover Rate By Department
5
4
3
2
1
0
Nov-25
Dec-25
Jan-26
Feb-26
Mar-26
Apr-26
May-26
Jun-26
Jul-26
Aug-26
Sep-26
Oct-26
MWF
Library
WTS
Corporate
Cemetery
Community
Regulatory
Leadership
Infrastructure

Staff Vacancy Rate:

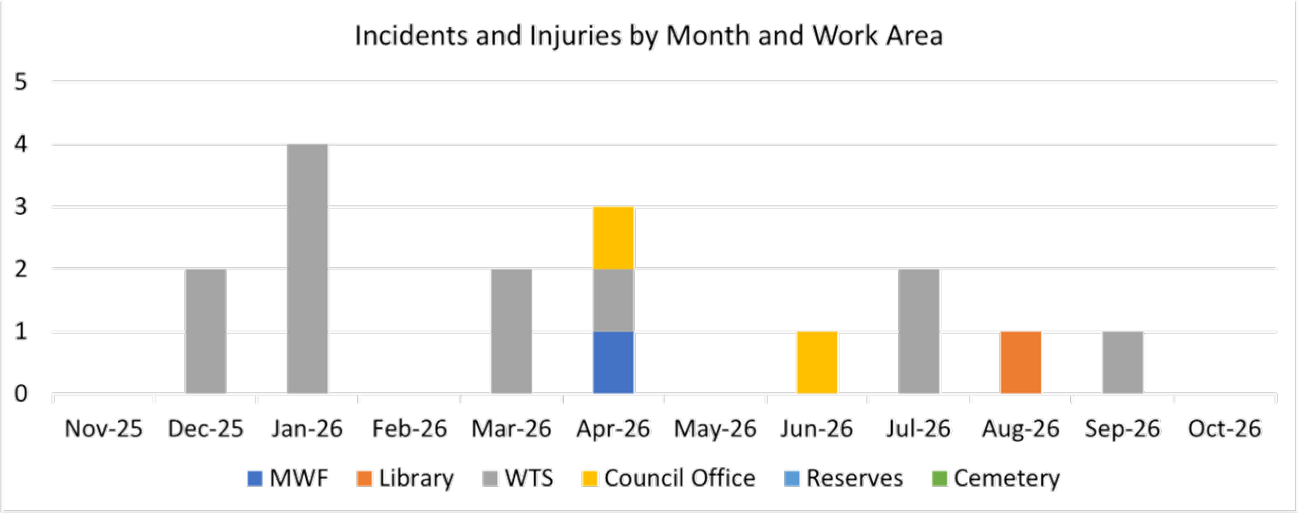
The number of vacant positions during the reporting period.
(Vacant positions, divided by total FTE, multiplied by 100).



Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Average
0.00 %	0.00 %	1.57 %	1.57%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00 %	0.00%	2.95%	1.49%	2.96%	0%	0.88 %

Target: Between 0% to 5%

Workplace Health and Safety:



There was no work health and safety injury recorded for October.

14.3 Governance and Community

14.3.1 Governance and Community Monthly Report - October 2026

AUTHOR: Natasha Clancy, Policy and Governance Officer

AUTHORISER: Rebecca Taylor, Director Governance & Community

ATTACHMENTS:
1. Governance Monthly Report - October
2. Community Monthly Report - October.pdf

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides a monthly update on key activities and services across the Governance and Community for October 2026.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council receive and note the Governance and Community Monthly Report for October 2026 as at attachment 1 and 2.

BACKGROUND

The attached monthly reports provide an overview of activities across Governance, Media and Communications, Library Services, Regulatory Services and Community Development.

LINKS WITH STRATEGIC PLAN

People - Our Community is at the Heart of All We Do

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Activities are undertaken in accordance with relevant legislation and Council policies.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

RISKS

Nil

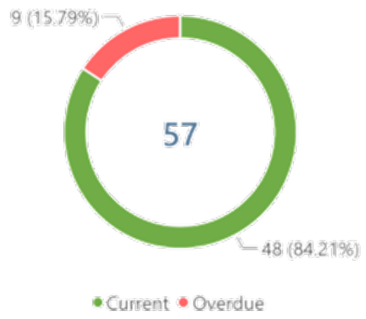
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Nil

GOVERNANCE

Total Council Policies	Current Policies	Due for Review This Quarter	Overdue Policies
57	48	4	9

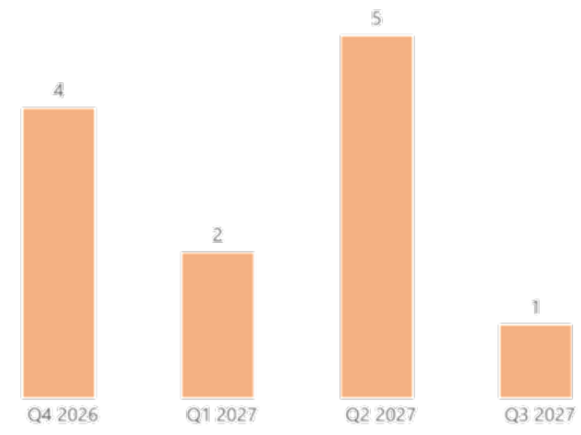
Policy Review Status



Overdue Council Policies

Policy No.	Policy	Review Date
INF04	Place Names	8/12/2024
COM03	Sport and Recreation	15/06/2025
GOV13	Managing Requests to Council Members	18/10/2025
COR01	Media Policy	15/11/2025
INF06	Private Roads	16/12/2025
CEM02	Right of Interment	17/01/2026
INF01	Asset Mangement	17/01/2026
CEM01	Floral and Ornamental Tributes	16/05/2026
GOV20	Committees	15/08/2026

Council Policy Reviews - Next 12 Months



Governance Framework

The *Local Government Act 2019* commenced on 1 July 2021. The following instruments have been made under the Act:

2 Regulations
Electoral Regulations | General Regulations

8 Guidelines
Local Authorities | Appointing a CEO | Borrowing | Assets | Budgets | Annual Report | Procedural Fairness in Deciding Code of Conduct Complaints | Ministerial Guideline - Code of Conduct Framework

1 Determination
Training Requirements

2 General Instructions
Procurement | Annual Financial Statement

Council policies are reviewed every four years, unless otherwise specified or required earlier due to legislative or best-practice changes.

Policy and Legislative Update

During October, Council adopted the reviewed FIN11 Related Party Disclosure Policy.

Three further reviewed policies are scheduled to be presented to the November Ordinary Council Meeting: GOV19 Code of Conduct Complaint Handling, EM02 Code of Conduct for Members and COM03 Sport and Recreation Policy.

The reviews of GOV19 and EM02 respond to the new Code of Conduct framework, which commenced on 1 July 2026. COM03 has been reviewed in accordance with Council's policy review schedule, with minor amendments made to improve clarity and reflect current practices.

MEDIA & COMMUNICATIONS

Facebook Viewers
17162
Previous Month: 23096 (-25.69%)

Facebook Interactions
286
Previous Month: 315 (-9.21%)

Facebook Followers
6397
Previous Month: 6383 (+0.22%)

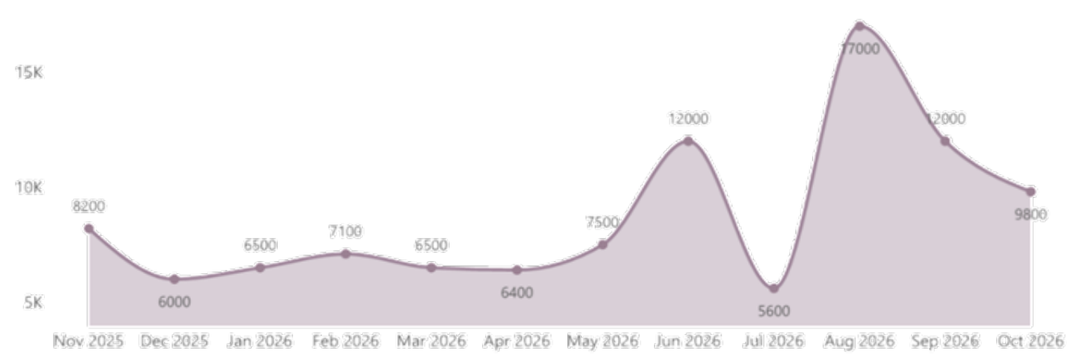
Instagram Views
393
Previous Month: 528 (-25.57%)

Website Views
17000
Previous Month: 21000 (-19.05%)

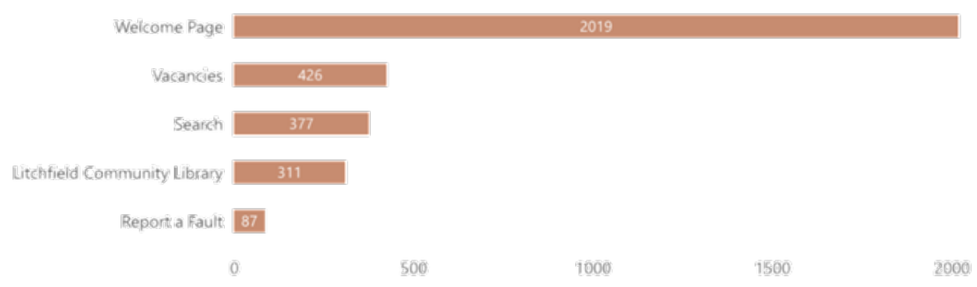
Facebook Views



Website Users



Top Website Pages



October Highlights

- On the website, the News page had one of the highest engagement for this month, with the Library and Strategic Plan surveys outlining the current community consultation council is undertaking. Otherwise, the website stats remain steady.
- The Facebook stats have decreased slightly for October, which is expected for this time of year with not as many events, updates and advertisements. The posts with the most views were the Clean Up Event Post and the Asbestos remediation post which displays the topics that hold the public's interest.

LIBRARY SERVICES

New Members
59
Previous Month: 100 (-41%)

PC Sessions
344
Previous Month: 378 (-8.99%)

Library Hours
206
Previous Month: 200 (+3%)

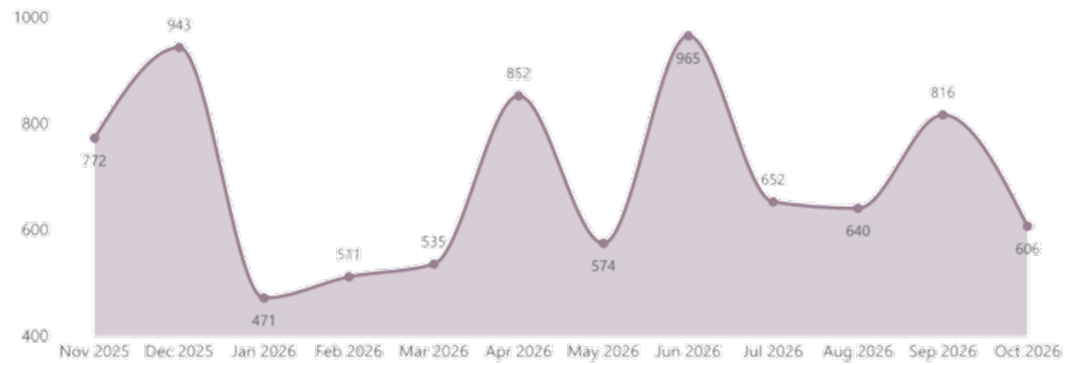
Printing
426
Previous Month: 438 (-2.74%)

Loans
2810
Previous Month: 3058 (-8.11%)

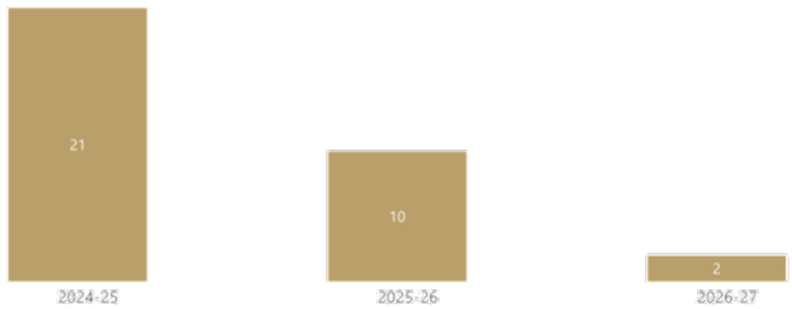
Library Visitors



Program Attendance



Service Disruptions



September Highlights

- Seniors Rural Expo was held on 09 October.
- The Library review was conducted.
- Induction and training of two additional casual staff to increase workforce availability and address rostering gaps.
- Submitted the LANT Annual Outcomes Report in accordance with funding agreement requirements.

REGULATORY SERVICES

New Dog Registration
32
Previous Month: 77 (-58.44%)

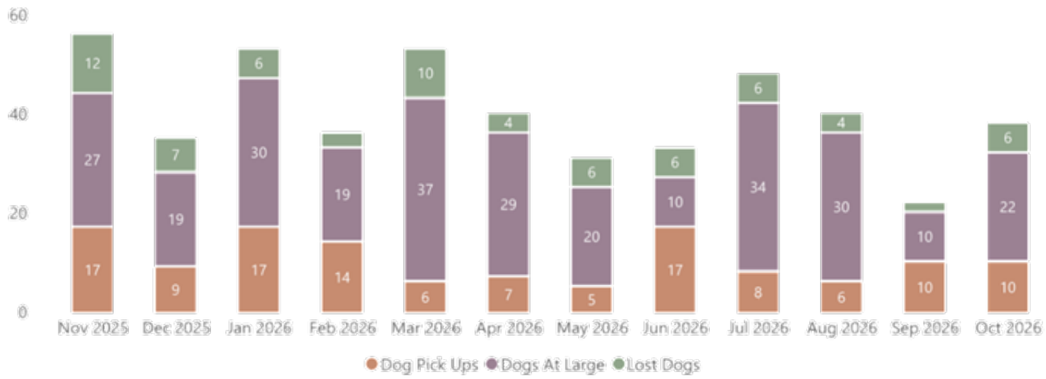
Dogs at Large / Lost
22
Previous Month: 22 (+0%)

Dog Attack / Menace
4
Previous Month: 8 (-50%)

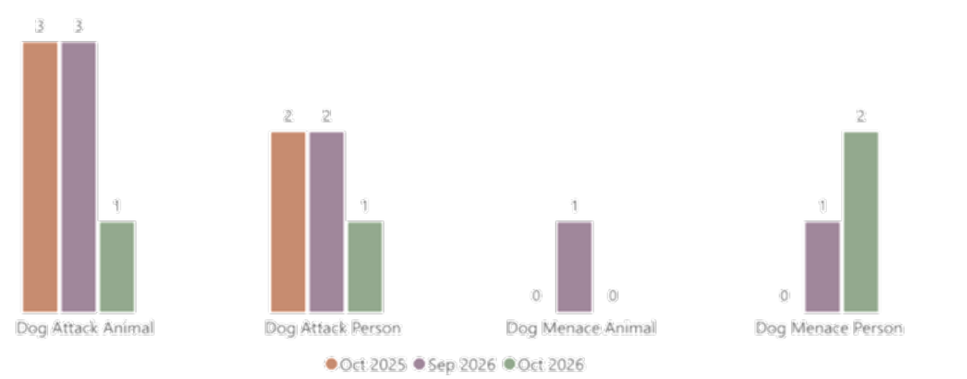
Impounded Dogs
18
Previous Month: 12 (+50%)

Abandoned Vehicles
6
Previous Month: 6 (+0%)

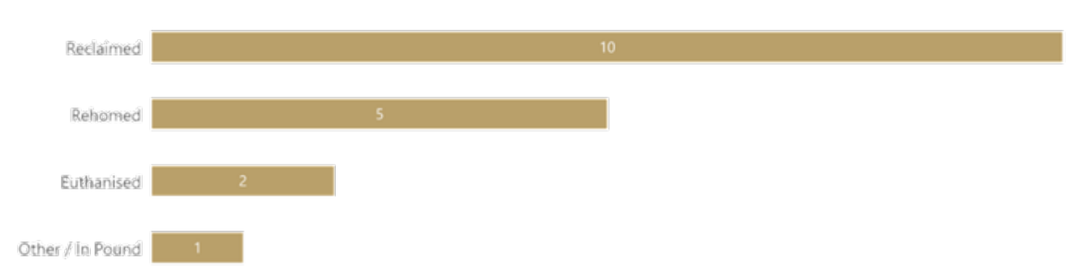
Dog Management Activity



Dog Attack & Menacing Incidents



Impounding Summary



October Highlights

- Senior Ranger Kelli Clark was nominated for Ranger of the Year with the Australian Institute Animal Management, unfortunately Kelli was unsuccessful in this nomination.
- Rangers attended the RSPCA NT Canine Carnival held at the Botanical Gardens on 10 October 26. According to event organisers, approximately 300 people attended throughout the day. Rangers were kept busy engaging with community members, providing information, and meeting plenty of new four-legged friends.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Community & Stakeholder Meetings
6
Previous Month: 4 (+50%)

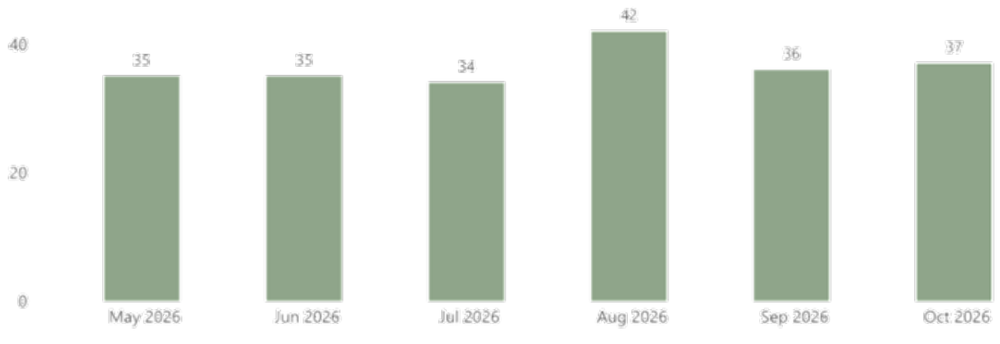
Facility Users & Groups
12
Previous Month: 11 (+9.09%)

Recreation Reserve Activities
1
Previous Month: 2 (-50%)

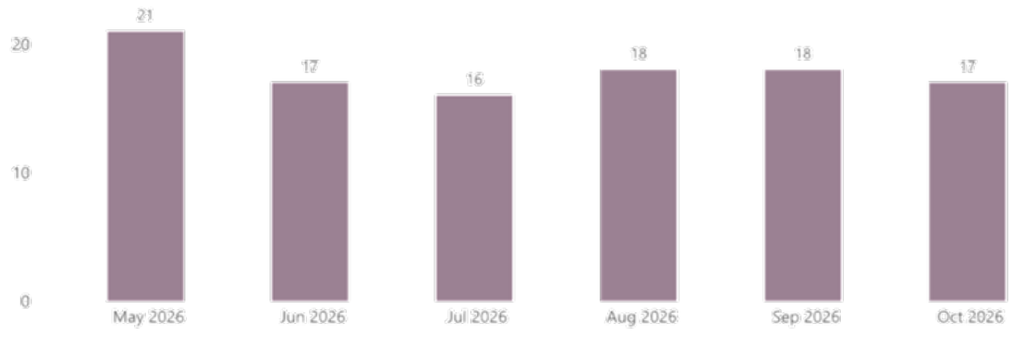
Approved Grants
7
Previous Month: 8 (-12.5%)

Council Events / Programs
2
Previous Month: 4 (-50%)

Howard Park Bookings



Knuckey Reserve Bookings



Key Activities

- The September/October school holidays continued in the first half of the month, with engaging activities that helped to build skills and confidence in our young people. Supported by the Office of Youth Affairs, the program receives great feedback from families as it provides unique activities that are usually not available in the area.
- Council took part in the COTA Expo at the Coolalinga Central on 09 October. Senior residents explored all the services that had pop up and gathered much needed information from agencies that can otherwise be hard to reach for those with mobility and accessibility issues.
- The Build Up Clean Up Australia event was held at Howard Park Recreation Reserve on 24 October, with seven bags of rubbish collected. The event also provided an opportunity to engage with local children and youth, promoting waste management awareness and care for shared community spaces.

Events / Upcoming Work

- 20 November will see the last Citizenship ceremony for the year.
- The Howard Park Recreation Reserve Committee Meeting will be held on 11 November.
- The Knuckey Lagoon Recreation Reserve Committee Meeting will be held on 5 November.
- Playground inspections recently completed and the annual tree inspection has been scheduled for the reserves.
- Awaiting capital works request from reserves to inform next financial year's budget.

14.3.2 Risk Management Audit Committee Open Minutes - 29 October 2026

AUTHOR: Natasha Clancy, Policy and Governance Officer

AUTHORISER: Rebecca Taylor, Director Governance & Community

ATTACHMENTS: 1. RMAC Open Minutes - 29 October 2026

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report presents to Council the unconfirmed minutes of the Risk Management Audit Committee (RMAC).

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council receive and note the Risk Management Audit Committee unconfirmed open minutes from 29 October 2026 meeting, as at Attachment 1.

BACKGROUND

In accordance with Section 101(4) of the Local Government Act 2019, the minutes for RMAC meetings are required to be tabled at the following Council meeting.

LINKS WITH STRATEGIC PLAN

Performance - An Effective and Efficient Organisation

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Local Government Act 2019, Section 101(4).

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

RISKS

Nil

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Nil

Risk Management and Audit Committee Meeting (RMAC)

MINUTES

Thursday, 29th October 2026

Meeting to be held commencing 9:30 AM
in Council Chambers at 7 Bees Creek Road, Freds Pass

Any member of Council who may have a conflict of interest, or a possible conflict of interest in regard to any item of business to be discussed at a Council meeting or a Committee meeting should declare that conflict of interest to enable Council to manage the conflict and resolve it in accordance with its obligations under the Local Government Act and its policies regarding the same.

RISK MANAGEMENT AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

MINUTES

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2 Apologies and Leaves of Absence 3

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4 Confirmation of Minutes 3

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5.1 Business Arising 5

6 Accepting or Declining Late Items 5

Nil

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7.3 Appointment of Independent Chairperson - Risk Management and Audit Committee 6

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9.2 Annual Financial Statements and Closing Audit Report 2025-2026 4

9.3 Risk Register 4

9.4 Internal Audit Update 4

10 Report of Confidential Resolutions 4

11 Close of Meeting 7

Present	Greg Arnott	Chairperson
	Kevin Harlan	Councillor Central Ward
	Plaxy Purich	Councillor North Ward
Staff	Stephen Hoyne	Chief Executive Officer
	Rebecca Taylor	Director Governance and Community
	Geoff Thomas	Director Infrastructure and Operations
	XiXi Li	Finance Program Leader

1 OPENING OF MEETING

The chairperson, Greg Arnott opened the meeting at 9.33am.

2 APOLOGIES AND LEAVES OF ABSENCE

Apologies

Shane Smith	Independent Member
Kris Civitarese	Councillor South Ward

Leave of Absence

Nil

3 DISCLOSURES AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nil

4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

4.1 Confirmation of Minutes

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RMAC/26/021

Moved: Chair Greg Arnott

Seconded: Cr Kevin Harlan

That the full minutes of the Risk Management and Audit Committee Meeting held Thursday 22 October 2026, pages be confirmed.

CARRIED 2/0

MOTION

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RMAC/26/022

Moved: Chair Greg Arnott

Seconded: Cr Kevin Harlan

That at 09:34am the Risk Management and Audit Committee moved into confidential session to receive a presentation from PKF Merit on the Annual Financial Statement and Closing Audit Report 2025-2026 and consider the remaining confidential agenda items.

CARRIED 2/0

9 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

RECOMMENDATION

Pursuant to Section 93 of the Local Government Act and Regulation 51 of Local Government (General) Regulations the meeting be closed to the public to consider the following confidential item(s):

9.1 Confidential Minutes of the Risk Management and Audit Committee Meeting Held on 27 August 2026

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 99(2) - ci of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on, any person.

9.2 Annual Financial Statements and Closing Audit Report 2025-2026

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 99(2) - d of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with information subject to an obligation of confidentiality at law, or in equity.

9.3 Risk Register

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 99(2) - d of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with information subject to an obligation of confidentiality at law, or in equity.

9.4 Internal Audit Update

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 99(2) - ciii of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to prejudice the security of the council, its members or staff.

10 REPORT OF CONFIDENTIAL RESOLUTIONS

Representative from PKF Merit entered the meeting at 09:35am.

Cr Purich entered the meeting at 09:51am.

The meeting resumed in open session at 11:38am and proceeded with the remaining agenda items.

9.2 Annual Financial Statements and Closing Audit Report 2025-2026

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

To provide the RMAC with the Audited Financial Statements and Summary of Financials for review prior to inclusion in the Annual Report as well as a copy of the Closing Audit Report from PKF Merit.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RMAC/26/023

Moved: Cr Kevin Harlan

Seconded: Cr Plaxy Purich

That Risk Management and Audit Committee:

1. confirms the draft Litchfield Council 2025-2026 General Purpose Financial Statements, as at Attachment 1, are suitable for certification by the Chief Executive Officer for inclusion in the Annual Report and presented to Council;
2. confirms the draft Thorak Regional Cemetery Special Purpose Financial Statements 2025-2026, as at Attachment 2, are suitable for certification by the Chief Executive Officer for inclusion in the Annual Report and presented to Council;
3. confirms the Summary of Financials, as at Attachment 3, are suitable for inclusion in the Annual Report and presented to Council;
4. receive and note the closing audit report from PKF Merit for 30 June 2026 financial year, as at Attachment 4; and
5. makes public its resolution on this matter.

CARRIED3/0

5 BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

5.1 Business Arising

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides an update on actions arising from previous Council meetings and outlines progress made on outstanding items.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RMAC/26/027

Moved: Cr Kevin Harlan

Seconded: Cr Plaxy Purich

1. That Risk Management and Audit Committee receive and note the business arising as at attachment 1.

CARRIED 3/0

6 ACCEPTING OR DECLINING LATE ITEMS

Nil

7 OFFICER REPORTS

7.1 Key Performance Indicators

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report presents RMAC with the Key Performance Indicators (KPI) summary for inclusion into the 2025-2026 Annual Report.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RMAC/26/028

Moved: Chair Greg Arnott

Seconded: Cr Kevin Harlan

1. That the Risk Management and Audit Committee notes the Key Performance Indicators, at Attachment 1, for inclusion into the 2025-2026 Annual Report.

CARRIED3/0

7.2 Meeting Schedule and Workplan 2027

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report presents the proposed RMAC meeting schedule and workplan for 2027.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RMAC/26/029

Moved: Cr Plaxy Purich

Seconded: Cr Kevin Harlan

1. That the Risk Management and Audit Committee endorse the meeting schedule and workplan for 2027.

CARRIED3/0

7.3 Appointment of Independent Chairperson - Risk Management and Audit Committee

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to advise the Risk Management and Audit Committee (RMAC) of Council's decision to reappoint Gregory Arnott as the independent Chairperson for a further term.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RMAC/26/030

Moved: Cr Kevin Harlan

Seconded: Cr Plaxy Purich

1. That Risk Management and Audit Committee receive and note the reappointment of Gregory Arnott as the independent Chairperson for a term of four years, ending 31 December 2030.

CARRIED3/0

8 OTHER BUSINESS

Nil

10 CLOSE OF MEETING

The Meeting closed at 12:16pm.

14.3.3 GOV19 Code of Conduct Complaint Handling

AUTHOR: Natasha Clancy, Policy and Governance Officer

AUTHORISER: Rebecca Taylor, Director Governance & Community

ATTACHMENTS: 1. DRAFT GOV19 Code of Conduct Complaint Handling Policy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report presents the draft GOV19 Code of Conduct Complaint Handling Policy for Council's consideration and adoption, following changes to the Code of Conduct framework under the *Local Government Act 2019* that commenced on 1 July 2026.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council adopt the GOV19 Code of Conduct Complaint Handling Policy, as provided at Attachment 1, replacing the existing GOV19 Breach of Code of Conduct Policy; and
2. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to make minor amendments.

BACKGROUND

Changes to the Code of Conduct framework under the *Local Government Act 2019* and *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021* commenced on 1 July 2026.

The changes introduced a revised Code of Conduct and new arrangements for managing Code of Conduct complaints, including revised complaint pathways and the roles of Council, independent assessors and Code of Conduct panels.

Council's existing GOV19 Breach of Code of Conduct Policy was developed under the previous framework and no longer reflects the current legislative requirements.

A replacement GOV19 Code of Conduct Complaint Handling Policy has been prepared to align with the revised legislation and the Ministerial Guideline – Code of Conduct Framework.

The draft policy outlines:

- requirements for making a Code of Conduct complaint;
- mandatory reporting obligations for members;
- the CEO and Secretariat complaint pathways;
- consideration and determination of complaints;
- actions available where misconduct is determined;
- procedural fairness and review rights; and
- conflicts of interest, confidentiality and record keeping.

Transitional arrangements apply to conduct occurring before 1 July 2026, with complaints relating to conduct before this date continuing to be managed under the previous Code of Conduct framework.

LINKS WITH STRATEGIC PLAN

Performance - An Effective and Efficient Organisation

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Local Government Act 2019

Local Government (General) Regulations 2021

Ministerial Guideline – Code of Conduct Framework

GOV19 Breach of Code of Conduct Policy (to be replaced)

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Costs may arise where a Code of Conduct complaint requires external assistance, independent assessment or other action under the legislative framework.

RISKS

The existing GOV19 Breach of Code of Conduct Policy reflects the previous legislative framework. Retaining the existing policy may result in complaints being managed inconsistently with current legislative requirements.

Adoption of the replacement policy will reduce this risk by aligning Council's complaint handling processes with the revised legislative framework.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Nil

Code of Conduct Complaint Handling **POLICY** GOV19

Name	GOV19 Code of Conduct Complaint Handling
Policy Type	Council
Responsible Officer	Chief Executive Officer
Approval Date	16/11/2026
Review Date	15/11/2030

1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to set out how Litchfield Council receives and deals with complaints in relation to an alleged breach of the Code of Conduct by a member, in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2019* (NT) (Act).

2. Scope

This policy applies to:

- all members of Litchfield Council;
- the Chief Executive Officer and Council staff involved in receiving, recording or managing Code of Conduct complaints; and
- any person wishing to make a complaint about a member's conduct.

3. Definitions

For the purposes of this Policy, the following definitions apply:

Complainant	Means the person who lodges a Code of Conduct complaint, as prescribed under section 132A or section 132B of the Act.
Council	Litchfield Council, being the elected governing body constituted under the Local Government Act 2019.
Member	Means a member of an audit committee, a council, a council committee or a local authority.
Ministerial Guideline – Code of Conduct Framework	Means the Ministerial Guideline issued in relation to the new Code of Conduct.
Misconduct	Means conduct by a member that breaches the Code of Conduct.
Respondent	Means the member who is alleged to have breached the Code of Conduct.

Secretariat Officer	Means the officer responsible for receiving and managing Code of Conduct complaints, supporting independent assessors and Code of Conduct panels, and administering the complaints process impartially under the Act.

4. Policy Statement

Litchfield Council is committed to ensuring Code of Conduct complaints are managed fairly, impartially, consistently and promptly, with appropriate confidentiality and procedural fairness, and in accordance with the Act.

4.1. Making a Complaint

4.1.1 A complaint alleging that a member has breached the Code of Conduct must:

- be made in writing using the approved Code of Conduct Complaint Form;
- be supported by a statutory declaration;
- be made within six months after the last of the facts giving rise to the complaint; and
- outline the conduct being complained about and the clause or clauses of the Code of Conduct alleged to have been breached.

4.2. Mandatory Reporting Obligations for Members

4.2.1. A member who believes, on reasonable grounds, that another member has engaged in misconduct has an obligation to report it, unless the member knows that the conduct has already been the subject of a complaint or has already been dealt with.

4.3. Conduct Complained of

4.3.1. In assessing and determining Code of Conduct complaints, reference must be made to the Code of Conduct contained in Schedule 1A of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021*.

4.3.2. Complaints may relate to any alleged breach of the Code of Conduct.

4.4. Where to Lodge a Complaint

There are two pathways for lodging a Code of Conduct complaint.

4.4.1. **CEO Pathway**

The CEO pathway is the default pathway for lodging a complaint. A complaint must be lodged with the Chief Executive Officer of Litchfield Council unless one or more of the criteria for the Secretariat pathway apply.

4.4.2. **Secretariat Pathway**

A complaint may be lodged with the Code of Conduct Secretariat where:

- the complaint involves more than one council member;

- the complaint concerns the principal member or deputy principal member;
- the complaint alleges serious misconduct; or
- the complaint alleges gross misconduct.

If none of the above criteria apply, the complaint must be lodged through the CEO pathway.

Where a complaint is lodged through the incorrect pathway, it may be referred to the appropriate body for assessment and processing.

4.5. Management of Complaints

4.5.1. **CEO Pathway**

The Chief Executive Officer must refer a complaint received through the CEO pathway to:

- Council; or
- an independent assessor, where the complaint would be more appropriately investigated and resolved by an independent assessor.

4.5.2. **Council Consideration**

4.5.2.1. Where a complaint is referred to Council, Council will consider the complaint at a confidential Council meeting and determine whether misconduct occurred.

4.5.2.2. Council may dismiss a complaint where:

- misconduct did not occur;
- misconduct occurred at a Council or committee meeting and was dealt with or remedied under the applicable meeting procedures; or
- the complaint is frivolous or vexatious.

4.5.2.3. Council:

- must refer a complaint to an independent assessor where Council determines that the alleged misconduct would be more appropriately investigated and resolved by an independent assessor; and
- may refer a complaint to an independent assessor where the complaint appears to be frivolous or vexatious.

4.5.2.4. Council may obtain assistance from an independent third party to investigate or assist in resolving a complaint. Any third party may make recommendations to Council; however, Council remains responsible for making the decision or determination.

4.5.2.5. Where Council determines that misconduct has occurred, Council may take one or more of the following actions, as appropriate:

- take no further action;
- reprimand the member
- require the member to issue a public apology;
- require the member to attend mediation with the complainant;
- prepare and implement a plan to address the member's behaviour;
- refer the complaint to an independent assessor; or
- where the conduct is corrupt or criminal, refer the complaint to the ICAC or police.

4.5.2.6. Where Council prepares a plan to address a member's behaviour, Council must consult with the member. The plan may include mediation, counselling, training or other appropriate action.

4.5.2.7. Council must provide written reasons for its decision or determination.

4.5.3. **Independent Assessor**

4.5.3.1. An independent assessor may investigate and determine a complaint referred through the CEO pathway or assigned through the Secretariat pathway.

4.5.3.2. An independent assessor may dismiss a complaint, take corrective action, impose a monetary penalty of up to 20 penalty units or refer a matter to a Code of Conduct panel.

4.5.4. **Secretariat Pathway**

4.5.4.1. A complaint received through the Secretariat pathway is assigned by the Secretariat to an independent assessor or a Code of Conduct panel in accordance with the Act.

4.5.5. **Code of Conduct Panel**

4.5.5.1. A Code of Conduct panel may determine complaints referred to it and has broader powers to impose sanctions, including a monetary penalty of up to 50 penalty units, suspension for up to 12 months, withholding a member's allowance and, in cases of gross misconduct, recommending further action by the Minister.

4.6. Procedural Fairness

4.6.1. Code of Conduct complaints must be managed in accordance with the principles of procedural fairness.

4.6.2. Before making a decision about a complaint, Council must:

- provide the member with written notice of the complaint, including the allegations and relevant evidence;
- provide the member with a reasonable opportunity to respond;
- consider the member's response before making a decision;

- ensure that any conflicts of interest are appropriately managed;
- make its decision based on the evidence and on the balance of probabilities; and
- provide written reasons for the decision to the complainant and the member.

4.6.3. The complainant and member must also be advised of any applicable rights to seek a review of the decision.

4.7. Withdrawal of a Complaint

4.7.1. A complainant may withdraw a complaint in writing at any time before a decision or determination is made about whether misconduct occurred.

4.8. Review of Decision

4.8.1. A complainant or respondent may request a Code of Conduct panel to review a decision made by Council or an independent assessor on procedural fairness grounds.

4.8.2. A request for review must be lodged with the Secretariat in writing, using the approved form, within 14 days of receiving notice of the decision.

4.8.3. Certain decisions of a Code of Conduct panel may also be reviewable by the Northern Territory Civil and Administrative Tribunal (NTCAT) in accordance with the Act.

4.9. Conflicts of Interest

4.9.1. Any conflicts of interest relating to a Code of Conduct complaint must be disclosed and managed in accordance with the Act and Council's Conflict of Interest Policy.

4.9.2. A person with a conflict of interest must not participate in the consideration or determination of the complaint.

4.10. Confidentiality and Records

4.10.1. Code of Conduct complaints must be managed confidentially and information relating to a complaint must only be accessed, used or disclosed as permitted by the Act or as required for the proper management of the complaint.

4.10.2. Council will maintain appropriate records of Code of Conduct complaints and their outcomes in accordance with Council's record keeping requirements.

4 Associated Documents

EM02 Elected Members Code of Conduct

EM06 Conflict of Interest Policy

Approved Code of Conduct forms

Code of Conduct Complaint Handling Procedure

5 References and Legislation

Local Government Act 2019

Local Government (General) Regulations 2021

Code of Conduct – Schedule 1A of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021*

Ministerial Guideline – Code of Conduct Framework

6 Review History

Date Reviewed	Description of changes
19/01/2021	New policy as per the Local Government Act 2019
19/0/2024	Policy amended to include all three options for managing a complaint, available to Council under the Local Government Act 20193
19/10/2026	Significant amendments to align with the revised Code of Conduct framework that commenced on 1 July 2026, including renaming the policy from GOV19 Breach of Code of Conduct to GOV19 Code of Conduct Complaint Handling.

14.3.4 EM02 Code of Conduct for Members

AUTHOR: Natasha Clancy, Policy and Governance Officer

AUTHORISER: Rebecca Taylor, Director Governance & Community

ATTACHMENTS: 1. DRAFT EM02 Code of Conduct for Members

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report presents the draft EM02 Code of Conduct for Members for Council's consideration and adoption, following changes to the Code of Conduct framework under the *Local Government Act 2019* that commenced on 1 July 2026.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council adopt the EM02 Code of Conduct for Members, as provided at Attachment 1, replacing the existing EM02 Code of Conduct for Elected Members and approve the Chief Executive Officer to make minor administration amendments.

BACKGROUND

Changes to the Code of Conduct framework under the *Local Government Act 2019* and *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021* commenced on 1 July 2026.

The previous Code of Conduct contained in Schedule 1 of the *Local Government Act 2019* was replaced by a new Code of Conduct prescribed under section 120 of the Act and contained in Schedule 1A of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021*.

Council's existing EM02 Code of Conduct for Elected Members reproduces the previous Code and no longer reflects the current legislative requirements.

A replacement EM02 Code of Conduct for Members has been prepared, which reproduces the current prescribed Code of Conduct and updates the policy title and legislative references.

Transitional arrangements apply to conduct occurring before 1 July 2026, which continues to be dealt with under the previous Code of Conduct framework.

LINKS WITH STRATEGIC PLAN

Performance - An Effective and Efficient Organisation

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Local Government Act 2019

Local Government (General) Regulations 2021

Ministerial Guideline – Code of Conduct Framework

EM02 Code of Conduct for Elected Members (to be replaced)

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

RISKS

Nil

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Nil

Code of Conduct for Members **EM02**

Name	EM02 Code of Conduct for Members
Policy Type	Council
Responsible Officer	Chief Executive Officer
Approval Date	16/11/2026
Review Date	15/11/2030

1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to adopt the Code of Conduct prescribed under section 120 of the *Local Government Act 2019* and contained in Schedule 1A of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021* for members of Litchfield Council.

2. Scope

This policy applies to members of Litchfield Council.

Members are responsible for ensuring they are familiar with and comply with the Code of Conduct when carrying out their functions and responsibilities as a member.

3. Definitions

Member	Means a member of an audit committee, a council, a council committee or a local authority.

4. Policy Statement

The Code of Conduct prescribed under section 120 of the *Local Government Act 2019* is contained in Schedule 1A of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021* and is reproduced below.

1. Definitions

In this code:

local government employee means a person who is:

(a) employed by a local government council; or

(b) engaged by a local government council under a contract for services; or

(c) a staff member of a local government subsidiary.

publish includes publish on a social media platform.

2. Application

This code applies to the conduct of members:

(a) when exercising their powers and or performing their functions under the Act; and

(b) in relation to the local government council of which they are a member.

3. Personal integrity

A member must:

(a) act with reasonable care and diligence; and

(b) act with honesty and integrity; and

(c) act lawfully; and

(d) identify and appropriately manage any conflict of interest; and

(e) avoid damage to the reputation of the local government council of which they are a member; and

(f) act in accordance with the trust placed in members by the public; and

(g) participate in decision making in an honest, fair, impartial and timely manner; and

(h) actively seek out and engage in training and development opportunities to improve the performance of their functions; and

(i) attend and participate, within the required time, in briefings, workshops and training sessions:

(i) required under section 45 of the Act; or

(ii) provided or arranged by the local government council in relation to the performance of their functions.

4. Relationship with others

A member:

(a) must treat others with respect, courtesy and fairness; and

(b) must respect and value diversity in the community; and

(c) must maintain and contribute to a harmonious, safe and productive work environment; and

(d) must not bully or harass another person in any way; and

(e) must deal with the media in an appropriate manner and in accordance with any relevant policy of the local government; and

(f) must not use offensive or derogatory language when referring to another person; and

(g) must not disparage the character of another member or a local government employee in connection with the performance of their official duties; and

(h) must not without reasonable evidence impute dishonest or unethical motives to another member or a local government employee in connection with the performance of their official duties.

5. Accountability

A member must:

(a) base decisions on relevant and factually correct information; and

(b) make decisions on merit, in the public interest and in accordance with statutory obligations and principles of good governance and procedural fairness; and

(c) read or be briefed on all agenda papers given to the member in relation to council or committee meetings; and

(d) be open and accountable to, and represent, the community in the local government area for the local government council of the member.

6. Social media

A member:

(a) must ensure that their use of social media and other forms of communication complies with this code; and

(b) must not publish material that they know, or could reasonably be expected to know, is factually incorrect.

7. Other obligations

(1) A member must not be impaired by alcohol or drugs.

(2) A member must comply with all policies, procedures and resolutions of the local government.

8. Perceived misconduct

A member who believes on reasonable grounds that another member has engaged in misconduct must make a complaint in accordance with Part 7.4 of the Act.

9. Council or committee meetings

When attending a council or committee meeting, a member:

(a) must not act in an abusive or threatening manner towards another person; and

(b) must not make a statement that the member knows, or could reasonably be expected to know, is false or misleading; and

(c) must not repeatedly disrupt the meeting; and

(d) must comply with any by-laws and standing orders relating to the procedures and conduct of the meeting; and

(e) must comply with any direction given by the person presiding at the meeting; and

(f) must immediately cease to engage in any conduct that is ruled out of order by the person presiding at the meeting.

10. Misuse of local government council resources

(1) A member must not, directly or indirectly, use the resources of a local government council for an electoral purpose or other purpose unless authorised under the Act, or by the council or the CEO, to use the resources for that purpose.

(2) In this clause:

electoral purpose means the purpose of persuading electors to vote in a particular way at an election, referendum or other poll held under the Act, the *Electoral Act 2004* or the *Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918* (Cth);

resources of a local government council includes:

(a) property of a local government council; and

(b) services provided, or paid for, by a local government council.

11. Securing personal advantage or disadvantaging others

A member must not make improper use of their office to:

(a) gain, directly or indirectly, an advantage for the member or any other person; or

(b) cause detriment to the local government council or any other person.

12. Prohibition against involvement in administration

(1) A member must not undertake a task that contributes to the administration of the local government council unless authorised by the council or the CEO to undertake that task.

(2) Subclause (1) does not apply to anything that a member does as part of the deliberations at a council or committee meeting.

13. Relationship with local government employees

(1) A member must not:

(a) direct or attempt to direct a local government employee to do or not to do anything in their capacity as a local government employee; or

(b) attempt to influence, by means of a threat or the promise of a reward, the conduct of a local government employee in their capacity as a local government employee; or

(c) act in an abusive or threatening manner towards a local government employee.

(2) Subclause (1)(a) does not apply in relation to:

(a) anything that a member does as part of the deliberations at a council or committee meeting; or

(b) a direction given by a council member to the CEO of the council.

(3) If a member, in their capacity as a member, is attending a council or committee meeting or other organised event (for example, a briefing or workshop), the member must not orally, in writing or by any other means:

(a) make a statement that a local government employee is incompetent or dishonest; or

(b) use an offensive or objectionable expression when referring to a local government employee.

14. Compliance with sanction

A member must comply with any sanction imposed under Part 7.4 of the Act.

1. Associated Documents

GOV19 Code of Conduct Complaint Handling

EMO06 Conflict of Interest Policy

2. References and Legislation

Local Government Act 2019

Local Government (General) Regulations 2021

Ministerial Guideline – Code of Conduct Framework

3. Review History

Date Reviewed	Description of changes
13/09/2017	Updated policy. Decision 17/0003
19/11/2015	Decision 15/0166/02 – new policy
15/09/2021	Changes made in accordance with the Local Government Act 2019
23/09/2025	Minor amendments made, policy adopted by new Council.
19/10/2026	Significant amendments to incorporate the revised Code of Conduct that commenced on 1 July 2026, including renaming the policy from EM02 Code of Conduct for Elected Members to EM02 Code of Conduct for Members.

14.3.5 COM03 Sport and Recreation Policy

AUTHOR: Natasha Clancy, Policy and Governance Officer

AUTHORISER: Rebecca Taylor, Director Governance & Community

ATTACHMENTS:
1. DRAFT COM03 Sport and Recreation Policy
2. COM03 Sport and Recreation Policy - Track Changes

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report presents the draft COM03 Sport and Recreation Policy for Council's consideration and adoption.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council adopt the reviewed COM03 Sport and Recreation Policy, as provided at Attachment 1; and
2. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to make minor administrative amendments.

BACKGROUND

COM03 Sport and Recreation Policy has been reviewed in accordance with Council's policy review schedule and the Sport, Recreation and Open Space Strategy 2021–2031.

The review identified minor amendments to improve clarity and ensure the policy reflects Council's current practices.

Key amendments include:

- Updating references to Asset Management Plans to reflect that plans for recreation reserves are yet to be developed.
- Updating the Sport and Recreation Provision Framework to clarify the development of reserve-specific masterplans.
- Minor amendments to wording, associated documents and legislative references.

The overall intent and principles of the policy remain unchanged.

The Sport, Recreation and Open Space Strategy 2021–2031 is available on Council's website.

LINKS WITH STRATEGIC PLAN

Performance - An Effective and Efficient Organisation

People - Our Community is at the Heart of All We Do

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Local Government Act 2019

Sport, Recreation and Open Space Strategy 2021–2031

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

RISKS

Nil

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Nil

Sport and Recreation **POLICY** COM03

Name	COM03 Sport and Recreation
Policy Type	Council
Responsible Officer	Director Governance and Community
Approval Date	16/11/2026
Review Date	15/11/2030

1. Purpose

This policy establishes a framework for the planning, provision and management of sport and recreation opportunities, including the roles of Council and community groups and the prioritisation of resources.

Sport and Recreation are important to the Litchfield lifestyle, providing health, social and economic benefits to the community.

Council will work collaboratively with the community and other levels of government to support well-planned, coordinated and sustainable sport and recreation facilities and opportunities that encourage community participation.

2. Scope

This policy applies to Council Members, employees, consultants and contractors involved in the planning, provision and management of sport and recreation facilities and services on behalf of Litchfield Council

3. Definitions

For the purposes of this Policy, the following definitions apply:

Council	Litchfield Council, being the elected body constituted under the Local Government Act.
Recreation	Any structured or unstructured, active or passive activity undertaken during leisure time for enjoyment, relaxation or physical, mental and social wellbeing.
Sport	Any activity involving physical exertion or skill that may be undertaken individually or in teams, generally involving organised participation or competition.

4. Policy Statement

4.1. Defining Council's Responsibility

4.1.1. Council has a primary role in providing leadership in planning for sport and recreation and in supporting existing and future partnerships with the community to provide a diverse range of opportunities. Council will fulfil this role by:

- Recognising and promoting sport and recreation is important to the Litchfield community and ensuring that a minimum level of service as defined in the Sports and Recreation Provision Framework outlined in Table 1 of this policy, be delivered.
- Ensuring that existing parks, reserves and facilities managed by Council are maintained effectively and that committees and lessees managing reserves and facilities maintain facilities to the agreed standards as per their funding agreements and applicable asset management requirements.
- Advocating for external funding from the Northern Territory and Commonwealth Governments to support minimum service provisions and future asset management requirements.
- Planning ahead for the upgrading of existing facilities and the provision of new facilities and ensuring that planning undertaken by others for community sport and recreation facilities is realistic, sustainable and at a suitable standard for public use.
- Continuing to develop and strengthen Council's partnerships with lessees, community groups and other agencies to deliver a range of sport and recreation opportunities.
- Establishing and supporting partnerships with community groups (either as lessees or management committees) who manage and maintain reserves and facilities, through the provision of advice, and/or financial support, assistance with funding applications and support for long term planning.

4.2. Key Principles

4.2.1. In achieving the vision, Council will be guided by the following key principles for the planning and provision of sport and recreation facilities, services and programs:

- *A holistic planning approach* – sport and recreation crosses over many areas of Council governance and provides a broad range of benefits and therefore will not be managed in isolation.
- *Access* – all members of the community will have the opportunity to participate in sport and recreation regardless of age, ability, gender, sexual orientation, cultural background or socio-economic status.
- *Equity* – sport and recreation activities and interests vary widely within the community, and each has equal legitimacy. Council recognises that all residents should have the opportunity to participate in a spectrum of recreational opportunities.

- *Innovation* – seeking innovative solutions to new challenges that emerge due to population change and sport and recreation trends.
- *Minimise duplication* – efficient use of community assets to meet needs is a core principle, and duplication of sport and recreation facilities is not desirable, including those provided by Territory Government Departments such as Education.
- *Maximise efficient use* – ensure community assets are efficiently and effectively used to meet current and future community needs.
- *Environmental and economic sustainability* – ensuring sport and recreation initiatives preserve natural resources, achieve sustainable environmental outcomes and support the local economy.
- *Sustainability, Adaption and Resilience* – Council will consider the impact of climate change in the planning, development and management of sport, recreation and open spaces to ensure facilities and natural environment, sustainable and resilient for future generations.
- *Responsible asset management* – a sustainable approach to sport and recreation asset management with a focus on supporting financially viable multi-use and shared facilities, minimising unplanned maintenance costs and appropriately planning for asset renewal.
- *Social and cultural wellbeing* – using sport and recreation as a vehicle for bringing the community together and providing opportunities for social interaction and healthy lifestyles.
- *Positive partnerships with individuals and groups* – working collaboratively with the community, government agencies, sport and recreation bodies and the private sector in planning provision and management of sport and recreation.

4.3. Policy Implementation

4.3.1. Council will implement this policy through:

- Adoption of the Sport, Recreation and Open Space Strategy Policy and establishment of an objective framework for prioritising new requests for support or investment.
- Considering an annual budget for sport and recreation that is sufficient to meet the policy outcomes, and which increases in line with needs such as population growth.
- Continuing to advocate to the Northern Territory and Commonwealth Governments for continued funding for the ongoing development of sport and recreation facilities in line with the Sport and Recreation Provision Framework.
- Seeking external capital funding sources and supporting grant applications to enable investment in new or upgraded facilities in line with Council's Asset Management Plans (AMPs) as they are developed.

- Ensuring development of recreation reserves, sporting facilities and recreation facilities occurs in such a way to provide sustainable long-term access to the community.
- Advocating to the Northern Territory and Commonwealth Governments for all new developments to receive a minimum level of service in regard to sport and recreation opportunities.
- Considering the key principles of this policy when planning and developing all new infrastructure.

4.4. Policy Considerations

4.4.1. Sport and Recreation Benefits

4.4.1.1. The provision of sport and recreation opportunities is essential for the physical, social, environmental and economic health of the Litchfield community. Council recognises and values the benefits of sport and recreation in enhancing regional health and wellbeing outcomes through increased physical activity, supporting community inclusion and connection, and improving mental health and wellbeing. Therefore, for all investment in sport and recreation opportunities, Council is committed to assessing its value of return across the following dimensions:

- Health: Health and physical activity opportunities
- Social: Community integration and social interaction, and
- Economic: Support and development of local economies

4.4.2. Limited Resources and Priorities

4.4.2.1. Investment in sport and recreation opportunities requires consideration of limited resources, including land. Therefore, the expectation is that a range of resourcing opportunities will be obtained to maximise the sport and recreation opportunity 'return'. This can be done by:

- Establishing strategic partnerships, such as with the Northern Territory and Commonwealth Governments to maximise return on existing land and facilities already provided in the community.
- Improving community access to sport and recreation facilities within school campuses to avoid the need for duplication through advocacy to the Northern Territory Government.
- Ensuring all Council facilities are managed in accordance with applicable lease agreements and agreed service levels to maximise benefits.
- Using available financial and other resources in the most efficient way to encourage multiple use and shared investment in viable facilities. This can

include hard decisions where Council needs to choose the most viable of two options and withdraw support for the other.

- Creating an information-rich environment for community groups, residents and visitors that ensures resource sharing and awareness of opportunities.
- Building capacity within the community to manage local sport and recreation clubs and groups and providing an environment that nurtures these groups and that encourages sustainability and good management.
- Ensuring that any support or investment for new facilities is based on feasibility or business case analysis demonstrating its viability. This includes ensuring that existing facilities are being used effectively before considering new facilities.

4.4.3. Managing Reserves

4.4.3.1. There are eight (8) existing reserves that comprise the main provision of sport, recreation, and open space for the Litchfield community. In keeping with the strong history of community partnership, the planning and management of these, and any future reserves, should be undertaken within a partnership framework. Council's preference is to have a formal lease and funding arrangements in place where possible.

In general, the preferred approach is:

1. *Formal Lease* - For large multi-user reserves, a formal lease should be agreed and entered into with an incorporated community based, not for profit, organisation (such as a community board, incorporated management committee, sporting club or regional sports association). The responsibilities of the lessee will be supported with an annual contribution from Council as determined by their funding agreement.
2. *Community Advisory Group* - Where a lease may not be possible, or there are no suitable organisations willing to become the lessee, then a community advisory group should be established to help engage the local community and provide input into planning and management decision making.
3. *Council Managed with Community Engagement* - Where neither of the above options are possible then Council will manage the reserve. Council will seek to engage with the community on the development of future plans for the reserve. Council will also encourage the establishment of regular users within the reserve with the aim to develop over time increased community involvement in reserve management.
4. *Council Managed* - Small parks and undeveloped reserves will be managed by Council.

4.4.4. Asset Management Plans

4.4.4.1. To ensure that Council has sufficient assets that can be sustainably maintained over the long-term, Asset Management Plans (AMPs) are paramount. AMPs provide Council with a clear understanding of how to manage and maintain its infrastructure and other assets to designated standards and service levels in a planned and sustainable way. Council does not currently have specific AMPs for its recreational reserves. To support the management of Council's open space assets, future demand, risks, regulatory requirements, AMPs for recreation reserves are to be included in Council's asset management planning process.

4.4.4.2. AMPs are to be developed for Council's recreation reserves. Once developed, these plans will provide Council with an accurate picture of the condition and status of all assets located at each reserve. The AMPs will also establish standards of service, estimated capital expenditure requirements and review dates to support the sustainable planning, construction, maintenance and operation of Council's sport and recreation facilities and associated services.

4.4.5. Sport and Recreation Provision Framework

4.4.5.1. The provision of sport, recreation and open space should be provided both equitably and sustainably across the Litchfield Municipality and should also be responsive to future growth needs. The framework outlined below draws on the existing approach to the levels of service being provided to reserves across Litchfield. This approach has been predominantly reactive, whereby Council maintains existing infrastructure, and undertakes repairs and maintenance, to the highest level of standard possible within existing budget allocations. Additional resourcing to address arising critical needs is assessed and implemented on a case-by-case basis. The following framework categorises reserves into a hierarchy of provision and identifies current minimum standards of service that Council will continue to work against until appropriate detailed AMPs are developed. The table of Minimum Levels of Service below is based on this approach.

Table 1: Sport and Recreation Provision Framework

Hierarchy of Provision	Service Catchment	Minimum Level of Service	Develop, Support & Advocate
Regional			
Freds Pass Sport & Recreation Reserve	Within the Local Government Area.	Maintain existing infrastructure, and undertake repairs and maintenance, to the highest level of standard within existing budget allocations.	Develop an Asset Management Plan. Improved infrastructure and facilities in line with Freds Pass Sport and Rec Masterplan.

Nature Based Recreation		Minimum Level of Service	Develop, Support & Advocate
Knuckey Lagoon Recreation Reserve (KLRR)	Within ten minutes' drive for 80% of residents.	Maintain existing infrastructure and undertake repairs and maintenance, to the highest level of standard within existing budget allocations.	Develop an Asset Management Plan. Develop a Council endorsed Masterplan to guide infrastructure and facility development; and advocacy for funding – including grants.
McMinns Lagoon Recreation Reserve	Within ten minutes' drive for 80% of residents.	Maintain existing infrastructure, and undertake repairs and maintenance, to the highest level of standard within existing budget allocations.	Develop an Asset Management Plan. Develop a Council endorsed Masterplan to guide infrastructure and facility development; and advocacy for funding – including grants.
Township Sport & Recreation		**Minimum Level of Service**	**Develop, Support & Advocate**
Howard Park Recreation Reserve	Within ten minutes' drive for 80% of residents.	Maintain existing infrastructure, and undertake repairs and maintenance, to the highest level of standard within existing budget allocations.	Develop an Asset Management Plan. Develop a Council endorsed Reserve specific Masterplan to guide infrastructure and facility development; and advocacy for funding – including grants.
Berry Springs Recreation Reserve	Within ten minutes' drive for 80% of residents.	Maintain existing infrastructure, and undertake repairs and maintenance, to the highest level of standard within existing budget allocations.	
Livingstone Recreation Reserve	Within ten minutes' drive for 80% of residents.	Maintain existing infrastructure, and undertake repairs and maintenance, to the highest level of standard within existing budget allocations.	
Humpty Doo Village Green	Within ten minutes' drive for 80% of residents.	Maintain existing infrastructure, and undertake repairs and maintenance, to the highest level of standard within existing budget allocations.	
Mira Square	Within ten minutes' drive for 80% of residents.	Maintain existing infrastructure, and undertake repairs and maintenance, to the highest level of standard within existing budget allocations.	

Urban		Minimum Level of Service	Develop, Support & Advocate
Only applicable in small lot development area such as Coolalinga and new housing estates	Within 500m walk for 90% of residents.	Maintain existing infrastructure, and undertake repairs and maintenance, to the highest level of standard within existing budget allocations.	Develop an Asset Management Plan Access to park of a minimum size of 0.5 Ha. Access to play space. Access to picnic facilities. Park must provide access to water, have good road frontage (preferred 50%).

5. Associated Documents

Sport, Recreation and Open Space Strategy 2021-2031

6. References and Legislation

Northern Territory Local Government Act 2019

7. Review History

Date Reviewed	Description of changes
16/06/2021	New policy adopted
16/11/2026	Policy reviewed and updated to reflect current practices, with minor amendments.

Sport and Recreation **POLICY** COM03

Name	COM03 Sport and Recreation
Policy Type	Council
Responsible Officer	~~Manager Community Inclusion~~ Director Governance and Community
Approval Date	~~16/06/2021~~16/11/2026
Review Date	~~15/06/2025~~15/11/2030

1. Purpose

~~This policy details the provision framework for sport and recreation, the role of Council and community groups, and the processes for prioritising action.~~

This policy establishes a framework for the planning, provision and management of sport and recreation opportunities, including the roles of Council and community groups and the prioritisation of resources.

Sport and Recreation ~~is an~~ are important ~~part of~~ to the Litchfield lifestyle~~.~~, ~~The provision of sport and recreation opportunities~~ providing health, social and economic benefits to the community.

~~Litchfield~~ Council will work collaboratively ~~closely~~ with the community and other levels of government to support ~~provide~~ well-planned, coordinated and ~~integrated~~ sustainable sport and recreation facilities and ~~programs that stimulate community involvement and participation.~~ opportunities that encourage community participation.

2. Scope

~~This policy applies to Councillors, staff, consultants and contractors responsible for undertaking sport and recreation related planning and decision making for or on behalf of Litchfield Council.~~

This policy applies to Council Members, employees, consultants and contractors involved in the planning, provision and management of sport and recreation facilities and services on behalf of Litchfield Council.

3. Definitions

For the purposes of this Policy, the following definitions apply:

Council	Litchfield Council, being the elected body constituted under the Local Government Act.
~~Consultants~~	~~A person commissioned by Council to provide expert advice.~~
~~Contractors~~	~~Any principalle contractor, any worker of a principal contractor, a subcontractor and any worker of a sub-contractor performing work commissioned by Council.~~

Recreation	~~Any structured or unstructured, active or passive, activity chosen and undertaken for the purpose of enjoyment. Recreation is engaged in during leisure time and can offer a person an outlet for physical, mental and/or creative expression.~~ Any structured or unstructured, active or passive activity undertaken during leisure time for enjoyment, relaxation or physical, mental and social wellbeing.
Sport	~~Any human activity capable of achieving a result that requires physical exertion and/or physical skill and which, by its nature and organisation, is competitive and generally accepted as being a sport.~~ Any activity involving physical exertion or skill that may be undertaken individually or in teams, generally involving organised participation or competition.

4. Policy Statement

4.1. Defining Council's Responsibility

4.1.1. Council has a primary role in providing leadership in ~~the~~ planning for sport and recreation and in supporting existing and future partnerships with the community to provide a diverse range of opportunities. Council will fulfil this role by:

- Recognising and promoting sport and recreation is important to the Litchfield community and ensuring that a minimum level of service as defined in the Sports and Recreation Provision Framework outlined in Table 1 of this policy, be delivered.
- Ensuring that existing parks, reserves and facilities managed by Council are maintained effectively and that committees and lessees managing reserves and facilities maintain facilities to the agreed standards as per their funding agreements and applicable asset management requirements. ~~Council's asset management plans (AMP).~~
- Advocating for external funding from the Northern Territory and Commonwealth Governments ~~in line with Council's Advocacy Strategy,~~ to support minimum service provisions and future asset management requirements. ~~Council's AMPs when developed.~~
- Planning ahead for the upgrading of existing facilities~~,~~ and the provision of new facilities and ensuring that planning undertaken by others for community sport and recreation facilities is realistic, sustainable and at a suitable standard for public use.

- Continuing to develop and strengthen Council's partnerships with lessees, community groups and other agencies to deliver a range of sport and recreation opportunities.
- Establishing and supporting partnerships with community groups (either as lessees or management committees) who manage and maintain reserves and facilities, through the provision of advice, and/or financial support, assistance with funding applications and support for long term planning.

4.2. Key Principles

4.2.1. In achieving the vision, Council will be guided by ~~some~~ the following key principles for the planning and provision of sport and recreation facilities, services and programs:

- *A holistic planning approach* – sport and recreation crosses over many areas of Council governance and provides a broad range of benefits and therefore will not be managed in isolation.
- *Access* – all members of the community will have the opportunity to participate in sport and recreation regardless of age, ability, gender, sexual orientation, cultural background or socio-economic status.
- *Equity* – sport and recreation activities and interests vary widely within the community, and each has equal legitimacy. Council recognises that all residents should have the opportunity to participate in a spectrum of recreational opportunities.
- *Innovation* – seeking innovative solutions to new challenges that emerge due to population change and sport and recreation trends.
- *Minimise duplication* – efficient use of community assets to meet needs is a core principle, and duplication of ~~facilities for~~ sport and recreation facilities is not desirable, including those provided by Territory Government Departments such as Education.
- *Maximise efficient use* – ensure community assets are efficiently and effectively used ~~and which can~~ to meet current and future community needs.
- *Environmental and economic sustainability* – ensuring sport and recreation initiatives preserve natural resources, achieve sustainable environmental outcomes and support the local economy.
- *Sustainability, Adaption and Resilience* – Council will consider the impact of climate change in the planning, development and management of sport, recreation and open spaces to ensure facilities and natural environment, sustainable and resilient for future generations.
- *Responsible asset management* – a sustainable approach to sport and recreation asset management with a focus on supporting financially viable multi-use and

shared facilities, minimising unplanned maintenance costs and appropriately planning for asset renewal. ~~planning for asset renewal through regular review of asset AMPs, where developed, to balance excessive unplanned maintenance costs and renewal projects.~~

- *Social and cultural wellbeing* – using sport and recreation as a vehicle for bringing the community together and providing opportunities for social interaction and healthy lifestyles.
- *Positive partnerships with individuals and groups* – working collaboratively with the community, government agencies, sport and recreation bodies and the private sector in planning provision and management of sport and recreation.

4.3. Policy Implementation

4.3.1. Council will implement this policy through:

- Adoption of the Sport, Recreation and Open Space Strategy Policy and ~~by establishing~~ establishment of an objective framework for ~~considering the prioritisation of~~ prioritising new requests for support or investment.
- Considering an annual budget for sport and recreation that is sufficient to meet the policy outcomes, and which increases in line with needs such as population growth.
- Continuing to advocate to the Northern Territory and Commonwealth Governments for continued funding for the ongoing development of sport and recreation facilities in line with the Sport and Recreation Provision Framework.
- Seeking external capital funding sources and supporting grant applications to enable investment in new or upgraded facilities in line with Council's Asset Management Plans (AMPs) as they are developed.
- Ensuring development of recreation reserves, sporting facilities and recreation facilities occurs in such a way to provide sustainable long-term access to the community.
- Advocating to the Northern Territory ~~Government~~and Commonwealth Governments for all new developments to receive a minimum level of service in regard to sport and recreation opportunities.
- Considering the key principles of this policy when planning and developing all new infrastructure.

4.4. Policy Considerations

4.4.1. Sport and Recreation Benefits

4.4.1.1. The provision of sport and recreation opportunities ~~are~~ is essential for the physical, social, ~~and~~environmental and economic health of the Litchfield community. Council recognises and values the benefits of sport and recreation

into enhanceing regional health and wellbeing outcomes through increased physical activity, ~~levels and~~ supporteding community inclusion and connection, ~~which in turn uplifts~~ and improving mental health and wellbeing. Therefore, for all investment in sport and recreation opportunities, Council is committed to assessing its value of return across the following dimensions:

- Health: Health and physical activity opportunities
- Social: Community integration and social interaction, and
- Economic: Support and development of local economies

4.4.2. Limited Resources and Priorities

4.4.2.1. Investment in sport and recreation opportunities requires consideration ~~that~~ of limited resources, including land~~, are limited~~. Therefore, the expectation is that a range of resourcing opportunities will be obtained to maximise the sport and recreation opportunity 'return'. This can be done by:

- Establishing strategic partnerships, such as with the Northern Territory and Commonwealth Governments to maximise return on existing land and facilities already provided in the community.
- Improving community access to sport and recreation facilities within school campuses to avoid the need for duplication through advocaying to the Northern Territory Government.
- Ensuring all Council facilities are managed in accordance with applicable ~~as per the~~ lease agreements and ~~to~~ agreed service levels to maximise benefits ~~ensuring maximum benefits of return~~.
- Using available financial and other resources in the most efficient way to encourage multiple use and shared investment in viable facilities. This can include hard decisions where Council needs to choose the most viable of two options and withdraw support for the other.
- Creating an information-rich environment for community groups, residents and visitors that ensures resource sharing and awareness of opportunities.
- Building capacity within the community to manage local sport and recreation clubs and groups and providing an environment that nurtures these groups and that encourages sustainability and good management.
- Ensuring that any support or investment for new facilities is based on feasibility or business case analysis demonstrating its viability. This includes ensuring that existing facilities are being used effectively before considering new facilities.

4.4.3. Managing Reserves

4.4.3.1. There are eight (8) existing reserves that comprise the main provision of sport, recreation, and open space for the Litchfield community. In keeping with the strong history of community partnership, the planning and management of these, and any future reserves, should be undertaken within a partnership framework. Council's preference is to have a formal lease and funding arrangements in place where possible.

In general, the preferred approach is:

1. *Formal Lease* - For large multi-user reserves, a formal lease should be agreed and entered into with an incorporated community based, ~~and~~ not for profit, organisation (such as a community board, incorporated management committee, sporting club or regional sports association). The responsibilities of the lessee will be supported with an annual contribution from Council as determined by their funding agreement.
2. *Community Advisory Group* - Where a lease may not be possible, or there are no suitable organisations willing to become the lessee, then a community advisory group should be established to help engage the local community and provide input into planning and management decision making.
3. *Council Managed with Community Engagement* - Where neither of the above options are possible then Council will manage the reserve. Council will seek to engage with the community on the development of future plans for the reserve. Council will also encourage the establishment of regular users within the reserve with the aim to develop over time increased community involvement in reserve management.
4. *Council Managed* - Small parks and undeveloped reserves will be managed by Council.

4.4.4. Asset Management Plans

4.4.4.1. To ensure that Council has sufficient assets that can be sustainably maintained over the long-term, Asset Management Plans (AMPs) are paramount. AMPs provide Council with a clear understanding of ~~as to~~ how to ~~Council can~~ manage and maintain its infrastructure and other assets~~,~~ to designated standards and service levels in a planned and sustainable way. ~~In 2021, Litchfield~~ Council does not currently have specific ~~discrete~~ AMPs for ~~any of~~ its ~~R~~recreational r~~R~~eserves. To support the management of ~~Therefore, to manage Litchfield~~ Council's open space assets, future demand, ~~and~~ risks, ~~and compliance with~~ regulatory requirements, AMPs for recreation reserves ~~is~~ are to be included in ~~Litchfield~~ Council's ~~current AMP development schedule~~ asset management planning process.

4.4.4.2. ~~A discreet ten (10) year~~ AMPs ~~is~~ are to be developed for Council's ~~each of the~~ recreation reserves~~, within the next three (3) years.~~ Once developed, these plans will provide ~~On completion~~ Council ~~will have~~ with an accurate picture of the condition ~~regarding the~~ and status of all assets located at each reserve. The AMPs will also establish ~~further set out prescribed~~ standards of service~~, for each reserve, necessary~~ estimate~~sd of~~ capital expenditure requirements~~,~~ and ~~specified~~ review dates to support ~~ensure ongoing accurate guidance to Council for~~ the sustainable planning, construction, maintenance and operation of Council's sport and recreation facilities and associated services ~~to the community~~.

4.4.5. Sport and Recreation Provision Framework

4.4.5.1. The provision of sport, recreation and open space should be provided both equitably and sustainably across the Litchfield Municipality and should also be responsive to future growth needs. The framework outlined below draws on the existing approach to the levels of service being provided to ~~R~~reserves across Litchfield. This approach has been ~~on a~~ predominantly ~~reactionary~~ reactive~~, nature~~ whereby Council maintains existing infrastructure, and undertakes repairs and maintenance, to the highest level of standard possible within existing budget allocations. Additional resourcing to address arising critical needs is assessed and implemented on a case-by-case basis. The following framework categorises reserves into a hierarchy of provision and identifies current minimum standards of service that Council will continue to work against until appropriate detailed AMPs are developed. ~~Moreover, Council will revise, and advocate for, levels of servicing in accordance with Council's Advocacy Strategy. It is from this perspective that t~~The table of Minimum Levels of Service below is based on this approach~~., detailed below, is based.~~

Table 1: Sport and Recreation Provision Framework

Hierarchy of Provision	Service Catchment	Minimum Level of Service	Develop, Support & Advocate
Regional			
Freds Pass Sport & Recreation Reserve	Within the Local Government Area.	Maintain existing infrastructure, and undertake repairs and maintenance, to the highest level of standard within existing budget allocations.	Develop an Asset Management Plan. Improved infrastructure and facilities in line with Freds Pass Sport and Rec Masterplan.
Nature Based Recreation		**Minimum Level of Service**	**Develop, Support & Advocate**

Knuckey Lagoon Recreation Reserve (KLRR)	Within ten minutes' drive for 80% of residents.	Maintain existing infrastructure and undertake repairs and maintenance, to the highest level of standard within existing budget allocations.	Develop an Asset Management Plan. Develop a Council endorsed Masterplan to guide infrastructure and facility development; and advocacy for funding – including grants.
McMinns Lagoon Recreation Reserve	Within ten minutes' drive for 80% of residents.	Maintain existing infrastructure, and undertake repairs and maintenance, to the highest level of standard within existing budget allocations.	Develop an Asset Management Plan. Develop a Council endorsed Masterplan to guide infrastructure and facility development; and advocacy for funding – including grants.
Township Sport & Recreation		**Minimum Level of Service**	**Develop, Support & Advocate**
Howard Park Recreation Reserve	Within ten minutes' drive for 80% of residents.	Maintain existing infrastructure, and undertake repairs and maintenance, to the highest level of standard within existing budget allocations.	Develop an Asset Management Plan. Develop a Council endorsed Reserve specific Masterplan to guide infrastructure and facility development; and advocacy for funding – including grants.
Berry Springs Recreation Reserve	Within ten minutes' drive for 80% of residents.	Maintain existing infrastructure, and undertake repairs and maintenance, to the highest level of standard within existing budget allocations.	
Livingstone Recreation Reserve	Within ten minutes' drive for 80% of residents.	Maintain existing infrastructure, and undertake repairs and maintenance, to the highest level of standard within existing budget allocations.	
Humpty Doo Village Green	Within ten minutes' drive for 80% of residents.	Maintain existing infrastructure, and undertake repairs and maintenance, to the highest level of standard within existing budget allocations.	
Mira Square	Within ten minutes' drive for 80% of residents.	Maintain existing infrastructure, and undertake repairs and maintenance, to the highest level of standard within existing budget allocations.	

Urban		Minimum Level of Service	Develop, Support & Advocate
Only applicable in small lot development area such as Coolalinga and new housing estates	Within 500m walk for 90% of residents.	Maintain existing infrastructure, and undertake repairs and maintenance, to the highest level of standard within existing budget allocations.	Develop an Asset Management Plan Access to park of a minimum size of 0.5 Ha. Access to play space. Access to picnic facilities. Park must provide access to water, have good road frontage (preferred 50%).

5. Associated Documents

Sport, Recreation and Open Space Strategy 2021-2031

6. References and Legislation

Northern Territory Local Government Act 2019

7. Review History

Date Reviewed	Description of changes
16/06/2021	New policy adopted
16/11/2026	Policy reviewed and updated to reflect current practices, with minor amendments.

14.4 Infrastructure and Operations

14.4.1 Planning Summary Report - October 2026

AUTHOR: Jaimie O'Connor, Planning and Development Program Leader

AUTHORISER: Geoff Thomas, Director Infrastructure and Operations

ATTACHMENTS: 1. Planning Summary Report - October Attachments A-F

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide to Council a summary of applications received, and comments provided, for the period of 1-31 October 2026. The following is a summary of all applications during the noted period.

Type of Application	No. Applications
Planning Scheme Amendment	0
Development Applications	6
Clearances for Development Permit Conditions	7
Sale, Lease, or Occupation of Crown Land Applications	0
Development Permits Issued	3
Liquor Licence Applications	0
Water Licence Applications	0
Mining Applications	0
Stormwater (Building Certification)/ Driveway Plan Reviews	7
Works Permits	29

Letters of comment for the noted development applications are provided for information in the attachments to this report.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council:

1. Receive the Summary Planning and Development Report for 1-31 October 2026.
2. Note for information the responses provided to relevant agencies within Attachments A to F of this report.

BACKGROUND

DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS

The *Planning Act 1999* requires that the local government be notified of all Development Applications within Council's municipality. Council assesses whether the application meets Council's requirements for roads, drainage, and waste collection and comments on the expected impact of the proposal on the amenity of Council's residents.

The following is a summary of all Planning Applications received, and comments provided during the noted period.

Council Outcome on Development Applications	**No. Applications**
Planning applications supported, subject to normal Council conditions	3
Planning applications supported, subject to specific issues being adequately addressed	1
Planning applications not supported/objected to for reasons related to Council issues	2
Planning applications objected to for reasons not directly related to Council issues	0
Note: Additional detail is provided below on all development applications.	

For all development applications, should the applications be approved by the consent authority, the applications may be subject to Council's normal Development Permit conditions regarding areas of Council authority, including, but not necessarily limited to, access and stormwater drainage.

To find out more about upcoming planning applications, meetings of the development consent authority (DCA) and previous determinations on applications at a meeting visit:

Current Planning Notices: https://www.ntlis.nt.gov.au/planning-notices-online/notices#/index

DCA meeting agendas: https://dipl.nt.gov.au/committees/dca/meetings-and-agendas

DCA meeting minutes: https://dipl.nt.gov.au/committees/dca/minutes

Development Applications supported, subject to normal Council Conditions

The table below describes the Planning Applications that are supported by Council.

Application Number, Address, and Attachment Reference	Purpose and Summary
PA2026/0343 **Hun: 055 P: 06635 12 Grosvenor Court HOLTZE, Hundred of Bagot** **Attachment A**	**Consolidation to create 1 lot** The proposed consolidation would not have an adverse effect on the surrounding area and appears to align with the intent of the NT Planning Scheme.
PA2026/0351 **Hun: 695 LTO: 69011 P: 00018 115 Wells Creek Road VIRGINIA, Hundred of Strangways** **Attachment B**	**Subdivision to create two lots** Council supports the granting of a Development Permit for the following reasons: a) The provided stormwater management plan, while there are discrepancies regarding accesses, and the Land Suitability support the proposed subdivision and additionally the Site and Soil evaluation assessment shows that the unconstrained portion of land on proposed Lot B can support the necessary requirements in relation to wastewater disposal systems b) The proposal aligns with the NT Planning Scheme in relation to requirements for subdivision in a RL – Rural Living zone
PA2026/0332 **Hun: 045 P: 01786 960 Cox Peninsula Drive, BERRY SPRINGS, Hundred of Ayers** **Attachment D**	**Caravan Park (Glamping Tents) in two stages** a) The proposal aligns with the Litchfield Subregional Land Use Plan supporting the Berry Springs Rural Activity Centre and to an extent addresses the Statements of Policy relevant to Berry Springs. b) Council notes that the proposed development, situated at the Territory Wildlife Park, will have minimal impact on Council owned and managed roads and services.

Development Applications supported, subject to specific issues being adequately addressed

The table below describes the Development Applications that are supported by Council only if the specific issues outlined are adequately addressed.

Application Number, Address, and Attachment Reference	Purpose and Summary	Specific Issues to be Addressed

PA2026/0358 **Hun: 325 P: 01651 200 Connelly Road LAMBELLS LAGOON, Hundred of Guy** **Attachment E**	**Outbuilding (shed) addition to an existing horticulture land with a reduced building setback to the side boundary (retrospective approval)**	While the application refers to two additional demountables near the shed, aerial mapping identifies up to five demountables on the property. Development Assessment Services has confirmed the owner's intention to remove the excess demountables. Council recommends that their removal be made a condition precedent to the permit.

Development Applications not supported/objected to for reasons related to Council issues

The table below describes the Development Applications that are not supported or objected to by Council for reasons related to areas of Council authority.

Application Number, Address, and Attachment Reference	Purpose and Summary	Reasons for Non-Support/ Objection
PA2026/0316 **Hun: 055 P: 0000E 7 Fellows Road, HOWARD SPRINGS, Hundred of Bagot** **Attachment F**	**Outbuilding (shed) addition to an existing dwelling-single with a reduced building setback to the side boundary**	a) The layout within the property allows for the proposed outbuilding (shed) to be constructed in a location that does not require the reduction of the setback. b) The design of the proposed dwelling-independent may invertedly direct stormwater flows from the roof to the neighbouring property as a concentrated flow due to the lack of space available for stormwater runoff from the roof to allow for sheet flow
PA2026/0347 **Hun: 055 P: 05896 44 McGill Road GIRRAWEEN, Hundred of Bagot** **Attachment C**	**Outbuilding (shed) addition to an existing dwelling-single with a reduced building setback to the side boundary**	a) The type of shed chosen needs to consider the setbacks in place to ensure a suitable location is available onsite. b) While the Statement of Effect states that stormwater will be managed within the property, no stormwater management plans have been submitted for consideration with the application. c) There are alternate locations within the property which could be utilised without requiring a 25% reduction to the setback.

Development Applications objected to for reasons not directly related to Council issues

The table below describes the Development Applications that are objected to by Council for reasons not directly related to areas of Council authority. Typically, these are reasons related to preservation of amenity of the surrounding neighbourhood and compliance with the NT Planning Scheme.

Application Number, Address, and Attachment Reference	Purpose and Summary	Reasons for Objection
NIL		

SALE, LEASE, AND OCCUPATION OF CROWN LAND APPLICATIONS

The table below describes the new applications for Sale of Crown Land to which Council has responded during the noted period.

Address and Attachment Reference	Purpose and Summary	Comments Provided
NIL		

DEVELOPMENT PERMITS ISSUED

Application Number and Address	Permit Number, Purpose and Summary	Comments Provided
PA2026/0343 **Hun: 055 P: 06635 12 Grosvenor Court HOLTZE, Hundred of Bagot**	**DP2026/0343** Consolidation to create 1 lot	See above Development Applications supported, subject to normal Council Conditions
PA2026/0347 **Hun: 055 P: 05896 44 McGill Road GIRRAWEEN, Hundred of Bagot**	**DP2026/0347** Outbuilding (shed) addition to an existing dwelling-single with a reduced building setback to the side boundary	See above Development Applications not supported/objected to for reasons related to Council issues.

DP2026/0315 **Hun: 695 P: 06250 1320 Redcliffe Road HUGHES, Hundred of Strangways**	**DP2026/0315** Subdivision to create 2 lots	Council did not object to the granting of a development permit as the application for a subdivision to create two (2) lots complies with the necessary requirements of the NT Planning Scheme in relation to Land Suitability and Preliminary Stormwater assessment.

LIQUOR LICENCE APPLICATIONS

The table below describes the new applications for amendments to existing liquor licences or new applications for special event liquor licences to which Council has responded during the noted period. Note, SPLL refers to a Special Event Liquor Licence.

Application Number	Purpose and Summary	Comments Provided
NIL		

ASSESSMENT OF PLANS/REPORTS/DRAWINGS FOR CLEARANCE OF DEVELOPMENT PERMIT CONDITIONS

Council reviews plans, reports, and drawings as part of the process to clear conditions on Development Permits to ensure that the proposals meet Council requirements and will not have adverse effects upon neighbouring properties or Council assets. Examples of include driveway crossover plans, stormwater drainage plans, environmental management reports, traffic impact assessments, and infrastructure designs. The following table notes the number of requests for assessment received by Council for clearance of conditions for plans/ reports/drawings during the noted period.

No. Requests for Assessment of Plans/Reports/Drawings for Clearance of Development Permit Conditions
7

STORMWATER DRAINAGE AND/OR DRIVEWAY CROSSOVER APPLICATIONS FOR BUILDING CERTIFICATION

Council reviews stormwater drainage plans and driveway crossovers for structures requiring building certification to ensure that the proposals meet Council requirements and will not have adverse effects upon neighbouring properties or Council assets. The following table notes the number requests for assessment for building certification that Council received during the noted period.

No. Building Certification Applications

24

WORKS PERMIT APPLICATIONS

Council reviews Works Permit applications for all works undertaken by external parties within Council's road reserve to ensure the works meet Council requirements and will not have adverse effects upon the public using the road reserve or Council assets. The following table notes the number of Works Permit applications received by Council during the noted period.

No. Works Permit Applications
29

WORKS FROM	WORKS TO	Document Precis	Address
24/11/2026	24/11/2026	Vegetation works	430 Girraween Road MCMINNS LAGOON NT 0822
25/11/2026	03/11/2026	Works are scheduled to be carried out on Wednesday 25/11/26 and Thursday 26/11/26 and Thurs	288 Trippe Road North Road HUMPTY DOO NT 0836
28/10/2026	27/11/2026	Storm water drainage works across Taylor Road.	213 Taylor Road ASCHE NT 0829
01/11/2026	01/11/2026	Oversize/overmass - House move to 80 Hopewell Road	80 Hopewell Road BERRY SPRINGS NT 0838
12/11/2026	12/11/2026	Replace leaking 22/200 KVA Transformer within verge	780 Pioneer Drive HUMPTY DOO NT 0836
30/10/2026	06/11/2026	Hydrovac excavation of 15-20m trench, replace 4 water lines, then backfill trench 1x day of works (	10 Shewring Road MCMINNS LAGOON NT 0822
11/11/2026	11/11/2026	Two PWC crews and two Core TC crews shall be working in various locations at the above mentior	10 Draper Road HOWARD SPRINGS NT 0835
17/11/2026	23/11/2026	Works are scheduled to be carried out on Tuesday 17/11/2026 to Monday 23/11/2026 FSOD- 252(	4 Mathew Hopkins Road HOLTZE NT 0829
21/10/2026	23/10/2026	Driveway installation works - per approval NOPA2026/2193	75 Northstar Road ACACIA HILLS NT 0822
13/10/2026	13/10/2026	Emergency Works - Leaking water service within the verge.	53 Gallacher Road GIRRAWEEN NT 0836
10/10/2026	10/10/2026	Emergency repairs to leaking 25mm water service	330 Whitewood Road HOWARD SPRINGS NT 0835
19/10/2026	23/10/2026	Dig crossover, place steal and pour concrete	335 Virginia Road VIRGINIA NT 0834
08/10/2026	08/10/2026	Emergency Works - Leaking water service within the verge	100 Watling Road GIRRAWEEN NT 0836
18/10/2026	18/10/2026	Oversize/overmass - house move	35 Dunnart Court BERRY SPRINGS NT 0838
05/11/2026	05/11/2026	Power supply to subdivision	10 Holly Road BEES CREEK NT 0822
27/10/2026	29/10/2026	Power supply to subdivision	25 Cooke Road LAMBELLS LAGOON NT 0822
05/10/2026	05/10/2026	Emergency works - Leaking water service under road surface	19 Corella Avenue HOWARD SPRINGS NT 0835
05/10/2026	05/10/2026	Emergency works - Leaking water service under road surface	14 Lockerley Court HUMPTY DOO NT 0836
13/10/2026	13/10/2026	Replace stolen earthing	20 Connelly Road LAMBELLS LAGOON NT 0822
09/10/2026	16/10/2026	Bitumen road repairs	45 Kennedy Road HUMPTY DOO NT 0836
07/10/2026	07/10/2026	Leaking water service in roadway	325 Whitewood Road HOWARD SPRINGS NT 0835
08/10/2026	08/10/2026	Water service renewal from main to meter	115 Gonnerman Road HUMPTY DOO NT 0836
20/10/2026	20/10/2026	LV service replacements	20 Durian Road VIRGINIA NT 0834
21/10/2026	21/10/2026	LV service replacements	40 Carambola Road VIRGINIA NT 0834
27/09/2026	27/09/2026	Emergency Works - Leaking water service on the verge.	170 Madsen Road HOWARD SPRINGS NT 0835
16/10/2026	16/10/2026	LV service replacement	335 Virginia Road VIRGINIA NT 0834
22/10/2026	22/10/2026	LV service replacements	110 Eugene Road VIRGINIA NT 0834
23/09/2026	23/09/2026	Emergency Works - Leaking water service on the verge.	172 Gonnerman Road HUMPTY DOO NT 0836
12/10/2026	12/10/2026	Fault Indicator Trial at GBS-0092.	155 Stow Road HOWARD SPRINGS NT 0835

LINKS WITH STRATEGIC PLAN

Prosperity - Our Economy and Growth

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS – NIL

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS – NIL

RISKS – NIL

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT – NIL

LITCHFIELD COUNCIL

Attachment A

30 September 2026

Development Assessment Services
Department of Lands, Planning and Environment
GPO Box 1680
Darwin NT 0801

RE: Letter of Comment Development Application

PA2026/0343
Hun: 055 P: 06635 12 Grosvenor Court HOLTZE, Hundred of Bagot
Consolidation to create 1 lot

Thank you for the Development Application referred to this office on [document received], concerning the above. This letter may be tabled at Litchfield Council's next Council Meeting. Should this letter be varied or not endorsed by Council, you will be advised accordingly.

The following issues are raised for consideration by the Authority:

Council does not objects to the granting of a Development Permit for the following reasons:

a) The proposed consolidation would not have an adverse effect on the surrounding area and appears to align with the intent of the NT Planning Scheme.

Council can provide the following comments in relation to the application:

a) While it may not be an aspect for consideration of this planning application, the structure on the northern boundary appears to be within the 5m setback.

b) Council has recently approved a new driveway access at 16 Grosvenor Court in design and construction without knowledge of this proposal. The property owner may need to advise Council of a selected primary driveway should the consolidation of the Lots be approved. Council will not be responsible for maintenance or repair of any driveway other than the primary access.

Should the application be approved, the following condition(s) pursuant to the *Planning Act* and Council's responsibility under the *Local Government Act* are also recommended for inclusion in any Development Permit issued by the consent authority:

a) The owner shall collect stormwater and discharge it to the drainage network, to the technical requirements and satisfaction of Litchfield Council, at no cost to Litchfield Council.

b) No fence, hedge, tree or other obstruction exceeding a height of 0.6m is to be planted or erected so that it would obscure sight lines at the junction of the driveway and public street, to the satisfaction of Litchfield Council.

c) Any developments on or adjacent to any easements on site in favour of Council shall be carried out to the requirements and satisfaction of Litchfield Council.

Should the application be approved, the following notes are recommended for inclusion in any Development Permit issued by the consent authority:

a) Litchfield Council's current Fees and Charges may apply to the above conditions. Additional information can be found at www.litchfield.nt.gov.au.

b) A *Works Permit* is required from Litchfield Council before commencement of any work within the road reserve, which would include creation of any driveway crossover connecting to Litchfield Council's road network.

c) Notwithstanding any approved plans, signs within Litchfield Council's municipal boundaries are subject to approval under Interim Development Control Order 29.

d) Note that a development permit issued under the Planning Act is not an approval for access onto a Litchfield Council road. Approval for access to be taken from, or constructed within the Council controlled road reserve rests solely with Council as the approving authority

If you require any further discussion in relation to this application, please contact Litchfield Council on 08 8983 0600.

Kind Regards,

Rob Taylor
Development Engineer


12 GROSVENOR CT, HOLTZE
Section 06635 Hundred of Bagot plan(s) LTO2013/061
NT Planning Scheme Information
Land Area :
4,000 m²
Planning Scheme Zone :
LI (Light Industry)
Overlays :
(none found)
Strategic Frameworks :
The following Strategic Frameworks may apply to your land
Regional Plans
Darwin Regional Land Use Plan
Sub-Regional Plans
Holtze to Elizabeth River Subregional Land Use Plan
Area Plans
Greater Holtze Area Plan
Interim Development Control Orders :
(none found)
Glendower Road
Mathew Hopkins Road

LITCHFIELD COUNCIL

Attachment B

7 October 2026

Development Assessment Services
Department of Lands, Planning and Environment
GPO Box 1680
Darwin NT 0801

RE: Letter of Comment Development Application

PA2026/0351
Hun: 695 LTO: 69011 P: 00018 115 Wells Creek Road VIRGINIA, Hundred of Strangways
Subdivision to create two lots

Thank you for the Development Application referred to this office on [document received], concerning the above. This letter may be tabled at Litchfield Council's next Council Meeting. Should this letter be varied or not endorsed by Council, you will be advised accordingly.

The following issues are raised for consideration by the Authority:

Council supports the granting of a Development Permit for the following reasons:

a) The provided stormwater management plan, while there are discrepancies regarding accesses, and the Land Suitability support the proposed subdivision and additionally the Site and Soil evaluation assessment shows that the unconstrained portion of land on proposed Lot B can support the necessary requirements in relation to wastewater disposal systems

b) The proposal aligns with the NT Planning Scheme in relation to requirements for subdivision in a RL – Rural Living zone

Council can provide the following comments in relation to the application:

a) Council notes that proposed Lot 1 has several structures that do not meet the required set-back distances to the boundary fence, this matter should be rectified and approvals sought.

b) The crossover to proposed Lot 2 will need to comply with the NT Subdivision and Development Guidelines (NTSDG) and any works that may be required to upgrade the drainage system including clearing of drains and culverts for the neighbouring

driveway, in order to maintain stormwater flow will be required to be undertaken by the developer

c) There is a redundant access, which the submitted SWMP refers to as RBC 1, which will need to be removed, and works completed within the verge to match in with the current grades to a standard that Council deems suitable.

d) The access currently used for proposed Lot 1 is a shared access with the neighbouring property at 105 Wells Creek Rd which will need to be formalised as a Residential (dual) access in line with NTG Standard Drawing SS1008 from the NTSDG at the Developers cost.

Should the application be approved, the Council requests the following condition(s) be included as Condition(s) Precedent in any Development Permit issued by the consent authority:

a) The crossover and driveway shall meet Litchfield Council's requirements and be in accordance with the most current NT Subdivision and Development Guidelines.

b) Prior to the commencement of works, a schematic plan demonstrating the on-site collection of stormwater and its discharge into Litchfield Council's stormwater drainage system shall be submitted to and approved by Litchfield Council.

Should the application be approved, the following condition(s) pursuant to the *Planning Act* and Council's responsibility under the *Local Government Act* are also recommended for inclusion in any Development Permit issued by the consent authority:

a) A monetary contribution is required to be paid to Litchfield Council in accordance with its development contribution plan.

b) The kerb crossovers and/or driveways to the site are to meet the technical standards of Litchfield Council. The owner shall remove disused crossovers; provide footpaths/cycleways, as required by Litchfield Council; collect stormwater and discharge it to the drainage network; and undertake reinstatement works; all to the technical requirements and satisfaction of Litchfield Council, at no cost to Litchfield Council.
Note: Design drawings shall be approved by Litchfield Council prior to construction of the works

c) No fence, hedge, tree or other obstruction exceeding a height of 0.6m is to be planted or erected so that it would obscure sight lines at the junction of the driveway and public street, to the satisfaction of Litchfield Council.

d) All existing or proposed easements or reserves required for the purposes of stormwater drainage, roads, access or for any other purpose, shall be made available free of cost to, and in favour of, Litchfield Council and/or neighbouring property owners.

Should the application be approved, the following notes are recommended for inclusion in any Development Permit issued by the consent authority:

a) Litchfield Council's current Fees and Charges may apply to the above conditions. Additional information can be found at www.litchfield.nt.gov.au.

b) A *Works Permit* is required from Litchfield Council before commencement of any work within the road reserve, which would include creation of any driveway crossover connecting to Litchfield Council's road network.

c) Note that a development permit issued under the Planning Act is not an approval for access onto a Litchfield Council road. Approval for access to be taken from or constructed within the Council controlled road reserve rests solely with Council as the approving authority.

If you require any further discussion in relation to this application, please contact Litchfield Council on 08 8983 0600.

Kind Regards,



Rob Taylor
Development Engineer

Tel (08) 8983 0600 Email council@litchfield.nt.gov.au
Address 7 Bees Creek Road, Freds Pass NT 0822 Postal PO Box 446 Humpty Doo NT 0836 Web www.litchfield.nt.gov.au
ABN 45 018 934 501


115 WELLS CREEK RD, VIRGINIA
Lot 00018 Hundred of Strangways plan(s) LTO69/011
NT Planning Scheme Information
Land Area : 4.05 ha
Planning Scheme Zone : RL (Rural Living)
Overlays : • CNV - Clearing of Native Vegetation
Strategic Frameworks : The following Strategic Frameworks may apply to your land
Regional Plans
• Darwin Regional Land Use Plan
Sub Regional Plans
• Litchfield Subregional Land Use Plan
Area Plans
• (none found)
Interim Development Control Orders : (none found)
Wells Creek
Freds Pass
Coulter Way
Bees Creek Primary School

LITCHFIELD COUNCIL

Attachment C

13 October 2026

Development Assessment Services
Department of Lands, Planning and Environment
GPO Box 1680
Darwin NT 0801

RE: Letter of Comment Development Application

PA2026/0347
Hun: 055 P: 05896 44 McGill Road GIRRAWEEN, Hundred of Bagot
Outbuilding (shed) addition to an existing dwelling-single with a reduced building setback to the side boundary

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Thank you for the Development Application referred to this office on [document received], concerning the above. This letter may be tabled at Litchfield Council's next Council Meeting. Should this letter be varied or not endorsed by Council, you will be advised accordingly.

The following issues are raised for consideration by the Authority:

Council does not support the granting of a Development Permit for the following reasons:

a) The type of shed chosen needs to consider the setbacks in place to ensure a suitable location is available onsite.

b) While the Statement of Effect states that stormwater will be managed within the property, no stormwater management plans have been submitted for consideration with the application.

c) There are alternate locations within the property which could be utilised without requiring a 25% reduction to the setback.

Council can provide the following comments in relation to the application:

a) While not directly related to this application, there are several structures within the property which already exist within the setback. These should be addressed by the property owner.

Should the application be approved, the Council requests the following condition(s) be included as Condition(s) Precedent in any Development Permit issued by the consent authority:

a) Prior to the endorsement of plans and prior to the commencement of works, a schematic plan demonstrating the on-site collection of stormwater and its discharge into Litchfield Council's stormwater drainage system shall be submitted to and approved by Litchfield Council.

Should the application be approved, the following notes are recommended for inclusion in any Development Permit issued by the consent authority:

a) Litchfield Council's current Fees and Charges may apply to the above conditions. Additional information can be found at www.litchfield.nt.gov.au.

b) A *Works Permit* is required from Litchfield Council before commencement of any work within the road reserve, which would include creation of any driveway crossover connecting to Litchfield Council's road network.

c) Notwithstanding any approved plans, signs within Litchfield Council's municipal boundaries are subject to approval under Interim Development Control Order 29.

d) Note that a development permit issued under the Planning Act is not an approval for access onto a Litchfield Council road. Approval for access to be taken from or constructed within the Council controlled road reserve rests solely with Council as the approving authority.

If you require any further discussion in relation to this application, please contact Litchfield Council on 08 8983 0600.

Kind Regards,

Rob Taylor
Development Engineer


44 MCGILL RD, GIRRAWEEN
Section 05896 Hundred of Bagot plan(s) L2006/123B
NT Planning Scheme Information
Land Area :
1.01 ha
Planning Scheme Zone :
RR (Rural Residential)
Overlays :
CNV - Clearing of Native Vegetation
Strategic Frameworks :
The following Strategic Frameworks may apply to your land
Regional Plans
Darwin Regional Land Use Plan
Sub Regional Plans
Litchfield Subregional Land Use Plan
Area Plans
(none found)
Interim Development Control Orders :
(none found)
Howard Springs
Robertson Road
Mcgill Road

LITCHFIELD COUNCIL

Attachment D

30 October 2026

Development Assessment Services
Department of Lands, Planning and Environment
GPO Box 1680
Darwin NT 0801

RE: Letter of Comment Development Application

PA2026/0332
Hun: 045 P: 01786 960 Cox Peninsula Drive, BERRY SPRINGS, Hundred of Ayers
Caravan Park (Glamping Tents) in two stages

Thank you for the Development Application referred to this office on 2 October 2026, concerning the above. This letter may be tabled at Litchfield Council's next Council Meeting. Should this letter be varied or not endorsed by Council, you will be advised accordingly.

The following issues are raised for consideration by the Authority:

Council supports the granting of a Development Permit for the following reasons:

a) The proposal aligns with the Litchfield Subregional Land Use Plan supporting the Berry Springs Rural Activity Centre and to an extent addresses the Statements of Policy relevant to Berry Springs.
b) Council notes that the proposed development, situated at the Territory Wildlife Park, will have minimal impact on Council owned and managed roads and services.

Council can provide the following comments in relation to the application:

a) The use of existing parking is supported as it reduces the requirement for additional construction within a Conservation zone.

b) The Statement of Effect briefly discusses the management of waste collection. To understand that the current Territory Wildlife Park has capacity to include this service within its current arrangements, a Waste Management Plan should be designed to address this matter in more detail. Council is satisfied that this can be achieved through a condition in a DP.

c) Litchfield Council recognises that there are no implications or connections to its stormwater management systems but would request that any other relevant authority

that may be impacted by stormwater should be invited to comment and review a stormwater management plan.

Should the application be approved, the Council requests the following condition(s) be included as Condition(s) Precedent in any Development Permit issued by the consent authority:

a) An Operational Environmental Management Plan (OEMP) that addresses the day to day waste management requirements for the use shall be prepared to the satisfaction of Litchfield Council. The use must at all times be conducted in accordance with the plan.

Should the application be approved, the following notes are recommended for inclusion in any Development Permit issued by the consent authority:

a) Litchfield Council's current Fees and Charges may apply to the above conditions. Additional information can be found at www.litchfield.nt.gov.au.

b) A *Works Permit* is required from Litchfield Council before commencement of any work within the road reserve, which would include creation of any driveway crossover connecting to Litchfield Council's road network.

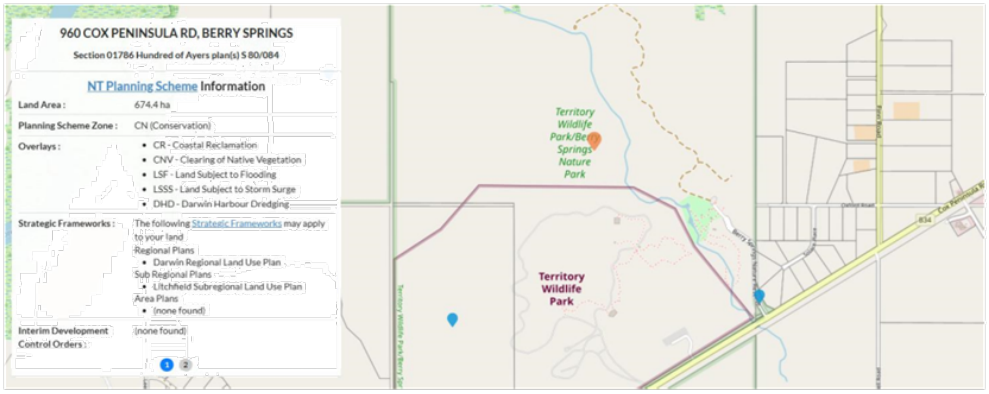
c) Notwithstanding any approved plans, signs within Litchfield Council's municipal boundaries are subject to approval under Interim Development Control Order 33.

d) Note that a development permit issued under the Planning Act is not an approval for access onto a Litchfield Council road. Approval for access to be taken from or constructed within the Council controlled road reserve rests solely with Council as the approving authority.

If you require any further discussion in relation to this application, please contact Litchfield Council on 08 8983 0600.

Kind Regards,

Rob Taylor
Development Engineer


960 COX PENINSULA RD, BERRY SPRINGS
Section 01786 Hundred of Ayers plan(s) S 80/084
NT Planning Scheme Information
Land Area : 674.4 ha
Planning Scheme Zone : CN (Conservation)
Overlays :
CR - Coastal Reclamation
CNV - Clearing of Native Vegetation
LSF - Land Subject to Flooding
LSSS - Land Subject to Storm Surge
DHD - Darwin Harbour Dredging
Strategic Frameworks : The following Strategic Frameworks may apply to your land
Regional Plans
Darwin Regional Land Use Plan
Sub Regional Plans
Litchfield Subregional Land Use Plan
Area Plans
(none found)
Interim Development Control Orders : (none found)
Territory Wildlife Park/Berry Springs Nature Park
Territory Wildlife Park
834

LITCHFIELD COUNCIL

Attachment E

30 October 2026

Development Assessment Services
Department of Lands, Planning and Environment
GPO Box 1680
Darwin NT 0801

RE: Letter of Comment Development Application

PA2026/0358
Hun: 325 P: 01651 200 Connelly Road LAMBELLS LAGOON, Hundred of Guy
Outbuilding (shed) addition to an existing horticulture land with a reduced building setback to the side boundary (retrospective approval)

Thank you for the Development Application referred to this office on 22/10/2026, concerning the above. This letter may be tabled at Litchfield Council's next Council Meeting. Should this letter be varied or not endorsed by Council, you will be advised accordingly.

The following issues are raised for consideration by the Authority:

It is noted that the proposed development seeks retrospective approval for an existing shed.
Council supports the proposed reduced side setback, having regard to the support provided by the adjoining property owner and the horticultural zoning and use of the land. The land has been developed for horticultural purposes, including the adjoining mango orchard and associated access roads, which are considered to minimise any potential stormwater impacts arising from the shed.

The noted support is only given provided the following issues are adequately addressed:

While the application refers to two additional demountables near the shed, aerial mapping identifies up to five demountables on the property. Development Assessment Services has confirmed the owner's intention to remove the excess demountables. Council recommends that their removal be made a condition precedent to the permit.

Should the application be approved, the following condition(s) pursuant to the *Planning Act* and Council's responsibility under the *Local Government Act* are also recommended for inclusion in any Development Permit issued by the consent authority:

a) The owner shall collect stormwater and discharge it to the drainage network, to the technical requirements and satisfaction of Litchfield Council, at no cost to Litchfield Council.

b) Any developments on or adjacent to any easements on site in favour of Council shall be carried out to the requirements and satisfaction of Litchfield Council.

Should the application be approved, the following notes are recommended for inclusion in any Development Permit issued by the consent authority:

a) Litchfield Council's current Fees and Charges may apply to the above conditions. Additional information can be found at www.litchfield.nt.gov.au.

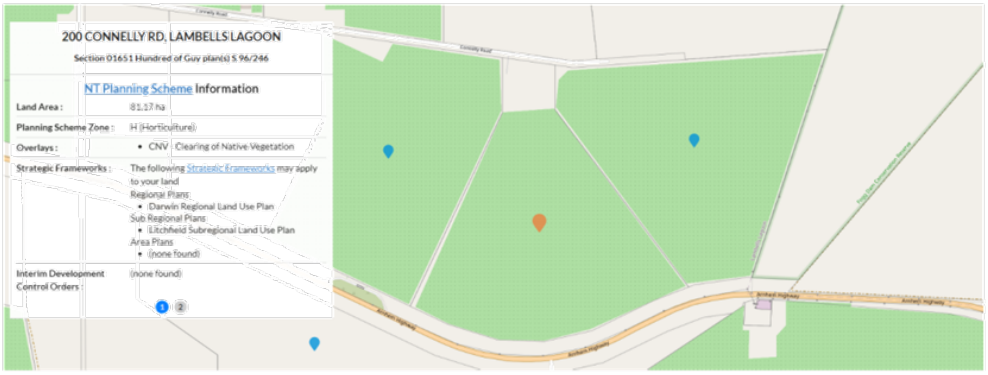
b) A *Works Permit* is required from Litchfield Council before commencement of any work within the road reserve, which would include creation of any driveway crossover connecting to Litchfield Council's road network.

If you require any further discussion in relation to this application, please contact Litchfield Council on 08 8983 0600.

Kind Regards,

Jaimie O'Connor
Planning and Development Program Leader

Tel (08) 8983 0600 Email council@litchfield.nt.gov.au
Address 7 Bees Creek Road, Freds Pass NT 0822 Postal PO Box 446 Humpty Doo NT 0836 Web www.litchfield.nt.gov.au
ABN 45 018 934 501


200 CONNELLY RD, LAMBELLS LAGOON
Section 01651 Hundred of Guy plan(s) S 96/246
NT Planning Scheme Information
Land Area : 81.17 ha
Planning Scheme Zone : H (Horticulture)
Overlays : • CNV Clearing of Native Vegetation
Strategic Frameworks : The following Strategic Frameworks may apply to your land
Regional Plans:
• Darwin Regional Land Use Plan
Sub Regional Plans:
• Litchfield Subregional Land Use Plan
Area Plans:
• (none found)
Interim Development Control Orders : (none found)

LITCHFIELD COUNCIL

Attachment F

30 October 2026

Development Assessment Services
Department of Lands, Planning and Environment
GPO Box 1680
Darwin NT 0801

RE: Letter of Comment Development Application

PA2026/0316
Hun: 055 P: 0000E 7 Fellows Road, HOWARD SPRINGS, Hundred of Bagot
Outbuilding (shed) addition to an existing dwelling-single with a reduced building setback to the side boundary

---

Thank you for the Development Application referred to this office on 22 October 2026, concerning the above. This letter may be tabled at Litchfield Council's next Council Meeting. Should this letter be varied or not endorsed by Council, you will be advised accordingly.

The following issues are raised for consideration by the Authority:

Council does not support the granting of a Development Permit for the following reasons:

a) The layout within the property allows for the proposed outbuilding (shed) to be constructed in a location that does not require the reduction of the setback.

b) The design of the proposed dwelling-independent may invertedly direct stormwater flows from the roof to the neighbouring property as a concentrated flow due to the lack of space available for stormwater runoff from the roof to allow for sheet flow

Council can provide the following comments in relation to the application:

a) The resident at 7 Fellows Rd has recently constructed a retaining wall within the setback which will have an adverse effect on stormwater sheet flows in the local area.

b) Council has not considered neighbouring support as the positioning of the proposed shed within a reduced setback may affect future neighbouring residents should the current move on.

c) A reduction of the side setback by 2m is a 40% reduction which Council considers significant is a RR zoned lot, especially considering the implications of stormwater flows which are permitted to sheet flow between properties.

d) Council notes that the property has two access points, with the additional access point not being previously approved by Council. One of the access points will need to be removed.

Should the application be approved, the Council requests the following condition(s) be included as Condition(s) Precedent in any Development Permit issued by the consent authority:

a) Prior to the endorsement of plans and prior to the commencement of works, a schematic plan demonstrating the on-site collection of stormwater and its discharge into Litchfield Council's stormwater drainage system shall be submitted to and approved by Litchfield Council.

Should the application be approved, the following condition(s) pursuant to the *Planning Act* and Council's responsibility under the *Local Government Act* are also recommended for inclusion in any Development Permit issued by the consent authority:

a) The kerb crossovers and/or driveways to the site are to meet the technical standards of Litchfield Council. The owner shall remove disused crossovers; provide footpaths/cycleways, as required by Litchfield Council; collect stormwater and discharge it to the drainage network; and undertake reinstatement works; all to the technical requirements and satisfaction of Litchfield Council, at no cost to Litchfield Council.

b) Any developments on or adjacent to any easements on site in favour of Council shall be carried out to the requirements and satisfaction of Litchfield Council.

Should the application be approved, the following notes are recommended for inclusion in any Development Permit issued by the consent authority:

a) Litchfield Council's current Fees and Charges may apply to the above conditions. Additional information can be found at www.litchfield.nt.gov.au.

b) A *Works Permit* is required from Litchfield Council before commencement of any work within the road reserve, which would include creation of any driveway crossover connecting to Litchfield Council's road network.

c) Notwithstanding any approved plans, signs within Litchfield Council's municipal boundaries are subject to approval under Interim Development Control Order 33.

d) Note that a development permit issued under the Planning Act is not an approval for access onto a Litchfield Council road. Approval for access to be taken from or constructed within the Council controlled road reserve rests solely with Council as the approving authority.

If you require any further discussion in relation to this application, please contact Litchfield Council on 08 8983 0600.

Kind Regards,



Rob Taylor
Development Engineer

Tel (08) 8983 0600 Email council@litchfield.nt.gov.au
Address 7 Bees Creek Road, Freds Pass NT 0822 Postal PO Box 446 Humpty Doo NT 0836 Web www.litchfield.nt.gov.au
ABN 45 018 934 501


7 FELLOWS RD, HOWARD SPRINGS
Lot 0000E Hundred of Bagot plan(s) LTO62/001
NT Planning Scheme Information
Land Area : 2,010 m²
Planning Scheme Zone : RR (Rural Residential)
Overlays : • CNV - Clearing of Native Vegetation
Strategic Frameworks : The following Strategic Frameworks may apply to your land
Regional Plans
• Darwin Regional Land Use Plan
Sub Regional Plans
• Holtze to Elizabeth River Subregional Land Use Plan
Area Plans
• (none found)
Interim Development Control Orders : (none found)
Lambrick Avenue
Howard Springs
A1

14.4.2 Application to Close and Open a Road - Meade Road Realignment (unmaintained road)

AUTHOR: Jaimie O'Connor, Planning and Development Program Leader

AUTHORISER: Geoff Thomas, Director Infrastructure and Operations

ATTACHMENTS:
1. Meade Road - Proposed Road Closure, Opening and Land Transfer
2. Consultation Report (Attachments) - Proposed Meade Road Realignment (RevB)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report presents the application to open and close a section of Meade Road (realignment) to Elected Members for a final decision on the proposal.

Although the application was originally received in 2021, the process is yet to be finalised. This is due, in part, to uncertainties regarding the process for dealing with Crown Land, as well as uncertainty about the potential impacts on public access to the Blackmore River.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

(Option 1 – Rejection)

1. Receives and notes the Consultation Report – Meade Road Realignment and Blackmore River Access Review, noting that the statutory requirements for a road closing process under the *Local Government Act 2019*, Part 12.3, Section 272, have been fulfilled.
2. Rejects the application to open and close a section of Meade Road across the affected land parcels, being Lot 500 Section 773 Hundred of Cavenagh and Lot 585 Section 765 Hundred of Cavenagh (west of Letchford Road).
3. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to write to the applicant advising of the outcome of the application.

OR

THAT Council:

(Option 2 - Support)

1. Receives and notes the Consultation Report – Meade Road Realignment and Blackmore River Access Review, noting that the statutory requirements for a road closing process under the *Local Government Act 2019*, Part 12.3, Section 272, have been fulfilled.
2. Supports the proposed road opening and road closing of a section of Meade Road across the affected land parcels, being Lot 500 Section 773 Hundred of Cavenagh and Lot 585 Section 765 Hundred of Cavenagh (west of Letchford Road), in accordance with the application received in 2021.
3. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to write to the Chief Executive (CE) of the Department of Lands, Planning and Environment (DLPE), providing in-principle support for the road

opening and road closing.

4. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to write to the Minister for Local Government requesting approval of the road closing and road opening.
5. Authorises all appropriate documents to be signed, and the Common Seal to be affixed by the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer, for the closing and opening of the road as appropriate.

BACKGROUND

The resident of 585 Letchford Road, Darwin River, applied to Council in 2021 to close part of the unmaintained section of Meade Road and open a new section further north, over Crown Land. The proposal was intended to protect the Blackmore River and support conservation activities in the area.

Over the past five years, several reports have been presented to Council. These have noted that the process stalled due to changes in Council officers and uncertainty regarding the process for dealing with Crown Land.

The most recent report, presented in May 2026, provided detailed information and recommended that consultation be undertaken to ensure the proposal was in the public interest. This was particularly relevant as the Blackmore River is accessed by the public for recreational fishing. A copy of the May 2026 report is provided at Attachment A.

Consultation was subsequently undertaken in June and July 2026. The consultation report is provided at Attachment B.

Following consideration of the consultation report, Elected Members are now required to determine whether to proceed with, or reject, the application.

Proposed next steps

Should the application be supported, the next step will be to write to the Chief Executive of the Department of Lands, Planning and Environment, providing Council's in-principle support for the proposal.

Following acceptance of that letter, Crown Land officers will commence discussions with the applicant regarding the proposed road closure and opening, as well as the remaining parcel of land.

Council may then write to the Minister for Local Government requesting the road closure and road opening. This request will be circulated to the Minister for Lands, Planning and Environment for endorsement.

Should the proposal be endorsed, Council can proceed with the relevant statutory obligations and land title documentation, with this work led by officers from Crown Land.

Unmaintained road reserves

It should also be noted that Council's website provides information regarding uncleared bushland road reserves. Council does not upgrade these reserves to facilitate access to private property.

While these reserves remain public road reserves, travel along them is at the individual's own risk. Individuals are responsible for remaining within the road reserve and not entering adjoining private property.

Where frequent use occurs, Council may install signage identifying the reserve as an unmaintained road.

LINKS WITH STRATEGIC PLAN

Places - Roads and Infrastructure

People - Our Community is at the Heart of All We Do

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

COR02 Communications and Engagement

INF08 Subdivision and Development

FIN01 Asset Disposal

GOV12 Land Acquisition Policy

Local Government Act 1999

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Since the application was first lodged with Council in 2021, it has required significant staff time and administrative resources. Associated legal and advertising costs have exceeded the original application fee of $2,100.

Any further investigation, consultation, or technical assessment of the proposed road corridor may result in additional internal administrative costs and external consultancy fees, including for environmental, planning, legal, land valuation, and surveying advice.

Risks There are several risks associated with accepting the proposal, principally the potential expectation among surrounding residents that a road will be constructed as part of the process.

Proceeding with the request without an expectation that a road will be constructed would be inconsistent with Council's expectations for subdivision and development. If the application were presented to Council today, it would generally be expected that a road would be constructed as part of the development, even where the development is limited in scope.

There is also a risk that supporting the application may establish a precedent for future road opening or road closure proposals. In the absence of current road network data for the municipality, it is difficult to determine the future desired road network.

It should also be noted that, even if Council supports the application, the Minister for Lands, Planning and Environment or the Minister for Local Government may reject it

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Community consultation was undertaken in June / July 2026 of which 64% of respondents opposed the proposal.

14.3.4 Meade Road - Proposed Road Closure, Opening and Land Transfer

AUTHOR: Geoff Thomas, Director Infrastructure and Operations

AUTHORISER: Stephen Hoyne, Chief Executive Officer

ATTACHMENTS:
1. Meade Road - Feb Report
2. Meade Road - March Report

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides a consolidated overview of matters previously considered by Council relating to the proposed closure of a paper section of Meade Road and the opening of a new section of Meade Road to the north of its current alignment.

The February 2026 report presented a proposal involving the transfer of riverbank land currently designated as a paper road reserve to an adjoining private landowner, with a replacement road alignment to be provided within Crown land. The report outlined the strategic, community, planning, governance and risk considerations associated with the proposal.

The February 2026 report was tabled and not progressed, with concerns raised regarding public benefit, continued public access, governance implications and long-term land management considerations.

The March 2026 report provided additional information regarding the proposal to close the existing paper road reserve and establish a replacement road alignment within Crown land. That report recommended that both the February and March 2026 reports be brought forward to a future Ordinary Council Meeting with a consolidated covering report for Council consideration.

This report identifies the need for targeted community and stakeholder consultation to inform any future Council consideration of:

- potential impacts to the Blackmore River and adjacent crown land for recreational use by the public;
- the proposed closure of the existing paper road reserve;
- the opening of a replacement road reserve; and
- any associated land transfer actions.

The report also identifies several site, servicing, environmental, cultural heritage and infrastructure matters requiring further investigation prior to Council determining the suitability of the proposed replacement road alignment.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to undertake stakeholder and community consultation regarding the proposed closure and opening of sections of Meade Road, including potential impacts to public access to the Blackmore River and adjacent crown land;
2. Requests the Chief Executive Officer provide a further report to Council following completion of the consultation process, including the outcomes of consultation and any recommendations arising from the process;
3. Notes that any future proposal relating to road closure, road opening or associated land transfer actions will remain subject to:

a. a future Council resolution supporting the proposed land transfer to Crown ownership in accordance with Council Policy FIN01 Asset Disposal Policy;

b. in-principle agreement from the Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Lands, Planning and Environment;

c. consideration and approval by the Minister for Lands, Planning and Environment;

d. any land valuation requirements as may be required by Council and / or determined by the Northern Territory Government.

e. further investigations required to assess the suitability and feasibility of the proposed replacement road alignment, including environmental, cultural heritage, infrastructure, servicing and engineering considerations; and

f. That all investigations, assessments, approvals, engineering reviews, servicing relocations, valuations and associated costs required to demonstrate the suitability of the proposed alignment are to be undertaken at the cost of the proponent to the satisfaction of Council and relevant statutory authorities;

BACKGROUND

The paper road section of Meade Road proposed to be closed has historically had a track cut through the corridor which meanders into private land and crown land. Access to the Blackmore River in this locality is through informally formed tracks branching off the "main track" through private property. However, limited legal public access to the river for recreational purposes remains available via the existing paper road reserve.

Aerial photography over the past 15 years suggests the current access track footprint utilised by the public has had little change.



Figure 1: Aerial Photo capture date 18 June 2025

There is currently no strategic requirement for construction of a road in either the existing or proposed alignment. However, any formalisation of road reserves may influence expectations for Council to and infrastructure considerations.

There is currently no fencing or signage to delineate property boundaries or access restrictions to the subject area.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Previous mandatory consultation undertaken by Council was limited to a newspaper advertisement in early 2022, publication on Council website and a notice in the Council office foyer. The previous consultation materials did not clearly identify the potential impact to public access to sections of the Blackmore River.

Given access to the river has been ongoing for over 20 years it is considered, prior to restricting the public's access to crown land and a section of the Blackmore River through a formal road opening and closing, that more thorough public consultation is undertaken. This would include but not be limited to adjacent landholders, recreational fishing community, local residents and relevant Northern Territory Government (NTG) agencies.

Public notification would be through Council's website, social media notification, onsite signage advising of the proposal and direct notification to adjacent landowners and relevant (NTG) agencies seeking input from relevant stakeholders on the proposal to inform Council's position.



Figure 1: Access possible from road reserve

POTENTIAL SITE CONSTRAINTS

Pending outcomes of the recommended public consultation, Council has an obligation to ensure the proposed road reserve alignment is reasonably capable of functioning as a lawful public road corridor, refer Land Acquisition Policy - GOV12.

A review has identified several matters requiring further investigation prior to Council determining the long-term suitability and feasibility of the proposed replacement road alignment. These matters include, but are not limited to:

- potential conflicts with existing electrical infrastructure within the connecting road reserve;
- Aboriginal cultural heritage and sacred site considerations, including any requirements of the Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority;
- potential riparian, drainage, flooding and environmental constraints affecting the corridor; and
- Any associated servicing, engineering or regulatory requirements arising from the above matters.

Noting the following:

- a power pole in the adjoining Letchford Road reserve appears to conflict with the proposed replacement road alignment;
- an AAPA abstract is considered insufficient as it cannot be relied upon as an exhaustive list of sacred sites in the area nor does it authorise works; and
- NTG Land Clearing Guidelines detail requirements for clearing of riparian areas.

All investigations, assessments, approvals, certifications, engineering reviews, servicing relocations and associated costs required to demonstrate the suitability of the proposed alignment are to be undertaken and funded entirely by the proponent to the satisfaction of Council and relevant statutory authorities.

Council's consideration of the proposal does not constitute acceptance that the proposed alignment is suitable for future construction or free from environmental, servicing, cultural heritage or engineering constraints.

OTHER MATTERS

The proposed replacement road reserve has been identified as 30 metres wide to accommodate currently unknown future requirements for road construction, drainage infrastructure and utility services.

However, the proposed arrangement would create an irregular road corridor adjoining an existing 20.12 metre wide corridor, resulting in an approximate 9.88 metre offset. Depending on future road design requirements, additional land acquisition may be necessary to accommodate road curvature, drainage and associated infrastructure requirements.

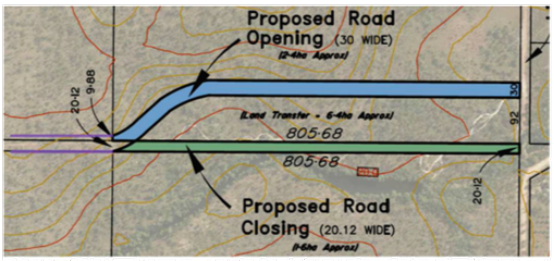


Figure 2: Potential land acquisition downstream of road relocation may be required in the future

The proposed road geometry may also require future traffic management measures, including reduced speed environments, traffic calming

infrastructure or safety treatments.

PREVIOUS RESOLUTION – FURTHER GOVERNANCE CONSIDERATIONS

The previous Council resolution did not specifically address several governance and statutory matters relevant to any future land transfer process associated with the proposed road closure, including the requirement for Council support for transfer of land to Crown ownership in accordance with Council Policy FIN01 Asset Disposal Policy.

Nor did it note that the proposal is subject to:

- in-principle agreement with respect land transfer from the Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Lands, Planning and Environment;
- consideration and approval by the Minister for Lands, Planning and Environment;
- completion of any land valuation requirements determined by the Northern Territory Government;

Previous resolution:

In November 2022 Council resolved the following:

14.03.03 Road Opening Closing Meade Road, Darwin River

Moved: Cr Harlan

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Sharp

THAT Council:

1. *proceed with the road closing and opening process for Meade Road, across affected land parcels, Lot 500 Section 773 Hundred of Cavenagh, Lot 585 Section 765 Hundred of Cavenagh (Meade Road, west of Letchford Road) for the purpose of providing the land owner the opportunity to continue conservation efforts;*
2. *authorise all appropriate documents to be signed and common seal affixed by the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer for the closing and opening of the road, as required; and*
3. *note that this is an administrative process only and there is no commitment by Council to construct the road.*

CARRIED (7-0) ORD2022 11-173

LINKS WITH STRATEGIC PLAN

Places - Roads and Infrastructure

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- Local Government Act 2019
- Control of Roads Act 1953
- INF08 Subdivision and Development Policy
- GOV12 Land Acquisition Policy

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Further investigation, consultation, and technical assessment associated with the corridor may result in further internal administrative costs and external consultancy costs, including environmental, planning, legal, potentially land valuation and survey related advice.

Risks Potential risks associated with the matter include:

- adverse community perception relating to public access and use of the corridor.
- uncertainty relating to land tenure and statutory processes.
- environmental and AAPA constraints affecting any future road reserve alignment; and
- future expectations regarding road access and infrastructure provision.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Targeted community consultation is proposed to inform Council's future consideration of the Meade Road corridor and associated access to Blackmore River.

Consultation is anticipated to include adjacent landowners, local residents, recreational users, and relevant Northern Territory Government agencies.

Consultation methods may include public notification, direct stakeholder engagement, on-site signage, and online communication.

16.2 PROPOSED TRANSFER OF RIVERBANK PAPER ROAD LAND - BERRY SPRINGS (MEADE/LETCHFORD ROADS)

AUTHOR: Geoff Thomas, Director Infrastructure and Operations

AUTHORISER: Stephen Hoyne, Chief Executive Officer

ATTACHMENTS: 1. Attachment A-D Road Opening Closing Meade Road.pdf

The Council is satisfied that, pursuant to Section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019*, the information to be received, discussed or considered in relation to this agenda item is:

civ information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to subject to subregulation (3) - prejudice the interest of the council or some other person.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report presents to Council a request to transfer a section of riverbank land currently designated as a paper road in Berry Springs to an adjoining land private landowner replacing it with an alternative alignment that would be allocated by Crown Lands, and to outline the strategic, community, planning and governance considerations, and risks relevant to the recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Resolve to rescind Council Resolution ORD2022 11-173 and not support the transfer of the riverbank paper road land, on the basis that the proposal does not provide a sufficient net public benefit and is not consistent with Council's obligation to act in the interests of all constituents.
2. Advise Crown Land and the Applicant (Hew McDonald) that Council wishes to retain the current land in public ownership due to public benefit, access, strategic and financial considerations.

BACKGROUND

Council has been approached in relation to a proposal involving Crown Land in Berry Springs, specifically a paper road corridor located along the riverbank in the area bordered by Meade Road and Letchford Road. The land is currently reserved as a road but has never been constructed and functions informally as a public access corridor along with the adjacent crown land parcel to the river for fishing and passive recreation.

It has been indicated that, should Council agree to the transfer of the riverbank section of the paper road to the neighbouring property owner, the Northern Territory Government (NTG) - Crown Lands would allocate an alternative section of road reserve away from the river to preserve a notional road connection (refer Attachment A). Council has advised that there is currently no intention or strategic need to construct the road, either in its existing alignment or in the proposed alternate location.

KEY ISSUES AND CONSIDERATIONS

1. Primary Consideration – Benefit to Council and the Community

The central consideration for Council is what tangible benefit, if any, arises for Council and the broader community from the proposed transfer. The proposal is driven by the interests of the adjoining

landowner, and Council must be satisfied that any perceived environmental or management benefits clearly outweigh the loss of public land and access.

The private landowner has indicated that ownership would enable fencing of the land and the implementation of environmental improvements, including reduced erosion and tree planting (refer Attachment B). Whilst these outcomes are positive in principle, they do not, of themselves, demonstrate a clear net public benefit when weighed against the permanent alienation of public land.

2. Public Access to the River

The existing paper road corridor provides informal but established public access to the river for fishing and recreation. Access is also made through the adjoining Crown land supported by the NTG 'Usage of Vacant Crown Land Policy'. Transfer of the land would result in exclusion of the public from this area which is likely to generate negative community settlement.

Council must consider whether the loss of public access is proportionate to the benefits proposed, particularly given the high value placed on river access within the municipality.

3. Community Perception and Sentiment

There is significant risk that the community will perceive the proposal as the transfer of public land for private benefit. Even where environmental improvements are proposed, exclusion of the public from a previously accessible area is likely to attract adverse feedback and undermine confidence in Council's stewardship of public assets.

4. Environmental Outcomes and Alternatives

It has been considered when allocating the land it could be undertaken as a separable title, subject to an environmental covenant requiring, fencing, erosion control, revegetation and ongoing land management. While this approach may preserve some environmental outcomes, it raises substantive concerns regarding:

- The authority responsible for enforcing the covenant.
- Council's legal standing to compel compliance over time.
- The cost of resourcing required to monitor and police compliance; and
- The risk that Council ultimately bears enforcement and remediations costs.

5. Future Ownership and Land Use Risk

Any transfer to private ownership introduces uncertainty regarding future ownership changes and land use intentions. While conditions or covenants may apply at the time of transfer, enforcement becomes increasingly complex as land changes hands. Further, Crown Lands has indicated that while it is possible for Crown Land to register an environmental covenant on the land, they state that it would likely negatively impact the market value of the land and the return to the Territory thus an undesirable prospect for Crown Land.

Council must consider that it is unlikely that an environmental constraint could be affected on the land title leaving any commitment to environmental remediation or conservation a voluntary matter without recourse for enforcement. Alternatively, if a constraint was registered (unlikely) the long-term risk is that future owners may seek to vary, remove or inadequately comply with environmental conditions, potentially leaving Council with limited practical recourse.

6. Precedent and Strategic Implications

Approval of this proposal may set a precedent for similar requests involving riverbank or high-amenity public land. Such a precedent may erode Council's ability to protect public access and environmental values elsewhere in the municipality.

7. Alternate Road alignment and Future Development Expectations

While Crown Lands has indicated that an alternative road reserve could be allocated away from the river, the creation of such a road reserve and clearing a track within it may generate expectations that Council will ultimately construct a road, notwithstanding the absence of any current strategic intent.

This is of particular concern given that properties downstream of the proposed alignment are currently inaccessible by formed roads. Establishment of a new corridor may give rise to future pressure on Council to fund significant access and infrastructure works.

8. Governance and Legislative Obligations

Council has a statutory and fiduciary responsibility to manage land under its control in a manner that is transparent, defensible and in the best interests of the whole community. Decisions regarding the disposal or transfer of public land must be made cautiously, with full regard to long-term consequences, community access and intergenerational equity.

It is noted that Council previously resolved to support the proposed transfer of the land under Council Resolution No. ORD2022 11-173. Should Council determine that the proposal no longer meets the test of public benefit, Council would be required to formally rescind this resolution in order to give effect to a decision not to support the transfer.

LINKS WITH STRATEGIC PLAN

Places - Roads and Infrastructure

While 'places' is in our strategic plan there is no correlation between the application for the land transfer and the specifics of the strategic plan goals with respect to roads and infrastructure.

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

GOV12 Land Acquisition

It is unclear that the previous resolution satisfied the requirements outlined in the land acquisition policy.

NB. Council does not have a policy with respect to 'paper' roads.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Costs to process this request have exceeded the fee paid in the initial application.

If the land transfer if it were to go ahead there will be further costs to bring the matter to conclusion. Signage stating that the track on the new alignment is an unmaintained road will need to be erected.

RISKS

Negative Community Sentiment

Transfer of the land would result in exclusion of the public from this area, which is likely to generate negative community settlement, given the high value placed on river access within the municipality.

There is significant risk that the community will perceive the proposal as the transfer of public land for private benefit.

Environmental Management

Any environmental restriction on a title is an unlikely proposition with the likelihood that no constraint will be registered. If any environmental constraint were to be registered it is unlikely that any enforcement action could be made to ensure compliance.

Similar Requests Precedent

Approval of this proposal may set a precedent for similar requests involving riverbank or high-amenity public land. Such a precedent may erode Council's ability to protect public access and environmental values elsewhere in the municipality.

Development Expectations

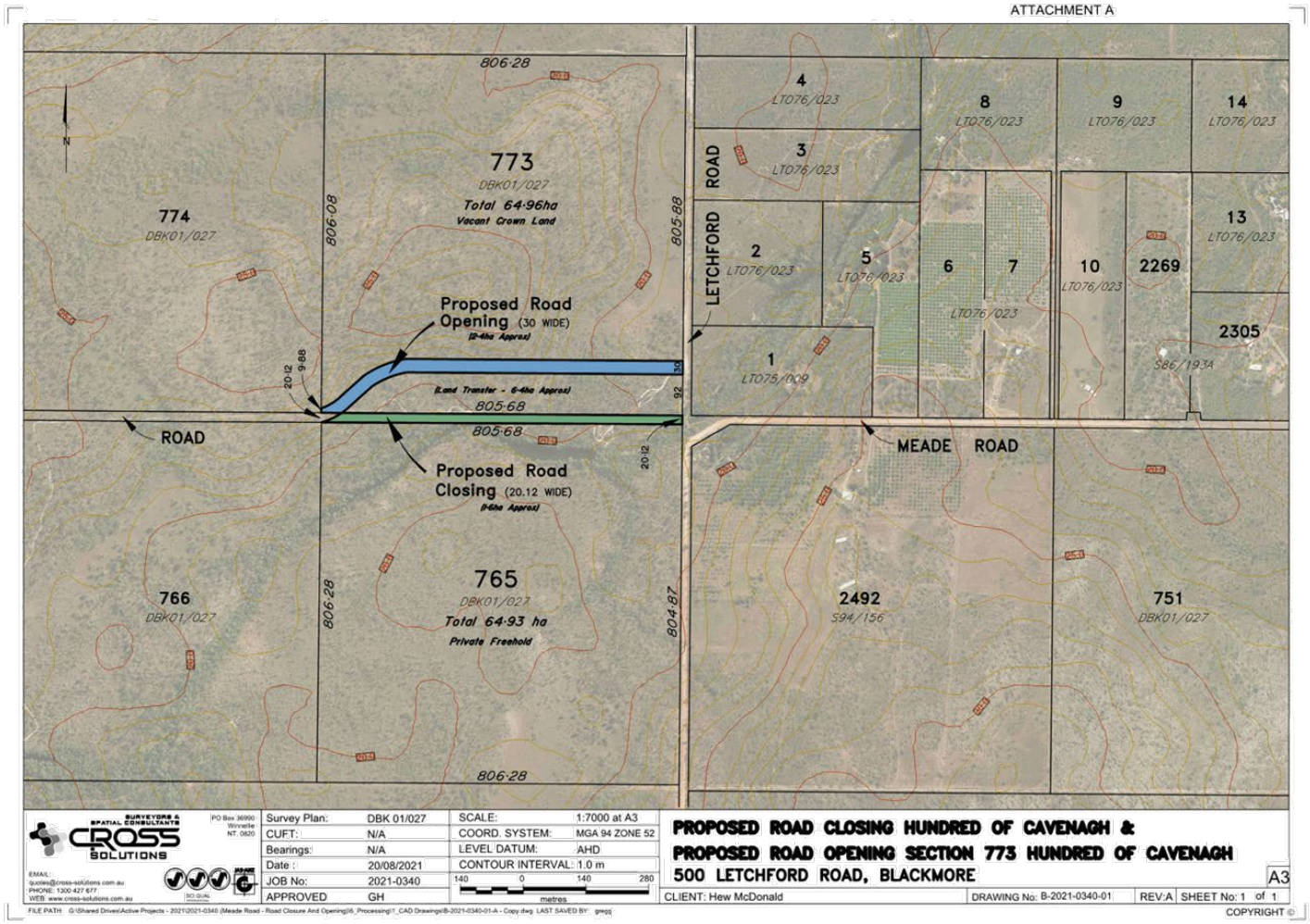
Given that properties downstream of the proposed alignment are currently inaccessible by formed roads. Establishment of a new corridor may give rise to future pressure on Council to fund significant access and infrastructure works.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

If a land transfer were to go ahead council should consider appropriate messaging, explaining the reason for the decision to the public and how this decision enhances public benefit.

If the application is turned down and the previous resolution rescinded no messaging would be required as the situation would remain as it currently exists.

ATTACHMENT A



ATTACHMENT B



"Ochiltree"

585 Letchford Road, Darwin River

Proposal to realign Meade Road

December 2020

BACKGROUND

Hew McDonald purchased 585 Letchford Road (Section 765, Darwin River) in 2020 and aims to manage the land primarily for biodiversity conservation. He has named the block "Ochiltree", a Scottish range where the McDonald ancestors come from. The block contains a beautiful stretch of the Blackmore River with its lush fringing riparian vegetation. Figure 1 shows a map of "Ochiltree" and page 4 illustrates the block's natural values. The property has been under a Territory Natural Resource Management Conservation Agreement for the past decade in recognition of the need to preserve riparian habitats as wildlife corridors. It has been a Land for Wildlife property for even longer.

The Spiers family recognised the land's environmental values and bought the property in the late 1990's to ensure it was not developed for horticulture. They worked hard to keep weeds and fire from damaging the block and allowed the native vegetation to rehabilitate. The Spiers wanted to ensure the property was well managed into the future and sought out a suitable buyer when they were ready to sell. Mr McDonald has a solid background in land management through his business Earth Works Territory and assured them it would be in good hands.

Since purchasing the property Mr McDonald has realised that the position of the Meade Road public road reserve on his northern boundary poses land management problems. This document proposes a realignment that will address these problems and also improve access and road safety for authorities and the general public.

NORTHERN BOUNDARY ISSUES

The management approach for "Ochiltree", focusing on conservation, is being hampered north of the Blackmore River due to:

- the position of Meade Road which runs parallel to the boundary and too close to the river
- the fact that the property's northern boundary crosses the river.

When Goyder carried out his original survey he was not concerned about the exact location of roads or property boundaries and their relationship to rivers. Because the road reserve is so close to the river the track that forms the road is for the most part north of the actual reserve. The road and the interaction of the northern boundary with the river means the boundary can not be fenced. Meade Road has already had to be altered at the intersection with Letchford Road on the southern side of the Blackmore River because of the river's close proximity.

There is also an issue with illegal vehicle access tracks running right up to the river banks. The site is regularly used by 4 wheel drive vehicles gaining access to fish in the river. This has led to serious erosion issues along the northern bank of the river. The high usage also increases the chances of fires being lit right in the riparian vegetation. Erosion and frequent fires have increased the weed issues north of the river. Page 5 illustrates the northern boundary issues.

In flood events much of the area is inundated and Meade Road becomes inaccessible due to its proximity to the river. It is also possible that the northern-most meander of the river, which currently intrudes into the road reserve, will further intrude into, and possible bisect, the road.

PROPOSAL TO REALIGN MEADE ROAD

Mr McDonald's proposition is to apply to get the road reserve, and the actual road itself, moved north to be well clear of the Blackmore River. His understanding is that the block to the north is crown land which may allow for this to happen. Figure 1 shows the proposed realignment of the Meade Road reserve. If this was successful he wishes to purchase the land between the new reserve and the existing northern boundary.

The realignment will enable him to manage the north side of the river with a riparian buffer similar to what is already happening on the south side (see Management Approach below). The boundary will be able to be fenced to control inappropriate 4 wheel drive access and allow good weed and fire management. Mr McDonald has extensive experience carrying out soil erosion and sediment control earth works and plans to rehabilitate the severely eroded tracks on the north side of the river. All these actions will lead to improved biodiversity outcomes for "Ochiltree" and the Blackmore River. In addition moving the public road further north will lessen the chances of future flood events preventing access. It will also improve road safety at the intersection of Meade and Letchford Roads north of the Blackmore River.

MANAGEMENT APPROACH

Significant vegetation

The NT Government recognises riparian vegetation as a significant vegetation type due to its importance to a relatively large number of wildlife species. A riparian buffer zone has been delineated on "Ochiltree" to protect the Blackmore River. Based on the NT Government's recommendations for *Native Vegetation Buffers and Corridors* this zone encompasses land within 250 metres of the river and 100 metres of the creek tributary.

Weed management

Weed management is carried out using vehicle mounted spraying equipment where access permits, and in less accessible areas using a backpack sprayer. Particular attention will be paid to controlling weed infestations in the riparian buffer where seed can be transported from upstream.

Fire management

In line with the *NT Bushfires Management Act 2016* 4 metre firebreaks are being installed along all boundaries as well as carefully constructed internal fire trails. In the riparian buffer fire will be excluded from the riverside vegetation by carrying out well timed cool burns in the adjacent woodland to reduce fuel load. Well planned mosaic burning will be carried out in other areas.

Erosion and soil sediment control

There are serious erosion and soil sedimentation issues close to the waterways on parts of "Ochiltree". These are being addressed by encouraging native vegetation regeneration, minimising fire and carrying out earth works using principles in the NT Government's *Land Clearing Guidelines* and *Soil Conservation Handbook for Parks and Reserves in the Northern Territory.*

Access control

Boundary fencing is being installed and maintained to eliminate inappropriate vehicle access to the property. This will assist with weed and fire management and erosion control.

earthWORKS TERRITORY

MAP OF "OCHILTREE"

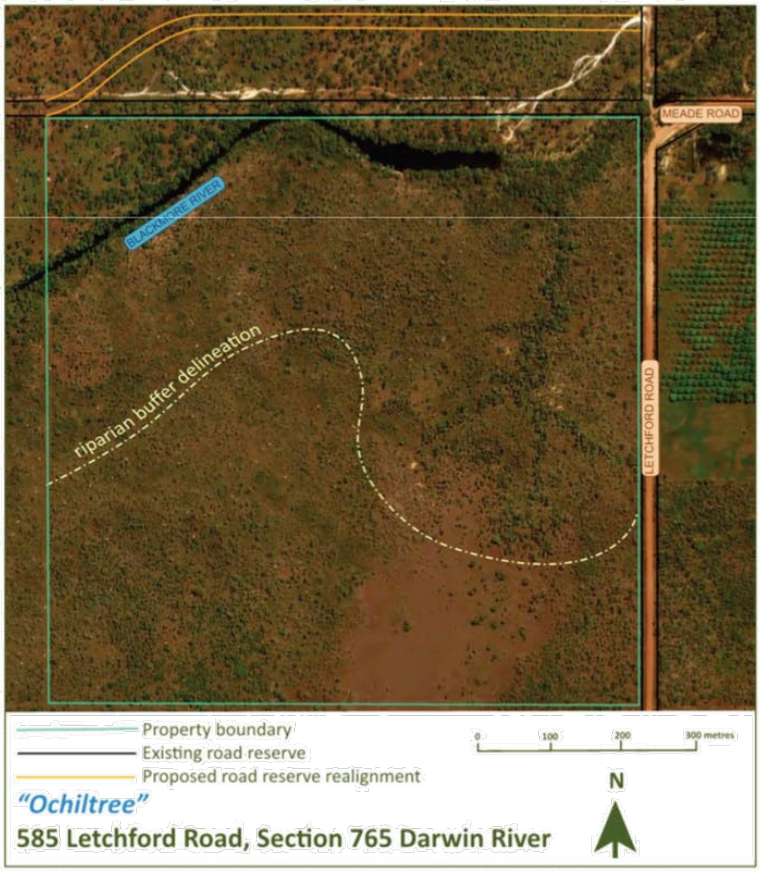


Figure 1: Image showing property boundary and proposed road reserve realignment.

"OCHILTREE" 585 LETCHFORD ROAD 3/6

earthWORKS TERRITORY

IMAGES SHOWING NATURAL VALUES OF "OCHILTREE"



Figure 2: Riparian vegetation with *Syzygium*, *Melaleuca*, *Pandanus* and *Leptospermum* species.



Figure 3: Tropical woodland vegetation is widespread on "Ochiltree".



Figure 4: Vegetation reflected in a tributary to the Blackmore River.

"OCHILTREE" 585 LETCHFORD ROAD 4/6

earthWORKS TERRITORY

IMAGES OF THE NORTHERN BOUNDARY ISSUES



Figure 5: The Blackmore River is accessible from the Meade Road track on the northern boundary and used recreationally by trespassing fishers and picnicers (public fishing is possible at the nearby Meade Road causeway).



Figure 6: The track running in and out of the Meade Road reserve makes fencing the northern boundary problematic (in addition to the fact that the river crosses the boundary).



Figure 7: Inappropriate vehicle access by recreational users coming off Meade Road has caused serious erosion close to the Blackmore River.



Figure 8: The woodland adjacent to the Blackmore River is susceptible to frequent burning putting sensitive riparian vegetation (shown in the rear left of the photo) at risk. Controlling inappropriate access will assist with improved fire management.

"OCHILTREE" 585 LETCHFORD ROAD 5/6

EARTH WORKS TERRITORY

Mr McDonald has lived most of his life in the tropics of northern Australia and has spent the last 28 years in the Northern Territory. His local business, Earth Works Territory, carries out environmentally sensitive earth works in and around Darwin and its rural area.

Earth Works Territory has partnered with Veg North, another local business specialising in bushland rehabilitation, over the past decade with projects on Darwin International Airport and City of Darwin land, particularly in the Rapid Creek catchment. Earlier in the 1990's with Earth Built Pty Ltd he worked with Parks and Wildlife on contracts around the Darwin and Howard Springs areas.

CONTACT DETAILS

Name: Hew McDonald

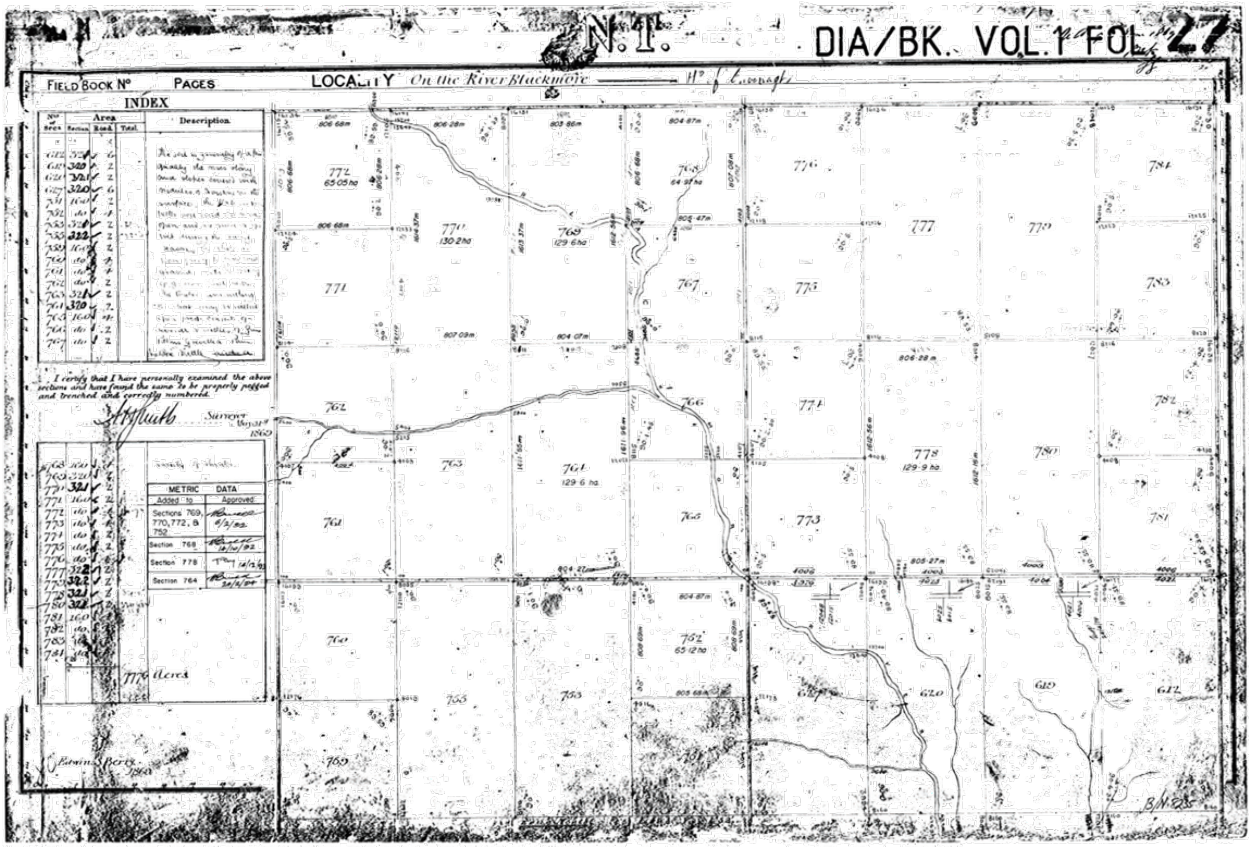
Phone: 0428 844 225

Email: hewcosmo@yahoo.com.au

Postal address: PO Box 65, Howard Springs NT 0835

Survey Plan DBK01/027

ATTACHMENT C



Viewed at 10:21:36 on 17/03/2022

Page 1 of 1.

ATTACHMENT D

From: Jaimie O'Connor
To: James Pike
Subject: RE: Road Opening Notice - Realignment of Meade Rd.
Date: Tuesday, 25 January 2022 11:15:00 AM
Attachments: image003.png
image004.png
image005.png
image006.png
image007.png
image008.png
image009.png

Good Morning James,

Thank you for your letter of support.
This has been noted and will be added to our consultation file for Meade Road.

Kind Regards,

Jaimie O'Connor
Business Support Officer (Infrastructure)
Litchfield Council Office | PO Box 446 Humpty Doo NT 0836
Ph 08 8983 0615 | Email jaimie.oconnor@litchfield.nt.gov.au

This email, including any attachments, is intended for use by the addressee(s) and may contain confidential and/or personal information and may also be the subject of legal privilege. If you are not the intended recipient, please advise by return email, delete the message permanently from your system and destroy any copies without disclosing the contents in any way.

Litchfield Council acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land we work on and recognises their continuing connection to land, water and communities. We pay our respects to all Traditional Owners and to the Elders past, present and emerging.

From: James Pike <james.pike@territorynrm.org.au>
Sent: Monday, 24 January 2022 11:47 AM
To: Council <council@litchfield.nt.gov.au>
Subject: Road Opening Notice - Realignment of Meade Rd.

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to you to voice my support for the proposed realignment of Mead Rd.

Mr. McDonald, owner of Lot 585 Section 765 Hundred of Cavenagh, has proposed the road realignment in interest of protecting the surrounding waterways and landscapes from the erosion that has been taking place surrounding the current road reserve on the northern boundary of the property. Mr. McDonalds intentions for the property, of which the Blackmore River runs through, are to protect and enhance its extensive ecological and biodiversity values. The property holds several habitat types including woodland, riparian, and seasonally inundated open woodland/grasslands, all of which strengthen the areas biodiversity and provide extensive ecosystem services.

After assessment of Mr McDonald's block we feel that the realignment of the road reserve will provide great advancement in the mitigation of further erosion in the area and allow Mr.

McDonald, who has extensive experience in earthworks, to manage the erosion issues in the area leading to significant conservation outcomes.

If there is any more information I can provide in advocacy for this project please don't hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

James Pike
Project Officer- Land for Wildlife

Territory Natural Resource Management
2, 34-36 McLachlan St., Darwin NT 0800
Ph: (08) 8942 8300 Mob: 0487035812
www.territorynrm.org.au



16.3 PROPOSED CLOSING OF A SECTION OF PAPER ROAD (MEADE) AND OPENING OF A NEW ROAD RESERVE

AUTHOR: Geoff Thomas, Director Infrastructure and Operations

AUTHORISER: Stephen Hoyne, Chief Executive Officer

ATTACHMENTS: 1. Road Opening Closing Process

The Council is satisfied that, pursuant to Section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019*, the information to be received, discussed or considered in relation to this agenda item is:

civ information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to subject to subregulation (3) - prejudice the interest of the council or some other person.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report presents to Council a proposal from the proponent to close a paper section of Meade Road and open a new section of Meade Road to the north of its current alignment effectively realigning the road, and to outline the public consultation, potential site constraints, planning, financial implications and risks.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council:
   (a) Resolve that the confidential report titled **"Proposed Transfer of Riverbank Paper Road Land – Berry Springs (Meade / Letchford Roads)"**, previously tabled at the 16 February 2026 Ordinary Council Meeting, be brought forward to the open section of the agenda as information for consideration at the next Ordinary Council Meeting.
   (b) Resolve that this confidential report **"Proposed Closing of a Section of Paper Road (Meade) and Opening of a New Road Reserve – Berry Springs"** be brought forward to the open section of the agenda as information for consideration at the next Ordinary Council Meeting.
   (c) Note that a covering report will form part of the agenda at the next Ordinary Council Meeting and include the above reports appended and associated recommendations for Council consideration.

BACKGROUND

The existing road is a 'paper' road reserve that was established as a result of historical survey in the area. It has never been constructed. The road is aligned between 585 Letchford Road, Darwin River (owned by the proponent) and 500 Letchford Road, Blackmore (owned by Crown Land).

The strip of land is currently reserved as a road but has never been constructed and functions informally as a public access corridor along with the adjacent crown land parcel to adjoining properties and the Blackmore River for fishing and passive recreation. Aerial photography indicates that public access to the area has been ongoing for at least 20 years albeit including trespass onto the privately owned land parcel 585 Letchford Road, Darwin River.

It is understood that the underlying tenure of the 'paper' road is crown land and so if closed it would revert to Crown Land ownership (to be confirmed) allowing an arrangement between crown land and the proponent for use of the land.

Council has advised that there is currently no intention or strategic need to construct the road, either in its existing alignment or in the proposed alternate location.

A flow chart (Attachment 1) has been developed to outline the various proposed tasks, relevant council meetings and other associated activities required to go through the process of closing a section of paper road and opening a new road reserve.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

While Council, in reference to resolution **ORD2022 11-173**, has previously undertaken the mandatory public notice requirements these are minimal in nature. They comprise a public notice (with a plan) accessible on Council's website, available at Council's office and published in a local newspaper.

Given access to the river has been ongoing for over 20 years it is considered, prior to moving forward with formal road opening and closing and all other associated tasks, that more thorough public consultation is undertaken. This would include but not be limited to adjacent landholders, recreational fishing community, local residents and relevant Northern Territory Government (NTG) agencies. Public notification would be through Council's website, social media notification, onsite signage advising of the proposal and direct notification to adjacent landowners and relevant (NTG) agencies seeking input from relevant stakeholders on the proposal to inform Council's position.

POTENTIAL SITE CONSTRAINTS

If Council were to accept the proposed 'new' road reserve it is obligated prior to acceptance to ensure the location is unconstrained by either Environmental controls or AAPA related constraints. It is noted that the current proposed location of the road reserve is within the riparian zone of the Blackmore River. To ensure Council secure an unconstrained road reserve, adequate investigations should be undertaken to establish that the proposed road reserve land is unconstrained.

It should be noted that Council road openings and closings are usually related to development works where various AAPA, environmental, and land suitability studies have been undertaken by the proponent/developer. Further, normally an engineering design is provided to ensure the road can be constructed to council standards, will adequately drain and utility services are provided. In this case Council having no plans for construction of the road in the foreseeable future can forego the engineering design requirement.

PLANNING

It is acknowledged that in the current road reserve a road could not be constructed, due to proximity of the Blackmore River, but there are no plans to construct a road in the area in the foreseeable future. However, in engaging in this significantly administratively burdensome and costly process it is important that Council work towards establishing a functional unconstrained road reserve.

It should be noted that in this case, the proposal is to close a 'paper' road (public road rights over Crown land – Council does not own the land) and open a new formally gazetted road (fee simple vested in Council where Council fully owns the land) at another location but with no plans to construct.



Figure 1: Southern Access Constraint

The gazettal of a new road fully owned by Council may attract interest of other parties desiring improved access to the general area. However, given the current constraints of the Meade / Letchford Roads intersection (southern access) and the ~2.9 km of unmaintained road with two creek crossing (northern access). Improvement of access generally in this area is cost prohibitive and so council has no plans for road upgrade works.

Widening of the road reserve at its current location is possible but it will not alleviate the administrative burden or internal or external costs.

Closing of the road without opening of another road to replace the access is possible as there is another theoretical route however it is assumed that the public would use crown land as

As the road deviates from the original alignment consideration should be given to renaming of the new road alignment. Although at this time, renaming it is not recommended as it this will impact on local property addresses, but it may need to be considered in the future as the road will no longer have a direct connection to its eastern section.



Figure 2: Northern Access Constraint #1



Figure 3: Northern Access Constraint #2

PREVIOUS RESOLUTION (ORD2022 11-173)

The previous resolution is not considered fit for purpose because it did not consider the need for any environmental studies or AAPA clearances to ensure the road corridor is unconstrained prior to carrying out the actions to open and close the road. It also did not consider consultation with Minister for responsible Crown Land to ensure the support of crown land prior to preparation of a cadastral plan.

It should be noted that the road closing and opening processes usually require a cadastral survey at differing times. For a road opening it is usually required up front prior to review by the Minister whereas for the road closing it can be provided after Ministerial consent. For the avoidance of the proponent expending funds on a formal cadastral survey that may not be approved, consultation with the Minister responsible for Crown Lands should be undertaken to determine if Crown Lands would accept the proposed new road reserve at the proposed alignment (potentially amended) considering strategic Crown land use and to confirm that underlying land tenure of the section of the 'paper' road to be closed is with Crown Land.

It should be noted if the underlying tenure is not Crown land, then the land once the road section is closed would be likely be owned by Council and it would be necessary for Council to enter into a land agreement (sale of land) of the ~20m corridor.

LINKS WITH STRATEGIC PLAN

Places - Roads and Infrastructure

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Local Government Act 2019, Section 12.3 Roads

Control of Roads Act 1953, Part 4

INF08 Subdivision and Development Policy

GOV12 Land Acquisition, section 4.3 Conditions of Acceptance of Land

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

This administratively burdensome process will result in significant internal costs and demands on limited Council resources and significant external costs related to consultation, environmental and AAPA clearances, and cadastral survey preparation.

RISKS

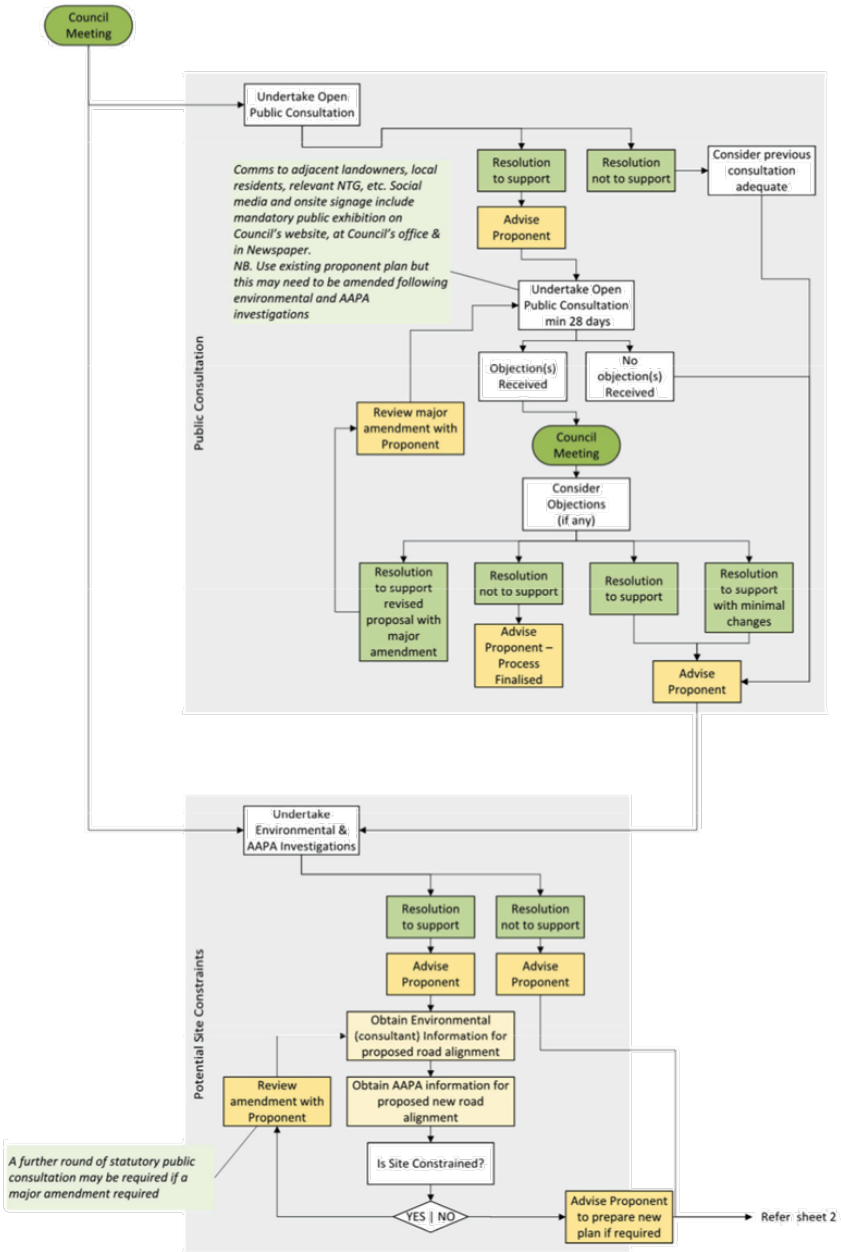
Negative Community Perception and sentiment which could be mitigated through a more thorough Community Consultation process.

Potential constraints on the proposed road reserve due to possible Environmental and AAPA constraints on the proposed road reserve which could be mitigated through engagement of an Environmental Consultant and AAPA.

Further risks have been documented in the associated Confidential report **"Proposed Transfer of Riverbank Paper Road Land – Berry Springs (Meade / Letchford Roads)"** tabled at the Ordinary Council Meeting 16 February 2026.

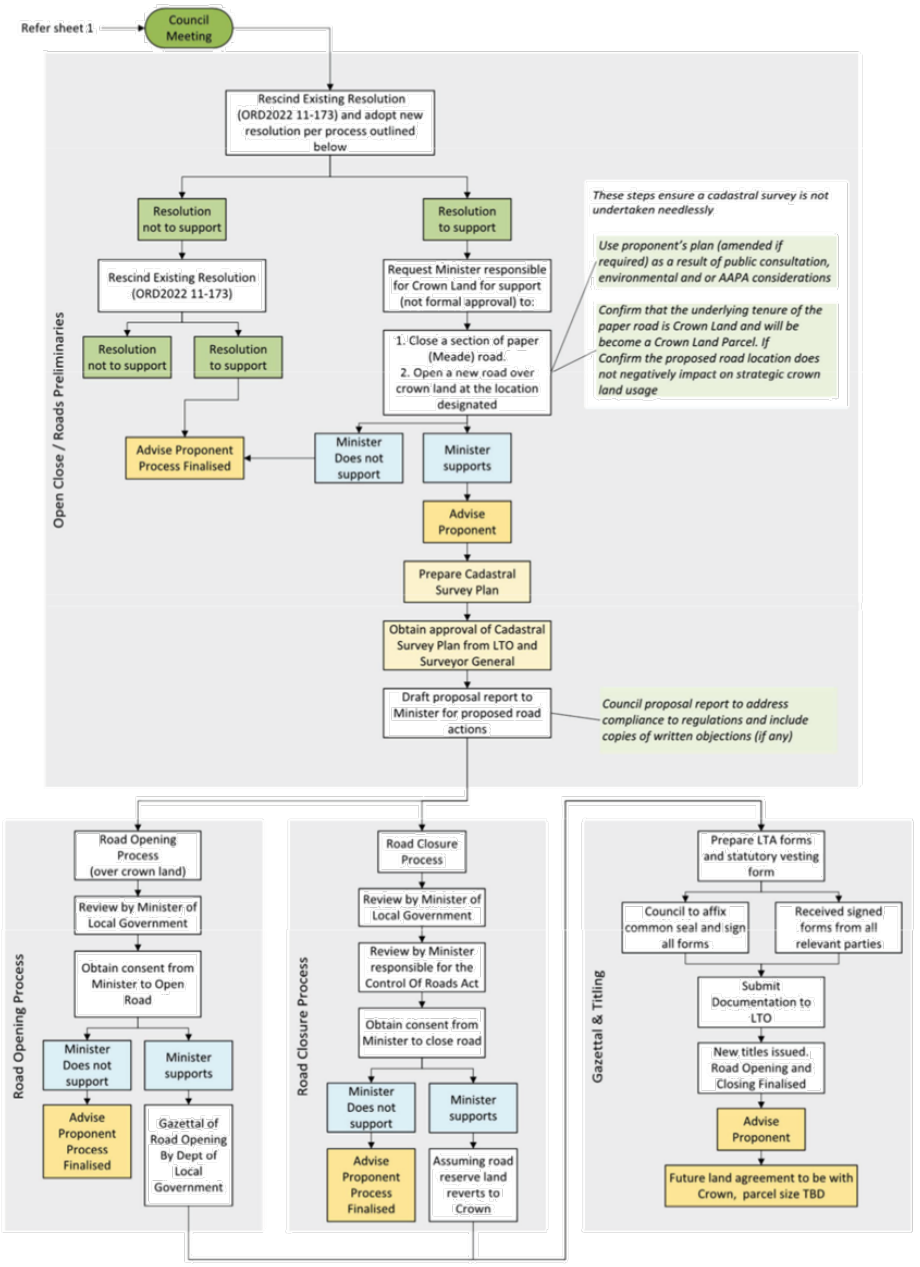
It should be noted that at the finalisation of the road closing /opening process the proponent's desired outcome will not be settled and will depend on a further agreement either between Crown Land or possibly Council. If tenure lies with Council further administrative tasks such as land valuation, a report of reasons for direct sale including public interest justification, development of a Contract of Sale or similar and land titling actions will need to be undertaken.

PROPOSED CLOSING OF A SECTION OF PAPER ROAD (MEADE) AND OPENING OF NEW ROAD RESERVE - BERRY SPRINGS Sheet 1



PROPOSED CLOSING OF A SECTION OF PAPER ROAD (MEADE) AND OPENING OF NEW ROAD RESERVE - BERRY SPRINGS

Sheet 2



Consultation Report

Meade Road Realignment and Blackmore River Access Review

(Meade Road closure and opening)

Prepared by: Jaimie O'Connor
Title: Planning and Development Program Leader

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. Introduction 4
2. Background 4
3. Consultation activities 5
4. Overview of participation 6
5. Summary of feedback 7
6. Key themes identified 7
7. Weighted assessment of consultation feedback 8
8. Conclusion 9
9. Recommendations 9

Executive Summary

Litchfield Council undertook community consultation in relation to the proposal to realign a portion of Meade Road which would have effects on access to the Blackmore River. The purpose of the consultation was to assess community sentiment, understand potential impacts and determine whether the proposal is appropriate for the community.

Consultation activities included an online survey, in person engagement, facebook post and public advertising.

The survey results are swayed toward retaining public access and protecting the river/environment, but there is also a clear minority supporting the road realignment if it improves safety, drainage, and environmental management.

1. INTRODUCTION

Council is considering a proposal put forward by an adjoining landowner (585 Letchford Road, Darwin River) in 2022, involving the Meade Road *paper road reserve, which currently provides limited but longstanding informal public access to the Blackmore River.

The proposal includes:

- Closing the existing paper road reserve along the riverbank, owned by Litchfield Council
- Transfer of that land to Crown land.
- Establishing a replacement road alignment within Crown land to the north
- Allowing the adjoining landowner to purchase the proposed closed road reserve from the Crown, along with the Crown land between the existing road reserve and the proposed new road reserve.

Litchfield Council undertook community consultation in relation to the proposal to realign a portion of Meade Road which would have effects on access to the Blackmore River. The purpose of the consultation was to assess community sentiment, understand potential impacts and determine whether the proposal is appropriate for the community.

2. BACKGROUND

The proposal and application to open/ close a road was put forward by an adjoining landowner (585 Letchford Road, Darwin River) in 2022, involving the Meade Road *paper road reserve, which currently provides limited but longstanding informal public access to the Blackmore River.

The proposal includes:

- Closing the existing paper road reserve along the riverbank, owned by Litchfield Council
- Transfer of that land to Crown land.
- Establishing a replacement road alignment within Crown land to the north
- Allowing the adjoining landowner to purchase the proposed closed road reserve from the Crown, along with the Crown land between the existing road reserve and the proposed new road reserve.

The request was made to enable the adjoining landowner to continue conservation-related land management activities on land currently intersected by the paper road reserve.

Any future works, investigations and associated costs to demonstrate feasibility of the new road alignment would be borne by the landowner.

The area has been informally used by the public for over 20 years for river access and recreation. Access occurs via unsealed tracks through a mix of private and Crown land with no formal infrastructure and no fencing or clear delineation of boundaries.

Previous consultation was undertaken in 2022, but this did not adequately communicate impacts on public access with concerns already raised regarding:

- Public benefit

- Loss of river access
- Governance and precedent risks.

Council has therefore resolved that targeted community consultation is required before progressing any decision.

Resolution from Ordinary Council Meeting Monday, 1 June 2026

That Council:

1. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to undertake stakeholder and community consultation regarding the proposed closure and opening of sections of Meade Road, including potential impacts to public access to the Blackmore River and adjacent crown land
2. Requests the Chief Executive Officer provide a further report to Council following completion of the consultation process, including the outcomes of consultation and any recommendations arising from the process
3. Notes that any future proposal relating to road closure, road opening or associated land transfer actions will remain subject to:
   (a) A future Council resolution supporting the proposed land transfer to Crown ownership in accordance with Council Policy FIN01 Asset Disposal Policy; Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes 18 May 2026, Page 15
   (b) In-principal agreement from the Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Lands, Planning and Environment
   (c) Consideration and approval by the Minister for Lands, Planning and Environment
   (d) Any land valuation requirements as may be required by Council and / or determined by the Northern Territory Government
   (e) Further investigations required to assess the suitability and feasibility of the proposed replacement road alignment, including environmental, cultural heritage, infrastructure, servicing and engineering considerations
   (f) That all investigations, assessments, approvals, engineering reviews, servicing relocations, valuations and associated costs required to demonstrate the suitability of the proposed alignment are to be undertaken at the cost of the proponent to the satisfaction of Council and relevant statutory authorities.

*A paper road is a road that legally exists on official maps and land titles but has never been physically constructed.

3. CONSULTATION ACTIVITIES

Consultation was undertaken during a 4-week period, from Monday, 22 June to midnight on Sunday, 19 July 2026.

A multi-channel engagement approach was used to ensure local landowners, residents, stakeholders and the wider community were informed. Activities included:

- Public notice in NT News – Monday, 22 June
- Information published on Council's website
- Social media posts
- Online feedback form
- Opportunity for written submissions
- One in-person engagement session at Berry Springs Shopping centre held on Tuesday, 7 July

This ensured broad accessibility and opportunities for participation.

4. OVERVIEW OF PARTICIPATION

The responses received include the following;

- 28 responses received via the online survey
- 2 email submissions
- 7 comments received on a single facebook post which also had 20 likes

It should be noted that one of the email submissions also responded to the online survey as well as commented on the facebook post and the other email submission provided comment on the facebook post also.

For the purposes of this report, the responses to the online survey (28) plus only 1 email submission will be counted.

The facebook responses are unofficial in nature and could be summarised as 2 supportes, 4 opposers and 1 neutral. (Attachment A)

The submissions received via the online survey, noting the survey results did not include a question that directly asks "support or oppose", is concluded there are 9 supporters and approximately 18 opposers, with 1 neutral/unclear response. (Attachment B)

The email submission received supports the proposal and provided substantial information. (Attachment C)

The in-person engagement session only attracted two persons who had general comments about bushfires but did not wish to provide anything in writing.

Further to the responses received during the consultation period, an email was received from the Amateur Fishermen's Association NT (AFANT) on the day after the consultation period concluded.

As the email was received outside the consultation period, it has not been included in the survey results or calculations. It is noted, however, that including the response would not materially affect the results or change the outcome of the survey. Given the relevance of AFANT's membership base to the proposal, the feedback has been provided for consideration. A copy of the email is attached (Attachment D).

5. SUMMARY OF FEEDBACK

Online Survey

The consultation results indicate a strong community interest in the Meade Road / Blackmore River access area, with most respondents identifying as local residents and long-term users of the site. The comments show a clear split between those who support realigning the road to improve environmental protection, safety and land management, and those who oppose any change that would reduce public access to the river and associated recreational opportunities.

A dominant theme in the submissions is the importance of the Blackmore River and surrounding land as a valued local recreation area, particularly for fishing, picnicking, walking, wildlife observation and 4WD access. At the same time, many respondents raised concerns about erosion, rubbish, illegal access and damage to the riverbank, and considered that a realignment may better protect sensitive environmental values and improve the long-term viability of the road reserve.

Overall, the consultation suggests that the key issue for Council is balancing environmental protection and safe land management against the retention of public access and local amenity.

Written Submission

The written submission strongly supports the proposed Meade Road realignment, describing it as a practical and low-cost way to better protect the Blackmore River from erosion, illegal dumping and damage caused by uncontrolled vehicle access. The submitter argues that the current road alignment is difficult to fence or manage, and that moving it would improve land management, safeguard riparian vegetation, and deliver broader environmental benefits for the Blackmore River and downstream Darwin Harbour.

6. KEY THEMES IDENTIFIED

- **Public access and recreation** – strong support for retaining river access for fishing, picnicking, walking, family activities and 4WD recreation.
- **Environmental protection** – concern for protecting the Blackmore River, riparian vegetation, wildlife habitat and water quality.
- **Erosion and land degradation** – concerns about riverbank erosion, vehicle damage, rubbish, dumping, weeds and uncontrolled access.
- **Road safety and resilience** – support for relocating the road away from the flood-prone riverbank to improve safety, drainage and long-term maintainability.
- **Land management and tenure** – support for clearer boundaries, fencing, fire management and rehabilitation of damaged areas.
- **Connectivity and emergency access** – concern about maintaining access to adjoining properties, Cox Peninsula, surrounding bushland and emergency fire response routes.
- **Community benefit and fairness** – concern that the proposal may reduce a long-established community asset for the benefit of a private landholder.
- **Alternative arrangements** – suggestions for maintaining public access through improved crossings, controlled access, barriers, paths or a separate recreation area.
- **Consultation process** – concerns about repetitive or unclear questions, limited background information and whether the survey captured all users

7. WEIGHTED ASSESSMENT OF CONSULTATION FEEDBACK

As the consultation did not include a question asking respondents to rate or rank the relative importance of environmental protection, public access and road or land-management matters, the weighting cannot be applied as a precise mathematical score to each response. The more appropriate approach was to assess the responses thematically against the three weighted considerations, recognising that individual responses may address more than one issue.

The following indicative weighting has been applied to assist Council in assessing the relative importance of the issues raised through the consultation:

Weighted consideration	Indicative weighting	Responses identifying the issue	Overall assessment
Environmental protection and river health	50%	Approximately 12 responses directly identified environmental issues, including erosion, riverbank damage, rubbish, weeds, wildlife habitat or the need to protect the river. This included both supporters and opponents of the proposal.	High importance, but not a clear indication that road realignment is the only or preferred solution. Several respondents supported alternative environmental controls while retaining public access.
Public access, recreation and community amenity	35%	Approximately 19 responses raised the need to retain access for fishing, picnicking, family activities, walking, recreation, river crossing or access to surrounding Crown land.	The strongest and most consistent community concern. The potential loss of public access was the principal reason given for opposing the proposal.
Road safety, connectivity and land management	15%	Approximately 9 responses identified benefits associated with moving the road, including flood resilience, road constructability, fencing, adjoining property access, emergency access and improved land management.	Important but more limited support. These issues provide a reasonable basis for further investigation but do not, on their own, establish community support for the proposal.

The figures are indicative thematic counts only. Some responses addressed more than one issue and, as a result, the categories are not additive.

Overall response position

Overall position	Approximate responses	Percentage of survey
Supportive of the proposed realignment	9	32%
Opposed to the proposal, primarily due to public access concerns	18	64%
Neutral or unclear	1	4%
Total	**28**	**100%**

Weighted interpretation

When the indicative weighting is applied, environmental protection and river health should receive the greatest consideration because they relate to the long-term condition of the Blackmore River and may involve impacts that are difficult to reverse. However, the consultation

indicates that the loss of public access is the dominant community concern, and that many respondents do not accept that environmental protection requires closure of the existing access.

The weighted assessment therefore supports a conditional or staged approach. Council could allow further investigation of the environmental and engineering merits of the proposed realignment, but should not approve the final road closure or associated land transfer unless the proposal demonstrates a clear environmental benefit and provides a secure, practical and ongoing public access outcome.

8. CONCLUSION

The consultation identified strong community interest in the Meade Road and Blackmore River area, with most survey respondents being local, long-term users who value the site for fishing, recreation, river access and connectivity. While the consultation also identified support for realignment to improve environmental protection, erosion control, safety and land management, the predominant concern was that the proposal may result in the loss or restriction of long-standing public access to the river and surrounding Crown land.

On balance, the consultation does not support progressing the proposed road closure, realignment and associated land transfer in its current form. However, the environmental and engineering issues associated with the existing paper road reserve remain relevant and should be investigated, particularly in relation to erosion, flooding, road safety, land management and the protection of riparian vegetation. Any future proposal should demonstrate a clear public benefit and address how safe, practical and ongoing public access to the Blackmore River would be maintained.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the consultation results and the predominant concern regarding the potential loss of public access to the Blackmore River, it is recommended that Council:

- Not support the proposed closure and realignment of Meade Road, or associated land transfer, in its current form
- Advise the proponent that any future proposal must demonstrate a clear public benefit and address the retention of safe and practical public access to the Blackmore River and surrounding Crown land
- Require the proponent to fund all investigations and assessments necessary to establish the feasibility and suitability of any revised proposal, including environmental, cultural heritage, flooding, engineering, road safety, emergency access and land-management matters
- Note that any future road closure, road opening or land transfer proposal will require further Council consideration and remain subject to the relevant Council, Northern Territory Government, Ministerial, valuation and statutory approval requirements.

Attachment A

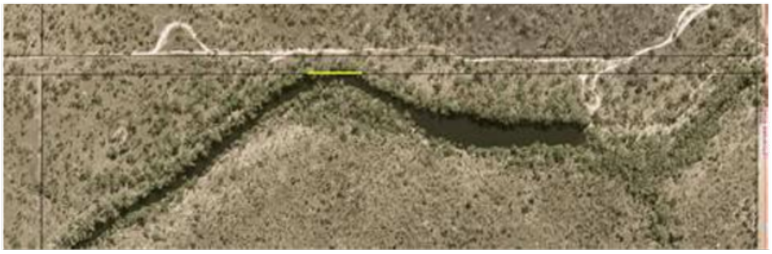
Meade Rd Realignment Survey- Facebook Comments

- Micheal James, Saturday 11 Jul 8:38pm

Regarding the landowner bordering the area "he's already acquired it illegally... It was done illegally without advertising to the public there right to object."

- Phil Hickey, Saturday 11 3:05pm

"How about the Council buys the block out and turn it into a reserve? I've highlighted the actual existing public access area in yellow - 9/10's of bugger all, and no use to anyone. If it's a reserve we can all go there legally and the council can take all the crap away."



- Doug Barden, Friday 10 July 6:56pm

"your walking through private land & therefore trespassing if you are accessing the river. The river is not accessible by the road reserve. To build a road on the road reserve would be very expensive, if not impossible & will create a huge amount of erosion on the private land unless the owner agrees to drainage easement's. The erosion is already occurring due to illegal use from 4WDs, quads, etc. The proposal is very sound & at no cost to ratepayers & allows future access to at least 5 blocks further west whom have been paying rates for NO access or services to their property for over 35 years. There is no proposal to build a road in this paper, therefore no cost to council. Land owners to the west will be able to access their properties via a 2WD self made track as we use to 60 years ago. I support the proposal."

- Kim Geddes, Friday 10 July 6:55pm

" "Identify any impacts or opportunities" for whom? I doubt they are talking about the native fauna and flora. Just because they propose "open a new road alignment within Crown Land, with no plans for construction". Does not mean they won't have plans for construction. "

- Helen Cruickshank, Friday 10 July 5:49pm

"I don't care about that individual buying the land, however I object to losing access to that part of the the river. The part that I visit when I go for a walk!"

- Anonymous, Friday 10 July 11:47am

"The blackmore river around the boat ramp in southport has also seen some massive corrosion from the recent big wet, people are land fishing particularly children in the area while the ground underneath the bank is unstable with massive holes forming, it needs to be looked at."

- Bill Muirhead, Friday 10 Jul 11:14am

"As someone who has owned property further downstream from this area for the past 47 years (long before the Council existed), I've watched this particular section of the river change over time.

One point that seems to be missing from the Council's information is that the "river access" being referred to has, for decades, largely been through private property (apart from a small section further upstream that sees relatively little use).

Unfortunately, the environmental impact has become obvious. Areas that have been regularly accessed by vehicles have suffered significant erosion, vegetation has been damaged, signs have repeatedly been destroyed, and rubbish such as car bodies, mattresses and whitegoods has been dumped. Much of this damage is even visible on Google Earth.

Most landowners don't want to restrict access to the bush or our waterways. However, they also have a responsibility to protect the creeks and rivers that flow through their properties. When repeated damage occurs, many feel they have little choice but to install fencing to safeguard these sensitive riparian areas.

In this case, fencing directly along the riverbank would create its own environmental and practical problems. That is one of the reasons this section has remained unfenced for so many years, and why the proposed road realignment deserves to be considered on its merits.

If managed well, the realignment could also provide better and more sustainable public access to sections of the river further upstream while helping to protect one of the most environmentally sensitive areas.

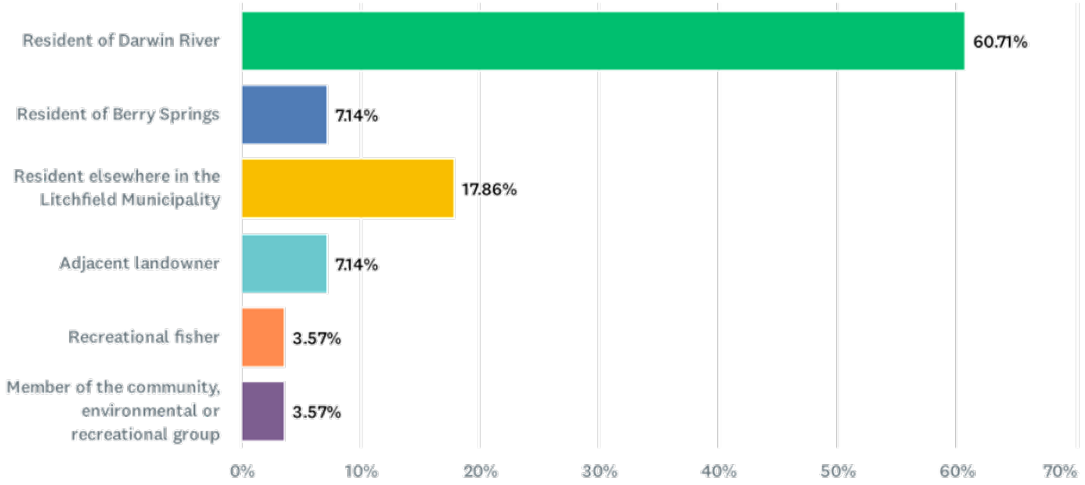
Whatever people's views on the proposal, I hope the discussion is based on all the relevant facts. We all have a shared interest in preserving the health of our rivers for future generations while providing sensible public access where it can be achieved responsibly."

20 Likes received

Meade Road Realignment and Blackmore River Access Review Attachment B

Q1 28 responses

What is your connection to the area (select all that apply)



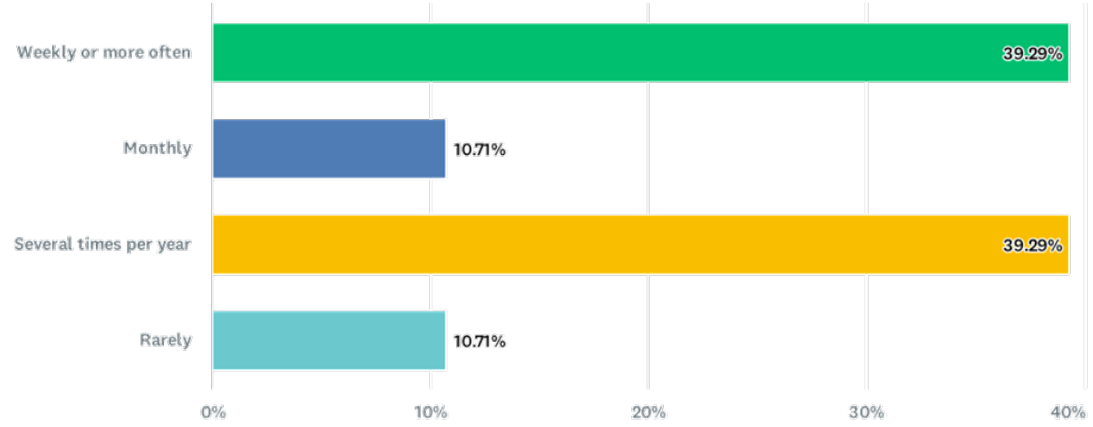
Answer Choices	Percentage	Responses
Resident of Darwin River	60.71%	17
Resident of Berry Springs	7.14%	2
Resident elsewhere in the Litchfield Municipality	17.86%	5
Adjacent landowner	7.14%	2
Recreational fisher	3.57%	1
Member of the community, environmental or recreational group	3.57%	1
Total		28

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	I am also a rec fisher, but I am unable to tick more than one box	7/15/2026 3:42 PM
2	This question only allows one selection but states you can select all that apply. I'm a resident in the near area, a fisher and we go there for recreational activities as well.	6/29/2026 8:39 PM
3	Former land manager of the private land in question (Section 765, Hd of Cavenagh). My daughter and her husband owned the block for many years before the present owner. When they moved to NZ, I carried out land management tasks for them as I live nearby.	6/26/2026 6:25 PM
4	Resident 345 Letchford Rd, Recreational Fisher, Visitor to the Area, member of environmental group and of volunteer fire brigade	6/23/2026 10:06 PM
5	Also own land in Tumbling waters	6/23/2026 7:07 AM

Meade Road Realignment and Blackmore River Access Review

Q2 28 responses

How often do you visit or use the Meade Road/Blackmore River access area?

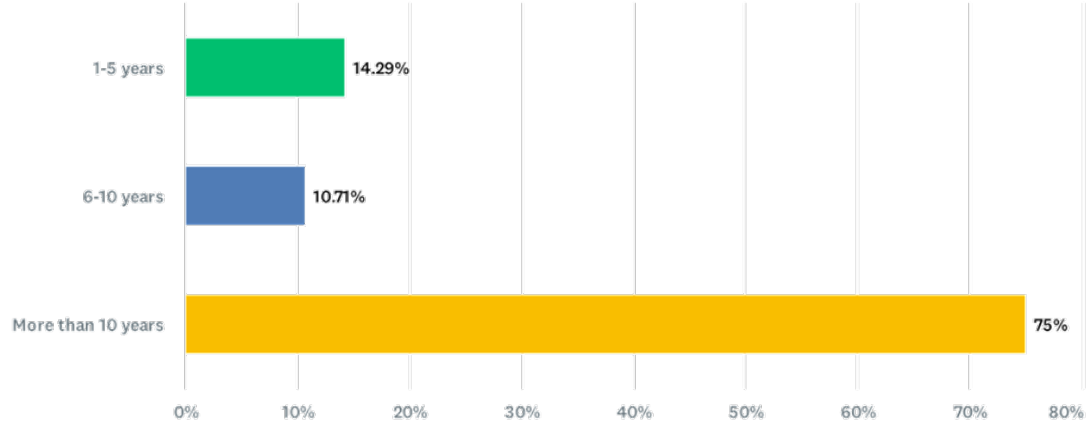


Answer Choices	Percentage	Responses
Weekly or more often	39.29%	11
Monthly	10.71%	3
Several times per year	39.29%	11
Rarely	10.71%	3
Total		**28**

Meade Road Realignment and Blackmore River Access Review

Q3 28 responses

How long have you been familiar with the area?

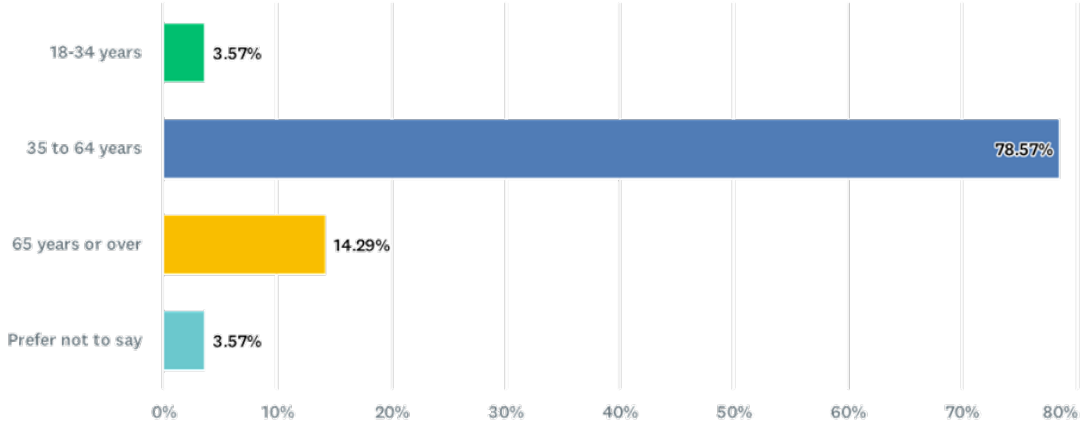


Answer Choices	Percentage	Responses
1-5 years	14.29%	4
6-10 years	10.71%	3
More than 10 years	75.00%	21
Total		**28**

Meade Road Realignment and Blackmore River Access Review

Q4 28 responses

What age group do you belong to?

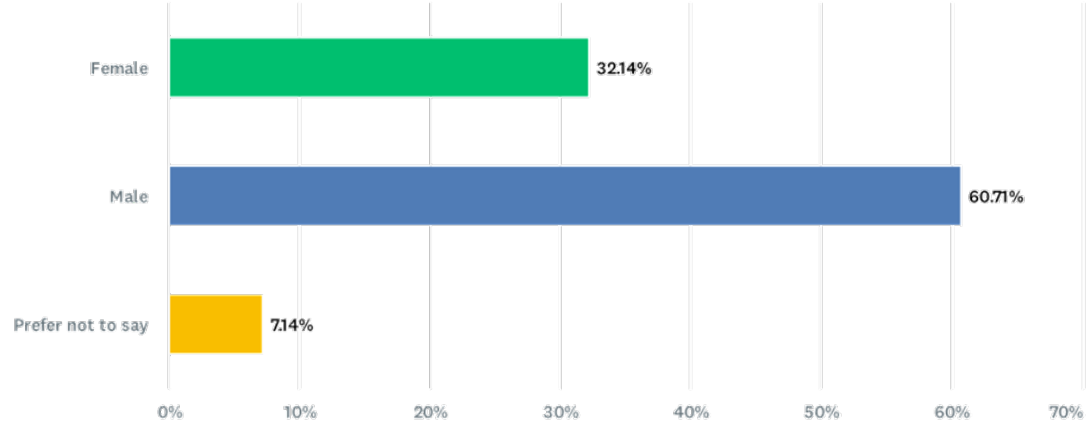


Answer Choices	Percentage	Responses
18-34 years	3.57%	1
35 to 64 years	78.57%	22
65 years or over	14.29%	4
Prefer not to say	3.57%	1
Total		**28**

Meade Road Realignment and Blackmore River Access Review

Q5 28 responses

Do you identify as:



Answer Choices	Percentage	Responses
Female	32.14%	9
Male	60.71%	17
Prefer not to say	7.14%	2
Total		**28**

Meade Road Realignment and Blackmore River Access Review

Q6 What suburb or locality do you live in?

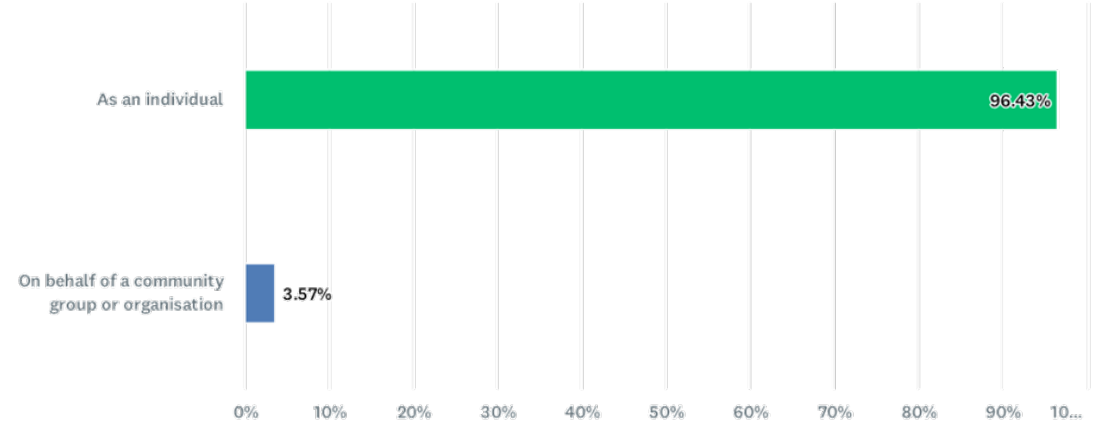
Answered: 28 Skipped: 0

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Townsville	7/19/2026 9:02 PM
2	Darwin River	7/15/2026 8:00 PM
3	Darwin River	7/15/2026 6:23 PM
4	Spencer Rd (west side) Darwin River	7/15/2026 3:42 PM
5	Darwin River	7/14/2026 2:09 PM
6	Meade rd darwin river	7/13/2026 12:52 PM
7	Darwin River	7/11/2026 11:53 AM
8	Humpty doo	7/10/2026 7:54 PM
9	Darwin river	7/10/2026 5:32 PM
10	Darwin River	7/10/2026 12:25 PM
11	Darwin River	7/10/2026 11:26 AM
12	Darwin River	7/10/2026 9:56 AM
13	Blackmore	7/9/2026 9:51 PM
14	Letchford Road, Darwin River	7/5/2026 5:15 PM
15	Darwin River	6/29/2026 8:39 PM
16	Darwin River	6/26/2026 6:25 PM
17	Litchfield Municipality	6/26/2026 12:48 PM
18	Berry Springs	6/25/2026 4:31 PM
19	Darwin River/Charlotte	6/24/2026 8:19 PM
20	Berry Springs	6/24/2026 2:40 PM
21	Acacia Hills	6/24/2026 7:36 AM
22	Blackmore	6/23/2026 10:06 PM
23	Blackmore	6/23/2026 2:04 PM
24	Darwin river and tumbling waters	6/23/2026 7:07 AM
25	Humpty Doo	6/22/2026 9:12 PM
26	Darwin rivver	6/22/2026 4:55 PM
27	Darwin River	6/22/2026 1:55 PM
28	Litchfield	6/22/2026 12:46 PM

Meade Road Realignment and Blackmore River Access Review

Q7 28 responses

Are you responding:



Answer Choices	Percentage	Responses
As an individual	96.43%	27
On behalf of a community group or organisation	3.57%	1
Total		28

Meade Road Realignment and Blackmore River Access Review

Q8 What role, if any, does this area play in your activities within the locality?

Answered: 28 Skipped: 0

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	None.	7/19/2026 9:02 PM
2	Fishing, outings with my kids.	7/15/2026 8:00 PM
3	I like to go fishing on the crossing and further up the river . I also use the crossing occasionally to access the northern side of letchford Rd to cox peninsula Rd.	7/15/2026 6:23 PM
4	It's an annual wet season and run off fishing spot, I use it regularly when it's flowing	7/15/2026 3:42 PM
5	The area is popular as a bank fishing spot and a general socialising spot for local residents. Numerous species of fish can be found here, including but not limited to Barramundi, Black Bream and Mangrove Jack. It also provides close access to bushland (crownland) for those that just want to get away from society and spend time with nature.	7/14/2026 2:09 PM
6	None it's private property.	7/13/2026 12:52 PM
7	Fishing, 4x4 driving, buggy riding and social BBQ gatherings.	7/11/2026 11:53 AM
8	Family fish	7/10/2026 7:54 PM
9	Fishing and picnic area	7/10/2026 5:32 PM
10	This part of the river is a beautful place for my family to take go for a walk, flick a lure and just to be at peace. As the river is not owned by any one person and the fact that its not easy to access the river further along and the river is overgrown a beautiful place to visit amongst the lemon teatrees. We should all be able to be at peace at this shady picturesque place on the beautiful Blackmore River.	7/10/2026 12:25 PM
11	It's my backyard and used for recreational puposes	7/10/2026 11:26 AM
12	The area is used for picnics, connecting to country, fishing and hunting activities	7/10/2026 9:56 AM
13	Access to other properties	7/9/2026 9:51 PM
14	A major access to enable quick response to wildfires in the immediate area	7/5/2026 5:15 PM
15	Fishing and recreational	6/29/2026 8:39 PM
16	The section 765 was one of four sections of land in the Darwin and Blackmore Rivers region that formed the land under a single Conservation Agreement with TNRM, because of its conservation value as part of the wildlife corridor along the Blackmore River. My own block on the Darwin River was part of that same Conservation Agreement.	6/26/2026 6:25 PM
17	Hones destroy nature. My role is to put in a good word for preserving our natural environment, conserving our natural resources and preventing people from ruining this for everyone.	6/26/2026 12:48 PM
18	Refer to Q 9 answer	6/25/2026 4:31 PM
19	Bird sighting, fishing	6/24/2026 8:19 PM
20	Recreational	6/24/2026 2:40 PM
21	We use that area as do many to fish along the banks. If adjacent land owners own the banks either side. We lose another fishing spot like the rest of the blackmore down stream which is locked up fur a select few land owners to enjoy. These local rivers should be fir all of us, not a lucky few to enjoy! B y all means, fix these roads and realign them, but leave the land as a free access reserve for us!	6/24/2026 7:36 AM
22	The area attracts rubbish, hoons and vandals	6/23/2026 10:06 PM
23	Letchford Road (connecting Blackmore to Darwin River) & only safe river fishing area (area further up river has huge croc)	6/23/2026 2:04 PM
24	Regularly visit to fish or picnic with my children and partner and friends and extended family	6/23/2026 7:07 AM

Meade Road Realignment and Blackmore River Access Review

	and friends Regularly use the Letchford bridge to cross and drive through to cox pen and have a friends memorial site located in this stretch of letchford road	
25	Fishing area	6/22/2026 9:12 PM
26	Recreational	6/22/2026 4:55 PM
27	Recreation and Exploring of the local area	6/22/2026 1:55 PM
28	Nice place to go but the erosion needs to be fixed.	6/22/2026 12:46 PM

Meade Road Realignment and Blackmore River Access Review

Q9 Can you describe your experience and familiarity with this area over time?

Answered: 28 Skipped: 0

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	I have visited the area in question at the invitation of the landholder.	7/19/2026 9:02 PM
2	We have been coming here and along the blackmore River for many many years. The whole reason we bought our block out here was to access this area.	7/15/2026 8:00 PM
3	It is a well known and regularly visited fishing spot in the area for families to enjoy some family time over the 20 years I have lived in area .	7/15/2026 6:23 PM
4	It is crown land and provides access to a portion of the Blackmore well known to locals. It hasn't been overrun by tourists like some other spots. It also provides access to the flood plain for other activities. While I acknowledge that there are people from town that know of the area, it is mainly used by locals. I have also seen the private property signs that have been erected on the north side of the river on crown land and heard of people being told its private property, not a good look.	7/15/2026 3:42 PM
5	I have used the area for both fishing and vehicle related recreation activities. My children learnt to drive motor vehicles within the area in preparation for attaining their drivers licences, away from road traffic. On one particular visit while fishing from a high bank, we as a family were lucky enough to witness a crocodile grab a wild pig that had entered the water on the other side of the river. It was an experience that we would never have seen anywhere else. Although the area is starting to become more heavily used, it is still considered to be "our own" close piece of untouched scrub to explore and wander. It is not uncommon to see wild horses, pigs and buffalo along with various native animals; dingoes, wallabies, large frill neck lizards, crocodiles etc. I am extremely familiar with the area, and the 4x4 tracks that traverse the neighbouring crown land.	7/14/2026 2:09 PM
6	This road reserve has been continually trashed and used as a dumping ground for decades by so called locals and people trespassing to fish on hews private property.	7/13/2026 12:52 PM
7	Our family and friends have used this area for extensively to fish almost every other day in the wet season. We also have celebrated Australia Day BBQ functions and regularly use it as an entry point to the floodplains fur four wheel and buggy riding.	7/11/2026 11:53 AM
8	Easy place to access	7/10/2026 7:54 PM
9	Great place to relax and cast a line	7/10/2026 5:32 PM
10	Have been visiting the river since 2013 when we originally purchased 340 Meade Rd. Now we live at 320	7/10/2026 12:25 PM
11	As above	7/10/2026 11:26 AM
12	What sort of a dumb question is this	7/10/2026 9:56 AM
13	Constant access to the area for travel to and from properties	7/9/2026 9:51 PM
14	This junction has been used by locals ever since Ian Ellis (a landowner back in the 1980s built the bridge to access his property right on the corner	7/5/2026 5:15 PM
15	Fish the run off, buggy riding around the area, nice place to go and sit in the area of the causeway and fish and hang out with friends.	6/29/2026 8:39 PM
16	I constructed boundary fences with the owners at the time, patrolled the boundaries regularly monitoring damage by trespassers and making wildlife observations. I mowed the firebreaks on all boundaries each year. I attended all wildfires both during the emergency phase and in order to mop up afterwards with my private fire unit. I assisted the owners to carry out planned burning under permit. I sprayed Gamba grass and other weed infestations as they appeared in the block, at least annually for several days at a time. As a lecturer with CDU, I occasionally took Conservation and Land Management student groups to the site to carry out field observations and learn conservation land management techniques and principles. I discuss land management issues such as weed control, fire mitigation and damage by members of the public from time to time with the present owner of the section.	6/26/2026 6:25 PM

Meade Road Realignment and Blackmore River Access Review

17	I am not familiar directly with that section of the Blackmore River but I am the whole river and parts of the River. I have lived here all my life and seen the damage done to Blackmore River over time, I will do what I can to give this River a voice.	6/26/2026 12:48 PM
18	LETTER OF SUPPORT TO PROCEED WITH THE PROCESS OF PROPOSING TO CLOSING/DIVERTING A PART OF MEADE ROAD WEST OF LETCHFORD & OPENING A NEW ROAD 80 METRES TO THE NORTH 1) Confirm that I have done a site visit with the proposer Hew McDonald(Proposer) & Mathew Salter(North ward councillor) on the afternoon of 9/3/21 2) In my view the proposal does make a lot of sense & will solve many access problems to neighbouring properties. a) The unformed gazetted present road goes through very low lying area's which are flooded or would be flooded every wet season. b) I am reasonably confident that a road could not be built on the present alignment due to environmental constraints. 3) There was a lot of erosion & environmental damage on the accessible road reserve, Mr Mc Donald's & Crown/NTG land due to vehicles (4WD's & ATV's) accessing the properties illegally. Mr Mc Donald advises he is willing to rehabilitate the environmental damage within reason at his cost. 4) Mr Mc Donald advises that he has started the road opening & closing process with Vacant Crown Land VCL & Litchfield Council & filled out the necessary paperwork & is prepared to pay the necessary fee's. 5) Mr Mc Donald advises that he has not been invoiced by Litchfield Council to date & worried that he has been forgotten about. 6) Mr Mc Donald say's he is prepared to pay for the survey costs & build a basic dry season 2WD track & has consulted with his neighbour Graham Churcher whom owns 5 section's 766 to 772. Some or all of Mr Churcher's section's do not have any viable access other than by canoe at present. 7) I assume Mr Churcher has been paying council rates & Waste Transfer Station WTS charges since the creation of council 35 years ago for these 5 sections. This would add up to the $10,000's or over $100,000 for little or no service. 8) Mr Mc Donald also accepts that this process could take up to or more than 6 months. 9) I, Doug Barden with the consideration of point 7 above ask that the $2,000 "Road Opening/Closing" fee by LC be waivered in exchange for all the voluntary work Mr Mc Donald is proposing. This fee waiver has NOT been requested or asked for & is mine & only mine initiative. Doug Barden Ph. 0429 875 390 11/3/21	6/25/2026 4:31 PM
19	My grandfather has been bringing me out here for 30+ years. I have bought a block in the local area in the last 5 years which shares access to the same river.	6/24/2026 8:19 PM
20	Good experience	6/24/2026 2:40 PM
21	Fishing there many times a year for the last 40 years from a child until now.	6/24/2026 7:36 AM
22	Resident within 2km of this location for 22 years	6/23/2026 10:06 PM
23	Access Road & Fishing area	6/23/2026 2:04 PM
24	Have been using this area for fishing and back in my teens and early 20s we would still swim there as well and have alsways (weather permitting) used the letchford road as a road though to cox pen, even got bogged on there once while I was pregnant and had to walk out Also I visit my friends memorial on this section of letchford as he died in a buggy accident	6/23/2026 7:07 AM
25	Used as weekend land based fishing run	6/22/2026 9:12 PM
26	It is a great local spot to visit and doesn't need to be touched	6/22/2026 4:55 PM
27	I've accessed this area for over 17 years for fishing and exploring the area. I am a resident of Darwin River over 10 years and Litchfield resident for over 28 years.	6/22/2026 1:55 PM
28	Walking	6/22/2026 12:46 PM

Meade Road Realignment and Blackmore River Access Review

Q10 How do you currently use, or value, the area and surrounding environment?

Answered: 28 Skipped: 0

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	I value the Blackmore River as an important environmental asset in the Northern Territory. Its riparian vegetation needs to be protected in buffer zones as outlined in many guidelines and policy documents.	7/19/2026 9:02 PM
2	We use it as a fishing spot like many others have used it since it has been there.	7/15/2026 8:00 PM
3	I use the area to access my home from Darwin river road .	7/15/2026 6:23 PM
4	Fishing and floodplain access.	7/15/2026 3:42 PM
5	We use the area as a close, community area for local bank fishing, vehicular recreation and wildlife spotting location. It is highly valued by not just Darwin River residents. It is common during the wet season to find people from other Greater Darwin localities also using the area to fish. The community uses the area to also access the 4x4 tracks that traverse the neighbouring crown land. It allows us to maintain our "Territorian status" as we are able to access scrub land and see wildlife that is not afforded to those in southern states. Family and visitors from southern jurisdictions absolutely love the fact that we have these free adventure opportunities on our doorstep.	7/14/2026 2:09 PM
6	Live next door.	7/13/2026 12:52 PM
7	It is almost the only area to access the bush. Used by local residents for their recreational activities. Without that area we almost have no recreational access to that area. And there is no other areas to conduct similar activities.	7/11/2026 11:53 AM
8	Vehicle	7/10/2026 7:54 PM
9	Fishing and picnic area. Valued greatly	7/10/2026 5:32 PM
10	Thats my walking track. Its not safe or enjoying to walk along Meade Road in the heat. Nor is it safe.	7/10/2026 12:25 PM
11	As above	7/10/2026 11:26 AM
12	As per *8	7/10/2026 9:56 AM
13	Weekly	7/9/2026 9:51 PM
14	This junction is vital for the local volunteer bushfire brigade to access wildfires. Without a safe crossing or junction, fire fighters have to travel all the way around and come in from Cox Peninsula up Letchford But more often that access is impassable until later in the year when the creeks dry up so being able to access the land from the Meade Road end is paramount. Saving vital time in an emergency fire situation.	7/5/2026 5:15 PM
15	Great spot for fishing and general recreational activities	6/29/2026 8:39 PM
16	The area, in conjunction with adjoining properties along the river, and with adjacent uncleared Crown Land sections, is a very valuable part of the wildlife corridor along the Blackmore River. It is prime bird watching and wildlife sighting country close to a major city. It forms important habitat for aquatic species such as water birds, turtles, crocodiles (both freshwater and saltwater species), and is breeding habitat for fish. As a former university lecturer and as a private field naturalist, I value this area highly.	6/26/2026 6:25 PM
17	I highly value the area, having a road this close to the river is ridiculous, of course it has to move, whats the bid deal for a public consultation. No decision is going to make 100% of the people happy 100% of the time, there are always winners and losers in this game of life. And I want the Blackmore River to be the winner.	6/26/2026 12:48 PM
18	Refer to Q9	6/25/2026 4:31 PM
19	Fishing, nature/wildlife viewing,	6/24/2026 8:19 PM
20	Recreational	6/24/2026 2:40 PM

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21	Fishing/relaxing	6/24/2026 7:36 AM
22	I sadly watch the area deteriorate in both environmental and economic terms through disinterest and neglect from all levels of government.	6/23/2026 10:06 PM
23	Extremely, Land Owner 585 who's proposing the extension has already cut off access to the river from his side.	6/23/2026 2:04 PM
24	We do what we have always done Use the area with respect and appreciation, clean up after your self and I even pick up other rubbish if it's been unfortunately left there or come down the river	6/23/2026 7:07 AM
25	4x4 exploration and fishing	6/22/2026 9:12 PM
26	Family bush trips and fishing	6/22/2026 4:55 PM
27	Access Via 4WD or Buggy.	6/22/2026 1:55 PM
28	high	6/22/2026 12:46 PM

Meade Road Realignment and Blackmore River Access Review

Q11 What opportunities or challenges do you think may arise from potential changes to the road reserve or surrounding land tenure arrangements?

Answered: 28 Skipped: 0

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	An opportunity arises to properly protect this part of the Blackmore River system.	7/19/2026 9:02 PM
2	We won't be able to go fishing or visit the special places of our home. Very sad.	7/15/2026 8:00 PM
3	I am still a little unfamiliar with what you are wanting to do with Meade Rd ,as you have just finished bitumising and installing Armco on the corner .	7/15/2026 6:23 PM
4	I am worried about river access. I'm happy for a new rd to be put in thru the crown land for block access to the west but I oppose closing the old road. And I absolutely oppose any sale of the north bank which should absolutely belong to the community.	7/15/2026 3:42 PM
5	The location provides a rare spot to conduct bank fishing on a piece of river that is close to saltwater influence. It enhances fishing activities, particularly for things such as the Million Dollar Fish competition. It is important to note that the current landowner 'land grabbed' the area in question as he did not approve of how it was being used. It was not within his original land title. The original NE corner post was actually in the middle of the Blackmore River. To lose access will be yet another lost fishing, recreational and "meeting spot" for Territorian locals. There is rumour that the land holder is expected to fence it, closing off access. This will create anger within the local community. As for opportunity, Litchfield Council has the opportunity to showcase itself as a true, Top End rural municipality with access to a natural recreational area with river access for bank fishing all year round.	7/14/2026 2:09 PM
6	None.	7/13/2026 12:52 PM
7	It appears it offer one resident benefits and remove accessibility to an area used by hundreds of residents in the Darwin River/Berry Springs area.	7/11/2026 11:53 AM
8	Cut fences	7/10/2026 7:54 PM
9	No longer be able to fish and enjoy this area	7/10/2026 5:32 PM
10	Lack of accessibility to the most beautiful part of the river. They may have bought the land but the river and access to it must be retained for the public wishing to use it.	7/10/2026 12:25 PM
11	Opportunity to protect the sensitive areas surrounding and prevent illegal dumping	7/10/2026 11:26 AM
12	The area along that section of river will no longer be accessible to others	7/10/2026 9:56 AM
13	Access to the river will be further restricted	7/9/2026 9:51 PM
14	Looking to the future, I think this is a great opportunity to fix up a terrible access problem that has been created by "lines on a map".	7/5/2026 5:15 PM
15	Been told that someone is trying to stop people from accessing it and telling people they own the crossing and river access. Also this is Letchford road. Can be accessed to go their Cox Pen Road too. I thought it was going to be linked up properly in the future. Please don't close access to the waterway/crossing	6/29/2026 8:39 PM
16	The present road location is an absurdity foisted on the present generation by the lack of care taken by the original surveyors to match proposed road alignments on paper with the constraints of the actual terrain. As a result, the current proposed road has always encroached on the river in such a way as to prevent the land owner from accessing or even fencing the entire northern boundary of the block. Any attempt by the Shire to construct a road along the current alignment will be frustrated by an inability to control erosion and to establish a safe width of carriageway because of the inevitable further incursion of the river into the road reserve. The riparian vegetation, so important to the river's biota, cannot be protected from wildfire because of the inability of the land owner to maintain any effective fire break between the river and the public roadway. Public access to the river was never envisaged by the initial survey because the paper boundary of the road contacts the billabong at a point where the banks of the river are precipitous and continually eroding. Any contact with the river beyond where Meade Road currently crosses at the ford is purely an	6/26/2026 6:25 PM

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	unintentional accident of the original drafting. Moving the paper road far enough to the north to allow for a buffer zone between the road and the river bank that is wide enough to accomodate a regulation fire break and reasonable safe access along his northern boundary would restore the intentions of the original Goyder survey. The issue of public access to the river was addressed in the Gorder survey at the point where the road crosses the ford. No further points of access within section 765 were intended. As it is, members of the public who have been accessing the sandy beach at the eastern end of the billabong, and who have not first obtained permission of the owner of Section 765, have always been technically trespassing on private land. The inability of the previous and current owners to effectively fence the northern boundary of their property because of the current paper road alignment has meant that they have for a long time seen their land subjected to dumping of rubbish by careless fishermen and campers, vandalism of private signposting, and expanding track and vegetation erosion due to 4WD incursion onto the property. As far as I am aware, none of the past and present owners has ever objected to visits by bona fide visitors and Traditional Owners, but to seek to further public access by maintaining the status quo, with the road infringing the northern edge of the billabong at a precipitous point will expose the Shire to responsibilities for public safety and damage to private property which I am sure it would prefer not to shoulder. Moving the paper road to the north away from the river edge will address all of these concerns, provided that the resulting buffer zone mentioned above is of adequate width. If, in the future it becomes necessary to construct a formed carriageway capable of being maintained to safe modern standards along the northern side of the river, road costruction engineers will insist that the location of the road be moved further north into the Crown Lands in any case. At that point the Shire will have to revisit this issue. Surely it is better to act pre-emptively now rather than to be forced by inevitable circumstance to react in the not-so-distant future. Future owners of this section may not be so accomodating, which will cost the Shire dearly in compulsory acquisition and legal fees not currently attending this application.	
17	I only see opportunities, people wont drive off into the water if the road is built further up from the waters edge. Seriously, water is a valuable resource and the greater we can protect our water resources, the better for all of us, that too for future generations. The only challenges I see is visitors to the area will need to find other areas to visit, and there are other sections of the blackmore river they can access more easily. Besides if they are friendly with the landowner perhaps they can still visit anyway. Overall, it will improve the surrounding land tenure, natural environment but with remediation first. Alot of damage has already happened by the looks of things. Plus, a road that wont get flooded or washed into the River.	6/26/2026 12:48 PM
18	Gives access to several other properties to the west of Letchford Rd	6/25/2026 4:31 PM
19	Erosion, tax payer dollars misplaced,	6/24/2026 8:19 PM
20	Only 1 person has access if road changed	6/24/2026 2:40 PM
21	Closed access for fishing in the area	6/24/2026 7:36 AM
22	There would be less erosion if the road was on a useable alignment. A fence and some development, any development, would be welcome.	6/23/2026 10:06 PM
23	A LOT of kids use that area. A lot that can't do or have access to these surveys.	6/23/2026 2:04 PM
24	If this bridge is closed to the community and the river closed to the community for fishing and picnicking and crossing to go along letchford road this would be devastating to the community for many families that use this spot and also for many family and friends wanting to utilise the road to get though to cox pen or to visit the memorial site on letchford rd	6/23/2026 7:07 AM
25	Removal of public access to fishing area	6/22/2026 9:12 PM
26	More access equals more rubbish	6/22/2026 4:55 PM
27	Limited access to the river for fishing. It seems this may be an attempt at moving the boundary for a river/ land grab rather than purely altruistic purposes of land management	6/22/2026 1:55 PM
28	none	6/22/2026 12:46 PM

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Q12 What aspects of the area do you consider important to retain or enhance for the future?

Answered: 28 Skipped: 0

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	The Blackmore River and its riparian vegetation needs to be protected from illegal and inappropriate public access that is currently damaging the environment.	7/19/2026 9:02 PM
2	Access to the river. No one owns the water.	7/15/2026 8:00 PM
3	I don't know . Don't change what's not broken .	7/15/2026 6:23 PM
4	Public access to this part of the river and no dubious land acquisitions of the river. The bloke thinks he owns it already	7/15/2026 3:42 PM
5	The Letchford Rd crossing must be retained so that land holders on this road can access their land. Additionally, it is extremely important that future access to the river be maintained. It is one of the only freshwater fishing spots left in the NT that is close to saltwater influence that can be easily accessed by all individuals.	7/14/2026 2:09 PM
6	Stop the illegal trespassing and dumping of rubbish and illegal undersized barra taken from this stretch of creek.	7/13/2026 12:52 PM
7	Rural residents move to an area like this to conduct these type of activities with family and friends. To lose access to this area is like removing a play ground to a suburb in suburbia.	7/11/2026 11:53 AM
8	Access to waterways	7/10/2026 7:54 PM
9	River access	7/10/2026 5:32 PM
10	Cross the crossing stroll up the rise turn left and mosey on down to enjoy the beauty of the river.	7/10/2026 12:25 PM
11	all of it	7/10/2026 11:26 AM
12	Another dumb question... The natural environment is the most important asset we have. Ever heard the saying "Litchfield, the best place to live in the Top End"	7/10/2026 9:56 AM
13	Access to the river	7/9/2026 9:51 PM
14	The aspect that should not change, or should be enhanced is a safe secure river crossing.	7/5/2026 5:15 PM
15	Great fishing spot	6/29/2026 8:39 PM
16	The natural values of the area, the uncleared wildlife habitat and the wildlife corridor of the river and its riparian vegetation are essential elements of the amenity of the Shire and the greater Darwin area. They are and will be the lungs of the city and the assets most valuable to post-climate change generations. These assets have been nurturing the human population of the Top End for millennia, and protection of them falls to the present generation, especially in the face of inappropriate developments driven by short term, often illusory profits. TNRM was wise and correct to designate Section 765 among others along the Blackmore and Darwin Rivers as worthy of a Territory Conservation Agreement. The future road network around this block should reflect this and indicate an understanding by the Shire of the principles involved and the need for appropriate planning.	6/26/2026 6:25 PM
17	Priority should be given to the River and its natural habitat. Access to the public should be denied because it's not being managed, not being respectful, already causing irrepairable damage to the river bank, weeds and rubbish.	6/26/2026 12:48 PM
18	Erosion control would become the responsibilty of the new owner & not be councils responsibility	6/25/2026 4:31 PM
19	River	6/24/2026 8:19 PM
20	Fishing & recreational	6/24/2026 2:40 PM
21	Free access to river front for all.	6/24/2026 7:36 AM
22	Access for fishing should be retained at the Letchford Rd low level crossing.	6/23/2026 10:06 PM

Meade Road Realignment and Blackmore River Access Review

23	If anything, they should spend on expanding the area not selling it off	6/23/2026 2:04 PM
24	Improve the bridge for public use (fix the stupid corner that got put in and makes it harder to get down to the river and the bridge!) Or just leave it as ir now is and grade the letchford road in the dry so it's more user friendly. This is a public area that has been getting used for decades (if not longer) by the local families in the community	6/23/2026 7:07 AM
25	Public access to the river bank	6/22/2026 9:12 PM
26	Keep it natural	6/22/2026 4:55 PM
27	Maintain access to Wild Horse Plain and the Blackmore River for recreation purposes.	6/22/2026 1:55 PM
28	the road has to be moved at some stage.	6/22/2026 12:46 PM

Meade Road Realignment and Blackmore River Access Review

Q13 Are there any access, connectivity or recreational considerations that Council should take into account?

Answered: 28 Skipped: 0

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Current access to the area is illegal as it requires trespassing on private land. Where the exisiting road reserve comes close to the river, as shown on the map, is not where public access occurs, this is a steep part of the riverbank where access would be very difficult. I can not see why the landholder should have to allow access across their property, in fact it sets a precedent that all landholders should allow access just because a beautiful section of river happens to flow through their property.	7/19/2026 9:02 PM
2	Yea. Listen to the people ... for once.	7/15/2026 8:00 PM
3	No matter what happens the said owners are going to have endless amounts of trouble with people accessing the area . You don't realise how many people use it to access wild horse planes . . If it gets close , I will abide but be disappointed.	7/15/2026 6:23 PM
4	See above	7/15/2026 3:42 PM
5	The Letchford Rd crossing must be maintained for access. The area is viewed as a vehicular 4x4 recreational area as there are numerous tracks that traverse through the neighbouring crown land.	7/14/2026 2:09 PM
6	No it's all private property or crown land surrounded.	7/13/2026 12:52 PM
7	Short of using trailers to tow recreational vehicles to Litchfield Rd it appears to be the only access point. Also there would be a potential danger of multiple vehicles and trailers parking and unloading at Litchfield Rd.	7/11/2026 11:53 AM
8	Maintain access as this area is growing with family popularity	7/10/2026 7:54 PM
9	Yes. Don't close the public for the river	7/10/2026 5:32 PM
10	Being at peace. People ride their horses down there. Its a recreational area for the public to enjoy.	7/10/2026 12:25 PM
11	All of the above	7/10/2026 11:26 AM
12	Already mentioned these. Council really need to reconsider their SurveyMonkey Questions and not just tick a box by putting it out there	7/10/2026 9:56 AM
13	What purpose is to take the existing road away	7/9/2026 9:51 PM
14	As above	7/5/2026 5:15 PM
15	Future connection to Cox Pen would make it easier to access cox pen	6/29/2026 8:39 PM
16	Access by the public for recreational pursuits were catered for by the Goyder survey at the points where road alignments intersected the river further to the east of the section. The accidental encroachment of the road reserve on the northern boundary of the billabong probably occurred post survey as the result of the inevitable continued erosion of the outer curve of a meander of the Blackmore. This erosion will continue and any attempts to prevent it will fail, because of the geomorphological principles at play. Any attempt by the Shire to construct and maintain a carriageway so close to the meander will be akin to King Canute's famous endeavour to hold back the tide. In order to maintain and protect both the connectivity of the riparian biota Access by the public for recreational pursuits were catered for by the Goyder survey at the along the Blackmore and the inhabitants of adjacent blocks with the rest of the Shire and Darwin itself requires relocation of this part of Meade Road (or whatever it may be called in the future) well to the north away from the dynamism of the river bank. Any special recreational requirements of members of the public on this private land are the concern of the owners, not the Shire. The present placement of the road reserve has caused a continuing burden of responsibility on the owners of this private land. The Shire has, up till now, been happy to ignore its responsibility to protect and support the private ownership of a parcel of land which was legitimately subdivided with its present boundaries and which the Shire has been happy to collect rates from the whole time of its inactivity.	6/26/2026 6:25 PM

Meade Road Realignment and Blackmore River Access Review

17	Is the proposed new road far enough away that it's outside the flood zone.	6/26/2026 12:48 PM
18	The river is on private property & is not council's property. Therefore the only recreational activities would be 4WD & Quad bikes & council should be liable for erosion control into the private landholders property.	6/25/2026 4:31 PM
19	Fishing and general nature enjoyment	6/24/2026 8:19 PM
20	Yes	6/24/2026 2:40 PM
21	No. Leave it as it is.	6/24/2026 7:36 AM
22	It not actually possible to fish from where the legal access is on meade rd - you have to cut into the block further down. As a block owner I don't really think the council should be encouraging illegal access like this.	6/23/2026 10:06 PM
23	Kids!! So many kids fish there! The owner proposing the extension has already cut access from that one side!!!	6/23/2026 2:04 PM
24	Yes letchford road through to cox pen is used frequently and often by the locals as is the bridge and river ears for fishing and picnics	6/23/2026 7:07 AM
25	Yes	6/22/2026 9:12 PM
26	No it is fine as it is	6/22/2026 4:55 PM
27	If the road is moved access to the Northern Side of Blackmore may be removed.	6/22/2026 1:55 PM
28	no	6/22/2026 12:46 PM

Meade Road Realignment and Blackmore River Access Review

Q14 Are there alternative arrangements or improvements that you believe would benefit the broader community?

Answered: 28 Skipped: 0

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	I believe that implementing the landholder's proposal to better manage the Blackmore River and its riparian vegetation will benefit the broader NT community.	7/19/2026 9:02 PM
2	Leave it alone.	7/15/2026 8:00 PM
3	I don't know	7/15/2026 6:23 PM
4	Feel free to put a new access road on but keep the old one and absolutely no sale of land	7/15/2026 3:42 PM
5	Ensure year round, free access to the public.	7/14/2026 2:09 PM
6	No	7/13/2026 12:52 PM
7	There doesn't appear to be any alternative access areas in the close vicinity	7/11/2026 11:53 AM
8	More river access	7/10/2026 7:54 PM
9	Not sure	7/10/2026 5:32 PM
10	Its beautiful as it is.	7/10/2026 12:25 PM
11	No	7/10/2026 11:26 AM
12	Leave the area as it is	7/10/2026 9:56 AM
13	Stop restricting access to the community	7/9/2026 9:51 PM
14	As above	7/5/2026 5:15 PM
15	Bbq maybe	6/29/2026 8:39 PM
16	Further sensitive development of the Meade Road ford on the Blackmore River, adjoining the eastern boundary of Section 765, would take the pressure off the owners of the private land in question by allowing access to the river in a safe and more convenient place and way. This would allow remediation works to be undertaken on the damaged area in the north-eastern portion of the block caused by uncontrolled (and until now, uncontrollable) access onto private land by off-road vehicles and recreational fishermen. With regard to continued access by Traditional Owners to the site, such access will be more private and protected if a negotiated agreement were entered into between the TOs and the owner, than if the Shire sought to open the space to the general public. Private land includes the beds and banks of the river, only the water itself is the property of the government. If the Shire were to contemplate opening or keeping open public access to the river where the current road reserve encroaches on the banks of the billabong, it renders itself liable for any damage done to the private land accessed thereby.	6/26/2026 6:25 PM
17	Ask the owner if those who have a connection with that place can visit through his property. There is alot to be said for good neighbours.	6/26/2026 12:48 PM
18	The proposed re-alignment make's a lot of sense.	6/25/2026 4:31 PM
19	Put money and effort into the exiting Spencer and letchford roads that pay rates.	6/24/2026 8:19 PM
20	No	6/24/2026 2:40 PM
21	No.	6/24/2026 7:36 AM
22	Yes - move the road to where it can be built FFS.	6/23/2026 10:06 PM
23	These are all the same questions?!	6/23/2026 2:04 PM
24	Leave it alone you have already stuffed up the corner and access to the bridge is harder than it needs to be and ever was	6/23/2026 7:07 AM
25	No	6/22/2026 9:12 PM

Meade Road Realignment and Blackmore River Access Review

26	No	6/22/2026 4:55 PM
27	Allowing access still to Blackmore river. River Access should not be bound by fences. Weeds and errosion may be a problem but this could be fixed in an alternative manner.	6/22/2026 1:55 PM
28	no	6/22/2026 12:46 PM

Meade Road Realignment and Blackmore River Access Review

Q15 Are there any environmental, cultural heritage, safety or land management matters that should be considered as part of Council's assessment?

Answered: 28 Skipped: 0

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Yes, I believe the landholder has outlined how they will utilise this road realignment to improve management of an important river system.	7/19/2026 9:02 PM
2	Leave it alone.	7/15/2026 8:00 PM
3	N/A. Has the owner of neighbouring property wishing to purchase said land aware of all the hurdles he /she must jump through for environmental,cultural or land management .	7/15/2026 6:23 PM
4	Cultural, it's a long standing local fishing spot.	7/15/2026 3:42 PM
5	Regular vehicle use has resulted in some erosion is certain areas close to the river. This can be easily rectified by installing devices that restrict vehicle access closer to the river where erosion is present. The current landowner has already dropped large rocks in place to restrict vehicle access close to the river. Erosion caused by pedestrian traffic can be mitigated by the installation of footpaths to and from the popular fishing spots. A point to note, is that accessible fishing spots on the Darwin and Blackmore Rivers, including this one, are utilised by indigenous people to fish for freshwater turtle. As with all community areas there are those that willfully leave rubbish on the ground, but there are others that actually care and will pick up and remove the rubbish left behind by others.	7/14/2026 2:09 PM
6	It's the best way to stop the land degradation thats continually occurring by so called locals.	7/13/2026 12:52 PM
7	Whilst panning at the cause way when it was dry my brother and myself found a most perfectly formed quartz spearhead.	7/11/2026 11:53 AM
8	No	7/10/2026 7:54 PM
9	Need river access	7/10/2026 5:32 PM
10	Don't know	7/10/2026 12:25 PM
11	Yes, protect as much as possible by reducing access to sensitive areas be the general public	7/10/2026 11:26 AM
12	Yes, already mentioned all of the above.	7/10/2026 9:56 AM
13	Seems like a land grab by someone	7/9/2026 9:51 PM
14	Personally I feel that by taking action now to fix up this corner, you will be alleviating a bigger problem into the future.	7/5/2026 5:15 PM
15	It's a significant waterway. It's also been used and accessed by many pt, specially locals, for a very long time.	6/29/2026 8:39 PM
16	I have addressed these in my answers above. The Council has heretofore happily ignored its responsibilities in all three categories, to the detriment of the past and present owners of this section. This cannot continue now that its attention has been drawn to the fact.	6/26/2026 6:25 PM
17	This area is special, more so for the River than the users, that should have the priority, do whats best for the River. Our childrens children will thank us.	6/26/2026 12:48 PM
18	The proposed re-alignment will fix all these issues	6/25/2026 4:31 PM
19	The river	6/24/2026 8:19 PM
20	Yes	6/24/2026 2:40 PM
21	N/a	6/24/2026 7:36 AM
22	The proposal will clearly improve environmental, cultural heritage, safety or land management matters. However, the council has shown no interest in this any else in Blackmore, so there's no real reason to start now.	6/23/2026 10:06 PM

Meade Road Realignment and Blackmore River Access Review

23	Nil	6/23/2026 2:04 PM
24	Have seen many species of birds , young crocs and lizards in this area	6/23/2026 7:07 AM
25	Yes	6/22/2026 9:12 PM
26	No	6/22/2026 4:55 PM
27	Weeds and erosion may be a problem but this could be fixed in an alternative manner.	6/22/2026 1:55 PM
28	not the we know of.	6/22/2026 12:46 PM

Meade Road Realignment and Blackmore River Access Review

Q16 Is there any additional information, local knowledge or perspective you would like Council to consider?

Answered: 28 Skipped: 0

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	The original proposal should be considered in its entirety (it is disappointing this information wasn't included in the public consultation process).	7/19/2026 9:02 PM
2	Spend money else where.	7/15/2026 8:00 PM
3	N/a you ask a lot of repetitive questions. I see what you're doing .making people give up so it goes through.	7/15/2026 6:23 PM
4	Nobody I have spoken to is happy with this proposal and most think it's already a done dodgy deal that's going thru the legal motions. Most won't fill in this survey but most do vote.	7/15/2026 3:42 PM
5	As stated above, the current landowner "land grabbed" this area in 2024/2025 soon after purchasing it as he did not approve of locals using it. Their original NE corner post was actually located in the middle of the Blackmore River and did not include the entire northern riverbank or current paper road. This section of the Blackmore River (sometimes referred to as Peel Creek) is often used as a stopping point for further adventure into crown land. People stop here for a quick fish and a break before continuing on the 4x4 tracks into the adjoining crown land. The 4x4 tracks eventually lead out onto Litchfield Park Road and pass by several year-round billabongs. The billabongs are amazing places for spotting all forms of flora and fauna. From a personal perspective, I have been in the NT since 1997 and lived in Darwin River since 2007. I regularly visit and traverse through this area as do a lot of other residents and visitors to the area. To lose access will be devastating. As each year passes, NT residents are slowly losing access to bushland areas for recreational purposes which is eroding our identity as Territorians.	7/14/2026 2:09 PM
6	It will only affect the trespassing thats already taking place.	7/13/2026 12:52 PM
7	No	7/11/2026 11:53 AM
8	No	7/10/2026 7:54 PM
9	No	7/10/2026 5:32 PM
10	Only that the river isn't owned by the person that bought the land	7/10/2026 12:25 PM
11	No	7/10/2026 11:26 AM
12	Please consider relevant questions in your next "have your say" survey	7/10/2026 9:56 AM
13	Stop Restricting access	7/9/2026 9:51 PM
14	As captain of the local Volunteer Bushfire Brigade I have given my perspective and believe that the landowner of 585 is thinking ahead and should be supported.	7/5/2026 5:15 PM
15	Please don't close this spot off	6/29/2026 8:39 PM
16	My experience and formal qualifications in the fields relevant to this enquiry have informed my answers to this questionnaire. I hold a Bachelor of Arts in Planning, a Graduate Diploma in Environmental Science, and have been continually employed and/or volunteering in a full-time capacity in conservation land management and the teaching thereof for more than fifty-five years. I have had many years involvement with the management of Section 765 itself under previous ownership.	6/26/2026 6:25 PM
17	Council needs to move this paper road from the riverbank anyway. The greatest benefit from this decision isn't the land owner, it's the ecosystem from people who use and abuse the area. Waterbodies need a voice, they are an entity too and should be treated with the respect they deserve, just like in New Zealand. So what if the landowner has a win, and a few residents where the waterbody isn't in their back yard miss out, they can go further downstream or upstream to the next waterering hole. Or perhaps they can be friendly, respectful to the landowner and they can still visit the place.	6/26/2026 12:48 PM
18	There has already been a motion by the previous council in reference to the re alignment of	6/25/2026 4:31 PM

Meade Road Realignment and Blackmore River Access Review

	Meade Rd which was supported by all councillors 7 support to 0	
19	It floods and there may be diversion which reroutes the floodwatwrs	6/24/2026 8:19 PM
20	Yes	6/24/2026 2:40 PM
21	No	6/24/2026 7:36 AM
22	The council has contributed nothing to the area north of the low level crossing since 2004 - not exaggeration, fact. If someone is fool enough to want to do something constructive there then all power to them - get out of the way.	6/23/2026 10:06 PM
23	Please don't change it- do a proper local physical survey to see exactly how many people use that area!	6/23/2026 2:04 PM
24	Soooooo many locals use this area and have done for decades Please just leave it alone	6/23/2026 7:07 AM
25	Maybe	6/22/2026 9:12 PM
26	No	6/22/2026 4:55 PM
27	There is some signs of Gamba present in this area that should be addressed.	6/22/2026 1:55 PM
28	Move the road.	6/22/2026 12:46 PM

Meade Road Realignment and Blackmore River Access Review

Q17 Please upload any additional feedback you may have on this proposal.

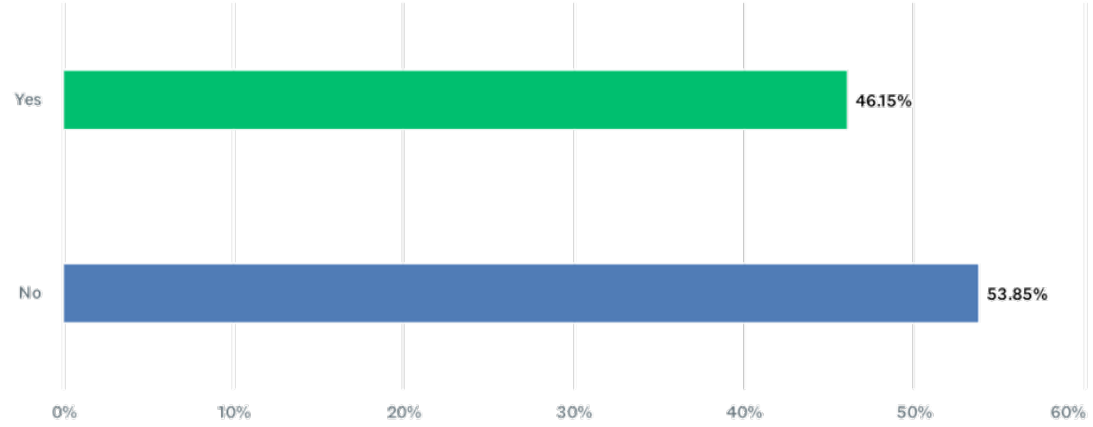
Answered: 0 Skipped: 28

#	FILE NAME	FILE SIZE	DATE
	There are no responses.		

Meade Road Realignment and Blackmore River Access Review

Q18 26 responses

Would you like to be contacted about your feedback?



Answer Choices	Percentage	Responses
Yes	46.15%	12
No	53.85%	14
Total		26

Meade Road Realignment and Blackmore River Access Review

Q19 If yes, please provide your details

Answered: 14 Skipped: 14

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Full Name	100.00%	14
Company	0.00%	0
Address	0.00%	0
Address 2	0.00%	0
City/Town	0.00%	0
State/Province	0.00%	0
ZIP/Postal Code	0.00%	0
Country	0.00%	0
Email Address	100.00%	14
Phone Number	92.86%	13

#	FULL NAME	DATE
1	Lesley Alford	7/19/2026 9:02 PM
2	Tom McIntyre	7/14/2026 2:09 PM
3	Jason Theofylatos	7/13/2026 12:52 PM
4	Cain	7/11/2026 11:53 AM
5	Glen Pearce	7/10/2026 5:32 PM
6	Helen Cruickshank	7/10/2026 12:25 PM
7	RH	7/9/2026 9:51 PM
8	Beverley Shuker	7/5/2026 5:15 PM
9	Desleigh Dunnett	6/29/2026 8:39 PM
10	Andrew Spiers	6/26/2026 6:25 PM
11	Doug Barden	6/25/2026 4:31 PM
12	Phil Hickey	6/23/2026 10:06 PM
13	Wendy Retter-Coombs	6/23/2026 7:07 AM
14	Jayden Binks	6/22/2026 9:12 PM

#	COMPANY	DATE
	There are no responses.	

#	ADDRESS	DATE
	There are no responses.	

#	ADDRESS 2	DATE
	There are no responses.	

#	CITY/TOWN	DATE
	There are no responses.	

#	STATE/PROVINCE	DATE

Meade Road Realignment and Blackmore River Access Review

There are no responses.

#	ZIP/POSTAL CODE	DATE

There are no responses.

#	COUNTRY	DATE

There are no responses.

#	EMAIL ADDRESS	DATE
1	lesley.alford@denhamia.com.au	7/19/2026 9:02 PM
2	tmack073@hotmail.com	7/14/2026 2:09 PM
3	arafurahire@bigpond.com	7/13/2026 12:52 PM
4	cainandkatie@gmail.com	7/11/2026 11:53 AM
5	gspotchef@gmail.com	7/10/2026 5:32 PM
6	helencruickshank900@hotmail.com	7/10/2026 12:25 PM
7	tlsnt@hotmail.com	7/9/2026 9:51 PM
8	bevshuker52@gmail.com	7/5/2026 5:15 PM
9	desleigh.dunnett@gmail.com	6/29/2026 8:39 PM
10	wavertreehouse@gmail.com	6/26/2026 6:25 PM
11	dougspencerbarden@gmail.com	6/25/2026 4:31 PM
12	philhickey.business@gmail.com	6/23/2026 10:06 PM
13	wendyretter@hotmail.com	6/23/2026 7:07 AM
14	binks.jayden@gmail.com	6/22/2026 9:12 PM

#	PHONE NUMBER	DATE
1	0459082906	7/19/2026 9:02 PM
2	0417 838 637	7/14/2026 2:09 PM
3	0413703292	7/13/2026 12:52 PM
4	0429607369	7/11/2026 11:53 AM
5	0447623711	7/10/2026 5:32 PM
6	0498345916	7/10/2026 12:25 PM
7	0419827385	7/5/2026 5:15 PM
8	0487896685	6/29/2026 8:39 PM
9	0400797200	6/26/2026 6:25 PM
10	0429875390	6/25/2026 4:31 PM
11	0408821323	6/23/2026 10:06 PM
12	0412073479	6/23/2026 7:07 AM
13	499444986	6/22/2026 9:12 PM

Attachment C

Submission in Support of the Proposed Meade Road Realignment

To Litchfield Council,

I would like to express my support for the proposed Meade Road realignment and associated land adjustment near the Blackmore River.

My family and I own the property at 495 Letchford Road, not far downstream from the area affected by this proposal and the river runs directly through our property. We have owned the property since 1979 and have spent nearly fifty years enjoying and observing the Blackmore River and its surrounding environment.

Over that time, we have seen many positive changes in the district, but unfortunately, we have also witnessed increasing damage to parts of the riverbank upstream caused by uncontrolled vehicle access. While most people who visit the area simply want to enjoy the bush and the river, repeated use by four-wheel drives, quad bikes and buggies has taken a visible toll on some sections of the riverbank.

The area affected by this proposal is essentially a paper road rather than a formed public road. The proposed realignment appears to offer a sensible solution that would allow the adjoining landowner to better fence and manage the area while still preserving future access opportunities for properties further upstream. As Council would be aware, those currently accessing the river in the subject vicinity are already mostly doing so without the owner's permission via private property.

The current road boundary alignment makes fencing the area impractical, would obviously conflict with sound land management practices in a riparian riverbank environment and would result in damage to the fragile riverbank and wet season flood-prone area of the river.

From my perspective, one of the biggest benefits of the proposal is the protection it would provide to the Blackmore River itself.

Many people may not realise that the trees, shrubs and grasses growing along a riverbank do much more than simply look natural. They help hold the soil together, reduce erosion during the wet season, filter sediment and pollutants from runoff, and provide habitat for wildlife. Once these areas are repeatedly disturbed by vehicles and people cutting back existing trees to "flick a fishing rod", the damage can be very difficult and expensive to reverse.

The erosion already occurring along parts of the riverbank does not just affect the immediate area. Soil washed into the river increases turbidity, making the water cloudier and reducing the amount of sunlight reaching aquatic plants. Larger amounts of sediment can gradually alter the shape of the river, fill in deeper pools and affect habitat used by fish and other aquatic species and we've seen these effects ourselves directly downstream.

Importantly, the Blackmore River is one of the most significant waterways that feeds into Darwin Harbour. Considerable effort and resources are invested by government, researchers and the community into protecting Darwin Harbour, and that protection starts upstream in rivers such as the Blackmore.

Put simply, healthy rivers help create a healthy harbour.

I also believe the proposal would help address other issues that residents and landowners have observed over the years, including illegal dumping and ongoing damage associated with unauthorised vehicle access very close to the river.

This is not a large-scale development proposal. It is a relatively small administrative realignment that has the potential to produce meaningful environmental benefits while still preserving future access opportunities.

Having watched this area for nearly five decades, I believe the proposal represents a practical, balanced and common-sense outcome at low or no cost to council. It supports better land management, better protection of the riverbank and improved environmental outcomes for the Blackmore River and ultimately Darwin Harbour.

So, in summary I'd like to offer my strong support for the proposal, as someone who has lived beside the Blackmore River for many years and cares deeply about its future. I strongly encourage Council to approve the proposal.

Yours sincerely,

William (Bill) Muirhead
495 Letchford Road
Darwin River NT
Phone: 0409 888681
E: ntmuirheads@gmail.com

Attachment D



This email, including any attachments, is intended for use by the addressee(s) and may contain confidential and/or personal information and may also be the subject of legal privilege. If you are not the intended recipient, please advise by return email, delete the message permanently from your system and destroy any copies without disclosing the contents in any way.

Litchfield Council acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land we work on and recognises their continuing connection to land, water and communities. We pay our respects to all Traditional Owners and to the Elders past, present and emerging.

From: AFANT CEO - David Ciaravolo - <ceo@afant.com.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 29 July 2026 2:23 PM
To: Council <council@litchfield.nt.gov.au>
Subject: Meade Road

Attention: Director Infrastructure and Operations

I write to you regarding the proposal to realign a section of Meade Rd.

Firstly my apologies, I understand that this correspondence is late. If this matter has already gone to Council please disregard. Otherwise, I seek consideration for the following feedback to be taken into account.

On behalf AFANT, the peak body for recreational fishing in the Northern Territory, I contend that the proposal to:

- Close part of the existing Meade Road (west) paper road reserve near the Blackmore River
- Open a new road alignment within Crown Land, with no plans for construction
- Potentially allowing the adjoining landowner to purchase the closed paper road reserve land (Council-owned) and adjoining Crown land adjacent to the riverbank, subject to approvals.

Should NOT be supported as written unless a new alternative public access to the Blackmore river in the immediate vicinity is made.

The affected location is known to be an important and regularly used public access point to the Blackmore River, including for recreational fishing.

Public access for fishing is a healthy, family friendly activity that improves wellbeing and promotes connection to nature and other people.

Public access to rivers (and fishing more generally) in the area is limited to the few opportunities where there are crossings or Crown land adjacent to a road/road reserve and a river. As such, Council should not take lightly any proposal to further limit public access and therefore public benefit and amenity and to transfer that benefit to a private party without offsetting the loss of amenity.

In addition to alienating the community and visitors from the natural amenity provided by the river, to proceed with the proposal in the absence of any information about how the realignment would benefit the community could set an unwelcome precedent.

I thank you for inviting feedback.

Kind regards,
David Ciaravolo

Chief Executive Officer
Amateur Fishermen's Association NT

AFANT
NORTHERN TERRITORY
RECREATIONAL FISHING PEAK BODY

Office - 08 8945 6455
Mobile - 0415 471 600
www.afant.com.au

AFANT's mission is to represent recreational fishing in the NT and to ensure the quality of our sport.

COVID 19: If you are going fishing, you need to do the right thing and protect all Territorians by following the rules.

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14.4.3 Proposal to Sell Council Land - Campbell Road, Knuckeys Lagoon

AUTHOR: Jaimie O'Connor, Planning and Development Program Leader

AUTHORISER: Geoff Thomas, Director Infrastructure and Operations

ATTACHMENTS:
1. Grant of Land - 5 Campbell Rd, Knuckey Lagoon
2. Admin_Title - 5 Campbell Rd

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report presents to Elected Members a proposal for consideration for the sale of Council owned land at 5 Campbell Road, Knuckey Lagoon.

RECOMMENDATION

1. THAT Council

   (a) Authorise the disposal of Parcel 4223 (5 Campbell Road, Knuckey Lagoon) Hundred of Bagot in accordance with FIN01 Asset Disposal and the Minister's Guideline 4: Assets; and

   (b) Approve the Director Infrastructure and Operations or their delegate, in accordance with Council's Procurement Policy, to obtain;

      (i) an independent land valuation of the 2ha parcel of land;

      (ii) quotes for a suitably qualified real estate agent for the sale of the land; and

      (iii) quotes for a suitably qualified Conveyancer to administer the process of transferring ownership of the land.

   (c) Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to select the preferred real estate agent and conveyancer and the method of sale, being public auction, public tender, or sale through the appointed real estate agent, and to set the reserve at not less than the independent land valuation.

   (d) Approve, for the purposes of clause 10.1(c) of the Minister's Guideline 4: Assets, the selection of a method of sale other than public auction or public tender, on the public interest grounds that:

      (i) the land will be advertised and offered to the open market, maximising the opportunity to achieve the best price for the community;

      (ii) a suitably qualified local real estate agent will promote the sale to the widest range of potential purchasers; and

   (e) Note that the method of sale, the reasons for it and the outcome of the sale will be reported to Council following settlement of the sale and in Council's annual report.

   (f) Approve the proceeds of the sale being allocated to the Asset Reserve, less any costs incurred in the sale of the land.

   (g) Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to:

      (i) accept any offer for the purchase of the land at or above the reserve price;

      (ii) execute the contract of sale and all other documents necessary to transfer the land to the purchaser, including under the Common Seal where required; and

      (iii) do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

   (h) Approve the application of the Common Seal on all land title documents associated

with the sale of the land.

(i) Note that should the land not sell within six (6) months of the commencement of marketing, a further report is to be presented to Council.

OR

2. THAT Council

(a) Do Not Support the disposal of Parcel 4223 (5 Campbell Road, Knuckey Lagoon) Hundred of Bagot.

BACKGROUND

Parcel 4223 (5 Campbell Road, Knuckey Lagoon) is a 2ha parcel zoned CP – Community Purpose under the NT Planning Scheme. This zoning permits a range of community uses including, among others, a medical clinic, place of worship, education establishment, emergency services facility, exhibition centre, residential care facility, community centre and childcare centre, and is intended to meet the social, educational, spiritual, cultural or health needs of the community.

The parcel is undeveloped. It was transferred to Council in 1991 under the Crown Lands Act as part of the Establishment Package for the (then) Litchfield Shire Council, for the purpose of establishing a sub-depot. A sub-depot was never established, and no other use has been allocated to the parcel.

Council has reviewed the transfer documentation and certificate of title for Parcel 4223. The parcel was transferred to Council in 1991 with no encumbrances or conditions attaching to the transfer. Accordingly, the disposal is not restricted by section 267(2) of the Local Government Act 2019, and no Ministerial consent or other third-party approval is required prior to sale.

Council incurs minor operational costs for the parcel — firebreak maintenance, mowing and weed spraying — estimated at $1,500 per annum, consistent with maintenance of other vacant Council-owned land. Council has also responded to occasional reports of illegal dumping on the parcel.

Strategic Context
Council has no masterplan for the use or development of its land assets; requests and expressions of interest are dealt with on a case-by-case basis. No current or proposed Council use has been identified for this parcel. There was previously interest from the Thai Association in leasing the parcel however this was not supported at the time.

Given the absence of an identified Council or community purpose for the parcel and its ongoing holding costs, it is appropriate that Council consider disposal in accordance with FIN01 Asset Disposal.

Recommendation
It is recommended that the Elected Members approve the Director of Infrastructure and Operations or his delegate to obtain in accordance with FIN03 Procurement Policy an independent land valuation of the property, quotes from real estate agents for the sale of the land and quotes from property conveyancer for the land transactions.

The CEO should be delegated approval to appoint the real estate agent and recommended sale method and also to appoint the conveyancer for the land transactions on behalf of Council.

All necessary documentation will require the application of the Common Seal.

LINKS WITH STRATEGIC PLAN

Prosperity - Our Economy and Growth

Places - Roads and Infrastructure

Performance - An Effective and Efficient Organisation

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The power to dispose of Council property derives from section 267 of the Local Government Act 2019, which is subject to the Minister's guidelines, being Guideline 4: Assets. Under Guideline 4, the sale of a major asset requires Council approval, and where an asset valued at $100,000 or more is not sold by public auction or public tender, the method of sale must be approved by resolution of Council stating the public interest reasons for that method.

FIN01 Asset Disposal does not delegate the sale of land to the Chief Executive Officer; disposal of land must be approved by resolution of Council. FIN01 requires that proceeds of sale be applied to a particular purpose, being reduction of debt associated with the asset, offset of replacement asset costs, a specific reserve fund, or another purpose determined by Council resolution.

FIN04 Financial Reserves details the types of financial reserves managed by Council.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The unimproved capital value (UCV) of the parcel as at 1 July 2024 is $870,000. UCV is a valuation basis used for rating purposes and may not reflect market value; an independent valuation will be obtained to inform the reserve price.

Land in Council's Asset Management System (Civica) is recorded as Council owned land rather than as a depreciating asset. Upon disposal, the difference between the sales proceeds and the land’s carrying amount in Council’s financial records will be recognised as a gain or loss on disposal in accordance with the applicable Australian Accounting Standards.

Costs of sale are expected to include the independent valuation, real estate agent commission and conveyancing fees. These will be met from Council’s Planning Consultancy funds and deducted from the proceeds of sale prior to transfer to the Asset Reserve.

It is recommended that net proceeds be allocated to Council's Asset Reserve, which funds the renewal, replacement and upgrade of existing assets and the establishment of new assets in line with Council's Asset Management Plans.

RISKS

There are no perceived risks associated with the sale of land.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

NIL

REGISTER BOOK

Volume 233 Folio. 40

DEPUTY REGISTRAR GENERAL

NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA

GRANT IN FEE SIMPLE

The Minister, in the name of the NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA (called "The Territory"), under the Crown Lands Act, grants to LITCHFIELD SHIRE COUNCIL whose address is PO Box 446 Humpty Doo N.T. an estate in fee simple of all that land containing an area of two hectares or thereabouts and being Section 4223 Hundred of Bagot in the Northern Territory of Australia as delineated on the plan hereon and therein tinted green subject to the encumbrances notified hereunder, subject to the reservations including a reservation of all minerals, mineral substances and ores, and rights to which this grant is made subject by the Crown Lands Act

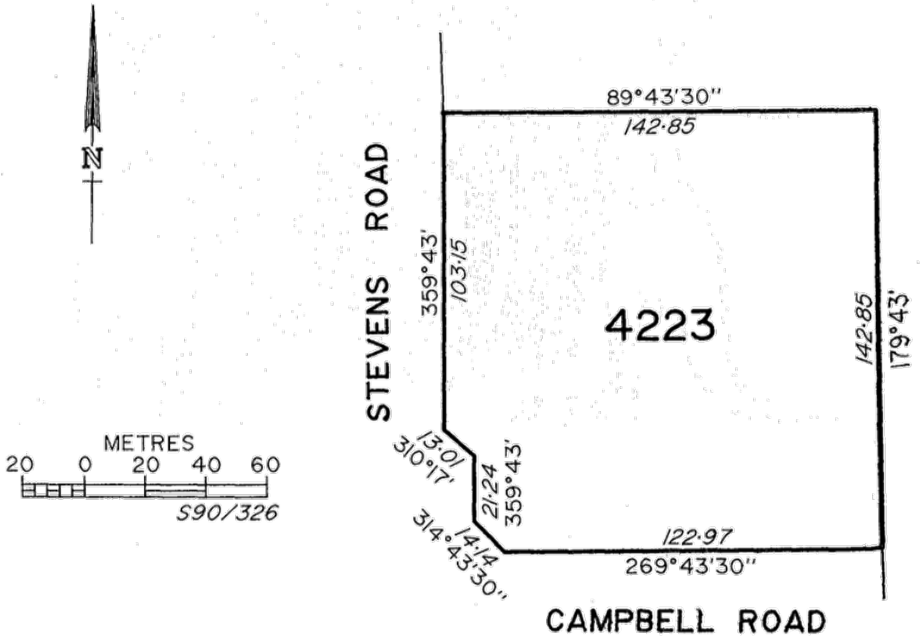
IN WITNESS WHEREOF I hereunto set my hand and seal this SEVENTH day of AUGUST ,1991

SIGNED SEALED AND DELIVERED BY

GRAHAM STANLEY NEWHOUSE
DELEGATE OF THE MINISTER

SEAL

WITNESS M. Moriarty.



ENCUMBRANCES REFERRED TO:

Nil

I certify that this Grant is correct for execution

Surveyor-General, N.T.

Date Registered: 08/05/2017 **Volume** 818 **Folio** 522
Duplicate Certificate as to Title issued? No

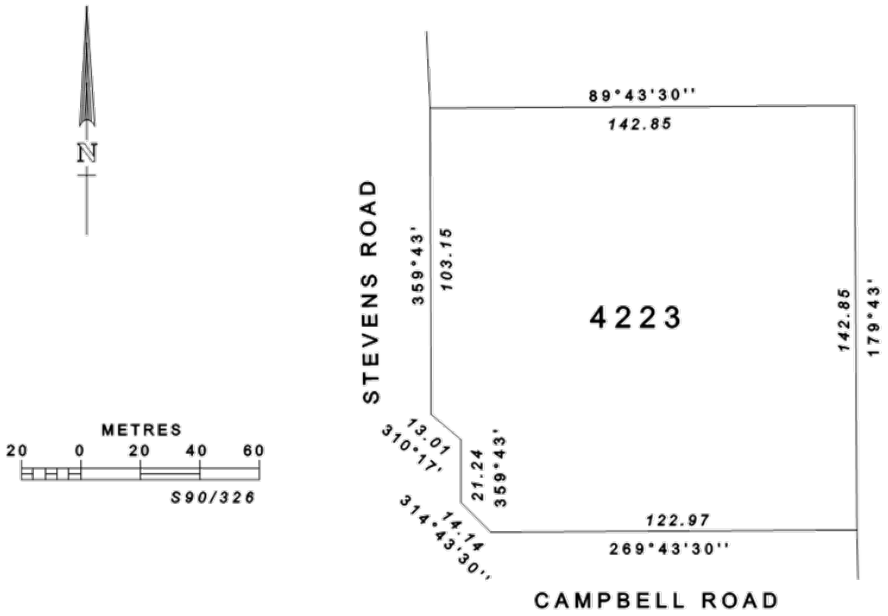
SEARCH CERTIFICATE

Section 4223 Hundred of Bagot from plan(s) S 90/326
Area under title is 2 hectares

Owner:
Litchfield Council
of P.O. Box 446, Humpty Doo N.T. 0836

Registered Date	Dealing Number	Description
		Previous title is **Volume** 233 **Folio** 040

End of Dealings



NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA

Record of Administrative Interests and Information

Record of Administrative Interests and Information
The information contained in this record of Administrative Interests only relates to the below parcel reference.

Parcel Reference: Section 04223 Hundred of Bagot plan(s) S 90/326

(See section 38 of the Land Title Act)

Note: The Record of Administrative Interests and Information is not part of the Land Register and is not guaranteed by the Northern Territory of Australia, and the NT Government accepts no Liability for any omission, misstatement or inaccuracy contained in this statement.

Registrar General

Government Land Register
(none found)

Custodian - Registrar General (+61 8 8999 6252)

Current Title
CUFT 818 522 (order 1)

Tenure Type
ESTATE IN FEE SIMPLE

Tenure Status
Current

Area Under Title
2 hectares

Owners
Litchfield Council
P.O. Box 446, Humpty Doo N.T. 0836

Easements
(none found)

Scheme Name
(none found)

Scheme Body Corporate Name
(none found)

Reserved Name(s)
(none found)

Unit Entitlements
(none found)

Transfers
(none found)

Tenure Comments
(none found)

Historic Titles
CUFT 233 040 (order 1)
Visit the website http://www.nt.gov.au/justice/bdm/land_title_office/

Custodian - Surveyor General (+61 8 8995 5346)

Address
5 CAMPBELL RD, KNUCKEY LAGOON

Survey Plan
S 90/326

Survey Status
Approved

Parcel Status
CURRENT

Parcel Area
2 hectares

Map Reference
Code 200 Scale 2500 Sheet 35.24

Parent Parcels
(none found)

Parcel Comments
PART SECTION 107-APPLN BY LITCHFIELD SHIRE COUNCIL REF 90/1007/134, LAP90/35-6.

Survey Comments
(none found)

Proposed Easements
(none found)

Local Government Area
LITCHFIELD MUNICIPALITY

Region
DARWIN

Custodian - Valuer General (+61 8 8995 5375)

Owner's Last Known Address
LITCHFIELD COUNCIL , PO BOX 446, HUMPTY DOO NT 0836

Parcels in Valuation
Section 04223 Hundred of Bagot

Unimproved Capital Value
$870,000 on 01/07/2024
$750,000 on 01/07/2021
$800,000 on 01/07/2018
$1,000,000 on 01/07/2015
$874,000 on 01/07/2012
$780,000 on 01/07/2009
$540,000 on 01/07/2006
$270,000 on 01/07/2003
$245,000 on 01/07/2000
$245,000 on 01/07/1997
$160,000 on 01/07/1994
$85,000 on 01/07/1991
$75,000 on 01/01/1989

Custodian - Property Purchasing (+61 8 8999 6886)

Acquisitions
(none found)

Custodian - Building Advisory Service (+61 8 8999 8965)

Building Control Areas
BBDAR001 - Building Control Area DARWIN BUILDING AREA

Building Permits
(none found)

Visit the website http://www.nt.gov.au/building/

Custodian - Town Planning and Development Assessment Services (+61 8 8999 6046)

Planning Scheme Zone
CP (Community Purpose)

Overlays:
(none found)

Strategic Frameworks: The following strategic frameworks may apply to your land
Regional Plans:
• Darwin Regional Land Use Plan
Sub Regional Plans:
• Litchfield Subregional Land Use Plan
Area Plans:
• None

Interim Development Control Orders
(none found)

Planning Notes
(none found)

Planning Applications
(none found)

Custodian - Pastoral Estate - Vegetation Assessment Unit (+61 8 8999 4454)
(none found)

Visit the website for information on Pastoral land permits.

Custodian - Power and Water Corporation (1800 245 092)

Meters on Parcel

Power Water - Electricity	(none found)
Power Water - Water	(none found)

For Account balances, contact the Power and Water Corporation.

Custodian - Pool Fencing Unit (+61 8 8924 3641)

Swimming Pool/Spa Status
(none found)

For more information, contact the Pool Fencing Unit (+61 8 8924 3641).

Custodian - Department of Mining and Energy (+61 8 8999 5263)

Mineral Titles

Title ID	Status	Title Type	Expiry Date	Legislation
RL390	Granted	Reserve Land		Mineral Titles Act 2010

For additional information contact the Mineral Titles Team on +61 8 8999 5322

Energy Titles

Title ID	Status	Title Type	Expiry Date	Legislation
GRO1	Granted	Geothermal Reserved from Occupation		Geothermal Energy Act 2009
RB56	Granted	Reservation of Blocks		Petroleum Act 1984
RB101	Granted	Reservation of Blocks		Petroleum Act 1984

For additional information contact the Petroleum Tenure Team on +61 8 8999 5263

Land Access Agreements
(none found)

For additional information contact the Land Access Team on +61 8 8999 5240

For further information contact as above or visit the website https://strike.nt.gov.au

Custodian - NT Environment Protection Authority (+61 8 8924 4218)

Results of site contamination assessment
(none found)

For further information contact Environment Protection Authority or visit the website https://ntepa.nt.gov.au/your-business/public-registers/contaminated-land-audits

Custodian - Heritage Branch (+61 8 8999 5039)

Heritage Listing:
(none found)

For further information on heritage places contact Heritage Branch or visit the website
https://nt.gov.au/property/land/heritage-register-search-for-places-or-objects

Other Interests

For Account balances, contact Litchfield Council

Locality Diagram



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Northern Territory Government

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15 OTHER BUSINESS

16 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

RECOMMENDATION

Pursuant to Section 93 of the Local Government Act and Regulation 51 of Local Government (General) Regulations the meeting be closed to the public to consider the following confidential item(s):

16.1 Confidential Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 19 October 2026

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 99(2) - ci of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on, any person.

16.2 Confidential Minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting held on 3 November 2026

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 99(2) - ci of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on, any person.

16.3 2026-27 Annual Community Grants

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 99(2) - ci and civ of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on, any person and information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to subject to subregulation (3) - prejudice the interest of the council or some other person.

16.4 Risk Management and Audit Committee Confidential Minutes 29 October 2026

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 99(2) - d of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with information subject to an obligation of confidentiality at law, or in equity.

16.5 Moving Confidential Items to Open

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 99(2) - ciii of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to prejudice the security of the council, its members or staff.

17 REPORT OF CONFIDENTIAL RESOLUTIONS

18 CLOSE OF MEETING