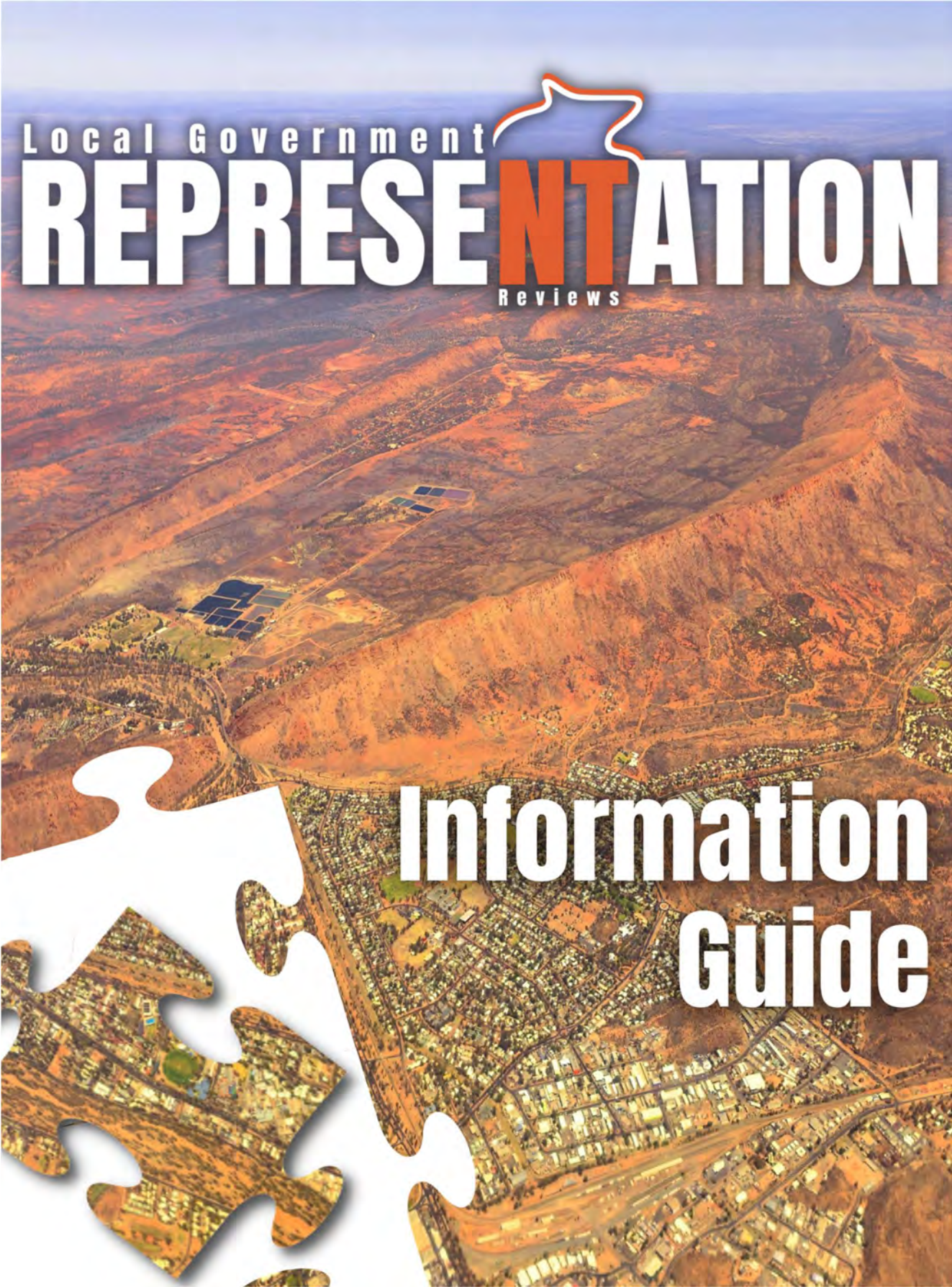


Local Government

# REPRESENTATION

Reviews

An aerial photograph of a city and its surrounding landscape, featuring a large mountain range in the background and a city area in the foreground. The image is overlaid with several white puzzle pieces, suggesting a fragmented or incomplete view of the city. The text 'Information Guide' is prominently displayed in the lower right quadrant of the image.

**Information  
Guide**

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# I. WHAT?

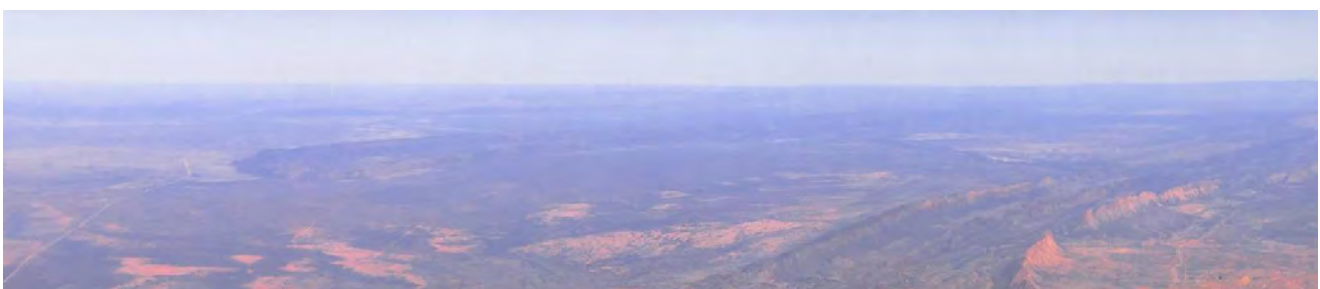
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## *WHAT is a local government representation review?*

- Electoral representation reviews consider how to provide the best community representation at the local government (or council) level in the Northern Territory.
- **The aim of the representation reviews is to ensure that all voters in a local council area are fairly represented.**
- Recent legislative changes established an independent Local Government Representation Committee (the committee) that will make determinations about ward boundaries and representation for all 17 of the Territory's councils. (Details about the committee can be found on [page 4](#), Section 2)
- These determinations are made following a process explained in this guide which involves engagement and consultation with stakeholders, including councils and the public.
- The 2022 Local Government Representation Review will be the first conducted under the new legislation.

## *WHAT used to happen before the independent committee was established?*

- Prior to recent legislative changes, councils conducted their own representation reviews and made recommendations to the Minister for Local Government about any desired changes. The minister then decided if any changes would be made.
- These legislative changes came about because councils reviewing their own representative arrangements have a conflict of interest. Electoral practise dictates that elected members should have no formal role in determining boundaries.
- The new local government representation review legislation sets up an independent committee and a process similar to the redistribution process used to determine boundaries of Legislative Assembly electorates in the NT. (Parts 8 and 16 of the *Electoral Act 2004*)



# I. WHAT?

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## ***WHAT electoral representation matters can the committee make determinations about?***

[Part 3.2](#) of the *Local Government Act 2019* (the Act), gives the committee the power to make determinations about matters relating to the internal boundaries of council areas including:

- ward boundaries
- the number of elected members for each ward (which must still add up to the total number of members for that council area)
- the introduction or removal of wards in council areas

## ***WHAT electoral representation matters can the committee only make recommendations about?***

There are some aspects of local government representation that cannot be determined by the committee as only the Minister for Local Government can make these decisions. However, the committee can make recommendations to the Minister about the following (s 28(4) of the Act):

### • **External boundaries of council areas**

- The committee may look at external council boundaries, particularly those that do not currently align with land parcels or property boundaries, or other minor anomalies, and make a recommendation to the Minister.

### • **Unincorporated areas**

- Any decisions about introducing currently unincorporated areas into a nearby council area is made by the NT Government (NTG). Recommendations about unincorporated areas are not a priority for the committee during this review.
- The NTG recently announced the incorporation of Elrundie, Tivendale and Wishart into the City of Palmerston. As this comes into effect from 1 July 2022 these areas will be part of any representation considerations made for the City of Palmerston.
- A discussion paper on the Cox-Daly and Marrakai-Douglas Daly Incorporated Areas – Inclusion into a local government area (s) was released on 23 March 2022.

### • **Total number of elected members**

- While the committee can make determinations about the number of elected members for existing wards and any newly introduced wards, this must still add up to the total number of members prescribed for each council, which is decided by the Minister.

# I. WHAT?

---

- **Ward names**

- If the committee determines to introduce wards to a currently undivided council area, they can make recommendations to the Minister about the names of these new wards.
- **The committee strongly encourages suggestions of names for any new wards or change of name to existing wards.**

The decision about how the mayor/president is chosen (e.g. by the people at election time or by the council) is made by each council. Any suggestions about how the mayor/president is chosen should be directed to the relevant council.

### ***WHAT must be considered by the committee in making their deliberations?***

In making their determinations, the committee **MUST** consider the following (s 31 of the Act):

- community of interests in the council area including economic, social and regional interests
- types of communication and travel in the council area with special reference to issues arising out of remoteness or distance
- the trend of population changes in the council area
- the density of population in the council area
- the physical features of the council area.

In addition, if the committee is making determinations concerning current ward structures, OR is investigating the introduction of wards, then they **MUST** further consider the desirability of: (s 32(2) of the Act)

- the number of electors for each ward being as near to equal as practicable at the next general election
- keeping the area of each ward containing rural and remote areas as small as practicable
- keeping the demographic and geographic nature of each ward as uniform as practicable
- including an identifiable community (like a suburb, land parcel or property, or a cultural and/or language group) wholly within one ward if possible.

## 2. WHO?

---

### *WHO is on the Local Government Representation Committee?*

The committee is specified in the *Local Government Act (2019)* as consisting of the:

- **CEO of the prescribed corporation** - the prescribed corporation is the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory (LGANT). The CEO will also chair the committee.
- **Electoral Commissioner**
- **Surveyor-General**

All 3 committee members bring specialist expertise to the representation review process:

- LGANT is the peak body representing the local government sector in the NT and provides leadership, support and representation on issues impacting the sector. The CEO will bring a thorough understanding of the interests, concerns and challenges of the councils being reviewed.
- The Electoral Commissioner is the returning officer for local government general elections which are conducted using the internal boundaries being considered. They will provide data for enrolment numbers and voter participation, and information about the impacts of ward structure and representation on the electoral process. The Electoral Commissioner is also a member of the Redistribution Committee which reviews the boundaries of Legislative Assembly electorates in readiness for the Territory election.
- The Surveyor-General brings extensive geographic, mapping and surveying knowledge of the Northern Territory to the decision making process. The Surveyor-General is also a member of the Redistribution Committee which reviews the boundaries of Legislative Assembly electorates in readiness for the Territory election.

The committee will be supported by staff and resources from the following agencies:

- Northern Territory Electoral Commission (NTEC)
- Dept. of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics
- Local Government Association of the NT (LGANT)
- Local Government and Regional Development (Dept. of Chief Minister and Cabinet)
- Digital Services (Dept. of Corporate and Digital Development)



## 2. WHO?

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### *WHO can take part in the representation reviews?*

- **ANYONE** can put in a submission making comments or recommendations about electoral representation in council areas. There are 2 public consultation rounds built into the timetable for the reviews (see [page 6](#), Section 3, for the timetable of the reviews).
- All 17 councils in the NT will be contacted and encouraged to make submissions. Individual council members (and prospective candidates) can also make their own submissions separate to the council's submission.
- Other stakeholders will be added to a mailing list and contacted directly and encouraged to make submissions. These include:
  - Aboriginal corporations
  - Aboriginal housing and town camp associations
  - Aboriginal land councils
  - Aboriginal resource associations
  - Business associations
  - Chambers of commerce
  - Peak associations
  - Rate payers and residents groups
  - Relevant community groups
- **INDIVIDUALS** are also encouraged to make submissions. You can refer to [page 9](#) (Section 5) for instructions on how to lodge a submission. You can also join the mailing list by providing your email contact on our [subscription form](#).





## Local government representation reviews

### INFORMATION GUIDE

## 3. WHEN?

### *WHEN will the next local government representation reviews occur?*

Legislation requires the representation reviews to begin ‘no later than 10 months after election day for a general election for the council’. The last general elections were held on 28 August 2021. Therefore the next representation review must begin by 28 June 2022 at the latest. With the view to complete the 2022 representation review during the calendar year, the committee has determined to commence the review early in accordance with the following timetable.

<b>First consultation period</b>	
Invite initial submissions from council and public	Monday 28 March 2022
Last day to receive initial submissions	Tuesday 31 May 2022
<b>Committee determination period</b>	
Committee to make proposed determinations after considering submissions	mid-June 2022
Development of preliminary report and proposed maps for each council	early July 2022
Preliminary report and proposed maps published	31 August 2022
<b>Second consultation period</b>	
Invite submissions from council and public regarding preliminary report	31 August 2022
Last day to receive submissions about preliminary report	4 November 2022
<b>Committee determination period</b>	
Committee may meet with councils or hold public hearings to gather more information about the submissions received	September - October 2022
Committee to make final determinations after considering the submissions received and possibly views heard at council meetings and public hearings	October - November 2022
Development of final report and maps for each council	October – November 2022
Final report and maps published	Late November 2022
Minister for Local Government to notify any changes by <i>Gazette</i> notice	December 2022

## 4. WHERE?

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### *WHERE in the NT will be reviewed?*

All 17 of the NT's local government areas will have their electoral representation reviewed. This does not mean that changes will be made to every council area. In fact, most council areas are likely to have no or very minor changes made to their existing structures. Unincorporated areas will not be part of the review.

Of the 17 council areas in the Northern Territory;

#### **5 are considered municipal councils**

- **Alice Springs Town Council** (no wards)
- **City of Darwin** (4 wards)
- **City of Palmerston** (no wards)
- **Katherine Town Council** (no wards)
- **Litchfield Council** (3 wards)

*Click on the council name to link to its map*

#### **9 are considered regional councils**

- **Barkly Regional Council** (4 wards)
- **Central Desert Regional Council** (4 wards)
- **East Arnhem Regional Council** (6 wards)
- **MacDonnell Regional Council** (4 wards)
- **Roper Gulf Regional Council** (5 wards)
- **Tiwi Islands Regional Council** (3 wards)
- **Victoria Daly Regional Council** (5 wards)
- **West Arnhem Regional Council** (5 wards)
- **West Daly Regional Council** (3 wards)

*Click on the council name to link to its map*

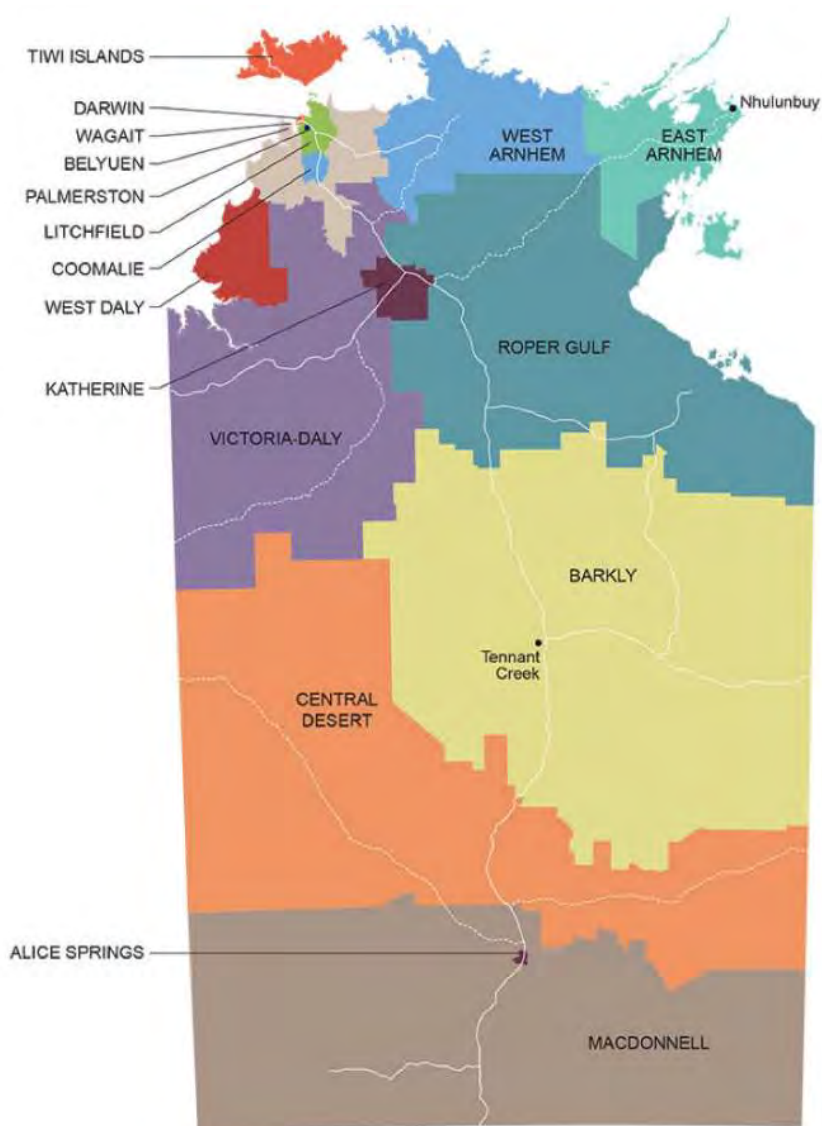
## 4. WHERE?

3 are considered shire councils:

- **Belyuen Community Government Council** (no wards)
- **Coomalie Community Government Council** (3 wards)
- **Wagait Shire Council** (no wards)

*Click on the council name to link to its map*

For information about the current representation structures of the 17 councils (i.e. wards and number of elected members), please see Appendix A in this document.



## 5. HOW?

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### *HOW do I make a submission?*

There are several ways that councils, individual council members, other stakeholders and the public can make a submission:

- **Online submission form**

- Use one form per council area, if you are commenting on 2 or more council areas, please use separate forms for each one.
- You can add attachments if you want to include proposed maps or other documents.
- The form can be found on the [representation review website](#).

- **Email**

- You can make a submission via email, with attachments if necessary.
- Send your email to [secretariat.ntec@nt.gov.au](mailto:secretariat.ntec@nt.gov.au)

- **Post**

- You can mail your submission to:  
Representation Review Committee  
GPO Box 2419  
DARWIN NT 0801

- **In person**

- You can hand deliver your submission via the NTEC's front counter addressed to:  
Representation Review Committee  
Level 3, TCG Centre | 80 Mitchell Street | Darwin

- Submissions must include your full name and address, and contact details by phone and or email in case the committee wants to discuss your submission further.
- **All submissions will be published on the representation review website**, and included in a summary of submissions received in the preliminary and final reports. Names and localities will be included, but no others details will be published.

## 5. HOW?

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### *HOW can I make an informed submission?*

To assist stakeholders and the public in developing their submissions, the following information is available on the website [2022 Local Government Representation Reviews | NTEC](#), or as an appendix to this information guide:

- **Current electoral structures** for each council area and ward
  - Maps for each council area are available on the [website here](#) or via links on [pages 7 – 8](#) of this document (Section 4).
  - A table summarising the current electoral representation structures for each council area is available on the [website here](#) or in Appendix A of this document.
- **Current enrolment numbers** for each council area and ward
  - Enrolment numbers for each council area and ward are available on the [website here](#) or in Appendix A of this document.
- **Current population numbers** for each council area and ward
  - ABS population data for each council area and ward are available on the [website here](#) or in Appendix A of this document.
- Information about the **advantages and disadvantages of having a ward structure** in a council area can be found on [pages 15 – 16](#) of this document (Section 6).
- Information about **previous changes implemented** (or recommended but not implemented) during past representation reviews can be found on the [website here](#) or in Appendix B of this document.
- The committee has identified **areas of focus** for the 2022 representation reviews which are summarised in the table below. However, submissions are invited on *any* matters concerning representation and ward structures, not just the issues listed below.

## Local government representation reviews

### INFORMATION GUIDE

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA	AREAS OF FOCUS
<b>Alice Springs Town Council</b>	Possible introduction of wards
<b>Barkly Regional Council</b>	No identified areas of focus
<b>Belyuen Community Government Council</b>	High number of representatives given the small population
<b>Central Desert Regional Council</b>	Representation in Akityarre ward – are there too many representatives for the population and number of electors?
<b>Coomalie Community Government Council</b>	High number of members given the small population
<b>Darwin, City of</b>	No identified areas of focus
<b>East Arnhem Regional Council</b>	Progress towards creation of separate Anindilyakwa regional council already begun – how will this impact remaining wards?
<b>Katherine Town Council</b>	Possible introduction of wards
<b>Litchfield Council</b>	No identified areas of focus
<b>MacDonnell Regional Council</b>	No identified areas of focus
<b>Palmerston, City of</b>	Possible introduction of wards
<b>Roper Gulf Regional Council</b>	<u>Jodetluk</u> community is located within boundary of Katherine Town Council but representation is via Roper Gulf Regional Council
<b>Tiwi Islands Regional Council</b>	No identified areas of focus
<b>Victoria Daly Regional Council</b>	No identified areas of focus
<b>Wagait Shire Council</b>	No identified areas of focus
<b>West Arnhem Regional Council</b>	No identified areas of focus
<b>West Daly Regional Council</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tyemirri Ward has small enrolment numbers (98), the smallest of all NT local government wards</li> <li>• Emu Point homeland has links with Peppimenarti community, but they are in different wards</li> </ul>



## 5. HOW?

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### *HOW will determinations be made?*

- Each council area is examined according to:
  - whether the electoral structure of the ward should be divided into wards or remain undivided
  - what the appropriate number of wards for a council area is
  - what the appropriate ward boundaries are
  - how many councillors will represent each ward.
- In examining the above, the committee MUST consider the matters listed in sections 31 and 32(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019* – and listed on [page 3](#) of this document.

### **Stage 1: Approximate timeframe 28 March – August 2022**

- The committee conducts its own research relating to the councils' current representation issues, including analysis of population and enrolment data (found in Appendix A, or on the [website here](#)). They apply their own knowledge, skills and experience relating to electoral representation, the geography and demography of the NT, and local government issues.
- The committee carefully considers all input received from councils, other stakeholders and the public through the initial consultation period.
- The committee develops proposed ward boundaries and representation for each council area.

### **Stage 2: Approximate timeframe 31 August to October 2022**

- The committee publishes its proposed ward boundaries and representation for each council area in a preliminary report with maps.
- Councils, other stakeholders and the public provide input on the proposed ward boundaries and representation, which are considered by the committee. The committee may meet with councils and/or the public seeking further details about the submissions received.

### **Stage 3: Approximate timeframe late November to December 2022**

- The committee makes its final determinations by publishing the final ward boundaries and representation for each council area. These will come into effect at the next local government general elections in August 2025. This report may also include recommendations about representation matters that are determined by the Minister (see [pages 2 – 3](#) of this document).

### 5. HOW?

#### HOW will determinations be made?

##### Stage 1

*Approximate timeframe: 28 March – August 2022*

Initial consultation period



Committee conducts own research



Committee considers submissions

##### Stage 2

*Approximate timeframe: 31 August – Late November 2022*

Committee publishes proposed electoral representation structures



Second consultation period



Committee considers submissions

##### Stage 3

*Approximate timeframe: Late November – December 2022*

Committee publishes final electoral representation structures



Minister gazettes final electoral representation structures



New ward boundaries used at next general election (2025)



## 5. HOW?

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### *HOW will the decision making process be governed and conflicts of interest be managed?*

- The decision making process of the Local Government Representation Review Committee will be transparent and well documented:
  - The process of how determinations are made is detailed on [page 12](#) of this document
  - All written submissions received by the committee will be published on the review website
  - All meetings with stakeholders will be documented in the proposed and final reports
  - All considered changes, including those that do not become part of the final determinations or recommendations, will be documented in the final report with explanations as to why the committee took that approach.
- The deliberation stages of the decision making process (where the committee is considering a number of scenarios and the submissions) however, are confidential and will not be made public at the time.
- Each committee member has one vote.
- The committee is aware that actual and perceived conflicts of interest will need to be disclosed and managed as all committee members have links to the local government sector through their roles, in particular the CEO of LGANT.
- The main reason for establishing this new representation reviews process conducted by an independent committee was due to the potential conflicts of interests inherent when elected members determine their own electoral boundaries. The process of the representation reviews deliberately align with the redistribution process for Legislative Assembly electoral boundaries.



## 6. WHY?

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### *WHY should I make a submission to the local government representation reviews?*

- Representation reviews are an important part of democracy. They aim to ensure that all voters in a local government area are fairly represented.
- Input from councils, elected and prospective councillors, other local government stakeholders, and other individuals (constituents, voters, local business owners and the general public) assist the committee in understanding local issues.
- This input provides the committee with the views of those likely to be impacted by its decisions, potentially raise issues not considered by the committee, and often raises awareness of local issues in general.

### *WHY should a local government or council area be divided into wards?*

- Wards guarantee some form of direct representation to all parts of the council area and existing communities of interest.
- Undivided wards can result in all councillors residing in the same part of a council area, especially if it has a higher population. Ward elections encourage candidates from different parts of the council and potentially result in greater diversity of backgrounds, skills, experience and opinions among the elected members.
- Elected members of wards can focus on local issues as well as council-wide issues.
- Elected members of wards are more likely to be known to their ward constituents.
- Elections for a whole council area may attract a large number of candidates which can be confusing or burdensome for voters (who have to vote preferentially). Being divided into wards should lessen the number of candidates per ward.
- A smaller number of candidates on a ballot papers reduces the informal voting rate. For example, at the 2017 Alice Springs Town Council elections, there were 2 candidates for mayor and 19 for councillor positions. The informality rates were 2.0% (mayor) and 11.7% (councillors), by the same group of electors.
- If a councillor resigns, a by-election would only need to be held for one ward, rather than for the whole council area. This significantly reduces the election costs for the council as only electors within one ward are required to vote.

## 6. WHY?

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- From a candidate's perspective (for a general or by-election), less campaigning resources and efforts are required for a smaller ward area compared with having to canvass an entire council area.

### *WHY should a local government area remain undivided? (i.e. NOT divided into wards)*

- An undivided council promotes the concept of a council-wide focus with councillors being elected by, and concerned for, the council area as a whole rather than smaller, potentially insular interests.
- It gives residents and ratepayers a choice of councillors to approach with their concerns.
- Each voter has the opportunity to express a preference for every candidate for the council election.
- It removes the need to define internal ward boundaries. Ward boundaries may be difficult to define and may result in divided communities of interest.
- Current legislation allows for candidates to stand for a ward that they do not live in, as long as they live in the council area. This means that subdividing a council into wards will not necessarily result in all wards being represented by people who reside within that ward.
- Elected members of wards generally consider themselves to represent not only their ward but the council as a whole and therefore the need for wards may be questionable.
- While wards are likely to attract a lower number of candidates than a whole council area, it also makes it more likely that it may not attract enough candidates, resulting in an uncontested election or a later supplementary election.
- Separate wards may mean that a candidate in one ward is elected on a smaller number of votes that a candidate achieved in another ward, but did not win a position due to other candidates in their ward receiving more votes.



# Local Government Representation Reviews

Current electoral structures by council area

## Appendix A

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA*	ELECTED MEMBERS	ELECTORAL STRUCTURE	COUNCILLORS PER WARD	ENROLMENT # (PER WARD)	VOTERS PER COUNCILLOR
<b>Alice Springs Town Council</b>	8 councillors 1 elected mayor	No wards	-	<b>16,045</b>	2,006
<b>Population:</b> 26,448 <b>Area:</b> 328 sq km					
<b>Barkly Regional Council</b>	12 councillors 1 elected mayor	Alpurrurulam Ward Alyawarr Ward Kuwarrangu Ward Patta Ward <b>Total wards: 4</b>	1 4 2 5 <b>Total councillors: 12</b>	186 1,545 470 1,868 <b>Total enrolment: 4,069</b>	186 386 235 374
<b>Population:</b> 7,453 <b>Area:</b> 322,713 sq km					
<b>Belyuen Community Government Council</b>	5 councillors President chosen by/from councillors	No wards	-	<b>156</b>	31
<b>Population:</b> 176 <b>Area:</b> 40 sq km					
<b>Central Desert Regional Council</b>	12 councillors President chosen by/from councillors	Akityarre Ward Anmatjere Ward Northern Tanami Ward Southern Tanami Ward <b>Total wards: 4</b>	2 4 2 4 <b>Total councillors: 12</b>	257 982 361 867 <b>Total enrolment: 2,467</b>	129 246 181 217
<b>Population:</b> 4,241 <b>Area:</b> 281,312 sq km					
<b>Coomalie Community Government Council</b>	6 councillors President chosen by/from councillors	Adelaide River Ward Batchelor Township Ward Coomalie Rural Ward <b>Total wards: 3</b>	2 2 2 <b>Total councillors: 6</b>	217 178 247 <b>Total enrolment: 642</b>	109 89 124
<b>Population:</b> 1,356 <b>Area:</b> 281,312 sq km					
<b>Darwin, City of</b>	12 councillors 1 elected Lord Mayor	Chan Ward Lyons Ward Richardson Ward Waters Ward <b>Total wards: 4</b>	3 3 3 3 <b>Total councillors: 12</b>	12,708 13,351 12,764 12,984 <b>Total enrolment: 51,807</b>	4,236 4,450 4,255 4,328
<b>Population:</b> 82,030 <b>Area:</b> 111 sq km					
<b>East Arnhem Regional Council</b>	14 councillors President chosen by/from councillors	6 wards: Anindilyakwa Ward Birr Rawarrang Ward Gumurr Gattjirk Ward Gumurr Marthakal Ward Gumurr Miwatj Ward Gumurr Miyarrka Ward <b>Total wards: 6</b>	2 2 2 3 3 2 <b>Total councillors: 14</b>	887 662 764 1,592 1,439 817 <b>Total enrolment: 6,161</b>	444 331 382 531 480 409
<b>Population:</b> 10,369 <b>Area:</b> 33,310 sq km					

# Local Government Representation Reviews

Current electoral structures by council area

## Appendix A

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA*	ELECTED MEMBERS	ELECTORAL STRUCTURE	COUNCILLORS PER WARD	ENROLMENT # (PER WARD)	VOTERS PER COUNCILLOR
<b>Katherine Town Council</b>	6 councillors 1 elected mayor	No wards	-	<b>6,429</b>	1,072
<b>Litchfield Council</b>	6 councillors 1 elected mayor	Central Ward North Ward South Ward <b>Total wards: 3</b>	2 2 2 <b>Total councillors: 6</b>	4,315 4,021 4,270 <b>Total enrolment: 12,606</b>	2,158 2,011 2,135
<b>MacDonnell Regional Council</b>	12 councillors President chosen by/from councillors	Iyarrka Ward Ljirapinta Ward Luritja Pintubi Ward Rodinga Ward <b>Total wards: 4</b>	2 3 3 4 <b>Total councillors: 12</b>	769 646 1,042 1,082 <b>Total enrolment: 3,539</b>	385 215 347 271
<b>Palmerston, City of</b>	7 councillors 1 elected mayor	No wards	-	<b>24,057</b>	3,437
<b>Roper Gulf Regional Council</b>	13 councillors President chosen by/from councillors	Never Never Ward Numbulwar Numburindi Ward Nyirranggulung Ward South West Gulf Ward Yugul Mangi Ward <b>Total wards: 5</b>	3 2 3 3 2 <b>Total councillors: 13</b>	833 488 919 945 755 <b>Total enrolment: 3,940</b>	278 244 307 315 378
<b>Tiwi Islands Regional Council</b>	12 councillors President chosen by/from councillors	Bathurst Island Ward Milikapiti Ward Pirlangimpi Ward <b>Total wards: 3</b>	6 3 3 <b>Total councillors: 12</b>	1,098 318 263 <b>Total enrolment: 1,679</b>	183 106 88
<b>Victoria Daly Regional Council</b>	5 councillors Mayor chosen by/from councillors	Daguragu Ward Milngin Ward Pine Creek Ward Timber Creek Ward Walangeri Ward <b>Total wards: 5</b>	1 1 1 1 1 <b>Total councillors: 5</b>	428 377 216 415 300 <b>Total enrolment: 1,736</b>	428 377 216 415 300
<b>Wagait Shire Council</b>	5 councillors President chosen by/from councillors	No wards	-	<b>310</b>	62

# Local Government Representation Reviews

Current electoral structures by council area

## Appendix A

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA*	ELECTED MEMBERS	ELECTORAL STRUCTURE	COUNCILLORS PER WARD	ENROLMENT # (PER WARD)	VOTERS PER COUNCILLOR
<b>West Arnhem Regional Council</b>  <b>Population:</b> 6,860 <b>Area:</b> 49,675 sq km	12 councillors Mayor chosen by/from councillors	Gunbalanya Ward	3	842	281
		Kakadu Ward	3	531	177
		Maningrida Ward	4	1,779	445
		Minjilang Ward	1	165	165
		Warruwi Ward	1	291	291
		<b>Total wards: 5</b>	<b>Total councillors: 12</b>	<b>Total enrolment: 3,608</b>	
<b>West Daly Regional Council</b>  <b>Population:</b> 3,735 <b>Area:</b> 14,070 sq km	6 councillors Mayor chosen by/from councillors	Nganmarriyanga Ward	1	222	222
		Thamarrur/Pindi Pindi Ward	4	1,672	418
		Tyemirri Ward	1	100	100
		<b>Total wards: 3</b>	<b>Total councillors: 6</b>	<b>Total enrolment: 1,994</b>	
<b>Unincorporated</b>	Unrepresented at local government level			<b>3,364</b>	

\* Population numbers as of 2020 (source: <https://dbr.abs.gov.au/>)

# Enrolment numbers as at 14/03/2022

# Local Government Representation Reviews

History of changes – by council area

## Appendix B

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA	REPRESENTATION CHANGES PRIOR TO 2021 LG ELECTIONS	REPRESENTATION CHANGES PRIOR TO 2017 LG ELECTIONS	REPRESENTATION CHANGES PRIOR TO 2012 LG ELECTIONS
<b>Alice Springs Town Council</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Name change only: Yapurkalangu Ward changed to Kuwarrangu Ward</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Creation of Alpururulam Ward (1 member) in the eastern part of existing Alyawarr Ward (4 members)</li> <li>An increase from 3 to 4 wards</li> </ul>
<b>Barkly Regional Council</b>			
<b>Belyuen Community Government Council</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of members reduced from 8 to 5 (Dept. recommendation)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(Under administration from 2007 to 2017)</li> </ul>
<b>Central Desert Regional Council</b>			
<b>Coomalie Community Government Council</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Change from 6 wards to 3 wards with 2 members each (Gazetted June 2013)</li> <li>(Prior to this was a reduction in members for Batchelor Township Ward from 3 to 1, and Adelaide River Township Ward from 2 to 1. Gazetted February 2013)</li> </ul>	
<b>Darwin, City of</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Boundary changes to each of the 4 wards (some suburbs moved to new ward)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No changes – but noted a possible future request for a boundary extension to include Berrimah Farm development</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Boundary changes to 3 of the 4 wards (Chan, Lyons and Waters Wards)</li> <li>Gazetted November 2011</li> <li>Creation of 2 new wards: Birr Rawarrang Ward and Gumurr Miyarrka Ward with 2 members each (4 to 6 wards)</li> <li>Birr Rawarrang Ward created from existing Gumurr Gattjirk Ward</li> <li>Gumurr Miyarrka Ward created from existing Gumurra Miwatj Ward</li> <li>Changes to number of members for Anindilyakwa and Gumurr Gattjirk Wards from 3 to 2 (each)</li> <li>Total number of members increased from 12 to 14</li> </ul>
<b>East Arnhem Regional Council</b>			

# Local Government Representation Reviews

History of changes – by council area

## Appendix B

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA	REPRESENTATION CHANGES PRIOR TO 2021 LG ELECTIONS	REPRESENTATION CHANGES PRIOR TO 2017 LG ELECTIONS	REPRESENTATION CHANGES PRIOR TO 2012 LG ELECTIONS
<b>Katherine Town Council</b>			
<b>Litchfield Council</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• East Ward abolished</li> <li>• Boundary changes to remaining Central, North and South Wards</li> <li>• Each ward has 2 members</li> </ul>		
<b>MacDonnell Regional Council</b>			
<b>Palmerston, City of</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of members increased from 6 to 7 (council request for increase to 8 not approved)</li> <li>• Requested boundary extension to include land in Pinelands, Elrundie, Berrimah Farm, Holtze and Howard Springs (not approved)</li> </ul>	
<b>Roper Gulf Regional Council</b>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Changes to boundaries of Never Never (expanded) and Nyirranggulung (reduced) Wards</li> </ul>
<b>Tiwi Islands Regional Council</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 smaller wards (Wurankuwu and Nguiu Wards) merged to form one larger ward (Bathurst Island Ward)</li> <li>• (Dept. recommendation)</li> </ul>	
<b>Victoria Daly Regional Council</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No changes – but noted a possible future request for a boundary extension to include Douglas Daly area and Lajamanu</li> <li>• See West Daly Regional Council for changes made in 2014.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of members for Timber Creek Ward reduced from 2 to 1</li> </ul>
<b>Wagait Shire Council</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of members reduced from 7 to 5.</li> </ul>	
<b>West Arnhem Regional Council</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Barrah Ward abolished</li> <li>• Former Barrah ward area divided into 2 wards: Minjilang Ward (1 member) and Warruwi Ward (1 member)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Number of members for Maningrida Ward increased from 3 to 4</li> <li>• Number of members for Barrah Ward was reduced from 3 to 2</li> <li>• (both Dept. recommendations)</li> </ul>	



# Local Government Representation Reviews

History of changes – by council area

## Appendix B

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA	REPRESENTATION CHANGES PRIOR TO 2021 LG ELECTIONS	REPRESENTATION CHANGES PRIOR TO 2017 LG ELECTIONS	REPRESENTATION CHANGES PRIOR TO 2012 LG ELECTIONS
<b>West Daly Regional Council</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 3 wards from Victoria Daly Regional Council were transferred to create a new local government area West Daly: Nganmariyanga (1 member), Thamarrurr/ Pindi Pindi (4 members) and Tyemirri ( 1 member) Wards</li><li>• Gazetted June 2014, came into effect 1 July 2014</li></ul>	