

BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL



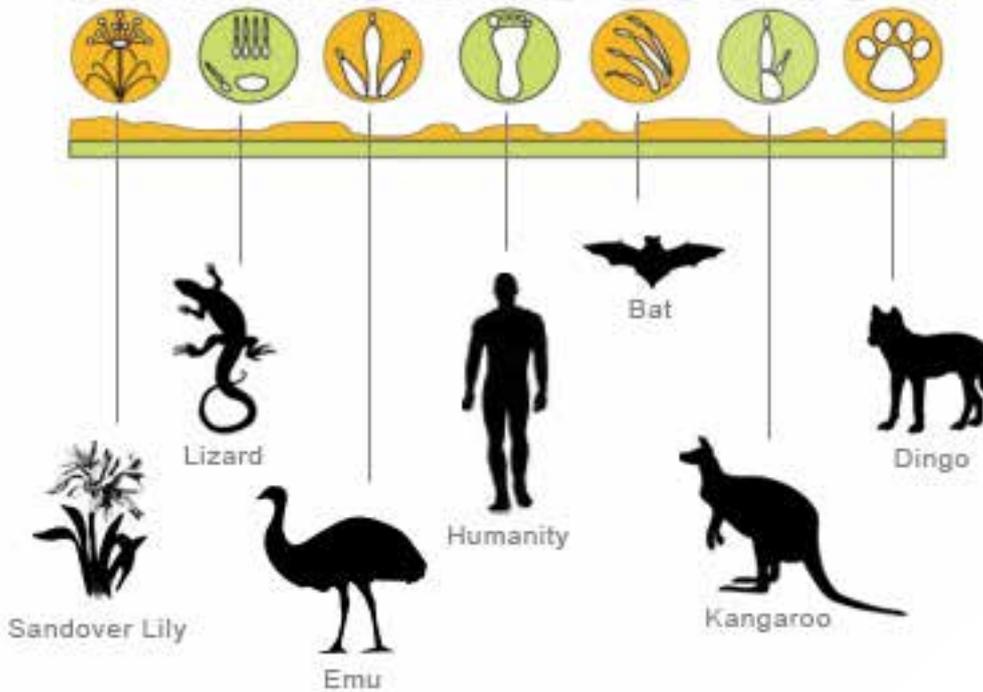
Annual Report

2016 – 2017



Every picture tells a story

BARKLY SHIRE COUNCIL



'A footprint has no colour and humanity has to be there. There were these visual tracks right across the Barkly region.'

- Former President Rosalie Kunoth Monks

The **Barkly Regional Council's** logo was created by Barbara Whippy who incorporated logos from the previous smaller community councils.

The base line for the logo is the "McDouall Ranges" north of Tennant Creek, named by John McDouall Stuart on in June, 1860. This was in honour of Colonel James McDouall, of the 2nd Life Guards, Logan and Wigtownshire. Locally they are known as the "Honeymoon Ranges" so called by the newlyweds camping on their mining leases in the range during the 1930s gold rush.

Above, there is a row of symbols starting with the Sandover Lily which represents the Urapuntja or Utopia region, the Lizard which symbolises Nyinkka, a sacred symbol in Tennant Creek, and Emu which characterises Elliott and the surrounding region.

The footprint in the centre represents humanity – all of the people of the Barkly – with the Bat representing Alpururulam, Kangaroo characterising Ampilatwatja and Dingo a sacred symbol for Ali Curung.

The Tracks of the Barkly logo shows that Barkly Regional Council as represented by the Council laws are listening to the communities and to the people of this vast remote region, not only with their intellects but with their heart.

Contents

President's Message.....	2
Chief Executive Officer's Report.....	3
About Us.....	4
Barkly Regional Council Elected Members.....	5
2017 Organisational Chart.....	6
Delivery of services to communities.....	7
Strategic Planning Vision.....	8
Strategic Planning Assessment.....	9
Governance & Community Engagement.....	18
Local Authority Profiles & Projects.....	20
Local Authority Highlights.....	26
Corporate Services Directorate.....	28
Grants Management.....	31
Growing Our Own.....	34
Community Services Directorate.....	37
Community Engagement - Celebratory Events.....	43
Infrastructure Directorate.....	45
Community Project Highlights.....	49
General Purpose Financial Reports for the year ending 30 June 2017.....	52



President's Message

On behalf of Council, I am pleased to report on the major activities of Barkly Regional Council for the 2016-2017 financial year. This report is designed to provide information to the community on what was achieved throughout the year.

Council delivered a range of services to the towns and communities across one of the largest local government areas in Australia. Funding is always a challenge and this year we strived to deliver our core services to the region with the available resources. We also provided Night Patrol, Aged Care, Sports and Recreation and Play Group programs to most of the remote communities in the Barkly.

Council staff worked hard to consolidate funds and evaluate the benefits from several large projects completed during the previous financial year. These efforts assisted Council to finish the year in an improved financial position. This work also allowed us to plan and budget for an equipment replacement program to improve municipal service delivery.

Staff turnover has been an enduring challenge, including the departure of our former CEO. This was followed by a long recruitment process that resulted in the appointment of Steve Moore to the CEO position towards the end of the financial year.

Council was actively involved in several community events during the year, including Australia Day celebrations, ANZAC Day Dawn Service, International Women's Day and the

quarterly Citizenship Ceremonies. Of particular note was an invitation to present at the National Australia Day Conference.

Several major projects have commenced in the Barkly, including the construction of the gas pipeline between Tennant Creek and Mt Isa and the re-opening of the Edna Beryl Gold Mine. I am confident both projects will be successful and contribute to future growth in the region.

With Council elections approaching, I have decided this is the right time to step down from public life and pursue other community interests. I thank the people & families of the Barkly who have supported me in the role of President.

I would like to thank my fellow Councillors, management and staff of Barkly Regional Council for their hard work and commitment during the year. Local Government can be a challenging sector. We are the tier of Government that works at a grassroots level to deliver essential services for the benefit of the community. It has been a great honour to serve the people of this region over the past eight years. I am confident the Barkly will continue to grow and prosper under the guidance of the new President and Council. I wish you all good luck with your future endeavours as part of Barkly Regional Council.

Kind Regards

Barb Shaw
President



Chief Executive Officer's Report

The Barkly Regional Council Annual Report details our operations over the past year and is intended to provide a picture of Council's activities, achievements and challenges.

Barkly Regional Council delivers municipal and essential services across 323,514km, and covers some of the most remote parts of Australia. Our region includes the towns of Tennant Creek and Elliott, along with the remote communities of Ali Curung, Alpururulam, Ampilatwatja and Wutunugurra. The outstation of Arparra and a number of homelands are also an important part of the Barkly.

The 2016-17 financial year has been one of consolidation and evaluation following the completion of several large projects during 2015-16. While no large projects were completed this year, our efforts resulted in cost reductions assisting Council to finish the year in a much stronger financial position. This has allowed council to plan and implement a capital improvement program for the 2017-2018 financial year.

During the past 12 months an extensive asset evaluation was conducted resulting in many of Council's assets being revalued. This is the first step in a process that will allow Council to effectively develop an asset management plan for the next financial year for all plant, equipment and infrastructure owned by Council. This should result in an effective asset replacement schedule that will allow our staff to perform their duties in a much more efficient manner and reduce operating costs in the medium term.

This year saw several key staff depart Council, including the former CEO. The ensuing high-level

change disrupted Council's ability to fully realise its strategic development. Having said this though, there are many good news stories highlighted in the Annual Report, which directly relate to and positively illustrate Council's achievements. Staff employment and retention also continues to be a major challenge for Council, and a new program has commenced to attract and retain staff. Our commitment to the Barkly is to hire local residents whenever possible and also to commence a program to grow our own staff and promote from within.

Delivering core municipal services throughout our region is our number one priority. This year has presented some challenges with a number of equipment breakdowns hampering our efforts to deliver on key services. Staff members have worked hard to keep our streets clean, our bins empty and our public parks neat and tidy. I would like to thank staff for their hard work over the year; our geographic location and extreme climate can make this work very demanding.

Finally, I would like to thank our elected members for their guidance and support throughout the year. This Council has sat for five years, longer than members had expected and they have worked tirelessly throughout the year to improve the Barkly region. With Elections to be held in August some of our Councillors and our President will not be standing for re-election. I would like to thank the out-going President, Barb Shaw, for her commitment over the last eight years and wish her well with her future endeavours.

Steve Moore

Chief Executive Officer



About Us

Background

In October 2006 the Northern Territory Government announced the reform of local government areas. The intention of the reform was to improve and expand the delivery of services to towns and communities across the Northern Territory by establishing 11 new super shires.

The Barkly Shire Council was formed on 1 July 2008 as were the remaining ten shires. Barkly Shire became the second largest Local Government area in Australia at 323,514km², after East Pilbara shire in Western Australia at 380,000km².

Following a review of Local Government, the Northern Territory Government announced that amongst other changes the name "Shire Council" would be changed to "Regional Council" in the eight large Northern Territory Shires.

Council agreed to introduce this change on the 1st January 2014, marking the start of a new era for the Barkly Regional Council.

The Northern Territory Government also flagged increasing the responsibility of Local Authorities, formerly known as Local Boards, in representing local communities and towns. The name change and the change in Local Authorities reflected a growing sophistication and acknowledgment of the developing regional responsibility of the Barkly Regional Council.

Where We Are

The boundaries of the Barkly region extend eastwards from the town of Tennant Creek to the Queensland border near Avon Downs Station.

Roughly the same size as New Zealand, the region consists largely of open grass plains and some of the world's largest cattle stations. It runs as far south as Barrow Creek (206km south of Tennant Creek), 487.2km north of Tennant Creek to Newcastle Waters and westwards into the Tanami Desert.

Elected Members

The Barkly Regional Council is divided into four wards and is governed by a President (or Mayor) and 12 councillors:

Alywarr Ward (4)

Patta Ward (6 incl. President)

Kuwarrangu* (2) **New ward name change from Yapakurlangu gazetted by the Minister in 2016*

Alpurrurulam (1)

Councillors are elected to serve four year terms with the next election scheduled for August 2017.

Council holds an Ordinary Council Meeting every month, but this was changed to every two months from December 2016. Special Council Meetings were called as required. Meetings held in Tennant Creek and all council meetings are open to the public unless confidential business is being considered. Along with our Local Authority members' attendance at Council meetings, we encourage attendance by residents of our townships, our communities and other members of the public. Agendas and minutes are available on the Barkly Regional Council website <http://barkly.nt.gov.au>

Barkly Regional Council Elected Members

PATTA WARD



President Barb Shaw
barb.shaw@barkly.nt.gov.au



Councillor Pat Braun
pat.braun@barkly.nt.gov.au



Councillor Narelle Bremner
narelle.bremner@barkly.nt.gov.au



Councillor Hal Ruger
hal.ruger@barkly.nt.gov.au



Councillor Joyce Taylor
joyce.taylor@barkly.nt.gov.au



Councillor Neil Price
neil.price@barkly.nt.gov.au

ALYAWARR WARD



Councillor Ada Beasley
ada.beasley@barkly.nt.gov.au



Councillor Noel Hayes
noel.hayes@barkly.nt.gov.au



Councillor Lucy Jackson
lucy.jackson@barkly.nt.gov.au



Councillor Timothy Price
tim.price@barkly.nt.gov.au

KUWARRANGU WARD



Councillor Ray Aylett
ray.aylett@barkly.nt.gov.au



Councillor Bob Bagnall
bob.bagnall@barkly.nt.gov.au

ALPURRURULAM WARD



Councillor Jennifer Mahoney
jennifer.mahoney@barkly.nt.gov.au

Delivery of Services to Communities

	Tennant Creek	Elliot	Ali Curung	Alpurrurulam	Ampilatwatja	Ariparra	Wutunugurra	Tara
Municipal Services & Council Infrastructure								
Animal Management Program	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
Cemetery	✓	✓						
Community Roads	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Grass, Parks & Sportsground Maintenance	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Housing Homeland	*	✓	✓		✓			
Library	✓	✓						
Waste Collection	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Swimming Pool	✓							
Council Infrastructure	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Government Program Contracts								
Aged Care	*	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Night Patrol	*	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Play Group	*	✓						
Youth Sport and Recreation	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Safe House	*	✓	✓					
Commercial Functions								
Airstrip Maintenance	*	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Centrelink	*	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Essential Services	*	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Post Office Agency	*	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Street Lights	✓	✓			✓			
Street Sweeping	✓							

* Other Agencies providing services in Tennant Creek

Strategic Planning Vision

Who We Are

Barkly Regional Council is a regional council, providing infrastructure services and programs to individuals, couples, families, children's groups, schools, businesses and agencies across the Barkly. This region has a resident population of 7530 (Australian Bureau of Statistics 2016).

Who We Serve

Barkly Regional Council serves the townships of Tennant Creek and Elliott as well as the communities of Ali Curung, Ampilatwatja, Arlparra, Alpurrurulam, Elliott and Wutunugurra (Epenarra). In addition to these communities, there are approximately eight minor communities, the largest of which include Tara and Mungkarta, 70 family outstations, 49 pastoral stations, mining operations and commercial properties.

Regulatory Framework

The Council is bound by the Local Government Act and Regulations as well as other Northern Territory and Federal legislation. As such, compliance with a range of statutory obligations is essential. That is, the normal day to day operations of the Council and internal systems and procedures must be adequate to efficiently record and manage these compliance matters.

Our Core Business

From local government funding we provide essential and municipal services in the towns, communities and homelands across the Barkly region.

From the funding of the Australian and Northern Territory governments we provide contracted agency services to our residents.

Income from property owners and ratepayers and service charges from the provision of services supports both local government and agency services.

Our Core Competence

Through our work in the regional communities, we have developed a strong understanding of how to best serve the needs of those communities.

Barkly Regional Council contributes to our region by valuing all of its members and providing services to individuals, families and communities in ways that respect their dignity and culture and fulfil their needs for community services that provide safer communities. We provide a stable platform for workforce development and program delivery across our region.

Our Values

Our values inform how we work and are reflected in our staff and services. Our values are founded in the service standards, and are lived out through our interactions with each other:

- We believe that all people and all communities are equal in dignity and have equal rights
- Our staff are committed to working with people and communities in ways that value them, that are non-discriminatory, and that promote social justice
- We are committed to the common good. Our staff work with people to ensure that they have access to the resources and services they need to effectively participate in the community
- Our staff value the contributions of clients and communities, and foster local community driven services.



Strategic Planning Assessment

The work of Barkly Regional Council is carried out in a cross-cultural atmosphere that can represent a major challenge to achieve a shared and strategic vision. Acceptance and achievement of this vision is gradually occurring, especially on remote communities where it is imperative the needs of those communities and residents are correctly identified and met. The large geographical size of the council footprint, differing priorities of the various stakeholders, a churn of CEOs over the years, the tyranny of distance and difficulties in retaining staff have also contributed to operational and strategic challenges.

Council set out in its 2016/17 Regional Plan a chart of non-financial objectives and measures linked to Council's Strategic Plan. In order to measure progress across all goals, outcomes and measures, Barkly Regional Council has used a ratings system that quickly shows progress across our non-financial commitments in 2016-17.

STRATEGIC RATING KEY	
✓✓✓	Achieved completely or almost completed
✓✓	Partially achieved
✓	Not achieved or very little achieved

GOAL 1. We embrace cultural diversity and work respectfully

Outcome	Who	How	Measures
Council will demonstrate through people practice and purpose the diversity of the region	All Staff	By developing and using policies, practices and procedures that engage the staff and stakeholders	Number of consultations internal and external ✓✓✓
Acceptance of Local people/Culture			Stakeholder communication strategy ✓✓
Council respectfully maintains business during times and locality of cultural business			Employment strategy to reflect diversity ✓✓✓

1.1 Number of consultations internal and external

Human Resources conducted two staff consultations across Barkly Regional Council during 2016-17. The first was the 2016 Organisational Climate Survey which went out to all staff. The report resulted in a 13.1% increase in staff participation in the survey and an overall weighted average of 0.83 points (on a 5-point scale) higher than previous years, measuring a positive change in staff morale. The second was the Staff Housing Policy which went out to staff residing in Council owned or rented housing. The policy, which was adopted via Council resolution in February 2017, introduced tenancy agreements and has increased accountability in terms of up-keep and asset management.

Apart from service delivery liaison, the Infrastructure, Community Services Directorate, Area Managers of each community, IT, Learning and Development and the PR & Events office consult externally with organisations such as local businesses (in particular sponsorship for Australia Day); the NT Police; Tennant Creek Primary and High Schools; community schools; youth services, including Central Australian Youth Link Up Service (CAYLUS); the Aged Care network; Tennant Creek Community Safety Committee; Libraries NT; Barkly Regional Arts; Royal Life Saving NT; Charles Darwin University; Central

Desert Training; Family Violence Forum; Tennant Creek Women's refuge, Anyinginyi Aboriginal Health Corporation, Families as First Teachers (FaFT); Telstra; National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) and Julalikari Aboriginal Corporation CDP.

Director Infrastructure attended the Waste Management Expo in Darwin (March 2017), the Environment Transport Infrastructure Reference Group meeting in Darwin (March 2017), the NT Works Conference and Expo in Katherine (April 2017) and three meetings with the Central Australian Waste Management Working Group (CAWMWG).

Director Community Services facilitated a presentation from Our Watch on national initiatives in the area of the Prevention of Violence Against Women (September 2016).

Both directors from Infrastructure and Community Services attended Local Government Authority Northern Territory (LGANT) meetings, including a Governance Training workshop run by the Australian Institute of Company Directors (AICD) in April 2017.

The President and Acting CEO attended meetings, including lease negotiations for Council asset Juno in Tennant Creek and Section 19 leases in Alpururulam, discussions on a MOU between Barkly Regional Council and Mt Isa Town Council agreement for a Cross Border Alliance, the Regional Economic Development Committee, LGANT, as well as Federal and Northern Territory government agencies.

1.2 Stakeholder Communication Strategy

Council has put measures in place to keep the channels of communication and the evaluation process with stakeholders transparent and open to scrutiny. Because evaluations have many audiences, from internal stakeholders to evaluation participants, the communications strategy has ranged from sending a newsletter or preparing a progress report to uploading agendas and minuted meetings, such as the Purkiss Reserve Consultative Committee or Local Authority Meetings, on the Council website.

1.3 Employment strategy to reflect diversity

A Special Measures Plan was endorsed by Council in June 2016 and implemented in July 2016. Under the Special Measures Plan, Indigenous and disabled applicants who were found qualified and suitable received priority consideration for vacancies.

As at June 2017, the percentage of local Indigenous staff employed by Barkly Regional Council in Ali Curung was 83%, Arlparra 58 %, Alpururulam 80%, Ampilatwatja 76.2%, Elliott 77 %, Tennant Creek 35% and in Wutunugurra 88%. For graphs and tables showing employees by location, indigenous employees by location, employees by demographic and employee positions by demographic. See *pages 28 to 30*.

A Cultural Advisory Group of Indigenous councillors only was set up to ensure staff members are mindful and respectful of cultural issues in the Barkly. Sports and Recreation programs across the region also incorporate cultural activities such as taking community men, women and children on bush trips and utilising the multi-media program in communities to connect youth with elders. As much as possible resources, such as posters and leaflets, are provided in language and interpreters are available when needed, for example during the delivery of Aged Care hampers. During times of cultural significance Council services continue discreetly; services will cease if asked by community elders.

GOAL 2. We will maximise regional development

Outcome	Who	How	Measures
<p>Develop networks and referral pathways</p> <p>Establish and develop relationships with other service providers within the Barkly region</p> <p>Develop partnering arrangements sympathetic to the needs of the communities and Tennant Creek</p>	All Staff	<p>Networks and community to be informed of program.</p> <p>Early introduction of employees to existing stakeholder groups.</p> <p>Promotional material is freely available to likely collaborators</p>	<p>Relationships are established, and through collaborative process develop and document the identification of key liaison personnel in delivering services ✓✓</p> <p>Evidence of a system of access for participants and referral by primary providers, community services and community members. Addressed in all progress reports ✓✓</p>

2.1 Relationships are established, and through collaborative processes develop and document the identification of key liaison personnel in delivering services

This year has seen a marked increase in the level of cooperation between other service providers and Council staff across the communities of the Barkly region. For example, in Community Services, the positive partnering arrangement with Central Australian Youth Link Up Service (CAYLUS) enabled assistance with finding staff for Sports and Recreation positions on communities.

The Animal Management team continues to collaborate with Animal Management in Remote and Rural Indigenous Communities (AMRRIC), the Tennant Creek vet and vets from Canberra to deliver de-sexing programs to communities of the Barkly. With more than 580 animals desexed this has significantly impacted on reducing dog and feral cat populations.

A partnership with NDIS improved outcomes for NDIS clients in the region and set up a pathway for NDIS to invite the Barkly Regional Council to be provider of choice for the next financial year.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Council, Rainbow Gateway (Alpurrurulam CDP Provider) and Alpurrurulam Land Aboriginal Corporation was finalised to improve service delivery outcomes for the community.

Through collaborative processes Council's Infrastructure Department established a key relationship with the NTG's Department of Education resulting in negotiations for a trial one-year lease of Council freehold land at Juno to be extended to a 10-year-lease in the next financial year. Key personnel identified in this project included Depot staff, Barkly Work Camp and Julalikari Community Development Program (CDP) workers in the clearing of land around the Juno Centre. Council also liaised with the Tennant Creek High School as the Juno Centre is to be used for pastoral and agricultural studies for high school students in Tennant Creek, Katherine and smaller remote communities in the Barkly.

Council's Infrastructure Department also established a key relationship with the Central Australian Waste Management Working Group (CAWMWG), resulting in a milestone partnership between the Barkly, West MacDonnell and Central Desert regional councils to seek special capital funding to procure a metal baler to crush cars and equitably service the three regions in 2017-18.

2.2 A system of access for participants and referral by primary providers, community services and community members - addressed in all progress reports.

After each Ordinary Council Meeting, Local Authority and Committee meetings, an Action List is distributed to Directors, staff and community members and existing stakeholder groups. What has been completed or still needs to be completed is addressed in progress reports. Minuted meetings and agendas are uploaded on to the Council website <http://barkly.nt.gov.au>

Community Services networks and local community members are informed of Council programs through Area Managers, and delivery of services by staff in Aged Care and Sports & Recreation.

GOAL 3. We grow our own

Outcome	Who	How	Measures
Service and capacity training designed to build capacity, ongoing education & training for local people employment.	Council Chief Executive Officer Executive Staff	Perform a training audit of staff matched to the needs of the roles. Develop succession planning Good recruitment processes. Supervision and work plan reviewed.	Training attended by staff meets minimum requirements for role. ✓✓✓ Professional development plans are developed for all staff ✓✓ Succession Planning Model developed ✓ Employ local people (High School Student Cadetships) during 2016/2017 ✓✓✓

3.1 Training attended by staff, designed to build capacity and ongoing education and employment

Training is a cornerstone of Council to attract and retain staff by building capacity for skills development.

Training courses attended in 2016-17 as follows:-

- **Vehicles and Licences:** 4WD – 49; Light Rigid Licence - 1
- **Safety and Wellbeing:** Aggressive Behaviour Management - 11; Family Violence Workshops - 4; Mental Health First Aid workshops - 3; WHS training - 2; Mandatory Reporting Workshops - 34 ; Provide First Aid - 54; CPR - 25; Chemical Safety - 9 , White Card – 5;
- **Swimming Pool:** Pool Lifeguard - 12 ; Bronze Medallion – 7; Online First Aid – 3; Pool Operator - 3
- **Admin and IT:** Minutes Taking (Exec Assistants) - 2; Procurement - 1; Organising Meetings – 1; Excel Training – 12; InfoXpert Training – 16; Certificate II in Information, Digital Media and Technology - 1
- **Community Services:** Certificate courses in Community Services - 21, Basketball Coaching – 6; Certificate III in Community Night Patrol Training – 16; Core Skills Training (LLN) across 3 x communities - 80
- **Municipal and ESO:** Traffic Management – 22; Waste Management – 13; Essential Services Officer (ESO) Familiarisation Course – 10; Aerodrome Serviceability – 3, Certificate III in Mobile Plant Technology – 1; Certificate III in Civil Construction – 1, Certificate III in Engineering (Fabrication Trade) - 1

- **Plant and Machinery:** Heavy Machinery Ticketing – 6; Operate Chainsaw - 1
- **Environment:** 2 – S4 Licence training (Animal Management) -2; Certificate IV in Conservation and Land Management – 4; Bachelor of Science (Scott Spurling) – 1; Local Government Regulatory Officer Training - 3
- **Leadership:** Cert IV Leadership and Management – 7; Diploma in Local Government – 7; Governance Training (Australian Institute of Company Directors) - 3

3.2 Professional Development Plans

PD plans were developed with staff, particularly in the form of appraisals, but most notably for our junior staff based in the communities. This was done through the development of Core Skills Tracking and the continuation of the Learning and Numeracy/ Core Skills Development program where supervision and work plans were reviewed. Continual internal audits of staff highlight where skills need improving, such as the two executive assistants who required additional training with minutes taking.

3.3 Succession Planning Model

Developing a succession planning model has not yet been undertaken but there are plans to implement one for the 2017-18 financial year.

3.4 Employing locals

Council employs at least 180 local people with almost 90% of the mechanical and municipal workers at the Tennant Creek Council Depot being local with more than 10 years experience in the Barkly region. The Tennant Creek Depot Municipal Manager is a Native Title Holder. A High School Student Cadetship program was not undertaken but plans for an apprenticeship scheme at the Tennant Creek Depot are underway for the 2017-18 financial year.

GOAL 4. We build and have meaningful partnerships

Outcome	Who	How	Measures
Establish interagency groups to promote services and share information.	All Staff	Attendance at agency and stakeholder meetings. Consultative initiatives to joint projects	Progress reports. Copies of agendas and minutes are available on request ✓✓
Collaborative arrangements becomes a part of Council DNA		Facilitation of communities meetings and forums. Information exchange for economic development	Disseminate electronic promotional material ✓✓

4.1 Progress reports and copies of agendas, minutes

Collaborative arrangements between Council staff and external agencies has seen an overall improvement, with staff from the Infrastructure and Community Services directorates and Public Relations attracting eight new successful consultative initiatives with the following agencies: NDIS, Julalikari Aboriginal Corporation (CDP), Mt Isa Town Council, Artback NT, NT Libraries, Power & Water, Family as First Teachers and Central Australian Waste Management Working Group (CAWMWG).

Consultative initiatives also included the use of Council assets, for example Juno Centre on Peko Road, the Cemetery in Tennant Creek, Purkiss Reserve, the Youth Links Centre in Tennant Creek and the Tennant Creek Bowling Club.

Staff members regularly attend community meetings and forums to liaise with, promote services and

share information with the following stakeholders and agencies:

- NT Police (Tennant Creek and communities)
- Tennant Creek Primary & High Schools and community schools
- Youth Services providers, including CAYLUS
- Red Cross Tennant Creek
- Catholic Care Tennant Creek
- Anyinginyi Aboriginal Health Corporation
- Julalikari Aboriginal Corporation (Community Development Program)
- Barkly Regional Arts
- Barkly Work Camp
- Aged Care Network, including NDIS
- Artback NT and NT Libraries
- Australia Day Council (National and Northern Territory)
- Tennant Creek Transport Forum, plus tourism and economic development forums
- Mt Isa Town Council for the Cross Border Economic Alliance (MOU) discussions
- Central Australian Waste Management Working Group

Information from many of these meetings is incorporated into Directorate reports as part of Local Authority, Ordinary Council and Committee Meeting Agendas and Minutes. Many of these meetings also result in partnerships being formed such as sponsorship from Power & Water, workshops held by NT Libraries, Artback NT and FaFT, joint running of events with Anyinginyi and Barkly Regional Arts and worker assistance on projects from Julalikari CDP.

Council has adopted a system where progress reports, copies of agendas and minutes are available on request internally on InfoExpert and externally on the Council's website <https://barkly.nt.gov.au>

4.2 Disseminate information and promotional material

Council has built a database of interagency groups and community members to distribute a community e-newsletter highlighting local events and Council news monthly; up-to-date information/Media Releases/Event Reminders/Promotional Call Outs & Material shared electronically (daily and weekly as and when necessary) via email, monthly President's column, Barkly Buzz and the Council website. Plans for a Council Facebook Page are being developed for 2017-18.

This database was largely built from contacts established by staff attending agency, stakeholder and community meetings and forums.

GOAL 5. We support community well-being through standard and consistent service delivery

Outcome	Who	How	Measures
Develop an organisational work planning system where: Individual Activity Work Plans Project & Operational Plans Business Unit Plans The related Budgets Risk management plans Strategic Plan are prepared	All Staff	Procedure manuals and succession plans are developed incorporating present practice where applicable Manuals are reviewed Critical roles identified and succession plans initiated	Plans give sound indication of direction of program, outlining program plans, and risk management and communication strategies. Critical work continues without interruption ✓✓ Internal audit identifies whether documented procedures remain relevant to practice or indicate whether changes are required to the documents. ✓✓✓

5.1 Plans give sound indication of direction of program, outlining program plans, and risk management and communication strategies.

All funding agreements for programs, especially in Infrastructure, Community Services and Events, have identified outcomes and program plans which are regularly reviewed, both internally and externally, with funders and these updates are directly reported to Council. For all major events run by Council there are risk management strategies in place, for example Australia Day, International Women's Day, Youth Week program, Territory Day, NAIDOC Week activities, and inter-community sporting competitions in Arlparra and Ampilatwatja.

Program requirements are regularly discussed with team members and other interested parties such as schools and community members. Individual activity work plans, including risk assessment, at the Youth Centre in Tennant Creek and Sports and Recreation in Elliott and the other communities, are prepared and regularly reviewed by Director Community Services.

An overall organisation work planning system is still due to be implemented.

5.2 Internal audit identifies whether documented procedures remain relevant to practice or indicate whether changes are required to the documents.

Resource material and documented procedures are updated to ensure accuracy and currency. For example, Aged Care Manuals, as well as policies and procedures, were changed to suit the revised needs of clients, the Tennant Creek Swimming Pool operational manual was updated with assistance from Royal Life Saving NT, and a new, comprehensive in-house policy, governing all aspects of IT and the use of Council's resources, particularly mobile phones, laptop/desktop computers and satellite phones, was completed in November 2016 and is waiting to be endorsed by Council.

GOAL 6. We are a strong regional leader in governance

Outcome	Who	How	Measures
Strategic vision, Mission and revision of the strategic direction of Council	Council Local Authority	Attendance and fully participating at formal meetings	Number of attendances ✓✓

6.1 Number of attendances

In addition to the Ordinary Council Meetings, committee meetings were held regularly for the Audit Committee, Finance and Operations Committee, Cultural Advisory Committee, CEO Review Committee, Purkiss Reserve Consultative Committee and Local Authorities.

Meeting attendances of elected members: President Shaw (20), Councillor Aylett (12), Councillor Bagnall (27), Councillor Beasley (6), Councillor Braun (11), Councillor Bremner (19), Councillor Hayes (17), Councillor Jackson (10), Councillor Mahoney (5), Councillor Neil Price (17), Councillor Timothy Price (10), Councillor Ruger (14) and Councillor Taylor (23). See page 19, for the full graph.

The Local Authorities worked with Council's Acting CEO and Area Managers for each community to identify opportunities for funding to help achieve Local Authority plans. No-one was employed in the role of Governance until mid 2017.

Number of Local Authority meetings held in Ali Curung (4), Alpurrurulam (0), Ampilatwatja (1), Arlparra (3), Elliott (5), Tennant Creek (6) and Wutunugurra (4). It is to be noted that no quorums were met for the community of Alpurrurulam and only 1 quorum was met for Ampilatwatja.

Thirteen Local Authority projects were completed out of a total of 27 projects. Completed projects were as follows: Ali Curung (5), Ampilatwatja (4), Elliott (2) and Wutunugurra (2).

Tennant Creek Local Authority Funds of \$99,000 were allocated to eight previously incomplete community projects from 2015-16; \$120,000 to one project in Alpururulam and \$119, 590 to five projects in Arlparra. While some are proceeding, none of these projects were completed in 2016-17. See pages 20 to 25, for full details.

GOAL 7. We will be innovative and professional

Outcome	Who	How	Measures
New projects and opportunities are pursued	Council All Staff	By developing robust analysis of projects etc.	Number of new projects taken up ✓✓✓

7.1 Number of new projects taken up

Due to the large number of major infrastructure projects undertaken in the 2015-16 financial year, 2016-17 was a period of consolidation and review. Having said this, the Infrastructure Directorate successfully delivered and completed 18 projects on communities, ranging from maintenance and renovation of buildings to cleaning up waste areas and pothole repairs, after Area Managers sent in wish lists. See pages 45-51, for a full review.

Robust analysis of landfill and waste resulted in Council for the first time hiring contractors to shred its ever growing pile of rubber tyres (4455 in total) at its Tennant Creek Landfill, eliminating the potential for mosquito breeding. Re-using the shredded rubber as soft-fall at playgrounds or for commercial purposes is now being investigated.

For the first time, 386 car wrecks were crushed and taken away, resulting in a partnership with Central Desert and MacDonnell regional councils through the Central Australian Waste Management Working Group (CAWMWG). Now plans are underway to secure a metal baler.

In the construction of the Atnwengerrpe ablution block, Council adopted the innovative use of a separate maintenance niche (room) to locate plumbing for ease of maintenance and for removing exposure to vandalism of parts such as cisterns and pipes. See page 26, for full story.

Staff created new systems where inefficiencies were noted. Human Resources implemented the EziSuite software system which streamlined the entire recruitment process and enhanced Council's professional profile for applicants considering the Council as a prospective employer.

The Literacy, Numeracy/Core Skills Development Program, first trialled in August 2014, has been innovative in its robust analysis which has seen it grow from a project aimed at assisting with basic language, literacy and numeracy skills of workers in remote Council communities to a tailor-made program designed to develop relevant work resources, increase employability skills and close the gap for Indigenous workers.

Community engagement opportunities, especially in relation to the Tennant Creek Swimming Pool, have been actively pursued with movie nights, pool parties and external catering at the kiosk to make it the 'go to place' in town for a bite to eat and a relaxing cup of coffee.

Council moved to a new accounting system Tech One to streamline the invoice and Purchase Order system on 1 July 2016.

GOAL 8. We will stand up for Local Government and push back

Outcome	Who	How	Measures
Submissions to Commonwealth and Territory Government	Council Chief Executive Officer Executive Staff	Timely response to issues relative to region	Number of submissions made and number of Regional issues responded to ✓✓

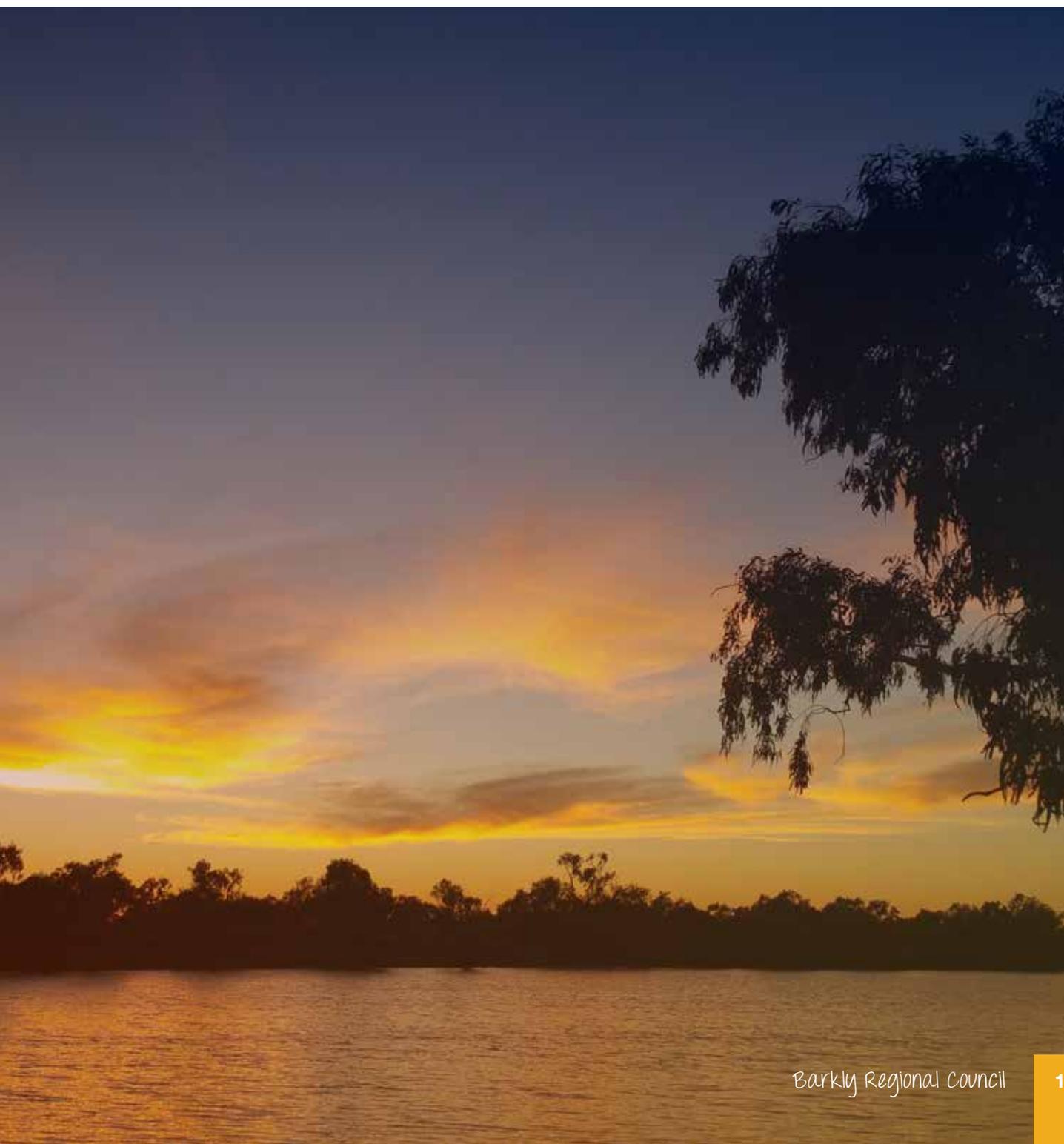
8.1 Number of submissions made and number of regional issues responded to

Director Community Services pushed back on the School Nutrition Program as funds set aside for delivery of the program fell short, with Council often footing the bill. This program was ceased in 2017.

Director Community Services pushed for quality Aged Care training with the Commonwealth's Department of Health and the result was two outstanding audit results of Aged Care services across the region.

Community Services has also been advocating for improved infrastructure for Aged Care services across the Barkly, and successfully attracted funds for an after-school and school holiday program of activities at Youth Links in Tennant Creek.

Barkly Regional Council applied for nine grants from Commonwealth and Northern Territory governments in 2016-17. *See page 33, for more details.*



Governance & Community Engagement

Local Authority plans in most of the communities were developed for the year which provided Council with clear direction on the types of projects that community residents wanted resources to go towards.

Achieving the requisite number of local authority meetings per year is still a challenge for some communities, in particular Alpururulam and Alparra, as is member engagement. Finding a Governance officer was also problematic with the role being filled towards the end of 2016-17.

Snapshot of Local Authorities – 1 July 2016 - 31 December 2016

Local Authority	Number Appointed Members Positions ¹	Number Vacancies (as at 31.12.16)	Sitting Fees Expenditure (\$) ²	Travel Expenditure (\$) ³	Other (direct) Expenditure (\$) ⁴	Approved Project Budget ⁵	Actual Project Expenditure (\$) ⁶
Ali Curung	11	0	\$833.00			\$43,075.00	
Alpururulam	9	0				\$33,876.00	
Ampilatwatja	8	0			\$233.00	\$30,766.00	
Arparra	10	1	\$492.00			\$38,914.00	
Elliott	8	0	\$833.00			\$24,727.00	
Tennant Creek	7	0	\$1,953.00			\$50,000.00	
Wutunugurra	5	0	\$847.00			\$15,539.00	

Snapshot of Local Authorities – 1 January 2017 - 30 June 2017

Local Authority	Number Appointed Members Positions ⁷	Number Vacancies (as at 31.12.16)	Sitting Fees Expenditure (\$) ⁸	Travel Expenditure (\$) ⁹	Other (direct) Expenditure (\$) ¹⁰	Approved Project Budget ¹¹	Actual Project Expenditure (\$) ¹²
Ali Curung	11	0	\$3,457.00			\$43,075.00	
Alpururulam	9	0			\$227.00	\$33,876.00	
Ampilatwatja	8	0			\$492.00	\$30,766.00	
Arparra	10	1	\$1,354.00		\$118.00	\$38,914.00	
Elliott	8	0	\$2,391.00			\$24,727.00	\$1,000.00
Tennant Creek	7	0	\$2,925.00		\$519.00	\$50,000.00	
Wutunugurra	5	0	\$2,064.00		\$190.00	\$15,539.00	

¹ Including any vacancies, not including elected members

² Including sitting fees paid to elected members

³ Including transport, accommodation and travel allowance

⁴ Including training, materials, catering and visitor expenses, but excluding employee expenses

⁵ Total projects approved by Council

⁶ Total projects expenditure

⁷ Including any vacancies, not including elected members

⁸ Including sitting fees paid to elected members

⁹ Including transport, accommodation and travel allowance

¹⁰ Including training, materials, catering and visitor expenses, but excluding employee expenses

¹¹ Total projects approved by Council (include all 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 projects)

¹² Total projects expenditure (include all 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 projects)

Elected Members Statistics

Name	AC	ACLA	ALLA	AMLA	ARLA	CAC	CEO	ELA	F&O	OC	PR	TCLA	WLA	Number Meetings Attended
President Shaw	3		0	0	0	2	5		1	6		3		20
Councillor Aylett								5		7				12
Councillor Bagnall	5						5	5	2	9	1			27
Councillor Beasley		0		0	0	2				4			0	6
Councillor Braun						3				6		2		11
Councillor Bremner	3								2	8	3	3		19
Councillor Hayes		4		0	0	1			2	6			4	17
Councillor Jackson		3		0	0	0				4			3	10
Councillor Mahoney		0	0			0				5				5
Councillor N Price	3								1	8	0	5		17
Councillor T Price				0	0	3				7			0	10
Councillor Ruger									2	6	2	4		14
Councillor Taylor						3	5		2	8		5		23

Meeting Key

AC Audit Committee
ACLA Ali Curung Local Authority
ALLA Alpururulam Local Authority
AMLA Ampilatwatja Local Authority
ARLA Arlparra Local Authority
CAC Cultural Advisory Committee
CEO CEO Review Committee
ELA Elliott Local Authority

F&O Finance & Operations Committee
OC Ordinary Council
PR Purkiss Reserve Committee
TCLA Tennant Creek Local Authority
WLA Wutunugurra Local Authority

0 Quorum was not reached for any meeting

Blank cells indicate that Councillors were not required to attend this meeting.



Local Authority Profiles & Projects

ALI CURUNG

Ward: Alyawarr
Population: 494 (Australian Census 2016)
Location: 151.5km, south of Tennant Creek.
Road Conditions: Sealed
Languages: Warlpiri, Warumungu, Kaytetye and Alyawarr

Local Authority Members

Chair: Councillor Noel Hayes
Deputy Chair: Councillor Lucy Jackson
Appointed Members: Edith Hanlon, Ronald Brown, Graham Beasley, Peter Corbett, Derek Walker, Ned Kelly, Sammy Ladd, Charlie Poulson, Andrew Tsavaris
Elected Members: Councillor Noel Hayes, Councillor Lucy Jackson, Councillor Timothy Price, Councillor Ada Beasley

Local Authority Projects 2016 - 2017

Project	Funds Assigned	Completed
Steel for goal posts DNA Steel	\$4,899.99	✓
Vandal proof BBQ at Imangara	\$7,623.00	✓
Shade Sail for Water Park	\$30,000.00	✓
Tractor	\$54,604.00	✓
2 brush cutters for community use	\$1,212.20	✓



ALPURRURULAM

Ward: Alpururulam
Population: 420 (Australian Census 2016)
Location: 576.2km, east of Tennant Creek and 17km from the Northern Territory-Queensland border.
Road conditions: Sealed and unsealed. During the wet season all road access to the community is cut off.
Languages: Alyawarr

Local Authority Members

Chair: Maxie Ray
Deputy Chair: Michael Teague
Appointed Members: Irene Toby, John Barber, James Billy, George Anderson, Gordon Long, Reggie Nelson, Natasha Long
Elected Members: Councillor Jennifer Mahoney

Local Authority Projects 2016 - 2017

There were no LA projects completed for 2016-17. Members were informed at the June 2017 LA Meeting that there was \$125,837 in unspent LA funds from 2014-15 and 2015-16. No other Local Authority meetings were held, due to not having a quorum.

Project	Funds Assigned	Completed
Softball uniforms	Waiting for quote	Funds to be expended next financial year
Purchase of toilet/kitchen to improve Sport & Recreation facilities	\$120,000	Funds to be expended next financial year

AMPILATWATJA

Ward: Alyawarr
Population: 418 (Australian Census 2016)
Location: 307km south-east of Tennant Creek.
Road conditions: 100km sealed and 220km dirt
Languages: Alyawarr

Local Authority Members

Chair: Jeffrey Nelson
Deputy Chair: Ronald Palmer
Appointed Members: Leslie Morton, Eldon Ross, Teresa McKeeman, Patrick Ross, Ellwyn Holmes
Elected Members: Councillor Ada Beasley, Councillor Lucy Jackson, Councillor Noel Hayes, Councillor Tim Price

Local Authority Projects 2016-2017

Project	Funds Assigned	Completed or Ongoing
Purchase of 3 x brush cutters and 3 x lawn mowers	\$5,500.00	✓
Support for the Sports Carnival through hire of ablution facilities	\$14,000.00	✓
Purchase of washing machines	\$20,000.00	Funds to be expended next financial year

ARLPARRA

Ward:	Alyawarr
Population:	483 (Australian Census – 2016)
Location:	234 km south-east of Tennant Creek.
Roads:	Unsealed. During the wet season - December to March - the roads, the connecting Sandover highway and the river are often impassable. Around 20km of the road is sealed bitumen from Arlparra north to Urapuntja Health Centre and the airstrip.
Languages:	Alyawarr and Anmatyerre

Local Authority Members:

Chair:	Edward Jones
Deputy Chair:	Vacant
Appointed Members:	Brenda Inkamala, Jack Club, Stevie Loy, Susan Chalmers, Dennis Kunoth, Graham Long, Dean Club, Ray Loy
Elected Members:	Councillor Beasley, Councillor Hayes, Councillor Jackson, Councillor Price

Local Authority Projects

Funds were allocated to seven projects which will rollover to the 2017-18 financial year.

Project	Funds Assigned	Completed
School Sports Voucher Scheme	No info available	Funds to be expended next financial year
Fencing of occupied housing at Homelands	No info available	Funds to be expended next financial year
Male/female toilets at oval for sports weekend and community events	\$82,490	Funds to be expended next financial year
Tyre changing shed and equipment	\$2000	Funds to be expended next financial year
Use of Sport and rec facility during the wet and cultural events	\$1000	Funds to be expended next financial year
10 x emergency tents	\$12,000	Funds to be expended next financial year
Purchase of brush cutters	\$22,100	Funds to be expended next financial year



ELLIOTT

Ward: Kuwarrangu
Population: 302 (Australian Census 2016)
Location: 250km north of Tennant Creek.
Road conditions: Sealed
Languages: Mudburra, Jingili, Wombaya and Warumungu

Local Authority Members

Chair: Christopher Neade
Deputy Chair: Jody Nish
Appointed Members: Jeremy Jackson, Wade Nish, Jennifer Kite, Peter Mullan, Jonas Johnson, Mona Rennie
Elected Members: Councillor Bob Bagnall and Councillor Ray Aylett

Local Authority Projects

Project	Funds Assigned	Completed
ANZAC Day	\$1000	✓
Main Park Upgrade	\$48,279.27	Funds to be expended next financial year



TENNANT CREEK

Ward:	Patta
Population:	2,991 (Australian Census – 2016)
Location:	508.3km north of Alice Springs, 988.8km south of Darwin.
Road conditions:	Sealed
Languages:	Warumungu, Warlpiri, Walmanpa, Alyawarr, Kaytetye, Wambaya and Jingili

Local Authority Members

Chair:	Sid Vashist
Deputy Chair:	Kelly Brahim
Appointed Members:	Len Holbrook, Leisha Booth, Brian Coleman, Sarah Curran, Karan Hayward
Elected Members:	President Shaw, Councillor Ruger, Councillor Bremner, Councillor Braun, Councillor Taylor, Councillor Price

Local Authority Projects

Out of the \$100,000 of unexpended LA project funds from 2015-16 financial year, \$99,000 was allocated for eight projects. Funds committed to be expended in 2017-18 financial year.

Project	Funds Assigned	Completed/Ongoing
Tennant Creek Cemetery	\$41,500	Funds to be expended next financial year
Purchase and installation of two (2) water fountains, located in the town centre and Eldorado Park	\$8000	Funds to be expended next financial year
Dog friendly park	\$3000	Funds to be expended next financial year
Eldorado Park Stage 2 (Playground Equipment)	\$30,000	Funds to be expended next financial year
Community Information Board	\$6000	Funds to be expended next financial year
Adopt a tree project	\$2000	Funds to be expended next financial year
Picnic tables	\$3500	Funds to be expended next financial year
Youth Development Programs such as painting	\$5000	Funds to be expended next financial year

WUTUNUGURRA

Ward: Alyawarr

Population: 154 (Australian Census 2016)

Location: 205.8km south-east of Tennant Creek on the north-eastern edge of the Davenport Ranges.

Roads: Around 87km of sealed road and 118.8km of unsealed. Access to the community is variable, depending on weather conditions.

Languages: Alyawarr, some Warlpiri, some Kaytetye

Local Authority Members

Chair: Owen Torres

Deputy Chair: Geraldine Beasley

Appointed Members: Kay Beasley, Stewart Beasley, Rochelle Bonnie, Mark Peterson, Julie Peterson

Elected Members: Councillor Noel Hayes, Councillor Lucy Jackson, Councillor Timothy Price, Councillor Ada Beasley

Local Authority Projects

Project	Funds Assigned	Completed
T&J NT won the contract to install Lexan and Crimsafe to all the windows at the community centre	\$36,410.00	✓
Aluminium grandstands for football oval	\$26,602.40	✓



Local Authority Highlights

Ablution block flushed with success

A long-awaited dream to have an ablution block in the homeland community of Atnwengerpe came true in early 2017.

Community members, including Teresa McKeeman, a member of the Ampilatwatja Local Authority, received the keys from Council's Area Manager Enock Menge at a special signing over ceremony.

"This initiative has been a community dream for a long time. I was proud to be a part of it," said Enock. "There are a number of people who live in humpies on this homeland and have no access to facilities such as an ablution block. So there was a real need in the community."

Locals approached the Ampilatwatja Local Authority, which in turn put in a proposal for an ablution block to Council.

Then with the support of a \$200,000 Special Purpose Grant (SPG) from the former Northern Territory Government's Department of Local Government, Council's Director Infrastructure Elai Semisi organised the tender process for the design and construction of the ablution block back in March 2016.

The tender was awarded to Curtis Construction who began work in August 2016 with Council staff chasing clearances and ensuring compliance for service connections.

Regular consultation between Council staff and community members led to Council adopting a different approach to its traditional community ablution block design approach.

Elai said the key feature in the final design for Atnwengerpe was the construction of a maintenance niche behind the toilets which meant cistern tanks would be hidden behind the walls out of reach of vandals. It also facilitated easy access for maintenance crew.

A Quantum electrical water heater was also installed on top of the ablution block as it consumes a relatively small amount of energy to deliver hot water at the tap or shower.

There are now plans to install a washing machine into the ablution block that operates using \$2 coins. Revenue generated from this service would then be used to buy consumables such as toilet paper and cleaning materials.

"This is a terrific example of a community being far sighted in terms of making the facility sustainable and of making a community need turn into a reality," said Enock.



Bringing the cemetery back to life

Community volunteers set up a “Friends of the Cemetery” group following a call out by the Council in mid-September 2016.

The iconic Tennant Creek cemetery is a large area with high visibility to local residents and travellers alike, and Council sought to foster civic pride by calling for expressions of interest.

Many locals took up the opportunity to become a ‘friend’ enabling the community to contribute to the maintenance and up-keep of the cemetery as well as provide input for landscape design of the site.

The Tennant Creek Local Authority assigned \$41,500 in funds, enabling community members to play a part in improving the general appearance of the site by taking a hands-on approach to tidy up the grounds, provide shade and water, and set up chairs at funerals.



Corporate Services Directorate

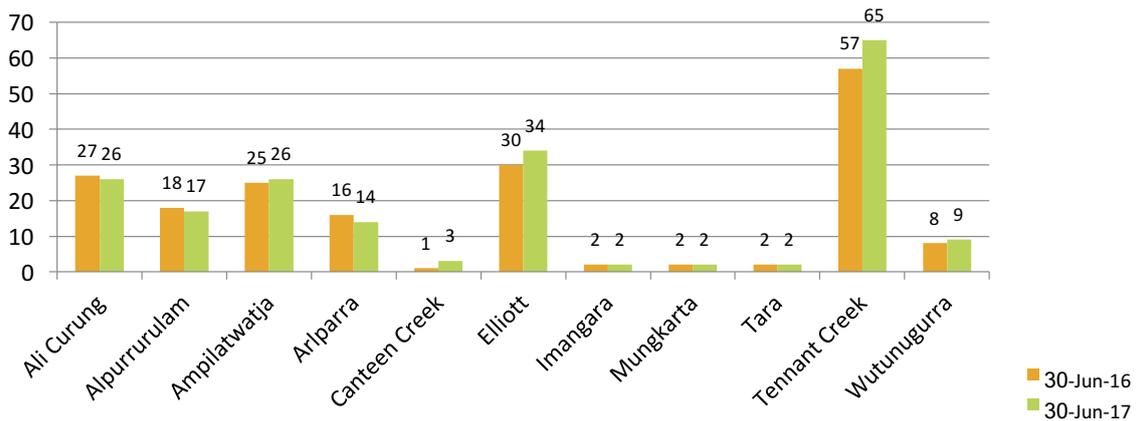
The Corporate Services Directorate delivers administrative support services to the organisation to ensure they can continue to delivery services to the communities. This includes:-

- Human Resources
- Learning and Development
- Work Health and Safety
- Information Technology
- Finance
- Grants Management

Human Resources

The Human Resources department of Barkly Regional Council manages recruitment, staffing, performance management and training and development. The graphs below highlight employees, including Indigenous employees, by location within the organisation.

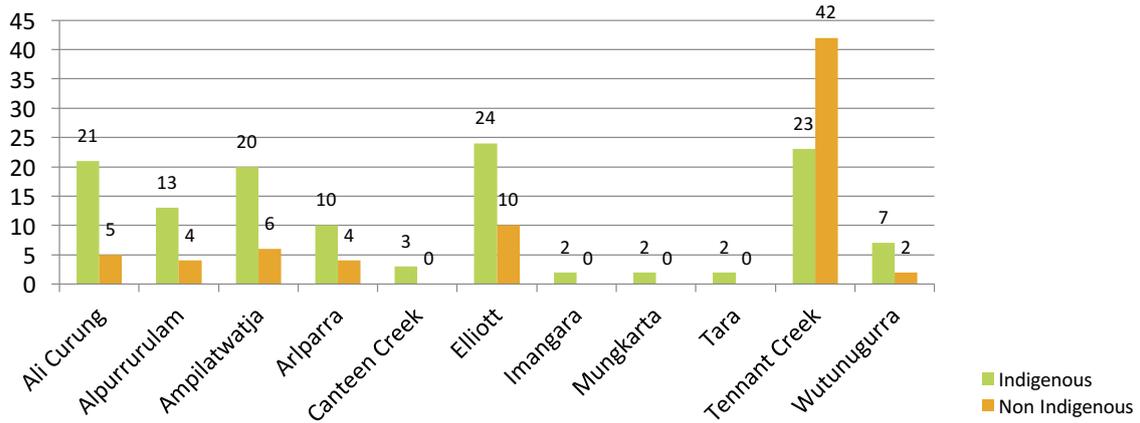
Employees by Location



From 30 June 2016 to 30 June 2017, all communities retained approximately the same amount of the workforce. The number of total employees increased from 188 to 200, resulting in Elliott and Tennant Creek seeing significant increases but maintaining a similar percentage of the workforce.

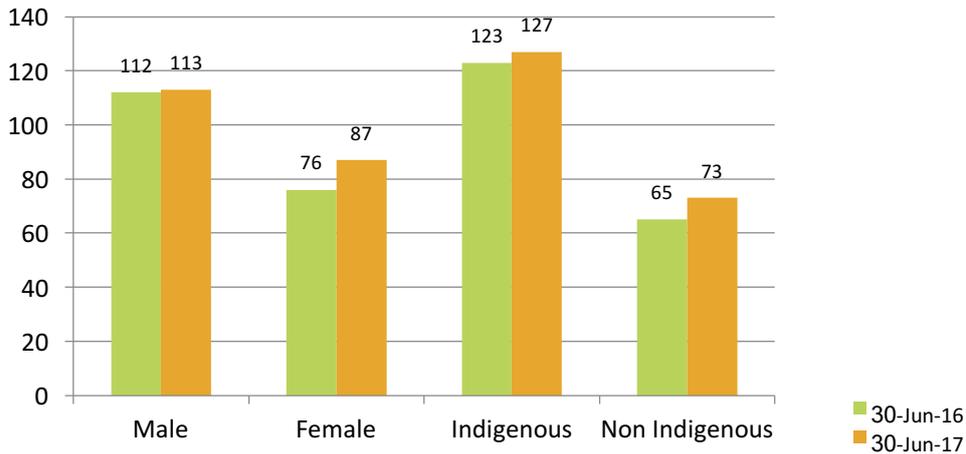


Indigenous Employees by Location



From 30 June 2016 to 30 June 2017, Ali Curung saw a 10% increase in Indigenous employees while Alpurrurulam saw a 13% decrease. All other communities retained approximately the same percentage of Indigenous employees.

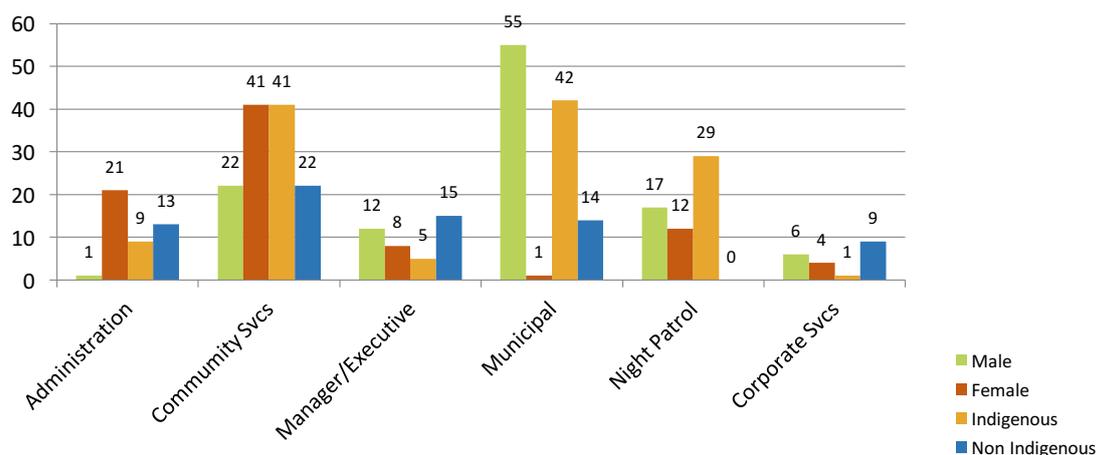
Employees by Demographic



From 30 June 2016 to 30 June 2017, the number of male employees decreased from 59.5% to 56.5%. Additionally, the number of Indigenous employees decreased from 65.4% to 63.5%.



Employees Positions by Demographic



From 30 June 2016 to 30 June 2017, the demographic makeup of all positions remained similar with all positions having less than a 2% variance from 30 June 2015 to 30 June 2016.

Learning and Development

Continuation of the Core Skills (formerly the Language, Literacy and Numeracy Program) program in Ampilatwatja and extended into Ali Curung and Alpururulum with 79 employees enrolled. See page 34, for the full story.

Rollout of training programs/workshops C3 in Community Night Patrol; Aggressive Behaviour Management; Mandatory Reporting and Mental Health First Aid to give staff, in particular Community Services and Night Patrol, higher levels of understanding while performing their duties.

Work, Health and Safety

Due to staff changes very few audits of council buildings and communities were undertaken this year. To remedy this situation Council set up an internal Work, Health and Safety Working Group to meet monthly and to take effect from July 2017.

Information, Communication and Technology

An audit of Council's mobile phone and internet dongle usage resulted in the disconnection of 10-20 services and an average saving of around \$5000 per month. Discussions with Telstra to reduce costs continue.

A new comprehensive in-house policy, governing all aspects of IT and the use of Council's resources, particularly mobile phones, laptop/desktop computers and satellite phones, was completed in November 2016 and is waiting to be endorsed by Council.

In early 2017 a new Telstra Iterra satellite service with a 1.8m dish was installed out at Alpururulum, enabling staff to be connected to the CouncilBIZ network. Depot staff members were also reconnected to the CouncilBIZ network. Installation of a new photocopier for Night Patrol and in June 2017, as part of a major tidy up, old equipment was removed from the Arparra Service Centre and stored in shipping containers in Tennant Creek.

Finance

Consolidation of the Technology One local government suite of software, which was implemented in 2015-16, with additional modules, including rates and property, implemented in 2016-17. This has greatly improved financial management within the organisation, especially increasing the efficiency of a number of processes, including raising Purchase Orders and invoicing.

Grants Management

The following grants were allocated as part of Council's Community Grants Program

Round 1 - Successful Applicants

Anyinginyi Health Aboriginal Corporation*

Sports & Recreation

Funding amount: \$2000

Project: Bubble Sport in Tennant Creek

Support for Bubble Sports Darwin to hold two days of activities in Tennant Creek during the school holiday period in January 2017. This is to generate youth engagement during a period that is particularly susceptible to anti-social behaviour.

Tennant Creek Primary School*

Mungkarta

Funding amount: \$3000

Project: 37 MPH

Funds to bring dance theatre company KAGE from Melbourne to Mungkarta to work with the Mungkarta School students to create a road safety DVD. The process of creation empowers young people, builds capacity, engages local artists and incorporates other workshops such as Tree of Life.

Tennant Creek Children's Christmas Tree Fund*

Funding amount: \$5000

Project: Christmas Tree Event

Provide assistance with the 83rd annual Christmas Tree Event to hand out free gifts, entertainment, food and soft drink to all local children under 10.

Senior Citizens and Pensioner Association Inc.**

Tennant Creek

Funding Amount: \$1002

Project: Security locks on all doors and gates

Funds to assist with the installation of security locks and master keys to all doors to improve building security and remedy the issue of keys not returned or accessed without permission.

Tennant Creek Mob Aboriginal Corporation*

Tennant Creek Cemetery

Funding Amount: \$5000

Project: Unmarked Graves

Support the purchase and hire of materials and equipment for community members to install 50 headstones/plaques on unmarked graves, mostly Aboriginal, at the Tennant Creek Cemetery.

Tennant Creek Women's Refuge*

Funding Amount: \$2,800

Project: Mooditj – Young girls' health education, sexuality and life skills

Program addresses safe sex practices, puberty and the consequences of choice for female Indigenous adolescents, aged 10-14 who live in remote Barkly. Aimed at developing and broadening life skills in a safe and secure environment under the supervision of health professionals

Red Cross**

Tennant Creek

Funding Amount: \$2300

Project: Oasis in the main street garden

Funds to assist with garden improvement to encourage use for ongoing community-led activities, attract more public engagement for safe interaction, promote gardening and food production and promote healthy eating.

Round Two – Successful Applicants

Barkly Regional Arts**

Desert Harmony

Funding Amount: \$3000

Project: Junk Art Creation Competition

As part of the Desert Harmony Festival, funds to assist with the launch of a competition to create art from recyclable and reclaimable objects to raise awareness of waste in remote areas.

Community of Tennant Creek (Hal Ruger on behalf of)*

Tennant Creek Town Clock

Funding Amount: \$5000

Project: Town Clock

An application for funding to support the provision and installation of a Town Clock in Tennant Creek in which other community businesses have contributed to.

Kanapa Kari Aboriginal Corporation*

Funding Amount: \$2250

Project: Hungry Puppies

Support for the sheltering and rehoming of unwanted dogs in Tennant Creek

Tennant Creek Transport**

Funding Amount: \$2500

Project: Community Mobility

Free bus service enabling residents to attend various events in town during the Desert Harmony Festival period and the Tennant Creek Show.

* *First-time Applicant*

** *Previous Applicant*

Grants (and Funding) applied for by the council during 2016-2017 were;

Community	Month	Project/Program	Aligns to Council Strategic Imperatives	Amount Applied for \$	Amount Received \$	Funding Body
Tennant Creek	July 2016	Adult Learners Week	1.1,2.1,3.1,4.1, 5.1,6.1,7.1,8.1	\$3,800.00	\$3,800.00	NTG
Barkly	October 2016	National Youth Week	1.1,2.1,3.1,4.1, 5.1,6.1,7.1,8.1	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	OYA
Tennant Creek	October 2016	Australia Day	1.1,2.1,3.1,4.1, 5.1,6.1,7.1,8.1	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	ADC NT
Elliott	November 2016	Barunga competition basketball	1.1,2.1,3.1,4.1, 5.1,6.1,7.1,8.1	\$9,800.00	\$9,800.00	NTG CBF
Tennant Creek	December 2016	Int. Women's Day	All	\$3,000.00	\$2000	OWP NTG
Elliott	Feb 28 2017	Elliott Sports & Recreation refurbishment (to be acquitted next financial year)	All	\$136,505.00	\$136,505	BBR Commonwealth
Barkly	March 2017	Core Skills Program - (to be acquitted next financial year)	All	\$200,000.00	\$200,000	NTG
Alpurrurulam	March 2017	ABA – Alpurrurulam Aged Care vehicle	All	\$52,898.00	\$52,898	ABA
Barkly	March 2017	SPG – Barkly Road Crew – plant - (to be acquitted next financial year)	All	\$150,000.00	\$238,550	NTG

Funding Body Key	
ABA	Aboriginal Benefits Account
ADC NT	Australia Day Council Northern Territory
BBR	Building Better Regions Fund
CBF	Community Benefits Fund (NTG)
NTG	Northern Territory Government
OYA	Office of Youth Affairs
OWP	Office of Women's Policy

Growing our own

Closing the gap with a core skills development program

Council staff members from remote Barkly communities have been reaping the benefits of a tailor-made program designed to develop relevant work resources and increase employability skills.

The Council's Literacy, Numeracy/Core Skills Development program through Central Desert Training in Alice Springs was continued in Ampilatwatja and extended to Ali Curung and Alpururulam with an industry specific workplace planning and development strategy in 2016-17.

Supervisors and participants alike have noticed huge improvements in the core skills set of employees throughout the last financial year.

Area Manager for Alpururulam Troy Koch said the program has really assisted workers with their day-to-day jobs.

"It has really given staff a solid comprehension of what they need to do in the workplace, like understanding time sheets and vehicle check forms."

Night Patrol Zone Manager George Peckham said he also noticed that employees are more confident in the workplace and taking pride in their work.

"I've noticed a huge improvement with many workers," he said. "Some of the participants have started further study with their Certificate III in Community Night Patrol training with the Core Skills Development program supporting and complementing their work."

Council Learning and Development Coordinator Manivannan Naidu said since the program was launched in Ampilatwatja in August 2014 it has grown and developed to specifically suit the needs of employees in each community work unit.

As part of this training process Kailas Kerr, of Central Desert Training, has created a tool kit of resources for workers plus an easy-to-use assessment system based on a traffic light principal for managers and supervisors to assess staff skill sets and the level of supervision required.

"A red light means a staff member requires full supervision, an amber light shows that the manager can sign off after an employee completes assigned tasks and green signals that the employee can work independently," said Kailas.

As Mark Parsons, Area Manager for Ali Curung, highlighted. "There are staff members in this community who have gone from full supervision of tasks to being independent in their day-to-day activities.



“It has helped shift responsibility of the completion of workplace paperwork to staff members in a supportive environment.”

Importantly, the system allows supervisors and employees to identify the individual skills required in a job and provide the necessary training and support to staff, in particular, addressing the impact of low literacy and numeracy levels.

In his *Closing the Gap* speech made on 14 February 2017, the Northern Territory Government’s Chief Minister Michael Gunner said: “The most recent Productivity Commission’s report into *Overcoming Indigenous Disadvantage* highlighted a lack of evaluation of programs and outcomes as a major issue.

“We need to know what is working and what isn’t working so that communities and the government can make evidence-based decisions for the benefit of everyone.”

Barkly Regional Council has the evidence in place and continues to monitor and evaluate the Core Skills Development Program with the assistance of Alice-Springs based Central Desert Training.

Since the initial pilot program was launched in Ampilatwatja, 162 employees from Aged Care, Night Patrol and Municipal have incorporated the training into their working life.

Mani said the Literacy Numeracy/Core Skills Development program not only has become an accepted part of the routine for staff in these three Indigenous communities, it provides increased employability and the potential to advance in positions.

“Building the confidence of workers and increasing their ability to read and write and work with numbers has also flowed on from the workplace into everyday lives. It increases employees overall wellbeing and contributes to literacy in other areas such as health and governance.”

Council recently received funding from the Northern Territory Government’s Department of Trade, Innovation and Business and the Department of Health to roll out the program across all Barkly communities - Ali Curung, Arparra, Alpururulam, Ampilatwatja, Elliott and Wutunugurra, plus staff from Canteen Creek, Mungkarta, Murray Downs and Tara – for the 2017-18 financial year.

Staff members have their say...

The response from community staff members to the Core Skills Development program has been incredibly positive. Here is a sample of anecdotes

“My training, he help me put everything on track together.”

“Getting the tick sheets right.”

“My kids see me learning and this makes them want to go to school to learn, too”

“It’s hard but I won’t give up. I want to start [reading and writing] from the easy bit first – make me think properly work my brain. The training program is good – here to help me out.”

“Keep doing this until we know it better. We just got started and we like to go on.”

“Good to know how to use the computer properly.”

“Everyday I check-up the vehicles. I check before I drive.”

“Learning the timesheets is important; to put timesheets in.”



Council workers lead the way

Several employees have shown outstanding progress in their studies as part of Barkly Regional Council's commitment to growing its own and retaining staff.

Elliott housing maintenance officer Darren Blathern received Charles Darwin University's 2016 Metal Fabrication Apprentice of the Year Award in November 2016.

The award was in recognition of Darren's commitment and hard work, as well as the level of support and encouragement he has received from his supervisors and managers – past and present – at Council.

Darren, who began a Certificate III in Engineering (Fabrication Trade) in 2014, has impressed everyone at Council with his commitment to his studies.

He was also nominated as a finalist in the Outstanding Apprentice – Stage 3 category by Group Training Northern Territory (GTNT) in April 2017. Although the award went to an employee of Power and Water, Darren's nomination as one of the three finalists was no small feat.

Other 2016 graduates include Cameron Rankine, also from Elliott, who received his Cert III in Civil Construction while Garry James at the Tennant office received his Cert III in Information, Digital Media and Technology.

Offices across the region are in good hands, too, with Cysila Rose and Mark and Jodi Parsons of Ali Curung, Garry James from Tennant Creek, Robert Smith of Ampilatwatja and Shelley McDonald of Elliott all receiving their Cert IV in Leadership and Management.

John Pfeiler-Male, Michelle Rose and Scott Spurling gave presentations as part of the Cert IV in Conservation and Land Management in December 2016 with a group of Council employees from Tennant Creek and communities completing their Cert IV in Leadership and Management in early 2017.

Council Environmental Health Worker Scott Spurling was accepted into Western Sydney University's undergraduate Bachelor of Natural Science (Environment and Health) degree, which he commenced on 20 February, 2017.

Scott, who is employed by Council in the Animal Management and Environmental Health department, Tennant Creek, successfully completed the first semester with much credit to himself for effectively balancing work and study commitments.

The course is being completed mainly by online learning with some face-to-face workshops in Sydney. Course fees and related expenses are being covered by the NTG's Department of Health.



Darren Blathern



Scott Spurling

Community Services Directorate

The Community Services Directorate is responsible for delivering a range of community services, from aged care to night patrol, to residents and communities across the Barkly region.

The directorate includes:-

Aged Care
Animal Management and Environmental Health
Library
Night Patrol
Safe Houses
Sports & Recreation (Barkly Youth)
Swimming Pool
Youth Links Centre

Key Challenges:

- The recruitment and retention of staff is an ongoing issue and has a direct impact on the delivery of services in remote communities. A number of positions remained unfilled for significant periods of time, which resulted in placing temporary staff into communities.
- Working with multiple funding sources is also a challenge, especially as Council relies on almost 100% on external funding to provide services.
- During the year a number of funding agreements were the subject of renegotiation with funders and some revised agreements for shorter periods of time. This had a positive impact on the ability to deliver services in a consistent and ongoing basis. We also received a number of smaller grants which needed to be spent in a short timeframe.
- Recognition must be given to staff in Community Services who work hard to deliver services under difficult circumstances and always with a positive attitude.

Key Highlights:

- Operation of the Youth Links Centre in Tennant Creek which provides much needed services to young people in Tennant Creek. Additional funding received allowed the service to be expanded to run additional hours during school holidays. *See page 38, for full report.*
- For the first time the kiosk at the Tennant Creek Swimming Pool was run for the full swimming season and undertook catering and event activities, including movie nights. This part of the pool operations will be an area for expansion in the future.
- Youth Sport and Recreation Services were rebranded as “Barkly Youth” and additional equipment purchased to support activities on all communities. The work of Arlparra’s Sport and Recreation Officer Andrew Rae was recognised by the NTG’s Chief Minister Michael Gunner who wrote a letter in praise of his program. In Ali Curung locals liaised with staff to set up a homegrown basketball competition involving men, women and children.
- The Animal Management Special Purpose Grant has allowed visits to communities to desex animals and undertake health checks and education activities. This is an important project and additional funds are being sought to continue this work. More than 260 dogs were desexed in Tennant Creek and in May 2017 a total of 187 dogs and 37 feral cats desexed in Wutungurra, Elliott, Murray Downs and Ali Curung and 74 animals desexed in Ampilatwatja and Utopia Homelands.
- Aged and Disability Services undertook Quality Assurance and received positive feedback and

reports on the services we deliver. The services will now be involved in a pilot NDIS quality audit for the next financial year, which will well place Council as NDIS services expand.

- Library services in Tennant Creek and Elliott continue to be well patronised and provide a vital service to each community. The Elliott library was also revamped and now provides a range of services to the community and excellent partnerships amongst community agencies.
- Night Patrol continues to provide a much needed service on each community and has an extensive program of staff training for all staff which “value adds” to the service provided.
- Safe House staff in Ali Curung and Elliott both started garden clubs for local women and children which has been a positive contributor to maintaining community wellbeing.
- Barkly Desert Culture youth diversionary program delivered in Ali Curung community to assist local youngsters with building sustainable multi-media skills and making film clips.

STORIES for Community Services:

Generosity the key to youth centre's success

Ever since Youth Links reopened its doors in January 2017 after a refurbishment the centre has been a hive of activity for local children during school holidays and after school.

Council's Youth Centre Co-ordinator Alba Brockie said staff, community members, local organisations and businesses all pitched in to make sure the centre was ready for schoolkids.

“We received generous donations of electrical appliances, pots, pans, furniture and sports equipment along with offers of free transport, repairs and labour,” she said.

With funding provided by the Northern Territory Government, local youngsters were then able to set up their own activity priorities, decide on how best to set up the youth centre and offer support to their peers.

“For the last six months the kids have undertaken a variety of workshops including hygiene, cooking, basic first aid, customer service skills, bike maintenances classes and hip hop and contemporary dance sessions,” Alba said.

“They have also entertained themselves with movie making, movie nights, music sessions, discos plus plenty more. It's so wonderful to see Youth Links being used as the youth centre it was always meant to be as well as be a place to provide much needed services and activities for local youth.”



Night patrol trainees foster community safety

Night patrollers have been busy this year taking part in Charles Darwin University's (CDU) Certificate III in Community Night Patrol training program.

Regional Night Patrol Manager Merridie Satour said the training is there to assist each night patrol team across the Barkly region in building their confidence and self esteem to deal with any issues or turmoil in a community, and doing so safely.

"Night patrol is focused on the safety of the community, in particular children and vulnerable people, as opposed to being seen as a security company," she said.

"Giving Night Patrol teams strategies to deal with conflict within the cultural protocols of each community builds up a team that the community trusts and goes to for help.

"In that respect our approach is more culturally based as to how night patrollers deal with conflicts and how each community is kept safe."

Sixteen locals from the communities of Ampilatwatja, Alpurrurulam, Mungkarta, Elliott, Murray Downs, Ali Curung and Arlparra are participating in the Certificate III in Community Night Patrol training with all staff set to graduate at the end of the next financial year.

Merridie, who was previously the Night Patrol Zone Coordinator at the MacDonnell Regional Council, joined the Council in July 2016.

"I would like to express my appreciation to the Night Patrol Head Office team in Tennant Creek for persevering when times got tough. They kept it all together. Great job everyone," she said.

Merridie said it's an exciting time for Night Patrol teams across the Barkly. "We are consolidating the teams, building on their strengths, and working with the communities. We also have got more women coming on board, which is wonderful. Night Patrol is moving forward."





New chapter for libraries

Elliott Library officer Kiriana Thackeray is proud to be sharing the new-look library with the local community.

Since she revamped the space (pictured above, right) she has been building relationships with key stakeholders in the community, working closely with the Elliott School and holding class reading programs every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. She has also been encouraging children in general to use the reading resources.

An adult literacy program is delivered every Monday in partnership with Families as First Teachers (FaFT) with a movie and popcorn session held after school on the first Friday of every month.

“I want the library to become a focus for the community in Elliott with a range of activities being considered,” said Kiriana.

Over at Tennant Creek Library, a Book Club is held on the first Saturday of every month with funding for Adult Learners Week going towards activities and events during the first week of September 2016.

Events held locally included a recruitment presentation from HR staff, a talk on nutrition followed by a screening of *That Sugar Film*, a display by local midwives and a talk on the importance of parents as the first teachers by two representatives of FaFT.

NT Libraries offered a free Wikipedia NT workshop in October 2016 teaching locals to set up Wikipedia accounts and upload all things Tennant Creek on to the World Wide Web followed by free workshops, provided by Darwin-based Artback NT, on writing film scripts and acting. Other activities included Girl Guides volunteering to get their Flash Badges, Christmas Craft for Kids in the month leading up to Christmas, Library Lovers Week in February 2017 and weekly reading classes for pre-schoolers.

Library Statistics Tennant Creek

Patrons through the doors	8549
Internet use by person	879
Loans by person	1143
Total item circulation	14165
Total library holdings as at Jun 2017	10,973





Sowing seeds of growth with garden clubs

Safe Houses in Ali Curung and Elliott both started their very own garden clubs for local women and children.

Staff in Ali Curung liaised with workers from CDP to start a fruit and vegetable garden which not only gave vulnerable members of the community a place of refuge but promoted a positive and healthy activity.

Area Manager Mark Parsons said the garden also encouraged the sharing of produce amongst the families of participants.

“Community based projects, like this, not only encourage better eating habits but they also make a significant contribution to everyone’s health and well-being,” he said.

Up in Elliott, women and children purchased five large raised garden beds and three smaller ones to grow their own vegetables, herbs and flowers.

With the assistance of Family as First Teachers (FaFT), plans were also underway for a Bush Medicine garden in a smaller fenced off area within the Safe House grounds.



Blazing talent in the Barkly

Barkly Desert Cultures, an award winning Indigenous youth diversionary program, continued in Ali Curung helping local musicians create film clips and focus on improving sustainable multi-media skills.

Sport and Recreation Coordinator Sean Spencer worked with youth to build on their skills as well as help expand creativity, capacity and connections between other regional communities.

This is the latest step in the Barkly Desert Culture program which has grown from a three-month pilot project between youngsters and elders to the discovery of talented Indigenous musicians from around the Barkly.

Back in 2014 Council instigated a three-month pilot program to bridge the gap between the young and the old. "Part of the success of the program was that the youngsters engaged with the elders to discuss topics like drinking and substance abuse and what it was like for elders when they were young," said Sean.

The results of these talks were then expressed through song, hip hop music, storytelling, film, posters, animation with the multi-media program rolled out to other communities in the Barkly.

The Council project, in partnership with Melbourne-based music producer Monkey Marc and Music NT's Beatrice Lewis, was so successful it won the Arts Animate Award in the prestigious 2015 Local Government Awards.

Another unexpected outcome was the discovery of talented musicians from Elliott and Ampilatwatja, who joined forces to become Desert Hip Hop and headhunted to appear in numerous gigs around the Northern Territory.

In July 2016, the Elliott musicians won the 2016 NT Song of the year Awards for *Kulumindini is My Home*.

Then in August of that year musicians from Elliott and Ampilatwatja were invited on a month-long Sand Tracks Tour through the Northern Territory, Western Australia and South Australia.

"When we started consulting with elders and youngsters back in 2014 about Barkly Desert Culture their vision was to hand down knowledge through youth interviewing elders and gathering stories on culture and being strong.

"With support from Council and government grants, the musicians in Desert Hip Hop took this project one step further, creating songs with lyrics based on real-life experience, from staying on country to prison life and personal challenges. We never thought this program would take these musicians so far."

In Ali Curung, Sean returned to the roots of the Barkly Desert Culture program, assisting local youth in making films and music clips, even using the latest drone technology to capture aerial shots of the community.

"We see this as a long-term sustainable project and as a pathway into multi-media jobs for Aboriginal youngsters," he said.



Community Engagement – Celebratory Events

A number of Council-run events and activities are sponsored by grants from the Northern Territory Government, the Australia Day Council NT and local businesses. Events, such as the annual International Women's Day, are run in partnership with external community stakeholders, including Anyinginyi Aboriginal Health Corporation, Tennant Creek Primary and High Schools, the Tennant Creek Women's Refuge and Catholic Care Tennant Creek.

Events for 2016-17 include:

- Territory Day 1 July 2016 (Tennant Creek)
- Regional NAIDOC Week celebrations July 2016 – six communities
- Sports Carnivals – Ampilatwatja (September 2016) and Arlparra (October 2016)
- Australia Day 26 January 2017 (Tennant Creek and Elliott)
- International Women's Day 8 March 2017 (Tennant Creek)
- ANZAC Day April 2017 (Tennant Creek and Elliott)
- Pamper Day (Elliott)
- Youth Week Celebrations May 2017 (Tennant Creek and communities)
- Citizenship Ceremonies

Tennant proves it's bold for change

Local women honoured the Be Bold for Change with two events to mark International Women's Day (IWD) 2017.

Celebrations began on the Sunday morning before IWD (8 March) with a breakfast held at the local Tennant Creek Swimming Pool.

Kathleen Dickson, from Catholic Care, entertained everyone with her beautiful voice, as women, children and men arrived at the pool cafe.

A Welcome to Country was presented by Francine McCarthy, followed by a speech on the amazing life story of local pioneer Nancy Schmidt. This was presented on behalf of Nancy by Tennant Creek Women's Refuge General Manager Georgina Bracken.

Meg Baker, Program Manager of the Tennant Creek High School's Stars Foundation, also delivered a powerful message around the IWD theme of *Be Bold for Change*.

Local men, women and children also commemorated the actual day (8 March) with a parade down the main street from Nyinkka Nyunyu to Peko Park, with everyone carrying purple and white balloons and flags, made by Tennant Creek Primary School Grade 4 Class.

The crowd listened to speeches of inspiration, achievement, resilience and strength from Linda Turner of Anyinginyi, Kerry Hoskins, Superintendent NT Police, Francine McCarthy, Patta Aboriginal Corporation and Gerry McCarthy, MLA Barkly and NTG Minister for Housing and Community Development.



Celebrating NAIDOC Week

Communities throughout the Barkly held activities to celebrate NAIDOC week in July 2016.

There were BBQs and sports programs, with the Community Services arm of Council holding a special event in Ali Curung.

President Barb Shaw said NAIDOC Week is a time when Aboriginal people take pride in who they are and what they are doing to improve the health and welfare of their families.

“Civic pride in the Barkly is important and being at the forefront of events, like NAIDOC Week, reinforces Council’s commitment to listening to, engaging and involving communities and residents across the region.”



Citizenship Ceremonies

Barkly Regional Council held three citizenship ceremonies in 2016-17, with 21 Barkly region residents becoming Australian citizens in front of elected members, family, friends and colleagues.

By far the most popular citizenship ceremony is on Australia Day when six residents officially became Aussies at the Australia Day breakfast and awards ceremony on 26 January 2017.

Suman KC, who was born in the remote Nepalese district of Dolakha, became the 24,340,921st Australian when he took the pledge of citizenship. He moved to Australia in 2006 before being attracted to living in a completely new environment in the Barkly in 2012.

Other residents who took the pledge on Australia Day were Karthik Myana, Marcel Ilunga Nkongolo, Ioannis (John) Pampalis, his daughter Anna and 12-year-old son Nickolaos (Nik).

Citizens who took the pledge on 16 August 2016 were Mrs Jocelyn Orate Abellar and her daughter Nicole Tacbobo Orate, Mr Tony Augustine, Ms Hsin-Yu Chen, Ms Edwina Francis, Mr Adrian Slawomir Hertman, Mr Santosh Khadka, Ms Martina Brigid O’Brien and Mr Abhinav Reddy Purelli. Those who took the pledge on 16 May 2017 were Mrs Pretty Jose, Mr Joseph Kannampuzha, Mrs Anumol Shaji, Miss Tessa Kannampuzha, Mr Christopher Mukangaya and Mrs Orawan Sullivan.



Australia Day 2017 Awards in Elliot



Australia Day 2017 Citizenship Ceremony Tennant Creek

Infrastructure Directorate

Our core services are roads maintenance within Tennant Creek and the six communities of Ali Curung, Arlparra, Ampilatwatja, Alpurrurulam, Elliott and Wutunugurra, parks, gardens and cemetery management, civic buildings maintenance and repairs, mechanical fleet and vehicle management, garbage collection and disposal, waste landfill management and the maintenance and repairs of sporting facilities – swimming pool, water parks, footy ovals with their change rooms, stands and ablutions.

The Infrastructure Directorate also liaises with the Area Managers for each of the communities as well as the delivery of numerous diverse projects across the region.

All this work is delivered in accordance with safe work methods and in compliance with the relevant legislative authorities of NT Work Safe and NT EPA.

Challenges

- There are never enough funds to meet stakeholder and ratepayer expectations, neither are there enough resources to deliver core services. However, we in Infrastructure are aiming to work smarter using the technology available and the skillset we have to meet our goals.
- Staff retention is an issue and will always be in these remote parts of Central Australia. There is never a *one solution fits all* and there will always be staff shuffling as we progress and adapt to change. We hope to fill a few key positions by December 2017 and have already formed alliances and partnerships with the Barkly Work Camp and Julalikari Council Aboriginal Corporation.
- Our plant and equipment – the very tools we need to deliver core services are quite antiquated but we have to make-do with what we have. A much revised asset management plan will assist us in turning over a lot of our machinery and fleet more regularly so that we can deliver core services.
- Plans are under way to procure roads maintenance equipment in the form of an asphalt truck, cold planer and skid steer loader. These are Council's first sealed roads maintenance equipment. In conjunction with this acquisition, will be the formation of a roads maintenance crew that can travel and undertake road patching at the communities.
- Community landfills have been somewhat neglected over the years and so SPG's have been sourced to develop master plans for the strategic improvement of these waste landfills to ensure communities and their drinking water are safe from leachate while at the same time, the landfills are not too distant from the communities which can lead to illegal dumping.
- Thanks to the various NT Government funding providers, Council was able to acquit most of its SPG (80%) and MESSPG grants (72%) for 2016/17. The shortfall has been due to over commitment by contractors in other jobs hence re-scheduling our projects.

Key Highlights

- For the first time, Council engaged contractors to shred its ever growing pile of rubber tyres (4455 in total) at its Tennant Creek Landfill eliminating the potential for mosquito breeding.
- Car crushing (386 in total) stirred mutual interest in the neighbouring Regional Councils of Central Desert and MacDonnell and so through the Central Australian Waste Management Working Group (CAWMWG) plans are underway to seek special capital funding to procure a metal baler to equitably service the three regions. A draft business plan has been proposed that sees the new equipment paid off in its first year of service at the current price of steel. This is a milestone for a joint partnership between the three Regional Councils.

- Through several grant streams, Council was able to execute the following projects:
 - Traffic Management Study of Tennant Creek and Communities by Cardno
 - Waste Management Strategic Plan by IOLAR
 - Construction of new Ampilatwatja Staff house by NT Link
 - Construction of Atnwengerrpe ablution block by Curtis Construction
 - Fire compliance and upgrade of the Tennant Creek Council offices, Library, Civic Hall and Council Chambers by Ronin Security. This is yet to commence
 - Elliott waterpark secondary development, as part of funding to promote Alcohol Action Initiatives (AAI) in the town. See page 47, for full story.

Helping the Barkly head in the right direction

Cardno made a presentation to Council in October 2016 to discuss the outcomes of a Traffic Management Study of five communities within the region.

The traffic, transport and parking experts were commissioned by Council, after winning the tender in June 2016, to prepare and conduct a study to address concerns community members had about traffic management in the localities of Tennant Creek, Alpurrurulam, Ampilatwatja, Arlparra and Ali Curung.

Representatives of Cardno then held meetings throughout August 2016 with stakeholders, including business groups and emergency services, to investigate any concerns residents had about safety on the roads and paths and asked locals what they would like to see improved in their community.

Cardno's presentation included concerns over roundabouts, caravan parking on Stuart Highway, school pick up/drop off issues in Thompson Street, Tennant Creek, parking concerns around the hospital and clinics and transit concerns between each of the remote communities.



Waste Management Strategic Plan

Consultants IOLAR delivered a waste management and resource recovery strategy to Council in November 2016 as part of Council's commitment to provide waste solutions for the region.

The waste management and resource recovery strategy was developed to ensure that the objectives and targets of the Federal and Territory Government legislation and policies will drive and influence waste management in the community of Tennant Creek and in its landfill.

Short term solutions included a waste stream audit to determine potential resources to be recovered, recycling method for tyres, which has already started, diverting paper and cardboard from the landfill waste stream, staff training and a community education program.

Medium to longer term solutions included centralising resources recovery and stockpile area, combining the resources and stockpile area in one location for segregation of resources and engaging a consultant to assess the viability of a tip shop.

While this strategy was aimed at Tennant Creek landfill there are plans for a strategy to be implemented across all communities in the coming years.



Funding for alcohol action initiatives a boost for Elliott

The town of Elliott regained more control over alcohol management with more than \$200,000 in funding to promote alcohol action initiatives (AAI) in the community.

Under the former Northern Territory Government's Harm Minimisation Unit, Barkly Regional Council staff in Elliott applied for AAI funding to support alcohol reduction and diversion strategies and activities, which included infrastructure, as part of Elliott's Alcohol Management Plan (AMP).

The funding, some of which covered the 2016-17 financial year, went to a variety of projects including a Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) education program, new playground equipment, community art and alcohol signage, casual employment for local Indigenous residents at the water park and a men's shed.

The funding allowed the Council to help support the community continue to develop the Elliott AMP and AAIs that meet the needs of locals and work towards diversionary and reduction activities and promotion of responsible drinking and healthy messages.

"You've got people in communities who are good responsible citizens, who don't want to see their people getting into an unregulated consumption of alcohol pattern," said Area Manager Shelley McDonald.

"These measures support different groups within Elliott to provide diversionary and educational programs and activities. They are community driven, meaningful, help build capacity and provide early intervention and much-needed resources for locals."

The AAI funding, delivered under the former NT Government's Department of Business, was allocated to the following projects in Elliott:

Safe House Support: FASD & DV Education program

Development of community specific FASD and Domestic Violence education materials to supplement existing materials. The program, running over two years, also includes the delivery of activities and workshops to women in the community.

Playground Equipment for Town Park

Play equipment to provide diversionary activities for children and families; a much needed resource requested by the community as a demand reduction initiative. Funding in 2016/2017 set aside for another playground to be installed in North Camp with hopefully further funding provided for a playground to be installed in South Camp.



Community art and alcohol signage

Funds used to install signs around the community to promote relevant and educational well-being messages such as abstinence, banned drinking areas and promoting responsible drinking for residents and visitors to Elliott.

Water Park

Funds to provide an opportunity to create employment/training for local Indigenous residents to work as attendants at the water park for two years. The water park is a valuable resource and diversion for the whole community, particularly children and youth.



Men's Shed

Material for the construction of a men's shed, including transportation and labour costs for men to have a safe place to go other than home. It's to be a gathering place to provide a diversion from alcohol, support a reduction in alcohol demand and increase self-worth amongst males in the community to be strong and supportive role models to younger males.

Community Project Highlights

The following projects, including programs which develop infrastructure, collaborative maintenance crew arrangements between regional communities as well as assistance with expanding community skills, health and well-being, were carried out in 2016-17.

Ali Curung Priority Projects
Maintenance and improvement of the basketball courts with new back boards, resurfacing and installation of new lights in a joint venture between Council and Julalikari's Community Development Program (CDP).
Council staff and workers from Julalikari's Community Development Program liaised in a joint project to erect a sign for the cemetery sign as well as install crosses.
Respite conversion for the Aged Care building in a combined venture with the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS). Partial renovation with extra outdoor cover and seating being installed. A television and comfortable seating placed inside to give elderly and NDIS clients a place to relax.
Ali Curung Sport and Recreation Hall had minor renovation work with the toilets being fully replaced, plus new doors and security measures installed. There's a new oven in the kitchen and a new area has been set up with lounges and a games centre to entertain the kids.
The Ali Curung Safe House is in line for a renovation with a new kitchen and security measures being installed. This has been made possible due to a grant Council received under the Alcohol Action Initiatives (AAI). Once the renovation is complete the internal walls will be painted with paint supplied by Council.



Alpurrurulam Priority Projects
Secured Section 19 leases through negotiation with the Central Land Council and Alpurrurulam Land Aboriginal Corporation.
Finalised a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Rainbow Gateway (Alpurrurulam CDP Provider) and Alpurrurulam Land Aboriginal Corporation to work together to achieve greater outcomes for the community.



Arlparra Priority Projects

Operation and maintenance of essential service infrastructure.
Successful completion of contract requirements

Maintaining power station asset to generate power for Utopia, Ampilatwatja and Amaroo Station

Ampilatwatja Priority Projects

Atnwengerrpe Ablution block completed

Internal roads pothole repairs completed

Depot WHS upgrade completed

Plant and machinery repairs completed

Firebreaks ongoing

Weed management ongoing

Seating at the oval completed

Visitor and staff accommodation air-conditioning - ongoing



Elliott Priority Projects

Shoulders of the roads in Elliott – ongoing

Spray Rig – to use for spraying in camps, town & park –and chemical firebreaks – Area Manager seeking quotes

New Housing Truck – Currently 2000 Canter Truck - Quote completed and sent to Director Infrastructure for approval to seek funds

Septic Truck – 1993 - Quote completed and sent to Director Infrastructure for approval to seek funds

4WD vehicle for depot works – Completed – Area Manager’s old vehicle moved to yard

Football oval - New or upgrade unused one in North Camp with amenities – Ongoing

Continuation of footpath to new clinic – Quote completed and sent to Director Infrastructure for approval to seek funds

Elliott Waterpark secondary development – Quote completed and sent to Director Infrastructure for approval to seek funds

Funding to promote Alcohol Action Initiatives (AAI) including Safe House Support: FASD & DV Education Program, Playground Equipment for Town Park, Water Park secondary development, Community art and alcohol signage and Men’s Shed - Ongoing

Marlinja Water Plant was upgraded to cut the maintenance costs to the plant and ensure a safe water supply.

Grant enabled street numbers to be painted on kerbsides to assist emergency services to find houses



Tennant Creek Priority Projects
Tyre shredding – part of ongoing process
Car crushing – part of ongoing process
Traffic Management Study Completed
Waste Management and Resource Recovery Strategy Completed



Wutunugurra Priority Projects
Dig new waste pit and clean up waste area - completed
Restore the Community centre with new Crimsafe windows - completed
Wi-Fi hot spots for community - completed
Ablution block for football oval – ongoing
Grand stands for football oval - ongoing



BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL

General Purpose Financial Reports for the year ended 30 June 2017

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
Officer's Certificate	1
Principal Financial Statements	
Statement of Comprehensive Income	2
Balance Sheet	3
Statement of Changes in Equity	4
Cash Flow Statement	5
Notes to, and forming part of, the Principal Financial Statements	
Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies	N1
Note 2 - Income	N6
Note 3 - Expenses	N9
Note 4 - Gain or Loss on Disposal of Assets	N10
Note 5 - Current Assets	N10
Note 6 - Non-Current Assets	N11
Note 7 - Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment & Investment Property	N12
Note 8 - Liabilities	N16
Note 9 - Reserves	N16
Note 10 - Assets Subject to Restrictions	N16
Note 11 - Reconciliation of Cash Flow Statement	N17
Note 12 - Functions	N18
Note 13 - Financial Instruments	N20
Note 14 - Expenditure Commitments	N22
Note 15 - Operating Leases	N22
Note 16 - Superannuation	N22
Note 17 - Financial Indicators	N23
Note 18 - Assets & Liabilities not Recognised	N23
Note 19 - Related Party Transactions	N24
Note 20 - Road Transport Infrastructure	N24
Audit Report	

BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL

ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 June 2017

OFFICER'S STATEMENT

I, Steven Michael Moore the Chief Executive Officer of the Barkly Regional Council, hereby certify that the Annual Financial Statements:

- (a) have been drawn up in accordance with the applicable Australian Accounting Standards, the Local Government Act and the Local Government (Accounting) Regulations so as to present fairly the financial position of the Council and the results for the year; and
- (b) are in accordance with the accounting and other records of Council.



Steven M Moore
Chief Executive Officer

19-10-2017

Date:

BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME for the year ended 30 June 2017

	Notes	2017 \$'000	2016 \$'000
INCOME			
Rates	2	3,416	3,292
Statutory charges	2	3	4
User charges	2	1,317	1,815
Grants, subsidies and contributions	2	17,974	18,305
Investment income	2	104	62
Reimbursements	2	1,440	994
Other income	2	610	67
Total Income		<u>24,864</u>	<u>24,539</u>
EXPENSES			
Employee costs	3	13,289	12,226
Materials, contracts & other expenses	3	8,736	8,699
Depreciation, amortisation & impairment	3	3,003	2,957
Finance costs	3	13	-
Total Expenses		<u>25,041</u>	<u>23,882</u>
OPERATING SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)		(177)	657
Net loss on disposal of assets	4	(76)	(9)
Amounts received specifically for new or upgraded assets	2	-	2,026
NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)		<u>(253)</u>	<u>2,674</u>
Transferred to Equity Statement			2,674
Other Comprehensive Income			
<i>Amounts which will not be reclassified subsequently to operating result</i>			
Gain on revaluation of infrastructure, property, plant & equipment		(5,438)	-
Impairment (expense) / recoupment offset to asset revaluation reserve		(944)	-
Total Other Comprehensive Income		<u>(6,382)</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME		<u>(6,635)</u>	<u>2,674</u>

This Statement is to be read in conjunction with the attached Notes.

BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL

BALANCE SHEET as at 30 June 2017

	Notes	2017 \$'000	2016 \$'000
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	5	10,166	6,823
Trade & other receivables	5	1,053	1,397
Inventories	5	42	44
Total Current Assets		<u>11,261</u>	<u>8,264</u>
Non-current Assets			
Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment	7	30,181	39,122
Other Non-current Assets	6	-	50
Total Non-current Assets		<u>30,181</u>	<u>39,172</u>
Total Assets		<u>41,442</u>	<u>47,436</u>
LIABILITIES			
Current Liabilities			
Trade & Other Payables	8	1,396	756
Provisions	8	748	783
Total Current Liabilities		<u>2,144</u>	<u>1,539</u>
Non-current Liabilities			
Provisions	8	279	243
Total Non-current Liabilities		<u>279</u>	<u>243</u>
Total Liabilities		<u>2,423</u>	<u>1,782</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>39,019</u>	<u>45,654</u>
EQUITY			
Accumulated Surplus		15,231	15,484
Asset Revaluation Reserves	9	23,788	30,170
TOTAL EQUITY		<u>39,019</u>	<u>45,654</u>

This Statement is to be read in conjunction with the attached Notes.

BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY for the year ended 30 June 2017

	Accumulated Surplus	Asset Revaluation Reserve	TOTAL EQUITY
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
2017	Notes		
Balance at end of previous reporting period	15,484	30,170	45,654
Net (Deficit) for Year	(253)	-	(253)
Other Comprehensive Income			
<i>Amounts which will not be reclassified subsequently to operating result</i>			
Changes in revaluation surplus - infrastructure, property, plant & equipment	-	(5,438)	(5,438)
Impairment (expense) offset to asset revaluation reserve	-	(944)	(944)
Balance at end of period	15,231	23,788	39,019
2016			
Balance at end of previous reporting period	12,810	30,170	42,980
Net Surplus for Year	2,674		2,674
Balance at end of period	15,484	30,170	45,654

This Statement is to be read in conjunction with the attached Notes

BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL

CASH FLOW STATEMENT for the year ended 30 June 2017

	Notes	2017 \$'000	2016 \$'000
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
<u>Receipts</u>			
Rates - general & other		3,454	3,331
Fees & other charges		1,291	1,914
Investment receipts		87	62
Grants utilised for operating purposes		19,584	19,007
Other operating receipts		2,618	1,675
<u>Payments</u>			
Employee Costs		(13,167)	(11,902)
Contractual services & materials		(8,454)	(8,213)
Other operating payments		(1,279)	(1,597)
Finance payments		(321)	32
Net Cash provided by (or used in) Operating Activities		3,813	4,309
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
<u>Receipts</u>			
Amounts specifically for new or upgraded assets		-	2,026
Sale of replaced assets		36	-
<u>Payments</u>			
Expenditure on renewal/replacement of assets		(506)	-
Expenditure on new/upgraded assets		-	(3,495)
Net Cash provided by (or used in) Investing Activities		(470)	(1,469)
Net Increase (Decrease) in cash held		3,343	2,840
Cash & cash equivalents at beginning of period		6,823	3,983
Cash & cash equivalents at end of period		10,166	6,823

This Statement is to be read in conjunction with the attached Notes

Barkly Regional Council

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 30 June 2017

Note 1 - SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial report are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

1 Basis of Preparation

Compliance with Australian Accounting Standards

This general purpose financial report has been prepared on a going concern basis using the historical cost convention, except as otherwise stated, in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards as they apply to not-for-profit entities, other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board, Interpretations and relevant Northern Territory legislation.

The financial report was authorised for issue by certificate under clause 16 of the *Local Government (Accounting) Regulations* dated 19 October 2017).

Critical Accounting Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Australian Accounting Standards requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates, and requires management to exercise its judgement in applying Council's accounting policies. The areas involving a higher degree of judgement or complexity, or areas where assumptions and estimates are significant to the financial statements are specifically referred to in the relevant sections of these Notes.

Rounding

All amounts in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest thousand dollars (\$'000).

2 The Local Government Reporting Entity

Barkly Regional Council is incorporated under the NT Local Government Act and has its principal place of business at 58 Peko Road, Tennant Creek. These financial statements include the Council's direct operations and all entities through which Council controls resources to carry on its functions. In the process of reporting on the Council as a single unit, all transactions and balances between activity areas and controlled entities have been eliminated.

Trust monies and property held by Council but subject to the control of other persons have been excluded from these reports. A separate statement of moneys held in the Trust Fund is available for inspection at the Council Office by any person free of charge.

3 Income recognition

Income is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable. Income is recognised when the Council obtains control over the assets comprising the income, or when the amount due constitutes an enforceable debt, whichever first occurs.

Where grants, contributions and donations recognised as income during the reporting period were obtained on the condition that they be expended in a particular manner or used over a particular period, and those conditions were undischarged as at the reporting date, the amounts subject to those undischarged conditions are disclosed in these notes. Also disclosed is the amount of grants, contributions and receivables recognised as incomes in a previous reporting period which were obtained in respect of the Council's operations for the current reporting period.

Barkly Regional Council

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 30 June 2017

Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies (cont)

3 Income recognition (cont)

In recent years the payment of untied financial assistance grants has varied from the annual allocation as follows:

	Cash Received	Annual Allocation	Difference	
2016/17	\$3,315,490	\$2,202,409	-	\$1,113,081

Because these grants are untied, the Australian Accounting Standards require that payments be recognised as income upon receipt. Accordingly, the operating results of these periods have been distorted compared to those that would have been reported had the grants been paid in the year to which they were allocated.

The Operating Surplus Ratio disclosed in Note 15 has also been calculated after adjusting for the distortions resulting from the difference between actual grants received and the grants entitlements allocated.

The actual amounts of untied grants received during the reporting periods (including the advance allocations) are disclosed in Note 2.

4 Cash, Cash Equivalents and other Financial Instruments

Cash Assets include all amounts readily convertible to cash on hand at Council's option with an insignificant risk of changes in value with a maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition.

Receivables for rates and annual charges are secured over the subject land, and bear interest at rates determined in accordance with the NT *Local Government Act 2011*. Other receivables are generally unsecured and do not bear interest.

All receivables are reviewed as at the reporting date and adequate allowance made for amounts the receipt of which is considered doubtful.

All financial instruments are recognised at fair value at the date of recognition. A detailed statement of the accounting policies applied to financial instruments forms part of Note 13.

5 Inventories

Inventories held in respect of stores have been valued by using the weighted average cost on a continual basis, after adjustment for loss of service potential. Inventories held in respect of business undertakings have been valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

6 Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment

Land under roads

Council has elected not to recognise land under roads acquired prior to 1 July 2008 as an asset in accordance with AASB 1051 Land under Roads. Land under roads acquired after 30 June 2008 has not been recognised as in the opinion of Council it is not possible to reliably attribute a fair value, and further that such value if determined would be immaterial.

Barkly Regional Council

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 30 June 2017

Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies (cont)

6 Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment (cont)

Initial Recognition

All assets are initially recognised at cost. For assets acquired at no cost or for nominal consideration, cost is determined as fair value at the date of acquisition.

Cost is determined as the fair value of the assets given as consideration plus costs incidental to the acquisition, including architects' fees and engineering design fees and all other costs incurred. The cost of non-current assets constructed by the Council includes the cost of all materials used in construction, direct labour on the project and an appropriate proportion of variable and fixed overhead.

All non-current assets purchased or constructed are capitalised as the expenditure is incurred and depreciated as soon as the asset is held "ready for use". Capital works still in progress at balance date are recognised as other non-current assets and transferred to infrastructure, property, plant & equipment when completed ready for use.

Subsequent Recognition

Certain asset classes are revalued on a regular basis such that the carrying values are not materially different from fair value. Additions acquired subsequent to a revaluation are recognised at cost until next revaluation of that asset class. Further detail of existing valuations, methods and valuers are provided at Note 7.

Depreciation of Non-Current Assets

Other than land, all infrastructure, property, plant and equipment assets recognised are systematically depreciated over their useful lives on a straight-line basis which, in the opinion of Council, best reflects the consumption of the service potential embodied in those assets.

Impairment

Assets that have an indefinite useful life are not subject to depreciation and are reviewed annually for impairment. Assets carried at fair value whose future economic benefits are not dependent on the ability to generate cash flows, and where the future economic benefits would be replaced if Council were deprived thereof, are not subject to impairment testing.

Other assets that are subject to depreciation are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. An impairment loss is recognised for the amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount (which is the higher of the present value of future cash outflows or value in use).

Where an asset that has been revalued is subsequently impaired, the impairment is first offset against such amount as stands to the credit of that class of assets in Asset Revaluation Reserve, any excess being recognised as an expense.

7 Payables

Goods & Services

Creditors are amounts due to external parties for the supply of goods and services and are recognised as liabilities when the goods and services are received. Creditors are normally paid 30 days after the month of invoice. No interest is payable on these amounts.

Payments Received in Advance & Deposits

Amounts (other than grants) received from external parties in advance of service delivery, and security deposits held against possible damage to Council assets, are recognised as liabilities until the service is delivered or damage reinstated, or the amount is refunded as the case may be.

8 Employee Benefits

Salaries, Wages & Compensated Absences

Liabilities for employees' entitlements to salaries, wages and compensated absences expected to be paid or settled within 12 months of reporting date are accrued at nominal amounts (including payroll based on-costs) measured in accordance with AASB 119.

Barkly Regional Council

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 30 June 2017

Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies (cont)

Liabilities for employee benefits not expected to be paid or settled within 12 months are measured as the present value of the estimated future cash outflows (including payroll based on-costs) to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the reporting date. Present values are calculated using government guaranteed securities rates with similar maturity terms.

No accrual is made for sick leave as Council experience indicates that, on average, sick leave taken in each reporting period is less than the entitlement accruing in that period, and this experience is expected to recur in future reporting periods. Council does not make payment for untaken sick leave.

Superannuation

The Council makes employer superannuation contributions in respect of its employees to a number of complying Superannuation Funds in accordance with the Superannuation Choice legislation. No changes in accounting policy have occurred during either the current or previous reporting periods. Details of the accounting policies applied and Council's involvement with the schemes are reported in Note 16.

9 Construction Contracts

Construction works undertaken by Council for third parties are generally on an agency basis where the third party reimburses Council for actual costs incurred, and usually do not extend beyond the reporting period. As there is no profit component, such works are treated as 100% completed. Reimbursements not received are recognised as receivables and reimbursements received in advance are recognised as "payments received in advance".

10 Leases

Lease arrangements have been accounted for in accordance with Australian Accounting Standard AASB 117.

In respect of finance leases, where Council substantially carries all of the risks incident to ownership, the leased items are initially recognised as assets and liabilities equal in amount to the present value of the minimum lease payments. The assets are disclosed as assets under lease, and are amortised to expense over the period during which the Council is expected to benefit from the use of the leased assets. Lease payments are allocated between interest expense and reduction of the lease liability, according to the interest rate implicit in the lease.

In respect of operating leases, where the lessor substantially retains all of the risks and benefits incident to ownership of the leased items, lease payments are charged to expense over the lease term.

11 GST Implications

In accordance with Interpretation 1031 "Accounting for the Goods & Services Tax"

- Receivables and Creditors include GST receivable and payable.
- Except in relation to input taxed activities, revenues and operating expenditures exclude GST receivable and payable.
- Non-current assets and capital expenditures include GST net of any recoupment.
- Amounts included in the Statement of Cash Flows are disclosed on a gross basis.

12 Comparative Information

Comparative information has been reclassified to be consistent with the current year disclosure of equivalent information.

Barkly Regional Council

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 30 June 2017

Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies (cont)

13 Pending Accounting Standards

Certain new accounting standards and interpretations have been published that are not mandatory for the 30 June 2017 reporting period.

- AASB 7 Financial Instruments – Disclosures
- AASB 9 Financial Instruments
- AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers
- AASB 16 Leases
- AASB 1058 Income for Not-for-Profit Entities
- Standards containing consequential amendments to other Standards and Interpretations arising from the above - AASB 2010-7, AASB 2014-1, AASB 2014-3, AASB 2014-4, AASB 2014-5, AASB 2014-6, AASB 2014-7, AASB 2014-8, AASB 2014-9, AASB 2014-10, AASB 2015-1, AASB 2015-2, AASB 2015-3, AASB 2015-4, AASB 2015-5, AASB 2015-6 and AASB 2015-7.

Other than AASB 16 and AASB 1058 Council is of the view that none of the above new standards or interpretations will affect any of the amounts recognised in the financial statements, but that they may impact certain information otherwise disclosed.

Accounting Standard AASB 16 Leases may have a material effect on the amounts disclosed in these reports, particularly in relation to Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment, but does not commence until the 2019/20 financial period, and it is not Council's intention to adopt this Standard early.

Accounting Standard AASB 1058 Income for Not-for-Profit Entities may have a material effect on the amounts disclosed in these reports, particularly in relation to revenue from Grants & Subsidies, but does not commence until the 2019/20 financial period, and it is not Council's intention to adopt this Standard early.

BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2017

Note 2 - INCOME

	2017	2016
Notes	\$'000	\$'000
RATES REVENUES		
<u>General Rates</u>		
Residential	1,557	1,363
Commercial	670	664
Industrial	265	279
Pastoral and Mining	105	105
	<u>2,597</u>	<u>2,411</u>
<u>Annual Charges</u>		
Waste Management Service	796	841
Penalties for late payment	42	52
	<u>838</u>	<u>893</u>
Less: Discretionary rebates, remission & writeoffs	(19)	(12)
	<u>3,416</u>	<u>3,292</u>
STATUTORY CHARGES		
Animal registration fees & fines	2	3
Sundry	1	1
	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>
USER CHARGES		
Client Contributions	46	644
Fuel Sales	10	21
Landfill Fees	99	129
Service Fees	653	560
Sales and Admission Charges	91	68
Visitor Accommodation	50	41
Rental Charges	368	352
	<u>1,317</u>	<u>1,815</u>
INVESTMENT INCOME		
Interest on investments		
Banks & other	104	62
	<u>104</u>	<u>62</u>
REIMBURSEMENTS		
Power and Water	102	446
Private Works	1,154	428
Other	184	120
	<u>1,440</u>	<u>994</u>

BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2017

NOTE 2 - INCOME (continued)

	2017	2016
Notes	\$'000	\$'000
OTHER INCOME		
Insurance & other recoupments - infrastructure, property, plant & equipment	-	17
Write back of Doubtful Debts Expense	-	1
Agency Fees	537	-
Sundry	73	49
	<u>610</u>	<u>67</u>
GRANTS, SUBSIDIES, CONTRIBUTIONS		
Amounts received specifically for new or upgraded assets	-	2,026
Other grants, subsidies and contributions	17,871	18,305
Individually significant item -	2(a) 103	-
	<u>17,974</u>	<u>20,331</u>
<i>The functions to which these grants relate are shown in Note 12.</i>		
Sources of grants		
Commonwealth government	6,611	6,791
Northern Territory government	11,014	13,300
Other	349	240
	<u>17,974</u>	<u>20,331</u>
2(a) Individually Significant Item		
<i>Grant funds received in the year ended 30 June 2016 recognised as income in the 2016-2017 financial statements</i>	<u>103</u>	<u>-</u>

BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2017

NOTE 2 - INCOME (continued)

	2017	2016
Notes	\$'000	\$'000
Conditions over grants & contributions		
<i>Grants and contributions which were obtained on the condition that they be expended for specified purposes or in a future period, but which are not yet expended in accordance with those conditions, are as follows:</i>		
<i>Unexpended at the close of the previous reporting period</i>	3,974	3,106
<i>Less: expended during the current period from revenues recognised in previous reporting periods</i>		
<i>Homelands - Extra Allowance</i>	219	379
<i>Homeland - Special Purpose</i>	806	238
<i>Local Authorities Allocation</i>	431	292
<i>CAYLUS</i>	77	-
<i>Closing The Gap - Council Rebranding</i>	133	-
<i>NDRRA Flood Damage</i>	-	303
<i>NTJP - HACC</i>	196	-
<i>Night Patrol</i>	618	138
<i>Traffic Management Study</i>	110	-
<i>Strengthening Local Authorities</i>	80	-
<i>Youth Services</i>	150	-
<i>School Nutrition Program</i>	-	114
<i>Waste Management</i>	49	-
<i>Waterparks</i>	-	473
<i>Other</i>	29	327
<i>Subtotal</i>	2,898	2,264
<i>Plus: amounts recognised as revenues in this reporting period not yet expended in accordance with the conditions</i>		
<i>Homelands - Special Purpose</i>	64	368
<i>Homelands - Extra Allowance</i>	-	633
<i>CAYLUS</i>	28	-
<i>Elliott Men's Shed</i>	23	-
<i>Elliott Playground Equipment</i>	13	-
<i>Elliott Playgroup</i>	49	-
<i>Night Patrol</i>	233	372
<i>DLGCS - Purchase Road Equipment</i>	238	-
<i>Home and Community Care</i>	13	-
<i>Local Authorities Allocation</i>	-	339
<i>School Nutrition Programme</i>	183	-
<i>Special Purpose Grants</i>	-	850
<i>Roads to Recovery</i>	-	200
<i>School Holiday Programmes</i>	117	-
<i>Youth Services</i>	17	184
<i>Traffic Management Study</i>	-	110
<i>Waste Management</i>	34	-
<i>Other</i>	75	76
<i>Subtotal</i>	1,087	3,132
<i>Unexpended at the close of this reporting period and held as restricted assets</i>	2,163	3,974
<i>Net increase (decrease) in assets subject to conditions in the current reporting period</i>	(1,811)	868

BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2017

Note 3 - EXPENSES

	Notes	2017 \$'000	2016 \$'000
EMPLOYEE COSTS			
Salaries and Wages		10,328	10,276
Employee leave expense		1,112	324
Superannuation - defined contribution plan contributions	16	1,027	947
Training		135	44
Uniforms		66	-
Workers' Compensation Insurance		189	251
Travel		273	241
Fringe Benefits Tax		51	65
Recruitment		108	78
Total Operating Employee Costs		13,289	12,226
 Total Number of Employees		 143	 196
<i>(Full time equivalent at end of reporting period)</i>			
 MATERIALS, CONTRACTS & OTHER EXPENSES			
<u>Prescribed Expenses</u>			
Auditor's Remuneration			
- Auditing the financial reports		42	40
Elected members' expenses		417	421
Operating Lease Rentals - non-cancellable leases	15		
- minimum lease payments		755	459
Subtotal - Prescribed Expenses		1,214	920
 <u>Other Materials, Contracts & Expenses</u>			
Consultants		1,054	549
Communication		447	425
Plant & Motor Vehicle Repairs and Running Costs		952	812
Repairs and Maintenance - General		701	522
Legal Expenses		23	63
Contractors		587	1,881
Materials - Other		529	591
Minor Equipment		377	-
Insurance		362	383
Groceries		670	710
Utilities		1,288	1,196
Annual Software License Fees		333	336
Sundry		199	311
Subtotal - Other Materials, Contracts & Expenses		7,522	7,779
		8,736	8,699

BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2017

Note 3 - EXPENSES (cont)

	Notes	2017 \$'000	2016 \$'000
FINANCE COSTS			
Bank Charges & Fees		13	-
		<u>13</u>	<u>-</u>
DEPRECIATION, AMORTISATION & IMPAIRMENT			
Depreciation			
Buildings		2,129	1,991
Infrastructure		8	-
Office Equipment, Furniture & Fittings		75	72
Plant & equipment		791	894
		<u>3,003</u>	<u>2,957</u>

Note 4 - ASSET DISPOSAL & FAIR VALUE ADJUSTMENTS

INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT

Assets renewed or directly replaced

Proceeds from disposal	36	-
Less: Carrying amount of assets sold	62	9
Gain (Loss) on disposal	<u>(26)</u>	<u>(9)</u>

OTHER NON-CURRENT ASSETS

Writedown of CouncilBiz Investment	(50)	-
	<u>(50)</u>	<u>-</u>

NET GAIN (LOSS) ON DISPOSAL OR REVALUATION OF ASSETS

	(76)	(9)
	<u>(76)</u>	<u>(9)</u>

Note 5 - CURRENT ASSETS

CASH & EQUIVALENT ASSETS

Cash on Hand and at Bank	5,109	6,823
Short Term Deposits & Bills, etc	5,057	-
	<u>10,166</u>	<u>6,823</u>

TRADE & OTHER RECEIVABLES

Rates - General & Other	523	554
Accrued Revenues	17	-
Debtors - general	374	240
Other levels of Government	131	393
GST Recoupment	-	210
Prepayments	25	22
Sundry	4	-
Total	<u>1,074</u>	<u>1,419</u>
Less: Allowance for Doubtful Debts	21	22
	<u>1,053</u>	<u>1,397</u>

BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2017

Note 5 - CURRENT ASSETS (CONTD)

INVENTORIES	Notes	\$'000	\$'000
Stores & Materials		<u>42</u>	<u>44</u>
		<u>42</u>	<u>44</u>

Aggregate write-downs and other losses recognised as an expense, and reversals of these, were not material in amount in either year. All such reversals occurred principally as a result of clerical inaccuracies during stores operations

Note 6 - NON-CURRENT ASSETS

OTHER NON-CURRENT ASSETS

Equity Contribution - CouncilBiz	<u>-</u>	<u>50</u>
	<u>-</u>	<u>50</u>

On 1 July 2008, a funding contribution of \$50,000 was made by the members of CouncilBiz to facilitate the establishment of this business. As the constitution of CouncilBiz does not make provision for equity contributions, or the return of equity contributions on dissolution, the Board of CouncilBiz, in 2015, made a determination that these contributions did not represent equity.

The equity contribution in CouncilBiz as therefore been written back to the Income Statement in the current financial year (Note 4).

BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2017

Note 7 - INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT

	Fair Value Level	2016 \$'000				2017 \$'000			
		AT FAIR VALUE	AT COST	ACCUM DEP'N	CARRYING AMOUNT	AT FAIR VALUE	AT COST	ACCUM DEP'N	CARRYING AMOUNT
Land	3	443	-	-	443	3,377	-	-	3,377
Land Improvements	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Buildings	2&3	42,318	6,134	(12,379)	36,073	20,215	-	-	20,215
Infrastructure	3	-	-	-	-	4,102	-	-	4,102
Office Equipment		-	560	(434)	126	-	-	-	-
Plant & equipment	3	9,884	1,095	(8,499)	2,480	2,487	-	-	2,487
TOTAL PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT		52,645	7,789	(21,312)	39,122	30,181	-	-	30,181
<i>Comparatives</i>		52,999	1,693	(18,704)	35,988	52,645	7,789	(21,312)	39,122

This Note continues on the following pages.

BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2017

Note 7 - INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT (CONTD)

	CARRYING AMOUNT MOVEMENTS DURING YEAR										2017
	2016 \$'000	\$'000								2017 \$'000	
	CARRYING AMOUNT	New/ Upgrade	Additions		Restructure	Disposals	Depreciation	Impairment	Transfers	Net Revaluation	CARRYING AMOUNT
			Renewals								
Land	443	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(76)	3,010	3,377
Buildings	36,073	347	-	-	-	(62)	(2,129)	(944)	(3,718)	(9,352)	20,215
Infrastructure	-	-	-	-	-	-	(8)	-	4,146	(36)	4,102
Office Equipment	126	-	-	-	-	-	(75)	-	(51)	-	-
Plant & equipment	2,480	159	-	-	-	-	(791)	-	(301)	940	2,487
TOTAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT	39,122	506	-	-	-	(62)	(3,003)	(944)	-	(5,438)	30,181
<i>Comparatives</i>	35,988	6,100	-	-	-	(9)	(2,957)	-	-	-	39,122

This Note continues on the following pages.

Barkly Regional Council

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2016

Note 7– INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT (cont)

Valuation of Assets

General Valuation Principles

Assets at deemed cost - At 1 July 2004 upon the transition to AIFRS, Council elected pursuant to AASB 1.19 to retain a previously established cost under GAAP as its deemed cost. With subsequent additions at cost, this remains as the basis of recognition of non-material asset classes.

Accounting procedure - Upon revaluation, the current new replacement cost and accumulated depreciation are re-stated such that the difference represents the fair value of the asset determined in accordance with AASB 13 *Fair Value Measurement*: accumulated depreciation is taken to be the difference between current new replacement cost and fair value. In the case of land, fair value is taken to be the current replacement cost.

Highest and best use - For land which Council has an unfettered right to sell, the "highest and best use" recognises the possibility of the demolition or substantial modification of some or all of the existing buildings and structures affixed to the land.

Much of the land under Council's care and control is Crown land or has been declared as community land. Other types of restrictions also exist.

For land subject to these restrictions, the highest and best use is taken to be the "highest and best use" available to Council, with a rebuttable presumption that the current use is the "highest and best use". The reason for the current use of a large proportion of Council's assets being other than the "highest and best use" relates to Council's principal role as the provider of services to the community, rather than the use of those assets for the generation of revenue.

For buildings and other structures on and in the land, including infrastructure, "highest and best use" is determined in accordance with the land on and in which they are situated.

Transition to AASB 13 - The requirements of AASB 13 *Fair Value Measurement* have been applied to all valuations undertaken since 1 July 2013 as shown by the valuation dates by individual asset classes below.

Land under Roads

Council being of the opinion that it is not possible to attribute a value sufficiently reliably to qualify for recognition, land under roads has not been recognised in these reports. Land acquired for road purposes during the year is initially recognised at cost, but transferred to fair value at reporting date, effectively writing off the expenditure.

Land & Land Improvements

Fair value hierarchy level 2 valuations - Certain land, and the buildings and structures thereon, are shown above as being based on fair value hierarchy level 2 valuation inputs. They are based on prices for similar assets in an active market, with directly or indirectly observable adjustments for specific advantages or disadvantages attaching to the particular asset.

Fair value hierarchy level 3 valuations of land - Valuations of Crown land, community land and land subject to other restrictions on use or disposal, shown above as being based on fair value hierarchy level 3 valuation inputs, are based on prices for similar assets in an active market, but include adjustments for specific advantages or disadvantages attaching to the particular asset that are not directly or indirectly observable in that market, or the number and / or amount of observable adjustments of which are so great that the valuation is more fairly described as being based on level 3 valuation inputs.

These assets were valued as at 30 June 2017 valuation by Mr Timothy Ashton,, Certified Practising Valuer-AAPI Registration #67108, of AssetVal Pty Ltd (previous valuation – 30 June 2006 – Australian Valuation Office).

Barkly Regional Council

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2017

Note 7 – Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment (cont)

Buildings & Other Structures, Infrastructure and other assets shown as fair value hierarchy level 3

There is no known market for these assets and they are valued at depreciated current replacement cost. This method involves:

- The determination of the cost to construct the asset (or its modern engineering equivalent) using current prices for materials and labour, the quantities of each being estimated based on recent experience of this or similar Councils, or on industry construction guides where these are more appropriate.
- The calculation of the depreciation that would have accumulated since original construction using current estimates of residual value and useful life under the prime cost depreciation method adopted by Council.

This method has significant inherent uncertainties, relying on estimates of quantities of materials and labour, residual values and useful lives, and the possibility of changes in prices for materials and labour, and the potential for development of more efficient construction techniques.

Buildings & Other Structures

These assets were valued as at 30 June 2017 valuation by Mr Timothy Ashton,, Certified Practising Valuer-AAPI Registration #67108, of AssetVal Pty Ltd (previous valuation – 30 June 2006 – Australian Valuation Office).

Transport Infrastructure

Transportation assets were valued as at 30 June 2017 valuation by Mr Stuart D Forbes ASA, Consultant Plant, Equipment and Infrastructure Valuer - AAPI Registration #95281, of AssetVal Pty Ltd. Pursuant to advice from the Department of Community & Local Government Services these assets have not been recorded in the financial statements of Council at 30 June 2017, Transport Infrastructure valuations have been reported at Note 20 for information purposes only.

Other Infrastructure

Pool and Waterpark Infrastructure, Telecommunications Infrastructure, and Water Pumping and Bore Infrastructure were valued as at 30 June 2017 by Mr Stuart D Forbes ASA, Consultant Plant, Equipment and Infrastructure Valuer - AAPI Registration #95281, of AssetVal Pty Ltd.

Capitalisation Thresholds

Capitalisation thresholds used by Council for all assets is \$5,000.. No capitalisation threshold is applied to the acquisition of land or interests in land.

Estimated useful lives

Plant, Furniture & Equipment	
Office Furniture & Equipment	5 years
Light Vehicles	3 to 7 years
Heavy Vehicles	8 to 12 years
Other Plant & Equipment	5 years
Building & Other Structures	
Buildings - masonry	40 years
Buildings - other construction	15 to 40 years
Infrastructure	
Pool and Waterpark Infrastructure	15 to 30 years
Telecommunications Infrastructure	5 to 7 years
Water Pumping and Bore Infrastructure	5 years

BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2017

Note 8 - LIABILITIES

	Notes	2017 \$'000		2016 \$'000	
		Current	Non-current	Current	Non-current
TRADE & OTHER PAYABLES					
Goods & Services		998		318	
Rates received in advance		7		-	
Accrued expenses - payroll		121	-		-
Accrued expenses - other		270	-	438	-
		<u>1,396</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>756</u>	<u>-</u>
PROVISIONS					
Employee entitlements (including oncosts)		748	279	783	243
		<u>748</u>	<u>279</u>	<u>783</u>	<u>243</u>

Amounts included in provisions that are not expected to be settled within 12 months of reporting date.

279

243

Note 9 - RESERVES

ASSET REVALUATION RESERVE	Notes	30/06/2016	Net	Transfers,	30/06/2017
		\$'000	Increments (Decrements) \$'000	Impairments \$'000	\$'000
Land		-	3,010	-	3,010
Buildings		30,134	(9,352)	(944)	19,838
Infrastructure		36	(36)	-	-
Plant & Equipment		-	940	-	940
Total Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment		<u>30,170</u>	<u>(5,438)</u>	<u>(944)</u>	<u>23,788</u>
TOTAL		<u>30,170</u>	<u>(5,438)</u>	<u>(944)</u>	<u>23,788</u>
Comparatives		<u>30,170</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>30,170</u>

PURPOSES OF RESERVES

Asset Revaluation Reserve

The asset revaluation reserve is used to record increments and decrements arising from changes in fair value of non-current assets and available-for-sale financial assets.

Note 10 - ASSETS SUBJECT TO RESTRICTIONS

The uses of the following assets are restricted, wholly or partially, by legislation or other externally imposed requirements. The assets are required to be utilised for the purposes for which control was transferred to Council, or for which the revenues were originally obtained.

	Notes	2017 \$'000	2016 \$'000
CASH & FINANCIAL ASSETS			
Unexpended amounts received in relation to funded programmes	2	<u>2,163</u>	<u>3,974</u>
		<u>2,163</u>	<u>3,974</u>

BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2017

Note 11 - RECONCILIATION TO CASH FLOW STATEMENT

(a) Reconciliation of Cash

Cash Assets comprise highly liquid investments with short periods to maturity subject to insignificant risk of changes of value. Cash at the end of the reporting period as shown in the Cash Flow Statement is reconciled to the related items in the Statement of Financial Position as follows:

	Notes	2017 \$'000	2016 \$'000
Total cash & equivalent assets	5	<u>10,166</u>	<u>6,823</u>
Balances per Cash Flow Statement		<u>10,166</u>	<u>6,823</u>

**(b) Reconciliation of Change in Net Assets to Cash
from Operating Activities**

Net Surplus (Deficit)		(253)	2,674
Non-cash items in Income Statement			
Depreciation, amortisation & impairment		3,003	2,957
Net increase in unpaid employee benefits		122	323
Change in allowances for under-recovery		(1)	(1)
Grants for capital acquisitions treated as Investing Activity		-	(2,026)
Net (Gain) Loss on Disposals		<u>26</u>	<u>9</u>
		<u>2,897</u>	<u>3,936</u>
Add (Less): Changes in Net Current Assets			
Net (increase) decrease in receivables		345	482
Net (increase) decrease in inventories		2	18
Net (increase) decrease in other current assets		50	-
Net increase (decrease) in trade & other payables		<u>519</u>	<u>(127)</u>
Net Cash provided by (or used in) operations		<u>3,813</u>	<u>4,309</u>

(c) Financing Arrangements

Unrestricted access was available at balance date to the following lines of credit:

Corporate Credit Cards	<u>50</u>
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Barkly Regional Council

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 30 June 2017

Note 12 - COMPONENTS OF FUNCTIONS (cont)

The activities relating to Council functions are as follows:

General Public Services

Administrative, legislative and executive affairs, financial and fiscal affairs, general research and general services; also includes Natural Disaster relief.

Public Order & Safety

Fire protection; local emergency services; animal control and impounding; control of public places; control of signs, hoardings and advertising, community policing and probationary matters.

Economic Affairs

General economic, agriculture and forestry, fuel and energy, other labour and employment affairs, CDEP and transport and other industries, saleyards and tourism.

Environmental Protection

Waste management, pollution reduction, protection of biodiversity and landscape and protection and remediation of soil, ground water and surface water.

Housing & Community Amenities

Housing, housing and development, water supply and street lighting.

Health

Well baby clinics, dental health services and home nursing services, nursing and convalescent home services, immunisation, infant nutrition and child health, family planning services.

Recreation, Culture and Religion

Facilities and venues, recreation parks and reserves, culture and religion services, museums and libraries.

Education

Administration, inspection, support, operation, etc. of education programs and services.

Social Protection

Outlays on day care services, family day care, occasional care and outside school hours care, aged service, shelter protection, drug and alcohol treatment programs; also includes relief from man-made disasters.

BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2017

Note 13 - FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Accounting Policies

Bank, Deposits at Call, Short Term Deposits **Accounting Policy:** Carried at lower of cost and net realisable value; Interest is recognised when earned.

Terms & conditions: Deposits are returning fixed interest rates between 2% and 2.6% (2016: 0% and 1.05%). Short term deposits have an average maturity of 90 days and an average interest rates of 2.3% (2016: 76 days, 2.81%).

Carrying amount: approximates fair value due to the short term to maturity.

Receivables - Rates & Associated Charges (including legals & penalties for late payment) **Accounting Policy:** Carried at nominal values less any allowance for doubtful debts. An allowance for doubtful debts is recognised (and re-assessed annually) when collection in full is no longer probable.

Terms & conditions: Secured over the subject land, arrears attract interest of 9% (2016: 9%) Although Council is not materially exposed to any individual debtor, credit risk exposure is concentrated within the Council's boundaries in the State.

Carrying amount: approximates fair value (after deduction of any allowance).

Receivables - Fees & other charges **Accounting Policy:** Carried at nominal values less any allowance for doubtful debts. An allowance for doubtful debts is recognised (and re-assessed annually) when collection in full is no longer probable.

Terms & conditions: Unsecured, and do not bear interest. Although Council is not materially exposed to any individual debtor, credit risk exposure is concentrated within the Council's boundaries.

Carrying amount: approximates fair value (after deduction of any allowance).

Receivables - other levels of government **Accounting Policy:** Carried at nominal value.

Terms & conditions: Amounts due have been calculated in accordance with the terms and conditions of the respective programs following advice of approvals, and do not bear interest. All amounts are due by Departments and Agencies of the Governments of the Commonwealth & State.

Carrying amount: approximates fair value.

Note: Certain of the above receivables do not meet the definition of *financial instruments*, being statutory charges rather than arising from a contract. Accounting policies are reported here for purposes of completeness but they are excluded from the remainder of the Note.

Liabilities - Creditors and Accruals **Accounting Policy:** Liabilities are recognised for amounts to be paid in the future for goods and services received, whether or not billed to the Council.

Terms & conditions: Liabilities are normally settled on 30 day terms.

Carrying amount: approximates fair value.

BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2017

Note 13 (cont) - FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Liquidity Analysis

2017	Due < 1 year \$'000	Due > 1 year; ≤ 5 years \$'000	Due > 5 years \$'000	Total Contractual Cash Flows \$'000	Carrying Values \$'000
Financial Assets					
Cash & equivalents	10,166			10,166	10,166
Receivables	526	-	-	526	526
Total	10,692	-	-	10,692	10,692
Financial Liabilities					
Payables	1,396	-	-	1,396	1,396
Total	1,396	-	-	1,396	1,396
2016					
Financial Assets					
Cash & equivalents	6,823			6,823	6,823
Receivables	633	-	-	633	633
Total	7,456	-	-	7,456	7,456
Financial Liabilities					
Payables	756	-	-	756	756
Total	756	-	-	756	756

All financial instruments are categorised as receivables.

Note: Statutory receivables, such as rates, have been excluded from the above tables.

Net Fair Value

All carrying values approximate fair value for all recognised financial instruments. There is no recognised market for the financial assets of the Council.

Risk Exposures

Credit Risk represents the loss that would be recognised if counterparties fail to perform as contracted. The maximum credit risk on financial assets of the Council is the carrying amount, net of any provision for doubtful debts. In accordance with regulations, all Council investments are made with authorised deposit taking institutions. Except as detailed in Notes 5 & 6 in relation to individual classes of receivables, exposure is concentrated within the Council's boundaries, and there is no material exposure to any individual debtor.

Market Risk is the risk that fair values of financial assets will fluctuate as a result of changes in market prices. All of Council's financial assets are denominated in Australian dollars and are not traded on any market, and hence neither market risk nor currency risk apply.

Liquidity Risk is the risk that Council will encounter difficulty in meeting obligations with financial liabilities. Liabilities have a range of maturity dates based on cash inflows. Council also has available a range of bank overdraft and short-term draw down facilities that it can access.

Interest Rate Risk is the risk that future cash flows will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates. Most of Council's financial instruments - both assets and liabilities - are at fixed rates. Any such variations in future cash flows will not be material in effect on either Council incomes or expenditures.

BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2017

Note 14 - COMMITMENTS FOR EXPENDITURE

Capital Commitments

Council has identified no capital expenditure committed for at the reporting date but not recognised in the financial statements as liabilities

Finance Lease Commitments

Council does not maintain any leases in respect to plant and equipment that are defined as finance leases.

Note 15 - OPERATING LEASES

Leases providing revenue to the Council

Council owns various buildings, plant and other facilities that are available for hire or lease (on a non-cancellable basis wherever practicable) in accordance with the published revenue policy. Rentals received from such leases are disclosed as rent and hire of non-investment property in Note 2.

Lease payment commitments of Council

Council has entered into non-cancellable operating leases for staff accommodation, and various items of computer and other plant and equipment.

No lease imposes any additional restrictions on Council in relation to additional debt or further leasing.

Leases in relation to computer and office equipment permit Council, at expiry of the lease, to elect to re-lease, return or acquire the equipment leased.

Commitments under non-cancellable operating leases that have not been recognised in the financial statements are as follows:

	2017 \$'000	2016 \$'000
Not later than one year	138	248
Later than one year and not later than 5 years	87	52
	<u>225</u>	<u>300</u>

Note 16 – SUPERANNUATION

The Council makes employer superannuation contributions in respect of its employees to a number of complying Superannuation Funds. All employees (including casuals) have all contributions allocated to the Accumulation section.

Accumulation only members receive both employer and employee contributions on a progressive basis. Employer contributions are based on a fixed percentage of ordinary time earnings in accordance with superannuation guarantee legislation – 2016/17: 9.5% (2015/16; 9.5%). No further liability accrues to the Council as the superannuation benefits accruing to employees are represented by their share of the net assets of the Fund.

Contributions to Other Superannuation Schemes

Council also makes contributions to other superannuation schemes selected by employees under the “choice of fund” legislation. All such schemes are of the accumulation type, where the superannuation benefits accruing to the employee are represented by their share of the net assets of the scheme, and no further liability attaches to the Council.

BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2017

Note 17 - FINANCIAL INDICATORS

	2017	2016	2015	2014
Current Ratio				
<u>Current Assets - Externally Restricted Assets</u>	4.73:1	5.37:1	3.73:1	4.19:1
Current Liabilities				
Debt Service Ratio				
<u>Net Debt Service Cost</u>	0:1	0:1	0:1	0:1
Operating Revenue*				
* as defined				
Rate Coverage Percentage				
<u>Rate Revenues</u>	10.93%	9.83%	9.60%	9.32%
Total Revenues				
Rates & Annual Charges				
Outstanding Percentage				
<u>Rates & Annual Charges Outstanding</u>	16.60%	18.44%	20.08%	20.84%
Rates & Annual Charges Collectible				

Note 18 - CONTINGENCIES & ASSETS & LIABILITIES NOT RECOGNISED IN THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

The following assets and liabilities do not qualify for recognition in the Statement of Financial Position but knowledge of those items is considered relevant to user of the financial report in making and evaluating decisions about the allocation of scarce resources.

INSURANCE LOSSES

Council is a multi-purpose organisation providing a large range of building, parks infrastructure, playgrounds and other facilities accessible to the public. At any time, it is likely that claims will have been made against Council that remain unsettled.

Council insures against all known insurable risks using a range of insurance policies, each of which is subject to a deductible "insurance excess", the amount of which varies according to the class of insurance.

Council has not identified any potential claims that may have existed at reporting date.

REPAYMENT OF GRANT FUNDING

Council receives significant income from a number of Grant Funding Providers. If grant monies are not expended in accordance with the funding agreements there is a potential for funding to be withdrawn and a requirement that these funds be repaid to the relevant funding body

BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2017

Note 19 - RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL

The Key Management Personnel of the Council include the Mayor, Councillors, CEO and certain prescribed officers under section 112 of the Local Government Act 1999. In all, 18 persons were paid the following total compensation:

	2017 \$
Salaries, allowances & other short term benefits	1,015,861
Termination benefits	19,186
TOTAL	1,035,047

Other than amounts paid as ratepayers or residents (e.g. rates, swimming pool entry fees, etc.), Council received the following amounts in total:

	2017 \$
Contributions for fringe benefits tax purposes	16,381
TOTAL	16,381

PARTIES RELATED TO KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL

One close family member of key management personnel is employed by Council in accordance with the terms of the Barkly Regional Council Enterprise Bargaining Agreement.

KMP and relatives of KMPs may own retail businesses from which various supplies may be purchased as required either for cash or on 30 day account. Purchases are made in accordance with approved Council purchasing policy and the requirements of the *Local Government Act*.

Note 20 - ROAD TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE

Transportation assets were valued as at 30 June 2017 valuation by Mr Stuart D Forbes ASA, Consultant Plant, Equipment and Infrastructure Valuer - AAPI Registration #95281, of AssetVal Pty Ltd. Pursuant to advice from the Department of Community & Local Government Services these assets have not been recorded in the financial statements of Council at 30 June 2017, Transport Infrastructure valuations are detailed below:

TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE	Replacement Cost (\$)	Fair Value (\$)
1. Roads	\$ 48,635,452	\$ 28,240,488
2. Culverts	\$ 966,171	\$ 598,693
3. Footpaths	\$ 1,909,586	\$ 1,295,494
4. Kerbs & Gutters	\$ 7,702,433	\$ 4,577,502
5. Point Generic	\$ 406,649	\$ 207,861
6. LGANT Managed Roads	\$ 20,019,524	\$ 12,422,084
TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE SUB-TOTAL	\$ 79,639,814	\$ 47,342,123

Ian G McDonald FCA



Barkly Regional Council

**ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 June 2017**

STATEMENT BY AUDITOR

I confirm that, for the audit of the financial statements of Barkly Regional Council for the year ended 30 June 2017, I have maintained my independence in accordance with the requirements of APES 110 – Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants, Section 290, published by the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board, in accordance with the Local Government Act (NT) 2015 together with the Local Government (Accounting) Regulations 2014 made under that Act.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Ian G McDonald'.

Ian G McDonald FCA

Dated this 10th day of October 2017

www.creativeauditing.com.au

Ian 0419 620 906
ianmcdonald@creativeauditing.org

PO Box 75, Henley Beach SA 5022
ABN 13 550 494 869

Nancy 0408 832 848
nancytran@creativeauditing.org

Ian G McDonald FCA



Barkly Regional Council Independent Auditor's Report

We have audited the attached financial statements, being a general purpose financial report, of the Barkly Regional Council (Council) for the year ended 30 June 2017.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements of the Council are properly drawn up:

- a) to present fairly the financial position of the Council as at the 30 June 2017 and the results of its operations for the period then ended, and;
- b) according to Australian Accounting Standards.

Basis for Opinion

For the audit of the Council we have maintained our independence in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements of APES 110 Section 290. We believe that the audit evidence that we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Other Information – Basis of Accounting and Restriction on Distribution

Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report is prepared to assist the council to meet the requirements of the Local Government Act (NT) 2015 together with the Local Government (Accounting) Regulations 2014. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our report is intended solely for the members.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Report

The Board of Management is responsible for the preparation of the financial report in accordance with the Local Government Act (NT) 2015 together with the Local Government (Accounting) Regulations 2014 and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Those standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the schedule is free from material misstatement. An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement in the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the association's preparation of the financial report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the association's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Ian G McDonald'.

Ian G McDonald FCA
Registered Company Auditor 16458

Signed at Grange, South Australia this 21st day of October 2017

www.creativeauditing.com.au

Ian 0419 620 906
ianmcdonald@creativeauditing.org

PO Box 75, Henley Beach SA 5022
ABN 13 550 494 869

Nancy 0408 832 848
nancytran@creativeauditing.org



Barkly Regional Council Contacts

Tennant Creek Offices

Phone: 08 8962 0000
Fax: 08 8962 1801
Postal: PO Box 821, Tennant Creek NT 0861
Executive: 41 Peko Road, Tennant Creek NT
Library: 41 Peko Road, Tennant Creek NT
Finance: 58 Peko Road, Tennant Creek NT
Depot: 1 Maloney Street, Tennant Creek NT
Email: reception@barkly.nt.gov.au

Community Delivery Centres

ALI CURUNG

Phone: 08 8964 2906
Fax: 08 8964 1975
Postal: Community Mail Bag 188, Ali Curung via Alice Springs NT 0872

ALPURRURULAM

Phone: 07 4748 4800
Fax: 07 4748 4913
Postal: Private Mail Bag 23, Mt Isa, Queensland 4825

AMPILATWATJA

Phone: 08 8956 9966
Fax: 08 8956 9153
Postal: Private Mail Bag 68, via Alice Springs NT 0872

ARLPARRA

Phone: 08 8956 9850
Fax: 08 8956 9851
Postal: Private Mail Bag 127, via Alice Springs NT 0872

ELLIOTT

Phone: 08 8969 3901
Fax: 08 8969 2076
Postal: C/- Post Office, Elliott NT 0862

WUTUNUGURRA

Phone: 08 8964 1668
Fax: 08 8964 1901
Postal: Private Mail Bag 148, Via Alice Springs NT 0872



BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL



www.barkly.nt.gov.au