



Image: Edith Falls - Circulanation

WERENBUN HOMELAND LOCAL DECISION MAKING

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN 2022-2027



**NORTHERN
TERRITORY**
GOVERNMENT



**National Indigenous
Australians Agency**



Roper Gulf
REGIONAL COUNCIL
SUSTAINABLE • VIABLE • VIBRANT



**JAWOYN
ASSOCIATION**
SHARING OUR
COUNTRY



**SUNRISE HEALTH SERVICE
ABORIGINAL CORPORATION**
ABN 56 770 313 592 • ICA 4170



**WORLI WURLINJANG
HEALTH SERVICE**



**Nitmiluk
Katherine**



Image: Werenbun Homeland - Circulation

CONTENTS

Signing Page	3
Abbreviations	4
Context	5
Vision	7
Implementation Plan	8
Strategic Priorities	9
Monitoring and Evaluation	10
Economic Development	11
Health and Community Wellbeing	13
Housing	14
Culture and Heritage	15
Service Providers Statement of Commitment	16



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Werenbun Homeland Local Decision Making Implementation Plan 2022-27

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Image: Edith Falls - Circulation

ABBREVIATIONS

BSWG: Banatjarl Strongbala Wimun Grup

CM&C: Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet

DEPWS: Department of Environment Parks and Water Security

DIPL: Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics

DITT: Department of Industry Tourism and Trade

DoE: Department of Education

DoH: Department of Health

WH: Werenbun Homeland

ILSC: Indigenous Land and Sea Corporation

JAAC: Jawoyn Association Aboriginal Corporation

LDM: Local Decision Making

NIAA: National Indigenous Australians Agency

NT: Northern Territory

NTG: Northern Territory Government

RGRC: Roper Gulf Regional Council

SHS: Sunrise Health Service

TFHC: Territory Families, Housing and Communities

WWHS: Wurli-Wurlinjang Health Service



Image: Werenbun Tin House - Circulation

CONTEXT

Werenbun is a small Aboriginal homeland on Jawoyn traditional land located about 60km by road north of Katherine along the Stuart Highway. Werenbun and the surrounding region consist of a large section of freehold land, governed by the Jawoyn Association Aboriginal Corporation.

Situated on the western edge of Nitmiluk National Park, Werenbun is surrounded by scenic bush, paperbark trees, and pandanus fringed natural waterfalls and pools and is only 5km from the iconic Leliyn (Edith Falls).

In the 1970's a significant Jawoyn elder, Peter Jatbula, was living on country where Werenbun homeland is now situated. In the mid 1970s, Jatbula established the 'stonehouse' and lived there for a number of years. Werenbun homeland as it is now known, was established in the early 1980s, starting with just one house, a small building made from tin. In the early days, ancestors and living relatives would move between locations and visit Werenbun to relax and get away from the larger established communities such as Pine Creek. Today there are eight houses and approximately 20 people living in Werenbun.

Werenbun residents identified several significant cultural enterprises and employment opportunities through a community consultation process with a strong focus on cultural tourism. Plus, priorities for local delivery and decision-making in housing, education, health, local governance, and economic development.

Werenbun residents have developed a Homelands Local Decision Making Agreement, Implementation Plan, and service delivery commitment in partnership with the Northern Territory Government, National Indigenous Australians Agency, non-government organisations and Aboriginal community controlled organisation.



Image: Werenbun Cemetery - Circulation

VISION

This LDM Agreement supports the aspirations and vision of the Werenbun residents to:

- i. Create a future where young people, feel empowered and have autonomy
- ii. Be united with a shared vision for the future
- iii. Generate economic opportunities that connect with country
- iv. Provide harmony and better quality of life for all families
- v. Preserve and pass on cultural knowledge and history



Image: Werenbun - Circulation

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

There are four Strategies identified for the Implementation Plan 2022-27. These strategies have been developed through engagement and consultation with LDM Partners and in alignment with Werenbun priorities and vision.

The Implementation Plan commences 24 January 2022 and expires 24 January 2027. Responsibilities for implementation of specific actions are outlined within the LDM Implementation Plan.

- i. Economic Development (Employment, Education and Training)
- ii. Health and Community Wellbeing
- iii. Infrastructure and Housing
- iv. Culture and Heritage

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Strategic Priorities	Objectives
Economic Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To identify value-creation opportunities and a road map that enables the development of sustainable on-country enterprises. • To create employment and enterprise opportunities for young people. • Develop one formal governance structure and a Werenbun committee to enable decision making, achieve goals and objectives and engage in social and economic opportunities. • Ensure adequate resources and infrastructure are in place to support future enterprise development.
Health and Community Wellbeing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the accessibility of health services for all residents of Werenbun • Increasing livability and access to essential services for residents
Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce overcrowding by increasing the supply of new housing and extending existing homes. • Request the transfer of housing services in Werenbun to JAAC following RGRCs contract period and the Homelands Review.
Culture and Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and empower young people as future leaders • Protect and preserve culture and heritage • Increase cultural awareness and share Country with visitors



Image: Werenbun Old Stone House - Circulation

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The Implementation Plan 2022-27 will be an evolving document and through regular engagement between the partners will be reviewed and updated as required. Partners commit to meet and formally review the implementation of the Plan annually.

This review process will allow the partners to:

- i. Report on the progress of actions and to work together to address any emerging barriers to successful implementation;
- ii. Measure and report on key socio-economic outcomes;
- iii. Agree on any changes within the Implementation Plan to reflect changing priorities, address emerging issues and/or alternative approaches that may be required; and
- iv. Ensure that partners continue to be informed of the LDM Implementation Plan and any successful outcomes are profiled.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

#	Key Actions / Objectives	Measure of Success	Lead	Partners
SHORT TERM				
1	Installation of Telstra Small Cell	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phone and internet connectivity is active for Werenbun residents 	JAAC	Telstra / CM&C
2	Daily transport for primary and high school students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transport is available from the Werenbun homeland, Monday to Friday • Increase in students attendance 	DoE	
3	Identify opportunities to support feral animal control in partnership with Jawoyn Rangers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunities identified for WH to participate and support Jawoyn Rangers. 	JAAC/WH	DEPWS
4	Seek a subsidy from DriveSafe NT to fund individuals to obtain a Drivers Licence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subsidy is approved for participation by Werenbun residents • Werenbun residents are supported to obtain their learner's licence 	JAAC/WH	DriveSafe NT/CM&C
5	Establish Cross-Cultural Awareness Workshops	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Werenbun resident is trained to facilitate the JAAC cross-cultural awareness workshop • Workshops are available in Werenbun for the next dry season 	JAAC	CM&C
6	Explore opportunities for a Bush Foods Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Micro-enterprise established as a proof of concept 	JAAC/WH	DITT
7	Bi-Monthly Werenbun Advisory Group meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meetings take place bi-monthly 	JAAC	WH

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

8	Walking Tours and Campground activities for visitor at Edith Falls / Nitmiluk National Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business plan developed, pricing set up, and casual contracts established • Tour business is operational by the next dry season with admin support provided by JAAC/Nitmiluk Tours 	JAAC/WH	NMT/ DEPWS/ DITT/ CM&C
9	Funding application for a community bus completed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seek funding opportunities for community bus 	JAAC	NIAA
MID TERM				
10	Explore employment opportunities in any new ventures on Edith Falls Road / Free Hold Land (outside of Nitmiluk National Park)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jawoyn seek employment commitment from any partners 	WH	JAAC
LONG TERM				
11	Relevant upskilling of Werenbun residents to encourage employment opportunities at the Kiosk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WH residents employed at the kiosk 	WH	DITT

HEALTH AND COMMUNITY WELLBEING

#	Key Actions / Objectives	Measure of Success	Lead	Partners
SHORT TERM				
1	Installation of Basketball court and hoop for young people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Court is installed and open for use 	JAAC/WH	CM&C
2	Wurli-Wurlinjang and Sunrise Health to work collaboratively and consult Werenbun residents regarding their service provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A service model finalised between all parties 	SHS/ WWHS	
MID TERM				
3	Utilisation of Mobile Health Clinic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mobile health clinic team visits Werenbun once a fortnight 	SHS/ WWHS	DoH
4	Establishment of a Veggie Garden	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Harvest of fresh food from garden 	WH	JAAC

HOUSING

#	Key Actions / Objectives	Measure of Success	Lead	Partners
MID TERM				
1	Explore funding opportunities to reduce overcrowding by increasing the supply of new housing and extending existing homes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JAAC to seek funding through Aboriginals Benefit Account and/or Community Benefit Fund • Funding secured 	JAAC	NIAA
LONG TERM				
2	Request Municipal Essential Services and Housing Maintenance Services be transferred to JAAC following their expiry with RGRC.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JAAC secure contracts for Homelands service provision. 	JAAC	TFHC

CULTURE AND HERITAGE

#	Key Actions / Objectives	Measure of Success	Lead	Partners
SHORT TERM				
1	Banatjarl Strongbala Wimun Grup to engage with women and girls in Werenbun to support cultural development and leadership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women engaged in activities in Werenbun monthly 	JAAC	WH
2	Beautification of the Werenbun cemetery and identifying existing graves	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beautification works completed in partnership with residents 	WH/JAAC	CM&C
MID TERM				
3	Extend the cemetery plan to include future plots	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revised plan presented and approved 	JAAC/WH	CM&C
4	Support Jawoyn Rangers Weeding and Fire Management program to protect native flora and fauna	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program is supported by WH with Jawoyn Rangers • Employment of WH residents by JAAC 	JAAC/WH	DEPWS
5	Exhibition of art and culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exhibition at Katherine based arts and culture centre 	WH	CM&C/ TFHC
LONG TERM				
6	Documentation and recording of local history and culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Book is produced in digital and printed format 	WH/JAAC	CM&C/ TFHC

WERENBUN SERVICE PROVIDERS STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT

Service providers for the Werenbun Homeland commit to maintaining the beneath, baseline service provision. This statement of commitment works alongside the Werenbun Local Decision Making Agreement and aims to maintain a high level of service delivery to Werenbun residents.

Provider	Services	Commitment and Frequency
Sunrise Health	Provide transport services from Werenbun to Katherine Tuesday's and as required.	Transport – Weekly
Wurli-Wurlinjang	Provide health services for Werenbun residents when required. Will work with Sunrise Health towards fortnightly visits by the mobile health clinic team.	Health services – As required
Territory Families Housing and Communities	Provide funding and work with residents and RGRC to ensure HMS and MES are delivered. Review of services and dwellings biannually.	Homelands technical staff to visit and review services biannually
Department of Environment Parks and Water Security	Consultations regarding various park management programs.	Community consultations – Bi-monthly
Roper Gulf Regional Council	Provide Municipal and Essential Services and Housing Maintenance Services to the Werenbun homeland.	Homeland meeting – Biannually
Jawoyn Association	Provide support to facilitate bi-monthly Werenbun advisory group meetings.	Bi-monthly
NT Police	Visit to Werenbun homeland.	Bi-monthly