



Alice Springs Town Council

Quarterly Community Report

Quarter 3: Jan - Mar 2026

The Quarterly Community Report provides Council's progress delivering the 25/26 Municipal Plan, as well as key achievements, and updates on capital works programs and Council's plans.





Introduction

The Quarterly Community Report provides an open and accessible update on how Alice Springs Town Council is progressing against the goals and priorities set by Elected Members on behalf of the community. It's a snapshot of the work happening right across Council – the achievements, challenges, and ongoing efforts that keep our town running and moving forward.

Council's Municipal Plan sets the direction for what we want to achieve together, and this report shows how those commitments are being brought to life. Each section connects directly to the objectives endorsed by Council, demonstrating how decisions made by Council are creating real outcomes for residents, businesses, and visitors.

Throughout this reporting period, Council teams have focused on delivering essential services our community relies on – while also advancing major projects that will strengthen Alice Springs for years to come. From infrastructure upgrades and community facilities to environmental initiatives and programs that build liveability, the results reflect a shared commitment to pride, connection, and opportunity.

This report isn't just about statistics - it's about transparency, accountability, and storytelling. It highlights how Council's resources are being used wisely, how performance is measured, and how we continue to adapt to meet community needs. Most importantly, it celebrates the collective effort of our team, partners, and community members who work together to make Alice Springs a great place to live, work and visit.

Council in numbers



87k

Total number of interactions by users on ASTC's website through the reporting period, 7% lower than last quarter.



25,465

Number of visitors to the Alice Springs Public Library through the reporting period. A total of 13,248 physical items were borrowed.



62

Number of cats and dogs that found their forever home during the reporting period.



12,671

Number of attendees at the Summer School Holiday program, ending on January 26, 2026.



\$15k

A total of \$15,085 in In-Kind support was delivered to the community this reporting period, supporting a range of community events.



42

The number of abandoned vehicles that were collected by ASTC's Ranger Unit this reporting period.

Council Highlights



School Holidays Program

The School Holiday Program saw strong community engagement this quarter, with a total of 12,671 attendances across a diverse range of activities. The program continues to provide accessible, family-friendly opportunities for local children and young people to stay active, creative and connected during the holidays, while supporting working families and making the most of Council facilities and spaces.



New Australian Citizens

A total of 130 new Australians were welcomed as citizens through Council's Australia Day and Harmony Day Citizenship Ceremonies this quarter. These events are a significant milestone for individuals and families, and an important reflection of Alice Springs' diverse and growing community. Council is proud to play a role in formally welcoming new citizens and fostering a strong sense of belonging and connection in our town, celebrating the many cultures that contribute to life in Alice Springs and strengthening our shared community identity.



Paul Fitzsimons Oval Sod Turning

Council marked a key milestone this quarter with the sod turning at Paul Fitzsimons Oval, delivered in partnership with the Northern Territory Government and Federal Sporting Club. This project represents an important investment in local sporting infrastructure, supporting grassroots participation and community use. Once complete, the upgraded facility will provide improved amenities and create a more accessible, functional space for players, clubs and the wider community.



Lunar New Year Pop Up Park

Council delivered a vibrant Lunar New Year Pop-Up Park this quarter, transforming public space into a welcoming, culturally rich destination for the community. The activation provided opportunities for residents and visitors to come together, celebrate cultural diversity, and experience a unique offering in the town centre. Initiatives like this support local activation, encourage visitation, and reinforce Alice Springs as an inclusive and connected community.



FabALICE Night Markets

The first Night Markets of the year, in collaboration with FabALICE, delivered a strong start to the events calendar, drawing locals and visitors into the town centre for an evening of food, entertainment and community connection. The markets continue to play an important role in activating public spaces, supporting local businesses and creating vibrant, inclusive experiences that encourage people to get out, stay longer, and enjoy Alice Springs.

Capital Works Updates



Regenerating the Alice Town Centre

\$15,250,000

Designed to revitalise Todd Mall and surrounding streets into a safer, greener, and more welcoming destination for residents, businesses, and visitors.

Construction is progressing well, with demolition works, installation of underground services, and reshaping of the subgrade currently underway while pedestrian access through the Mall is being maintained. Stakeholder communications are ongoing in accordance with the Business Continuity Plan. Initial ideation sessions with Todd Mall traders have been completed, with further sessions planned to support the development of an activation action plan. Wayfinding signage has been installed at key entry points to guide pedestrians and communicate that Todd Mall remains accessible and open during construction works.

Line Marking Program

\$300,000

Enhancing safety and efficiency by providing clear visual guidance for pedestrians and vehicles on Council roads.

Works completed. Second schedule is commencing from mid-April, mainly focusing on school zones.

Park Upgrades FY25/26

\$630,000

Installing new play equipment, infrastructure, and shade structures at identified parks across the municipality. We are thrilled to announce that three upgraded playgrounds were officially completed and re-opened to the community in October 2025. New, modern playground equipment has already been received for the remaining six park upgrades and work commenced on these final sites in December 2025.





ASTC Regional Skatepark and Play Precinct Construction

\$8,600,000

Providing Alice Springs a regional scale community space, including a skatepark, pump track, adventure play space and more.

Construction works have been completed, and the project is currently within the Defects Liability Period (DLP). A variation is underway for the installation of a three-metre-high basketball fence along the Milner Road frontage. Temporary bollards currently installed on site will also be removed and replaced with permanent, more robust bollards.

Paul Fitzsimons Oval Redevelopment

\$3,686,349

Redeveloping a well-used space for our community to improve accessibility.

Construction for this project has commenced, with significant progress made on several key components. This includes the installation of underground services, off-site preparation for the clubrooms, construction of the boundary fence, and the installation of foundations for seating structures.

Additionally, Council officers are in contact with the grant body, key stakeholders, and contractors to discuss value adding elements to the project as variations, as the tender price came in significantly below initial estimates.



Council Plan Updates

Greening Strategy

- 400+ trees are planted in the first two years as identified in the strategy
- Council procured and grew more than 1,200 trees. These trees are currently in holding, ready to be planted to achieve our goal of 900 plantings in the third year of the strategy
- Council adopted Tree Asset Management software to increase the efficiency of practices such as monitoring, record keeping, condition assessment, planting planning, watering and maintenance
- Community inclusion programs like 'Adopt a Tree' and 'Adopt a Street' have been announced and are currently out for Expressions of Interest
- Council's tree farm is re-established to increase efficiency and control of stock
- Locations for Cool Schools Project and Industrial Area Pilot have been identified



Annual Objectives Dashboard

22

COMPLETE

Objectives marked as *Complete* have been fully delivered and signed off in accordance with the project plan. At present, **23% of objectives** are complete.

73

IN PROGRESS

Objectives marked as *In Progress* have commenced, with some activities or milestones completed but others still underway. Currently, **76% of objectives** are in progress.

1

NOT STARTED

Objectives marked as *Not Started* have yet to commence any works or activities. Currently, **1% of objectives** fall into this category.

96

TOTAL

There are 96 objectives in total.

Tracking Progress

Pillar One: Liveability

Name	Status	Responsible Directorate	Status Update
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Create and support meaningful opportunities for the community to come together

Deliver five night markets		Community Development	Council delivered its collaborative Night Market with fabALICE Festival on Thursday, 26 March 2026 being the first of 2026, and fourth Night Market of the financial year. This event was the first Night Market delivered outside of Todd Mall with alternative venue models utilised across Council and Chambers Lawns and Todd Street due to the Regenerating the Alice Town Centre Project works. The event featured kids crafts hosted at Headspace, live painting at the Uniting Church Op Shop, live performances by more than 15 entertainers, market stalls and a food court which greatly supported our "have here" dining options with Council's reusable plates program. Vendors commented on the event's success being one of the most profitable for individual traders since Council's collaborative Street Party and Night Market with Finke Desert Race in 2025. The event drew in an approximate 3,000 in attendance.
Deliver four pop up events		Community Development	Council's Lunar New Year Pop Up Park was delivered on 27 February 2026. Flood events saw Braitling Primary School activated as an indoor venue. Despite the change, the event attracted approximately 600 community members. The aim of the event was to celebrate Lunar New Year while supporting community engagement, activating suburban spaces, and providing accessible, family-friendly entertainment and celebrating our local Chinese community. The event program included a range of cultural and family activities such as lantern making, calligraphy, ring and win game and photobooths with community stalls, and live entertainment which featured the traditional Lion dance, cultural dance, tai-chi and more. The collaboration between multiple community organisations contributed to the successful delivery of this vibrant and welcoming event. Planning is underway for Council's fourth pop-up parks of this financial year, scheduled in celebration of Earth Day from Monday 20 to Wednesday 22 April 2026. These events will feature varied workshops, fairs and tours and are set to be hosted at Olive Pink Botanic Gardens.

Administer Council's community grants and sponsorship program, including bi-annual information sessions		Community Development	Round 2 of Council's Community Support Programs opened from 1 February and closed 1 March 2026, receiving a record number of applications, including 23 for Community Grants and 15 for Event Sponsorship. An online information session was held on 11 February 2026 with a recording now available to watch year-round on Council's website via the Community Support webpage.
Provide in-kind support to organisations and community groups to assist in the delivery of community events		Community Development	Council delivered a total value of \$15,085 in-kind support this quarter, supporting and contributing to a range of community events, groups and organisations. This support included equipment and infrastructure loans, public places and sporting oval permit waivers. This support has seen the successful delivery of varied diverse events and projects including The Imparja Cup, International Women's Day Breakfasts, Equal Futures Fair, Community Muay Thai Classes, Central Australian Aboriginal Congress Event, Brain Awareness Community BBQ, Todd Mall Markets, Hidden Valley and Amoonguna Family and Movie Nights, interschool and community AFL and the Mini Paralympic.
Deliver the Multicultural Action Plan within agreed timelines		Community Development	Council continues to meet actions from the Multicultural Action Plan which are 78% complete, with outstanding actions being ongoing throughout the life of the plan (June 2026). Highlights this quarter included the Lunar New Year Pop Up Park in March, delivered in partnership with the Lion Heart Association. Council met with Multicultural Services of Central Australia in February discussing plans and support for the 2026 Big Day Out in Harmony set for May. Council continues to include representatives from the multicultural community through activities and community events including International Women's Day celebrations. Officers presented to Council at Forum in February a proposal to develop a Community Inclusion Plan with the intention for it to capture actions that support the Alice Springs multicultural community but broadened to include our other diverse groups. Following Council endorsement, this plan will focus on creating cultural safety, community engagement, removing barriers and creating opportunities for members of these diverse groups and the broader community.
Support the Alice Springs Art Foundation in the development and promotion of the 2026 Alice Prize		Community Development	The Mayor, Acting CEO, and two Councillors were in attendance for the official launch and winner announcement of the 2026 Alice Prize on Friday, 27 March.
Improve awareness and use of Council's Community Calendar		Corporate Services	A more functional community calendar has been invested in as part of a broader Council website upgrade. It continues to be advertised to community groups.
Maintain an appropriate level of library services for the community during the Alice		Community Development	The site works as part of the library temporary relocation have neared completion this quarter, with staff and patrons acclimating to the day-to-day changes. Opening hours, program delivery and daily services continue throughout. Feedback regarding access has been received and actioned. An agreement with

Springs Public Library's temporary relocation			Charles Darwin University has been reached to house the bulk of the Alice Springs Collection. Library Multi-Purpose room has increased demand.
Deliver a range of events and activities that include and celebrate Alice Springs' diverse community		Community Development	Using an Australia Day Grant, Council hosted two lunchtime drop-in Arrernte Language and Cultural Workshops facilitated by Camille and Veronica Dobson. These sessions saw approximately 40 attendees learn Arrernte history, followed by practical training in pronunciation, voice placement, key words and phrases and song lyrics. Council collaborated with a number of local organisations to deliver the 2026 Equal Futures Fair on Saturday, 7 March 2026 to recognise International Women's Day. This community event featured performances by several local musicians, a free BBQ and children's activities as well as a discussion panel addressing topics in line with this year's theme 'Balance the Scales'.
<i>Build community engagement and improve perceptions of Council</i>			
Increase community awareness of Council's functions and activities		Corporate Services	Council continues to prioritise improving community awareness of its functions and activities through clear, consistent and accessible communication. Over the quarter, this has included proactive sharing of project updates, including the new library, Regenerating the Alice Town Centre Project and school holidays programs.
Publish a monthly events calendar of Council events and programs		Corporate Services	A monthly calendar continues to be produced and distributed among the community with the team looking at more effective and efficient options moving forward.
Improve the awareness of and access to digital library content for the Alice Springs community		Community Development	Members of Alice Springs Public Library have access to BorrowBox, an app providing e-resources. This is promoted by staff to new and current members and users of the library. Newspapers are now accessible digitally via Press Reader through arrangement by Libraries and Archives NT. Alice Springs residents can create an online membership with City of Darwin should they wish to access the digital resources on Libby. The Alice Springs Digital Collection will be made available via PCs in the library. Patrons can ask for assistance with the likes of BorrowBox at any time or come to a drop-in Tech Help session which is run weekly.
<i>Showcase 'What's unique about Alice'</i>			
Deliver the Public Art Masterplan within agreed timeframes		Community Development	The Regenerating the Alice Town Centre project continues to progress with design elements fabrication commenced this quarter and the major public artwork 'Resilience' fabrication and installation tender was awarded to Ross Engineering. Officers emailed Lhere Artepe in March 2026 requesting feedback on culturally appropriate subjects for consideration in theming a potential third CBD roundabout artwork,

			located at Hartley and Parsons Street and are awaiting response. Officers have revisited the former Youth Recycled Arts Prize and revised 2026 events to be a Youth Arts Prize, which has expanded mediums of entry, and a temporary exhibition set to take place at Yubu Napa, which will be open in July. Officers continue investigating the feasibility of a cultural multi-directional pointer. Council's updated Public Art Map is nearing completion with printing and formal re-launch scheduled for May 2026 alongside a Public Art Tour event. The 'Geoff Miers Commemorative Roundabout' project is set for launch in late April 2026 with fabrication nearing completion.
Continue to investigate the delivery of an Aboriginal statue/monument recognising Arrernte culture		Community Development	Investigation and item finalised in Quarter 1.
Manage public art installations as part of the Regenerating the Alice Town Centre project		Community Development	Fabrication has commenced as part of works for the Regenerating the Alice Town Centre project. The major public artwork fabrication and installation tender was successfully awarded in March 2026.
<i>Support quality, accessible recreational spaces and infrastructure</i>			
Complete the Regional Skate Park and Play Precinct construction		Infrastructure Services	The Alice Springs Regional Skate Park and Play Precinct is now fully operational, following the achievement of Practical Completion on 18 December 2025. This landmark \$8.6 million project provides a regional-scale community hub featuring a high-spec skatepark, bowl, pump track, and adventure play space. While the facility is open to the public, the project has officially entered a 12-month Defects Liability Period concluding in December 2026. Council officers are currently finalising project documentation and acquittal reports to satisfy the compliance requirements of both the Australian and Northern Territory Governments.
Consult on the Parks and Playgrounds Implementation Plan		Infrastructure Services	A formal paper regarding the implementation plan is being prepared for presentation to Council for the end of April.
Upgrade three parks		Infrastructure Services	Council is continuing to progress the construction phase of the upgrades. Works at Robert Park, Gillen Park and Forrest Park are now complete. Upgrades at Dixon Park are well advanced and scheduled for completion in the coming month. Works at Ashwin Park are being tendered.

Upgrade shade to three parks		Infrastructure Services	Additional shade structures for year three sites will be delivered alongside playground equipment, with priority given to parks that currently lack existing shade.
Continue to partner with the Northern Territory Government to install lights at Jim McConville Oval		Infrastructure Services	Construction works for the Jim McConville Oval sports lighting upgrade are progressing, with electrical infrastructure and preparatory works undertaken throughout March. Site safety and turf protection measures remain in place, and any surface impacts will be remediated by the contractor. Planned field closures occurred mid-March for survey and preparation activities; however, the light pole assembly and crane lifts have been postponed due to saturated ground conditions following heavy rainfall. Light tower installations are now expected to proceed mid-April. Project completion and handover is planned for early May 2026.
Complete one accessibility upgrade to a Council owned facility		Infrastructure Services	Upgrades of tactiles along Parson Street has been completed. There is ongoing investigation in the CBD and surrounds to construct missing ramps and accessible parking spaces.
Commence construction for the upgrades of Paul Fitzsimons Oval		Infrastructure Services	Construction for this project has commenced, with significant progress made on several key components. This includes the installation of underground services, off-site preparation for the clubrooms, construction of the boundary fence, and the installation of foundations for seating structures. Additionally, Council officers are in contact with the grant body, key stakeholders, and contractors to discuss value adding elements to the project as variations, as the tender price came in significantly below initial estimates.
Undertake plant refurbishment at the Alice Springs Aquatic & Leisure Centre		Infrastructure Services	The tender for re-lining the 25m pool is currently advertised, closing April 2026. Works are anticipated to commence late in 2025. The new boilers for the 50m Pool are installed and awaiting final commission.

Implement programs that help support rich, fulfilling and healthy lives

Continue to develop and deliver regular term and school holiday programs for children and young people in partnership with local service providers		Community Development	Council continued delivery of its National Indigenous Australian Agency funded Summer School Holiday Program in January, which included 10 various activities and a cumulative attendance for the program of 12,671. January also saw the return of the ice-skating rink which drew in 8,394 participants across three weeks. Public EOI for After School Programming for Terms 1 and 2 and received 10 applications with 4 successful in Term 1, and 3 for Term 2. The April School Holidays programs have been confirmed, with five diverse activities including Ten Pin Bowling and Bikes Mwerre Workshops. Council have collaborated with the NT Government to deliver Council's NT Youth Week Event for 2026, set to take place at Newland Skate and Play Precinct on Friday 10 April 2026 featuring mechanics workshops, time trials, soccer darts, couch decorating, live music and a free BBQ.
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Continue to encourage strong community use of the Alice Springs Aquatic & Leisure Centre, including investigating and delivering innovative aquatic and land-based wellness and engagement programs for all ages and demographics		Community Development	31,198 people attended ASALC between January-March 2026. This was well supported by free entry to the facility for the summer school holidays and throughout weekends in Term 1. Eleven schools (both local and remote) visited the centre for school swimming lessons, and over 250 children were enrolled in the after-school learn to swim program. 2182 people attended aqua aerobics classes over the last three months, with classes including water pilates and deep-water exercise.
Increase Alice Springs Public Library outreach activities		Community Development	The Alice Springs Public Library actively engaged with the community through a range of outreach programs and partnerships. Key highlights include: • True Lines graphic novel workshops • Books on Wheels and Old Timers Delivery - targeted outreach services for seniors, delivering library resources directly to those unable to visit the library • Library staff appeared on CAAMA and ABC radio to promote Library programs and services • Weekly early literacy programs - Preschool Storytime, Music and Movement, and Baby Rhyme Time • Summer Reading Club and prize draw • Red Dirt Poetry Workshops • School holiday programs included a range of activities: Virtual Reality, Crafty Storytime, Lego Legends, Robotics, Drones • Diverse programs cater to a range of ages and interests: Multilingual Storytime, Chess Club, VR-fternoons, Drop-In Tech Help • "Read, Write, Chat" continuously brings in new volunteers and participants as they connect to improve social and literacy skills. Some volunteers this quarter were able to assist patrons with IELTS prep.
Continue to deliver a range of recreational activities and events that encourage a healthy, active community		Community Development	The 2025/26 Health and Wellness Program consists of ten weekly exercise classes including yoga, Qi Gong and seniors classes held at ASALC, with a new chair yoga class launched in March. Over 900 people attended these classes in the last three months.

Pillar Two: Safety

Support community wellbeing and safety

Support responsible pet ownership, including providing education through the Animal Shelter		Community Development	Both Rangers and the Animal Shelter team continue to offer advice on responsible pet ownership, including information on de-sexing, registration, containment and vaccinations. A flyer outlining this information is being developed to be available in the community and also in Town Camps.
Continue to support animal adoptions through the Animal Shelter		Community Development	The Animal Shelter continues to support adoptions, with 62 cats and dogs finding their forever homes during this reporting period.
Improve access to the CBD by maintaining parking enforcements (fines)		Community Development	Patrols occur regularly, with 520 infringements issued this quarter across Alice Springs with a focus on the CBD.
Improve visual amenity by maintaining trolley enforcement (collections and fines)		Community Development	Rangers are actively engaging trolley stakeholders and therefore no trolley collection was required this quarter.
Improve visual amenity by maintaining litter enforcement (fines) and removing abandoned vehicles		Community Development	42 abandoned vehicles were collected this quarter. Patrols are occurring regularly for littering; no fines issued this quarter.
Improve water safety by offering targeted programs for identified cohorts including parents, migrants and people with lived disability		Community Development	In partnership with Reclink and NT Sport and Disability, ASALC delivered a six-week all-abilities swim program in Term 1, 2026. This program aimed at improving water safety and awareness for people living with a disability. In term 1, ASALC delivered a Learn to Snorkel program as an additional innovative program to enhance learn to swim participation. On March 6, the Float to Survive Australia Team, which included Bondi Lifeguard Bruce Hopkins, attended ASALC to provide a water safety workshop for the community, which included practical strategies to perform if you find yourself in trouble in the water.

Continue to advocate for and participate in Northern Territory Government strategies and reforms that aim to improve community safety in Alice Springs		Office of the CEO	Numerous actions were undertaken, particularly throughout the summer school holiday period, during which time Council collaborated with the NT Government and other community agencies to deliver free entry at ASALC, as well as the combined school holiday program. In addition, Council continues to actively participate on the Interagency Tasking Coordination Group and other relevant forums as required.
Support community safety by efficiently responding to calls for service from the community regarding animal management and public amenity		Community Development	Rangers supported community safety by quickly responding to animal management and public amenity requests, whether reported by phone, email or through Snap Send Solve. Rangers worked six days a week, which allowed for quick response times. All reports were assessed and actioned in sufficient timeframes.
Investigate an animal management outreach program with Town Camps		Community Development	The Ranger Unit has continued to work with key stakeholders towards this goal, with a report to Council due in Q4.
Continue to implement a Work Health and Safety Management System and gain ISO 45001 accreditation		Corporate Services	Following an audit in February 2026, Council has successfully obtained ISO 45001 certification.

Improve Council and the community's disaster preparedness

Hold regular emergency planning committee meetings to coordinate Council's emergency preparedness planning and resources		Office of the CEO	Council's internal Emergency Management Committee meetings continued to be held quarterly. The most recent meeting was turned into an After-Action Review post the February flooding event to identify key observations to be turned into actions and insights to improve Council's future disaster preparedness.
Review and update Council's Emergency Plans		Office of the CEO	An updated draft ASTC Emergency Plan has been completed and is being finalised. A training session has been planned for May 2026 to test current Council emergency management response, which will be used to make any updates to the plan as relevant. Site specific plans are also currently being worked on.
Undertake flood mitigation works including removing sand from river and clearing storm water drains		Infrastructure Services	All scheduled summer stormwater drain clearing works have been successfully completed. The Depot team has now transitioned into the planning phase for the upcoming winter maintenance program to ensure continued flood mitigation and efficient water flow.

Provide disaster preparedness and hazard mitigation messaging to residents and businesses to support local disaster resilience		Corporate Services	Council has supported community resilience this quarter by providing timely and practical disaster preparedness and hazard mitigation messaging during significant rainfall and flooding events. Communication efforts focused on keeping residents and businesses informed of local conditions, including real-time updates on road closures and service impacts. Council also worked closely with relevant authorities to amplify consistent, safety-focused messaging, ensuring the community had access to accurate and reliable information.
<i>Improve Council owned roads and cycleways</i>			
Complete road reseal program		Infrastructure Services	The FY 25–26 Road Reseal Program has concluded, with 14 streets successfully sealed across Braitling, Gillen, and Sadadeen. Council is now preparing for the next three-year phase (FY 26–29) by initiating a tender process for a long-term contractor to ensure continuous upkeep of the road network.
Commence the CBD footpath program		Infrastructure Services	This project is currently being re-framed to incorporate detailed civil design requirements, ensuring that all future footpaths are fully compliant with relevant standards and accessibility legislation. To maintain public safety during this design phase, a portion of the project funding has been redirected to facilitate immediate repairs in high-priority areas of concern. This strategic adjustment ensures that critical safety risks are addressed while a long-term, engineered solution is developed for the wider CBD network.
<i>Continue to support and undertake initiatives that seek to decrease gender-based violence and improve gender equality</i>			
Participate in 16 days of activism against gender-based violence		Community Development	Item completed in Q2. In Quarter 2, Council hosted a 'Walk Against Gender Based Violence' followed by a BBQ breakfast on Chamber Lawns. Over 45 people attended to show their support for a safer future. Council officers also regularly attend the Central Australian Family Violence and Sexual Assault Network (CAFVSAN) meetings.
Review sporting clubs' licencing and signage arrangements to include respectful relationships and violence aggression standards		Community Development	Sporting clubs licencing agreements include terms around managing behaviour in Council facilities. Council is currently drafting a license with AFL NT and Alice Springs Netball Association's license is still in negotiation. All other sporting licenses are still in effect with Touch Football due for renegotiation on 1 June 2026.

Pillar Three: Environment

Improve land, air, water quality and reduce emissions

Deliver efficient and sustainable rubbish collection		Infrastructure Services	Council has offered the new collection contract, and execution is in progress. Development of the Landfill Environmental Management Plan continues and is expected to be finalised in June 2026.
Continue to support Alice Springs Landcare and community gardens		Infrastructure Services	Council continued collaborating with Alice Springs Landcare and the community gardens regarding weed management, regeneration and food security. Council provide support to regeneration efforts in Davidson Park and on Lhere Mparntwe's eastern and western banks. Council also organised workshops with both community gardens.
Conduct a National Tree Day giveaway		Infrastructure Services	Completed in Q1. An event was successfully conducted in August at the Todd Mall Markets.
Deliver Climate and Environment Implementation Plan actions to agreed timelines		Infrastructure Services	Actions from the Climate and Environment Implementation Plan that have been implemented (or are continually being implemented) in FY25/26 are: - Installation of Smart Water meters at key Council assets - Implementation of Solar Asset Management Plan - Lowered Council's grid consumption - Advocated for greater investment in waste management in Central Australia - Worked with key stakeholders to improve the recycling supply chain in Central Australia - Enhanced biodiversity corridors and connectivity - Implemented environment engagement programs - Digitised internal Council processes
Complete the second year of the Alice Springs Greening Strategy & Action Plan 2024		Infrastructure Services	Council planted 400+ trees in the first two years of the strategy, adopted Tree Asset Management Software, and announced community programs like 'Adopt a Tree or Two' and 'Adopt a Street'.
Deliver Green Living Subsidies		Infrastructure Services	36 rebates have been actioned as of March 27, 2026.

Deliver food security workshops		Infrastructure Services	A total of five workshops have been delivered so far in 25/26; 160+ community members attended to workshops.
Work to achieve outcomes of the Lhere Mparntwe Management Strategy		Infrastructure Services	Council remain on track with responsibilities identified in the strategy and continues to collaborate with the Lhere Mparntwe Management Strategy Implementation Advisory Group.
Consult with the community on verge maintenance		Community Development	Verge maintenance will be consulted on as part of the broader by-law review.
Re-establish Council's nursery at Albrecht Oval		Infrastructure Services	The structural upgrade of the nursery facility has been completed along with plumbing installations. Planting has commenced.

Reduce the damage caused by pests and feral animals

Investigate and trial new programs to decrease the number of feral animals within Alice Springs		Community Development	The Ranger Unit continued to investigate and consider new programs to reduce feral animal numbers in Alice Springs.
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Minimise the need for additional landfill space and improve recycling

Continue to work with partners to progress circular economy initiatives		Infrastructure Services	Collaboration with industry partners continued through the Regional Waste Management Facility, focusing on the collection and recycling of metal, wet paint, e-waste, cardboard and HDPE. Additionally, the partnership with Envirobank for the operation of Drop'n'Go pods remained active to support the Container Deposit Scheme.
Encourage and support recycling uptakes and awareness in the Alice Springs community		Infrastructure Services	In-house training and a refresher course on recycling at the Regional Waste Management Facility for all staff took place on 19 March.
Support community clean up events		Infrastructure Services	This program remains on track, supported by marketing promotions to encourage community participation. Council's Environment Officer continued to provide logistical support and guidance to community members engaging in local clean-up efforts.

Continue to work with the Northern Territory Government and other key stakeholders to address the issue of illegal dumping within the municipality		Infrastructure Services	Council remained an active participant in the NT Government's 'Operation Don't Be a Dumper', working alongside other stakeholders to address illegal dumping across the municipality.
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Pillar Four: Economy

Support the regeneration of the Alice Springs CBD

Support new opportunities to develop the CBD		Office of the CEO	Further presentations provided to both NT Government and Australian Government representatives, including a recent trip to Canberra by the Mayor and CEO. Current focus remains on securing additional investment for both the regeneration of the Todd Mall and the development of the new Alice Springs Public Library. During the quarter, work also progressed in relation to the development of a nighttime experience/sound and light show for the Alice Springs CBD.
Commence Regenerating the Alice Town Centre construction		Infrastructure Services	Construction is progressing well, with demolition works, installation of underground services, and reshaping of the subgrade currently underway. Pedestrian access through the Todd Mall is being maintained at all times. Stakeholder communications are ongoing in accordance with the Business Continuity Plan. Initial ideation sessions with Todd Mall traders have been completed, with further sessions planned to support the development of an activation action plan. Wayfinding signage has been installed at key entry points to guide pedestrians and communicate that Todd Mall remains accessible and open during construction works

Support the development and growth of Alice Springs

Targeted procurement training for Council's responsible officers, focusing on supporting local businesses		Office of the CEO	Work continued with regards to the review and development of procurement and purchase order policies and procedures.
Support and help drive regional economic growth through participation and advocacy on		Office of the CEO	Council participated in regular Project Control Group meetings with Tourism Central Australia and the NT Government over the building of a new Visitor Information Centre which is intended to boost tourism numbers and spend in the region. The Mayor and CEO had several meetings in Canberra advocating to the Federal Government on issues such as a Freight Equalisation Scheme, Local Government sustainability,

relevant committees and inquiries			youth shelters, flood mitigation and major infrastructure projects. Council met with Renew Australia and received a proposal to enliven the Todd Mall during construction works. Council has met with both the Department and relevant Ministers over the NT Government plan to re-establish an economic growth committee.
Explore options to support Todd Mall traders during potential disruptions from the Regenerating the Alice Town Centre project		Office of the CEO	Scoping study conducted by Renew Australia, which provided several potential options for increasing foot traffic within the Todd Mall throughout the regeneration works. Identified options are currently being considered by officers, with a report to be provided to Council in Q4.
Contribute to the Approvals Fast Track Taskforce through the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory		Office of the CEO	Completed in Q1
Support the development of the Alice Springs Sports, Learning & Leadership Centre		Community Development	Update provided to Elected Members in April, with negotiations continuing with Redtails Pinktails Right Tracks Foundation to confirm a preferred location for the development.
Maintain and increase awareness of the 'Live Work Alice' website		Corporate Services	Plans for the site to be migrated into Council's existing website are underway with a goal of raising exposure and accessibility.
Improve employment outcomes by increasing Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander recruitment, retention and professional development		Corporate Services	Increase in Aboriginal workforce has occurred at the Depot and to a lesser extent at the Regional Waste Management Facility. Aboriginal recruitment, retention and professional development will be included in the workforce plan currently under development. Meeting with Aboriginal jobs providers and survey of participants informs us of areas of interest/focus for Indigenous employment pathways.

Improve accessibility to Alice Springs

Continue involvement in and advocacy for delivery of the 'Outback Highway'		Office of the CEO	Council's Elected Member representatives continue to contribute to the Outback Way Council, and support advocacy efforts for the Outback Way both at the Federal and NT level. Major developments in the quarter include the Outback Way Blueprint and the Sealing Dashboard, and the inaugural flight of Qantas' A321 aircraft "Outback Way".
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Pillar Five: Governance & Civic

Effectively communicate with the community

Implement a Community Engagement Framework for Alice Springs Town Council, including guidelines for undertaking community consultation		Corporate Services	Item completed in Q2. A new Community Engagement Framework has been adopted to guide how Council communicates and consults with residents, businesses, and stakeholders.
Undertake an annual community sentiment survey to inform Council planning		Corporate Services	A community survey was conducted with more than 500 responses from community members. Data has been provided to Executive for consideration.

Develop a sustainable financial model

Undertake a commercial review of property owned or controlled by Alice Springs Town Council and consider other revenue options		Office of the CEO	Both the Council and the 50+ Community Centre completed the execution of a new five-year lease agreement for the 50+ Community Centre in January 2026. Lease rental valuations have been obtained for 45 Cameron Street and Lot 7575, 21 Hartley Street (multistorey car park) to assess potential lease income opportunities. The licence agreement for Tourism Central Australia has been executed, and the lease will be finalised once the office is ready for occupancy. Rent will be charged in accordance with the initial grant conditions.
Undertake an analysis of fees and charges based on cost of providing relevant services		Office of the CEO	Finance assisted directorates with the review and update of the 2026/2027 fees and charges. Community impact and affordability were considered. Areas where fees were outdated or where demand for services is high were prioritised. The updated fees and charges were presented to a forum and are included in the Municipal Plan for 2026/2027. The rates analysis by Mead Perry Group was presented to the February and March forums. The first-year recommendations to move towards a more equitable rating structure have been incorporated into the 2026/2027 Municipal Plan.

Reduce supplier costs by reviewing supplier contracts, ensuring cost recovery with grant funded projects. Investigate shared services with other councils		Office of the CEO	Finance worked with Managers on reporting, acquittal and audit of the following projects - Skate Park report and audit, Staff Amenities Upgrade for the Depot report, Road to Recover FY25 audit, Ilparpa Road acquittal and NT Recycling Modernisation Fund acquittal. Finance is continuing to work with Infrastructure to improve pricing across key expenses. Finance is supporting this work by identifying the top suppliers and assessing whether further tenders are appropriate for regularly used suppliers. Infrastructure is currently reviewing competitive fuel pricing through the bulk fuel tender for RWMF and the Depot. With the automated accounts payable finance system now in place, the team is developing monthly utility cost reporting by department. This will help highlight issues such as water leaks or increases in electricity usage early, allowing for prompt action.
Reduce financial losses from unpaid debts by strengthening debt collection processes		Office of the CEO	The rates department conducted a reconciliation of all rates exempt properties. Letters have been sent out to all of these assessments, requiring additional details substantiating the continued validity of the property's exemption. A written response is required demonstrating that the property satisfies one or more of the requirements of Section 222 of the Local Government Act 2019. Council is awaiting a response regarding outstanding waste service charges associated with a rate payer over a number of properties, with some balances extending over a ten-year period. Correspondence was issued in June 2025, and a reply has not yet been received. Council is also awaiting a response concerning an unresolved liquid waste removal invoice that remains outstanding. Finance has included a paper in the April OCM in relation to the infringement debt and the outstanding accounts receivable which are to be written off. The rates department have sent out the third instalment overdue letters in March 2026.
Automate financial processes thereby enhancing efficiency, accuracy and strategic decision-making		Office of the CEO	Procure to Pay Purchasing went live in February, with finance training all relevant staff in the use of the program. Procure to Pay Invoicing went live in March. We have now booked our Accounts Receivable automation with Civica, with go-live date scheduled for 14 May. The Purchasing Card module has also been procured with the go-live date of 28 May. Finance is rolling out NoahFace to departments sequentially. NoahFace integrates directly with Elmo and allows staff to record start and finish times using a digital device. This will eliminate manual timesheet processing, improving data accuracy and providing more timely payroll information across the council. It has been trialled at ASALC and we are now trialling with the Depot.
<i>Plan effectively for asset acquisition, operation, maintenance, renewal and disposal</i>			
Complete stage two of Council's Asset Management Plan		Infrastructure Services	Development of the Strategic Asset Management Plan has been rephased to prioritise the creation of a comprehensive Asset Management Framework. This framework will serve as the foundational guide for

			Council's long-term asset management maturity, ensuring the final strategic plan is supported by robust, consistent processes.
Complete a new Alice Springs Public Library concept design, public consultation and costing		Infrastructure Services	The tender for concept design has been awarded to Tangentyere Design, who commenced community consultation with key stakeholders, focus groups and the broader public to inform development of the concept design for the new library. A site survey and investigations have been completed with draft concepts currently underway.
Purchase new plant at the Regional Waste Management Facility - New Shredder		Infrastructure Services	The new TDS820 shredder is at the RWMF, and all training has taken place. The shredder has shredded all tyres on site and now is moving to the green waste pile, after its first service.
Complete new kiosk and reception design for Alice Springs Aquatic and Leisure Centre		Community Development	Entry and exit gates have been repaired and are now operational. Any further renovations to the kiosk and reception area to be considered as part of the new ASALC Masterplan that is currently in development.

Make Council more relatable, memorable and engaging to the community

Provide a defined high level of customer service focusing on effective communication, responsiveness and consistency		Office of the CEO	A business case is currently being prepared for the CEO requesting that Council engage a suitably qualified and capable supplier to supply a cloud based omnichannel contact Centre solution. This provider will have the ability to act as a Primary Contractor in the design, implementation, training and ongoing support of the solution. Council will leverage data and automation to deliver a first-class customer service experience by making the contact process more accessible and customer focused. Council will continue to drive efficiency through accurate and timely customer information and services.
Create communication frameworks to more strategically promote Council		Corporate Services	Communications framework and roadmap are currently in development.

Establish systems to achieve good governance and improve operational efficiency

Deliver ICT networking and computer infrastructure program upgrades		Corporate Services	Windows 11 Deployment wrapping up.
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Improve ICT infrastructure, workflow improvements and user experience at the Works Depot		Corporate Services	Depot Wi-Fi Project Completed.
Update the Electronic Document and Records Management System		Corporate Services	Electronic Document and Records Management System upgrade path now confirmed and will commence in the 4th quarter.
Reduce Council's reliance on paper		Corporate Services	Enterprise Resources Platform improvements on track. Multi-factor Device fleet renewal evaluation ongoing: New work health safety (WHS) software onboarded for digital WHS inspections and audits, replacing paper-based processes.
Review and update Council's business continuity plans		Corporate Services	Review and update of Council's business continuity plans continue.
Establish a two-year phase Reconciliation Action Plan to further Council's commitment to meaningful reconciliation		Community Development	SpeakWrite and the Reconciliation Working Group have furthered the development of the Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) with a consultation workshop held with First Nations community leaders in February 2026. The workshop highlighted priorities of the First Nations community to assist in shared ambitions for Council's reconciliation journey over the next two years. This input has been utilised in the first draft actions for inclusion in the Innovate RAP. The Reconciliation Working Group continues to work with SpeakWrite to refine actions for the plan and create a meaningful document for Council, staff and the community. The Reconciliation Working Group continues to further actions from the Reflect RAP to continue reconciliation within the organisation during the development of the Innovate RAP.
Develop and embed a Governance Framework		Community Development	A Governance Framework has been drafted and is going to the May Risk Management and Audit Committee meeting for review, before going to Council in June for endorsement.

Support employment pathways, and delivery effective training and support that leads to quality outcomes

Develop a training framework and calendar to ensure staff are appropriately trained, including receiving all relevant mandatory training		Corporate Services	Completed in Q2. Framework is priority based using Mandatory, Required Skill Development, Optional Skill Development and Personal Development. Training Calendar for first half of 2026 developed and distributed.
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Investigate and support trainee and apprentice opportunities		Corporate Services	There are significant opportunities to engage apprentices/trainees at ASTC. Meetings with the Apprenticeship Centre have occurred and there are specific Local Government initiatives to support traineeships available. These opportunities are included in the workforce plan being drafted along with the need to make some changes to recognise trainees in the Enterprise Agreement which will soon enter negotiation stage. The Budget process also requires completion to enable planning for traineeships in the new financial year.
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Empower team members to understand how they contribute to Council's vision

Develop a Workplace Wellbeing Strategy for Council team members		Corporate Services	Completed in Q2. Workplace Wellbeing strategy developed with three EAP providers all providing wellbeing workshops on building resilience and coping with life challenges.
Conduct scoping for a Council Workforce Plan		Corporate Services	Significant progress has been made on the workforce plan as we move out of the scoping phase and into the consultation with key stakeholder stage. Meetings with line managers are substantially complete and drafting for each directorate has commenced. Directors when then review draft plan for each Directorate for input and adjustment.
Implement a staff performance framework		Corporate Services	Framework development is complete. Performance systems for check-in at three months, six months and annually have been developed. Training of target groups continuing in preparation of Council wide rollout on track for April quarter.
Continue the culture survey to track progress		Corporate Services	Culture surveys conducted every six months.



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