



# **AGENDA**

## **JILKMINGGAN LOCAL AUTHORITY MEETING**

### **TUESDAY, 6 APRIL 2021**

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

Tuesday, 6 April 2021 at 10:00AM  
The Conference Room, Council Service Delivery Centre, Jilkmिंगgan

Your attendance at the meeting will be appreciated.

Marc GARDNER  
**ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

## **JILKMINGGAN CURRENT MEMBERSHIP:**

### **Elected Members**

1. Mayor Judy MacFARLANE;
2. Councillor Annabelle DAYLIGHT; and
3. Councillor Ossie DAYLIGHT.

### **Appointed Members**

1. Phyllis CONWAY;
2. Lisa McDONALD;
3. Shirley ROBERTS;
4. Wayne ROY;
5. Anne-Marie WOODS; and
6. Vacant
7. Vacant.

**MEMBERS:** 10

**COUNCIL:** 3

**LOCAL AUTHORITY:** 7

**QUORUM:** 6 (minimum requirement)

**PROVISIONAL:** 4 (minimum requirement)

### **EXPLANATORY NOTE:**

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

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

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

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

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

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

## PLEDGE

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

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

## PRAMIS BLA WI

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

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

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	Nil.	
15	<b>CLOSE OF MEETING</b>	

**CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

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<b>ITEM NUMBER</b>	7.1
<b>TITLE</b>	Confirmation of Previous Minutes - Jilkmिंगgan Local Authority
<b>REFERENCE</b>	1063274
<b>AUTHOR</b>	Chloe IRLAM, Governance Engagement Coordinator

**RECOMMENDATION**

**The Jilkmिंगgan Local Authority confirms the minutes from the meeting held on Tuesday 2 February 2021 and affirms them to be a true and accurate record of that meetings decisions and proceedings.**

**BACKGROUND**

The Jilkmिंगgan Local Authority met with quorum on Tuesday 2 February 2021. Attached are the recorded minutes from that meeting for the Local Authority to confirm.

The next scheduled Local Authority Meeting is on Tuesday, 1 June 2021 at 10:00am.

**ISSUES/OPTIONS/SWOT**

Nil.

**FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

Nil.

**ATTACHMENTS**

1   Jilkmिंगgan Local Authority 2021-02-02 [1738] Minutes.DOCX



MINUTES OF THE ROPER GULF REGIONAL COUNCIL, JILKMINGGAN LOCAL  
AUTHORITY MEETING HELD AT THE CONFERENCE ROOM COUNCIL SERVICE  
DELIVERY CENTRE, BARUNGA  
ON TUESDAY, 2 FEBRUARY 2021 AT 10:00AM

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## **1 PRESENT MEMBERS/STAFF/GUESTS**

### **1.1 Members**

- Mayor Judy MACFARLANE (Chairperson);
- Councillor Ossie DAYLIGHT;
- Lisa MCDONALD;
- Wayne ROY;
- Shirley ROBERTS; and
- Anne-Marie WOODS;

### **1.2 Staff**

- Steven SANDERSON, General Manager Community Services, and Engagement;
- Janette HAMILTON, CDP Regional Manager;
- Chloe IRLAM, Governance Engagement Coordinator;
- Paul WILSON, Central Arnhem Council Services Manager;
- Michael MACFARLANE, Council Services Coordinator; and
- Samantha WRIGHT, Senior Administrative Support Officer.

### **1.3 Guests**

- Timothy BAKER; and
- Cecilia LAKE.

## **2 MEETING OPENED**

The Jilkmिंगgan Local Authority Meeting opened at 10:22am with **QUORUM**. The Chairperson welcomed members, staff and guests to the meeting and the Roper Gulf Regional Council Pledge was read.

## **3 WELCOME TO COUNTRY**

## **4 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

### **4.1 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

*1/2021 RESOLVED (Simone BAKER/Ossie DAYLIGHT)*

*CARRIED*

**The Jilkmिंगgan Local Authority noted that no apology was tendered from Councillor Annabelle DAYLIGHT or Local Authority members and Wayne ROY Simone BAKER.**

*Please note Wayne ROY arrived late to the meeting. This is noted under item 13.3.*

**5 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Nil.

**6 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST**

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

**7 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES****7.1 JILKMINGGAN LOCAL AUTHORITY PREVIOUS MINUTES**

2/2021 RESOLVED (Ossie DAYLIGHT/Lisa McDONALD)

CARRIED

The Jilkmिंगgan Local Authority confirmed the minutes from the provisional meeting held on Tuesday 1 December 2020 and affirmed them to be a true and accurate record of that meetings decisions and proceedings.

**8 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES****8.1 ACTION LIST**

3/2021 RESOLVED (Lisa McDONALD/Anne-Marie WOODS)

CARRIED

The Jilkmिंगgan Local Authority:

- (a) Received and noted the Action List; and
- (b) Approved the removal of completed items.

*ACTION: CEO to email JCAC regarding extending the cemetery boundaries as it is currently too crowded.*

**9 CALL FOR ITEMS OF GENERAL BUSINESS**

- Formal Resignations
- Outgoing Correspondence/Community Land Use
- Long Grass

**10 INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE****11 OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE****11.1 OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE****RECOMMENDATION**

The Jilkmिंगgan accepted the outgoing correspondence.

*It was noted that the incorrect sender was listed in this report. The correct sender was Dave Heron, Financial Manager.*

**12 OPERATIONAL REPORTS****13 GENERAL BUSINESS****13.1 ELECTED MEMBER REPORT**

4/2021 RESOLVED (Anne-Marie WOODS/Shirley ROBERTS)

CARRIED

The Jilkmिंगgan Local Authority received and noted the Elected Member Report.

**13.2 TOWN PRIORITIES 2021-22****5/2021 RESOLVED (Lisa McDONALD/Ossie DAYLIGHT)****CARRIED**

**The Jilkmिंगgan Local Authority confirmed the Town Priorities for inclusion in the 2021/2022 Regional Plan.**

*It was noted that some details must be edited and updated. This will be reflected in the 'Town Priorities 2021-22' report in the April LA Agenda.*

**13.3 COUNCIL SERVICES REPORT****6/2021 RESOLVED (Shirley ROBERTS/Ossie DAYLIGHT)****CARRIED**

**The Jilkmिंगgan Local Authority received and noted the Council Services Report.**

*Local Authority member Wayne ROY Joined the meeting, the time being 10:59am.*

**13.4 COUNCIL FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD 01.07.2020 - 31.12.2020****7/2021 RESOLVED (Ossie DAYLIGHT/Lisa McDONALD)****CARRIED**

**The Jilkmिंगgan Local Authority received and noted the Financial (Expenditure) Report for the period July 2020 to December 2020**

*It was noted that there was an incorrect budget for the Local Roads Maintenance. RGRC employee to follow up with finance department.*

**13.5 LOCAL AUTHORITY PROJECTS UPDATE****8/2021 RESOLVED (Wayne ROY/Shirley ROBERTS)****CARRIED**

**The Jilkmिंगgan Local Authority;**

- a) Received and noted the Local Authority Projects Update;**
- b) Accepted the cancellation of the budget allocation for the basketball roof;**
- c) Approved the allocation of \$12,000.00 for the purchasing and installation of a new oval irrigation system from the Local Authority Project unallocated funds; and**
- d) Approved the allocation of \$75,000.00 for the purchasing of a new shade cloth/structure for the playground.**

**13.6 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME****9/2021 RESOLVED (Anne-Marie WOODS/Lisa McDONALD)****CARRIED**

**The Jilkmिंगgan Local Authority received and noted the Community Development Program (CDP) report.**

**14 OTHER BUSINESS****14.1 FORMAL RESIGNATION****10/2021 RESOLVED (Anne-Marie WOODS/Shirley ROBERTS)****CARRIED**

**The Jilkmिंगgan Local Authority noted the request for a formal resignation be requested and submitted by Phyllis CONWAY and Simone BAKER due to lack of attendance.**

**14.2 OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNITY LAND USE****11/2021 RESOLVED (Lisa McDONALD/Wayne ROY)****CARRIED**

**The Jilkmिंगgan Local Authority received and noted the outgoing correspondence from Jilkmिंगgan members regarding the Community Land Use Plan.**



### **14.3 LONG GRASS**

The Jilkminggan Local Authority noted the response from JCAC regarding the letter sent asking for JCAC to attend to the long grass around the community. The JCAC responded negatively and claimed they did not require help from Roper Gulf Regional Council with this issue. The Jilkminggan Local Authority Members further concern that the grass was now beginning to grow within resident housing. The Roper Gulf Regional Council conceded with the Jilkminggan Local Authority regarding this matter by stating that the council will attend to and mow community residents lawns on the condition that all rubbish and risks are removed from the long grass by residents before the operation would commence, in order to secure the safety of the council workers, and the residents must pay for such service.

### **15 CLOSE OF MEETING**

The meeting closed at 12:05 pm.

This page and the proceeding pages are the Minutes of the Jilkminggan Local Authority Meeting held on Tuesday, 2 February 2021 and confirmed Tuesday, 6 April 2021.

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Chairperson

Confirmed on Tuesday, 6 April 2021.

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

<b>ITEM NUMBER</b>	8.1
<b>TITLE</b>	Action List
<b>REFERENCE</b>	1061010
<b>AUTHOR</b>	Chloe IRLAM, Governance Engagement Coordinator

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Jilkmिंगgan Local Authority:

- (a) Receives and notes the Action List; and
- (b) Approves the removal of completed items.

**BACKGROUND****JILKMINGGAN ACTION LIST**

CURRENT ACTIONS						
DATE	ITEM NO	TASK	CURRENT ACTION REQUIRED	RESPONSIBLE DIVISION	UPDATE	STATUS
05.02.19	12.3	Animal Management By-Laws	Development of By-Laws in the Roper Gulf Region	CS&E	Under review/ Consultation	In Progress
08.05.19	11.1	Alcohol Action Initiative Signage	LA to confirm design at next Local Authority Meeting.		Design completed and quotes have been obtained.	Completed
02.02.21	8.1	Cemetery Boundaries	Letter to be sent to JCAC regarding extending the cemetery boundaries	OCEO	A response letter was received from JCAC. It is included in the Incoming Correspondence.	In Progress
LONG TERM / ADVOCACY						
04.12.18	Nil	Bollards	Installation of bollards	IS&P	Approval not given by JCAC	Cancel

**Acronyms**

CS&E Community Services and Engagement  
 IS&P Infrastructure Services and Planning  
 JCAC Jilkmिंगgan Community Aboriginal Corporation

**ATTACHMENTS**

Nil.

**INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE**

**ITEM NUMBER** 10.1  
**TITLE** Incoming Correspondence  
**REFERENCE** 1064138  
**AUTHOR** Chloe IRLAM, Governance Engagement Coordinator

**RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Jilkmिंगgan accepts the Incoming Correspondence.**

Item No.	Date Received	Sender	Sent To	Correspondence Details	InfoXpert Number
01	02/03/2021	Administration Manager, Jilkmिंगgan Community Aboriginal Corporation.	Acting General Manager Corporate Services and Sustainability	Extension of Jilkmिंगgan Cemetery (Letter was received 2/3/21 via email but is dated 14/12/20)	1064135

**ATTACHMENTS**

1 letter RG re Cemetery.pdf



## Jilkminggan Community Aboriginal Corporation

14<sup>th</sup> December 2020

Roper Gulf Regional Council  
Katherine NT 0850

Attention: Dave Heron

Thank you for your letter dated 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2020.

JCAC members and Directors are very much aware of the need to extend our cemetery, we are planning to do so in the near future.

Kind Regards

**Helena Lardy**

Helena Lardy  
Administration Manager

*Jilkminggan Community Aboriginal*

*Corporation* | ICN 2762 | ABN: 40 910 765 182

P: 0889 774 100 | PO Box 232, Katherine NT 0851 | [www.jcac.com.au](http://www.jcac.com.au)



**GENERAL BUSINESS**

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<b>ITEM NUMBER</b>	13.1
<b>TITLE</b>	Elected Member Report
<b>REFERENCE</b>	1064736
<b>AUTHOR</b>	Chloe IRLAM, Governance Engagement Coordinator

**RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Jilkmिंगgan Local Authority receives and notes the Elected Member Report.**

**BACKGROUND**

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

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

**ISSUES/OPTIONS/SWOT****FINANCE COMMITTEE – 27 JANUARY 2021**

The Finance Committee consists of the following members:

- Mayor Judy MACFARLANE
- Deputy Mayor Helen LEE
- Councilor Owen TURNER
- Councilor Samuel EVANS
- Councilor Ossie DAYLIGHT
- Independent Member Mr Awais Ur REHMAN

The following matters were discussed at the Finance Committee meeting;

**AFL NT Opportunity in Matakana and Jilkmिंगgan**

The opportunity for Australian Football League Northern Territory (AFL NT) to host several games in both Mataranka and Jilkmिंगgan was discussed, all members decided it would be a great event for the communities. This report was received and noted due to insufficient time to complete report before the Finance Committee Meeting.

**Liquor Approval**

The Finance Committee approved the Australia Day event, ANZAC Day event, and the Festival Weekend event held in Mataranka to have Bring Your Own (BYO) alcohol permission. This matter is pending a Gazette Notice once license is approved.

**ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL – 24 FEBRUARY 2021****Never Never Ward Report**

Council approved the recommendations from the following Local Authority meetings:

- Mataranka held on 02 February 2021;
- Jilkmिंगgan held on 02 February 2021.

From the minutes of the Jilkmिंगgan Local Authority, Council approved the cancellation of the budget allocation for the basketball roof. Council approved the allocation of \$12,000.00 to purchase and install a new irrigation system for the oval, and \$75,000.00 to purchase a new shade cloth/structure for the playground. Funds are allocated from the Local Authority Project Fund.

From the minutes of the Mataranka Local Authority, Council approved the allocation of \$500.00 towards two ANZAC cut outs and one Coat of Arms cut out to be made by Darwin Sheet Metal, \$50,000.00 towards the costs associated with the upgraded statues in Stan Martin Park, and approved to allocate all remaining funds in the Local Authority Project Fund to be used for a new oval irrigation system. Funds are allocated from the Local Authority Project Fund.

Council accepted the resignation submitted by Simon Baker from the Jilkmिंगgan Local Authority and approves the re-election to fill the vacancy.

#### UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS

28 April 2021	8:30am	<b>Ordinary Meeting of Council</b>	The Mataranka Community Hall
26 May 2021	8:30am	<b>Roads Committee Meeting</b>	RGRC Support Centre, Katherine
26 May 2021	10:30am	<b>Finance Committee Meeting</b>	RGRC Support Centre, Katherine

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

#### MEETINGS ATTENDED BY THE MAYOR

<b>February</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jilkmिंगgan Local Authority Meeting - 02 February 2021</li> <li>Mataranka Local Authority Meeting - 02 February 2021</li> <li>Ngukurr Local Authority Meeting - 04 February 2021</li> <li>Urapanga Local Authority Meeting - 04 February 2021</li> <li>Beswick Local Authority Meeting - 08 February 2021</li> <li>Manyalluk Local Authority Meeting - 08 February 2021</li> <li>Barunga Local Authority Meeting - 09 February 2021</li> <li>LGANT Meeting – 22 February 2021</li> <li>Ordinary Meeting of Council – 24 February 2021</li> </ul>
<b>March</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Roads Committee Meeting – 24 March 2021</li> <li>Finance Committee Meeting – 24 March 2021</li> </ul>
<b>April</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jilkmिंगgan Local Authority Meeting – 06 April 2021</li> <li>Mataranka Local Authority Meeting – 06 April 2021</li> </ul>

#### FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Nil.

#### ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

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<b>ITEM NUMBER</b>	13.2
<b>TITLE</b>	Council Services Report
<b>REFERENCE</b>	1057802
<b>AUTHOR</b>	Samantha WRIGHT, SASO Mataranka

**RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Jilkmिंगgan Local Authority receives and noes the Council Services Report.**

**BACKGROUND  
CORE SERVICES****111 – Councils Services General**

- We are pleased to report the Jilkmिंगgan is starting off the New Year with a full crew. I would like to welcome our new SASO Samantha Wright, Municipal Supervisor Ryan Burt and Municipal Officer Lewis Roy
- Everyone seems to be settling into their new roles very well.
- It is a great start to the year to be back at full strength

**160 – Municipal Services**

- All Municipal Services are going well.
- We are looking into improved ways to irrigate our oval and have obtained the quotes needed to install the Radio Receiver Modules which can be operated by phone. This will help save on water and keep our oval green.
- We would also like to say a huge thank you to the CDP for the wonderful effort put into the gardens at the front of the building.

**AGENCY SERVICES****314 – Community Development Program (CDP)****348 – Library****350 – Centrelink**

- We are pleased to report we have 2 Centrelink agents at Jilkmिंगgan. Mick Mac and Sam Wright who is currently in training

**404 – Indigenous Sports and Recreation****OTHER / MISCELLANEOUS**

Nil.

**ISSUES/OPTIONS/SWOT**

Nil.

**FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

Nil.

**ATTACHMENTS**

There are no attachments for this report.

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

<b>ITEM NUMBER</b>	13.3
<b>TITLE</b>	Local Authority Member Attendance Report
<b>REFERENCE</b>	1063281
<b>AUTHOR</b>	Chloe IRLAM, Governance Engagement Coordinator

**RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Jilkmिंगgan Local Authority receives and notes the Local Authority Member Attendance Report.**

**BACKGROUND**

At the 2 February 2021 Mataranka Local Authority Meeting (resolution number 1/2021) the attendance of members was discussed and it was noted that a report monitoring attendance be supplied to the Local Authority.

Subsection 9.4 of the *Local Government Act* states '*that the council must give consideration to revoking an appointment where a member is absent, without permission of the local authority, from two consecutive meetings of the local authority.*'

These Guidelines are made by the Minister under Parts 5.1A and 19.10 of the *Local Government Act*

Local Authority Meeting Members	3 Dec 2019	4 Feb 2020	2 June 2020	4 August 2020	6 Oct 2020	1 Dec 2020	2 February 2021
Mayor Judy MacFarlane	P	AP	CANCELLED	P	CANCELLED	P	P
Councillor Annabelle Daylight	NO AP	P		P		P	NO AP
Councillor Ossie Daylight	NO AP	P		P		NO AP	P
Phyllis Conway (resignation received 08/02/2021)	NO AP	P		NO AP		NO AP	-
Lisa McDonald	P	P		P		P	P
Shirley Roberts		P		NO AP		P	P
Anne-Marie Woods	P	P		P		P	P
Wayne Roy	P	P		NO AP		P	P
Simone Baker	NO AP	P		NO AP		NO AP	NO AP

**Key**

P Present at LA

AP Apology given and accepted by LA

NO AP Did not attend LA and did not tender any apologies

**ISSUES/OPTIONS/SWOT**

Nil.

**FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

Nil.

**ATTACHMENTS**

There are no attachments for this report.



**GENERAL BUSINESS**

<b>ITEM NUMBER</b>	13.4
<b>TITLE</b>	Town Priorities 2021-22
<b>REFERENCE</b>	1064772
<b>AUTHOR</b>	Naomi HUNTER, Executive Manager

**RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Jilkminggan Local Authority:**

- (a) Provides any updates to be included to the Town Priorities;**
- (b) Accepts the amendments to the Town Priorities listed in this report; and**
- (c) Confirms the Town Priorities for inclusion in the 2021/2022 Regional Plan**

**BACKGROUND**

The Regional Plan is published each year to illustrate what Councils plan is for the next 12 months. Council must adopt a Regional Plan for the Financial Year 2021-22 no later than 30 June 2021.

As part of the planning process, the Jilkminggan Local Authority is requested to review its priorities from the previous Financial Year and update the listed priorities for the upcoming Plan. Town Priorities are a way of determining projects that the Community identify as their priority projects.

Below are the updated Town Priorities for the Jilkminggan Local Authority to confirm or further edit. This list along with the Roper Gulf Regional Plan 2021/2022 will be published on the Roper Gulf Regional Council webpage ([www.ropergulf.nt.gov.au](http://www.ropergulf.nt.gov.au)) and open for 21 days for public comment should further amendments be required.

**JILKMINGGAN**

NEVER NEVER WARD

**Other Names:** Djembere, Jilkminggan, and Duck Creek.

**Location:** Jilkminggan is located 138 kilometres south-east of Katherine and 28 kilometres from Mataranka.

**Outstations:** Mole Hill

**Total population:** 301 (2016 Census)

**Total Indigenous population:** 291 (2016 Census)

**Median age:** 23 years (2016 Census)

**Population change since 2011:** 7.5% increase (2016 and 2011 Censuses)

**Services:** Roper Gulf Regional Council provides a range of core, commercial and agency services in Jilkminggan, including road maintenance and repair, traffic management, rubbish collection, maintenance of parks, ovals and gardens, community safety through Community Night Patrol, animal welfare and control, sport and recreation programs, Centrelink facilities and Community Development Program activities.

Located in Jilkminggan are a health clinic, a school and a store. The nearest police station located at Mataranka, is 28 kilometres away.

CORE SERVICES				
PROJECT DETAILS	RESPONSIBILITY, STAKEHOLDERS OR PARTNERS	FUNDING SOURCE	FUNDING OBTAINED	AMENDMENTS TO BE CONFIRMED
Footpaths next to main roads.	RGRC	DESIGN AND DOCUMENTATION STAGE 1	PARTIAL	
Traffic management - Parking area near Art Centre and Clinic.	RGRC	DESIGN AND DOCUMENTATION STAGE 1	PARTIAL	
Dump Road wet area fill.	RGRC	RGRC ROADS	NO	
Light for Basketball court, Cover for Basketball Court.	RGRC	TO BE SOURCED	NO	Has this been completed?
Install lighting for small park behind Council Office, Entry corner where Mangarrayi Road.	RGRC	DESIGN AND DOCUMENTATION STAGE 1	NO	

OTHER SERVICES - ADVOCACY ONLY			
PROJECT DETAILS	RESPONSIBILITY, STAKEHOLDERS OR PARTNERS	FUNDING OBTAINED	AMENDMENTS TO BE CONFIRMED
<p>Sport and recreation precinct (oval, softball, outdoor court, S&amp;R shed) master plan to consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• minor configuration of oval so it can comply with standards to host games</li> <li>• relocation of old softball nets to SE corner of oval area</li> <li>• resolve drainage issues</li> <li>• additional shade tree planting</li> <li>• Public toilet and shower at football grounds for visiting players</li> </ul>	JCAC & RGRC	NO	Has this been completed? Was this funded by LA?
Sports court lighting and covering with a fixed roof	RGRC & JCAC	NO	

<b>New Cemetery and Cemetery Project – headstones and surrounds.</b>	JCAC	YES	Funding received
<b>Formalized Youth and Men's Group Programs.</b>	COMMONWEALTH & NTG	NO	
<b>Water park.</b>	COMMONWEALTH & NTG	NO	Remove?
<b>Mobile phone coverage tower.</b>	COMMONWEALTH & NBN	NO	
<b>More housing to reduce crowding and improved fencing.</b>	NTG	NO	Remove?
<b>Single men's and Women's accommodation.</b>	NTG	NO	Remove?
<b>Outside light At Pumping Station</b>	PWC	NO	
<b>Bough Shed Installation</b>	JCAC	NO	
<b>Light installation for Tank and fencing</b>	JCAC	NO	

It is recommended that the Local Authority members review the above 2020/21 Town Priorities and determine if they are still applicable for 2021/22. In the review members should edit/ change/ remove any items to ensure they are applicable for 2021/22. Members are also asked to add any new priorities.

Additionally, members are requested to approve that the amended list be used as the Draft 2021/22 Town Priorities for the 2021/22 Regional Plan.


#### ISSUES/OPTIONS/SWOT

Nil.

#### FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Nil.

#### ATTACHMENTS

1  Regional Plan and Budget Timetable 2021.pdf

#### ACRONYMS AND DEFINITIONS

JCAC	Jilkminggan Community Aboriginal Corporation
NBN	National Broadband Network
NTG	Northern Territory Government
PWC	Power and Water Corporation
RGRC	Roper Gulf Regional Council

# Regional Plan and Budget Timetable 2021



	Task	Requirement	Start Date
1	LA Agenda is to include a review of Town Priorities	Guideline 8 clause 16.3.2	2/02/21 -17/02/21
2	OMC Agenda is to include a review of council's Town Priorities and LA feedback		24/02/21
3	<b>Operational Plan due for each Division/department - sent to Executive Manager</b>		08/03/21
4	KPI Finalised @ EMT		10/03/21
5	<b>2 Day Managers Forum to include:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Budget Workshop session</li> <li>Managers to present departments Operational Plans</li> <li>Regional Plan Working Session - Managers are to meet to review council's Regional Plan relevant to their roles at Managers Forum</li> </ul>		<b>15/3/21 – 16/3/21</b>
6	First draft budget review- SLT		31/03/21
7	LA Agenda to finalise and approve Town Priorities		06/04/21 - 21/04/21
8	Mayor and CEO message is to be finalised		23/04/21
9	Draft Regional Plan is to be reviewed by Executive Management Team minus finalised LA Town Priorities		06/04/21 – 09/04/21
10	OMC Agenda is to include the <b>FINALISED DRAFT</b> Regional Plan including draft budget before beginning the public consultation period		28/04/21
11	Advertise and make accessible, on council's website and available at council's public office, the draft Regional Plan and invite submissions for at least 21-days from the date the plan and budget become available	Local Government Act sections 24(2) and 200(c)	29/04/21 - 20/05/21
12	Second draft budget review - SLT		13/05/21 – 14/05/21
13	Present <b>FINAL DRAFT</b> budget to FCM		26/05/21
14	LA Agenda is to include a Final review of the draft Regional Plan with photos	Local Government Act section 53D(e)  Guideline 8 clause 16.3.4	1/06/21 -23/06/21
15	LA Agenda is to include a review of the draft budget priorities for the LA	Local Government Act section 53D(f)	1/06/21-23/05/21

		Guideline 8 clause 16.3.5	
16	Present final draft budget to ACM		9/06/21
17	CEO, following a minimum 21-day public consultation period, is to finalise the Regional Plan and budget for council consideration		3/06/21
18	OMC Agenda is to include <b>FINAL</b> consideration and resolution to adopt the Regional Plan	<i>Local Government Act</i> sections 23 and 24(1)	16/06/21
19	OMC Agenda is to include final consideration and resolution to adopt the budget accompanying the Regional Plan NOTE the adopted budget must include separate budgets for each local authority area detailing expenditure by program and account category	<i>Local Government Act</i> section 128(1) Guideline 8 clause 20.3	
20	OMC Agenda is to include consideration and resolution to adopt Elected Member and LA Member Allowances and expense payments or reimbursements	<i>Local Government Act</i> sections 71, 72 and 127(2)(f) Guidelines 2 and 8	
21	OMC Agenda is to include consideration and resolution to declare rates & CEO certification verifying the Rates Book	<i>Local Government Act</i> section 155	
22	CEO is to notify the Agency in writing of the adopted budget and provide a copy of the Regional Plan including the long-term financial plan NOTE the adopted budget notification and a copy of the Regional Plan is to be sent to EO of Chief Minister & Cabinet and <a href="mailto:lg.compliance@nt.gov.au">lg.compliance@nt.gov.au</a> /	<i>Local Government Act</i> sections 24, 126(5) and 128(3)(b)	By 30/06/21 following adoption
23	CEO is to ensure council's Regional Plan is accessible on council's website and available at council's public office	<i>Local Government Act</i> sections 22 and 200(c) and (f)	
24	CEO is to ensure council's adopted budget is accessible on council's website, available at council's public office and publish the budget availability details in a newspaper circulated in the area	<i>Local Government Act</i> sections 128(3)(a) and (c), and 200(ha)	
25	CEO is to ensure the notice of rates is accessible on council's website, available at council's public office and published in a newspaper circulated in the area within 21-days of declaration of rates	<i>Local Government Act</i> sections 158 and 200(j)	By 30/06/21 within 21-days of declaration

## Note:

- This timetable includes a Managers Forum which is not a legislative requirement.
- This timetable includes a Draft Regional Plan and budget being put before council twice (at tasks 3 and 9) which is not a legislative requirement before resolutions are passed.
- Councils will have Briefing Day prior to adoption of the Regional Plan and budget on 23/06/20 to make any last minute changes.
- The Regional Plan must contain:
  - a service delivery plan and council budget;
  - a long-term community or strategic plan; and
  - a long-term financial plan which relates to a period of at least four financial years (*Local Government Act* sections 23 and 126).

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

<b>ITEM NUMBER</b>	13.5
<b>TITLE</b>	Council Financial Report for the period 01.07.2020 - 28.02.2021
<b>REFERENCE</b>	1078015
<b>AUTHOR</b>	Elvisen SOUNDRON, Management Accountant

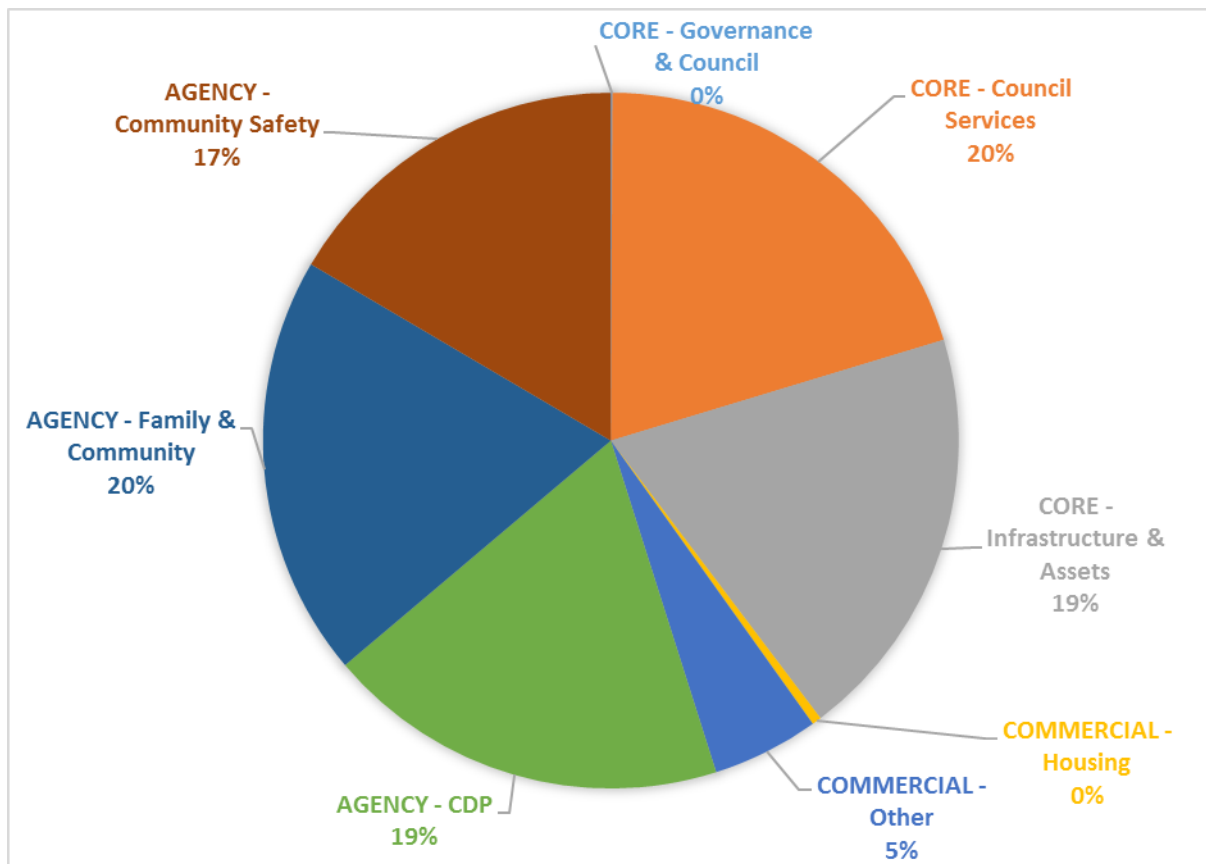
**RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Jilkmिंगgan Local Authority receives and notes the Financial (Expenditure) Report for the period July 2020 to February 2021**

**BACKGROUND**

As per the Guideline 8 of the *Local Government Act 2008*, the council is to submit a current financial report of actual expenditure against the latest approved budget for the Local Authority area.

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

**ISSUES/OPTIONS/SWOT**

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

**Operating Income:**

The total operating income received as at date is \$1.02 million which is leading to a variance of \$110,447. The main activity contributing to this variance is Activity 138 – Local Authority Project Funding. As per recent Australian accounting regulations, tied funds can only be recognized as income once projects are completed. Income will be recognized once Local Authority projects progresses at further stages.

**Operating Expenditure:**

The total underspend is \$490,283. The major expense category contributing to this underspend is employee expenses due to vacancies and staff absences across several departments in the community.

**Capital Expenditure:**

The total underspend for capital expenditure is \$295,712. Please see the project register for further detail.

**FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**


Nil.

**ATTACHMENTS**

1   Expenditure Report 28.02.2021.pdf



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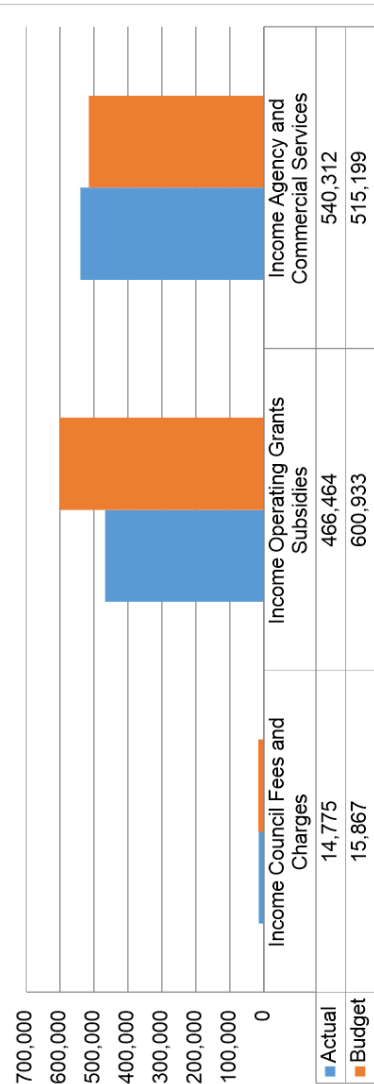
<b>Roper Gulf Regional Council</b>					
Financial Report as at 28-February-2021					
Jilkmिंगगन					
<i>Income</i>	Year to Date Actual (\$)	Year to Date Budget (\$)	Variance (\$)	Full Year Budget (\$)	Explanation
Income Council Fees and Charges	14,775	15,867	-1,091	23,800	
Income Operating Grants Subsidies	466,464	600,933	-134,469	901,400	The cause in variance is mainly from Local Authority funding. As projects are completed, income will be recognised from liability.
Income Agency and Commercial Services	540,312	515,199	25,113	850,158	The surplus is mainly due to income received for CDP outcome payments. This will be amended at the next budget revision.
<b>Total Operating Income</b>	<b>1,021,552</b>	<b>1,131,999</b>	<b>-110,447</b>	<b>1,775,358</b>	
<b>Operating Expenditure</b>					
Employee Expenses	546,544	812,215	-265,671	1,218,322	The major underspend is due to vacancies and staff absences in Municipal services and creche.
Contract and Material Expenses	99,850	149,504	-49,655	224,256	The underspend is mostly from Local Authority Projects
Fleet, Plant & Equipment	26,199	37,833	-11,634	56,750	The underspend is mainly due to underspend in Fuel for fleet in the community
Other Operating Expenses	40,243	88,450	-48,207	132,675	The underspend is mostly due less expenses incurred for protective equipment. Furthermore we have yet to receive the lease invoice from JCAC.
Internal Cost Allocations	523,787	636,443	-112,656	959,665	The underspend is mostly due to some unallocated internal cost for creche. This will be processed at the end of the financial year
Local Authority Meeting Allowance	903	3,363	-2,460	5,044	
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>1,237,526</b>	<b>1,727,809</b>	<b>-490,283</b>	<b>2,596,713</b>	



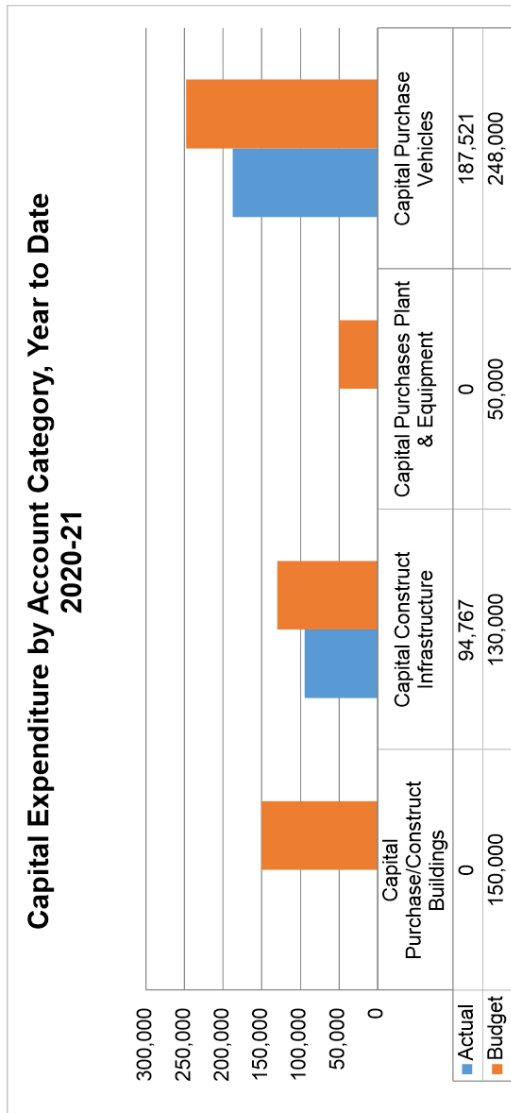
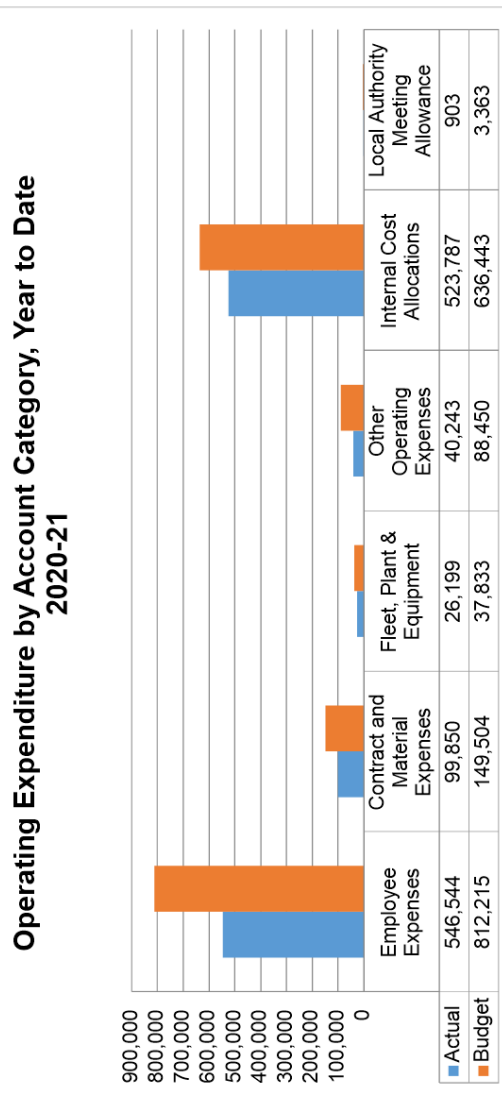
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<b>Operating Surplus/Deficit</b>	<b>-215,974</b>	<b>-595,810</b>	<b>379,836</b>	<b>-821,355</b>	
<b>Capital Funding</b>					
	0	0	0	0	
<b>Capital Expenditure</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	
Capital Purchase/Construct Buildings	0	150,000	-150,000	175,000	Please see project register
Capital Construct Infrastructure	94,767	130,000	-35,233	130,000	Please see project register
Capital Purchases Plant & Equipment	0	50,000	-50,000	50,000	Please see project register
Capital Purchase Vehicles	187,521	248,000	-60,479	248,000	Please see project register
<b>Total Capital Expenditure</b>	<b>282,288</b>	<b>578,000</b>	<b>-295,712</b>	<b>603,000</b>	
<b>Net Operating Position</b>	<b>-498,262</b>	<b>-1,173,810</b>	<b>675,548</b>	<b>-1,424,355</b>	Please note that a significant portion of the expenditure are funded by Council's reserve. Furthermore Grants and rates are received in a consolidated account. Grants Managers will use funding as required for the delivery of services for the community.

### Operating Income by Account Category, Year to Date 2020-21



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**GENERAL BUSINESS**

<b>ITEM NUMBER</b>	13.6
<b>TITLE</b>	Local Authority Projects Update
<b>REFERENCE</b>	1079078
<b>AUTHOR</b>	Keerthi KUMARAWADU, Projects Coordinator

**RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Jilkminggan Local Authority receives and notes the Local Authority Projects Update.**

**BACKGROUND**

Since 2014 the Jilkminggan Local Authority has received a total of \$300,931.00 from the Northern Territory Government for the Local Authority Project Fund. Annual allocation is based on a formula related to population. To date the Jilkminggan Local Authority has allocated \$284,770.00 including surplus funds available from completed projects.

**Current Projects**

The Local Authority's outstanding expenditure is related to:

- **Playground installation** – Playground installation was completed 16 January 2021 in lot 69 Jilkminggan Community. It was recommended by the Playground inspector to install soft fall for the fitness equipment area as well. Carried out the feasibility options comply with Australian Standards and within the budget. Supplier submitted a quotation for soft fall rubber which is more economical and user friendly for the outdoor fitness area.
- **Basketball Shade Shelter** - An investigation into the design and construction of a shade shelter over the basketball courts at the sport and recreation hall has commenced and the existing basketball court is in the middle of the two different lot numbers. RGRC Projects team working on to consolidate the two lots in order to obtain services to the site and received the following outcome from the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics:

Consolidation of Admin lot 77 & 89 is not available because:

1. Proposal is not able to meet Clause 6.6.2 (Consolidation) of the NT Planning Scheme 2020;
2. Lots were created under different legislation; and
3. Land tenure of the two parcels differs. Lot 77 is under Mangarrayi Aboriginal Land Trust and Lot 89 is under Jilkminggan Community Aboriginal Corporation.

It is therefore recommended that the project be cancelled and the \$ 75,000 allocated in be repurposed to other LA priorities.

**Unallocated Funds**

The Jilkminggan Local Authority currently has \$55,293.55 to allocate to new projects.

**ISSUES/OPTIONS/SWOT**

Nil.

**FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

Attached report provides financial information

**ATTACHMENTS:**

- 1 Jilkminggan Gym Equipment Soft Fall Rubber Quote.pdf
- 2 LA Projects.docx



## QUOTE 0194

8<sup>th</sup> March, 2021

Roper Gulf Regional Council

Att Keith,

Thank you for the opportunity to quote you to supply & install Soft Fall Rubber at Jilkmिंगgan Gym Equipment area.

• Site Preparation	\$ 1850.00
• Concrete Edge @ 65mm x 100mm x 100mm	\$ 2750.00
• 100mm Sub Base (Compacted Cracker Dust)	\$ 1300.00
• Supply Soft Fall Rubber x 2 colours of red & blue	\$12995.00
• Install Soft Fall Rubber	\$ 3420.00
• Mobilization	\$ 803.00
• Travel	\$ 1190.00
• Misc – temp fencing	\$ 600.00

Total \$24908.00

GST \$ 2490.80

**Grand Total \$27398.80**

Regards,

Dean David

**SAFETY 1<sup>st</sup>**

**NEVER 2<sup>nd</sup>**

Jilkmिंगgan Local Authority Project Funding				28 February 2021
Funds received from Department				
			\$	300,931.00
Funds allocated to projects by Local Authority Members				
			\$	284,770.00
Surplus/(Deficit) from completed projects				
			\$	39,132.55
<b>Unallocated remaining funds</b>			<b>\$</b>	<b>55,293.55</b>
Date Approved Project ID	Projects	Project Budget	Actual Expenditure	Project Status
6/8/2019 1613801	Playground at the Sport and Recreational Hall Lot 69	\$ 57,000.00	\$ 32,850.00	LA has identified Lot 24. No land tenure. Proposed back to previous lot 69. Playground installation commencing on 13 November 2020. Playground installation completed. Waiting on Final playground inspector certification and report. Additional soft fall needs to be installed in out door fitness equipment area. Currently looking for feasibility options.
2/02/2021	Auto irrigation	\$ 12,000.00		
2/02/2021	Shade Structure over Playground	\$ 75,000.00		
	Total for current projects in progress	\$ 144,000.00	\$ 32,850.00	
	Total for completed projects	\$ 140,770.00	\$ 100,227.52	
	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$ 284,770.00</b>	<b>\$ 133,077.52</b>	

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

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<b>ITEM NUMBER</b>	13.7
<b>TITLE</b>	Community Development Programme
<b>REFERENCE</b>	1079140
<b>AUTHOR</b>	Janette HAMILTON, Community Development Program Regional Manager

**RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Jilkmिंगgan Local Authority receives and notes the Community Development Program (CDP) report**

**BACKGROUND**

Jilkmिंगgan CDP currently have 89 Job Seekers on the caseload, this number staying steady now for the last few months. Full CDP services are back up and operating in Jilkmिंगgan Community.

**ISSUES/OPTIONS/SWOT**

CDP Job Seekers numbers for activities has been gradually increasing due to compliance action being able to be applied. CDP Participants have continued with the flower garden project at the Council Office yard which is looking fantastic.

The welding course was a great success with good numbers (15) participating, there was a slight disruption to course delivery when Donkey Flat flooded a few times but this didn't impact the course being completed.

19 Women participants have enrolled and commenced in the Cert II Family & Wellbeing course, great feedback so far with this course being delivered.

19 Participants also utilized DriveSafe when they attended Jilkmिंगgan Community with a variety of Learners and Provisional Licences being attained.

2 new mowers and whipper snippers have been purchased for Jilkmिंगgan CDP to assist in keeping the community mowed and tidy.

Training still to come for Jilkmिंगgan:

- Commencing 31.05.21                      Cert II Civil Construction
- Date TBA                                      White Card

Some issues impacting activity attendance is the inability to purchase takeaway alcohol in Mataranka so there has been some participants that have semi relocated to Katherine and with others completing the dangerous drive down the Stuart Hwy to Larrimah to purchase alcohol. This is something that needs to continue to be raised with the Local Police, Safety Action Group and the Community as a whole.

**FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

Nil.

**ATTACHMENTS**

There are no attachments for this report.

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

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<b>ITEM NUMBER</b>	13.8
<b>TITLE</b>	Roper Water Resource Assessment - Conducted by CSIRO
<b>REFERENCE</b>	1079304
<b>AUTHOR</b>	Chloe IRLAM, Governance Engagement Coordinator

**RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Jilkmिंगgan Local Authority receive and note the Roper Water Resource Assessment information provided by CSIRO.**

**BACKGROUND**

The information provided is regarding the Indigenous water values, right, and interest's sub-project of the Roper Water Resource Assessment.







**ISSUES/OPTIONS/SWOT**

Nil.

**FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

Nil.

**ATTACHMENTS**

- 1   Pethie RoWRA\_factsheet.pdf
- 2   Pethie RoWRA\_Indigenous\_factsheet.docx
- 3   Pethie RoWRA\_land suitability\_factsheet\_v4 - Copy.pdf



# Roper River Water Resource Assessment

The Australian Government and CSIRO are partnering to investigate opportunities for water and agricultural development in the Roper River catchment, Northern Territory.

Northern Australia makes a substantial contribution to the Australian economy, particularly through agriculture, mining and tourism.

There are opportunities to unlock significant new investment in the north. This will require confidence about the scale and nature of the opportunities and understanding of the risks involved.

Millions of hectares of soil are potentially suitable for irrigated agriculture across northern Australia but access to water is one of several constraints to development.

Following the successful Flinders and Gilbert Agricultural Resource Assessment and the Northern Australia Water Resource Assessment, CSIRO has been engaged by the Australian Government to assess the opportunities for water and agricultural development in the Roper River catchment in the Northern Territory.

We will work with the Northern Territory government, research partners and communities to complete this assessment by June 2022.

## About the Assessment

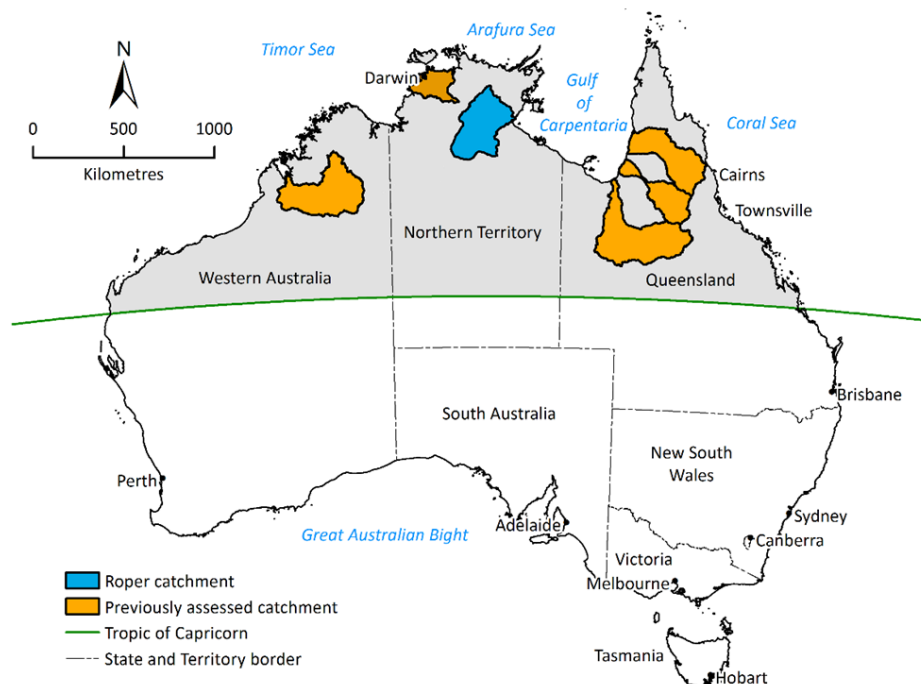
The Roper River Water Resource Assessment will provide a comprehensive and integrated evaluation of the feasibility, economic viability and sustainability of water and agricultural development in the Roper River catchment.

## Assessment goals

The Assessment seeks to:

- evaluate the soil and water resources
- identify and evaluate water capture and storage options
- identify and test the commercial viability of irrigated agricultural and aquaculture opportunities
- assess potential environmental, social and economic impacts and risks of water resource and irrigation development.

While agricultural developments may be the most likely to proceed in the foreseeable future, the Assessment will also consider opportunities for and intersections between different types of potential water-dependent development. For



example, the Assessment will explore the nature, scale, location and impacts of developments relating to tourism and agriculture development in relevant locations.

## Supporting regional decision making and investment

The Assessment aims to support decision making about sustainable regional development by clarifying the scale and nature of the opportunities for agriculture, reducing the uncertainty of investors and regulators, reducing enterprise start-up costs and enhancing the capacity for investors to attract capital.

Where previous assessments have focused on single development activities or assets – without analysing the interactions between them – this Assessment will consider the opportunities presented by the simultaneous pursuit of multiple development activities and assets. By this means, the Assessment will use a whole-of-region (rather than an asset-by-asset) approach to considering development.

Importantly, the Assessment seeks to lower the barriers to investment in regional development by:

- explicitly addressing local needs and aspirations
- meeting the needs of governments as they regulate the sustainable and equitable management of public resources with due consideration of environmental and cultural issues
- meeting the due diligence requirements of private investors by addressing questions of resource reliability and profitability at a broad scale.

The Assessment will not recommend one development over another nor assume any particular development pathway. It will provide a range of possibilities and the information required to interpret them, consistent with regional values and aspirations. The Assessment does not seek to replace any planning processes, and will not recommend changes to existing plans or planning processes. The results, however, can be used to inform planning decisions by citizens, councils, investors and state and federal governments. Please contact the relevant government department to discuss matters such as water allocation, clearing, change of land use including diversification permits, and land development approval processes.

## Assessment activities

This is a complex project, drawing on the capabilities of scientists across Australia. Key activities include:

- Surface water modelling to assess the volume and reliability of river flow
- Topographic mapping and automated terrain analysis to identify and evaluate water storage and development options
- Mapping land and soil suitability and production risks across agricultural, horticultural, bush foods and pastoral systems and for aquaculture developments
- Assessing cropping and crop-forage-livestock systems with potential to generate attractive investment returns
- Cost-benefit analysis for multiple uses and users of water
- Identifying logistical and value chain assets, opportunities and bottlenecks
- Understanding the trade-offs between water resource development and freshwater environments
- Identifying Indigenous aspirations and water values
- Examining the potential for co-benefits to other industries (i.e. tourism) arising from irrigated agriculture
- Information and data distribution through Web-based information products, reports and regular community-based information sessions.

*The Roper River Water Resource Assessment is an initiative of the Australian Government.*

### CONTACT US

t 1300 363 400  
+61 3 9545 2176  
e [csiroenquiries@csiro.au](mailto:csiroenquiries@csiro.au)  
w [www.csiro.au](http://www.csiro.au)

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We innovate for tomorrow and help  
improve today – for our customers,  
all Australians and the world.  
We imagine. We collaborate. We innovate.

### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

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t +61 478 301 197  
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w [www.csiro.au/nawra](http://www.csiro.au/nawra)

The Roper River Water Resource Assessment is a research project being led by the CSIRO in partnership with the Australian Government. Scientists from the CSIRO are investigating opportunities for water, agricultural, and other related development in the catchment. The work includes research focused on Indigenous people – the water values they have, the rights they hold, and the development goals that are important to them.

## Listening to Indigenous views on development opportunities that rely on water

Indigenous people have lived on the country for many thousands of years. Throughout that time they have developed knowledge of the landscape and strong connections with it. Ongoing economic development can provide jobs and income opportunities for people. However, it can also put new pressure on the country as the number of people and businesses grow and water use increases.

The CSIRO is looking at development possibilities, but the CSIRO is not a developer and it is not proposing or promoting water development. Its role is to provide better information for the government and communities when considering future water, agricultural and other related water-dependent development options such as tourism and bush foods. One part of this role is listening to interested Indigenous people about what water issues exist and what kind of future development path they want for themselves and their communities.

Indigenous views might include the need to protect important or sacred places and to keep enough water in the rivers for Indigenous hunting and fishing. It might also include goals and ideas for Indigenous economic development. This could be an Indigenous-run business that needs a secure water supply or Indigenous employment in businesses run by others that also need water. This valuable information will provide foundations for better future communication between Indigenous people, government planners, and private developers in the future.

## What does the activity involve?

Pethie Lyons will be leading the research activity that will gather these vital Indigenous views, values interests, and ideas. She is supported by Marcus Barber, who has worked in the catchment in the past, and on water rights and interests elsewhere in the Northern Territory. The team is interested in talking to Indigenous people with cultural connections to the Roper catchment or who are living in and around towns and communities like Mataranka, Jilkminggan, Ngukurr, Minyerri, Beswick, and Barunga. The main research will happen from late 2020, with results shared in late 2022.

As part of their work, the CSIRO team will consult with local Indigenous leaders, organisations, pastoral stations, and land councils about the best way for local people to communicate with them. The team will follow free, prior and informed consent processes at all times during their work. They can meet with interested people in formal meetings, smaller groups, or as individuals. Visits with Indigenous people to important places are also valuable as they will assist in better understanding the country and its people.

Near the end of the project, the Indigenous research project team will write a report about the Roper catchment and hold community workshops to share the information and invite feedback. They will also share what other CSIRO staff have learnt through their studies of soil, water, and agriculture. If you are interested in participating or have any questions about this research, you can contact Pethie using the contact details at the bottom of this factsheet.



Marcus Barber

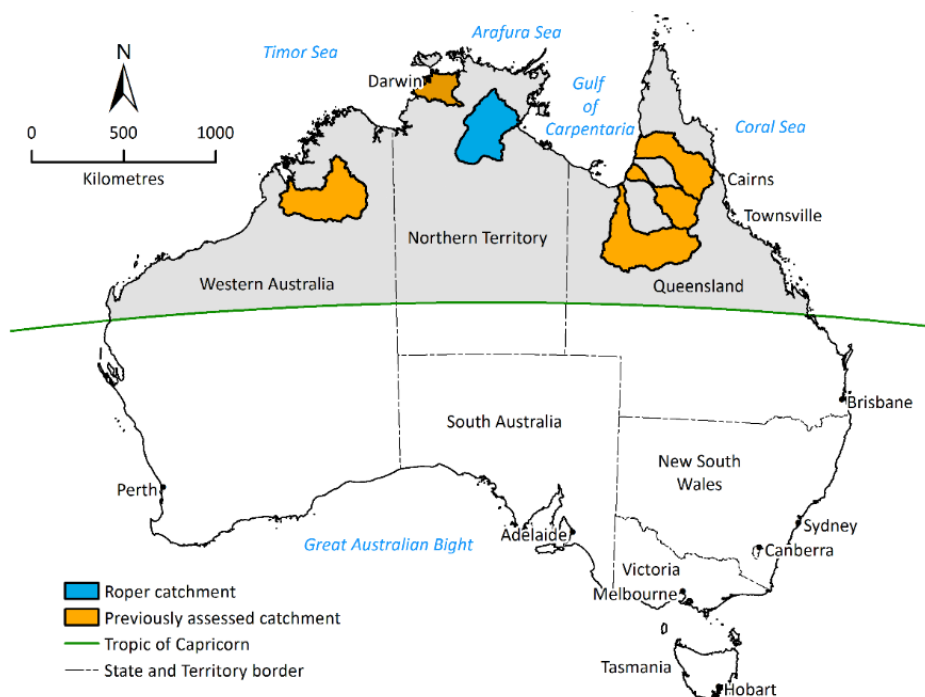


Pethie Lyons

## Extending on work done elsewhere in northern Australia

The CSIRO team has conducted similar work in other priority areas. These are the Mitchell, Flinders and Gilbert catchments in Queensland, catchments surrounding Darwin in the Northern Territory (the Adelaide, Finnis, Mary and Wildman catchments), and the Fitzroy catchment in Western Australia.

In each area, the CSIRO investigated soil and water resources, water capture and storage options, agriculture, aquaculture, and other possibilities, and the risks and impacts of development. The Assessment will not assume any particular development pathway or recommend one form of development over another. It does not seek to replace any planning processes, and will not recommend changes to existing plans or planning processes. The results, however, can be used to inform planning decisions by citizens, communities, councils, investors and state and federal governments.



*The Roper River Water Resource Assessment is an initiative of the Australian Government.*

**As Australia's national science agency and innovation catalyst, CSIRO is solving the greatest challenges through innovative science and technology.**

Attachment 2: A better future for everyone.

### Contact us

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csiroenquiries@csiro.au  
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### For further information

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# Assessing the suitability of land for irrigation

## Part of the Roper River Water Resource Assessment

The Roper River Water Resource Assessment involves different activities that will provide a comprehensive overview and integrated evaluation of the feasibility, ecological, social, cultural, economic viability and sustainability of water, aquaculture and agricultural development across the Roper River catchment. Our researchers will be working with the Northern Territory Government, industry, primary producers and traditional owners to deliver on this project.

This factsheet explains one of these activities – the land suitability assessment.

There are potentially thousands of hectares of soil suitable for irrigated agriculture across northern Australia.

However, access to sufficient water is a constraint for development in this vast region that stretches from the Pilbara to Rockhampton and comprises 40 per cent of Australia's land mass.

In recognition of some of the challenges and opportunities facing northern communities and primary producers, the Australian Government initiated the Roper River Water Resource Assessment.

We will produce maps of soil attributes that help manage the land resources and understand development potential such as erosion, soil water holding capacity, permeability, infiltration. Examples of these data can be found at this website presenting work completed to date in other parts of northern Australia <https://nawra-explorer.csiro.au/>

## Land suitability assessment activity

Assessing the suitability of land is critical to the development and sustainability of productive and economically viable irrigated agriculture. This activity will collect information on soil attributes such as type, structure, pH, carbon and salt content, water holding properties and erodibility. This knowledge of soil types and their attributes will make it possible to evaluate how different soils and parts of the landscape could be economically and sustainability developed for irrigated agriculture.



While some soil and land use assessments have been carried out in the past, key recommendations stated that further soils data were needed before detailed suitability assessments could be conducted, particularly for irrigated agriculture.

## What does the activity involve?

The soil survey component of this activity will include the collection of new field observations and samples to complement the relatively small amount of existing soils data. This will result in the production of new maps indicating the type and extent of soils and their attributes across the region.

A statistical method will be used to identify the best locations to sample soil for the purpose of assessing the scale of the opportunity for irrigation across the area. To interpolate between soil sampling locations requires an understanding of how the broader landscape formed. This requires soil to be assessed not just in the valleys, but also mid-slopes and ridge tops.

Following field collection, the samples will be sent to government scientific laboratories for a range of chemical and infrared analyses of soil properties. The existing and new soils data will then be used, in combination with remotely sensed data collected from satellites, to:

- Develop digital soils and soil attribute maps for the region; and
- Inform the land suitability assessment on a range of irrigated and dryland agricultural production opportunities. This will use land resource information gathered during soil surveys, the results of soil laboratory analysis, and information on flood inundation to assess the suitability options.

Land suitability assessment is based on the underlying assumption that the most limiting factor for each crop and irrigation type is used to determine the overall land suitability rating. The activity will evaluate the land suitability for specific agriculture uses (including aquaculture) within broad enterprise types such as irrigated annual crops, perennial crops and improved pasture. These broad enterprise types were selected because they cover a range of establishment, management and harvest practices.

Investigation of the suitability of specific crop types will also be undertaken. Specific crops are likely to include enterprises such as mangoes, cotton, maize, sugar, peanuts, rice, trees, wheat and sorghum as well as improved pasture and standing fodder.

## Outcomes

One of the goals of the Assessment is to lower barriers to investment in the area by addressing many of the questions that potential investors would have about production systems and methods, yield expectations and benchmarks, and potential profitability and reliability.

However, the Assessment does not seek to replace any planning processes, and will not recommend changes to existing plans or planning processes. The results, however, can be used to inform planning decisions by citizens, councils, investors and state and federal governments.

Please contact the relevant government department to discuss matters such as water allocation, clearing, change of land use, including diversification permits, and land development approval processes.

The land suitability assessment will build on knowledge of soil and land suitability to provide all levels of government and current and potential farmers with an understanding of the irrigation potential of the soils in the catchment. The key products from this activity will be publically available:

- Soils and soil attribute maps. The uncertainty associated with the mapping will also be produced and vary between locations in a particular region according to sampling density
- Land use suitability maps for different crops and irrigation types (again with variable uncertainty).



*The Northern Australia Water Resource Assessment is part of the Australian Government's Agricultural Competitiveness White Paper, the government's plan for stronger farmers and a stronger economy.*

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**GENERAL BUSINESS**

<b>ITEM NUMBER</b>	13.9
<b>TITLE</b>	Major Projects Update
<b>REFERENCE</b>	1079596
<b>AUTHOR</b>	Dave HERON, Acting General Manager Corporate Services & Sustainability

**RECOMMENDATION**

**That the members receive and note the Major Projects Update report.**

**BACKGROUND**

Council undertakes projects within its region ranging from construction of new buildings and public spaces to major upgrades to the road network. In the past the procedures in the progression of these projects and reporting of the projects progress to Council has been haphazard. Management has now established a Project Steering Committee (PSG) and a Gate system to track and report on Council's projects. The membership of this committee will be the CEO, General Manager Infrastructure Services and Planning and Assets and Project Manager. Relevant Project Holders will be invited to attend where necessary.

The object of the gated system is to provide milestone checks throughout the life cycle of a project so that the committee is kept up to date and that it can report back to the Council effectively. An idea can be floated by anyone, whether it is by a Councillor, a Local Authority or by management, at which time the project enters the gate system. As a guide the system is for projects that are over \$ 100,000 or that will create a commissioned asset. The Gates are:

- Gate 1 – Strategic Assessment. The Idea would be developed considering:
  - the goals of the council that are published in the Strategic and Regional Plans.
  - the needs analysis for the asset in the delivery of services
  - Identify risks and opportunities
  - Scope of the project
  - Any budget required to further progress the project
- Gate 2 Preliminary Evaluation. The Concept is developed also considering
  - Concept planning including land tenure
  - Initial budget estimates
  - Possible funding sources
  - Communications to stakeholders
  - Options assessments
  - Delivery Strategy and the need for a Project Control Group
- Gate 3 Business Case. The Project Design is further developed for presentation to Council also considering
  - Consultation and communication strategy
  - Detailed plans
  - Detailed budget for construction
  - Application for grant funding or request for use of council reserves
  - Delivery and procurement strategy
  - Schedule of works and estimated delivery time
- Gate 4 Readiness for Services. The Project Construction is complete and the asset is ready for commissioning also considering

- Hand over strategy
- Operations and maintenance strategy
- Regulatory approvals
- Operational resource strategy
- Lessons learned

A Project must be presented with a recommendation at each Gate to the Project Steering Committee for approval to proceed to the next gate. The relevant Project Holder then proceeds and prepares another report to the PSG for approval to proceed to the next Gate.

### JILKMINGGAN MAJOR PROJECT GATEWAY STATUS REPORT

							Gate #	Project Phase
							Gate 1	Idea
							Gate 2	Concept
							Gate 3	Design
							Gate 4	Construct
Project Name	Gates				Budget 20/21	Actual YTD	Funding	Notes
	1	2	3	4				
Council office upgrades					100,000.00		RGRC	
Roof over Basketball Court					75,000.00		LA	Cancelled
Telecommunications Upgrades					130,000.00	61,917.00	RGRC	
Shade Structure over Playground					75,000.00		LA	

### ISSUES/OPTIONS/SWOT

At its last meeting the Local Authority allocated funds to a Shade Structure over the Playground. This project has been allocated to a Project Coordinator to undertake assessment and design for submission to the Project Steering Committee

### FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Nil.

### ATTACHMENTS

There are no attachments for this report.