



Alice Springs Town Council

Quarterly Community Report

Quarter 2: Oct - Dec 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



683%

Council's Facebook engagement rate is 683% higher than the industry average for this quarter, sitting at 14.12% compared to the industry average of 1.85%.



51,216

Number of people that attended the Aquatic and Leisure Centre over between September-December 2025.



45

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



3,700

Number of people that attended Council's annual Christmas Carnival.



\$59k

A total of \$58,848.04 in funding was delivered to 10 organisations as part of Council's community grants and sponsorship program.



14

Number of streets that were successfully resealed through the reporting period as part of Council's Road Reseal Program.

Council Highlights



Christmas Carnival

Council's Christmas Carnival was a standout community celebration, bringing together 3,700 people in a joyful and welcoming atmosphere. The event featured more than 50 local stalls, offering a diverse range of food, gifts, art and festive experiences. Families enjoyed special visits from Santa and the Grinch, while the much-loved Christmas Tree lighting marked a memorable moment for attendees of all ages. The strong turnout and vibrant event energy reflect the importance of Council-led initiatives in fostering connection, celebrating community pride, and supporting local creators and organisations.



Newland Skate and Play Precinct Opening

The opening of the Newland Skate and Play Precinct was a day of celebration, welcoming residents to a landmark community space built for connection, play and progression. Delivered as a joint project between the Australian Government and NT Government in partnership with Alice Springs Town Council, the precinct brings to life one of the most exciting infrastructure investments in recent years. Council extends its sincere thanks to local company MPH Projects, who constructed the park to an exceptional standard. The incredible community turnout and the sea of smiling faces highlight the value of collaborative investment in creating vibrant, inclusive spaces where our town can come together, thrive, and skate toward the future.



Roundabout Artwork

The unveiling of “Wedge-Tailed Eagle (Irretye)”, created by local artist David Rilstone of Plazart Creative Metalwork, marked a proud new chapter for the Alice Springs Public Art collection. The sculpture captures the eagle mid-flight returning to its nest with a Stimson’s Python to feed two eaglets—symbolising strength, resilience, protection and care. The sculpture now holds a permanent home at the Hartley St and Gregory Tce Roundabout, inspiring daily pride and connection to local story and place.



Mayor’s Cake Auction

The Mayoral Cake Auction delivered again in 2025, raising more than \$15,500 for Bosom Buddies, Alice Springs’ valued Breast Cancer Support Group. From beautifully crafted cakes to spirited bidding wars, the event showcased the generosity, creativity and heart of Alice Springs. Council extends its sincere thanks to everyone who baked, bid and took part—especially the talented local cake creators whose time, care and flair made the fundraiser truly shine.



16 Days of Activism: Walk Against Gender-Based Violence

As part of the *16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence*, Council hosted a ‘Walk Against Gender Based Violence’ followed by a BBQ breakfast on Chamber Lawns. More than 45 people attended to show their support for a safer future.

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.

In September 2025, Council awarded the construction tender to local company Sitzler Pty Ltd, marking a major milestone. Construction works will commence early 2026 and is expected to be completed by the end of 2026.

Purchase of New Shredder Regional Waste Management

\$957,770

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. The TDS820 Shredder was successfully delivered to the RWMF in early October 2025 and has slotted seamlessly into the team's daily operations. By increasing compaction density, the shredder directly extends the operational lifespan of the landfill.

Line Marking Program

\$300,000

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

Council has officially kicked off our FY25-27 program, with contractors currently 10% complete for this financial year.

Park Upgrades FY25/26

\$630,000

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

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. The wait is over! Alice Springs now boasts a world-class, regional-scale community space designed for all ages and abilities. This landmark precinct is officially complete and open to the public, providing a vibrant new hub for recreation and connection.

Paul Fitzsimons Oval Redevelopment

\$3,686,349

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

Major construction at Paul Fitzsimons Oval is set to break ground in mid-January 2026. This project is a win for our local sporting community, providing modern infrastructure to support multiple codes and local residents.

Depot Amenities Upgrade

\$620,000

Providing modern, accessible amenities at the Council's Depot Facility.

We are proud to announce that the upgrades to our Council Depot are now fully complete, with the facilities officially opened in November 2025. This project provides our hardworking outdoor teams with high-quality, modern amenities.



Council Plan Updates

Multicultural Action Plan

- Council hosted the Korean Film Festival Touring Program in Alice Springs in October 2025, offering the community the opportunity to experience Korean cinema. Held at the Alice Springs Cinema, four free movie sessions were screened as part of the program, with a total of 128 attendees.
- Council hosted the third annual Diwali Night Market in October, delivered in partnership with Multicultural Centre Services Central Australia (MCSCA) and sponsored by SBS On Demand. The event featured 16 varied cultural performances and a number of cultural activities that were free to the public. The event attracted an estimated 2,900 attendees, which was an increase on previous year's attendance.
- Council officers have met with a number of multicultural organisations and representatives to offer guidance on the development and delivery of cultural events. One multicultural organisation was successful in securing Council funding under the Community Grants Program in Round 1 of the 2025-26 financial year, with plans to deliver their program in early 2026.
- Planning has commenced for 2026 multicultural events including the Lunar New Year Pop-up Park, scheduled for February 2026, and Big Day Out in Harmony, scheduled for May 2026.
- Research is underway and discussions have commenced around next steps after the completion of the current Multicultural Action Plan, which expires in 2026.



Annual Objectives Dashboard



Tracking Progress

Pillar One: Liveability

Name	Status	Responsible Directorate	Status Update
<p>Deliver five night markets</p>		<p>Community Development</p>	<p>On Thursday, 16 October 2025, Council hosted the third annual Diwali Night Market in Todd Mall from 5:00pm to 8:30pm which was delivered in partnership with Multicultural Centre Services Central Australia and sponsored by SBS On Demand. The event's traditional Hindu celebration and festival of light brought together many multicultural families and community groups in sharing food, culture and creative practices of dance, art, and dress. The event featured 16 varied cultural performances, DIY Diyas, henna stations, Try-on-a-sari experiences, mandala chalk art, themed kids' crafts, as well as a series of stallholders with food and goods for sale. The event drew an estimated 2,900 attendees, marking an increased turnout from 2024's 2,500 and reinforce the community's enthusiasm for inclusive cultural celebrations and Council's commitment to liveability by creating and supporting meaningful opportunities for the community to come together.</p> <p>Council's annual Christmas Carnival was held in Todd Street and Todd Mall on Friday, 12 December, and represented community spirit, resilience, and joyful festive season celebrations. Despite severe weather events between 4:30pm and 5:30 pm, the Christmas Carnival continued after a short show-stop in a decreased program capacity. The event was attended by 3,700 patrons over the course of the evening and featured roving performers, kids activities, dance workshops, a drumming workshop, giveaways and live music. It featured over 50 market stalls providing a wide range of dining and shopping options, children and youth choirs, surprise appearances from Santa and the Grinch, and the Town Band, who accompanied the Christmas Tree lighting and fireworks show, closing the night with a cabaret performance.</p>

<p>Deliver four pop up events</p>		<p>Community Development</p>	<p>The third annual Halloween Pop Up Party was held on Thursday 30 October in Todd Mall from 5:00pm to 8:30pm. The event featured family-friendly themed activations including a “Spooky Storytime” from the Alice Springs Public Library and Mayor Hill, “Trick ‘R Treat Trail” featuring surrounding local business, a “Creepy Crawly” petting zoo from the Alice Springs Reptile Centre, free-to-the-public photobooth, crafts and facepainting, a costume and colouring-in competition, live DJ and local food and market stallholders. The event saw an increase in attendance by 20% in comparison to 2024’s event with an approximate 1,200 attendees. This growth was reflective where the treats for the “Trick ‘R Treat Trail” were doubled yet was sold out early on in the night.</p>
<p>Administer Council's community grants and sponsorship program, including bi-annual information sessions</p>		<p>Community Development</p>	<p>Round 1 Community Support was completed with \$59,848.04 amount of funding delivered to 10 organisations for support in projects such as "Keeping our Community Hydrated" St John Ambulance Australia NT Inc., "Creating a Pollinator Learning Habitat: Establishing a Beehive & Biodiversity Space" The Alice Springs Steiner School Inc., "Birth and Beyond Summer Play" Childbirth Education Association Inc., "Workshop Program" Red Dirt Poetry Inc., "NextGen Lions" Lion Heart Association Inc., "Alice Springs Responsible Pet Care Initiative" Desexing Assistance and Community Support Inc., "Dusty Streets A-Town" Triptic Pty Ltd, "Equal Futures Fair" Women’s Museum of Australia Inc., "Top End Folk Festival 2026" Alice Springs Folk Club Inc.</p>
<p>Provide in-kind support to organisations and community groups to assist in the delivery of community events</p>		<p>Community Development</p>	<p>Council delivered a total value of \$32,058.00 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 Alice Springs Masters Games - Launch Event, Alice Springs Maters Games, Alice Noir, Alice Springs Carols by Candlelight 2025, Alice Springs Christmas Show, AMA Alicele Onam 2025, Annual General Meeting, Australia Day Council, Bikes Mwerre afterschool activity, Black Mens Group Meeting, Boarding students movie under the stars at Yirara College, Bright Moon Partner Gathering, Burt Creek Family Night, CAAMA 45 Anniversary Live Broadcast, Childrens Ground Family Night, DASA BBQ breakfast in the Park, DASA breaky BBQ event, DASA Outreach BBQ in the Park, Facilitation Skills workshop, Hidden Valley Community Night, Ingkintja Men’s March Against Domestic Violence 2025, Learning team report writing and PD day, Lhere Pirnte Impatye Park Celebration, Not So Terrible 2's - Navigating Toddlerhood, Para Classification workshop and event briefing, RSL Remembrance Day Service, Spinifex Skateboards 5th anniversary and new product launch., Sports Integrity Forum, Sunday Markets, Supporting Coaches & Officials workshop Tackling Indigenous Smoking team stall, Women Together Group - End of Year Gathering, Workshop, Managing Alcohol for sports clubs, Yarrenty Altere BBQ, Yarrenty Altere BBQ Breakfast.</p>

<p>Deliver the Multicultural Action Plan within agreed timelines</p>		<p>Community Development</p>	<p>Council continues to meet actions from the Multicultural Action Plan which are 78% complete. Highlights this quarter included the Korean Film Festival held early October and the Diwali Night Market in partnership with Multicultural Services of Central Australia. Council met in November with several multicultural groups and representatives to offer guidance on development and delivery of cultural events, including building capacity for delivery of Lunar New Year Pop Up Park and Diwali celebrations in 2026.</p>
<p>Support the Alice Springs Art Foundation in the development and promotion of the 2026 Alice Prize</p>		<p>Community Development</p>	<p>Completed in Q1: Council officers met with the Alice Springs Art Foundation in quarter one and determined that while Council will support promotion of the 2026 Alice Prize, additional infrastructure builds such as website upgrades are required prior to increasing the size of the Prize. Alice Prize applications opened in October and close in January 2026. Officers will continue to support the Prize where possible.</p>
<p>Improve awareness and use of Council's Community Calendar</p>		<p>Corporate Services</p>	<p>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.</p>
<p>Maintain an appropriate level of library services for the community during the Alice Springs Public Library's temporary relocation</p>		<p>Community Development</p>	<p>The relocation process for the library team began this quarter and is still underway. New work areas have been established for library staff and new storage areas have been arranged to make up for lost storage. Alice Springs Special Collection (ASCol) has been carefully boxed up and is in appropriate temporary storage. The bulk of ASCol will find a temporary home with another institution so that the public can still have access, with the rest of the collection accessible onsite in the Civic Centre building. Public computers have been moved to a different part of the library for continued public use. All library services and programs will continue to run as normal, such as Story Time, Music and Movement, Baby Rhyme Time, Lego Legends, Tech Help, VR-fternoons, Read Write Chat, public computer and Wi-Fi access, public cinema and access to the general collection.</p>
<p>Deliver a range of events and activities that include and celebrate Alice Springs' diverse community</p>		<p>Community Development</p>	<p>In November, Council received grant funding from the Northern Territory Government to host a free movie screening at Alice Springs Cinema in celebration of Transgender Awareness Week. A documentary film called Kuma Hina was selected, raising visibility of transgender people and awareness of the issues members of the community face and hosted 34 attendees. This funding also supported the delivery of Council's participation in 16 Days of Activism with the Walk Against Gender Based Violence & BBQ Community Breakfast which hosted 150 attendees. On International Day of People with Disability, Council held the Mayoral Awards which highlighted the contributions made by individuals with disability and by individuals for disability communities in Alice Springs. The 2025 winners were: Raylene Kunoth, Amanda Knight and Sammy Butcher.</p>

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Build community engagement and improve perceptions of Council

<p>Increase community awareness of Council's functions and activities</p>		<p>Corporate Services</p>	<p>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. In particular, social media engagement has improved. Industry standard Facebook engagement rates for government sit at 1.85% whereas Alice Springs Town Council's sat at 14.12% for the quarter, 683% better than average.</p>
<p>Publish a monthly events calendar of Council events and programs</p>		<p>Corporate Services</p>	<p>A monthly calendar continues to be produced and distributed among the community with the team looking at more effective and efficient options moving forward. A comprehensive School Holidays calendar was developed and distributed through this quarter, in collaboration with the NT Government.</p>
<p>Improve the awareness of and access to digital library content for the Alice Springs community</p>		<p>Community Development</p>	<p>To improve awareness of and access to digital library content, the Alice Springs Public Library continues to expand and promote its online 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 two reference computers within the Library, with some content also available online, supporting both community learning and cultural preservation. These have been moved into the general library floor in the relocation and new signage is being made up. Weekly drop-in Tech Help sessions are available for anyone needing assistance with anything digital.</p>

Showcase 'What's unique about Alice'

<p>Deliver the Public Art Masterplan within agreed timeframes</p>		<p>Community Development</p>	<p>This quarter, Council awarded the successful local artist for the Geoff Miers Commemorative Roundabout to proceed to fabrication and installation. In November 2025, Council unveiled Wedge-Tailed Eagle (Irretye) by David Rilstone at the Hartley Street and Gregory Terrace roundabout. The sculpture, which was co-funded by Tourism NT, symbolises strength, resilience, and adaptation. This is the third installation in a growing roundabout art series and a proud addition to the Alice Springs Public Art collection with its alignment to the Public Art Masterplan 2020–2030.</p>
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Continue to investigate the delivery of an Aboriginal statue/monument recognising Arrernte culture		Community Development	Investigation and item finalised in Q1 2025.
Manage public art installations as part of the Regenerating the Alice Town Centre project		Community Development	All designs for the Regenerating the Alice Town Centre project have been finalised and submitted for fabrication and installation. The Major Public Artwork Fabrication and Installation Tender closed in December 2025 for review by the Tender Assessment Panel.

Support quality, accessible recreational spaces and infrastructure

Complete the Regional Skate Park and Play Precinct construction		Infrastructure Services	The Alice Springs Regional Skate Park and Play Precinct is now fully operational. 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 Government.
Consult on the Parks and Playgrounds Implementation Plan		Infrastructure Services	A formal paper regarding the implementation plan is expected to be presented to the Ordinary Council Meeting (OCM) in the third quarter.
Upgrade three parks		Infrastructure Services	Council has received the ordered playground equipment and is progressing into the construction phase of the upgrades. Works at Gillen Park (East Side) were recently awarded to a contractor, with the remaining Year 3 upgrades at Forrest Park, Robert Park and Dixon Park to be awarded shortly.
Upgrade shade to three parks		Infrastructure Services	The installation of shade sails at Kunoth Park was completed in December as part of the Year 2 park upgrades. Additional shade structures for Year 3 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	The Northern Territory Government has finalised initial works, including the installation of conduits, pits, the scoreboard, and goal posts. The project is now progressing to the main construction phase, with works scheduled to commence next quarter following the review of final design plans.
Complete one accessibility upgrade to a Council owned facility		Infrastructure Services	Council continues to prioritise infrastructure improvements that enhance accessibility and safety for all community members. A significant project to update crossing tactiles throughout the CBD commenced in early December 2025. These tactile ground surface indicators are essential for providing directional and

			hazard orientation for people with vision impairment, ensuring the town centre remains a safe and inclusive environment for residents and visitors alike. This work complements ongoing efforts to ensure Council-owned facilities meet modern accessibility standards.
Commence construction for the upgrades of Paul Fitzsimons Oval		Infrastructure Services	Construction for this project is scheduled to begin in mid-January 2026. The scope of works includes the development of essential clubroom and umpires' amenities, public and disabled toilets, secure storage, and shade structures. Additionally, the site will feature new training lighting and improved site access with informal car parking to benefit local sporting participants and residents.
Undertake plant refurbishment at the Alice Springs Aquatic & Leisure Centre		Infrastructure Services	A new gas boiler system is set to be installed in February 2026 to provide more consistent and efficient heating to the outdoor 50m pool. An Aquatic consultant is also assisting the project team in the re-lining of the indoor 25m lap pool which is anticipated to commence early next financial year.

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	Term 4 after school programs included skate workshops on Wednesday's and art and craft workshops on Friday's at Lyndavale Park. The Summer School Holiday calendar was designed and distributed offering young people a range of free activities such as ten-pin bowling, waterslide Wednesday's, rock wall climbing and skate and basketball sessions. The Ice-Skating rink will run from 6 - 25 January 2026 and has received great interest.
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	51,216 people attended ASALC between October-December 2025. This was well supported by free entry to the facility on weekends, September School Holidays and the commencement of Summer Holidays. Seventeen schools (both local and remote) visited the centre for school swimming lessons and over 300 children were enrolled in the after-school learn to swim program. 800 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	This quarter, the Alice Springs Public Library actively engaged with the community through a range of outreach programs and partnerships. Key highlights include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Getting Tech Savvy: funded by BeConnected grant from the Good Things Foundation. Two digital literacy workshops were held aimed at improving understanding online safety for older people.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bikes Mwerre held a special event for the community in October in the library. • Books on Wheels & Old Timers Delivery: targeted outreach services for seniors, delivering library resources directly to those unable to visit the library. • During October, the Library held a book sale, where discontinued stock found new homes within the community and money raised went to Bosom Buddies, who provide support for those dealing with cancer. • Desert Stories was a series of film screenings held in the Alice Springs Collection, showcasing films held in the collection and included a CAAMA retrospective. • Braitling Primary School visited the library in December, spending two hours exploring and learning what is available for them here in their local public library. • The library team held a stall at the Christmas Carnival to promote the summer reading club, sign up new members, and host the raffle to light the tree. • Partner Programs: collaborating with organisations such as NT Consumer Affairs, Dementia Australia, and Tax Help extended library services and information to new audiences. • School holiday programs included a range of activities: Virtual Reality, Insect Art, Lego, Christmas Craft, Robotics, Drones. • Diverse programs cater to a range of ages and interests: French Storytime, Watercolour Class, Chess Club, Virtual Reality. • Read, Write, Chat continuously brings in new volunteers and participants as they connect to improve social, literacy and language skills.
<p>Continue to deliver a range of recreational activities and events that encourage a healthy, active community</p>		<p>Community Development</p>	<p>The 2025/26 Health and Wellness Program consists of ten weekly exercise classes including yoga, Qi Gong and mums and bubs classes held at ASALC. 1308 people attended these classes in the last three months. Regular fortnightly pram parties were held in Eastside which were popular with the community.</p>

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 45 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 748 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	43 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 ReLink and NT Sport and Disability, the Alice Springs Aquatic and Leisure Centre delivered a six-week all-abilities swim program in Term 4. This program aimed at improving water safety and awareness for people living with a disability.

<p>Continue to advocate for and participate in Northern Territory Government strategies and reforms that aim to improve community safety in Alice Springs</p>		<p>Office of the CEO</p>	<p>Council continues to support Northern Territory Government strategies to reduce crime and improve safety over the summer period. We participated in operational meetings, and provided data on abandoned vehicles, graffiti removal, and rough sleeper engagements. In addition, we have partnered with the Australian and Northern Territory Government in the delivery of the school holiday program, highlighted by the free pool entry and ice-skating. Elected Members have also received a briefing from the new Police Commissioner, where partnership opportunities were explored</p>
<p>Support community safety by efficiently responding to calls for service from the community regarding animal management and public amenity</p>		<p>Community Development</p>	<p>Rangers supported community safety by quickly responding to animal management and public amenity requests, whether reported by phone or through Snap Send Solve. Rangers working seven days a week also allow for quick response times. All reports are assessed and actioned in sufficient timeframes.</p>
<p>Investigate an animal management outreach program with Town Camps</p>		<p>Community Development</p>	<p>The Ranger Unit has continued to work with key stakeholders towards this goal, with work focusing on what can be done in the short-term with resourcing currently available.</p>
<p>Continue to implement a Work Health and Safety Management System and gain ISO 4501 accreditation</p>		<p>Infrastructure Services</p>	<p>The Civic Centre, Regional Waste Management Facility and Alice Springs Aquatic and Leisure Centre 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.</p>

Improve Council and the community's disaster preparedness

<p>Hold regular emergency planning committee meetings to coordinate Council's emergency preparedness planning and resources</p>		<p>Office of the CEO</p>	<p>A quarterly meeting of Council's internal Emergency Management Committee meeting focused on a presentation from local historian, Mr Alex Nelson, on Alice Springs floods. Council also participated in the Southern Regional Emergency Committee meeting and received functional group updates and reviewed current plans. Relevant Council Officers toured the Alice Springs Emergency Centre to familiarise themselves. Meetings also took place with Minister Burgoyne and Member for Lingiari over flood mitigation works for Alice Springs.</p>
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Review and update Council's Emergency Plans		Office of the CEO	An updated draft ASTC Emergency Plan has been completed and reviewed by NTES and NTFRS with the Risk Management and Audit Committee briefed. A final version of the Plan will be reviewed at the next ASTC Emergency Planning Committee prior to next stages of development of supplemental documents, training and exercising, and continuous improvement.
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 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		Infrastructure Services	The FY 25–26 Road Reseal Program has concluded, with 14 streets successfully sealed across Braiuling, 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.

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	16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence is a global campaign to raise awareness and advocate for the prevention and elimination of violence against women and girls. This year, 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.
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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. AFLNT 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		Infrastructure Services	The tender for the new kerbside general waste collection contract closed in November 2025. Contract award is anticipated to occur in January 2026.
Continue to support Alice Springs Landcare and community gardens		Infrastructure Services	A collaboration has been established with the community for the regeneration of Davidson Park. Current works include buffel grass management, the plantation of new species, and the installation of educational signage.
Conduct a National Tree Day giveaway		Infrastructure Services	This annual event was successfully conducted in August 2025 at the Todd Mall Markets.
Deliver Climate and Environment Implementation Plan actions to agreed timelines		Infrastructure Services	Endorsed projects for the 25/26 period are currently on track as per the established schedule.
Complete the second year of the Alice Springs Greening Strategy & Action Plan 2024		Infrastructure Services	Scheduled plantings have been completed, and Council has received a delivery of 500 trees from Olive Pink Botanic Garden. The Council tree farm is established, and community 'Adopt' programs are scheduled for announcement in early 2026.
Deliver Green Living Subsidies		Infrastructure Services	The Green Living Subsidy program remains on track. This initiative continues to support residents in reducing household waste and adopting more sustainable living practices.

Deliver food security workshops		Infrastructure Services	Next sessions scheduled for the March–June 2026 period following the summer break.
Work to achieve outcomes of the Lhere Mparntwe Management Strategy		Infrastructure Services	Council remains on track with the management of the Todd and Charles Rivers. A five-year technical review meeting was attended by the Director of Technical Services last quarter to ensure coordinated and collaborative progress on the strategy.
Consult with the community on verge maintenance		Corporate Services	Work has yet to commence on community consultation for verge maintenance, as several higher-priority consultations have required focus and resourcing. A broader body of work reviewing relevant bylaws, including verge maintenance responsibilities, is scheduled to begin in 2026.
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 will commence early January 2026.

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		Infrastructure Services	Collaboration with industry partners continues through the Regional Waste Management Facility, focusing on the collection and recycling of metal, wet paint, e-waste, and cardboard. Furthermore, the partnership with Envirobank for the operation of Drop'n'Go pods remains active to support the Container Deposit Scheme.
Encourage and support recycling uptakes and awareness in the Alice Springs community		Infrastructure Services	A reusable plate service was introduced at the Night Markets, where the Council team manages the distribution, collection, and washing of crockery to reduce event waste.
Support community clean up events		Infrastructure Services	This programme remains on track, supported by marketing promotions to encourage community participation. Council's Environment Officer continues 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 remains an active participant in the Northern Territory 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	Presentations have been provided to Northern Territory Government and Australian Government representatives showcasing shovel-ready projects in the CBD and associated costs. Second meeting of the Alice Springs Developments Coordination Group held to enhance collaboration and integration across key projects within the CBD (and wider Alice community areas).
Commence Regenerating the Alice Town Centre construction		Infrastructure Services	The tender for the project has been awarded, and Council is now working with the successful contractor to prepare for construction. Works in Todd Mall are expected to commence in January 2026. An initial staging plan and project program have been developed and released to outline the sequence of works across each phase. A Business Continuity Plan will be implemented, and one-on-one stakeholder engagement with affected business owners and relevant organisations will commence and run alongside construction. This approach is intended to help minimise disruption and ensure Council works closely with businesses, property owners and the wider community to provide clear and timely information about construction timing, access arrangements and upcoming activities.

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		Office of the CEO	During this quarter, Council participated in meeting with SA & QLD Cross Border Commissioners, Building our Regional Future workshop, CommbankIQ, , Department of Trade, Business and Asian Relations, Central Australia Tourism Summit, Council of Small Business Organisations, Regional Development Australia NT,

relevant committees and inquiries			<p>Chamber NT Central Australia Regional Executive Committee, Youth Foyer Association, various October Business Month events including Mayor presenting on Council developments, Alice Springs Cinema owner, Territory Coordinator, Lifestyle Village proponent. Made submissions to the Local Government Act Review, Infill and density Planning Amendments, and supported LGANT response to changes to criminal liability submission.</p>
Explore options to support Todd Mall traders during potential disruptions from the Regenerating the Alice Town Centre project		Office of the CEO	<p>Renew Australia has been engaged to advise whether their program would have a high likelihood of success and support traders during business disruptions from the CBD works. Further meetings held with Todd Mall Trader executive committee to address concerns.</p>
Contribute to the Approvals Fast Track Taskforce through the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory		Office of the CEO	<p>Completed in Q1: 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 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.</p>
Support the development of the Alice Springs Sports, Learning & Leadership Centre		Community Development	<p>Briefing provided to Elected Members during December, with negotiations continuing with Redtails Pinktails Right Tracks Foundation to confirm a preferred location for the development.</p>
Maintain and increase awareness of the 'Live Work Alice' website		Corporate Services	<p>Planning is underway for the site to be migrated into Council's existing site are underway with a goal of raising exposure. Content migration is expected to take place next quarter.</p>
Improve employment outcomes by increasing Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander recruitment, retention and professional development		Corporate Services	<p>Collaborated with local Indigenous groups. Joint development of Indigenous/identified positions with targeted position descriptions and recruitment. Development of support network working with Tangentyere Employment Services (TES) and Infrastructure Services.</p>

Improve accessibility to Alice Springs

<p>Continue involvement in and advocacy for delivery of the 'Outback Highway'</p>		<p>Office of the CEO</p>	<p>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".</p>
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Pillar Five: Governance & Civic

Effectively communicate with the community

<p>Implement a Community Engagement Framework for Alice Springs Town Council, including guidelines for undertaking community consultation</p>		<p>Corporate Services</p>	<p>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.</p>
<p>Undertake an annual community sentiment survey to inform Council planning</p>		<p>Corporate Services</p>	<p>A community survey was conducted with more than 500 responses from community members. Data has been provided to Executive for consideration, and will be reported back to the community and Elected Members in Council's Annual Report.</p>

Develop a sustainable financial model

<p>Undertake a commercial review of property owned or controlled by Alice Springs Town Council and consider other revenue options</p>		<p>Office of the CEO</p>	<p>A commercial review of property owned or controlled by ASTC was completed at the end of 2024. This year, General Counsel working with Finance, has facilitated two subleases for the Hartley Street School. Council officers had a meeting with representatives from the National Trust who have given their in-principal agreement to take over the lease for the school directly with the Northern Territory Government. This removes council from significant obligations in managing the tenancies and requiring council resolutions for sub-leasing arrangements. Council is currently in discussions with Northern Territory Government to progress with the subdivision and associated lease arrangements. In October,</p>
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			<p>Council entered into agreement with two parties for the sale of Underdown Laneway (Lot A and Lot B) with the resolution being passed in November. Subdivision of the original lot, into Lot A and Lot B is currently progressing.</p> <p>Partial closure and sale of Knuckey Laneway- Council entered into an agreement for the sale of the laneway with proceeds being received in December. In September, a lease was prepared for the 50+ Plus Centre, with approval given by Council in November for the signing of the lease to the Alice Springs 50 Plus Community Centre Management Committee. Finance has requested a quote for the industrial lease at Cameron Street. The multi-storey lease of the Hartley St carpark is currently under review, with valuations being obtained. Approval has been given in December, for two leases with Tourism Central Australia (TCA) over parts of Cnr Gregory Terrace and Cnr Leichardt Terrace, to cover the temporary Visitor Information Centre (VIC), temporary TCA Offices and future VIC and TCA Offices.</p>
<p>Undertake an analysis of fees and charges based on cost of providing relevant services</p>		<p>Office of the CEO</p>	<p>An analysis of the fees and charges was undertaken as part of the 2025-2026 Municipal Plan and are currently under review by managers for the 2026-2027 Municipal Plan. We will benchmark current fees to similar councils to determine if our levels are reasonable and assess community impact and affordability before changes are recommended. Areas where fees are outdated and where demand for service is high, will be prioritised. Finance has engaged Mead Perry Group to undertake a rates analysis. This work will provide a range of options and support rates modelling, with a focus on increasing Council revenue through changes to the rating mix. The analysis and options will be presented to Council in the first quarter of 2026.</p>
<p>Reduce supplier costs by reviewing supplier contracts, ensuring cost recovery with grant funded projects. Investigate shared services with other councils</p>		<p>Office of the CEO</p>	<p>Finance is now responsible for grant management which includes oversight of 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. Currently Finance is assisting Infrastructure Services to find better rates for expenses, starting with electricity. Another project that Finance is working on is the bin audit, working closely with Infrastructure Services to ensure that the waste removal tender encapsulates the latest technology, to ensure Council receives the correct revenue for waste removal.</p>
<p>Reduce financial losses from unpaid debts by strengthening debt collection processes</p>		<p>Office of the CEO</p>	<p>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. We are currently waiting on a response from the Northern Territory Government in relation to long term outstanding rates, after providing further information in December as requested. Outside of the normal debt recovery process followed by Finance, Council is also reviewing 14 rate payers with outstanding debts over \$20K that are more than 2 years old. Ratepayers already on a payment plan are being</p>

			contacted to review and increase their repayments so that the debt is cleared within five years. Ratepayers not on a payment plan are being contacted to either put a plan in place or resolve the debt. If this does not occur, Council will consider recovery action, including sale of property.
Automate financial processes thereby enhancing efficiency, accuracy and strategic decision-making		Office of the CEO	The Finance team has been undertaking a project for our Business Process Alignment (BPA) with Civica, which consists of the following stages: 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. Civica has scheduled the ePurchase order implementation followed by Procure to Pay Purchasing and then Procure to Pay Invoicing. This is being delivered as a program of work, and the project started in July 2025. Procure to Pay Purchasing was completed in November 2025 and Procure to Pay Invoicing is scheduled for completion in February 2026. ELMO Payroll Module Elmo Payroll configuration project started in December 2024. Payroll configurations and data input are now 100% completed with the system going live in mid-September. As of 30th November, payroll is being processed through Elmo. Finance is rolling out NoahFace (timesheet software that integrates with Elmo) to departments sequentially.

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

Complete stage two of Council's Asset Management Plan		Infrastructure Services	A consultant has been engaged to develop the Strategic Asset Management Plan. This critical document is currently under development and is due for completion in early 2026.
Complete a new Alice Springs Public Library concept design, public consultation and costing		Infrastructure Services	Elected Members have endorsed 'Scenario 2' from the feasibility study, which locates the new library above the existing Civic Centre car parks to capitalise on existing central infrastructure.
Purchase new plant at the Regional Waste Management Facility - New Shredder		Infrastructure Services	Completed in Q1: 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 and Leisure Centre		Community Development	The project scope has been refined to focus on the operational functionality of entry and exit gates. Staff are currently collaborating with ICT to implement software solutions that utilise existing infrastructure.

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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 to inform and guide the implementation of a council-wide knowledge management system and a customer service charter to align with Council’s Strategic Plan and digital transformation goals. This will enhance customer service, strengthen our commitment to customer-centric service delivery and retain corporate knowledge.
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	A transition to Microsoft Teams Calling migration has been completed – 209 phone numbers ported, 101 users transitioned from legacy Switchvox PBX. Windows 11 migration is progressing – devices identified for hardware replacement due to compatibility requirements. Teams Meeting Rooms deployment Completed across four locations (Aherre, Arunta, Yerrampe, Atywenpe). Microsoft 365 security hardening engagement planned for Intune foundation and Essential Eight compliance.
Improve ICT infrastructure, workflow improvements and user experience at the Works Depot		Corporate Services	Depot included in Wi-Fi rollout program with infrastructure wiring complete.
Update the Electronic Document and Records Management System		Corporate Services	SharePoint evaluation is currently underway as potential Content Manager replacement. Proof of concept work completed for Microsoft 365 Purview and E-discovery configuration. The Registry team is conducting a SharePoint review for records management capabilities.
Reduce Council's reliance on paper		Corporate Services	Civica P2P Purchasing and Invoicing module is progressing with digital workflow automation. Paperless Rangers project (Comply vs Aerorangers for mobile infringements) Aerorangers in Testing, Comply postponed. Printer consolidation review commenced – targeting reduction from 23 to 12 Multifunction Device/Printers at Civic Centre. Secure print and follow-me printing functionality planned for remaining fleet. Scan to OneDrive/email under investigation to replace scan to network share.

Review and update Council's business continuity plans		Corporate Services	Review of the Business Continuity Plan has commenced.
Establish a two-year phase Reconciliation Action Plan to further Council's commitment to meaningful reconciliation		Community Development	Council's Reconciliation Working Group engaged SpeakWrite Consulting to facilitate local consultation and development of Council's two-year Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) with a workshop planned for February 2026. The Reconciliation Working Group continue ongoing actions from the Reflect RAP to maintain reconciliation activity across the organisation.
Develop and embed a Governance Framework		Community Development	The Governance Framework continues to be developed and will be presented at an Ordinary Council meeting in quarter three or four.

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	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.
Investigate and support trainee and apprentice opportunities		Corporate Services	Traineeship opportunities are being developed for the Alice Springs Aquatic and Leisure Centre, Regional Waste Management Facility, and Depot.

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

Develop a Workplace Wellbeing Strategy for Council team members		Corporate Services	Workplace Wellbeing Strategy developed with three Employee Assistance Program (EAP) providers all providing wellbeing workshops on building resilience and coping with life challenges. All EAP providers have committed to providing reports (no identification) with recommendations on focus activities where common themes have emerged.
Conduct scoping for a Council Workforce Plan		Corporate Services	Workforce planning scoping has commenced with data prepared for Western Australia Local Government Association survey and Local Government Association of the Northern Territory survey. General NT workforce data collected. Workforce plan anticipated to be completed by 31 March.

Implement a staff performance framework		Corporate Services	Staff performance framework still in development within ELMO with Manage, People and Performance training to occur late January 2026 and full implementation by March 2026.
Continue the culture survey to track progress		Corporate Services	Culture surveys are pulsed annually.



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