

Media Release

29 July 2026

July Council Meeting wrap up

The Alice Springs Mayor and Councillors met on Tuesday 28 July 2026 for their monthly Ordinary Council Meeting. The following is a summary of some of the matters discussed. To see full Council reports and minutes visit the ASTC website. A full video of the meeting is available on Council's [website](#).

Council celebrate 55 years of working Together for Alice

Council took a moment during the meeting to celebrate the 55th anniversary of the Alice Springs Town Council, with Mayor Asta Hill and Deputy Mayor Allison Bitar cutting a commemorative cake to mark the occasion.

Since becoming a municipality on 1 July 1971, the Town Council has played a central role in shaping Alice Springs, delivering the local services, infrastructure and community facilities that residents rely on every day. Over the past five and a half decades, Council has grown alongside the town, supporting everything from parks and roads to libraries, community events and recreational spaces.

The milestone was an opportunity to reflect on Council's history, recognise the contributions of past and present Elected Members and staff, and reaffirm its ongoing commitment to serving the Alice Springs community, *Together for Alice*.

New Library now heading to detailed design phase

Council has endorsed the concept design for the new Alice Springs Public Library, marking an important milestone towards delivering a modern, purpose-built community facility for Alice Springs.

The concept design was shaped by extensive community consultation, with feedback from more than 450 community members helping to refine the proposal. Following community input, Council also resolved to include a dedicated all-gender bathroom as well as an accessible bathroom, in the design.

With the concept design now endorsed, the project will progress to the detailed design phase, where specialist designers will further develop the plans ahead of construction. The new library will provide a contemporary, welcoming space that supports learning, connection and community for generations to come.

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Council calls for safer fireworks use on Territory Day

Following a divided vote, Council resolved to take steps aimed at improving public safety and reducing the environmental impacts of private fireworks on Territory Day.

Council will develop educational resources promoting safe and responsible fireworks use ahead of Territory Day 2027, alongside a map identifying areas that should be avoided when setting off fireworks, particularly near the river corridor, Ilparpa Claypans, bushland, habitat areas and other locations with high fuel loads. Officers will seek input from relevant agencies during the development of the map.

Council also agreed to ask the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory (LGANT) to advocate for designated locations where private fireworks can be safely set off in future years, with the aim of reducing disturbance, property damage and environmental impacts.

Council adopts new Governance Framework

Council has endorsed a new Governance Framework designed to strengthen accountability, transparency and good decision-making across the organisation.

The framework provides a clear structure for how Council identifies and manages risk, defines roles and responsibilities, and supports effective oversight. While not required under legislation, governance frameworks are widely recognised as best practice across local government and help build public confidence by promoting consistent, transparent and accountable decision-making.

The framework will be reviewed annually to ensure it remains aligned with legislative requirements and evolving best practice. It will also be made publicly available, reinforcing Council's commitment to openness and good governance.

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