

BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL

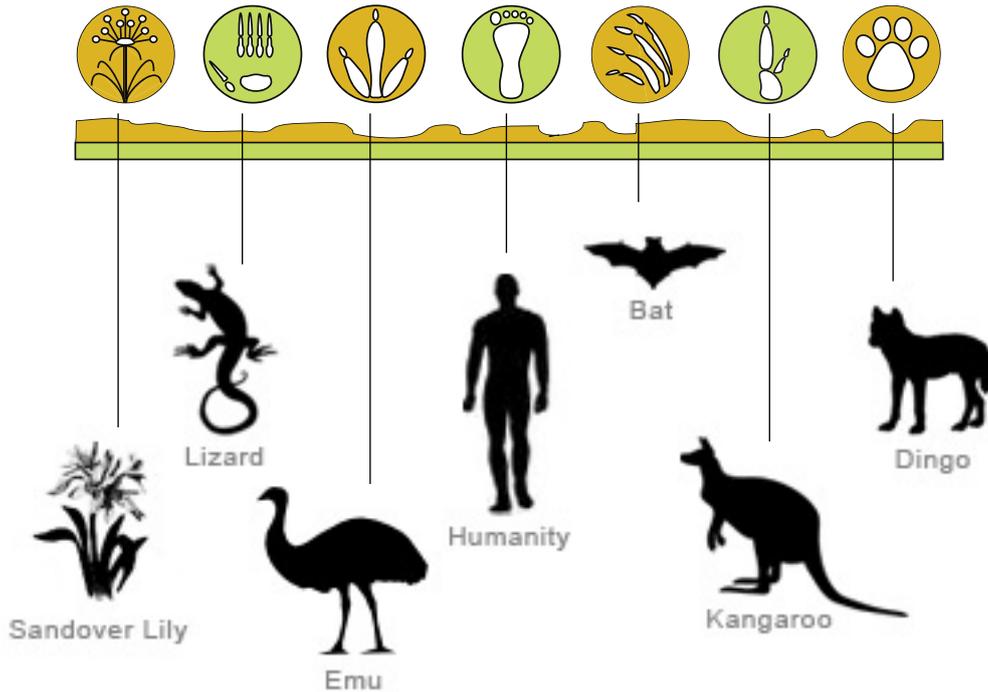


Annual Report

2017-2018

Every picture tells a story

BARKLY REGIONAL 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 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.

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Edited by Ktima Heathcote. Designed by Casey Heinzl, Asprint.



Mayor's Message

I am very pleased to present the Annual Report for the 2017/2018 financial year. With many significant achievements and a number of projects reaching completion, it has been a constructive year for Barkly Regional Council.

On 24 August 2017 a new team of councillors was elected following the Northern Territory Local Government elections. It was a proud moment for me as Mayor and the 12 other elected members when we were officially sworn in on Wednesday, 13 September 2017.

Council has provided a strong voice for Tennant Creek and the Barkly to ensure support for our local businesses, residents, youth, infrastructure, tourism and economy. It has focused on improving community safety by advocating for additional social and public housing. Council wants all children to be safe.

Rather than adopting a top-down approach, we have encouraged greater community ownership and governance and assisted locals to shape and build the places in which they live from the ground up.

We have recognised that building, supporting and investing in strong Aboriginal governance is necessary to ensure local people drive local solutions and are supported in the management of local decision making. Consequently, we have been working closely alongside each Local Authority to achieve goals, deliver projects and identify priorities as part of a five-year community infrastructure plan for the region.

Community consultation is also high on Council's agenda with a concerted effort to

engage more broadly with residents around a range of critical projects, including public forums and surveys on developments, such as the Purkiss Reserve Upgrade, facilities at Lake Mary Ann and public laneways in Tennant Creek.

Local Government is about building and maintaining strong partnerships, and in October last year we established the Mt Isa-Tennant Creek Cross Border Commission. Another important partnership included teaming up with the NO MORE Violence Campaign.

Our Council is committed to delivering honest, open and accountable government, and places a high value on the importance of service delivery to the council's constituency. It is responsive to the needs, interests and aspirations of individuals and groups within its area.

We are focused on delivering local jobs for local people and ensuring there are local opportunities for local businesses which will all contribute to making the Barkly the best place in the Territory to live, work, visit and invest in.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the CEO, Steve Moore, and Council staff for their tireless work over the past year. I also thank each Elected Member for their passion, dedication and service to the people of Tennant Creek and the Barkly.

Steven Edgington
Mayor Barkly Regional Council



Chief Executive Officer's Report

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

Barkly Regional Council delivers municipal and essential services across 323,514km², 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, Arlparra and Wutunugurra and a number of outstations.

With the Local Government elections held in August 2017, eight new councillors, including the Mayor, were elected with five councillors re-elected. This new Council has been exceptionally proactive about getting jobs done and engaging with the community. This has assisted Council staff to focus resources on the areas of greatest need.

This year several large grants were awarded to Council for major projects. These include \$9m to upgrade Purkiss Reserve, \$1.45m to carry out street scaping work on Paterson Street in Tennant Creek and \$500,000 to put towards a new football field in Elliott. These projects are scheduled for completion during the 2018-2019 financial year.

During the past 12 months several projects have been completed. These include the refurbishment of the youth facilities in Alpururulam and Elliott, installing a new playground in North Camp at Elliott, lighting the basketball court and installing a new playground in Ali Curung and extending the cemetery at Tennant Creek.

Other projects which started this year are scheduled for completion in the coming year. These include the refurbishment of Staunton Street Oval, solar heating for Tennant Creek swimming pool, new fencing and lighting to Council offices, road repairs at Alpururulam, communications hardware upgrade, removal of the Peko Road roundabout and Elliott Library minor refurbishment.

We implemented our asset renewal program which included the purchase of two backhoes, one for Ali Curung and one for Alpururulam, a new tractor for Tennant Creek and the purchase of a new street sweeper - scheduled for delivery in October 2018. These purchases represent a major investment by Council to give our staff the tools they need to do the work that needs to be done.

This year saw several key staff depart Council, including our Director of Community Services, Director of Corporate Services, Finance Manager and HR Manager. Staff employment and retention continues to be a major challenge, however, we have been able to fill all vacancies with great candidates who continue to work as part of the team.

Our commitment to the Barkly is to hire local residents whenever possible and also to grow our own staff and promote from within. This past year has seen one internal promotion to senior management with former Area Manager Mark Parsons being promoted to Director of Operations. Our HR Manager Neil Jones was also hired locally.

Delivering core municipal services throughout the region is our number one priority. This year has seen great improvements in service delivery with a renewed emphasis on getting jobs done and giving our staff the tools they need to work effectively. This has resulted in less rubbish on the streets and less graffiti defacing public property.

I would like to thank our elected members for their guidance and support throughout the year. They have worked hard to improve public facilities for residents and visitors to the Barkly region. Finally, I would like to thank staff. Without their support, dedication and hard work across a large and challenging geographic area we would not be able to meet our obligations to our residents, stakeholders and visitors.

Steve Moore
Chief Executive Officer



About Us

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 7,530 (Australian Bureau of Statistics 2016).

Where We Are

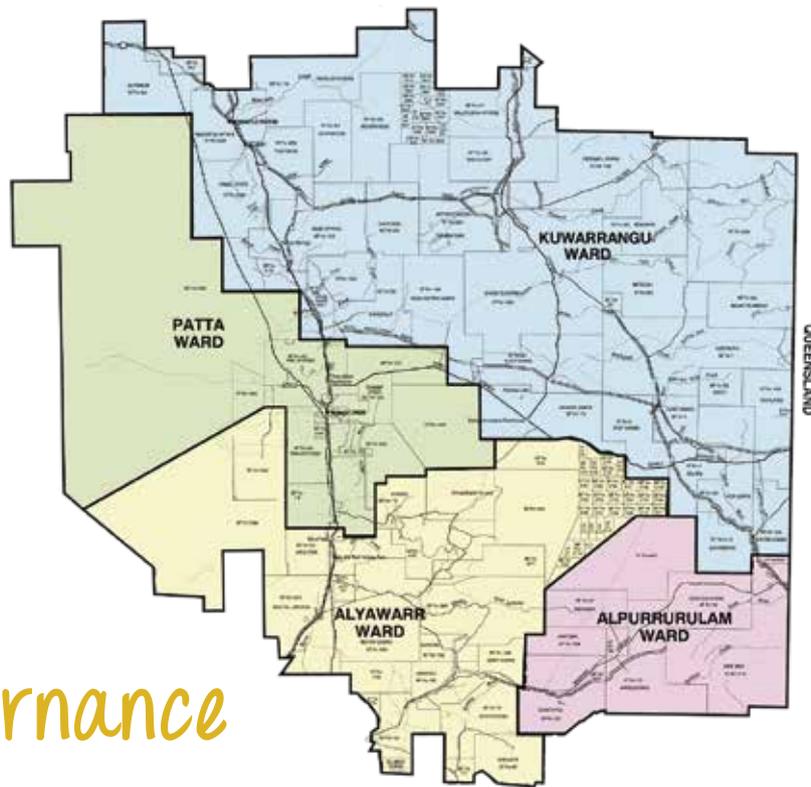
Situated between Alice Springs and Katherine with the town of Tennant Creek at its heart, the Barkly region covers 323,514 square km. Roughly one and a half times the size of Victoria, the region consists largely of open grass plains and some of the world's largest cattle stations. Its boundaries extend eastwards from Tennant Creek [570.1km] to the community of Alpururulam near the Queensland border. It runs as far south as Barrow Creek (206km south of Tennant Creek), to Newcastle Waters (281.9km north of Tennant Creek) and westwards into the Tanami Desert.

Who We Serve

Barkly Regional Council serves the townships of Tennant Creek and Elliott as well as the communities of Ali Curung, Ampilatwatja, Arlparra, Alpururulam 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.

Our Indigenous Culture

Indigenous people and their culture are an important part of the Barkly region. At Barkly Regional Council we recognise and respect the traditional owners of communities and the fact that Indigenous culture is the oldest continuing culture in the world. Approximately 70 per cent of the people who live in the Barkly are Indigenous with 16 language groups. English is frequently a third or even fourth language. Indigenous people have had their own forms of governance for tens of thousands of years and it is in this cross-cultural atmosphere and spirit of trust that Council works with traditional owners and community residents. Having strong and effective Indigenous representatives on the Council also provides an opportunity to discuss and develop effective two-way communication and engagement as well as develop strong governance principles and practices. Council is also one of the largest employers of Indigenous staff in the region.



Governance

Administration and 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.

History

In October 2006 the Northern Territory Government (NTG) 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. On 1 July 2008 the Barkly Shire Council was formed; becoming 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 NTG 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 NTG also flagged increasing the responsibility of Local Authorities, formerly

known as Local Boards, in representing local communities and towns. These changes were embraced and reflect a growing sophistication and acknowledgment of the developing regional responsibility of the Barkly Regional Council.

Electoral Review

The Local Government Act requires Council to undertake an electoral review, in consultation with its community and the NT Electoral Commissioner, to determine whether the current arrangements provide the most effective possible elector representation for the Council area.

On 13 February 2015 community consultation on the review commenced. As a result of community input and noting the assessment criteria, Council concluded that its constitutional arrangements were appropriate. No changes were proposed in relation to the name and boundary of the Council, Ward boundaries, the Office of the Principal Member or to the number of elected members. However, it was decided to recommend to the Northern Territory Government (NTG) a change in the name of the Yapakurlangu Ward. Yapakurlangu is a Warlpiri word and the community felt that it did not reflect the language groups in the Ward. At the Council meeting of 13 April, 2015 it was resolved that Kuwarrangu would be the new name for this Ward. The Ward name change was gazetted by the NTG Minister for Housing and Community Development in June 2017.



Governance

Elected Members

The Barkly Regional Council is governed by a Mayor and a Deputy Mayor, who is nominated every 12 months, and 11 other councillors. These elected members represent four (4) wards:

Alyawarr Ward (4 elected members)

Patta Ward (6 elected members, incl. Mayor)

Alpururulam (1 elected members)

Kuwarrangu (2 elected members)

The Local Government Act, Part 4.3, Section 42(3), allows for regional or shire councils to have at the election of Council, the title of Mayor or President. On 14 September 2017, the Council resolved to change the principle member's title from President to Mayor.

Council holds Ordinary Council Meetings every month at Council Chambers in Tennant Creek with Special Council Meetings called as required. All council meetings are open to the public, unless confidential business is being considered. 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 <https://www.barkly.nt.gov.au>

Council Committees

Council holds regular committee meetings with staff and elected members present. The following councillors were appointed to the following committees:

- Audit and Risk Committee: Mayor Steven Edgington, Cr Kris Civitarese, Cr Sid Vashist, Cr Ronald Plummer and Cr Jeffrey McLaughlin
- Purkiss Reserve Consultative Committee: Cr Kris Civitarese and Cr Ronald Plummer

- Cultural Competency Advisory Committee: Mayor Steven Edgington, Deputy Mayor Noel Hayes, Cr Ronald Plummer, Cr Jack Clubb, Cr Ricky Holmes, Cr Lucy Jackson and Cr Jennifer Mahoney

Council Working Groups

- Animal Management Working Group: Cr Ray Aylett and Cr Ronald Plummer
- Friends of the Cemetery: Cr Hal Ruger, Cr Sid Vashist and Cr Ronald Plummer

External Committees

- Animal Welfare Advisory Committee: Cr Ray Aylett
- Local Government Safe Cities Network: Mayor Steven Edgington
- NT Place Names Committee: Cr Ronald Plummer
- Development Consent Authority Committee: Mayor Steven Edgington, Cr Hal Ruger and Cr Sid Vashist (Alternate)
- NT Water Safety Committee: Cr Jeffrey McLaughlin
- NT Tobacco Committee: Cr Kris Civitarese
- Tennant Creek Alcohol Reference Group: Mayor Steven Edgington
- Tennant Creek Regional Economic Development Committee: Mayor Steven Edgington, CEO Steve Moore
- Chamber of Commerce: Cr Kris Civitarese
- Beetaloo User Panel: Mayor Steven Edgington
- Regional Development Australia NT (RDANT): Mayor Steven Edgington (Chair)
- Barkly Regional Accommodation Action Group: Mayor Steven Edgington
- Barkly Regional Consumer Advisory Group: Mayor Steven Edgington
- Barkly Work Camp Consultative Committee: Mayor Steven Edgington

Barkly Regional Council Elected Members



Mayor Steven Edgington (Patta Ward)
steven.edgington@barkly.nt.gov.au

PATTA WARD



Cr. Kris Civitarese
kris.civitarese@barkly.nt.gov.au



Cr. Jeffrey McLaughlin
jeffrey.mclaughlin@barkly.nt.gov.au



Cr. Ronald Plummer
ronald.plummer@barkly.nt.gov.au



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



Cr. Sid Vashist
sid.vashist@barkly.nt.gov.au

ALYAWARR WARD



Cr. Noel Hayes (Deputy Mayor)
noel.hayes@barkly.nt.gov.au



Cr. Jack Clubb
jack.clubb@barkly.nt.gov.au



Cr. Ricky Holmes
ricky.holmes@barkly.nt.gov.au



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

KUWARRANGU WARD



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



Cr. Jane Evans
jane.evans@barkly.nt.gov.au

ALPURRURULAM WARD



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

Council Community Services Chart

Tennant Creek	Elliot	Ali Curung	Alpururulam	Ampilatwatja	Ariparra	Wutunugurra	Tara	Canteen Creek	Mungkarta	Murray Downs
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Municipal Services

Cemetery	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Community Roads	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Grass, Parks & Sportsground Maintenance	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Housing Homeland	*	✓	✓		✓					
Library	✓	✓								
Waste Collection, Management & Landfill	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Swimming Pool	✓									
Water Parks		✓	✓							
Council Infrastructure	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Car Parks	✓									
Storm Water Drains	✓	✓								

Community Services

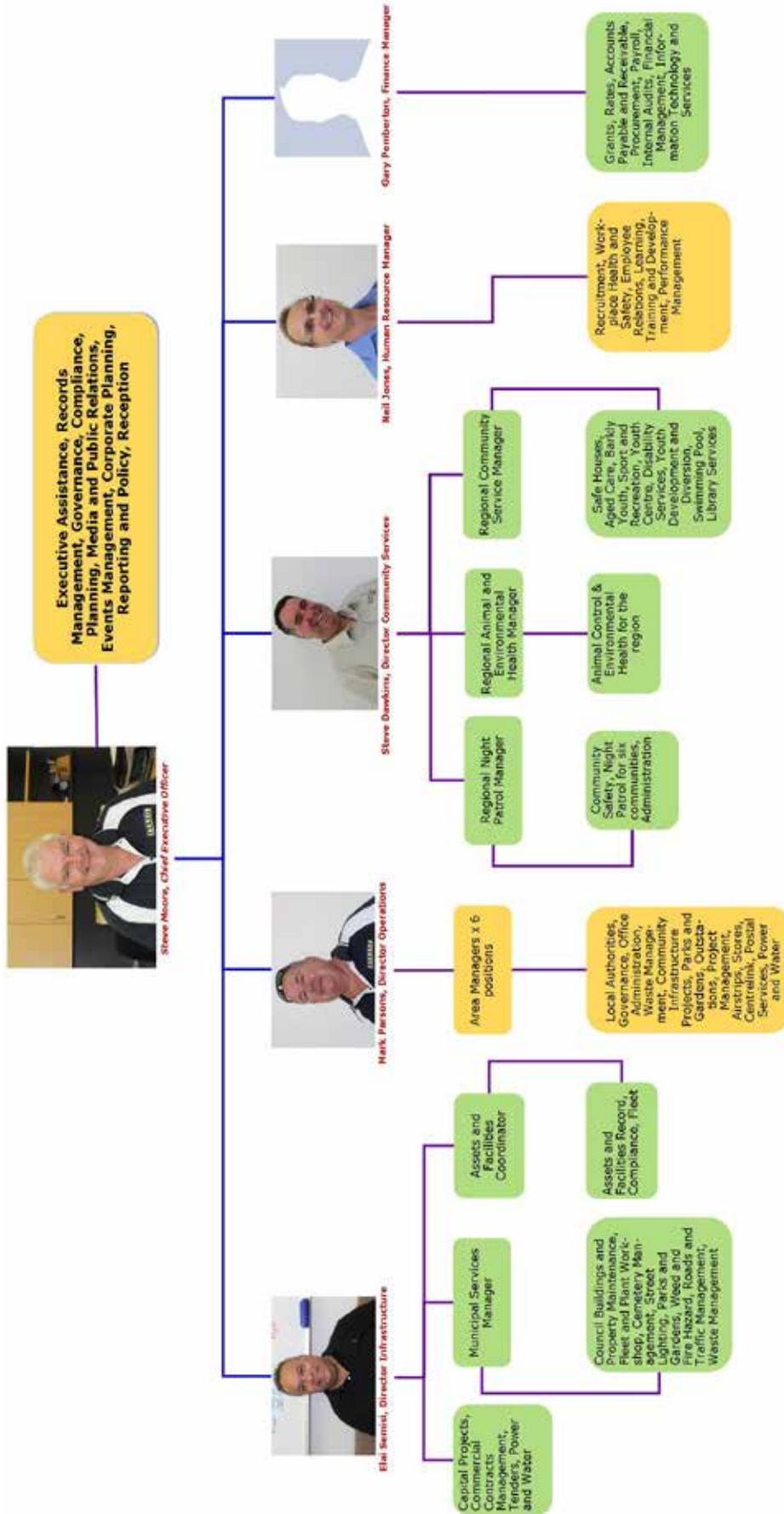
Animal Management	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Aged Care	*	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Night Patrol	*	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Play Group	*									
Youth Sport and Recreation	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Safe House	*	✓	✓							
NDIS	*	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			

Commercial Functions

Airstrip Maintenance	*	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Centrelink	*	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Essential Services	*	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Post Office Agency	*		✓	✓	✓	✓				
Street Lights	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Street Sweeping	✓	✓								

* Other Agencies providing services in Tennant Creek

Barkly Regional Council Organisational Chart



Strategic Planning Vision

We strive to be a responsive, progressive, sustainable council which respects, listens and empowers the people to be strong.

Core Business

From local government funding we provide essential and municipal services in the towns and communities across the Barkly region. Council is also contracted to deliver services to some outstations.

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.

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.

Core 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 in all communities are equal in dignity and have equal rights;
- Our staff is 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; and
- 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, the tyranny of distance and difficulties in retaining staff have also contributed to operational and strategic challenges.

Council set out in its 2017/18 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 2017-18.

STRATEGIC RATING KEY

- ✓✓✓ Achieved completely or almost completed
- ✓✓ Partially achieved (ongoing)
- ✓ Not achieved or very little achieved

STRATEGY 1. Social and Cultural

We embrace cultural diversity and work respectfully

We support community wellbeing through standard and consistent service delivery

We grow our own

Outcomes	Who	How	Measures
Community services that are safe, accessible, and meet the needs and promote the wellbeing of residents		Ensure all services on community provided in culturally appropriate manner; develop partnering arrangements sympathetic to needs of residents	Partnerships with communities and regional service providers established to better provide services ✓✓
A positive living environment for our youth and aged	Director Community Services and Area Managers	Establish and support youth and aged care initiatives	Number of regional issues (youth/aged care) responded to and submissions made ✓✓✓
Clean, tidy and healthy communities		Increase community awareness of animal health and environmental health issues around untidy living areas	Promotional material, funding sought and enforcement of local by-laws that protect the health and safety of the community ✓✓
Community involvement in cultural, civic and sporting events		Ensure service delivery practices are based on respect for different cultures	Increased participation in celebrations and improved awareness of Indigenous culture ✓✓✓

1.1 Partnerships with communities and regional service providers established to better provide services

This year has seen the continuation 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) continues to provide support for Sports and Recreation staff on communities.

A partnership with the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) has improved outcomes for NDIS clients in the region and the continued relationship with Charles Darwin University and Alice-Springs based Central Desert Training has improved core literacy and numeracy skills for Night Patrolters, Aged Care and administration staff across the region.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) set up between Council, Rainbow Gateway (Alpurrurulam CDP Provider) and Alpurrurulam Land Aboriginal Corporation has continued throughout the year, along with on-going liaison with Government agencies (both Federal and Territory) and an MOU with Barkly Work Camp to ensure improvement of service delivery outcomes for the remote communities of the Barkly.

An important milestone for 2017-18 was the decision to rescind a previous Council resolution so that the new Council can build a strong partnership with Community Development Provider (CDP), Julalikari Council Aboriginal Corporation (JCAC), across the region. This partnership has allowed Council to utilise the Youth Patrol in Tennant Creek to pick up kids from the Youth Links Centre.

A previous Council resolution to transition out of Arlparra was also rescinded. Council is now committed to working with the Urapuntja Aboriginal Corporation, the Northern Territory Government's Department of Housing and Community Development, the CDP Provider (My Pathway), the Australian Government and other stakeholders to deliver on Council's obligations in the communities.

1.2 Number of regional issues (youth/aged care) responded to and submissions made

Community Services withdrew from the School Nutrition Program as funds set aside for delivery of the program fell short. The program was ceased in 2017.

Community Services advocated for improved infrastructure for Aged Care services across the Barkly with improvements to facilities conducted in Ali Curung and Ampilatwatja.

A one-off grant from the Department of Health's Dementia and Aged Care Service Programme replaced aging and outdated equipment in Ali Curung. A one-off grant from the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet (PM&C) allowed the purchase of a specially fitted wheelchair friendly 4WD bus for Alpurrurulam. A second bus has been ordered (also with a grant from PM&C) for Arlparra and will arrive within the next financial year. These buses allow some of the more frail Aged Care and NDIS participants to safely engage in group activities and receive transport support services in community.

Four of the five Aged Care Team Leaders identify as Indigenous (two through strong familial association and two by racial heritage). This strengthens Council's commitment to provide culturally sensitive and appropriate Aged Care and Disability supports in community.

Community Services also successfully attracted funds for an after-school and school holiday program of activities at Youth Links in Tennant Creek in January 2018. The Youth Links Centre in Tennant Creek provides much needed services to young people in town with the NTG recently increasing funding for the After-Hours Program from a two-year to five-year funding agreement. During the school term Youth Links runs Wednesday to Sunday night, providing a meal and drop-off service, as well as recreational activities. The Centre, which employs six casual staff, was open seven days a week during the school holidays – four weeks in July, one week in October, six weeks in summer [December/January] and 10 days in April for Easter and Youth Week. The Centre averages more than 60 participants per night.

Out on communities Sports and Recreation staff, rebranded as Barkly Youth in 2016-17, delivered several programs as part of the remote School Sport Voucher Program. They also took teams to inter-

community and Territory-wide sporting competitions, including Barkly Regional Basketball Competition 2017 (male and female), Southern Cup Competition 2017, Imparja Cup Cricket (men's division) and Barkly Regional Women's Softball Competition 2018.

Sport and Recreation programs across the region also incorporate cultural activities, such as taking community men, women and children on bush trips. Other events include taking a group of youth to the Barunga Festival 2018 and visits in February 2018 to Ali Curung and Tennant Creek from the Thumbs Up! School Music Program, Music 4 Life. Music 4 Life is a multi-faceted nutrition and lifestyle education initiative designed to provide basic health information to Indigenous children, aged 5-16 years. The program incorporates song writing, music, video and new media to deliver nutrition education and promote healthy eating habits & active lifestyles.

As outlined in the KPIs for the Regional Plan 2017-18 all funded community services were delivered in accordance with grant conditions. All funding agreements for programs in Community Services are regularly reviewed, both internally and externally, with funders and these updates are directly reported to Council as part of Director Communities reports to be found in Agendas under Ordinary Council Meetings <https://www.barkly.nt.gov.au>



1.3 Promotional material, funding sought and enforcement of local by-laws that protect the health and safety of the community

Posters created, especially for animal health, to inform the public of the health benefits of domestic animal welfare programs (including de-sexing clinics) and distributed around communities and on the Council website and Facebook page. A campaign to encourage the reporting of residents who illegally dump rubbish in and around Tennant Creek was launched in January 2018. This will eventually be rolled out across the other communities of the Barkly.

Council received a Special Purpose Grant from the Northern Territory Government's Department of Housing and Community Development to continue funding of the Animal Management Program across the Barkly to ensure the safety of the environment and residents, reduce the population of feral animals and maintain the management of healthy dogs and cats. This year, 153 dogs and 34 cats were de-sexed in Ali Curung, Ampilatwatja, Arlparra and Wutunugurra. The Animal Management Team also administered Ivermectin (internal/external parasite control) to dogs around the communities, with 45 dogs treated in one visit to Wutunugurra alone.

Council's Animal Management Team work in a culturally complex environment and while workers must remain sensitive to differing attitudes they are obliged to work within the law and ensure acceptable standards of animal care is maintained and public health standards are not compromised.

To assist in the enforcement of local by-laws, Council passed a resolution in June 2018 to limit the number of dogs on a residential property to two, all premises where three or more dogs are kept are required to be licensed as per the Tennant Creek (Control of Dogs) By-law and after seven (7) days in the pound, abandoned animals become property of the Council. This was advertised on the Council website and the local paper, the Tennant and District Times.

Council's Environmental Health Policy was also revised and a Domestic Animal Management Plan was created and endorsed by Council in June 2018. All copies of policies, meetings and corporate documents can be found on Council's website <https://www.barkly.nt.gov.au>

1.4 Increased participation in celebrations and improved awareness of Indigenous culture

Maintained and encouraged participation in both Council-run and locally run events, such as Australia Day, International Women's Day, Territory Day, Careers Expo, NAIDOC Week, Youth Week, the Tennant Creek Show and the No More Violence March in Tennant Creek and Elliott.

To help improve awareness of Indigenous culture Council successfully applied for a Celebrating Aboriginal Culture (Australia Day) Grant from the Department of the Chief Minister. Communities of Arparra, Ali Curung, Alpururulam and Wutunugurra held activities that celebrated Aboriginal culture, language and history enhancing Australia Day across the Territory. NAIDOC Week activities (from sporting events, youth music and culture to BBQs) are specifically aimed at celebrating and improving awareness of Indigenous culture in the remote communities of the Barkly.

Council completed community and education projects in Elliott as part of the Territory Government's Department of Health's Alcohol Action Initiatives (AAI) this financial year and successfully applied for AAI projects promoting Aboriginal culture in Alpururulam, including Bush Tucker, Cultural Project, and Boomerang Making, to be instigated in the following financial year.



STRATEGY 2: Physical Assets			
We will maximise regional development			
Outcome	Who	How	Measures
High standard of roads and town landscapes facilitating better transport and access to our communities	Director Infrastructure and Area Managers	Improve local road network, public safety, town and community appearance, upgrade parks, gardens and open spaces, improve traffic management	Number of new projects taken up ✓✓✓
Effective management and delivery of Council infrastructure, facilities, plant and equipment; sustainable management of community cemeteries and morgues	Director Infrastructure, Area Managers & CEO	Facilitate delivery of essential service to remote communities and homelands; cost effective and sustainable management of council assets	Asset Management and Audit Plan developed with cost effective and sustainable management ✓✓✓
Improve standard of Council staff housing, community housing and visitor accommodation		Undertake repairs and advocate for improved housing	Increase in overall improvement of community townscapes and facilities ✓✓
			Number of repairs and maintenance carried out, new houses built and outcomes of advocacy ✓✓

2.1 Number of new projects taken up

Delivering core municipal services throughout our region is our number one priority. This year has seen great improvement in service delivery with a renewed emphasis on getting jobs done and giving our staff the tools, equipment and machinery needed to work effectively.

The Infrastructure Directorate worked on an Infrastructure Plan which outlines a list of major, infrastructure-related projects identified for the Barkly region over the next five years 2018/19 – 2022/23. Projects are initiated either through feedback from Local Authority meetings, Council selection or through asset renewal with the plan clearly outlining Council's future needs around infrastructure and equipment.

During the past 12 months several projects in the towns and communities of the Barkly have been completed. These include the refurbishment of the youth facilities in Alpururulam and Elliott, installing a new playground in North Camp at Elliott, lighting the basketball court and installing a new playground in Ali Curung, and implementing a graffiti removal program in Tennant Creek.

Other projects which started this year are scheduled for completion in 2018-19. These include the refurbishment of Staunton Street Oval, extension of the Tennant Creek cemetery, solar heating for Tennant Creek swimming pool, new fencing and lighting to council offices, road repairs at Alpururulam, communications hardware upgrade and Elliott Library minor refurbishment.

Several large grants were also awarded to Council this year for major projects. These include \$9m to upgrade Purkiss Reserve, \$1.45m to carry out street scaping work on Paterson Street in Tennant Creek and \$500,000 to put towards a new football field in Elliott. These projects are scheduled for completion during the next financial year.

2.2 Audit and Asset Management Plan developed with cost effective and sustainable management

Rather than establish an Asset Management Working Group, the position of an Assets and Facilities Coordinator was filled in November 2017.

An extensive internal audit was carried out and from that Council developed an Asset Management Plan to provide the details and condition of the Council's current assets, valued around \$57m. The plan defines the level of service to be provided and how the service is to be provided. This plan includes the effective and efficient management of Council assets for transport infrastructure, building and facilities, parks and gardens, streetlights and a range of vehicles. It also identifies and outlines the cost to upgrade and replace infrastructure and equipment as they reach the end of their useful lives.

One major outcome was the upgrade of Council's key assets, including new fleet cars, the purchase of two backhoes, one for Ali Curung and one for Alpururulam, a new tractor for Tennant Creek and the purchase of a new street sweeper - scheduled for delivery in October 2018, and a Flocon Road Repair Unit and a CAT skid steer loader, complete with milling head and tank as part of Council's first fleet of sealed roads maintenance equipment. These purchases represent a major investment by Council to maximise efficiency and reduce long-term costs of repairs.

Other positive flow on effects of the audit plans include a review of servicing, processing and maintenance procedures for fleet vehicles and machinery, continued maintenance of road pavements, parks, reserves and open spaces with Council now committed to installing additional street lighting in Tennant Creek as part of a five-year infrastructure plan.



2.3 Increase in overall improvement of community townscapes and facilities

Several significant graffiti hotspots were identified in Tennant Creek at Davidson Walk and ANZAC Hill.

Council purchased a Graffiti removing chemical (Strip Ease) along with a portable high pressure hot water sprayer. Armed with the new equipment, the Depot crew embarked on a graffiti removal schedule

which will eventually be integrated into a Graffiti Removal Management Plan initially for Tennant Creek.

Council advocated for improved sports and recreation facilities and street beautification, with grants of \$9million to upgrade Purkiss Reserve, \$1.45 million for a streetscape project on Paterson Street, Peko Road and Davidson Walk in Tennant Creek, and \$500,000 for a new football oval in Elliott allocated by the NTG.

Area Managers and ESOs on each of the communities continually work on improving the appearance of communities with additional resources, such as the industrial vacuum in Ampilatwatja which enables workers to pick up litter in half the time it took to do manually.

Council has entered Tennant Creek in the Territory Tidy Town Awards 2018 with plans to include communities in future years. This grass roots approach not only encourages residents to take pride in how their communities look, but recognises the efforts of litter management, resource recovery, waste management, water conservation, energy conservation, and community participation.



2.4 Number of repairs and maintenance carried out, new houses built and outcomes of advocacy

Regular maintenance has been carried out on Council-owned houses throughout the year. In addition larger works have been planned for the 2018-2019 financial year (subject to funding).

Council has built no new homes in the past year, although the Department of Housing and Community Development has built some new public housing in Elliott, Wutunugurra, Alpururulam and Arlparra.

STRATEGY 3: ENVIRONMENTAL			
We will be innovative and professional			
Outcome	Who	How	Measures
Innovative management of the natural environment		Implement a planned approach and work in partnerships to assist delivery of programs	Partnerships established and masterplans completed to ensure effective waste management strategies and control of hazards ✓✓✓
Innovative waste management strategies that emphasis waste reduction, reuse and recycling and efficient use of energy and water resources	Director Infrastructure & Area Managers	Develop efficient and effective waste management strategies Assist delivery of programs to promote efficient use of energy and water resources	Lead and promote the Central Australian Regional Waste Management Plan and provide efficient and effective waste collection and recycling ✓✓✓ Programs to promote efficient use of water and energy resources ✓✓

3.1 Partnerships established and masterplans completed to ensure compliance and effective waste management strategies and control of hazards

Council has worked closely with Northern Territory Fire and Rescue Services (NTFRS) in Tennant Creek and Elliott to assist with the control of fires near communities and implement controlled fire management around communities. In communities such as Ampilatwatja and Alpururulam there is an ongoing approach to weed, vegetation and pest control in consultation with the Central Land Council.

We have continued to work in partnership with the NTG's Department of Health, landholders and leaseholders and other key stakeholders to improve environmental health outcomes in the Barkly.

Council also launched the 'Dob in a Dumper' campaign in January 2018 where residents were encouraged to report individuals or companies who illegally dump rubbish around town. Council joined forces with the NTFRS in Tennant Creek, Barkly Work Camp, Julalikari Council Aboriginal Corporation (JCAC), the NT Police, the NTG's Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics (DIPL), and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in a bid to clear up the growing mess. As part of community liaison Council launched a logo competition with hundreds of entries from school children from around the Barkly. Winners were chosen and a logo was developed from a mixture of entries.

Since the campaign was launched more than 100 tonnes of illegally dumped rubbish has been cleared away from dump hotspots around Tennant Creek. In an attempt to reduce future dumping Council has also introduced free household waste dumping from 1 August 2018 at landfill sites for residents.



3.2 Lead and promote the Central Australian Regional Waste Management Plan and provide efficient and effective waste collection and recycling

Council continues to work with the Central Desert Regional Council and West MacDonnell Regional Council to develop a long-term strategy to improve waste management within the region. The three councils are working on plans to provide effective waste collection through the Central Australian Waste Management Working Group (CAWMWG). In 2017-2018 Council crushed more than 100 cars, shredded more than 4000 tyres and removed 32,000 litres of waste oil.

Council provides regular roadside waste collection services as well as manages local landfill and waste disposal sites across the region. In December 2017 Council organised a hard rubbish drive to collect unwanted household items that are too big for wheelie bins.

We also investigated options for improving waste management in Tennant Creek, including the operation of a recycling program. As part of research both the CEO and Mayor were given a tour of the Alice Springs Landfill and Recycling Centre in 2017.

The visit showed what could be achieved in time with staggered investment. Council then called for expressions of interest for a recyclable waste kerbside service in Tennant Creek in March 2018 and once again a few months later. Council has had no response to date.

3.3 Programs to promote efficient use of energy and water resources

Council is currently exploring the options of converting existing streetlights in Tennant Creek to LED (light-emitting diode) lighting through the concept of 'Smart City Lighting'. While the initial capital outlay to replace these obsolete assets will be high, around \$500,000, the long-term benefits of this technology, including future annual savings, will far outweigh the initial costs of this infrastructure.

Council embarked on a program across the communities to fix water leaks as soon as they are detected and bores continue to be repaired and maintained to a high standard.

The community of Alpururulam has been maintaining efficient use of energy resources since 2012 with a wind and solar farm. Up to 80 per cent of the power used during the day in this community is currently supplied by either the sun or the wind. Alpururulam now has one of the lowest rates of diesel consumption in the Northern Territory.

STRATEGY 4: ECONOMIC			
We embrace cultural diversity and work respectfully			
We grow our own and improve outcomes			
We will build and have meaningful relationships			
Outcome	Who	How	Measures
Education and learning that leads to long-term employment	HR, CEO, Elected Members and Directors	Trainee/apprenticeship and study program encouraged and core skills program continued.	Apprenticeships/traineeships, core skills and projects linked to Council operations ✓✓✓
Improved outcomes for local employment		Continuously improve capacity of local staff with training and PD opportunities	Training designed to build capacity and ongoing education and employment ✓✓✓
Improved partnerships with business and industry to promote viable and growing local business enterprise		Work in partnership with local and regional industries to facilitate job creation, and support development of local business; work with Government and industry bodies in development of regional business plans; proactively support new industry and business opportunities	Grow our own with PD and employment strategy to reflect diversity ✓✓✓
Proactively seek commercial opportunities so as to maximise return to Council and local employment opportunities		Undertake commercial activities on behalf of other agencies on a cost recovery basis	Number of consultations externally and partnerships developed ✓✓✓
			Commercial activities undertaken ✓✓

4.1 Apprenticeships/traineeships, core skills and community projects linked to Council operations

In 2017-2018, Council made available positions for two apprentices and two trainees linked to its core operations. Council now has an apprentice mechanic working in the Tennant Creek Depot, and two trainees in the Finance Department.

The Council's Literacy, Numeracy/Core Skills Development program through Central Desert Training in Alice Springs is now in its fourth year. Over the years it has been developed to deliver relevant work resources and increase employability skills with an industry specific workplace planning and development strategy.

Since the initial pilot program was launched in Ampilatwatja in August 2014, more than 200 employees from Aged Care, Night Patrol and Municipal have incorporated training into their working life. The program not only has become an accepted part of the routine for staff in the remote communities, it provides increased employability and the potential to advance in positions. Council has the evidence in place and continues to monitor and evaluate the Core Skills Development Program with the assistance of Central Desert Training.

Out on communities Area Managers coordinate provision of Centrelink and postal services and undertake project management of externally funded projects.

4.2 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 2017-18 were as follows:

Vehicles and Licences: 4WD – 17; Medium Rigid Licence – 1; Heavy Rigid Licence - 1

Safety and Wellbeing: Aggressive Behaviour Management - 52; Asbestos Awareness Training -31; Chemical Safety – 7 ; CPR – 2 ; First Aid – 28; Infection Control – 5; Mandatory Reporting – 6; Mental Health First Aid – 14; Respectful Relationships – 1; Suicide Story – 27; White Card – 4; Working Safely at Heights – 9

Swimming Pool: Pool Lifeguard - 12 ; Bronze Medallion - 8;

Admin and IT: C3 Information, Digital Media and Technology – 1; C3 Local Government (Operational Works) – 1; C4 Business Administration – 1; C4 Computer Systems Technology – 1; Excel – 7; InfoCouncil – 7; InfoXpert – 16; Procurement – 3

Municipal and ESOs: C2 Remote Area Essential Services – 6; C3 Engineering (Fabrication Trade) – 1; Operate and Maintain Chainsaw -6; Traffic Management – 4

Community Services: C2 Community Services – 17; C2 Sport and Recreation – 8; C3 Community Night Patrol – 22; C4 Ageing Support – 6; C4 Sport and Recreation – 4; Diploma Library and information Services – 1; NDS Zero Tolerance Forum – 7

Environment: Bachelor of Natural Science – 1; Snake Handling – 3

Leadership: C4 Leadership and Management – 6; Diploma Local Government – 4; Management Coaching (EAP) - 2



4.3 'Grow our Own' with Professional Development plans and employment strategy to reflect diversity

Professional Development plans were progressed with staff, particularly in the form of appraisals, but most notably for our Aged Care and Night Patrol staff and ESOs 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 administration staff requiring additional training with InfoXpert and procurement, Operational Administration Officer requiring C3 Local Government (Operational Works) and Governance Officer completing the Diploma in Local Government.

Staff audits have also led to internal promotion, with the former Area Manager of Ali Curung (a five-year veteran) promoted to Director of Operations in Tennant Creek. Council is committed to employing local people where it can, with the role of HR Manager filled locally.

As at June 2018, the percentage of local Indigenous staff employed by Council in Ali Curung was 81%, Arlparra 70%, Alpururulam 75%, Ampilatwatja 75%, Elliott 81%, Tennant Creek 38% and Wutunugurra 88%. For graphs and tables showing employee statistics see page 37.

4.4 Number of consultations and partnerships developed externally

Councillors appointed on external committees (see page 6), including Mayor's appointment as Chair of the Regional Development Australia Northern Territory (RDANT) Committee and member of the Executive Committee of the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory (LGANT).

The Mayor, CEO and elected members have continued to establish and maintain strong partnerships with external stakeholders to develop regional plans, including Federal and Northern Territory Government Ministers, agencies and departments, Mt Isa City Council, Jemena, the No More Violence Campaign, the Regional Economic Development Committee, and LGANT.

The Mayor and CEO have been working in partnership with the Territory Government's Department of Tourism and Culture to develop the Barkly Regional Visitor Experiences Master Plan which will encourage tourists to the Barkly with the potential for positive economic flow-on effects. They have also been negotiating with the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics (DIPL) with regards two priority projects for the region – street scaping for Paterson Street (funding awarded at the end of the financial year) and Purkiss Reserve Upgrade in Tennant Creek – which could provide potential employment opportunities for local businesses.

Council held a forum for local businesses seeking feedback about our Purchasing and Procurement Policy and other issues of concern, including providing opportunities for local businesses, ensuring equitable opportunities for local businesses and to update the Trade and Business Directory on Council's website <https://www.barkly.nt.gov.au/region/traders-services-directory>

Council also proactively supports local business complimentary to community lifestyles, such as providing Sport and Recreation staff assistance for the annual sports carnivals run by local stores in Ampilatwatja and Arlparra.

Other meetings include negotiations on Section 19 leases in Arlparra, Ampilatwatja and Alpururulam, and signing off on a 10-year lease with the Department of Education to utilise 25 per cent (250ha) of Council's Juno property as a training facility for students to obtain certificates in Vocational Education and Training programs. Section 19 leases were also finalised and signed for in Wutunugurra.

A significant milestone achieved this year was the progression of the 'Barkly Regional Deal'. After initial discussions with the Federal and Territory governments in June 2018, with a follow-up visit by the former prime minister to Tennant Creek in July, Council is keen to progress the process of identifying the key objectives and actions required for the preparation of a Social and Economic Development Plan for the region.

Strengthening communication and coordination between Barkly Regional Council and the Mount Isa City Council for the Tennant Creek to Mount Isa Cross Border Commission was another important development. Terms of reference and governance arrangements between the two councils were drawn up in December 2017, with follow-up meetings. It was a big step forward for the region in terms of collaboration and cooperation, as there have been substantial developments along the corridor between Tennant Creek and Mount Isa, including the Northern Gas Pipeline and further work on the proposed Mount Isa to Tennant Creek Rail Link.

Staff members have also been proactive in forming partnerships with external stakeholders to further employment prospects and invest in the workforce currently here. For instance, the Learning and Development Coordinator was invited on a panel to speak at the Developing the North Conference in Alice Springs. The topic, Effective Collaboration between Registered Training Organisations (RTO) and Employers, focused on BRC's Night Patrol Program.

Service Delivery liaison aside, staff from all areas (in particular Community Services, Learning and Development and PR & Events) continually consult throughout the year with external organisations. For example seeking sponsorship for events (i.e. Australia Day); Barkly Work Camp (to assist Municipal team in Tennant Creek and other communities); 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; Libraries NT; Senior Citizens, Barkly Regional Arts (collaboration with Territory Day), Royal Life Saving NT; Charles Darwin University; Central Desert Training; No More Campaign; Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) Australia and Families as First Teachers (FaFT) for educational activities in Elliott, Senior Citizens; and the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).



4.5 Commercial activities undertaken

Council's preference is not to compete against local businesses. However, we do have a number of commercial contracts with funding bodies for Youth, Sports and Recreation, Aged Care and NDIS. These services are delivered to communities throughout the Barkly.

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.

In March 2018 Council introduced breakfast on the weekends at the Tennant Creek Swimming Pool. This proved popular and generated extra income, especially during the winter months when pool admissions are seasonally low. Council will be endeavouring to lease the kiosk to a commercial operator in the coming financial year.

STRATEGY 5: Management and Governance			
We are a strong regional leader in governance			
We will stand up for local government and push back			
Outcome	Who	How	Measures
Develop and implement an integrated planning framework that provides long-term integration of high level plans		Procedure manuals, long-term strategic and infrastructure plans are developed, incorporating present practice where applicable	Plans give sound indication of strategic direction of Council to improve service delivery and best serve the needs of residents ✓✓✓ Disseminate information and promotional material ✓✓✓
High standards of communication, transparency and openness	CEO, Directors, Governance Officer, Finance Manager, HR Manager, PR Officer, Elected Members and LA Members	Build effective relationships through engagement of the public and residents	Number of lobbying successes and additional resources funded ✓✓✓
Proactive partnerships with government agencies and the private sector		Lobbying of Government and other agencies, maximising grant opportunities to ensure appropriate delivery service and projects that best serve the needs of residents	Administrative and governance support to elected members, LA members and committees ✓✓✓
Continual improvement in the governance capacity of elected members		Implement an ongoing capacity building and PD program for Elected Members and LA Members	Number of attendances ✓✓✓
Excellence in Human resources and Finance Management		Implement improved HR and Finance practices to increase performance efficiencies within the organisation	Internal audit identifies whether documented procedures remain relevant to practice as well as improved HR, WH&S, Finance and Governance practices ✓✓✓



5.1 Plans give sound indication of strategic direction of Council to improve service delivery and best serve the needs of residents

Council developed five major plans to improve service delivery, best serve the needs of residents and to better monitor Council performance.

They are as follows:

Strategic Plan 2018/19-2022/23 outlines the overarching goals, objectives and actions set by Barkly Regional Council for the next five years. Council's Strategic Plan has set seven goals, listing objectives to aid in achieving these goals and has established actions and timeframes that need to be achieved towards completing the overall strategy. The Actions/Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) will be monitored throughout the life of the five-year plan, and will also be reviewed annually to measure progress in achieving the goals and to make any updates to reflect the changing environment.

The Regional Plan 2018-19 describes the vision, values and core competence of the Council to identify and meet the needs of its towns, communities and residents in the upcoming financial year.

Infrastructure Plan 2018/2019 - 2022/2023 outlines a list of major, infrastructure-related projects identified for the Barkly region over the next five years. Projects are initiated either through feedback from Local Authority meetings, Council selection or through asset renewal with the plan clearly outlining Council's future needs around infrastructure and equipment. Major projects are those which cost more than \$250,000.

Asset Management Plan provides the details and condition of the Council's current assets, valued around \$57m. This plan includes the effective and efficient management of Council assets for transport infrastructure, building and facilities, parks and gardens, streetlights and a range of vehicles.

5.2 Disseminate information and promotional material

Council has built a database of interagency groups, government and other key stakeholders, and community members to distribute up-to-date information/media releases, event reminders, promotional call outs, expressions of interest and advertising material shared electronically (daily and weekly as and when necessary) via email, monthly Mayor's column, Council website <https://www.barkly.nt.gov.au>, local paper, the Tennant & District Times, and Council's Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/barklyregionalcouncil/>

The database has been largely built from contacts established by staff attending agency, stakeholder and community meetings and forums.

Community consultation is high on Council's agenda with a concerted effort to engage more broadly with residents around a range of critical projects, including public forums, including one on anti-social behaviour, and surveys on developments, such as the Purkiss Reserve Upgrade, removing the roundabout on the corner of Ambrose Street and Peko Road, facilities at Lake Mary Ann and public laneways in Tennant Creek.

Council has also 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 survey via email or social media 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.

5.3 Number of lobbying successes and additional resources funded

Throughout the year the Mayor and elected members were proactive in lobbying governments to ensure appropriate services are provided to communities and homelands to meet the needs of residents.

Highlighted public housing issues in Ali Curung, lack of air conditioning in Alpururulam homes and houses beyond economic repair in Tennant Creek and Elliott as part of Council's role to advocate for better living conditions for the people of the Barkly.

Advocated for improved sports and recreation facilities and street beautification in all communities and successfully lobbied the Northern Territory Government (NTG) to increase the funding agreement for the Youth Links After-Hours Program in Tennant Creek from two to five years.

Council continues to lobby the NTG to return a permanent police presence to Alpururulam following the government's decision to withdraw the permanently based police officers in February 2018.

Successfully advocated and lobbied the NTG for additional resources in child protection and improved community safety, including the return of a mobile CCTV camera to Tennant Creek, reinstating the ECO2 position in the Department of the Chief Minister and creating a Regional Director position in Territory Families.

Barkly Regional Council applied for 32 grants in 2017-18.

5.4 Administrative and governance support to elected members, LA members and committees

Funded and received a three-hour training session for all Councillors to focus on improving corporate governance, meeting procedures, roles and responsibilities, agendas, minutes and following through on actions. Council also approved a new 'Delegations' manual.

Council has been working closely alongside each Local Authority to achieve goals, deliver projects and identify priorities as part of a five-year community infrastructure plan for the region.

The Local Authority Establishment Policy was consequently revised to ensure Local Authorities in Arlparra, Ampilatwatja, Ali Curung, Alpururulam, Wutunugurra (Epenarra), Elliott and Tennant Creek now meet monthly instead of four times a year and have a maximum of seven (7) appointed members.



5.5 Number of attendances

In addition to the Ordinary Council Meetings, committee meetings were held for the Audit & Risk Committee, Cultural Competency Advisory Committee, Purkiss Reserve Consultative Committee and Local Authorities.

Meeting attendances of elected members: Mayor Steven Edgington (41); Councillor Ray Aylett (15), Councillor Kris Civitarese (21), Councillor Jack Clubb (10), Councillor Jane Evans (12), Councillor Noel Hayes (20), Councillor Ricky Holmes (18), Councillor Lucy Jackson (11), Councillor Jennifer Mahoney (13), Councillor Jeffrey McLaughlin (20), Councillor Ronald Plummer (16), Councillor Hal Ruger (12) and Councillor Sid Vashist (19). See page 29 for the full graph.

Number of Local Authority meetings held in Ali Curung (6), Alpururulam (6), Ampilatwatja (6), Arlparra (3), Elliott (5), Tennant Creek (8) and Wutunugurra (4).

Fourteen (14) Local Authority projects were completed out of a total of 30 projects. Completed projects were as follows: Ali Curung (5), Alpururulam (1), Ampilatwatja (2), Elliott (2), Tennant Creek (2), and Wutunugurra (2).

5.6 Internal audit identifies whether documented procedures remain relevant to practice as well as improved HR, WH&S, Finance and Governance practices

After Council conducted an internal audit the Corporate Services Directorate was dismantled with IT and Grants Management going to Finance and Learning and Development becoming a part of Human Resources. The Director of Corporate Services role was removed as was one Executive Assistant role.

The Human Resources team has moved forward since the position of HR Manager was filled in December 2017. Staff members are being held more accountable with 74 per cent of Position Descriptions reviewed and updated so people know what their job is and what is expected of them.

The recruitment process is now under six weeks from start to completion, which is a reduction in time frame of more than 50%, and a proposed Enterprise Bargaining Agreement (EBA) is at the bargaining stage with council employees; a significant improvement on previous years.

A workforce management plan is currently being created to identify present and future workforce requirements of the council, and Human Resources procedures are being reviewed or created to ensure that HR provides excellent customer service within the council.

Many policies have been updated, including the Information, Communications & Technology (ICT) Resources Policy and the Local Authority Member Allowance Policy, with new policies endorsed and

adopted including Stock Take and Incident Reporting and Procedure. Importantly, Council endorsed and adopted its Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence Policy and Action Plan at the 22 March Council meeting as part of its commitment to the No More Domestic Violence Campaign. Resource material and documented procedures were also updated to ensure accuracy and currency, along with a Governance Manual and Community Handbooks.

A position for Director Operations was created to provide support to Area Managers and Local Authorities for all the communities (except Tennant Creek which remains with Council Executive). This has resulted in each community being far better represented than 12 months ago, and has also allowed for the Director Infrastructure, previously responsible for Area Managers, to focus primarily on delivery of municipal services to Tennant Creek, as well as executing grants and tenders for major infrastructure projects across the region. A new supervisor for the Tennant Creek landfill site was also appointed.

A Work, Health and Safety working group, comprising of staff members from Community Services, HR, Administration, Municipal and the Finance Manager and Director Operations, has proved beneficial allowing individuals to identify, respond to and report on risks and hazards. This grass-roots approach has ensured staff members are held more accountable for WH&S across the Council. The group worked with the PR and Events Manager to ensure there were suitable risk management strategies in place for events such as Australia Day and International Women's Day. The group also ensured a more timely response to resolving issues on communities.

Streamlining processes in Finance for rates, accounts payable and procurement has resulted in local businesses and residents paying bills on time. This has not been the case in several years and clearly demonstrates the strong financial position Council is now in. This year we established the first self-funded capital budget which has been spent on new equipment, fleet and maintenance. Council has developed a robust budget with the Finance Manager building a strong team and coming up with a suite of well thought-out solutions.



Elected Members Meeting Statistics

Name	Committee Meetings			Local Authority Meetings							Council Meetings		Total Meetings Attended
	ARC	CCAC	PR	ACLA	ALLA	AMLA	ARLA	ELA	TCLA	WLA	OC	SP	
Mayor Steven Edgington	2	2	2	3	5	4	1	3	6	2	9	2	41
Cr Ray Aylett								4			9	2	15
Cr Kris Civitarese	2		2						5		10	2	21
Cr Jack Clubb		2					3				5	NA	10
Cr Jane Evans								3			8	1	12
Cr Noel Hayes		2		6		2					9	1	20
Cr Ricky Holmes		2				4	1				9	2	18
Cr Lucy Jackson		2		3		1					5	NA	11
Cr Jennifer Mahoney		2			2						7	2	13
Cr Jeffrey McLaughlin	2								7		9	2	20
Cr Roland Plummer		1	1						3		10	1	16
Cr Hal Ruger			1						3		7	1	12
Cr Sid Vashist	2								5		10	2	19

Meeting Key

- ARC** Audit and Risk Committee
- ACLA** Ali Curung Local Authority
- ALA** Alpururulam Local Authority
- AMLA** Ampilatwatja Local Authority
- ARLA** Arlparra Local Authority
- CCAC** Cultural Competency Advisory Committee
- ELA** Elliott Local Authority
- OC** Ordinary Council

- SP** Special Purpose
- PR** Purkiss Reserve Committee
- TCLA** Tennant Creek Local Authority
- WLA** Wutunugurra Local Authority
- NA** Non Attendance

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



Local Authorities

Council approves the nominations for each Local Authority at a Council Meeting. As vacancies arise, potential members nominate themselves for the Local Authority and a Chairperson is chosen from their memberships. All meetings are attended by the Mayor and Ward Councillors when available, and senior Barkly Regional Council staff. Agendas and minutes are available on the BRC website <https://www.barkly.nt.gov.au>

Local Authority Plans

Local Authority Plans were developed this year in most of the communities in the Barkly. This provided Council with a clear direction on the types of projects community residents wanted resources to go towards.

Snapshot of Local Authorities Meetings Expenses: 1 July 2017 - 30 June 2018

Local Authority	Appointed members positions	Vacancies as at 30.06.2018	Sitting Fees	Travel	Other Direct	Total	Budget
Ali Curung	7	0	\$1926.45	\$369.00	\$1099.48	\$3,394.93	\$10,521.50
Alpurrurulam	7	0	\$1421.15	\$7,436.98	\$1,117.82	\$9,975.95	\$5,660.38
Ampilatwatja	7	0	\$3374.60	\$738.00	\$1684.05	\$5,796.65	\$5,660.38
Arlparra	7	0	\$1516.45			\$1,516.45	\$6,714.62
Elliott	7	1	\$2,923.75	\$146.00	\$598.90	\$3,668.65	\$6,613.75
Tennant Creek	7	0	\$8,812.25		\$183.27	\$8,995.52	\$11,469.37
Wutunugurra	7	1	\$2,774.15		\$728.57	\$3,502.72	\$6,562.38

Snapshot of Local Authorities Projects: 1 July 2017 - 30 June 2018

Local Authority	Income	Expenditure	Expenditure Budget
Ali Curung	\$89,458.33	\$83,980.00	\$64,612.50
Alpurrurulam	\$68,120.00	\$90,544.69	\$50,813.25
Ampilatwatja	\$67,210.00	\$16,333.09	\$46,149.00
Arlparra	\$63,980.00	\$	\$58,370.25
Elliott	\$21,908.00	\$51,150.00	\$37,090.50
Tennant Creek	\$100,000.00	\$70,093.55	\$75,000.00
Wutunugurra	\$26,440.00	\$57,284.00	\$23,307.75



Local Authority Profiles & Projects

ALI CURUNG

Ward: Alyawarr
Population: 494 (Australian Census 2016)
Location: 173.2km south of Tennant Creek
Road Conditions: Sealed
Languages: Warlpiri, Warumungu, Kaytetye and Alyawarr

Local Authority Members

Chair: Cr Noel Hayes
Deputy Chair: Edith Hanlon
Appointed Members: Cysila Rose, Derek Walker, Sammy Ladd, Jerry Rice, Peter Corbett, Andrew Tsavaris
Ex-Officio: Mayor Steven Edgington
Elected Members: Cr Lucy Jackson, Cr Noel Hayes, Cr Jack Clubb and Cr Ricky Holmes

Local Authority Projects 2017 - 2018

Project	Funds Assigned	Completed
Kubota Tractor	\$ 49,640	✓
Kubota Brush Cutter	\$1,162	✓
Vandal-proof BBQ – Murray Downs	\$6,930	✓
Steel and Concrete for Football Goal Posts	\$4,454	✓
Shade Sail	\$27,273	✓
Enhancement of community veterinary services	\$15,000	Funds to be expended 2018-19



ALPURRURULAM

Ward:	Alpurrurulam
Population:	420 (Australian Census 2016)
Location:	510.1km east of Tennant Creek and 17km from the NT/QLD boarder
Road Conditions:	Sealed and unsealed. During the wet season all road access to the community is cut off
Languages:	Alyawarr

Local Authority Members

Chair:	Cameron Long
Deputy Chair:	Clarence Campbell
Appointed Members:	Doreen Kelly, Meredith Morton, Valerie Campbell, Garry Kopps, Gordon Long
Ex-Officio:	Mayor Steven Edgington
Elected Members:	Cr Jennifer Mahoney

Local Authority Projects 2017 - 2018

Project	Funds Assigned	Completed
Contribution to laundry break-in repairs	\$3,377	To be expended in 2018/2019
Refurbishment of the Shiny Shed	\$203,127	Works to be finalised in 2018/2019. Spend to date: \$70,515
Portable toilets on trailer	\$20,030	✓
Contribution to Animal Management Activities	\$20,000	To be expended in 2018/2019
Purchase of softball uniforms		Cancelled

AMPILATWATJA

Ward:	Alyawarr
Population:	418 (Australian Census 2016)
Location:	314km south-east of Tennant Creek
Road Conditions:	100kms Sealed and 220kms dirt
Languages:	Alyawarr



Local Authority Members

Chair:	Donald Simpson
Deputy Chair:	Teresa McKeeman
Appointed Members:	Leslie Morton, Jeannie Beasley, Ada Beasley, Anita Bailey, Peter Morton
Ex-Officio:	Mayor Steven Edgington
Elected Members:	Cr Ricky Holmes, Cr Lucy Jackson, Cr Noel Hayes, Cr Jack Clubb

Local Authority Projects 2017 - 2018

Project	Funds Assigned	Completed
Ablution block	\$105,000	Funds to be expended 2018/2019
Purchase of washing machines	\$20,000.00	Total spend: \$10,134
Ride-on mower	\$6,199	✓
Contribution to Animal Management Activities	\$15,000	Funds to be expended 2018/2019

ARLPARRA

Ward:	Alyawarr
Population:	452 (Australian Census 2016)
Location:	381.8km south-east of Tennant Creek
Road Conditions:	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 Urupuntja Health Centre and the airstrip.
Languages:	Alyawarr and Anmatyerre

Local Authority Members

Chair:	Joycie Jones
Deputy Chair:	Esau Jones
Appointed Members:	Susan Chalmers, Dennis Kunoth, Ruby Morton, Mark Sheals, Susanlina Nelson
Ex-Officio:	Mayor Steven Edgington
Elected Members:	Cr Lucy Jackson, Cr Noel Hayes, Cr Jack Clubb and Cr Ricky Holmes

Local Authority Projects 2017 - 2018

Project	Funds Assigned	Completed
Fencing of occupied housing at Homelands	Info not available	Project cancelled
Contribution to Animal Management Activities	\$15,000	Funds to be expended 2018-19
Construction of Multi-Purpose Shelter [LA made an amendment of putting in a proper shelter instead of using basketball courts during the wet]	\$90,999	Funds to be expended 2018-19
10 x Emergency Tents	\$12,000	Project cancelled
Purchase of brush cutters for Homelands	\$22,100	Project cancelled

ELLIOTT

Ward:	Kuwarrangu
Population:	339 (Australian Census 2016)
Location:	253.6km north of Tennant Creek
Road Conditions:	Sealed
Languages:	Mudburra, Jingili, Wombaya and Warumungu

Local Authority Members

Chair:	Christopher Neade
Deputy Chair:	Jodi Nish
Appointed Members:	Raymond Dixon (resigned May 2018), Mona Rennie, Loureena Ulamari (Newcastle Waters), Bob Bagnall, Gordon Jackson
Ex-Officio:	Mayor Steven Edgington
Elected Members:	Cr Jane Evans and Cr Ray Aylett

Local Authority Projects 2017 - 2018

Project	Funds Assigned	Completed
Main Park Upgrade	\$48,279.27	In progress. Funds partially expended. Total spend: \$19,054
Elliott Township Entry Signage	\$7,245.45	✓
Contribution to ANZAC Day Ceremonies	\$1,000	✓

TENNANT CREEK

Ward:	Patta
Population:	2995 – including Town Camps (Australian Census 2016)
Location:	508.6km 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:	Karan Hayward
Deputy Chair:	Josephine Bethel
Appointed Members:	Kathy Burns, Ray Wallis, Wayne Green, Greg Liebelt, Tony Civitarese
Ex-Officio:	Mayor Steven Edgington
Elected Members:	Cr Kris Civitarese, Cr Jeffrey McLaughlin, Cr Ronald Plummer, Cr Hal Ruger, Cr Sid Vashist

Local Authority Projects 2017 - 2018

Project	Funds Assigned	Completed/Ongoing
Tennant Creek Cemetery	\$43,500	In Progress. Total spend: \$38,247
Purchase and installation of two (2) water fountains, located in the town centre and Eldorado Park	\$8000	✓ Total Cost: \$5,515
Dog friendly park	\$3000	Funds reallocated
Hilda Street Park Stage 2 (Equipment)	\$70,008	Additional funds allocated. Funds to be expended 2018/2019.
Community Information Board	\$6000	Funds to be expended next financial year
Adopt a tree project	\$2000	Funds reallocated to Tennant Creek Cemetery
Picnic tables	\$3500	Funds reallocated
Youth Development Programs such as painting	\$5000	Funds reallocated
Tennant Creek Town Clock	\$18,180	✓
Shaded Bus Shelter	\$10,000	Funds to be expended next financial year
Enhancement of community Veterinary Services	\$30,000	In Progress. Total spend: \$8,151



WUTUNUGURRA

Ward:	Alyawarr
Population:	166 (Australian Census 2016)
Location:	209.8km south-east of Tennant Creek on the north-eastern edge of the Davenport Ranges
Road Conditions:	Mixture of sealed and unsealed. Access to the community is variable, depending on weather conditions.
Languages:	Alyawarr, some Warlpiri, some Kaytetye

Local Authority Members

Chair:	Owen Torres (Resigned June 2018)
Deputy Chair:	Geraldine Beasley
Appointed Members:	Rochelle Bonney, Lennie Beasley, Mark Peterson, Julie Peterson, Tommy Peterson
Ex-Officio:	Mayor Steven Edgington
Elected Members:	Cr Noel Hayes, Cr Lucy Jackson, Cr Ricky Holmes and Cr Jack Clubb

Local Authority Projects 2017 - 2018

Project	Funds Assigned	Completed
Grand Stand Seating	\$24,184	✓
Community Centre Improvements	\$33,100	✓



Human Resources

The Human Resources Department of Barkly Regional Council manages recruitment, payroll, staffing, performance management and training and development. The team is currently striving to become more service orientated and consultative while maintaining a high degree of confidentiality.

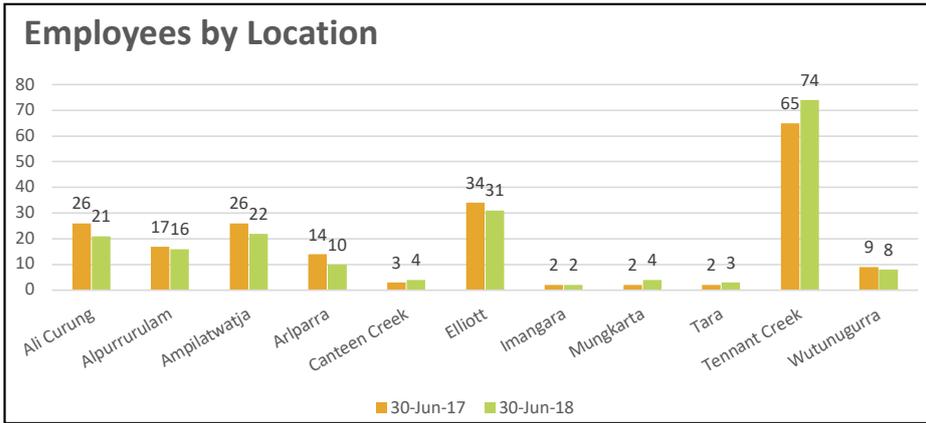
Key Challenges

- Majority of our position descriptions are outdated;
- The staff appraisal process was ad hoc and not followed;
- The current EBA expired in 2011;
- Our HR procedures were outdated and not compliant with daily operations;
- Majority of the external HR forms were outdated;
- The new employee induction procedure was inefficient;
- The recruitment process timeframe was unacceptable;
- The organisational structure was not compatible with daily operations;
- Identified breakdowns in procedures creating low staff morale and unnecessary disciplinary actions; and
- No recruitment and selection policy.

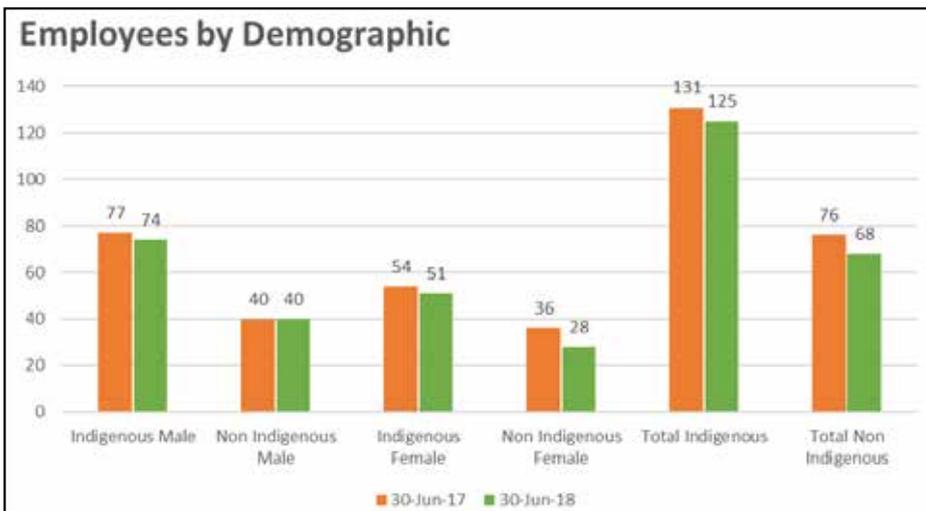
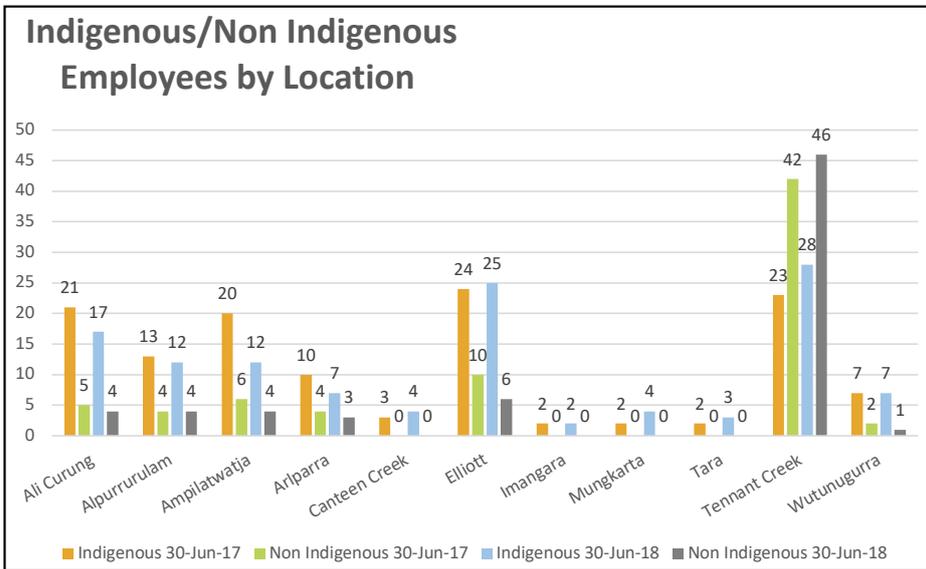
Key Highlights

- A proposed EBA is at the bargaining stage with council employees; a significant improvement on previous years;
- Employee appraisal process is currently being reviewed to ensure that employee development is identified. New forms have been created to assist with the new procedure;
- Employee employment cycle is being developed;
- Review of position descriptions at 75% completion;
- Induction process is now a three-stage process, consisting of HR, and a site & cultural induction.
- Our recruitment process is now under six weeks from start to completion, which is a reduction in time frame of more than 50%;
- Council's organisational structure was updated to ensure it meets daily operational requirements, including the removal of the Director of Corporate Services and one executive assistant, as well as the appointment of a Director of Operations, a records officer and a supervisor at the Tennant Creek landfill site;
- A workforce management plan is currently being created to identify present and future workforce requirements of the council;
- Human Resources procedures are being reviewed or created to ensure that HR provides excellent customer service within the council; and
- The HR Department is utilising current programs to provide a more accurate reporting mechanism.

Statistical Graphs



Employee numbers across the communities are consistent with the previous financial year, with 14 vacancies by the end of the 2017-2018 financial year.



As indicated in the above graph we can see that across the board, with the exception of non-Indigenous males, there has been an average decrease of 6.8% in staff numbers for the financial year. This is made up of 4.6% Indigenous numbers and 10.5% non-Indigenous numbers.

Learning & Development

Key Challenges:

- The most significant challenge has been ensuring the continuation of the Core Skills program. The program, now entering its fourth year, received funding support from the Northern Territory Government's Department of Trade, Business and Innovation (DTBI) to extend the program across all Barkly communities in 2017-18. Additional one-off grants were also received from the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet, Department of Health and a NDIS Workforce Development Grant from Department of Trade, Business and Innovation for the 2017-18 year.
- Indigenous employees comprise 64.8% of the workforce with Council working across a region challenged by limited education opportunities, sporadic school attendance and extreme remote community living. Combined, these factors have resulted in the shortage of skilled local workers, affecting advancement and full life/workplace participation. Any strategies for "growing our own" and for the effective development of a workforce that will allow for succession planning and career progressions for the local Indigenous staff must include training that is meaningful and not mere 'tick-and-flick'. Literacy and Numeracy support is a non-negotiable part of this equation.
- Council recognises this need but must contend with the long-term nature of such an investment and the sheer size of the region we service, both of which make it an expensive concern.

Key Highlights:

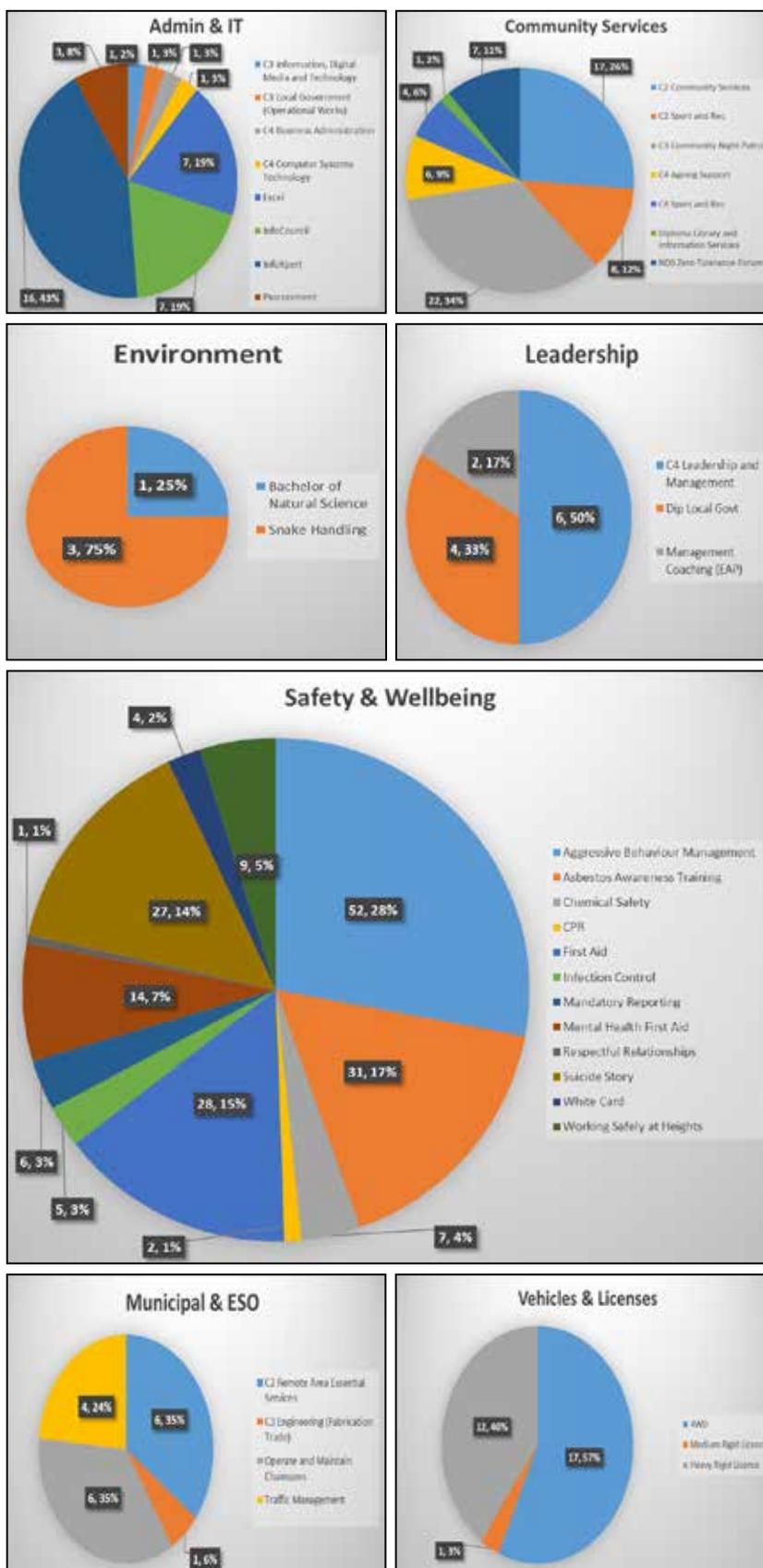
- Training and qualification data transfer for all staff into TechOne completed. The system now allows for automated alerts to track expiring qualifications and licenses (including the Working with Children Ochre Card and Criminal History checks). It also allows information to be accessed more accurately and gaps to be identified. It allows reports to be generated for various purposes, including audits.
- Training Matrix templates created to assist Managers and Directors to identify skills and qualifications (Mandatory, Recommended, Optional). Training Matrixes have been completed for Infrastructure, Operations and Night Patrol, with other departments to follow. Phase II will see the information transferred into the TechOne database on finalisation of the organisational structure. This will allow for accurate tracking of staff professional development to identify skills gaps, inform appraisal processes, chart career pathways and assist in succession planning.
- Community Services Student of the Year 2017 awarded to Vivianne Thompson. She was enrolled in the Certificate III in Community Night Patrol with Charles Darwin University (CDU) while employed by BRC as a Night Patrol Officer (Tara).
- Council approached by CDU to nominate for NT Training Award for BRC-CDU partnership on the successful collaboration and achievement of meaningful outcomes in the C3 Community Night Patrol. Although, Council did not receive the award, the collaboration was an endorsement of BRC's approach to staff training and development in a region challenged by remoteness, limited access to training opportunities and acutely low Literacy and Numeracy skills.
- Learning and Development Coordinator invited to speak on a panel at the Developing the North Conference in Alice Springs. The topic, Effective Collaboration between Registered Training Organisations (RTO) and Employers, focused on BRC's Night Patrol Program. The L&D Coordinator was also invited as guest presenter at CDU-led workshop on Improved Indigenous Outcomes for Students and RTOs.

- Bachelor of Natural Science: Scott Spurling commenced his second year in Bachelor of Natural Science through Western Sydney University. Course fees, travel and accommodation are covered by the NTG's Department of Health.
- Apprentice/Trainee Recruitments with 1 x mechanic apprentice and 2 x junior trainee clerks



Training Statistical Graphs

N.B. The first figure is the number of attendees and the second figure is the percentage.



Growing our own

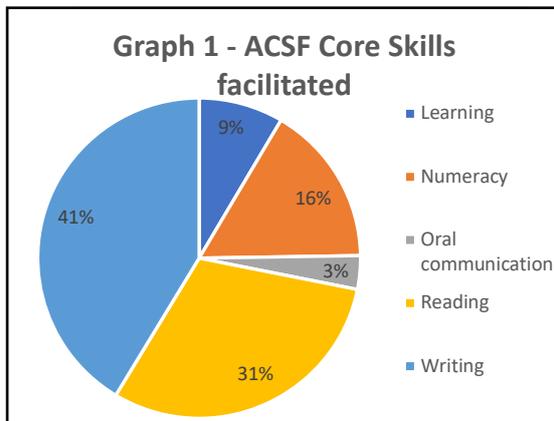
Core Skills Overview

The Barkly Regional Council's workplace Language, Literacy and Numeracy program has been embedded into the remote workplace of the region for more than four years. Delivered through Central Desert Training in Alice Springs, more than 200 employees from Aged Care, Night Patrol and Municipal have incorporated the training into their working life since the program was launched in Ampilatwatja in August 2014.

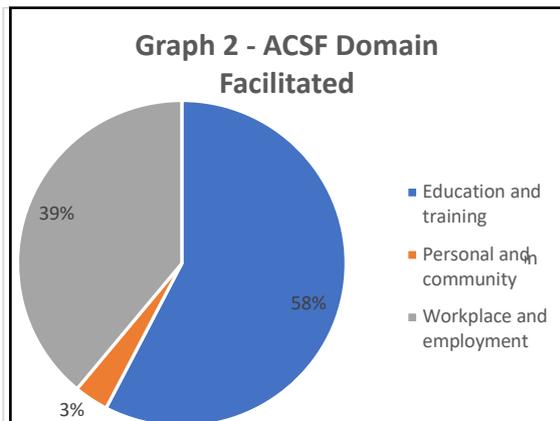
Adaptations and customisations to the program over this period have resulted in the development and execution of the Core Skills training program, with an industry specific workplace planning and development strategy delivered in 2016-17 and continuing throughout 2017-18. All assessment resources for the Core Skills program are based upon workplace Standard Operating Procedures and are available on the BRC's web portal for everyone to download, print and use.

Over the years Council has received funding from various sources. For the 2017-2018 financial year Council 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, Arlparra, Alpurrurulam, Ampilatwatja, Elliott and Wutunugurra, plus staff from Canteen Creek, Mungkarta, Murray Downs and Tara.

Operational Statistics



Graph 1 provides a summary of the Core Skills facilitated



Graph 2 provides a breakdown of the ACSF domain facilitated during sessions.

Training Content and Outcomes

The focus of training is primarily upon supporting staff to competently execute the day-to-day or "Core Skills" required to meet the minimum requirements of the workplace. These training outcomes are recorded on the internal BRC InfoXpert system and available for staff and supervisors to access.

Training has included:

- Completing routine paperwork including stat sheets, timesheets, vehicle checks;
- Using office equipment including fax, copier, printer, IT systems;
- Communicating via phone / email;
- Basic, intermediate and advanced training in Word, Excel and Outlook;



- Reading comprehension of documents;
- Assisting with other training activities including support for accredited training courses;
- Vehicle checks across all departments;
- Audit support and self-audit for Aged Care;
- Support in the gaining and renewal of drivers licences (P, C, HR);
- General numeracy tasks including understanding time, working with money; values, place value, fractions, addition, subtraction and embedded workplace numeracy tasks;
- Assisting with Centrelink correspondence;
- Assisting with legal correspondence;
- Assisting with financial issues impacting on ability to retain long-term employment;
- Assisting with Ochre card applications and obtaining birth certificates;
- Purchase order processes; and
- NDIS systems and processes.



Feedback

External Stakeholders

Three things stand out for me:

- The degree to which this program has assisted BRC staff to negotiate external issues that would otherwise impact their ongoing employment
- The incorporation of foundation LLN skills development into many of the sessions, which will produce a lasting benefit for individuals, their families and, ultimately, the communities
- The long term engagement with the program of many BRC staff – both participants and managers who support it.

“I sincerely hope BRC will find the resources to continue the program.”

Department of Trade, Business and Innovation (Funding body)

Council Management

“We (Night Patrol) ... can see the benefit that our staff are reaping.”

Night Patrol Manager

“It would appear that some staff are realising that they have skills learnt in their early years that, with some practice, they have been able to relearn and adapt quickly.”

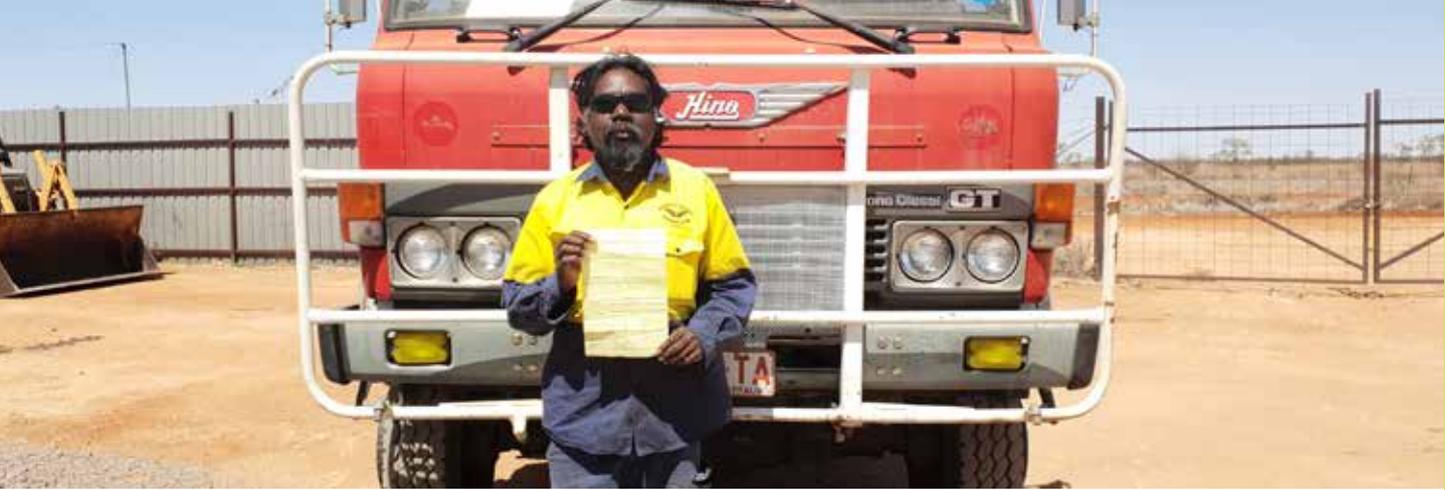
“There is a level of pride and confidence in being able to share their successes in literacy and numeracy.”

“I have noticed that complex and unique learning abilities, in the context of remote community life, is conditioned by a person’s mood in presenting themselves for the training on the day. Depression, shame and embarrassment are significant factors in the learning process. Confidence increases are somewhat alleviating that process or lack thereof.”

“I have also noticed that a couple of workers are displaying a confidence in working with computers. Practice, practice, practice sees drastic improvement. I encourage workers on down times to play with the computer.”

“I don’t want to overstate what I am observing because there is a long way to go before adult literacy and numeracy skills are significantly improved. However, this program has assisted me in placing myself somewhat into the mindset of my workers, enabling me a better understanding of how to get the best out of them within a testing environment.”

Area Managers



BRC staff enrolled in the program:

"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."



Grants Management

Community Grants

Each year Barkly Regional Council calls for Expressions of Interest from community groups or individuals to apply for a community grant of up to \$3000 per project. There are two rounds per year offering grants to support community-based projects in the areas of arts and culture, sport and recreation, community safety and community development.

The following grants were allocated as part of Council's Community Grants Program 2017-2018.

Round One - Successful Applicants

TC Dance Crew*

Funding Amount Awarded: \$4800
Project: Dance Floor

TC Dance requires proper flooring in dance studio to support young people at dance. Proper flooring protects growing bones; and funding requested is matched for total project cost by in-kind support.

Tennant Creek Children's Christmas Tree Fund**

Funding Amount Awarded: \$5,000
Project: Christmas Tree Event

Provide assistance with the 84th annual Christmas Tree Event to hand out free gifts, entertainment, food and soft drink to all local children under 10. Event also includes jumping castle and Santa Claus visit. Will apply for other funding but had not done so at the time application was received.

Tennant Creek Pistol Club*

Funding Amount Awarded: \$2,000
Project: Air-compressor maintenance

Maintenance would improve the club environment as it has not been done in a long time. No other funding applied for.

Rotary E-Club Outback Australia*

Funding Amount Awarded: \$300
Project: Mulberry Festival

Support economic and social aspects involved in food growth including beautification, capitalising on short growth and harvest, eliminating food wastage and cottage industry potential.

***First-time applicant**

**** Previous applicant**

Round Two - Successful Applicants

Battery Hill Mining Centre*

Funding Amount Awarded: \$1000
Project: Office printer

Purchase of printer to increase the capacity of the office to attend to visitor needs and promote tourism in the region.

Barkly Regional Arts **

Funding Amount Awarded: \$3000
Project: Desert Harmony Banner

Purchase of permanent banner for the Desert Harmony Festival held annually on Picnic Day weekend.

TC Dance Crew**

Funding Amount Awarded: \$3000
Project: Equipment and costumes

Purchase of equipment and costumes for young people in Tennant Creek Dance Crew.

Country Women's Association (CWA) Tennant Creek Branch **

Funding Amount Awarded: \$1,253.59
Project: CWA Hall

Purchase of smart TV and sound bar to compliment and widen the use of the CWA Hall. The CWA Hall is sometimes donated to community groups for use.

Royal Life Saving Society Australia (NT Branch)*

Funding Amount Awarded: \$3000
Project: Pool Equipment and Marketing

Purchase of pool equipment (to remain at Tennant Creek), plus marketing and facilitation of Family Fun Day at the pool to promote water awareness.

Tennant Creek Fishing Club*

Funding Amount Awarded: \$3000
Project: Fishing Rods

Purchase of fishing rods for competition. These rods remain with the kids who attended the competition. Numbers based on previous year's attendees.

***First-time applicant**

**** Previous applicant**



Grants Management

Grants and operational funding applied for and received by the Council during 2017-18 were as follows:

Project/Program	Total Funding	Funding End	Funding Body/Partner
OPERATIONAL FUNDING			
Barkly Region			
NT Operational Subsidy	4,022,992	Ongoing	NTG – DHCD
Financial Assistance Grant Subsidy	1,807,979	Ongoing	NTG – DHCD
Financial Assistance Grant Subsidy - Roads	444,405	Ongoing	NTG – DHCD
Indigenous Environmental Health Worker	\$100,000	Ongoing	NTG – DH
Remote Sport Program	\$224,000	Ongoing	NTG – DTC
Indigenous Sports and Recreation Program	\$583,128	Ongoing	PM&C
Outside School Hours Care Program	\$496,029	Ongoing	PM&C
Youth Multi Media (Youth Development) Program	\$136,500	31/12/2017	PM&C
Indigenous Jobs Development	\$968,000	Ongoing	NTG – DHCD
Community Night Patrol	\$2,186,249	Ongoing	PM&C
NT Jobs Package – Home and Community Care	\$752,992	Ongoing	CDH
Community Aged Care Programme	\$608,003	Ongoing	CDH
Home Care Programme	\$524,301	Ongoing	CDH
Public Libraries Operational Funding	\$183,998	Ongoing	NTG – DTC
NDRRA Roads Funding	\$500,000	30/06/2019	NTG - DHCD
Homeland Programmes	\$1,059,960	Ongoing	NTG - DHCD
Tennant Creek			
Youth Centre Program (Youthlinks)	\$242,000	Ongoing	NTG - TF
Ali Curung			
Safe House	\$162,270	Ongoing	NTG - DH
Elliott			
Safe House	\$212,946	Ongoing	NTG - DH
Ampilatwatja			
School Nutrition Program	\$84,625	31/12/2017	PM&C
Alpurrurulam			
Roads To Recovery	\$112,751	30/06/2019	CDIRD
NON-OPERATIONAL FUNDING			
Barkly Region			
Community Animal Management	\$200,000	30/06/2019	NTG - DHCD
Animal Management Four Wheel Drive Vehicle	\$34,969	30/06/2018	NTG - DH
Barkly Region Visitor's Experience Master Plan	\$100,000	5/08/2018	NTG - DTC
Celebrating Aboriginal Culture	\$4000.00	26/01/2018	DCM - BRC

Project/Program	Total Funding	Funding End	Funding Body/Partner
Healthy multi-media messaging	\$7,272.73	30/04/2018	NTDH - AOD
Anger Management Training	\$23,680	30/06/2018	NTG – DTBI
NAIDOC Activities	\$5,000		
Infrastructure Improvements – Aged Care Services	\$241,672	30/06/2018	CDOH
Communications Infrastructure Upgrade	\$375,847	30/06/2018	NTG - DHCD
Asbestos Awareness Training	\$5,570	31/12/2017	NTG – DTBI
NDIS Business Readiness Programme	\$14,545	15/12/2017	NTG – DTBI
NDIS Workforce Development	\$25,000	30/06/2018	NTG – DTBI
Community Waste Management	\$215,000	30/06/2018	CDII&S - BBRF
Aboriginal Responsive Skills – Suicide Story	\$9,797	31/12/2018	NTG – DTBI
Tennant Creek & Elliott			
Australia Day 2018	\$3,000	26/01/2018	ADC NT
Tennant Creek			
Local Authority Allocation	\$100,000	30/06/2018	NTG - DHCD
International Women’s Day 2018	\$2,727	31/04/2018	NTG – TF - OGED
Fencing TC Library & Council Chambers	\$52,455	30/06/2018	NTG - DHCD
Solar Heating – TC Pool	\$80,850	30/06/2018	NTG - DHCD
LED Street Lights & Numbers	\$68,160	30/06/2018	NTG - DTC
School Holidays – April 2018	\$10,000	30/04/2018	NTG - DCM
Tennant Creek – Recoverable Works Programmes			
Purkiss Reserve Upgrade	\$9,000,000	30/06/2019	NTG - DIPL
CBD Revitalisation	\$1,450,000	30/06/2019	NTG - DIPL
TC-Mount Isa Cross Border Commission	\$16,500	30/06/2019	NTG – DTBI
Ali Curung			
Homemaker’s Centre Refurbishment	\$10,000	30/06/2018	NDIA
Community Conflict Mediation	\$72,727	30/06/2018	PM&C
Local Authority Allocation	\$\$83,980	30/06/2018	NTG – DHCD
Ampilatwatja			
Youth Sport & Recreation Officer	\$50,000	31/3/2019	CAYLUS
Local Authority Allocation	\$67,210	30/06/2018	NTG - DHCD
Alpurrurulam			
Aged Care Bus	\$119,074	30/06/2018	PM&C - ABA
Local Authority Allocation	\$68,120	30/06/2018	NTG - DHCD
Drive-in Movie	\$10,000	30/06/2019	NTG - DH - AOD
Fishing Competition	\$5,000	30/06/2019	NTG - DH - AOD
Cultural Project	\$20,000	30/06/2019	NTG - DH - AOD
Bush Tucker	\$30,000	30/06/2019	NTG - DH - AOD
Music Project	\$20,000	30/06/2019	NTG - DH - AOD
Boomerang Making	\$5,000	30/06/2019	NTG - DH - AOD

Project/Program	Total Funding	Funding End	Funding Body/Partner
Elliott			
Elliott Sports Reserve Infrastructure	\$500,000	30/06/2019	NTG - DTC
Local Authority Allocation	\$51,150	30/06/2018	NTG - DHCD
Sport & Recreation Centre Refurbishment	\$136,505	30/06/2018	CDII&S - BBRF
Arts & Cultural Improvements Elliott Library	\$100,000	31/12/2018	NTG - DTC
Wutunugurra			
Local Authority Allocation	\$26,440	30/06/2018	NTG - DHCD
Arlparra			
Youth Sport & Recreation Officer	\$70,000	31/03/2019	CAYLUS
Aged Care Bus	\$123,306	30/06/2018	PM&C - ABA
Local Authority Allocation	\$63,980	30/06/2018	NTG - DHCD

Funding Body Key	
ABA	Aboriginal Benefits Account
AOD	Alcohol and Other Drugs (NTG)
ADC NT	Australia Day Council Northern Territory
BBRF	Building Better Regions Fund (Commonwealth)
CAYLUS	Central Australian Youth Link Up Service
CDH	Commonwealth Department of Health
CDII&S	Commonwealth Department of Industry, Innovation & Science
CDIRD	Commonwealth Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development
DCM	Department of the Chief Minister
DH	Department of Health
DHCD	Department of Housing and Community Development
DIPL	Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics
DTC	Department of Tourism and Culture
DTBI	Department of Trade, Business and Innovation
NAIDOC	National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee
NDIA	National Disability Insurance Agency
NDIS	National Disability Insurance Scheme
NDRR	Natural Disaster Relief & Recovery
NTG	Northern Territory Government
OGED	Office of Gender Equity and Diversity
PM&C	Prime Minister & Cabinet (Commonwealth)
TF	Territory Families (NTG)

Information Technology

The Information Technology department manages the Council's information and communications technology across seven locations: five remote communities and the Elliott and Tennant Creek offices. This includes ensuring connectivity through close relations with providers such as Telstra and CouncilBiz, Council's computer network provider; and continuous enhancement of the IT operating environment through equipment improvements while reducing capital and ongoing costs.

Key Challenges

- Barkly Regional Council's vast distances continue to pose enormous challenges to running modern IT services between the communities scattered across the region.

Key Highlights

- Progress towards standardisation of the IT operating environment and equipment at the Tennant Creek office and community offices, such as printers and upgrading computers. Old computers have been stripped with hard drives kept for re-use and remainders disposed of per electronic waste guidelines; and
- Commencement of Telstra communications network upgrade and maintenance of network viability. These improvements should see increases in service access and speeds.



Finance

The Finance Department ensures that Council income, payments and financial reporting is done in a timely and accountable manner. They manage all payments across the seven offices of the Council.

Key Challenges

- Council continues to remain heavily reliant upon external grant funding from other tiers of Government. Council is unable to sustain existing services based upon sole reliance on the low level of income it receives from Rates and Charges or self-generated funds; and
- Council has been operating in an environment with a deteriorating asset base for many years, impacting on the ability to provide key services. The Council's 2017/18 Asset Refresh or Depreciation ratio of \$0.89 of Capital Expenditure for every \$1 of depreciation. The challenge for Council in the 2018/19 will be to ensure this decline is stemmed to ensure that in the longer term the replacement of assets keeps pace with depreciation.

Key Highlights

- Barkly Regional Council finished the year with a healthy cash position of \$11,584,000. This includes the early receipt of \$1,149,242 of Commonwealth Government Financial Assistance General Purpose and Roads funding for the 2017/18 year; and
- At the end of the financial year the Council holds \$7.32 in current assets for every \$1 owed in current liabilities. This result provides a clear indication that Council is in a good position to pay its debts as and when they are due.

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 100% on external funding to provide services;
- An increase in violence on some communities has had a detrimental effect on attendance to community programs and in regards to retaining staff; and
- 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:

- Continued operation of the Youth Links Centre in Tennant Creek which provides much needed services to young people in town. Additional funding received allowed the service to be expanded from two-years to five years. During the school term Youth Links runs Wednesday to Sunday night, providing a meal and drop-off service, as well as recreational activities. The Centre, which has employed six casual staff, was open seven days a week during the school holidays – four weeks in July, one week in October, six weeks in summer [December/January] and 10 days in April for Easter and Youth Week. Averaged more than 60 participants per night. Young people have done the Council proud by supporting local community events such as clearing the rodeo yard for the Tennant Creek Show and Tennant Creek Rodeo and involvement with Barkly Regional Arts activities. They have also been involved in fundraising activities like car washes;
- The kiosk at the Tennant Creek Swimming Pool continued to run for the full swimming season and undertook catering and event activities, including movie nights and early morning breakfast on the weekend;
- The Animal Management Team desexed 153 dogs and 34 cats in communities throughout the Barkly;
- Grant from the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet (PM&C) allowed the purchase of a specially fitted 4WD and wheelchair friendly bus for Alpururulam. A second bus has been ordered (also with a grant from PM&C) for Arlparra and will arrive within the next financial year. These buses enable the more frail Aged Care and National Disability Insurance Scheme



(NDIS) participants to safely engage in group activities and receive transport support services within community;

- Aged and Disability Services involved in a pilot NDIS quality audit, an informative learning experience for Council staff;
- Library services in Tennant Creek and Elliott continue to be well patronised and provide a vital service to each community. TC Library hosted a series of short, targeted events, including Christmas Crafts for Kids in December 2017, Christmas Morning Tea for Senior Citizens, Youth Week activities in April 2018, and library talks, including an overview of the Footpath Library which gives away books to homeless people by Australia Day Ambassador Sarah Garnett and a humorous look at our Constitution by former lawyer John Christiansen. Library staff assisted a 10-year-old Girl Guide for five months to gain her service flash badge. Tennant Creek Library statistics include 8,202 patrons coming through the door with a total of 777 members, a loan circulation of 13,501 and 1,048 new items;
- A grant of \$100,000 allocated to upgrade the Elliott Library which is scheduled to be completed in January 2019. Community engagement meetings held regularly in the Library by key stakeholders in Elliott, new public computers, internet and Wi-Fi upgrade, school reading program held weekly and programs in the school holidays, plus collaboration with the Language Centre and University of Queensland which plans to launch a dictionary in the local Jingili language with the Elliott Library in the near future;
- Council runs night patrol services in the communities of Ali Curung, Alpurrurulam, Ampilatwatja, Arlparra, Elliott, Tara, Mungkarta, Murray Downs and Wutunugurra. They are a vital community program focused on the safety of the community, in particular the protection of children, vulnerable and at risk people, by using cultural mediation skills, engaging with youth people, defusing potentially violent incidents and reducing adverse contact for local people with the criminal justice system;
- Night Patrol Officers are supported in their work with an extensive program of staff training which “value adds” to the service provided. Training includes the ongoing Certificate 3 in Community Night Patrol with Charles Darwin University, Aggressive Behaviour Management, Suicide Story, First Aid and Remote First Aid, Mental Health First Aid, 4WD Training and Core Skills (Language, Literacy and Numeracy). The training is there to assist each night patrol team across the Barkly region in building staff members confidence and self esteem to deal with any issues or turmoil in a community, and doing so safely;
- Safe House staff in Ali Curung and Elliott continued with their garden clubs for local women and children which has been a positive contributor to maintaining community wellbeing and providing a safe space when people are out drinking; and
- Safe House in Elliott received a grant from Department of Health’s Alcohol Action Initiative (AAI) to refurbish the kitchen and provide an Alcohol or Other Drugs (AOD) Educational Programme.



Stories for Community Services

Night patrollers learn to change the script

Suicide is a story that is a growing concern across Australia.

In 2016, preliminary data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) report Causes of Death showed an average of 7.85 deaths by suicide in Australia each day.

For those of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander descent in NSW, QLD, SA, WA and NT there were 162 deaths due to suicide (119 male, 43 female), which was the 5th most common cause of death and approximately twice that of non-Indigenous Australians.

It is no different in Tennant Creek and the Barkly region where a worrying trend of attempted suicides and suicides has rocked the community within the last 12 months.

There have been up to 10 reports of attempted suicides and suicides with community Night Patrollers often the first respondents at the scene of suicides and suicide attempts on community.

Council realised it was imperative that employees in this position were provided with the skills necessary to effectively deal with the situation and ensure their own safety and wellbeing as well as that of the community.

In June 2018, 27 staff members took part in a three-day Suicide Story training session led by the Mental Health Association of Central Australia (MHACA).

Developed by MHACA in partnership with local Aboriginal people of the Northern Territory, the program uses cultural practices to guide participants through the process of understanding suicide and reducing stigma so that participants can effectively identify and respond to the signs of suicide risk.

Suicide Story uses local and culturally specific approaches to suicide prevention respecting the unique needs and issues within each community. It was created to make stronger the skills, knowledge and confidence of Aboriginal people and communities to intervene and prevent suicide in their communities, minimise harm and promote community wellbeing.

The topics covered in the workshop ranged from looking at how suicide became a problem for Aboriginal people to helping people bereaved by suicide, beliefs about suicide, and messages of hope.

Night patrollers from the communities of Ampilatwatja, Alpururulam, Mungkarta, Elliott, Tara, Murray Downs, Ali Curung and Arlparra also continued to participate in the Certificate III in Community Night Patrol training.



Safe House workshops contribute to well-being

A number of diversionary and educational workshops aimed at promoting healthy messages, no more violence and responsible drinking have helped improve the social health and well being of Elliott.

Safe House Team Leader Kiriana Thackery facilitated three workshops for men, women and children, and community-education sessions on Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) as part of a series of alcohol action initiatives (AAIs) in Elliott.

These measures, funded by the NTG for over two years, helped support different groups within the township to provide diversionary and educational programs and activities.

The activities are community driven, help build capacity and provide early intervention and much needed resources for locals.

The workshops tackled subjects like domestic violence, how to keep safe if people are drinking and finding solutions to help the community move forward.

The funding of more than \$200,000, some of which covered the 2016-17 financial year, went to a variety of other projects in Elliott including new playground equipment, community art and alcohol signage, casual employment for local indigenous residents at the waterpark and a men's shed.

Respectful Relationships Workshop October 2017

There were eight participants aged between 7-10 years. The children looked at the rights of a person to be safe, valued and cared for. They learned how to foster feelings of self worth and accept no as an answer and realise a person can make mistakes and still be accepted and respected.

The workshop was well received by the children who drew on their own experiences with their families. The activities provided gave participants the confidence to try new things.





Women's Group Workshop November 2017

Nine women, from age two to 70, took part in a three-hour workshop held at Long Reach Waterhole. The session was held in collaboration with the School of Languages and Cultures, University of Queensland.

The women cooked damper and freshly caught fish while talking openly about their families, local customs, protocol, language and their visions for the future of Elliott.

The women discussed the stresses of the younger generation, how to read the signs and find ways for early intervention, such as rejuvenating their spirits at the waterhole, and healthier drinking practices. The women also talked about the importance of language and customs to keep Aboriginal culture strong.



Men's Group Workshop December 2017

The workshop, held in collaboration with Elliot McAdam (the No More Campaign-Catholic Care Tennant Creek), had 11 participants aged between 35-70 years.

The men talked about how to become a positive role model in the community, going to friends and family for support in times of stress, healthier drinking practices, supporting local community events to raise awareness of domestic violence, joining the white ribbon campaign and becoming a part of the "No More" violence pledge video for Elliott.

The importance of more education programs in Elliott, especially for young boys, to provide information and statistics about domestic violence was highlighted.

FASD Education Workshop June 2018

NOFASD Australia was contracted to deliver FASD community education workshops at the Elliott School and local Health Clinic.

Delivered over two days, topics included defining FASD, the causes, prevention, diagnosis and treatment and how to support someone with FASD.

There were 16 participants, aged between 30-65, on the first day with a focus on identification and supporting children that display behavioural issues.

The second workshop focused on the identification of physical features in babies and children, and how to support families through therapy and sometimes medical intervention. Seven adults took part, aged between 27-50 years.

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 and the No More March, 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 2017-18 include:

- Territory Day July 2017 (Tennant Creek);
- Regional NAIDOC Week celebrations July 2017 – six communities;
- Careers Expo 2017 August 2017 (Tennant Creek);
- Sports Carnivals – Ampilatwatja (September 2017) and Arlparra (October 2017);
- White Ribbon Day and No More Violence March – Elliott and Tennant Creek – November 2017;
- Christmas Lights Competition Tennant Creek – December 2017;
- Australia Day 26 January 2018 (Tennant Creek and Elliott);
- Celebrating Aboriginal Culture (Australia Day 2018) in Ali Curung, Arlparra, Alpururulam, Wutunugurra;
- International Women's Day Breakfast and Street Parade March 2018 (Tennant Creek);
- ANZAC Day April 2018 (Tennant Creek and Elliott);
- Youth Week Celebrations May 2018 (Tennant Creek and communities); and
- Citizenship Ceremonies x 3 (Tennant Creek).

Tennant women press for progress

The townsfolk of Tennant Creek marked International Women's Day (IWD) 2018 with two inspirational community events in 2018.

Celebrations began on the Sunday morning before IWD (8 March) with a breakfast served by young men and women wearing purple bow ties at the local Tennant Creek Swimming Pool.

More than 70 people heard moving and encouraging stories and a poem from three of the region's strong leaders: Jennifer Kitching (Australia Day - Citizen of the Year); Rosemary Plummer (Traditional Owner and poet) and Helen Kempe (Australia Day - Senior Citizen of the Year).

Mayor Steve Edgington delivered a short speech focused on celebrating women and encouraging them to #PressforProgress, the theme for 2018.

Boys from the Clontarf Academy (Tennant Creek), under Randall Gould and Kym Bracken, and girls from the Stars Foundation, under Olivia Fry and Jemma Paterson, were there to serve breakfast and help out on the morning.

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 home-made flags.

There were moving speeches from two strong local women – Sharen Lake, Regional Manager for Catholic Care in Tennant Creek, and Kathy Burns, Artistic Director of Barkly Regional Arts. This was followed by a free breakfast community BBQ, organised and provided by the Central Australian Aboriginal Family Legal Unit (CAAFLU), to round off the morning.

Barkly Regional Council received funding from the Northern Territory Government's Office of Gender Equity and Diversity to hold the two events in Tennant Creek.

Residents unite to say 'NO MORE'

More than 200 people marched down the main street of Tennant Creek and around 80 locals in Elliott rallied together on 24 November 2017 in support of the NO MORE Family Violence campaign.

Residents of Tennant Creek and staff from Barkly Regional Council, Anyinginyi Aboriginal Corporation, Country Women's Association, Barkly Work Camp, Tennant Creek Women's Refuge, the NT Police, AFL NT, Julalikari Council Aboriginal Corporation (JCAC), Barkly Regional Arts, and the Tennant Creek High School all took part in the march with a police escort at the front.

With impassioned speeches and a beautiful poem on the stark reality of domestic violence, listeners were left in no doubt as to duty of the community, leaders and individuals to combat domestic violence.

Up in Elliott, more than a quarter of the community supported the march, including Elliott Night Patrol, Elliott Council, Elliott Police, JCAC, Elliott School, Families as First Teachers (FaFT), Indigenous Engagement Officer (Prime Minister and Cabinet), and Central Desert Training.

The march, which started at Elliott School, progressed through the town and ended at the Sport and Rec Centre where a speech was given by Remote Sergeant Jason Thackeray, and refreshments were provided by the Elliott Safe House.

Organised by CatholicCare NT (Tennant Creek) and chaired by Elliot McAdam, the NO MORE campaign highlights the need to reduce family and domestic violence across the region.

Barkly Regional Council endorsed and adopted in March 2018 its Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence Policy and Action Plan, declaring its intention to eradicate family violence from the Barkly.

Council also installed NO MORE signage at the entrance of Purkiss Reserve in Tennant Creek with plans to install signs in the other six regional communities.



Citizenship Ceremonies

Barkly Regional Council held three citizenship ceremonies in 2017-18, with eight Barkly region residents becoming Australian citizens in front of elected members, family, friends and colleagues.

By far the most prestigious citizenship ceremony is on Australia Day when two residents officially became Aussies at the Tennant Creek breakfast and awards ceremony on 26 January 2018.

Johncy Bobby and Jini Joy, from Kerala, southern India, were among the 16,000 people around the country who took the pledge of citizenship on Australia Day.

The couple moved to Tennant Creek in 2012 when they landed a job opportunity at the Tennant Creek Hospital, with Johncy working as the Nurse Manager and Jini working as the Renal Unit Manager.

Kolinio Vakadurivalelotuvou Delailoa took his pledge as an Australia citizen on 19 September 2017.

Those who took the pledge on 16 May 2018 were Mrs Mere Vakadurivalelotuvou, Mrs Somsri Harris and her daughter Miss Punyeesar Tonghan, Mr Raphael Paragas and Ms Lara Pulumbarit.





Connecting youth through sport and active play

Council's Barkly Youth (Sport and Recreation) hold regular sporting events and games programs, ranging from golf days to basketball tournaments, for youngsters throughout the region.

Community football carnivals and softball competitions are the most popular events, especially the annual two-day Barkly women's softball competition in June.

This year the contest was held in Tennant Creek with teams from the communities of Ali Curung and Ampilatwatja travelling to compete. The Tennant Creek team was a last-minute addition as participants from Elliott, Arlparra and Alpururulam dropped out due to family reasons and funeral commitments.

The Ali Curung team beat Tennant Creek 6-2 on the first day with Ampilatwatja playing against Tennant Creek in the second game, losing 3-6. In the last game of the day, Ali Curung won 15-4 against Ampilatwatja, sending Ali Curung straight to the finals.

The semi-final between Ampilatwatja and Tennant Creek the following day was an exciting game with both teams playing for a spot in the grand final against Ali Curung. Ampilatwatja improved their tactics and team work but Tennant Creek played exceptionally well to win 3-1. The Tennant Creek team came out strong for the grand final with a total of 12 home runs to Ali Curung's five.

Council is committed to supporting young people and will continue to seek funding for services, facilities and programs in Tennant Creek and the Barkly to advance the region.

Infrastructure Directorate

Our core services are roads maintenance within Tennant Creek and the six communities of Ali Curung, Arparra, Ampilatwatja, Alpurrurulam, Elliott and Wutunugurra, parks, gardens and cemetery management (Tennant Creek and Elliott), 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.

All this work is delivered in accordance with safe work methods and in compliance with Local Government Compliance, NT Worksafe, NT Environment Protection Agency (NTEPA) and Australian Standards.

Key Challenges

- Infrastructure continues to work smarter using the technology and resources available, and the skillset we have to meet our goals;
- Staff retention is an ongoing issue, but having said this, in 2017-18 three key positions – Assets Manager, Fleet Manager and Director Operations – were filled and those employees are still in their roles, ensuring the smoother, day-to-day running of operations. Council has continued its alliances and partnerships with Barkly Work Camp and Julalikari Council Aboriginal Corporation to assist our workforce when needed;
- In January 2018 Council was handed the ownership of streetlights for the townships of Tennant Creek and Elliott by Power & Water Corporation (PWC). The hidden costs due to repairs and maintenance of 40-year-old assets are daunting. However, Council is currently exploring the options of converting existing streetlight types to LED (light-emitting diode) lighting through the concept of 'Smart City Lighting'. The benefits of this technology far outweigh the initial capital outlay. It is estimated the conversion will cost around \$500K but will generate annual savings in the future;
- Putting the obsolete fire alarm system out of commission at the two Peko Road offices, Civic Hall and Library has taken longer than anticipated. Ronin Security won the tender to install the much anticipated AMPAC fire alarm system and accessories compliant with the Northern Territory Fire and Rescue Service (NTFRS), Building Code of Australia (BCA) and Australian Standards. The project with its compilation of thermal and smoke detection systems, warning horns and speakers, visual alarms etc. is close to completion and will be acquitted in the next financial year;
- Council took the initiative to upgrade Kargaru Oval on Staunton Street in Tennant Creek for local kids to use as a recreational facility. The oval was levelled and reticulated, but due to vandalism, which caused \$5000 worth of damage, the final development stages of seeding were delayed. Once the recreational space is completed the oval will be fenced and solar-lit for security in the next financial year.

Key Highlights

- In the 2016-17 Annual Report Council highlighted that our plant and equipment – the very tools we need to deliver core services – were antiquated with an outdated asset management plan. The revised asset management plan is now complete and will assist us in turning over a lot of our machinery and fleet more regularly so that we can deliver core services more efficiently;
- Procurement of a new Scarab Mistral street sweeper for Tennant Creek - \$354,197 (scheduled for delivery in October 2018);
- Procured a Flocon Road Repair Unit and a CAT skid steer loader, complete with milling head and tank. These machines form part of Council's first fleet of sealed roads; maintenance equipment, and are part of the development of a roads maintenance crew that can travel and undertake

road patching at Barkly communities. This equipment was procured through a NTG Special Purpose Grant (SPG), which will form the basis for procurement of other road repair equipment such as rollers, JetPatchers, Dozers, etc. in future financial years;

- Council's Depot crew cleared ground at the existing Tennant Creek Cemetery ready for the cemetery extension. The ground was surveyed by Justin Hankinson as a community contribution. Plans are underway to follow the Alice Springs general cemetery format with 80 gravesites envisaged for the first stage. The extension area has the capacity for a total of 1500 graves. Work is scheduled to be completed in the next financial year;
- Won tender from the NTG's Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics (DIPL) for the maintenance of airstrips in the Barkly region (except Tennant Creek) for a period of 34 months;
- Installation of No More Violence sign at the entrance to Purkiss Reserve in May 2018;
- The NTG granted Council a total of \$9M for the upgrade of Purkiss Reserve, an important public recreational space in Tennant Creek; and
- Through several grant streams, Council was able to:

Complete upgrade of Sports & Recreation facilities in Elliott (Commonwealth's Building Better Regions Funding);

Call for public tender for the construction of a new football oval in Elliott. The facility will enable inter-district and local football competitions to be held at this venue. Work is scheduled to be completed in the new financial year.

Call for public tender for the repair of sealed roads at Aplurrurulam (work scheduled for October 2018); and

Complete construction of Men's Shed in Elliott.



Stories for Infrastructure

Sports building upgrade a boost for community

Elliott residents are proud of the recent upgrade to the Sport and Recreation facilities, making it a popular hub for activities and events.

The only multi-purpose building in the community Council received a Building Better Regions Fund grant of \$136,605 from the Commonwealth Government to upgrade the facilities earlier this year.

Key upgraded areas included the office to provide an area for meetings and better planning of youth and community activities; kitchen to offer nutrition and cooking workshops and catering services for events; indoor recreation area and basketball courts to provide a safe place for activities for young people out of the heat or rain.

Other upgrades were to the storage room and gym – with one section for the secure storage of equipment and the other area to be used as a fitness and training facility to promote active and healthy lifestyles, plus shaded seating for outside.

There are both economic and social benefits to the upgrade with locals employed during the construction phase from February to March this year, as well as employment in Sport and Recreation after the construction is completed.

A major social benefit of the upgraded facilities for the community is the centre now offers opportunities to run effective youth programs in a positive and appealing environment.

Successful youth activities can boost academic performance, reduce risky behaviours, promote physical health, and provide a safe, structured environment where the opportunity to reduce the disadvantage experienced in the community can be realised.

Refurbishing this facility has helped address disadvantage in Elliott and dispelled the general consensus that it is a forgotten town. It has also acknowledged that the community deserves to have a usable facility to promote social activity in a safe and inclusive environment.





Machines revolutionise the way potholes are repaired

A host of new equipment has arrived at Council's works depot that will revolutionise how crews repair roads.

The equipment includes a new Flocon Road Repair Unit and a CAT skid steer loader, complete with milling head and tank.

The Flocon truck will change the way road crews repair potholes, enabling staff to use hot mix asphalt rather than the traditional cold pre-mix concrete.

The new truck will not only get the job done quicker but the hot mix will be a better method for fixing potholes.

Emergency and programmed road repairs will now be undertaken with more suitable materials and technology resulting in a quicker and more resilient repair.

These machines form part of Council's first fleet of sealed roads maintenance equipment, and are part of the development of a roads maintenance crew that can undertake road patching in all Barkly communities.

The Flocon truck will rotate from community to community so road repairs can be carried out more strategically with potholes fixed before they become too big and dangerous to pedestrians and drivers.



Operations Directorate

In December 2017, the Director Operations joined the Executive Team to provide technical and operations support for Area Managers and team leaders on each of the Barkly communities. Under the previous organisational structure this role came under the supervision of Director Infrastructure. It was decided that if Council was to effectively serve the residents of a region one and a half times the size of Victoria a separate position needed to be created and dedicated to the following KPIs:

- Direct, oversee and monitor Council core delivery services in the Barkly communities;
- Develop and maintain effective communication links with communities, Council offices in Tennant Creek, the Governance Officer and relevant stakeholders;
- Ensure all operational and project management work practices comply with NT Work Safe and Work Health and Safety requirements; and
- Provide support to Area Managers to facilitate Local Authority Meetings and ensure that all meetings work within the Local Government Act and guidelines.

Key Challenges

- Keeping Local Authority members engaged and ensuring they attend meetings every month. Since the introduction of ongoing support attendance for LAs has improved considerably with communities such as Alpururulam reaching a quorum of 78% compared to 0% in 2016-17;
- Ensuring Local Authorities spend their allotted funding to enable more funds for future community projects. This year both the Shiny Shed ablution block and kitchen were completed in Alpururulam, and in Arlparra the LA cancelled projects that were not eligible or did not best serve the community; and
- The sheer size of the region and the tyranny of distance is an ongoing factor as is the condition of roads, some of which are impassable during the wet season. Monthly visits to communities were then split into two trip blocks [Wutunugurra-Alpururulam-Elliott followed by Ali Curung-Ampilatwatja-Arlparra] to ensure the safety and wellbeing of the Director of Operations.

Key Highlights

- Monthly visits to Area Managers on each Barkly community to provide additional support and highlight where resources are needed. Visits coincide with LA Meetings;
- Working with the Local Authorities to supply Council with community project ideas for the Council's five-year infrastructure plan as part of the Regional Plan 2018-19 and the five-year Regional Plan 2018-2023;
- Four visits annually to Tennant Creek by Area Managers to discuss projects, attend any Tennant Creek based PD courses and meet with key stakeholders including the NTG, NDIS, Aged Care, NT Police, NTG's Tourism and Culture, Prime Minister and Cabinet and Council staff;
- Networking with other service providers to get better outcomes for communities in the Barkly, such as infrastructure upgrades; and
- Assisting Indigenous staff to apply for higher duties and undergo extra training within the organisation to facilitate their Professional Development.

Community 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 wellbeing, were carried out in 2017-18.

Ali Curung Priority Projects
Municipal team erected new signs for the landfill and cemetery
Purchase of a new fire trailer unit which holds 2,000 litres and gives the Ali Curung Service Centre a fire fighting capability against minor fires. Training by NT Bushfires to be conducted in the near future
Purchase of new JCB backhoe loader, with induction training provided by JCB staff for two municipal staff
Purchase of a new Kubota F3690 ride-on mower
New kitchen and security measures installed in the Ali Curung Safe House as part of NTG-funded Alcohol Action Initiatives (AAI). Internal walls to be painted with paint supplied by Council
Construction of new playground
Crew from IHHP (Indigenous Hip Hop Projects) worked with schoolchildren during and after school. They also worked alongside the Department of Health's Trachoma Team promoting the Clean Hands and Face campaign. At the end of the week a community concert was held to showcase the children's dance moves and unveil the Hip Hop video the kids made.
Ali Curung Homemakers purchased a new commercial-grade combi-oven; providing more healthy cooking methods and more menu options for Aged Care clients
Community BBQ as part of Celebrating Aboriginal Culture (Australia Day 2018)



Ampilatwatja Priority Projects
Depot received the new Dual Cab Tray Truck
Sharing the Grader with Arlparra to grade the roads in and out of Ampilatwatja and to maintain firebreaks
Purchased ride on mower
Purchased industrial washing machines
Weed Management ongoing
Installed air-conditioning for visitor and staff accommodation

Alpurrurulam Priority Projects
Shiny Shed upgrade, ablution block and kitchen installation
Purchased portable toilets
Purchased new JCB backhoe to deliver core council services
Road repairs put out to tender – works scheduled for October 2018
Painted council offices
Entered into MoU with Rainbow Gateway (CDP provider)
Community BBQ as part of Celebrating Aboriginal Culture (Australia Day 2018)



Arlparra Priority Projects
Power & Water installed new solar farm. BRC is maintaining the asset under contract to PWC
Basketball courts painted
Landfill site cleaned up
Minor refurbishment of aged care centre including new community vegetable garden
Contract entered into with Urapuntja Aboriginal Corporation (UAC) to deliver core Council services
Community BBQ as part of Celebrating Aboriginal Culture (Australia Day 2018)



Elliott Priority Projects
Upgraded the Sport and Recreation Centre
Installed new footpath to Health Clinic
New park lighting and new playground
New playground installed in North Camp
Completed Men's Shed as part of funding to promote Alcohol Action Initiatives (AAI)
FASD education program and community workshops completed as part of funding to promote Alcohol Action Initiatives (AAI)



Tennant Creek Priority Projects
Cemetery extended – beautification works still to be completed
Staunton Street oval redevelopment commenced
Graffiti removal equipment purchased and removal program re-implemented
Davidson Walk lighting upgrade
New tractor purchased
Landfill site cleaned up, including crushing 100 cars, shredding around 4000 tyres and removing 32,000 litres of waste oil
\$9m awarded to Council for Purkiss Reserve upgrade planning commenced
\$1.45m awarded to Council for the Paterson Street Streetscaping Project
Upgrading landfill drop-off bays
Tourism Masterplan commenced in partnership with the Department of Tourism and Culture
Expression of Interest (Eoi) advertised in November 2017 for lease of the Tennant Creek Bowling Club.
Expression of Interest advertised for recycling services in March 2018 (yet to be filled)



Wutunugurra Priority Projects
Community Christmas function held
Portable Grand stands system for football events installed
Community BBQ as part of celebrating Aboriginal Culture (Australia Day 2018)



BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL

General Purpose Financial Reports for the year ended 30 June 2018

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BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL

ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 June 2018

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

19-10-18

Date:

BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME for the year ended 30 June 2018

	Notes	2018 \$'000	2017 \$'000
INCOME			
Rates	2	3,617	3,416
Statutory charges	2	13	3
User charges	2	1,490	1,333
Grants, subsidies and contributions	2	16,066	17,974
Investment income	2	125	104
Reimbursements	2	1,004	1,440
Other income	2	491	593
Total Income		<u>22,806</u>	<u>24,863</u>
EXPENSES			
Employee costs	3	13,036	13,289
Materials, contracts & other expenses	3	8,348	8,735
Depreciation, amortisation & impairment	3	2,938	3,003
Finance costs	3	13	13
Total Expenses		<u>24,335</u>	<u>25,040</u>
OPERATING SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)		(1,529)	(177)
Net gain/(loss) on disposal of assets	4	142	(76)
Amounts received specifically for new or upgraded assets	2	12,793	-
NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)		<u>11,406</u>	<u>(253)</u>
Transferred to Equity Statement			(253)
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>-</u>	<u>(6,382)</u>
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME		<u>11,406</u>	<u>(6,635)</u>

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

BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL

BALANCE SHEET

as at 30 June 2018

	Notes	2018 \$'000	2017 \$'000
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	5	15,767	10,166
Trade & other receivables	5	2,505	1,053
Inventories	5	<u>42</u>	<u>42</u>
Total Current Assets		<u>18,314</u>	<u>11,261</u>
Non-current Assets			
Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment	7	29,628	30,181
Other Non-current Assets	6	<u>5,298</u>	<u>-</u>
Total Non-current Assets		<u>34,926</u>	<u>30,181</u>
Total Assets		<u>53,240</u>	<u>41,442</u>
LIABILITIES			
Current Liabilities			
Trade & Other Payables	8	1,611	1,396
Provisions	8	<u>943</u>	<u>748</u>
Total Current Liabilities		<u>2,554</u>	<u>2,144</u>
Non-current Liabilities			
Provisions	8	<u>261</u>	<u>279</u>
Total Non-current Liabilities		<u>261</u>	<u>279</u>
Total Liabilities		<u>2,815</u>	<u>2,423</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>50,425</u>	<u>39,019</u>
EQUITY			
Accumulated Surplus		16,563	15,231
Asset Revaluation Reserves	9	23,788	23,788
Unspent Grants Reserve	9	<u>10,074</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL EQUITY		<u>50,425</u>	<u>39,019</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 2018

	Accumulated Surplus	Unspent Grants Reserve	Asset Revaluation Reserve	TOTAL EQUITY
	\$'000		\$'000	\$'000
2018	Notes			
Balance at end of previous reporting period	15,231	-	23,788	39,019
Net (Deficit) for Year	11,406	-	-	11,406
Transfers to unspent grants reserve from accumulated funds	(10,074)	10,074	-	-
Balance at end of period	16,563	10,074	23,788	50,425
2017				
Balance at end of previous reporting period	15,484	-	30,170	45,654
Net Surplus 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) / recoupment offset to asset revaluation reserve	-	-	(944)	(944)
Balance at end of period	15,231	-	23,788	39,019

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

BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL

CASH FLOW STATEMENT for the year ended 30 June 2018

	Notes	2018 \$'000	2017 \$'000
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
<u>Receipts</u>			
Rates - general & other		3,409	3,454
Fees & other charges		1,974	1,291
Investment receipts		132	87
Grants utilised for operating purposes		15,865	19,584
Other operating receipts		2,853	2,618
<u>Payments</u>			
Employee Costs		(12,846)	(13,167)
Contractual services & materials		(9,188)	(8,454)
Other operating payments		(1,837)	(1,279)
Finance payments		(13)	(321)
Net Cash provided by (or used in) Operating Activities		349	3,813
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
<u>Receipts</u>			
Amounts specifically for new or upgraded assets		12,793	-
Sale of replaced assets		142	36
<u>Payments</u>			
Expenditure on renewal/replacement of assets		(7,430)	(506)
Expenditure on new/upgraded assets		(253)	-
Net Cash provided by (or used in) Investing Activities		5,252	(470)
Net Increase (Decrease) in cash held		5,601	3,343
Cash & cash equivalents at beginning of period		10,166	6,823
Cash & cash equivalents at end of period		15,767	10,166

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 2018

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 18 October 2018).

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 41 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 2018

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	
2016/2017	\$3,315,490	\$2,202,409	-	\$1,113,081
2017/2018	\$2,288,545	\$2,252,384	-	\$36,161

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 17 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 2018

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.

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". 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.

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. Significant uncertainties exist in the estimation of fair value of a number of asset classes including land, buildings and associated structures and infrastructure. Additions acquired subsequent to a revaluation are recognised at cost until the 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.

Depreciation methods, useful lives and residual values of classes of assets are reviewed annually.

Major depreciation periods for each class of asset are shown in Note 7. Depreciation periods for infrastructure assets have been estimated based on the best information available to Council, but appropriate records covering the entire life cycle of these assets are not available, and extreme care should be used in interpreting financial information based on these estimates.

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.

Barkly Regional Council

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 30 June 2018

Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies (cont)

7 Payables (cont)

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.

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.

Barkly Regional Council

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 30 June 2018

Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies (cont)

11 GST Implications

In accordance with UIG Abstract 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.

13 Pending Accounting Standards

Certain new accounting standards and interpretations have been published that are not mandatory for the 30 June 2018 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 2019/2020 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 2019/2020 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 2018

Note 2 - INCOME

	2018	2017
Notes	\$'000	\$'000
RATES REVENUES		
<u>General Rates</u>		
Residential	1,544	1,557
Commercial	624	670
Industrial	301	265
Pastoral and Mining	105	105
	<u>2,574</u>	<u>2,597</u>
<u>Annual Charges</u>		
Waste Management Service	878	796
Penalties for late payment	183	42
	<u>1,061</u>	<u>838</u>
Less:		
Discretionary rebates, remission & writeoffs	(18)	(19)
	<u>3,617</u>	<u>3,416</u>
STATUTORY CHARGES		
Animal registration fees & fines	6	2
Sundry	7	1
	<u>13</u>	<u>3</u>
USER CHARGES		
Client Contributions	305	559
Fuel Sales	12	11
Landfill Fees	197	99
NDIS	389	16
Service Fees	21	139
Sales and Admission Charges	156	91
Visitor Accommodation	57	50
Rental Charges	353	368
	<u>1,490</u>	<u>1,333</u>
INVESTMENT INCOME		
Interest on investments		
Banks & other	125	104
	<u>125</u>	<u>104</u>
REIMBURSEMENTS		
Power and Water	-	102
Private Works	964	1,154
Other	40	184
	<u>1,004</u>	<u>1,440</u>

BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2018

NOTE 2 - INCOME (continued)

	2018	2017
Notes	\$'000	\$'000
OTHER INCOME		
Agency Fees		
- Australia Post	33	36
- Centrelink	423	485
Sundry	35	72
	<u>491</u>	<u>593</u>
GRANTS, SUBSIDIES, CONTRIBUTIONS		
Amounts received specifically for new or upgraded assets	12,793	-
Other grants, subsidies and contributions	16,066	17,871
Individually significant item -	2(a) -	103
	<u>28,859</u>	<u>17,974</u>
<i>The functions to which these grants relate are shown in Note 12.</i>		
Sources of grants		
Commonwealth government	6,752	6,745
Northern Territory government	21,991	11,053
Other	116	176
	<u>28,859</u>	<u>17,974</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>	-	103

BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2018

NOTE 2 - INCOME (continued)

	2018	2017
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>	2,163	3,974
<i>Less: expended during the current period from revenues recognised in previous reporting periods</i>		
<i>Aged & Community Care</i>	-	196
<i>Alcohol Actions Initiative</i>	9	-
<i>Animal Management</i>	64	-
<i>Closing The Gap - Council Rebranding</i>	-	133
<i>DLGCS - Purchase Road Equipment</i>	238	-
<i>Elliott Playgroup</i>	49	-
<i>Homelands - Special Purpose</i>	70	1,025
<i>Local Authorities Allocation</i>	360	431
<i>Night Patrol</i>	248	618
<i>Safehouse Programme</i>	28	-
<i>Special Purpose Grants</i>	221	80
<i>Traffic Management Study</i>	-	110
<i>Waste Management</i>	31	49
<i>Youth Services</i>	382	227
<i>Other</i>	45	29
<i>Subtotal</i>	<u>1,745</u>	<u>2,898</u>
<i>Plus: amounts recognised as revenues in this reporting period not yet expended in accordance with the conditions</i>		
<i>Alcohol Actions Initiative</i>	16	36
<i>Aged & Community Care</i>	258	13
<i>Animal Management</i>	200	64
<i>DLGCS - Purchase Road Equipment</i>	-	238
<i>Elliott Playgroup</i>	-	49
<i>Infrastructure</i>	2,026	-
<i>Libraries</i>	100	-
<i>Night Patrol</i>	218	233
<i>Purkiss Reserve Upgrade</i>	4,000	-
<i>Safehouse</i>	39	-
<i>Special Purpose Grants</i>	276	-
<i>Roads Funding</i>	613	-
<i>Waste Management</i>	-	34
<i>Youth Services</i>	24	345
<i>Other</i>	-	75
<i>Subtotal</i>	<u>7,770</u>	<u>1,087</u>
<i>Unexpended at the close of this reporting period and held as restricted assets</i>	<u>8,188</u>	<u>2,163</u>
<i>Net increase (decrease) in assets subject to conditions in the current reporting period</i>	<u>6,025</u>	<u>(1,811)</u>

BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2018

Note 3 - EXPENSES

	Notes	2018 \$'000	2017 \$'000
EMPLOYEE COSTS			
Salaries and Wages		10,065	10,328
Employee leave expense		1,290	1,112
Superannuation - defined contribution plan contributions	16	979	1,027
Training		108	135
Uniforms		49	66
Workers' Compensation Insurance		174	189
Travel		307	273
Fringe Benefits Tax		-	51
Recruitment		64	108
Total Operating Employee Costs		13,036	13,289
Total Number of Employees		160	143
<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		40	42
- Other Services (Special Purpose Grant Audit Reports)		1	-
Bad and Doubtful Debts		14	-
Elected members' expenses		413	417
Operating Lease Rentals - cancellable leases		343	398
Operating Lease Rentals - non-cancellable leases	15		
- minimum lease payments		105	357
Subtotal - Prescribed Expenses		916	1,214
<u>Other Materials, Contracts & Expenses</u>			
Advertising		41	46
Consultants		851	1,054
Communication		374	447
Plant & Motor Vehicle Repairs and Running Costs		981	952
Repairs and Maintenance - General		736	713
Legal Expenses		27	23
Contractors		196	233
Grants Returned		285	87
Materials - Other		411	474
Minor Equipment		519	373
Insurance		355	362
Property Expenses - Council		138	106
Property Expenses - Contract		285	461
Groceries		567	670
Security		74	56
Utilities		1,017	1,046
Annual Software License Fees		493	333
Sundry		82	85
Subtotal - Other Materials, Contracts & Expenses		7,432	7,521
		8,348	8,735

BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2018

Note 3 - EXPENSES (cont)

	Notes	2018 \$'000	2017 \$'000
FINANCE COSTS			
Bank Charges & Fees		13	13
		13	13
DEPRECIATION, AMORTISATION & IMPAIRMENT			
Depreciation			
Buildings		1,996	2,129
Infrastructure		386	8
Office Equipment, Furniture & Fittings		-	75
Plant & equipment		556	791
		2,938	3,003

Note 4 - ASSET DISPOSAL & FAIR VALUE ADJUSTMENTS

INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT

Assets renewed or directly replaced

Proceeds from disposal	142	36
Less: Carrying amount of assets sold	-	62
Gain (Loss) on disposal	142	(26)

OTHER NON-CURRENT ASSETS

Writedown of CouncilBiz Investment	-	(50)
	-	(50)

NET GAIN (LOSS) ON DISPOSAL OR REVALUATION OF ASSETS

	142	(76)
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Note 5 - CURRENT ASSETS

CASH & EQUIVALENT ASSETS

Cash on Hand and at Bank	10,718	5,109
Short Term Deposits & Bills, etc	5,049	5,057
	15,767	10,166

TRADE & OTHER RECEIVABLES

Rates - General & Other	738	523
Accrued Revenues	156	17
Debtors - general	106	374
Other levels of Government	1,502	131
Prepayments	19	25
Sundry	5	4
Total	2,526	1,074

Less: Allowance for Doubtful Debts	21	21
	2,505	1,053

INVENTORIES

Stores & Materials	42	42
	42	42

BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2018

	2018	2017
Notes	\$'000	\$'000

Note 6 - NON-CURRENT ASSETS

OTHER NON-CURRENT ASSETS

Capital Works in Progress

Purkiss Reserve Upgrade	(a)	5,000	-
Telecommunications Infrastructure Project	(b)	<u>298</u>	<u>-</u>
		<u>5,298</u>	<u>-</u>

- (a) Instalment of \$5 Million held by the Northern Territory Government's Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics (DIPL) under a Recoverable Works Agreement to undertake Infrastructure upgrades to Purkiss Reserve in accordance with priorities identified by the Purkiss Reserve Consultative Committee and agreed to by Council.
- (b) Works to date to upgrade Council's communication infrastructure that will provide a stable and consistent communications platform across Council's seven communities. This project is funded through a Northern Territory Government Strategic Local Government Infrastructure Fund Grant (SIFG).

BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2018

Note 7 - INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT

	Fair Value Level	2017 \$'000				2018 \$'000			
		AT FAIR VALUE	AT COST	ACCUM DEP'N	CARRYING AMOUNT	AT FAIR VALUE	AT COST	ACCUM DEP'N	CARRYING AMOUNT
Land	3	3,377	-	-	3,377	-	-	3,377	
Land Improvements	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Buildings	2&3	52,021	-	(31,806)	52,021	609	(33,802)	18,828	
Infrastructure	3	6,166	-	(2,064)	6,166	329	(2,450)	4,045	
Office Equipment		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Plant & equipment	3	6,454	-	(3,967)	6,454	1,446	(4,522)	3,378	
TOTAL PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT		68,018	-	(37,837)	68,018	2,384	(40,774)	29,628	
<i>Comparatives</i>		52,999	1,693	(18,704)	68,018	-	(37,837)	30,181	

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 2018

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

	2017	CARRYING AMOUNT MOVEMENTS DURING YEAR						2018
	\$'000	\$'000						\$'000
	CARRYING AMOUNT	Additions	Disposals	Depreciation	Impairment	Net Revaluation	CARRYING AMOUNT	
		New/ Upgrade	Renewals					
Land	3,377	-	-	-	-	-	3,377	
Land Improvements	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Buildings	20,215	39	570	(1,996)	-	-	18,828	
Infrastructure	4,102	42	287	(386)	-	-	4,045	
Office Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Plant & equipment	2,487	172	1,275	(556)	-	-	3,378	
TOTAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT	30,181	253	2,132	(2,938)	-	-	29,628	
Comparatives	39,122	506	-	(3,003)	(944)	(5,438)	30,181	

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 2018

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 2018

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 2018

Note 8 - LIABILITIES

	Notes	2018 \$'000		2017 \$'000	
		Current	Non-current	Current	Non-current
TRADE & OTHER PAYABLES					
Goods & Services		888		998	
Rates received in advance		98		7	
Accrued expenses - payroll		134	-	121	-
Accrued expenses - other		491	-	270	-
		<u>1,611</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,396</u>	<u>-</u>
PROVISIONS					
Employee entitlements (including oncosts)		943	261	748	279
		<u>943</u>	<u>261</u>	<u>748</u>	<u>279</u>
<i>Amounts included in provisions that are not expected to be settled within 12 months of reporting date.</i>			261		279

Note 9 - RESERVES

ASSET REVALUATION RESERVE	Notes	30/06/2017	Net Increments (Decrements)	Transfers, Impairments	30/06/2018
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Land		3,010	-	-	3,010
Buildings		19,838	-	-	19,838
Plant & Equipment		940	-	-	940
TOTAL		<u>23,788</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>23,788</u>
Comparatives		<u>23,788</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>23,788</u>
UNSPENT GRANTS RESERVE	Notes	30/06/2017	Net Increments (Decrements)	Transfers, Impairments	30/06/2018
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Unspent Grants		-	10,074	-	10,074
TOTAL		<u>-</u>	<u>10,074</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10,074</u>
Comparatives		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</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.

Unspent Grants Reserve

Unspent grant funds are recognised as revenues under AASB 1004: Contributions as the Council generally has no obligation to repay the unspent funds and has therefore earned the revenue. Grants that have been paid to Council for a specific purpose and are unexpended, or a grant payment is outstanding are recorded in the unspent grants reserve and are shown within Equity section of the Balance Sheet. Unspent grants compulsorily repayable to funding bodies are treated as a liability.

BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2018

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	2018 \$'000	2017 \$'000
CASH & FINANCIAL ASSETS			
Unexpended amounts received in relation to funded programmes	2	8,382	1,814
		<u>8,382</u>	<u>1,814</u>

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	2018 \$'000	2017 \$'000
Total cash & equivalent assets	5	15,767	10,166
Balances per Cash Flow Statement		<u>15,767</u>	<u>10,166</u>

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

Net Surplus (Deficit)		11,406	(253)
Non-cash items in Income Statement			
Depreciation, amortisation & impairment		2,938	3,003
Net increase in unpaid employee benefits		(1,549)	122
Change in allowances for under-recovery		-	(1)
Grants for capital acquisitions treated as Investing Activity		(12,793)	-
Net (Gain) Loss on Disposals		(142)	26
		<u>1,599</u>	<u>2,897</u>
Add (Less): Changes in Net Current Assets			
Net (increase) decrease in receivables		(1,090)	345
Net (increase) decrease in inventories		-	2
Net (increase) decrease in other current assets		-	50
Net increase (decrease) in trade & other payables		(160)	519
Net Cash provided by (or used in) operations		<u>349</u>	<u>3,813</u>

(c) Financing Arrangements

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

Corporate Credit Cards	<u>50</u>	<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 2018

Note 12 - FUNCTIONS

REVENUES, EXPENSES AND ASSETS HAVE BEEN DIRECTLY ATTRIBUTED TO THE FOLLOWING FUNCTIONS & ACTIVITIES

	GENERAL PUBLIC SERVICES			PUBLIC ORDER & SAFETY			ECONOMIC AFFAIRS			ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION			HOUSING & COMMUNITY AMENITIES		
	BUDGET 2018 \$'000	ACTUAL 2018 \$'000	ACTUAL 2017 \$'000	BUDGET 2018 \$'000	ACTUAL 2018 \$'000	ACTUAL 2017 \$'000	BUDGET 2018 \$'000	ACTUAL 2018 \$'000	ACTUAL 2017 \$'000	BUDGET 2018 \$'000	ACTUAL 2018 \$'000	ACTUAL 2017 \$'000	BUDGET 2018 \$'000	ACTUAL 2018 \$'000	ACTUAL 2017 \$'000
OPERATING REVENUES															
Rates	3,407	3,617	3,416	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Statutory & User Charges	281	266	340	3	11	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	161	191	234
Grants	6,225	6,966	7,691	75	300	88	900	968	900	-	-	-	667	1,104	1,423
Grants - NT capital	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grants - Cwith recurrent	-	-	-	2,502	2,186	2,438	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grants - Cwith capital	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Investment Income	615	509	763	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Reimbursements & Other Revenues	615	509	763	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	10,528	11,483	12,314	2,580	2,497	2,530	900	968	900	124	219	26	826	963	1,207
OPERATING EXPENSES															
Employee Costs	3,102	3,967	3,623	1,883	1,811	1,797	900	968	900	-	189	-	3,459	2,690	3,823
Materials, Contracts & Other	5,421	4,156	4,856	119	333	439	-	-	-	100	216	158	1,369	1,551	1,801
Interest Charges	11	13	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Depreciation, Amortisation, Impairment	3,232	2,938	3,003	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	11,766	11,074	11,495	2,002	2,144	2,236	900	968	900	100	405	158	4,828	4,241	5,624
TOTALS	(1,238)	409	819	578	353	294	-	465	362	-	24	(29)	(3,174)	1,983	(2,760)
TOTAL ASSETS UTILISED		25,804	20,086		465	362		2,483	1,933		1,691	1,316		7,572	5,894

	RECREATION, CULTURE & RELIGION			SOCIAL PROTECTION			EDUCATION			HEALTH			TOTAL		
	BUDGET 2018 \$'000	ACTUAL 2018 \$'000	ACTUAL 2017 \$'000	BUDGET 2018 \$'000	ACTUAL 2018 \$'000	ACTUAL 2017 \$'000	BUDGET 2018 \$'000	ACTUAL 2018 \$'000	ACTUAL 2017 \$'000	BUDGET 2018 \$'000	ACTUAL 2018 \$'000	ACTUAL 2017 \$'000	BUDGET 2018 \$'000	ACTUAL 2018 \$'000	ACTUAL 2017 \$'000
OPERATING REVENUES															
Rates	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,407	3,416
Statutory & User Charges	128	127	127	509	711	530	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,206	1,503	1,336
Grants	1,702	2,045	1,985	3,045	2,497	3,449	-	-	-	-	-	-	12,614	13,880	15,536
Grants - NT capital	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grants - Cwith recurrent	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,502	2,186	2,438
Grants - Cwith capital	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Investment Income	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	125	104
Reimbursements & Other Revenues	24	1	35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,465	1,495	2,033
Total	1,854	2,173	2,147	3,554	3,208	3,979	-	-	-	-	-	-	21,194	22,806	24,863
OPERATING EXPENSES															
Employee Costs	1,570	1,776	1,394	1,729	1,635	1,752	-	-	-	-	-	-	12,643	13,036	13,289
Materials, Contracts & Other	294	984	779	915	1,108	702	-	-	-	-	-	-	8,218	8,348	8,735
Interest Charges	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	13	13
Depreciation, Amortisation, Impairment	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,232	2,938	3,003
Total	1,864	2,760	2,173	2,644	2,743	2,454	-	-	-	-	-	-	24,104	24,335	25,040
TOTALS	(10)	(587)	(26)	910	465	1,525	-	-	-	-	-	-	(2,910)	(1,529)	(177)
TOTAL ASSETS UTILISED		11,224	8,737		4,007	3,114								53,240	41,442

Barkly Regional Council

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2018

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, CDP 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 2018

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 2.42% (2017: 2% and 2.6%). Short term deposits have an average maturity of 90 days and an average interest rates of 2.22% (2017: 90 days, 2.3%).

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 2018

Note 13 (cont) - FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Liquidity Analysis

2018	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	15,767			15,767	15,767
Receivables	1,769	-	-	1,769	1,769
Total	17,536	-	-	17,536	17,536
Financial Liabilities					
Payables	1,611	-	-	1,611	1,611
Total	1,611	-	-	1,611	1,611
2017					
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

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 2018

Note 14 - COMMITMENTS FOR EXPENDITURE

	2018	2017
<u>Notes</u>	\$'000	\$'000
Capital Commitments		
Capital expenditure committed for at the reporting date but not recognised in the financial		
Purkiss Reserve Infrastructure	4,000	-
Communications Infrastructure	121	-
Arparra Aged Care Bus	129	-
	4,250	-
Not later than one year	4,250	-
	4,250	-

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:

	2018	2017
	\$'000	\$'000
Not later than one year	261	138
Later than one year and not later than 5 years	76	87
	337	225
	337	225

BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2018

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 – 2017/18: 9.5% (2016/17; 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.

Note 17 - FINANCIAL INDICATORS

	2018	2017	2016	2015
Current Ratio				
<u>Current Assets - Externally Restricted Assets</u>	3.45:1	4.41:1	2.79:1	1.78:1
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>	11.87%	10.45%	9.83%	9.60%
Total Revenues				
Rates & Annual Charges				
Outstanding Percentage				
<u>Rates & Annual Charges Outstanding</u>	23.83%	16.60%	18.44%	20.08%
Rates & Annual Charges Collectible				

BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2018

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

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:

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
Salaries, allowances & other short term benefits	1,156,784	1,015,861
Termination benefits	24,501	19,186
TOTAL	1,181,285	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:

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
Contributions for fringe benefits tax purposes	67,221	16,381
TOTAL	67,221	16,381

BARKLY REGIONAL COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2018

Note 19 - RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES (Contd.)

PARTIES RELATED TO KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL

During the financial year, four close family members of key management personnel (2017: One) were 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 2018, 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 TOTAL	\$ 79,639,814	\$ 47,342,123

An annual depreciation charge on Road Transport Infrastructure totalling \$2,477,906 has not been recorded in the Statement of Income and Expenditure for the year ended 30 June 2018.

Ian G McDonald FCA



Barkly Regional Council
ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 June 2018

STATEMENT BY AUDITOR

I confirm that, for the audit of the financial statements of Barkly Regional Council for the year ended 30 June 2018, 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.

Ian G McDonald FCA

Dated this 18th day of October 2018

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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 2018.

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 2018 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.

Ian G McDonald FCA
Registered Company Auditor 16458

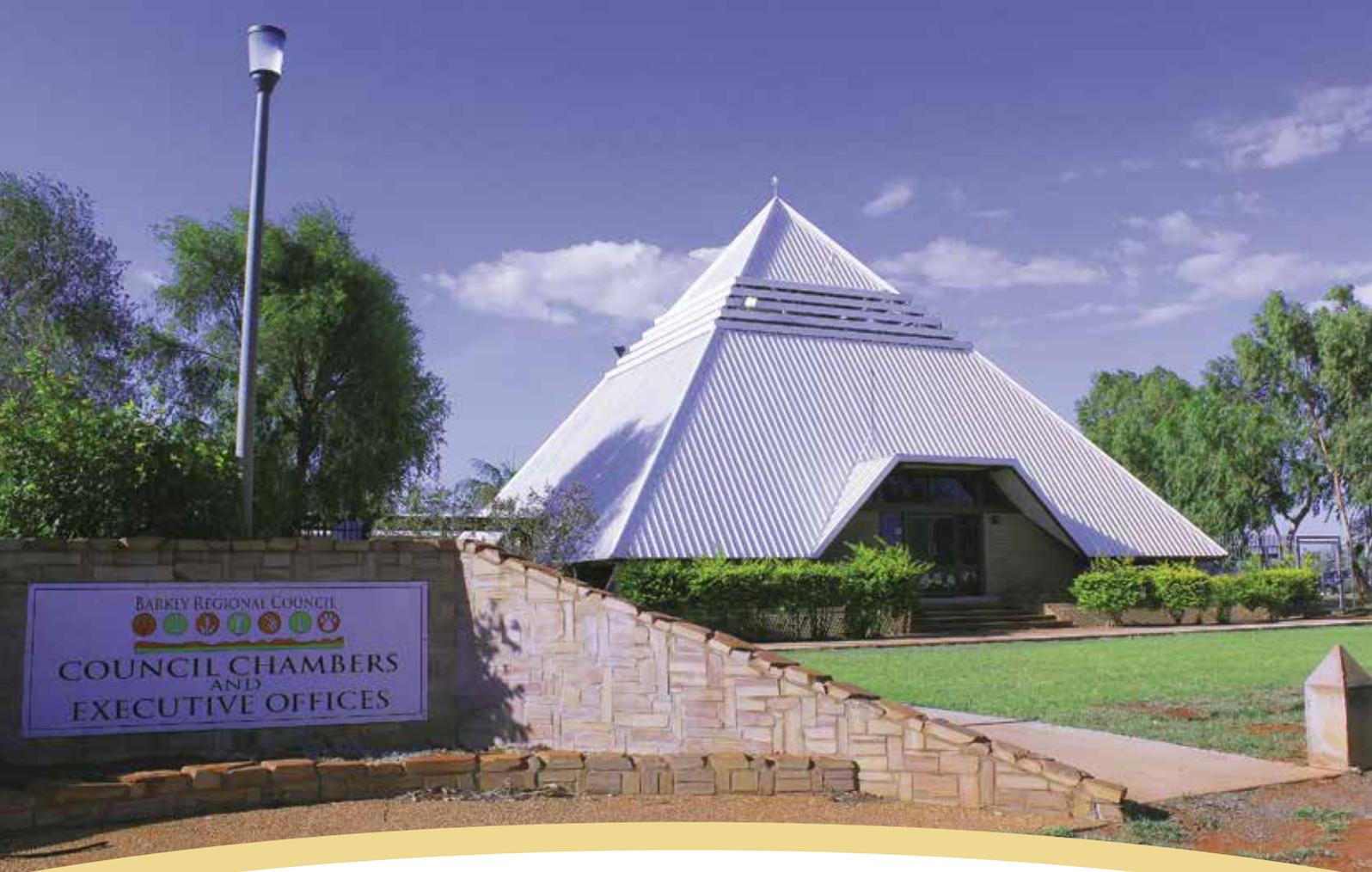
Signed at Grange, South Australia this 19 day of October 2018

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