



TIWI LAND COUNCIL

Forty Sixth Annual Report

2024 - 2025





This document must be attributed as the Tiwi Land Council 2024-2025 Annual Report.

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PART 1:

Introduction to this Report

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This document must be attributed as the Tiwi Land Council 2024-2025 Annual Report.

Authority for specific requirements for the annual report

Pursuant to section 46 of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*, the accountable authority of the entity must prepare and give an annual report to the responsible Minister, for presentation to the Parliament, on the Land Council's activities during the period.

Contact

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Photographs in this 2024-2025 Annual Report may contain images of deceased persons and may cause distress.



Letter of Transmittal

13 October 2025

Senator the Hon Malarndirri McCarthy, Minister for Indigenous Australians
PO Box 6100
Parliament House Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Minister

In accordance with the *Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976 (Cth)* and the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013 (Cth)* ('PGPA Act'), we are pleased to submit the Tiwi Land Council's forty-sixth annual report for the year ended 30 June 2025.

The Accountable Authority under section 46 of the PGPA Act is responsible for the preparation and content of this report in accordance with the Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Rule 2014.

This report reviews the Tiwi Land Council's performance and illustrates the commitment and achievement of the Land Council and our staff throughout the reporting period. It also includes a copy of the audited 30 June 2025 financial statements forwarded to you by the Australian National Audit Office, tabled at Tiwi Land Council meeting number 353 on 7 October 2025.

We commend the report to you for presentation to the Parliament.

Sincerely yours,



Leslie Tungatalum
Chair



Brendan Ferguson
CEO



Chair's message



This is the second Annual Report that I have presented as Chair of the Tiwi Land Council.

Last year, I spoke about the significant leadership changes that we experienced in early 2024. We elected a new Chair and Deputy Chair and appointed a new CEO. And our eight land-owning groups elected 40 Council members, many for the first time, under a new method of choice. There was work ahead to strengthen these foundations and ensure that we can deliver benefits for the Tiwi people.

In the 2024-25 financial year, we continued on that journey, with further work on our Council's governance.

- We re-established our Executive Committee to streamline decision-making on behalf of our Full Land Council.
- The Tuwurrampila Cultural Committee has grown in confidence, providing critical direction to our Council and our staff on cultural priorities.
- The Indigenous Protected Area (IPA) Planning Committee is transitioning into a formal sub-committee of the Tiwi Land Council, following our people's decision to progress dedication of an IPA over the Tiwi Islands.
- We have re-established the Tiwi Leaders Forum to help coordinate stakeholders on Tiwi, to work together in better addressing community priorities.

Together, these Committees help us to focus on delivering outcomes for Tiwi people in relation to culture, country and community.

While the foundations are important, we have also been hard at work in other areas. This Annual Report sets out our many achievements in the 2024-25 financial year.

I thank my Council members and our staff for all their hard work and look forward to an even stronger year in 2025-26.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Leslie Tungatalum'. The signature is stylized and fluid.

Leslie Tungatalum
Chair



Chief Executive Officer (CEO)'s message



I am delighted to share this Annual Report, my second as CEO of the Tiwi Land Council.

I would like to start by acknowledging the support of the Tiwi people, who trust us with sound management of their country and as a voice for Tiwi people.

I acknowledge the commitment and passion of our 40 elected Tiwi Land Council members, who have developed a shared understanding of their role as Council members and provided clear direction and fearless advice on many challenging issues.

And I acknowledge the hard work of our 27 full-time, part-time and casual staff who have achieved so much over the past year in progressing our Council's priorities.

Our Chair has outlined the significant developments in our governance of the Tiwi Land Council. These changes will help us in delivering outcomes on behalf of Tiwi people across our priority areas.

This report is structured around six key activities identified for the first time in our 2024 Corporate Plan. These activities, and the associated initiatives, represent an ambitious agenda. I'm proud of the progress that our staff and Council members have made against these priorities. But the report also helps to identify where we still have work to do.

With our Committees now in place and our staffing structure now built out, I am excited by the progress that we can make in 2025-26 and I look forward to reporting to you in 12 months' time, on our achievements.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Ferguson', written over a light grey rectangular background.

Brendan Ferguson
CEO



PART 2:

About the Tiwi Land Council

A Statement of Our Past

The Tiwi Land Council (Land Council) was established in 1978, a significant milestone for Tiwi people and the culmination of years of work seeking recognition as the custodians of the Tiwi Islands and the keepers of Tiwi cultural identity. This formal recognition marked a pivotal moment in the assertion of Tiwi self-determination and cultural authority.

The Land Council is a corporate commonwealth entity under the *Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976* ('ALRA'). It is responsible for a number of key functions under the ALRA, but most relevantly, to ensure that activities on the Tiwi Islands are undertaken only after proper consultation with the relevant Tiwi clan group(s) and with the consent of the traditional Aboriginal owners of that land.



Molly Munkara, Elizabeth Tipiloura, Nina Black, Michelle Woody attending the Pirlangimpi Kulama Ceremony



Our Vision for the Future

Consistent with our prescribed statutory functions, the Tiwi Land Council works to secure:

*An **independent and resilient** Tiwi society built on the orderly management, maintenance and protection of **unique cultural and natural resource values** for the enjoyment and benefit of **future generations of Tiwi.***



Members of the Tiwi Land Council Tuwurrampila Cultural Heritage Committee

Purpose

Our statutory functions

The purpose of the Tiwi Land Council is to perform the functions given to it under section 23 of the ALRA. Broadly, the objectives, functions, and the role of the Tiwi Land Council include:

- **Identification and representation** of, the traditional Aboriginal owners of the Tiwi Islands.
- **Consulting** with traditional Aboriginal owners, and other Aboriginal people interested in the Tiwi Islands, with respect to any proposed use of that land.
- **Ascertaining and expressing the wishes and opinions** of traditional Aboriginal owners, and other Aboriginal people who may be affected by some proposed development on the islands.
- **Protecting the interests** of traditional Aboriginal owners, and other Aboriginal people with traditional interests in the Tiwi Islands, including through negotiation with persons desiring to obtain an estate or interest in the Tiwi Islands.
- Assisting Aboriginal people to **carry out commercial activities** in the Tiwi Islands.
- Assisting Aboriginal people with the **protection of sacred sites** on the Tiwi Islands.
- Assisting Aboriginal people with the **protection of the Tiwi Islands environment.**



Enabling legislation

The ALRA is the enabling legislation of the Tiwi Land Council established by Special Gazette No. S162 on 18 August 1978, and provides for the granting of land to the Tiwi Land Trust.

Ministerial directions and government policy orders

The responsible Minister for the reporting period was the Hon Linda Burney MP, Minister for Indigenous Australians to 29 July 2024 followed by Senator the Hon Malarndirri McCarthy, Minister for Indigenous Australians. No directions were issued by the responsible Minister, or other Minister(s) under the enabling legislation of the Land Council or any other legislation or legislative instrument. There were also no government policy orders issued in relation to the entity during the reporting period.

Duty to keep Minister/Finance Minister informed (section 19, PGPA Act)

On 15 November 2024, the Accountable Authority notified the Land Council’s responsible Minister of the establishment of the Land Council’s Executive Committee in accordance with section 29(A) (1) of the ALRA.

There were no other significant issues/decisions that warranted the notification by the Accountable Authority to the Land Council’s responsible Minister.

Significant non-compliance with the Finance Law

Description of non-compliance	Remedial Action
N/A	N/A



Federal and Territory governments sign historic 10-year Remote Housing Partnership Agreement in Milikapiti, June 2024



Organisational structure and location

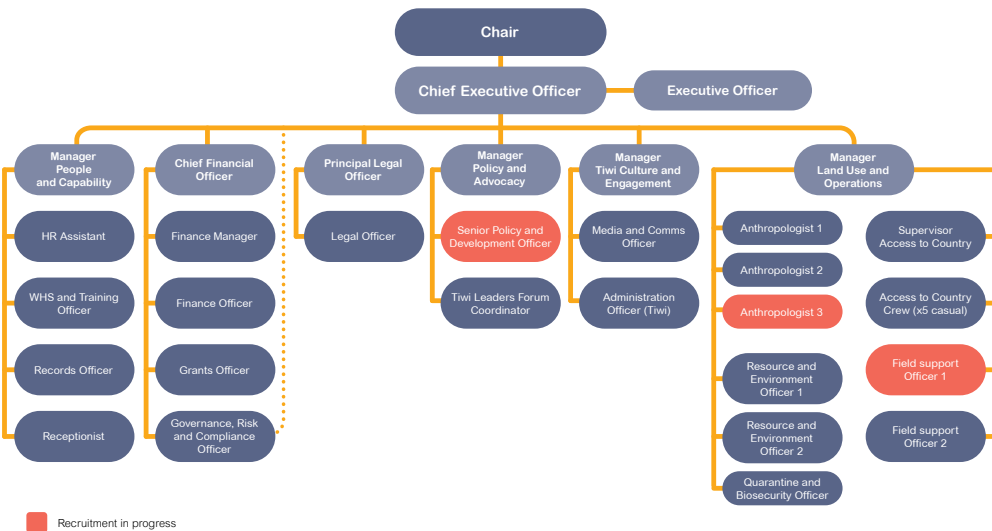
The Land Council currently employs 27 full-time and part-time staff in a range of operational roles to support the effective delivery of its statutory functions and day-to-day activities. Several staff are also employed in a casual capacity, including our recently established Access to Country crew, which operates during the dry season to clear Tiwi roads.

The Land Council's main headquarters are in Darwin with a temporary office in Wurrumiyanga. A key priority identified in this strategic period is the establishment of a permanent office on the Tiwi Islands. The Land Council has identified a preferred site in Wurrumiyanga and is working with the Office of Township Leasing to formalise plans. This initiative supports our commitment to enhance accessibility and strengthen Land Council engagement with Tiwi communities.

Until our office is fully established, engagement with Tiwi people is maintained through regular visits to the Islands by the management team and our field staff. The Land Council staff play an active role in coordinating and participating in Executive and Full Council meetings and regular clan meetings held in each community. This meeting cycle supports regular communication with Tiwi Traditional Owners and community members.

In the year of the reporting period, the Land Council recruited the Manager, Policy and Advocacy. This role, together with two supporting staff, is primarily responsible for ensuring that Tiwi perspectives are effectively represented in policy development and decision-making processes at all levels of government.

Below is the updated Organisational Chart for the Land Council as of the reporting period:



Location of activities and facilities

The Tiwi Islands are located approximately 80 kilometres north of Darwin in the Arafura Sea. They consist of two large, inhabited islands – Melville and Bathurst – and numerous smaller uninhabited islands.

There has been an unbroken history of occupation and ownership of the Tiwi Islands by Tiwi people, and the population of just over 3000 is more than 90 per cent Tiwi. The Tiwi possess a distinct culture and language.

The Tiwi Islands are a biodiversity haven, supporting many plant and animal species not recorded anywhere else in the world.

There are three major communities on the Tiwi Islands; the largest, Wurrumiyanga, is on Bathurst Island while the smaller communities of Milikapiti and Pirlangimpi are located on Melville Island. They are serviced by regular transport services from Darwin. There are also several smaller communities and outstations including:

- Wurankuwu and Four Mile on Bathurst Island; and
- Paru, Pickataramoor, Taracumbi, Condor Point, Tarakampirmili and Pitjimirra on Melville Island.



Socio-Economic and Geographic Challenges

Like many remote Aboriginal communities in the Northern Territory, the Tiwi Islands face significant socio-economic challenges. These include high rates of chronic ill-health, overcrowded housing, and low employment and household income levels.

The remoteness and limited accessibility of the Tiwi Islands also result in logistical difficulties and increased costs for delivering materials, services, and everyday supplies. These factors contribute to limited long-term investment opportunities and employment prospects for Tiwi people; barriers that the Land Council and other Tiwi organisations actively work against.

Output Group

The Land Council has five (5) Output Groups which describes the breadth of our work and priorities:

1. Administration

- a.) Managing the appropriate use of Tiwi land and waters, consistent with the wishes of Tiwi Traditional Owners
 - Effective and efficient administration of land use and access, balancing the critical need for appropriate traditional owner consultation and consent, with timeliness and the interests of proponents
 - Additional support for Traditional Owners in navigating land use and permit application processes to reduce barriers to the use of their land
 - Secure native title rights over Tiwi Sea Country
 - Development and maintenance of comprehensive genealogies and clan registers to support the land use application process
 - Supporting the protection of sacred sites and sites of cultural significance
- b.) Administering an effective and efficient Land Council sustained by the trust of Tiwi people
 - Improved Land Council governance through clear policies, effective communication, appropriate training and high participation
 - Building a collaborative, high performing workplace, supported by strong management practices and effective internal systems

2. Natural Resource Management - Protecting the health of Tiwi country

- Proactively managing threats to Tiwi biodiversity, in partnership with Tiwi Rangers, through data collection, research and enforcement
- Securing dedication of the Indigenous Protected Area (IPA) on Tiwi land, and determining Tiwi interest in an IPA for sea country
- Maintaining and developing effective relationships with research partners, including the Scientific Reference Committee (SRC) and research institutions to inform management and strategic activities
- Management activities coordinated across organisations i.e. Rangers, IPA, Traditional Owners, Non-Government Organisations (NGO), agreement holders



3. Culture and Heritage - Sustaining and celebrating **Tiwi culture**

- Developing a structured program of Cultural activities, including support for ceremony, coordination of events and return and safe keeping of Tiwi artefacts
- Further developing and strengthening our Cultural Committee to oversee and direct our Cultural activities

4. Economic Development - Supporting development of, and participation in, the **Tiwi economy**

- Mapping and facilitating industry opportunities for Tiwi, with direction from Tiwi communities and in collaboration with government and key proponents
- Coordinating support for Tiwi led enterprise, brokering access to grants, research, industry networks and additional capability

5. Advocacy - Listening to, and promoting, **Tiwi voices** within and beyond our Islands

- Establish a permanent Land Council presence in the Tiwi communities
- Collaborate with local stakeholders and advocate for Tiwi community members interests
- Promote Tiwi voices in external policy forums, including through Northern Territory and Australian Government agencies



Senate Estimates in Canberra, November 2024



Administration

Land Use

An improved land use application process was developed late in 2023 and has been trialled throughout the reporting period. The process has been received well by proponents and Tiwi landowners with a greater focus on consultations.

During the financial year, the Land Council progressed a large body of land use applications – and addressed deficiencies in existing Agreements – through these improved internal processes.

The following major activities summarise the significant focus of landowners, staff and consultations at meetings throughout the year. These are the links between Landowner strategies to achieve employment and private industry participation:

1. Continuing harvest and collection of Crocodile Eggs on Bathurst and Melville Islands and payments related thereto.
2. Construction projects and consultations in reference to landowner revenue from gravel, soil and sand extraction.
3. Negotiations for another round of plantation forestry.

The negotiations for plantation forestry required the Land Council to facilitate an extensive consultation process under section 19 of the ALRA relating to a new rotation of the timber plantations on Melville Island. The project aims to generate income through the sale of timber products and carbon credits under the Government scheme that recognises carbon that is stored within trees. The project is independently funded however a wholly owned Tiwi business will carry out this new plantation project under a lease and will receive a share of the business profits.

The project aims to deliver a broad range of benefits to Tiwi, including rental income for landowning groups, training and employment opportunities for Tiwi people, an income stream for the Tiwi corporation for the broader benefit of Tiwi and positive environmental outcomes through dealing with some of the issues created by the previous plantation species.



Consultation with Traditional Owners, Bathurst Island, July 2024



The Land Council delivered a busy schedule of meetings with traditional landowning groups along with other affected groups and communities to discuss the project and provide an opportunity to ask questions. These meetings were well attended and the project received strong support from landowning and affected groups although some concerns were raised during the process about the history of broken promises.

The Land Council also engaged a forestry expert and an environmental consultant to assess independently the project proposal and provide advice. The Land Council has used this advice as a basis to negotiate the project terms and to inform Traditional Owners and affected groups.

The Land Council is currently finalising the documentation related to the project.

Mining and exploration applications

The Land Council was contacted by two (2) companies in the 2024-2025 year with Minister issued Consent to Negotiate on mineral exploration licences.

Exploration Licence Application (ELA) NUMBER	Applicant
ELA33769	HQ-CO Investments Pty Ltd / Windy Hills Export Meats Pty Ltd
ELA33755	Tiwi Exploration Pty Ltd
ELA33727	Tiwi Exploration Pty Ltd

Natural Resource Management

Our vision is of an independent and resilient Tiwi society built on the orderly and well-managed utilisation of our natural resources. Inherent in this is the maintenance and protection of our unique cultural and natural resource values for the enjoyment and benefit of future generations of Tiwi.

The importance placed upon connection between country and Tiwi is realised through the current Access to Country project. Consultation with Traditional Owners led to the knowledge of people’s inability to access their country, commonly due to fallen trees. The project focuses on employing Tiwi staff to reopen areas for enjoyment and use by Tiwi. Successfully, the project is reconnecting people with country by providing access. Surplus to the project has been the works crew returning to community with firewood, delivering to those in need and providing warmth for cool dry season nights.





Access to Country team member clearing fallen trees on roads

Tiwi collaboration and involvement in research projects continue to be a priority. We continue to achieve our goal of embedding Tiwi knowledge into all aspects of research planning, methodology, and delivery. Traditional Owners have supported and guided ocean temperature monitoring, feral cat behavioural analysis, turtle observation studies and many more projects with a range of stakeholders.



Checking cat traps



The Land Council through the Quarantine and Biosecurity Officer continuously conducted quarantine inspections on all equipment and materials transported to the islands by barge. A large focus during the reporting period was to raise awareness with the Tiwi community about the importance of quarantine inspections. The Quarantine and Biosecurity Officer have raised awareness in a number of ways including communicating with the barge companies and with key stakeholders to ensure they acknowledge the threats and potential issues that could arise if a number of these pests and invasive weeds were to get established on the Islands. Quarantine inspections have intercepted many potential threats to the islands and demonstrated how easily invasive species can be accidentally transported to the islands. This has been identified by regular inspections of vehicles and machinery where there have been a number of issues such as seeds in radiators and plant matter in vehicles.

There has also been a lot of work involved with Darwin based quarries and companies to ensure they are compliant before supplying bulk materials to contractors for works on the Islands. There is quite a large number of construction and works being conducted on the Islands and most of the key stakeholders have taken on an active role by ensuring they are compliant with the biosecurity procedures. The Quarantine and Biosecurity Officer conducted over 360 inspections with most items requiring minimal amounts of work to get them up to clean and free of biosecurity risks.

Ongoing support was provided to the Tiwi Rangers to manage high priority Class A weeds. The activities included monitoring of all known Gamba grass sites, control of Ornamental Rubber Vine, monitoring of Bellyache Bush and control of *Mimosa pigra* seedlings. The aim for all Class A weeds is eradication from the Tiwi Islands. The Land Council staff also provided support to the Tiwi Rangers to better understand the impact of feral cats. Previous work paved the way for two significant research projects to study Tiwi cats and to identify the most efficient control methods which are currently underway.



Conducting a vehicle inspection



Weed seeds in vehicle radiator



Gamba Grass fire



Cane Toad traps



Culture and Heritage

Tiwi Cultural Festival

The inaugural Tiwi Cultural Festival, held on 24 August 2024, was a landmark event showcasing the strength and vibrancy of Tiwi culture, art, and traditions. The festival was an initiative of the Tuvurrampila Cultural Committee (TCC), established by the Land Council in late 2023 to oversee projects that protect and promote Tiwi cultural heritage.

The festival was designed to:

- Promote public awareness by showcasing the cultural wealth of the Tiwi Islands through performances, exhibitions, and workshops, while educating visitors about the challenges faced by the Tiwi people and their efforts to preserve tradition.
- Preserve and maintain cultural heritage through workshops led by Tiwi elders in weaving, carving, dance, and music, ensuring cultural knowledge is passed on to younger generations.
- Support environmental stewardship by featuring discussions on natural resource management, ecological conservation, and sustainable practices, reinforcing the Tiwi people's deep respect for country.
- Stimulate economic development by attracting visitors from across Australia and beyond, creating opportunities for local businesses, artists, and service providers, and laying the foundation for long-term benefits to the Tiwi economy.



2024 Tiwi Cultural Festival, Pilot Festival



The festival was proudly supported by the National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA), Tiwi Islands Regional Council, Tiwi Enterprises, and the Tiwi Islands Training & Employment Board, alongside numerous community partners and stallholders.

The event was hosted by Master of Ceremonies Brian Tipungwuti, Ranku Trustee and Chair of the TCC. The opening included a Welcome to Country by Bonaventure Timaepatua and Wayne Joseph Pilakui, followed by Yoi (dance) from Tiwi performers representing the eight (8) landowning groups. A highlight was the visit of the Red Flag Dancers from Numbulwar, who performed on Tiwi country for the first time.

Entertainment continued into the evening with performances by the Ngarukuruwala – Tiwi Strong Women's Choir, Stanley Tipiloura Jnr, Ngawa Yati, B2M, Yung Milla, Saltwater Band, Ngulmiya and Yilila.

Attendance exceeded 1,000 people, making the pilot festival an outstanding success.

Looking ahead, the Tiwi Cultural Festival will now become an annual event, aligned with the Tiwi Islands AFL Football Grand Final. With continued investment and growth, it has the potential to become one of the most significant First Nations community festivals in Australia, celebrating and preserving Tiwi heritage while strengthening community, culture, and economic opportunity.

Kulama Ceremonies

The Land Council acknowledges the intrinsic value of Tiwi culture for all Tiwi people. Language and ceremony are integral parts of culture and are essential to the wellbeing and identity of Tiwi people. Under section 64(1) of ALRA the Land Council receives annual funding to support Traditional Owner funerals and ceremonies. In late 2024 the Full Council, delegated responsibility to the Land Council subcommittee, the TCC to oversee arrangements for Kulama ceremony. Another focus of the subcommittee is on revitalising vulnerable and endangered cultural practices like Kulama Ceremony.

'Kulama ceremony is a Tiwi ritual of renewal, thanksgiving, remembrance, and traditionally was the central context for initiation into adulthood, through the attainment of proficiency in ceremonial song. It is still perceived as an important level of seniority and community respect to be able to hold Kulama. Apart from its artistic, social and spiritual importance, Kulama is particularly important as the main vehicle for instruction in language, ancestral knowledge and kinship systems. It is the event through which the majority of Tiwi culture was taught and its reduction over the years has had a marked impact on language capacity, social and individual health and community stability. The compounding problem of the dwindling of artistic practice, teaching and learning means that cultural and spiritual knowledge are not being sufficiently passed down. With language and song skills not being passed down, the songs of ritual and cultural knowledge are being lost.' – *DR GENEVIEVE CAMPBELL, Honorary Affiliate, Conservatorium of Music, Sydney University*

In 2025, two (2) Kulama ceremonies occurred on the Tiwi Islands. The first one was at Wurrumiyanga, Friday 2 to Monday 5 May 2025 and the second one was at Pirlangimpi, Friday 30 May to Monday 2 June 2025. The outcome of the two ceremonies, was that anthropology contributed to conducting two separate workshops and engaged renowned Ethnomusicologist, Dr. Genevieve Campbell to facilitate them.

The main purpose of these workshops was to bring Traditional Owners together to build knowledge of and skills in performing Kulama specifically, with a follow-on result of building knowledge of song language and composition skills. Most important, to support participants to prepare for 2026 Kulama, and to build interest and involvement amongst younger Tiwi men and women to ensure transmission of cultural knowledge between older and younger generations.



Repatriation of cultural objects



A male holding a paddle – Harry Carpenter

In 2023, a major collection of Tiwi material objects was returned by its original collector to the Land Council. In June 2025, the Land Council embarked on a project with two Tiwi staff to photograph and catalogue the collection, to ensure there is an accurate inventory of all the cultural objects. So far, the project has proven to be immensely valuable as a vehicle for knowledge exchange of both the sharing and teaching of technical skills, but importantly, the Tiwi understanding of names and stories surrounding the objects. The Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory have guided the Land Council in aspects of curation, pest control, and record and storage management. The project is part of a longer-term trajectory to repatriate the collection to Tiwi people; ultimately to house some, if not all the objects on the islands. The project will continue into 2025-26 financial year. Last financial year, two small collections of Tiwi objects were also returned to the Land Council by the descendants of people who worked or visited the Islands in the 40s and 70s.

Genealogies and registers

Maintaining genealogies is critical to the transmission of culture, to determine land ownership and to support the Land Council in the delivery of its land management functions. The Land Council has been working with Traditional Owners to confirm and update family trees established in the 80's and preserved by the Patakijiyali Museum at Wurrumiyanga on Bathurst Island. A collaboration has been established with the Patakijiyali Museum, in particular with Fiona Kerinauia and Ancilla Kurrupuwu who have been updating the genealogies over the years, to digitise and maintain the genealogies in a coordinated manner. This work is ensuring that Tiwi family trees are safeguarded and kept up to date for today's and future generations.

The Land Council holds a register of Traditional Owners. This register needs to be reviewed and updated, and a method is required to ensure that the register remains in good order going forward. In 2024-25, each clan designated a small group of elders to undertake this work, with administrative support from the Land Council staff. This work will continue in 2025-26.

Economic Development

The Land Council's strategy over many decades has sought to fund and facilitate economic development on Tiwi Islands for Tiwi owned companies.

Allocated funding from the Northern Territory (NT) Indigenous Economic Stimulus Package for the following projects in progress:

- Mantiyupwi clan – Oyster Farm Project
- Mantiyupwi clan – Pumulayu Children and Family Centre
- Wurankuwu clan – Telstra Cell Installation
- Tiwi Resources – Bush Medicine and Bush Foods Project
- Wurankuwu – Prawn Farm – to build capacity project
- Mantiyupwi clan – Mantiyupwi Motel Extensions
- Yimpinari clan – Telstra Cell Installation
- Mamanta – Demountable installation
- Tiwi Enterprises - Sea Darwin Sea Tiwi Tourism Development



Sea Darwin Sea Tiwi Tourism Development Project funded by Stimulus Package



NT Indigenous Economic Stimulus Package Report as at 30 June 2025

NO.	CLAN GROUP/ENTITY	PROJECT	ALLOCATED FUNDING \$'000	FUNDS RELEASED \$'000	PROJECT STATUS
1	Wulirankuwu Pty Ltd (ACN 155 740 757) atf the Wulirankuwu Trust	Tiwi Islands Adventures	1,900	1,900	Completed
2	Tiwi Enterprises Ltd	Crocodile Egg Hatchery	200	171	Shelved
3	Tiwi Enterprises Ltd	Sea Darwin Sea Tiwi Tourism Development	1,300	1,300	Ongoing
4	All Clan groups	Covid-19 housing containers	1,393	1,393	Completed
5	Yimpinari Aboriginal Corporation	Eco Tourism - EOI	30	30	Completed
6	All Clan groups	Cattle project: feasibility study	13	13	Completed
7	Tarntipi Homelands Aboriginal Corporation (ICN 8084) ABN 89 960 856 358	Camp upgrade and bush food project	167	167	Completed
8	Mantiyupwi Pty Ltd (ACN 129 310 710) atf The Mantiyupwi Trust also known as 'The Trustee for Mantiyupwi Family Trust' and 'Mantiyupwi Family Trust'(ABN 26 652 290 749)	Oyster Farm Project	121	121	Ongoing
9	Mantiyupwi Pty Ltd (ACN 129 310 710) atf The Mantiyupwi Trust also known as 'The Trustee for Mantiyupwi Family Trust' and 'Mantiyupwi Family Trust'(ABN 26 652 290 749)	Pumulayu Children and Family Centre (PCFC)	500	500	Ongoing
10	Portaminni Pty Ltd (ACN 155 991 478) atf 'The Trustee for Portaminni Trust' (ABN 40 386 268 436)	Telstra Cell Installation	98	98	In progress



NO.	CLAN GROUP/ENTITY	PROJECT	ALLOCATED FUNDING \$'000	FUNDS RELEASED \$'000	PROJECT STATUS
11	Mantiyupwi Pty Ltd (ACN 129 310 710) atf The Mantiyupwi Trust also known as 'The Trustee for Mantiyupwi Family Trust' and 'Mantiyupwi Family Trust'(ABN 26 652 290 749)	Staff housing	1,340	1,340	Completed
12	Mantiyupwi Pty Ltd (ACN 129 310 710) atf The Mantiyupwi Trust also known as 'The Trustee for Mantiyupwi Family Trust' and 'Mantiyupwi Family Trust'(ABN 26 652 290 749)	Paru desalination water system	216		To commence
13	Wulirankuwu Pty Ltd (ACN 155 740 757 atf the Wulirankuwu Trust	60-man Camp at Three Ways Feasibility Study	30	30	Completed
14	Tiwi Resources Pty Ltd ACN 054 667 051 as trustee for the Tiwi Resources Trust	Bush Medicine & Bush Foods Project – purchase of vehicles, securing staff accommodation, and employing and training staff	625	145	Ongoing
15	Portaminni Pty Ltd (ACN 155 991 478) atf 'The Trustee for Portamini Trust' (ABN 40 386 268 436)	Prawn farm – purchase of assets to expand operations	999	160	Ongoing
16	Tiwi Resources Pty Ltd ACN 054 667 051 as trustee for the Tiwi Resources Trust	Engaging consultant to provide marketing/ product branding in relation to Tiwi products	41	41	Completed
17	Wulirankuwu Pty Ltd (ACN 155 740 757 atf the Wulirankuwu Trust	Improving the visitor experience: purchase of vehicles	215	215	Completed



NO.	CLAN GROUP/ENTITY	PROJECT	ALLOCATED FUNDING \$'000	FUNDS RELEASED \$'000	PROJECT STATUS
18	Mantiyupwi Pty Ltd (ACN 129 310 710) atf The Mantiyupwi Trust also known as 'The Trustee for Mantiyupwi Family Trust' and 'Mantiyupwi Family Trust'(ABN 26 652 290 749)	Mantiyupwi Motel extensions	1,832	-	In progress
19	Yimpinari Aboriginal Corporation (ICN 8215) ABN 79 886 254 482	Telstra Cell Installation at JRC and Condor Point	210	-	In progress
20	Mamanta Pty Ltd (ACN 165 173 384)	Vehicle and Infrastructure acquisition	182	108	Final stages to completion
21	Tiwi Enterprises Ltd ACN 634 465 339	Purchase of Sea Darwin	1,500	1,500	Completed
22	Mantiyupwi Pty Ltd (ACN 129 310 710) atf The Mantiyupwi Trust also known as 'The Trustee for Mantiyupwi Family Trust' and 'Mantiyupwi Family Trust'(ABN 26 652 290 749)	PCFC Vehicle Support	155	155	Completed
23	Nguiu Ullintjinni Association Inc (NUA) ABN 82 294 304 805	Contribution to proposed alterations to NUA store	233	233	Completed
Total			13,300	9,620	
Unspent funds				3,680	



Advocacy

The Land Council has continued to enhance its capabilities and performance during the reporting period. In January 2025, the Land Council established a Policy and Advocacy unit to increase engagement with constituents and participation in a number of key Government policy platforms and forums including:

- Director Member of Aboriginal Peak Organisations Northern Territory
- Northern Territory Executive Council on Aboriginal Affairs (and partnerships working groups)
- Joint Steering Committee on Remote Housing (and associated working groups)
- Coalition of Peaks

The Tiwi Leaders Forum has been re-established to provide opportunities for Tiwi leaders to identify community priorities and for all Tiwi organisations and stakeholders to collaborate and deliver Tiwi led solutions for Tiwi people. The forum comprises 24 community representatives from each of the three (3) communities with input and support from Commonwealth, Territory and Local Governments and respective Tiwi service providers as required.

In April 2025, the Land Council participated in the Aboriginal Housing Northern Territory homeland service provider forum. The forum was attended by a Taracumbi traditional owner who was able to share his own personal story of strengths and challenges living on homelands.



Taracumbi Waterfall, Melville Island



PART 3:

Governance, Corporate Management and Reporting

Information about the Accountable Authority

Chair

Leslie Tungatalum is a respected *Miyartuwi* (*Pandanus*) elder hailing from the Munupi Clan, with a rich history of community service and dedication to empowering the next generation.

Born and raised in the culturally vibrant setting of Wurrumiyanga (Nguiu), Leslie's journey reflects a deep-rooted connection to his heritage alongside a commitment to education and community development. His educational journey began in Wurrumiyanga, where he laid the foundation for his academic pursuits before venturing to Darwin to pursue his high school education at St John's College. Undeterred by distance, Leslie continued his quest for knowledge through unconventional means, studying climate, science, and history at the School of the Air. This unique educational experience not only broadened his horizons but also instilled in him a profound appreciation for interdisciplinary learning. In his pursuit of personal and community growth, Leslie diversified his skill set by undertaking training in Sports and Recreation, as well as media training at TEABBA Radio. His dedication to continuous improvement and service led him back to Wurrumiyanga, where he became an integral part of the community's social fabric.

Looking towards the future, Leslie is filled with optimism and determination. He envisions a future where the youth of Bathurst Island can access higher education opportunities, pursue vocational training on the islands, and actively participate in shaping the economic and social landscape of their communities. As a committed advocate for youth empowerment, Leslie is steadfast in his mission to nurture the next generation of leaders, instilling in them the values of responsibility, resilience, and community stewardship.

CEO

Brendan Ferguson grew up in Melbourne and now resides in Darwin with his wife and three young children, having spent the last six years in the Northern Territory. His connection to the Tiwi Islands dates back to 1998 when he first visited on a school footy trip, playing for Scotch College.

Since 2013, Brendan has worked as a consultant for Social Ventures Australia (SVA), a non-profit organization. In this role, he worked in partnership with Aboriginal community-controlled organisations, Land Councils, government agencies, philanthropic bodies, and private companies to deliver improved outcomes for communities across the Northern Territory. His extensive work with the Anindilyakwa people on Groote Eylandt and the Yolŋu people on the Gove Peninsula has focused on planning for a future traditional owner-led economy after mining.

Additionally, Brendan served as the Interim CEO for ARDS Aboriginal Corporation, where he supported the Yolŋu Board through the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. He started his professional journey as a commercial lawyer, studying at the University of Melbourne and the London School of Economics.



Brendan commenced with the Tiwi Land Council just prior to the end of the 2023-24 financial year. During those initial weeks, Brendan had the opportunity to meet with many Tiwi people and Land Council stakeholders. He recognises that he has a lot to learn about Tiwi country and culture but looks forward to that learning journey and the ongoing support of Tiwi people.

Details of Accountable Authority during the reporting period Current Report Period (2024-25)

Name	Qualifications of the Accountable Authority	Experience of the Accountable Authority	Position Title / Position held	Executive/ Non-Executive	Period as the accountable authority or member within the reporting period		
					Start Date (1 July Previous Year or after)	End Date (30 June Current Year or before)	Number of meetings of accountable authority attended
Mr Leslie Tungatalum	St John's College	Nguiu Ullintjinni Association Inc - President/Chair; Aboriginal Investment NT - Board member; Pirtubula Pty Ltd - Director; Tiwi Islands Regional Council - Deputy mayor; A.C.N. 155 327 049 PTY LTD - Director; Tiwi Islands Equity Holders Pty Ltd - Director; Tiwi Partners (AUST) Pty Ltd - Director	Chair	Exec	01/07/2024	30/06/2025	6
Mr Brendan Ferguson LLB (Hons), BCA, MSc, GAICD	Bachelor of Laws and Bachelor of Creative Arts, University of Melbourne; Masters of Political Science, London School of Economics; Graduate Australian Institute Company Directors	Director, Social Ventures Australia; Lawyer, Allens; Senior Consultant, Advancy; Adviser to the Head of Mission, Office of the Quartet Representative	CEO	Exec	01/07/2024	30/06/2025	6

Statement on governance

Composition of the Tiwi Land Council

Under the current Method of Choice, the Land Council is made up of 40 members, with five (5) representatives from each of the eight (8) Tiwi land owning groups.

Those five (5) representatives include a Trustee, and four (4) additional representatives, of which two (2) are women and two (2) are men. The eight land-owning groups are as follows:

- Jikilaruwu
- Malawu
- Mantiyupwi
- Marrikawuyanga
- Munupi
- Wulirankuwu
- Wurankuwu
- Yimpinari





Tiwi Islands | LAND OWNERSHIP



The Land Council elects a Chair and a Deputy Chair. The Accountable Authority of the Land Council is comprised of the Chair and the CEO.

Committees

The Land Council has established an Executive, with delegated authority to make decisions about certain matters on behalf of the Land Council.

Additionally, the Land Council has established:

- a **Cultural Committee**, to lead and advise on matters in relation to Tiwi culture; and
- an **IPA Committee** to oversee the Tiwi Plan of Management for the IPA.

The Land Council is also responsible for facilitating the Tiwi Leaders Forum to support improved coordination of agencies and their services in our Tiwi communities. While the Tiwi Leaders Forum is not a sub-Committee of the Land Council, it does play an important role in the Tiwi governance framework.

An **Audit and Risk Committee**, comprising four (4) independent members, has also been established to advise the Accountable Authority in its management functions.



Tiwi Aboriginal Land Trust

Tiwi Aboriginal Land Trust members and the number of meetings attended in 2024-2025:

Land Council Members	Position	Clan	Appointment Date	Term End Date	Meetings attended
Brian Tipungwuti	Chair of Trustee	Wurankuwu	17/07/2023	17/07/2028	3
Damien Molaminni (Burak)	Trustee	Marrikawuyanga	17/07/2023	17/07/2028	3
Jeffrey Puruntatameri (Miller)	Trustee	Wulirankuwu	17/07/2023	17/07/2028	2
Karina Coombes	Trustee	Munupi	17/07/2023	17/07/2028	3
Mary Dunn	Trustee	Yimpinari	17/07/2023	17/07/2028	3
Richard Puruntatameri	Trustee	Malawu	17/07/2023	17/07/2028	3
Simon P Munkara	Trustee	Jikilaruwu	17/07/2023	17/07/2028	3
Wesley Kerinauia	Trustee	Mantiyupwi	17/07/2023	17/07/2028	2

In July 2024, Full Land Council has approved to re-establish the Executive Committee to streamline decision-making on behalf of the Full Land Council. The Executive Committee is comprised of the Trustees, the Chair and Deputy Chair.



Tiwi Full Land Council

13 days Land Council meetings were held in 2024-2025:

Number	Date	Location
346	23 and 24 July 2024	Wurrumiyanga
347	16 and 17 September 2024	Wurrumiyanga
348	4, 5 and 6 December 2024	Wurrumiyanga
349	5 February 2025	Wurrumiyanga
350	8, 9, 10 April 2025	Port Melville
351	16 and 17 June 2025	Wurrumiyanga



List of council members and the number of meetings attended in 2024-2025:

Land Council Members	Clan	Position	Tenure	Meetings Attended
Adonis Wommatakimmi	Marrikawuyanga	Member	1/07/2024 – 21/02/2025	2
Agnella Tipungwuti	Jikilaruwu	Member	Full Year – Appointed – 23/01//2024	12
Ainsley Kerinaiaua	Mantiyupwi	Member	Full Year – Appointed – 04/12/2023	13
Alexander Puruntatameri	Munupi	Member	Full Year – Appointed – 25/01//2024	7
Anastasius Vigona	Malawu	Member	Full Year – Appointed – 13/12/2023	10
Andrea Puautjimi	Jikilaruwu	Member	Full Year – Appointed – 23/01//2024	10
Andrew Bush	Yimpinari	Member	Full Year – Re-Appointed 07/12/2023	12
Austin M Wonaeamirri	Yimpinari	Deputy Chair	Full Year – Appointed – 14/03/2024	13
Banita Tipiloura (Ullungura)	Mantiyupwi	Member	Full Year – Appointed – 04/12/2023	13
Bonaventure J Timaepatua	Mantiyupwi	Member	Full Year – Re-Appointed – 04/12/2023	8
Bradley Tipiloura	Wulirankuwu	Member	Appointed – 04/03/2025	5



Land Council Members	Clan	Position	Tenure	Meetings Attended
Brian Tipungwuti	Wurankuwu	Trustee	Full Year – Appointed – 17/07/2023 (Minister)	10
Charlotte Portaminni	Wurankuwu	Member	Full Year – Appointed – 06/12/2023	11
Cheryl Kerinauia	Mantiyupwi	Member	Full Year – Appointed – 04/12/2023	13
Claire C Scrymgour	Marrikawuyanga	Member	Full Year – Appointed – 14/12/2023	12
Damien Molaminni (Burak)	Marrikawuyanga	Trustee	Full Year – Appointed – 17/07/2023 (Minister)	11
Donna Molaminni (Burak)	Marrikawuyanga	Member	Full Year – Appointed – 14/12/2023	11
Edward (Teddy) Portaminni	Wurankuwu	Member	Full Year – Appointed – 06/12/2023	10
Edwina Brooks	Yimpinari	Member	Full Year – Appointed 07/12/2023	13
Ellanora Wonaeamirri	Yimpinari	Member	Full Year – Appointed 07/12/2023	13
Ephrianna Tipungwuti	Malawu	Member	Appointed 04/03/2025	5
Gerry Mungatopi	Wulirankuwu	Member	1/07/2024 – 03/03/2025 – Resigned	2



Land Council Members	Clan	Position	Tenure	Meetings Attended
Jeffrey Puruntatameri (Miller)	Wulirankuwu	Trustee	Full Year – Appointed – 17/07/2023 (Minister)	10
Jocelyn Tipungwuti	Wurankuwu	Member	Full Year – Appointed – 06/12/2023	11
John Benson Kelantumama	Jikilaruwu	Member	Full Year – Appointed – 23/01//2024	8
John Stanislaus Tipiloura	Wulirankuwu	Member	Appointed – 04/03/2025	5
Juliette Puruntatameri	Malawu	Member	1/07/2024 – 04/03/2025	1
Justina Puruntatameri	Munupi	Member	Full Year – Appointed – 25/01//2024	7
Karen Tipiloura	Wulirankuwu	Member	Full Year – Appointed – 08/12/2023	13
Karina Coombes	Munupi	Trustee	Full Year – Appointed – 17/07/2023 (Minister)	12
Laelia Dunn	Munupi	Member	Full Year – Appointed – 25/01//2024	10
Leslie Tungatulum	Munupi	Chair	Full Year – Appointed – 14/03/2024	13
Mary Dunn	Yimpinari	Trustee	Full Year – Appointed – 17/07/2023 (Minister)	10



Land Council Members	Clan	Position	Tenure	Meetings Attended
Miriam Stassi	Malawu	Member	Full Year – Appointed – 13/12/2023	8
Neil Black	Marrikawuyanga	Member	Full Year – Appointed – 14/12/2023	10
Neville Wommatakimmi	Marrikawuyanga	Member	Appointed – 05/03/2025	5
Richard Puruntatameri	Malawu	Trustee	Full Year – Appointed – 17/07/2023 (Minister)	11
Ron W Poantimilui	Wurankuwu	Member	Full Year – Re-Appointed – 06/12/2023	13
Sebastian Tipungwuti	Malawu	Member	Full Year – Appointed – 13/12/2023	13
Simon P Munkara	Jikilaruwu	Trustee	Full Year – Appointed – 17/07/2023 (Minister)	13
Stanley Tipiloura	Wulirankuwu	Member	1/07/2024 – 12/02/2025 Resigned	2
Valentine Puautjimi	Jikilaruwu	Member	Full Year – Re-appointed – 23/01/2024	7
Wendy Miller	Wulirankuwu	Member	Full Year – Appointed – 08/12/2023	11
Wesley Kerinauia	Mantiyupwi	Trustee	Full Year – Appointed – 17/07/2023 (Minister)	9



Full Land Council Members

Jikilaruwu



Andrea Puautjimi

TRUSTEE



Valentine Puautjimi



Simon Munkara



Agnella Tipungwuti



John Benson Kelantumama

Malawu



Anastasius Vigona

TRUSTEE



Miriam Stassi



Richard Puruntatameri



Ephrianna (Norma) Tipungwuti



Sebastian Tipungwuti

Mantiyupwi



Ainsley Kerinauia

TRUSTEE



Cheryl Kerinauia



Wesley Kerinauia



Banita Ullungura Tipiloura



Bonaventure Timaepatua

Marrikawuyanga



Neil Black

TRUSTEE



Donna Molaminni (Burak)



Damien Molaminni (Burak)



Neville Wommatakimmi



Claire Cecilia Scrymgour



Full Land Council Members

Munupi



Alexander Puruntatameri



Justina Puruntatameri

TRUSTEE



Karina Coombes



Laelia Dunn



Leslie Tungatalum

Wulirankuwu



Bradley Tipiloura



Karen Tipiloura

TRUSTEE



Jeffrey Puruntatameri (Miller)



John S Tipiloura



Wendy Mungatopi Miller

Wurankuwu



Charlotte Portaminni



Ron Poantimilui

TRUSTEE



Brian Tipungwuti



E. Portaminni Jr



Jocelyn Tipungwuti

Yimpinari



Andrew Bush



Ellanora Wonaeamirri

TRUSTEE



Mary Dunn



Edwina Brooks



Austin Wonaeamirri



Governance Practices

Tiwi Land Council's operations are governed by the ALRA and the PGPA Act. As a corporate commonwealth entity, the Land Council is subject to many obligations under the governance provisions of the ALRA and the obligations under the PGPA Act and PGPA Rule. Given the nature of work and environment that the entity operates in, the Land Council is required to comply with relevant laws including but not limited to the:

- *Aboriginal Land Act 1978* (NT)
- *Northern Territory Aboriginal Sacred Sites Act 1989* (NT)
- *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth)
- *Local Government Act 2019* (NT)
- *Work Health and Safety (National Uniform Legislation) Act 2011* (NT)
- *Privacy Act 1988* (Cth)
- *Remuneration Tribunal Act 1973* (Cth)

The operations of the Land Council are guided by its Council Governance Framework, which comprises the Method of Choice, Terms and Conditions of Membership, and Meeting Rules. In July 2024, the Land Council agreed the re-establishment of the Executive Committee from among its members.

The Executive Committee—consisting of the Chair, Deputy Chair, and eight (8) Trustees—operates under its governance framework with delegated authority to make decisions on land use applications, variations to existing land use agreements, and renewals or extensions of such agreements.

In October 2024, a governance framework for the Accountable Authority was developed and subsequently endorsed in March 2025. During the financial year, several key governance instruments were finalised, including the Risk Management Policy, Conflict of Interest Policies, and the Audit and Risk Committee Charter.

The Policy Governance Framework is currently in its final stages of review, following a comprehensive consultative process with the Management Team and the Audit and Risk Committee. A key outcome of this process has been the identification of seven (7) overarching policy statements that articulate the Land Council's guiding principles. These statements provide direction on decision-making, operational practices, and alignment with the organisation's broader strategic priorities.

Enterprise Risk Management Framework

The Land Council's Enterprise Risk Management Framework (ERMF) provides a structured and systematic approach to identifying, assessing, managing, and monitoring risks across its operations to support the achievement of both strategic and operational objectives. The Risk Management Policy was approved by the Full Land Council in May 2024 and endorsed by the Accountable Authority in July 2024.

Implementing and embedding a tailored ERMF within a regulated organisation such as the Land Council particularly during a period of ongoing change and growth, has not been a simple exercise. The conclusion of Risk IQ's consultancy in March 2025 provided the organisation with an important opportunity to test and strengthen its risk management practices and overall capability.

Before the completion of their engagement, Risk IQ facilitated a Strategic Risk Workshop with the Senior Management Team, the Chairman, and the Deputy Chairman of the Land Council. In addition, a staff-wide survey was conducted to assess employees' understanding of the ERMF and to gain insights into the organisation's broader risk culture.



The outcomes of the survey presented opportunities for improvement in the areas of:

- Cross-cultural awareness of all Land Council employees and contractors
- The lack of clear communication of risks management strategies within Teams and with other departments within the Land Council.
- Continuous improvement processes and conversations to be more empathetic towards Tiwi people and their aspirations.
- Lack of risk management training and understanding individual and collective roles and responsibilities under the Risk Management Framework.

Since March 2025, the Land Council has undertaken the following initiatives to further embed its ERMF:

- Risk Management Induction – The first induction session, developed with materials provided by Risk IQ, was successfully delivered and attended by all staff, including the CEO.
- Ongoing Reporting – Regular risk management reporting has been maintained to both the Senior Management Team and the Audit and Risk Committee.
- Planned Risk Profiling – A risk profiling exercise has been scheduled for the new financial year. This will be led by managers, with guidance from the Governance, Risk, and Compliance Officer, to promote active risk conversations and strengthen communication of risk strategies at the operational level.

The review and finalisation of the [Audit and Risk Committee Charter](#) in December 2024, the establishment of an internal audit function, the recruitment of new independent members, and the procurement of resources to support these initiatives represent key outcomes of the Land Council's ongoing efforts to strengthen its risk management framework and enhance organisational capability.

Risk oversight and management systems

Risk oversight is accounted at different levels of the Land Council. The Risk Management Policy assigns responsibilities for risk oversight to the:

- Tiwi Land Council provides overall direction and context for risk management work through its approval of governance frameworks and policy statements
- Accountable Authority authorises the Risk Management Framework. The CEO has overall responsibility for the implementation of the Risk Management Framework and promoting a positive risk culture in the organisation.
- Audit and Risk Committee reviews and provides advice on the appropriateness of the Accountable Authority's enterprise risk management framework and associated internal controls and approach to managing the entity's key risks.
- Governance, Risk and Compliance Officer as the custodian of the Risk Management Framework and supports the CEO in the implementation of the Risk Policy and Risk Management Plan, reports on risk governance and the effectiveness of risk management practises.
- Risk owners ensure that each risk is understood and managed appropriately. Each risk in the Land Council risk register is assigned to an appropriate risk owner



The Land Council's risk management system is supported by a simple spreadsheet-based Risk Register, which records the identification, assessment, and monitoring of risks, along with the progress of associated mitigation strategies and actions. The register categorises risks into four broad areas: Strategic, Operational, Systemic, and Whole of Tiwi. In 2025, the register was enhanced to include a dedicated category for fraud-related risks. Risk management reporting remains a standing agenda item for both the Audit and Risk Committee and the Senior Management Team meetings.

Fraud Control

The ARC reviews and provides advice on the appropriateness of the Accountable Authority's process for developing and implementing the Land Council's fraud and corruption control arrangements with appropriate processes for detecting, capturing, and effectively responding to fraud and corruption risk. In this financial year, an incident of fraud was reported, which was detected using the fraud indicators and controls in place. This risk was entered into the fraud and risk registers, assessed and mitigative actions and existing strategies sustained.



Tiwi Islands at low tide



Audit Risk Committee

The Audit Risk Committee (ARC) completed four (4) meetings during 2024-2025:

Meeting Number	Date	Location
64	23 September 2024	Darwin
65	10 December 2024	Virtual via Teams
66	11 March 2025	Darwin
67	13 June 2025	Darwin

The ARC comprises four (4) members, whose role and qualifications are described in the table below.

Audit committee

Member name	Qualifications, knowledge, skills or experience (include formal and informal as relevant)	Number of meetings attended	Total number of meetings held	Total annual remuneration (GST inc.)	Additional Information (including role on committee)
Dr David Ritchie, PhD	<p>Anthropologist</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chair of the NT Planning Commission Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors, Member of Ninti One Ltd Audit and Risk Management Committee (2010 – 2020), First CEO of the Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority (1990-2003) and Executive positions in the Department of Lands and Planning and Northern Territory Land Development Corporation (2009-2012) Anthropology work: Chair of the NLC Wagait Traditional Owners Dispute Committee (1993-19995), Sacred Sites Authority (1981 – 1989), Northern Land Council – Land Claims (1980-1983) 	4	4	16,200	Chairman. \$3,600 for work on recruitment of new ARC members



Member name	Qualifications, knowledge, skills or experience (include formal and informal as relevant)	Number of meetings attended	Total number of meetings held	Total annual remuneration (GST inc.)	Additional Information (including role on committee)
Mr Rolan Chin, CPA ANZ, BComm	Auditor and Tax Adviser <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Former Audit Partner of KPMG Darwin, Registered Tax Agent, • Fellow of Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand, • Fellow of CPA Australia, Chartered Tax Adviser of Taxation Institute of Australia, • Member of Australian Institute of Company Directors, • Graduated from UNSW with a Bachelor of Commerce 	3	4	2,860	Deputy Chairman
Ms Melissa Yates, LLB, BA, BSc	Lawyer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barrister at William Forster Chambers, with expertise in civil litigation focusing on construction and insolvency matters, as well as estate litigation and advice, • Former Solicitor at Ward Keller and De Silva Hebron. • Actively engaged in academia, imparting knowledge to undergraduate law students and Indigenous pre-law students at Charles Darwin University, • Graduate with Bachelor degrees in Accounting, Law, and Science (Biotechnology) 	1	1	1,100	resigned in October 2024

Member name	Qualifications, knowledge, skills or experience (include formal and informal as relevant)	Number of meetings attended	Total number of meetings held	Total annual remuneration (GST inc.)	Additional Information (including role on committee)
Ms Stefanie Holland, PostDip LP, LLB (Hons), BA	Lawyer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senior Lawyer at Northern Australian Aboriginal Justice Agency Ltd, • Solicitor at Shine Lawyers and Clayton Utz, • Associate to Hon. Justice Blokland of the Supreme Court of the Northern Territory, • Associate to Hon. Justice Elkaim of the Supreme Court of the Australian Capital Territory, • Legal Compliance Officer at Geospatial Intelligence PTY Ltd, • Graduate of the Australian National University with Graduate Diploma of Legal Practice and Bachelor of Law – LLB (Hons)/ Bachelor of Arts 	1	2	0	resigned in February 2025



Member name	Qualifications, knowledge, skills or experience (include formal and informal as relevant)	Number of meetings attended	Total number of meetings held	Total annual remuneration (GST inc.)	Additional Information (including role on committee)
Ms Maxie Smith, CPA, GAICD, Bcomm	Accountant <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors, • Director Corporate and Community, Litchfield Council, • Treasurer of the Employee Assistance Services Australia Board, • Independent member of the Coomalie Community Government Council's Risk Management and Audit Committee, • Completed Public Sector Management Program (QUT,2021), • Certified Practising Accountant (CPA Australia Progam,2011), • Graduated from the University of South Australia in 2008 with a Bachelor of Commerce (Accounting) 	1	1	1,200	new member joined in June 2025



Member name	Qualifications, knowledge, skills or experience (include formal and informal as relevant)	Number of meetings attended	Total number of meetings held	Total annual remuneration (GST inc.)	Additional Information (including role on committee)
Mr Andrew Giles, LLB, Bcomm	Lawyer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partner at HWL Ebsworth Lawyers; • President of Urban Development Institute of Australia (NT) Ltd, • National Board members of Urban Development Institute of Australia, Board member • Darwin Entertainment Centre, Member (by appointment) Northern Territory Housing Alliance, • Sub-Committee Member, Law Council of Australia, • Member of the eConveyancing Working Group (Northern Territory Government), • President of the Darwin Beefsteak and Burgundy, • President of the Northern Trader's Club Inc., • Board member and Chairman of the Audit and Risk Committee of the Darwin Turf Club (2019 - 2021), • Vice Chairperson of Music NT (2019-2021), • Secretary, Law Society of the NT (2017-2018), Commercial Law Committee, Law Society of the NT (2015-2024) 	1	1	1,200	new member joined in June 2025



Code of Conduct

Our Code of Conduct policy applies to all representatives and members, providing the framework of principles for conducting business, and dealing with other representatives, members, and suppliers. The Code of Conduct does not replace legislation and if any part of it is in conflict, then legislation takes precedence. This policy is based on the following principles:

- Act and maintain a high standard of integrity and professionalism.
- Be culturally aware and sensitive.
- Respect Tiwi Culture at all times.
- Be responsible and scrupulous in the proper use of Company information, funds, equipment, and facilities.
- Be considerate and respectful of the environment and others.
- Exercise fairness, equality, courtesy, consideration, and sensitivity in dealing with other representatives, directors, members, and suppliers.
- Avoid apparent conflict of interests, promptly disclosing to a Land Council senior manager any interest which may constitute a conflict of interest.
- Promote the interests of the Land Council.
- Perform duties with skill, honesty, care, and diligence.
- Abide by policies, procedures, and lawful directions that relate to your employment with the Land Council and/or our members.
- Avoid the perception that any business transaction may be influenced by offering or accepting gifts.
- Under no circumstances may representatives offer or accept money.
- Any representative, who in good faith, raises a complaint or discloses an alleged breach of the Code, whilst following correct reporting procedures, will not be disadvantaged or prejudiced. All reports will be dealt with in a timely and confidential manner.

The Land Council expects cooperation from all representatives in conducting themselves in a professional, ethical, and socially acceptable manner of the highest standards.



Annual performance statements

Introductory Statement

We, Leslie Tungatalum (Chair) and Brendan Ferguson (CEO), as the Accountable Authority of the Tiwi Land Council, present the 2024-2025 annual performance statement of the Tiwi Land Council, as required under paragraph 39(1)(a) of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013 (Cth)* ('PGPA Act').

In our opinion, these annual performance statements are based on properly maintained records, accurately reflect the performance of the entity, and comply with subsection 39(2) of the PGPA Act.

Analysis of Performance

The Land Council has devoted significant effort to reform, renewal, and expansion to more effectively deliver on our statutory purpose. We have addressed, or made material progress against, all recommendations of the 2023 ANAO Performance Report. Our focus has now shifted from remedial work, towards delivering better outcomes for Tiwi across our identified priorities. These efforts have enabled the Land Council to strengthen its focus on land use, environmental stewardship, policy and advocacy, and the preservation of culture through its expanded workforce.

A detailed overview of the Land Council's performance against the Corporate Plan 2024-2025 is outlined in the Assessment of Performance section below.



Leslie Tungatalum
Chair



Brendan Ferguson
CEO



Assessment of Performance

The Land Council's Corporate Plan 2024–2025 outlined priorities and measures of success for the 2024–2025 financial year. This section assesses the Land Council's performance in achieving its objectives throughout the reporting period.

ACTIVITIES AND PERFORMANCE MEASURES (PM) for 2024 -25 (as published in the Tiwi Land Council's Corporate Plan 2024 -2028)
Activity 1: Managing the appropriate use of Tiwi land and waters, consistent with the wishes of Tiwi Traditional Owners.
Performance Measures 1 – 6
Activity 2: Protecting the health of Tiwi Country.
Performance Measures 7 – 10
Activity 3: Sustaining and celebrating Tiwi culture.
Performance Measures 11 – 13
Activity 4: Supporting development of and participation in, Tiwi economy.
Performance Measure 14
Activity 5: Listening to, and promoting, Tiwi voices within and beyond our Islands.
Performance Measures 15 – 18
Activity 6: Administering an effective and efficient Land Council sustained by the trust of Tiwi people.
Performance Measures 19 – 25



Performance Measure Summary of Results

The table below provides a summary of the performance outcomes for each of the 25 Performance Measures for 2024–25.

Performance Measure (PM)	Target	Result	Performance Outcome
PM1: Land Council land use application procedures comply with ALRA requirements and Land use applications are processed in accordance with Land Council procedures.	Review and audit of four land use applications to monitor ALRA compliance	While the application process has undergone significant improvement during the period, no audits have yet been completed to verify this measure.	Not achieved
PM2: Conduct compliance checks on executed land use agreements.	Six compliance checks	While several existing agreements have been subject to review and improvement, only two (2) compliance checks have been completed	Not achieved
PM3: Develop and implement an effective and efficient permit system	Conduct Stage 2 permit review	Gathered information to scope the project work, to be commissioned in August 2025.	Not achieved
PM4: By 2027-28, the Land Council has lodged a Sea Country Native Title application with the National Native Title Tribunal.	Develop and implement a process to administer a Sea Country Native Title application.	The process to administer a Sea Country Native Title application has been partially implemented.	Substantially achieved
PM5: Genealogies and clan registers are digitised up to date and kept current.	Genealogies: 50%	Approx. 80% of genealogies are digitised, and only approx. 30% are updated. The register is digitised and collated but not fully updated. Updates are ongoing.	Partially achieved
	Clan registers: 70%		
PM6: Number of requests/actions to protect sacred and other significant sites to be finalised internally and submitted to AAPA (as relevant) within 12 months.	60% of the requests are actioned	All requests and actions to protect sacred and significant sites were finalised internally and, where relevant, submitted to AAPA within the 12-month timeframe.	Achieved



Performance Measure (PM)	Target	Result	Performance Outcome
PM7: Incursions and introductions of new threats to the islands.	0 new introductions	No new incursions or threats were introduced to the islands.	Achieved
PM8: Dedication of IPA & sea country consultations.	IPA governance framework developed, and IPA dedicated	IPA presented and received endorsement from the Land Council.	Achieved
PM9: Research activities inform and providing direction to the Land Council to enable informed decision making.	2 SRC meetings per year	No SRC meetings held during the year as the purpose of the Committee is being reconsidered. Research activities have been progressed through other channels in close collaboration with the Executive Committee.	Not achieved
PM10: Land Council develops Island wide strategies that inform management activities for all stakeholders.	Review and update existing Land Council strategic documents	Gravel strategy, roads, weed and waste activities ongoing.	Partially achieved
PM11: Develop the Tiwi festival into a recognised annual event, hold two further significant Tiwi cultural events and provide ongoing support for Kulama and Pukumani ceremonies.	Yearly	Pilot Tiwi Cultural Festival held and supported Kulama and Pukumani ceremonies	Achieved
PM12: Hold consistent meetings of the Cultural Committee.	4 meetings	4 meetings	Achieved
PM13: Identification, return and safekeeping of Tiwi cultural artefacts.	Identification of relevant collections and development of relationships with researchers and institutions holding those collections	The Land Council has met the intent of the target by identifying significant collections, beginning their cataloguing, and forging partnerships with relevant cultural institutions.	Achieved



Performance Measure (PM)	Target	Result	Performance Outcome
PM14: Facilitate coordinated approach to Tiwi economic participation.	Map all existing economic activities and engage with key stakeholders to inform our understanding of relevant industry opportunities	The Policy and Advocacy unit was established, and work has commenced on the project scope to explore the future Tiwi economy.	Partially achieved
PM15: Establish a permanent staff presence on the Tiwi Islands.	Site identification and design for Wurrumiyanga office	A permanent presence on the Islands was established with an Access to Country Supervisor and crew and an Engagement and Strategy Administration Officer based in Wurrumiyanga.	Substantially achieved
PM16: Hold regular clan meetings.	4 per clan per year	32 clan meetings were held for the eight (8) clans	Substantially achieved
PM17: Hold consistent meetings of the Tiwi Leaders Forum.	2 meetings	The process of establishing the structure and governance of the Tiwi Leaders Forum required significant consultation in early 2025, with the first meeting held in July 2025 after the reporting period.	Not achieved
PM18: Issue regular editions of the Tiwi Newsletter - Pupuni Ngirramini.	4 newsletters	3 newsletters	Substantially achieved
PM19: Audit Risk Committee Meetings.	4 meetings	Four meetings were held (Meeting numbers 64, 65, 66 and 67)	Achieved
PM20: Develop and implement an Internal Audit Framework (IAF).	IAF is developed and approved by the Audit and Risk Committee	Internal Audit Plan for three-year rolling plan from 2025-2028 was accepted by the ARC and approved by the Accountable Authority.	Achieved



Performance Measure (PM)	Target	Result	Performance Outcome
PM21: Conduct budget reviews against actuals and present financial reports to Council members and Accountable Authority.	Quarterly	Budget reviews were reported to the Full Land Council four (4) times and to the Executive once.	Achieved
PM22: Unmodified auditors report.	Annual unmodified report	Unmodified report was issued by the External Auditors for the year 30 June 2025 Financial Statements.	Achieved
PM23: Governance policies and processes are reviewed when they are due, updated and/or created and communicated.	80% compliance with policy review framework	Governance Framework – 4 were endorsed; 1 was reviewed and 1 developed, consultation conducted with relevant stakeholders; both pending Land Council endorsement. Governance Policies – 3 endorsed following consultation with staff and the Land Council.	Achieved
PM24: Council member training and representation in forums, hearings and seminars on behalf of Land Council.	2 attended trainings/ forums	Governance and financial literacy training delivered to Full Land Council.	Achieved
PM25: Relevant opportunities are offered to each Land Council employee, as identified through a training matrix and annual development plans.	100% of staff have active development plan; 80% of training budget expended	Active development plan and training matrix in progress.	Partially achieved

Performance measure tolerance levels

To reflect the Land Council's achievement against its performance measure targets, we developed and implemented four (4) tolerance levels below:

- **Achieved:** 100% of the performance target has been achieved
- **Substantially achieved:** 75–99.9% of the performance target has been achieved
- **Partially achieved:** 50–74.9% of the performance target has been achieved
- **Not achieved:** <50% of the performance target has been achieved.



Performance Measure Results

Activity 1: Managing the appropriate use of Tiwi land and waters, consistent with the wishes of Tiwi Traditional Owners

Performance Measure 1 – Land Council land use application procedures comply with ALRA requirements and Land use applications are processed in accordance with Land Council procedures.			
Year	Target	Result	Performance Outcome
2024-2025	Review and audit of four land use applications to monitor ALRA compliance	While the application process has undergone significant improvement during the period, no audits have yet been completed to verify this measure.	Not achieved

ANALYSIS

Between July 2024 and June 2025, no audits of land use applications were completed to monitor compliance with ALRA requirements and Land Council procedures, falling short of the target to review and audit four applications. The land use application process is under review, and an audit process is yet to be developed. Once procedures are fully developed, auditing of applications will commence.

Performance Measure 2 – Conduct compliance checks on executed land use agreements.			
Year	Target	Result	Performance Outcome
2024-2025	Six compliance checks	While several existing Agreements have been subject to review and improvement, only two (2) compliance checks have been completed	Not achieved

ANALYSIS

The progress on conducting compliance checks for executed land use agreements during the 2024–2025 period was limited, with only two (2) of the targeted six (6) checks completed. Initial delays occurred as the land Council's Principal Legal Officer (PLO) had not yet commenced duties in the first quarter. While the PLO began providing obligation summaries and collaborating on a compliance policy and schedule in early 2025, no additional checks took place in the final quarter.



Performance Measure 3 – Develop and implement an effective and efficient permit system.			
Year	Target	Result	Performance Outcome
2024-2025	Conduct Stage 2 permit review	Gathered information to scope the project work, to be commissioned in August 2025.	Not achieved

ANALYSIS

Progress towards developing and implementing an effective permit system has been focused on preparatory activities throughout 2024–2025. Information gathering to scope the project has been completed, and the procurement process to engage a consultant for the remaining stages of the permit review is underway. While the Stage 2 permit review has not yet been completed, these foundational steps position the project well for successful completion, which is anticipated by mid-2026.

Performance Measure 4 – By 2027-28, the Land Council has lodged a Sea Country Native Title application with the National Native Title Tribunal.			
Year	Target	Result	Performance Outcome
2024-2025	Develop and implement a process to administer a Sea Country Native Title application.	The process to administer a Sea Country Native Title application has been implemented.	Substantially achieved

ANALYSIS

Between July 2024 and June 2025, foundational and strategic work advanced steadily toward the target of lodging a Sea Country Native Title application by 2027–28. From July to December 2024, two key projects – the cultural heritage survey with Eni and the *Fishing for Data* research on Tiwi Sea Country Stories – were initiated to build a strong cultural evidence base for the claim. While the Eni contract was still under development by the end of 2024, a further *Fishing for Data* trip was scheduled for March 2025, indicating ongoing commitment to field research.

In early 2025, discussions with the NIAA progressed to determine next steps, with internal strategic planning focused on securing funding pathways for the claim. A critical follow-up action was identified to formally engage the Northern Land Council (NLC) to request their initiation or financial support for the claim, reflecting growing coordination among stakeholders.

By April to June 2025, a formal process to administer a Sea Country Native Title application was developed and submitted for Council feedback, marking an important governance milestone. Furthermore, the NLC agreed to provide funding for legal expertise essential to preparing and lodging the native title sea claim. This institutional support signifies a strengthening of capacity and readiness to meet the 2027–28 lodgement target.

Overall, the period reflects meaningful progress in both cultural groundwork and administrative preparation.



Performance Measure 5 – Genealogies and clan registers are digitised up to date and kept current.			
Year	Target	Result	Performance Outcome
2024-2025	Genealogies: 50%	Approx. 80% of genealogies are digitised, only approx. 30% are updated. The register is digitised and collated but not fully updated. Updates are ongoing.	Partially achieved
	Clan registers: 70%		

ANALYSIS

Between July 2024 and June 2025, steady progress was made toward digitising Tiwi genealogies and updating clan registers, though overall targets remain unmet. Initial efforts focused on selecting suitable genealogy software and beginning the digitisation of handwritten genealogies, alongside research into Tiwi land ownership systems and discussions on amending the existing clan register.

From late 2024 into early 2025, digitisation continued, with approximately 5% of genealogies entered by year-end and ongoing work to merge eight separate clan registers into a consolidated database. Efforts to recruit Tiwi staff to assist with data entry and backlog reduction gained momentum, and a working group was established to guide clan membership verification and register updates.

By mid-2025, over 50 family genealogies digitised by the Patakijiyali Museum were integrated into the Land Council system, with verification underway alongside Traditional Owners. A Tiwi casual worker began addressing registration form backlogs, and a clan-endorsed reference group was formed to review and maintain the register’s accuracy and sustainability.



Cultural mapping, with Mary Dunn (standing), Marilyn Kerinauia, Isabelle Favre, John Wilson, Dennis Dunn – June 2025

Due to these challenges such as staffing needs, data backlogs, and the complexity of verification, the targets – 50% digitisation for genealogies and 70% update for clan registers, were partially achieved within the financial year.



Performance Measure 6 – Number of requests/actions to protect sacred and other significant sites to be finalised internally and submitted to AAPA (as relevant) within 12 months.			
Year	Target	Result	Performance Outcome
2024-2025	60% of the requests are actioned	All requests and actions to protect sacred and significant sites were finalised internally and, where relevant, submitted to AAPA within the 12-month timeframe.	Achieved

ANALYSIS

Progress on protecting sacred and significant sites has been methodical but slower than desired. From July to September 2024, one request for sacred site protection (yam fields in Wurrumiyanga) was documented and submitted to the AAPA, with ongoing review of prior submissions by previous anthropologists. Between October and December 2024, no new requests were lodged, and the yam fields application was placed on hold pending seasonal photographic evidence, delaying progress.

In early 2025, two requests were active: completion of the sacred yam field application, and initiation of a new application for a significant tree at Paru which was underway and pending final approval. By April to June 2025, all outstanding site protection requests were completed and formally submitted to AAPA.

Activity 2: Protecting the health of Tiwi Country

Performance Measure 7 – Incursions and introductions of new threats to the islands.			
Year	Target	Result	Performance Outcome
2024-2025	0 new introductions	No new incursions or threats were introduced to the islands.	Achieved

ANALYSIS

Consistent inspection efforts on incoming goods, vehicles, and freight were maintained throughout the year to prevent incursions and the introduction of new threats to the islands. From July to September and October to December 2024, inspections focused on incoming goods. Between January and March 2025, a significant increase in inspections was noted with 103 conducted on vehicles and freight; while most failed inspections required only minor corrective actions, this highlights the effectiveness of the monitoring process. Collaboration with Sealink and other partners to improve signage and information further supports preventive measures. Inspections continued through April to June 2025, maintaining vigilance against new threats. Overall, these efforts have contributed toward meeting the target of zero new introductions, though ongoing diligence remains essential to safeguard the islands.



Performance Measure 8 – Dedication of IPA & sea country consultations.			
Year	Target	Result	Performance Outcome
2024-2025	IPA governance framework developed and IPA dedicated	IPA presented and received endorsement from the Land Council.	Achieved

ANALYSIS

Progress towards the dedication of the Tiwi Islands IPA and development of its governance framework has been strong and on track. In the first quarter, the IPA consultation funding agreement was extended to support continued engagement through financial year 2025, with the final dedication in July 2025. During the second quarter, governance arrangements were strengthened by elevating the IPA Governance Committee to a Land Council sub-committee, with continued collaboration between Tiwi Resources and the IPA Committee.

In early 2025, preparations began for clan group consultations scheduled for May, focusing on endorsing the IPA Plan of Management and sub-committee structure. By the end of the fourth quarter, the IPA proposal was formally presented to and endorsed by the Land Council.

Overall, the period reflects solid progress towards achieving the performance target. The combination of structured planning, governance alignment, and community endorsement positions the IPA for successful dedication in the upcoming financial year.

Performance Measure 9 – Research activities inform and providing direction to the Land Council to enable informed decision making.			
Year	Target	Result	Performance Outcome
2024-2025	2 SRC meetings per year	No SRC meetings as the purpose of the Committee is being reconsidered. Research activities have been progressed through other channels in close collaboration with the Executive Committee.	Not achieved

ANALYSIS

No SRC meetings were held during the reporting period following direction from the Executive Committee and while the Land Council reviews existing and newly formed sub-committees. While this review is being undertaken, the SRC meetings are on hold. Research activities on the Tiwi Islands are ongoing, and relationships with research organisations are being maintained. The performance measure of 2 meetings per year does not accurately reflect the relationship and ongoing research work on the Tiwi Island, and as such has been removed from the 2025-2026 review of the Corporate Plan.



Performance Measure 10 – Land Council develops Island wide strategies that inform management activities for all stakeholders.			
Year	Target	Result	Performance Outcome
2024-2025	Review and update existing Land Council strategic documents.	Gravel strategy, roads, weed and waste activities ongoing.	Partially achieved

ANALYSIS

Initial steps were taken toward the development of island-wide strategies to guide management activities across key operational areas. Work commenced on strategies relating to gravel extraction, road infrastructure, weed control, and waste management. While these efforts indicate a proactive approach and alignment with the performance target, the strategies are still in early stages of development. To fully meet the target, the Land Council will need to finalise, document, and implement these strategies, ensuring they are shared with and inform the work of all relevant stakeholders. Continued coordination and clear timelines will be essential to deliver integrated and effective island-wide management frameworks.

Activity 3: Sustaining and celebrating Tiwi culture

Performance Measure 11 – Develop the Tiwi festival into a recognised annual event, hold two further significant Tiwi cultural events and provide ongoing support for Kulama and Pukumani ceremonies.			
Year	Target	Result	Performance Outcome
2024-2025	Yearly	Pilot Tiwi Cultural Festival held and supported Kulama and Pukumani ceremonies	Achieved

ANALYSIS

Tiwi Cultural Festival requires secure ongoing funding. This will ensure the Land Council will be able to procure goods and services in advance and not be put under pressure due to funding uncertainty delaying final arrangements.

In 2024, one Kulama ceremony was held on the Tiwi Islands. In 2025, the Land Council assisted Traditional Owners and Kulama Masters of Ceremony to conduct two ceremonies. The first one was held on Bathurst Island and the second on Melville Island. This year the Land Council recorded it for learning purposes. The intention was to measure the capability and capacity of ceremonial participants, to understand what is working and what is not so we can apply the culturally appropriate tools to rectify it.

The outcome of assisting Kulama masters and initiates, was to redirect internal underspends and invest it in procuring the services of renowned ethnomusicologist, Dr Genevieve Campbell, to facilitate Kulama specific workshops. She would use; archived materials sourced from Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies and use it as a guide to merge past Kulama with modern Kulama. The target of this workshop is to enhance singing and songwriting skills but to ensure younger audiences are being engaged to learn and receive cultural knowledge.



Performance Measure 12 – Hold consistent meetings of the Cultural Committee.			
Year	Target	Result	Performance Outcome
2024-2025	4 meetings	4 meetings	Achieved

ANALYSIS

There were 4 meetings held in the reporting period, on 2 December 2024, 25 March 2025, 16 April 2025 and 27 June 2025.

It is proposed to review the Tuwurrampila Cultural Committee Governance Framework in the 2025-2026 financial year. The intended outcome of the review is to finetune the scope of the committee's roles, responsibilities and functions. This initial process will then lead into creating a document outlining a road map of why, what and how we intend to achieve our aims and goals. More so, a resource the Land Council can provide stakeholders, funding bodies and private investors, as the Land Council aim to diversify how we invest and direct resources into maintaining and sustaining Tiwi culture, language and lore.

Performance Measure 13 – Identification, return and safekeeping of Tiwi cultural artefacts.			
Year	Target	Result	Performance Outcome
2024-2025	Identification of relevant collections and development of relationships with researchers and institutions holding those collections	The Land Council has met the intent of the target by identifying significant collections, beginning their cataloguing, and forging partnerships with relevant cultural institutions.	Achieved

ANALYSIS

Significant progress has been made in both identifying relevant collections and building institutional relationships to ensure the preservation and accessibility of Tiwi cultural artefacts. Key achievements include:

- Collection preservation and management:
- Urgent preservation measures implemented for the Morris Collection following Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory (MAGNT) conservator's briefing.
- Ongoing monitoring and conservation support from MAGNT on a pro bono basis.
- Management of a bug infestation in the Morris and Mitchell collections, with both in-house fumigation and external treatment by MAGNT.
- Cataloguing of the Morris and other object collections commenced with the employment of two (2) Tiwi staff, working under MAGNT guidance.



- Institutional partnerships and negotiations.
- Ongoing discussions with the Catholic Diocese regarding photographic mission-era collections and the future of the Patakijiyali Museum in Wurrumiyanga.
- New relationship established with Library and Archives NT to host Morris documents and identify other Tiwi materials.
- Exploration of using MAGNT as a temporary repository until a permanent home is secured.
- Capacity building.
- Recruitment of Tiwi staff to assist with inventory and cataloguing, supporting local involvement and skills transfer in cultural heritage management.

While the return and long-term safekeeping arrangements are still in progress, the groundwork for sustained preservation and access has been strongly established.



Charlotte Portaminni and Ainsley Kerinaia documenting Tiwi collection item.



Activity 4: Supporting development of, and participation in, Tiwi economy

Performance Measure 14 – Facilitate coordinated approach to Tiwi economic participation.			
Year	Target	Result	Performance Outcome
2024-2025	Map all existing economic activities and engage with key stakeholders to inform our understanding of relevant industry opportunities	The Policy and Advocacy unit was established and work has commenced on the project scope to explore the future Tiwi economy.	Partially achieved

ANALYSIS

The Land Council made consistent progress throughout the reporting period by maintaining regular engagement with stakeholders, clan groups, and funding bodies (Commonwealth, Northern Territory Government, Philanthropic). This engagement resulted in:

- Grant facilitation – Multiple grant opportunities provided to Tiwi organisations, businesses, and all eight landowning groups, supporting diverse economic activities.
- Capacity building – Ongoing support for clan groups in the incorporation process, including liaising with Tiwi Resources and Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations.
- Strategic development – Establishment of a Policy and Advocacy unit and recruitment of a Senior Policy and Development Officer to develop the Tiwi Economic Development Framework.
- Mapping progress – Initiated mapping of current and future economic development activities, aligning with the target.

While the mapping of all existing economic activities is still in progress, significant foundational work has been undertaken to enable a coordinated economic participation approach. The consistent stakeholder engagement, targeted capacity building, and establishment of a dedicated policy function demonstrate strong progress toward achieving the target.



Activity 5: Listening to, and promoting, Tiwi voices within and beyond our Islands

Performance Measure 15 – Establish a permanent staff presence on the Tiwi Islands.			
Year	Target	Result	Performance Outcome
2024-2025	Site identification and design for Wurrumiyanga office.	A permanent presence on the Islands was established with an Access to Country Supervisor and crew and an Engagement and Strategy Administration Officer based in Wurrumiyanga.	Substantially achieved

ANALYSIS

The performance measure shows strong progress toward establishing a permanent staff presence on the Tiwi Islands. While the original target was limited to site identification and design for the Wurrumiyanga office, the Land Council has exceeded this by appointing multiple permanent staff members based in Wurrumiyanga across different periods (Tiwi Leaders Forum Coordinator from December 2024, Engagement and Strategy Administration Officer from March 2025, and Access to Country Supervisor with crew from June 2025). This demonstrates a shift from just planning infrastructure to actively embedding operational capacity on the ground.

Performance Measure 16 – Hold regular clan meetings.			
Year	Target	Result	Performance Outcome
2024-2025	4 per clan per year.	32 clan meetings were held for the eight (8) clans	Substantially achieved

ANALYSIS

In the reporting period, 32 clan meetings were held for the eight (8) clans.

Of the eight (8) clan groups, four (4) meetings were held for six (6) clans – Jikilaruwu, Mantiyupwi, Marrikawuyanga, Munupi, Wurankuwu and Yimpinari – meeting the annual target. Wulirankuwu held five meetings, while there were three Malawu clan meetings.

In planning for the 2025 calendar year, the Land Council sought to increase the consistency of clan meetings, to improve communication with Tiwi Traditional Owners and support the efficiency of land use application processes. A structured meeting calendar was developed and has been followed throughout the 2025 calendar year.

In developing the most recent Corporate Plan, Land Council management reflected on the operational burden of quarterly clan meetings and decided to adjust the target in the financial year 2025-26 to three (3) meetings per clan, which will be more sustainable and will allow additional compliance work to occur between meetings, thus supporting achievement of performance measures 1 and 2 (among others).



Performance Measure 17 – Hold consistent meetings of the Tiwi Leaders Forum.			
Year	Target	Result	Performance Outcome
2024-2025	2 meetings	The process of establishing the structure and governance of the Tiwi Leaders Forum required significant consultation in early 2025, with the first meeting held in July 2025 after the reporting period.	Not achieved

ANALYSIS

A funding agreement was executed with NIAA in late 2024 and the Tiwi Leaders Forum Coordinator was employed in January 2025. As the Forum had not been operational for some time, it was necessary to undertake significant consultation to develop a strong model that would ensure the success of the Tiwi Leaders Forum over the three (3) year funding agreement.

This included engagement with many stakeholders across Tiwi, but also multiple presentations to the Full Land Council to achieve approval for the model and a process for appointing members.

Performance Measure 18 – Issue regular editions of the Tiwi Newsletter – Pupuni Ngirramini.			
Year	Target	Result	Performance Outcome
2024-2025	4 newsletters	3 newsletters	Substantially achieved

ANALYSIS

The newsletter is widely read on the Tiwi Islands. The print run is now 2000 hard copies of which approximately 1500 are distributed between Wurrumiyanga, Pirlangimpi and Milikapiti. In addition, approximately 400 copies are mailed via Australia Post to stakeholders and relevant NT and Commonwealth Government Ministers and well as the other three (3) NT Land Councils. Hard copies are also delivered to the Tiwi ferry and the flight charter companies at Darwin Airport that regularly fly to the Tiwi Islands. An electronic mailing list is also utilised with subscriber numbers approaching 400.



Activity 6: Administering an effective and efficient Land Council sustained by the trust of Tiwi people

Performance Measure 19 – Audit Risk Committee Meetings.			
Year	Target	Result	Performance Outcome
2024-2025	4 meetings	Four meetings were held (Meeting numbers 64, 65, 66 and 67)	Achieved

ANALYSIS

The performance measure shows full achievement of the target, with four (4) ARC meetings held within the reporting period, meeting the annual requirement.

Governance processes were strengthened through the finalisation of the ARC Charter, which was endorsed by the Accountable Authority and made publicly available on the Land Council's [website](#). Despite the resignation of two (2) members (both legal practitioners) during the year, recruitment was promptly initiated, resulting in the appointment of two (2) new members by June 2025. Attendance and engagement remained strong, with two of the meetings achieving 100% participation.

Performance Measure 20 – Develop and implement an Internal Audit Framework (IAF).			
Year	Target	Result	Performance Outcome
2024-2025	IAF is developed and approved by the Audit and Risk Committee	Internal Audit Plan for three-year rolling plan from 2025-2028 was accepted by the ARC and approved by the Accountable Authority.	Achieved

ANALYSIS

The IAF was developed through a staged process, starting with a review of previous governance and audit performance, followed by the drafting of a Compliance Calendar and research into suitable templates. Strategic risks from the Land Council Risk Register were reviewed, and a draft Internal Audit Plan was presented to the ARC for feedback. The final three-year rolling Internal Audit Plan (2025–2028) was approved by both the ARC and the Accountable Authority in March 2025. Implementation commenced promptly, with a health check audit of the Procurement Process completed in June 2025 and its findings presented to the ARC. This reflects strong follow-through from planning to execution within the reporting period.



Performance Measure 21 – Conduct budget reviews against actuals and present financial reports to Council members and Accountable Authority.			
Year	Target	Result	Performance Outcome
2024-2025	Quarterly	Budget reviews were reported to the Full Land Council four (4) times and to the Executive once.	Achieved

ANALYSIS

The performance measure was achieved, with quarterly budget reviews and financial reporting delivered consistently throughout the reporting period.

From July to September 2024, quarterly reviews were conducted with budget holders between 17–25 October 2024, and September financial reports were submitted to the Accountable Authorities. In October to December 2024, two budget reviews were held (October and January), and finance reports were presented at Full Land Council meetings in September 2024 and January 2025. In January to March 2025, the 2026 budget and 31 December Financial Report were presented to the Full Land Council on 5 February 2025. Finally, in April to June 2025, budget reviews were presented to both the Full Land Council and Executive Meetings in June 2025. This reflects a consistent cycle of budget monitoring, review, and transparent reporting process.

Performance Measure 22 – Unmodified auditors report.			
Year	Target	Result	Performance Outcome
2024-2025	Annual unmodified report.	Unmodified report was issued by the External Auditors for the year 30 June 2025 Financial Statements	Achieved

ANALYSIS

Refer to the audit report in Financial Statement section of this annual report.



Performance Measure 23 – Governance policies and processes are reviewed when they are due, updated and/or created and communicated.			
Year	Target	Result	Performance Outcome
2024-2025	80% compliance with policy review framework	<p>Governance Framework - 4 were endorsed; 1 was reviewed and 1 developed, consultation conducted with relevant stakeholders; both pending Land Council endorsement.</p> <p>Governance Policies - 3 endorsed following consultation with staff and the Land Council.</p>	Achieved

ANALYSIS

The performance measure shows strong progress toward the 80% compliance target, with multiple governance policies and frameworks reviewed, updated, and in some cases fully implemented within the reporting period.

From July to September 2024, key policies such as the Conflict of Interest Policy were approved, while draft Motor Vehicle and Gifts and Benefits policies were presented to the ARC. A Policy Register and Policy Suite were developed in SharePoint, and initial drafts of the ARC Charter and Accountable Authority Governance Framework were reviewed. Between October and December 2024, further policy drafting continued, including the Policy Governance Framework and the Travel and Expense Policy.

From January to March 2025, the Executive Committee Governance Framework was finalised, endorsed by the Accountable Authority, and communicated to the Minister, while the Accountable Authority Governance Framework was submitted to the NIAA for review. Council Meeting Rules were pending legal feedback, and the Policy Governance Framework was under CEO review. A Strategic Risk Workshop was also conducted to strengthen governance capability.

From April to June 2025, the Accountable Authority Governance Framework was formally executed, Council Meeting Rules progressed in line with NIAA feedback, and the Policy Governance Framework underwent consultation and finalisation steps.



Performance Measure 24 – Council member training and representation in forums, hearings and seminars on behalf of Land Council.			
Year	Target	Result	Performance Outcome
2024-2025	2 attended trainings/ forums	Governance and financial literacy training delivered to Full Land Council.	Achieved

ANALYSIS

The performance measure was met, with governance and financial literacy training delivered to the Full Land Council by the end of the reporting period, fulfilling the target of at least two (2) attended trainings/forums.

From July to September 2024, Council members engaged in governance capacity-building through a dedicated review of key governance documents during the July meeting. In October to December 2024, governance training was planned for the December and February meetings, alongside discussions on the best use of the \$90k training budget. During January to March 2025, the People and Capability Manager explored Registered Training Organisations to deliver governance and finance training. By April to June 2025, responsibility for training was handed over to the CEO and Executive Officer, governance and financial literacy training was delivered to the Full Land Council, and further leadership training opportunities were being assessed.

Performance Measure 25 – Relevant opportunities are offered to each Land Council employee, as identified through a training matrix and annual development plans.			
Year	Target	Result	Performance Outcome
2024-2025	100% of staff have active development plan; 80% of training budget expended	Active development plan and training matrix in progress.	Partially achieved

ANALYSIS

The performance measure is still in progress and has not yet reached the target of 100% of staff having active development plans and 80% of the training budget being expended.

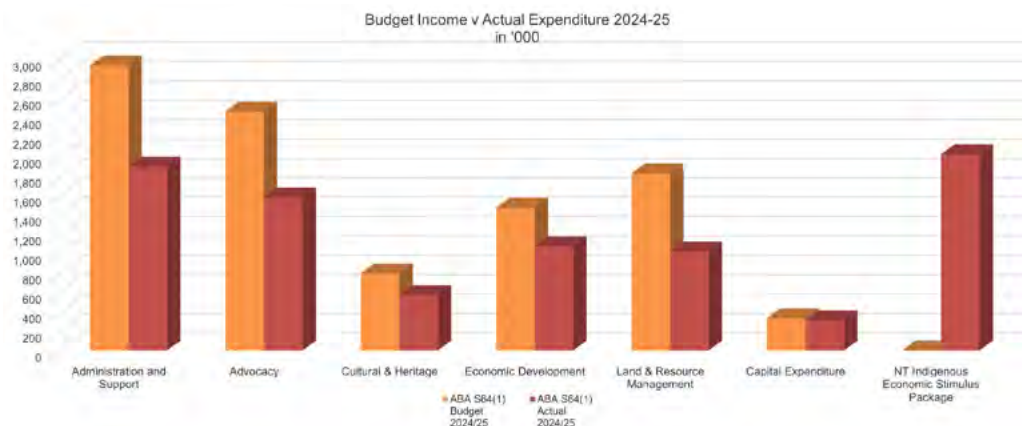
From July to September 2024, performance reviews were completed, and staff were encouraged to identify professional development needs, with work beginning on the active development plan and training matrix. Between October 2024 and March 2025, progress continued but remained incomplete. By April to June 2025, the training matrix was still under development by the Work, Health and Safety Training Officer, with the next performance review cycle planned for October/November 2025 to formally identify skills gaps and training needs. Throughout the year, employees were encouraged to attend workshops and courses aligned with their roles and career aspirations.



Financial Resources and Application

In summary, the Land Council budgeted \$9,682,796 from the Commonwealth in section 64(1) funding, with carried forward funding of \$2,785,074, interest income of \$80,000 and proceeds from sale of assets of \$25,000. Further supplementary funding of \$140,534 was released to the Land Council in October 2024. Detailed audited financial statements are attached.

The total of \$9,823,330 was allocated during the financial year against the five (5) output groups as illustrated in the graphs below:



In 2024–2025, actual expenditure excluding Stimulus funding, exceeded the 2023–2024 budgeted income, largely reflecting the increase in activities and the progressive filling of budgeted positions. This increase in expenditure was offset by allocations under the Northern Territory Indigenous Economic Stimulus Package (NTIESP), for which funding had been received by the Land Council in prior years. Further details for the income and expenditure against budget section 64(1) are provided in Note 5.3 of the financial statements.

Details of consultants engaged

The following consultants were engaged during the year:

Output Group	Consultant	Consultancy service	Amount
Administration	RiskIQ Global (Australia) Pty Ltd	Risk Management	49,382
Administration	Herron Todd White	Asset Valuator	9,000
Administration	Ward Keller	Lawyer	33,677
Administration	Define Potential Pty Ltd	Emerging Leaders Program – Coaching	15,136
Administration	Kaliopi Hourdas	Lawyer	16,200
Administration	Train Safe NT Pty Ltd	Training	27,385
Administration	Communicate NT	Writing and Communication Workshops	6,400



Output Group	Consultant	Consultancy service	Amount
Advocacy	Lindsay Murdoch	Journalist	3,700
Culture and Heritage	KIK FM Pty Ltd	Training and Videoing	11,780
Culture and Heritage	Abstract Security	Security	7,585
Culture and Heritage	Campaign Edge Sprout Pty Ltd	Brand identity and logo development	19,739
Culture and Heritage	Cassie Puruntatameri	Coordination of the fashion parade	5,000
Culture and Heritage	E3 Pro Pty Ltd	Production equipment and Labour	40,000
Culture and Heritage	Genevieve Campbell	Choir performance Manager	11,567
Culture and Heritage	Triptic Pty Ltd	Site Management	47,812
Culture and Heritage	Ethnotracking	Anthropologist	13,093
Culture and Heritage	Rise Project Consulting	Photometry models	16,000
Culture and Heritage	Simon Watkinson	GIS Mapping Setting	13,500
Natural Resource Management	EcOz Environmental Consultants	Review land use application	36,891
Natural Resource Management	Douglas Partners Pty Ltd	Gravel investigations	28,000
Natural Resource Management	Charles Darwin University	Animal management guided	28,560
Natural Resource Management	Greenwood Strategy Solutions Pty Ltd	Assess land use application	45,000
Natural Resource Management	Star Safaris	Consultant GIS Mapping	4,290
Natural Resource Management	FarmBio Consulting	Biosecurity and EAD Response	30,000



Other Grants Received

Funding stream and project	Project/purpose	Estimated Budget 2024/25	Amount Received 2024/25
National Indigenous Australians Agency	National Landcare Program – Indigenous Protected Areas	307,722	307,722
Department of Primary Industry and Fisheries	Marine Ranger Programme	166,846	166,846
National Indigenous Australians Agency	Local Investments	250,000	250,000
National Indigenous Australians Agency	Culture and Capability	182,000	182,000
Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	Sea Country/Australian Marine Parks Conference	-	9,090
Total		906,568	915,658

Fee for services received section 37(2)

Payor	Received by the Land Council
	Nil
Total	Nil

ALRA section 19(A) Township Lease and Approved Entities

The following are the existing township lease in the area of the Land Council as of the reporting period:

Name of the township	Name of the approved entity	Name of any other party to the lease	Date of Commencement
Wurrumiyanga Town Lease	Executive Director of Township Leasing	Tiwi Aboriginal Land Trust	2007
Pirlingimpi Town Lease	Executive Director of Township Leasing	Tiwi Aboriginal Land Trust	2017
Milikapiti and Wurankuwu Town Lease	Executive Director of Township Leasing	Tiwi Aboriginal Land Trust	2011



Recipients of accountable amounts paid

Recipient	Paid pursuant to sub section of the ALR Act	Interest	Total amount
Mantiyupwi Aboriginal Corporation	35(4B)	-	488,935

Permit Administration

Authority to issue permits is provided under the *Aboriginal Land Act 1978 (NT)*. The Tiwi Land Council issues permits to enter the Land Trust for various purposes and requires applicants to agree with permit conditions set by the Land Council. Conditions include the requirement for a Tiwi Host – an on-island resident or organisation who are responsible for visitors while on Island, quarantine restrictions to prevent the entry of invasive species and other documented and advised environmental risks and guidelines for conduct while within community.

The Land Council received 1994 permit applications and issued 1913 permits for the reporting period as shown in the table below.

Permits are the process of the permission principle that underwrites Tiwi traditional governance now being more strongly asserted by the current generation of leaders and landowners. The permit system is under review after the Land Council received feedback from stakeholders that it does not adequately cater for the various activities applicants are seeking permission for. The Land Council staff have sought guidance and instruction from the Full Land Council as they continue to work and issue permits within the existing framework to support the wishes of Tiwi landowners.

Permits issued for 2024-2025

Permit Type	No. of permit applications	No. of permits issued	Total Fees
Camping	7	2	-
Fishing	22	12	1,200
Hunting	2	-	-
Business Logins	8	1	-
Work (issued by Business Login)	886	886	-
Visitor (in community)	47	21	-
Visitor (outside community)	7	-	-
Media	40	35	-
Research	21	8	-
Work (no business login)	954	948	-
Grand Total	1,994	1,913	1,200



Related entity transactions

Pecuniary Interests Registers

The Land Council has adopted the advice of the Minister and maintains a Pecuniary Interest Register for all members. All Land Council members declare details of their Pecuniary Interests at each Land Council meeting. This has been complied for the 2024-25 year. Of our 441 suppliers, there are 19 of which one or more of our Land Council members are directors or members.

Related Parties Registers

All members make a declaration to be recorded in Related Parties register when they meet the definition of related party in accordance with Australian Accounting Standard Board 124 enabling the Land Council to guard against potential conflicts of interest beyond conflicts of pecuniary interest. All members declare any relevant pecuniary interests before each meeting. Some Land Council Members are Directors or members of 15 suppliers.

Payments to related parties require that the following conditions have been met;

1. have the authority to approve the payment;
2. the goods or services have been provided and meet requirements;
3. the supplier's invoice:
 - provides the details needed for accounting and taxation purposes;
 - reflects the terms of the arrangement which was entered into; and
 - has credited any previous payment that was made to them if such payments were made.

During the year, the Land Council has business transactions with Tiwi suppliers. The list of related party transactions can be found in Note 3.3 of the financial statements.

Management of human resources

People and Development

The Land Council recognises that our capacity to deliver positive outcomes for the Tiwi community depends on our people. As such, our focus for this year has been targeted training and development in areas of cultural awareness, leadership and communication.

Another priority for the Land Council has also been in the area of Work, Healthy & Safety to ensure compliance with our regulatory body Comcare in accordance with the *Work, Health & Safety Act 2011 (Cth)*. Great strides have been made particularly in raising awareness around incident and hazard reporting with pro-active and robust discussions in our regular all-staff meetings; and creating and implementing policy, procedures, forms and templates to support all Work, Health and Safety functions.



Recruitment and Retention

The Land Council has grown in 2024-2025. Since the last financial year staff numbers have increased to 27. The Land Council employees are engaged on fixed term/ongoing contracts. Several staff are also employed in a casual capacity, including Access to Country crew, which operates during the dry season to clear Tiwi roads. The most material change to our staffing structure since the last reporting period was the addition of a Manager, Policy and Advocacy.

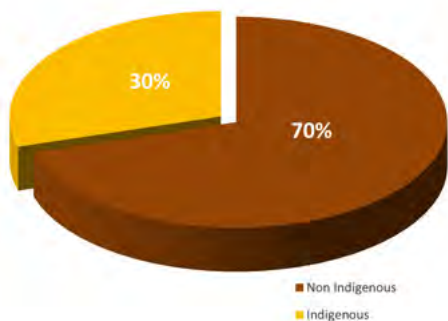


FWD Training

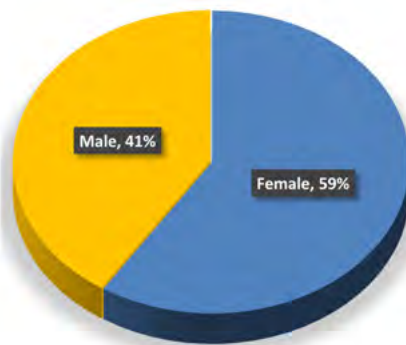
Statistics on Staffing

Statistics are calculated and reported on an actual head count basis as at the end of the financial year.

Staff Diversity



Gender Ratio



All Ongoing Employees Current Report Period (2024-25)

	Man/Male			Woman/Female			Non-binary			Prefers not to answer			Uses a different term			Total
	Full time	Part time	Total	Full time	Part time	Total	Full time	Part time	Total	Full time	Part time	Total	Full time	Part time	Total	
NSW	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Qld	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vic	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
WA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ACT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NT	6	1	7	13	1	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	21
External Territories	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Overseas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	6	1	7	13	1	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	21

All Ongoing Employees Previous Report Period (2023-24)

	Man/Male			Woman/Female			Non-binary			Prefers not to answer			Uses a different term			Total
	Full time	Part time	Total	Full time	Part time	Total	Full time	Part time	Total	Full time	Part time	Total	Full time	Part time	Total	
NSW	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Qld	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vic	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
WA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ACT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NT	0	1	1	3	2	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
External Territories	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Overseas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	1	1	3	2	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6



All Non-Ongoing Employees Current Period (2024-25)

	Man/Male			Woman/Female			Non-binary			Prefers not to answer			Uses a different term			Total
	Full time	Part time	Total	Full time	Part time	Total	Full time	Part time	Total	Full time	Part time	Total	Full time	Part time	Total	
NSW	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Qld	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vic	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
WA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ACT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NT	2	0	2	4	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
External Territories	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Overseas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	2	0	2	4	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6

All Non-Ongoing Employees Previous Report Period (2023-24)

	Man/Male			Woman/Female			Non-binary			Prefers not to answer			Uses a different term			Total
	Full time	Part time	Total	Full time	Part time	Total	Full time	Part time	Total	Full time	Part time	Total	Full time	Part time	Total	
NSW	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Qld	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vic	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
WA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ACT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NT	4	0	4	10	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14
External Territories	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Overseas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	4	0	4	10	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14



Employment benefits and categorisation

Tiwi Land Council has engaged staff under common law contracts or under the *Australian Government Industry Award 2016*. Contracts are for a stated salary with an expectation that staff applies themselves diligently, properly with skill, care, and attention in the best interest of the Land Council. The Land Council does not make performance payments or post-employment payments.

Information about remuneration

Remuneration information is set out in the following table pertaining to:

1. key management personnel,
2. senior executives, and
3. other highly paid staff.

Information about remuneration for key management personnel

Name	Position Title	Base Salary	Short-term benefits			Post-employment benefits	Other long-term benefits			Termination benefits	Total remuneration
			Bonuses	Other Benefits and Allowances	Superannuation Contributions		Long Service Leave	Other Long-Term Benefits			
Brendan Ferguson	CEO	239,579	0	11,984	32,347	3,093	0	0	0	287,003	
Leslie Tungatalum	Chair	114,902	0	12,524	13,214	0	0	0	0	140,640	
Adonis Wommatakimmi	Member	1,113	0	0	128	0	0	0	0	1,241	
Agnella Tipungwuti	Member	5,565	0	0	640	0	0	0	0	6,205	
Ainsley Kerinaua	Member	7,791	0	0	896	0	0	0	0	8,687	
Alexander Puruntatameri	Member	3,784	0	0	435	0	0	0	0	4,219	
Anastasius Vigona	Member	5,194	0	0	597	0	0	0	0	5,791	
Andrea Puautijimi	Member	4,823	0	0	555	0	0	0	0	5,378	
Andrew Bush	Member	5,417	0	0	623	0	0	0	0	6,040	

Name	Position Title	Short-term benefits			Post-employment benefits	Other long-term benefits		Termination benefits	Total remuneration
		Base Salary	Bonuses	Other Benefits and Allowances		Superannuation Contributions	Long Service Leave		
Austin Wonaeamirri	Deputy Chair & Member	15,852	0	0	1,823	0	0	0	17,675
Banita Tipiloura (Ullungura)	Member	6,084	0	0	700	0	0	0	6,784
Bonaventure Timaepatua	Member	3,339	0	0	384	0	0	0	3,723
Bradley Tipiloura	Member	2,226	0	0	256	0	0	0	2,482
Brian Tipungwuti	Chair Trustee & Member	9,916	0	0	1,140	0	0	0	11,056
Charlotte Portaminni	Member	4,897	0	0	563	0	0	0	5,460
Cheryl Kerinaia	Member	6,530	0	0	751	0	0	0	7,281
Claire Scrymgour	Member	5,046	0	0	580	0	0	0	5,626
Damien Molaminni (Burak)	Trustee & Member	11,103	0	0	1,277	0	0	0	12,380
Donna Molaminni (Burak)	Member	4,971	0	0	572	0	0	0	5,543
Edward (Teddy) Portaminni	Member	4,304	0	0	495	0	0	0	4,799
Edwina Brooks	Member	5,788	0	0	665	0	0	0	6,453
Ellanora Wonaeamirri	Member	5,788	0	0	665	0	0	0	6,453
Ephriana Tipungwuti	Member	2,300	0	0	264	0	0	0	2,564
Gerry Mungatopi	Member	742	0	0	85	0	0	0	827
Jeffrey Puruntatameri (Miller)	Trustee & Member	9,801	0	0	1,127	0	0	0	10,928
Jocelyn Tipungwuti	Member	5,120	0	0	589	0	0	0	5,709
John Tipiloura	Member	2,226	0	0	256	0	0	0	2,482
John Benson Kelantumama	Member	4,081	0	0	469	0	0	0	4,550
Juliette Puruntatameri	Member	371	0	0	43	0	0	0	414
Justina Puruntatameri	Member	5,788	0	0	665	0	0	0	6,453

Name	Position Title	Short-term benefits			Post-employment benefits			Other long-term benefits		Termination benefits	Total remuneration
		Base Salary	Bonuses	Other Benefits and Allowances	Superannuation Contributions	Long Service Leave	Other Long-Term Benefits				
Karen Tipiloura	Member	6,826	0	0	785	0	0	0	0	0	7,611
Karina Coombes	Trustee & Member	9,100	0	0	1,046	0	0	0	0	0	10,146
Laelia Dunn	Member	5,120	0	0	589	0	0	0	0	0	5,709
Mary Dunn	Trustee & Member	11,103	0	0	1,277	0	0	0	0	0	12,380
Miriam Stassi	Member	4,155	0	0	478	0	0	0	0	0	4,633
Neil Black	Member	4,674	0	0	538	0	0	0	0	0	5,212
Neville Wormatakimmi	Member	2,226	0	0	256	0	0	0	0	0	2,482
Richard Puruntatameri	Trustee & Member	8,952	0	0	1,029	0	0	0	0	0	9,981
Ron W. Poantimilui	Member	5,862	0	0	674	0	0	0	0	0	6,536
Sebastian Tipungwuti	Member	8,607	0	0	990	0	0	0	0	0	9,597
Simon Munkara	Trustee & Member	8,581	0	0	987	0	0	0	0	0	9,568
Stanley Tipiloura	Member	742	0	0	85	0	0	0	0	0	827
Valentine Puaufjimi	Member	3,191	0	0	367	0	0	0	0	0	3,558
Wendy Miller	Member	5,713	0	0	657	0	0	0	0	0	6,370
Wesley Kerinaua	Trustee & Member	6,166	0	0	709	0	0	0	0	0	6,875

Information about remuneration for senior executives

Total remuneration bands	Number of senior executives	Short-term benefits			Post-employment benefits		Other long-term benefits		Termination benefits	Total remuneration
		Average base salary	Average bonuses	Average other benefits and allowances	Average superannuation contributions	Average long service leave	Average other long-term benefits	Average termination benefits	Average total remuneration	
0-220,000	8	103,842	0	556	14,651	2,202	0	2,755	124,006	

Information about remuneration for other highly paid staff

The Land Council has no other highly paid staff to report in accordance with the PGPA Rule.

Judicial decisions and reviews by outside bodies

There were no judicial decisions or reviews in the 2024–2025 financial year.

The Land Council reviewed and discussed Bills, Amendments, and Draft Legislation at various meetings. New Territory legislation introduced, enacted, or amended during the year that directly affected the Tiwi people, and the Land Council includes:

- *Territory Coordinator Act 2025 (NT)*
- *Water Amendment (Aboriginal Water Reserves) Bill 2025*
- *Parks and Water Legislation Amendment Bill 2024*

Update on ANAO Performance Review of the Governance of the Tiwi Land Council

In the 2024-2025 financial year, the Land Council has provided two (2) progress updates to the Senate Finance and Public Administration Committee on the status of these recommendations. The Land Council acknowledges the concerted effort of the Full Land Council, Land Council management and staff to improve the integrity of its operations through the implementation of required governance arrangements at all levels.

Of the 13 recommendations directed at the Land Council in the ANAO Performance Audit Report (May 2023), the Land Council has implemented 11, and the remaining recommendations have undergone rigorous consultative and brainstorming processes with the respective departments and stakeholders. These include:

1. Improvement of processes and procurement of resources to support the distribution of Land Use payments to Clan groups through a 3rd party.
2. Developing and reviewing the Policy Governance Framework, which is in the final stages of consultation.

Indemnities and insurance premiums

In 2025 the Land Council was obliged to adopt Comcover. Policy Terms and Conditions do include Directors' and Officers' Liability and compulsory professional indemnity insurance required by the Law Society Northern Territory for its member legal practitioner. The limit of liability under Comcover is \$100 million. Premiums of \$5,907 to Comcover and \$2,338 to Lawcover were paid for the 2024-2025 financial year and a certificate of currency has been issued.



Other statutory requirements

Environmental Performance

The Land Council office at Pickataramoor on Melville Island has solar energy generation installed. The Land Council owns a 560 sq. metre premises in Winnellie and is serviced by Northern Territory utility corporations.

Section 516A of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth) requires Commonwealth authorities to report on environmental matters. The table below illustrates the Land Council's performance against Commonwealth environmental measures.

2024-25 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS INVENTORY– LOCATION-BASED METHOD

Emission Source	Scope 1 t CO ₂ -e	Scope 2 t CO ₂ -e	Scope 3 t CO ₂ -e	Total t CO ₂ -e
Electricity (Location Based Approach)	N/A	32.52	4.07	36.59
Natural Gas	-	N/A	-	-
Solid Waste	-	N/A	17.04	17.04
Refrigerants	-	N/A	N/A	-
Fleet and Other Vehicles	38.07	N/A	9.37	47.44
Domestic Commercial Flights	N/A	N/A	28.07	28.07
Domestic Hire Car	N/A	N/A	0.64	0.64
Domestic Travel Accommodation	N/A	N/A	20.05	20.05
Other Energy	-	N/A	-	-
Total kg CO₂-e	38.07	32.52	79.24	149.83

Note: the table above presents emissions related to electricity usage using the location-based accounting method. CO₂-e = Carbon Dioxide Equivalent.

n/a = not applicable

Over the past three years, the Land Council has grown rapidly in an effort to build capability and effectively discharge our statutory functions. There has also been a focus on ensuring that the Land Council has a strong presence on the Tiwi Islands, building relationships with Tiwi community members and proactively managing Tiwi country. With the majority of the Land Council staff based in Darwin, this has led to an increase in travel to the Islands and associated emissions.

As mentioned, the Land Council is working together with the Office of Township Leasing and Mantiyupwi Aboriginal Corporation to identify an appropriate site for a Land Council office in Wurrumiyanga. While it will take some time to establish, the Land Council is working towards a future model where field staff are predominantly based on the Tiwi Islands and travel needs and associated emissions are reduced from current levels.



2024-25 ELECTRICITY GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

Emission Source	Scope 2 t CO₂-e	Scope 3 t CO₂-e	Total t CO₂-e	Electricity kWh
Electricity (Location Based Approach)	32.52	4.07	36.59	58,078.00
Market-based electricity emissions	38.48	5.23	43.71	47,510.71
Total renewable electricity consumed	n/a	n/a	n/a	10,567.29
Renewable Power Percentage ¹	-	-	-	18.72%
Jurisdictional Renewable Power Percentage ^{2, 3}	n/a	n/a	n/a	10,567.29
GreenPower ²	n/a	n/a	n/a	-
Large-scale generation certificates ²	n/a	n/a	n/a	-
Behind the meter solar ⁴	n/a	n/a	n/a	-
Total renewable electricity produced	n/a	n/a	n/a	-
Large-scale generation certificates ²	n/a	n/a	n/a	-
Behind the meter solar ⁴	n/a	n/a	n/a	-
	n/a	n/a	n/a	-

Note: The table above presents emissions related to electricity usage using both the location-based and the market-based accounting methods. CO₂-e = Carbon Dioxide Equivalent. Electricity usage is measured in kilowatt hours (kWh).

¹ Listed as Mandatory renewables in 2023-24 Annual Reports. The renewable power percentage (RPP) accounts for the portion of electricity used, from the grid, that falls within the Renewable Energy Target (RET).

² Listed as Voluntary renewables in 2023-24 Annual Reports.

³ The Australian Capital Territory is currently the only state with a jurisdictional renewable power percentage (JRPP).

⁴ Reporting behind the meter solar consumption and/or production is optional. The quality of data is expected to improve over time as emissions reporting matures.



Work Health and Safety (WHS)

In accordance with the *Work Health and Safety (National Uniform Legislation) Act 2011 (NT)* ('WHS Act') and *Work Health and Safety (National Uniform Legislation) Regulation 2011 (NT)* ('WHS Regulations'), the Land Council is committed to ensuring all workers have a healthy and safe workplace in which to work in. This extends to all person/s engaged as a consultant and / or contractor and anyone that we may come into contact with.

Following on from last year, the Land Council continues to strive for full compliance across all areas and have recently put our Operations team through a Remote First Aid Course to ensure these staff are well equipped with the necessary skills to manage comprehensive first aid treatment, self-care and contingency planning. We continue to remain focused on the implementation of key WHS policy and procedures particularly for our high-risk activities including Access to Country Motor Vehicle Usage, Firearms Handling and Remote and Isolated work.

Our WHS Officer is pro-actively leading discussion in our regular staff meetings around incidents and hazards to encourage staff awareness and to ensure incidents and hazards are reported in a timely manner.

Notifiable incidents and investigations

There were no notifiable incidents reported to Comcare in 2024-2025 under section 38 of the WHS Act. No investigations were conducted in relation to the Land Council and no notices were given to the Land Council under Part 10 of the said Act.

Advertising and Market Research section 311 Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918 (Cth)

During 2024-2025, the Land Council did not conduct any advertising or market research within the meaning of section 311 of the *Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918* (Cth).



PART 4:

Annual Financial Statements

Financial Statements Contents

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Independent Auditor's Report



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Minister for Indigenous Australians

Opinion

In my opinion, the financial statements of the Tiwi Land Council (the Entity) for the year ended 30 June 2025:

- (a) comply with Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures and the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability (Financial Reporting) Rule 2015*; and
- (b) present fairly the financial position of the Entity as at 30 June 2025 and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended.

The financial statements of the Entity, which I have audited, comprise the following as at 30 June 2025 and for the year then ended:

- Statement by the Accountable Authority, Chief Executive and Chief Financial Officer;
- Statement of Comprehensive Income;
- Statement of Financial Position;
- Statement of Changes in Equity;
- Cash Flow Statement; and
- Notes to the financial statements, comprising material accounting policy information and other explanatory information.

Basis for opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with the Australian National Audit Office Auditing Standards, which incorporate the Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of my report. I am independent of the Entity in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements for financial statement audits conducted by the Auditor-General and her delegates. These include the relevant independence requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (the Code) to the extent that they are not in conflict with the *Auditor-General Act 1997*. I have also fulfilled my other responsibilities in accordance with the Code. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Accountable Authority's responsibility for the financial statements

As the Accountable Authority of the Entity, the Chair and Chief Executive Officer are responsible under the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* (the Act) for the preparation and fair presentation of annual financial statements that comply with Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures and the rules made under the Act. The Chair and Chief Executive Officer are also responsible for such internal control as the Chair and Chief Executive Officer determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Chair and Chief Executive Officer are responsible for assessing the ability of the Entity to continue as a going concern, taking into account whether the Entity's operations will cease as a result of an administrative restructure or for any other reason. The Chair and Chief Executive Officer are also responsible for disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting, unless the assessment indicates that it is not appropriate.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

My objective is to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian National Audit Office Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian National Audit Office Auditing Standards, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control;
- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Entity's internal control;
- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Accountable Authority;
- conclude on the appropriateness of the Accountable Authority's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Entity to cease to continue as a going concern; and
- evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with the Accountable Authority regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

Australian National Audit Office



Peter Kerr

Executive Director

Delegate of the Auditor-General

Canberra

15 September 2025



Statement by the Accountable Authority, Chief Executive and Chief Financial Officer

TIWI LAND COUNCIL
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2025

STATEMENT BY THE ACCOUNTABLE AUTHORITY, CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

In our opinion, the attached financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025 comply with subsection 42(2) of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* (PGPA Act), and are based on properly maintained financial records as per subsection 41(2) of the PGPA Act.


In our opinion, at the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Tiwi Land Council will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the directors.




Leslie Tungatalum
 Chair
 Accountable Authority

15 September 2025



Brendan Ferguson
 Chief Executive Officer
 Accountable Authority

15 September 2025



Maria Juan
 Chief Financial Officer

15 September 2025



Statement of Comprehensive Income for the year ended 30 June 2025

	Notes	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
NET COST OF SERVICES			
Expenses			
Employee benefits	1.1A	3,454	2,878
Suppliers	1.1B	5,647	7,682
Depreciation and amortisation expense	2.2A	317	355
Finance costs	1.1C	1	2
Write-down and impairment of other assets	1.1D	12	-
Total expenses		9,431	10,917
Own-source income			
Own-source revenue			
Interest	1.2A	131	170
Other revenue	1.2B	77	-
Total own-source revenue		208	170
Gains			
Gains from sale of assets		70	-
Total gains		70	-
Net cost of services		(9,153)	(10,747)
Revenue from Government	1.2C	7,729	9,080
Deficit on continuing operations		(1,424)	(1,667)
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME			
Items not subject to subsequent reclassification to net cost of services			
Changes in asset revaluation reserve	2.2A	282	-
Total other comprehensive income		282	-
Total comprehensive loss		(1,142)	(1,667)

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.



Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2025

	Notes	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
ASSETS			
Financial assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	2.1A	9,582	11,099
Trade and other receivables	2.1B	196	213
Total financial assets		9,778	11,312
Non-financial assets			
Land ¹	2.2A	40	45
Buildings	2.2A	1,400	1,061
Motor vehicles	2.2A	784	374
Plant and equipment ¹	2.2A	76	71
Leasehold improvements	2.2A	60	431
Other non-financial assets	2.2B	3	5
Total non-financial assets		2,363	1,987
Asset held for sale	2.2A	-	-
Total assets		12,141	13,299
LIABILITIES			
Payables			
Suppliers	2.3A	118	484
Other payables	2.3B	16	3
Total payables		134	487
Interest bearing liabilities			
Leases	2.4A	44	57
Total interest bearing liabilities		44	57
Unearned revenue			
Unearned revenue	2.5A	310	100
Total unearned revenue		310	100
Provisions			
Employee provisions	3.1A	360	220
Total provisions		360	220
Total liabilities		848	864
Net assets		11,293	12,435
EQUITY			
Reserves		800	518
Retained surplus		10,493	11,917
Total equity		11,293	12,435

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

¹Right-of-use assets are included in the following line items: Land and Plant and equipment.



Statement of Changes in Equity for the year ended 30 June 2025

	Notes	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
RETAINED EARNINGS			
Opening balance as at 1 July			
Balance carried forward from previous year		11,917	13,584
Adjusted opening balance		11,917	13,584
Comprehensive income			
Deficit on continuing operations		(1,424)	(1,667)
Other comprehensive income		-	-
Total comprehensive loss		(1,424)	(1,667)
Closing balance as at 30 June		10,493	11,917
ASSET REVALUATION RESERVE			
Opening balance			
Balance carried forward from previous year		518	518
Adjusted opening balance		518	518
Comprehensive income			
Other comprehensive income		282	-
Total comprehensive income		282	-
Closing balance as at 30 June		800	518
TOTAL EQUITY			
Opening balance			
Balance carried forward from previous year		12,435	14,102
Adjusted opening balance		12,435	14,102
Comprehensive income			
(Deficit) for the year		(1,424)	(1,667)
Other comprehensive income		282	-
Total comprehensive loss		(1,142)	(1,667)
Closing balance as at 30 June		11,293	12,435

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.



Cash Flow Statement

for the year ended 30 June 2025

Notes	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Cash received		
Receipts from Government	7,939	9,180
Interest	131	170
GST received	68	-
Other	81	14
Total cash received	8,219	9,364
Cash used		
Employees	3,299	2,794
Suppliers	3,992	2,481
Interest payments on lease liabilities	1	1
Other interest paid	-	2
GST paid	-	61
Fringe benefits tax paid	12	18
Grants	2,024	3,094
Other stimulus funding	-	1,725
Total cash used	9,328	10,176
Net cash (used by) operating activities	(1,109)	(812)
INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Cash received		
Proceeds from sales of property, plant and equipment	70	-
Total cash received	70	-
Cash used		
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	422	441
Loan advanced to a related party	41	-
Total cash used	463	441
Cash (used by) investing activities	(393)	(441)
FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Cash used		
Principal payments of lease liabilities	15	14
Total cash used	15	14
Cash (used by) financing activities	(15)	(14)
Net (decrease) in cash held	(1,517)	(1,267)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting year	11,099	12,366
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting year	9,582	11,099

2.1A

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Overview

The Tiwi Land Council (Land Council) is an Australian Government Controlled entity formed within the provisions of Section 21 of the *Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976* (ALRA) and a not-for profit entity. The Land Council receives appropriations from the Aboriginals Benefit Account pursuant to ministerially approved estimates prepared in accordance with Section 34 of the Act and made available under Section 64 of the Act.

Tiwi Land Council (ABN 86 106 441 085; Entity Type: Other Incorporated Entity) was incorporated in Australia, with its principal place of business at 116 Reichardt Road Winnellie NT 0820.

The Land Council is structured to meet the following outcomes:

Outcome 1: Our objective is to establish an independent and resilient Tiwi society built on the orderly and well managed utilisation of our natural and human resources through reliance upon our own management, maintenance and protection of unique cultural and natural resource values for the enjoyment and benefit of future generations of Tiwi.

Outcome 2: Compliance with the statutory regulations through effective and structured corporate governance.

Outcome 3: Establishment of committee to provide independent assurance and assistance to the Land Council's risk, control and compliance framework, and its external accountability responsibilities.

The continued existence of the Land Council in its present form and with its present program is dependent on Government policy and on continuing funding by Parliament for the entity's administration and programmes.

The funding conditions of the Land Council are laid down by the *Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976*, and any special purpose grant guidelines. Accounting for monies received from the Aboriginals Benefit Account is subject to conditions approved by the Minister for Indigenous Australians.

The Basis of Preparation

The financial statements are required by section 42 of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with:

- a. *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability (Financial Reporting) Rule 2015* (FRR); and
- b. Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations – including simplified disclosures for Tier 2 Entities under AASB 1060 issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) that apply for the reporting period.

The financial statements have been prepared on an accrual basis and in accordance with the historical cost convention, except for certain assets and liabilities at fair value. Except where stated, no allowance is made for the effect of changing prices on the results or the financial position. The financial statements are presented in Australian dollars and values are rounded to the nearest thousand dollars unless otherwise specified.



In November 2020, the then Minister for Indigenous Australians announced a \$100 million Northern Territory (NT) Indigenous Economic Stimulus Package, developed in partnership with the four Northern Territory Land Councils, to provide immediate support for Aboriginal businesses and jobs in the NT. The Package was delivered over financial years 2021 and 2022 with \$60 million in tranche one and \$40 million in tranche two.

The Land Council received a total of \$13.3 million: \$5.3 million in tranche two in 2021-22 and \$8 million in tranche one in 2020-21. Of the \$13.3 million, \$9.62 million has been expended as of 30 June 2025. The remaining balance of \$3.68 million has been fully allocated and is scheduled to be paid out based on the grant activities and milestone.

The Land Council received \$250,000 in funding for the benefit of Aboriginal communities which have been impacted or may be impacted, by COVID-19, to increase the resilience of communities. Funding will be used for the benefit of Aboriginal communities which are impacted, or may be impacted, by COVID-19, to increase the resilience of communities. Funds were received in April 2022 and \$135,539 was spent as of 30 June 2024. The unspent balance was offset against the 2024–25 section 64(1) funding allocation.

New Accounting Standards

The following amending standards were issued prior to the signing of the statement by the Accountable Authority and Chief Financial Officer, were applicable to the future reporting periods and had no material effect on the entity's financial statements:

Standard/ Interpretation	Nature of change in accounting policy, transitional provisions, and adjustment to financial statements
<i>AASB 2020-1 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Classification of Liabilities as Current or Non-current</i>	Amends AASB 101 Presentation of Financial Statements to clarify the classification of liabilities as either current or non-current. For example, a liability is classified as non-current if an entity has the right at the end of the reporting period to defer settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after the reporting period. AASB 2020-1 is applicable to annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2024.
<i>AASB 2022-10 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Fair Value Measurement of Non-Financial Assets of Not-For-Profit Public Sector Entities</i>	AASB 2022-10 applies to annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2024. This standard amends AASB 13 Fair Value Measurement for fair value measurements of non-financial assets of not-for-profit public sector entities not held primarily for their ability to generate net cash inflows. This standard also adds implementation advice and relevant illustrative examples for fair value measurements of non-financial assets of not-for-profit public sector entities not held primarily for their ability to generate net cash inflows.

Other new and revised accounting standards issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board that are applicable to future reporting periods were assessed and determined to have no material impact on the financial position or performance of the Land Council. No standards were early adopted during the reporting period.

Taxation

The Land Council is exempt from all forms of taxation except Fringe Benefits Tax (FBT) and the Goods and Services Tax (GST).

Events After the Reporting Period

There are no subsequent events that have the potential to significantly affect the ongoing structure and financial activities of the Land Council.



Notes to the financial statements

Financial Performance

This section analyses the financial performance of Tiwi Land Council for the year ended 2025.

1.1 Expenses

1.1A: Employee benefits	Notes	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Wages and salaries		2,917	2,518
Superannuation			
Defined contribution plans		396	291
Leave and other entitlements		141	69
Total employee benefits		3,454	2,878

Accounting Policy

Accounting policies for employee related expenses is contained in the People and relationships section.

The 2024 balance of business development of \$235,503 has been reclassified as culture, ceremony and land use distributions (\$226,556), media relations and public affairs (\$1,069), meeting costs (\$411) and others (\$7,467) to conform with the current year's presentation. These reclassifications were made to provide more relevant information and improve comparability with the current year.



1.1B: Suppliers	Notes	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Goods and services supplied or rendered			
Airfares and charters		125	134
Audit fees		40	32
Compliance		75	91
Culture, ceremony and land use distributions*		1,079	725
Electricity and water		21	19
ICT		176	163
Insurance		230	223
Legal and risk management		49	54
Media relations and public affairs*		29	23
Meeting costs*		159	188
NT Indigenous Economic Stimulus Package		2,024	3,094
Other Stimulus funding		-	1,725
Other*		80	56
Repairs and maintenance		143	107
Roads and survey		92	161
Special projects		773	329
Staff recruitment		13	163
Training		116	59
Travel and accommodation		215	198
Vehicle operations		156	85
Total goods and services supplied or rendered		5,595	7,630
Goods supplied		489	187
Services rendered		5,106	7,475
Total goods and services supplied or rendered		5,595	7,662
Other suppliers			
Workers compensation expenses		18	20
Short-term leases		34	32
Total other suppliers		52	52
Total suppliers		5,647	7,682
1.1C: Finance costs	Notes	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Interest on lease liabilities		1	1
Other interest paid		-	1
Total finance costs		1	2



The above lease disclosures should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes 1.1B and 2.4A.

1.1D: Write-down and impairment of other assets	Notes	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Impairment of property, plant and equipment	2.2A	12	-
Total write-down and impairment of other assets		12	-

1.2 Own-Source Revenue and gains

Own-Source Revenue

1.2A: Interest	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Deposits	131	170
Total interest	131	170

Accounting Policy

Interest revenue is recognised using the effective interest method.

1.2B: Other revenue	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Other	77	-
Total other revenue	77	-

Accounting Policy

Donations

Donations are recognized as revenue in the accounting period in which they are received or receivable.

Insurance recoveries

Insurance recoveries are recognised as revenue when the fair value of the claims can be reliably determined.



1.2C: Revenue from Government	2025	2024
	\$'000	\$'000
Receipts from Aboriginals Benefit Account (ABA): S64(1)	6,933	8,752
Department of Primary Industry and Fisheries - Marine Ranger	167	162
National Indigenous Australians Agency - Indigenous Protected Areas	308	166
National Indigenous Australians Agency - Local Investments	100	-
National Indigenous Australians Agency - Culture and Capability	182	-
Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	9	-
Department of Agriculture and Fisheries	30	-
Total revenue from Government	7,729	9,080

Accounting Policy

Revenue from Government

Grant revenue is recognised when the Land Council satisfies the performance obligations stated within the funding agreements. Revenue from the ABA is recognised as revenue at the time it is received into the Land Council's bank account or when the revenue is entitled to be received at year end. Revenue from government is recognised as revenue when the entity gains control of the funds.

Where assets (including cash) are received for significantly less than fair value principally to enable the Land Council to further its objectives, the excess of the fair value of the asset received over any related amount recognised in respect of a liability, contribution by owners, or a related item, is recognised immediately as income.

Where grant conditions must be satisfied before the Land Council is eligible to retain the contribution, the grant is initially recognised as a liability in the statement of financial position. The liability is released and recognised as revenue once the conditions are met.



Financial Position

This section analyses the Tiwi Land Council's assets used to conduct its operations and the operating liabilities incurred as a result.

Employee related information is disclosed in the People and Relationships section.

2.1 Financial Assets

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
2.1A: Cash and cash equivalents		
Cash on hand or on deposit	9,582	11,099
Total cash and cash equivalents	9,582	11,099

Accounting Policy

Cash is recognised at its nominal amount. Cash and cash equivalents includes:

- a. cash on hand; and
- b. demand deposits in bank accounts with an original maturity of 3 months or less that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and subject to insignificant risk of changes in value.

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
2.1B: Trade and other receivables		
Goods and services receivables		
Other	24	4
Total goods and services receivables	24	4
Other receivables		
Statutory receivables	131	209
Loan to a related party	41	-
Total other receivables	172	209
Total trade and other receivables (gross)	196	213
Total trade and other receivables (net)	196	213

Credit terms for goods and services were within 30 days (2024: 30 days).

Accounting Policy

Financial assets

Trade receivables, loans and other receivables that are held for the purpose of collecting the contractual cash flows where the cash flows are solely payments of principal and interest, that are not provided at below-market interest rates, are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method adjusted for any loss allowance.



2.2 Non-Financial Assets

2.2A: Reconciliation of the Opening and Closing Balances of Property, Plant and Equipment

	Land \$'000	Buildings \$'000	Motor Vehicles \$'000	Plant and equipment \$'000	Leasehold Improvements \$'000	Total \$'000
As at 1 July 2024						
Gross book value	80	1,320	608	167	575	2,750
Accumulated depreciation, amortisation and impairment	(35)	(259)	(234)	(96)	(144)	(768)
Total as at 1 July 2024	45	1,061	374	71	431	1,982
Adjusted total as at 1 July 2024	45	1,061	374	71	431	1,982
Additions ¹	-	-	422	-	-	422
Revaluations and impairments recognised in other comprehensive income	-	469	74	26	(287)	282
Impairments recognised in net cost of services	-	-	-	-	(12)	(12)
Depreciation and amortisation	-	(130)	(86)	(15)	(72)	(303)
Depreciation on right-of-use assets	(8)	-	-	(6)	-	(14)
Other movements of right-of-use assets	3	-	-	-	-	3
Asset held for sale	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total as at 30 June 2025	40	1,400	784	76	60	2,360
Total as at 30 June 2025 represented by						
Gross book value	83	1,400	784	104	60	2,431



2.2A: Reconciliation of the Opening and Closing Balances of Property, Plant and Equipment

	Land \$'000	Buildings \$'000	Motor Vehicles \$'000	Plant and equipment \$'000	Leasehold Improvements \$'000	Total \$'000
Accumulated depreciation, amortisation and impairment	(43)	-	-	(78)	-	(7)
Total as at 30 June 2025	40	1,400	784	76	60	2,360
Carrying amount of right-of-use assets	40	-	-	4	-	44

¹ Motor vehicles amounting to \$140,341 have been paid for and delivered to Darwin as of 30 June 2025. However, these assets have not yet been transported to the Tiwi Islands, where they will be utilised. Depreciation for these assets will commence when it arrives at Tiwi Islands.

Management has identified a motor vehicle that is expected to be sold within the next 12 months. As at 30 June 2025, the asset has a fair value less costs to sell of \$28,000 and a nil carrying amount. In accordance with *AASB 5 Non-current Assets Held for Sale and Discontinued Operations*, the asset has been classified as held for sale and measured at the lower of its carrying amount and fair value less costs to sell. As the carrying amount is nil, no adjustment to the asset's value has been recognised in the financial statements.

Revaluations of non-financial assets and intangible assets

All revaluations were conducted in accordance with the revaluation policy stated at Note 4.3. On 30 June 2025, an independent valuer: (Herron Todd White), conducted the revaluation. As a result of the revaluation, an increase of \$568,934 was recognised in the asset revaluation reserve, comprising \$469,005 for buildings, \$74,299 for motor vehicles, and \$25,630 for plant and equipment.

The revaluation methods included the market comparison approach for buildings and motor vehicles (Level 2), and the depreciated replacement cost (DRC) approach for leasehold improvements and plant and equipment without observable market data (Level 3). (Refer to Note 4.3B for Fair Value Hierarchy Level).

The building at 116 Reichardt Road is the only real property for which an active market exists. All other real assets are located on leasehold land and were valued using the DRC method due to the absence of comparable sales or active markets.

A decrease in the valuation of \$299,064 was also recognised in respect of leasehold improvements, based on a valuation using depreciated replacement cost. Accordingly, These assets were determined to have significant functional obsolescence due to limited operational use, particularly in remote locations. One structure (the hexagonal hut) retained value, while all others were written down to nil. A previous revaluation reserve of \$286,737 relating to the impaired asset was reversed and the reduction is recognised in other comprehensive income. The remaining \$12,327, representing the portion of the impairment loss that exceeded the revaluation reserve, was recognised in profit and loss.

Contractual commitments for the acquisition of property, plant, equipment and intangible assets

The Land Council has no contractual commitments for the acquisition of property, plant, equipment.

Accounting Policy

Assets are recorded at cost on acquisition except as stated below. The cost of acquisition includes the fair value of assets transferred in exchange and liabilities undertaken. Financial assets are initially measured at their fair value plus transaction costs where appropriate.

Assets acquired at no cost, or for nominal consideration, are initially recognised as assets and income at their fair value at the date of acquisition.

Asset Recognition Threshold

Purchases of property, plant and equipment are recognised initially at cost in the statement of financial position, except for purchases below the capitalisation threshold, which are expensed in the year of acquisition (other than where they form part of a group of similar items which are significant in total). Capitalisation thresholds: Buildings \$25,000; Plant and Equipment \$10,000; Motor Vehicles \$10,000, and Leasehold improvements \$10,000.

The initial cost of an asset includes an estimate of the cost of dismantling and removing the item and restoring the site on which it is located. This is particularly relevant to 'make good' provisions in property leases taken up by the entity where there exists an obligation to restore the property. These costs are included in the value of the Land Council's leasehold improvements with a corresponding provision for the 'make good' recognised.

Lease Right of Use (ROU) Assets

Leased ROU assets are capitalised at the commencement date of the lease and comprise of the initial lease liability amount, initial direct costs incurred when entering into the lease less any lease incentives received. These assets are accounted for by Commonwealth lessees as separate asset classes to corresponding assets owned outright, but included in the same column as where the corresponding underlying assets would be presented if they were owned.

On initial adoption of AASB 16 the Land Council has adjusted the ROU assets at the date of initial application by the amount of any provision for onerous leases recognised immediately before the date of initial application. Following initial application, an impairment review is undertaken for any right of use lease asset that shows indicators of impairment and an impairment loss is recognised against any right of use lease asset that is impaired. Lease ROU assets continue to be measured at cost after initial recognition.

Revaluations

Following initial recognition at cost, property, plant and equipment (**excluding ROU assets**) are carried at fair value (or an amount not materially different from fair value). Valuations are conducted with sufficient frequency to ensure that the carrying amounts of assets did not differ materially from the assets' fair values as at the reporting date. The regularity of independent valuations depended upon the volatility of movements in market values for the relevant assets.

Revaluation adjustments are made on a class basis. Any revaluation increment is credited to equity under the heading of asset revaluation reserve except to the extent that it reversed a previous revaluation decrement of the same asset class that was previously recognised in the surplus/deficit. Revaluation decrements for a class of assets are recognised directly in the surplus/deficit except to the extent that they reverse a previous revaluation increment for that class.



Any accumulated depreciation as at the revaluation date is eliminated against the gross carrying amount of the asset and the asset restated to the revalued amount.

Depreciation

Depreciable property, plant and equipment assets are written-off to their estimated residual values over their estimated useful lives to the entity using, in all cases, the straight-line method of depreciation.

Depreciation rates (useful lives), residual values and methods are reviewed at each reporting date and necessary adjustments are recognised in the current, or current and future reporting periods, as appropriate.

Depreciation rates applying to each class of depreciable asset are based on the following useful lives:

	2025	2024
Buildings	14 to 25 years	14 to 25 years
Plant and equipment	3 to 20 years	3 to 20 years
Leasehold improvements	Term of Lease	Term of Lease
Motor vehicles	3 to 5 years	3 to 5 years

The depreciation rates for ROU assets are based on the commencement date to the earlier of the end of the useful life of the ROU asset or the end of the lease term.

Impairment

All cash-generating assets and assets held at cost, including intangibles and ROU assets, were assessed for impairment at 30 June 2025. Where indications of impairment exist, the asset's recoverable amount is estimated and an impairment adjustment made if the asset's recoverable amount is less than its carrying amount. For non-cash generating assets held at fair value, the recoverable amount is expected to be materially the same as fair value at 30 June 2025.

The recoverable amount of an asset is the higher of its fair value less costs of disposal and its value in use. Value in use is the present value of the future cash flows expected to be derived from the asset. Where the future economic benefit of an asset is not primarily dependent on the asset's ability to generate future cash flows, and the asset would be replaced if the entity were deprived of the asset, its value in use is taken to be its depreciated replacement cost.

Derecognition

An item of property, plant and equipment is derecognised upon disposal or when no further future economic benefits are expected from its use or disposal.

No indicators of impairment were found for the Land Council's property, plant and equipment at the year end except for impairment loss identified for leasehold improvements only.



	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
2.2B: Other non-financial assets		
Prepayments	3	5
Total other non-financial assets	3	5

No indicators of impairment were found for other non-financial assets.

2.3 Payables

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
2.3A: Suppliers		
Trade creditors and accruals	118	484
Total suppliers	118	484

Settlement is usually made within 30 days of month end.

2.3B: Other payables

Salaries and wages	16	2
Superannuation	-	3
Total other payables	16	5

2.4 Interest Bearing Liabilities

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
2.4A: Leases		
Lease liabilities	44	57
Total leases	44	57

Maturity analysis - contractual undiscounted cash flows

Within 1 year	12	15
Between 1 to 5 years	33	45
More than 5 years	-	-
Total leases	45	60

Total cash outflow for leases for the year ended 30 June 2025 was \$14,889 (2024: \$14,644).

The Land Council in its capacity as lessee of the land at NT Portion 7743(A), is committed to pay \$8,409 (2024: \$8,164) per year, on a 12 year lease which commenced on 1 July 2018, varied annually by the change in the Consumer Price Index for All Groups Darwin.

The Land Council in its capacity as lessee of a photocopier - multi function device, is committed to pay a base charge of \$6,480 per year, on a 5 year lease which commenced in February 2021.

The above lease disclosures should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes 1.1C and 2.2A.



Accounting Policy

For all new contracts entered into, the Land Council considers whether the contract is, or contains a lease. A lease is defined as ‘a contract, or part of a contract, that conveys the right to use an asset (the underlying asset) for a period of time in exchange for consideration’.

Once it has been determined that a contract is, or contains a lease, the lease liability is initially measured at the present value of the lease payments unpaid at the commencement date, discounted using the interest rate implicit in the lease, if that rate is readily determinable, or the Land Council’s incremental borrowing rate.

Subsequent to initial measurement, the liability will be reduced for payments made and increased for interest. It is remeasured to reflect any reassessment or modification to the lease. When the lease liability is remeasured, the corresponding adjustment is reflected in the right-of-use asset or profit and loss depending on the nature of the reassessment or modification.

2.5 Unearned Revenue

	2025	2024
2.5A: Unearned revenue	\$'000	\$'000
Unearned revenue		
National Indigenous Australians Agency - Local Investments	150	-
Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade (Northern Territory Government)	70	100
Other government	90	-
Total unearned revenue	310	100

Accounting Policy

All unearned revenue is expected to be settled in no more than 12 months. Unearned revenue is made up of special purpose grants and projects, which contain performance obligations.



People and relationships

This section describes a range of employment and post employment benefits provided to our people and our relationships with other key people.

3.1 Employee Provisions

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
3.1A: Employee provisions		
Annual leave	248	157
Long service leave	112	63
Total employee provisions	360	220

Accounting policy

Liabilities for short-term employee benefits and termination benefits expected within twelve months of the end of reporting period are measured at their nominal amounts. The nominal amount is calculated with regards to the rates expected to be paid on settlement of the liability.

Leave

The liability for employee benefits includes provision for annual leave and long service leave.

The leave liabilities are calculated on the basis of employees' remuneration at the estimated salary rates that will be applied at the time the leave is taken, including the entity's employer superannuation contribution rates to the extent that the leave is likely to be taken during service rather than paid out on termination.

The liability for long service leave has been determined as the net present liability as at 30 June 2025. The estimate of the present value of the liability takes into account attrition rates and pay increases through promotion and inflation.

Superannuation

The Land Council's staff are members of the Australian Retirement Trust Super Savings, Australian Super, CARE Super, HESTA Super Fund, HostPlus Superannuation Fund, Living Super, Panorama Super, Public Sector Superannuation Accumulation Plan, Spirit Super, UniSuper and Vision Super Saver.

The Land Council makes employer contributions based on the minimum superannuation guarantee rate plus an additional certain percentage.

The liability for superannuation recognised as at 30 June represents outstanding contributions (see note 2.3B).

Accounting Judgements and Estimates

The Long Service Leave shorthand model was used in 2024-25 and 2023-24. The LSL - Table of Probability Factors and the LSL - Table of Discount Factors was utilised in the calculation of long service leave liability. The 10-year government yield rate of 4.00% (2024: 4.31%) was estimated as fair and reasonable in the calculation of the discounted long service leave amount.



3.2 Key Management Personnel Remuneration

Key management personnel are those persons having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the Land Council, directly or indirectly, including any Council Members of the Land Council.

The Land Council has determined the key management personnel to be the Portfolio Minister, Land Council members and the Chair and Chief Executive Officer, referred to as the Accountable Authority under the PGPA Act.

Key management personnel remuneration is reported in the table below:

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Short-term employee benefits	620	481
Post-employment benefits	73	55
Other long-term employee benefits	3	(5)
Total key management personnel remuneration expenses ¹	696	531

The total number of key management personnel that are included in the above table are 45 key management personnel (2024: 60 key management personnel).

¹The above key management personnel remuneration excludes the remuneration and other benefits of the Portfolio Minister. The Portfolio Minister's remuneration and other benefits are set by the Remuneration Tribunal and are not paid by the Land Council.

3.3 Related Party Disclosures

Related party relationships:

The Land Council is an Australian Government controlled entity. Related parties to this entity are the Key Management Personnel and their related entities, other Australian Government entities and cabinet Ministers.

Transactions with related parties:

Given the breadth of Government activities, related parties may transact with the government sector in the same capacity as ordinary citizens. Such transactions include the payment or refund of taxes. These transactions have not been separately disclosed in this note.

Significant transactions with related parties can include:

- the payments of grants or loans;
- purchases of goods and services;
- provision of services/provision of loans; and
- gifting/sale of assets.



Below is a list of related party transactions:

	2025	2024
	\$'000	\$'000
Purchases of goods and services from related parties:		
Jilamara Arts And Crafts Association	23	20
Milikapiti Community Indigenous Corporation	-	1
Milikapiti Sports & Social Club Inc	16	1
Munupi Arts and Crafts Association-Aboriginal Corporation	15	-
Nguiu Club Aboriginal Corporation	1	2
Nguiu Ullintjinni Association Inc	94	39
Pirlangimpi Indigenous Corporation For Community Development	9	2
Tarntipi Homelands Aboriginal Corporation	3	-
Tiwi Designs Aboriginal Corporation Incorporated	23	2
Tiwi Education Board Incorporated	-	4
Tiwi Enterprises Ltd	415	432
Tiwi Islands Football League Inc	15	5
Tiwi Islands Regional Council	69	26
Tiwi Resources Pty Ltd	344	365
Tiwi Training & Employment Pty Ltd	3	2
TOTAL	1,030	901
Payment of grants to related parties¹:		
Mantiyupwi Aboriginal Corporation	660	600
Nguiu Ullintjinni Association Inc	-	233
Tiwi Enterprises Ltd	1,300	1,500
Tiwi Plantation Corporation	-	1,725
Tiwi Resources Pty Ltd	308	186
The Trustee for Mantiyupwi Family Trust	-	155
The Trustee for Portaminni Trust	-	160
The Trustee for Wulirankuwu Trust	-	215
TOTAL	2,268	4,774
Other revenue		
Gain from sale of assets - related party: Chair	36	-
Interest income on loan to related party: Chair	-	-
Tiwi Islands Regional Council	50	-
Tiwi Enterprises Ltd	5	-
Nguiu Club Aboriginal Corporation	2	-
Tiwi Partners (Aust) Pty Ltd	2	-
TOTAL	95	-

¹Related parties who received grants did not participate in decisions of the Land Council to approve the grants.

	2025	2024
	\$'000	\$'000
Amounts Owed to Related Parties		
Mantiyupwi Aboriginal Corporation	-	385
Nguiu Ullintjinni Association Inc	18	-
Tiwi Enterprises Ltd	-	3
Tiwi Resources Pty Ltd	11	16
	29	404
Amounts Owed by Related Parties		
Loans to related party: Chair	41	-
	41	-

During the year, the Chair entered into an agreement to purchase a motor vehicle from the Land Council for \$40,000 (inclusive of GST). Under the terms of the agreement, the Chair will repay the purchase price, together with interest calculated at the applicable ATO benchmark interest rate, over the period of the Chair's term. The transaction was conducted on normal commercial terms and conditions.



Managing uncertainties

This section analyses how the Tiwi Land Council manages financial risks within its operating environment.

4.1 A: Contingent assets and liabilities

Quantifiable Contingencies

There were nil quantifiable contingencies at 30 June 2025 (2024: \$nil).

Unquantifiable Contingencies.

There were nil unquantifiable contingencies at 30 June 2025 (2024: \$nil).

Accounting Policy

Contingent liabilities and contingent assets are not recognised in the statement of financial position but are reported in the notes. They may arise from uncertainty as to the existence of a liability or asset or represent an asset or liability in respect of which the amount cannot be reliably measured. Contingent assets are disclosed when settlement is probable but not virtually certain and contingent liabilities are disclosed when settlement is greater than remote.

4.2 Financial Instruments

4.2A: Categories of financial instruments	2025	2024
	\$'000	\$'000
Financial assets at amortised cost		
Cash at Bank	9,582	11,099
Trade and other receivables	24	4
Total financial assets at amortised cost	9,606	11,103
Total financial assets	9,606	11,103
 Financial Liabilities		
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost		
Suppliers	118	482
Total financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	118	482
Total financial liabilities	118	482

Accounting Policy

Financial assets

In accordance with AASB 9 Financial Instruments, the entity classifies its financial assets in the following categories:

1. financial assets at fair value through profit or loss;
2. financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income; and
3. financial assets measured at amortised cost.



The classification depends on both the entity's business model for managing the financial assets and contractual cash flow characteristics at the time of initial recognition. Financial assets are recognised when the entity becomes a party to the contract and, as a consequence, has a legal right to receive or a legal obligation to pay cash and derecognised when the contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial asset expire or are transferred upon trade date.

Financial Assets at Amortised Cost

Financial assets included in this category need to meet two criteria:

1. the financial asset is held in order to collect the contractual cash flows; and
2. the cash flows are solely payments of principal and interest (SPPI) on the principal outstanding amount.

Amortised cost is determined using the effective interest method.

Effective Interest Method

Income is recognised on an effective interest rate basis for financial assets that are recognised at amortised cost.

Impairment of Financial Assets

Financial assets are assessed for impairment at the end of each reporting period based on Expected Credit Losses, using the general approach which measures the loss allowance based on an amount equal to lifetime expected credit losses where risk has significantly increased, or an amount equal to 12-month expected credit losses if risk has not increased.

The simplified approach for trade, contract and lease receivables is used. This approach always measures the loss allowance as the amount equal to the lifetime expected credit losses.

A write-off constitutes a derecognition event where the write-off directly reduces the gross carrying amount of the financial asset.

Financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are classified as either financial liabilities 'at fair value through profit or loss' or other financial liabilities. Financial liabilities are recognised and derecognised upon 'trade date'.

Financial Liabilities at Amortised Cost

Financial liabilities, including borrowings, are initially measured at fair value, net of transaction costs. These liabilities are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, with interest expense recognised on an effective interest basis.

Supplier and other payables are recognised at amortised cost. Liabilities are recognised to the extent that the goods or services have been received (and irrespective of having been invoiced).

4.2 Financial Instruments

	2025	2024
	\$'000	\$'000
4.2B: Net gains or losses on financial assets		
Financial assets at amortised cost		
Interest revenue	131	170
Net gains on financial assets	131	170
Net gains on financial assets	131	170

4.3 Fair Value Measurement

Accounting Policy

The Land Council determines fair value for its non-financial assets using depreciated replacement cost and market based valuation on direct comparison basis in the fair value hierarchy. The following table discloses the fair value at 30 June 2025 and 30 June 2024.

4.3B: Fair value measurement	Fair value measurements at the end of the reporting period	
	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Non-financial assets		
Buildings	1,400	1,061
Plant & Equipment	71	71
Motor Vehicles	784	374
Leasehold Improvements	60	431
	2,315	1,937

The fair value of the Land Council's buildings, leasehold improvements, plant and equipment, and motor vehicles as at 30 June 2025 was determined using valuations conducted by Herron Todd White, an independent certified practising valuer with relevant experience in property and asset valuation.

The valuation resulted in the following increases:

- Buildings: \$469,005
- Plant and Equipment: 25,630
- Motor Vehicles: \$74,299

The total increase of \$568,934 was recognised in Other Comprehensive Income and accumulated in the Asset Revaluation Reserve in the Statement of Financial Position.

As discussed in Note 2.2, leasehold improvements at Pickertaramoor were impaired due to functional obsolescence. These assets were originally built as a Land Council meeting facility but have seen limited use due to their remote location. All but one structure (the hexagonal hut) were written down to nil. The decrease in valuation of \$299,064 was recognised as: \$286,737 reversed a prior revaluation reserve and was recognised as a loss in other comprehensive income and \$12,632, being the excess impairment, was recognised in profit and loss.

The valuation methods and fair value hierarchy classifications are summarised below:

Asset Class	Valuation Technique	Fair Value Hierarchy Level
Buildings	Market comparison approach	Level 2
Plant and Equipment	Depreciated replacement cost	Level 2
Motor Vehicles	Market comparison approach	Level 3
Leasehold Improvements	Depreciated replacement cost	Level 3

Level 2 assets were valued using observable market inputs and comparable asset sales. Level 3 assets, including leasehold improvements, were valued using the depreciated replacement cost approach due to the absence of active markets.

There were no transfers between fair value hierarchy levels during the reporting period. Refer to Note 2.2 for details of asset movements and further explanation of the valuation methods and assumptions applied in estimating fair value.

Other information

5.1 Current/non-current distinction for assets and liabilities

5.1 A: Current/non-current distinction for assets and liabilities

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Assets expected to be recovered in:		
No more than 12 months		
Cash and cash equivalents	9,582	11,099
Statutory receivables	131	209
Trade and other receivables	24	4
Loan to a related party	23	-
Prepayments	3	5
Total no more than 12 months	9,763	11,317
More than 12 months		
Loan to a related party	18	-
Land	40	45
Buildings	1,400	1,061
Motor vehicles	784	374
Plant and equipment	76	71
Leasehold improvements	60	431
Total more than 12 months	2,378	1,982
Total assets	12,141	13,299
Liabilities expected to be settled in:		
No more than 12 months		
Trade creditors and accruals	118	484
Other payables	16	3
Leases	12	14
Grant received in advance	310	100
Employee provisions	255	157
Total no more than 12 months	711	758
More than 12 months		
Leases	32	43
Employee provisions	105	63
Total more than 12 months	137	106
Total liabilities	848	864

5.2 Assets Held in Trust

5.2 A: Assets held in trust ('recoverable GST exclusive')

Monetary Assets

The Land Council acts as trustee for transactions undertaken on behalf of the Traditional Owners in relation to the use of land and other resources on the Tiwi Islands. These transactions are not recorded in the books of the Land Council. Movements in Land use funds during the year were:

	2025	2024
	\$'000	\$'000
Land Use Fund		
As at 1 July	809	811
Receipts	9,315	3,685
Payments	(9,303)	(3,687)
Net GST collected (paid) to ATO	-	-
Total as at 30 June	821	809
Land Use Fund Account	821	809
Total monetary assets held in trust	821	809

Land Use Funds are required to be released in accordance with the six-month timeframe stipulated by the ALRA. The amount of \$808,395 has been held for more than six months. This fund relates to the Milikapiti Township Lease payment which were received on 29 March 2023. As of the date of this report, this fund will not be released until a Wulirankuwu entity is established and registered with the Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations.

In this situation, the Land Council has breached the requirements of the ALRA which represents non-compliance with legislation.



5.3 Income and Expenditure Against Budget s64(1)

5.3A: Income and Expenditure Against Budget s64(1)

Aboriginals Benefit Account

	ABA Approved Estimates 2024/25 ¹ \$'000	ABA Actuals 2024/25 ² \$'000	Difference \$'000
Expenditure			
Administration and support	2,939	1,897	1,042
Advocacy	2,465	1,577	888
Cultural and heritage	792	569	223
Economic development	1,470	1,070	400
Land and resource management	1,827	1,020	807
NT Indigenous Economic Stimulus Package	-	2,024	(2,024)
Capital expenditure	330	308	22
Total expenditure	9,823	8,465	1,358
Income			
ABA			
S64(1) 2023/24	6,933	6,933	-
Carried Forward S64(1)	2,785	2,785	-
Total ABA	9,718	9,718	-
Other			
Interest	80	131	(51)
Other revenue	25	70	(45)
Total Other	105	201	(96)
Total Income	9,823	9,919	(96)

¹Budget estimates with the total amount of \$9,682,796 were approved by the Hon Malarndirri MacCarthy MP, Minister of Indigenous Australians on 26 August 2024. Further supplementary funding of \$140,534 was released to the Land Council in October 2024.

²Included in the actual expenditure funded by s64(1) is \$2,023,700 for NT Indigenous Economic Stimulus Package that represents expenditure from funding received in 2020-2021 and 2021-2022.

PART 5:

Appendices

Glossary

ABA	Aboriginals Benefit Account
Aboriginal land	(a) land held by a land trust for an estate in fee simple; or (b) and the subject of a deed of grant held in escrow by a land council (the land council holds the title deed in trust until a specific event or condition takes place, such as the lapse of a lease or interest).
ALRA	<i>Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976 (Cth)</i>
CATSI Act	<i>Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Act 2006</i>
Cth	Commonwealth
Fol	Freedom of information
IPA	Indigenous Protected Area
Land Council	An Aboriginal land council in the Northern Territory established by or under the Aboriginal Land Rights Act to represent Aboriginal people.
Land Rights Act	Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976, also ALRA
Land trust	An Aboriginal land trust established under the Land Rights Act to hold land on behalf of the Traditional Owners.
NIAA	National Indigenous Australians Agency
NLC	Northern Land Council
NT	Northern Territory
PGPA Act	<i>Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013 (Cth)</i>
Sacred sites	Areas of spiritual significance to Aboriginal people, marking an association with, or a specific act of, a creation being. They may be parts of the natural landscape such as hills, rocks, trees, springs or offshore reefs and include burial grounds and places where ceremonies have been held.
Traditional Owners	In relation to land, a local descent group of Aboriginal people who have common spiritual affiliations to a site on the land, being affiliations that place the group under a primary spiritual responsibility for that site and for the land; they are entitled by Aboriginal tradition to forage as of right over that land.



Compliance Index

PGPA Rule Reference	Part of Report	Description	Requirement
17BE	Contents of annual report		
17BE(a)	7	Details of the legislation establishing the body	Mandatory
17BE(b)(i)	6	A summary of the objects and functions of the entity as set out in legislation	Mandatory
17BE(b)(ii)	6	The purposes of the entity as included in the entity's corporate plan for the reporting period	Mandatory
17BE(c)	7	The names of the persons holding the position of responsible Minister or responsible Ministers during the reporting period, and the titles of those responsible Ministers	Mandatory
17BE(d)	N/A	Directions given to the entity by the Minister under an Act or instrument during the reporting period	If applicable, mandatory
17BE(e)	N/A	Any government policy order that applied in relation to the entity during the reporting period under section 22 of the Act	If applicable, mandatory
17BE(f)	N/A	Particulars of non-compliance with: (a) a direction given to the entity by the Minister under an Act or instrument during the reporting period; or (b) a government policy order that applied in relation to the entity during the reporting period under section 22 of the Act	If applicable, mandatory
17BE(g)	44	Annual performance statements in accordance with paragraph 39(1)(b) of the Act and section 16F of the rule	Mandatory
17BE(h), 17BE(i)	N/A	A statement of significant issues reported to the Minister under paragraph 19(1)(e) of the Act that relates to non-compliance with finance law and action taken to remedy non-compliance	If applicable, mandatory
17BE(j)	24	Information on the accountable authority, or each member of the accountable authority, of the entity during the reporting period	Mandatory
17BE(k)	8	Outline of the organisational structure of the entity (including any subsidiaries of the entity)	Mandatory



PGPA Rule Reference	Part of Report	Description	Requirement
17BE(ka)	70	Statistics on the entity's employees on an ongoing and non-ongoing basis, including the following: (a) statistics on full-time employees; (b) statistics on part-time employees; (c) statistics on gender; (d) statistics on staff location	Mandatory
17BE(l)	9	Outline of the location (whether or not in Australia) of major activities or facilities of the entity	Mandatory
17BE(m)	35	Information relating to the main corporate governance practices used by the entity during the reporting period	Mandatory
17BE(n), 17BE(o)	N/A	For transactions with a related Commonwealth entity or related company where the value of the transaction, or if there is more than one transaction, the aggregate of those transactions, is more than \$10,000 (inclusive of GST): (a) the decision-making process undertaken by the accountable authority to approve the entity paying for a good or service from, or providing a grant to, the related Commonwealth entity or related company; and (b) the value of the transaction, or if there is more than one transaction, the number of transactions and the aggregate of value of the transactions	If applicable, mandatory
17BE(p)	N/A	Any significant activities and changes that affected the operation or structure of the entity during the reporting period	If applicable, mandatory
17BE(q)	N/A	Particulars of judicial decisions or decisions of administrative tribunals that may have a significant effect on the operations of the entity	If applicable, mandatory
17BE(r)	N/A	Particulars of any reports on the entity given by: (a) the Auditor-General (other than a report under section 43 of the Act); or (b) a Parliamentary Committee; or (c) the Commonwealth Ombudsman; or (d) the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner	If applicable, mandatory
17BE(s)	N/A	An explanation of information not obtained from a subsidiary of the entity and the effect of not having the information on the annual report	If applicable, mandatory



PGPA Rule Reference	Part of Report	Description	Requirement
17BE(t)	N/A	Details of any indemnity that applied during the reporting period to the accountable authority, any member of the accountable authority or officer of the entity against a liability (including premiums paid, or agreed to be paid, for insurance against the authority, member or officer's liability for legal costs)	If applicable, mandatory
17BE(taa)	38	The following information about the audit committee for the entity: (a) a direct electronic address of the charter determining the functions of the audit committee; (b) the name of each member of the audit committee; (c) the qualifications, knowledge skills or experience of each member of the audit committee; (d) information about each member's attendance at meetings of the audit committee; (e) the remuneration of each member of the audit committee	Mandatory
17BE(ta)		Information about executive remuneration	Mandatory
17BF	Disclosure requirements for government business enterprises		
17BF(1)(a)(i)	N/A	An assessment of significant changes in the entity's overall financial structure and financial conditions	If applicable, mandatory
17BF(1)(a)(ii)	N/A	An assessment of any events or risks that could cause financial information that is reported not to be indicative of future operations or financial conditions	If applicable, mandatory
17BF(1)(b)	N/A	Information on dividends paid or recommended	If applicable, mandatory
17BF(1)(c)	N/A	Details of any community service obligations the government business enterprise has including: (a) an outline of actions taken to fulfil those obligations; and (b) an assessment of the cost of fulfilling those obligations	If applicable, mandatory
17BF(2)	N/A	A statement regarding the exclusion of information on the grounds that the information is commercially sensitive and would be likely to result in unreasonable commercial prejudice to the government business enterprise	If applicable, mandatory



