



Alice Springs Town Council

Quarterly Community Report

Quarter 1 2025

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



59%

The percentage of items that came into the Regional Waste Management Facility that were recycled or repurposed through the reporting period.



29,370

Number of people who attended the Aquatic and Leisure Centre over the reporting period, an increase of 8,033 people from the same period in 2024.



200

Number of seniors engaged through a number of events Council delivered through August's Seniors Month.



4,652

Number of young people engaged with Council's Winter School Holiday Program.



43,459

Engagements on Alice Springs Town Council's Facebook page, an increase of 21.4% from the previous quarter.



140

Number of people who learned more about food security in an arid environment through workshops held by ASTC, Arid Lands Environment Centre and Alice Springs Community Garden.

Council Highlights



Glow Party

Council's recent Glow Party proved a major success, attracting 863 community members. The event showcased strong engagement, with participants enjoying 2,600 neon glow sticks, 300 flashing noodles, and a vibrant 14kg of colour. Families were well catered for, with 875 sausages and 681 slushies served throughout the evening. Activities included games, chalking, bouncing, face painting, and dancing. The turnout and atmosphere highlight the value of Council-led events in fostering connection, community pride, and family-friendly participation.



Red CentreNATS Night Market

Council was proud to partner and organise the **Red CentreNATS Night Markets and Fringe Festival** event, which brought thousands of locals and visitors into the heart of Alice Springs. The evening featured vibrant stalls, live performances, family activities, and a buzzing festival atmosphere that showcased local creativity and community spirit. By activating the CBD with colour, entertainment, and opportunities for small businesses, the event highlighted the positive economic and social impact of Council-supported initiatives in drawing people together and strengthening community pride.



Seniors Month

Council delivered a series of well-attended activities throughout **Seniors Month**, celebrating and recognising the contributions of senior residents in our community. Highlights included a **High Tea Bingo at the Library**, the much-loved **Seniors Morning Tea**, and the entertaining **Seniors Still Got Talent** show, which showcased the creativity and spirit of our senior community. These events provided opportunities for connection, fun, and recognition, reinforcing Council's commitment to supporting active, inclusive, and engaged lifestyles for seniors in Alice Springs.



Meeting Rooms Renamed

Council has renamed its meeting rooms in line with the Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan, embedding Arrernte culture into everyday spaces. Each room now carries the name of a culturally significant animal, with QR codes linking to a pronunciation guide developed with Lhere Artepe. The initiative represents respect, understanding and unity, with stories and histories at its heart. Council acknowledges the Working Group's role in achieving the Reflect RAP and has commenced designing an Innovate RAP.



Digital Screen

Council has recently installed a **new digital screen in the Civic Centre reception**, enhancing the way information is shared with the community. This initiative is designed to improve accessibility and engagement by providing residents and visitors with up-to-date details on Council services, programs, events, and key announcements. The digital platform allows for timely updates and clear communication, ensuring important information is easy to find.

Capital Works Updates



Road Resal Program FY23-26

\$2,173,351.36

Delivering critical maintenance across the municipality's sealed road network, ensuring longevity and safety. FY 24-26 Road Resal Program 100% completed.

Stormwater Cleaning Program FY24-26

\$964,472.01

Cleaning stormwater drains, pipes, and culverts within the municipality for efficient flow of stormwater and to support flood mitigation. FY 24-26 Stormwater Cleaning Programme 100% completed.

Purchase of New Shredder Regional Waste Management

\$957,770.01

Improving recycling and efficiency at the Regional Waste and Management Facility through the procurement of a shredder to break down bulky materials, which will also extend the landfill's life by increasing compaction density. New Shredder purchased. 70% completed, as currently on delivery phase with a six-week lead time on machinery to be delivered from NSW.

Footpath Program

\$1,800,000.00

Ensuring pedestrian safety by addressing priority footpaths requiring immediate repairs. Tender closed. Currently, reviewing some changes in scope and will go back to Tender again.

Line Marking Program

\$300,000.00

Enhancing safety and efficiency by providing clear visual guidance for pedestrians and vehicles on Council roads. FY 25-27 Line Marking Programme 10% contract commenced. Currently underway signing contractors and purchase order.

Park Upgrades FY25/26

\$630,000.00

Installing new play equipment, infrastructure, and shade structures at identified parks across the municipality.

The contract for the supply of play equipment has been awarded. Tender documentation for the installation and associated construction works is currently being prepared and is scheduled for release to the market by mid-October.





ASTC Regional Skatepark and Play Precinct Construction

\$8,600,000.00

Providing Alice Springs a regional scale community space, including a skatepark, pump track, adventure play space and more. The construction works for the project have advanced significantly with the project now reaching nearly 70% completion. The majority of structural and infrastructure works are in place. Key achievements include near completion of the pump track, installation of light towers and water services, and significant progress on play equipment, drainage, and half court construction. Current works are focused on skatepark completion, landscaping, and final service connections.

Animal Shelter Administration Office – Staff Protective Screens Installation & Upgrades

\$43,560.00

Enhancing safety and ensuring a user-friendly facility for Animal Shelter staff and visitors. Most of the works have been completed, with only the Occupancy Permit and the commencement of the Defects Liability Period outstanding.

Depot Amenities Upgrade

\$620,000.00

Providing modern, accessible amenities at the Council's Depot Facility. The construction phase of the project is now nearing completion. Final handover documentation is currently being prepared in parallel with the rectification of identified defects. A small number of back-ordered items remain outstanding but are expected to be installed shortly. In preparation for the operational phase, all new furniture for the facility has already been delivered and is currently on site, ready for installation.



Council Plan Updates

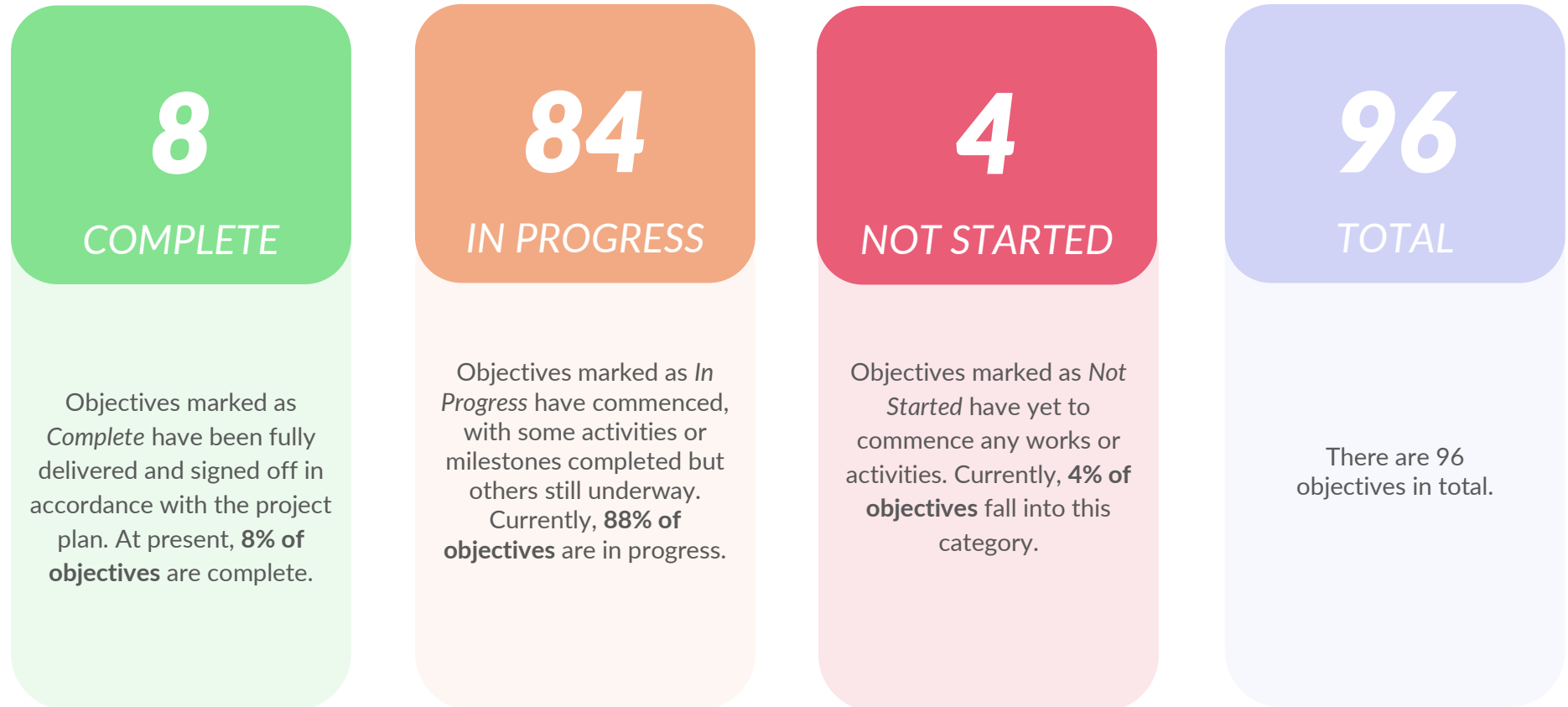
Alice Springs Public Art Masterplan

- Council Officers are researching grant opportunities to develop and facilitate a workshop to inform, discuss and facilitate professional development for public art in Alice Springs. The workshops would include a presentation on ethical public art commissioning, ASTC's public art policy and framework, a previously engaged artist from an ASTC project, creative facilitation, discussion and forum with hopeful engagement with NAVA representatives, local and acclaimed public artists.
- Council Officers have been revising the existing Public Art map for online and hard-copy updates. Additional technological features have been rolling out on existing and new commissions with QR code interpretive signage since 2024's Roller Shutter Mural project to link to the ASTC website for more information and imagery, with additional features set to be included in the delivery of new commissions.
- Council Officers amended the online *Artist Register* form to include: "Do you allow Alice Springs Town Council to share your contact details for external opportunities should they arise?". Artists have since been shared with two third-party organisations.
- A range of public art projects under the Masterplan are currently being commissioned, or funding be sought, including for the Geoff Miers Roundabout, Newland Park, and a range of sites in the CBD, including as part of the Regenerating the Alice Town Centre Project. Fabrication of the Eaglehawk Roundabout is at 80%.

Alice Springs Greening Strategy

- As part of Pilot Project 2 of the Greening Strategy, Council has trialled additional planting (infill planting) on Lindsay Ave and the south end of Winnecke Ave to fill gaps between existing larger trees.
- As part of Pilot Project 3 of the Greening Strategy, additional planting (infill planting) has occurred at Kempeana and Diarama parks to support the growth of shade. Gillen Park has also been vastly planted. Collaboration has occurred with the community for Davidson Park.
- Most of the bus stops on Council land have now had trees planted, with the aim of two trees per bus stop. Flynn Drive IGA lawns are also now partially filled.
- As part of the Cool Schools Project, Braitling Primary and Bradshaw Primary have been selected for a tree planting trial to provide additional shade within an initial 200m radius of each school.
- A total of over 400 trees have been planted, with over 500 waiting at Council's tree farm and 500 to be delivered by Olive Pink by the end of 2025. So far, the success rate of planting is very high and vandalism rate is very low.

Annual Objectives Dashboard



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	The Red Centre Nats Night Market was held on Thursday 4th September. The market featured Show and Shine cars, local stalls, live music and children's entertainment. Approximately 2,000 event attendees enjoyed the evening with a program highlight being the Bojangles Saloon Motorbike Ride-Through.
Deliver four pop up events		Community Development	The inaugural Glow Fest Pop Up Park was held on 26th September, week one of the School Holidays. Activating the Aquatic and Leisure Centre's Adventure Park this well attended event of 863 people had free-to-the-public glow in the dark face painting, DJ and disco lights, BBQ, slushies, a Disco Dome jumping castle, and mini golf and glow in the dark games. Planning is underway for the Halloween Pop Up Park, to be held in the CBD in late October.
Administer Council's community grants and sponsorship program, including bi-annual information sessions		Community Development	Council's annual Community Support program included delivery of an Information Session in August with 36 attendees. Six (6) Event Sponsorship and nine (9) Community Grant applications were received for local programs and initiatives. A report will be presented to Council in October for endorsement.
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 \$60,442 of in-kind support to community groups and organisations. This comprised of equipment loans, public places and sporting oval permits, assisting with the delivery of diverse and vibrant events and projects such as NAIDOC week, Beanie Festival, Henley on Todd, Red Centre Nats, Blacken Open Air, Homelessness Week, Clontarf Training and Kwartatuma Festival.

Deliver the Multicultural Action Plan within agreed timelines		Community Development	Council continues to meet actions from the Multicultural Action Plan which are 75% complete. Highlights this quarter included the new accessibility features launched on Council's website which allows for translation and other features. The Director Community Development and Council Officers attended consultation and information sessions on the development of a Multicultural Strategy for the Northern Territory, led by the Northern Territory Government. Planning is underway for the Korean Film Festival held early October.
Support the Alice Springs Art Foundation in the development and promotion of the 2026 Alice Prize		Community Development	Council officers met with the Alice Springs Art Foundation twice this quarter and determined that while Council will still support promotion of the 2026 Alice Prize, additional infrastructure builds such as website upgrades are required prior to increasing the size of the Prize. Officers will continue to support where possible.
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 Springs Public Library's temporary relocation		Community Development	Noting that this transition is yet to commence, ASPL remains confident of being able to retain all existing programs and services including Baby Rhyme Time, Preschool Storytime, Tech Help, VR sessions, Lego Club, monthly Consumer Affairs Q&A stall, along with other special programs.
Deliver a range of events and activities that include and celebrate Alice Springs' diverse community		Community Development	Council attended the Alice Springs Show, providing free tea and coffee to attendees, networking opportunities and showcased Council Business Units. This stall won the award for Best Outdoor Local Government Display 2025. Seniors Month activities were popular in August with the Mayoral morning tea, the Still got Talent Quest and High Tea Bingo. Council offered three lunchtime sessions during Women's Health week in September which included a river walk, Qi Gong and Mental Health presentation from a young Indigenous person. Planning is underway for Diwali Night Market, 16 days of Activism and International Day of People with a Disability.

Build community engagement and improve perceptions of Council

Increase community awareness of Council's functions and activities		Corporate Services	Council maintained community awareness of its functions and activities this quarter through proactive communications, relationships with key external stakeholders and consistent use of multiple channels.
Publish a monthly events calendar of Council events and programs		Corporate Services	A monthly calendar continues to be produced and distributed among the community

Improve the awareness of and access to digital library content for the Alice Springs community		Community Development	To improve awareness of and access to digital library content, the Alice Springs Public Library (ASPL) continues to expand and promote its online and in-house digital resources. Through BorrowBox, patrons can enjoy e-books, e-magazines, and audiobooks anywhere, ensuring greater flexibility and convenience. In addition, the Alice Springs Special Collection provides a rich selection of local and historical resources, with particular focus on First Nations and Central Australian materials. These are accessible on our two reference computers within the Library, with some content also available online, supporting both community learning and cultural preservation.
Showcase 'What's unique about Alice'			
Deliver the Public Art Masterplan within agreed timeframes		Community Development	The Public Art Masterplan remains on track for completion by 2030 with Strategic Initiatives 53.6% complete and Proposed Public Art Pieces 48.4% complete and 38.7% ongoing. Projects commenced in Q1 FY 2025/26 include the shortlisting of four local artists to Concept Proposal for the Geoff Miers Commemorative Roundabout supporting local storytelling, local artist development and opportunity and prioritises public art within our suburban locations.
Continue to investigate the delivery of an Aboriginal statue/monument recognising Arrernte culture		Community Development	Investigation completed, in consultation with Lhere Artepe, the Strehlow Research Centre and the family of King Charlie.
Manage public art installations as part of the Regenerating the Alice Town Centre project		Community Development	All designs for available Public Art commissions within the Regenerating the Alice Town Centre project (i.e. Alice Springs Cultural Trail, Design Elements and Major Public Artwork) have been finalised and submitted for Fabrication & Installation following CBD Tender Award noting the Major Public Artwork will be set for Fabrication and Installation pending separate Tender Award. This project has seen the commissioning of nine Artists/Artists Groups, four of which are First Nations Artists.
Support quality, accessible recreational spaces and infrastructure			
Complete the Regional Skate Park and Play Precinct construction		Technical Services	The construction works for the Regional Skate Park and Play Precinct have advanced significantly in the last quarter, with the total project now reaching 70% completion, including completion of the pump track, installation of light towers and water services, and significant progress on play equipment, drainage, and half court construction. Current works are focused on skatepark and bowl completion, with works also beginning on landscaping, and final service connections.
Consult on the Parks and Playgrounds Implementation Plan		Technical Services	The findings of the Parks and Playgrounds Implementation Plan are scheduled to be presented to the newly elected Council members. A paper will be submitted at the upcoming Ordinary Council Meeting to seek direction. The outcome of this meeting is expected to guide the next steps in the implementation process.

Upgrade three parks		Technical Services	Playground equipment procurement complete. Tender for installation being prepared. Council is progressing upgrades to five parks in alignment with the Alice Springs Parks & Playgrounds Implementation Plan. The parks included in this year's program are Gillen Park (East Side), Forrest Park and Robert Park (Gillen), Dixon Park (Braitling), and Albrecht Oval (Larapinta). Play equipment for all sites has already been ordered. Construction tender documentation is currently being finalised and is scheduled for release to the market by the end of October 2025. Once the tender process is complete, construction will commence across the selected park locations. These upgrades aim to enhance recreational spaces and improve amenities for the local community.
Upgrade shade to three parks		Technical Services	Designs for new shade structures have been completed and will be delivered as part of the Parks Upgrade Program. These structures are designed to enhance user comfort and amenities at selected park sites. The construction and installation works are currently being prepared for market release and will form part of the Parks Upgrade tender scheduled to be advertised by the end of October 2025.
Continue to partner with the Northern Territory Government to install lights at Jim McConville Oval		Technical Services	The Northern Territory Government has completed the initial works, including installation of conduits, pits, scoreboard, and goal posts. Final design plans are currently under review with Council. The NTG has scheduled the commencement of the main construction works to begin next quarter.
Complete one accessibility upgrade to a Council owned facility		Technical Services	A hearing loop facility was successfully installed in the Council reception area last quarter. This upgrade enhances customer service for residents with hearing impairments by transmitting audio directly to compatible hearing aids, improving accessibility and communication. Council Officers are currently identifying other critical areas that require attention and are in the process of drafting scope of works documentation for future accessibility improvements.
Commence construction for the upgrades of Paul Fitzsimons Oval		Technical Services	Tender complete and awaiting lease finalisation. The tender has been released to the market, and evaluation has been completed. The project is now ready for Council approval, pending the Minister's approval and formalisation of the lease agreement between Charles Darwin University and the Council, as required by the grant conditions. Once the lease is signed off, construction of the new club rooms, car parking, and lighting can commence
Undertake plant refurbishment at the Alice Springs Aquatic & Leisure Centre		Technical Services	Tender for pool liner being prepared. Council is currently in the process of engaging a consultant to conduct a cost-effectiveness assessment of refurbishment options for the 25m indoor pool. The focus will be on comparing ease of maintenance against maximising the lifespan of the system. The consultant will assess potential refurbishment methods, provide recommendations, and deliver a report to guide decision-making for the next phases of the project.

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	A highlight of the Winter School Holiday program was a giant obstacle course and colour smash at Traeger Park which saw approximately 63 young people attend each day. Other winter school holiday activities included free ten-pin bowling, free mini-golf and barbeques, free rock wall climbing and skate and basketball sessions. Across the 3 weeks of school holidays 4,652 young people engaged with Council's programs. Term 3 after school programs included skate workshops on Wednesdays and art and craft workshops on Fridays at Lyndavale Park.
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	A total of 29,370 people attended ASALC over the reporting period. This saw an increase of 8,033 people compared to the same period in 2024. This includes over 10,000 people who visited the centre throughout the free entry period of the Spring School Holidays. The ASALC Adventure Park has been very popular throughout this period. ASTC launched its 2025/26 Health and Wellness Program in July 2025. ASALC offered seven weekly aquatic exercise classes between July-September 2025. A new water pilates program was introduced in July which has been popular with the community, focusing on a slower, more controlled form of aquatic exercise.
Increase Alice Springs Public Library outreach activities		Community Development	This quarter the Alice Springs Public Library (ASPL) actively engaged with the community through a range of outreach programs and partnerships. Key highlights include: • Alice Springs Show 04 & 05 July: The library participated in two sessions, reaching 211 attendees. • John Strehlow Author Talk: partnering with local author to extend library content beyond regular patrons. • School Visits: Visits such as the Steiner School program on 28/07/2025 engaged 21 children visiting the library. • Congress Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander stall in Todd Mall on 15/08/2025: Engaged 128 community members, strengthening connections with local Indigenous communities. • Books on Wheels & Old Timers Delivery: targeted outreach services for seniors, delivering library resources directly to those unable to visit the library. • Partner Programs: collaborating with organisations such as NT Consumer Affairs, Dementia Australia, NT Working Women's Centre, and Tax Help extended library services and information to new audiences (total 116 participants across multiple sessions). • Seniors Month High Tea Bingo: the library celebrated Seniors Month with our annual tradition of High Tea Bingo on 23/08/2025, the event welcomed 56 seniors into the library.

			Clontarf Foundation Central Region Employment Expo: On 28/08/2025, Library shared a stall with P&C to set up a stall for year 12 students to participate and explore internship/ job opportunities.
Continue to deliver a range of recreational activities and events that encourage a healthy, active community		Community Development	ASTC launched its 2025/26 Health and Wellness Program in July 2025. This program consists of ten weekly exercise classes including yoga, Qi Gong and mums and bubs classes held at ASALC. More than 1000 people have attended these classes in the last three months. Regular fortnightly pram parties held across the community continue to be delivered and are popular with the community.

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 poster outlining this information is being developed to be displayed in the community and also in Town Camps.
Continue to support animal adoptions through the Animal Shelter		Community Development	With regular opening hours established the Shelter can continue offering adoption services. A successful Adoption Day was held on 30 August which saw 10 animals find their fur-ever homes. A campaign to increase awareness of the ability for interstate adoptions is currently being planned.
Improve access to the CBD by maintaining parking enforcements (fines)		Community Development	Patrols occur regularly, with 536 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 limited trolley collection was required this quarter.
Improve visual amenity by maintaining litter enforcement (fines) and removing abandoned vehicles		Community Development	35 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	A strong emphasis has been placed on water safety with students from 15 local and remote schools participating in school swimming lessons over the last three months. Additionally, ASALC launched a teen beginners swim class which has been popular with families from multicultural backgrounds.

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	Meetings held with Chief Minister and Cabinet (CMC) Central Australia to progress Council involvement with the Regional Coordination Group and committing Council activities over the summer period: • School holiday program (last year of funding from NIAA) – exact session outline is still in planning for the Quarter. Council is also trying to cater to a slightly older demographic by scheduling some of the free cinema sessions during the early evening, online gaming etc. • Rangers will operate/have an on-call presence seven days per week over summer, with a particular focus on illegal camping and abandoned vehicles (on ASTC operated roads). • Depot will continue to respond to reports of graffiti as required. • Free entry at ASALC (and the Adventure Park), including a couple of evening sessions for older teens. • Strong likelihood that ASTC's new Regional Skate Park/Pump Track will come online during early December.
Support community safety by efficiently responding to calls for service from the community regarding animal management and public amenity		Community Development	Rangers support community safety by quickly responding to animal management and public amenity requests, whether reported by phone or through Snap Send Solve. Rangers working 7 days a week also allow for quick response times. All reports are assessed and actioned in sufficient timeframes.
Investigate an animal management outreach program with Town Camps		Community Development	Ranger team met with Tangentyere Council to deliver an information campaign for Town Camps around animal management which is being developed. Council officers also met with Akeyulerre this quarter to discuss a pilot program of introducing Rangers into Town Camps.
Continue to implement a Work Health and Safety Management System and gain ISO 4501 accreditation		Technical Services	The Civic Centre, Regional Waste Management Facility (RWMF) and Alice Springs Aquatic and Leisure Centre (ASLC) premises will be audited for their compliance with the safety requirements of the internationally recognised ISO45001 WHSMS. The audit process checks for compliance with policies, the effectiveness of hazard identification and risk control as well as overall system performance to effectively manage workplace risks. The first round of auditing is scheduled in February 2026. Preparation for that audit is ongoing. The second round of auditing involving the Depot and Animal Shelter premises is expected to occur in February 2027.

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	Quarterly meeting taking place focusing on the development of Council's own business continuity plans, as well as Council's roles and responsibilities to the community during a disaster event. Meeting held in quarter with Wayne Snell, Chief Officer of Northern Territory Emergency Service
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Review and update Council's Emergency Plans		Office of the CEO	This plan aims to ensure Council is actively prepared to respond to emergency events, including managing the use of Council resources to respond to emergencies and maintaining Council's compliance and engagement with existing Territory emergency arrangements. Officers have made significant progress on a comprehensive Council Emergency Plan with drafting at 90%, which has included consultation with some key external stakeholders.
Undertake flood mitigation works including removing sand from river and clearing storm water drains		Technical Services	All scheduled winter stormwater drain clearing works have been completed. The Depot team is now in the planning phase for the upcoming summer works program.
Provide disaster preparedness and hazard mitigation messaging to residents and businesses to support local disaster resilience		Corporate Services	Council will strengthen collaboration with first responder groups to ensure clear and consistent public messaging during emergencies. By following lead agency directions and engaging proactively with police, fire, and emergency services, Council aims to avoid confusion, support coordinated responses, and provide the community with accurate, timely, and reliable information.

Improve Council owned roads and cycleways

Complete road reseal program		Technical Services	Council's Road Reseal Program has been completed for FY 25-26, after sealing 14 streets across Braiting, Gillen, and Sadadeen to provide safer, more efficient roads through critical preventative maintenance. Following this success, the Council is preparing for the next three-year phase (FY 26-29) by initiating a new tender process to secure a long-term contractor and ensure continuous upkeep of the road infrastructure expected mid of next year. \$2.85 million has been allocated for this upcoming three-year contract, underscoring the Council's commitment to sustainable road asset management, and prioritising high standards of safety and efficiency for all community users.
Commence the CBD footpath program		Technical Services	Council's Footpath Program, a critical initiative focused on ensuring accessibility and Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) compliance, has recently finalised all works under its last completed contract. Looking ahead to the FY 25-28 period, Council went to tender in August for the next three-year program. Council is currently in the process of reviewing these tender documents, before submitting a recommendation for contract award to ensure the continuation of this essential service for DDA compliance and maximum community access.

Continue to support and undertake initiatives that seek to decrease gender-based violence and improve gender equality

Participate in 16 days of activism against gender-based violence		Community Development	Planning is underway with key stakeholders to develop awareness and mark 16 days of activism next quarter. Officers applied for a Northern Territory Government Grant to assist with planned programming. Council also regularly attends the Central Australian Family Violence and Sexual Assault Network (CAFVSAN) meetings.
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Review sporting clubs' licencing and signage arrangements to include respectful relationships and violence aggression standards		Community Development	Sporting clubs have updated licencing agreements which include terms around managing behaviour in the facility. AFL Alice Spring and Alice Springs Netball Association will finalise licensing agreements next quarter.
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Pillar Three: Environment

Improve land, air, water quality and reduce emissions

Deliver efficient and sustainable rubbish collection		Technical Services	Council Officers are preparing to run a tender process for the provision of household bin collection for Council, with the existing contract expiring soon.
Continue to support Alice Springs Landcare and community gardens		Technical Services	Council is collaborating with the Alice Springs Community Garden to provide 'Food Security in an Arid Zone' workshops. Council used to provide chemicals to Alice Springs Landcare required for weed management, however, Alice Springs Landcare has been receiving these from the Northern Territory Government since Buffel Grass was declared a weed. Officers met with Alice Springs Landcare members to inform about current Council actions, and to build more effective communication channels and further collaboration. Council Officers are exploring assigning Council team members to assist Alice Springs Landcare with weed management. Council Officers also started a collaboration with the community on the regeneration of Davidson Park, including providing new plants, signs and labour.
Conduct a National Tree Day giveaway		Technical Services	300 tree seedlings were given away to the community at the Todd Mall Markets on Sunday 3 August for National Tree Day
Deliver Climate and Environment Implementation Plan actions to agreed timelines		Technical Services	Council's Environment Officer's yearly plan for selected actions is in place and progress is as scheduled. The Climate and Environment Implementation Plan is scheduled to be reported to Council at the October Ordinary Council Meeting.
Complete the second year of the Alice Springs Greening Strategy & Action Plan 2024		Technical Services	Council Officers continue to progress the Greening Strategy, with more details on this available in the Council Plan section of this Q1 Community Quarterly Report. Community collaboration began to support regeneration of Davidson Park. A total of over 400 trees have now been planted, with over 500 trees at Council's tree farm, and 500 trees to be delivered by the Olive Pink Botanic Garden at the end of 2025. The success rate for planted trees has been very high and the vandalism rate low.
Deliver Green Living Subsidies		Technical Services	Council offers a Green Living Subsidy to encourage residents to think and act sustainably and to reduce household waste. 19 applications were received this quarter.
Deliver food security workshops		Technical Services	Food security workshops were delivered with around 140 people attending in total this quarter. As scheduled, there will be break over summer, with more workshops being planned for March to June 2026

Work to achieve outcomes of the Lhere Mparntwe Management Strategy		Technical Services	The Lhere Mparntwe Management Strategy aims to manage the Todd and Charles Rivers in a coordinate and collaborative way. A five-year technical review meeting was attended this quarter by the Director Technical Services.
Consult with the community on verge maintenance		Corporate Services	Consultation put on hold due to competing consultations and the Council Caretaker Period.
Re-establish Council's nursery at Albrecht Oval		Technical Services	The upgrade of nursery structures has been completed, and an upgrade of plumbing installation will commence at the end of October.

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 continues 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		Technical Services	The Regional Waste Management Facility continues to collect and recycle items, some in collaboration with industry organisations: metal (Sims Metal Australia), wet paint (Paintback Australia), e-waste (TV, printers, CD players, faxes, computers), household batteries (EcoCycle), and cardboard (Visy Industries). Council also continues to collaborate with Envirobank for the operation of the Drop'n'Go pods to allow Container Deposit Scheme drop-offs in CBD.
Encourage and support recycling uptakes and awareness in the Alice Springs community		Technical Services	Fridge magnets on recycling are available at Council's customer service counters. Waste reduction tips are being shared on Council's website, with posters also up around town.
Support community clean up events		Technical Services	A social media promotion was conducted regarding supporting community clean-up events. Community members are welcomed to contact Environment Officer to gain support for 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		Technical Services	Northern Territory Government (NTG) announced Operation Don't Be A Dumper (DBAD) and its associated Operation Plan in 2024 to tackle illegal dumping around Alice Springs. NTG, NT Environment Protection Authority, ASTC, and Lhere Artepe have been part of the working group. Council's Environment Officer joined round table discussions at both working group meetings held this quarter. Council is committed to ongoing participation to tackle illegal dumping within the municipality.

Pillar Four: Economy

Support the regeneration of the Alice Springs CBD

Support new opportunities to develop the CBD		Office of the CEO	Inaugural meeting held of the Alice Springs Developments Coordination Group. This group was established to enhance collaboration and integration across key projects within the CBD (and wider Alice community areas), ensuring that public and private initiatives are maximised to support the growth of the town and region. CBD Regeneration Project successfully tendered for construction phase with expected completion date by December 2026
Commence Regenerating the Alice Town Centre construction		Technical Services	Tender complete. Council Officers are now working with the preferred contractor to finalise the contract. The tender for the project has been released to the market, and the evaluation process is currently underway. Upon completion of this process, Council officers will engage with the preferred contractor to finalise the contract. The project is anticipated to receive Council approval in the next quarter. Subject to this approval, construction in and around the Todd Mall is expected to commence shortly thereafter.

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	Officers have commenced a review of procurement and purchase order policies and procedures to map underlying processes and methods to improve, enhance and align. LGANT provided training in Local Buy.
Support and help drive regional economic growth through participation and advocacy on relevant committees and inquiries		Office of the CEO	Participated in workshops on Rebuilding the Economy Strategy 2025-28, and the Territory Benefit Plan. Participated in the Department of Trade, Business and Asian Relations and NT Business Council Roundtable Luncheon and advocated for accelerating the development of an Alice Springs Economic Plan to the Hon Robyn Cahill, MLA. Minister for Trade, Business and Asian Relations who advised on progress made in establishing this Committee
Explore options to support Todd Mall traders during potential disruptions from the Regenerating the Alice Town Centre project		Office of the CEO	Major piece of work completed on Business Continuity Planning which included consultations with Todd Mall Traders as part of the construction tender process. Business support package budgeted and a communications campaign prepared for when contract is awarded. Meeting held with Todd Mall Trader executive committee to address concerns.
Contribute to the Approvals Fast Track Taskforce through the Local		Office of the CEO	Council provided examples and evidence to support LGANTs submission and representations to the Taskforce. The Government has responded noting that while it is important that the different levels of governments work together to streamline their regulatory frameworks where possible, the Taskforce has

Government Association of the Northern Territory			not spent time investigating improvements to Federal and Local Government regulatory frameworks. To this, there are the following recommendations relevant to Local Government sector: Recommendation 16 (longer-term whole of government reform): Strengthen accountability around approval timeframes (16A. Introduce mandatory approval timeframes across approvals, including for local governments and statutory authorities). Recommendation 21 (medium term): Conduct a major review of the Local Government Act 2019 to identify further reform opportunities to reduce timeframes for local government approvals. Benefits: A review will identify further areas of reform relating to delays associated with industry engagement with Local Government approvals, including where these interact with Territory approval processes. This review may be in the same vein as the recently announced 'local government red tape reduction taskforce' in Queensland.
Support the development of the Alice Springs Sports, Learning & Leadership Centre		Community Development	Meetings with relevant stakeholders continue to occur, with detailed designs for Stage One of construction soon to be finalised.
Maintain and increase awareness of the 'Live Work Alice' website		Corporate Services	Plans for the site to be migrated into Council's existing site 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	Council has increased its focus on Indigenous recruitment in both the animal shelter and the works depot. Working collaboratively with Tangentyere Employment Services (TES) where candidates have pre-screening and training, we have recruited several casual employees who will be moved to permanency after a period of time. Council in collaboration with TES, Saltbush Enterprises, and Clontarf Foundation, surveyed Alice Springs job seekers to determine most desired entry points (types of jobs). Officers have redrafted entry position descriptions in plain English and versions with key words in Arrernte; work continues in this space.
<i>Improve accessibility to Alice Springs</i>			
Continue involvement in and advocacy for delivery of the 'Outback Highway'		Office of the CEO	Council renewed its membership, elected representative to the Outback Way Council, and continues to support advocacy efforts for the Outback Way both at the Federal and NT level. Major developments in the quarter include the formation of the "Friends of the Outback Way Parliamentary Committee" of the Federal Parliament with 20 members; and advice from the NT Minister that Central Land Council has approved plans for sections of the Mereenie outer loop

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	A new Community Engagement Framework has been adopted to guide how Council communicates and consults with residents, businesses, and stakeholders. The framework provides clear and consistent principles, processes, and tools for meaningful engagement, ensuring community voices are heard and considered in decision-making across future projects, programs, and policy development.
Undertake an annual community sentiment survey to inform Council planning		Corporate Services	A survey and communications strategy has been developed and is near ready to launch.

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	A commercial review of property owned or controlled by ASTC was completed at the end of 2024. This year, Finance, working with General Counsel, has facilitated two subleases for the Hartley Street School. In September, a draft lease was prepared for the 50+ Plus Centre, which is currently in progress. Other lease work is ongoing.
Undertake an analysis of fees and charges based on cost of providing relevant services		Office of the CEO	An analysis of the fees and charges was undertaken as part of the municipal plan and will be reviewed again at the beginning of 2026. The cost of providing these relevant services is an exercise which is yet to be started, with finance initially looking at fees and charges that are subsidised and where cost recovery may be possible.
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 reviews all grant acquittals before submission to funding bodies to ensure full cost recovery. In the longer term, Finance is investigating the use of the contracts module within Civica to support annual reviews of supplier contracts.

Reduce financial losses from unpaid debts by strengthening debt collection processes		Office of the CEO	Finance continues to apply the debt management policy for both rates and trade debtors. The debt collection procedure for rates has been updated to provide clearer and stronger processes. Quotes were sought in July for external debt collection services, but the high fees have led to further review. Council is currently waiting on a response from NTG in relation to long term outstanding rates.
Automate financial processes thereby enhancing efficiency, accuracy and strategic decision-making		Office of the CEO	The finance department has been undertaking a project for our Business Process Alignment (BPA) with Civica, which consists of a number of stages. These stages are Discovery, Initiation, Gap Analysis, Workshop, Action Plan and Transition. We are at the Transition stage related to Purchasing, Accounts Payable, Bank Reconciliation and Accounts Receivable. ELMO Payroll Module configuration project started in December 2024. Payroll configurations and data input are now 100% completed with the first pay run through Elmo occurring on 1 October 2025.

Plan effectively for asset acquisition, operation, maintenance, renewal and disposal

Complete stage two of Council's Asset Management Plan		Technical Services	Consultant engaged to complete Strategic Asset Management Plan which is due in Q4 2025
Complete a new Alice Springs Public Library concept design, public consultation and costing		Technical Services	The findings from the feasibility study exploring potential scenarios for a new Alice Springs Public Library were recently presented to the newly elected Council members. A paper will be submitted to Council at the next Ordinary Council Meeting to seek direction. This decision is expected to guide the next steps, including concept design development and public consultation.
Purchase new plant at the Regional Waste Management Facility - New Shredder		Technical Services	The Council has acquired a TDS820 Slow Shredder to significantly enhance its waste management efficiency. This equipment plays a crucial role in reducing the volume of waste, directly extending the landfill's operational lifespan, and saving Council the cost of premature expansion for some time. By making bulky materials like mattresses and metals easier to sort and process, the shredder also promotes higher rates of recycling, diverting valuable resources and reducing contamination risk from harmful chemicals leaching into the environment. Ultimately, the TDS820 supports the transition to a circular economy by preparing shredded materials for beneficial reuse, such as alternative fuels or new products, yielding both environmental and economic benefits from lower transport and processing costs. The machine was delivered to Alice Springs Regional Waste Management Facility in October 2025.
Complete new kiosk and reception design for Alice Springs Aquatic & Leisure Centre		Community Development	Works currently being staged to minimise disruption, with changes to the entry gates deemed to be the highest priority. Currently working with IT to explore possible software solutions, with the aim of utilising the existing infrastructure to maximise the allocated budget.

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	Supporting the customer service officers to resolve more enquiries at the first point of contact, reducing the need for escalation. Undertaking research with other councils through meetings and knowledge-sharing to inform and guide the implementation of a council-wide knowledge management system. This will enhance customer service and strengthen our commitment to customer-centric service delivery.
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	ICT has taken a staged approach in upgrading the ICT infrastructure at major sites. Depot ICT upgrades have been initiated and are progressing towards testing phase. ASALC and RWMF are to be scheduled after Depot completion. Replacement of End-of-Life laptops and PCs continues as part of the asset lifecycle management activity. Base Operating Systems upgrade from Windows 10 to 11 has also started. Work in progress for Microsoft Teams to be adopted completely as a comprehensive communication and collaborative tool.
Improve ICT infrastructure, workflow improvements and user experience at the Works Depot		Corporate Services	Depot ICT network upgrades are progressing towards testing phase. Supported the ongoing Rollout of MaintainX with additional devices deployed. ELMO platform to digitise recruitment, onboarding, training, timesheets, and rostering is being adopted. Noah Face is being tested to be adopted as the replacement for Timecards at RWMF, Depot and ASALC. Testing is in progress.
Update the Electronic Document and Records Management System		Corporate Services	A proof of Concept for Sharepoint deployment is being evaluated and consultation in progress to determine the best possible upgrade option.
Reduce Council's reliance on paper		Corporate Services	Elmo: Completion of Elmo Onboarding module has significantly reduced paper usage. MaintainX: Work order issuing and end of day checklists and Chemical testing documents are now through MaintainX thus reducing reliance on paper. Noah Face: Noah Face in integration with Elmo will replace Timecards, Timesheets and paper-based leave application forms. Reducing Printer footprint in Civic Centre: Proposal to reduce the quantity of current single function printers has been approved, this measure is expected to reduce the current paper usage.
Review and update Council's business continuity plans		Corporate Services	Project scope has been created to allocate to a project manager.

Establish a two-year phase Reconciliation Action Plan to further Council's commitment to meaningful reconciliation		Community Development	Council's Reconciliation Working Group requested quotes this quarter for local consultation and development of Council's two-year Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) and have selected one quote to progress. Officers still continue to further actions from the Reflect RAP to continue reconciliation within the organisation.
Develop and embed a Governance Framework		Community Development	Drafting of the Governance Framework has started after desktop research was conducted on governance frameworks at other Councils.

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	Part of the ELMO implementation, we are currently designing the performance appraisal document and setting up performance management in ELMO. Managers will be trained in the performance management software which includes notes of discussions, informal performance reviews and the documented once per year review.
Investigate and support trainee and apprentice opportunities		Corporate Services	LGANT Local Government Traineeship Pilot Program has been investigated with GTNT hosting trainees to be placed at ASTC. Placements at the Animal Shelter, Depot and Library under initial consideration.

Empower team members to understand how they contribute to Council's vision

Develop a Workplace Wellbeing Strategy for Council team members		Corporate Services	Development of an online ASTC Climate/Culture Survey and ASTC Employee Assistance Program Satisfaction survey are underway. New starter induction presentation being reviewed, and project phase of ELMO Learning and Development well under way. Key data collection will inform and identify gaps. Core pillars of the strategy to include: Prevent/Mitigate Harm - address psychosocial risks; Promote Thriving/Positive Wellbeing - (induction and after support) build resilience, connection, capability; Support and Intervention - EAP (survey), counselling, return-to-work, flexible work; Leadership, Culture & Communication: leaders' wellbeing practices, modelling, psychological safety; and Measurement & Governance: metrics, feedback loops, continuous improvement.
Conduct scoping for a Council Workforce Plan		Corporate Services	Workforce risk assessment tool developed for executive approval and workforce analytics being taken from ELMO to assess critical roles, risk of vacancy in next three years, market trends on skills required and ABS statistics.
Implement a staff performance framework		Corporate Services	Part of the ELMO implementation, Council is currently designing the performance appraisal document and setting up performance management in ELMO. Managers will be trained in the performance management software which includes notes of discussions, informal performance reviews and the documented once per year review.

Continue the culture survey to track progress		Corporate Services	Continuing digital transformation, an online Employee Exit Survey has been successfully rolled out, an online ASTC Climate/Culture survey has been developed and is ready for review/roll out, and an online ASTC Employee Assistance Program Satisfaction survey is currently in development. Updating ASTC induction to ensure alignment with the Australian HR Institute’s recognised best practice induction. The manual booking and written and verbal feedback incorporated into the induction pack will be replaced with ELMO’s Learning and Development booking system and online feedback.
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