

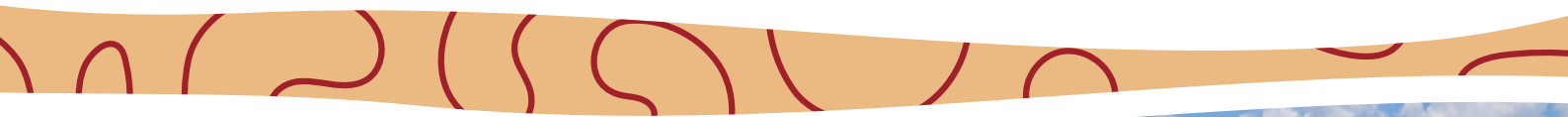
WEST DALY
Regional Council

Yu kanhi thimneme da ngarra putek neki

Welcome to Country

Annual Report

2022-23



West Daly Regional Council acknowledges the Traditional Owners and custodians of the lands on which we live and work, paying our respects to Elders past, present and in the future

Our Brand

Our Council's logo was developed from a concept design created by Annunciata Wilson of Peppimenarti. The communities within the West Daly region are represented by the colours of their dance group.

Communication between communities was sent via message sticks to advise of the passing of a loved one or ceremonies. People would walk to where they needed to be and they would count the number of days it would take by marking the message stick.

Peppimenarti is red (Wangga)

Nganmariyanga is yellow (Lirrga)

Wadeye is black (Thanta)



WEST DALY
Regional Council



DARWIN

Address: 1/4 Albatross Street, Winnellie NT 0820

Telephone: (08) 7922 6403

Email: info@westdaly.nt.gov.au

WADEYE

Address: Lot 463 Perdjer Street, Wadeye NT 0822

Postal Address: C/ Wadeye Post Office, Wadeye NT 0822

Telephone: (08) 8977 8702

NGANMARRIYANGA

Address: Lot 108, Nganmariyanga NT 0822

Postal Address: CMB 30 Palumpa NT 0822

Telephone: (08) 8977 8500

PEPPIMENARTI

Address: Lot 16, Peppimenarti, NT 0822

Postal Address: PMB 56 Peppimenarti NT 0822

Telephone: (08) 8977 8600

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Disclaimer:

While care has been taken to ensure the content in this Annual Report is accurate, we cannot guarantee that is completely error free. We also value your feedback on how we present the information in this report. If you wish to share your feedback with us, please send an email to info@westdaly.nt.gov.au

Warning:

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

Message from the Mayor and CEO



Bere mayor's welcome manenneme – (Mayor's welcome)

Murrinh nukunu thanguu CEO – (Welcome message from CEO)

We are pleased to present the West Daly Regional Council Annual Report for 2022-23.

The West Daly Regional Council extends its utmost respect to the Traditional Owners and all the individuals residing within the vibrant tapestry of the West Daly region. We are profoundly grateful to our leaders for their continuous support, invaluable cultural guidance, and unwavering community counsel, which have played a pivotal role in shaping the delivery of services and enhancing the unique character of West Daly communities.

We stand together, brimming with pride as we reflect upon the achievements of the past 12 months. Our heartfelt appreciation goes out to every individual who has stood beside us in our journey, contributing to the realisation of our milestones. Our unwavering commitment to delivering high-quality, timely, community-centric services remains the cornerstone of our endeavours, a commitment that our dedicated teams live and breathe every day.

It is with a heavy heart that we acknowledge the persistent challenges that continue to afflict the West Daly region, at times placing immense pressure on our communities. These challenges manifest as community tension, unrest, instances of violence, vehicle damage, and unlawful

entries. Regrettably, these issues take a toll on our dedicated teams, our infrastructure, our vision for future development, and our precious environment. The capacity of Council to deliver essential services across our communities has faced unprecedented challenges, often leading to unsafe working conditions and on occasions the withdrawal of our staff to keep them safe. Nonetheless, we have remained steadfast in our efforts to rebuild and revitalise various facets of the Council, with optimism for a more stable and prosperous community.

Throughout the year, our unwavering focus has centred on our people and the services we provide. We have strived to uphold, deliver, and enhance our core service functions. We are doers, and this inherent purpose aligns seamlessly with our values; respect, integrity, honesty, openness, and equity. These values were meticulously reviewed in 2022-23. Our revitalised values better encapsulate our present endeavours and our profound understanding of our role.

Our connection with Homelands continues to strengthen as we invest further in this vital area. We take immense pride in our Community Safety Patrol, recognising the exceptional work they carry out daily to support and assist people within our communities. The Council values

collaboration and cooperation with the Australian and Northern Territory governments and our community stakeholders and we try to synergise efforts for the betterment of our region.

In terms of financial stewardship, we have carefully evaluated our financial position, imposed greater diligence and are implementing measures to optimise investments and exercise fiscal prudence.

Council takes pride in its achievements, attributing them directly to the contributions of local individuals, staff and contractors. Recruiting, supporting and developing our people remains paramount today and into the future.

As we reflect upon this significant year in our region's history, we urge you to consider the delicate balance we look to strike between delivering core services and pioneering innovative approaches to enhance our services. We look ahead with boundless enthusiasm, eagerly anticipating the journey toward a stronger and more vibrant future over the next 12 months and in the years to come.

Together, we aspire to build a legacy that enriches the lives of all those who call the West Daly region their home.

**Mayor Ralph Narburup and
CEO Matthew Eastham ASM**

Vision

Working together to make a difference in our community.

Improving how we live in our communities by creating places that are respectful, peaceful and safe.

Mission

To walk alongside culture, country and people to build a stronger community. We do this by working together, creating real opportunities and providing services and facilities that everyone can use.



Values



We do the right thing



We work together



We look after and encourage each other



We respect each other's feelings, rights and cultures

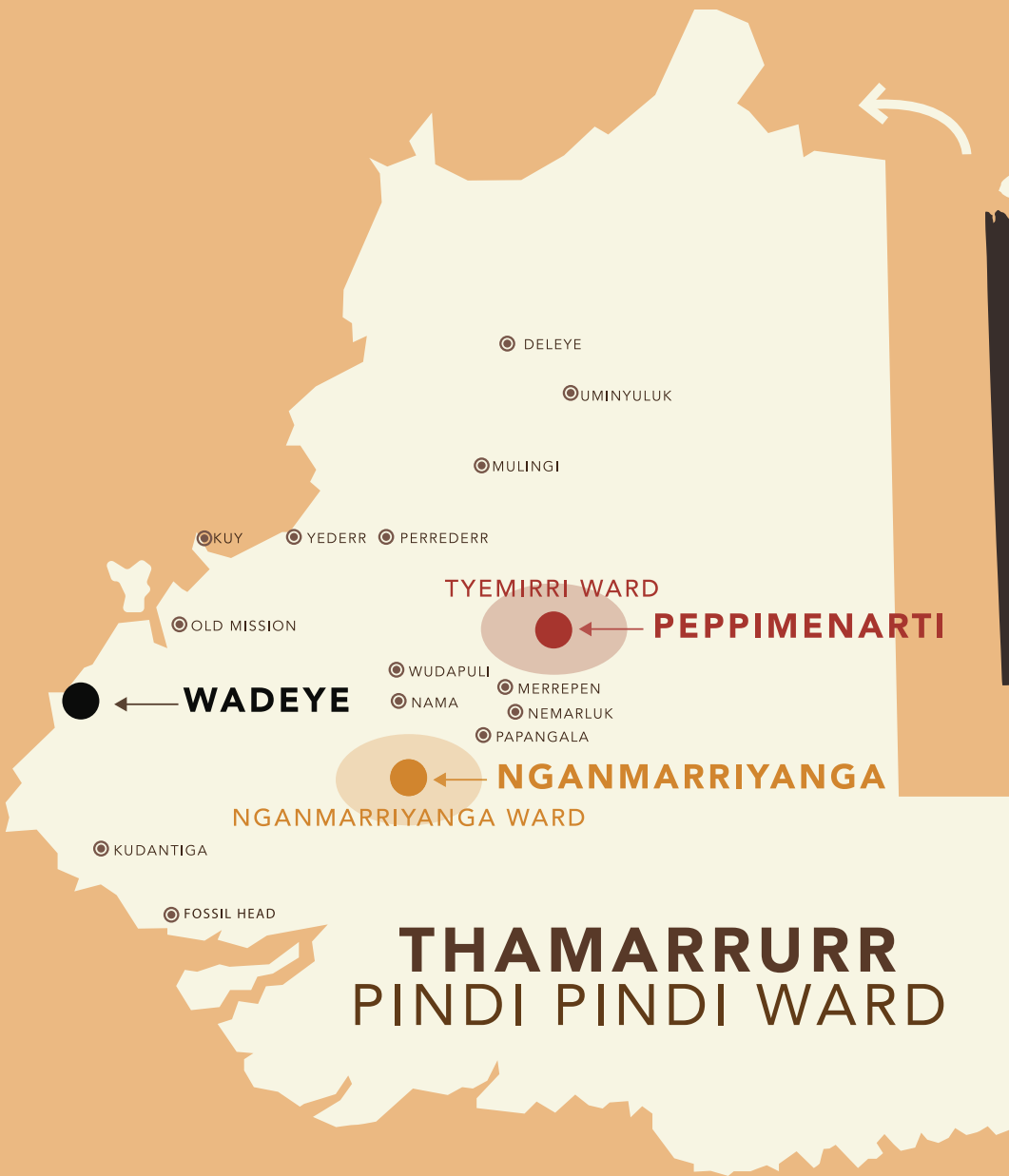


We listen and learn from each other



Wadeye barge landing

Our Community



LAND SIZE:

1,395,171 ha
(13,952 Km²)

⦿ Homelands

West Daly Region overview

The land in which Elected Members, Local Authority Members and residents reside is known as Tharmarrur, which in local Murinh-Patha language means 'coming together to work as one people'. There are three Wards that make up our Council - Thamarrurr/Pindi Pindi, Nganmariyanga and Tyemirri.

Population focus

3,439

Population (as at 30 June 2022, increase of 13 from previous year)

2,664

Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander

26

median age (compared to 33 NT wide)

88.4%

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island population (compared with 26.3% NT wide)

50%

couples with children (compared with 27% NT wide)

84%

language at home other than English

12.8%

unemployed (as at 30 June 2022, compared to 3.9% for Northern Territory)

439.5

SEIFA index of disadvantage

9%

lone person household

74%

households rent

34.7%

of people in younger age groups 0-17 years

6%

people in older age groups 60+ years

Selected subpopulation categories

West Daly Regional Council LGA - Total people (Usual residence)	2021			2016			Change
	Number	%	RDA Northern Territory %	Number	%	RDA Northern Territory %	2016 to 2021
Males	1,490	50.1	50.5	1,554	49.1	51.8	-64
Females	1,486	49.9	49.5	1,613	50.9	48.2	-127
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population	2,631	88.4	26.3	2,875	90.8	25.5	-244
Australian citizens	2,790	93.8	79.8	3,006	94.9	78.6	-216
Eligible voters (citizens aged 18+)	1,804	60.6	58.3	1,810	57.2	56.9	-6
Population over 15	2,148	72.2	79.0	2,117	66.8	78.4	+31
Employed Population	474	81.3	94.4	453	57.5	93.0	+21

Source: RDA Northern Territory economic profile, id., Regional Development Australia NT- Australian Bureau of Statistics 2021 Census. 2021 data unless stated otherwise.

Economic focus (as at 30 June 2022)

The West Daly region is located in the Top End of the Northern Territory.

The region is a place of untouched beauty with expansive beaches that meet mangrove and melaleuca forest with savannah reaching out to the floodplains of the fertile Moyle River.

The region has diverse flora and fauna across a spectacular landscape that is the traditional lands of Thamarrurr. There are two main languages other than English spoken in the West Daly Region - Murrinh Patha and Kriol.

West Daly Regional Council covers around 14,000 square kilometres and is located about 300 to 420 kilometres south-west of Darwin. The area is mainly rural, with three Indigenous communities at Peppimenarti, Nganmariyanga and Wadeye which are managed by West Daly Regional Council (Council).

Council overview

West Daly Regional Council is aligned with the Northern Territory Government's Top End Regional Economic Growth Plan 2022-2030, which has been developed to enhance social and economic opportunities for people throughout the region.

Council works with the Northern Territory Government on their 4 key priorities to achieve this:

- 1** identify and construct key infrastructure to support economic growth
- 2** prioritise Aboriginal capability and leadership
- 3** grow existing industry and skilled local workforce
- 4** identify and activate economic opportunity.

Council plays a key part in the economic and social development of the West Daly region and is extending its services to deliver infrastructure in the region on behalf of the Northern Territory and Australian governments.

In 2022-23, Council focused on growth sectors for the region to create economic and social

opportunities. These included agribusiness, native bush foods, resources, tourism, energy transition and construction and civil works.

With a mission to create real opportunities and provide services and facilities for everyone, our goal is to strengthen Council so it is in a good position to build capability and capacity in our communities, develop a community with good infrastructure, increase jobs, improve wellbeing and support our people to prosper and grow.

West Daly Regional Council continues to work in partnership with the Northern Territory and Australian governments and community allies, such as Thamarrurr Development Corporation, to improve how we live in the community.

Council is focused on strengthening its local decision making and capability of its Local Authorities - working together to make a real difference.

Achievements in 2022-23



Pirrimngiparl Park solar lighting

Council successfully completed a significant project by installing state-of-the-art solar-powered street lights at Pirrimngiparl Park in Wadeye in December 2022. This ambitious initiative represents a remarkable achievement in the Council's ongoing efforts to enhance the community's infrastructure and overall wellbeing.

The installation of these solar-powered lights is a transformative development for Pirrimngiparl Park and was identified as a key priority by the Local Authorities. Wadeye residents and visitors alike will benefit

from this project's positive impact on community safety, accessibility, and overall quality of life. The increased illumination enhances safety within the park, making it a more secure and welcoming place for the community.

The use of solar power for these lights aligns with sustainable and eco-friendly principles, reducing both the carbon footprint.

The solar-powered lights not only contribute to a safer environment but also reduce the Council's long-term operational costs, freeing up resources for other community improvements.

Waste facility upgrades

Significant work has been completed on the Peppimenarti and Wadeye landfill sites. Including:

- Perimeter fencing installed - Wadeye and Peppimenarti
- Construction of waste separation bays - Wadeye
- Clearing and remediation of existing sites - Wadeye and Peppimenarti
- Consultant engaged to complete a Waste Management Strategy with associated engineering and technical studies - across the region
- Purchase of signage - Wadeye and Peppimenarti
- Purchase of site office - Wadeye
- Dedicated waste officer appointed - Wadeye
- General waste block bays installation - Wadeye
- Lockable chemical and listed waste shed installation - Wadeye
- CCTV and solar lighting purchased - Wadeye
- Shipping containers installed - Wadeye based
- Firefighting trailer purchased - Wadeye, Peppimenarti and Nganmariyanga



Christmas weather event

Over the 2022-23 Christmas and New Year period, our region was subject to a significant weather event and cyclone. Cyclone Ellie, a category 1 cyclone, passed straight over Peppimenarti on the morning of 23 December 2022. The damaging winds and heavy rainfall caused widespread damage to trees, roads and cut off access to some Homelands. In response to the severe weather event, Council stood up our Incident Management Team (IMT) and enacted our Emergency Management (EM) plans across the region.

Council's mission during the severe weather event was:

- Protecting people and the community
- Minimising damage to Council and community assets
- Assisting with recovery actions as assigned by the Local Emergency Management Committee Incident Controller.

All staff performed their assigned EM roles well, and thankfully damage to infrastructure was limited. The main impacts were

significant rainfall and isolated flooding due to the tropical low. The culverts at Merrepen/Nermaluk and Emu Point access roads sustained damage which was unavoidable given the sheer volume and velocity of the water flow.

Our Homelands team was instrumental in coordinating emergency medical and food drops to affected and isolated Homelands. Working with the Local Emergency Management Committee (LEMC), our teams assisted with coordinating and managing emergency requests.



Achievements in 2022-23



Culvert repairs

Council started repairs on 3 important culvert at Emu Point, Peppimenarti and Merrepen Access roads that were damaged by previous wet season rain events. Council has completed these works with the majority internal workforce under the direction of our Technical Services Manager. These works have allowed for internal training and upskilling of Council civil teams based out of Peppimenarti.

Homelands structures

The Northern Territory Government engaged Council to install 4 structures to support the large increase in people camping at Fossil Head. The structures were designed to provide increased protection from the wet season wind and rain and allow the continued inhabitation of the Homeland as part of the emergency response.



Comprehensive workplace health and safety training initiatives at West Daly Regional Council

West Daly Regional Council has a comprehensive approach to Workplace Health and Safety (WHS) training. In 2022-23, several key initiatives were undertaken to ensure the safety and wellbeing of staff working and residing in Nganmariyanga, Peppimenarti and Wadeye. These training programs, conducted by Guardian Personal Safety and other organisations, aimed to equip employees with the necessary skills and knowledge to identify, avoid, and minimise exposure to threatening situations, respond to medical emergencies, and manage workplace hazards effectively.

Personal Safety Training focused on enhancing staff's ability to identify potential threats and take proactive measures to minimise

risks while carrying out their duties within communities. This training provided employees with essential skills to protect themselves and their colleagues in potentially hazardous situations.

First Aid Training was a priority for the West Daly Regional Council, with over 20 staff members from all 3 communities receiving instruction in Workplace First Aid, CPR, and Emergency Life Support. This initiative equipped employees with life-saving skills and prepared them to respond effectively to medical emergencies that could arise in their work environments. Large first aid kits were provided for remote work and travel to ensure that staff have the necessary resources to provide immediate assistance in case of injuries or illnesses.

Hazard Identification and Risk Management Training was extended to all Managers, Supervisors, and Team Leaders across the 3 communities. This program aimed to install a strong safety culture within the organisation, ensuring that leaders at all levels could effectively identify and mitigate workplace hazards, ultimately reducing the risk to employees.

Given the remote and often challenging terrain in which the West Daly Regional Council operates, remote 4WD training was offered to those employees most exposed to the risks associated with remote driving. This training provided them with the necessary skills to navigate such environments safely, reducing the potential for accidents and injuries during travel.



Our Governance

The West Daly Regional Council is a local government entity governed by several laws but primarily by the *Local Government Act 2019* and its regulations and guidelines, as well as the *Work Health and Safety Act 2011* and *Fair Work Act 2009*.

Council uses best practice governance to meet its legal and ethical compliance obligation, demonstrate a strong corporate responsibility and deliver services in a timely manner.

Council makes sure its decisions are made within budget and allocates resources appropriately to provide the greatest benefit to our communities.

Our governance structure is designed to enable Council to implement its vision and values with internal controls in place to fulfill its commitments.

This structure holds the Elected Members of Council and our Chief Executive Officer to account by defining their responsibilities and Council's policies, processes and practices. This ensures we can meet our strategic direction and the performance standards set by legislation and governance standards.

Councillors meet every 2 months to discuss and debate local issues, projects and services in our region at an Ordinary Council Meeting, which is open to the public unless dealing with confidential business matters. For more information on Council meetings, see page 18.

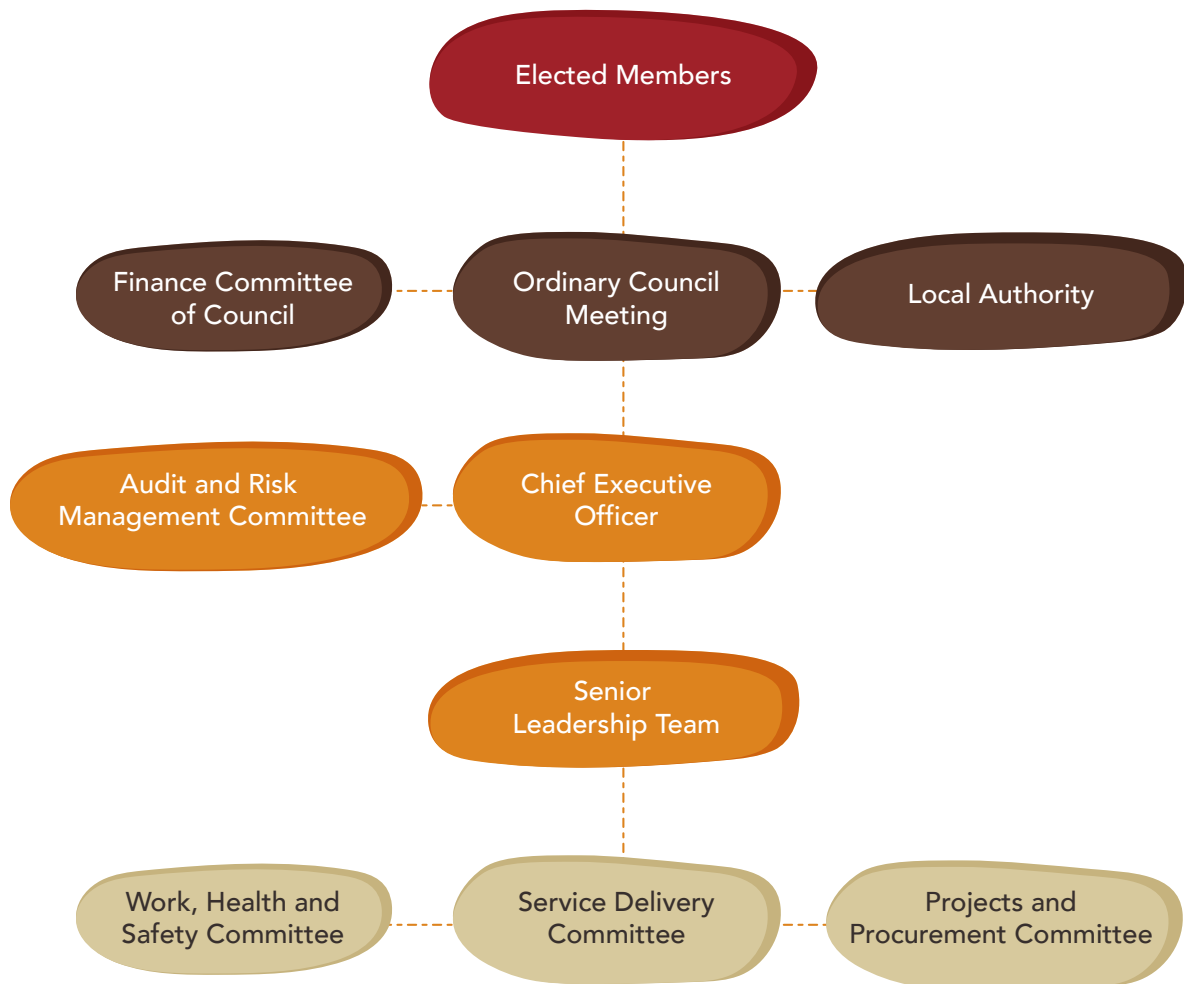
Local Authority meetings are held in the community throughout the year to allow community members to attend and have input into services and opportunities to improve their community. For more information on Local Authority meetings, see page 23.

Council is committed to keeping our people informed by being open and transparent.

Council publishes all meeting agenda papers, relevant policies, plans and minutes, including resolutions, on its website www.westdaly.nt.gov.au



Our Governance Framework



The purpose of the West Daly Regional Council's governance framework is to provide a clear focus on regulatory outcomes, demonstrate a risk-based approach to regulation, inform organisational improvement and improve engagement with stakeholders.

Potential influences on Council's administration and regulatory framework include:

- *Local Government Act 2019*
- Council's policies and procedures
- Council's Audit and Risk Management Committee
- Council's Finance Committee.

Who we worked alongside in 2022-23

The West Daly Regional Council had collaborative partnerships with a wide range of community, business and government organisations to support our community and help deliver services and investment in our region in 2022-23.

Our partners include:



Partnering with AMRRIC for animal management

Animal Management and Rural and Remote Indigenous Communities (AMRRIC) completed vet programs across the region in 2022-23, including Wadeye, Palumpa, Peppimenarti and several Homelands. Council staff assisted AMRRIC in providing these services and this provided an opportunity for training and development across animal welfare and management.

Partnering with EASA on employee wellbeing

West Daly Regional Council has made significant progress in implementing wellbeing programs under the guidance of the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) facilitated by EASA. These initiatives reflect the Council's commitment to promoting the health and overall welfare of its workforce.

The Employee Assistance Program (EAP) provides crucial in-the-moment telephone support for employees dealing with daily relationship challenges, work-related issues, and everyday stress.

It additionally offers in-person professional counseling sessions to address personal, family, or emotional matters.

In 2022-23, the Council provided an impressive total of 46 face-to-face counseling sessions through the EAP program.

To ensure that every new employee is adequately informed and equipped, an employee assistance program information session is now seamlessly integrated into the on-boarding process. This approach ensures that each employee receives essential tools, resources, and information about the EAP.

Our Elected Members

**Kardu kanhi ngarra thumampunkungkarat-neme
welcome puyemamka-neme da ngarra putek kanhi**

The Elected Members of the West Daly
Regional Council welcome you to Country

West Daly Regional Council is made up of the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and 4 Councillors who are elected for a 4 year term. There are 3 electoral wards, with each ward represented by Elected Members based on their population size, including:

- *Nganmariyanga Ward - one representative*
- *Thamarrur/Pindi Ward - 4 representatives*
- *Tyemirr Ward - one representative.*

Role of members

according to the *Local Government Act 2019*

The role of a member of a council is:

- to represent the interests of all residents and ratepayers of the council area; and
- to provide leadership and guidance; and
- to facilitate communication between the members of the council's constituency and the council; and
- to be properly informed to enable participation in the deliberations of the council and its community activities; and
- to ensure, as far as practicable, that the council acts honestly, efficiently and appropriately in carrying out its statutory responsibilities; and
- to ensure that council resources are used prudently and solely in the public interest; and
- to actively monitor the financial affairs of the council.

However, a member of the council has no power to direct or control staff of the council, or to interfere with the management of staff of the council.

A member of the council has a duty to act, at all times, in what the member genuinely believes to be the best interests of the council's constituency.

Elected Members



Ralph Narburup - Mayor
Thamarrurr/Pindi Pindi Ward



Wilfred Harris - Deputy Mayor
Thamarrurr/Pindi Pindi Ward



John Wilson - Councillor
Tyemirri Ward



Terry Sams - Councillor
Nganmarriyanga Ward



Mark Tunmuck-Smith - Councillor
Thamarrurr/Pindi Pindi Ward



Jake Clark - Councillor
Thamarrurr/Pindi Pindi Ward

Our Elected Members – Council meetings and attendance

Council meetings

Ordinary Council meetings and Finance Committee of Council meetings are held in alternating months. This provides Council with 12 meetings per year to provide oversight, governance and guidance.

Council meetings are an open and transparent forum where Councillors discuss and make decisions about how the Council conducts business for the benefit of their constituents.

All Council meetings are open to the public with the only exclusion being for matters that are classified by Council as confidential.

Councillor's attendance

Membership of our Council comprises of Elected Members who are legislatively required to attend every Council meeting and must not (without approval of Council) be absent for more than two consecutive meetings.

Date	Meeting	Quorum	Attendance					
			Mayor	Deputy Mayor	Cr Tunmuck-Smith	Cr Wilson	Cr Sams	Cr Clark
27-Jul-22	Ordinary Council Meeting	Yes	☑	Apology	☑	Apology	☑	☑
24-Aug-22	Finance Committee	Yes	☑ (via phone)	☑ (via phone)	NA	NA	NA	☑
2-Sep-22	Special Council Meeting	Yes	☑	☑	☑	Apology	☑	☑
21-Sep-22	Ordinary Council Meeting	Yes	☑	☑	☑	Apology	☑	Apology
26-Oct-22	Finance Committee	Yes	☑	☑ (via teams)	NA	NA	NA	☑
8-Nov-22	Special Council Meeting	Yes	Absent	☑	☑	☑	☑	☑
11-Nov-22	Special Council Meeting	Yes	☑	☑	☑	☑	☑	Apology
24-Nov-22	Ordinary Council Meeting	Yes	☑	☑	☑ (via teams)	☑	Apology	☑ (via teams)
16-Dec-22	Ordinary Council Meeting / Finance Committee	Yes	☑	☑	☑	☑	☑	Apology
31-Jan-23	Ordinary Council Meeting	Yes	VC	☑	VC	☑	☑	☑
16-Mar-23	Special Ordinary Council Meeting	Yes	☑	Absent approved apology	☑	☑	Apology	☑
29-Mar-23	Ordinary Council Meeting	Yes	☑	☑	☑	☑	☑	☑
27-Apr-23	Ordinary Council Meeting	Yes	☑	☑	☑	☑	☑	☑
25-May-23	Ordinary Council Meeting	Yes	Apology	☑	☑	☑	☑	☑
28-Jun-23	Ordinary Council Meeting	Yes	☑	Apology	Cr Tunmuck-Smith	Cr Wilson	Apology	☑ (via phone)

Our Elected Members – allowances and committees

Councillors' allowances

In accordance with the *Local Government Act 2019*, Councillors are entitled to receive allowances as part of undertaking their duties.

Councillor	Base Allowance	Electoral Allowance	Professional Development & Travel Allowance	Total
Ralph Narburup (Mayor)	\$75,116.00	\$19,771	\$611	\$95,498
Wildred Harris (Deputy Mayor)	\$27,776.00	\$4,943	\$8,691	\$41,410
Mark Tunmuck-Smith	\$13,509.00	\$4,943	\$11,602	\$30,054
Jake Clark	\$13,509.00	\$4,943	\$1,933	\$20,385
Terry Sams	\$13,509.00	\$4,943	\$9,462	\$27,914
John Wilson	\$13,509.00	\$4,943	\$10,691	\$29,143
Total for 2022-23				\$244,404



Our Elected Members – committees

Finance Committee

Held: 24 August, and 26 October 2022, and 22 February 2023

Chair: Ralph Narburup

Members: Deputy Mayor, appointed Elected Member, and Ex Officio staff

Audit and Risk Committee

Held: 1 November 2022

Chair: Cathryn Hutton (independent member)

Members: Ross Coburn (independent member), Mayor, Deputy Mayor, appointed Elected Member

Work, Health and Safety Committee

Held: 8 December 2022, and 15 March 2023

Chair: Chief People and Strategy Officer


Members: Appointed Council staff

Senior Leadership Committee

Held: 8 August, and 11 October 2022

Chair: Chief Executive Officer

Members: Chief Operating Officer, Executive Director Corporate Services, People and Capability Manager, Technical Services Manager, Senior Accountant, Executive Officer, Health Safety and Risk Officer



Service Delivery Committee

Held: 28 September 2022, and 10 March 2023,

Chair: Chief Operations Officer

Members: Technical Services Manager, Manager Council Operations, Health Safety and Risk Officer, Business Support Officer



Projects and Procurement Committee

Held: 30 January 2023

Chair: Chief Financial Officer until 15 May 2023, then Executive Director Corporate Services

Members: Chief Operating Officer, Strategic Grants Coordinator, Governance and Quality Assurance Officer, Business Support Officer



Local Authorities

The West Daly Regional Council has 3 Local Authorities to give people a strong local voice in their community.

Local Authorities are created under the *Local Government Act 2019* to represent regional and remote areas in the Northern Territory to help Councils listen and work with community residents.

They give community members more control over the services that affect them and involve people in planning projects and services the community need and want.

Local Authorities represent people in Wadeye, Nganmariyanga and Peppimenarti and meet 4 times a year to give feedback on service delivery and identify priority community projects.

For the West Daly Regional Council, the 3 Local Authorities:

- enable communities to be closely involved in issues related to local government
- ensure local communities have an opportunity to express their opinions on questions affecting local government
- act as advocates for the local community by taking their views directly back to Council
- advise Council and contribute to Service Delivery Plans for local communities and region
- contribute to developing Regional Plans
- recommend priorities for expenditure in Council's budget

- advise Council on its specific community and social projects that impact their community or region
- alert Council to new and emerging issues affecting the community.

Each Local Authority has a budgetary allocation to fund priority local projects based on community need and want.

Local Authorities are governed in accordance with the provisions of *Ministerial Guideline 1, Local Authorities, Local Government Act, 2019*.

Council publishes all Local Authority meeting agendas, papers, relevant policies, plans and minutes, including recommendations, on its website.

Local Authority members

WADEYE

Mayor Ralph Narburup
Deputy Mayor Wilfred Harris
Councillor Jake Clark
Chairperson Steven Pultchen
Councillor Tunmuck-Smith
Damien Tunmuck
Ken James
Mark Ninnal
Timothy Dumoo
Cyril Ninnal
Basil Parmbuk
Margaret Perdjert
Anne Marie Nudjulu
Gregory Munar

PEPPIMENARTI

Mayor Ralph Narburup
Cr John Wilson
Chairperson Karl Lukonavic
Henry Wilson
Annunciata Wilson
Leaya Smith
Nathan Wilson
Anastasia Wilson

NGANMARRIYANGA

Mayor Ralph Narburup
Councillor Terry Sams
Chairperson Amy Narburup
Jack Wodidj
Lorraine Keringbo
Jimmy Murielle
Moses Wodidj
Jeff Wodidj
Roger Wodidj
John Paul Wodidj
Warren Wodidj
Alex Jacky
Sandra Jacky
Mary Wodidj

Local Authorities – meetings

Wadeye (Thamarrurr / Pindi Pindi Ward) – 8 attendees needed for quorum

Dates	Comments	Summary
17-Aug-22	Cancelled due to insufficient attendance	4 meetings planned 1 Provisional Meeting 1 meeting had a quorum 2 meetings were cancelled
19-Oct-22	No quorum - Provisional	
8-Feb-23	Quorum	
12-Apr-23	Cancelled due to non attendance	

Nganmariyanga (Nganmariyanga Ward) – 6 attendees needed for a quorum

Dates	Comments	Summary
18-Aug-22	Quorum	4 meetings planned 1 meeting had a quorum 3 meetings were cancelled
20-Oct-22	Cancelled due to non attendance	
9-Feb-23	Cancelled due to non attendance	
13-Apr-23	Cancelled due to insufficient attendance	

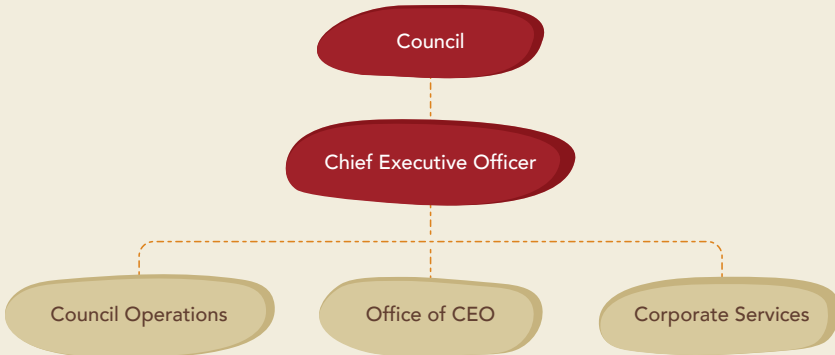
Peppimenarti (Tyemirri Ward) – Greater than half of membership is required for a quorum

Dates	Comments	Summary
19-Aug-22	Cancelled due to non attendance	4 meetings planned 1 meeting had a quorum 3 meetings were cancelled
21-Oct-22	Cancelled due to non attendance	
10-Feb-23	Cancelled due to insufficient attendance	
13-Apr-23	Quorum	



Our People

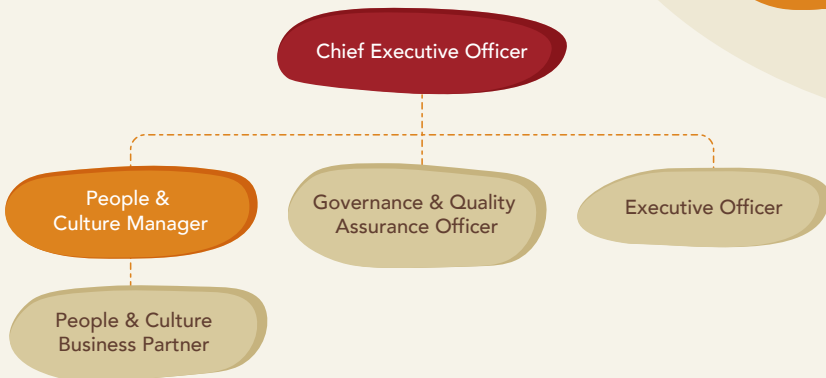
WEST DALY REGIONAL COUNCIL



SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM



OFFICE OF THE CEO

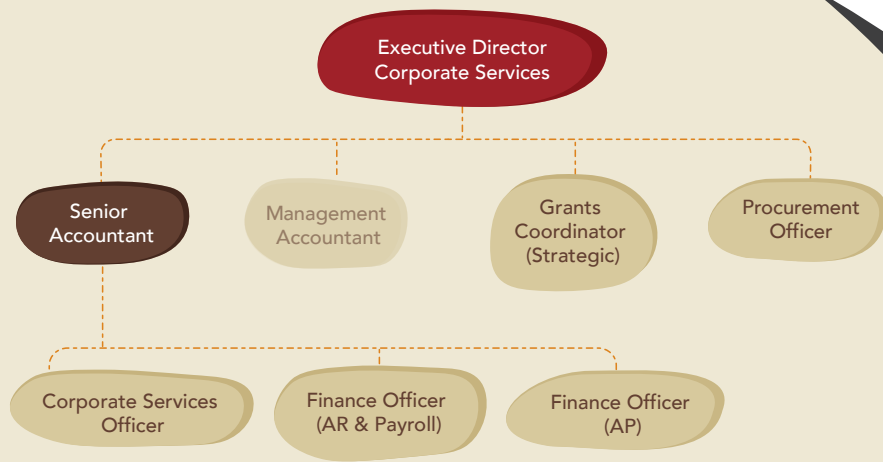




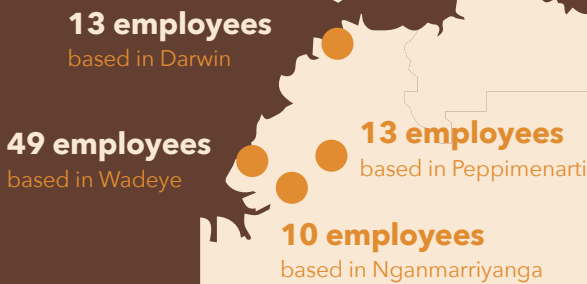
OPERATIONS



CORPORATE SERVICES



Our people

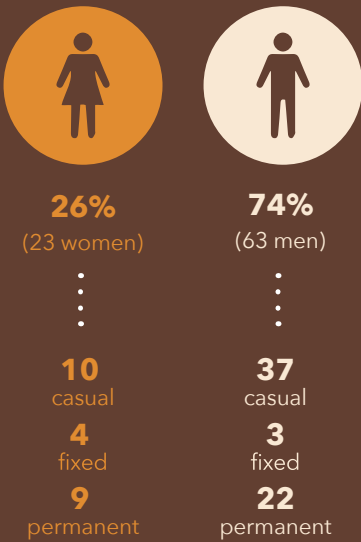


3 employees
have been with us for
more than 15 years

....

1 employee
has been with us for
10 years

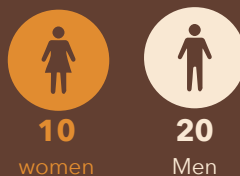
Workforce **gender** split is:



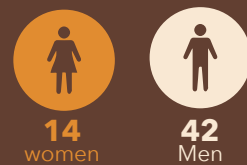
Workforce is:



30
Non Aboriginal and
Torres Strait Islander



54
Aboriginal and Torres
Strait Islander



Grand total:
85



2 apprentice/trainees
23 professional staff and other professions
62 laborers and technical staff

FEATURE STORIES



Leadership program – establishing the baseline

One of the most important functions in every organisation is to increase the confidence and capabilities of its people. Organisations must continually look to the future and identify future challenges and then prepare their people to meet those challenges.

Council recognised that this is critical in the West Daly region, in the context of the continually changing operating environment and priorities Council developed the 'Establishing the Baseline' leadership development program looking at the "what is" and "how do we" of leadership.

Council conducted face to face training workshops across 2 days in December 2022, and February and July 2023.

The workshops focused on communication, team work, collaboration, self-awareness, personal goal setting and lateral thinking.

Team meetings were facilitated by Organisational and Leadership Development Manager Craig Ferguson to identify existing strengths and discuss ways to enhance team performance,

noting that management development should be viewed as a marathon with no firm finish line.

"We explored the need for management approaches to be 'fit for purpose'," said Craig.

"This requires adjusting our management style, approaches and communication to the people we are interacting with. It can't be a one size fits all approach."

Craig met with the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) after each workshop to discuss topics of interest and how our senior leaders can embrace the willingness of their staff to contribute more broadly across the organisation.

Members of the SLT attended each workshop to share interesting insights into their professional backgrounds, personal interests, organisational perspectives and future opportunities.

"We are encouraging an 'open feedback' approach where we actively ask people for feedback on how we can improve," explained Craig.

"This requires adopting a listening mindset without the intent of reply; listen to what the people say and process it with a focus on self-improvement."

In addition to the frontline leadership programs, 2 middle manager programs, several executive leadership workshops and leadership and mentoring was provided in Wadeye, Nganmariyanga, Peppimenarti and Darwin across the 2022-23 year.

Council remains committed to continuing our staff professional development and encouraging our people to embrace opportunities as they present.

Nurturing wellbeing at West Daly Regional Council

Council's Senior Leadership Team recognises the crucial role of mental health in the workplace, especially in remote operating environments.

Suicide Intervention Skills training was delivered in 2022-23, demonstrating Council's proactive stance in addressing critical mental health concerns. This program equipped employees with the essential skills and knowledge to identify and intervene in situations where someone may be at risk of suicide.

Council has made substantial strides in its endeavor to prioritise employee wellbeing, offering a range of programs and initiatives to support their mental health and overall welfare. Council provided a total of 46 counselling sessions in partnership with EASA as well as face to face support and resources. These efforts underscore

Council's commitment to creating a workplace that prioritises the health and wellbeing of its workforce.

Our Service Delivery

The West Daly Regional Council delivered a range of municipal and essential services across three communities, Peppimenarti, Nganmariyanga and Wadeye, and surrounding Homelands in 2022-23.

These services create many local employment opportunities and support developing and maintaining community infrastructure, assets and programs to meet our communities' needs.

	DARWIN	WADEYE	NGANMARRIYANGA	PEPPIMENARTI	HOMELANDS
Municipal services					
Cemetery maintenance		☑	☑	☑	☑
Road infrastructure and maintenance		☑	☑	☑	☑
Sporting facilities		☑	☑	☑	
Homelands municipal services					☑
Parks and gardens		☑	☑	☑	
Waste management		☑	☑	☑	☑
Council infrastructure		☑	☑	☑	
Animal management		☑*	☑*	☑*	☑*
Council engagement					
Local Authorities		☑	☑	☑	
Council engagement					
Community night patrol		☑	☑	☑	
Bus services		☑			
Library services		☑		☑	
Swimming pool		☑		☑	
Airstrip maintenance services		☑	☑	☑	
Centrelink services			☑	☑	
Post office agency			☑	☑	
Street lights		☑	☑	☑	
Support services					
Administration support	☑	☑	☑	☑	☑
Asset procurement	☑	☑	☑	☑	☑
Governance and compliance	☑	☑	☑	☑	☑
Financial services	☑				
People and wellbeing	☑	☑	☑	☑	☑
Health, safety and risk	☑	☑	☑	☑	
Information technology	☑*				
Records management	☑				
Grant management	☑				

* in collaboration



Internal and Homeland access road network

Council maintains an extensive network of internal roads across the West Daly Region. Council also coordinates the maintenance and upgrade of a vast network of formed and gravel Homeland access roads. An aging internal road network within the communities and a shift to a higher standard for rural roads is a major budgetary consideration for Council. Limited funding, extreme environmental impacts due to wet season rains, and the need to source materials and specialist road crews from major urban centres contribute to the challenges, cost and complexity.

Waste management

Council provided a range of waste management services for residents, businesses and community-based organisations across 2022-23. These included regular waste collection services, kerbside garbage collection, litter patrol, regular hard waste removal, community and pre-cyclone clean-up days, waste management facilities management, planning and developing operational policy and strategy, and community education and engagement.

Waste management is critically important across the West Daly region. Our community recognises the link between effective waste management, environmental sustainability, our country, and our people's health.

Council's waste management practices and policies are guided by the *Waste Management Strategy for the Northern Territory 2015-2022*, the *National Waste Policy Action Plan 2019*, and the *Waste Management and Pollution Control Act 2007*.

This is supported by a national shift in thinking around waste as a resource and applying the principles of a circular economy, including:

- avoid waste
- improve resource recovery, increase use of recycled materials and build demand and markets for recycled products
- better manage material flows to benefit human health, the environment and the economy
- improve information to support innovation, guide investment and enable informed consumer decisions.

Achieving this desired approach presents a significant and ongoing challenge to our Council. Our remote and isolated region with vast distances of unsealed roads, high transport costs, and limited waste infrastructure creates barriers to efficiently separating and transporting recyclables and hazardous wastes. The historical practices of waste burial and incineration continue across some parts of our region where limited alternative options are available. Failure to demonstrate the economic incentives and positive environmental impacts surrounding resource recovery will continue to undermine any incentive for the community to engage in more sustainable practices.

Cemetery management

Council maintains responsibility for managing and maintaining cemeteries within our region. This is coordinated under the *Burial and Cremation Act 2022* and *Burial and Cremation Regulations 2022*, with strong support from Local Authorities and Traditional Owners.

Several cemeteries and burial sites located within the 3 communities and throughout the Homelands were managed by the Council in 2022-23.

Parks and open spaces

Parks and open spaces are vital places for communities within the West Daly Region to connect, socialise and play. Coming from often crowded living conditions, community parks and open spaces are seen as a refuge and communal meeting places to share stories and enable culture to exist and flourish in a contemporary setting. Council's civil crews take great pride in ensuring these places are well maintained with regular mowing, spraying, irrigation and general maintenance and upgrade activities subject to available funding.

Sports Grounds

Sport continues to play an essential part in the lives of community members within our region. This passion is reflected in Council's commitment to maintaining and improving our sporting grounds and facilities.

The main sports within the region remain Australian Rules Football and softball. Council maintained both sporting code ovals in each community in 2022-23. Civil crews regularly undertook lighting, irrigation and mowing maintenance programs to maintain the playability of these grounds.

The 'supporting healthy communities through sports and recreation programs' report showed there are many benefits to Aboriginal communities participating in sport and recreation programs. These include improving school retention and attitudes to learning, social and cognitive skills physical and mental health and wellbeing, increased social inclusion and cohesion, increased validation of and connection to culture, and crime reduction.

Animal management

Dogs and other animals are very important to the people within our region, and dogs occupy a vital place in the culture of our communities. Living conditions in our remote communities impact animal and human health. There are clear links between the health of the local dog populations and their human companions. Large unmanaged dog and cat populations can cause problems for our communities, including overpopulation, Zoonosis (transfer of disease from animal to human, i.e. scabies and hookworm), noise, litter, dangerous and threatening behaviour, and loss of food and livestock.

In 2022-23, animal management practices focused on 3 key areas; regular and frequent veterinarian visits, medical or chemical sterilisation, and a continual educational program. Principally, animal management refers to companion animals such as dogs and cats but may include larger animals such as horses.



Weed control and fire hazard reduction

Weeds severely impact the Northern Territory's environmental, economic, social and cultural values. Under the *Weeds Management Act 2001*, Council works closely with Weed Management Branch of the Northern Territory Department of Environment, Parks and Water Security and the Thamarrurr Development Corporation (TDC) Ranger Program to prevent, monitor, notify and dispose of declared weeds within our region.

Bushfires are part of the Northern Territory landscape. The fire season within the West Daly region runs from April to November. In 2022-23, Council undertook pre-season maintenance mowing, spraying, clearing fire breaks, and pruning to reduce the fire risk and effectively manage weed control.

There are 5 management zones across the Northern Territory under the *Bushfires Management Act 2016* and within Bushfires NT jurisdiction, with the West Daly region under the Vernon Arafura Bushfire Management Zone. The Vernon Arafura Regional Bushfire Management Plan supports community-wide fire management within our region and guides our response to and management of fire prevention activities.

Commercial services

Council provides commercial services to several Australian Government agencies and private businesses to deliver contracts in remote communities in the West Daly region in 2022-23.

Australia Post

Council delivered postal services to Nganmariyanga and Peppimenarti on behalf of Australia Post in 2022-23.

Council staff collect, sort, and distribute mail at each location. Council staff also redirect uncollected mail. All mail is secured in the Council office until collected.

Centrelink

Services Australia contracts Council to provide the Agents and Access Program in Nganmariyanga and Peppimenarti. As an Agent, Council is committed to providing and improving the quality of Services Australia services available to customers in the region.

All service access equipment is housed inside Council offices and accessible to customers during Council hours of operation. Services accessed by clients include Centrelink, Medicare, accessing MyGov, and general assistance by Council Agents to access self-service equipment and referral to the Services Australia call centre.

Aerodrome management

Council conducted inspections and facilitated maintenance work and reporting for 3 aerodromes of Nganmariyanga, Peppimenarti and Wadeye on behalf of the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics (DIPL) in 2022-23.

Council employs Aerodrome Reporting Officers (ARO) for each aerodrome to respond to after-hours calls and ensure the safety of the airstrip before landing. Works Safety Officers (WSO) complete regular inspections and maintenance activities.

Remote tenancy management

Council was contracted by the Department of Territory Families, Housing and Communities to provide Tenancy Management Support Services for Nganmariyanga and Peppimenarti (including the Homelands of Nama and Wudapuli) in 2022-23.

Council Community Housing Officers deliver education to tenants around the living strong program, provide assistance with administrative support, and report repairs and maintenance requests to contractors.

Our operating environment – risks and challenges

The West Daly Regional Council operates in a unique and challenging environment that encompasses various factors, including natural disasters, geographical challenges and remote living conditions.

1. Natural disasters and flooding:

The West Daly region is prone to natural disasters, particularly during the wet season. Heavy rainfall can lead to flooding, which disrupts normal operations and affects accessibility to remote communities. Flooding can result in damage to infrastructure, property, and agricultural lands, necessitating resource-intensive recovery efforts.

2. Accessibility:

During the wet season, it becomes especially challenging to access remote communities due to waterlogged roads and impassable routes. This isolation can hinder the delivery of essential services and support, impacting the wellbeing of residents in these areas.

3. Supply chain disruptions:

Getting suppliers and contractors to work in the West Daly region, is often a logistical challenge. The rough road conditions and the remoteness of the area can deter potential suppliers and contractors. This can lead to delays in infrastructure development and maintenance projects.

4. Workforce recruitment and retention:

Recruiting and retaining staff in remote areas like the West Daly region can be a significant challenge. The remote living conditions, limited access to healthcare services, and distance from urban centers make it difficult to fill positions, particularly in healthcare and essential services.

5. Limited healthcare access:

The West Daly region faces challenges in providing adequate healthcare services to its residents. The limited availability of medical clinics and healthcare professionals poses health risks, particularly during emergencies and health crises.

6. Unrest and crime:

Unrest and crime issues are a growing concern in the West Daly region, requiring careful attention and management. These challenges can impact the overall wellbeing of the community, making it essential to implement strategies that promote safety, community engagement, and conflict resolution. Addressing the rising challenges of unrest and crime necessitates collaborative efforts among local authorities, law enforcement agencies, and the broader community. An integrated approach that involves proactive community engagement, educational initiatives, and crime prevention programs is essential to mitigate these challenges effectively.

Council is committed to addressing these complex issues, recognising that a safe and secure environment is fundamental to improving the quality of life for residents in the region. By acknowledging these concerns and working in tandem with the community, the Council strives to create a more secure and harmonious environment that aligns with its vision of delivering quality services and enhancing the wellbeing of its diverse population.

Flooding event in Nganmariyanga

In 2023, the Nganmariyanga community found itself grappling with the challenges posed by a significant flooding event. During the challenging period Council forged a vital partnership with the Australian Red Cross. This collaboration was instrumental in providing extensive support to the affected community. The Australian Red Cross, being a recognised humanitarian organisation with expertise in disaster response and community support, played a pivotal role in aiding the community's recovery.

One of the key components of this collaboration was providing mental health first aid. Recognising the emotional toll such natural disasters can have on individuals and communities, mental health first aid is a vital service that offers immediate support and assistance to those experiencing distress. Trained professionals were deployed to provide guidance, comfort, and assistance in coping with the emotional challenges brought about by the flooding.

Recovery support was an essential aspect of the aid provided. The Australian Red Cross and Council worked to facilitate the recovery process for individuals and families who were significantly impacted by the flood. This encompassed a range of support services aimed at helping individuals restore a sense of normalcy in their lives, whether it be through financial assistance, housing support, or other forms of aid.





The collaboration highlighted the Council's proactive approach to disaster response and community wellbeing. It showcased a commitment to a holistic and comprehensive approach to disaster relief, extending beyond immediate relief to longer-term recovery and support.

Employee Assistance Support Agency (EASA) also played a crucial role in providing support to the community. EASA offered counselling and assistance to many employees and Nganmariyanga community members who were affected by the flood. This multi-faceted approach underscored Council's dedication to a holistic recovery and the wellbeing of the entire community, addressing not only the physical but also the emotional and psychological aspects of the crisis.






Focus 1: Strengthen our organisation



Destination 1: Strategy - Proactive performance and planning through relevant strategies



Journey Statement	Statement
1.1 Develop and implement a Strategic Plan	 <p>The Strategic Plan is being developed and is expected to be finalised by the end of 2023. The revised Vision, Mission and Values for Council have been completed and are included in the Regional Plan. A mapping of the priorities over the term of the Strategic Plan has commenced.</p>
1.2 Develop and implement a long-term financial plan	 <p>A long term financial plan has been provided as part of the Regional Plan. The financial plan needs further development, however it meets the requirements of the <i>Local Government Act (2019)</i>. The plan is a good achievement considering there was no Chief Financial Officer for a period of approximately 5 months. The ongoing management and development of the plan sits with the Executive Director Corporate Services. The plan can be found in the financial area of the Regional Plan at: https://www.westdaly.nt.gov.au/about-council/publications/regional-plan-2023-2024</p>
1.3 Develop and implement a Digital Strategy	 <p>A Digital Strategy was commenced under the previous Chief Financial Officer. It is currently on hold with evaluation to take place in first half of 2023-24.</p>
1.4 Develop and implement a Waste Management Strategy	 <p>Consultants visited all the landfills, undertook site observations at each site and completed a high-level waste assessment at each community. The consultants are also finalising the engineering concept design of the Wadeye landfill. The concept design will show the locations of the different functional areas in the landfill. A safety in design report detailing the potential risks during the construction phase of the landfill will also be completed. The final report is expected in August 2023. Council has commenced charging for commercial waste at the Wadeye landfill site. This includes for the first time an environmental levy works completed on the 2023-24 rates notice.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Waste recycling drop-off bays 2. Perimeter fencing and internal fence 3. Main entrance gates 4. Gate house for landfill staff 5. Stormwater pond 6. Catchment drains with silt fencing 7. Waste dumping pad 8. Sorting of legacy waste 9. Separation bays for commercial waste, tyres, metals, green waste, concrete, 10. Rehabilitation of overspill over concrete slurry into surrounding vegetation 11. Landfill main waste cell - commenced but not complete 12. CCTV installation - commenced but not complete 13. Shipping containers purchased for cardboard and other waste to be transported to Darwin 14. Formal signage designed and ordered.

Destination 2: Governance - Transparent and compliant governance across all tiers



Journey Statement	Statement
2.1 Develop and implement an organisational risk framework	 <p>A Strategic (organisational) Risk Framework was developed with the assistance of consultants led by the Chief Financial Officer. This was initially finalised and presented to Audit and Risk Management Committee in November 2022 with an associated policy. With the movement of executive staff and the introduction of the Senior Leadership Team as well as the new Regional Plan 2023-24, the organisational risk register will be reviewed and updated via a workshop in August 2023 for presentation at the Audit and Risk Management Committee and then onto Council. Training will be provided to the Senior Leadership Team in relation to strategic risk and the management of risk. The Executive Director of Corporate Services will take a lead role in this project.</p>
2.2 Continued development of the compliance framework	 <p>Ongoing policy development with several policies updated. The NT Remuneration Tribunal decision has been incorporated into policy.</p>
2.3 Continue to strengthen the governance framework and encourage active contribution at all meetings	 <p>Continually reviewing the framework for maintaining and improving matters relevant to Council. Ongoing changes in the culture of compliance to encourage operational innovation while managing compliance and risk objectives. Training was provided to Elected Members to ensure an understanding of the questions they should ask during Council or committee meetings, with an understanding of Conflict of Interest and Code of Conduct. Further discussions are taking place with the Northern Territory Government regarding training for Elected Members relating to Local Authorities and meetings. A paper was presented to Council in June regarding Local Authority meetings and attendance.</p>

Destination 3: Culture - Creating an inclusive workplace culture


Journey Statement	Statement
3.1 Undertake an employee engagement and organisational culture benchmarking survey	 <p>Pulse check survey to be completed between July and December 2023 now that a People and Culture Manager has been appointed. A meeting will be held in July 2023 with the Senior Leadership Team regarding questions relating to setting a baseline Council. This has not been undertaken before within Council and is an important milestone.</p>
3.2 Review West Daly Regional Council's Vision, Mission and Values as part of strengthening our corporate culture	 <p>A review of Council's Vision, Mission and Values has been completed and was published in the 2023-2024 Regional Plan.</p>

Journey Statement	Statement
3.3 Provide access to appropriate cultural awareness training	 <p>Thammarur Development Corporation to provide cultural training in community. This was delayed due to resignation of the Chief People and Strategy Officer and not having a People and Culture Manager for the majority of 2022-23. Discussions are taking place with the new People and Culture Manager around introducing generic cultural awareness training and then immersion support/cultural awareness support once the person arrives in community. Some cultural awareness training has been provided in inductions during 2022-23.</p>
3.4 Create a Cultural Advisory Officer position	 <p>On hold due to budget constraints.</p>



Destination 4: Sustainability – Financial sustainability that improves economic viability and growth

Journey Statement	Statement
4.1 Continue to investigate commercial opportunities as part of business and competitive organisational strategies	 <p>Council has completed a number of commercial civil projects, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Port Keats Road works (Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics) • Vegetation maintenance (Telstra and Power and Water) • Peppimenarti school cleaning • Council successfully received the ongoing Fossil Head Road project at a value of \$1.5 million. <p>Council has tendered for a number of other civil contracts with CAL accreditation obtained.</p>
4.2 Seek collaborative partnerships that secure financial sustainability	 <p>Proactively and collaboratively develop relationships with Northern Territory Government and other key stakeholders such as LGANT and CouncilBiz in areas including finance, governance and workforce, infrastructure, climate, waste and environment and economic development. Involvement in these groups ensures collaboration with peers and stakeholders to build relationships to ultimately improve and secure financial sustainability.</p>

Journey Statement	Statement	
4.3 Secure increased opportunities through grants that improve community life		<p>Harmony Day</p> <p>Indigenous Development Jobs Funding</p> <p>FAA General Purpose</p> <p>General Grants Safety and Wellbeing Programme</p> <p>Immediate Priority Grant 2022-23 – Removal of Abandoned Vehicles in Wadeye</p> <p>Homelands Jobs</p> <p>Municipal and Essential Services</p> <p>Housing Maintenance Services</p> <p>Local Authority Project Funding</p> <p>Library Fund</p> <p>FAA General Purpose Roads</p> <p>NAIDOC Funding</p> <p>Peppimenarti Library Infrastructure Upgrade – Capital Works</p> <p>Wadeye Swimming Pool</p> <p>Partner with Anglicare to deliver safeTALK workshops</p> <p>Homelands Capital – 2 water tanks at Kudantiga Homeland</p> <p>Homelands Capital – verandah and security works at Kudantiga Homeland</p> <p>DRFA Road Damage Caused By Flood Event Feb/Mar 2021 – HCD2017/01929</p> <p>Homelands Capital – shelter and ablution construction works at Fossil Head</p> <p>Fossil Head Solar Power Upgrade</p> <p>Diminin Cemetery Upgrade Project</p> <p>Homelands Capital – inverter upgrade at Deleye</p> <p>Homelands Capital – housing works at Fossil Head</p> <p>Homelands Capital – road works at Fossil Head</p> <p>Safer Territory Places Wadeye</p> <p>Homelands Capital – battery bank replacement at Merrepen</p> <p>Wadeye Township Bus Service Pilot Project</p> <p>Community Place for People 2022-2023 – Playgrounds for our community</p> <p>2022-23 Capital Grant – Fossil Head Shelter Upgrades</p> <p>Wadeye Homelands Emergency Grant – Supply and install fencing around solar skid and generator at Papangala</p> <p>Wadeye Homelands Emergency Grant – Supply and install Machinery shed at Uminyuluk homeland</p> <p>Wadeye Homelands Emergency Grant – Supply and install large shade structure at Kuy outstation</p> <p>Wadeye Homelands Emergency Grant – Supply and install large shade structure and concrete floor in existing shed at Old Mission outstation</p> <p>Wadeye Homelands Emergency Grant – Redcliff outstation shade structure and tank stand upgrades</p> <p>Wadeye Homelands Emergency Grant – Supply and Install Shade table including concrete slab at Nama outstation</p> <p>Wadeye Homelands Emergency Grant – Supply and install Machinery shed, shade table seating and fencing around Cemetery at Wudapuli</p> <p>Wadeye Homelands Emergency Grant – Supply and install Machinery shed and playground shade shelter at Merrepen</p> <p>Wadeye Homelands Emergency Grant – Supply and install fencing around water tanks at Kudantiga outstation</p> <p>Top End Regional Flexible Grants – Removal of Abandoned Vehicles in Wadeye</p> <p>Immediate Priority Grant 2022-23 – Tipper Truck and Backhoe Replacement, Palumpa and Peppimenarti Communities</p> <p>Waste and Resource Management (WaRM) – 2022-2023</p>

Journey Statement	Statement
4.4 Seek commercial opportunities as part of growing a sustainable trades division	 <p>Council trades completed a number of emergency works projects across our Homelands, including Kudantiga and Fossil Head.</p> <p>Were successful in securing projects, including NLC projects - Kardu Diminin cemetery upgrades.</p>

Destination 5: Local Decision Making - Empowering community through supporting Local Decision Making

Journey Statement	Statement
5.1 Support Local Authorities	 <p>Provide assistance and guidance to Chairpersons of Local Authorities as secretariat and as required. Give sufficient notice by putting notices on the community noticeboards when meetings are to occur. Ensure minuted actions are circulated for undertaking. Training conducted by Governance Officer. Provided feedback to the Local Authority Review (Local Authority Reference Group) being conducted by the Northern Territory Government. Advocacy provided by CEO regarding Local Authority funding and expenditure to the Northern Territory Government resulted in no loss of Local Authority funding (potentially >\$350,000).</p>
5.2 Strengthen Local Authorities through training, education and mentorship	 <p>As per above.</p>
5.3 Actively participate in local decision making agreements	 <p>Active participants in the Mutchirr Local Decision Making agreement, to be signed in July 2023.</p>



Focus 2: Supporting our people






Destination 1: Leadership - Developing leaders that inspire and influence others

Journey Statement	Statement
1.1 Develop and publish an Executive Member behaviour statement	 <p>Underway as part of the strategic planning process, and will be moved to a Senior Leadership Statement. The focus until now has been on the Elected Member behaviour statement, which was finalised and published in the Regional Plan 2023-24.</p>
1.2 Commit and uphold ethical, transparent and culturally sensitive leadership	 <p>Council maintains a steadfast commitment to ethical, transparent, and culturally sensitive leadership, embodying these values in every decision and interaction. Our actions reflect our dedication to integrity, respect, inclusivity and fostering trust within our community.</p>
1.3 Identify emerging leaders across Council and support their development	 <p>Council has consistently identified emerging leaders from within its ranks and proactively supported their professional development, recognising the importance of cultivating leadership talent to drive innovation and excellence in our organisation. Through mentoring, training and leadership programs, we are empowering these emerging leaders to take on key roles, ensuring a sustainable and dynamic future for our Council. .</p>
1.4 Enhance leadership and management capability across Council	 <p>Enhanced leadership support was provided. An enhanced model of leadership/management support was implemented with the introduction of the Regional Services Manager and Community Operations Manager positions as the senior representatives in community.</p>
1.5 Deliver leadership workshops and provide mentorship to our people	 <p>The 'Establishing the Baseline' leadership development program was developed. We conducted 2 frontline leadership programs, 2 middle manager programs and undertook several executive leadership workshops. Leadership and mentoring was provided in Wadeye, Nganmariyanga, Peppimenarti and Darwin. Several operational mentoring and coaching sessions were held with the operations teams in Wadeye throughout the 2022-23 year. Information and video clips were posted to all staff. Individual one on one sessions were held with many staff and coaching of executive staff. For more information, see the feature story on page 28.</p>

Destination 2: Safety - Invest and support programs and partnerships that promote safety across community

Journey Statement	Statement
2.1 Continue to protect our people's health and safety in community	 <p>As per 2.2. Ongoing safety discussions and planning.</p>
2.2 Continue to develop and implement the occupational violence mitigation program	 <p>Ongoing. Significant works have been undertaken in the area of safety for staff particularly around self recognition of safety and responding to/removal from unsafe environments. Safety plans have been discussed with staff and evacuation procedures are in place. Violence mitigation included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leadership policy focusing on zero tolerance • Management procedure describing Council's broad approach, responses and resources • Several anti-aggression task based procedures for receptions, bus drivers and Community Safety Patrol • Bus CCTV and driver protection barriers were installed, formal bus stops about to be introduced • Personal safety training was conducted 12 months ago with 8 staff attending • EASA visits in person in Wadeye and information provided to all staff, with flyers and brochures available in all offices • Security audits and upgrades are occurring in all communities • Security patrols were conducted for several months during periods of increased unrest • Counselling sessions through Wadeye Health Centre were available for Council staff • Targeted funding for staff during periods of extreme conflict and vandalism was applied • Staff were evacuated to Darwin when high levels of unrest occurred.
2.3 Deliver prevention of occupational violence training to our people	 <p>Refer above. Further occupational violence training is being planned for 2023-24.</p>
2.4 Continue implementing the work health and safety continuous improvement plan	 <p>Additional completed items not in the improvement plan include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hazard and risk management and Incident Investigation procedures • Work health and safety Inductions • Chemical Safety Data Sheet review and updates • Injury and hazard registers • Work health and safety manual • Community hazard inspections and action registers • Vehicle recovery equipment audit.

Destination 3: Mental health and wellbeing - Invest in and support programs and partnerships that promote positive mental health and wellbeing

Journey Statement	Statement
3.1 Seek via research to understand the mental health and wellbeing needs of our people	 Paper developed by Jonah Group was presented to insurers. A business case was developed and has been represented.
3.2 Enter into collaborative partnerships to deliver mental health and wellbeing programs	 Council has a strong partnership with EASA to provide psychological and counselling support to all staff in community, with follow up support. Access to applied suicide intervention skills training has occurred. Partnership with the Australian Red Cross regarding support for Nganmariyanga during the flooding event included mental health first aid and recovery. Recovery support will be provided in second half of 2023. Discussions are occurring around the planning of mental health first aid for staff in 2023-24. A mental health and support strategy is being discussed by the Senior Leadership Team with People and Culture taking a lead role in its development.
3.3 Provide our people with the skills to positively influence the broader community in health and wellbeing	 As per 3.2.
3.4 Continue to develop and implement policies supporting mental health and wellbeing	 As per 3.2. Additionally the newly appointed People and Culture Manager has this task for completion in 2023-24.
3.5 Deliver applied suicide intervention skills training	 This course was delivered in 2023. Further training and courses are planned for 2023-24 as per 3.2 - successful grant application for funding. There may be a possible move towards mental health first aid training rather than applied suicide intervention skills training.


Destination 4: Professional development - support and motivate employees to advance in their roles with Council

Journey Statement	Statement
4.1 Encourage and support internal career progression within Council	 Internal movement of staff/promotion has been encouraged and demonstrated.
4.2 Encourage and support access to professional development	 Professional development across all areas continues.
4.3 Encourage and support employees to collaborate with other local government colleagues	 Where necessary and possible, a high level of engagement with other councils and stakeholders has occurred.







Focus 3: Developing our community



Destination 1: Indigenous employment - Supporting and motivating employees to advance in their roles with Council

Journey Statement	Statement
1.1 Establish mechanical and carpentry apprenticeship positions	 <p>A mechanic apprenticeship has been established and is going well with the employee attending all areas of training and trade school. Carpentry is on hold due to recruitment issues around builders/trades and will be reviewed in 2023-24 in line with the building/maintenance program and the requirement for extra staff. A profit and loss analysis and a new business case is required for any additional staff into the trades area.</p>
1.2 Establish an administrative traineeship	 <p>There have been regular discussions regarding an administrative traineeship in Wadeye, with a business case to be developed. Administrative traineeship re-established in Darwin commencing July 2023. Pending business case and funding, the traineeship will be implemented in Wadeye 2023-24.</p>
1.3 Secure additional contracts that create employment opportunities	 <p>Business case success in applying for funding such as the Circular Economy Invest Fund - Wadeye abandoned car removal program that will see up to 4 new staff employed as environmental officers. This extends to the Wadeye landfill site. Ongoing recruitment of staff to fill a number of funded/tied programs. Continue to seek projects that create employment across the region.</p>
1.4 Uplift civil service hours to create increased employment opportunities	 <p>Hours have remained stable for the 2022-23 year. Civil labour is not fully filled. Ongoing recruitment and retention activities are occurring. There is a small and stable workforce in Peppimenarti and Nganmariyanga, but vacancies remain. There is a larger workforce in Wadeye with vacancies. Civil labour hours for Wadeye are 608 hours per fortnight and 228 for Nganmariyanga and Peppimenarti.</p>
1.5 Uplift Homelands support to create increased employment opportunities	 <p>Funding is not available to employ further staff into the Homelands program. Opportunities may present to secure additional funding for staff in 2023-24. Homelands is supported by civil staff and trades area.</p>

Destination 2: Improving infrastructure - Develop and improve social Infrastructure, natural and built environments for community safety, growth and wellbeing




Journey Statement	Statement
2.1 Develop and implement a 5-year regional road network plan	 <p>Engineer assessment of internal road network across all communities complete. The review outlines required road works plan over a 6-year period. This plan has been referenced to guide future works funding and work programs.</p>
2.2 Develop Council community infrastructure plans and identify priority works	 <p>Infrastructure assessments completed of Council buildings and infrastructure. Dilapidation report completed on Peppimenarti Council Office.</p>
2.3 Improve employee housing security	 <p>A security consultant was engaged and completed detailed security assessment of all Council buildings and facilities. These reports outlined recommendation for improved security with estimates for the works. First phase of upgrades has commenced.</p>
2.4 Improve employee housing standard	 <p>Regional Services Manager has completed an audit of staff housing conditions which included staff consultation and feedback regarding employee housing improvements. Ongoing repairs and maintenance program underway to address priority areas identified.</p>

Destination 3: Homelands - Creating sustainable communities where Aboriginal people can maintain connection to culture and land

Journey Statement	Statement		
3.1 Consult with Homelands residents to identify priority infrastructure needs	 <p>Extensive consultation with Homelands residents to identify needs. Many projects delivered and accepted including the Homelands Emergency Capital Grant Program for \$809 323.</p>		
3.2 Deliver Homeland service delivery plans	 <p>Homelands Service Delivery plans completed for all Homelands. All access roads graded. Funding sources from HMS, MES and Northern Land Council and Northern Territory Government grants. Works completed in 2022-23 are outlined below.</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <p>PAPANGALA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New 10,000 litre water tank on 3 metre stand • Associated pipework from bore field to community • Genset and genset shed • Abolition block (shower and toilet) • Water pressure booster • 2 x solar LED street lights • Housing repairs • New access road for heavy transport </td> <td style="vertical-align: top; padding-left: 20px;"> <p>NEMARLUK</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioning of solar farm • Housing repairs • Fencing and weed matting of Solar farm • All community lighting upgraded to LED </td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: right;">...continued on next page</p>	<p>PAPANGALA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New 10,000 litre water tank on 3 metre stand • Associated pipework from bore field to community • Genset and genset shed • Abolition block (shower and toilet) • Water pressure booster • 2 x solar LED street lights • Housing repairs • New access road for heavy transport 	<p>NEMARLUK</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioning of solar farm • Housing repairs • Fencing and weed matting of Solar farm • All community lighting upgraded to LED
<p>PAPANGALA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New 10,000 litre water tank on 3 metre stand • Associated pipework from bore field to community • Genset and genset shed • Abolition block (shower and toilet) • Water pressure booster • 2 x solar LED street lights • Housing repairs • New access road for heavy transport 	<p>NEMARLUK</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioning of solar farm • Housing repairs • Fencing and weed matting of Solar farm • All community lighting upgraded to LED 		

Journey Statement	Statement
	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 48%;"> <p>NAMA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 washing machines and 5 refrigerators • Dump refurbished • 8 x 5 caged tandem trailers • Fire breaks around cemetery <p>WUDIPULI</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Airstrip and boundary graded fire breaks • New John Deere tractor and slasher <p>MERREPEN</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing repairs • Major tractor repairs • Fire break and airstrip grading • Ongoing septic tank upgrades <p>DELEYE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New solar inverter • Airstrip and access road graded </div> <div style="width: 48%;"> <p>OLD MISSION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioning of solar farm • Cemetery fencing and signage • Weed matting and fencing around solar farm • New Tu Horse Bore motor and controller • New 5,000 litre water tank (replacement asset) • 110 metre run of electrical cable to corner of community for future use • Housing repairs • All community lighting upgraded to LED <p>KURDANTIGA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 x 10,000 litre water tanks on stands • 1.1 kilometre 50mm water line extension from bore to community • Water lines to houses, outside tap to each dwelling • Water tanks fitted with float valves • Housing repairs • 4 abolition blocks with solar hot water • 3 dwellings security upgrade (caged) <p>REDCLIFF</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing repairs • Entire house flywire replacement • Some security screens upgraded to Crimsafe <p>UMINYULUK</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kubota tractor with slasher and front bucket • 10,000 litre water tank on stand <p>MULINGI</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air strip clearing and grading <p>PERRERDER</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solar hot water replaced </div> </div>
<p>3.3 Collaborate with community and all levels of government on a long term and sustainable Homelands strategy</p>	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <p>Council continues to actively contribute and advocate across all levels of governments regarding Homelands as the main service provider in the region. Council continues to collaborate and engage with Homeland residents regarding the Homelands program and policy.</p> </div>

Destination 4: Community cultural and social events - Supporting cultural tourism and events



Journey Statement	Statement
4.1 Partner with community to run dry season movie nights	 Not conducted as yet. Ongoing discussions with the Community Operations Manager regarding the initiative.
4.2 Partner with community to deliver a NAIDOC event	 NAIDOC events undertaken across the West Daly region and Darwin (BBQs, NAIDOC march etc.)
4.3 Support Local Authority to host a cultural event significant to their community	 Wadeye music event supported. Ongoing discussion with Local Authorities regarding events and the support Council can provide.





Focus 4: Growing our services


Destination 1: Commercial Services



Journey Statement	Statement
1.1 Commercialise the Wadeye landfill	 Commercial fees are now being collected. Procedures are in place for collection of data and billing organisations.
1.2 Continue to investigate new commercial opportunities	 Council has gained CAL accreditation which is a requirement of Northern Territory Government for Council to tender for certain works or contracts. This was a lengthy process with Council providing extensive detail and supportive evidence to allow pre-qualification for the business. Council has tendered for several contracts.

Destination 2: Transport Services

Journey Statement	Statement
2.1 Continue to develop the Wadeye bus service	 Ongoing. A new bus route has been developed and formal bus stops are being implemented. The bus has been subjected to significant damage over the year. Additionally, the bus driver has suffered from occupational violence incidents and has resigned. Violence on the bus and its impact has been a prohibitive factor.
2.2 Provide safer signage that contributes to safer communities	 Community road signage and road furniture audits completed. Program to replace and upgrade signage underway.
2.3 Seek funding for a four wheel drive community bus	 Funding not received as part of the election promise. Ongoing discussions with government Ministers.

Destination 3: Infrastructure Services




Journey Statement	Statement
3.1 Employ a Technical Services Manager	 Technical Services Manager position created and filled.
3.2 Employ a Regional Services Manager	 Regional Services Manager position created and filled.

3.3 Secure long term land tenure for delivery of services		Ongoing. New S19 Lease agreements underway in Nganmariyanga and discussions in Wadeye.
3.4 Collaborate with CouncilBIZ to upgrade ICT systems across the Council		Ongoing network development and upgrade to systems. Enterprise Resource Planning system to be priority in 2023-24. Continue to upgrade IT systems for staff.

Destination 4: Environmental Health Services





Journey Statement		Statement
4.1 Promote sustainable communities through waste management awareness and education		Council has partnered with Keep Australia Beautiful to commence waste management community education and projects. Work with Wadeye school has already commenced.
4.2 Deliver Wadeye and Peppimenarti landfill upgrade works plan		Completed.
4.3 Investigate waste management solutions to improve sustainable and economic options		As per Waste Management Strategy.

Destination 5: Community Services




Journey Statement		Statement
5.1 Implement a car removal program in line with available funding		Car removal program development and planning underway with funding secured. Recruitment and training underway with plans to commence program soon.
5.2 Work with service providers to establish an animal management plan		Council has implemented Service Level Guidelines which includes Animal Management. This guideline and plan is based on input and feedback from AMRRIC and outlines Council's plan to improve the health of animals within the region.
5.3 Work with service providers to improve the health and welfare of animals living in communities		Council has delivered a number of companion animal management programs across the region (including in communities and Homelands) with AMRRIC. Several staff have completed biosecurity training and a census of animals within the region has been completed.



Focus 5: Building our region

Destination 1: Major projects





Journey Statement	Statement
1.1 Complete the Manthathpe walkway project	 Ongoing. Has been delayed due to community unrest and violence. Mobilisation to complete project is underway. Security issues remain and are placing project at risk of further delays.
1.2. Complete the Peppimenarti conference facility project	 Structure has been completed. Some delays were experienced due to community violence and a death at Peppimenarti, and subsequent the evacuation of staff and contractors. Site services planning and extensive industrial plumbing is holding up the commissioning of the project. A request for quote is currently out to market to complete plumbing. Facility to be commissioned in late 2023.
1.3 Complete the Wadey swimming pool replacement project	 The project is currently in the final design and construction phase. Construction will begin early August with a project completion date of early November.
1.4 Complete the solar street light safer communities initiative	 To date 10 solar lights have been installed in Palumpa with the final 10 currently being installed in Peppimenarti. The delay was due to contractor availability and community unrest.

Destination 2: Future projects





Journey Statement	Statement
2.1 Continue to develop the Peppimenarti community hub proposal	 Expression of Interest process currently underway as part of the Growing Regions Program Round 1.
2.2 Continue development of the Peppimenarti and Nganmariyanga accommodation hub proposal	 Continue to investigate funding opportunities. Peppimenarti may progress in 2023-24 due to the relocation of the Council office and upgrades to security across houses and accommodation.
2.3 Continue development of the Wadey accommodation hub proposal	 Continue to investigate funding opportunities and timing of project.

2.4 Continue development of the food security proposal	 On hold.
2.5 Work with Council and Local Authorities to identify future major projects	 Many projects delivered and approved. Ongoing work through Regional Plan for the 2023-24 year.

Destination 3: Local Authority projects

Journey Statement	Statement
3.1 Complete Local Authority funded projects	 Majority of outstanding projects completed and newly nominated projects are progressing as currently in the design phase.
3.2 Provide milestone achievements for Local Authority	 Regular detailed project updates are included as agenda item in all Local Authority meetings.
3.3 Publish completed Local Authority projects and promote their success	 Completed projects are reported to the Local Authority and Ordinary Council Meeting. Projects with photos and summaries are published on social media and included in annual reports.
3.4 Identify through Local Authorities future community improvement projects	 Consultation for future Local Authority projects completed. Detailed project list included in Regional Plan.

Destination 4: Regional analysis

Journey Statement	Statement
4.1 Undertake a policy landscape review	 Ongoing.
4.2 Undertake a socio-economic investigation and analysis of West Daly region	 Election promise for funding. Continuing discussions with Ministers regarding release of funding. The request for quote has been completed however is on hold pending funding release.
4.3 Undertake an economic benefit analysis of future projects	 As above.
4.4 Strengthen key relationships to maximise economic data for the benefit of communities	 Strong and ongoing relationships with key stakeholders including Northern Territory Government and Ministers.

Local Authority Pillars

West Daly Regional Council places great importance on its Local Authorities, which serve as the community's "voice" and contribute to the decision-making process within the region. Local Authorities play a crucial role in representing the community's interests and making recommendations to the Council based on the Regional Plan.

West Daly Region Local Authorities Pillars

Pillar 1

Vital entities as representatives of the community

The Local Authorities in the West Daly region are vital entities that act as representatives of the community. They bring forward recommendations to the Council, aligning them with the Regional Plan, which serves as the community's "wish list" for the region.

Pillar 2

Empowering residents through Local Authority meetings

Residents are encouraged to actively participate in the decision-making process by attending Local Authority meetings. The dates and times of these meetings are made available through community office advertisements, reflecting the Council's commitment to openness and community engagement.

Pillar 3

Preserving cultural identity: Nurturing local community heritage

Local Authorities emphasises the importance of retaining cultural identity at the local community level. This indicates a commitment to preserving the unique cultural aspects of the region.

Pillar 4

Effective governance and community engagement: Fostering informed decision-making

The governance structure ensures that Council is well-informed about issues affecting community members. This structure likely involves regular communication and collaboration between the Local Authorities and the Council.

**Pillar 5****Empowering Local Authorities:
shaping inclusive decision-making**

The Council considers the recommendations put forward by the Local Authorities during its meetings. These recommendations play a pivotal role in the Council's decision-making process, which in turn influences the actions taken by the Council.

Pillar 6**Strategic meetings and
collaborative engagement**

Meetings are the cornerstone of effective collaboration, and Local Authorities typically meet 4 times in a financial year, covering the period from July 1 to June 30. These regular gatherings serve as a vital avenue for decision-making, community engagement, and fostering partnerships.

Pillar 7**Leadership integration:
The role of Mayor and
Deputy Mayor**

The Mayor and Deputy Mayor hold the responsibility and privilege of serving as members of each Local Authority. This involvement ensures a direct connection between the Council's leadership and the Local Authorities.

Pillar 8**Community empowerment through
Local Authorities**

Elected Members who are appointed to Local Authorities represent the specific community to which the Local Authority is attached. This indicates a localised approach to decision-making, ensuring that the unique needs and concerns of each community are considered.



Financial Statements

WEST DALY REGIONAL COUNCIL

ABN: 25 966 579 574

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED

30 JUNE 2023

WEST DALY REGIONAL COUNCIL**ABN: 25 966 579 574****FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED
30 JUNE 2023**

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WEST DALY REGIONAL COUNCIL

ABN: 25 966 579 574

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER CERTIFICATE

I, Andrew Everingham, the Acting Chief Executive Officer of West Daly Regional Council (the council), certify that to the best of my knowledge, information and belief:

- a) the accompanying financial statements comply with the Local Government Act 2019, Local Government General Regulations 2021 and Australian Accounting Standards.
- b) the financial statements present a true and fair view of the Council's financial position at 30 June 2023 and the results of its operations and cash flows for the financial year.
- c) internal controls implemented by the Council provide a reasonable assurance that the Council's financial records are complete, accurate and reliable and were effective throughout the year.
- d) the financial statements accurately reflect the Council's accounting and other records of the Council

Andrew Everingham
Acting Chief Executive Officer

Dated: 13 November 2023

DARWIN

Address: 1/4 Albatross st,
Winnellie NT 0820

Telephone: (08) 7922 6403

Email: info@westdaly.nt.gov.au

WADEYE

Address: Lot 463 Perdjert
Street, Wadeye NT 0822

Postal Address: C/ Wadeye
Post Office, Wadeye NT 0822

Telephone: (08) 8977 8702

NGANMARRIYANGA

Address: Lot 27, Palumpa NT
0822

Postal Address: CMB 30
Palumpa NT 0822

Telephone: (08) 8977 8500

PEPPIMENARTI

Address: Lot 16,
Peppimenarti, NT 0822

Postal Address: PMB 56
Peppimenarti NT 0822

Telephone: (08) 8977 8600

**AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION****UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF NORTHERN TERRITORY LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2019 AND NORTHERN TERRITORY LOCAL GOVERNMENT (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 2021****TO THE COUNCILLORS OF WEST DALY REGIONAL COUNCIL**

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June 2023 there have been:

- (i) No contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in the *Northern Territory Local Government Act 2019 and Northern Territory (General) Regulations 2021*, and
- (ii) any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Nexia Edwards Marshall NT".

Nexia Edwards Marshall NT
Chartered Accountants

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Noel Clifford".

Noel Clifford
Partner, Assurance Services

Darwin
Dated: 24 November 2023

WEST DALY REGIONAL COUNCIL
ABN:25 966 579 574
STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
INCOME			
Grants and contributions	2A	9,635,570	10,050,968
Rates and annual charges	2B	2,381,079	1,874,020
Other (losses)/ gains	2C	104,172	63,913
Investment income	2D	249,856	27,146
User charges and fees	2E	1,475,533	1,668,645
TOTAL INCOME		13,846,210	13,684,692
EXPENSES			
Employee Cost	3A	6,059,937	5,367,046
Depreciation	3B	1,068,407	1,084,723
Other operating expenses	3C	8,659,175	6,343,661
TOTAL EXPENSES		15,787,519	12,795,430
NET (LOSS) SURPLUS		(1,941,309)	889,262
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME			
Revaluation of buildings and other structures for the year	14	4,281,263	-
TOTAL OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS)		4,281,263	-
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS)		2,339,954	889,262

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

WEST DALY REGIONAL COUNCIL
ABN:25 966 579 574
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT 30 JUNE 2023

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
ASSETS			
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash on Hand and at Bank	4	11,682,805	9,400,846
Trade and Other Receivables	5	597,017	459,454
Other Assets	6	8,455	123,321
Inventory	7	44,967	195,393
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		12,333,244	10,179,014
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, Plant and Equipment	8	9,700,261	2,880,902
Right of Use Assets	9	5,292,685	5,259,779
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		14,992,946	8,140,681
TOTAL ASSETS		27,326,190	18,319,695
LIABILITIES			
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and Other Payables	10	1,053,701	420,341
Other Contract liabilities	11	9,860,274	3,991,743
Employee Provisions	12	426,774	391,252
Lease Liabilities	13	254,560	225,590
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		11,595,309	5,028,926
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Employee Provisions	12	27,268	27,448
Lease Liabilities	13	5,485,746	5,385,408
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		5,513,014	5,412,856
TOTAL LIABILITIES		17,108,323	10,441,782
NET ASSETS		10,217,867	7,877,913
EQUITY			
Retained Earnings		5,936,604	7,877,913
Reserves	14	4,281,263	-
TOTAL EQUITY		10,217,867	7,877,913

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

WEST DALY REGIONAL COUNCIL
ABN:25 966 579 574
STATEMENT OF WORKING CAPITAL
AS AT 30 JUNE 2023

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
ASSETS			
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash on Hand and at Bank	4	11,682,805	9,400,846
Trade and Other Receivables	5	597,017	459,454
Other Assets	6	8,455	123,321
Inventory	7	44,967	195,393
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		12,333,244	10,179,014
Less:			
LIABILITIES			
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and Other Payables	10	1,053,701	420,341
Contract liabilities	11	9,860,274	3,991,743
Employee Provisions	12	426,774	391,252
Lease Liabilities	13	254,560	225,590
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		11,595,309	5,028,926
NET CURRENT ASSETS		737,935	5,150,088
CURRENT RATIO		1.06	2.02

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

WEST DALY REGIONAL COUNCIL
ABN:25 966 579 574
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

	Note	Retained Earnings	Reserves	Total Equity
		\$	\$	\$
Balance at 1 July 2021		6,988,651	-	6,988,651
Comprehensive income:				
Loss for the year	14	889,262	-	889,262
Other comprehensive income (loss) for the year		-	-	-
Total comprehensive income (Loss) attributable to Members of the entity for the year		889,262	-	889,262
Balance at 30 June 2022		7,877,913	-	7,877,913
Balance at 1 July 2022		7,877,913	-	7,877,913
Comprehensive income:				
Loss for the year		(1,941,309)	-	(1,941,309)
Other comprehensive income for the year	14	-	4,281,263	4,281,263
Total comprehensive income attributable to Members of the entity for the year		(1,941,309)	4,281,263	2,339,954
Balance at 30 June 2023		5,936,604	4,281,263	10,217,867

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

WEST DALY REGIONAL COUNCIL
ABN:25 966 579 574
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Receipts from customers		3,747,227	3,017,842
Grants and contributions receipts		15,504,101	11,153,352
Payments to suppliers and employees		(13,516,921)	(11,538,289)
Interest received		200,248	27,146
Net cash provided by operating activities	16	<u>5,934,655</u>	<u>2,660,051</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Proceeds from disposals of property, plant and equipment		104,172	95,252
Payment for property, plant and equipment		(3,421,810)	(635,232)
Net cash (used in) investing activities		<u>(3,317,638)</u>	<u>(539,980)</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Payments for lease liabilities		(335,058)	(416,092)
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities		<u>(335,058)</u>	<u>(416,092)</u>
Net increase in cash held		2,281,959	1,703,979
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the financial year		9,400,846	7,696,867
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the financial year	16	<u>11,682,805</u>	<u>9,400,846</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

WEST DALY REGIONAL COUNCIL
ABN:25 966 579 574
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

The financial statements cover West Daly Regional Council as an individual entity, incorporated and domiciled in Australia. West Daly Regional Council is operating pursuant to the NT Local Government Act 2019 and NT Local Government (General) Regulations 2021.

The financial statements were authorised for issue on November 2023 by the Councillors of the Council.

Note 1 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Preparation

The financial statements are general purpose financial statements that have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB), the requirements of the *Local Government Act 2019*, *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021* and other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standard Board.

Australian Accounting Standards set out accounting policies that the AASB has concluded would result in financial statements containing relevant and reliable information about transactions, events and conditions. Material accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are presented below and have been consistently applied unless stated otherwise.

The financial statements, except for the cash flow information, have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical costs, modified, where applicable, by the measurement at fair value of selected non-current assets, financial assets and financial liabilities. The amounts presented in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest dollar.

Accounting Policies

(a) Revenue and Other Income

The Council is first required to determine whether amounts received are accounted for as Revenue per AASB 15: Revenue from Contracts with Customers or Income per AASB 1058: Income of Not-for-Profit Entities.

Funding arrangements which are enforceable and contain sufficiently specific performance obligations are recognised as revenue under AASB15. Otherwise, such arrangements are accounted for under AASB 1058, where upon initial recognition of an asset, the Association is required to consider whether any other financial statement elements should be recognised (for example financial liabilities representing repayable amounts), with any difference being recognised immediately in profit or loss as income.

Rates

Rates are recognised as revenue when the Council obtains control over the asset comprising the receipt.

Rates are an enforceable debt linked to rateable property that will be recovered when the property is sold, and therefore control normally passes at the time of levying, or where earlier upon receipt of rates paid in advance. The rating period and reporting period for the Council coincide and accordingly, all rates levied for the year are recognised as revenue.

Uncollected rates are recognised as receivables.

WEST DALY REGIONAL COUNCIL
ABN:25 966 579 574
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

Note 1 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Cont.)

(a) Revenue and Other Income (Cont.)

Operating Grants, Donations and Bequests

When the Council receives operating grant revenue, donations or bequests, it assesses whether the contract is enforceable and has sufficiently specific performance obligations in accordance with AASB 15.

When both these conditions are satisfied, the Council :

- identifies each performance obligation relating to the grant;
- recognises a contract liability for its obligations under the agreement; and
- recognises revenue as it satisfies its performance obligations.

When the contract is not enforceable or does not have sufficiently specific performance obligations, the Council:

- recognises the asset received in accordance with the recognition requirements of other applicable accounting standards (AASB 9, AASB 116 and AASB138);
- recognises related amounts (being contributions by owners, lease liability, financial instruments, provisions, revenue or contract liability arising from a contract with a customer); and
- recognises income immediately in profit or loss as the difference between the initial carrying amount of the asset and the related amount.

If a contract liability is recognised as a related amount above, the Council recognises income in profit or loss when or as it satisfies its obligations under the contract.

Other Income

Contributed Assets

The Council receives assets from the government and other parties for Nil or nominal consideration in order to further its objectives. These assets are recognised in accordance with the recognition requirements of other applicable accounting standards (AASB 9, AASB 16, AASB 116 and AASB 138).

On initial recognition of an asset, the Council recognises related amounts (being contributions by owners, lease liability, financial instruments, provisions, revenue or contract liability arising from a contract with a customer).

The Council recognises income immediately in profit or loss as the difference between initial carrying amount of the asset and the related amounts.

Capital Grant

When the Council receives a capital grant, it recognises a liability for the excess of the initial carrying amount of the financial asset received over any related amounts (being contributions by owners, lease liability, financial instruments, provisions, revenue or contract liability arising from a contract with a customer) recognised under other Australian Accounting Standards.

The Council recognises income in profit or loss when or as the Council satisfies its obligations under the terms of the grant.

Interest Income

Interest income is recognised using the effective interest method.

Donation Income

Donations and bequests are recognised as revenue when received.

Income from Sale of Goods

Revenue from the sales of goods and the rendering of a service is recognised upon the delivery of the goods and services to the customers.

A receivable will be recognised when the goods are delivered. The Council's right to consideration is deemed unconditional at this time as only the passage of time is required before payment of that consideration is due. There is no significant financing component because sales are made within a credit term of 30 to 45 days.

The Council's historical experience with sales returns show that they are negligible and considered to be highly improbable. As such no provision for sale refunds is recognised by the Council at the time of sale of goods.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax.

WEST DALY REGIONAL COUNCIL
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

Note 1 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Cont.)

(b) Property, Plant and Equipment

Each class of property, plant and equipment is carried at cost or fair value as indicated, less, where applicable, accumulated depreciation and any impairment losses.

Freehold Property

Freehold land and Buildings are shown at their fair value based on periodic, but at least triennial, valuations by external independent valuers, less subsequent depreciation for buildings.

In periods when the Freehold Land and Buildings are not subject to an independent valuation, the Councillors conduct Councillors' valuations to ensure the carrying amount for the Land and Buildings is not materially different to the fair value.

Increases in the carrying amount arising on revaluation of Land and Buildings are recognised in other comprehensive income and accumulated in the revaluation surplus in equity. Revaluation decreases that offset previous increases of the same class of assets shall be recognised in other comprehensive income under the heading of revaluation surplus. All other decreases are recognised in profit or loss.

Any accumulated depreciation at the date of the revaluation is eliminated against the gross carrying amount of the asset and the net amount is restated to the revalued amount of the asset.

Freehold Land and Buildings that have been contributed at no cost, or for nominal cost, are initially recognised and measured at the fair value of the asset at the date it is acquired.

Plant and Equipment

Plant and equipment are measured on the cost basis and are therefore carried at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. In the event the carrying amount of plant and equipment is greater than its estimated recoverable amount, the carrying amount is written down immediately to its estimated recoverable amount and impairment losses are recognised either in profit or loss or as a revaluation decrease if the impairment losses relate to a revalued asset. A formal assessment of recoverable amount is made when impairment indicators are present (refer to Note 1(f) for details of impairment).

Plant and equipment that have been contributed at no cost, or for nominal cost, are valued and recognised at the fair value of the asset at the date it is acquired.

Depreciation

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets, including buildings and capitalised lease assets but excluding freehold land, is depreciated on a straight-line basis over the asset's useful life to the entity commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use. Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the shorter of either the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful lives of the improvements.

The depreciation rates used for each class of depreciable assets are:

Class of Fixed Asset	Depreciation Rate Life (years)
Buildings, structures and site improvements and improvements	10-40 years
Infrastructure	5- 40 years
Plant and equipment	3-10 years
Furniture and Fittings and office Equipment	4- 20 years
Motor Vehicles	4- 6 years

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at the end of each reporting period.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing proceeds with the carrying amount. These gains or losses are recognised in profit or loss in the period in which they arise. When revalued assets are sold, amounts included in the revaluation surplus relating to that asset are transferred to retained earnings.

WEST DALY REGIONAL COUNCIL
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

Note 1 **Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Cont.)**

(c) Leases

At inception of a contract, the Council assess if the contract contains or is a lease. If there is a lease present, a right-of-use asset and a corresponding lease liability is recognised by the Council where the Council is a lessee. However all contracts that are classified as short term leases (lease with remaining lease term of 12 months or less) and leases of low value assets are recognised as an operating lease on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease.

Initially the lease liability is measured at the present value of the lease payments still to be paid at commencement date. The lease payments are discounted at the interest rate implicit in the lease. If this rate cannot be readily determined, the Council uses the incremental borrowing rate.

Lease payments included in the measurement of the lease liability are as follows :

- fixed lease payments less any lease incentives;
- variable lease payments that depend on an index or rate, initially measured using the index or rate at the commencement date;
- the amount expected to be payable by the lessee under residual value guarantees;
- the exercise price of purchase options, if the lessee is reasonably certain to exercise the options;
- lease payments under extension options, if the lessee is reasonably certain to exercise the options; and
- payments of penalties for terminating the lease, if the lease term reflects the exercise of an option to terminate the lease.

The right-of-use assets comprise the initial measurement of the corresponding lease liability as mentioned above, any lease payments made at or before the commencement date as well as any initial direct costs. The subsequent measurement of the right-of-use assets is at cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses.

Right-of-use assets are depreciated over the lease term or useful life of the underlying asset whichever is the shortest. Where a lease transfers ownership of the underlying asset or the cost of the right-of-use asset reflects that the Council anticipates to exercise a purchase option, the specific asset is depreciated over the useful life of the underlying asset.

Concessionary Leases

For leases that have significantly below market terms and conditions principally to enable the Council to further its objectives (commonly known as peppercorn / concessionary leases), the Council has adopted the temporary relief under AASB 2019-8 and measures the right of use assets at cost on initial recognition.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

Note 1 **Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Cont.)**

(d) Financial Instruments

Initial Recognition and Measurement

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the Council becomes a party to the contractual provisions to the instrument. For financial assets, this is equivalent to the date that the Council commits itself to either purchase or sell the asset (i.e. trade date accounting is adopted).

Financial instruments (except for trade receivables) are initially measured at fair value plus transaction costs, except where the instrument is classified "at fair value through profit or loss", in which case transaction costs are expensed to profit or loss immediately. Where available, quoted prices in an active market are used to determine fair value. In other circumstances, valuation techniques are adopted.

Trade receivables are initially measured at the transaction price if the trade receivables do not contain significant financing component or if the practical expedient was applied as specified in AASB 15: Revenue from Contracts with Customers.

Classification and Subsequent Measurement

Financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are subsequently measured at:

- amortised cost; or
- fair value through profit or loss.

A financial liability is measured at fair value through profit or loss if the financial liability is:

- a contingent consideration of an acquirer in a business combination to which AASB 3: *Business Combinations* applies;
- held for trading; or
- initially designated as at fair value through profit or loss.

All other financial liabilities are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

The effective interest method is a method of calculating the amortised cost of a debt instrument and of allocating interest expense over in profit or loss over the relevant period.

The effective interest rate is the internal rate of return of the financial asset or liability. That is, it is the rate that exactly discounts the estimated future cash flows through the expected life of the instrument to the net carrying amount at initial recognition.

A financial liability is held for trading if it is:

- incurred for the purpose of repurchasing or repaying in the near term;
- part of a portfolio where there is an actual pattern of short-term profit-taking; or
- a derivative financial instrument (except for a derivative that is in a financial guarantee contract or a derivative that is in effective hedging relationships).

Any gains or losses arising on changes in fair value are recognised in profit or loss to the extent that they are not part of a designated hedging relationship.

The change in fair value of the financial liability attributable to changes in the issuer's credit risk is taken to other comprehensive income and is not subsequently reclassified to profit or loss. Instead, it is transferred to retained earnings upon derecognition of the financial liability.

If taking the change in credit risk in other comprehensive income enlarges or creates an accounting mismatch, then these gains or losses should be taken to profit or loss rather than other comprehensive income.

A financial liability cannot be reclassified.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

Note 1 **Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Cont.)**

(f) Employee Benefits

Short-term employee benefits

Provision is made for the Council's obligation for short-term employee benefits. Short-term employee benefits are benefits (other than termination benefits) that are expected to be settled wholly within 12 months after the end of the annual reporting period in which the employees render the related service, including wages, salaries and annual leave and superannuation. Short-term employee benefits are measured at the (undiscounted) amounts expected to be paid when the obligation is settled.

The Council's obligations for short-term employee benefits such as wages, salaries and superannuation are recognised as a part of current trade and other payables in the statement of financial position.

Other long-term employee benefits

The Council classifies employees' long service leave and annual leave entitlements as other long-term employee benefits as they are not expected to be settled wholly within 12 months after the end of the annual reporting period in which the employees render the related service. Provision is made for the Council's obligation for other long-term employee benefits, which are measured at the present value of the expected future payments to be made to employees. Expected future payments incorporate anticipated future wage and salary levels, durations of service and employee departures, and are discounted at rates determined by reference to market yields at the end of the reporting period on government bonds that have maturity dates that approximate the terms of the obligations. Any remeasurements for changes in assumptions of obligations for other long term employee benefits are recognised in profit or loss in the periods in which the changes occur.

The Council's obligations for long-term employee benefits are presented as non-current liabilities in its statement of financial position, except where the Council does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, in which case the obligations are presented as current liabilities. The Company based on past experience records employee's long service leave entitlements on commencement of their employment within the Council.

Retirement benefit obligations

Superannuation benefits

All employees of the Council receive accumulated contribution superannuation entitlements, for which the Council pays the fixed superannuation guarantee contribution to the employee's superannuation fund of choice. For the period 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023 this was 10.5% of the employee's ordinary average salary. From 1 July 2023 this rate has increased to 11%. All contributions in respect of employees' defined contribution entitlements are recognised as an expense when they become payable. The Council's obligation with respect to employees' defined contribution entitlements is limited to its obligation for any unpaid superannuation guarantee contributions at the end of the reporting period. All obligations for unpaid superannuation guarantee contributions are measured at the (undiscounted) amounts expected to be paid when the obligation is settled and are presented as current liabilities in the Council's statement of financial position.

(g) Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits held at-call with banks, other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within short-term borrowings in current liabilities on the statement of financial position.

(h) Trade and Other receivables

Trade and other receivables include amounts due from clients for fees and goods and services provided, from donors and any outstanding grant receipts. Receivables expected to be collected within 12 months of the end of the reporting period are classified as current assets. All other receivables are classified as non-current assets.

Accounts receivable are initially recognised at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any provision for measurement. Refer to Note 1(e) for further discussions on the determination of impairment losses.

(i) Contract Assets

Contract assets are recognised when the Council has transferred goods or services to the customer and or completed required performance obligations, but has yet to establish unconditional rights to consideration. Contract assets are treated as financial assets for impairment purposes.

WEST DALY REGIONAL COUNCIL
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

Note 1 **Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Cont.)**

(q) Critical Accounting Estimates and Judgements

The Councillors evaluate estimates and judgements incorporated into the financial statements based on historical knowledge and best available current information. Estimates assume a reasonable expectation of future events and are based on current trends and economic data, obtained both externally and within the Council.

Key Estimates

(i) Valuation of buildings

(i) Valuations Structure and Site Improvement, Plant and Equipment and Motor Vehicles

The Council at 30 June 2023 undertook a valuation of its Buildings, Structure and Site Improvement, Plant and Equipment and Motor Vehicles and its Road Infrastructure. AssetVal Pty Ltd were engaged to undertake this valuation of the Council's assets and infrastructure.

The valuation was completed on 1 September 2023 with the valuation date being 30 June 2023.

The valuation was performed by Mr Travis Whiteman -AAPI Certified Practising Valuer and Mr Nicholas Fein-BE MIEAust.

The valuation was prepared in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards with the basis of value used being fair value of the assets. In determining fair value, the valuer has used the Market Approach and Cost Approach. The market approach compares assets with identical or comparable (similar) assets for which price information is available. The cost approach provides an indication of value by calculating the current replacement or reproduction cost of an asset and making deductions for physical deterioration and all other relevant forms of obsolescence. Straight line depreciations was used for all infrastructure assets and the estimated remaining useful life of assets having regard to physical deterioration, functional and economic obsolescence.

Council assets were valued on the basis that the Council intends to retain the assets for a continuous use for Councils purposes. The current use of these assets is presumed to their highest and best use.

The valuation of these assets at 30 June 2023 resulted in an increase in their value of \$4,281,263 and an increase of the same amount to the Asset Revaluation Reserve.

(ii) Roads Structure

In addition to the above assets, the independent valuer also valued at 30 June 2023 the roads that exist within the Council's jurisdiction. These were valued at a fair value of \$26,784,243. The Council has elected not to recognise the valuation of roads structure within its financial statements at 30 June 2023.

(ii) Useful lives of property, plant and equipment

As described in Note 1(c), the Council reviews the estimated useful lives of property, plant and equipment at the end of each reporting period, based on the expected utility of the assets.

The Council determines the estimated useful lives and related depreciation and amortisation charges for its property, plant and equipment and finite life intangible assets. The useful lives could change significantly as a result of technical innovations or some other event. The depreciation and amortisation charge will increase where the useful lives are less than previously estimated lives, or technically obsolete or non-strategic assets that have been abandoned or sold will be written off or written down.

(iii) Impairment- General

The Council assesses impairment at the end of each reporting period by evaluating conditions and events specific to the Council that may be indicative of impairment triggers.

Impairment of leasehold improvements and plant and equipment

The Council assesses impairment of infrastructure and plant and equipment at each reporting date by evaluating conditions specific to the Council and to the particular asset that may lead to impairment. If an impairment trigger exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is determined. This involves fair value less costs to sell or value-in-use calculations, which incorporate a number of key estimates and assumptions. There was no provision for impairment of infrastructure and plant and equipment at 30 June 2023 (2022: \$Nil).

Impairment of accounts receivable

The provision for impairment of receivables assessment requires a degree of estimation and judgement. The level of provision is assessed by taking into account the recent sales experience, the ageing of receivables, historical collection rates and specific knowledge of the individual debtors' financial position. Provision for impairment of receivables at 30 June 2023 amounted to \$28,085 (2022: \$6,655).

Key judgments

(i) Performance Obligations Under AASB 15

To identify a performance obligation under AASB 15, the promise must be sufficiently specific to be able to determine when the obligation is satisfied. Management exercises judgement to determine whether the promise is sufficiently by taking into account any conditions specified in the arrangement, explicit or implicit, regarding the promised goods or services. In making this assessment, management includes the nature / type, cost /value, quantity and the period of transfer related to the goods or services promised.

WEST DALY REGIONAL COUNCIL
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

Note 1 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Cont.)

(r) Fair Value of Assets and Liabilities

The Council measures some of its assets at fair value on either a recurring or non-recurring basis, depending on the requirements of the applicable Accounting Standard.

Fair value is the price the Council would receive to sell an asset or would have to pay to transfer a liability in an orderly (i.e. unforced) transaction between independent, knowledgeable and willing market participants at the measurement date.

"Fair value" is the price the Council would receive to sell an asset or would have to pay to transfer a liability in an orderly (ie unforced) transactions between independent, knowledgeable and willing market participants at the measurement date.

As fair value is a market-based measure, the closest equivalent observable market pricing information is used to determine fair value. Adjustments to market values may be made having regard to the characteristics of the specific asset or liability. The fair values of assets and liabilities that are not traded in an active market are determined using one or more valuation techniques. These valuation techniques maximise, to the extent possible, the use of observable market data.

To the extent possible, market information is extracted from the principal market for the asset or liability (i.e. the market with the greatest volume and level of activity for the asset or liability). In the absence of such a market, market information is extracted from the most advantageous market available to the entity at the end of the reporting period (i.e. the market that maximises the receipts from the sale of the asset or minimises the payments made to transfer the liability, after taking into account transaction costs and transport costs).

For non-financial assets, the fair value measurement also takes into account a market participant's ability to use the asset in its highest and best use or to sell it to another market participant that would use the asset in its highest and best use.

The fair value of liabilities and the Council's own equity instruments (if any) may be valued, where there is no observable market price in relation to the transfer of such financial instrument, by reference to observable market information where such instruments are held as assets. Where this information is not available, other valuation techniques are adopted and where significant, are detailed in the respective note to the financial statements.

(s) Economic Dependence

The Council is dependent upon the ongoing receipt of grants from the Northern Territory Government to ensure the continuance of its activities. At this date of this report management has no reason to believe that Council will not continue to receive funding support from the Government.

(t) New and Amended Accounting Standards and Policies Adopted By The Corporation

AASB 2022-3: Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - Annual Improvements 2018-2020 and Other Amendments.

The Corporation adopted AASB 2020-3 which makes some small amendments to a number of standards including the following : AASB 1, AASB 3, AASB 9, AASB 116, AASB 137 and AASB 141.

The adoption of the amendment did not have a material impact on the financial statements.

AASB 2021-7a : Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - Effective Date of Amendments to AASB 10 and AASB 128 and Editorial Corrections.

AASB 2021-7a makes various editorial corrections to a number of standards effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2022. The adoption of the amendment did not have a material impact on the financial statements.

AASB 2022-3 : Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - Illustrative Examples for Not-for-Profit Entities accompanying AASB15.

AASB 2022-3 amends the Australian illustrative examples for not-for-profit entities accompanying AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers to illustrate how AASB 15 applies to the recognition and measurement of upfront fees. The amendments do not change the requirements of AASB 15.

The Basis for Conclusions also document the Board's decision to retain the accounting policy on an ongoing basis for NFP private sector lessees to elect to initially measure a class of ROU assets arising under concessionary leases at cost or at fair value.

The adoption of the amendment did not have a material impact on the financial statements.

WEST DALY REGIONAL COUNCIL
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

Note 2 Revenue and Other Income	Note	2023	2022
		\$	\$
2A Grant and Contributions			
NTG - Operational Grants		3,142,227	3,252,415
NTG - Special Purpose Grants (Operational)		1,764,974	653,065
NTG - Capital Grants		1,345,079	634,447
Aust Gov - Operational Grants		1,593,881	4,758,094
Aust Gov - Capital Grants		1,191,764	749,475
Grant Income Other		597,645	3,472
Total Grant and Contributions		9,635,570	10,050,968
2B Rates and annual charges			
Council Rates		1,411,366	1,118,461
Garbage General and Fee		969,713	755,559
Total Rates and annual charges		2,381,079	1,874,020
2C Other (losses)/ gains			
Gain/ loss on disposal of assets		104,172	63,913
Total Other (losses)/ gains		104,172	63,913
2D Investment income			
Interest income		249,856	27,146
Total Investment income		249,856	27,146
2E User charges and fees:			
Property lease rental fees		410,962	310,305
Australia Post Income		15,143	17,110
Income - Airport Transfers		7,742	6,691
Landing Fee Income		178,183	176,064
Commercial Services Income		121,459	140,401
Workshop Income - 3rd party customers		38,738	19,300
Rent Employee Housing		18,998	21,645
Fuel Rebate Income		10,237	13,935
Hire of Council Assets		45,855	60,415
Period Contracts - Airports		261,612	350,907
Period Contracts - Other		255,337	253,190
Builder Revenue		-	37,917
Insurance Claims		27,926	1,214
Other Current Income		83,341	259,551
Total User charges and fees		1,475,533	1,668,645

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

Note 3 Expenses**3A Employee Cost**

Salaries and Wages	4,626,345	4,163,819
Leave provision expense	663,451	590,896
Allowances travel	73,785	55,394
Superannuation	519,335	433,659
Worker compensation	177,021	123,278
Total Employee Cost	6,059,937	5,367,046

3B Depreciation Expense

Depreciation - Road Infrastructure	103,591	125,135
Depreciation - Plant & Equipment	355,381	492,042
Depreciation - Structures	3,373	(13,568)
Depreciation - Furniture, Fittings & Office Equip	373	-
Depreciation - Motor Vehicles	258,916	228,977
Depreciation - Site Improvements	6,936	(2,527)
Depreciation - ROU Assets	339,837	254,664
Total Depreciation Expense	1,068,407	1,084,723

3C Other operating expenses

Hire of Plant, Equipment and Motor Vehicle	441,948	73,848
Fuel Diesel /UL	276,580	170,456
Outsourced Services	264,546	116,666
Mechanic Workshop	188,109	2,026
Freight Expense	150,038	87,373
General Expense	102,494	58,004
Street Light Electricity Payment	100,486	57,635
Utilities - Water & Sewerag	99,627	73,116
Audit Expenses 2022	48,233	35,171
Audit Expenses 2023	36,000	-
Air/Roads	84,189	34,182
Utilities - Electricity	75,917	78,014
Training	64,784	44,376
Legal Fee	59,708	39,914
Accommodation	50,202	37,938
Subscriptions and Membership	47,632	25,196
Licenses and Registrations - MV & Plant	47,258	33,486
Consumable Item	42,341	48,564
Outstation Assets - P & E	42,001	10,193
Cleaning Products and Contractor	40,099	25,942
Operational expenses	304,420	367,252
Interest on Lease Liability	246,767	222,389
Short term Leases	41,712	52,976
Consulting Fees	566,395	186,379
Contractors	2,340,138	1,957,992
Insurance	597,784	610,890
Materials expense	500,356	155,732
ICT technology expense	698,546	621,496
Repairs & Maintenance	792,689	885,906
Elected member's costs	308,176	230,549
Total Operating Expense	8,659,175	6,343,661

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

Note 4 Cash on Hand and at Bank

CURRENT	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
Cash at Bank		5,682,805	4,400,846
Term Deposit		6,000,000	5,000,000
Total Cash on Hand and at Bank		11,682,805	9,400,846
Restricted cash and cash equivalents summary			
<i>Purpose</i>			
External restrictions			
Included in liabilities			
Contract liabilities and Revenue in advance	11	9,860,274	3,991,743
Included in revenue			
Total external restrictions		9,860,274	3,991,743
Internal restrictions			
Included in liabilities			
Employee leave entitlements	12	454,042	418,700
Total internal restrictions		454,042	418,700
Total unrestricted		1,368,489	4,990,403
Total Cash on hand and at bank	16(a), 20	11,682,805	9,400,846

Note 5 Trade and Other Receivables

CURRENT			
Receivables :			
Accounts Receivable		564,905	455,520
Less :Provision for impairment of receivables		(28,085)	(6,655)
Total Unrestricted accounts receivable and other debtors		536,820	448,865
Other Receivables :			
Accrued Income		60,197	10,589
Total Other receivables		60,197	10,589
Total current trade and other receivables	20	597,017	459,454

The Council's normal credit term is 30 days. No interest is charged for the first 30 days from the date of invoice. Thereafter, interest is charged at 17% per annum, which is calculated on a daily basis, on the outstanding balance.

Movement (recoveries) in provision for impairment of receivables

Balance at beginning of the year	6,655	6,655
increase in provision	21,430	-
Balance at the end of the year	28,085	6,655

Note 6 Other Assets

CURRENT			
Prepayment		8,455	123,321
Total Other Assets		8,455	123,321

Note 7 Inventory

CURRENT			
Inventory at cost (Fuel, Oil and Merchandise)		44,967	195,393
Total Inventory		44,967	195,393

All Inventories are expected to be sold within 12 months

WEST DALY REGIONAL COUNCIL
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
Note 8 Property, Plant and Equipment		
NON CURRENT		
Road and Structures:		
Road Structures:		
At cost	3,377,270	3,377,270
Less Accumulated depreciation	(2,294,870)	(2,191,279)
	1,082,400	1,185,991
Structure and Site improvements:		
At independent valuation 2023	2,427,830	-
At cost	-	213,042
Less Accumulated depreciation	-	(101,574)
	2,427,830	111,468
Total Road and Structures	22 3,510,230	1,297,459
Plant and Equipment :		
At independent valuation 2023	1,912,229	-
At cost	-	2,748,471
Less Accumulated depreciation	-	(2,061,229)
	1,912,229	687,242
Furniture and Fittings:		
At cost	85,213	85,213
Less Accumulated depreciation	(85,213)	(85,213)
	-	-
Motor Vehicles:		
At independent valuation 2023	2,941,600	-
At Cost	53,637	1,452,944
Less Accumulated depreciation	-	(986,375)
	2,995,237	466,569
WIP	1,282,565	429,632
Total Property, Plant and Equipment	9,700,261	2,880,902

Movements in Carrying Amounts

Movement in the carrying amounts for each class of property, plant and equipment between the beginning and the end of the current financial year:

	Road Structures \$	Structure and Site improvement \$	Plant and Equipment \$	Furniture and Fittings \$	Motor Vehicles \$	WIP \$	Total \$
Carrying amount at 1 July 2022	1,185,991	111,468	687,242	-	466,569	429,632	2,880,902
Additions at cost	-	1,089,479	642,237	-	837,161	852,933	3,421,810
Disposals/ adjustments	-	-	-	-	(155,144)	-	(155,144)
Depreciation expense	(103,591)	(10,682)	(355,381)	-	(258,916)	-	(728,570)
Revaluation increments (decrements)	-	1,237,565	938,131	-	2,105,567	-	4,281,263
Carrying amount at 30 June 2023	1,082,400	2,427,830	1,912,229	-	2,995,237	1,282,565	9,700,261

(i) Valuations Structure and Site Improvement, Plant and Equipment and Motor Vehicles

The Council at 30 June 2023 undertook a valuation of its Buildings, Structure and Site Improvement, Plant and Equipment and Motor Vehicles and its Road Infrastructure. AssetVal Pty Ltd were engaged to undertake this valuation of the Council's assets and infrastructure.

The valuation was completed on 1 September 2023 with the valuation date being 30 June 2023.

The valuation was performed by Mr Travis Whiteman -AAPI Certified Practising Valuer and Mr Nicholas Fein-BE MIEAust.

The valuation was prepared in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards with the basis of value used being fair value of the assets. In determining fair value, the valuer has used the Market Approach and Cost Approach. The market approach compares assets with identical or comparable (similar) assets for which price information is available. The cost approach provides an indication of value by calculating the current replacement or reproduction cost of an asset and making deductions for physical deterioration and all other relevant forms of obsolescence. Straight line depreciations was used for all infrastructure assets and the estimated remaining useful life of assets having regard to physical deterioration, functional and economic obsolescence.

Council assets were valued on the basis that the Council intends to retain the assets for a continuous use for Council's purposes. The current use of these assets is presumed to their highest and best use.

The valuation of these assets at 30 June 2023 resulted in an increase in their value of \$4,281,263 and an increase of the same amount to the Asset Revaluation Reserve.

(ii) Roads Structure

In addition to the above assets, the independent valuer also valued at 30 June 2023 the roads that exist within the Council's jurisdiction. These were valued at a fair value of \$26,784,243. The Council has elected not to recognise the valuation of roads structure within its financial statements at 30 June 2023. These have continued to be recorded on their existing cost and accumulated depreciation basis.

WEST DALY REGIONAL COUNCIL
ABN:25 966 579 574
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Note 9 Right of Use Assets		
NON CURRENT		
Right of Use Assets :		
Leased Buildings	6,100,299	5,727,556
Less Accumulated depreciation	(807,614)	(467,777)
	5,292,685	5,259,779

The Council's lease portfolio includes lease of buildings and motor vehicles. The Motor vehicles leases have an average of 3 years and Property leases have an average of 40 years as their lease term.

The option to extend or terminate are contained in several of the property leases of the Council. These clauses provide the Council the opportunities to manage leases in order to align with its strategies. All of the extension or termination options are only exercisable by the Council. The extension or termination options which were probable to be exercised have been included in the calculation of the Right of Use Asset.

	ROU	Total
	\$	\$
Carrying amount at 1 July 2022	5,259,779	5,259,779
Additions/ Adjustments at cost	372,743	372,743
Depreciation expense	(339,837)	(339,837)
Carrying amount at 30 June 2023	5,292,685	5,292,685

(b) AASB 16 Related Amounts Recognised in the Statement of Profit and Loss

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Depreciation charge related to right of use assets	339,837	254,664
Interest expense on lease liabilities	246,767	222,389
Short Term leases expense	41,712	52,976
Low value asset leases expenses	-	-
	628,316	530,029
	628,316	530,029

Note 10 Trade and Other Payables

CURRENT		
Trade creditors	110,206	71,346
Accrued expenditure	888,463	332,219
ATO Liabilities- GST	45,574	731
Other Payables	9,458	16,045
Total Trade and Other Payables	1,053,701	420,341

(a) Financial liabilities at amortised cost are classified as trade and other payables.

Trade and other payables:

— Total Current	1,053,701	420,341
— Total Non Current	-	-
Total trade and other payables	1,053,701	420,341

Financial liabilities as trade and other payables

	1,053,701	420,341
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WEST DALY REGIONAL COUNCIL
ABN:25 966 579 574
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Note 11 Other Contract Liabilities		
CURRENT		
Contract Liabilities - grant funded programmes	7,585,336	3,991,743
Revenue in Advance	2,274,938	-
Total Other Contract Liabilities	9,860,274	3,991,743
Total Contract and Unspent liabilities comprising the following grant funding amounts:		
New Community Hilux	-	51,907
General Grants Safety and Wellbeing Program	-	(30,191)
General Grants Safety and Wellbeing Program	-	919,827
Immediate Priority Grant 2022-23 - Removal of Abandoned Vehicles in Wadey	112,500	-
Municipal and Essential Services (MES)	553,866	457,602
Municipal and Essential Services (MES) -Special Purpose Grants - Booster System	-	1,232
Housing Maintenance Services (HMS)	160,948	111,038
NTG - Local Authority Project Funding - LAPF	530,750	-
Local Roads and Community Infrastructure - grant	121,290	-
Local Government and Priority Infrastructure Funding - Backhoe	-	171,433
Local Government and Priority Infrastructure Funding	-	8,957
Emu Point Emergency Works	-	1,436
NLC Solar panel upgrade Papangala O/S	-	1,375
Wadey Swimming Pool	1,520,369	-
Wadey Security upgrade - football and softball ovals	-	18,182
Covid-19 Homelands Stimulus Wadey	-	70,193
Homelands Capital - shelter and ablution construction works at Fossil Head	-	8,160
Mulingi New Ablution Block	-	525
Diminin Cemetery Upgrade Project	81,662	-
Homelands Capital - housing works at Fossil Head	105,014	-
Homelands Capital - road works at Fossil Head	1,383,660	-
Homelands Capital - battery bank replacement at Merrepen	281,256	893
Peppimenarti Softball Pitch and Football Oval	126,600	133,450
Wadey Township Bus Service Pilot Project - RPTP2000005	-	59,353
Ablution Blocks for Nganmariyanga, Peppimenarti and Wadey	-	40,061
ABA - Manthape Walkway Bridge	823,592	1,452,644
Immediate Priority Grant Tipper Truck	-	15,323
Homelands Capital Grant - Water Pressure Upgrade	-	22,963
Solar Street lights in Peppimenarti	-	69,000
Solar Street lights in Palumpa - ASB00007	-	69,000
Emergency Infrastructure – Kudantiga	-	87,593
Community Place for People 2022-2023 - Playgrounds for our community	370,400	-
2022-23 Capital Grant - Fossil Head Shelter Upgrades	126,144	666
Wadey Homelands Emergency Grant - Capital	809,233	1,500
Top End Regional Flexible Grants - Removal of Abandoned Vehicles in Wadey	88,500	-
Immediate Priority Grant 2022-23	389,551	-
Waste and Resource Management (WaRM) - 2020-2022 - WaRM	-	236,500
Special Community assistance and local employment	-	103
Special Purpose Grant - Water Bubbler	-	11
NT Suicide Prevention Community Grant 2021/22	-	1,685
Homelands Extra Allowance (HEA)	-	3,822
Top End Regional Flexible Grants - Personal Safety Training Wadey	-	5,500
	7,585,336	3,991,743
(b) Contract liabilities - movement in amounts :		
Balance at the beginning of the year	3,991,743	
Additions: Grants for which performance obligations will only be satisfied in subsequent years	7,585,336	
Expended : Grants acquitted or utilised during the year	(3,991,743)	
Closing balance	7,585,336	

WEST DALY REGIONAL COUNCIL
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

Note 12 Employee Provisions	2023	2022
	\$	\$
CURRENT		
Provision for annual leave	371,325	313,129
Provision for long service leave	55,449	78,123
	426,774	391,252
NON-CURRENT		
Provision for long service leave	27,268	27,448
	27,268	27,448
Total provisions for employee benefits	454,042	418,700
Analysis of total provisions:	Total	
	\$	
Opening balance at 1 July 2022	418,700	
Additional provisions and amount used raised during the year	35,342	
Balance at 30 June 2023	454,042	

Provision For Employee Benefits

Employee provisions represents amounts accrued for annual leave and long service leave.

The current portion for this provision includes the total amount accrued for annual leave entitlements and the amount accrued for long service leave entitlements that have vested due to employees having completed the required period of service. Based on past experience, the Council does not expect the full amount of annual leave or long service leave balances classified as current liabilities to be settled within the next 12 months. However, these amounts must be classified as current liabilities since the Council does not have an unconditional right to defer the settlement of these amounts in the event employees wish to use their leave entitlement.

The non-current portion for this provision includes amounts accrued for long service leave entitlements that have not yet vested in relation to those employees who have not yet completed the required period of service.

In calculating the present value of future cash flows in respect of long service leave, the probability of long service leave being taken is based upon historical data. The measurement and recognition criteria for employee benefits have been discussed in Note 1(f).

WEST DALY REGIONAL COUNCIL
ABN:25 966 579 574
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
Note 13 Lease Liabilities			
CURRENT			
Lease Liabilities		254,560	225,590
		254,560	225,590
NON-CURRENT			
Lease Liabilities		5,485,746	5,385,408
		5,485,746	5,385,408
Total Lease Liabilities	20	5,740,306	5,610,998
Note 14 Reserves			
Asset Revaluation Reserve:			
Balance at beginning of reporting year		-	-
Revaluation increment		4,281,263	-
Balance at end of the reporting year		4,281,263	-
The Revaluation reserve is maintained for valuation of Assets as the need arises.			
Note 15 Related Party Transactions			
Any persons having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the Council, directly or indirectly, including any Board Member (whether executive or otherwise) of the Council, is considered to be Key Management Personnel (KMP).			
(i) Names of the persons holding the position of KMP at the Council at any time during the year are:			
Mayor: Ralph Narburup			
Deputy Mayor: Wilfred Harris			
Councillor: John Wilson			
Councillor: Terry Sams			
Councillor Mark Tunmnuck-Smith			
Councillor Jake Clark			
(ii) Remuneration of KMP			
Short-term employee benefits		1,523,051	1,029,370
Long-term employee benefits		5,537	381,918
Post-employment benefits		-	73,216
Termination benefits		-	12,876
Councillor Allowances		308,176	230,549
Total Key Management Remuneration		1,836,764	1,727,929
Key Management personnel includes the Chief Executive Officer and 8 members of the senior leadership team			

WEST DALY REGIONAL COUNCIL
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

Note 15 Related Party Transactions (Cont.)**Details****Total remuneration provided to Matthew Eastham-CEO**

Remuneration	Year ended 30 June 2023	Year ended 30 June 2022 \$
Short-term benefits and allowances	\$	
Salary (1)	296,465	258,649
Allowances (2)	14,940	15,538
Superannuation	31,129	25,865
Total short-term benefits and allowances	<u>342,534</u>	<u>300,052</u>
Non-cash benefits		
Value of vehicle (3)	36,187	26,034
Value of housing (4)	6,000	6,000
Value of utilities	4,620	4,906
Total non-cash benefits	<u>46,807</u>	<u>36,940</u>
Other Long Term Benefits (5)	<u>88,102</u>	<u>47,124</u>
Total Remuneration	<u>477,443</u>	<u>384,116</u>

1. Consists of salary, annual and sick leave paid during the year
2. Allowances paid includes \$1,440 phone allowance and \$13,500 of travel allowance
3. Vehicle benefit amount calculated using the statutory FBT method and is the grossed up taxable value
4. CEO housing provided in Wadey Community
5. Other long-term benefits consist of accrued annual and long service leave

(iii) Loans to Responsible Persons

No loans have been made, guaranteed or secured by the Council to KMP during the reporting year.

(iv) Other Transactions

Other than the amount paid as taxpayers or residents (e.g. rates, user charges fees, etc.), no other transactions have been made with KMP during the year.

The amount paid to KMP's close family members in 2023 amounted to \$NIL. 2022 (Nil.)

Other than the above, there are no transactions to any organisations, on an arm's length basis and under normal terms and conditions, where the Council's KMP may hold executives positions and/ or Directorships during the year.

(v) During the year the Council entered into the following transactions with the related parties:

	Receiving of Services	Receiving of Services
	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Council Biz	438,272	310,466
Local Gov Association NT	24,052	27,259
	<u>462,324</u>	<u>337,725</u>

WEST DALY REGIONAL COUNCIL
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
Note 16 Cash Flow Information			
(a) Reconciliation of cash and cash equivalents to Statement of Cash Flows :			
Cash on hand and at bank	4	11,682,805	9,400,846
Total cash as stated in the Statement of cash flows		<u>11,682,805</u>	<u>9,400,846</u>
(b) Reconciliation of Cash Flow from Operating Activities with Current Year Profit (Loss)			
Profit (Loss) for the current year		(1,941,309)	889,262
Non-cash flows:			
Depreciation and amortisation expense		1,068,407	1,084,723
(Gain)/ Loss on disposal/ writedown of assets		(104,172)	(63,913)
Interest expense on lease liabilities		246,767	222,389
Changes in assets and liabilities:			
(Increase)/decrease in Trade and Other Receivables		(137,563)	(327,554)
(Increase)/decrease in other assets		114,866	(114,571)
(Increase)/decrease in Inventory		150,426	(46,389)
Increase/(decrease) in Trade and Other payables		633,360	(221,371)
Increase/(decrease) in Other Contract liabilities		5,868,531	1,102,384
Increase/(decrease) in Employee Provisions		35,342	135,091
Net cash provided by operating activities		<u>5,934,655</u>	<u>2,660,051</u>

Note 17 Lease and Capital Expenditure Commitments Outstanding:

(a) Lease Liability Lease Commitments	2023 \$	2022 \$
<i>Leasehold rental commitments</i>		
Committed at the reporting date but not recognised as liabilities, payable:		
Within one year	493,683	491,617
One to five years	1,520,412	1,720,983
More than 5 years	7,938,683	8,206,586
	<u>9,952,778</u>	<u>10,419,186</u>
(b) Operating Lease Commitments		
<i>Leasehold rental commitments</i>		
Committed at the reporting date but not recognised as liabilities, payable:		
Within one year	41,712	52,976
One to five years	-	-
More than 5 years	-	-
	<u>41,712</u>	<u>52,976</u>

The non-cancellable operating leasing commitments in 2023 were for the short term lease of Rental property and storage shed. All such leases at 30 June 2023 are on a month to month basis.

(c) Capital Expenditure Commitments

The Council has no capital expenditure commitments as at 30 June 2023 (2022:\$Nil).

WEST DALY REGIONAL COUNCIL
ABN:25 966 579 574
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

Note 18 Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets

The Councillors are not aware of any Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets as at 30 June 2023 (2022:\$Nil).

The 30 June 2023 operating loss of \$1,941,309 comprises grant income of \$2,462,248 recognised as income due to the requirements of Australian Accounting Standard AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers. Under the terms of the grant agreement this grant income is required to be spent in the 2024 financial year.

	2023
	\$
General Grants Safety and Wellbeing Programme	47,640
Municipal and Essential Services (MES)	553,866
Housing Maintenance Services (HMS)	160,948
NTG - Local Authority Project Funding	570,147
SPG MES Water Dosing Station	20,192
Local Roads and Community Infrastructure - grant	121,290
Roads to Recovery	338,507
Community Annual Clean Up	7,578
Local Government and Priority Infrastructure Funding	8,957
NLC Solar panel upgrade Papangala O/S	1,250
Wadeye Security upgrade - football and softball ovals	3,882
Covid-19 Homelands Stimulus Wadeye	33,535
Partner with Anglicare to deliver safe TALK workshops	2,560
Fossil Head Solar Power Upgrade	5,390
Homelands Capital - housing works at Fossil Head	105,014
Safer Territory Places Wadeye - ASB00005	14,903
Homelands Capital - battery bank replacement at Merrepen	281,256
Wadeye Township Bus Service Pilot Project	79,042
Ablution Blocks for Nganmariyanga, Peppimenarti and Wadeye	34,811
Immediate Priority Grant Tipper Truck	14,868
Homelands Capital Grant - New Water Tank	21,401
Solar Street lights in Peppimenarti	16,010
Solar Street lights in Palumpa	19,200
Total	2,462,248

The Councillors are not aware of any Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets as at 30 June 2023 (2022:\$Nil).

Note 19 Events After the Reporting Period

The Councillors are not aware of any significant events since the end of the reporting period that have significantly affected, or may significantly affect the Council's operations, the results of those operations, or the Council's state of affairs in future financial years.

WEST DALY REGIONAL COUNCIL
ABN:25 966 579 574
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

Note 20 Financial Risk Management

The Council's financial instruments consist mainly of deposits with banks accounts, receivables and payables.

The totals for each category of financial instruments, measured in accordance with AASB 139 as detailed in the accounting policies to these financial statements, are as follows:

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
Financial assets			
Cash on hand	4	11,682,805	9,400,846
Trade and other receivables	5	597,017	459,454
Total financial assets		12,279,822	9,860,300
Financial liabilities			
Financial liabilities at amortised cost:			
Trade and other payables	10	1,053,701	420,341
Lease Liabilities	13	5,740,306	5,610,998
Total financial liabilities		6,794,007	6,031,339

Financial Risk Management Policies

Management is responsible for mentoring and managing the Council's compliance with its risk management strategy. The committee's overall risk management strategy is to assist the Council in meeting its financial targets whilst minimising potential adverse effects on financial performance. These include credit risk policies and future cash flow requirements.

Specific Financial Risk Exposures and Management

The main risks the Council is exposed to through its financial instruments are credit risk, liquidity risk and market risk relating to interest rate risk. There has been no substantive change in the types of risk the Council is exposed to, how these risks arise, management's objectives, policies and procedures for managing or measuring risks from the previous period.

WEST DALY REGIONAL COUNCIL
ABN:25 966 579 574
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

Note 20 Financial Risk Management (Cont.)

a. Credit Risk

Exposure to credit risk relating to financial assets arises from the potential non-performance by counterparties of contract obligations that could lead to a financial loss for the Council.

Credit risk exposures

The maximum exposure to credit risk by class of recognised financial assets at the end of the reporting period is equivalent to the carrying amount and classification of those financial assets (net of any provisions) as presented in the statement of financial position.

Legislative restrictions on Council's investment powers effectively limit investments to financial instruments issued or guaranteed by Australian Governments, banks and authorised deposit taking institutions. Rates and other receivables are monitored on an ongoing basis with the result that the Council's exposure to bad debts is not significant.

The Council has no significant concentrations of credit risk exposure to any single counterparty or group of counterparties. Details with respect to credit risk of accounts receivable and other debtors are provided in Note 6.

b. Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk arises from the possibility that the Council might encounter difficulty in settling its debts or otherwise meeting its obligations in relation to financial liabilities. The Council manages this risk through the following mechanisms:

- > preparing forward-looking cash flow analysis in relation to its operational, investing and financing activities.
- > maintaining short term investments to cater for unexpected volatility in cash flows.
- > monitoring the ageing of receivables and payables.
- > maintaining a reputable credit profile.
- > managing credit risk related to financial assets.
- > only investing surplus cash with major financial institutions.

c. Market risk

Interest rate risk

Exposure to interest rate risk arises on financial assets and financial liabilities recognised at the end of the reporting period whereby a future change in interest rates will affect future cash flows or the fair value of fixed rate financial instruments. The Council is also exposed to earnings volatility on floating rate instruments.

The financial instruments that expose the Council to interest rate risk are limited to cash and cash equivalents.

The Council also manages interest rate risk by ensuring that, whenever possible, payables are paid within any pre-agreed credit terms.

(ii) Sensitivity analysis

The following table illustrates sensitivities to the Council's exposures to changes in interest. The table indicates the impact on how profit reported at the end of the reporting period would have been affected by changes in the relevant risk variable that management considers to be reasonably possible.

These sensitivities assume that the movement in a particular variable is independent of other variables.

	2023 \$	2022 \$
Surplus \$		
(+/- 1% in interest rates)	105,418	10,160

No sensitivity analysis has been performed on foreign exchange risk as the entity has no material exposures.

Refer to Note 18 for detailed disclosures regarding the fair value measurements of the Council financial assets.

WEST DALY REGIONAL COUNCIL
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

Note 21 Fair Values Measurements

Fair value estimation

The Council measures and recognises the following assets and liabilities at fair value on a recurring basis after initial recognition:

- financial assets at fair value through profit or loss;
- financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income; and
- freehold land and buildings.

The Council does not subsequently measure any liabilities at fair value on a recurring basis, or any assets or liabilities on a non-recurring basis.

The fair values of financial assets and financial liabilities are presented in the following table and can be compared to their carrying values as presented in the statement of financial position.

	Note	2023		2022	
		Carrying Amount	Fair Value	Carrying Amount	Fair Value
		\$	\$	\$	\$
Financial assets					
Cash on hand and at bank	4,20	11,682,805	11,682,805	9,400,846	9,400,846
Trade and other receivables	5,20	597,017	597,017	459,454	459,454
Total financial assets		12,279,822	12,279,822	9,860,300	9,860,300
Financial liabilities					
Trade and other payables	10,20	1,053,701	1,053,701	420,341	420,341
Lease Liabilities	13,20	5,740,306	5,740,306	5,610,998	5,610,998
Total financial liabilities		6,794,007	6,794,007	6,031,339	6,031,339

- (i) Cash on hand, accounts receivable and other debtors, and accounts payable and other payables are short-term instruments in nature whose carrying value is equivalent to fair value. Trade and other payables exclude amounts provided for annual leave, which is outside the scope of AASB 139.
- (ii) Lease liabilities fair values are assessed on an annual basis by Management and the Directors. Current available data is used in assessing their carrying and fair values.

A fair value measurement assumes that the transaction to sell the asset or transfer the liability takes place either:

- (a) in the principal market for the asset or liability; or
 (b) in the absence of a principal market, in the most advantageous market for the asset or liability."

	Note	2023		2022	
		Carrying Amount	Fair Value	Carrying Amount	Fair Value
		\$	\$	\$	\$
Non-Financial assets					
Road and Structure and Site Improvements	8	3,510,230	3,510,230	1,297,459	1,297,459
Total non- financial assets		3,510,230	3,510,230	1,297,459	1,297,459

(i) Valuations Structure and Site Improvement, Plant and Equipment and Motor Vehicles

The Council at 30 June 2023 undertook a valuation of its Buildings, Structure and Site Improvement, Plant and Equipment and Motor Vehicles and its Road Infrastructure. AssetVal Pty Ltd were engaged to undertake this valuation of the Council's assets and infrastructure.

The valuation was completed on 1 September 2023 with the valuation date being 30 June 2023.

The valuation was performed by Mr Travis Whiteman -AAPI Certified Practising Valuer and Mr Nicholas Fein-BE MIEAust.

The valuation was prepared in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards with the basis of value used being fair value of the assets. In determining fair value, the valuer has used the Market Approach and Cost Approach. The market approach compares assets with identical or comparable (similar) assets for which price information is available. The cost approach provides an indication of value by calculating the current replacement or reproduction cost of an asset and making deductions for physical deterioration and all other relevant forms of obsolescence. Straight line depreciations was used for all infrastructure assets and the estimated remaining useful life of assets having regard to physical deterioration, functional and economic obsolescence.

Council assets were valued on the basis that the Council intends to retain the assets for a continuous use for Council's purposes. The current use of these assets is presumed to their highest and best use.

The valuation of these assets at 30 June 2023 resulted in an increase in their value of \$4,281,263 and an increase of the same amount to the Asset Revaluation Reserve.

(ii) Roads Structure

In addition to the above assets, the independent valuer also valued at 30 June 2023 the roads that exist within the Council's jurisdiction. These were valued at a fair value of \$26,784,243. The Council has elected not to recognise the valuation of roads structure within its financial statements at 30 June 2023. These have continued to be recorded on their existing cost and accumulated depreciation basis.

WEST DALY REGIONAL COUNCIL
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

Note 22 Auditor's Fees

	2023	2022
Audit of the Financial Report:	\$	\$
Audit Expenses for services 2021- 2022 Auditor	48,233	35,171
Audit Expenses for services 2022- 2023 Auditor	36,000	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	84,233	35,171

Note 23 Council Details

West Daly Government Council is a local government body.

The Principal place of business is:

West Daly Government Council
1/4 Albatros Street, Winnellie NT 0820
GPO Box 36294, Winnellie NT 0821



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF WEST DALY REGIONAL COUNCIL REPORT ON THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL REPORT

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of West Daly Regional Council ("the Council"), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2023, statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies and the Chief Executive Officer's Certificate.

In our opinion the accompanying financial report of West Daly Regional Council, is in accordance with *Northern Territory Local Government Act 2019*, including:

- (a) Giving a true and fair view of the Council's financial position as at 30 June 2023 and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and
- (b) Complying with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Northern Territory Local Government (General) Regulations 2021*.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the Council in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110: *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Other Matter

The financial report of the Council for the year ended 30 June 2022 was audited by Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu who expressed a qualified opinion on the financial report on 14 November 2022. Their basis for qualification was:

"Due to ongoing riots in West Daly Council communities during the 30 June 2022 financial year, we have been unable to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence in respect of the existence of property, plant and equipment balance as at 30 June 2022. We were unable to perform alternative audit procedures to verify the existence of this balance and, accordingly we have unable to determine whether any adjustments might have been necessary to the balance of property, plant and equipment at 30 June 2022 and the resultant gain or loss on disposal of property, plant and equipment for the year ended 30 June 2022 reported in the statement of profit and loss and other comprehensive income".

We advise that an independent valuation was performed by the Council as at 30 June 2023 for the Buildings, Structure and Site Improvement, Plant and Equipment and Motor Vehicles and Council's Road Infrastructure. AssetVal were engaged to undertake this valuation of the Council's assets and infrastructure. The valuation was prepared in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards with the basis of value used being fair value of the assets. In determining fair value, the valuer used the Market Approach and Cost Approach. The independent valuation of these assets by AssetVal as at 30 June 2023 resulted in an increase in their value of \$4,281,263 and an increase of the same amount to the Asset Revaluation Reserve. Refer to Note 8 Property, Plant and Equipment, which documents the events and conditions of the independent revaluation.

We believe that the independent valuation undertaken by the Council as at 30 June 2023 has satisfactorily resolved the matters raised by Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu in their qualified audit report for 30 June 2022.

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF WEST DALY REGIONAL COUNCIL REPORT ON THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL REPORT (CONT.)

Information Other than the Financial Report and Auditor's Report Thereon

The Councillors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Council's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2023, but does not include the financial report and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report, or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

The Responsibility of the Chief Executive Officer and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Report

The Chief Executive Officer of the Council is responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Northern Territory Local Government Act 2019* and for such internal control as the Chief Executive Officer determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the Chief Executive Officer is responsible for assessing the Council's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Chief Executive Officer either intend to liquidate the Council or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Council's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibility for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF WEST DALY REGIONAL COUNCIL
REPORT ON THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL REPORT (CONT.)**

Auditor's Responsibility for the Audit of the Financial Report (Cont.)

- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit 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 Council's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by those charged with governance.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Councillor's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Council's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Council to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure, and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

We also provide those charged with governance with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.



Nexia Edwards Marshall NT
Chartered Accountants



Noel Clifford
Partner, Assurance Services

Darwin
Dated : 24 November 2023



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Regional Council

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