

Media Release

1 October 2026

September Council Meeting wrap up

The Alice Springs Mayor and Councillors met on Tuesday 29 September 2026 for their monthly Ordinary Council Meeting. The following is a summary of some of the matters discussed. To see full Council reports and minutes visit the ASTC website. A full video of the meeting is available on Council's [website](#).

Review of Council Bylaws

Council is set to undertake a comprehensive review of its bylaws, looking at the local rules that help shape how we live, work and use shared spaces across Alice Springs.

The review will consider whether Council's existing bylaws remain relevant and appropriate for our community, and whether changes are needed to better reflect Alice Springs today.

Expected to take approximately 18–24 months, the review must follow a detailed legislative process before any changes can be adopted.

Importantly, the community will have opportunities to have their say throughout the process, including through formal consultation. Council will keep the community informed as the review progresses and let residents know how they can get involved.

2027 Council Meeting Schedule

Council has endorsed its meeting schedule for 2027, setting the dates for Ordinary Council Meetings throughout the year.

Meetings will be held on 28 January, 23 February, 30 March, 27 April, 25 May, 15 June, 27 July, 31 August, 28 September, 26 October, 30 November and 14 December.

All Ordinary Council Meetings will continue to be livestreamed, ensuring community members who are unable to attend in person can still watch proceedings and stay informed about Council decisions.

Meeting agendas, reports and further information will continue to be made available to the community ahead of each meeting through Council's usual channels.

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Economic Summit for Alice Springs

Creating more opportunities for local businesses and strengthening the Alice Springs economy will be the focus of a new economic summit to be hosted by Council.

Council resolved to organise an economic summit that will bring local business owners, industry and key stakeholders together to share ideas and look at how Alice Springs can make the most of future economic opportunities.

A key focus will be Central Australia's growing resources sector, including how local businesses and the wider community can benefit from major projects.

Council has approved up to \$10,000 from the Elected Member Projects budget to support the summit. A further report outlining how the summit will be delivered will come before Council in November.

Council calls for national action on buffel grass

Council is pushing for a stronger, coordinated approach to tackling buffel grass across Alice Springs and Central Australia.

Council will call on the Australian Government to list buffel grass as a Weed of National Significance, while also seeking a funded partnership with the Australian and Northern Territory governments to support its ongoing management on Council-managed land.

Buffel grass can outcompete native vegetation and contribute to more intense fires, creating significant challenges for the local environment and the ongoing work required to manage it.

Declared a weed in the Northern Territory in 2024, buffel grass is an issue that extends well beyond Council boundaries. Council is seeking a collaborative approach that brings together funding, resources and expertise across all levels of government.

AAPA closes investigation into South Terrace tree removal

The Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority (AAPA) has closed its investigation into the removal of a sacred site tree on South Terrace, confirming Council acted in accordance with the relevant Authority Certificate and the Northern Territory Aboriginal Sacred Sites Act 1989.

AAPA's assessment considered the circumstances surrounding the removal, including the short period between a limb falling from the tree and Council determining that its removal was necessary to address an immediate public safety risk.

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The outcome confirms Council's team followed the requirements in place while responding to an immediate safety issue.

Council remains committed to protecting sacred sites, continually reviewing its processes and working closely with AAPA to ensure its responsibilities are understood and upheld.

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