



Local Government   
**REPRESENTATION**  
Reviews  
Preliminary report

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# Local Government **REPRESENTATION** Reviews

## 2022 Local Government Representation Reviews Preliminary report

The 2022 Local Government Representation Committee (the committee) has undertaken the first proposed reviews of representation in the Territory's local government councils in accordance with Part 3.2 of the [Local Government Act 2019](#) (the Act).

The committee may determine in accordance with section 28 of the Act the ward structure of local government areas. Before making a determination, the committee must undertake the following requirements:

- invite written submissions from councils and the public no later than 10 months after the election day for a general election.
- allow at least 60 days after the invitation to receive submissions
- consider received submissions
- publish a preliminary report on its website of its determinations
- invite written submissions from councils and the public on the preliminary report
- allow at least 60 days after the invitation to receive submissions
- consider received submissions
- publish a final report on its website.

In compliance with section 30(c) (ii) of the Act, the committee's initial report must be published along with maps showing the boundaries and representation of the first proposed reviews.

The committee now invites written submissions on this preliminary report. Submissions must be made by close of business on 4 November 2022. Details on how to lodge a submission are provided at section 6 of this report.



Sean Holden  
Chairperson  
31 August 2022  
2022 Local Government Representation Committee  
Northern Territory



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## Glossary

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics: the federal agency responsible for the collection, collation and dissemination of statistics relating to the Australian community, including population data.
AEC	Australian Electoral Commission: the federal agency responsible for maintaining the electoral roll in the Northern Territory.
ASSESSMENT CRITERIA	To satisfy the object of the reviews, the representation committee must have regard to the following principles as detailed in section 31 of the <i>Local Government Act 2019</i> : (a) community of interests in the local government area including economic, social and regional interests; (b) types of communication and travel in the local government area with special reference to issues arising out of remoteness or distance; (c) the trend of population changes in the local government area; (d) the density of population in the local government area; (e) the physical features of the local government area.
BOUNDARIES	Borders defining the area of a ward or local government council.
BY-ELECTION	An election to fill one or more casual vacancies on council. This is typically due to resignation.
CEO	Chief Executive Officer.
CHAIRPERSON	CEO of the prescribed corporation, the Local Government Association of the NT.
CONSULTATION PERIOD	A period of time in which persons and organisations can provide submissions (suggestions, comments and objections) to the representation committee.
CLOSING DATE	The final day on which submissions can be made to the representation committee.
COMMENTS	The representation committee invites comments from the public and organisations on representation suggestions.
COMMISSION	Northern Territory Electoral Commission (NTEC).
COMMISSIONER	Electoral Commissioner.
CONTESTED ELECTION	The number of candidates who nominated was greater than the number of vacancies. In this scenario, an election must go to ballot.
ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES	See boundaries.
ENROLMENT THRESHOLD	The number of electors each ward or council area should have. This is a concept that is legislated for Legislative Assembly redistributions, but not in LG reviews.
FAILED ELECTION	The number of candidates who nominated was less than the number of vacancies. In this scenario an election is deferred until a later date. An election may fail in full or in part depending on the number of vacancies and number of candidates.
FINAL REPORT	The representation committee is responsible for reviewing objections to the first proposed representation and making a final determination in the form of a final report, to be presented to the Minister for Local Government.

# 2022 Local Government Representation Reviews

## Preliminary report

## GLOSSARY

GENERAL ELECTION	Territory wide elections held every 4 years.
INFORMATION GUIDE	A document prepared by the committee defining the purpose, processes and timeframes of the reviews.
JOINT ROLL	The electoral roll or list of electors eligible to vote for Commonwealth and NT parliamentary and local government elections, maintained under a formal arrangement between the Governor-General and the Administrator.
LGANT	Local Government Association of the Northern Territory.
LOCAL GOVERNMENT	The government of a specific local area constituting a subdivision of the Territory.
<i>LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2019</i>	The <i>Local Government Act 2019</i> provides the legislative framework by which representation reviews must be carried out.
LOCAL GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATION COMMITTEE (THE COMMITTEE)	The Local Government Representation Committee (the committee) consists of the Electoral Commissioner (a), the Surveyor-General (b), and the CEO of the prescribed corporation (c), who shall act as the Chairperson as prescribed under section 27 of the <i>Local Government Act 2019</i> . The powers of the committee are detailed in section 28 of the Act.
LOCAL GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATION REVIEWS (THE REVIEWS)	<b>Representation reviews conducted for all 17 of the Northern Territory's local government councils in accordance with Part 3.2, Chapter 3 <i>Local Government Act 2019</i>.</b>
LOCALITY	An area, generally a suburb, as defined by a boundary.
THE MINISTER	The Minister for Local Government.
MUNICIPAL COUNCILS	Local government councils in urban and regional areas of the NT.
NT	Northern Territory.
NTEC	Northern Territory Electoral Commission.
PRELIMINARY REPORT	The committee considers public suggestions and comments and prepares the first proposed <b>representation reviews of the Territory's local government councils.</b>
PRESCRIBED CORPORATION	The prescribed corporation for these reviews is LGANT.
REGIONAL COUNCILS	Local government councils in remote areas of the NT.
REPRESENTATION	The structure and number of elected council members for a council area or ward.
REVIEWS PROCESS	Any action taken under Part 3.2, Chapter 3 of the <i>Local Government Act 2019</i> .
SA1s	Statistical Areas Level 1 – the smallest area for which a wide range of census data is released, with an average population of about 400.

## GLOSSARY

SUBMISSION	For the purpose of this preliminary report, submission refers to inviting of written submissions from council and the public as detailed in section 30 of the <i>Local Government Act 2019</i> . Following commencement of the reviews process, submissions are invited from the public, councils, and any other interested party. These are considered by the committee and made available for public inspection on the website.
SUPPLEMENTARY ELECTION	Consequent to a failed election.
UNCONTESTED ELECTION	Where the number of candidates who nominated was equal to the number of vacancies. Candidates in this scenario are automatically elected to the position.
WARDS	Segments of a council area defined by a boundary, represented by 1 or more members elected to council.



## I. BACKGROUND

### 1.1 What are representation reviews?

As prescribed by the *Local Government Act 2019* (the Act), reviews of representation must be conducted after every local government general election. The Local Government Representation Reviews (the reviews) assess electoral boundaries and structures to ensure that electors are being represented fairly. Specifically, these reviews will assess ward boundaries and the number of elected members representing each ward and council.

Determinations resulting from the reviews will take effect at the 2025 local government general elections and will impact where electors will vote and the number of candidates that will represent them on council.

### 1.2 Legislative base

The requirements for conducting reviews for the 17 local government councils in the Northern Territory is contained within:

- The [Local Government Act 2019](#) (the Act) Parts 3.1 and 3.2.

These are the first reviews since the introduction of the Local Government Representation Committee (the committee) under Part 3.2 of the Act. Prior to this reviews were conducted by each local government council in accordance with provisions of the [Local Government \(Electoral\) Regulations](#). The [2017 NT Council Elections Report](#) recommended that any changes to local government ward boundaries be determined by an independent process similar to that used for NT Legislative Assembly redistributions.

Sections 28, 29 and 30 of the Act outlines the powers, objectives and procedures of the representation committee.

### 1.3 Overview of process and timetable

The Act outlines the requisite sequence of events and timeframes for the representation reviews process.

The committee must:

- invite suggestions relating to the reviews no more than 10 months after the election day for a general election
- allow at least 60 days after the invitation to receive submissions
- consider the submissions
- publish a preliminary report detailing its determination or alternate determinations
- invite written submissions from the council and public on the preliminary report
- allow at least 60 days after the invitation to receive submissions
- consider the submissions
- publish a final report with its determination on its website
- provide a copy of the final report to the Minister for Local Government at least 18 months before the next periodic general election for the council.

After receiving a copy of the final report, the minister must, by *Gazette* notice, notify the making of the determination.

The determination takes effect from:

- if a general election for the council takes place 12 months or more after date of the determination – that election; or
- otherwise – the next periodic general election.

The last general elections were held on 28 August 2021, allowing the committee to invite submissions no later than June 2022.

The committee commenced the reviews on 28 March 2022 by emailing the [information guide](#) to all NT local government councils, media and other relevant stakeholders. The guide contained information about the reviews, access to resources and details on how to make a submission.

The notice provided 64 days for the lodgement of submissions, with a closing date of Tuesday 31 May 2022.

The full timetable for the 2022 representation reviews is shown at Appendix A.

## 1.4 The Representation Committee

Pursuant to Section 27 of the Act, the representation committee consists of the following members:

- (a) the Electoral Commissioner, Mr Iain Loganathan
- (b) the Surveyor-General, Mr Robert Sarib
- (c) the CEO of the prescribed corporation, who will also be the Chairperson of the committee.

The prescribed corporation for the 2022 Local Government Representation Reviews is the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory (LGANT), Mr Sean Holden is the CEO of LGANT and Chairperson of the representation committee.

## 1.5 Assessment criteria for committee to use in determinations

In making determinations, the committee must consider the following matters as detailed in section 31 of the Act:

- (a) community of interests in the local government area including economic, social and regional interests
- (b) types of communication and travel in the local government area with special reference to issues arising out of remoteness or distance
- (c) the trend of population changes in the local government area
- (d) the density of population in the local government area
- (e) the physical features of the local government area.

## 1.6 Assessment criteria in relation to division of wards

When choosing to introduce or change a ward structure, the committee must consider the desirability as detailed in section 32(2) of the Act:

- (a) the number of electors for each ward being as near to equal as practicable at the next general election; and
- (b) keeping the area of each ward containing rural and remote areas as small as practicable; and
- (c) keeping the demographic and geographic nature of each ward as uniform as practicable; and
- (d) including an identifiable community wholly within one ward if practicable.

In addition to the legislated criteria, the committee will consider the following factors:

- cultural
- historical
- geographic size
- number of electors in the LGA
- the ratio of electors to ordinary council members.

## 2. COMMUNITY CONSIDERATIONS, PUBLIC SUBMISSIONS AND COMMENTS

### 2.1 Community considerations

The committee identified more than 300 stakeholders, including councils, media representatives and Aboriginal organisations. Appendix B provides the list of stakeholders as of 1 July 2022.

Stakeholders were informed of key stages of the reviews and provided with resources to assist their participation (Table 1 refers). The main information source was the Local Government Representation Reviews [website](#)<sup>1</sup>, hosted on the NT Electoral Commission site.

The website includes the following information:

- information guide
- preliminary report
- maps of current external and ward boundaries for all local government areas
- maps of proposed and prospective external and ward boundaries for local government areas
- online application to subscribe to the representation reviews newsletters
- information on how to draft a submission
- a portal for providing submissions about the reviews
- submissions received

In addition to the newsletter communications and website, a social media campaign was launched to raise awareness of the reviews.

**Table 1: Representation reviews newsletters**

Newsletter number	Date	Newsletter content
1	28 March 2022	Submission period opening Notification of the commencement of the 2022 Local Government Representation Reviews and invitation to participate by providing a submission. Included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- link to the reviews website</li> <li>- contact information for the committee</li> <li>- link to the information guide.</li> </ul>
2	17 May 2022	Submissions closing soon Notification of the pending closure of the first submission period. Included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- link to the submission portal on the reviews website</li> <li>- contact information for the committee</li> <li>- link to the information guide.</li> </ul>
3	3 June 2022	Submissions published Notification that submissions that had been received had been published to the reviews website. Included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- link to the published submissions on the reviews website</li> <li>- contact information for the committee</li> <li>- link to the information guide.</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> <https://ntec.nt.gov.au/Electoral-divisions/2022-local-government-representation-reviews>

# 2022 Local Government Representation Reviews

## Preliminary report

Newsletter number	Date	Newsletter content
4	31 August 2022	Preliminary report published Notification that proposed changes to representation had been published to the reviews website. Included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- link to the published proposal</li><li>- link to the reviews website</li><li>- contact details of the representation committee.</li></ul>

The committee engaged with stakeholders directly through meetings sharing information about the representation reviews. Table 2 provides an overview of meetings held with stakeholder groups.

**Table 2: Consultations with stakeholders**

Date	Participating parties	Summary of discussions
1 April 2022	Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet	Impact of the incorporation of the Cox-Daly and Marrakai-Douglas Daly areas in the reviews.
21 April 2022	Alice Springs Town Council	The committee provided further details regarding the reviews and the opportunity for council to ask questions and express concerns.
17 May 2022	City of Palmerston	The committee provided further details regarding the reviews and the opportunity for council to ask questions and express concerns.

## 2.2 Submissions received

At the closing date for submissions, Tuesday 31 May 2022, a total of 4 submissions were received. A further 2 submissions were accepted after the close of the consultation period. The following councils provided a submission to the committee:

- Alice Springs Town Council
- Central Desert Regional Council
- Litchfield Council
- MacDonnell Regional Council
- Palmerston (City of)
- West Daly Regional Council.

## 2.3 Publication and notification of submissions

All submissions received prior to 31 May were published on the reviews website on Wednesday 1 June 2022. Shortly afterwards, persons and organisations on the committee's mailing list were notified when submissions were available for review on the website.

Late submissions were published as soon as practicable after being received.

### 3. ISSUES AND CONSIDERATIONS

#### 3.1 Introduction

While the Act provides details on the assessment process for the reviews, it also allows for the committee to develop its own procedures as detailed in section 29. To inform its decision making the committee engaged with critical stakeholder organisations with access to key data.

#### Enrolment statistics

In accordance with the Commonwealth–Northern Territory Joint Roll Arrangement, the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) is responsible for processing enrolments, maintaining the Northern Territory electoral roll and supplying roll data.

Enrolment statistics by local government area and ward as at 14 March 2022 were made publicly available on the website on 28 March 2022 and in the information guide. Enrolment statistics as at 31 May 2022 were used to prepare this report and are available in Appendix C.

#### Community demographics

Population and demographic data is collected by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) in the form of a census conducted every 5 years. This data assists in satisfying some of the assessment criteria. The last census was conducted in 10 August 2021. However, much of the information relevant to the reviews was not available at the commencement of the reviews. As a result the committee utilised data from the 2016 census initially, acknowledging likely changes. This data was substituted when the 2021 census general community profiles became available.

#### Mapping systems

MapInfo, a desktop geographic information system used for mapping the 2019 Legislative Assembly redistribution, was acquired. Spatial layers to assist with the modelling process (NT localities, Aboriginal communities, roads, cadastral and local government boundaries) were obtained through the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics (DIPL). Elector numbers by SA1 boundaries were provided by the AEC and used to model local government councils and wards. The Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC) allowed the committee to use Boundary Maker, an application designed by the VEC to be used in conjunction with MapInfo to facilitate the process of modelling.

[Current maps](#) of local government areas and wards are available on the NTEC website.

[Maps](#) showing the first proposed and prospective changes were produced by DIPL and can be viewed by visiting the reviews website.

#### Community of interest

Beyond the physical and technical aspects of the representation reviews is the concept of ‘community of interest’, which is complex and challenging to define. Numerous references were used to guide the committee in regards to community of interest considerations including:

- road configurations and consequent linkages
- commonality of service providers
- locality (suburb) boundaries
- indicators of social diversity: for example, language usage and boundaries that represent cultural divides such as Aboriginal land councils
- appreciation of where people do their shopping, send their children to school and undertake recreation activities.

### 3.2 Previous representation reviews

These are the first reviews undertaken by the representation committee established under the *Local Government Act 2019* which came into force on 1 July 2021. Prior to this representation and ward boundaries were determined under the provisions of the previous *Local Government Act 2008*. Under the former legislation councils conducted their own reviews and made recommendations about changes to the Minister for Local Government. The minister would consider the recommendations before making a determination. Changes to representation could also be made via recommendations from the relevant government department.

Changes prior to the 2021 Local Government Elections were gazetted in December 2020 and resulted in changes to 3 councils.

**Table 3: Previous changes to representation**

Council	Representation or ward boundary change
City of Darwin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The suburb of Wagaman moved from Richardson ward to Waters ward.</li> <li>The suburb of The Narrows moved from Waters ward to Lyons ward.</li> <li>The suburb of Fannie Bay moved from Lyons ward to Chan ward.</li> </ul>
Litchfield Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>East ward was abolished resulting in the number of wards for Litchfield Council reducing from 4 to 3.</li> <li>There were resulting boundary changes to the remaining Central, North and South wards.</li> <li>There were adjustments to the representation numbers so that each of the 3 remaining wards has 2 elected members.</li> </ul>
West Arnhem Regional Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Barrah ward was abolished and replaced with 2 new wards (Minjilang and Warruwi).</li> <li>Creation of Minjilang ward which covers all of Croker Island only.</li> <li>Creation of Warruwi ward which covers the remaining parts of the former Barrah ward, (i.e. excluding Minjilang ward/Croker Island).</li> <li>The new wards are each represented by one elected member.</li> </ul>

### 3.3 Consideration of submissions and comments

#### Submissions

The committee for the 2022 representation reviews received 6 submissions, all from 6 local government councils.

**Table4: Summary of submissions received**

Submitted by	Local government area	Suggestions
Alice Springs Town Council	Alice Springs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The introduction of a ward structure would not be beneficial to Alice Springs</li> </ul>
Central Desert Regional Council	Central Desert	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of council representatives for Akityarre ward should not be changed</li> </ul>
Litchfield Council	Litchfield	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The areas of Holtze and Kowandi should remain a part of Litchfield Council</li> </ul>
MacDonnell Regional Council	MacDonnell	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No changes are necessary at this time</li> </ul>
City of Palmerston	Palmerston	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The introduction of a ward structure would not be beneficial to Palmerston</li> </ul>
West Daly Regional Council	West Daly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase the number of council representatives</li> </ul>

[All submissions](#) can be viewed and downloaded from the reviews website.

### 3.4 Methodology applied by the committee

The committee is required to satisfy the procedures, considerations and assessment criteria specified in the Act.

The committee's primary objective was to establish fair representation within individual councils and as much as practicable, across all councils. More specifically, to ensure that all voters in a local government area are fairly represented.

The legislation does not specify an enrolment threshold for wards. Nor does it contain a ratio of electors to members. This allows the committee the flexibility to consider the circumstances of councils individually.

It would be unfair and unreasonable to use the same enrolment threshold for all councils in the Territory. However, the committee held the opinion that where similar circumstances exist it may be appropriate to apply a similar approach with respect to the creation of wards.

While dividing enrolment between wards was a consideration, this in itself does not guarantee fair representation. Consequently, the committee determined that other factors such as geographic size of a council or ward, population density, demographics, remoteness, infrastructure etc. should also be considered.

In relation to the introduction of wards, the committee formed the view that although the advantages of wards outweighed the disadvantages, local opinions and circumstances need to be considered when determining whether wards were appropriate. The committee took this position as wards ensure that different geographic areas are represented on council. Wards also make it more practical to represent a smaller geographic area and they reduce the cost of by-elections. When considering wards, the committee applied the assessment criteria identified in section 1.5 and 1.6.

When reviewing the number of members allocated to a council, the committee agreed that there should be no less than 5, irrespective of geographic size or population. This allows a quorum to be maintained if a member is unable to attend meetings or resigns. If the committee considers altering the number of members in a council or reallocating the number of members in each ward, the assessment criteria identified in sections 1.5 and 1.6 informed their decisions.

#### Regional, shire and community government councils

All 9 regional councils have wards that have been determined on geographic, cultural and historical reasons. Given the large area these councils cover the committee determined that ward structures are appropriate.

The impact of redefining ward boundaries in remote areas can be far reaching and contentious. A proposal of this nature would require extensive consultation with councils and impacted communities.

Of the 3 remaining shire and community government councils only one has wards. These councils are among the smallest in the NT, both geographically and in terms of population and enrolment.

Unless submissions are received regarding ward boundaries or a significant disparity in representation exists, the committee did not consider introducing wards or altering or abolishing existing ward structures.

#### Municipal councils

There are 2 municipal councils in the NT that have an existing ward structure. The committee assessed whether the ward boundaries in these areas should be redefined based on the assessment criteria.

The committee did not consider abolishing existing ward structures or reducing the number of wards unless a significant disparity in representation exists.

There are 3 municipal councils in the NT that do not have an existing ward structure.

The committee found it difficult to develop an enrolment threshold that could be applied to all geographic locations where wards could be adopted. A concept was developed that wards should be considered for municipal council areas which are urban or closely settled, have an indicative growing population with the potential to reach an enrolment threshold approaching 18,000.

This threshold was not prescribed in legislation but formulated by the committee. It was calculated on the notion that if wards are to be adopted there should be a minimum of 3. Assuming each ward where practicable will have an equal number of electors, this would mean an average of 6,000 electors per ward. Every municipal council in the NT has no fewer than 6 members. Assuming that members and electors would be distributed evenly, this would mean an average of approximately 3,000 electors per member.



# 4. THE FIRST PROPOSED REVIEWS

The purpose of the preliminary report is to provide councils and the public the opportunity to assess and comment on scenarios produced by the committee before they are finalised. Any proposals detailed below may be changed before the committee produces its final report. All determinations, recommendations and suggestions will be disclosed in full as part of that report, scheduled to be published at the end of this year.

Section 28 of the Act establishes that the committee may determine:

- (1) (a) if a local government area is divided into wards:
  - (i) that the local government area remain divided into the same wards or be divided into different wards; or
  - (ii) that the local government area should not be divided into wards; or
- (b) if a local government area is not divided into wards:
  - (i) that the local government area may remain that way; or
  - (ii) that the local government area should be divided into wards.
- (2) If the committee makes a determination that a local government area be divided into wards or different wards, the committee must also determine:
  - (a) the number of wards for a local government area; and
  - (b) the boundaries of the wards for the local government area; and
  - (c) the number of ordinary members for each ward.
- (3) However, the determination under subsection (2)(c) must provide for the same total number of positions for ordinary members for the area that was in place before the determination.

The minister must give effect to determinations made by the committee (s30(4)).

While the committee may make determinations in regard to wards, other matters related to representation can only be proposed as a recommendation to the minister (s28(4)). The minister is obligated to give effect to determinations made by the committee, but exercises discretion to any recommendations.

Some of the following paragraphs will make reference to areas of focus that were identified in the information guide produced by the committee. These areas of focus were a starting point for discussions among committee members and with councils, but did represent a statement of intent.

### Matters considered by the committee

The committee determined that enrolment data would be requested on the following dates:

- 28 March 2022 to provide sufficient data to begin mapping scenarios
- 31 May 2022 to provide updated figures before making decisions on any scenarios.

Attention was given to a number of potential boundary configurations, for example suburb boundaries. Wherever possible, the committee attempted to keep whole suburbs within the same ward. Major arterial roads and area demographics were also factors in determining proposed ward boundaries.

## 4.1 Proposals for regional, shire and community government councils Barkly Regional Council

**Table 5: Enrolment in Barkly Regional Council**

Ward	Electors (as at 31 May 2022)	Council members	Electors per member
Alpurrurulam	185	1	185
Alyawarr	1,545	4	386
Kuwurrangu	475	2	238
Patta	1,881	5	376
TOTAL / AVERAGE	4,086	12	341

Barkly Regional Council has one directly elected mayor and 12 ordinary members.

A [map](#) of this council's current ward boundaries is available on the NTEC website.

Enrolment in Barkly has decreased by 4.5% since the 2017 NT Council Elections. As at 31 May 2022 there are 4,086 enrolled electors. The council has a ratio of one member for every 341 electors.

Regional councils such as Barkly typically have a small population over a large geographic area. According to 2021 ABS census data the population in this council area has decreased by 5.1% since 2016 to 6,316 people. Barkly covers 322,710 square kms, meaning there are 0.02 persons per square km.

With such a large and remote area comes the challenge of maintaining lines of communication between electors and council. The committee determined that 12 members is appropriate given the breadth and diversity of the communities in this region.

A disparity exists in enrolment between wards in this council area. The difference between the smallest ward (Alpurrurulam) and the largest (Patta) is 1,696 electors. This is significant for a regional council. However, this imbalance is counteracted by the distribution of members. A more even distribution develops when calculating electors per member. Additionally, to move the boundaries for these wards may separate communities that have established relationships. In the case of Kuwurrangu, expanding this ward's boundaries to include more enrolments would make it very large. This would have an impact on the members' capacity to serve and effectively engage with the electorate.

The committee is not proposing any changes to representation in Barkly Regional Council.

### Belyuen Community Government Council

**Table 6: Enrolment in Belyuen Community Government Council**

Council	Electors (as at 31 May 2022)	Council members	Electors per member
Belyuen	155	5	31

A [map](#) of this council's current boundaries is available on the NTEC website.

The information guide identified the *'high number of representatives given the small population'* as an area of focus.

Enrolment in Belyuen has increased by 4.7% since the 2017 NT Council Elections. As at 31 May 2022 there are 155 enrolled electors. The council has a ratio of one member for every 31 electors.

Community government councils such as Belyuen typically have a small population over a small geographic area. According to 2021 ABS census data the population in this council area has decreased by 9.1% since 2016 to 149 people. The data indicates that the population has decreased and this has not been reflected in enrolment. Belyuen covers 41 square kms meaning there are 3.6 persons per square km.

The enrolment growth rate and population density in Belyuen is greater than regional councils. However, the number of electors and the geographic size is significantly less.

While there is an argument that the ratio of electors per member may be too low the committee has determined that 5 members is the minimum, irrespective of physical size and enrolment numbers. A council of at least 5 members allows a quorum to be maintained if a member is unable to attend or resigns.

The committee is not proposing any changes to representation in Belyuen Community Government Council.

## Central Desert Regional Council

**Table 7: Enrolment in Central Desert Regional Council**

Ward	Electors (as at 31 May 2022)	Council members	Electors per member
Akityarre	263	2	132
Anmatjere	984	4	246
Northern Tanami	373	2	187
Southern Tanami	867	4	217
TOTAL / AVERAGE	2,487	12	207

Central Desert Regional Council has 12 ordinary members, one of whom is also the president.

A [map](#) of this council's current ward boundaries is available on the NTEC website.

The following area of focus was identified for this council in the information guide;

*Representatives in Akityarre ward – are there too many representatives for the population and the number of electors?*

Central Desert Regional Council provided a submission to the committee, which stated that the number of representatives for Akityarre ward should not be changed, and cited the following points in support of their argument:

- current number of electors to members is reflective of the standard in other regional councils
- 2 members ensures a broader representation of views and communities
- provides greater security of representation in the instance where 1 member is unavailable
- provides adequate communication between electors and council
- allows for growth in elector numbers.

Central Desert Regional Council's [submission](#) is available on the reviews website.

Enrolment in Central Desert has decreased by 7.6% since the 2017 NT Council Elections. The current figure stands at 2,487. The council has a ratio of one member for every 207 electors.

Regional councils such as Central Desert typically have a small population over a large geographic area. According to 2021 ABS census data the population in this council area has decreased by 2.3% since 2016 to 3,591 people. Central Desert covers 281,338 square kms, meaning there are 0.01 persons per square km.

Such a large area and low density creates challenges for members to reach and communicate with the electorate. This could be justification for a greater number of members for the council as a whole, despite such a small enrolment. Historically Akityarre ward has had a number of failed elections at a cost to the council.

**Table 8: All elections for Akityarre ward since 2008**

Date	Election type	Result type	Vacancies	Candidates
2008	General election	Contested	2	4
26 February 2011	By-election	Failed	1	0
13 April 2011	Supplementary election	Uncontested	1	1
24 March 2012	General election	Uncontested	2	2
10 March 2016	By-election	Uncontested	1	1
26 August 2017	General election	Uncontested	2	2
19 September 2019	By-election	Failed	1	0
31 March 2020	Supplementary election	Failed	1	0
5 November 2020	Supplementary election	Uncontested	1	1
28 August 2021	General election	Failed	2	1
5 March 2022	Supplementary election	Uncontested	1	1

There have been 11 elections in Akityarre ward since 2008. Of these, 3 were by-elections and 4 were supplementary elections. While uncontested elections are not uncommon for regional council elections, there have been 4 failed elections in Akityarre ward since 2008, 3 of which have occurred in the last 3 years. This highlights the ongoing difficulty in attracting nominations.

Expanding ward boundaries to increase enrolment in Akityarre would increase its geographic size. This makes it more challenging for council members to communicate with the electorate. Changing the existing ward boundaries may result in separating communities with established relationships.

In remote councils populated largely by Aboriginal Territorians there is an added level of complexity arising from various cultural differences and connections. Akityarre ward has one major community (Harts Range), with electors not as widely dispersed as other wards.

Consequently the committee is proposing that ward boundaries in Central Desert remain unchanged but the number of members in Akityarre ward be reduced from 2 to one.

### Coomalie Community Government Council

Ward	Electors (as at 31 May 2022)	Council members	Electors per member
Adelaide River	228	2	114
Batchelor Township	184	2	92
Coomalie Rural	243	2	122
TOTAL / AVERAGE	655	6	109

Coomalie Community Government Council has 6 ordinary members, one of whom is also the mayor.

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A [map](#) of this council's current ward boundaries is available on the NTEC website.

The information guide identified there is a '*high number of members given the small population*' as an area of focus for Coomalie Community Government Council.

Enrolment in the Coomalie has increased by 4.1% since the 2017 NT Council Elections. As at 31 May 2022 there are 655 enrolled electors. The council has a ratio of one member for every 109 electors.

Community councils such as Coomalie typically have a small number of electors over a small geographic area. According to 2021 ABS census data the population in this council area has decreased by 3.3% since 2016 to 1,276. Coomalie covers 2,056 square kms, meaning there are 0.6 persons per square km.

The number of electors and ratio of electors to members is low in comparison to regional councils. The committee does not support a reduction to the number of council members as the current number maintains a quorum if a member is unable to attend meetings or resigns.

The committee is not proposing any changes to representation in Coomalie Community Government Council.

## East Arnhem Regional Council

**Table 10: Enrolment in East Arnhem Regional Council**

Ward	Electors (as at 31 May 2022)	Council members	Electors per member
Anindilyakwa	890	2	445
Birr Rawarrang	670	2	335
Gumurr Gattjirrk	763	2	382
Gumurr Marthakal	1,599	3	533
Gumurr Miwatj	1,481	3	494
Gumurr Miyarrka	853	2	427
TOTAL / AVERAGE	6,256	14	447

East Arnhem Regional Council has 14 ordinary members, one of whom is also the president.

A [map](#) of this council's current ward boundaries is available on the NTEC website.

The information guide identified the following as an area of focus for East Arnhem Regional Council:

*'Progress towards creation of separate Anindilyakwa regional council already begun – how will this impact remaining wards?'*

Enrolment in East Arnhem has increased by 5.9% since the 2017 NT Council Elections. As at 31 May 2022 there are 6,256 enrolled electors. The council has a ratio of one member for every 447 electors.

Regional councils such as East Arnhem typically have a small population over a large geographic area. According to 2021 ABS census data the population in this council area has decreased by 2.7% since 2016 to 8,778 people. East Arnhem covers 33,310 square kms, meaning there are 0.3 persons per square km.

Despite the number of members being higher than other regional councils the committee believes it is appropriate, particularly considering the large geographic area, low population density and the councillor to elector ratio.

It is noted that the proposal to make Anindilyakwa ward a separate regional council is still under consideration.

The committee is not proposing any changes to representation in East Arnhem Regional Council.

### MacDonnell Regional Council

**Table 11: Enrolment in MacDonnell Regional Council**

Ward	Electors (as at 31 May 2022)	Council members	Electors per member
Iyarrka	788	2	394
Ljirapinta	643	3	214
Luritja Pintubi	1,041	3	347
Rodinga	1,097	4	274
TOTAL / AVERAGE	3,569	12	297

MacDonnell Regional Council has 12 ordinary members, one of whom is the president.

A [map](#) of this council's current ward boundaries is available on the NTEC website.

MacDonnell Regional Council provided a [submission](#) that is available on the reviews website stating that no changes to representation were necessary.

Enrolment in MacDonnell has decreased by 2.3% since the 2017 NT Council Elections. As at 31 May 2022 there are 3,569 enrolled electors. The council has a ratio of one member for every 297 electors.

Regional councils such as MacDonnell typically have a small population over a large geographic area. According to 2021 ABS census data the population in this council area has decreased by 4.7% since 2016 to 5,748 people. MacDonnell council covers 268,339 square kms, meaning there are 0.02 persons per square km.

Rodinga is the largest ward, both in terms of geographic size and enrolments. Such a large area presents a challenge to elected members in maintaining lines of communication and a presence across the ward. One solution might be to change the ward boundaries to make them smaller but this may divide communities with established relationships. In addition, Rodinga has a higher number of members than other wards assisting in servicing a large geographic area. Furthermore, the committee did not receive any submissions suggesting that the ward boundaries in this council should be changed.

The committee is not proposing any changes to representation in MacDonnell Regional Council.

## Roper Gulf Regional Council

**Table 12: Enrolment in Roper Gulf Regional Council**

Ward	Electors (as at 31 May 2022)	Council members	Electors per member
Never Never	849	3	283
Numbulwar Numburindi	489	2	245
Nyirranggulung	925	3	308
South West Gulf	948	3	316
Yugul Mangi	766	2	383
<b>TOTAL / AVERAGE</b>	<b>3,977</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>306</b>

Roper Gulf Regional Council has 13 ordinary members, one of whom is also the mayor.

A [map](#) of this council's current ward boundaries is available on the NTEC website.

The information guide identified the following as an area of focus for Roper Gulf Regional Council:

*Jodetluk community is located within boundary of Katherine Town Council but representation is via Roper Gulf Regional Council.*

Currently Jodetluk occupies an island of land within the Katherine Town Council boundary but its representation is via the Nyirranggulung ward of Roper Gulf Regional Council. If this were to be changed, it would mean either:

- incorporating Jodetluk as part of Katherine Town Council, rather than Roper Gulf; or
- moving a section of the Katherine Town Council boundary south so Jodetluk is sitting outside Katherine's local government area.

Electors in Jodetluk have a cultural connection with the country and communities in Roper Gulf. Making Jodetluk part of Katherine Town Council would mean disconnecting them from the council best placed to represent them. Moving the boundaries so that Jodetluk sits outside Katherine Town Council means roads and tourism infrastructure for Katherine Gorge would be within Roper Gulf. There were no submissions received regarding Jodetluk and the committee is proposing that representation for Jodetluk remain unchanged.

Enrolment in Roper Gulf has increased by 1% since the 2017 NT Council Elections. As at 31 May 2022 there are 3,977 electors. The council has a ratio of one member for every 306 electors.

Regional councils such as Roper Gulf typically have a small population over a large geographic area. According to 2021 ABS census data the population in this council area has decreased by 0.3% since 2016 to 6,486 people. Roper Gulf covers 185,214 square kms, meaning there are 0.04 persons per square km. Such a large area and low density presents a significant challenge to members of this council in communicating with the electorate. One solution is to increase the number of members for this council, however Roper Gulf has 13 members already.

The committee is not proposing any changes to representation in Roper Gulf Regional Council.

### Tiwi Islands Regional Council

**Table 13: Enrolment in Tiwi Islands Regional Council**

Ward	Electors (as at 31 May 2022)	Council members	Electors per member
Bathurst	1,106	6	184
Milikapiti	319	3	106
Pirlangimpi	253	3	84
<b>TOTAL / AVERAGE</b>	<b>1,678</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>140</b>

Tiwi Islands Regional Council has 12 ordinary members, one of whom is the mayor.

A [map](#) of this council's current ward boundaries is available on the NTEC website.

Enrolment in Tiwi Islands has increased by 3.2% since the 2017 NT Council Elections. As at 31 May 2022 there are 1,678 enrolled electors. The council has a ratio of one member for every 140 electors.

Regional councils such as Tiwi Islands typically have a small population over a large geographic area. According to 2021 ABS census data, the population in this council area has decreased by 4.3% since 2016 to 2,348 people. Tiwi Islands covers 7,483 square kms, meaning there are 0.3 persons per square km.

Pirlangimpi ward has 3 members with a ratio of 84 electors per member. Milikapiti ward has 3 members with a ratio of 106 electors per member. In comparison to other regional council wards these ratios may seem low but are appropriate given the geography, history and cultural connections.

The committee is not proposing any changes to representation in Tiwi Islands Regional Council.

### Victoria Daly Regional Council

**Table 14: Enrolment in Victoria Daly Regional Council**

Ward	Electors (as at 31 May 2022)	Council members	Electors per member
Daguragu	434	1	434
Milngin	382	1	382
Pine Creek	224	1	224
Timber Creek	414	1	414
Walangeri	304	1	304
<b>TOTAL / AVERAGE</b>	<b>1,758</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>352</b>

Victoria Daly Regional Council has 5 ordinary members, one of whom is the mayor.

A [map](#) of this council's current ward boundaries is available on the NTEC website.

Enrolment in Victoria Daly has increased by 2.1% since the 2017 NT Council Elections and as at 31 May 2022 there are 1,758 enrolled electors. The council has a ratio of one member for every 352 electors.

Regional councils such as Victoria Daly typically have a small population over a large geographic area. According to 2021 ABS census data the population in this council area has increased by 0.2% since 2016 to 2,815 people. Victoria Daly covers 153,287 square kms, meaning there are 0.3 persons per square km. Enrolment is fairly distributed across the 5 wards.

The committee is not proposing any changes to representation in Victoria Daly Regional Council.



## Wagait Shire Council

**Table 15: Enrolment in Wagait Shire Council**

Electors (as at 31 May 2022)	Council members	Electors per member
314	5	63

A [map](#) of this council's current ward boundaries is available on the NTEC website.

Enrolment in Wagait Shire Council has decreased by 0.9% since the 2017 NT Council Elections. As at 31 May 2022 there are 314 enrolled electors. The council has a ratio of one member for every 63 electors.

According to 2021 ABS census data the population in this council area has decreased by 8.6% since 2016 to 423 people. Wagait covers 5.7 square kms, meaning there are 74 persons per square km.

The committee is not proposing any changes to representation in Wagait Shire Council.

## West Arnhem Regional Council

**Table 16: Enrolment in West Arnhem Regional Council**

Ward	Electors (as at 31 May 2022)	Council members	Electors per member
Gunbalanya	847	3	282
Kakadu	530	3	177
Maningrida	1,776	4	444
Minjilang	164	1	164
Warruwi	292	1	292
TOTAL / AVERAGE	3,609	12	301

West Arnhem Regional Council has 12 ordinary members, one of whom is also the mayor.

A [map](#) of this council's current ward boundaries is available on the NTEC website.

Enrolment in West Arnhem has decreased by 2.1% since the 2017 NT Council Elections. As at 31 May 2022 there are 3,609 enrolled electors. The council has a ratio of one member for every 301 electors.

Regional councils such as West Arnhem typically have a small number of electors over a large geographic area. According to 2021 ABS census data the population in this council has increased by 1.5% since 2016 to 6,281. West Arnhem covers 49,675 square kms, meaning there are 0.3 persons per square km.

There is a disparity between the largest and smallest wards in this council. Maningrida has 1,776 electors, compared to Minjilang with just 164 electors. However, Minjilang is an island off the coast while the remaining wards are part of the mainland.

The committee is not proposing any changes to representation in West Arnhem Regional Council.

### West Daly Regional Council

**Table 17: Enrolment in West Daly Regional Council**

Ward	Electors (as at 31 May 2022)	Council members	Electors per member
Nganmariyanga	220	1	220
Thamarrurr / Pindi Pindi	1,689	4	422
Tyemirri	102	1	102
<b>TOTAL / AVERAGE</b>	<b>2,011</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>335</b>

West Daly Regional Council has 6 ordinary members, one of whom is the mayor.

A [map](#) of this council's current ward boundaries is available on the NTEC website.

The following areas of focus were identified for West Daly Regional Council in the information guide;

*Tyemirri ward has small enrolment numbers*

*Emu point homeland has links with Peppimenarti community, but they are in different wards.*

West Daly Regional Council provided a submission arguing that the total number of representatives should be increased and stated the following in support:

- the population in West Daly has been increasing and is expected to continue this trend
- workloads would be reduced, improving performance and outcomes for the community
- allow for greater diversity of perspectives and family groups represented on council
- increasing representation to an odd number of members would prevent stale mates
- provides greater opportunities to electors for training and development
- it would be easier for electors to locate and speak to a member of council
- communities in West Daly are diverse and widely spread
- telecommunications and internet are not a reliable or widely accessible means of communicating with electors, meaning members must rely on face-to-face engagement. This is difficult to accomplish over such an expansive area, particularly when roads and travel are also unreliable.

West Daly Regional Council's [submission](#) is available on the reviews website.

Enrolment in West Daly has increased by 12% since the 2017 NT Council Elections. As at 31 May 2022 there are 2,011 enrolled electors. The council has a ratio of one member for every 335 electors.

Regional councils such as West Daly typically have a small population over a large geographic area. According to 2021 ABS census data the population in this council area has decreased by 6.1% since 2016 to 2,973 people. West Daly covers 14,070 square kms, meaning there are 0.2 persons per square km.

While West Daly's growth is higher than all other regional councils its elector representation ratio is similar to the standard. The council did not specify in their submission how many additional members they wanted or which wards those additional members should be allocated to. The committee considered the possibility of recommending an additional member for the Thamarrurr / Pindi Pindi ward, but came to the conclusion that the current number of members is proportionate to the number of electors and the geographic size of the council.

In addition, the historic performance of elections in this council area demonstrates there may be some difficulty in attracting nominations for another vacancy.

**Table 18: Elections for West Daly Regional Council since 2014**

Date	Election type	Ward	Result type	Vacancies	Candidates
4 December 2014	By-election	Nganmariyanga	Uncontested	1	1
25 February 2016	By-election	Thamarrurr / pindi Pindi	Contested	1	3
26 August 2017	General election	Nganmariyanga	Contested	1	2
		Thamarrurr / pindi Pindi	Contested	4	7
		Tyemirri	Uncontested	1	1
23 November 2017	By-election	Thamarrurr / Pindi Pindi	Uncontested	1	1
28 August 2021	General election	Nganmariyanga	Failed	1	0
		Thamarrurr / Pindi Pindi	Contested	4	6
		Tyemirri	Uncontested	1	1
5 March 2022	Supplementary	Nganmariyanga	Uncontested	1	1

Since its formation in 2014, West Daly has had 6 elections, 4 of which were either supplementary or by-elections. A total of 5 elections were uncontested and one failed.

The committee considered the possibility of expanding the boundaries of Tyemirri ward, which is geographically quite small, to include the community of Emu Point. This would increase the number of electors in Tyemirri to 171 and reduce the number of electors in Thamarrurr / Pindi Pindi to 1,620. However, given the fact there were no submissions received on this matter changing the boundaries was deemed unnecessary.

The committee is not proposing any changes to representation in West Daly Regional Council.

## 4.2 Proposals for municipal councils

### Alice Springs Town Council

**Table 19: Enrolment in Alice Springs Town Council**

Electors (as at 31 May 2022)	Council members	Electors per member
15,958	8	1,995

Alice Springs Town Council has one directly elected mayor and 8 ordinary members.

A [map](#) of this council's current boundaries is available on the NTEC website.

The information guide identified the '*possible introduction of wards*' as an area of focus for this council.

Alice Springs Town Council provided a submission stating a ward structure would not be beneficial and cited the following points to support their argument:

- the current population is closely knit and there is no perceived division of communities or interests
- the area of the council is not large or widely spread
- lack of wards promotes a council-wide focus on community issues
- electors have a wider choice of candidates to approach with queries or concerns
- electors have the opportunity to express a preference for every council member.

Alice Springs Town Council's [submission](#) is available on the reviews website.

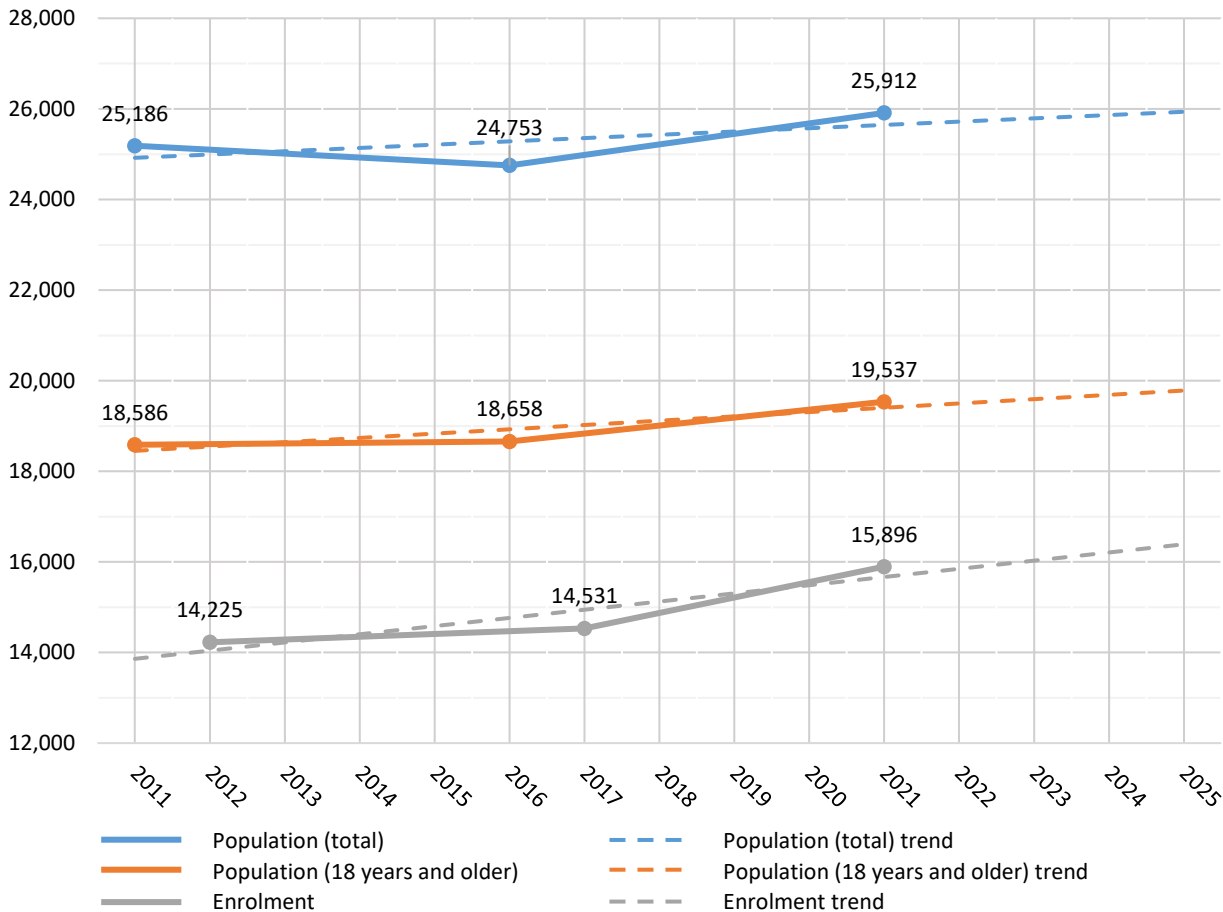
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Enrolment in Alice Springs has increased by 9.8% since the 2017 NT Council Elections. As at 31 May 2022 there are 15,958 enrolled electors. The council has a ratio of one member for every 1,995 electors.

Graph 1 shows enrolment figures in Alice Springs at the last 3 local government general elections, and population data from the last 3 censuses.

**Graph 1: Enrolment and population in Alice Springs Town Council**



Municipal councils such as Alice Springs typically have a large population over a small geographic area. According to 2021 ABS census data the population in this council area has increased by 4.7% since 2016 to 25,912 people. Alice Springs covers 328 square kms, meaning there are 79 persons per square km.

The committee considered various scenarios to implement wards in Alice Springs but determined not to propose the introduction of wards noting that enrolment is currently below the threshold of 18,000.

With enrolment likely to increase to be close to the threshold before the next review the committee decided to include a scenario for Alice Springs to be broken into 3 wards to seek feedback on its appropriateness for the future.

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The table below shows a possible scenario if Alice Springs Town Council was divided into wards.

**Table 20: Electors per ward, Alice Springs prospective scenario**

Ward	Members	Suburbs and town camps	Enrolment 31/05/2022	Electors per councillor
Ward 1	3	Alice Springs Anthelk Ewlpaye Aper-Alwerrkngge Braitling Cicccone (partial) East Side Ewyenper Atwatye <b>Hoppy's Camp</b> Iperle-Tyathe Ipeye-Ipeye Irklancha Atwacha Irlpme Itwiyethwenge Kunooh Mt Nancy Sadadeen Stuart Undoolya	6,251	2,083.7
Ward 2	4	Akngwertnarre Araluen Cicccone (partial) Desert Springs Flynn Gillen Larapinta Larapinta Valley Mpwetyerre Mt Johns Nyewente The Gap	8,190	2,047.5
Ward 3	1	Anthepe Arumbera Connellan Iparpa Ilyiperenye Inarlenge Karnte Kilgariff New Iparpa Ross White Gums	1,517	1,517
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8</b>		<b>15,958</b>	<b>1,994.75</b>

A [map](#) of this prospective scenario is available on the reviews website.

The scenario proposes the introduction of wards based on enrolment and demographics distributed as evenly as practicable. The scenario attempts to keep suburbs and town camps in close proximity in the same ward. Major arterial roads and Mount Gillen were used as ward boundaries. While there is a disparity in enrolment figures between wards, this is mitigated by the distribution of members. The electors per councillor ratio is slightly above 2,000 with the exception of ward 3 where it is 1,500. The challenge with this ward is that expanding its boundaries to include additional electors would make it disproportionately larger than the other 2 wards.

The committee is not proposing any changes to representation in Alice Springs Town Council. In consideration of the assessment criteria a prospective scenario has been developed showing possible ward boundaries with the intention of seeking feedback to inform future reviews.

### Darwin (City of)

**Table 21: Enrolment in the City of Darwin**

Ward	Electors (as at 31 May 2022)	Council members	Electors per member
Chan	12,654	3	4,218
Lyons	13,318	3	4,439
Richardson	12,724	3	4,241
Waters	13,057	3	4,352
TOTAL / AVERAGE	51,753	12	4,313

The City of Darwin has one directly elected mayor and 12 ordinary members.

A [map](#) of this council's current ward boundaries is available on the NTEC website.

Enrolment in the City of Darwin has increased by 4% since the 2017 NT Council Elections. As at 31 May 2022 there are 51,753 enrolled electors. The council has a ratio of one member for every 4,313 electors.

Municipal councils such as Darwin typically have a large population over a small geographic area. According to 2021 ABS census data the population in this council area has increased by 2.2% since 2016 to 80,530 people. Darwin covers 111 square kms, meaning there are 724 persons per square km.

Darwin has the largest enrolment, population density and ratio of electors to council members of any council in the NT. This in itself does not create an argument to increase the number of elected members, as the council already has 13. No submissions were received advocating for additional members and to do so may impact the cohesion and functionality of the council.

The committee is not proposing any changes to representation in the City of Darwin.

### Katherine Town Council

**Table 22: Enrolment in Katherine Town Council**

Electors (as at 31 May 2022)	Council members	Electors per member
6,460	6	1,077

Katherine Town Council has one directly elected mayor and 6 ordinary members.

A [map](#) of this council's current ward boundaries is available on the NTEC website.

The information guide identified the '*possible introduction of wards*' as an area of focus for this council.

Enrolment in Katherine has increased by 14% since the 2017 NT Council Elections. As at 31 May 2022 there are 6,460 enrolled electors. The council has a ratio of one member for every 1,077 electors.

Municipal councils such as Katherine typically have a large population over a small geographic area. According to 2021 ABS census data the population in this council area has decreased by 0.8% since 2016 to 9,643 people. Katherine covers 7,417 square kms, meaning there are 1.3 persons per square km. Katherine is geographically larger than any other municipal council in the NT.

Although Katherine's population and enrolment is projected to continue increasing, its total population does not currently justify implementing wards.

The committee is not proposing any changes to representation in Katherine Town Council.

## Litchfield Town Council

**Table 23: Enrolment in Litchfield Council**

Ward	Electors (as at 31 May 2022)	Council members	Electors per member
Central	4,417	2	2,209
North	4,139	2	2,070
South	4,325	2	2,163
<b>TOTAL / AVERAGE</b>	<b>12,881</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2,147</b>

Litchfield Council has one directly elected mayor and 6 ordinary members.

A [map](#) of this council's current ward boundaries is available on the NTEC website.

Litchfield Council provided a submission arguing that the areas of Holtze and Kowandi should remain a part of the council area.

Litchfield Council's [submission](#) is available on the reviews website.

Enrolment in Litchfield has increased by 4.9% since the 2017 NT Council Elections. As at 31 May 2022 there are 12,881 enrolled electors. The council has a ratio of one member for every 2,147 electors.

Municipal councils such as Litchfield typically have a large population over a small geographic area. According to 2021 ABS census data the population in this council area has decreased by 10% since 2016 to 21,411 people. Litchfield covers 2,903 square kms, meaning there are 7.4 persons per square km.

The committee is not proposing any changes to representation in Litchfield Council.

## Palmerston (City of)

**Table 24: Enrolment in the City of Palmerston**

Council	Electors (as at 31 May 2022)	Council members	Electors per member
Palmerston	24,145	7	3,449

The City of Palmerston has one directly elected mayor and 7 ordinary members.

A [map](#) of this council's current boundaries is available on the NTEC website.

Prior to the commencement of these reviews, the City of Palmerston's external boundaries were expanded to include previously unincorporated land. These newly incorporated areas include Elrundie and Tivendale, as well as parts of East Arm, Wishart and Berrimah. These new boundaries come into effect on 1 July 2023. As such the committee has used these boundaries in considering representation in Palmerston.

The information guide identified *the 'possible introduction of wards'* as an area of focus for the City of Palmerston.

The City of Palmerston provided a submission that did not support the introduction of wards making the following points:

- the current structure (no wards) is functional
- there has been no feedback from the community that wards are desirable
- there has been no feedback from the community that current representation is not fair
- electors' options for representation would be limited to the candidates in their ward
- electors are not divided by distance or cultural distinctions which warrant the introduction of wards
- candidates would be no more likely to be known by their electors

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- campaigning would not be made easier, cheaper or more efficient
- Palmerston's communities of interest are spread across the whole council area, not concentrated in specific areas
- electors would be no better served or informed
- wards could lead to greater competition and number of candidates in certain wards
- wards could lead to uncontested elections, which creates the potential for poorer representation
- wards could cause failed elections which would require supplementary elections
- voter participation would not necessarily increase
- ballot informality would not necessarily improve
- diversity of candidates and representation would not necessarily improve
- local representation is negated as candidates don't have to reside in a ward to nominate.

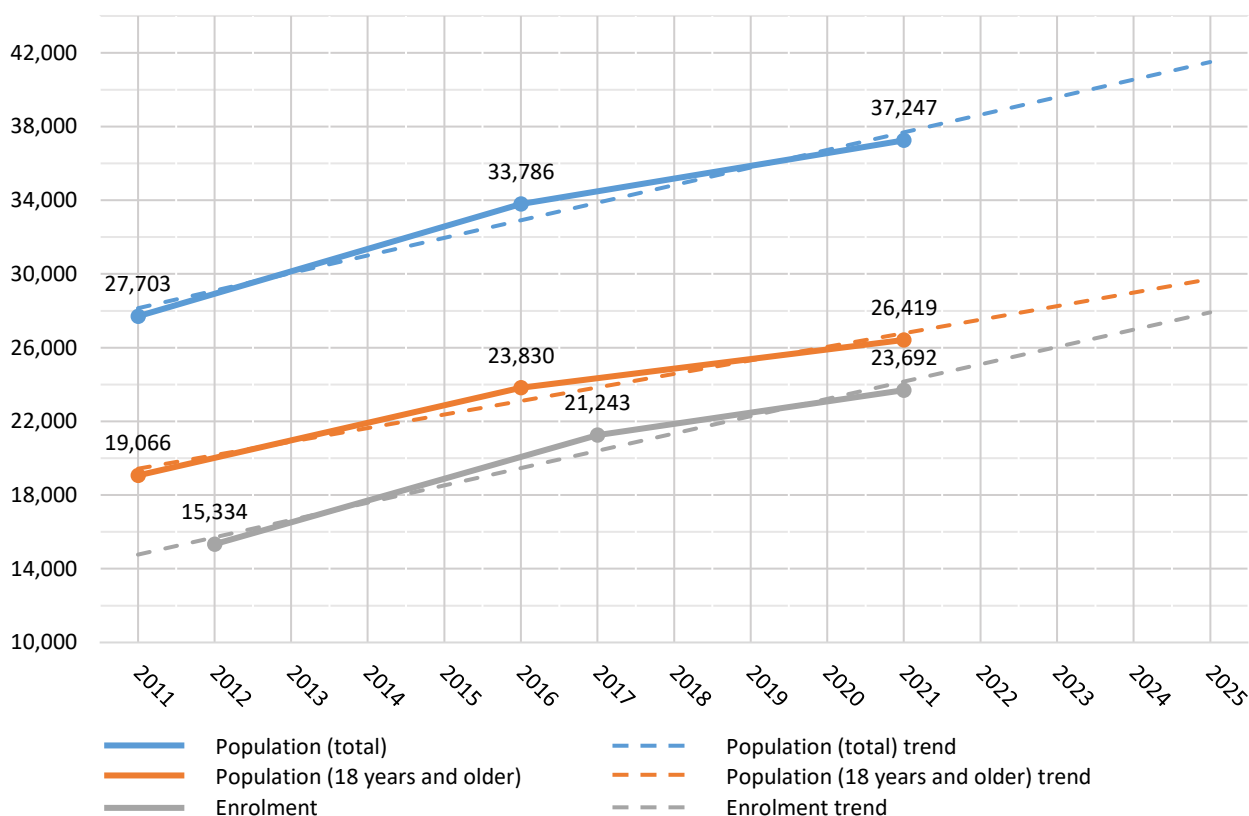
The City of Palmerston's [submission](#) is available on the reviews website.

The number of enrolled electors in Palmerston has increased by 14% since the 2017 NT Council Elections to 24,145. The council has a ratio of one member for every 3,449 electors. Palmerston has the second largest enrolment of any council in the NT, well above the threshold of 18,000 where the committee would consider wards.

Municipal councils such as Palmerston typically have a large population over a small geographic area. According to 2021 ABS census data the population in this council area has increased by 10% since 2016 to 37,247 people. This is the highest population growth rate of any council area in the NT. It should be noted that the ABS data does not include population figures for the newly incorporated areas, meaning the population of Palmerston is likely to be greater than 37,247. Not including newly incorporated areas, Palmerston covers 58 square kms, meaning there are approximately 646 persons per square km.

The graph below captures population figures from the last 3 ABS census surveys and the last 3 general elections for the City of Palmerston.

**Graph 2: Population and enrolment trends in the City of Palmerston**





Palmerston's enrolment has been steadily growing. A linear projection puts enrolment at the 2025 local government general elections at approximately 28,000.

A ward structure allows electors to select candidates that represent them at a more localised level. It would also reduce the number of electors required to vote and the cost of by-elections.

In the 2021 Local Government Elections there were 14 candidates for councillor. Of the 15,248 votes cast for councillor 1,324 were informal (8.7%). Of these informal votes 41% were deemed unintentionally informal. This meant electors attempted to cast a formal vote but made an error, such as not sequentially ordering the candidates on the ballot paper. The mayoral ballot paper by comparison had 3 candidates and an informality rate of 5% with only 17% deemed unintentional.

The introduction of wards is likely to reduce the number of candidates on each ballot paper and the unintentional informal voting rate.

The approach to the introduction of wards is that there be a minimum of 3, with geography and demographics determining boundaries. The proposed scenario to introduce wards keeps suburbs whole and uses major arterial roads as the ward boundaries.

Scenarios mapped for 3 wards made it difficult to keep elector numbers proportionate. Palmerston, as is true with other urban councils, has concentrated areas with dense population and large expanses with little to no population. The options to have 4 wards allowed for a more equitable and proportionate distribution of electors.

The committee opted to present 2 scenarios of 4 wards.

### City of Palmerston proposed scenario 1

Scenario 1 has Ward 1 covering the largest geographic area with enrolment primarily in the suburbs of Driver and Durack. Ward 2 has the neighbouring suburbs on one side of Chung Wah Terrace. Ward 3 has the established suburbs of Palmerston. Ward 4 has the newer suburbs at the southern end of Palmerston.

This scenario has a proportionate distribution of electors with the exception of Ward 1 that has a lower number of electors but only one member.

**Table 25: Electors per ward, City of Palmerston proposed scenario 1**

Ward	Members	Suburbs	Enrolment 31/05/2022	Electors per councillor
Ward 1	1	Archer Berrimah (partial) Driver Durack East Arm (partial) Elrundie Marlow Lagoon Mitchell Palmerston City Pinelands Tivendale Wishart Yarrowonga	4,989	4,989
Ward 2	2	Bakewell Farrar Gunn Johnston Palmerston Indigenous Village	6,140	3,070
Ward 3	2	Gray Moulden Woodroffe	6,730	3,365
Ward 4	2	Bellamack Rosebery Zuccoli	6,286	3,143

A [map](#) of this proposed scenario is available on the reviews website.

### City of Palmerston proposed scenario 2

Scenario 2 is similar to scenario 1 with the following differences:

- the suburbs of Driver and Palmerston City are in Ward 3
- Ward 3 has 3 council members
- the total number of council members has increased from 7 to 8.

Scenario 2 provides a more proportional distribution of electors with approximately 3,000 electors per elected member.

It should be noted that while the committee can recommend changes to the total number of elected members, the final determination is at the discretion of the minister.

**Table 26: Electors per ward, City of Palmerston proposed scenario 2**

Structure	Members	Suburbs	Enrolment 31/05/2022	Electors per councillor
Ward 1	1	Archer Berrimah (partial) Durack East Arm (partial) Elrundie Marlow Lagoon Mitchell Pinelands Tivendale Wishart Yarrowonga	3,011	3,011
Ward 2	2	Bakewell Farrar Gunn Johnston Palmerston Indigenous Village	6,140	3,070
Ward 3	3	Driver Gray Moulden Palmerston City Woodroffe	8,708	2,902.
Ward 4	2	Bellamack Rosebery Zuccoli	6,286	3,143

A [map](#) of this proposed scenario is available on the website.

### 4.3 Other boundary changes

In addition to the changes proposed above, the committee is considering minor changes to ward boundaries in a number of local government areas. The intention of these alterations is to amend minor inconsistencies and mapping errors. The guiding principle is that any changes must not affect which locality, ward or local government area any elector belongs to.

## 5. WARD NAMES

### 5.1 Naming conventions

In addition to proposing ward boundaries, the committee may make recommendations regarding ward names (s28(4)(a)).

As the Act does not establish conventions, requirements or guidelines in regard to ward names, the committee adopted similar conventions used in Legislative Assembly redistributions.

**Table 27: Appropriate and inappropriate ward name criteria**

Appropriate criteria	Inappropriate criteria
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deceased persons who have rendered outstanding service to the community (commemorative names)</li> <li>Native flora</li> <li>Native fauna</li> <li>Aboriginal names for places / flora / fauna</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Living persons</li> <li>Geographical landmarks</li> <li>Names of existing suburbs, places and wards</li> </ul>

### 5.2 Suggested ward names

The committee encourages councils and the public to nominate ward names, especially for the City of Palmerston where the introduction of wards has been proposed. No suggestions as yet have been received from stakeholders. The committee conducted its own research and consulted with the Place Names Committee.

The names listed in table 29 are merely suggestions and councils and relevant stakeholders are encouraged to submit alternatives.

**Table 28: Suggested ward names**

Suggested commemorative ward name	Notes and reasoning
ALNGINDABU	Alngindabu (later Lucy McGinness) was an Aboriginal elder born in Chapana, near the Finnis River. Alngindabu belonged to the Kungarakany language group. Her husband, Stephen McGinness, was a ganger on the North Australia Railway stationed at the 34 Mile. The couple later established a tin ore mine in Litchfield, the Lucy Mine, and the McGinness home.
BARACCHI	Pietro Paolo Giovanni Ernesto Baracchi born 1851, Italy, was an astronomer and engineer. On a scientific expedition to Darwin from 1882 to 1883, Pietro helped establish the true longitude of Port Darwin. A monument marking this survey point stands in Liberty Square next to Parliament house. The mark is integral to the history of surveying in Darwin and serves as an important reference point to this day.
BARNESON	Captain James Barneson was in command of the ship Moonta which was chartered to take the Surveyor-General George Goyder and party to Port Darwin. The Moonta arrived at Port Darwin on 5 February 1869 and remained while the Town of Palmerston (now Darwin) was surveyed.
BOUBARIS	Matthew Boubaris was 11 years old when he emigrated from Chios, Greece to Australia with his family in 1956. Shortly after arriving in Darwin in 1958 Matthew formed a lifelong affiliation with the Hellenic Athletic Club and the wider soccer, football and Greek communities. Matthew is credited with helping to found the Alawa Soccer Club and in 2005 was honored with the Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) Recognition Award.

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Suggested commemorative ward name	Notes and reasoning
CALDWELL	Clive Robertson Caldwell DSO, DFC & Bar (1911 – 1994) was a pilot of outstanding skill and service who participated in multiple missions during WWII. Clive has been recognized as a leading Australian air ace of WWII. He is officially credited with shooting down more than 27 enemy aircraft in over 300 operational sorties, including an ace in a day. Clive was posted in Darwin for a time, defending the NT from enemy Japanese planes. His last aerial victory took place over the Arafura Sea in 1943.
CLAPÉ	Richard James (Jim) Clapé was born in Perth, WA in 1909. Jim, his wife Maria and their two children lived on Woods street for a time during WWII. The family returned to Darwin in 1946 and took up residence in Smith street, then later in Nightcliff. Jim worked as a resident inspector for the Commercial Union and later as a claims superintendent for the War Damage Commission before becoming a charter member of the Rotary Club of Darwin.
DUNHAM	Richard Dunham emigrated from England to Australia in 1961 at the age of 19 to study engineering and surveying at Sydney Technical College. In 1984 he and his family settled in Darwin. Richard served the Litchfield Council as a works manager from 1984 to 2008. On retiring he was presented with a plaque from the Shire President, councilors and shire staff in appreciation of his valued contribution to the council.
KARAOLIAS	Andreas (Andrew) Karaolias emigrated from Kythrea, Cyprus to Darwin in 1961. Like many others Andrew was tempted by the promise of opportunity Australia offered. Over the course of his career Andrew helped to construct homes, businesses and government institutions across the Darwin area including housing commissions in Rapid Creek and Millner, the Nightcliff shopping centre and the old Supreme Court building. Andrew was also an active member of the Greek Cypriot community, even after retirement.
MADEN	Brian Maden emigrated from England to Australia in 1960 before arriving in Darwin in 1967 on a two year posting with the Post Master General. Brian helped build Radio Australia on Cox Peninsula. His work took him to islands and communities across the NT. At the end of his posting Brian decided to settle in Darwin permanently. He and the family lived in Rapid Creek initially, then in Humpty Doo after Cyclone Tracy. In 1980 he transferred to the Department of Defence as a lines supervisor for the Navy at Middle Point Transmitting Station where he remained until his retirement in 1996. Brian served as a volunteer in his community and petitioned for a high school and ambulance service in the rural area.
MCLEOD	Cissy McLeod born in Borroloola in 1896. Her father Arthur was a store owner and Justice of the Peace. <b>Many details about her mother, known only as 'Polly', have been lost. At the age of 6,</b> Cissy was adopted by Captain Fredrick Mugg and Sarah Mugg and moved to Darwin in 1902. At 16 years of age, Cissy saved Sarah from drowning after she fell from the jetty one night. Cissy later became the first Aboriginal woman to receive the Bronze Medal of the Royal Humane Society of Australasia for her selfless act of courage.
MCPHEE	Hunter Wallace McPhee was born in NSW in 1924. Hunter served in the First Light Horse Brigade during WWI then in the RAAF during WWII before joining the guards unit in Darwin in 1943. After the war was over, he returned to Darwin to marry his wife Mary and settled in Fannie Bay where they raised 4 children. Hunter found employment with his friend and comrade Pat Delaney in a corrugated iron hut in what is now Winnellie. The business was originally a taxi service before becoming a delicatessen and newsagency. Hunter remained a fixture of the business for over 40 years. He was also heavily involved in the Darwin sporting community.

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Suggested commemorative ward name	Notes and reasoning
MOCATTA	Lawrence Mocatta was born in Queensland in 1923. Lawrence enlisted for service in the Australian Imperial Army in 1941 at the age of 17 and served on many vessels based in London with active service in the Middle East. In 1946 after being discharged, Lawrence undertook and completed a Bachelor of Medicine and a Bachelor of Surgery at the University of Sydney. After graduating in 1953, Dr Mocatta moved to Katherine to work locally as well as with the Royal Flying Doctor Service. He later worked at the Darwin Hospital before establishing his own private practice on Cavenagh Street. Dr Mocatta worked as the Territory Health Officer, administering to the nuns and patients at the East Arm Leprosarium and the local Indigenous missions. In April 1967, while sailing his boat, "The Beagle" from Brisbane to Darwin, Dr Mocatta and five crew members were caught in a cyclone and perished.
MOORADOOP	Mooradoop, otherwise known as Kathy Mills, was an Aboriginal leader and activist born in the NT who lived in Palmerston for a substantial part of her life. She and her family have been strong advocates for the rights and welfare of Aboriginal people. Among her many achievements and awards, Ms Mills is credited with co-founding the Danila Dilba Health Service, being the first woman elected to the Northern Land Council and was named NAIDOC person of the year in 1986.
MOTLOP	Edward (Chico) Motlop was born on Thursday Island in the Torres Strait in 1933. After spending his early years in the Torres Strait and later Queensland, Chico arrived in Darwin in 1955. It was here he met and married his wife, Larrakia woman Lorna Raye Johns. Chico was a keen and accomplished footballer. Among his achievements are two premierships (1963 and 1964) and the Drysdale Medal for player of the year. After retiring from the field, Chico took up a career coaching junior and first grade teams. His children and grandchildren carried on his legacy, becoming noted sportspeople in their own right. The NT Rugby League pay annual tribute to Chico with the ' <b>Chico Motlop Shield</b> '.
PANGQUEE	After saving his mother from the jaws of a salt water crocodile in 1990, Peter Pangquee (Jnr) was awarded an Australian Bravery Medal and became a local icon. Peter has served his community in many roles over the course of his professional career, most recently as a council member of the City of Darwin.
PARER	Lieutenant Raymond John Paul (Ray) Parer was born in Melbourne in 1894. After completing his training as a pilot in 1918 Ray was twice recommended for the Air Force Cross. In 1920 Ray and fellow pilot Lieutenant John Cowe McIntosh undertook to complete the 1919 Great Air Race flight from England to Australia. By the time the pair commenced the flight the £10,000 prize money had been claimed by brothers (Sir) Ross and (Sir) Keith Macpherson Smith who had arrived in just 28 days. On 2 August 1920, after a protracted 206 day journey filled with tales of <b>misadventure and near disaster, Parer and McIntosh finally arrived in Darwin. Ray's story</b> occupies an incredible chapter in aviation history in Australia and abroad.
PASPALIS	Michael Theodosios Paspalis was born on the Greek island of Kastellorizo in 1911. To escape the hardships of WWI <b>his family immigrated to Australia in 1917. Shortly after his father's death</b> and at 15 years old Michael left school and his family in Port Hedland to find employment in Darwin in order to support his mother and siblings. Michael found employment as a butcher, delivery driver and taxi driver. After marrying his wife Chryssanthi (Chrissie) Kailis in 1935, the couple established multiple hospitality and food business ventures, including numerous retail buildings in Smith street, the Star Theatre, the RSL premises, the Fannie Bay Hotel, the Parap Theatre and the Coconut Grove drive-in theatre. Michael and Chrissie were also generous philanthropists, donating to multiple organisations in the Darwin area.
PITCHENEDER	Originally born in WA in 1916, Norma Catherine (Billie) Pitcheneder settled in Darwin in 1948 where she established her own catering business servicing tuckshops in schools around Darwin. Better known as Aunty Billie, she contributed to her community through fundraising and charity activities for almost 30 years. Among the organisations Aunty Billie supported was the Country <b>Women's Association</b> , Red Cross, Lions Club, RSL, Salvation Army and Girl Guides, to name just a few. In addition to being named Citizen of the Year in 1980, Aunty Billie has received multiple honours from many charitable institutions.

Suggested commemorative ward name	Notes and reasoning
RIOLI	Maurice Rioli (Snr) and Willie Rioli (Snr) were respected and much loved leaders in the Tiwi Islands and Australian Football. Both boasted an impressive sporting career and contributions to Australian rules football in the NT and Australia.
SAVVAS	Kyriaco Savvas first arrived in Darwin in 1949. Not long afterwards Kyriaco opened his own footwear business in Smith street and then another in the Nightcliff Shopping Village in 1964. Savvas K Footwear still trades today and is run by his sons. Kyriaco was one of the founding members of the Cypriot Community of the NT, helping to establish the first food and wine festival in 1974, a popular event that is held annually to this day.
THOMAS	Ronald Arthur Thomas was born in WA in 1927. After accepting the role of the NT's Deputy Commissioner for Taxation in 1969, he and his family relocated to Darwin. Ronald and his family survived the devastation of Cyclone Tracy in 1974. The family lived in a caravan in the back yard of their Rapid Creek home while it was rebuilt. In 1978 he was appointed the Territory's first Commissioner of Taxes, a position he held until his retirement in 1986. Ronald was credited with the first million dollars earned by the NT Tax Office. He was a keen fisherman, a member of Darwin's Trailer Boat Club, Darwin Aviation Club and PINTS Club. Ronald was recognised for his personal and professional contributions to the community and Northern Territory.
WARREN	David Ronald de Mey Warren was a scientist and inventor born on Groote Eylandt in 1925. Notable among his achievements was the invention of the in-flight data and cockpit voice recording device widely known as the 'black box'. <b>This was revolutionary in the investigation of aeronautical deaths and accidents.</b>
WILLIAMS	Born Ampulatumirri on Melville Island in approximately 1934, Freda Williams is a member of the Stolen Generation. Freda was removed from her family at the estimated aged of 4. In 1942 while playing outside she and the other habitants of Garden Point Mission on Melville Island came under attack from enemy Japanese planes. The mission was evacuated to Alice Springs, before boarding a train to Melbourne. The nuns and children were then relocated to Port Augusta SA where they remained until the end of the war. After returning to the NT, Freda met and married her husband, Ralton Williams, and settled in Darwin. In 2011 Freda was invited to meet the President of the United States, Barack Obama, as one of 3 civilian survivors of the Japanese Bombing of Darwin.

### 5.3 Continued use of established ward names

Given that no objections or suggestions were made regarding established ward names, the committee did not deem it necessary to change any.

# 6. PUBLICATION OF FIRST PROPOSED REVIEWS

## 6.1 Publication

The preliminary report detailing proposed changes to representation (this report) was released on 31 August on the reviews website and via a newsletter emailed to stakeholders on the mailing list.

[Maps](#) of the proposed scenarios were also published as part of the report and made available on the website.

## 6.2 Key proposals

The committee proposes that:

- All previously established ward boundaries and ward names remain unchanged
- A 4 ward structure be implemented in the City of Palmerston
- The number of members representing Central Desert Regional Council's Akityarre ward be reduced from 2 to one.

## 6.3 Objection period and lodgement arrangements

The opening of a secondary public consultation period coincides with the release of this proposal. This consultation provides the opportunity to submit comments on this report and proposed scenarios.

While direct invitations have been sent to persons and organisations on the committee's mailing list, all Territorians are encouraged to participate by making a submission on the reviews website.

The final date for the receipt of submissions is close of business on 4 November 2022.

Submissions can be lodged by the following means:

### Electronic submission via the website

- ❖ 2022 Local Government Representation Reviews : [Make a submission](#)<sup>2</sup>

### Electronic submission by email

- ❖ [secretariat.ntec@nt.gov.au](mailto:secretariat.ntec@nt.gov.au)

### Personal delivery (hard copy)

- ❖ Level 3, TCG Centre | 80 Mitchell Street | Darwin NT 0800 - Phone: 08 8999 5000

### Post (hard copy)

- ❖ GPO Box 2419 | Darwin NT 0801

**Address submissions to:** *The Representation Committee, c/o the NT Electoral Commission*

**NOTE:** All suggestions are made available for public inspection on the [NTEC website](#)<sup>3</sup>.

## 6.4 Consideration of objections

The representation committee must give proper consideration to all submissions made under subsection 30(1)(e)(i) of the Act before preparing a final report.

<sup>2</sup> <https://ntec.nt.gov.au/Electoral-divisions/2022-local-government-representation-reviews/submissions>

<sup>3</sup> <https://ntec.nt.gov.au/Electoral-divisions/2022-local-government-representation-reviews/submissions-received>

## APPENDIX A

### Reviews timetable

Please note these timeframes are approximate and subject to change.

Event	Date	Electoral Act
<b>First consultation period</b>		
Invite initial submissions from councils and the public	Monday 28 March 2022	s30(1)(a)
Last day to receive initial submissions	Tuesday 31 May 2022	s30(1)(b)
<b>Committee determination period</b>		
Submissions received are considered by the committee	mid-June 2022	s30(1)(c)(i)
Publish the preliminary report detailing proposed changes to representation	Wednesday 31 August 2022	s30(1)(c)(ii)
<b>Second consultation period</b>		
Invite submissions from councils and the public regarding the proposals put forward in the preliminary report	Wednesday 31 August 2022	s30(1)(c)(iii)
Last day to receive submissions	Friday 4 November 2022	s30(1)(d)
<b>Committee determination period</b>		
Submissions received are considered by the committee	September to November 2022	s30(1)(e)(i)
Committee may meet with councils or hold public hearings to gather more information about the submissions received	September to November 2022	s30(2)
Final report published and provided to the Minister for Local Government	Late November 2022	s30(1)(e)(ii)
<b>Determinations take effect</b>		
The minister to notify any changes by <i>Gazette</i> notice	December 2022	s30(4)
Determinations to take effect at the next periodic general elections	2025	s30(5)(b)



## APPENDIX B

### Reviews mailing list

The following is a summary of the committee's mailing list as at 1 July, and does not include persons and organisations who unsubscribed during the reviews.

Recipients	Grouping/category	No. of recipients
Alice Springs Town Council Barkly Regional Council Belyuen Community Government Council Central Desert Regional Council Coomalie Community Government Council City of Darwin East Arnhem Regional Council Katherine Town Council Litchfield Council MacDonnell Regional Council City of Palmerston Roper Gulf Regional Council Tiwi Islands Regional Council Victoria Daly Regional Council Wagait Shire Council West Arnhem Regional Council West Daly Regional Council	Local government council member or CEO	107
Arafura Araluen Arnhem Barkly Blain Braitling Brennan Casuarina Daly Drysdale Fannie Bay Fong Lim Goyder Gwoja Johnston Karama Katherine Mulka Namatjira Nelson Nightcliff Port Darwin Sanderson Spillet Wanguri	Legislative Assembly members and electorate offices	50
ABC Darwin Alice Springs community radio 8HA Alice Advocate Australian Associated Press Central Australian Aboriginal Media Association Fairfax Media First Nations Radio Free TV Gove FM Hot 100 fm	Media	85

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Recipients	Grouping/category	No. of recipients
Imparja Larrakia TV Mix 1049 Music NT National Indigenous Times News.com.au Nine News NT Independent NT News Off the Leash SBS Sky News Tennant and District Times Territory FM The Australian The Saturday Paper The Sun, Darwin, Palmerston, Litchfield Top End Aboriginal Bush Broadcasting Association		
Anindilyakwa Land Council Arnhem Land Progress Association – ALPA Bawinanga Aboriginal Corporation Central Land Council Gumatj Corporation The Gundjeimhi Aboriginal Corporation Ironbark Aboriginal Corporation Jawoyn Association Julalikari Council Larrakia Nation Laynhapuy Homelands Association Mabunji Aboriginal Resource Association Marthakal Homeland Resource Centre Nhulunbuy Corporation Northern Land Council Rirratjingu Aboriginal Corporation Tangentyere Council Tiwi Land Council Yugul Mangi Development Aboriginal Corporation	Aboriginal organisations	21
Australian Electoral Commission Animal Justice Party Chamber of Commerce Country Liberal Party of the NT Department of Chief Minister & Cabinet Department of Health DIPL ICT Industry Association of the NT Industry Capability Network NT LGANT Minister for Local Government Northern Territory Seafood Council NT Cattlemen's Association NT Farmers NTEC OCPE Southport Progress Association	Other organisations or agencies	32
Individuals who requested to be added to the mailing list	Other individuals	8

### APPENDIX C

#### Current representation and committee proposals

The following table documents current representation across all local government councils in the NT, as well as enrolment figures as at 31 May 2022 and determinations by the committee.

Council	Ward	Members	Enrolment 31/05/2022	Electors per councillor	Committee's determination
Alice Springs	Mayor	1	15,958		The committee has suggested a 3 ward scenario that could be implemented in future reviews if / when enrolment in Alice Springs reaches 18,000.
	Councillor	8	15,958	1,995	
Barkly	Mayor	1	4,086		No action necessary at this time.
	Alpurrurulam ward	1	185	185	
	Alyawarr ward	4	1,545	386	
	Kuwarrangu ward	2	475	238	
	Patta ward	5	1,881	376	
	<i>Total / Average (not including Mayor)</i>	12	4,086	341	
Belyuen	Belyuen	5	155	31	No action necessary at this time.
Central Desert	Akityarre ward	2	263	132	Recommend that the number of members for Akityarre ward be reduced from 2 to one.
	Anmatjere ward	4	984	246	
	Northern Tanami ward	2	373	187	
	Southern Tanami ward	4	867	217	
	<i>Total / Average</i>	12	2,487	207	

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Council	Ward	Members	Enrolment 31/05/2022	Electors per councillor	Committee's determination
Coomalie	Adelaide River ward	2	228	114	No action necessary at this time.
	Batchelor Township ward	2	184	92	
	Coomalie Rural ward	2	243	122	
	<i>Total / Average</i>	6	655	109	
Darwin	Lord mayor	1	51,753		No action necessary at this time.
	Chan ward	3	12,654	4,218	
	Lyons ward	3	13,318	4,439	
	Richardson ward	3	12,724	4,241	
	Waters ward	3	13,057	4,352	
	<i>Total / Average (not including Mayor)</i>	12	51,753	4,313	
East Arnhem	Anindilyakwa ward	2	890	445	No action necessary at this time.
	Birr Rawarrang ward	2	670	335	
	Gumurr Gattjirrk ward	2	763	382	
	Gumurr Marthakal ward	3	1,599	533	
	Gumurr Miwatj ward	3	1,481	494	
	Gumurr Miyarrka ward	2	853	427	
	<i>Total / Average</i>	14	6,256	447	
Katherine	Mayor	1	6,460		No action necessary at this time. This may be reconsidered in future reviews if enrolment in Katherine increases.
	Councillor	6	6,460	1,077	

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Council	Ward	Members	Enrolment 31/05/2022	Electors per councillor	Committee's determination
Litchfield	Mayor	1	12,881		No action necessary at this time.
	Central ward	2	4,417	2,209	
	North ward	2	4,139	2,070	
	South ward	2	4,325	2,163	
	Total / Average (not including Mayor)	6	12,881	2,147	
MacDonnell	Iyarrka ward	2	788	394	No action necessary at this time.
	Ljirapinta ward	3	643	214	
	Luritja Pintubi ward	3	1,041	347	
	Rodinga ward	4	1,097	274	
	Total / Average	12	3,569	297	
Palmerston	Mayor	1	24,145		The committee has proposed 2 scenarios for 4 wards.
	Councillor	7	24,145	3,449	
Roper Gulf	Never Never ward	3	849	283	No action necessary at this time.
	Numbulwar Numburindi ward	2	489	245	
	Nyirranggulung ward	3	925	308	
	South West Gulf ward	3	948	316	
	Yugul Mangi ward	2	766	383	
	Total / Average	13	3,977	306	

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Council	Ward	Members	Enrolment 31/05/2022	Electors per councillor	Committee's determination
Tiwi Islands	Bathurst Island	6	1,106	184	No action necessary at this time.
	Milikapiti ward	3	319	106	
	Pirlangimpi ward	3	253	84	
	Total / Average	12	1,678	140	
Victoria Daly	Daguragu ward	1	434	434	No action necessary at this time.
	Milngin ward	1	382	382	
	Pine Creek ward	1	224	224	
	Timber Creek ward	1	414	414	
	Walangeri ward	1	304	304	
	Total / Average	5	1,758	352	
Wagait	Councillor	5	314	63	No action necessary at this time.
West Arnhem	Gunbalanya ward	3	847	282	No action necessary at this time.
	Kakadu ward	3	530	177	
	Maningrida ward	4	1,776	444	
	Minjilang ward	1	164	164	
	Waruwi ward	1	292	292	
	Total / Average	12	3,609	301	
West Daly	Nganmariyanga ward	1	220	220	No action necessary at this time.
	Thamarrurr / Pindi Pindi ward	4	1,689	422	
	Tyemirri ward	1	102	102	
	Total / Average	6	2,011	335	
TOTAL / AVERAGE across all council areas		153	141,752	927	

