



JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL

NOTICE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING – 21 NOVEMBER 2023 COMMENCING AT 4:30PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS

OUR VISION

“Junee will be a great place to live, with a healthy civic pride. That will come about because the amenity of the Shire – social, recreational, cultural, environmental and visual – is the best quality possible given our circumstances. There will be an increase in population because of this, with the increase made up of people who are net contributors to the community.

“Junee will be prosperous and existing services and businesses will have been preserved and grown. The Shire will have economic development strategies recognising the different circumstances of urban and rural areas.

“Junee will be a place where innovative, responsive leadership and management occurs in all facets of community life.

“It will be an independent Local Government area with a strong sense of identity.”

OUR MISSION

The community and Junee Shire Council are to **Make Tracks** systematically and with determination towards the Shire **Vision.**”

OUR COMMUNITY VALUES

Proud and welcoming – we are proud of our Shire and as a friendly community we encourage and support new residents and business owners.

Innovative and progressive – we welcome new ideas and we seek to make changes that will improve the lifestyle of our community.

Inclusive – we have a perspective broader than the Shire boundary; our regional focus means we are tuned to the opportunities available through co-operation and partnerships.

Leadership and wisdom – we listen and act; we are prepared to take tough decisions in the best interests of the future of our people, our place and our economy.

HOW CAN A MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC SPEAK AT A COUNCIL MEETING?

Members of the public are welcome to attend meetings and address the Council. Registration to speak must be made by making application by 10:00am on the day of the meeting by filling out the Public Address Application Form found on the following link: [Public-Address-Application-Form-Council-Meetings](#)

AGENDA – 21 NOVEMBER 2023

COUNCIL MEETING OPENS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

APOLOGIES

PRESENTATIONS

- Danielle MacKenzie, Crowe - Audit Report
- Nathan Pratt, NDP Economic Development - Annual Presentation
- Jessica Wood, Junee Shire Council - Youth Careers at Council Presentation

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – 17 OCTOBER 2023

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

MAYORAL MINUTE

1. MAYORAL MINUTE

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

2. ADOPTION OF 2022/23 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
3. COUNCIL INVESTMENTS AND BANK BALANCES
4. CLASSIFICATION OF 22 BOUNDARY STREET, JUNEE
5. REROC ANNUAL REPORT
6. SERVICE NSW AGENCY AGREEMENT
7. OFFICE OPERATIONS – CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR 2023/2024
8. NOMINATION OF NEW WEEDS DELEGATE
9. REGIONAL EMERGENCY ROAD REPAIR FUNDING

CORRESPONDENCE – Nil

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Junee Shire Advisory Committee – 26 October 2023
- Junee Shire Council Audit Risk and Improvement Committee – 9 November 2023

DELEGATES REPORTS

- Riverina Regional Library – 18 October 2023
- A2I Inland Rail Albury to Illabo Wagga Wagga Sub-Committee Community Consultative Committee – 18 October 2023
- I2S Inland Rail Illabo to Stockinbingal Community Consultative Committee – 19 October 2023
- Riverina Eastern Regional Organisation of Councils AGM – 27 October 2023
- Riverina Eastern Regional Organisation of Councils Board Meeting – 27 October 2023

NOTICES OF MOTIONS – Nil

LATE BUSINESS (MATTERS OF URGENCY) - Nil

QUESTIONS/STATEMENTS WITH NOTICE - Nil

INFORMATION BOOKLET

GENERAL MANAGER'S CONFIDENTIAL REPORT – RECOMMENDATIONS OF COMMITTEE OF A WHOLE MEETING - Nil

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY *(Mayor)*

I would like to acknowledge the Wiradjuri people who are the Traditional Custodians of this land. I would also like to pay respect to Elders both past and present and extend that respect to other community members present.

COUNCIL MEETING AUDIO RECORDINGS *(Mayor)*

In accordance with Council's Code of Meeting Practice, this Council meeting is being recorded and will be placed on Council's webpage for public information.

All present at the meeting are reminded that by speaking you are agreeing to your view and comments being recorded and published.

I would also like to remind Councillors and staff that during all our discussions and deliberations, we should be respectful and mindful of others present. We should at all times listen without interrupting and use words that do not personalise an individual, nor should they be offensive in any way. Whilst discussion, debate and an open mind is encouraged, please let us all keep our discussions productive, civil and inclusive.

Junee Shire Council accepts no liability for any defamatory or offensive remarks or gestures during this Council Meeting.

OATH

I swear that I will undertake the duties of the office of Councillor in the best interests of the people of Junee and the Junee Shire Council and that I will faithfully and impartially carry out the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in me under the Local Government Act 1993 or any other Act to the best of my ability and judgment.

DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Pecuniary – An interest that a person has in a matter because of a reasonable likelihood or expectation of appreciable financial gain or loss to the person or another person with whom the person is associated.

(Local Government Act, 1993 section 442 and 443)

A Councillor or other member of a Council Committee who is present at a meeting and has a pecuniary interest in any matter which is being considered must disclose the nature of that interest to the meeting as soon as practicable.

The Councillor or other member must not take part in the consideration or discussion on the matter and must not vote on any question relating to that matter. *(Section 451)*.

Non-pecuniary – A private or personal interest the council official has that does not amount to a pecuniary interest as defined in the Act. These commonly arise out of family or personal relationships, or out of involvement in sporting, social, religious or other cultural groups and associations, and may include an interest of a financial nature.

A non-pecuniary conflict of interest exists where a reasonable and informed person would perceive that you could be influenced by a private interest when carrying out your official functions in relation to a matter.

If you have declared a non-pecuniary conflict of interest, you have a broad range of options for managing the conflict. The option you choose will depend on an assessment of the circumstances of the matter, the nature of your interest and the significance of the issue being dealt with. You must deal with a non-pecuniary conflict of interest in at least one of these ways.

- It may be appropriate that no action is taken where the potential for conflict is minimal. However, council officials should consider providing an explanation of why they consider a conflict does not exist.
- Limit involvement if practical (for example, participate in discussion but not in decision making or visa-versa). Care needs to be taken when exercising this option.
- Remove the source of the conflict (for example, relinquishing or divesting the personal interest that creates the conflict or reallocating the conflicting duties to another officer).
- Have no involvement by absenting yourself from and not taking part in any debate or voting on the issue as if the provisions in section 451(2) of the Act apply (particularly if you have a significant non-pecuniary conflict of interest).



JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL

DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST AT MEETINGS

Name of Meeting: _____

Meeting Date: _____

Item/Report Number: _____

Item/Report Title: _____

I, _____ declare the following interest:
(name)

Pecuniary – Must leave Chamber, take no part in discussion and voting.

Non-Pecuniary – Significant Conflict – Recommended that Councillor/Member leaves Chamber, takes no part in discussion or voting.

Non-Pecuniary – Less than Significant Conflict – Councillor/Member may choose to remain in Chamber and participate in discussion and voting.

For the reason that:

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Council's Email Address – jsc@junees.nsw.gov.au



JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES ORDINARY MEETING



MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BELMORE STREET, JUNEE ON TUESDAY, 17 OCTOBER 2023.

PRESENT

Councillors R Asmus, R Callow, A Clinton, M Cook, D Carter, P Halliburton and M Knight.

STAFF

General Manager, Acting Director Engineering Services, Acting Director Planning and Community Development and Executive Assistant.

The meeting opened at 4.33pm.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

01.10.23 **RESOLVED** *on the motion of Cr D Carter seconded Cr R Asmus that Councillor M Austin be granted a leave of absence from the 17 October 2023 Ordinary Council meeting.*

Councillor Neil Smith was previously granted a leave of absence from the 17 October 2023 Council meeting.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – ORDINARY MEETING HELD 19 SEPTEMBER 2023

02.10.23 **RESOLVED** *on the motion of Cr R Asmus seconded Cr A Clinton that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 19 September 2023, copies of which had been supplied to each Councillor, be confirmed.*

BUSINESS ARISING

Councillor A Clinton asked if a new delegate had been chosen to attend the Weeds Committee following the resignation of Councillor D Carter. The General Manager advised that a report will be presented to the November 2023 Council meeting regarding this matter.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors were invited to disclose any Declarations of Interest related to the items of business in the report.

Councillor R Asmus declared a non-pecuniary non-significant interest in Item 5 as his parents live on Tathra Drive, Junee.

MAYORAL MINUTE

03.10.23 **RESOLVED** *on the motion of Cr R Callow that the Mayoral Minute, as tabled at the meeting, be noted.*

CHAIRPERSON: _____

GENERAL MANAGER: _____

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BELMORE STREET, JUNEE ON TUESDAY, 17 OCTOBER 2023.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

The General Manager presented a report which dealt with Items 1 to 13.

1[CFO] FIRST QUARTERLY BUDGET REVIEW

04.10.23 **RESOLVED** on the motion of Cr A Clinton seconded Cr R Asmus that:

1. *The Quarterly Budget Review Report, as at 30 September 2023, be received and noted.*
2. *Council approve the variations in the capital and operating budgets as detailed in the attached First Quarterly Budget Review Report for the 2024 financial year.*

2[GM] JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL INFRASTRUCTURE DEFERRED PAYMENT POLICY

05.10.23 **RESOLVED** on the motion of Cr D Carter seconded Cr A Clinton that the Council suspend Standing Orders; the time being 4.46pm.

06.10.23 **RESOLVED** on the motion of Cr M Cook seconded Cr R Asmus that Standing Orders be resumed the time being 4.55pm.

07.10.23 **RESOLVED** on the motion of Cr M Cook seconded Cr M Knight that Council adopt the Junee Shire Council Infrastructure Deferred Payment Policy.

3[CFO] COUNCIL INVESTMENTS AND BANK BALANCES

08.10.23 **RESOLVED** on the motion of Cr P Halliburton seconded Cr A Clinton that Council notes the Investment Report as of 30 September 2023, including the certification by the Responsible Accounting Officer.

4[TP] DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION 2023/44 – 5 LOUGHAN ROAD (EXTENSION TO EXISTING SHED)

09.10.23 **RESOLVED** on the motion of Cr M Cook seconded Cr A Clinton that Development Application No. 2023/44 from Mr A Coen for the development of an Extension to an Existing Shed located on Lot 20, DPI1035451, known as 5 Loughan Road, Junee be APPROVED subject to the applicable Standard Conditions of Consent.

As required under Section 375A of the Local Government Act, the following is the record of voting for this planning matter.

FOR: Councillors R Asmus, R Callow, A Clinton, M Cook, D Carter, P Halliburton, M Knight.

CHAIRPERSON: _____

GENERAL MANAGER: _____

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BELMORE STREET, JUNEE ON TUESDAY, 17 OCTOBER 2023.

AGAINST: Nil

Councillor R Asmus left the Council Chambers at 5.00pm for Item 5.

5[TP] DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION 2023/51 – 29 TATHRA DRIVE, JUNEE (DUAL OCCUPANCY AND HOME OCCUPATION)

10.10.23 **RESOLVED** on the motion of Cr A Clinton seconded Cr M Knight that Development Application No. 2023/51 from Ms S Brown for the development of a dual occupancy and home business located on Lot: 5, DP1261405, known as 29 Tathra Drive, Junee be **REFUSED CONSENT** for the following reasons:

- *The proposed development is considered to be inconsistent with the objectives and controls of the Junee Development Control Plan 2021, where the requested variations to these controls are not supported.*
- *The site is not considered to be suitable for the proposed development, as required by the heads of consideration outlined in s4.15 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.*
- *The proposal is inconsistent with the existing character and amenity of the locality.*

As required under Section 375A of the Local Government Act, the following is the record of voting for this planning matter.

FOR: Councillors R Callow, A Clinton, M Cook, D Carter, P Halliburton, M Knight.

AGAINST: Nil

Councillor R Asmus returned to the Council Chambers at 5.02pm.

6[TP] DEVELOPMENT CONTROL PLAN AMENDMENTS

11.10.23 **RESOLVED** on the motion of Cr M Cook seconded Cr R Asmus that Council proceeds with the adoption of the proposed amendments to the Junee Development Control Plan 2021.

As required under Section 375A of the Local Government Act, the following is the record of voting for this planning matter.

FOR: Councillors R Asmus, R Callow, M Cook, D Carter, P Halliburton, M Knight.

AGAINST: Councillor A Clinton

CHAIRPERSON: _____

GENERAL MANAGER: _____

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BELMORE STREET, JUNEE ON TUESDAY, 17 OCTOBER 2023.

7[EHBS] MOBILE FOOD AND DRINK VENDING VEHICLES POLICY

12.10.23 **RESOLVED** on the motion of Cr P Halliburton seconded Cr R Asmus that:

1. Council formally adopts the updated policy on Mobile Food and Drink Vending Vehicles policy.
2. Council rescinds the "Food Vending Vehicles and Temporary Food Premises Code Policy" and the "Itinerant Vendors and Standing Stalls Policy".

Councillor R Asmus voted against the Motion and asked that this be recorded.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Nil

DELEGATES REPORTS

13.10.23 **RESOLVED** on the motion of Cr D Carter seconded Cr R Asmus that the minutes of the Bush Fire Management Committee meeting held 4 April 2023, be noted.

14.10.23 **RESOLVED** on the motion of Cr M Knight seconded Cr P Halliburton that the minutes of the Sports Committee meeting held 12 October 2023, be noted.

NOTICE OF MOTION

Nil

LATE BUSINESS

Nil

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Nil

INFORMATION BOOKLET

The information booklet was received and noted.

CHAIRPERSON: _____

GENERAL MANAGER: _____

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BELMORE STREET, JUNEE ON TUESDAY, 17 OCTOBER 2023.

CONFIDENTIAL ITEM

15.10.23 At 5.25pm, Council **RESOLVED** on the motion of Cr R Asmus seconded Cr A Clinton to go into Closed Committee of the Whole under Section 10A (2):

(d) (i) prejudice against the commercial position of the person who supplied it.

8[ADES] TENDER T2.2024 – ANNUAL WET PLANT HIRE

16.10.23 **RESOLVED** on the motion of Cr P Halliburton seconded Cr M Cook that:

1. Council receive the report on the tender assessment for TENDER T2.2024 for wet plant hire within Junee Shire Council LGA.
2. In accordance with clause 178(1)(a) of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, award the panel of 20 preferred suppliers, subject to all parties agreeing to the terms of agreement to supply services.
3. Authorise the affixing of the Council's Common Seal to all relevant documents as required.
4. Notify the unsuccessful tenderers.

9[ADES] TENDER T2.2024 – ANNUAL WET PLANT HIRE

17.10.23 **RESOLVED** on the motion of Cr R Asmus seconded Cr M Cook that:

1. Council receive the report on the tender assessment for TENDER T2.2024 for dry plant hire within Junee Shire Council LGA.
2. In accordance with clause 178(1)(a) of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, award the panel of nine preferred suppliers, subject to all parties agreeing to the terms of agreement to supply services.
3. Authorise the affixing of Council's Common Seal to all relevant documents as required.
4. Notify the unsuccessful tenderers.

10[ADES] TENDER T3.2024 – ANNUAL TENDER FOR PROVIDING TRAFFIC CONTROL SERVICES

18.10.23 **RESOLVED** on the motion of Cr R Asmus seconded Cr M Cook that:

1. Council receive the report on the tender T3.2024 assessment for the annual tender for providing traffic control services on various projects within the shire.

CHAIRPERSON: _____

GENERAL MANAGER: _____

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BELMORE STREET, JUNEE ON TUESDAY, 17 OCTOBER 2023.

2. *In accordance with clause 178(1)(a) of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, award the tender to Riverina Traffic Services Pty Ltd subject to both parties agreeing to sign the Contract for the supply of traffic control.*
3. *In accordance with clause 178(1)(a) of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, authorise East Cost Traffic Management to be engaged in the event rehiring Riverina Traffic services Pty Ltd is not able to complete the required works throughout the year.*
4. *Authorise the affixing of the Council's Common Seal to all relevant documents as required.*
5. *Notify the unsuccessful tenderers.*

11[ADES] TENDER T4.2024 – SUPPLYING AND DELIVERING DGB-DGS-AGGREGATES

19.10.23 **RESOLVED** on the motion of Cr R Asmus seconded Cr M Cook that:

1. *Council receive the report on the tender assessment for TENDER T4.2024 for supplying and delivering Dense Grade Base (DGB), Dense Grade Sub-base (DGS) and Aggregates within Junee Shire Council LGA.*
2. *In accordance with clause 178(1)(a) of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, award the tender to E.B Mawson & Sons Pty Ltd and Bald Hill Quarry Pty Ltd as the reserve tenderer, subject to both parties agreeing to sign the Contract for the supply of materials on an as needs basis.*
3. *The tender offer for the supplying and delivery of Dense Grade Base (DGB), Dense Grade Sub-base (DGS) and Aggregates be accepted for a period of one year with a possible extension for another two years (in one-year lots) and be subject to rise & fall and the quality of services offered under the contract.*
4. *Authorise the affixing of the Council's Common Seal to all relevant documents as required.*
5. *Notify the unsuccessful tenderers.*

12[ADES] TENDER T5.2024 – ANNUAL ROAD STABILISATION WORKS – PART SERVICES

20.10.23 **RESOLVED** on the motion of Cr M Cook seconded Cr M Knight that:

1. *Council receive the report on the tender assessment for TENDER T5.2024 for Annual Road Stabilisation Works within Junee Shire Council LGA.*

CHAIRPERSON: _____

GENERAL MANAGER: _____

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, BELMORE STREET, JUNEE ON TUESDAY, 17 OCTOBER 2023.

2. *In accordance with clause 178(1)(a) of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, award the tender to Stabilfix Pty Ltd, subject to the party agreeing to sign the Contract for this project.*
3. *The tender offer for the Annual Road Stabilisation Works be accepted for a period of one year with an option for extension for another two years (in one-year lots) and be subject to rise & fall and the quality of services offered under the contract.*
4. *Authorise the affixing of the Council's Common Seal to all relevant documents as required.*
5. *Notify the unsuccessful tenderers.*

13[ADES] TENDER T7.2024 – LORD STREET BRIDGE RECONSTRUCTION

21.10.23 **RESOLVED** on the motion of Cr M Cook seconded Cr R Asmus that:

1. *Council receive the report on the tender assessment for TENDER T7.2024 for the Lord Street Bridge Reconstruction project.*
2. *In accordance with clause 178(1)(a) of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021, award the tender to Snowy Valleys Council subject to both parties agreeing to sign the Contract for the works.*
3. *Authorise the affixing of the Council's Common Seal to all relevant documents as required.*
4. *Notify the unsuccessful tenderers.*

REVERSION TO OPEN COUNCIL

22.10.23 **RESOLVED** on the motion of Cr A Clinton seconded Cr M Cook that Council move out of Committee and revert to an open meeting of the Council, the time being 5.52pm.

23.10.23 **RESOLVED** on the motion of Cr D Carter seconded Cr M Knight that Council adopt the resolutions made in Closed Committee.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 6.00pm.

CHAIRPERSON: _____

GENERAL MANAGER: _____



JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL

MAYORAL MINUTE



Item I MAYORAL MINUTE

Author Mayor

Attachments No

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Mayoral Minute, as presented to the 21 November 2023 Ordinary Council meeting, be noted.

Good evening Councillors. It has been a very busy time for us all since the last meeting. I see many tractors working well into the evening as harvest begins and I wish all our farming friends the best for a good harvest. Please be safe in these dry times.

Congratulations to the Show Societies at Illabo and Junee for putting on two, very well attended and successful Shows.

The people attending that I spoke with were very complimentary of both shows, so well done.

The news that the Junee Correctional Facility will come under the control of the State Government from March 2025 came as a complete surprise to Council, the GEO group and staff at the centre. Not only did the announcement catch us by surprise, the Minister for Corrections has still to advise us, or provide any information regarding the why and how. I have been in constant contact with Steph Cooke who is livid regarding the lack of consultation with the Junee community, the GEO Group and, well anyone. The cost of this decision to our community will be considerable. GEO and A.C.M before it, have contributed greatly to the community, with lawn mowing, painting, construction, raffles, the list is extensive.

Although I have no real information, still, it is likely none of this will continue post GEO operations.

I attended the JBT/Council sponsored forum with the CBA bank last Wednesday night which was attended by a significant number of banking staff, from the State Manager for regional banking, Paul Fowler, our Regional Manager, our new Branch Manager, Bella Macintyre (recently appointed) and a dozen or so section managers from Wagga. It certainly was an impressive display of strength and commitment to a new way of thinking on behalf of the bank. The clear message from the forum was that they need our commitment to utilising the CBA for banking, loans etc. and in turn, they would commit to doing everything they can to keep banking services in town. We help them, they help us. Clearly, using the bank just to store funds in order to transfer them to other banks, pay bills etc. is not enough to keep the bank open. IT MAKES THEM NO MONEY! What business would stay in town making no money and indeed, bleeding funds. The other banking services provided by CBA need to be used for the branch to remain viable. I believe they were honest in what they said, they realise that closing the branch was a mistake and they acknowledged that.

MAYORAL MINUTE REPORT TO THE ORDINARY MEETING OF JUNEES SHIRE COUNCIL HELD ON 21 NOVEMBER 2023.

Anyone using a bank that is no longer supporting us with a local branch might consider changing banks in order to secure a bank in Junee. A big thank you to Council Staff and the Junee people who did turn out; I had hoped more businesses might have attended. Councillors Halliburton and Clinton attended also and would no doubt have their opinions of the night, so, speak with them too.

I was pleased to be able to attend the "opening" of the Senior Citizens Hall improvements. The hall is, in my opinion, the premier hall of its size in Junee. Fully serviced and up-to-date technically, it is certainly a credit to the group.

The General Manager, Lloyd Hart and myself were able to attend the AGM of the Regional Development Australia, Riverina and make a presentation to them. The presentation was well received and we look forward to utilising their strategic planning and accessing government programs and infrastructure investments.

The GM, Deputy Mayor and myself attended the Local Government NSW Conference in Parramatta last week. Our motion regarding the red fleet was well received and with one small amendment, was carried. Minister Hoenig spoke to the conference and assured us that he was working hard to address the matter, restating his belief that the Treasury's decision was flawed however, he also acknowledged that 'we' asked to have the red fleet, 'we' signed many service agreements..... and, and..... I personally was not inclined to think that any inquiry was going to have a positive outcome. I hope I am wrong!

Remembrance Day was well attended and it was good to see a former local lad addressing us, Commander McDevitt, the Navy's Commander of Diver Training.

Our thoughts are also with Greg Zacharoff, who has recently returned home from hospital after triple bypass surgery.

I would also like to pay my respects to the Lewis family following the recent death of Bob Lewis.

Cr Bob Callow
Mayor



JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL

GENERAL MANAGER'S

REPORT



Item 2 ADOPTION OF 2022/23 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Author Chief Financial Officer

Attachments 2022/23 Financial Statements

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 1. That Council adopt the 2022/23 Financial Statements***
 - 2. Note the presentation of Council's Financial Statements by the Auditors.***
-

SUMMARY

Council has met its statutory obligations by lodging its Financial Statements on 25 October 2023. This is great result considering that 49% of Council's failed to make the 31 October deadline.

The Statements have a technical qualification for the non-recognition of RFS assets, but otherwise are unqualified. Notwithstanding the qualification, the Auditors believe that they fairly represent Council's financial position.

The highlights include a \$4.5 million surplus, a reduction in debt of \$629,000 and an increase in the cash balance of almost \$7million. The statements show Council to be in the strongest financial position in its recent history.

BACKGROUND

Junee Shire Council's General Purpose Financial Reports, Special Purpose Financial Reports and Special Schedules for the year ended 30 June 2023 have now been audited and have been advertised for public information and comment. The public notice advised that at the Ordinary Council Meeting on 21 November 2022, there will be a presentation on the Audited Financial Statement, and comments from the Auditor.

The statements were referred to audit by the Council at its ordinary meeting 19 September 2023. The only notable change involved the recognition of grants worth \$318,000 in this year rather than in F2024 when the money is expected to be spent. This had the effect of increasing Council's grant income and therefore its surplus by the same amount.

The public notice also advised any person may make a submission in writing to Council with respect to the Council's Audited Financial Statements within seven days of the adoption of the statements. Copies were made available by request at Council's Office and on its website.

CONSIDERATIONS

The following section of this report highlights the key features of the Audited Financial Statements as at 30 June 2023.

Income statement

Annual Financial Results	2023	2022
Net Operating result before capital grants and contributions	2,118,000 surplus	2,863,00 surplus

The Income statement shows a \$2.12 million surplus which is better than the budgeted deficit of \$3,286,000. The surplus was primarily due to additional operating grants mainly for the restoration of flood damaged roads and the receipt of Financial Assistance grants in advance.

The general fund made a surplus of \$2.01 million prior to capital grants, while the sewer fund made a surplus of \$112,000. This was a pleasing improvement on the loss of \$210,000 the previous year. The sewer fund is in good shape with strong cashflows, and lower debt projected for future years.

Annual Financial Results	2023	2022
Net Operating Result from Continuing Operations	4,521,000 surplus	4,560,000 surplus

The Consolidated Operating Result from Continuing Operations is a \$4,521,000 surplus. This result includes Capital Grants and Contributions. It is higher than the original budget estimate of \$511,000 surplus but slightly lower than the 2021-2022 result of a \$4,560,000 surplus. The key reason for the higher than budget performance was the receipt of more than anticipated operating grants.

Balance sheet

Annual Financial Results	2023	2022
Working Capital	7,627,000	3,463,000

Working Capital is represented by current assets less current liabilities. It is the liquid assets available to Council after short term liabilities have been paid off. It has increased due to higher cash which is a result of better financial support, unspent operating grants and the pre-payment of 100% of FAG's, compared to 75% in the previous year.

Liabilities have also increased due to \$1.1 million of contract liabilities which represent some unexpended grants designated for specific projects which will be expended in the 2024 financial year.

Annual Financial Results	2023	2022
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	191,663,000	176,792,000

Council spent \$3.6 million on capital works during the financial year, \$1.4 million was on renewing existing assets and \$2.2 million was on new assets or improvements. Revaluation increments were applied to Sewer assets, bulk earthworks land. Infrastructure depreciated by \$3.4 million.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT TO THE ORDINARY MEETING OF JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL HELD ON 21 NOVEMBER 2023.

Capital spending was lower than recent years, mainly due to the resources being directed towards maintenance of flood damaged roads rather than capital works.

Annual Financial Results	2023	2022
Total Equity	192,414,000	172,986,000

Total equity has increased due to an upwards revaluation of Sewer, Land, Buildings and Roads Assets. This has led to Infrastructure and Plant assets increasing in overall value by \$14.96 million. The remainder of the increase in equity is due to the surplus mentioned above.

Annual Financial Results	2023	2022
Borrowings and Lease Liabilities	8,394,000	9,023,000

Council has managed to reduce its borrowings and lease liabilities by over \$0.629 million during the financial year. This has increased Council's debt service cover ratio to 6.09:1 which exceeds the benchmark of 2:1. The higher the ratio the better.

Over the three years from 30 June 2020 Council has worked hard to reduce its borrowings and lease liabilities from \$10.8 million to \$8.4 million. An outstanding result which has improved council's financial sustainability.

Statement of Cash Flows

Annual Financial Results	2023	2022
Total Cash	12,745,000	5,749,000

At 30 June 2023, Council's cash balance was \$12,745,000. During the year there was a net increase in Cash of almost \$7 million. This result was helped by the pre-payment of several grants for which Council will need to spend the money in the 2024 financial year.

Cashflow has remained strong in the new financial year with the 30 September balance being \$11.86 million.

Issue raised by the Auditor General

In its report on the conduct of the audit, the Auditor General identified one significant issue, that being, Rural firefighting equipment not being recognised in the Financial Statements.

This is a technical issue and does not affect the validity of the statements. If not for this issue the audit opinion would be unqualified.

It is Council's view that rural firefighting equipment is not a Council asset because of a lack of control. This is an on-going issue for a number of regional and rural Councils.

Auditor's Presentation

Council's audit has been undertaken by the Auditor General New South Wales.

Our audit was conducted by the Auditor General's sub-contractor, Crowe Australasia Albury office.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT TO THE ORDINARY MEETING OF JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL HELD ON 21 NOVEMBER 2023.

The Auditors report on the conduct of the audit is included in the financial statements which are annexed to this report.

Principal auditor Ms Dannielle MacKenzie, a partner of Crowe Australasia (Audit General's contract auditor) will provide a verbal report to Council at this meeting via video link.

CONCLUSION

The financial statements show that Council continues to improve its financial position, with lower debt and a higher cash balance.

The Statements have been audited on behalf of the Auditor General and have received a qualified Audit Opinion due to the non-recognition RFS assets. Otherwise, the Auditor General has no criticism of the accounts.

They were submitted to the Office of Local Government prior to the due date. Therefore, Council has met its statutory obligations, and no further action is required.



JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL

ATTACHMENT TO ITEM 2

21 NOVEMBER 2023

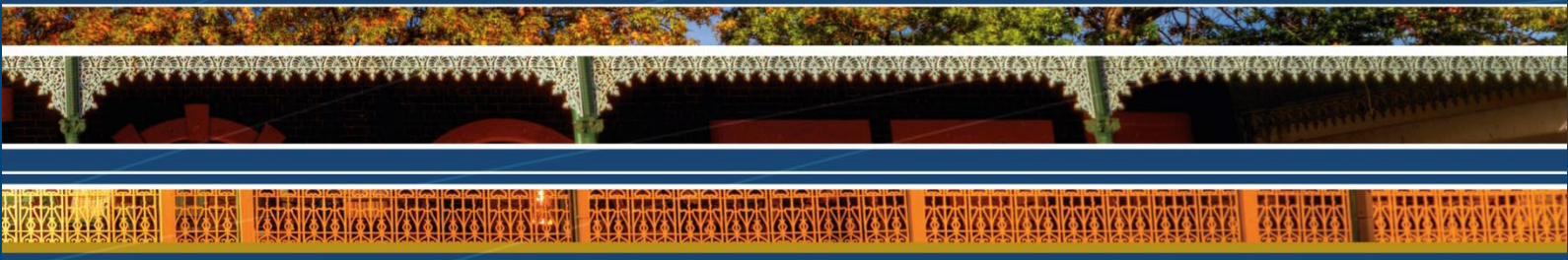




JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL

ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 30 June 2023

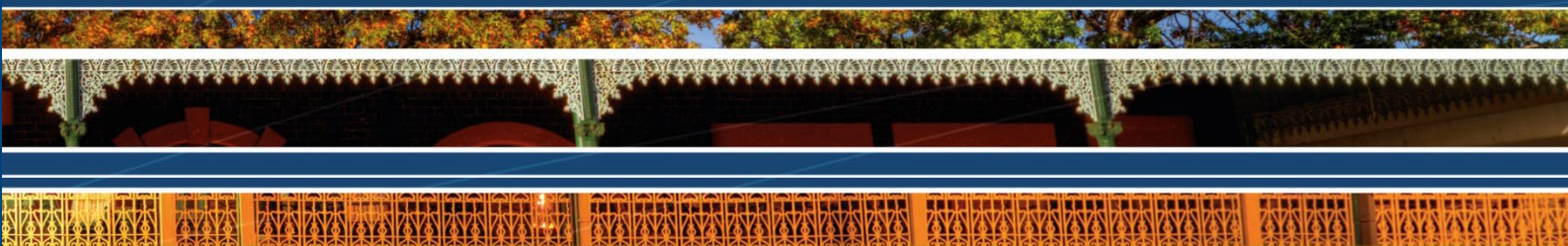




JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL

GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 30 June 2023



Junee Shire Council

General Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2023

Contents	Page
Statement by Councillors and Management	3
Primary Financial Statements:	
Income Statement	4
Statement of Comprehensive Income	5
Statement of Financial Position	6
Statement of Changes in Equity	7
Statement of Cash Flows	8
Notes to the Financial Statements	9
Independent Auditor's Reports:	
On the Financial Statements (Sect 417 [2])	67
On the Financial Statements (Sect 417 [3])	71

Overview

Junee Shire Council is constituted under the Local Government Act 1993 (NSW) and has its principal place of business at:

29 Belmore Street
Junee NSW 2663

Council's guiding principles are detailed in Chapter 3 of the LGA and includes:

- principles applying to the exercise of functions generally by council,
- principles to be applied when making decisions,
- principles of community participation,
- principles of sound financial management, and
- principles for strategic planning relating to the development of an integrated planning and reporting framework.

A description of the nature of Council's operations and its principal activities are provided in Note B1-2.

Through the use of the internet, we have ensured that our reporting is timely, complete and available at minimum cost. All press releases, financial statements and other information are publicly available on our website: www.junee.nsw.gov.au

Junee Shire Council

Consolidated Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2023

Statement by Councillors and Management

made pursuant to Section 413 (2c) of the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW)

The attached general purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with:

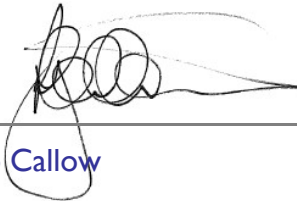
- the *Local Government Act 1993* and the regulations made thereunder,
- the Australian Accounting Standards and other pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board
- the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting.

To the best of our knowledge and belief, these statements:

- present fairly the Council's operating result and financial position for the year
- accord with Council's accounting and other records.

We are not aware of any matter that would render these statements false or misleading in any way.

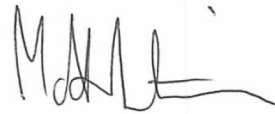
Signed in accordance with a resolution of Council made on 19 September 2023.



Cr Bob Callow

Mayor

19 September 2023



Cr Matt Austin

Councillor

19 September 2023



James Davis

General Manager

19 September 2023



Luke Taberner

Responsible Accounting Officer

19 September 2023

Junee Shire Council

Statement of Comprehensive Income

for the year ended 30 June 2023

\$ '000	Notes	2023	2022
Net operating result for the year – from Income Statement		4,521	4,560
Other comprehensive income:			
Amounts which will not be reclassified subsequently to the operating result			
Gain (loss) on revaluation of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	C1-6	14,907	44,922
Total items which will not be reclassified subsequently to the operating result		14,907	44,922
Total other comprehensive income for the year		14,907	44,922
Total comprehensive income for the year attributable to Council		19,428	49,482

The above Statement of Comprehensive Income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Junee Shire Council

Statement of Financial Position

as at 30 June 2023

\$ '000	Notes	2023	2022
ASSETS			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	C1-1	6,745	3,749
Investments	C1-2	6,000	2,000
Receivables	C1-4	1,530	3,119
Inventories	C1-5	328	195
Total current assets		14,603	9,063
Non-current assets			
Inventories	C1-5	58	58
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment (IPPE)	C1-6	191,663	176,792
Investment property	C1-7	355	330
Right of use assets	C2-1	576	842
Total non-current assets		192,652	178,022
Total assets		207,255	187,085
LIABILITIES			
Current liabilities			
Payables	C3-1	1,343	1,262
Contract liabilities	C3-2	3,095	1,950
Lease liabilities	C2-1	261	269
Borrowings	C3-3	387	360
Employee benefit provisions	C3-4	1,890	1,759
Total current liabilities		6,976	5,600
Non-current liabilities			
Lease liabilities	C2-1	370	631
Borrowings	C3-3	7,376	7,763
Employee benefit provisions	C3-4	92	83
Provisions	C3-5	27	22
Total non-current liabilities		7,865	8,499
Total liabilities		14,841	14,099
Net assets		192,414	172,986
EQUITY			
Accumulated surplus	C4-1	102,668	98,147
IPPE revaluation reserve	C4-1	89,746	74,839
Total equity		192,414	172,986

The above Statement of Financial Position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Junee Shire Council

Statement of Changes in Equity

for the year ended 30 June 2023

\$ '000	Notes	2023			2022		
		Accumulated surplus	IPPE revaluation reserve	Total equity	Accumulated surplus	IPPE revaluation reserve	Total equity
Opening balance at 1 July		98,147	74,839	172,986	93,587	29,917	123,504
Opening balance		98,147	74,839	172,986	93,587	29,917	123,504
Net operating result for the year		4,521	–	4,521	4,560	–	4,560
Net operating result for the period		4,521	–	4,521	4,560	–	4,560
Other comprehensive income							
Gain (loss) on revaluation of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	C1-6	–	14,907	14,907	–	44,922	44,922
Other comprehensive income		–	14,907	14,907	–	44,922	44,922
Total comprehensive income		4,521	14,907	19,428	4,560	44,922	49,482
Closing balance at 30 June		102,668	89,746	192,414	98,147	74,839	172,986

The above Statement of Changes in Equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Junee Shire Council

Statement of Cash Flows

for the year ended 30 June 2023

Original unaudited budget 2023	\$ '000	Notes	Actual 2023	Actual 2022
Cash flows from operating activities				
<i>Receipts:</i>				
6,613	Rates and annual charges		6,302	6,214
3,708	User charges and fees		3,593	4,101
76	Interest received		169	56
7,849	Grants and contributions		15,673	8,965
530	Other		1,070	1,470
<i>Payments:</i>				
(6,043)	Payments to employees		(5,452)	(5,401)
(6,813)	Payments for materials and services		(8,055)	(6,362)
(365)	Borrowing costs		(414)	(430)
(366)	Other		(1,722)	(1,493)
5,189	Net cash flows from operating activities	G1-1	11,164	7,120
Cash flows from investing activities				
<i>Receipts:</i>				
–	Sale of real estate assets		37	1,926
–	Deferred debtors receipts		2	–
<i>Payments:</i>				
–	Acquisition of term deposits		(4,000)	(2,000)
–	Purchase of investment property		–	(276)
(5,433)	Payments for IPPE		(3,576)	(5,589)
–	Purchase of real estate assets		(2)	(111)
42	Deferred debtors and advances made		–	(8)
(5,391)	Net cash flows from investing activities		(7,539)	(6,058)
Cash flows from financing activities				
<i>Payments:</i>				
(360)	Repayment of borrowings		(360)	(635)
(241)	Principal component of lease payments		(269)	(265)
(601)	Net cash flows from financing activities		(629)	(900)
(803)	Net change in cash and cash equivalents		2,996	162
3,715	Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		3,749	3,587
2,912	Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	C1-1	6,745	3,749
–	plus: Investments on hand at end of year	C1-2	6,000	2,000
2,912	Total cash, cash equivalents and investments		12,745	5,749

The above Statement of Cash Flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Junee Shire Council

Contents for the notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2023

A About Council and these financial statements	11
A1-1 Basis of preparation	11
B Financial Performance	13
B1 Functions or activities	13
B1-1 Functions or activities – income, expenses and assets	13
B1-2 Components of functions or activities	14
B2 Sources of income	15
B2-1 Rates and annual charges	15
B2-2 User charges and fees	16
B2-3 Other revenues	17
B2-4 Grants and contributions	18
B2-5 Interest and investment income	21
B2-6 Other income	21
B3 Costs of providing services	22
B3-1 Employee benefits and on-costs	22
B3-2 Materials and services	23
B3-3 Borrowing costs	23
B3-4 Depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non-financial assets	24
B3-5 Other expenses	25
B4 Gains or losses	25
B4-1 Gain or loss from the disposal, replacement and de-recognition of assets	25
B5 Performance against budget	26
B5-1 Material budget variations	26
C Financial position	28
C1 Assets we manage	28
C1-1 Cash and cash equivalents	28
C1-2 Financial investments	28
C1-3 Restricted and allocated cash, cash equivalents and investments	29
C1-4 Receivables	30
C1-5 Inventories	31
C1-6 Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	32
C1-7 Investment properties	35
C2 Leasing activities	36
C2-1 Council as a lessee	36
C2-2 Council as a lessor	38
C3 Liabilities of Council	40
C3-1 Payables	40
C3-2 Contract Liabilities	41
C3-3 Borrowings	42
C3-4 Employee benefit provisions	44
C3-5 Provisions	45

Junee Shire Council

Contents for the notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2023

C4 Reserves	46
C4-1 Nature and purpose of reserves	46
D Council structure	47
D1 Results by fund	47
D1-1 Income Statement by fund	47
D1-2 Statement of Financial Position by fund	48
E Risks and accounting uncertainties	49
E1-1 Risks relating to financial instruments held	49
E2-1 Fair value measurement	52
E3-1 Contingencies	56
F People and relationships	58
F1 Related party disclosures	58
F1-1 Key management personnel (KMP)	58
F1-2 Councillor and Mayoral fees and associated expenses	59
F2 Other relationships	60
F2-1 Audit fees	60
G Other matters	61
G1-1 Statement of Cash Flows information	61
G2-1 Commitments	62
G3-1 Events occurring after the reporting date	63
G4 Statement of developer contributions as at 30 June 2023	64
G4-1 Summary of developer contributions	64
G5 Statement of performance measures	65
G5-1 Statement of performance measures – consolidated results	65
G5-2 Statement of performance measures by fund	66

A About Council and these financial statements

A1-1 Basis of preparation

These financial statements were authorised for issue by Council on 19 September 2023. Council has the power to amend and reissue these financial statements in cases where critical information is received from public submissions or where the OLG directs Council to amend the financial statements.

The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

These general purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and Australian Accounting Interpretations, the *Local Government Act 1993 (Act)* and *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 (Regulation)*, and the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting.

Council is a not for-profit entity.

The financial statements are presented in Australian dollars and are rounded to the nearest thousand dollars.

Historical cost convention

These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of certain infrastructure, property, plant and equipment.

Significant accounting estimates and judgements

The preparation of financial statements requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise its judgement in the process of applying the Council's accounting policies.

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that may have a financial impact on the Council and that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

Council makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future.

The resulting accounting estimates will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results.

The estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year include:

- i. estimated fair values of investment properties - refer to Note C1-7
- ii. estimated fair values of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment – refer Note C1-6
- iii. estimated remediation provisions – refer Note C3-5
- iv. employee benefit provisions – refer Note C3-4.

Significant judgements in applying the Council's accounting policies

- i. Impairment of receivables – refer Note C1-4.
- ii. Determination of whether performance obligations are sufficiently specific and whether the contract is within the scope of AASB 15 *Revenue from Contracts with Customers* and / or AASB 1058 *Income of Not-for-Profit Entities* – refer to Notes B2-2 – B2-4.
- iii. Determination of the lease term, discount rate (when not implicit in the lease) and whether an arrangement contains a lease – refer to Note C2-1.

Monies and other assets received by Council

The Consolidated Fund

In accordance with the provisions of Section 409(1) of the *Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)*, all money and property received by Council is held in the Council's Consolidated Fund unless it is required to be held in the Council's Trust Fund.

The Consolidated Fund has been included in the financial statements of the Council.

Cash and other assets of the following entities have been included as part of the Consolidated Fund:

- General purpose operations

A1-1 Basis of preparation (continued)

- Sewerage service

The Trust Fund

In accordance with the provisions of Section 411 of the *Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)* (as amended), a separate and distinct Trust Fund is maintained to account for all money and property received by the council in trust which must be applied only for the purposes of, or in accordance with, the trusts relating to those monies.

Trust monies and property subject to Council's control have been included in these reports.

A separate statement of monies held in the Trust Fund is available for inspection at the council office by any person free of charge.

Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of associated GST, unless the GST incurred is not recoverable from the taxation authority. In this case it is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of the expense.

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is included with other receivables or payables in the Statement of Financial Position.

Cash flows are presented on a gross basis. The GST components of cash flows arising from investing or financing activities that are recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority, are presented as operating cash flows.

Volunteer services

Council's community transport service is supported by volunteers from the Junee community. Volunteer services contribution has been recognised within the financial statements - refer to Note B2-6. Volunteer services are required to be recognised in the financial statements if they can be measured reliably, are material, and would be purchased if not provided by the volunteers.

In other instances, Council would not purchase the service if it was not provided by volunteers.

New accounting standards and interpretations issued but not yet effective

New accounting standards and interpretations issued but not yet effective

Certain new accounting standards and interpretations (ie. pronouncements) have been published by the Australian Accounting Standards Board that are not mandatory for the 30 June 2023 reporting period.

Council has elected not to apply any of these pronouncements in these financial statements before their operative dates.

As of the date of authorisation of these financial statements, Council does not consider that any of these new (and still to be applied) standards and interpretations are likely to have a material impact on the Council's future financial statements, financial position, financial performance or cash flows.

New accounting standards adopted during the year

During the year Council adopted all accounting standards and interpretations (as issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board) which were mandatorily effective from the first time on 30 June 2023.

None of these standards had a significant impact on reported position or performance.

B Financial Performance

B1 Functions or activities

B1-1 Functions or activities – income, expenses and assets

Income, expenses and assets have been directly attributed to the following functions or activities. Details of those functions or activities are provided in Note B1-2.

\$ '000	Income		Expenses		Operating result		Grants and contributions		Carrying amount of assets	
	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022
Functions or activities										
Administration	9,480	8,841	3,582	3,042	5,898	5,799	4,813	4,158	4,855	4,396
Community services and education	424	1,100	531	1,332	(107)	(232)	331	897	124	112
Economic affairs	2,536	4,123	2,812	2,556	(276)	1,567	200	92	5,861	5,313
Environment	1,290	1,260	1,441	1,199	(151)	61	54	86	8,160	7,390
Governance	–	–	129	180	(129)	(180)	–	–	2,340	2,114
Housing and community amenities	546	865	606	542	(60)	323	19	461	1,218	1,104
Mining, manufacturing and construction	–	–	2	4	(2)	(4)	–	–	21	19
Public order and safety	32	265	441	489	(409)	(224)	–	220	518	468
Recreation and culture	883	1,376	2,859	2,693	(1,976)	(1,317)	278	883	28,063	25,425
Sewerage services	1,377	1,138	1,214	1,294	163	(156)	–	–	29,865	27,071
Transport and communication	6,401	2,690	4,831	3,767	1,570	(1,077)	6,393	2,672	126,086	113,673
Other	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	144	–
Total functions and activities	22,969	21,658	18,448	17,098	4,521	4,560	12,088	9,469	207,255	187,085

B1-2 Components of functions or activities

Details relating to the Council's functions or activities as reported in B1-1 are as follows:

Administration

Includes corporate support and other support services, engineering works, and any Council policy compliance.

Community services and education

Includes administration and education, social protection (welfare), migrant, Aboriginal and other community services and administration (excluding accommodation – as it is covered under 'housing and community amenities'), youth services, aged and disabled persons services, children's services, including family day care, child care, and other family and children services.

Economic affairs

Includes camping areas and caravan parks, tourism and area promotion, industrial development promotion, sale yards and markets, real estate development, commercial nurseries, and other business undertakings.

Environment

Includes noxious plants and insect/vermin control, other environmental protection, solid waste management, including domestic waste, other waste management, other sanitation, and garbage, street cleaning, drainage and stormwater management.

Governance

Includes costs relating to Council's role as a component of democratic government, including elections, members' fees and expenses, subscriptions to local authority associations, meetings of Council and policymaking committees, public disclosure (e.g. GIPA), and legislative compliance.

Housing and community amenities

Includes public cemeteries, public conveniences, street lighting, town planning, other community amenities, including housing development and accommodation for families and children, aged persons, disabled persons, migrants and Indigenous persons.

Mining, manufacturing and construction

Includes building control, quarries and pits, mineral resources, and abattoirs.

Public order and safety

Includes Council's fire and emergency services levy, fire protection, emergency services, enforcement of regulations and animal control.

Recreation and culture

Includes public libraries, museums, art galleries, community centres and halls, including public halls and performing arts venues, sporting grounds and venues, swimming pools, parks, gardens, lakes, and other sporting, recreational and cultural services.

Sewerage services

Includes the provision of sewerage treatment and reticulation system for the collection of sewage within the Junee township.

Transport and communication

Urban local, urban regional, includes sealed and unsealed roads, bridges, footpaths, parking areas, and aerodromes.

B2 Sources of income

B2-1 Rates and annual charges

\$ '000	2023	2022
Ordinary rates		
Residential	1,941	1,825
Farmland	2,077	2,061
Business	392	379
Less: Pensioner rebates	(49)	(49)
Rates levied to ratepayers	4,361	4,216
Pensioner rate subsidies received	44	45
Total ordinary rates	4,405	4,261
Annual charges (pursuant to s496, 496A, 496B, 501 & 611)		
Domestic waste management services	941	884
Stormwater management services	45	45
Sewerage services	890	844
Waste management services (non-domestic)	91	87
Less: Pensioner rebates	(66)	(65)
Annual charges levied	1,901	1,795
Pensioner annual charges subsidies received:		
– Sewerage	18	18
– Domestic waste management	18	18
Total annual charges	1,937	1,831
Total rates and annual charges	6,342	6,092

Council has used 2019 year valuations provided by the NSW Valuer General in calculating its rates.

Accounting policy

Rates and annual charges are recognised as revenue at the beginning of the rating period to which they relate. Prepaid rates are recognised as a financial liability until the beginning of the rating period.

Pensioner rebates relate to reductions in rates and certain annual charges for eligible pensioners' place of residence in the local government council area that are not subsidised by the NSW Government.

Pensioner rate subsidies are received from the NSW Government to provide a contribution towards the pensioner rebates and are recognised within the underlying revenue item based on their substance.

B2-2 User charges and fees

\$ '000	2023	2022
User charges		
Sewerage services	450	340
Waste management services (non-domestic)	112	121
Total user charges	562	461
Fees		
Private works – section 67	85	124
Regulatory/ statutory fees	285	325
Athenium	15	9
Cemeteries	113	81
Family day care	–	113
Junee Junction Recreation and Aquatic Centre	396	341
Transport for NSW works (state roads not controlled by Council)	2,133	2,670
Total fees	3,027	3,663
Total user charges and fees	3,589	4,124
Timing of revenue recognition for user charges and fees		
User charges and fees recognised over time	3,229	3,611
User charges and fees recognised at a point in time	360	513
Total user charges and fees	3,589	4,124

Accounting policy

Revenue arising from user charges and fees is recognised when or as the performance obligation is completed and the customer receives the benefit of the goods / services being provided.

The performance obligation relates to the specific services which are provided to the customers and generally the payment terms are within 30 days of the provision of the service or in some cases such as caravan parks, the customer is required to pay on arrival or a deposit in advance. There is no material obligation for Council in relation to refunds or returns.

Where an upfront fee is charged such as joining fees for the leisure centre the fee is recognised on a straight-line basis over the expected life of the membership.

Licences granted by Council are all either short-term or low value and all revenue from licences is recognised at the time that the licence is granted rather than over the term of the licence.

B2-3 Other revenues

\$ '000	2023	2022
Australian Track Corporation - Inland Rail Reimbursement	56	86
Commissions and agency fees	133	132
Energy Savings Certificates	–	45
Fines	15	18
Fuel tax credit - rebate	37	48
Insurance rebates	23	47
Legal fees recovery – rates and charges (extra charges)	26	18
Recycling income (non-domestic)	47	43
Sales – Junee Junction Recreation & Aquatic Centre	83	64
Other	36	50
Total other revenue	456	551
Timing of revenue recognition for other revenue		
Other revenue recognised at a point in time	456	551
Total other revenue	456	551

Accounting policy for other revenue

Where the revenue is earned for the provision of specified goods / services under an enforceable contract, revenue is recognised when or as the obligations are satisfied.

Statutory fees and fines are recognised as revenue when the service has been provided, the payment is received or when the penalty has been applied, whichever occurs first.

Other revenue is recorded when the payment is due, the value of the payment is notified, or the payment is received, whichever occurs first.

B2-4 Grants and contributions

\$ '000	Operating 2023	Operating 2022	Capital 2023	Capital 2022
General purpose grants and non-developer contributions (untied)				
Current year allocation				
Financial assistance	944	1,633	-	-
Payment in advance - future year allocation				
Financial assistance	3,695	2,511	-	-
Amount recognised as income during current year	4,639	4,144	-	-
Special purpose grants and non-developer contributions (tied)				
Cash contributions				
Economic development	42	8	-	-
Family day care	-	657	-	-
Heritage and cultural	-	-	27	37
Junee Community Transport	71	64	-	-
Library – per capita	81	91	22	27
LIRS subsidy	8	12	-	-
Noxious weeds	53	83	-	-
NSW Rural Fire Services	56	81	-	139
Recreation and culture	120	-	147	924
Street lighting	19	215	62	84
Transport (community transport service)	154	151	-	-
Transport (other roads and bridges funding)	1,523	-	2,145	486
Transport (regional roads, block grant)	2,311	1,401	-	-
Transport (roads to recovery)	350	615	-	-
Waste management	1	3	-	-
Youth services	83	25	-	-
Other specific grants	6	12	-	-
Total special purpose grants and non-developer contributions – cash	4,878	3,418	2,403	1,697
Total grants and non-developer contributions	9,517	7,562	2,403	1,697
Comprising:				
– Commonwealth funding	5,118	7,032	373	1,240
– State funding	4,339	452	2,030	457
– Other funding	60	78	-	-
	9,517	7,562	2,403	1,697

B2-4 Grants and contributions (continued)

Developer contributions

\$ '000	Notes	Operating 2023	Operating 2022	Capital 2023	Capital 2022
Developer contributions:					
(s7.4 & s7.11 - EP&A Act, s64 of the LGA):					
Cash contributions					
S 7.12 – fixed development consent levies	G4	168	210	–	–
Total developer contributions		168	210	–	–
Total contributions		168	210	–	–
Total grants and contributions		9,685	7,772	2,403	1,697
Timing of revenue recognition for grants and contributions					
Grants and contributions recognised over time		4,470	615	2,381	1,615
Grants and contributions recognised at a point in time		5,215	7,157	22	82
Total grants and contributions		9,685	7,772	2,403	1,697

Unspent grants and contributions

Certain grants and contributions are obtained by Council on the condition they be spent in a specified manner or in a future period but which are not yet spent in accordance with those conditions are as follows:

\$ '000	Operating 2023	Operating 2022	Capital 2023	Capital 2022
Unspent grants and contributions				
Unspent funds at 1 July	386	1,148	1,547	506
Add: operating grants recognised as income in the current period but not yet spent	2,118	–	–	–
Add: Funds received and not recognised as revenue in the current year	25	322	2,361	1,531
Less: Funds recognised as revenue in previous years that have been spent during the reporting year	(222)	(1,084)	(1,021)	(490)
Unspent funds at 30 June	2,307	386	2,887	1,547

B2-4 Grants and contributions (continued)

Accounting policy

Grants and contributions – enforceable agreement with sufficiently specific performance obligations

Grant and contribution revenue from an agreement which is enforceable and contains sufficiently specific performance obligations is recognised as or when control of each performance obligations is transferred.

The performance obligations vary according to the agreement. Payment terms vary depending on the terms of the grant, cash is received upfront for some grants and on the achievement of certain payment milestones for others.

Performance obligations may be satisfied either at a point in time or over time and this is reflected in the revenue recognition pattern. Point in time recognition occurs when the beneficiary obtains control of the goods / services at a single time (e.g. completion of the project when a report / outcome is provided), whereas over time recognition is where the control of the services is ongoing throughout the project (e.g. provision of community health services through the year).

Where control is transferred over time, generally the input methods being either costs or time incurred are deemed to be the most appropriate methods to reflect the transfer of benefit.

Capital grants

Capital grants received by Council under an enforceable contract for the acquisition or construction of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment to identified specifications which will be under Council's control on completion are recognised as revenue as and when the obligation to construct or purchase is completed.

For construction projects, this is generally as the construction progresses in accordance with costs incurred since this is deemed to be the most appropriate measure of the completeness of the construction project.

For acquisitions of assets, the revenue is recognised when the asset is acquired and controlled by the Council.

Developer contributions

Council has obligations to provide facilities from contribution revenues levied on developers under the provisions of sections 7.4, 7.11 and 7.12 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act).

While Council generally incorporates these amounts as part of a Development Consents Order, such developer contributions are only recognised as income upon receipt by Council, due to the possibility that individual development consents may not be acted upon by the applicant and, accordingly, would not be payable to Council.

Developer contributions may only be expended for the purposes for which the contributions were required, but Council may apply contributions according to the priorities established in work schedules for the contribution plan.

Other grants and contributions

Assets, including cash, received from other grants and contributions are recognised at fair value when the asset is received. Council considers whether there are any related liability or equity items associated with the asset which are recognised in accordance with the relevant accounting standard.

Once the assets and liabilities have been recognised then income is recognised for any remaining asset value at the time that the asset is received.

B2-5 Interest and investment income

\$ '000	2023	2022
Interest on financial assets measured at amortised cost		
– Overdue rates and annual charges (incl. special purpose rates)	28	29
– Cash and investments	215	11
– Deferred debtors	–	8
Total interest and investment income (losses)	243	48

Accounting policy

Interest income is recognised using the effective interest rate at the date that interest is earned.

B2-6 Other income

\$ '000	Notes	2023	2022
Fair value increment on investment properties			
Fair value increment on investment properties		25	54
Total fair value increment on investment properties	C1-7	25	54
Rental income			
Investment properties			
Lease income (excluding variable lease payments not dependent on an index or rate)		23	22
Total Investment properties		23	22
Land and property			
Lease income (excluding variable lease payments not dependent on an index or rate)		105	86
Other lease income			
Leaseback fees - Council vehicles		5	13
Total other lease income		110	99
Total rental income	C2-2	133	121
Other			
Community Transport (Volunteer services)		93	84
Total other		93	84
Total other income		251	259

B3 Costs of providing services

B3-1 Employee benefits and on-costs

\$ '000	2023	2022
Salaries and wages	4,531	4,439
Employee leave entitlements (ELE)	1,045	645
Fringe benefit tax (FBT)	5	–
Superannuation	567	542
Workers' compensation insurance	112	99
Total employee costs	6,260	5,725
Less: capitalised costs	(504)	(560)
Total employee costs expensed	5,756	5,165

Accounting policy

Employee benefit expenses are recorded when the service has been provided by the employee.

All employees of the Council are entitled to benefits on retirement, disability or death. Council contributes to various defined benefit plans and defined contribution plans on behalf of its employees.

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense as they become payable. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that a cash refund or a reduction in the future payments is available.

Council participates in a defined benefit plan under the Local Government Superannuation Scheme, however, sufficient information to account for the plan as a defined benefit is not available and therefore Council accounts for its obligations to defined benefit plans on the same basis as its obligations to defined contribution plans, i.e. as an expense when it becomes payable – refer to Note E3-1 for more information.

B3-2 Materials and services

\$ '000	Notes	2023	2022
Raw materials and consumables		2,294	931
Contractor costs		3,651	4,294
Audit Fees	F2-1	55	53
Bank charges		23	21
Computer expenses		224	222
Councillor and Mayoral fees and associated expenses	F1-2	127	118
Election expenses		–	61
Electricity and heating		259	252
Fuel and oil		359	298
Insurance		399	345
Postage, printing and stationery		45	60
Street lighting		47	45
Subscriptions and publications		134	109
Telephone and communications		77	68
Valuer General fees		26	24
Other expenses		63	56
Legal expenses:			
– Legal expenses: planning and development		9	–
– Legal expenses: debt recovery		1	9
– Legal expenses: other		24	53
Expenses from leases of low value assets		–	3
Expenses from short-term leases		1	37
Total materials and services		7,818	7,059
Total materials and services		7,818	7,059

Accounting policy

Expenses are recorded on an accruals basis as the Council receives the goods or services.

B3-3 Borrowing costs

\$ '000	2023	2022
Interest on leases	37	47
Interest on loans	377	383
Total borrowing costs expensed	414	430

Accounting policy

Borrowing costs incurred for the construction of any qualifying asset are capitalised during the period of time that is required to complete and prepare the asset for its intended use or sale. Other borrowing costs are expensed as incurred.

B3-4 Depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non-financial assets

\$ '000	Notes	2023	2022
Depreciation and amortisation			
Plant and equipment		198	241
Office equipment		24	22
Furniture and fittings		10	9
Land improvements (depreciable)		63	65
Infrastructure:	C1-6		
– Buildings – non-specialised		110	87
– Buildings – specialised		498	381
– Other structures		284	242
– Roads		1,611	1,560
– Bridges		127	125
– Footpaths		73	71
– Stormwater drainage		169	156
– Sewerage network		227	431
Right of use assets	C2-1	266	283
Other assets:			
– Library books		1	1
Other assets		14	14
Reinstatement, rehabilitation and restoration assets:			
– Quarry assets	C3-5,C1-6	1	1
Total depreciation, amortisation and impairment for non-financial assets		3,676	3,689

Accounting policy

Depreciation and amortisation

Depreciation and amortisation are calculated using the straight line method to allocate their cost, net of their residual values, over their estimated useful lives.

Impairment of non-financial assets

Council assets held at fair value that are not held primarily for their ability to generate net cash flow, and that are deemed to be specialised, are not tested for impairment since these assets are assessed on an annual basis to ensure that the carrying amount is not materially different from fair value and therefore an impairment loss would be captured during this assessment.

Intangible assets not yet available for use, are tested annually for impairment, or more frequently if events or changes in circumstances indicate that they might be impaired.

Other non-financial assets that do not meet the criteria above are tested for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. An impairment loss is recognised for the amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount. The recoverable amount is the higher of an asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use.

For the purposes of assessing impairment, assets are grouped at the lowest levels for which there are separately identifiable cash inflows that are largely independent of the cash inflows from other assets or groups of assets (cash-generating units).

Impairment losses for revalued assets are firstly offset against the amount in the revaluation surplus for the class of asset, with only the excess to be recognised in the Income Statement.

B3-5 Other expenses

\$ '000	Notes	2023	2022
Impairment of receivables			
Other		(1)	54
Total impairment of receivables	C1-4	(1)	54
Other			
Bushfire fighting fund		292	359
Community Transport contribution		92	84
Donations, contributions and assistance to other organisations (s356)		1	2
Emergency services levy (includes FRNSW, SES, and RFS levies)		22	14
EPA Waste Station Licence Fee's		4	54
NSW fire brigade levy		26	23
Riverina Eastern Regional Organisation of Councils contribution		27	26
Riverina Joint Organisation contribution		19	19
Riverina Regional Library contribution		135	120
Total other		618	701
Total other expenses		617	755

Accounting policy

Other expenses are recorded on an accruals basis when Council has an obligation for the expenses.

Impairment expenses are recognised when identified.

B4 Gains or losses

B4-1 Gain or loss from the disposal, replacement and de-recognition of assets

\$ '000	Notes	2023	2022
Gain (or loss) on disposal of real estate assets held for sale			
Proceeds from disposal – real estate assets	C1-5	37	1,926
Less: carrying amount of real estate assets sold/written off		(2)	(811)
Gain (or loss) on disposal		35	1,115
Gain (or loss) on disposal of sewerage network assets			
Less: carrying amount of sewerage assets sold/written off		(202)	–
Gain (or loss) on disposal		(202)	–
Net gain (or loss) from disposal of assets		(167)	1,115

Accounting policy

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing proceeds with carrying amount. The gain or loss on sale of an asset is determined when control of the asset has irrevocably passed to the buyer and the asset is de-recognised.

B5 Performance against budget

B5-1 Material budget variations

Council's original budget was adopted by the Council on 28 June 2022 and is not required to be audited. The original projections on which the budget was based have been affected by a number of factors. These include state and federal government decisions, including new grant programs, changing economic activity, environmental factors, and by decisions made by Council.

While these General Purpose Financial Statements include the original budget adopted by Council, the Act requires Council to review its financial budget on a quarterly basis, so it is able to manage the variation between actuals and budget that invariably occur during the year.

Material variations of more than 10% between original budget and actual results or where the variance is considered material by nature are explained below.

Variation Key: **F** = Favourable budget variation, **U** = Unfavourable budget variation.

\$ '000	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2023 ----- Variance -----	
Revenues				
Rates and annual charges	6,363	6,342	(21)	0% U
User charges and fees	4,024	3,589	(435)	(11)% U
The budgeted service delivery for RMCC did not proceed as initially outlined, largely due to weather-related interruptions sustained throughout the financial year. It is anticipated that the outstanding tasks will be completed in the forthcoming financial year.				
Other revenues	383	456	73	19% F
The Council received supplementary, unplanned revenue from the Australian Track Corporation for Inland Rail Reimbursement, as well as experienced an enhancement in retail sales attributable to the Junee Junction Recreation and Aquatic Centre.				
Operating grants and contributions	3,483	9,685	6,202	178% F
The Council adopts a conservative approach in its budgeting for operating grants and contributions to mitigate reliance on unsecured funding sources.				
Subsequently, the Council unexpectedly received supplementary, unbudgeted income in the form of operating grants and contributions, primarily due to the advanced disbursement of the 2023/2024 Financial Assistance Grants (FAGS) and road maintenance grant income.				
Capital grants and contributions	2,883	2,403	(480)	(17)% U
The construction and execution of the 2022/2023 capital works program deviated from the initial budgeted plan for a substantial number of capital projects. Consequently, the capital grants and contributions earmarked for these projects were not realised during the stated financial period and are anticipated to be received in subsequent years.				
Notable projects affected by this deviation encompass the Junee Library Refurbishment, Lord Street Bridge, and Junee Streets and Village Improvements.				
Interest and investment revenue	79	243	164	208% F
Junee Shire Council's interest earnings on investments surpassed the budgeted expectations for the financial year 2022/23. This outcome can be attributed to the sustained magnitude of the investment portfolio, which maintained a higher balance than initially anticipated.				
The larger balance primarily arises from a series of substantial capital projects that were initially budgeted but have not progressed as originally projected.				
Other income	200	251	51	26% F
Other income surpassed the budgeted figures due to an increase in the value of Council's investment properties throughout the financial year, coupled with additional rental and lease income.				

B5-1 Material budget variations (continued)

\$ '000	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2023 ----- Variance -----	
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Expenses

Employee benefits and on-costs	5,805	5,756	49	1%	F
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Materials and services	6,457	7,818	(1,361)	(21)%	U
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The Council incurred supplementary unanticipated costs pertaining to materials and services, primarily attributable to heightened expenditures in road maintenance, as well as the utilisation of grants and contributions acquired over the course of the fiscal year.

Borrowing costs	425	414	11	3%	F
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Depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non-financial assets	3,617	3,676	(59)	(2)%	U
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Other expenses	600	617	(17)	(3)%	U
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Net losses from disposal of assets	-	167	(167)	∞	U
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Mainly as a consequence of the transfer of a transformer asset to Essential Energy within the scope of the sewerage treatment plant construction project, the process entails the reversion of ownership and operational authority of the said asset to the utility company.

Statement of cash flows

Cash flows from operating activities	5,189	11,164	5,975	115%	F
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The Council adheres to a prudent budgeting strategy for operating grants and contributions to diminish dependency on unguaranteed funding sources.

As a result, the Council unexpectedly received supplemental unanticipated revenue in the form of operating grants and contributions, primarily attributed to the early disbursement of the 2023/2024 Financial Assistance Grants (FAGs) and income from road maintenance grants.

Cash flows from investing activities	(5,391)	(7,539)	(2,148)	40%	U
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Surplus funds were diligently invested in numerous term deposits over the course of the fiscal year to capitalise on the rising interest rates associated with such deposits.

Cash flows from financing activities	(601)	(629)	(28)	5%	U
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C Financial position

C1 Assets we manage

C1-1 Cash and cash equivalents

\$ '000	2023	2022
Cash assets		
Cash on hand and at bank	1,698	1,248
Cash equivalent assets		
– Deposits at call	1,797	1,001
– Short-term deposits	3,250	1,500
Total cash and cash equivalents	6,745	3,749

Reconciliation of cash and cash equivalents

Total cash and cash equivalents per Statement of Financial Position	6,745	3,749
Balance as per the Statement of Cash Flows	6,745	3,749

Accounting policy

For Statement of Cash Flow presentation purposes, cash and cash equivalents include: cash on hand; deposits held at call with financial institutions; other short-term, highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value; and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities on the Statement of Financial Position.

C1-2 Financial investments

\$ '000	2023 Current	2023 Non-current	2022 Current	2022 Non-current
Debt securities at amortised cost				
Term deposits	6,000	–	2,000	–
Total financial investments	6,000	–	2,000	–
Total cash assets, cash equivalents and investments	12,745	–	5,749	–

Accounting policy

Financial instruments are recognised initially on the date that the Council becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

On initial recognition, all financial instruments are measured at fair value plus transaction costs (except for instruments measured at fair value through profit or loss where transaction costs are expensed as incurred).

Financial assets

All recognised financial assets are subsequently measured in their entirety at either amortised cost or fair value, depending on the classification of the financial assets.

Classification

On initial recognition, Council classifies its financial assets into the following categories – those measured at:

- amortised cost
- fair value through profit and loss (FVTPL)
- fair value through other comprehensive income – equity instrument (FVOCI-equity)

Financial assets are not reclassified subsequent to their initial recognition.

C1-2 Financial investments (continued)

Amortised cost

Council's financial assets measured at amortised cost comprise trade and other receivables, term deposits and cash and cash equivalents in the Statement of Financial Position. Term deposits with an initial term of more than 3 months are classified as investments rather than cash and cash equivalents.

Subsequent to initial recognition, these assets are carried at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method less provision for impairment.

Interest income, impairment and gains or loss on de-recognition are recognised in profit or loss.

C1-3 Restricted and allocated cash, cash equivalents and investments

\$ '000	2023	2022
Total cash, cash equivalents and investments	12,745	5,749
Less: Externally restricted cash, cash equivalents and investments	<u>(7,398)</u>	<u>(3,784)</u>
Cash, cash equivalents and investments not subject to external restrictions	5,347	1,965
External restrictions – included in liabilities		
Employee leave entitlement - Sewer and waste	137	173
Specific purposes unexpended grants - General	<u>3,074</u>	<u>1,933</u>
External restrictions – included in liabilities	3,211	2,106
External restrictions – other		
Asset Management - Vehicle replacement fund (Community Transport)	87	103
Developer contributions – general	378	210
Domestic waste management	146	175
Sewer fund	1,384	1,156
Specific purpose unexpended grants (recognised as revenue) – General	2,118	–
Stormwater and Drainage Fund Reserve	<u>74</u>	<u>34</u>
External restrictions – other	4,187	1,678
Total external restrictions	7,398	3,784
\$ '000	2023	2022
Internal allocations		
Asset Management - General Fund	125	125
Asset Management - Plant and vehicle replacement	396	125
Bethungra Dam Reserve	61	35
Employees leave entitlement	550	356
Financial Assistance Grant Advance	3,695	624
Junee Caravan Park, Burns Park and Laurie Daley Oval	49	–
Junee Historical Society - Property sale proceeds	15	14
Martel Memorial Trust Fund	4	4
Property sale proceeds	–	479
Rehabilitation of gravel pits	27	22
Sale of land for unpaid rates and charges	–	11
Specific purpose grants - Co-contribution Amount	<u>377</u>	<u>–</u>
Total internal allocations	5,299	1,795

Cash, cash equivalents and investments not subject to external restrictions may be internally allocated by resolution or policy of the elected Council.

C1-4 Receivables

\$ '000	2023	2023	2022	2022
	Current	Non-current	Current	Non-current
Rates and annual charges	547	–	473	–
Interest and extra charges	38	–	30	–
User charges and fees	7	–	8	–
Accrued revenues				
– Interest on investments	72	–	6	–
– Other income accruals	16	–	7	–
Deferred debtors	–	165	–	167
Government grants and subsidies	764	–	2,443	–
Net GST receivable	15	–	43	–
Other debtors	79	–	117	–
Total	1,538	165	3,127	167
Less: provision for impairment				
User charges and fees	(8)	–	(8)	–
Other debtors	–	(165)	–	(167)
Total	(8)	(165)	(8)	(167)
Net receivables	1,530	–	3,119	–

Accounting policy

Receivables are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. Receivables are generally due for settlement within 30 days.

Impairment

Impairment of financial assets measured at amortised cost is recognised on an expected credit loss (ECL) basis.

When estimating ECL, Council considers reasonable and supportable information that is relevant and available without undue cost or effort. This includes both quantitative and qualitative information and analysis based on Council's historical experience and informed credit assessment, and including forward-looking information.

Council uses the simplified approach for trade receivables where the expected lifetime credit losses are recognised on day 1.

When considering the ECL for rates and annual charges debtors, Council takes into account that unpaid rates represent a charge against the rateable property that will be recovered when the property is next sold.

Credit losses are measured at the present value of the difference between the cash flows due to the entity in accordance with the contract, and the cash flows expected to be received. This is applied using a probability weighted approach.

Council writes off a receivable when there is information indicating that the debtor is in severe financial difficulty and there is no realistic prospect of recovery, e.g. when the debtor has been placed under liquidation or has entered into bankruptcy proceedings, or when the receivables are over five years past due, whichever occurs first.

Where Council renegotiates the terms of receivables due from certain customers, the new expected cash flows are discounted at the original effective interest rate and any resulting difference to the carrying value is recognised in profit or loss.

C1-5 Inventories

\$ '000	2023 Current	2023 Non-current	2022 Current	2022 Non-current
At cost:				
Real estate	–	58	–	58
Stores and materials	328	–	195	–
Total inventories	328	58	195	58

Accounting policy

Raw materials and stores, work in progress and finished goods

Raw materials and stores, work in progress and finished goods are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Costs are assigned to individual items of inventory on the basis of weighted average costs. Costs of purchased inventory are determined after deducting rebates and discounts. Net realisable value is the estimated selling price in the ordinary course of business less the estimated costs of completion and the estimated costs necessary to make the sale.

Land held for resale

Land held for resale is stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Cost is assigned by specific identification and includes the cost of acquisition, and development and borrowing costs during development. When development is completed, borrowing costs and other holding charges are expensed as incurred.

Borrowing costs included in the cost of land held for resale are those costs that would have been avoided if the expenditure on the acquisition and development of the land had not been made. Borrowing costs incurred while active development is interrupted for extended periods are recognised as expenses.

C1-6 Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment

By aggregated asset class	At 1 July 2022			Asset movements during the reporting period								At 30 June 2023		
	Gross carrying amount	Accumulated depreciation and impairment	Net carrying amount	Additions renewals ¹	Additions new assets	Carrying value of disposals	Depreciation expense	WIP transfers	Adjustments and transfers	Revaluation decrements to equity (ARR)	Revaluation increments to equity (ARR)	Gross carrying amount	Accumulated depreciation and impairment	Net carrying amount
\$ '000														
Capital work in progress	2,540	–	2,540	365	1,314	–	–	(2,199)	–	–	–	2,020	–	2,020
Plant and equipment	3,522	(2,782)	740	–	75	–	(198)	–	–	–	–	3,597	(2,980)	617
Office equipment	308	(237)	71	–	–	–	(24)	–	–	–	–	308	(261)	47
Furniture and fittings	210	(154)	56	–	–	–	(10)	16	–	–	–	226	(164)	62
Land:														
– Operational land	3,662	–	3,662	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2,585	6,247	–	6,247
– Community land	3,685	–	3,685	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1,777	5,462	–	5,462
Land improvements – depreciable	1,756	(1,251)	505	–	–	–	(63)	–	–	–	22	1,843	(1,379)	464
Infrastructure:														
– Buildings – non-specialised	4,529	(2,950)	1,579	–	–	–	(110)	–	–	–	104	5,296	(3,723)	1,573
– Buildings – specialised	20,467	(10,284)	10,183	42	9	–	(498)	156	–	–	1,024	27,302	(16,386)	10,916
– Other structures	6,418	(2,512)	3,906	179	294	–	(284)	329	–	(59)	–	7,527	(3,162)	4,365
– Roads	75,874	(35,732)	40,142	803	90	–	(1,611)	1,698	–	–	1,380	81,486	(38,984)	42,502
– Bridges	12,557	(4,321)	8,236	–	–	–	(127)	–	–	–	489	13,314	(4,716)	8,598
– Footpaths	3,550	(1,128)	2,422	–	–	–	(73)	–	1	–	118	3,729	(1,261)	2,468
– Bulk earthworks (non-depreciable)	68,764	–	68,764	–	295	–	–	–	–	–	3,459	72,518	–	72,518
– Stormwater drainage	18,444	(7,755)	10,689	–	–	–	(169)	–	(1)	–	811	19,866	(8,536)	11,330
– Sewerage network	28,928	(9,425)	19,503	9	102	(208)	(227)	–	–	–	3,197	30,875	(8,499)	22,376
Other assets:														
– Library books	30	(24)	6	–	–	–	(1)	–	–	–	–	30	(25)	5
– Other	155	(73)	82	–	–	–	(14)	–	–	–	–	155	(87)	68
Reinstatement, rehabilitation and restoration assets (refer Note C3-5):														
– Quarry assets	22	(1)	21	–	–	–	(1)	–	5	–	–	27	(2)	25
Total infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	255,421	(78,629)	176,792	1,398	2,179	(208)	(3,410)	–	5	(59)	14,966	281,828	(90,165)	191,663

(1) Renewals are defined as the replacement of existing assets (as opposed to the acquisition of new assets).

C1-6 Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment (continued)

By aggregated asset class	At 1 July 2021			Asset movements during the reporting period							At 30 June 2022			
	Gross carrying amount	Accumulated depreciation and impairment	Net carrying amount	Additions renewals ¹	Additions new assets	Carrying value of disposals	Depreciation expense	WIP transfers	Adjustments and transfers	Revaluation decrements to equity (ARR)	Revaluation increments to equity (ARR)	Gross carrying amount	Accumulated depreciation and impairment	Net carrying amount
\$ '000														
Capital work in progress	1,759	–	1,759	1,572	968	–	–	(1,746)	(13)	–	–	2,540	–	2,540
Plant and equipment	3,440	(2,613)	827	–	170	(16)	(241)	–	–	–	–	3,522	(2,782)	740
Office equipment	264	(215)	49	–	44	–	(22)	–	–	–	–	308	(237)	71
Furniture and fittings	210	(145)	65	–	–	–	(9)	–	–	–	–	210	(154)	56
Land:														
– Operational land	1,281	–	1,281	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2,381	3,662	–	3,662
– Community land	3,465	–	3,465	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	220	3,685	–	3,685
Land improvements – depreciable	1,799	(1,382)	417	42	–	–	(65)	–	–	–	111	1,756	(1,251)	505
Infrastructure:														
– Buildings – non-specialised	4,128	(2,602)	1,526	–	–	–	(87)	–	–	–	140	4,529	(2,950)	1,579
– Buildings – specialised	18,577	(8,994)	9,583	81	–	–	(381)	–	–	–	900	20,467	(10,284)	10,183
– Other structures	5,643	(2,050)	3,593	209	–	–	(242)	–	–	–	346	6,418	(2,512)	3,906
– Roads	72,113	(31,990)	40,123	541	566	–	(1,560)	1,558	–	(1,086)	–	75,874	(35,732)	40,142
– Bridges	7,751	(2,993)	4,758	–	–	–	(125)	–	–	–	3,603	12,557	(4,321)	8,236
– Footpaths	2,913	(1,092)	1,821	27	102	–	(71)	80	–	–	463	3,550	(1,128)	2,422
– Bulk earthworks (non-depreciable)	31,755	–	31,755	768	–	–	–	–	–	–	36,241	68,764	–	68,764
– Stormwater drainage	17,244	(7,189)	10,055	66	49	–	(156)	108	–	–	567	18,444	(7,755)	10,689
– Sewerage network	29,211	(10,694)	18,517	115	266	–	(431)	–	–	–	1,036	28,928	(9,425)	19,503
Other assets:														
– Library books	30	(23)	7	–	–	–	(1)	–	–	–	–	30	(24)	6
– Other	141	(59)	82	–	14	–	(14)	–	–	–	–	155	(73)	82
Reinstatement, rehabilitation and restoration assets (refer Note C3-5):														
– Quarry assets	4	–	4	–	–	–	(1)	–	18	–	–	22	(1)	21
Total infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	201,728	(72,041)	129,687	3,421	2,179	(16)	(3,406)	–	5	(1,086)	46,008	255,421	(78,629)	176,792

(1) Renewals are defined as the replacement of existing assets (as opposed to the acquisition of new assets).

C1-6 Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment (continued)

Accounting policy

Initial recognition of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment (IPPE)

IPPE is measured initially at cost. Cost includes the fair value of the consideration given to acquire the asset (net of discounts and rebates) and any directly attributable cost of bringing the asset to working condition for its intended use (inclusive of import duties and taxes).

When infrastructure, property, plant and equipment is acquired by Council at significantly below fair value, the assets are initially recognised at their fair value at acquisition date.

Subsequent costs are included in the asset's carrying amount or recognised as a separate asset, as appropriate, only when it is probable that future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to Council and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. All other repairs and maintenance are charged to the Income Statement during the financial period in which they are incurred.

Useful lives of IPPE

Land is not depreciated. Depreciation on other assets is calculated using the straight-line method to allocate their cost, net of their residual values, over their estimated useful lives as follows:

Plant and equipment	Years	Other equipment	Years
Office equipment	5 to 10	Playground equipment	5 to 15
Office furniture	5 to 20	Benches, seats etc.	10 to 20
Computer equipment	5		
Vehicles	5 to 10	Buildings	
Heavy plant/road making equipment	5 to 8	Buildings: masonry	50 to 100
Other plant and equipment	5 to 15	Buildings: other	20 to 40
		Stormwater assets	
Water and sewer assets		Drains	80 to 120
Dams and reservoirs	80 to 100	Culverts	50 to 120
Bores	20 to 40	Flood control structures	80 to 120
Reticulation pipes: PVC	177		
Reticulation pipes: other	80 to 97		
Pumps and telemetry	10 to 20		
		Other infrastructure assets	
Transportation assets		Swimming pools	50
Bridges	100	Other open space/recreational assets	20
Major Culverts	100	Other infrastructure	20
Footpaths	50		
Pavement Sub-Base	152		
Pavement Base	76		
Unsealed Pavement Base	27		
Primer Seal	5		
Wearin Course (Seal)	20		
Kerb & Gutter	75		

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at each reporting date.

Revaluation model

Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment are held at fair value. Comprehensive valuations are performed at least every five years, however the carrying amount of assets is assessed by Council at each reporting date to confirm that it is not materially different from current fair value.

Sewerage network assets are indexed at each reporting period in accordance with the Rates Reference Manual issued by Department of Planning and Environment – Water.

Increases in the carrying amounts arising on revaluation are credited to the IPPE revaluation reserve. To the extent that the increase reverses a decrease previously recognising profit or loss relating to that asset class, the increase is first recognised as profit or loss. Decreases that reverse previous increases of assets in the same class are first charged against IPPE revaluation reserve to the extent of the remaining reserve attributable to the class; all other decreases are charged to the Income Statement.

C1-6 Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment (continued)

Land under roads

Land under roads is land under roadways and road reserves including land under footpaths, nature strips and median strips.

Council has elected not to recognise land under roads acquired before 1 July 2008. Land under roads acquired after 1 July 2008 is recognised in accordance with the IPPE accounting policy.

Crown reserves

Crown reserves under Council's care and control are recognised as assets of the Council. While ownership of the reserves remains with the Crown, Council retains operational control of the reserves and is responsible for their maintenance and use in accordance with the specific purposes to which the reserves are dedicated.

Improvements on Crown reserves are also recorded as assets, while maintenance costs incurred by Council and revenues relating to the reserves are recognised within Council's Income Statement.

Rural Fire Service assets

Under Section 119 of the *Rural Fire Services Act 1997 (NSW)*, "all firefighting equipment purchased or constructed wholly or from money to the credit of the Fund is to be vested in the council of the area for or on behalf of which the firefighting equipment has been purchased or constructed".

Notwithstanding this, Council is of the view that it does not control the Rural Fire Service assets and has made representations to the NSW Government proposing that the legislation to be changed to remove any ambiguity.

Until such time as discussions on this matter have concluded and the legislation changed, Council will not recognise rural fire assets including buildings, and plant and vehicles.

C1-7 Investment properties

\$ '000	2023	2022
Owned investment property		
Investment property on hand at fair value	355	330
Total owned investment property	355	330
At fair value		
Opening balance at 1 July	330	–
Acquisitions	–	276
Net gain/(loss) from fair value adjustments	25	54
Closing balance at 30 June	355	330

Investment property, principally freehold rental property, is held for long-term rental yields and is not occupied by Council. Changes in fair value are recorded in the Income Statement as part of other income.

C2 Leasing activities

C2-1 Council as a lessee

Council has leases over a range of assets such as vehicles, machinery and IT equipment. Information relating to the leases in place and associated balances and transactions is provided below.

Terms and conditions of leases

Vehicles and machinery

Council leases vehicles and machinery with lease terms varying from two to 10 years; the lease payments are fixed during the lease term and there is generally no renewal option.

Office and IT equipment

Leases for office and IT equipment are generally low-value assets, except for significant items such as photocopiers. The leases are between two and five years with no renewal option, the payments are fixed, however, some of the leases include variable payments based on usage.

(a) Right of use assets

\$ '000	Plant & Equipment	Office and IT Equipment	Vehicles	Total
2023				
Opening balance at 1 July	742	70	30	842
Depreciation charge	(237)	(14)	(15)	(266)
Balance at 30 June	505	56	15	576
2022				
Opening balance at 1 July	1,009	–	27	1,036
Additions to right-of-use assets	–	71	18	89
Depreciation charge	(267)	(1)	(15)	(283)
Balance at 30 June	742	70	30	842

(b) Lease liabilities

\$ '000	2023 Current	2023 Non-current	2022 Current	2022 Non-current
Lease liabilities	261	370	269	631
Total lease liabilities	261	370	269	631

(c) (i) The maturity analysis

The maturity analysis of lease liabilities based on contractual undiscounted cash flows is shown in the table below:

\$ '000	< 1 year	1 – 5 years	> 5 years	Total	Total per Statement of Financial Position
2023					
Cash flows	284	381	10	675	631
2022					
Cash flows	307	665	10	982	900

C2-1 Council as a lessee (continued)

(d) Income Statement

The amounts recognised in the Income Statement relating to leases where Council is a lessee are shown below:

\$ '000	2023	2022
Interest on lease liabilities	37	47
Depreciation of right of use assets	266	283
Expenses relating to short-term leases	1	37
Expenses relating to low-value leases	–	3
	304	370

(e) Statement of Cash Flows

Total cash outflow for leases	307	352
	307	352

Accounting policy

At inception of a contract, Council assesses whether a lease exists – i.e. does the contract convey the right to control the use of an identified asset for a period of time in exchange for consideration?

Council has elected not to separate non-lease components from lease components for any class of asset and has accounted for payments as a single component.

At the lease commencement, Council recognises a right-of-use asset and associated lease liability for the lease term. The lease term includes extension periods where Council believes it is reasonably certain that the option will be exercised.

The right-of-use asset is measured using the cost model where cost on initial recognition comprises: the lease liability, initial direct costs, prepaid lease payments, estimated cost of removal and restoration, less any lease incentives received. The right-of-use asset is depreciated over the lease term on a straight-line basis and assessed for impairment in accordance with the impairment of asset accounting policy.

The lease liability is initially recognised at the present value of the remaining lease payments at the commencement of the lease. The discount rate is the rate implicit in the lease, however where this cannot be readily determined then the Council's incremental borrowing rate for a similar term with similar security is used.

Subsequent to initial recognition, the lease liability is measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method. The lease liability is re-measured when there is a lease modification, or change in estimate of the lease term or index upon which the lease payments are based (e.g. CPI).

Where the lease liability is re-measured, the right-of-use asset is adjusted to reflect the re-measurement.

Exceptions to lease accounting

Council has applied the exceptions to lease accounting for both short-term leases (i.e. leases with a term of less than or equal to 12 months) and leases of low-value assets. Council recognises the payments associated with these leases as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Leases at significantly below market value / Concessionary leases

Council has elected to measure the right of use asset arising from the concessionary leases at cost which is based on the associated lease liability at initial recognition.

C2-2 Council as a lessor

Operating leases

Council leases out a number of properties and /or plant and equipment to community groups; these leases have been classified as operating leases for financial reporting purposes and the assets are included in the Statement of Financial Position as:

- investment property – where the asset is held predominantly for rental or capital growth purposes (refer note C1-7)
- property, plant and equipment – where the rental is incidental, or the asset is held to meet Councils service delivery objective (refer note C1-6).

\$ '000	2023	2022
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(i) Assets held as investment property

Investment property operating leases relate to 6 George St and Willow Park Cottage.

The amounts recognised in the Income Statement relating to operating leases where Council is a lessor are shown below

Lease income (excluding variable lease payments not dependent on an index or rate)	23	22
Total income relating to operating leases for investment property assets	23	22

Operating lease expenses

Investment properties

Direct operating expenses that generated rental income	12	6
Total expenses relating to operating leases	12	6

(ii) Assets held as property, plant and equipment

Council provides operating leases on Council owned buildings for the purpose of service delivery objectives, as well as entering into leaseback arrangements with some staff for use of Council owned vehicles. The table below relates to operating leases on assets disclosed in C1-6.

Lease income (excluding variable lease payments not dependent on an index or rate)	110	99
Total income relating to operating leases for Council assets	110	99

Operating lease expenses

Land and property

Direct operating expenses that generated rental income	10	11
--	----	----

other leased assets expenses

Leaseback vehicle expenses	18	22
Total expenses relating to other leases assets	28	33

Amount of IPPE leased out by Council under operating leases

Land and buildings	775	750
Plant and equipment (Motor vehicles)	40	49
Total amount of IPPE leased out by Council under operating leases	815	799

(ii) Maturity analysis of undiscounted lease payments to be received after reporting date for all operating leases:

Maturity analysis of future lease income receivable showing the undiscounted lease payments to be received after reporting date for operating leases:

< 1 year	102	102
1–2 years	81	96
2–3 years	86	86
3–4 years	30	92
4–5 years	31	31
> 5 years	32	31
Total undiscounted lease payments to be received	362	438

continued on next page ...

C2-2 Council as a lessor (continued)

Accounting policy

When Council is a lessor, the lease is classified as either an operating or finance lease at inception date, based on whether substantially all of the risks and rewards incidental to ownership of the asset have been transferred to the lessee. If the risks and rewards have been transferred then the lease is classified as a finance lease, otherwise it is an operating lease.

When Council has a sub-lease over an asset and is the intermediate lessor then the head lease and sub-lease are accounted for separately. The classification of the sub-lease is based on the right-of-use asset which arises from the head lease rather than the useful life of the underlying asset.

If the lease contains lease and non-lease components, the non-lease components are accounted for in accordance with AASB 15 *Revenue from Contracts with Customers*.

The lease income is recognised on a straight-line basis over the lease term for an operating lease and as finance income using amortised cost basis for finance leases.

C3 Liabilities of Council

C3-1 Payables

\$ '000	2023 Current	2023 Non-current	2022 Current	2022 Non-current
Goods and services	568	-	672	-
Accrued expenses:				
– Interest on loans	23	-	31	-
– Interest on leases	4	-	5	-
– Salaries and wages	332	-	168	-
– Other expenditure accruals	187	-	194	-
Security bonds, deposits and retentions	18	-	15	-
Prepaid rates	211	-	177	-
Total payables	1,343	-	1,262	-

Accounting policy

Council measures all financial liabilities initially at fair value less transaction costs, subsequently financial liabilities are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

Payables represent liabilities for goods and services provided to Council prior to the end of financial year that are unpaid. The amounts are unsecured and are usually paid within 30 days of recognition.

C3-2 Contract Liabilities

\$ '000	Notes	2023 Current	2023 Non-current	2022 Current	2022 Non-current
Grants and contributions received in advance:					
Funds to construct Council controlled assets	(i)	2,887	-	1,547	-
Funds received prior to performance obligation being satisfied (upfront payments) - AASB 15	(ii)	188	-	386	-
Total grants received in advance		3,075	-	1,933	-
User fees and charges received in advance:					
Upfront fees – leisure centre	(iii)	20	-	17	-
Total user fees and charges received in advance		20	-	17	-
Total contract liabilities		3,095	-	1,950	-

Notes

(i) Council has received funding to construct assets including sporting facilities and other infrastructure. The funds received are under an enforceable contract which require Council to construct an identified asset which will be under Council's control on completion.

The revenue is recognised as Council constructs the asset and the contract liability reflects the funding received which cannot yet be recognised as revenue. The revenue is expected to be recognised in the next 12 months.

(ii) The contract liability relates to grants received prior to the revenue recognition criteria in AASB 15 being satisfied since the performance obligations are ongoing.

(iii) Upfront membership fees for the leisure centre do not meet the definition of a performance obligation and therefore the funds received are recorded as a contract liability on receipt and recognised as revenue over the expected average membership life.

Revenue recognised that was included in the contract liability balance at the beginning of the period

\$ '000	2023	2022
Grants and contributions received in advance:		
Funds to construct Council controlled assets	589	550
User fees and charges received in advance:		
Upfront fees – leisure centre	17	21
Total revenue recognised that was included in the contract liability balance at the beginning of the period	606	571

Accounting policy

Contract liabilities are recorded when consideration is received from a customer / fund provider prior to Council transferring a good or service to the customer, Council presents the funds which exceed revenue recognised as a contract liability.

C3-3 Borrowings

\$ '000	2023	2023	2022	2022
	Current	Non-current	Current	Non-current
Loans – secured ¹	387	7,376	360	7,763
Total borrowings	387	7,376	360	7,763

(1) Loans are secured over the general rating income of Council.

Disclosures on liability interest rate risk exposures, fair value disclosures and security can be found in Note E1-1.

(a) Changes in liabilities arising from financing activities

\$ '000	2022		Non-cash movements				2023
	Opening Balance	Cash flows	Acquisition	Fair value changes	Acquisition due to change in accounting policy	Other non-cash movement	Closing balance
Loans – secured	8,123	(360)	-	-	-	-	7,763
Lease liability (Note C2-1b)	900	(269)	-	-	-	-	631
Total liabilities from financing activities	9,023	(629)	-	-	-	-	8,394

\$ '000	2021		Non-cash movements				2022
	Opening Balance	Cash flows	Acquisition	Fair value changes	Acquisition due to change in accounting policy	Other non-cash movement	Closing balance
Loans – secured	8,758	(635)	-	-	-	-	8,123
Lease liability (Note C2-1b)	1,076	(176)	-	-	-	-	900
Total liabilities from financing activities	9,834	(811)	-	-	-	-	9,023

C3-3 Borrowings (continued)

(b) Financing arrangements

\$ '000	2023	2022
Total facilities		
Bank overdraft facilities ¹	250	250
Credit cards/purchase cards	10	10
Total financing arrangements	260	260
Undrawn facilities		
– Bank overdraft facilities	250	250
– Credit cards/purchase cards	10	10
Total undrawn financing arrangements	260	260

Additional financing arrangements information

Breaches and defaults

During the current and prior year, there were no defaults or breaches on any of the loans.

Security over loans

Loans are backed by anticipated future cash flows.

Lease liabilities are secured by the underlying leased assets.

Bank overdrafts

The bank overdraft of Council is secured over future cash flows.

(1) The bank overdraft facility may be drawn at any time and may be terminated by the bank without notice.

Accounting policy

Council measures all financial liabilities initially at fair value less transaction costs, subsequently financial liabilities are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

Fees paid on the establishment of loan facilities are recognised as transaction costs of the loan to the extent that it is probable that some or all of the facility will be drawn down.

Borrowings are removed from the Statement of Financial Position when the obligation specified in the contract is discharged, cancelled or expired. The difference between the carrying amount of a financial liability that has been extinguished or transferred to another party and the consideration paid, including any non-cash assets transferred or liabilities assumed, is recognised in other income or borrowing costs.

C3-4 Employee benefit provisions

\$ '000	2023	2023	2022	2022
	Current	Non-current	Current	Non-current
Annual leave	631	–	603	–
Long service leave	1,207	92	1,091	83
Other leave - RDO	36	–	39	–
Other leave - TIL	16	–	26	–
Total employee benefit provisions	1,890	92	1,759	83

Current employee benefit provisions not anticipated to be settled within the next twelve months

\$ '000	2023	2022
The following provisions, even though classified as current, are not expected to be settled in the next 12 months.		
Provisions – employees benefits	1,134	1,298
	1,134	1,298

Accounting policy

Employee benefit provisions are presented as current liabilities in the Statement of Financial Position if Council does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least 12 months after the reporting date, regardless of when the actual settlement is expected to occur and therefore all annual leave and vested long service leave (or that which vests within 12 months) is presented as current.

Short-term obligations

Liabilities for wages and salaries (including non-monetary benefits, annual leave and accumulating sick leave expected to be wholly settled within 12 months after the end of the period in which the employees render the related service) are recognised in respect of employees' services up to the end of the reporting period and are measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled. The liability for annual leave and accumulating sick leave is recognised in the provision for employee benefits. All other short-term employee benefit obligations are presented as payables.

Other long-term employee benefit obligations

The liability for long-service leave and annual leave that is not expected to be wholly settled within 12 months after the end of the period in which the employees render the related service is recognised in the provision for employee benefits and measured as the present value of expected future payments to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the end of the reporting period using the projected unit credit method. Consideration is given to expected future wage and salary levels, experience of employee departures, and periods of service. Expected future payments are discounted using market yields at the end of the reporting period on national government bonds with terms to maturity and currency that match, as closely as possible, the estimated future cash outflows.

On-costs

The employee benefit provisions include the aggregate on-cost liabilities that will arise when payment of current employee benefits is made in future periods.

These amounts include superannuation, payroll tax and workers compensation expenses which will be payable upon the future payment of certain leave liabilities which employees are entitled to at the reporting period.

C3-5 Provisions

\$ '000	2023	2023	2022	2022
	Current	Non-Current	Current	Non-Current
Asset remediation/restoration:				
Asset remediation/restoration (future works)	–	27	–	22
Sub-total – asset remediation/restoration	–	27	–	22
Total provisions	–	27	–	22

Description of and movements in provisions

\$ '000	Other provisions	
	Asset remediation	Total
2023		
At beginning of year	22	22
Other	5	5
Total other provisions at end of year	27	27
2022		
At beginning of year	4	4
Other	18	18
Total other provisions at end of year	22	22

Accounting policy

Provisions are recognised when Council has a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of past events, it is probable that an outflow of resources will be required to settle the obligation, and the amount has been reliably estimated.

Where there are a number of similar obligations, the likelihood that an outflow will be required in settlement is determined by considering the class of obligations as a whole. A provision is recognised even if the likelihood of an outflow with respect to any one item included in the same class of obligations may be small.

Provisions are measured at the present value of management's best estimate of the expenditure required to settle the present obligation at the reporting date. The discount rate used to determine the present value reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the liability. The increase in the provision due to the passage of time is recognised as a borrowing cost.

Asset remediation – tips and quarries

Restoration

Close-down and restoration costs include the dismantling and demolition of infrastructure, and the removal of residual materials and remediation of disturbed areas. Estimated close-down and restoration costs are provided for in the accounting period when the obligation arising from the related disturbance occurs, whether this occurs during the development or during the operation phase, based on the net present value of estimated future costs.

Provisions for close-down and restoration costs do not include any additional obligations which are expected to arise from future disturbance. The costs are estimated on the basis of a closure plan. The cost estimates are calculated annually during the life of the operation to reflect known developments, e.g. updated cost estimates and revisions to the estimated lives of operations, and are subject to formal review at regular intervals.

Rehabilitation

Where rehabilitation is conducted systematically over the life of the operation, rather than at the time of closure, provision is made for the estimated outstanding continuous rehabilitation work at each reporting date, and the cost is charged to the Income Statement.

Provision is made for the estimated present value of the costs of environmental clean-up obligations outstanding at the reporting date. These costs are charged to the Income Statement. Movements in the environmental clean-up provisions are presented as an operating cost, except for the unwinding of the discount which is shown as a borrowing cost.

Remediation procedures generally commence soon after the time the damage, remediation process, and estimated remediation costs become known, but may continue for many years depending on the nature of the disturbance and the remediation techniques.

As noted above, the ultimate cost of environmental remediation is uncertain and cost estimates can vary in response to many factors, including changes to the relevant legal requirements, the emergence of new restoration techniques, or experience at

C3-5 Provisions (continued)

other locations. The expected timing of expenditure can also change, for example in response to changes in quarry reserves or production rates. As a result, there could be significant adjustments to the provision for close down and restoration and environmental clean-up, which would affect future financial results.

Other movements in the provisions for close-down and restoration costs, including those resulting from new disturbance, updated cost estimates, changes to the estimated lives of operations, and revisions to discount rates, are capitalised within property, plant and equipment. These costs are then depreciated over the lives of the assets to which they relate.

Close-down and restoration costs are a normal consequence of tip and quarry operations, and the majority of close-down and restoration expenditure is incurred at the end of the life of the operations. Although the ultimate cost to be incurred is uncertain, Council estimates the respective costs based on feasibility and engineering studies using current restoration standards and techniques.

C4 Reserves

C4-1 Nature and purpose of reserves

IPPE Revaluation reserve

The infrastructure, property, plant and equipment (IPPE) revaluation reserve is used to record increments and decrements in the revaluation of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment.

Fair value through other comprehensive income reserve (FVOCI)

Changes in the fair value of financial assets are taken through the fair value through other comprehensive income revaluation reserve. The accumulated changes in fair value are transferred to profit or loss when the financial asset is derecognised or impaired.

D Council structure

D1 Results by fund

General fund refers to all Council activities other than sewer. All amounts disclosed in this note are gross i.e. inclusive of internal charges and recoveries made between the funds. Assets and liabilities shown in the sewer column are restricted for use for these activities.

D1-1 Income Statement by fund

\$ '000	General ¹ 2023	Sewer 2023
Income from continuing operations		
Rates and annual charges	5,467	875
User charges and fees	3,123	466
Interest and investment revenue	206	37
Other revenues	456	–
Grants and contributions provided for operating purposes	9,685	–
Grants and contributions provided for capital purposes	2,403	–
Other income	251	–
Total income from continuing operations	21,591	1,378
Expenses from continuing operations		
Employee benefits and on-costs	5,393	363
Materials and services	7,459	359
Borrowing costs	299	115
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non-financial assets	3,449	227
Other expenses	617	–
Net losses from the disposal of assets	(35)	202
Total expenses from continuing operations	17,182	1,266
Operating result from continuing operations	4,409	112
Net operating result for the year	4,409	112
Net operating result attributable to each council fund	4,409	112
Net operating result for the year before grants and contributions provided for capital purposes	2,006	112

(1) General fund refers to all of Council's activities except for its sewer activities which are listed separately.

D1-2 Statement of Financial Position by fund

\$ '000	General ¹ 2023	Sewer 2023
ASSETS		
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	5,361	1,384
Investments	6,000	–
Receivables	1,408	122
Inventories	328	–
Total current assets	13,097	1,506
Non-current assets		
Inventories	58	–
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	169,254	22,409
Investment property	355	–
Right of use assets	576	–
Total non-current assets	170,243	22,409
Total assets	183,340	23,915
LIABILITIES		
Current liabilities		
Payables	1,343	–
Contract liabilities	3,095	–
Lease liabilities	261	–
Borrowings	328	59
Employee benefit provision	1,759	131
Total current liabilities	6,786	190
Non-current liabilities		
Lease liabilities	370	–
Borrowings	4,850	2,526
Employee benefit provision	86	6
Provisions	27	–
Total non-current liabilities	5,333	2,532
Total liabilities	12,119	2,722
Net assets	171,221	21,193
EQUITY		
Accumulated surplus	93,413	9,255
Revaluation reserves	77,808	11,938
Council equity interest	171,221	21,193
Total equity	171,221	21,193

(1) General fund refers to all of Council's activities except for its sewer activities which are listed separately.

E Risks and accounting uncertainties

E1-1 Risks relating to financial instruments held

Council's overall risk management program focuses on the unpredictability of financial markets and seeks to minimise potential adverse effects on the financial performance of the Council.

Council's objective is to maximise its return on cash and investments whilst maintaining an adequate level of liquidity and preserving capital. The finance team manages the cash and Investments portfolio with the assistance of independent advisors. Council has an investment policy which complies with the s 625 of the Act and the Ministerial Investment Order. The policy is regularly reviewed by Council and a monthly investment report is provided to Council setting out the make-up performance of the portfolio as required by local government regulations.

Council does not engage in transactions expressed in foreign currencies and is therefore not subject to foreign currency risk.

Financial risk management is carried out by the finance team under policies approved by the Councillors.

The fair value of Council's financial assets and financial liabilities approximates their carrying amount.

Risks summary

The risks associated with the financial instruments held are:

- interest rate risk – the risk that movements in interest rates could affect returns
- liquidity risk – the risk that Council will not be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.
- credit risk – the risk that a contracting entity will not complete its obligations under a financial instrument, resulting in a financial loss to the Council.

Council manages these risks by diversifying its portfolio and only purchasing investments with high credit ratings or capital guarantees. Council also seeks advice from independent advisers before placing any cash and investments.

(a) Market risk – interest rate and price risk

\$ '000	2023	2022
<p>The impact on result for the year and equity of a reasonably possible movement in the price of investments held and interest rates is shown below. The reasonably possible movements were determined based on historical movements and economic conditions in place at the reporting date.</p>		
Impact of a 1% movement in interest rates		
– Equity / Income Statement	110	45

E1-1 Risks relating to financial instruments held (continued)

(b) Credit risk

Council's major receivables comprise rates, annual charges, user charges and fees.

Council manages the credit risk associated with these receivables by monitoring outstanding debt and employing stringent debt recovery procedures. Council also encourages ratepayers to pay their rates by the due date through incentives.

The credit risk for liquid funds and other short-term financial assets is considered negligible, since the counterparties are reputable banks with high quality external credit ratings.

There are no significant concentrations of credit risk other than Council has significant credit risk exposures in its local area given the nature of Council activities.

The level of outstanding receivables is reported to Council monthly and benchmarks are set and monitored for acceptable collection performance. The balances of receivables that remain within initial trade terms (as detailed in the table) are considered to be of high credit quality.

The maximum exposure to credit risk at the reporting date is the carrying amount of each class of receivable in the financial statements.

The Council engaged in a re-negotiation of repayment terms with a single counterparty. This re-negotiation was necessitated by a variety of factors, including changes in the financial standing of the counterparty and broader economic environment. As a result of the re-negotiations, certain modifications were made to the original repayment terms, including alterations to payment schedules. The Council has carefully evaluated the impact of these changes on its financial position and has made appropriate adjustments and discloses at Note C1-4 to reflect the new terms of the receivable.

Credit risk profile

Receivables – rates and annual charges

Credit risk on rates and annual charges is minimised by the ability of Council to recover these debts as a secured charge over the land; that is, the land can be sold to recover the debt. Council is also able to charge interest on overdue rates and annual charges at higher than market rates which further encourages payment.

\$ '000	Not yet overdue	< 5 years	> 5 years overdue	Total
2023				
Gross carrying amount	–	510	37	547
2022				
Gross carrying amount	–	455	18	473

Receivables - non-rates and annual charges and contract assets

Council applies the simplified approach for non-rates and annual charges debtors and contract assets to provide for expected credit losses, which permits the use of the lifetime expected loss provision at inception. To measure the expected credit losses, non-rates and annual charges debtors and contract assets have been grouped based on shared credit risk characteristics and the days past due.

The loss allowance provision is determined as follows. The expected credit losses incorporate forward-looking information.

\$ '000	Not yet overdue	Overdue debts				Total
		31 - 60 days	0 - 30 days	61 - 90 days	> 91 days	
2023						
Gross carrying amount	24	19	1	1	172	217
Expected loss rate (%)	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	100.00%	79.72%
ECL provision	–	–	–	1	172	173
2022						
Gross carrying amount	8	–	7	–	182	197
Expected loss rate (%)	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	96.15%	88.83%
ECL provision	–	–	–	–	175	175

E1-1 Risks relating to financial instruments held (continued)

(c) Liquidity risk

Payables, lease liabilities and borrowings are both subject to liquidity risk; that is, the risk that insufficient funds may be on hand to meet payment obligations as and when they fall due.

Council manages this risk by monitoring its cash flow requirements and liquidity levels, and by maintaining an adequate cash buffer. Payment terms can be extended, and overdraft facilities drawn upon in extenuating circumstances.

Borrowings are also subject to interest rate risk: the risk that movements in interest rates could adversely affect funding costs. Council manages this risk through diversification of borrowing types, maturities and interest rate structures.

The finance team regularly reviews interest rate movements to determine if it would be advantageous to refinance or renegotiate part or all of the loan portfolio.

The timing of cash flows presented in the table below to settle financial liabilities reflects the earliest contractual settlement dates. The timing of expected outflows is not expected to be materially different from contracted cashflows.

The amounts disclosed in the table are the undiscounted contracted cash flows for non-lease liabilities (refer to Note C2-1(b) for lease liabilities) and therefore the balances in the table may not equal the balances in the Statement of Financial Position due to the effect of discounting.

\$ '000	Weighted average interest rate	Subject to no maturity	payable in: ≤ 1 Year	1 - 5 Years	> 5 Years	Total cash outflows	Actual carrying values
2023							
Payables	0.00%	–	1,343	–	–	1,343	1,343
Borrowings	4.80%	–	791	2,828	8,286	11,905	7,763
Lease liabilities	5.20%	–	284	381	10	675	631
Total financial liabilities		–	2,418	3,209	8,296	13,923	9,737
2022							
Payables	0.00%	–	1,262	–	–	1,262	1,262
Borrowings	5.80%	–	780	3,160	8,490	12,430	8,123
Lease liabilities	5.20%	–	307	665	10	982	900
Total financial liabilities		–	2,349	3,825	8,500	14,674	10,285

E2-1 Fair value measurement

The Council measures the following asset and liability classes at fair value on a recurring basis:

- Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment
- Investment property

Fair value hierarchy

All assets and liabilities measured at fair value are assigned to a level in the fair value hierarchy as follows:

Level 1: Unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the entity can access at the measurement date

Level 2: Inputs other than quoted prices included within level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly

Level 3: Unobservable inputs for the asset or liability

The table below shows the assigned level for each asset and liability held at fair value by Council:

\$ '000	Notes	Fair value measurement hierarchy							
		Date of latest valuation		Level 2 Significant observable inputs		Level 3 Significant unobservable inputs		Total	
		2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022
Recurring fair value measurements									
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment C1-6									
Plant & Equipment		30/06/23	30/06/18	–	–	617	740	617	740
Office Equipment		30/06/23	30/06/18	–	–	47	71	47	71
Furniture & Fittings		30/06/23	30/06/18	–	–	62	56	62	56
Land									
– Operational Land		30/06/23	30/06/18	–	–	6,247	3,662	6,247	3,662
– Community Land		30/06/23	30/06/22	–	–	5,462	3,685	5,462	3,685
Land Improvements – depreciable		30/06/23	30/06/21	–	–	464	505	464	505
Buildings – Non Specialised		30/06/23	30/06/18	–	–	1,573	1,579	1,573	1,579
Buildings – Specialised		30/06/23	30/06/18	–	–	10,916	10,183	10,916	10,183
Other Structures		30/06/23	30/06/18	–	–	4,365	3,906	4,365	3,906
Infrastructure:									
– Roads		30/06/22	30/06/22	–	–	42,502	40,142	42,502	40,142
– Bridges		30/06/22	30/06/22	–	–	8,598	8,236	8,598	8,236
– Footpaths		30/06/22	30/06/22	–	–	2,468	2,422	2,468	2,422
– Bulk Earthworks (non-depreciable)		30/06/22	30/06/22	–	–	72,518	68,764	72,518	68,764
– Stormwater Drainage		30/06/20	30/06/20	–	–	11,330	10,689	11,330	10,689
– Sewerage Network		30/06/23	30/06/17	–	–	22,376	19,503	22,376	19,503
Other Assets		30/06/23	30/06/18	–	–	68	82	68	82
Library books		30/06/23	30/06/18	–	–	5	6	5	6
Quarry assets		30/06/23	30/06/18	–	–	25	21	25	21
Total infrastructure, property, plant and equipment				–	–	189,643	174,252	189,643	174,252
Investment property									
Residential property		30/06/23	30/06/22	355	330	–	–	355	330
Total investment property				355	330	–	–	355	330

Valuation techniques

Where Council is unable to derive fair valuations using quoted market prices of identical assets (ie. level 1 inputs) Council instead utilises a spread of both observable inputs (level 2 inputs) and unobservable inputs (level 3 inputs).

E2-1 Fair value measurement (continued)

The fair valuation techniques Council has employed while utilising level 2 and level 3 inputs are as follows:

Investment property

The Council presently possesses a singular investment property located at:

- 6 George Street, Junee

A comprehensive and independent revaluation of the Council's investment properties is conducted annually, specifically at the conclusion of each financial year. The value disclosed in the financial statements reflects the most current valuation available.

The valuation methodology employed for this properties is based on the Market Approach. As at 30 June 2023, the valuation of this particular property was conducted by Ray White Real Estate.

It is noteworthy that there have been no alterations in the valuation technique utilised throughout the reporting year.

Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment (IPPE)

Plant, equipment, furniture, fittings, office equipment and library books

These asset classes are valued at cost, albeit disclosed at fair value in the notes. The carrying amount of these assets is assumed to approximate fair value due to the nature of the items. Examples of asset types within these classes are as follows:

- Plant & Equipment - Graders, trucks, rollers, tractors and motor vehicles.
- Office Equipment - Computer, photocopiers, tablets etc.
- Furniture & Fittings - Chairs, desks, cupboards etc.
- Library Books - Books

There has been no change to the valuation process during the reporting period.

Community and operational land

Community land was revalued as of 30 June 2023 in-house using the Land Value Search reports provided by the NSW Valuer-General.

Council obtains fair values for operational land from an external valuer.

Council's operational land was valued externally by Egan Valuers during the 2022/23 using the market approach.

Land Improvements - Depreciable and Other Structures

Land improvements - depreciable and other structures comprise of playgrounds, lighting, irrigation systems, fencing, shade structures etc.

Adopting level 3 inputs, the cost approach has been applied as there is insufficient market based evidence for the adoption of level 2 inputs.

Council's land improvements was valued externally by Egan Valuers during 2022/23.

Throughout the reporting period, it is imperative to note that there have been no modifications made to the valuation procedure, except for a necessary adjustment pertaining to Other Structures valued at less than \$50,000. This adjustment aligns with the external valuations conducted on Other Structures exceeding the \$50,000 threshold.

Buildings - Non-specialised and specialised

Council's buildings were valued externally by Egan Valuers during 2022/23 using the cost approach for each asset.

There has been no change to the valuation process during the reporting period.

Roads (including bridges, footpaths, bulk earthworks) and other similar assets

The cost approach using level 3 inputs was used to value these asset classes. An internal revaluation was undertaken at February 2022 based on actual costs and assumptions from Council's Engineering Department.

There has been no change to the valuation process during the reporting period.

An assessment has been undertaken resulting in indexation being applied to these assets classes for 30 June 2023.

E2-1 Fair value measurement (continued)

Stormwater drainage

Stormwater drainage asset class includes stormwater pits, stormwater pipes and open channels.

These assets were revalued internally during 2019/20 using the cost approach.

There has been no change to the valuation process during the reporting period.

An assessment has been undertaken resulting in indexation being applied to these assets classes for 30 June 2023.

Sewerage Network

Assets within this class comprise Sewer Mains and Sewerage Treatment Plants.

The cost approach has been adopted to estimate the replacement cost for each componentised asset with different useful lives. These assets are indexed each year in accordance with the NSW Reference Rate Manual for Water Supply, Sewerage and Stormwater Assets as published by the Office of Water.

An in-house valuation of the Sewerage Network was undertaken during 2022/23, and has been valued using the cost method.

Fair value measurements using significant unobservable inputs (level 3)

Significant unobservable valuation inputs used (for level 3 asset classes) and their relationship to fair value.

The following table summarises the quantitative information relating to the significant unobservable inputs used in deriving the various level 3 asset class fair values.

	Valuation technique/s	Unobservable inputs
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment		
Plant, equipment, furniture, fittings and office equipment	Cost approach	Current replacement cost of modern equivalent asset, asset condition, useful life and residual value
Operational land	Market approach	Price per square metre
Community land	Market approach. Land values obtained from the NSW Valuer-General	Land value, land area, level of restriction
Land improvements - Depreciable	Cost approach	Current replacement cost of modern equivalent asset, asset condition, useful life and residual value
Buildings (including swimming pools and other recreational buildings)	Cost approach	Current replacement cost of modern equivalent asset, asset condition, useful life and residual value
Other structures	Cost approach	Unit rates per m2 Current replacement cost of modern equivalent asset, asset condition, useful life and residual value
Roads (including bridges, footpaths, bulk earthworks) and other similar assets	Cost approach	Unit rates per m2 Asset condition, remaining useful lives using componentisation.
Stormwater drainage	Cost approach	Unit rates per m2 Asset condition, remaining lives Unit rates per m2

E2-1 Fair value measurement (continued)

	Valuation technique/s	Unobservable inputs
Sewerage network infrastructure	Cost approach	Asset condition, remaining useful lives using componentisation Unit rates per m2 NSW Reference Rate Manual for Water Supply, Sewerage and Stormwater Assets and checked against recent construction costs.
Library books	Cost approach	Current replacement cost of modern equivalent asset, asset condition, remaining lives, residual value
Quarry assets	Cost approach	Environmental legislation, timing of expected cash outflow, asset condition
Other	Cost approach	Asset condition, remaining lives

A reconciliation of the movements in recurring fair value measurements allocated to Level 3 of the hierarchy is provided below:

\$ '000	2023	2022
Opening balance	174,225	125,109
Total gains or losses for the period		
Recognised in other comprehensive income – revaluation surplus	14,907	44,922
Other movements		
Purchases (GBV)	4,129	7,616
Disposals (WDV)	(208)	(16)
Depreciation and impairment	(3,410)	(3,406)
Closing balance	189,643	174,225

Highest and best use

All of Council's non-financial assets are considered as being utilised for their highest and best use.

E3-1 Contingencies

The following assets and liabilities do not qualify for recognition in the Statement of Financial Position, but their knowledge and disclosure is considered relevant to the users of Council's financial report.

CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

Defined benefit plan

Council is party to an Industry Defined Benefit Plan under the Local Government Superannuation Scheme, named The Local Government Superannuation Scheme – Pool B (the Scheme) which is a defined benefit plan that has been deemed to be a 'multi-employer fund' for purposes of AASB119 Employee Benefits for the following reasons:

- Assets are not segregated within the sub-group according to the employees of each sponsoring employer.
- The contribution rates have been the same for all sponsoring employers. That is, contribution rates have not varied for each sponsoring employer according to the experience relating to the employees of that sponsoring employer.
- Benefits for employees of all sponsoring employers are determined according to the same formulae and without regard to the sponsoring employer.
- The same actuarial assumptions are currently used in respect of the employees of each sponsoring employer.

Given the factors above, each sponsoring employer is exposed to the actuarial risks associated with current and former employees of other sponsoring employers, and hence shares in the associated gains and losses (to the extent that they are not borne by members).

Description of the funding arrangements.

Pooled Employers are required to pay standard employer contributions and additional lump sum contributions to the fund.

The standard employer contributions were determined using the new entrant rate method under which a contribution rate sufficient to fund the total benefits over the working life-time of a typical new entrant is calculated. The current standard employer contribution rates are::

Division B	1.9 times member contributions for non-180 Point Members; Nil for 180 Point Members*
Division C	2.5% salaries
Division D	1.64 times member contributions

* For 180 Point Members, Employers are required to contribute 8.0% of salaries for the year ending 30 June 2023 (increasing to 8.5% in line with the increase in the Superannuation Guarantee) to these members' accumulation accounts, which are paid in addition to members' defined benefits.

The past service contribution for each Pooled Employer is a share of the total past service contributions of \$20.0 million per annum for 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2024, apportioned according to each employer's share of the accrued liabilities as at 30 June 2022. These past service contributions are used to maintain the adequacy of the funding position for the accrued liabilities.

The adequacy of contributions is assessed at each triennial actuarial investigation and monitored annually between triennials.

Description of the extent to which Council can be liable to the plan for other Council's obligations under the terms and conditions of the multi-employer plan

As stated above, each sponsoring employer (Council) is exposed to the actuarial risks associated with current and former employees of other sponsoring employers and hence shares in the associated gains and losses.

However, there is no relief under the Fund's trust deed for employers to walk away from their defined benefit obligations. Under limited circumstances, an employer may withdraw from the plan when there are no active members, on full payment of outstanding additional contributions. There is no provision for allocation of any surplus which may be present at the date of withdrawal of the Council.

There are no specific provisions under the Fund's trust deed dealing with deficits or surplus on wind-up.

There is no provision for allocation of any surplus which may be present at the date of withdrawal of an employer.

E3-1 Contingencies (continued)

The amount of Council employer contributions to the defined benefit section of the Local Government Superannuation Scheme and recognised as an expense for the year ending 30 June 2023 was \$94,854.75. The last formal valuation of the fund was undertaken by fund actuary, Richard Boyfield, FIAA as at 30 June 2022.

Council's expected contribution to the plan for the next annual reporting period is \$80,499.84.

The estimated employer reserves financial position for the Pooled Employers at 30 June 2023 is:

Employer reserves only *	\$millions	Asset Coverage
Assets	2,290.9	
Past Service Liabilities	2,236.1	102.4%
Vested Benefits	2,253.6	101.7%

* excluding other accumulation accounts and reserves in both assets and liabilities.

Council's share of that deficiency cannot be accurately calculated as the Scheme is a mutual arrangement where assets and liabilities are pooled together for all member councils. For this reason, no liability for the deficiency has been recognised in Council's accounts. Council has a possible obligation that may arise should the Scheme require immediate payment to correct the deficiency.

The key economic long term assumptions used to calculate the present value of accrued benefits are:

Investment return	6% per annum
Salary inflation *	3.5% per annum
Increase in CPI	6.0% for FY 23/23 2.5% per annum thereafter

* Plus promotional increases

The contribution requirements may vary from the current rates if the overall sub-group experience is not in line with the actuarial assumptions in determining the funding program; however, any adjustment to the funding program would be the same for all sponsoring employers in the Pooled Employers group.

CONTINGENT ASSETS

(i) Infringement notices/fines

Fines and penalty income, the result of Council issuing infringement notices is followed up and collected by the Infringement Processing Bureau.

Council's revenue recognition policy for such income is to account for it as revenue on receipt.

Accordingly, at year end, there is a potential asset due to Council representing issued but unpaid infringement notices.

Due to the limited information available on the status, value and duration of outstanding notices, Council is unable to determine the value of outstanding income.

F People and relationships

F1 Related party disclosures

F1-1 Key management personnel (KMP)

Key management personnel (KMP) of the Council are those persons having the authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the Council, directly or indirectly.

The aggregate amount of KMP compensation included in the Income Statement is:

\$ '000	2023	2022
Compensation:		
Short-term benefits	936	850
Post-employment benefits	83	79
Other long-term benefits	40	19
Total	1,059	948

Other transactions with KMP and their related parties

Council has determined that transactions at arm's length between KMP and Council as part of KMP using Council services (e.g. access to library or Council swimming pool) will not be disclosed.

Nature of the transaction	Transactions during the year	Outstanding balances including commitments	Terms and conditions	Impairment provision on outstanding balances	Impairment expense
\$ '000					
2023					
Junee District Co-Operative Society (trading as Junee IGA)	10	1	30 Day Account	-	-
Mark Halliburton - Advanced Roofing & Plumbing	15	-	30 Day Account	-	-
R S Taylor Plumbing Services	113	-	30 Day Account	-	-
2022					
Junee District Co-Operative Society (trading as Junee IGA)	8	1	30 Day Account	-	-
Mark Halliburton - Advanced Roofing & Plumbing	67	-	30 Day Account	-	-
R S Taylor Plumbing Services	88	3	30 Day Account	-	-

F1-2 Councillor and Mayoral fees and associated expenses

\$ '000	2023	2022
The aggregate amount of Councillor and Mayoral fees and associated expenses included in materials and services expenses in the Income Statement are:		
Mayoral fee	28	27
Councillors' fees	80	71
Other Councillors' expenses (including Mayor)	19	20
Total	127	118

F2 Other relationships

F2-1 Audit fees

\$ '000	2023	2022
<p>During the year, the following fees were incurred for services provided by the auditor of Council, related practices and non-related audit firms</p>		
Auditors of the Council - NSW Auditor-General:		
(i) Audit and other assurance services		
Audit and review of financial statements	44	37
Remuneration for audit and other assurance services	44	37
Total Auditor-General remuneration	44	37
Non NSW Auditor-General audit firms		
(i) Audit and other assurance services		
Internal audit and other assurance services	11	16
Remuneration for audit and other assurance services	11	16
Total remuneration of non NSW Auditor-General audit firms	11	16
Total audit fees	55	53

G Other matters

G1-1 Statement of Cash Flows information

Reconciliation of net operating result to cash provided from operating activities

\$ '000	2023	2022
Net operating result from Income Statement	4,521	4,560
Add / (less) non-cash items:		
Depreciation and amortisation	3,676	3,689
(Gain) / loss on disposal of assets	167	(1,115)
Losses/(gains) recognised on fair value re-measurements through the P&L:		
– Investment property	(25)	(54)
Movements in operating assets and liabilities and other cash items:		
(Increase) / decrease of receivables	1,589	(1,598)
Increase / (decrease) in provision for impairment of receivables	(2)	55
(Increase) / decrease of inventories	(133)	25
Increase / (decrease) in payables	(104)	672
Increase / (decrease) in other accrued expenses payable	157	(206)
Increase / (decrease) in other liabilities	28	–
Increase / (decrease) in contract liabilities	1,145	1,299
Increase / (decrease) in employee benefit provision	140	(225)
Increase / (decrease) in other provisions	5	18
Net cash flows from operating activities	11,164	7,120

G2-1 Commitments

Capital commitments (exclusive of GST)

\$ '000	2023	2022
Capital expenditure committed for at the reporting date but not recognised in the financial statements as liabilities:		
Buildings	1,091	680
Plant and equipment	433	203
Road infrastructure	2,763	1,135
Sewerage Treatment Plant	276	95
Other	270	–
Total commitments	4,833	2,113
These expenditures are payable as follows:		
Within the next year	4,833	2,113
Total payable	4,833	2,113

G3-1 Events occurring after the reporting date

Council is unaware of any material or significant 'non-adjusting events' that should be disclosed.

G4 Statement of developer contributions as at 30 June 2023

G4-1 Summary of developer contributions

	Opening balance at 1 July 2022 Restated	Contributions received during the year			Interest and investment income earned	Amounts expended	Internal borrowings	Held as restricted asset at 30 June 2023	Cumulative balance of internal borrowings (to)/from
		Cash	Non-cash Land	Non-cash Other					
\$ '000									
S7.12 levies – under a plan	210	168	–	–	–	–	–	378	–
Total S7.12 revenue under plans	210	168	–	–	–	–	–	378	–
Total contributions	210	168	–	–	–	–	–	378	–

Under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*, Council has significant obligations to provide Section 7.11 (contributions towards provision or improvement of amenities or services) infrastructure in new release areas. It is possible that the funds contributed may be less than the cost of this infrastructure, requiring Council to borrow or use general revenue to fund the difference.

S7.12 Levies – under a plan

	Opening balance at 1 July 2022 Restated	Contributions received during the year			Interest and investment income earned	Amounts expended	Internal borrowings	Held as restricted asset at 30 June 2023	Cumulative balance of internal borrowings (to)/from
		Cash	Non-cash Land	Non-cash Other					
\$ '000									
Contribution Plan 2021 - 2026									
Civil Infrastructure - K&G	–	53	–	–	–	–	–	53	–
Civil Infrastructure - Footpaths	70	5	–	–	–	–	–	75	–
Community Facilities - JJRAC	140	10	–	–	–	–	–	150	–
Open Space & Recreation	–	100	–	–	–	–	–	100	–
Total	210	168	–	–	–	–	–	378	–

G5 Statement of performance measures

G5-1 Statement of performance measures – consolidated results

\$ '000	Amounts 2023	Indicator 2023	Indicators 2022 2021		Benchmark
1. Operating performance ratio					
Total continuing operating revenue excluding capital grants and contributions less operating expenses ^{1,2}	2,259	11.00%	9.30%	(3.33)%	> 0.00%
Total continuing operating revenue excluding capital grants and contributions ¹	20,541				
2. Own source operating revenue ratio					
Total continuing operating revenue excluding all grants and contributions ¹	10,856	47.32%	53.78%	48.92%	> 60.00%
Total continuing operating revenue ¹	22,944				
3. Unrestricted current ratio					
Current assets less all external restrictions	7,083	2.90x	2.58x	2.02x	> 1.50x
Current liabilities less specific purpose liabilities	2,441				
4. Debt service cover ratio					
Operating result before capital excluding interest and depreciation/impairment/amortisation ¹	6,349	6.09x	4.41x	2.23x	> 2.00x
Principal repayments (Statement of Cash Flows) plus borrowing costs (Income Statement)	1,043				
5. Rates and annual charges outstanding percentage					
Rates and annual charges outstanding	585	8.48%	7.43%	9.83%	< 10.00%
Rates and annual charges collectable	6,899				
6. Cash expense cover ratio					
Current year's cash and cash equivalents plus all term deposits	12,745	9.40	4.73	2.81	> 3.00
Monthly payments from cash flow of operating and financing activities	1,356	months	months	months	months

(1) Excludes fair value increments on investment properties, reversal of revaluation decrements, reversal of impairment losses on receivables, net gain on sale of assets and net share of interests in joint ventures and associates using the equity method and includes pensioner rate subsidies

(2) Excludes impairment/revaluation decrements of IPPE, fair value decrements on investment properties, net loss on disposal of assets and net loss on share of interests in joint ventures and associates using the equity method

G5-2 Statement of performance measures by fund

\$ '000	General Indicators ³		Sewer Indicators		Benchmark
	2023	2022	2023	2022	
1. Operating performance ratio					
Total continuing operating revenue excluding capital grants and contributions less operating expenses ^{1,2}	11.20%	11.12%	8.13%	(17.75)%	> 0.00%
Total continuing operating revenue excluding capital grants and contributions ¹					
2. Own source operating revenue ratio					
Total continuing operating revenue excluding capital grants and contributions ¹	43.95%	50.95%	100.00%	100.00%	> 60.00%
Total continuing operating revenue ¹					
3. Unrestricted current ratio					
Current assets less all external restrictions	2.90x	2.58x	7.93x	6.16x	> 1.50x
Current liabilities less specific purpose liabilities					
4. Debt service cover ratio					
Operating result before capital excluding interest and depreciation/impairment/amortisation ¹	6.35x	4.56x	3.95x	2.87x	> 2.00x
Principal repayments (Statement of Cash Flows) plus borrowing costs (Income Statement)					
5. Rates and annual charges outstanding percentage					
Rates and annual charges outstanding	7.86%	6.51%	12.09%	13.26%	< 10.00%
Rates and annual charges collectable					
6. Cash expense cover ratio					
Current year's cash and cash equivalents plus all term deposits	8.38	3.78	∞	∞	> 3.00
Monthly payments from cash flow of operating and financing activities	months	months			months

(1) - (2) Refer to Notes at Note G5-1 above.

(3) General fund refers to all of Council's activities except for its sewer activities which are listed separately.



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

on the general purpose financial statements June

Shire Council

To the Councillors of Junee Shire Council

Qualified Opinion

I have audited the accompanying financial statements of Junee Shire Council (the Council), which comprise the Statement by Councillors and Management, the Income Statement and Statement of Comprehensive Income for the year ended 30 June 2023, the Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2023, the Statement of Changes in Equity and Statement of Cash Flows for the year then ended and notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

In my opinion, except for the effects of the matter described in the 'Basis for Qualified Opinion' section of my report:

- the Council's accounting records have been kept in accordance with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Chapter 13, Part 3, Division 2 (the Division)
- the financial statements:
 - have been prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with the requirements of this Division
 - are consistent with the Council's accounting records
 - present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Council as at 30 June 2023, and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards
- all information relevant to the conduct of the audit has been obtained
- no material deficiencies in the accounting records or financial statements have come to light during the audit.

My qualified opinion should be read in conjunction with the rest of this report.

Basis for Qualified Opinion

Non recognition of rural fire-fighting assets and buildings

As disclosed in Note C1-6 'Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment' to the financial statements, the Council has not recognised rural fire-fighting equipment and buildings located on land that is controlled and recognised by the Council as assets in the Statement of Financial Position at 30 June 2023. In my opinion, these assets are controlled by the Council and should be recognised as assets in accordance with AASB 116 'Property, Plant and Equipment'.

Australian Accounting Standards refer to control of an asset as being the ability to direct the use of, and obtain substantially all of the remaining benefits from, the asset. Control includes the ability to prevent other entities from directing the use of, and obtaining the benefits from, an asset.

Rural fire-fighting equipment is controlled by the Council as:

- these assets are vested in the Council under section 119(2) of the *Rural Fires Act 1997* (Rural Fires Act), giving the Council legal ownership
- the Council has the ability, outside of emergency events as defined in section 44 of the Rural Fires Act, to prevent the NSW Rural Fire Service from directing the use of the rural fire-fighting equipment by either not entering into a service agreement, or cancelling the existing service agreement that was signed on 21 August 2007
- the Council has specific responsibilities for fire mitigation and safety works and bush fire hazard reduction under Part 4 of the Rural Fires Act. The Council obtains economic benefits from the rural fire-fighting equipment as these assets are used to fulfil Council's responsibilities
- in the event of the loss of an asset, the insurance proceeds must be paid into the New South Wales Rural Fire Fighting Fund (section 119(4) of the Rural Fires Act) and be used to reacquire or build a similar asset, which is again vested in the Council as an asset provided free of charge.

Rural fire-fighting buildings are controlled by the Council where the buildings are located on land that is controlled and recognised by the Council. This gives the Council the ability to allow or prevent other entities from directing the use of, and obtaining the benefits from these assets.

The Council has not undertaken procedures to confirm the completeness, accuracy, existence or condition of these assets. Nor has the Council performed procedures to identify the value of assets vested in it during the year. When these assets are vested, no financial consideration is required from the Council and as such these are assets provided to Council free-of-charge.

This is a limitation on the scope of my audit as I was unable to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence to:

- support the carrying values of rural fire-fighting equipment and buildings located on land that is controlled and recognised by the Council that should be recorded in the Statement of Financial Position and related notes as at 30 June 2023
- determine the impact on the 'Accumulated surplus' in the Statement of Changes in Equity and Statement of Financial Position
- determine the amount of 'Grants and contributions provided for capital purposes' income from any rural fire-fighting equipment assets vested as an asset received free of charge during the year and/or 'Depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non-financial assets' expense that should be recognised in the Income Statement for the year ended 30 June 2023
- determine the impact on the 'Operating performance' and 'Own source operating revenue' ratios in Note G5-1 'Statement of performance measures – consolidated results' and Note G5-2 'Statement of performance measures by fund'.

I conducted my audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under the standards are described in the 'Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements' section of my report.

I am independent of the Council in accordance with the requirements of the:

- Australian Auditing Standards
- Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 'Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)' (APES 110).

Parliament promotes independence by ensuring the Auditor-General and the Audit Office of New South Wales are not compromised in their roles by:

- providing that only Parliament, and not the executive government, can remove an Auditor-General
- mandating the Auditor-General as auditor of councils
- precluding the Auditor-General from providing non-audit services.

I have fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with APES 110.

I believe the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my qualified audit opinion.

Other Information

The Council's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2023 includes other information in addition to the financial statements and my Independent Auditor's Report thereon. The Councillors are responsible for the other information. At the date of this Independent Auditor's Report, the other information I have received comprise the special purpose financial statements and Special Schedules (the Schedules).

My opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information. Accordingly, I do not express any form of assurance conclusion on the other information. However, as required by the *Local Government Act 1993*, I have separately expressed an opinion on the special purpose financial statements and Special Schedule - Permissible income for general rates.

In connection with my audit of the financial statements, my responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or my knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work I have performed, I conclude there is a material misstatement of the other information, I must report that fact.

I have nothing to report in this regard.

The Councillors' Responsibilities for the Financial Statements

The Councillors are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Local Government Act 1993*, and for such internal control as the Councillors determine is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Councillors are responsible for assessing the Council's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

My objectives are to:

- obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error
- issue an Independent Auditor's Report including my opinion.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but does not guarantee an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect material misstatements. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error. Misstatements are considered material if, individually or in aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions users take based on the financial statements.

A description of my responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at: www.auasb.gov.au/auditors_responsibilities/ar4.pdf. The description forms part of my auditor's report.

The scope of my audit does not include, nor provide assurance:

- that the Council carried out its activities effectively, efficiently and economically
- on the Original Budget information included in the Income Statement, Statement of Cash Flows, and Note B5-1 'Material budget variations'
- on the Special Schedules. A separate opinion has been provided on Special Schedule - Permissible income for general rates
- about the security and controls over the electronic publication of the audited financial statements on any website where they may be presented
- about any other information which may have been hyperlinked to/from the financial statements.



Hong Wee Soh
Delegate of the Auditor-General for New South Wales

24 October 2023
SYDNEY



Cr Bob Callow
Mayor
Junee Shire Council
PO Box 93
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Contact: Hong Wee Soh
Phone no: 02 9275 7397
Our ref: R008-16585809-46633/1745

24 October 2023

Dear Mayor

Report on the Conduct of the Audit for the year ended 30 June 2023 Junee Shire Council

I have audited the general purpose financial statements (GPFS) of the Junee Shire Council (the Council) for the year ended 30 June 2023 as required by section 415 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act).

I expressed a modified opinion on the Council's GPFS.

This Report on the Conduct of the Audit (the Report) for the Council for the year ended 30 June 2023 is issued in accordance with section 417 of the Act. This Report should be read in conjunction with my audit opinion on the GPFS issued under section 417(2) of the Act.

SIGNIFICANT AUDIT ISSUES AND OBSERVATIONS

I identified the following significant audit issues and observations during my audit of the Council's financial statements. These issues and observations were addressed as part of my audit.

Modification to the opinion in the Independent Auditor's Report

Non-recognition of rural fire-fighting equipment and buildings

The Council has not recognised rural fire-fighting equipment and buildings located on land that is controlled and recognised by the Council within 'Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment' in the Statement of Financial Position at 30 June 2023. In my opinion, these assets are controlled by the Council and should be recognised as assets in accordance with AASB 116 'Property, Plant and Equipment'.

Australian Accounting Standards refers to control of an asset as being the ability to direct the use of, and obtain substantially all of the remaining benefits from, the asset. Control includes the ability to prevent other entities from directing the use of, and obtaining the benefits from, an asset.

Rural fire-fighting equipment is controlled by the Council as:

- these assets are vested in the Council under section 119(2) of the *Rural Fires Act 1997* (Rural Fires Act), giving the Council legal ownership
- the Council has the ability, outside of emergency events as defined in section 44 of the Rural Fires Act, to prevent the NSW Rural Fire Service from directing the use of the rural fire-fighting equipment by either not entering into a service agreement, or cancelling the existing service agreement that was signed on 21 August 2007
- the Council has specific responsibilities for fire mitigation and safety works and bush fire hazard reduction under Part 4 of the Rural Fires Act. The Council obtains economic benefits from the rural fire-fighting equipment as these assets are used to fulfil Council's responsibilities
- in the event of the loss of an asset, the insurance proceeds must be paid into the New South Wales Rural Fire Fighting Fund (section 119(4) of the Rural Fires Act) and be used to reacquire or build a similar asset, which is again vested in the Council as an asset provided free of charge.

Rural fire-fighting buildings are controlled by the Council where the buildings are located on land that is controlled and recognised by the Council. This gives the Council the ability to allow or prevent other entities from directing the use of, and obtaining the benefits from these assets.

The Council has not undertaken procedures to confirm the completeness, accuracy, existence or condition of these assets. Nor has the Council performed procedures to identify the value of assets vested in it during the year. When these assets are vested, no financial consideration is required from the Council and as such these are assets provided to Council free-of-charge.

Consequently, we were unable to determine the carrying values of rural firefighting assets and buildings located on land that is controlled and recognised by the Council and related amounts that should be recorded and recognised in the Council's 30 June 2023 financial statements.

This has resulted in the audit opinion on the Council's 30 June 2023 GPFS to be modified.

Refer to the Independent Auditor's report on the GPFS.

INCOME STATEMENT

Operating result

	2023	2022	Variance
	\$m	\$m	%
Rates and annual charges revenue	6.3	6.1	3.3
Grants and contributions revenue	12.1	9.5	27.4
Operating result from continuing operations	4.5	4.6	2.2
Net operating result before capital grants and contributions	2.1	2.9	27.6

Rates and annual charges revenue (\$6.3 million) increased by \$0.2 million (3.3 per cent) in 2022–23, due to increase in rateable properties and the IPART approved increase of 2.5 per cent.

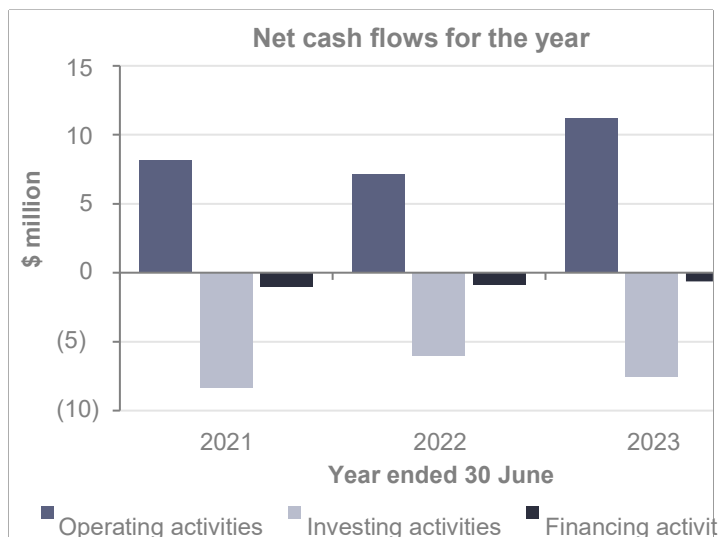
Grants and contributions revenue (\$12.1 million) increased by \$2.6 million (27.4 per cent) in 2022–23 due to \$3.8 million increase in transport grants.

The Council's operating result from continuing operations \$4.5 million (including depreciation and amortisation expense of \$3.7 million) was \$0.1 million lower than the 2021–22 result.

The net operating result before capital grants and contributions (\$2.1 million) was \$0.8 million lower than the 2021–22 result, due to net gain from disposal of assets of \$1.1 million in 2021-22.

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

- Council's cash and cash equivalents was \$6.7 million at 30 June 2023 (\$3.7 million at 30 June 2022). There was a net increase in cash and cash equivalents of \$3.0 million during 2022-23 financial year.
- Net cash provided by operating activities has increased by \$4.0 million. The increase is due to the increase in grants and contributions receipts.
- Net cash used in investing activities has increased by \$1.5 million. The increase is due to:
 - proceeds from sale of real estate assets of \$1.9 million in 2021-22,
 - lower purchase of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment by \$2.0 million
 - increase in acquisition of term deposit investments of \$2.0 million
- There were no significant movement in the net cash flows from financing activities.



FINANCIAL POSITION

Cash and investments

Cash and investments	2023	2022	Commentary
	\$m	\$m	
Total cash, cash equivalents and investments	12.7	5.7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Externally restricted cash and investments comprise mainly specific purpose unexpended grants and sewer fund. The externally restricted funds as at 30 June 2023 has increased due to increase in specific purpose unexpended grants by \$3.3 million. • Internal allocations are determined by council policies or decisions, which are subject to change. The increase is mainly due to the increase in Financial Assistance Grant allocation of \$3.0 million paid in advance.
Restricted and allocated cash, cash equivalents and investments:			
• External restrictions	7.3	3.7	
• Internal allocations	5.3	1.8	

Debt

Council has \$7.8 million of borrowings as at 30 June 2023 (2022: \$8.1 million). The decrease in 2023 relates to payment of borrowings (\$0.3 million) with no additional new loans.

Council has a \$0.3 million bank overdraft facility (2022: \$0.3 million), which was not drawn as at 30 June 2023 and 30 June 2022.

PERFORMANCE

Performance measures

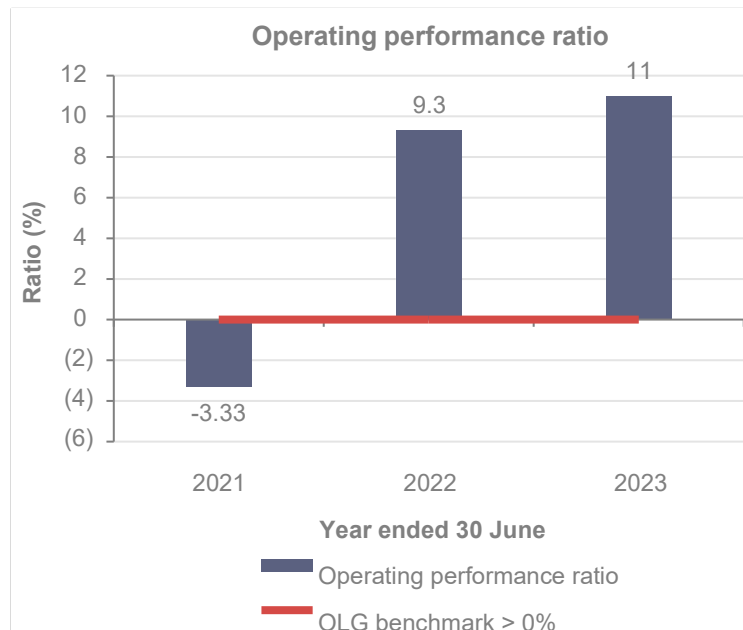
The following section provides an overview of the Council's performance against the performance measures and performance benchmarks set by the Office of Local Government (OLG) within the Department of Planning and Environment.

Operating performance ratio

The 'operating performance ratio' measures how well council contained operating expenditure within operating revenue (excluding capital grants and contributions, fair value adjustments, and reversal of revaluation decrements). The benchmark set by OLG is greater than zero per cent.

The Council exceeded the OLG benchmark for the current reporting period.

The operating performance ratio increased to 11.00 per cent (2022: 9.30 per cent) due to the increase in operating grants received.



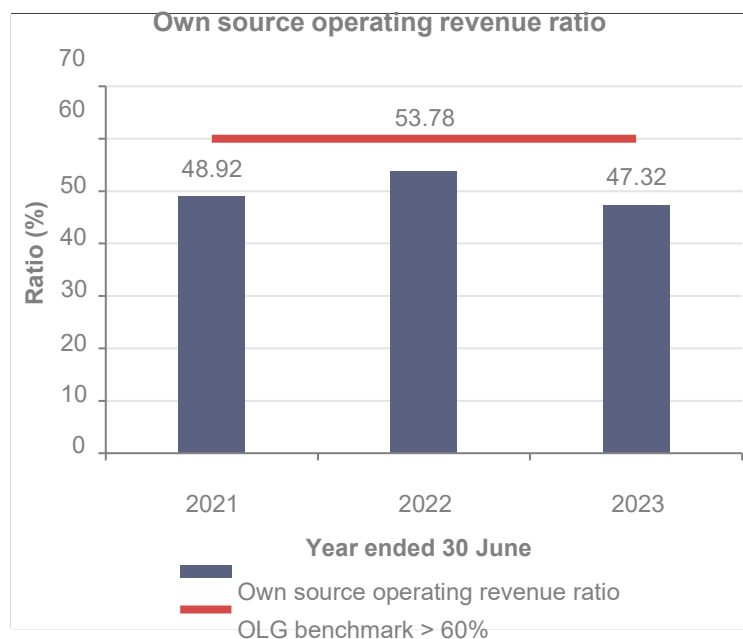
Own source operating revenue ratio

The 'own source operating revenue ratio' measures council's fiscal flexibility and the degree to which it relies on external funding sources

such as operating grants and contributions. The benchmark set by OLG is greater than 60 per cent.

Council did not meet the OLG benchmark for the current reporting period. This indicates that the Council is more reliant on external funding sources, such as grants and contributions.

The own source operating revenue ratio has decreased in 2023, due to the overall increase in grants and contributions revenue of \$2.6 million.



Unrestricted current ratio

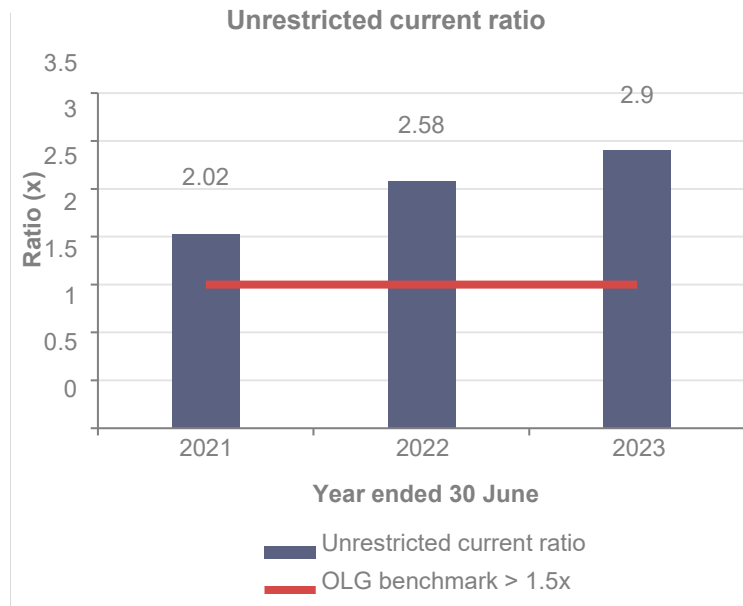
specific to local government and represents the Council's ability to meet its short-term obligations as they fall due. The benchmark set by OLG is greater than 1.5 times.

The Council exceeded the OLG

period.

Council's unrestricted current ratio has improved, due to the increase in current assets from increase in cash and cash equivalents and

investments balance from the Financial Assistance Grant of \$3.7 million paid in advance at 30 June 2023 (2022: \$2.5 million).



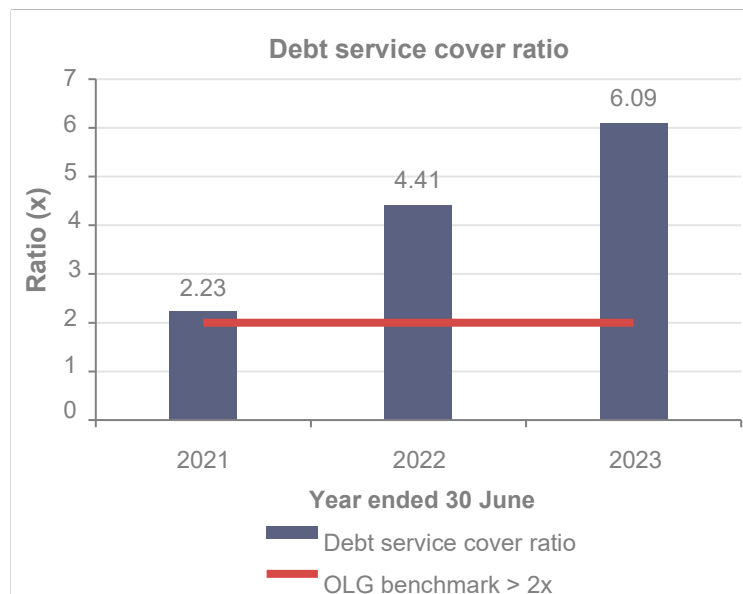
Debt service cover ratio

The 'debt service cover ratio' measures the operating cash to service debt including interest, principal and lease payments. The benchmark set by OLG is greater than two times.

The Council exceeded the OLG benchmark for the current reporting period. This indicates that the Council has sufficient operating revenue to service its debts.

The debt service cover ratio increased to 6.09 times (2022: 4.41

times) due to reduced loan repayments.

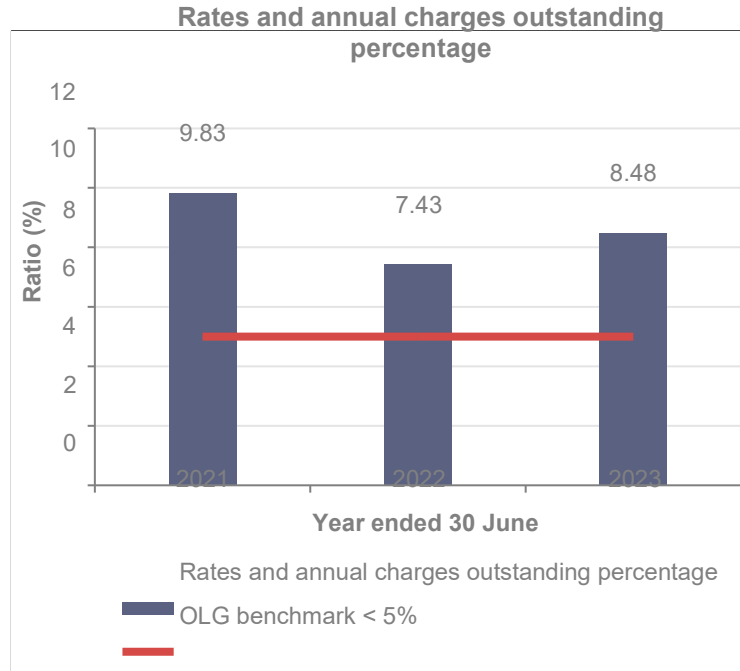


Rates and annual charges outstanding percentage

The 'rates and annual charges outstanding percentage' assesses the impact of uncollected rates and annual charges on council's liquidity and the adequacy of debt recovery efforts. The benchmark set by OLG is less than 10 per cent for regional and rural councils.

The Council met the OLG benchmark for the current reporting period which is a reflection of sound debt recovery procedures at the Council.

The rates and annual charges outstanding percentage has increased from the previous year, but still remains below the OLG benchmark.



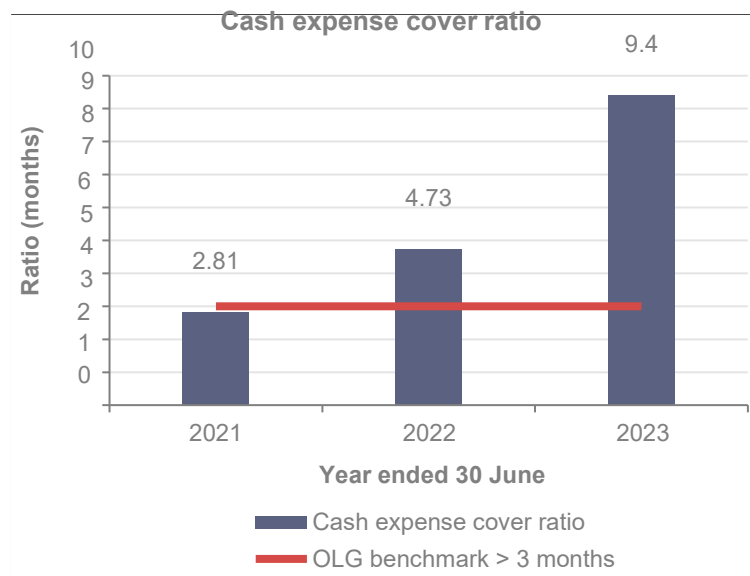
Cash expense cover ratio

This liquidity ratio indicates the number of months the council can continue paying for its immediate expenses without additional cash inflow. The benchmark set by OLG is greater than three months.

The Council's cash expense cover ratio was 9.40 months, which is above the industry benchmark of greater than 3 months. This indicates that Council had the capacity to cover 9.40 months of operating cash

expenditure without additional cash inflows at 30 June 2023.

The cash expense cover ratio has increased due to increase in cash and cash equivalent and investment by \$7.0 million.



Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment renewals

The Council renewed \$1.4 million of assets in the 2022-23 financial year, compared to \$3.4 million of assets in the 2021-22 financial year. This decline is largely due to \$0.8 million decrease in bulk earthworks and \$1.2 million decrease in capital work in progress.

OTHER MATTERS

Legislative compliance

My audit procedures identified a material deficiency in the Council's financial statements due to the non-recognition of rural fire-fighting equipment which will be reported in the Management Letter.

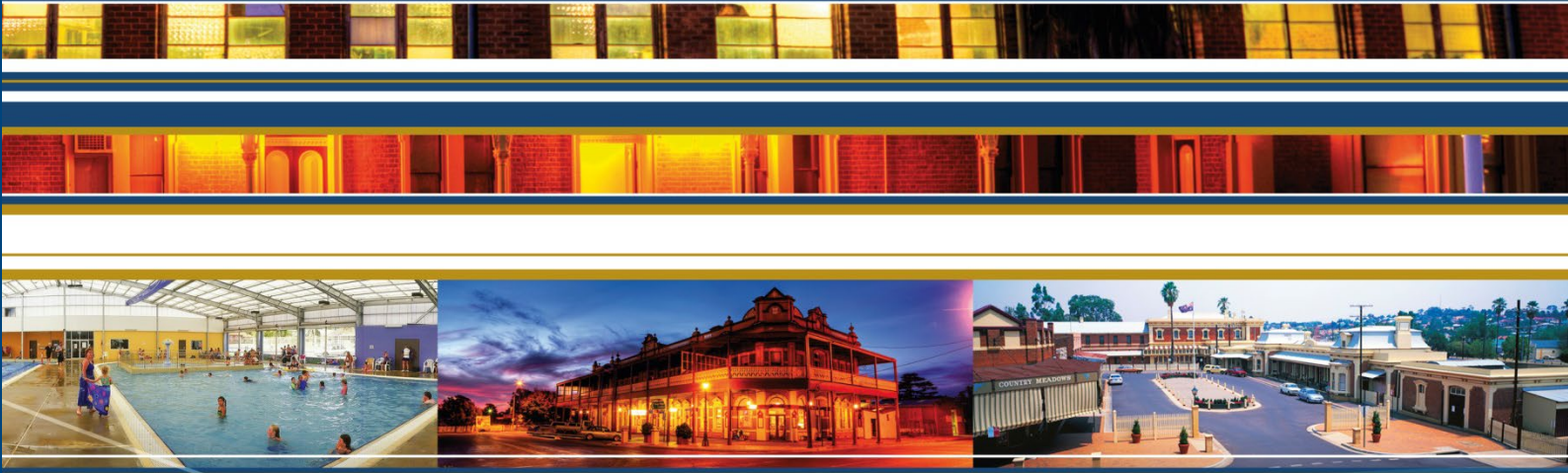
Except for the matter outlined above, the Council's:

- accounting records were maintained in a manner and form that facilitated the preparation and the effective audit of the GPFS
- staff provided all accounting records and information relevant to the audit.



Hong Wee Soh
Delegate of the Auditor-General for New South Wales

cc: Mr James Davis, General Manager
Mr Luke Taberner, Chief Financial Officer
Mr Steve McGrath, Chair of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee
Ms Kiersten Fishburn, Secretary of the Department of Planning and Environment



JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL

SPECIAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 30 June 2023



Contents	Page
Statement by Councillors and Management	3
Special Purpose Financial Statements:	
Income Statement of sewerage business activity	4
Statement of Financial Position of sewerage business activity	5
Note – Significant Accounting Policies	6
Auditor's Report on Special Purpose Financial Statements	9

Background

- i. These Special Purpose Financial Statements have been prepared for the use by both Council and the Office of Local Government in fulfilling their requirements under National Competition Policy.
- ii. The principle of competitive neutrality is based on the concept of a 'level playing field' between persons/entities competing in a market place, particularly between private and public sector competitors.

Essentially, the principle is that government businesses, whether Commonwealth, state or local, should operate without net competitive advantages over other businesses as a result of their public ownership.

- iii. For Council, the principle of competitive neutrality and public reporting applies only to declared business activities.

These include **(a)** those activities classified by the Australian Bureau of Statistics as business activities being water supply, sewerage services, abattoirs, gas production and reticulation, and **(b)** those activities with a turnover of more than \$2 million that Council has formally declared as a business activity (defined as Category 1 activities).

- iv. In preparing these financial statements for Council's self-classified Category 1 businesses and ABS-defined activities, councils must **(a)** adopt a corporatisation model and **(b)** apply full cost attribution including tax-equivalent regime payments and debt guarantee fees (where the business benefits from Council's borrowing position by comparison with commercial rates).

Junee Shire Council

Special Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2023

Statement by Councillors and Management made pursuant to the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting

The attached special purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with:

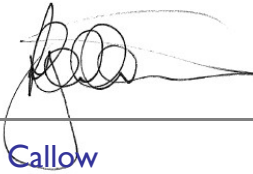
- NSW Government Policy Statement, *Application of National Competition Policy to Local Government*
- Division of Local Government Guidelines, *Pricing and Costing for Council Businesses: A Guide to Competitive Neutrality*
- The Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting
- Sections 3 and 4 of the NSW Department of Planning and Environment, *Water's Regulatory and assurance framework for local water utilities*.

To the best of our knowledge and belief, these statements:

- present fairly the operating result and financial position for each of Council's declared business activities for the year,
- accord with Council's accounting and other records; and
- present overhead reallocation charges to the water and sewerage businesses as fair and reasonable.

We are not aware of any matter that would render these statements false or misleading in any way.

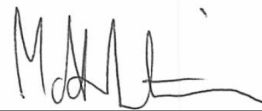
Signed in accordance with a resolution of Council made on 19 September 2023.



Cr Bob Callow

Mayor

19 September 2023



Cr Matt Austin

Councillor

19 September 2023



James Davis

General Manager

19 September 2023



Luke Taberner

Responsible Accounting Officer

19 September 2023

Junee Shire Council

Income Statement of sewerage business activity

for the year ended 30 June 2023

\$ '000	2023	2022
Income from continuing operations		
Access charges	875	804
User charges	466	365
Interest	37	9
Other income	–	5
Total income from continuing operations	1,378	1,183
Expenses from continuing operations		
Employee benefits and on-costs	363	253
Materials and services	359	591
Borrowing costs	115	118
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment	227	431
Loss from the disposal of assets	202	–
Total expenses from continuing operations	1,266	1,393
Surplus (deficit) from continuing operations before capital amounts	112	(210)
Surplus (deficit) from continuing operations after capital amounts	112	(210)
Surplus (deficit) from all operations before tax	112	(210)
Less: corporate taxation equivalent (25%) [based on result before capital]	(28)	–
Surplus (deficit) after tax	84	(210)
Plus accumulated surplus	9,143	9,353
Plus adjustments for amounts unpaid:		
– Corporate taxation equivalent	28	–
Closing accumulated surplus	9,255	9,143
Return on capital %	1.0%	(0.5)%
Subsidy from Council	674	806
Calculation of dividend payable:		
Surplus (deficit) after tax	84	(210)
Surplus for dividend calculation purposes	84	–
Potential dividend calculated from surplus	42	–

Junee Shire Council

Statement of Financial Position of sewerage business activity

as at 30 June 2023

\$ '000	2023	2022
ASSETS		
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	1,384	1,156
Receivables	122	107
Total current assets	1,506	1,263
Non-current assets		
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	22,409	19,504
Total non-current assets	22,409	19,504
Total assets	23,915	20,767
LIABILITIES		
Current liabilities		
Borrowings	59	57
Employee benefit provisions	131	148
Total current liabilities	190	205
Non-current liabilities		
Borrowings	2,526	2,586
Employee benefit provisions	6	3
Total non-current liabilities	2,532	2,589
Total liabilities	2,722	2,794
Net assets	21,193	17,973
EQUITY		
Accumulated surplus	9,255	9,144
Revaluation reserves	11,938	8,829
Total equity	21,193	17,973

Note – Significant Accounting Policies

A statement summarising the supplemental accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the special purpose financial statements (SPFS) for National Competition Policy (NCP) reporting purposes follows.

These financial statements are SPFS prepared for use by Council and the Office of Local Government. For the purposes of these statements, the Council is a non-reporting not-for-profit entity.

The figures presented in these special purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the recognition and measurement criteria of relevant Australian Accounting Standards, other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) and Australian Accounting Interpretations.

The disclosures in these special purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993 (Act)*, the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 (Regulation)* and the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting.

The statements are prepared on an accruals basis. They are based on historic costs and do not take into account changing money values or, except where specifically stated, fair value of non-current assets. Certain taxes and other costs, appropriately described, have been imputed for the purposes of the National Competition Policy.

The Statement of Financial Position includes notional assets/liabilities receivable from/payable to Council's general fund. These balances reflect a notional intra-entity funding arrangement with the declared business activities.

National Competition Policy

Council has adopted the principle of 'competitive neutrality' in its business activities as part of the National Competition Policy which is being applied throughout Australia at all levels of government. The framework for its application is set out in the June 1996 NSW Government Policy statement titled 'Application of National Competition Policy to Local Government'. *The Pricing and Costing for Council Businesses – A Guide to Competitive Neutrality* issued by the Office of Local Government in July 1997 has also been adopted.

The pricing and costing guidelines outline the process for identifying and allocating costs to activities and provide a standard for disclosure requirements. These disclosures are reflected in Council's pricing and/or financial reporting systems and include taxation equivalents, Council subsidies, and returns on investments (rate of return and dividends paid).

Declared business activities

In accordance with Pricing and Costing for Council Businesses – A Guide to Competitive Neutrality, Council has declared that the following are to be considered as business activities:

Junee Sewerage Service with gross operating turnover less than \$2 million

Comprising the activities and net assets of Council's Sewerage Reticulation & Treatment Operations servicing the town of Junee.

Taxation equivalent charges

Council is liable to pay various taxes and financial duties. Where this is the case, they are disclosed as a cost of operations just like all other costs. However, where Council does not pay some taxes, which are generally paid by private sector businesses, such as income tax, these equivalent tax payments have been applied to all Council-nominated business activities and are reflected in special purpose financial statements. For the purposes of disclosing comparative information relevant to the private sector equivalent, the following taxation equivalents have been applied to all Council-nominated business activities (this does not include Council's non-business activities):

Notional rate applied (%)

Corporate income tax rate – **25%** (21/22 25%)

Land tax – the first \$969,000 of combined land values attracts **0%**. For the combined land values in excess of \$969,000 up to \$5,925,000 the rate is **\$100 + 1.6%**. For the remaining combined land value that exceeds \$5,925,000 a premium marginal rate of **2.0%** applies.

Payroll tax – 5.45% on the value of taxable salaries and wages in excess of \$1,200,000.

In accordance with section 4 of Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) - Water's regulatory and assurance framework, a payment for the amount calculated as the annual tax equivalent charges (excluding income tax) must be paid from water supply and sewerage business activities.

Note – Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

The payment of taxation equivalent charges, referred to in the regulatory and assurance framework as a 'dividend for taxation equivalent', may be applied for any purpose allowed under the Act.

Achievement of substantial compliance to sections 3 and 4 of DPE – Water's regulatory and assurance framework is not a prerequisite for the payment of the tax equivalent charges; however the payment must not exceed \$3 per assessment.

Income tax

An income tax equivalent has been applied on the profits of the business activities. Whilst income tax is not a specific cost for the purpose of pricing a good or service, it needs to be taken into account in terms of assessing the rate of return required on capital invested. Accordingly, the return on capital invested is set at a pre-tax level – gain/(loss) from ordinary activities before capital amounts, as would be applied by a private sector competitor. That is, it should include a provision equivalent to the relevant corporate income tax rate, currently 25% (21/22 25%).

Income tax is only applied where a gain from ordinary activities before capital amounts has been achieved. Since the taxation equivalent is notional – that is, it is payable to the 'Council' as the owner of business operations – it represents an internal payment and has no effect on the operations of the Council.

Accordingly, there is no need for disclosure of internal charges in the SPFS. The rate applied of 25% is the equivalent company tax rate prevalent at reporting date. No adjustments have been made for variations that have occurred during the year.

Local government rates and charges

A calculation of the equivalent rates and charges for all Category 1 businesses has been applied to all assets owned, or exclusively used by the business activity.

Loan and debt guarantee fees

The debt guarantee fee is designed to ensure that Council business activities face 'true' commercial borrowing costs in line with private sector competitors. In order to calculate a debt guarantee fee, Council has determined what the differential borrowing rate would have been between the commercial rate and Council's borrowing rate for its business activities.

(i) Subsidies

Government policy requires that subsidies provided to customers, and the funding of those subsidies, must be explicitly disclosed. Subsidies occur where Council provides services on a less than cost recovery basis. This option is exercised on a range of services in order for Council to meet its community service obligations. The overall effect of subsidies is contained within the Income Statements of business activities.

(ii) Return on investments (rate of return)

The NCP policy statement requires that councils with Category 1 businesses 'would be expected to generate a return on capital funds employed that is comparable to rates of return for private businesses operating in a similar field'.

Funds are subsequently available for meeting commitments or financing future investment strategies. The rate of return is disclosed for each of Council's business activities on the Income Statement.

The rate of return is calculated as follows:

Operating result before capital income + interest expense

Written down value of I,PP&E as at 30 June

As a minimum, business activities should generate a return equal to the Commonwealth 10 year bond rate which is 4.02% at 30/6/23.

(iii) Dividends

Council is not required to pay dividends to either itself as owner of a range of businesses, or to any external entities.

A local government water supply and sewerage business is permitted to pay annual dividends from their water supply or sewerage business surpluses. Each dividend must be calculated and approved in accordance with the DPIE – Water's regulatory and assurance framework and must not exceed 50% of the relevant surplus in any one year, or the number of water supply or sewerage assessments at 30 June 2023 multiplied by \$30 (less the payment for tax equivalent charges, not exceeding \$3 per assessment).

Note – Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

In accordance with section 4 of DPE - Water's regulatory and assurance framework, statement of compliance and statement of dividend payment, dividend payment form and unqualified independent financial audit report are submitted to DPE – Water.



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT Report
on the special purpose financial statements Junee
Shire Council

To the Councillors of Junee Shire Council

Opinion

I have audited the accompanying special purpose financial statements (the financial statements) of Junee Shire Council's (the Council) Declared Business Activity, Sewerage Business Activity, which comprise the Statement by Councillors and Management, the Income Statement of the Declared Business Activity for the year ended 30 June 2023, the Statement of Financial Position of the Declared Business Activity as at 30 June 2023 and the Significant accounting policies note.

In my opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Council's declared Business Activity as at 30 June 2023, and its financial performance for the year then ended, in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards described in the Significant accounting policies note and the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting 2022–23 (LG Code).

My opinion should be read in conjunction with the rest of this report.

Basis for Opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under the standards are described in the 'Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements' section of my report.

I am independent of the Council in accordance with the requirements of the:

- Australian Auditing Standards
- Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 'Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)' (APES 110).

Parliament promotes independence by ensuring the Auditor-General and the Audit Office of New South Wales are not compromised in their roles by:

- providing that only Parliament, and not the executive government, can remove an Auditor-General
- mandating the Auditor-General as the auditor of councils
- precluding the Auditor-General from providing non-audit services.

I have fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with APES 110.

I believe the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

Emphasis of Matter - Basis of Accounting

Without modifying my opinion, I draw attention to the Significant accounting policies note to the financial statements which describes the basis of accounting. The financial statements have been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the Council's financial reporting responsibilities under the LG Code. As a result, the financial statements may not be suitable for another purpose.

Other Information

The Council's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2023 includes other information in addition to the financial statements and my Independent Auditor's Report thereon. The Councillors are responsible for the other information. At the date of this Independent Auditor's Report, the other information I have received comprise the general purpose financial statements and Special Schedules (the Schedules).

My opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information. Accordingly, I do not express any form of assurance conclusion on the other information. However, as required by the *Local Government Act 1993*, I have separately expressed an opinion on the general purpose financial statements and Special Schedule 'Permissible income for general rates'.

In connection with my audit of the financial statements, my responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or my knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work I have performed, I conclude there is a material misstatement of the other information, I must report that fact.

I have nothing to report in this regard.

The Councillors' Responsibilities for the Financial Statements

The Councillors are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements and for determining that the accounting policies, described in the Significant accounting policies note to the financial statements, are appropriate to meet the requirements in the LG Code. The Councillors' responsibility also includes such internal control as the Councillors determine is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Councillors are responsible for assessing the Council's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

My objectives are to:

- obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error
- issue an Independent Auditor's Report including my opinion.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but does not guarantee an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect material misstatements. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error. Misstatements are considered material if, individually or in aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions users take based on the financial statements.

A description of my responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at: www.auasb.gov.au/auditors_responsibilities/ar4.pdf. The description forms part of my auditor's report.

The scope of my audit does not include, nor provide assurance:

- that the Council carried out its activities effectively, efficiently and economically
- about the security and controls over the electronic publication of the audited financial statements on any website where they may be presented
- about any other information which may have been hyperlinked to/from the financial statements.



Hong Wee Soh
Delegate of the Auditor-General for New South Wales

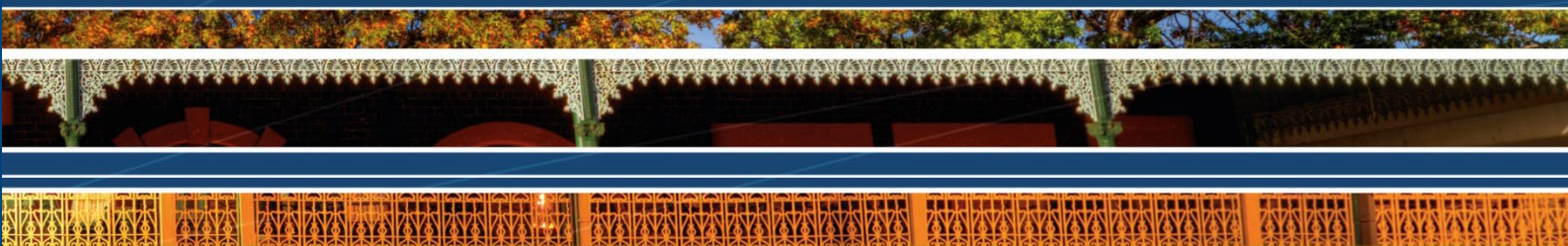
24 October 2023
SYDNEY



JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL

SPECIAL SCHEDULES

For the year ended 30 June 2023



Junee Shire Council

Special Schedules

for the year ended 30 June 2023

Contents

Page

Special Schedules:

Permissible income for general rates 3

Report on infrastructure assets as at 30 June 2023 4

Junee Shire Council

Permissible income for general rates

\$ '000	Notes	Calculation 2022/23	Calculation 2023/24
Notional general income calculation ¹			
Last year notional general income yield	a	4,304	4,438
Plus or minus adjustments ²	b	27	17
Notional general income	c = a + b	4,331	4,455
Permissible income calculation			
Special variation percentage ³	d	0.00%	13.70%
Or rate peg percentage	e	2.50%	3.80%
Plus special variation amount	h = d x (c + g)	–	610
Or plus rate peg amount	i = e x (c + g)	108	169
Sub-total	k = (c + g + h + i + j)	4,439	5,234
Plus (or minus) last year's carry forward total	l	(1)	–
Sub-total	n = (l + m)	(1)	–
Total permissible income	o = k + n	4,438	5,234
Less notional general income yield	p	4,438	5,234
Catch-up or (excess) result	q = o – p	1	1
Carry forward to next year ⁶	t = q + r – s	1	1

Notes

- (1) The notional general income will not reconcile with rate income in the financial statements in the corresponding year. The statements are reported on an accrual accounting basis which include amounts that relate to prior years' rates income.
- (2) Adjustments account for changes in the number of assessments and any increase or decrease in land value occurring during the year. The adjustments are called 'supplementary valuations' as defined in the *Valuation of Land Act 1916 (NSW)*.
- (3) The 'special variation percentage' is inclusive of the rate peg percentage and where applicable, the Crown land adjustment.
- (6) Carry-forward amounts which are in excess (an amount that exceeds the permissible income) require Ministerial approval by order published in the *NSW Government Gazette* in accordance with section 512 of the Act. The OLG will extract these amounts from Council's Permissible income for general rates Statement in the financial data return (FDR) to administer this process.



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Special Schedule – Permissible income for general rates

Junee Shire Council

To the Councillors of Junee Shire Council

Opinion

I have audited the accompanying Special Schedule – Permissible income for general rates (the Schedule) of Junee Shire Council (the Council) for the year ending 30 June 2024.

In my opinion, the Schedule is prepared, in all material respects in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting 2022–23 (LG Code) and is in accordance with the books and records of the Council.

My opinion should be read in conjunction with the rest of this report.

Basis for Opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under the standards are described in the 'Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Schedule' section of my report.

I am independent of the Council in accordance with the requirements of the:

- Australian Auditing Standards
- Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 'Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)' (APES 110).

Parliament promotes independence by ensuring the Auditor-General and the Audit Office of New South Wales are not compromised in their roles by:

- providing that only Parliament, and not the executive government, can remove an Auditor-General
- mandating the Auditor-General as auditor of councils
- precluding the Auditor-General from providing non-audit services.

I have fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with APES 110.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

Emphasis of Matter - Basis of Accounting

Without modifying my opinion, I draw attention to the special purpose framework used to prepare the Schedule. The Schedule has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the Council's reporting obligations under the LG Code. As a result, the Schedule may not be suitable for another purpose.

Other Information

The Council's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2023 includes other information in addition to the Schedule and my Independent Auditor's Report thereon. The Councillors are responsible for the other information. At the date of this Independent Auditor's Report, the other information I have received comprise the general purpose financial statements, special purpose financial statements and Special Schedule 'Report on infrastructure assets as at 30 June 2023'.

My opinion on the Schedule does not cover the other information. Accordingly, I do not express any form of assurance conclusion on the other information. However, as required by the *Local Government Act 1993*, I have separately expressed an opinion on the general purpose financial statements and the special purpose financial statements.

In connection with my audit of the Schedule, my responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the Schedule or my knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work I have performed, I conclude there is a material misstatement of the other information, I must report that fact.

I have nothing to report in this regard.

The Councillors' Responsibilities for the Schedule

The Councillors are responsible for the preparation of the Schedule in accordance with the LG Code. The Councillors' responsibility also includes such internal control as the Councillors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the Schedule that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the Schedule, the Councillors are responsible for assessing the Council's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Schedule

My objectives are to:

- obtain reasonable assurance whether the Schedule as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error
- issue an Independent Auditor's Report including my opinion.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but does not guarantee an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect material misstatements. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error. Misstatements are considered material if, individually or in aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions users take based on the Schedule.

A description of my responsibilities for the audit of the Schedule is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at: www.auasb.gov.au/auditors_responsibilities/ar8.pdf. The description forms part of my auditor's report.

The scope of my audit does not include, nor provide assurance:

- that the Council carried out its activities effectively, efficiently and economically
- about the security and controls over the electronic publication of the audited Schedule on any website where it may be presented
- about any other information which may have been hyperlinked to/from the Schedule.



Hong Wee Soh
Delegate of the Auditor-General for New South Wales

24 October 2023
SYDNEY

Junee Shire Council

Report on infrastructure assets as at 30 June 2023

Asset Class	Asset Category	Estimated cost		2022/23 Required maintenance ^a	2022/23 Actual maintenance	Net carrying amount	Gross replacement cost (GRC)	Assets in condition as a percentage of gross replacement cost				
		Estimated cost to bring assets to satisfactory standard	to bring to the agreed level of service set by Council					1	2	3	4	5
		\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000					
Buildings	Council offices / Administration Centres	7	7	55	81	1,057	2,967	0.0%	7.8%	92.2%	0.0%	0.0%
	Council Works Depot	17	17	50	66	356	1,915	1.1%	8.9%	33.3%	41.1%	15.5%
	Council Public Halls	445	445	109	107	2,354	7,814	8.5%	0.0%	0.0%	91.5%	0.0%
	Council Houses	54	54	17	7	392	868	39.2%	28.6%	0.0%	32.3%	0.0%
	Museum	13	13	62	14	545	3,430	8.2%	0.0%	0.0%	91.9%	0.0%
	Library	–	–	31	17	1,086	1,903	0.0%	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	Amenities/Toilets	33	33	74	26	1,708	3,559	0.9%	58.4%	38.5%	2.1%	0.0%
	Recreation Centre	40	40	147	988	3,201	7,476	4.0%	0.0%	95.0%	0.0%	0.9%
	Other	96	96	62	–	1,790	2,666	83.8%	10.4%	0.0%	4.9%	0.9%
	Sub-total	705	705	607	1,306	12,489	32,598	11.9%	15.1%	36.4%	35.5%	1.1%
Other structures	Other structures	95	95	229	132	2,520	4,748	41.8%	32.4%	13.0%	10.8%	2.1%
	Swimming Pool	36	36	55	124	1,845	2,779	20.9%	79.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	Sub-total	131	131	284	256	4,365	7,527	34.1%	49.7%	8.2%	6.8%	1.2%
Roads	Bridges	369	369	127	–	8,598	13,314	0.0%	71.8%	21.4%	6.8%	(0.0%)
	Footpaths	62	62	73	29	2,468	3,729	10.2%	63.6%	24.4%	1.8%	0.0%
	Kerb & Gutter	251	251	71	2	2,753	5,390	14.9%	35.5%	38.6%	10.9%	0.0%
	Sealed Roads Structure	1,402	1,402	679	905	82,103	108,895	34.5%	45.5%	18.5%	1.5%	(0.0%)
	Sealed Roads Surface	193	193	583	525	6,532	12,211	43.4%	37.2%	16.4%	3.1%	0.0%
	Unsealed roads	584	584	255	675	24,341	28,229	10.4%	60.0%	26.6%	2.9%	0.0%
	Sub-total	2,861	2,861	1,788	2,136	126,086	171,768	27.4%	49.4%	20.7%	2.5%	0.0%
Sewerage network	Mains	2,627	2,627	132	201	11,146	18,692	37.9%	3.7%	3.2%	55.1%	0.1%
	Treatment	–	–	101	355	10,520	11,454	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	Sub-total	2,627	2,627	233	556	22,376	30,146	61.5%	2.3%	2.0%	34.2%	0.0%
Stormwater drainage	Pipes/Culverts	14	14	44	37	2,487	4,977	2.0%	96.1%	1.0%	0.9%	(0.0%)
	Urban Drainage Infrastructure	144	144	126	89	8,844	14,889	18.6%	66.1%	14.3%	1.0%	0.0%
	Sub-total	158	158	170	126	11,330	19,866	14.4%	73.6%	11.0%	1.0%	0.0%
Total – all assets		6,482	6,482	3,082	4,380	176,646	261,905	28.6%	41.6%	19.4%	10.3%	0.1%

(a) Required maintenance is the amount identified in Council's asset management plans.

Junee Shire Council

Report on infrastructure assets as at 30 June 2023 (continued)

Infrastructure asset condition assessment 'key'

#	Condition	Integrated planning and reporting (IP&R) description
1	Excellent/very good	No work required (normal maintenance)
2	Good	Only minor maintenance work required
3	Satisfactory	Maintenance work required
4	Poor	Renewal required
5	Very poor	Urgent renewal/upgrading required

Junee Shire Council

Report on infrastructure assets as at 30 June 2023

Infrastructure asset performance indicators (consolidated) *

\$ '000	Amounts 2023	Indicator 2023	Indicators		Benchmark
			2022	2021	
Buildings and infrastructure renewals ratio					
Asset renewals ¹	1,398	45.11%	112.05%	144.54%	> 100.00%
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment	3,099				
Infrastructure backlog ratio					
Estimated cost to bring assets to a satisfactory standard	6,482	3.63%	5.90%	4.39%	< 2.00%
Net carrying amount of infrastructure assets	178,666				
Asset maintenance ratio					
Actual asset maintenance	4,380	142.12%	101.91%	142.39%	> 100.00%
Required asset maintenance	3,082				
Cost to bring assets to agreed service level					
Estimated cost to bring assets to an agreed service level set by Council	6,482	2.47%	5.80%	2.82%	
Gross replacement cost	261,905				

(*) All asset performance indicators are calculated using classes identified in the previous table.

(1) Asset renewals represent the replacement and/or refurbishment of existing assets to an equivalent capacity/performance as opposed to the acquisition of new assets (or the refurbishment of old assets) that increases capacity/performance.

Junee Shire Council

Report on infrastructure assets as at 30 June 2023

Infrastructure asset performance indicators (by fund)

\$ '000	General fund		Sewer fund		Benchmark
	2023	2022	2023	2022	
Buildings and infrastructure renewals ratio					
Asset renewals ¹					
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment	48.68%	130.47%	0.00%	0.00%	> 100.00%
Infrastructure backlog ratio					
Estimated cost to bring assets to a satisfactory standard					
Net carrying amount of infrastructure assets	2.47%	3.46%	11.74%	24.49%	< 2.00%
Asset maintenance ratio					
Actual asset maintenance					
Required asset maintenance	134.22%	96.96%	238.63%	153.88%	> 100.00%
Cost to bring assets to agreed service level					
Estimated cost to bring assets to an agreed service level set by Council					
Gross replacement cost	1.66%	3.62%	8.71%	16.51%	

(1) Asset renewals represent the replacement and/or refurbishment of existing assets to an equivalent capacity/performance as opposed to the acquisition of new assets (or the refurbishment of old assets) that increases capacity/performance.

Item 3 COUNCIL INVESTMENTS AND BANK BALANCES

Author Director Corporate and Community Development

Attachments Nil

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council notes the Investment Report as of 31 October 2023, including the certification by the Responsible Accounting Officer.

PURPOSE

To provide a report setting out all money that the Council has invested under Section 625 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In accordance with Clause 212 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*, a report stating the details of money invested must be presented to the Council monthly.

The report must include certification as to whether the investments have been made in accordance with the Act, Regulations, and Council's Investment Policy.

The Investment Report shows that Council has total cash and investments of \$9,880,028 comprising:

Trading Accounts -	\$407,168
At Call Accounts -	\$472,861
Investments -	\$9,000,000

Certification – Responsible Accounting Officer

I, Lloyd Hart, hereby certify that the investments listed in the attached reports have been made in accordance with Section 625 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Clause 212 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005*, and existing Investment Policies.

BACKGROUND

In accordance with Clause 212 of the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021*, a report stating the details of money invested must be presented to the Council monthly.

The report must also include certification as to whether the investments have been made in accordance with the Act, the Regulations, and Council's Investment Policy.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT TO THE ORDINARY MEETING OF JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL HELD ON 21 NOVEMBER 2023.

LINK TO STRATEGY

The report relates to the Community Strategic Plan Outcome of:

- Sustainable – Strategy 6.1 – Council is accountable and financially sustainable.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Actual investment income for the period from 1 July 2023 to date was \$125,721.25.

SOCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

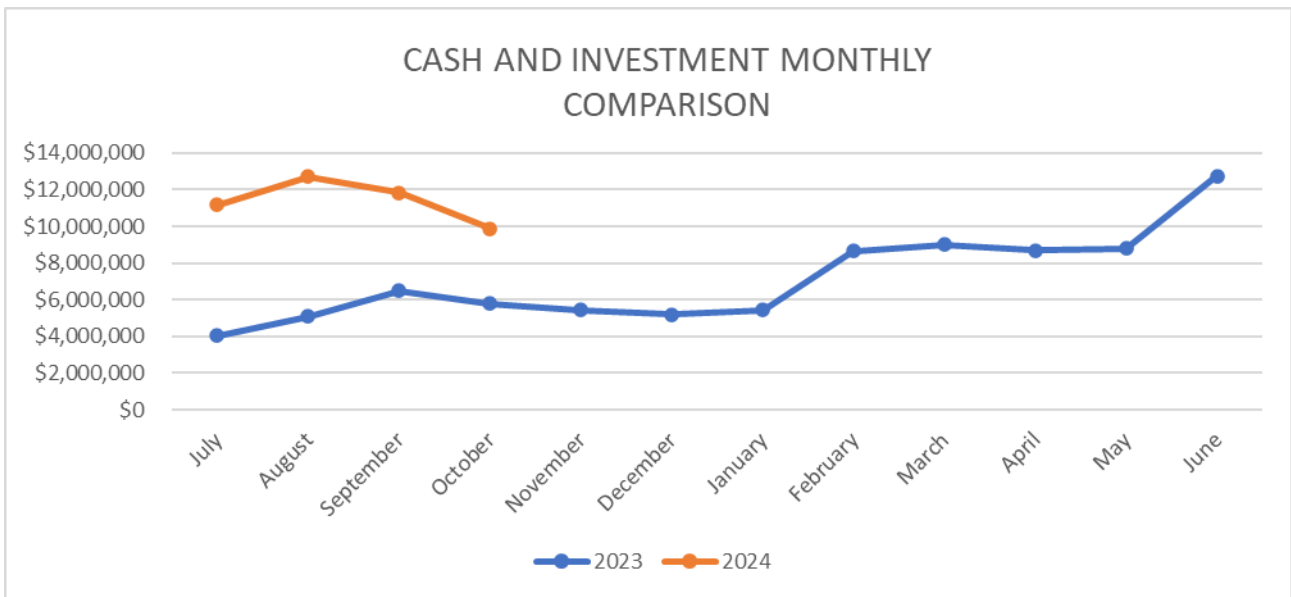
Council's investments are managed in accordance with Council's Investment Policy. Council's Investment Policy requires consideration of social responsibility when making investment decisions.

INVESTMENT BALANCES

INVESTMENT BALANCES						
As of 31 October 2023						
INSTITUTION	RATING	AMOUNT (\$)	MATURITY DATE	INTEREST RATE	INTEREST AT MATURITY (\$)	BENCHMARK – AusBond
Trading Accounts						
Commonwealth Bank of Australia	A1+	407,168	-	-	-	-
		<u>407,168</u>			-	
At Call Accounts						
Commonwealth Bank of Australia	A1+	472,861	At Call	4.10%	26,879.47	4.10%
		<u>472,861</u>			<u>26,879.47</u>	
Term Deposits						
National Australia Bank	A1+	-	Matured	-	18,000.00	-
National Australia Bank	A1+	-	Matured	-	15,904.11	-
National Australia Bank	A1+	-	Matured	-	10,969.86	-
AMP Bank	A2	-	Matured	-	23,058.90	-
Judo Bank	A3	-	Matured	-	6,669.18	-
AMP Bank	A2	-	Matured	-	11,842.47	-
AMP Bank	A2	-	Matured	-	12,397.26	-
MyState Bank	A2	500,000	08-Nov-23	5.00%	12,328.77	4.23%
AMP Bank	A2	500,000	27-Nov-23	5.50%	11,376.71	4.23%
AMP Bank	A2	500,000	29-Nov-23	5.20%	12,821.92	4.23%
Judo Bank	A3	500,000	11-Dec-23	5.30%	13,068.49	4.13%
Judo Bank	A3	1,000,000	22-Dec-23	5.70%	27,484.93	4.13%
National Australia bank	A1+	1,000,000	24-Jan-24	5.30%	26,136.99	4.13%
Bank of Queensland	A2	500,000	23-Feb-24	5.50%	18,006.85	4.11%
Bank of Queensland	A2	500,000	26-Mar-24	5.10%	12,575.34	4.11%
National Australia Bank	A1	1,000,000	08-Apr-24	5.05%	29,054.79	4.11%
Mystate Bank	A2	750,000	09-Apr-24	5.10%	22,740.41	4.11%
AMP Bank	A2	500,000	01-May-24	5.15%	12,910.27	3.71%
AMP Bank	A2	500,000	24-May-24	5.70%	25,767.12	3.71%
Australian Unity Bank	A2	500,000	19-Jun-24	5.55%	27,750.00	3.71%
Heritage and People's Choice	A2	750,000	04-Jul-24	5.30%	35,938.36	3.71%
		<u>9,000,000</u>			<u>386,802.73</u>	
Total Cash and Investment		9,880,028				

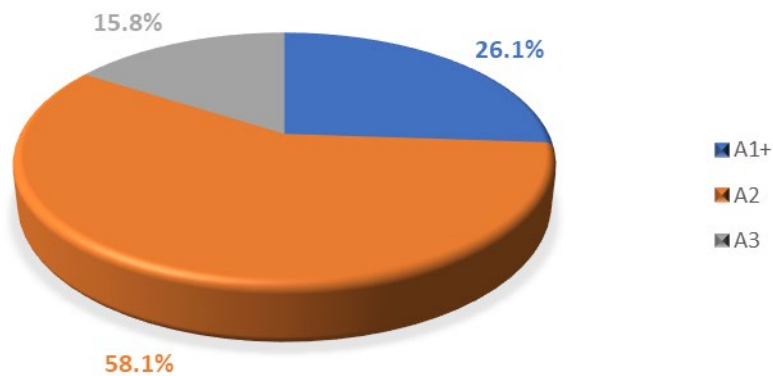
GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT TO THE ORDINARY MEETING OF JUNEES SHIRE COUNCIL HELD ON 17 NOVEMBER 2023.

Cash Comparative Analysis



Portfolio Analysis

COUNCIL INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO BY INSTITUTION RATING

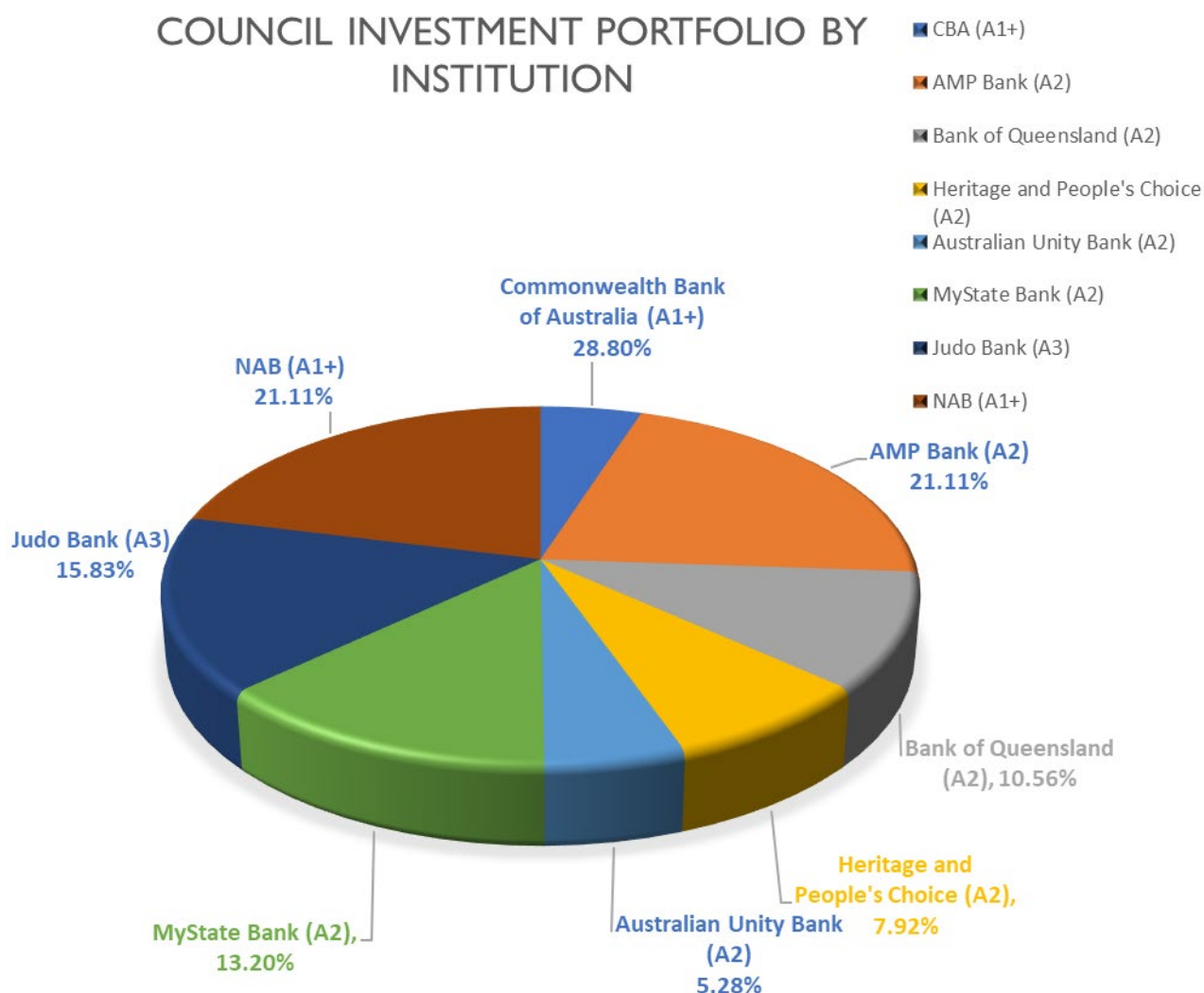


Portfolio Credit Framework – Compliance with Investment Policy Requirements

Clause 9a of the Council’s Investment Policy requires that the total percentage exposure within the market to any particular credit rating category be limited, as detailed in the table below:

S&P Long Term Rating	S&P Short Term Rating	Maximum %	Portfolio Complies with Policy?
AAA	A1+	100%	Yes
AA+	A1	100%	Yes
AA			
AA-			
A+	A2	75%	Yes
A			
A-			
BBB+	A3	40%	Yes
BBB			
BBB-			
Unrated	Unrated	25%	Yes (\$Nil)

COUNCIL INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO BY INSTITUTION



Overall Portfolio Credit Framework – Compliance with Investment Policy Requirements

Clause 9b of the Council's Investment Policy requires that exposure to an individual institution be restricted by their credit rating so that single entity exposure is limited, as detailed in the table below:

S&P Long Term Rating	S&P Short Term Rating	Maximum %	Portfolio Complies with Policy?
AAA	A1+	50%	Yes
AA+	A1	50%	Yes
AA			
AA-			
A+	A2	35%	Yes
A			
A-			
BBB+	A3	20%	Yes
BBB			
BBB-			
Unrated	Unrated	20%	Yes (\$Nil)

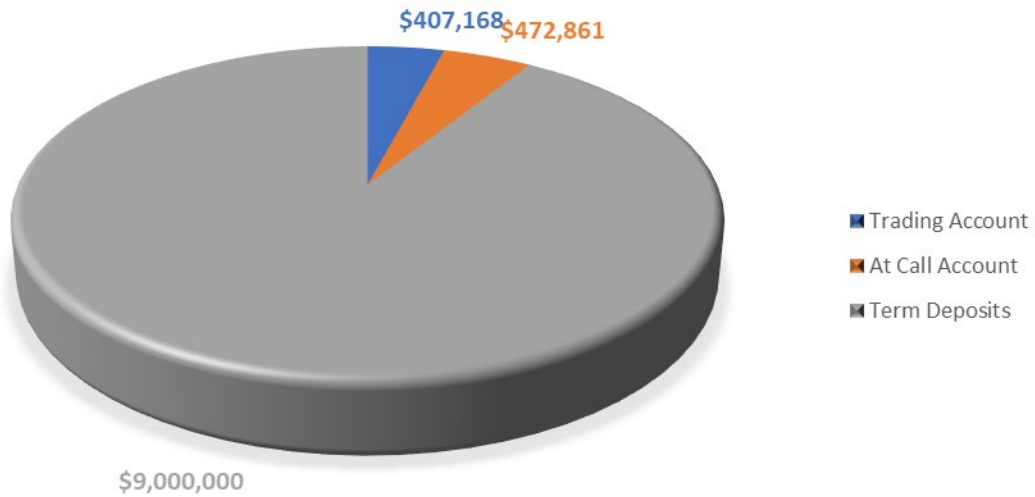
GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT TO THE ORDINARY MEETING OF JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL HELD ON 17 NOVEMBER 2023.

Term to Maturity Framework – Compliance with Investment Policy Requirements

Clause 9c of the Council’s Investment Policy requires Council’s investment portfolio is to be invested within the following maturity constraints:

Overall Portfolio Term to Maturity Limited			Portfolio Complies with Policy?
Portfolio % < 1 year	Min 65%	Max 100%	Yes
Portfolio % > 1 year < 3 years	Min 0%	Max 20%	Yes
Portfolio % > 3 years < 5 years	Min 0%	Max 15%	Yes
Portfolio % > 5 years	Min 0%	Max 0%	Yes

COUNCIL CASH AND INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO BY TYPE OF INVESTMENT



Statement of Investment Policy Compliance

Legislative Requirements		Compliant
Institutional Exposure Limits	Yes	Fully compliant
Portfolio Credit Rating Limits	Yes	Fully compliant
Term to Maturity Limits	Yes	Fully compliant

Item 4 CLASSIFICATION OF 22 BOUNDARY STREET, JUNEE

Author Chief Financial Officer

Attachments Nil

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council classify 22 Boundary Street, Junee as Operational Land pursuant to S31(2) of the Local Government Act (The Act).

BACKGROUND

Council purchased 22 Boundary Street, Junee in October 2022 for strategic reasons with the view of subdividing the land and selling residential blocks some time into the future.

CONSIDERATIONS

Pursuant to S31(2A) of the Act, land purchased by Council becomes community land after three months unless otherwise resolved. In order to subdivide and sell 22 Boundary Street, it must be classified as operational land.

S31(2) of the Act allows Council to resolve that land be classified as operational should it need to be. It is therefore necessary for Council to resolve that 22 Boundary Street, Junee be **Operational Land** Pursuant to S31(2) of the Act so that Council can subdivide and sell it in the future, as was the original intention.

CONCLUSION

This is a necessary resolution so that Council can use the land at 22 Boundary Street, Junee for the purpose for which it was purchased.

Item 5 REROC ANNUAL REPORT

Author Chief Financial Officer

Attachments 2022/23 REROC Annual Report

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council endorse and note the 2022-2023 Riverina Eastern Regional Organisation of Councils (REROC) Annual Report.

BACKGROUND

Council is a member of the Riverina Eastern Regional Organisation of Councils (REROC). Other member Councils are: Bland, Coolamon, Cootamundra-Gundagai, Greater Hume, Lockhart, Temora and Goldenfields Water.

REROC is primarily member funded. It is a vehicle that allows collaboration which benefits its member councils.

CONSIDERATIONS

REROC has released its annual report for the 2022/23 financial year. It highlights the many activities that it is involved in and that Junee Shire Council benefits from. Councillor Neil Smith was Deputy Chairman during the year.

Council is an active member of REROC and receives great benefit from its collaborative activities. These include joint Waste and Recycling initiatives, aggregated purchasing power and the professional placements program through which Council employed its Asset Accounting Graduate.

It also gives Council a voice into state-based issues such as the Rate Peg Methodology Review, the Review of Waste Management Charges and Vesting of Rural Fire Service Assets in Councils.

REROC also advocates for the views of its member Councils to higher levels of government and industry. It is well recognised in the industry of one of the best local government representative bodies in NSW.

CONCLUSION

The 2022/23 Annual Report clearly details the activities of REROC during the year. It is recommended that Council endorse the report.



JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL

ATTACHMENT TO ITEM 5

21 NOVEMBER 2023



2022 - 2023

Annual Report



REROC

RIVERINA EASTERN REGIONAL
ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS

reroc.com.au



CONTENTS

- 2 REROC CHAIRMAN'S REPORT
- 7 SPEAKING OUT
- 13 WORKING DEVELOPMENT
- 17 BUILDING STRATEGIC CAPACITY
- 25 REROC WASTE MANAGEMENT, RESOURCE RECOVERY AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY
- 30 WORKING WITH OTHERS
- 31 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023
- 49 REROC DELEGATES AS AT 30 JUNE 2023
- 50 REROC MEMBER CONTACT DETAILS



Cr Rick Firman OAM, Chairman of REROC, addresses the students at the Take Charge Leadership Forum

REROC CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

I am delighted to present my eighth annual report as Chairman of the REROC Board.

We've had, as usual, another exciting, full-on and productive 12 months. It is always pleasing to reflect on just some of the countless activities and projects our REROC Board, CEO & Staff have immersed ourselves in over the last 12 months.

Following extensive consultation, the Riverina JO was placed in hiatus, which means that the advocacy role for the Member Councils reverts to REROC, as things were prior to October 2018. There remains JO capacity building projects to complete which should be finalised by the end of 2023. While the JO structure has been successful for some groups of country councils it has not been the case for all. We are pleased to see that the new Minister for Local Government, Hon Ron Hoenig MP, has supported a position whereby councils choose what collaboration structure best suits their needs.

The NSW Election and subsequent change of Government meant that we have had to establish new, networks for our advocacy. In June 2023 the Board resolved to join the Country Mayors Association of NSW, as Associate Members.

We have continued to advocate for the issues that are of importance to our Member Councils and the communities we proudly represent. This year has been significant because IPART launched a review of its Rate Pegging Methodology, and also resolved not to move forward with a proposal to introduce a Domestic Rate Peg.

REROC together with the JO embraced the opportunity to provide feedback to IPART on both issues and was active in consultations held by IPART. The Rate Peg Methodology is an issue that REROC has been lobbying about for almost 10 years, and to finally have the opportunity to contribute to a new approach on its calculation was good news.

IPART released its final discussion paper in June 2023, and REROC (in the main) agreed with the majority of the recommendations that were made. A special thank you to our Chief Executive, Mrs Julie Briggs, for her extra efforts in this space.

We have advocated for the NSW Government to address the anomaly that results in the vesting of Rural Fire Services' Fire Fighting Equipment with local councils rather than the RFS. The arrangement, which is the result of s119 of the 1997 Rural Fires Act, reflects a time when the RFS was volunteer-driven, rather than the multi-million dollar, professional firefighting organisation it is today. In 1997, councils actually had a substantive role in determining what equipment would be purchased, what would be sold and where it would be deployed in their LGA. In addition, councils entered into meaningful Service Level Agreements (SLAs) that determined what occurred in their LGAs.

Today, with the RFS' global approach to asset management, these arrangements no longer exist. Our Member Councils have not entered into meaningful SLAs with the RFS in years, and arguing that Councils "own and control" these assets is a convenient legal fiction that cost shifts the burden of depreciation from the State to Local Government

We have stepped up our advocacy in this area. In late 2022 the Board asked then NSW Minister for Emergency Services, Steph Cooke MP and Minister for Local Government, Wendy Tuckerman MP, to amend the Rural Fires Act legislation to reflect the actual management of the assets. Further we expressed our concern about the legal exposure that councils could face in relation to assets they "owned" but had no control over.

The Board will continue to advocate on the issue with the new State Government, in the hope that commonsense prevails. We were able to raise the matter with our new Minister for Emergency Services, Hon Jihad Dib MP, in June, again explaining to him that while the equipment found its way onto councils' asset registers, councils had literally no control over it.

This year saw the finalisation of the latest iteration of the NSW Public Lighting

Code, REROC has been involved in all the updates of the Code since 2009 and we were instrumental in lobbying for the Code to be mandated. The latest iteration came into effect on 1 July 2023, the Code acts as the Service Level Agreement between the providers of public lighting, Essential Energy, Endeavour Energy and Ausgrid and road authorities (which are Councils and Transport for NSW).

As part of the Southern Lights Group, we have advocated tirelessly in relation to the latest Australian Energy Regulator's Determination on Street Lighting pricing. The AER's Determinations occur every 5 years and set the prices that councils will pay for street lighting maintenance and replacement. REROC was very concerned that initial pricing from Essential Energy flagged an up to 50% increase in costs. This was a complete shock given that all our Councils have converted to energy efficient LED lighting, where it is usual for maintenance costs to fall.

Southern Lights has engaged in a series of consultations with Essential Energy about its pricing, and also attempted to independently review the pricing. Submissions were prepared for the AER and Southern Lights will continue to vigorously review and respond to any significant increases in lighting costs proposed by Essential Energy.

We were able to extend our work in energy efficiency substantially this year, after receiving funding, through the NSW Office of Energy and Climate Change, to run an Energy Efficiency and Net Zero project. Dr Will Adlong started in the Project Officer role in February 2023. The funding is for one year and we are hoping that it will continue. One of the outcomes will be the REROC Region Energy Efficiency and Net Zero Plan, which will guide decision-making for the organisation into the future. Other activities we are looking at is EV charging stations, EV fleet transitions, tariff reviews and energy from waste projects. The project will work closely with the REROC Waste Forum activities.

How Councils prepare, respond and recover from disasters is now the subject of our Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) project, after we received funding from

the NSW Reconstruction Authority. This substantial project will look at the gaps in our preparedness, develop training and community education resources and embed approaches into IP&R planning. The project is being delivered in collaboration with the Canberra Region Joint Organisation, Central NSW Joint Organisation, Hunter Joint Organisation, Illawarra Shoalhaven Joint Organisation, Mid North Coast Joint Organisation, Northern Rivers Joint Organisation and Riverina and Murray Joint Organisation. We will need to work fast as the funding is only for 12 months and there is much to be done.

Our annual Take Charge Forum attracted more students than ever. We have moved the event to The Range in Wagga, as a larger venue was required. The event (now held in late March to capture the newly appointed school leaders) attracted 145 students and 20 teachers drawn from 21 schools representing every Member LGA.

Wagga Wagga Schools also attended as a result of financial support provided to the event by Wagga Wagga City Council, as the Council is currently not a REROC member.

Conferences and workshops are a very effective way for our fellow Mayors, Deputy Mayors, Councillors and Council staff to keep up with the latest policies, projects and innovations in our council operational areas. The REROC Conferences are very reasonably priced to ensure they are accessible to us all.

Our Energy and Innovation Conference was held in September 2022 and was a great success. We received a great deal of positive feedback with Lockhart Shire Mayor, Cr Greg Verdon stating it was one of the best conferences he had ever attended. The Conference received sponsorship from Essential Energy and Iberdrola.

The Mapped Out Conference was held in November 2022, and again attracted participants from far and wide. The Conference first ran as a Forum in 2006 and has been delivered every year since, with the exception of the COVID years. It provides a unique platform for professional development of those working in the spatial data area but also showcases the ways that spatial data can be used to support and inform decision making. The Conference was sponsored by the NSW Government through Spatial Services NSW, and we are very grateful for that support.

Our Contaminated Land Management (CLM) Project, which was run in collaboration with RAMJO, came to an end this year. The project aimed to improve the capacity of council staff to manage contaminated land issues with the current project focussing on the management of Underground Petroleum Storage Systems (UPSS). CLM Project Officer, Mr Matthew Dudley, did a great job in delivering the project and we were able to develop legacy resource materials that will continue to inform council decision making, including a web-based resource.

Our REROC Waste Forum continues to deliver regional projects in waste management, resource recovery and increasingly looking at ways that we can support circular economy outcomes. The Waste Forum's work is partially funded through a grant from the EPA for



Ms Dianna Somerville, Chairperson of the RDA Riverina Board meets with Cr Rick Firman OAM

Voluntary Regional Waste Groups and our collaborative work with the EPA is highly valued.

This year saw the Waste Forum arrange for the delivery of over 1700 Kindy Kits to new Kindergarten students in the Region, the kits contain information on reducing waste. We again secured the services of theatre in education providers Eaton Gorge who delivered waste education shows in Bland, Temora and Cootamundra-Gundagai LGAs. The Forum is very successful in group procurement activities for waste collections, including waste metal and now Used lead Acid Batteries, which raise income for the councils and for Waste Forum's work. Currently, we are very focused on reducing contamination rates in both kerbside recycling and FOGO collections. In continuous operation for over 20 years, we remain very proud of the work done by the Forum.

This is a very brief overview, however, I encourage you to read the body of our REROC Annual report, to see further innovative projects we have immersed ourselves in. The REROC Board takes enormous pride in our organisation, which has been in existence since 1994. There have been many who have

served in Executive and Board positions during that time, and I acknowledge every single individual – past and present – who have served to enhance our Member Councils and communities.

The Board, Chief Executive, Staff and I wish to express our warm thanks to our State Members of Parliament, who cover our REROC footprint. To Ms Steph Cooke MP (Member for Cootamundra), Mr Justin Clancy MP (Member for Albury) and Dr Joe McGirr MP (Member for Wagga Wagga), we warmly thank them for their commitment to REROC – which is appreciated.

We also take this opportunity to thank our Federal Member for Riverina, the Hon. Michael McCormack MP. His support of REROC is also strong and true, and the Board know how crucial it is to form genuine relationships with our Federal & State Members of Parliament.

To Regional NSW Director of Riverina/Murray, Mr Giles Butler, the Board and I extend our thanks for his assistance in many ways. We also extend our thanks to Ms Rachel Whiting, the CEO of RDA-Riverina for her commitment and involvement with the REROC Board and staff.

Dr Joe McGirr discusses regional issues at a REROC board meeting



I extend my warm appreciation to Members of the Executive Committee. Those members include;

CHAIRMAN

- Mayor Rick Firman OAM (Temora Shire)

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN

- Mayor Neil Smith (Junee Shire)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

- Mrs Julie Briggs

TREASURER

Mr Tony Donoghue PSM (Coolamon Shire)

EXECUTIVE MEMBERS

- Mr Grant Baker (Bland Shire)
- Mayor David McCann OAM (Coolamon Shire)
- Mayor Charlie Sheahan (Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council)
- Mrs Evelyn Arnold (Greater Hume Shire)
- Mr Peter Veneris (Lockhart Shire)

This added commitment means a great deal to our Board and Member Councils.

A special mention goes to our REROC Treasurer, Mr Tony Donoghue PSM. Mr Donoghue does a very good job and, together with his Assistant Treasurer, Mrs Courtney Armstrong, the REROC finances could not be in safer hands. The Board and I thank them and Coolamon Shire, most sincerely. At this time, it is most appropriate to extend our sincere thanks to our Chief Executive Officer, Mrs Julie Briggs. Whether its REROC,

her various Regional, State and National organisational roles, Mrs Briggs gives nothing short of 100% in all she chooses to immerse herself in. The commitment and dedication given to the REROC Board, together with our Member Councils and communities, is something very special. Mrs Briggs' efforts are never, ever taken for granted and we remain grateful to her and her support staff in Leah Gain, Jenny Pideski, Helen Mundy, Will Adlong and Andrew Trenaman.

I extend my sincere thanks to each and every Board Member of REROC. I consider it a genuine privilege to serve you as your Chairman. It's an honour to work beside each and everyone of you, and I thank you for your service to this tremendous organisation.

In conclusion, to our Member Councils the Board and I say a special thank you. To all our Deputy Mayors, Councillors, General Managers and Staff Members – we thank them for their loyalty and support of REROC. We all have much more to achieve together, to ensure our cherished Riverina region thrives and prospers, long into the future.

Thank you very much.

Cr R B Firman OAM
CHAIRMAN

Attendees of the 2022 Mapped Out Conference held annually in November.



Advocating for the views and positions of our Member Councils and the communities we represent is a key role that REROC performs. We work together to harvest the knowledge, thoughts and opinions of our Members to determine the positions that we take on everything from rate pegging to the delivery of waste management.

REROC prides itself on the robust submissions it makes and our commitment to finding and advocating viable solutions that will meet the challenges we face.

In addition, REROC produces Strategic Plans which inform both our lobbying activities as well as operational activities including funding submissions.

REROC draws on the vast knowledge and experience of our councillors and the staff of our Member Councils to inform, respond and design solutions and develop positions. This last year, which was the final year of the Riverina Joint Organisation's activities in this area, REROC has worked collaboratively with the JO to respond to a wide variety of issues.

IPART RATE PEG METHODOLOGY REVIEW

This much needed Review was announced in October 2022, and both REROC and the Riverina JO responded to the Issues Paper. REROC assisted IPART in hosting a consultation in Wagga Wagga in November 2022 which was attended by councils from across southern NSW.

IPART was asked to investigate and make recommendations on:

- options to set the rate peg methodology to ensure it is reflective of inflation and costs of providing local government goods and services.
- options to stabilise volatility in the rate peg, and options for capturing more timely changes in council costs and inflation.
- alternate data sources to measure changes in councils' costs.
- the effectiveness of our current Local Government Cost Index (LGCI)
- options for capturing changes in councils' costs caused by external factors.
- the effectiveness of the population growth factor in achieving its intended purpose.

The Rate Peg Methodology is an issue that REROC has been lobbying on for almost 10 years and to finally have the opportunity to contribute to a new approach on its calculation was good news. In the past we have strongly advocated for IPART to use indices that realistically reflect councils' costs. For example, IPART has consistently used the NSW Public Service Wages Index to determine the rate peg rather than the Local Government Award which has gazetted, fixed wage increases each year. This has resulted in IPART constantly underestimating the impact of wages on council budgets.

In addition, IPART has spread the cost of the total ESL across all NSW councils even though the RFS component falls disproportionately on rural and regional councils. Again, this results in rate pegs that do not allow councils to undertake Business As Usual which is the goal that IPART has set for the rate peg.

If councils are to be financially sustainable then a methodology that accurately reflects the cost of doing business must be applied. At the outset our Members were clear, as has always been the case that they do not support the rate peg. Local Government is government at the grassroots, it is the government that is held to the highest accountability because of its daily front-facing interactions with its constituency. Councillors are held to account at the ballot box just as State and Federal politicians are, REROC maintains that this is where councils should be held to account for the decisions made in relation to the rates they charge and the services and facilities they provide.

IPART released its final Discussion Paper in June 2023 and REROC, in the main, agreed with the majority of the recommendations that were made. REROC was particularly pleased to see a recommendation that the ESL Levy be added to residential rates as a separate line item as this would allow much greater transparency and encourage assessments in relation to value for money.

We are hopeful that the new Labor Government will adopt the sweeping recommendations that IPART has made that will allow the rate peg methodology to better reflect the real costs of running a financially viable council.

IPART REVIEW OF DOMESTIC WASTE MANAGEMENT CHARGES

REROC together with the Riverina JO submitted a robust response to the IPART's Draft Report proposing the introduction of a peg that highlighted the reasons why a Benchmark Rate Peg would be almost impossible to achieve. This approach was supported by submissions from LGNSW and other members of the RENEW group.

We participated in consultations with IPART in August and September 2022 about the introduction of the Benchmark Peg, strongly opposing it. We did not believe that a peg could be set that would adequately reflect the diversity of service provision across councils in NSW. We also questioned the need for the Review given that IPART only received 33 responses from the public to its Issues Paper, with 5 of those complaining that they did not receive free tip vouchers. There seemed to be no demand for the Review given the millions of kerbside waste services that are delivered by councils each week with only 33 complaints received by IPART.

In late 2022 IPART announced that it would not move forward with the proposal. We were very pleased that IPART recognised the concerns the Local Government sector expressed about the proposal in making the decision not to implement the Benchmark but rather revert to a process whereby the Office of Local Government was charged with the responsibility to monitor charges in the context of its regulatory role.

GOING CIRCULAR IN CLEAN ENERGY DISCUSSION PAPER

REROC made a joint submission with the Riverina JO on the Discussion Paper. This review focused on ways to achieve circular outcomes in relation to waste management for large solar farms.

REROC sees the greatest challenge to achieving circular outcomes in clean energy is finding viable processing solutions close to developments that will minimise transport costs by maximising first-stage processing. We believe the State Government has a role to play in providing resourcing that will assist in the establishment of first-stage processing facilities.

REROC believes that circular solutions need to address the entire life cycle of clean energy facilities: the establishment, the operations and finally decommissioning. We believe that the current arrangements with regard to the Consent Conditions in relation to the developments do little to force developers to adopt circularity as a goal at any point in the lifecycle. The adage "start as you mean to end" absolutely applies to achieving circular outcomes in relation to clean energy developments. We will continue to advocate for better waste management and resource recovery solutions to be applied to clean energy developments.

EASTERN RIVERINA REGIONAL HOUSING STRATEGY

The Strategy was released in early 2022, it contained a wide variety of actions aimed at tackling

the housing shortage in the Region.

Our approach encompassed three broad themes:



This year following discussions with the REROC Planners we agreed to pursue three actions contained in the Plan:

1. IDENTIFICATION OF CROWN LAND FOR DEVELOPMENT

Based on what is known as the “Cooma Project” which identified unused Crown Land then fast-tracked the Native Title issues in order to open the land for residential development. We looked at developing a similar project that addressed the whole eastern Riverina Region. A review of land was undertaken by the Member Councils, however there was not sufficient land identified across the Member Councils to warrant progressing a regional project.

2. IDENTIFICATION OF LAND ZONED RESIDENTIAL THAT IS UNLIKELY TO BE DEVELOPED

This project would use data generated through REROC’s Land Monitor Project to identify the residentially zoned land that is available for development. The Land Monitor Project identified over a thousand parcels of land zoned residential in the REROC Region that were not being made available for development. The project aims to validate the actual land supply pipeline in the Region in order to inform re-zoning decisions.

3. POCKET PARK REZONING

This project to run in partnership in the Department of Planning aims to develop a suite of materials to support rezoning for residential use. While REROC Planners were keen to progress the project, lack of time and resources resulted in the project being put on hold.

In addition, REROC has been lobbying for the review of the Manufactured Homes Regulation to be finalised. Manufactured homes are an important part of the housing mix and provide short to medium term solutions in times of housing shortages. The Regulations have been under review since 2016. REROC was concerned to ensure that the Regulation encompassed tiny homes and foldable homes. We received advice from the Department of Planning that it would encompass these new housing solutions and we are awaiting its public exhibition.

VESTING OF RURAL FIRE SERVICE ASSETS IN COUNCILS

Together with the Riverina JO, REROC has advocated strongly for an amendment to s119 of the *Rural Fires Act (NSW)* which automatically vests fire fighting equipment brought through the Rural Fire Fighting Fund with local councils.

While s119 of the Act was pertinent and represented the practices between councils and the RFS 23 years ago, it is no longer representative of today's practices where the RFS determines what equipment is purchased, when it is sold and what equipment goes where. Once the equipment is purchased by the RFS, as a result of the Act the equipment automatically vests with the local councils and must be listed on their assets register and depreciated.

The NSW Auditor General has recently taken exception to councils electing to refuse to include the equipment on their assets registers because the council has no control over their use or sale. As a result, the Auditor-General has adopted a practice of issuing financial management letters to councils who have refused to include the assets on the Registers.

Along with the Management Letters came a demand that councils undertake a condition assessment of the RFS equipment on their asset registers. A difficult task because councils do not hold the keys to the equipment nor do their staff have direct access to the equipment.

We will continue to advocate on the issue with the new Government, in the hope that commonsense prevails. We were able to raise the matter with the new Minister for Emergency Services, Hon Jihad Dib in June again explaining to him that while the equipment found its way onto council asset registers, councils had no control over it.

REVIEW OF THE NSW PUBLIC LIGHTING CODE

REROC again participated in the review of the NSW Public Lighting Code. This was a major review of the Code where we attempted to address concerns in relation to the integration of smart technology into the Code.

The differing approaches by each of the DNSPs, Endeavour Energy, Ausgrid and Essential Energy, to the delivery of smart-enabled street lighting impacted on our ability to find a solution that applied across the board this delayed the code's finalisation. The Review was completed in February 2023.

The Public Lighting Code mandates minimum service requirements and benchmarks that must be met by DNSPs in the delivery of what is a monopoly service – public lighting. It is the only way by which councils can hold the DNSPs to account for the services they provide as they are required to report regularly in relation to meeting the Code's requirements to IPART. The requirement to meet the Code is part of the DNSPs' licence conditions.

AUSTRALIAN ENERGY REGULATOR (AER) DETERMINATION FOR STREET LIGHTING

The 2024-2029 pricing review Framework & Approach is currently underway. Southern Lights has been very active in this area with the goal of ensuring that councils who are serviced by Essential Energy are not overcharged for the maintenance of their streetlights. This is a very challenging task, the importance of which cannot be overstated following Essential Energy's initial approach which proposed a 50% increase in charges for the regulatory period. Given the widespread adoption of low maintenance LED lighting Southern Lights was shocked by the proposed increase and has advocated strongly for a close review of Essential Energy costings.

Southern Lights has engaged in a series of consultations with Essential Energy about its pricing and attempted to independently review the pricing. Submissions were prepared for IPART on the proposals and Southern Lights will continue to vigorously review and respond to any significant increases in lighting costs proposed by Essential Energy.

ROAD RAIL INTERFACE AGREEMENTS

REROC and our Member Councils were able to negotiate a final version of the Road Rail Interface Agreement (RRIA) with UGL Regional Linx the new Country Rail Network Manager. In the final version of the RRIA we were able to include requirements for UGL to meet its obligations under the *NSW Roads Act*, including advising council when it is intending to access the road network or work on the road verge.

This has been a long process and we remain concerned about the unrealistic, long-winded administrative process required for Third Party Works Access, where comprehensive submissions are required in order to fill a pothole on the interface – the area where the road meets the rail. We are continuing work on this issues in collaboration with CNSWJO.

NSW PLANNING PORTAL

Our Members have had on-going concerns about the Portal, which is managed by NSW Planning. All development applications in NSW must be lodged through the Portal however our Members are consistently reporting that they must provide one-on-one assistance for “mum and dad” developers who are having trouble engaging with it.

We have asked that the Department work on making the site more accessible for new and one-time users. Our Planners would also like the Portal to better reflect the unique Development Conditions that are imposed in each LGA, currently the Portal is not accommodating these easily.

In addition, County Councils are not recognised as an Approval Authority in the Planning Portal. REROC is supporting advocacy activities by the County Councils to address the issue.

These matters will be raised with the new Planning Minister, Hon Paul Scully MP.

INFRASTRUCTURE CONTRIBUTIONS CHARGES

REROC has continued to advocate for the application of s7.12 contributions to be imposed on State Significant Developments. Advocacy on the issues will need to start again with the new Labor Government however REROC remains committed to removing the “may” from the legislation and having it changed to “must”. A solution that was first proposed by previous Planning Minister, the Hone Rob Stokes.

The adoption of the industry concept of “shared benefit” arrangements in lieu of the contribution is not acceptable as it ignores the fact that councils have already undertaken consultations, budgets and planning to commit to community infrastructure that will be funded by the s7.12 contributions. The imposition of a “shared benefit” directed by the developer is not acceptable to our Member Councils.

EPA LOCAL GOVERNMENT ADVISORY GROUP

This Group was formed by the EPA in 2021 to provide input into the work that the EPA does that impacts on Local Government operations. Tony Donoghue and CEO, Julie Briggs are part of this Group which is scheduled to meet every 3 months. The membership includes LGNSW CEO, the OLG CEO as well as senior staff of the EPA and representatives from the other VRWGs (including JOs that are VRWGs) and RENEW NSW.

With the change in CEO at the EPA this Group only met occasionally in 2022-23 however consultations on the structure and function of the Group are currently underway.

ENGAGEMENT WITH STATE AND FEDERAL MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

We aim to meet regularly with our local State and Federal members and have managed to meet with most of them during the last year.

The purpose of these meetings is to ensure that we keep relevant Ministers, our local members and other stakeholders up to date with our stance on issues for which we are advocating. Therefore, we ensure that copies of any correspondence or submissions that REROC makes that relate to State or Federal activities are sent to all our local MPs and MLCs, the Deputy Premier, the Parliamentary Secretary to the Deputy Premier, the Shadow Minister for Local Government, LGNSW and the Country Mayors Association.

The new Labor Government of course means new ministers to meet and bring up to speed with our activities. We are planning a day of meetings in Sydney with the ministers that are most relevant to Member Councils in order to have a swift introduction to REROC and its activities. We have already met with Minister for Emergency Services, Hon Jihad Dib MP and the new Minister for Local Government, the Hon Ron Hoenig MP who has expressed strong interest in attending a REROC Board meeting.

CHARLES STURT UNIVERSITY (CSU) COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

REROC has served on this Committee and its predecessor committees for over 15 years. The Committee's work focuses on activities at the Wagga Wagga Campus of CSU. The University is a key provider of training in the Region and a major employer, our engagement is very important to our Member Councils.

Dr Joe McGirr MP participating in workshops at Take Charge 2022 held at the Range Function Centre, Wagga Wagga in August





Hon Ben Franklin MLC and Hon Wes Fang MLC meet with REROC's Youth and Community Development Group in August 2022

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

REROC's role in workforce development is delivered in two ways. The first is a commitment to "growing our own" by running activities that encourage people to consider a career in local government. The second, is supporting staff and councillors through professional development activities that include conferences, workshops, professional presentations and regular meetings of our technical groups that allow staff working in specific operational areas to meet regularly to address common issues and share their ideas.

Skills shortages in Local Government are expected to worsen over the next decade, with baby boomer employees retiring, large infrastructure projects in the Region getting underway that will require thousands of workers, many likely to come from councils and a growing demand by communities for more services and better facilities creating an additional demand for workers.

REROC has strongly supported the Skills Shortage project that the JO delivered, with REROC's Workforce Development Technical

Group acting as the project's Steering Committee. The Skills Shortage project has allowed us to test a number of activities aimed at encouraging school students and university students to consider working in Local Government. The Workforce Development Technical Group meets every second month to discuss human resource issues such as recruitment, retention, training and Award issues.

We need to make working in regional and rural council attractive, we need to effectively compete for labour and we need to retain the workers that our Member Councils have. REROC plays an important role in this through the delivery of workforce development initiatives.

We were able to return to almost regular programming for our Conferences, however the delay of the 2021 No Time to Waste Conference to March 2022 because of COVID resulted in the scheduled October Conference not going ahead.

ENERGY AND INNOVATION CONFERENCE

REROC joined the Sustainable Councils initiative funded by the NSW Office of Energy and Climate Change in 2022 and this resulted in the delivery of the Energy and Innovation Conference in September 2022.

The Conference aims to showcase innovation in the energy sector across as many platforms as possible. The 2022 Conference opened with a Keynote from Dean Lynch, Relations Manager with Snowy Hydro 2.0. Dean provided the delegates with an update on progress with the project. Chris Dalitz from Riverina Electric Vehicle Owners Likers and Testers (REVOLT) spoke about the Good, the Bad and the Ugly when it comes to EV ownership the address was both enlightening and amusing, while Dr Scott Dwyer from UTS's Institute of Sustainable Futures spoke about Local Government Investment in EV Infrastructure.

Solar Energy generation was a focus with Mike Young from the NSW Energy Corporation talking out Renewable Energy Hubs, Dr Anna Bruce from SunSPoT speaking about the benefits and costs of solar and Kim Malle from the Community Power Agency speaking about the Hay Solar Garden Project.

Josh Ellison from Re-Wiring Australia opened the second day of the Conference with a video address from France, speaking about Australia's Electric Future. Funding was in focus with addresses from Gerard Arends of KOMO Energy about Crowd Funding the Grong Grong Solar Farm and Leon Chanter from ARENA speaking about funding opportunities. Graham Mawer from Next Energy talked about Multi-Function Poles and Smart City Sensors while Ben Waters from Presync address on Understanding Energy Bills was very well received.

The Conference was sponsored by Essential Energy and Iberdrola.

MAPPED OUT CONFERENCE

Our Mapped Out Conference returned in November 2022 after a COVID enforced hiatus. The Conference first ran in 2006 and has run every year since then. Starting as a very small event it has grown to attract speakers and attendees from across NSW and northern Victoria.

The Conference was held across 2 days and showcased a wide range of spatial data initiatives that can be applied to assist decision-making in government and business. The Conference again delivered a



Attendees of the 2022 Energy and Innovation Conference held annually in September

balance between the practical and emerging technologies as well as demonstrating how spatial data can be applied to a diversity of projects.

Wendy Menz and Leisl Grant from NSW Parks and Wildlife spoke about how spatial data was used to Accelerate Hawkweed Eradication, Wayne Patterson spoke about the Live NSW project that is being delivered by NSW Spatial Services while Lyn Terret from Rapid Maps gave an overview of Victoria's Emergency Markers' project which assists in directing ambulances to accident sites.

Charles Fransen from Albury City Council spoke about their Native Title Project while Melissa Daley and Craig Ronan from SES Mapping spoke about the NSW Flood Data Portal. Digital Twinning was in the spotlight with presentations from NSW Spatial and Jon Medway who spoke about CSU's Digital Twin Farm project.

The Conference was supported by NSW Government, through Spatial Services NSW.

BUILD A BRIDGE... AND GET OVER IT!

Run in partnership with the COMPACT, the 3-day Camp which was first held in 2006, aims to encourage students in years 10 to 12 to consider a career in civil engineering. Over the 3 days students participated in practical, hands-on activities that allowed them to experience the work that a civil engineer does.

This year's Camp was run in the first week of May with 19 students from Years 10-12 participating, The 2023 participants came from schools across Wagga Wagga, Bland, Cootamundra-Gundagai and Greater Hume LGAs.

The Camp is held under the direction of facilitator, Nigel Worne, a highly experienced Construction Project Engineer, who has been with the Camp since it began 16 years ago. Students gain Engineering concepts from bridge design and development stage to completion of bridge construction.

The Camp combines hands-on practical work with theory to build an understanding

of engineering. The first day has students allocated into teams which participate in practical activities, working alongside REROC Engineer mentors, teaching Engineering basics such as: Laser levels, Feature Survey and spatial coordinates, Surveying and Forces in equilibrium.

The second day involves each team receiving their project brief, to design a bridge that spans an 11m body of water (creek) in the grounds of the Borambola Sport and Recreation camp facility. At the completion of the design phase, students present and market their designs to Engineers and their peers who choose the winning design, using a selection matrix. On the final day, the winning bridge is constructed over the creek at Borambola, with the winning team taking on the role of Project Manager while the remaining students make up the construction team.

On Day Three, Local Government, school, Industry and State Government representatives, parents and friends attend a short presentation and the unveiling of the completed bridge. Students walk over the bridge they built to collect their participation certificates.

In 2018, a survey was undertaken by COMPACT of past participants. Outcomes showed that of the 123 alumni who undertook the survey, 56 of these students have gone on to study Engineering in a range of specialisations. Many respondents have confirmed that Build a Bridge...& get over it! made a positive influence in their Engineering career choice.



Students putting the finishing touches on their bridge

SKILLS SHORTAGES IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT

The Workforce Development Group is the Steering Committee for this Riverina JO-lead project that aims to address skills gaps in councils. Mr Paul Worsfold is the Project Manager. The project aims to encourage high school students, TAFE and university students to consider a career in Local Government through experiential learning experiences in the sector.

The project encompasses the following activities:

START YOUR CAREER HERE DAYS for high school students to visit their local council and learn more about careers in local government.

COME AND TRY DAYS target high school students providing them with a taste of what a career in their chosen field would be like through directed activities and events, like Build A Bridge. During 2022 we trialled a new program in Planning where students designed precincts to a prescribed description using Lego. The hands-on approach was well-received by the students and we want to expand it across the Region.

PROFESSIONAL PLACEMENTS PROGRAM we have directed our efforts at CSU and Wollongong University students and are continuing to look at ways to engage TAFE students.



Cr Rick Firman OAM greets Aunty Kath Withers before Take Charge Youth Forum

Our Student Ambassador, Samantha Tout from the University of Wollongong continued her great work in promoting professional placements directly with students and lecturers.

Sam's work was pivotal in the delivery of the first of our Engineering for Communities event, which was held in early July 2022. Engineering students from UoW visited councils in our Region to spend time with engineering staff talking about the depth and breadth of work available in rural councils. The feedback we received from the event was outstanding, with students following up after the event to enquire about engineering jobs post-graduation.

GRADUATE PLACEMENT PROGRAM while the uptake for the Placement Program has been slow, we believe this is an important part of the package of offerings that we provide to address Skills Shortages.

TECHNICAL GROUP GUEST SPEAKERS AND SITE VISITS

REROC has 8 Technical Groups in waste, planning, engineering, youth and community, energy management, water and wastewater, spatial data and workforce development. Throughout the year we have sought opportunities to engage guest speakers who can provide in-depth information on specific issues that the staff are dealing with, many of the guest speakers come from State agencies.

Guest speakers are invited to attend at the request of the members of the Technical Group or will often approach REROC looking for the opportunity to speak with a specific Technical Group.

This year our Infrastructure and Engineering Group paid a site visit to Bland Shire to look at their sustainable roadworks program which won a LGNSW Award. While NSW Planning and NSW DPI have consistently provided information and updates to the Planning Technical Committee through their permanent membership of the Group. The Water Directorate is a permanent member of the Water and Wastewater Technical Committee and provides regular updates on water issues.



The Hon Kirsty McBain MP, Minister for Local Government, meets with the REROC Board via Zoom during the August 2022 Board Meeting

BUILDING STRATEGIC CAPACITY

Building strategic capacity is key to REROC's work, we actively seek ways that Members can support each other through collaboration to improve, enhance and extend the services that are delivered by councils. The activities that are undertaken cover every facet of council operations and range from strategic planning and the creation of generic policy documents to the aggregated procurement of everything from bitumen emulsion to legal advice.

REROC and its Member Councils have a strong commitment to working collaboratively to achieve direct costs savings but also to ensure that we do not duplicate efforts, when we work together, we inevitably produce better results whether it be in operations or through our advocacy work.

We have continued with our very successful Southern Lights collaboration and this year two new projects have resulted in statewide collaborations. Southern Lights Group comprises of RAMJO, REROC and Broken Hill City Councils, unfortunately CRJO no longer contributes financially towards the project.

Our two new projects are the Joint Organisations Net Zero Acceleration (JONZA)

project which has been funded by the Office of Energy and Climate Change and the Disaster Risk Reduction program which has been funded by Reconstruction NSW. Both projects include active collaboration with CNSWJO, RAMJO, CRJO, Illawarra JO, Hunter JO, NRJO and MNCJO.

Southern Lights NSW initiated deployment of 75,000 energy efficient, LED streetlights has been completed. However, the Group continues to work together on other street lighting projects including the review of the NSW Public Lighting Policy and the AER Determination on street lighting pricing. We are also continuing to push for Smart Lighting to be enabled on street lighting which would allow councils to generate more savings through dimming and trimming the lights as well as support the operation of Smart City devices.

We have worked with CNSWJO on the aggregated purchase of retail energy through a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) for renewable energy for our large sites. We also worked with CNSWJO to identify the most cost-effective retail agreement for our small sites. The pooling together of the purchasing

to create one PPA was one of the largest in the State and was a direct outcome of the funding both organisations received through the Sustainable Councils program funded by the OECC. That program has now been encompassed by the JONZA initiative, which has been funded for 12 months.

An important facet of REROC's collaborative approach is the work we do with the State agencies that operate within our region. Strong ties have been forged through the delivery of common projects with the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, Department of Regional NSW, Transport for NSW, the EPA and the Department of Primary Industries.

We continue to seek opportunities to collaborate with Eastern Riverina Arts and the

Regional Development Australia – Riverina, who share similar footprints provides both strategic and operational outcomes. We work closely with Eastern Riverina Arts who are active participants in our Youth and Community Network meetings and provide support for the Take Charge Youth Leadership Forum. RDA Riverina is an important strategic partner as we share similar goals in relation to issues such as housing, economic development and skilled employment.

Our work with Compact as our “go to” schools’ liaison is important to the success of programs like *Build a Bridge....and get over it!*

Our work with the community and building capacity and resilience continues to be an important aspect of our work.

COLLABORATING STRATEGICALLY

DISASTER RISK REDUCTION FUNDING

In late 2022 we signed a grant agreement with NSW Reconstruction Authority for Disaster Risk Reduction Funding (DRRF). The DRRF is being run collaboratively with Canberra Region Joint Organisation, Central NSW Joint Organisation, Hunter Joint Organisation, Illawarra Shoalhaven Joint Organisation, Mid North Coast Joint Organisation, Northern Rivers Joint Organisation and Riverina and Murray Joint Organisation

The project aims to identify gaps and needs, build resources and capacity and embed disaster preparedness in Member Councils and the communities they represent. The projects objectives are to:

1. Effectively identify the gaps and needs in regions to reduce and mitigate vulnerabilities across the built, social, natural and economic environments
2. Build the capacity and share resources for evidence-based decision making and enable locally led and owned place-based disaster risk reduction efforts at both local and regional levels.
3. Build networks leading to a systems approach to disaster preparedness enabling greater consistency, efficiency, leading practice and lessons learned.

4. Provide improved capacity for Councils to deliver strategic disaster risk reduction outcomes for their communities with inputs to their IP&R structures through a regional framework, collaborative workshops and supporting tools.
5. Scope preparedness for cuts in supply chains with TfNSW through the identification and mapping of alternative routes

The project will run for 12 months and the project objectives will be achieved through five work streams:

1. Local and regional gap/needs analysis and opportunities reports.
2. Community workshops and training leveraging using spatial data capabilities/ initiatives and the work of other JOs and ROCs including sharing of resources and lessons learned.
3. Embed disaster risk preparedness in Councils’ IP&R framework.
4. Collaboration across JOs and ROCs and with key State partners - a collaborative approach
5. The development of legacy resources that ensure project learnings continue post-completion.

The program has resulted in significant collaborations across the board including the aggregated procurement of a consultant to undertake the Gap Analysis work. REROC's contacts with Spatial NSW have also

provided significant input into the project with councils committing to support the use of the Emergency Services Spatial Information Library (ESSIL) as the “one source of truth” spatial platform.

In addition, REROC has formed a strong relationship with Charles Sturt University’s Extended Reality Centre (XRC) with a view to using the Centre’s amazing capabilities in 3D software to create community education tools.

JONZA PROGRAM

We entered an MoU with the NSW DPIE’s Sustainable Councils and Communities (SCC) project in early 2021. The success of this program resulted in the State deciding to invest in an extension to allow more councils to participate, the result was the JONZA program. While originally targeting Joint Organisations the program has also embraced the work of ROCs.

Through the next 12 months, REROC intends to accelerate net zero outcomes through targeted projects such as:

- The development of a Regional Energy Efficiency and Net Zero Plan. Positioning Member Councils as potential participants in the offsetting arena.
- Completing business cases and cost benefit analyses to support decision-making about the transfer of their fleets to electric vehicles.
- Source the most appropriate design, and cost out the construction, of solar electric vehicle charging stations to charge Member Council electric vehicles, using battery storage.
- Providing Member Councils with business case, cost benefit analysis, and information on the feasibility of an aggregated procurement project to support their decisions on energy saving with LEDs at their sporting fields.
- Identifying projects in waste, resource recovery and the circular economy with the potential to deliver net zero outcomes.
- Supporting Member Councils to apply for grants to support the implementation of their Energy Plans.
- Developing a model of Revolving Energy Funds for individual Member Councils and the REROC region as a whole.
- Enable tariff reviews of energy accounts, to ensure that councils are receiving the

best price value, particularly through building capacity in member councils.

- increasing awareness and use of SunSpot by households to inform solar purchases.

We have been very fortunate to recruit Dr William Adlong into the Project Officer role, Dr Adlong has an extensive background and experience in net zero projects at community and enterprise levels.

SOUTHERN LIGHTS NSW

While the deployment of over 75,000 LED energy efficient lights across the Southern Lights footprint of 41 LGAs is completed the work of the Group continues. In the last 12 months this has focused on four areas:

1. Reviewing Essential Energy Performance Reports to IPART

As part of its licence obligations Essential Energy must report to IPART on how effectively it is meeting the service benchmarks contained in the NSW Public Lighting Code. Southern Lights reviews these reports to ensure that Essential Energy’s performance and reporting is accurate. This is important work as it holds Essential Energy to account in relation to how it is performing in what is a monopoly service provision.

2. NSW Public Lighting Code Review

The Code is the Service Level Agreement that councils have with the DNSPs (Essential Energy, Endeavour Energy and Ausgrid). The DNSPs performance is benchmarked by the Code and reported to IPART therefore it is very important that the Code accurately reflects Local Government’s expectations in relation to performance. The Code is updated each year and a full review is undertaken every 3 years. This year there has been a full review undertaken. The new Code came into effect on 1 July 2023.

3. Australian Energy Regulator Street lighting Pricing Review

The 2024-2029 pricing review Framework & Approach is currently underway. Southern Lights has been very active in this area with the goal of ensuring that councils who are serviced by Essential Energy are not overcharged for the maintenance of their streetlights. This is a very challenging task, the importance of which cannot be overstated following Essential Energy’s initial approach

which proposed a 50% increase in charges for the regulatory period. Given the widespread adoption of low maintenance LED lighting Southern Lights was shocked by the proposed increase and has advocated strongly for a close review of Essential Energy costings as well as consulted constantly with Essential Energy over the last year about the costings.

4. AEMC Submission on Minor Energy Flow Metering

Southern Lights has supported an IPWEA submission to the Australian Energy Market Commission (AEMC) on this issue.

This issue relates to metering on smart street lights, the changes advocated would allow the lights to meter electricity use instead of the deemed usage that is now the default arrangement. REROC also supported an approach that does not require the physical display of metering on the lights or physical inspections and an arrangement whereby a virtual NMI aggregates the energy data obtained directly from the lights for each lighting owner. These changes will be integral to maximizing the savings that can be achieved through activating smart lighting that has been installed.

It is somewhat frustrating that the costs of undertaking the above works is borne by the Southern Lights Group, however every council in the Essential Energy footprint is advantaged by the work. We have attempted over recent years to have more councils join the Group to offset costs and also approached LGNSW about taking greater ownership of the issue, to date our efforts have not met with success.

Our consultants Graham Mawer and Paul Gowans from Next Energy have been integral to the success of the project and to our ensuring that we have the technical information required to provide sound input into both the review of the Code and the AER Determination.

EASTERN RIVERINA REGIONAL HOUSING STRATEGY

We have continued to seek opportunities to promote the strategies contained in the Eastern Riverina Regional Housing Strategy which was released at the beginning of February 2022.

The Board, on the recommendation of our Planning Technical Group agreed to pursue three projects:

- **Identification of Crown Land for Development** – a project similar to the Cooma Housing Project which identified unused Crown land then fast-tracked the Native Title issues opening the land for residential development. Planners looked at identifying unused Crown Land in each Member LGA with a view to undertaking a regional project, however there was no sufficient land identified to support a regional approach.
- **Identification of land zoned residential that is unlikely to be developed** – using the data generated through our Land Monitor project undertaken by RDA-Riverina the goal of this is to identify the residentially zoned land that is available for development in order to validate the Region's residential land pipeline.
- **Pocket park rezoning** – working with DPE to develop a suite of materials to assist councils with rezoning applications.

In addition, the REROC Executive started some initial work on a regional Community Housing project. We believe that by operating at a regional level REROC may be able to generate economies of scale and scope that would make community housing projects viable for small communities.

REGIONAL BIODIVERSITY PROJECT

We are continuing to provide information on the Biodiversity Conservation legislation and its impacts on planning through the REROC website.

We are supported in keeping the information up-to-date by NSW Department of Environment, who allow Marcus Wright, our former Project Officer, to monitor the site's information and provide us with updates. It is an important resource to support the capacity of our Member Councils to deal with planning issues and the Biodiversity legislation. The web-based resource provides a decision-making pathway and includes flowcharts, information sheets and hyperlinks that provide guidance to both the public and councils.

CONTAMINATED LAND REGIONAL PROJECT OFFICER

This project, which covers eighteen councils across the Riverina-Murray region was delivered in collaboration with RAMJO. It was due to end on 30 June 2023 but was extended for a further two months to allow the finalisation of the legacy resource materials and the supporting website materials. The website is hosted by RAMJO and can be accessed at:

www.ramjo.nsw.gov.au/contaminated-land/

The main focus for the REROC Member Councils has been around managing the regulatory processes associated with Underground Petroleum Storage Systems (UPSS). The responsibility for managing these Storage Systems was held by the State but devolved to councils in 2019 meaning there has been a lot of work required to bring systems, procedures and the capacity of council staff to deal with the issue up to speed.

REROC REGIONAL FREIGHT TRANSPORT PLAN

REROC first released its Regional Freight Transport Plan in 2014, with the last update occurring in 2019.

The Plan identifies the major freight routes in the Region and the constraints that impact

on the effective movement of freight within and through the Region. Member Councils and REROC use the information to advocate and lobby for road funding and to identify opportunities to expand freight-based opportunities in the Region.

We started work on updating the Plan this year and incorporating data from the CSIRO TranSIT project which was completed by the JO in 2020 within it, that work is on-going. The Plan can currently be downloaded from the REROC website and has also been mapped at www.reroc.giscloud.com. We thank Dan Smith and Coolamon Shire Council for providing the mapping services for this project.

NATIVE TITLE EXPERT PANEL

The Native Title Expert Panel was created in late 2020 to address concerns Members had in relation to their capacity to deal with native title issues. The Panel can be accessed through the REROC Members Portal where all the details of panel members can be accessed.

CODE OF CONDUCT PANEL

REROC manages a regional Code of Conduct Panel, which can be accessed through the REROC Members' Portal. The Panel saves Members time and resources as it is procured and managed on a regional basis.



The Hon Jihad Dib MP and Dr Joe McGirr MP meeting with the REROC Executive

COLLABORATING OPERATIONALLY

One of the key platforms for collaboration for council staff are the REROC Technical Groups that operate as sub-committees. Most of the Groups meet every second month, however some meet every 3 months. The committees draw their membership from Member Councils' operational staff and in some cases State Government agencies. We have encouraged State agency involvement in the Groups as it significantly improves the collaborative opportunities and information sharing.

The Groups provide the staff of the Member Councils with invaluable professional development opportunities because they are a platform for participants to learn from each other, share information and hear from experts in their field through the attendance of guest speakers.

REROC WASTE FORUM

The Waste Forum is our longest running technical group, it was first established in 1998. The Waste Forum is partially funded through the EPA as one of NSW's 8 Voluntary Regional Waste Groups (VRWG). The EPA's funding comes through the Waste Less Recycle More initiative, the funding enables the Forum to deliver a wide variety of programs in waste management and resource recovery.

The Waste Forum's focus is on waste management, resource recovery and the circular economy. The Forum is chaired by Coolamon Shire Council General Manager, Tony Donoghue. The Group meets on a bi-monthly basis and its activities are highlighted in the section Managing Waste, Promoting Resource Recovery and Environmental Sustainability. The Forum is also a member of RENEW NSW.

RIVERINA SPATIAL INFORMATION GROUP (RIVSIG)

RivSIG supports staff who work in the spatial data field. It draws its membership from local government and state agencies. The Group is chaired this year by Narelle Johnson from Junee Shire. The Group's membership encompasses not only Member Councils

but non-member councils as well as State agencies and other stakeholders who have an interest spatial data and mapping.

RivSIG takes the lead role in the organisation of the Mapped Out Conference and provides staff working in spatial data with much needed networking and professional development opportunities. The Group decided to meet in different locations around the Riverina-Murray region this year to reflect its diverse membership.

INFRASTRUCTURE/ENGINEERS SUB-COMMITTEE

The Committee considers major infrastructure and engineering issues in the Region. The sub-committee deals with issues that impact on road use and maintenance and is primarily responsible for the delivery of the Regional Freight Transport Plan. The sub-committee also addresses specific issues that arise from the engineering functions within our Member Councils.

The Committee considers issues relating to freight transport, roads, access arrangements the potential for collaborative projects as well as other infrastructure issues like mobile phone connectivity.

The Committee meets in Coolamon, once every three months and is chaired by Coolamon Shire Council's General Manager, Tony Donoghue.

PLANNING TECHNICAL GROUP

This Group is made up of staff involved in the planning area and meets every second month. The Committee looks at ways to solve common planning issues through the development of regional policies that can be applied in individual LGAs.

The Group also provides responses to draft planning documentation and draft SEPPs and regional plans prepared by the State.

The Group has permanent representation from the Department of Planning and from the Department of Primary Industries and we are very grateful for that participation as it considerably strengthens the information sharing that occurs and provides a base from which to inform the planners about the implementation of State initiatives. We would

like to particularly thank Lilian Parker from DPI and Meredith McIntyre and Haydon Murdoch from Planning for their regular attendance and contributions to the meetings which are really appreciated.

The Group was the catalyst for the Regional Housing Strategy, reviewing all the work that went into it and providing on-going advice in relation to the actions to be implemented.

YOUTH AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NETWORK

The REROC Youth & Community Development Network brings together all the council staff working with youth and community development in the REROC region. The Network meets bi-monthly and aims to assist member councils by working together to enhance youth and community development services in the region. Tim Kurylowicz, the Executive Director of Eastern Riverina Arts, is also a regular participant in the Network and we are thankful for ERA's participation.

A key activity on the calendar for the Network is the Take Charge Riverina Youth Leadership Forum.

WATER AND WASTEWATER TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

This Committee is comprised of council staff from the Member Councils that are working in water and wastewater and from both county councils.

The Committee comes together to discuss issues that specifically relate to delivering water and wastewater services. Members share knowledge about their activities and share ways in which they have addressed and resolved issues.

Brendon Guiney, CEO of the NSW Water Directorate regularly attends meetings and his input has been invaluable.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SUB-COMMITTEE

This Committee meets on a quarterly basis to address issues that relate to Member Councils' human resource and workforce development issues. Peter Veneris General Manager of Lockhart Shire chairs the Committee.

The Committee also acts as the Steering Committee for the Riverina JO's Skills Shortages' project. The project is developing pathways for students at high school, TAFE and university to experience careers in local government. The Member Councils have a strong commitment to "growing their own" workforce and this project will be a key to developing this approach.

ENERGY MANAGEMENT GROUP

This Group is now the Steering Committee for the JONZA projects and meets every two months.

The Group's focus is the development of the Regional Energy Efficiency and Net Zero Plan as well as implementation of the projects identified in the JONZA Implementation Plan.

COLLABORATIVE PROCUREMENT

Collaborative procurement is an important way that REROC supports its Member Council activities. REROC Member Councils continue to place high value on the procurement activities undertaken by REROC. Regional procurements not only create resourcing efficiencies they also generate savings and provide increased value through larger collection volumes and increased buying power.

RETAIL ELECTRICITY TENDER

This was our largest and most complex procurement activity in some time, covering sixteen councils' large and small retail sites. The major component was the REROC/CNSWJO large site PPA tender where we worked on in collaboration with the Sustainable Councils and Communities program and with advice from consultant Presync.

The tender commenced in December 2022.

WASTE METAL COLLECTIONS

REROC has arranged the collection of waste metal for its Member Councils for over 17 years with this procurement now generating hundreds of thousands of dollars in income for participating councils. The procurement and collection of waste metal in the Region has turned this waste material into a valuable

resource that can assist councils to offset the costs associated with operating landfills.

LIQUID ALUM TENDER

We released a tender for the bulk supply and delivery of Liquid Alum for the REROC Participating Councils of Cootamundra-Gundagai and Goldenfields Water as well as Riverina Water and Hay Shire Council. The non-REROC Member councils paid a fee to be part of the tender process. This tender was finalised in September 2022.

COLLABORATING WITH COMMUNITIES

An important role for REROC is to work collaboratively within the Member Council communities to assist in providing programs where appropriate. We achieve this by working closely with our Youth and Community Development Network primarily to deliver activities to engage Youth within their communities.

This year once again our major activity was the Take Charge Riverina Youth Leadership Forum.

TAKE CHARGE RIVERINA YOUTH LEADERSHIP FORUM 2023

REROC's Take Charge Riverina Youth Leadership Forum was held on Wednesday 23 March at CSU in Wagga Wagga with 140 students and 20 teachers from 19 schools registered to attend the Forum, our biggest year yet.

The Take Charge Riverina Youth Leadership Forum focuses on providing young people with the tools required to have a stronger voice in society, take leadership roles in their community as well as inspiring them to be involved in their local community.

The day started off with a Welcome to Country by local Wiradjuri Elder, Aunty Kath Withers. We were also very grateful to have Cr Rick Firman attend to welcome the students and teachers and officially open the Forum. Our MC for the day, Emily Jones from Greater Hume Council did her usual and outstanding job.

Keynote speaker at this year's Forum was Cr Logan Collins. Cr Collins is the youngest person to ever be elected to a council in NSW. Cr Collins was elected to the Cootamundra-

Gundagai Regional Council at the 2021 Local Government elections not long after his 18th birthday. Prior to his election Cr Collins led the Cootamundra-Gundagai Youth Council as well as playing active roles in several volunteer organisation including the SES. Cr Collins' demonstrated his active involvement in the SES when he experienced a slight delay in arrival after taking on traffic management tasks when he noted that level crossing lights had failed on his journey to Wagga.

Also speaking at the event was the team from THE END FM a youth radio station based in Deniliquin. THE END FM is a youth run and led community radio station created by Southwest Arts Inc to engage young people in terms of both entertainment and in creative industries training opportunities. The station itself is located in Deniliquin but aims to cater for the Southwest region of New South Wales via its mobile outside broadcast van and youth project initiatives. THE END FM also conducted workshops on creating podcasts as well as providing attendees with an opportunity to spend time in their outside broadcast van.

Other workshops that the students participated in were "Making an Elevator Pitch" with Freeroam Theatre, Mindfulness with Anna Gannon and "The Leadership Ladder" with David Mould from Second Strike.

The 2024 Take Charge Leadership Forum will be held on 21 March at The Range Function Centre.



The Cootamundra Community Recycling Centre at Turners Lane, Cootamundra NSW

REROC WASTE MANAGEMENT, RESOURCE RECOVERY AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

The Waste Forum was the first Technical Group established by REROC and it has operated continuously for over 20 years. Waste management and resource recovery are significant activities for councils, with services running into millions of dollars a year. The Waste Forum seeks ways to assist councils in the delivery of those services whether it is through education programs that raise awareness, group procurements to support resource recovery, trials to test new processes or advocacy that addresses issues that impact on council operations.

The Forum's focus is on implementing solutions that work for rural and regional communities and to that end we have had great success with programs like regional procurements in waste, the establishment of local e-waste collections and Community Recycling Centres and supporting Members to introduce kerbside Food and Garden Organics (FOGO) collections.

This year a major focus has been the completion and adoption of our new Regional Waste Management and Resource Recovery Strategy. The Strategy will set the strategic direction for the Waste Forum for the next 5 years across four themes: Avoid and Reduce Waste Generation, Recover Resources, Protect the Environment and Strategic Collaboration.

The REROC Waste Forum is partially funded as a Voluntary Regional Waste Group (VRWG) by the NSW EPA and is one of eight Voluntary Regional Waste Groups (VRWGs) operating in NSW. We work collaboratively with the VRWGs through RENEW NSW looking for ways that we can increase efficiency and effectiveness in the delivery of programs and advocacy.

The No Time to Waste Conference is an important part of the delivery of professional development activities. Unfortunately due to COVID we were forced to cancel the Conference that was scheduled to be

delivered in October 2022. We were however successful in receiving a \$10,000 grant from Destination NSW that will enable REROC to extend the 2023 Conference by a day which will result in tours to enterprises involved in circular economy activities.

REGIONAL WASTE MANAGEMENT AND RESOURCE RECOVERY STRATEGY 2022-2027

The new Regional Strategy was finalised and adopted by the REROC Board in February 2023. The Strategy will set the strategic direction for the Waste Forum for the next 5 years. A new vision and mission were agreed on:

VISION:

Building a resilient and sustainable region through developing and encouraging initiatives in waste management, resource recovery and the circular economy.

MISSION:

Achieve efficiencies in waste management, resource recovery and the circular economy by working collaboratively with all levels of government, our communities and business for sustainable outcomes.

As part of the planning process, we contracted Talis Consulting to undertake a review of Waste and Resource Recovery in our Region which shone a light on some of our problem areas that we will need to address over the next 5 years. This included that 51% of the waste collected in kerbside is going straight to landfill. As we lose landfill space and it becomes increasingly difficult to establish new landfills this will become a critical problem over the next decade. Our council and communities must lift diversion rates for landfilling to remain viable.

On a positive, however organics have had a continued and notable increase across the examined period by more than quadrupling the 2017-2018 values in 2020-2021. The Waste Forum has made substantial efforts to support councils with their kerbside organics' collections including launching the Food and Green Keep it Clean! Education campaign.

IPART REVIEW OF DOMESTIC WASTE MANAGEMENT CHARGES

REROC together with the Riverina JO submitted a robust response to the IPART's Draft Report proposing the introduction of a peg that highlighted the reasons why a Benchmark Rate Peg would be almost impossible to achieve. This approach was supported by



submissions from LGNSW and other members of the RENEW group.

We participated in consultations with IPART in August and September 2022 about the introduction of the Benchmark Peg and in late 2022 IPART announced that it would not move forward with the proposal. We were very pleased that IPART recognised the concerns the Local Government sector expressed about the proposal in making the decision not to implement the Benchmark but rather revert to a process whereby the Office of Local Government was charged with the responsibility to monitor charges in the context of its regulatory role.

E-WASTE COLLECTIONS

REROC organises the logistical arrangements that ensure that every LGA in our Region has access to a free e-waste collection at their local landfill. Our Region is unique in establishing its own regional response to e-waste collections with the goal of ensuring that there is equity of access for all.

This year there have been difficulties with the collection as Kurrajong Recyclers struggle to find businesses able to take end products. It is disappointing that the Federal Government was so focused on ensuring that the National Television and Computer Recycling Scheme (NCRS) collected e-waste it failed to put safeguards in place that ensured Liabile

Parties invested in finding uses for the recycled materials.

It is important that Extended Producer Responsibility schemes like the NTCRS deliver end-to-end outcomes, whereby the recycled product is put to use. Simply counting how much product is collected does not make an EPR successful.

REGIONAL COLLECTION CONTRACTS

We have continued to provide regional collection opportunities for REROC Member Councils throughout the 2022/23 period with councils invited to participate in a regional metal waste contract and we also put in place a panel arrangement for the collection of Used Lead Acid Batteries.

RECYCLE NIGHT? RECYCLE RIGHT!

Our Recycle Night? Recycle Right! Campaign continues to run on television and local cinema. This year we looked to increase the use of community cinemas where possible to extend the reach of the campaign.

The aim of the campaign is to reduce contamination in kerbside household recycling bins through raising awareness that the waste is sorted by hand. The response to the



Community Recycling Centres across the REROC Region provide free drop-off of low toxic hazardous waste

advertisements is always very positive. In the coming year we will need to look at a refresh of the campaign.

KING AND QUEEN OF GREEN (EATON GORGE THEATRE COMPANY)

Theatre in Education continues to be one of our mainstays in community education. The King and Queen of Green this year visited Bland, Temora Shires and Cootamundra-Gundagai Shires talking to students about recycling and composting.

In Bland Shire the focus was on small schools with the team visiting Barmedman, Naradhan, Tallimba and Weethalle Primary Schools. In Temora they visited Temora West Public and in Cootamundra-Gundagai they were at Gundagai South Public.

KINDY KITS

This year we again asked schools if they wanted to participate in the program and as a consequence just over 1700 Kindy kits were distributed to students across the REROC Waste Forum region to schools in the following LGAs: Bland, Coolamon, Cootamundra-Gundagai, Greater Hume, Junee, Lockhart, Temora and Wagga Wagga.

The Kindy Kits are library bags made from a sturdy cotton material, they contain materials that aim to promote classroom discussions on waste management, resource recovery and students and parents to think about ways that they can reduce waste in their lunchbox. Schools were encouraged to use the information to discuss ways to reduce waste and manage recycling at home and within the school environment.

FOOD AND GREEN. KEEP IT CLEAN!

The State Government has committed to mandating the provision of Food Organics and Garden Organics (FOGO) kerbside collection service for all households by 2030. In our Region many of our members have already committed to the service and they are well established.

The Forum agreed last year that raising community awareness about contamination in the food organics and green lidded bins should be a focus. Contamination in the FOGO collection damages the product and its ultimate usability, particularly as the EPA requires that the compost that councils produce must be tested prior to use.

We are continuing to work on the television and cinema advertising for the campaign to ensure that the messaging is going to reach our audience. The website is full of useful information and we will be directing households to the site for information.

SAFE SHARPS

Unfortunately, the site remained “down” for the entirety of 2022-23 as we were unable to find funding for a much-needed overhaul. Site analytics show that for 2020/2021 year there were 21,000 site users and 29,000 sessions on the site. These figures show that people not only used the site once but were coming back again to look up locations.

REROC continues to work with the site’s developer Anomaly Software to find a solution to the issue, we are now looking at launching a “lite” site which will have reduced functionality but still provide the basic information on the location of disposal sites.

BIN TRIM

The Waste Forum submitted an application for funding under the EPA’s Bin Trim program and were fortunate to be one of the 14 successful applicants. Bin Trim aims to reduce the waste produced by businesses and to increase diversion from landfills.

The REROC project *Circular Organics in the Eastern Riverina* will target pubs, clubs, cafes and other food venues to increase the diversion of food waste from landfill by sending the waste for composting. The LGAs participating in the project are Coolamon, Junee, Lockhart and Cootamundra-Gundagai all of which have FOGO processing at their landfills.

The project will commence towards the end of 2023.

COMMUNITY RECYCLING CENTRES (CRC)

CRCs are operating in Coolamon, Cootamundra, Culcairn, Gundagai, Junee, Lockhart, Temora, West Wyalong and Wagga Wagga. We also have a CRC mobile trailer service which is hosted by Greater Hume Shire Council and available for all Member Councils. The trailer was moth-balled during COVID but is back on the road providing an additional service to people living in small communities.

The focus of the REROC Waste Forum CRC Campaign over the 2022/23 period was to continue reinforcing the locations of the CRCs with a strong focus on highlighting the materials that CRCs will accept. This achieved by using several advertising platforms as well as through the completion of our annual Community and Landfill surveys for each of the CRC locations.

The REROC Waste Forum 2022-23 CRC education campaign communicated with residents through a variety of platforms.

These included:

- Media: Television; Community Radio stations; Newspapers
- Cinema
- Council newsletters and websites
- REROC Waste Forum Facebook page
- CRC Riverina Murray Website
- CRC branded coasters with QR codes linking to the CRC Riverina Murray website

This year we also organised training sessions for council staff working in the CRCs. Training was held in May in Wagga Wagga

SOLAR FARM WASTE

This has been an on-going concern for the Waste Forum Members and in December we held a workshop to identify the types of waste that the Farms generated during constructions and viable disposal methods.

The solar panels arrive on double-sized pallets wrapped in cardboard and plastic and often use strapping made from plastic and metal. Councils will not accept the waste at landfills because the volume is overwhelming and we were looking to provide direction to other end-users. Unfortunately, we were not able to secure end-users willing to take the waste and

it is now a matter for the developers to resolve as the waste is their responsibility.

RENEW

RENEW is the umbrella organisation for the Voluntary Regional Waste Groups (VRWGs) that operate in regional NSW. It provides an effective and efficient platform for the VRWGs to meet and discuss common issues, problems and solutions.

RENEW is scheduled to meet every four months, and it offers the REROC Waste Forum the prospect of working collaboratively with the other VRWGs and the opportunity to hear directly from the EPA about the latest issues. These meetings allow the Waste Forum to provide feedback from a regional perspective on EPA initiatives.

We regularly seek out opportunities to work collaboratively with other VRWGs, such as our joint approach to advertising for the CRCs exemplifies the value of the VRWGs working together across the state to provide consistent messaging.

EPA Local Government Advisory Group Tony Donoghue and CEO, Julie Briggs are part of this Group which is scheduled to meet every 3 months. The membership includes LGNSW CEO, the OLG CEO as well as senior staff of the EPA and representatives from the other VRWGs (including JOs that are VRWGs) and RENEW NSW.

With the change in CEO at the EPA this Group only met occasionally in 2022-23 however consultations on the structure and function of the Group are currently underway.

WORKING WITH OTHERS



The Riverina JO is one of 13 Joint Organisations that were proclaimed in 2018. The Riverina JO's Member Councils are: Bland, Coolamon, Cootamundra-Gundagai, Greater Hume, Junee, Lockhart, Temora, Wagga Wagga and Goldenfields Water and Riverina Water County Councils.

The principal functions of the Riverina JO are to:

- establish regional strategic priorities and develop strategies and plans to deliver those priorities;
- promote regional leadership and be an advocate for our regional strategic priorities; and
- identify and take up opportunities for intergovernmental co-operation on matters relating to the Joint Organisation are

The majority of the REROC Member Councils are also members of the Riverina JO. REROC works with the JO to develop regional strategic plans and to inform the JO's advocacy and lobbying activities. These activities are facilitated by General Managers from the JO being members of the REROC Technical Groups.

Riverina JO went into hiatus as at 30 June 2023.



Compact and REROC have worked collaboratively for almost 20 years. Compact is REROC's conduit into high schools across the Region where we promote careers in local government. Increasingly, Member Councils are embracing the opportunity to grow their own staff and critical to this is engaging with young people about to embark on their future careers. The Compact's role in engaging with schools is vital to Member Councils' success in bringing young people a greater understanding of the potential careers in local government. The Compact is our primary partner for the delivery of the Build a Bridge... and Get Over It! project, and is a key collaborator in the Skills Shortage Project.

Eastern Riverina Arts

Eastern Riverina Arts and REROC share a similar footprint which facilitates collaboration between the two organisations. Tim Kurylowicz, the Eastern Riverina Arts Executive Director attends REROC's Youth and Community Development Network meetings providing invaluable advice and assistance to Member Councils as well as working with them to develop joint projects. Eastern Riverina Arts actively supports the delivery of the Take Charge Youth Leadership Forum. REROC is supporting ERA's project to redevelop the old Ambulance Station in Wagga into a regional arts hub.



REROC maintains a strong and on-going relationship with RDA-Riverina. The RDA has an important role in furthering the economic development of the Region, a goal that is important to our Member Councils. RDA delivers the Country Change project to which most of the REROC members support. We believe that it is important that the Region puts forward a cohesive voice on these issues in order to have a chance to attract much needed funding. RDA Executive Officer, Rachel Whiting regularly attends REROC meetings where she provides an update on RDA activities. The RDA has been actively involved in the development of the Regional Housing strategy. We are looking to further our partnership in this area in the future.



We seek opportunities to partner with Department of Regional NSW to further projects such as the Freight Transport Strategy and the Regional Housing Strategy. Julie Briggs, in her role as CEO of RivJO, attends the Regional Leadership Executive meetings which are convened by the Department for the Riverina-Murray region. The DPC Regional Manager, Giles Butler is an Associate Member of the RivJO Board and is also invited to attend REROC Board meetings and events in order to provide updates on activities at a State level.



The REROC Waste Forum is one of eight Voluntary Regional Waste Groups (VRWG) operating in regional NSW. RENEW NSW is the banner organisation for the VRWGs which are partially funded by the NSW EPA. RENEW members usually meet on a quarterly basis generally alternating between a Sydney location and a regional location, this year saw a return to face-to-face meetings. RENEW is convened by NSW EPA, Helen Mundy was REROC's representative on RENEW and she was regularly joined at meetings by Waste Forum Chair Tony Donoghue and REROC Chief Executive Officer Julie Briggs. RENEW is an important and influential group as it is often first in line to receive information and advice from the EPA about directions, funding and issues relating to waste management and resource recovery. REROC's involvement in RENEW is invaluable in ensuring that we are at the forefront of developments in the environmental sector.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

Riverina Eastern Regional Organisation of Councils

SPECIAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 30 June 2023

Riverina Eastern Regional Organisation of Councils

Special Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2023

Contents	Page
1. Statement by the Executive	33
2. Primary Financial Statements:	
– Income Statement	34
– Statement of Financial Position	35
– Statement of Cash Flows	36
– Statement of Changes in Equity	37
3. Notes to the Financial Statements	38
4. Independent Auditor’s Reports:	
– On the Financial Statements	

Overview

These financial statements are Special Purpose Financial Statements and cover the operations for the Riverina Eastern Regional Organisation of Councils (REROC).

All figures presented in these financial statements are presented in Australian currency.

These financial statements were authorised for issue by the Executive.

REROC has the power to amend and reissue these financial statements.

Riverina Eastern Regional Organisation of Councils

Special Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2023

Statement by Executive

The attached Special Purpose Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with:

applicable Australian Accounting Standards and professional pronouncements

To the best of our knowledge and belief, these financial statements:

- present fairly REROC's operating result and financial position for the year, and
- accord with REROC's accounting and other records.

We are not aware of any matter that would render these statements false or misleading in any way.



Rick Firman
Chairman



Tony Donoghue
Treasurer

Income Statement

for the year ended 30 June 2023

Unaudited Budget 2023		Notes	Actual 2023	Actual 2022
Income from Continuing Operations				
<i>Revenue:</i>				
79,500	User Charges & Fees	2a	103,676	96,977
3,000	Interest & Investment Revenue	2b	13,890	3,397
53,171	Other Revenues	2c	169,323	167,533
-	Grants provided for Operating Purposes	2d	264,760	463,491
196,637	Contributions provided for Operating Purposes	2e	196,637	195,271
332,308	Total Income from Continuing Operations		748,286	926,669
Expenses from Continuing Operations				
243,272	Materials & Contracts	3a	800,529	678,409
-	Depreciation & Amortisation	3b	-	5,194
59,718	Other Expenses	3c	67,915	61,350
302,990	Total Expenses from Continuing Operations		868,444	744,953
29,319	Net Operating Profit/(Loss) for the Year		(120,158)	181,716

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

Statement of Financial Position

as at 30 June 2023

	Notes	Actual 2023	Actual 2022
Assets			
Current Assets			
Cash & Cash Equivalents	4a	1,210,647	843,067
Receivables	4b	100,296	97,064
Total Current Assets		1,310,943	940,131
Non-Current Assets			
Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment	5	1	1
Total Non-Current Assets		1	1
TOTAL ASSETS		1,310,944	940,132
LIABILITIES			
Current Liabilities			
Payables	6	558,093	67,123
Total Current Liabilities		558,093	67,123
TOTAL LIABILITIES		558,093	67,123
NET ASSETS		752,851	873,009
Equity			
Retained Earnings	7	752,851	873,009
TOTAL EQUITY		752,851	873,009

The above Statement of Financial Position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Statement of Cash Flows

for the year ended 30 June 2023

Unaudited Budget 2023	Notes	Actual 2023	Actual 2022
<i>Cash Flows from Operating Activities</i>			
<i>Receipts</i>			
158,806	User Charges & Fees	99,034	57,871
5,445	Interest & Investment Revenue	3,154	2,677
196,637	Grants & Contributions	924,143	658,762
53,171	Other	169,322	167,533
<i>Payments:</i>			
(295,082)	Material & Contracts	(757,004)	(607,856)
(59,718)	Other	(67,915)	(61,349)
59,260	<i>Net Cash provided (or used in) Operating Activities</i>	370,734	217,638
<i>Cash Flows from Investing Activities</i>			
<i>Payments:</i>			
-	Purchase of Investments	(3,154)	(2,678)
-	<i>Net Cash provided (or used in) Investing Activities</i>	(3,154)	(2,678)
59,260	Net Increase/(Decrease) in Cash & Cash Equivalents	367,580	214,960
628,107	plus: Cash & Cash Equivalents - beginning of year	843,067	628,107
687,367	Cash & Cash Equivalents - end of the year	1,210,647	843,067

The above Statement of Cash Flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Riverina Eastern Regional Organisation of Councils

Statement of Changes in Equity

for the year ended 30 June 2023

	Actual 2023		Actual 2022	
	Accumulated Surplus	Total Equity	Accumulated Surplus	Total Equity
Opening Balance	873,009	873,009	691,293	691,293
Net operating result for the year	(120,158)	(120,158)	181,716	181,716
Total Comprehensive Income	(120,158)	(120,158)	181,716	181,716
Equity - balance at end of reporting period	752,851	752,851	873,009	873,009

Notes

The above Statement of Changes in Equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Riverina Eastern Regional Organisation of Councils

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2023

Contents of the notes accompanying the financial statements

Note	Details	Page
1	Summary of significant accounting policies	39 - 41
2	Income from continuing operations	42
3	Expenses from continuing operations	43 - 44
4(a)	Cash and cash equivalent assets	45
4(b)	Receivables	45
5	Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	46
6	Payables	47
7	Retained earnings	48

Riverina Eastern Regional Organisation of Councils

Notes to the Special Purpose Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2023

Note 1. Significant accounting policies

This financial report is a special purpose financial report prepared in order to satisfy the financial report preparation requirements of the *Associations Incorporation Act 2009*. The board have determined that the organisation is not a reporting entity.

The financial report was approved by the Executive.

The financial report is for the entity Riverina Eastern Regional Organisation of Councils as an individual entity. Riverina Eastern Regional Organisation of Councils Inc is an Association, incorporated and domiciled in New South Wales, Australia. Riverina Eastern Regional Organisation of Councils is a not-for-profit entity for the purpose of preparing the financial statements.

The financial report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Associations Incorporation Act 2009*. The financial report complies with the recognition and measurement requirements of the Australian Accounting Standards but does not comply with the disclosure requirements of these standards.

(a) Basis of preparation

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the recognition and measurement requirements specified by the Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board ('AASB') and the disclosure requirements of AASB 101 'Presentation of Financial Statements', AASB 107 'Statement of Cash Flows', AASB 108 'Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors', AASB 1048 'Interpretation of Standards' and AASB 1054 'Australian Additional Disclosures', as appropriate for not-for-profit oriented entities.

Historical Cost Convention

The financial report has been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by revaluations to fair value for certain classes of assets as described in the accounting policies.

(b) Revenue

Revenue from the rendering of services is recognised upon the delivery of the service to the customers.

Membership fees are recognised as revenue when no significant uncertainty as to its collectability exists, if the fee relates only to membership and all other services or products are paid for separately, or if there is a separate annual subscription. Membership fees are recognised on a basis that reflects the timing, nature and value of the benefit provided if the fee entitles the member to services or publications to be provided during the membership period, or to purchase goods or services at prices lower than those charged to non-members.

Interest revenue is recognised when it becomes receivable on a proportional basis taking in to account the interest rates applicable to the financial assets.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST).

Notes to the Special Purpose Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2023

Note 1. Significant accounting policies (continued)

(c) Contributions - Government Grants and Donations

A non-reciprocal contribution or grant is recognised when the entity obtains control of the contribution or grant and it is probable that the economic benefits will flow to the entity, and the amount of the contribution or grant can be measured reliably.

If conditions attached to the contribution or grant that must be satisfied before the entity is eligible to receive the contribution, recognition of contribution or income is deferred until those conditions are met.

A non-reciprocal donation is recognised when the right to receive a donation has been established. When the entity receives grants but is obliged to give directly approximately equal value to the contributor, recognition of grant income will be deferred until the delivery of service.

(d) Income tax

No provision for income tax has been raised as the organisation is exempt from income tax under Division 50 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*.

(e) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand and at banks, short-term deposits with an original maturity of three months or less held at call with financial institutions, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities in the statement of financial position.

(f) Property, plant and equipment

Each class of plant and equipment is carried at cost or fair value less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses.

Plant and equipment

Plant and equipment is measured at cost. Where plant and equipment was acquired at no cost or for a nominal amount, cost is deemed to be the fair value as at the acquisition date.

Depreciation

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets is depreciated over their estimated useful lives commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use. Land and the land component of any class of fixed asset is not depreciated.

(g) Trade and Other Receivables

Trade debtors are carried at their nominal amount. Collectability of debtors is reviewed on an ongoing basis. Debts known to be uncollectable are written off. A provision for doubtful debts is raised when some doubts as to collection of the debt exists.

(h) Trade and Other Payables

Trade and other payables represent the liabilities for goods and services received by the entity that remain unpaid at the end of the reporting period. The balance is recognised as a current liability with the amounts normally paid within normal trading terms.

Notes to the Special Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2023

Note 1. Significant accounting policies (continued)

(i) Goods and services tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Tax Office. In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense. Receivables and payables in the statement of financial position are shown inclusive of GST.

Cash flows are presented in the statement of cash flows on a gross basis, except for the GST component of investing and financing activities, which are disclosed as operating cash flows.

(j) Going concern basis of preparation

REROC reported a net loss for the period of \$120,158 (30 June 2022: profit of \$181,716).

REROC reports net cash flow provided by operating activities of \$370,734 (30 June 2022: used by \$217,638). REROC has a surplus of working capital (being the amount the current assets exceed current liabilities) of \$752,851 as at 30 June 2023 (30 June 2022: \$873,009).

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis which contemplates continuity of normal business activities and the realisation of assets and settlement of liabilities in the ordinary course of business. The value attributed to REROC's assets represent true and fair values on the basis that REROC is a going concern.

The Association has ongoing financial support from the member Councils and is satisfied that it is appropriate to prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis.

(k) Comparatives

Where necessary, comparative information has been reclassified and repositioned for consistency with current year disclosures.

Riverina Eastern Regional Organisation of Councils

Special Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2023

Note 2. Income from Continuing Operations

	Actual 2023	Actual 2022
(a) User Charges & Fees		
"Build a Bridge" Project	12,000	7,500
Energy & Innovation Conference	10,340	-
Mapped Out Income	16,872	3,000
No Time to Waste Conference	-	24,180
Scrap Metal	64,464	62,297
TOTAL USER CHARGES & FEES	103,676	96,977
(b) Interest & Investment Revenue		
Interest on REROC Account	13,890	3,397
TOTAL INTEREST & INVESTMENT REVENUE	13,890	3,397
(c) Other Revenues		
Bitumen Emulsion Rebate	6,214	8,255
Joint Organisation Contribution	20,609	20,372
Meetings & Catering	1,303	688
Procurement	15,000	-
Strategic Collaboration	43,229	81,579
Sundry Income	25,126	23,839
Waste Management	39,042	32,800
Youth Network	18,800	-
TOTAL OTHER REVENUES	169,323	167,533
(d) Grants		
Community Recycling Centres Education	68,277	60,000
EPA Waste	137,025	191,733
Contaminated Land Management Officer	21,836	211,758
Net Zero	28,717	-
Disaster Risk Reduction	8,905	-
TOTAL GRANTS	264,760	463,491
(e) Contributions		
Council Contributions	196,637	195,271
TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS	196,637	195,271

Riverina Eastern Regional Organisation of Councils

Special Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2023

Note 3. Expenses from Continuing Operations

	Actual 2023	Actual 2022
(a) Materials & Contracts		
Executive Services	187,272	183,600
- "Build a Bridge" Project	26,856	12,489
- "No Time to Waste" Conference	59	18,213
- "Mapped Out" Expenditure	9,043	2,184
- "Energy & Innovation" Conference	12,896	6,626
- "Careers in Local Government" Conference	2,955	-
- CRC Education	68,277	60,133
- Contaminated Land Management Project	167,789	54,728
- Disaster Risk Reduction	8,905	-
- EPA Household Hazardous Waste	18,384	-
- EPA Waste	137,025	229,007
- e-Waste	3,596	34,930
- GIS	2,090	-
- Net Zero	28,717	-
- Procurement Officer	6,149	6,730
- Scrap Metal	15,000	-
- Strategic Collaboration	46,480	68,525
- Sustainability Project	11,139	-
- Waste Management	24,181	-
- Youth Project	23,716	1,244
TOTAL MATERIALS & CONTRACTS	800,529	678,409
(b) Depreciation		
- Plant & Equipment Depreciation	-	5,194
TOTAL DEPRECIATION COSTS EXPENSED	0	5,194

Riverina Eastern Regional Organisation of Councils

Special Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2023

Note 3. Expenses from Continuing Operations cont.

	Actual 2023	Actual 2022
(c) Other Expenses		
Advertising	-	340
Conference Expenses	4,236	-
Insurance	5,321	5,369
IT & Computer Expenses	1,618	4,494
Legal/Accounting/Audit	5,573	5,254
Meetings/Catering	8,013	7,022
Phone	3,415	3,144
Printing/Stationery/Postage	9,921	6,648
Rent	24,592	23,699
Representations	662	695
Subscriptions	3,014	-
Sundry	329	1,011
Training	-	1,500
Travel	285	1,363
Web Site	936	811
TOTAL OTHER EXPENSES	67,915	61,350

Riverina Eastern Regional Organisation of Councils

Special Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2023

Note 4 - Cash & Cash Equivalents & Receivables

	Actual 2023	Actual 2022
(a) Cash & Cash Equivalents		
Cash on Hand and at Bank		
- REROC Account	681,864	317,438
- CRC Account	1	1
- Beyond Bank	29	29
Investments		
- Beyond Bank	528,753	525,599
TOTAL CASH & CASH EQUIVALENTS	1,210,647	843,067
(b) Receivables		
User Charges & Fees	83,948	79,306
Accrued Interest	13,181	2,445
GST Receivable	3,167	15,313
TOTAL RECEIVABLES	100,296	97,064

Special Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2023

Note 5 - Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment

	as at 30/06/2022		Carrying Value	Additions	WDV of Disposals	Dep'n Expense	as at 30/06/2023	
	At Cost	Acc Dep'n					At Cost	Acc Dep'n
Plant & Equipment	36,962	(36,961)	1	-	-	-	36,962	(36,961)
TOTAL								
INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT	36,962	(36,961)	1	-	-	-	36,962	(36,961)

Riverina Eastern Regional Organisation of Councils

Special Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2023

Note 6 - Payables

	Actual 2023	Actual 2022
(a) Payables		
Goods & Services Operating Expenditure		
- Materials & Contracts	95,016	67,123
PAYG	332	-
Other Liabilities - Disaster Risk Reduction	233,470	-
Other Liabilities - Net Zero	64,283	-
Other Liabilities - Bin Trim	42,500	-
Other Liabilities - Contaminated Land	68,538	-
Other Liabilities - Voluntary Regional Waste Group	53,954	-
TOTAL PAYABLES	558,093	67,123

Riverina Eastern Regional Organisation of Councils

Special Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2023

Note 7 - Retained earnings

	Actual 2023	Actual 2022
(a) Retained Earnings		
Movements in Retained Earning were as follows:		
Balance at beginning of Year	873,009	691,293
Net Operating Profit/(Loss) for the Year	(120,158)	181,716
Balance at End of the Reporting Period	752,851	873,009

REROC DELEGATES AS AT 30 JUNE 2023



The Hon Michael McCormack MP, Dr Joe McGirr MP, and the Hon Wes Fang MLC meet with the REROC Board

Bland Shire Council

Cr Brian Monaghan
Mr Grant Baker

Coolamon Shire Council

Cr David McCann OAM
Mr Tony Donoghue PSM

Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council

Cr Charlie Sheahan
Mr Steve McGrath (Acting GM)

Goldenfields Water County Council

Cr Matthew Stadtmiller
Mr Aaron Drenovski

Greater Hume Shire Council

Cr Tony Quinn
Ms Evelyn Arnold

Junee Shire Council

Cr Neil Smith
Mr James Davis

Lockhart Shire Council

Cr Greg Verdon
Mr Peter Veneris

Temora Shire Council

Cr Rick Firman OAM
Mr Gary Lavelle PSM

Regional Development Australia

Ms Rachel Whiting

Department of Regional NSW

Mr Giles Butler

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Website: www.coolamon.nsw.gov.au

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Website: www.cgrc.nsw.gov.au

Goldenfields Water County Council

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Website: www.greaterhume.nsw.gov.au

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Email: customerserviceteam@junee.nsw.gov.au
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REROC

RIVERINA EASTERN REGIONAL
ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS

Item 6 SERVICE NSW AGENCY AGREEMENT

Author Director Corporate and Community Development

Attachments Nil

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 1. *The Council delegates authority to the General Manager to enter into a formal agreement with Service NSW.***
 - 2. *Authorise any necessary documents for execution under the Common Seal of the Council.***
-

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Service NSW (SNSW) has formally requested the Council's participation in a revised Agency Agreement. This collaboration would involve integrating our Customer Service team in facilitating the terms and objectives outlined in the proposed agreement.

The Agency Agreement is designed to enhance access to and the delivery of New South Wales government services. It achieves this by providing a comprehensive array of shop-front services, functioning as a centralised "one-stop shop." This arrangement allows individuals to access government information and transactions within New South Wales.

The revised agreement replaces the previous Agency Agreement May 2018.

BACKGROUND

This report will provide background information to solicit support for initiating a new agreement with Service NSW.

The revised Agency Agreement maintains consistency with its predecessor, as both agreements share the common objective of promoting and facilitating access to New South Wales Government information and services. This collaborative endeavour is specifically designed to enhance support for business owners and to support the local economy.

The Council's support in facilitating access to these services for individuals and businesses has proven invaluable, particularly in navigating the challenges presented during these times.

CONSIDERATIONS

SNSW plays a pivotal role as a comprehensive one-stop-shop service for both customers and businesses. The adequate support of our customer services team further enhances the functionality of this service, which has been a significant and enduring service offering for the residents of Junee Shire Council.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT TO THE ORDINARY MEETING OF JUNEES SHIRE COUNCIL HELD ON 17 NOVEMBER 2023.

A revised Agency Agreement has been disseminated to all participating councils, outlining the delivery of statutory and non-statutory functions. This presents an opportunity for Junee Shire Council to continue providing these services to our community, with an initial term of three years and the potential for renewal to extend to one year.

Consistent with the preceding arrangement, the current agreement defines the specific roles and responsibilities assigned to each party involved in the agreement.

As an ongoing agent participant, the delivery of SNSW functions and services constitutes a fundamental service offering to the Junee community. This significance is underscored by the fact that the nearest agency providers are Temora, Wagga Wagga, and Cootamundra.

POLICY

Nil

FINANCE

The revised agreement encompasses an increment of 3.7% increase in comparison to the preceding arrangement.

RISK ASSESSMENT

This agreement supersedes a pre-existing agency agreement. The advantages derived from this service surpass the minimal associated risk to the Council.

CONCLUSION

It is recommended that the Council delegates authority to the General Manager to execute the Service NSW Agency Agreement.

Item 7 OFFICE OPERATIONS – CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR 2023/2024

Author Chief Financial Officer

Attachments Nil

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Council note the report for office operations over the Christmas and New Year period for 2023/2024.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

It has been Council practice to close the administration offices during the Christmas/New Year period. In most years, Council has ceased operations on the last working day prior to Christmas and has re-opened the offices on the first working day after New Year's Day.

BACKGROUND

This year the various offices will be closed and opened on the following dates:

- Council's office will be closed from 5.00pm on Friday, 22 December 2023 and will re-open at 9.00am on Tuesday, 2 January 2024.
- Junee Library and Visitor Information Centre will be open as follows:
 - Christmas Day 2023 - Closed
 - Boxing Day 2023 - Closed
 - 27 December 2023 - 10:00am to 2:00pm
 - 28 December 2023 - 10:00am to 2:00pm
 - 29 December 2023 - 10:00am to 2:00pm
 - 30 December 2023 - 9:00am to 1:00pm
 - 31 December 2023 - 10:00am to 2:00pm
 - News Years Day 2024 - Closed
- Community Transport Office will be closed at 5.00pm on Friday, 22 December 2023 and will re-open at 9.00am on Tuesday, 2 January 2024. Limited services for Community Transport will be available over this period by phoning 6924 4880 excluding Christmas Day.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT TO THE ORDINARY MEETING OF JUNEES SHIRE COUNCIL HELD ON 17 NOVEMBER 2023.

- Junee Junction Recreation and Aquatic Centre will be open as follows:
 - 24 December 2023 - 6:00am to 4.00pm
 - Christmas Day 2023 - Closed
 - Boxing Day 2023 - Closed
 - 27 December 2023 - 10.00am to 7.00pm
 - 28 December 2023 - 10:00am to 7:00pm
 - 29 December 2023 - 10:00am to 7:00pm
 - 30 December 2023 - 7:00am to 7:00pm
 - 31 December 2023 - 7:00am to 7:00pm
 - News Years Day 2024 - 10:00am to 7:00pm
- Members with 24/7 Gym access will be able to access the gym facilities throughout this period with the exception of New Years Eve.
- Excluding essential services staff, the Works Depot closes from 4.30pm on Thursday, 21 December 2023 and will re-open Tuesday, 2 January 2024.
- Junee Waste Landfill Facility normal opening hour apply except for public holidays.

During this period, some officers will be at work and Council's emergency numbers and contact numbers for people to contact should an emergency arise.

CONSIDERATIONS

Policy

N/A

Risk Assessment

N/A

Financial

N/A

CONCLUSION

That the report on office operations over the Christmas/New Year 2023/2024 be noted.

Item 8 NOMINATION OF NEW WEEDS DELEGATE

Author Director Engineering Services

Attachment Attachment 1 – Weeds and the Biosecurity Act – A handbook for local councils and councillors in NSW (DPI)
Attachment 2 - Biosecurity Weeds Policy (JSC)

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 1. The resignation of the current Weeds Delegate is noted.***
 - 2. A new Weeds Delegate is nominated to represent the Council at relevant meetings, in accordance with the method detailed in the body of the report.***
-

SUMMARY

The nomination of a new Weeds Delegate is required to meet Councils statutory obligations in relation to Biosecurity and Weeds. The role is critical for the on-going management of weeds throughout Junee Shire Council region and this would provide a valuable support to the region.

The Weeds Delegate acts as a strategic advisor for biosecurity issues within the shire area including the control of high-risk weeds, educating the community and landowners about weed risks and best practise weed management and preventing weed spread on council land (including reserves) and all rateable land in the shire.

The term of office for a delegate is generally for the Council term.

BACKGROUND

The Weeds Delegate role typically involves collaboration with surrounding councils, NSW Department of Primary Industries, Riverina Local Land Services (LLS) representation on the Riverina Regional Weed Committee and liaison with the Minister for Agriculture, Hon. Tara Moriarty.

Council's current Weeds Delegate, Councillor David Carter resigned from the position recently. This is a significant loss of local weeds knowledge and input. This representation on the panel will be missed by Council and the community.

Council is a member of the Riverina Eastern Noxious Weeds Authority (RENWA) a cooperative agreement between Temora, Junee and Coolamon Councils to ensure cost effective weed management can be maintained across the three local government areas.

Council also follows and supports the Riverina Regional Strategic Management Plan developed by the Riverina Regional Weeds Committee of behalf of the Riverina Local Land Services (LLS).

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT TO THE ORDINARY MEETING OF JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL HELD ON 17 NOVEMBER 2023.

Council has recently adopted the Weed Control and Management Plan which considers the practical, operational impacts that the invasion of weeds can have on the Local Government Area and provides advice on the management of weeds. This plan is an extension of Councils Biosecurity Weeds Policy and details the day-to-day obligations of Council staff in relation to weed management rather than the strategic role of the elected council.

CONSIDERATIONS

Policy

This role requires consideration and understanding of the Biosecurity Regulation 2017 and the NSW Biosecurity Act 2015.

Council has adopted Biosecurity Weeds Policy which details categories of Weed management. Council has recently adopted a Weed Control and Management Plan in accordance with the requirements of these acts.

The functional aspects of compliance with Councils' governance system are outlined in Councils Policy, Code of Conduct for Council Committee Members and Delegates of Council and Council Advisors.

Risk Assessment

This position manages biosecurity risks including those posed by weeds under categories outlined in Table 1 below, as detailed in Council's Biosecurity Weeds Policy.

Category	Objective	Weeds in Category
Prevention	To prevent the weed species arriving and establishing in the region.	These species are not known to be present in the region. They have a high to very high weed risk (highly invasive and high threat) and have a high likelihood of arriving in the region due to potential distribution and/or an existing high-risk pathway.
Eradication	To permanently remove the species and its propagules from the region OR to destroy infestations to reduce the extent of the weed in the region or a part of it with the aim of local eradication.	These species are present in the region to a limited extent and only the risk of re-invasion is either minimal or can be easily managed. They have a high to very high weed risk and high feasibility of coordinated control.
Containment	To prevent the ongoing spread of the species in all or part of the region.	These species have a limited distribution in the region. Regional containment strategies aim to prevent spread of the weed from any invaded part of the region.
Asset Protection	To prevent the spread of weeds to key sites/assets of high economic, environmental, and social value, or to reduce their impact on these sites if spread has already occurred.	These weed species are widespread and unlikely to be eradicated or contained within the regional context. Effort is focused on reducing the weed threats to protect high value assets.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT TO THE ORDINARY MEETING OF JUNEES SHIRE COUNCIL HELD ON 17 NOVEMBER 2023.

Category	Objective	Weeds in Category
Species of Concern	To minimise the biosecurity risk of these weeds as reasonably practicable using the General Biosecurity Duty.	These are weeds of concern that have been identified for local management plans and coordinated campaigns by the community and other stakeholders in the region.

Financial

Councils budget allocation for weeds is entirely allocated to meeting our regulatory obligations around identifying and reporting weeds. This is completed by RENWA and facilitated through Temora Shire Councils weed control coordination. Council has limited resources to physically manage and eradicate weeds (ie. through spraying) and careful financial management is warranted in this area.

Physical weed management typically comes directly out of the relevant budget area including Road, Reserve and Parks budgets. Council is developing clear strategies and programs to manage weeds consistently and in a timely manner, throughout the Shire. The Weed Control and Management Plan is the first step in this process.

Councils' investment is often supported by grant funding provided through state government bodies (such as LLS) to control and manage weeds throughout the Shire. One example is the NSW Weeds Action Program providing funding to assist local government in managing weeds.

RENWA Commitment

Through RENWA, Council is committed to:

- Inspect all properties within the Council area with a view to locate, map and encourage control of weeds infestations by the relevant Land Manager.
- Advise all land managers of their responsibilities under the NSW Biosecurity Act 2015.
- Enforce the NSW Biosecurity Act 2015.
- Inform and educate land managers and the community as to identifying invasive and emerging weeds within the Shire and those weeds that are close to and threatening the Shire.
- To liaise and cooperate with Federal, State and Regional Organisations and Authorities involved in invasive weeds management.
- The reduction of existing invasive weeds infestations and the prevention or limiting of establishment of new invasive weeds within the Shire.
- To plan and manage the operational control of invasive weeds on Council controlled lands.

ELECTING A WEEDS DELEGATE

The proposed process to elect a Weeds Delegate is outlined below:

- Nominations be sought during the meeting by a show of hands by interested members.
- If more than one person nominates voting can be undertaken using First-past-the-post method, where each Councillor votes for a proposed candidate and the candidate with the most votes is elected.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT TO THE ORDINARY MEETING OF JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL HELD ON 17 NOVEMBER 2023.

- In the absence of nomination by any Councillor to the Weeds Delegate role, Councils obligation under the Act, fall to the Mayor for the remainder of the term.

CONCLUSION

The Weeds Delegate is a critical and collaborative role within the community and Councillors are encouraged to nominate be engaged in the strategic management of weeds across the shire and surrounding region.



JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL

ATTACHMENT TO ITEM 8

21 NOVEMBER 2023

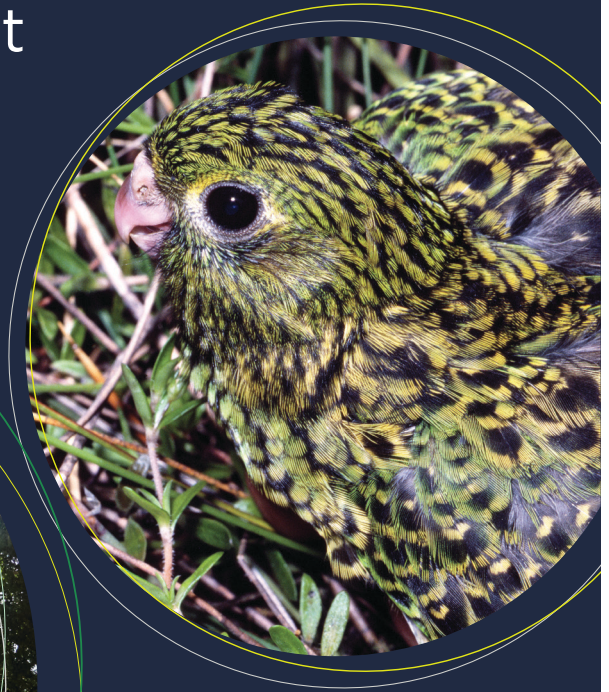




Department of
Primary Industries

Weeds and the Biosecurity Act

A handbook for local councils and councillors in NSW



Beautiful, right?
Let's keep it that way.

No Space for
Weeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeds

Published by the NSW Department of Primary Industries, an office within the Department of Regional New South Wales.

More information: Invasive Species Biosecurity www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/weeds
Email: weed.resource@dpi.nsw.gov.au

Title: Weeds and the Biosecurity Act
Subtitle: A Handbook for councils and councillors in NSW
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Contents

1 - Local government and weeds management	4
2 - The Biosecurity Act and local government	6
3 - The role of authorised officers	11
4 - Training	13
5 - Other stakeholders in NSW weeds management	15
6 - Additional information	18



1 – Local government and weeds management

1.1 Why does local government have a responsibility for weeds?

Local government delivers services for communities across New South Wales (NSW). These are grouped broadly into five core functions and services: protecting the local environment, providing and maintaining infrastructure, safeguarding public health, supporting community development and planning for sustainable development (*Councillor Handbook*, Office of Local Government, 2021).

Managing weeds is part of providing these five core services. Different weeds create different problems in different parts of NSW, and councils are best placed to make or inform decisions about the weeds management priorities for their local communities. Responsive weeds management is a strategic, ongoing component of local government work.

NSW local government has had a legal responsibility for managing weeds across their lands for more than 100 years. Weeds management has been legislated under a number of Acts in that time, including the *Local Government Extension Act 1906*, the *Local Government Act 1919* and the *Noxious Weeds Act 1993*. Weeds management is now legislated under the *Biosecurity Act 2015* (the Act) and *Biosecurity Regulation 2017* (the Regulation) – see *Section 2*.

The Act maintains local councils as the local control authority for weeds within their area of operation – see *Section 3*. This provides continuity in weeds management, while other key stakeholders support local government initiatives to manage weeds – see *Section 5*

As local control authorities for weeds, local governments:

- appoint and support staff as authorised officers under the Act - see *Section 4*
- inspect lands for high-risk weeds and seek compliance with the Act from owners/occupiers
- educate their communities about weeds risk and best practice weeds management
- control high-risk weeds
- submit weeds management records to the NSW government
- participate in regional strategic weeds management through their Regional Weed Committee.

1.2 What is biosecurity?

“Biosecurity” means protecting the economy, environment, and community from the negative impacts of pests and diseases, weeds and contaminants.

Weeds biosecurity includes:

- preventing the entry of new weeds
- finding, containing and eradicating emerging weeds
- minimising the impacts from weeds that cannot be eradicated.



1.3 Why are weeds identified as biosecurity risks?

Weeds harm our economy, environment and community because they:

- reduce the quantity and quality of agricultural, horticultural and forestry products
- outcompete and displace native plants and animals
- clog waterways which prevents boating and water sports, increase the risk of drowning and ruin fishing spots
- harbour pests and diseases
- increase bushfire intensity
- restrict animal access to water sources and shade
- lower the natural beauty and monetary value of the land
- cause injury, allergies, poisoning, and respiratory problems for humans and animals
- impact the mental health of landholders who are affected by weeds
- threaten natural and cultural heritage sites.



Weeds cost NSW agriculture
\$1.8billion per year
(*NSW Invasive Species Plan*)

2 - The Biosecurity Act and local government

2.1 Key concepts

In NSW, all biosecurity risks including weeds are managed under the *Biosecurity Act 2015* (the Act). The Act came into effect on 1 July 2017 and is supported by the Biosecurity Regulation 2017.

The Act supports a national approach to biosecurity and gives effect to intergovernmental biosecurity agreements. It is underpinned by the concepts of shared responsibility and risk-based decision making.

2.1.1 Shared responsibility

The vision of shared responsibility is: “Government, industry and the people of NSW working together to protect the economy, environment and community from the negative impacts of animal and plant pests, diseases and weeds for the benefit of the people of NSW” (NSW Biosecurity Strategy).

To ensure responsibility is shared across government, community and industry, the Act applies equally to all people and all land in NSW. The Act also applies to all plants in NSW, which are regulated through the general biosecurity duty. All people who deal with plants through their commercial, professional, volunteer, recreational or lifestyle activities have a duty to be aware of the impacts the plants they deal with might have. These people must take action to remove or reduce the likelihood of those impacts occurring.

2.1.2 Risk-based decision making and priority weeds

Weeds are regulated under the Act according to the risk they pose to the environment, community and economy. Weeds that create the highest level of risk are called priority weeds. Management action, investment and compliance effort should be directed toward priority weeds.



The general biosecurity duty:

Any person who deals with biosecurity matter... who knows, or ought reasonably to know, the biosecurity risk posed or likely to be posed... has a biosecurity duty to ensure that...the biosecurity risk is prevented, eliminated or minimised.

State priority weeds pose a high risk to the entire state of NSW. Specific legal requirements apply to state priority weeds. They are regulated through:

- Prohibited Matter
- Control Orders
- Biosecurity Zones
- Mandatory Measures

Regional priority weeds pose a high risk to particular regions of NSW. Regional priority weeds and the management outcomes that land managers must achieve for those weeds are determined by Regional Weed Committees. The Committees have local government representation - see *Section 5.5*.

State and regional priority weeds are listed in Regional Strategic Weed Management Plans and in NSW WeedWise. Local councils within a region may prioritise other weeds for management. The NSW Weed Risk Management system is a decision-support tool that can help to determine which weeds are the most important to their local communities.

Risk-based decision-making and weed prioritisation ensure that the weeds management response is:

- reasonably practicable
- matched to the degree of risk posed
- flexible and non-prescriptive

It is guided by the principle that managing new weeds earlier rather than later is the most efficient and cost-effective way to protect local communities, environments and industries from the impacts of weeds in the long-term - see Figure 1.

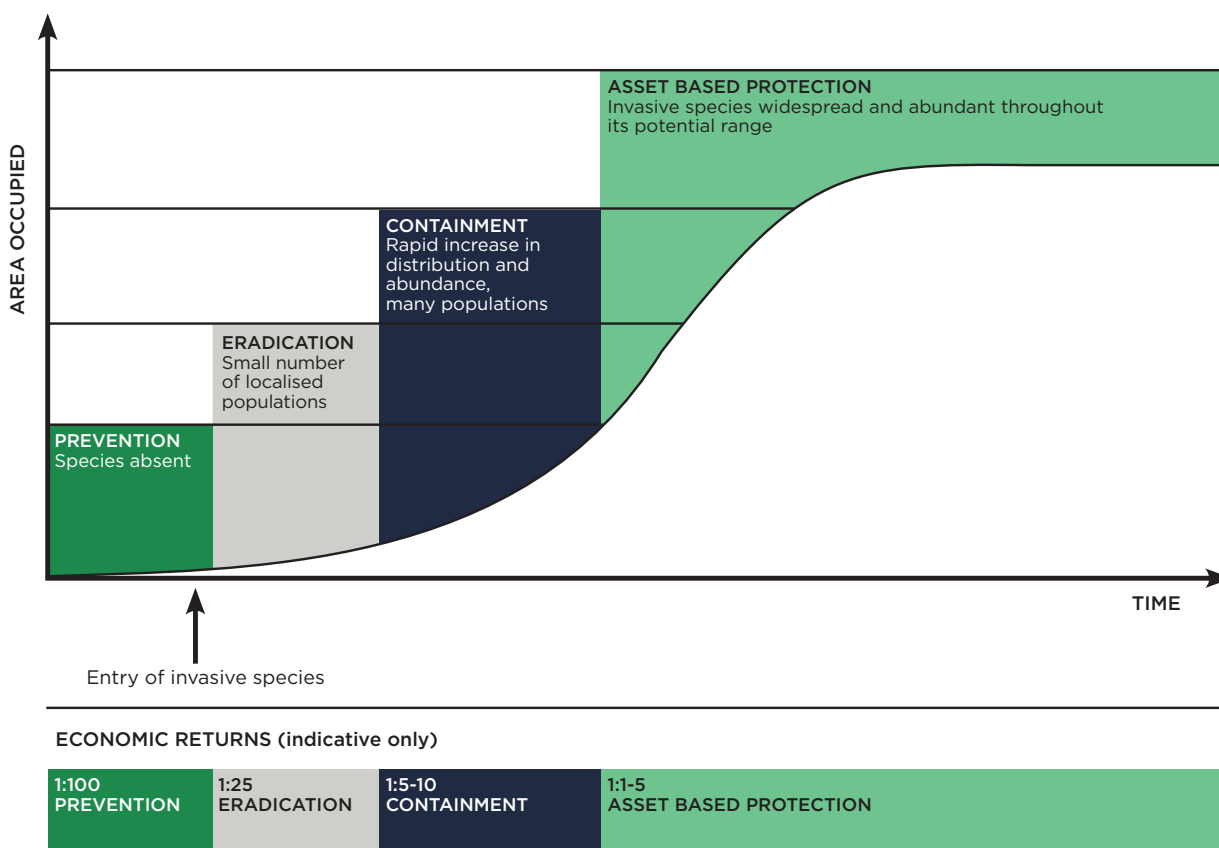


Figure 1: Generalised invasion curve showing actions appropriate to each stage and indicative economic return on investment.

2.2 Councils as the local control authorities for weeds

Councils are the local control authorities for weeds under the Act unless that function has been conferred upon a county council or other joint organisation (as defined by the Local Government Act 1993). Local control authorities are responsible for implementing and enforcing compliance with the Biosecurity Act on *all* lands within their areas of operation.

2.2.1 Local control authority functions

Local control authorities have the following weed control functions (*section 371*):

- prevent, eliminate, minimise and manage the biosecurity risk posed or likely to be posed by weeds on their lands
- develop, implement, coordinate and review weed control programs
- inspect land in connection with their functions under the Act
- keep records about the exercise of their functions under the Act
- report to the Secretary about the exercise of their functions under the Act.

As the local control authority for weeds under the *Biosecurity Act 2015*, it is the elected council that is ultimately responsible for delivery of these weed control functions.

2.2.2 Appointment of authorised officers

For a local control authority to deliver its weed control functions effectively, they must appoint an authorised officer/s under section 372 of the Act.

Only authorised officers can lawfully exercise powers under Part 8 of the Act, including:

- enter all premises
- gather information and evidence
- examine and inspect items
- take, remove and destroy items
- carry out treatment measures
- isolate, confine or detain items.

The role of authorised officers is detailed in *Section 3*.

Under the Act, local control authorities may delegate their functions to their employees. Any employee (such as the General Manager) who appoints authorised officers on behalf of a local control authority must have delegation from the local control authority. There must be a record (captured in writing) of delegating to this person before they can appoint authorised officers. The record can take the form of council meeting minutes or an official document. Alternatively, NSW DPI have developed a delegation template for local control authorities to use.



The Instruments of Appointment and Delegation templates to be used by local control authorities to appoint authorised officers are available on the Weeds Extranet at:

<https://extranet.dpi.nsw.gov.au>

The Weeds Extranet facilitates information and resource sharing for weeds professionals. It is managed by the NSW Department of Primary Industries.

2.2.3 Local control authority weeds management programs

Local control authority weeds management programs should:

- have documented policies and procedures in place for inspections, surveillance and enforcement
- inspect and monitor public and private lands strategically and proactively to manage weed risk
- consult and develop partnerships with communities, industries and land managers so that all stakeholders engage in best practice weeds management

- support all staff that influence weed management to acquire and develop skills so that they are suitably trained and authorised to deliver their tasks and statutory functions effectively
- apply the Act systematically in an objective, repeatable manner using a risk-based methodology
- use enforcement fairly, equitably and in a manner appropriate to any identified risks
- collect, evaluate and record information about weeds management in a consistent and repeatable manner
- regularly report weeds management activity at organisational, regional and state scales to the required standard and format
- allocate resources according to risk.

These and other service delivery requirements are identified in the *Standard for Weed Management Capacity in NSW*. The Standard outlines the corporate, policy, procedural and managerial components that local control authorities should have in place to deliver their weed management functions.

The Standard for Weed Management Capacity in NSW is available online at:
<https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/biosecurity/weeds/local-government-responsibility-for-weeds>

The NSW Department of Primary Industries will audit local control authorities against the Standard. If the Department finds that there are gaps in a local control authority program, Department staff will provide support and guidance for the local control authority to reach the standard over a period of time. If this doesn't happen then the local control authority may be referred to the Secretary of the Department. The Secretary may direct the local control authority to exercise their statutory functions or the matter may be escalated further.

2.2.4 Funding for local control authorities

The NSW Weeds Action Program is grant funding that may assist local control authorities to deliver some of their weed control functions, where activities address the objectives of the NSW Invasive Species Plan. For example:

- early detection of high-risk weeds through routine inspections and surveillance
- eradication and containment of high-risk weeds through on-ground control
- increasing the capacity of the community to identify, report and manage weeds.

Participation in a regional Weeds Action Program is encouraged because it strengthens weed management outcomes at the regional and cross-regional scale. Local control authorities must resource delivery of their weed control functions regardless of whether they receive grant funding through their regional Weeds Action Program.

2.3 Councils as public land managers

Councils are responsible for knowing whether they have weeds on their lands that create a biosecurity risk. They must take action to prevent, eliminate or minimise those risks.

Councils may implement additional ratepayer-funded programs that target common and widespread weeds (e.g. in public reserves and waterways and on roadsides and playing fields). Management of these weeds may not be regulated under the Act if the weeds do not create a biosecurity risk but necessary to meet community needs and expectations or to meet the requirements of other legislation.

As both public land managers and as the local control authority for weeds in their areas of operation, councils have significant statutory responsibilities under the NSW *Biosecurity Act 2015*. "Failure to comply with State and Commonwealth Law and regulations" is capable of having a major impact on councils (NSW Audit Office Risk Management Framework).

Council responsibilities under the NSW *Biosecurity Act 2015* should be addressed in each council's risk register.



3 - The role of authorised officers

Staff appointed by their local control authority as authorised officers under the Act must be able to:

- interpret and administer legislation, standards, policies and procedures
- schedule and conduct routine property and site inspections strategically according to risk
- correctly identify weeds
- assess weed risk by applying the NSW Weed Risk Management system
- plan and undertake investigations
- gather, manage and give evidence
- apply statutory tools and take appropriate regulatory enforcement action for breaches of the Biosecurity Act and Regulation
- seek co-operation of landowners in the control of weeds
- manage conflict to achieve successful outcomes
- communicate effectively to ensure people understand their legal responsibilities, the risk posed by weeds and effective methods to mitigate the risk posed by weeds
- plan, implement and monitor weed control activities
- maintain accurate qualitative and quantitative records
- record and submit weeds management data to the NSW Biosecurity Information System each month as per the NSW Weeds Metadata Standard.

Authorised officers may also be responsible for:

- participating in rapid response cross-regional and cross-border exercises to effectively manage weed risk
- conducting weed control activities including chemical application
- participating and representing their organisation in regional weed committees
- contributing to the development of local and regional strategic weed management plans and strategies
- developing policies and procedures to manage weed risk
- developing weed education resources
- planning and delivering weeds awareness and community education events
- coordinating and delivering training
- organising and reviewing the performance of vegetation control contractors
- planning and monitoring the weeds management budget and external grant budgets
- preparing and submitting grant applications
- managing projects.

Due to the nature of the skills that authorised officers require, local control authorities typically appoint staff employed in the following roles as authorised officers:

- Biosecurity/pest officers.
- Natural resource/environmental officers.
- Compliance officers.

Other weeds professionals within council may perform some of the weeds management tasks listed above without being appointed as authorised officers appointed under the Act. They may not exercise the powers in Part 8 of the Act if they are not appointed as authorised officers under the Act.





4 – Training

Authorised officers are the face of the council in a range of public and professional forums. They have diverse and often difficult roles (see Section 3) and should be suitably trained to deliver their tasks effectively and meet any associated challenges. Training improves the capability of the local government workforce to meet the changing demands of the modern biosecurity environment.



Accredited and non-accredited training courses are available for weeds biosecurity officers. Accredited training is linked to nationally recognised qualifications under the Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF). These courses are associated with a competency unit and code. Non-accredited training can provide specialised content that does not lead to a formal qualification. Both modes of training are needed to develop skills and awareness that assist weeds biosecurity officers to implement effective weed management programs.

NSW Department of Primary Industries staff facilitate the development and delivery of this training through the Weeds Training Program. The NSW DPI Weeds Training Program has dedicated staff available to assist local control authorities achieve their staff training needs.

4.1 The NSW DPI Weeds Training Program

The Program provides three areas of training:

4.1a Weeds Biosecurity Officer Induction

To help recently employed weeds biosecurity officers settle into their new role, a one day face-to-face workshop introduces key documents, systems and processes to assist officers to undertake their functions and to develop relevant training pathways. In addition to this, support networks are developed among peers, DPI and LLS to strengthen understanding of how their work at the local council level contributes to the wider management of weeds in NSW.

4.1b NSW Biosecurity Legislation training for authorised officers

Before weeds biosecurity officers in local control authorities can be appointed as authorised officers under the Act, they must complete the 11 introductory biosecurity legislation modules available through the online Emergency Management learning and development program known as EMtrain.

All local council staff are welcome to complete introductory biosecurity legislation modules available online through EMtrain at:

www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/emergencies/emergency/management/training

Modules 1-10 summarise the key elements of the Act and Module 11 is specific about application of the Act to weed management scenarios.

After the 11 modules are completed, authorised officers can participate in whole day workshops that take a more in depth look at some of the module content. The Phase 1 Introduction Workshop consolidates the learning of the on-line course and provides an opportunity to work through practical applications of the Act. The Phase 2 Management Tools Workshop teaches participants when and how to apply biosecurity undertakings, biosecurity directions and biosecurity permits in compliance, investigation, and enforcement scenarios. Information and registration details for these courses can also be accessed through EMtrain.

4.1c Skills Training for Weeds Biosecurity Officers

The NSW DPI Weeds Training Program and Tocal College provide additional short courses, often tailored for weeds professionals to support, develop and reinforce skills such as weed identification, weed control, machinery hygiene and working with people. The range of short courses delivered regionally throughout NSW can be found on the NSW Department of Primary Industries Weeds Extranet.

4.2 Further training to assist application of regulatory powers

It is recommended that authorised officers also complete:

- Compliance and Regulatory training for Biosecurity Officers authorised under the Biosecurity Act 2015 including units that form part of the Certificate IV in Government Investigations. (3 and 5-day courses are available. Contact invasives.training@dpi.nsw.gov.au).
- Training on how to correctly issue Penalty Infringement Notices under the Self Enforcement Infringement Notice Scheme. No fee applies. Contact: BusinessPartners@revenue.nsw.gov.au

4.3 Qualifications for Weeds Biosecurity Officers

4.3a Weed Biosecurity Essentials Industry Certificate

Officers that complete the eleven EMtrain modules along with several short courses can earn the Weed Biosecurity Essentials Industry Certificate. This is a part qualification that connects accredited and non-accredited training to promote an industry benchmark of core skills for Weeds Biosecurity Officers in NSW. From here, a pathway to formal qualification may be the next step.

4.3b Nationally recognised qualifications

Experienced officers can pursue formal accreditation by consolidating their training and existing skills through Recognition of Prior learning (RPL).

National qualifications that can be achieved through RPL pathways relevant to the weed management industry include:

- Certificate III in Conservation and Ecosystem Management (weed management specialisation).
- Certificate IV in Conservation and Ecosystem Management.
- Diploma of Conservation and Ecosystem Management.



5 - Other stakeholders in NSW weeds management

A number of key stakeholders support local government efforts to manage weeds. The relationship between them is shown in Figure 2.

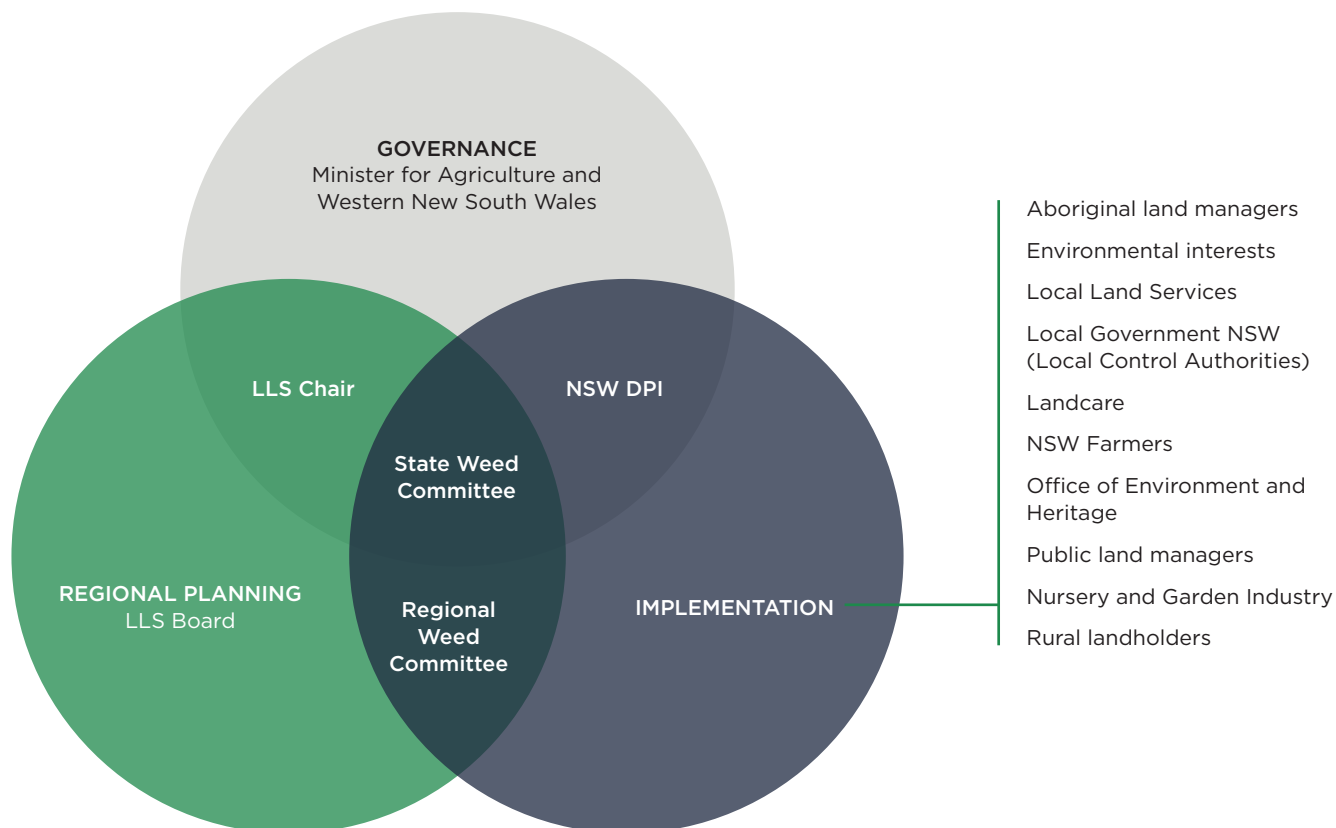


Figure 2: The relationship between weed management stakeholders in NSW

5.1 The Minister

The Minister for Agriculture and Western NSW is responsible for:

- administration of the *Biosecurity Act 2015*
- determinations of state priority weeds
- annual allocation of NSW Weeds Action Program funding.

5.2 State Weed Committee

The State Weed Committee is accountable for:

- advising on regional and state weed management policy and strategy
- overseeing the implementation of the weeds component of the NSW Invasive Species Plan
- overseeing the implementation of, and reporting on, the NSW Government endorsed recommendations from the NSW Weed Review
- undertaking transparent, evidence-based evaluations of weed declarations
- developing and communicating service delivery standards for NSW weeds management
- establishing priorities for grant projects and evaluating performance of the Weed Action Program
- commissioning audits of DPI, LLS and local control authorities weed functions where appropriate
- commissioning audits of Weed Action Program lead organisations where appropriate
- providing a forum for information from Regional Weeds Committees
- evaluating the performance of Regional Weeds Committees

- promoting best practice in strategy development and planning for weed control
- undertaking timely communication with member organisations, and
- developing a 3 year action plan to guide the Committee.

The organisations that are invited to nominate representatives on the Committee include:

- NSW Department of Primary Industries
- National Parks and Wildlife Service
- Nursery and Garden Industry NSW & ACT
- Local Government NSW
- NSW Weeds Officers Association
- NSW Farmers Association
- Local Land Services
- Nature Conservation Council of NSW
- NSW Crown Lands

The Minister may appoint representatives from other organisations from time to time. Committee members are expected to inform their organisations about developments and issues concerning weeds and to publicise weed issues.

5.3 NSW Department of Primary Industries

NSW Department of Primary Industries supports weeds management in NSW by:

- managing updates and amendments to the *Biosecurity Act 2015*
- leading the response to new incursions of state priority weeds and nationally significant weeds
- leading and administering the NSW Weeds Action Program
- managing the NSW Weeds Information Database, which provides information about over 300 weeds for the NSW WeedWise website and app
- managing the Weeds Extranet, which facilitates information and resource sharing for weeds professionals in NSW and interstate
- providing extension, education and training services
- developing non-regulatory approaches and incentives
- conducting weeds research and collaborating with other researchers
- providing biological control services
- capturing state-wide weeds data through the Biosecurity Information System - Weeds
- resourcing the NSW DPI Biosecurity Helpline
- developing policies and guidelines to support the work of the State Weed Committee.

5.4 Local Land Services

Each of the 11 Local Land Services:

- has established and administers a Regional Weed Committee
- employ or contract a Regional Weeds Coordinator to assist with regional planning, facilitation and coordinating obligations - see *Section 6* for contact details
- facilitates the management of NSW Weeds Action Program regional sub-programs
- monitors responses to new incursions of regional priority weeds
- coordinates local council input into Regional Strategic Weed Management Plans to ensure they are engaged and represented in weeds management planning.



5.5 Regional Weed Committees

Each of the 11 Local Land Services regions has a Regional Weed Committee. The Regional Weed Committees are local community advisory groups under *Section 33* of the *Local Land Services Act 2013*. They are made up of community, industry and government stakeholders that contribute to regional weeds management decision making. There are local government representatives on each committee – typically local control authority authorised officers.

The purpose of each Regional Weed Committee is to:

- develop, review and update Regional Strategic Weed Management Plans
- monitor and evaluate implementation of Regional Strategic Weed Management Plans
- make recommendations to Local Land Service boards on weeds management
- support local land services with the allocation of regional Weeds Action Program funds
- provide regional oversight and peer review of regional Weeds Action Program progress
- seek and support partnerships and investments to enhance regional weeds management
- provide tenure-neutral strategic planning and coordination of weeds management activities at the regional level
- refer weeds policy issues to the State Weed Committee
- support the State Weed Committee in the implementation of performance standards.



Regional Strategic Weed Management Plans provide the basis for a cooperative and coordinated approach to weed management in the regions. Regional Weed Committees undertake a collaborative assessment process before including a weed as a ‘regional priority weed’.

Each Regional Weed Committee has produced a regional:

- Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Improvement Plan
- Weed Communications Strategy
- Regional Inspection Plan (identifying high-risk pathways and sites, and rapid response procedures)

Local councils can use these documents to guide local weeds programs. They are available from each region’s Regional Weed Coordinator - see *Section 6*

5.6 Land managers

The Biosecurity Act applies equally to all land whether publicly or privately owned. All occupiers of land are required to manage weeds according to their General Biosecurity Duty and any legislated requirements identified in the Act or the Regulation - see *Section 2.1*.

DPI has developed a policy that clarifies the roles and responsibilities of agencies that enforce, administer or execute the *Biosecurity Act 2015*
https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0005/722840/Weed-Management-in-NSW.pdf

6 - Additional information

The following is a list of contacts for further information on weed management.

Plant identification

Botanical Information Service
National Herbarium of NSW

T: (02) 9231 8111
E: botanical.is@rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au
A: Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain Trust,
Mrs Macquaries Road Sydney NSW 2000

Weed enquiries and reporting prohibited matter

Weed enquiries

T: 1800 680 244
E: weeds@dpi.nsw.gov.au

Weeds training

Weeds Training Coordinator

E: invasives.training@dpi.nsw.gov.au

Total Skills Training

T: 1800 025 520
E: total.college@dpi.nsw.gov.au
W: www.tocalskillstraining.com.au

TAFE NSW

T: 131 601 (within NSW)
W: www.tafensw.edu.au/

Local Government NSW
Learning Solutions

T: (02) 9242 4081
E: learning@lgnsw.org.au
W: www.lgnsw.org.au

Weeds information

Weeds extranet

W: <https://extranet.dpi.nsw.gov.au/weeds>

NSW WeedWise

T: 02 6626 1268
E: weed.resource@dpi.nsw.gov.au
W: weeds.dpi.nsw.gov.au/ or download the NSW WeedWise app

Industry associations

NSW Weeds Officers
Association Inc.

President - Doug Campbell
T: 0408 683 490
E: admin@uhwa.org.au

The Weed Society of NSW

E: secretary@nswweedsoc.org.au
W: <http://www.nswweedsoc.org.au>

NSW Weeds Action Program and Biosecurity Information System

Weeds Biosecurity Programs

T: 02 6391 3100
E: weeds@dpi.nsw.gov.au
A: NSW DPI Head Office 105 Prince St ORANGE NSW 2800

Regional Weed Coordinators

Region	Regional Weed Coordinator	
Central Tablelands	T: 1300 795 299	E: admin.ct@lls.nsw.gov.au
Central West	T: 1300 795 299	E: admin.centralwest@lls.nsw.gov.au
Greater Sydney	T: 1300 795 299	E: gs.service@lls.nsw.gov.au
Hunter	T: 1300 795 299	E: admin.hunter@lls.nsw.gov.au
Murray	T: 1300 795 299	E: land.murray@lls.nsw.gov.au
North Coast	T: 1300 795 299	E: land.northcoast@lls.nsw.gov.au
North West	T: 1300 795 299	E: admin.northwest@lls.nsw.gov.au
Northern Tablelands	T: 1300 795 299	E: enquiry.northerntablelands@lls.nsw.gov.au
Riverina	T: 1300 795 299	E: admin.riverina@lls.nsw.gov.au
South East	T: 1300 795 299	E: enquiry.southeast@lls.nsw.gov.au
Western	T: 1300 795 299	E: admin.western@lls.nsw.gov.au

Or visit <https://www.lls.nsw.gov.au/i-want-to/contact-my-local-office> to find out how to contact your local office.

Useful websites

Biosecurity - Department of Agriculture (Commonwealth)	www.agriculture.gov.au/biosecurity
Biosecurity - NSW Department of Primary Industries	dpi.nsw.gov.au/biosecurity
Council of Australasian Weed Science Societies	caws.org.nz
Weeds Australia	www.weeds.ala.org.au
Australasian Legal Information Institute	www.austlii.edu.au
Australian Centre for Environmental and Financial Compliance	www.acfec.edu.au
Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority	www.apvma.gov.au
Community Justice Centres	www.cjc.justice.nsw.gov.au



BIOSECURITY - WEEDS POLICY

19 December 2019

Policy No:	ENG-DES-009
Adopted by Council:	17/12/2019
Minute No:	08.12.19
Review Date:	December 2021
Responsible Officer:	Manager Engineering Services
Responsible Director:	Director Engineering Services
Functional Area:	Engineering Services

CONTENTS

PART 1 – AUTHORITY TO ACT	3
PART 2 – FUNCTIONS OF LOCAL CONTROL AUTHORITY	3
PART 3 – WEED MANAGEMENT CATEGORIES.....	3
PART 4 – RESOURCES.....	4
4.1 Financial.....	4
4.2 Staff	4
4.3 Work Methods.....	5
PART 5 – TECHNICAL ADVICE	6
PART 7 – HERBICIDES.....	6
PART 8 – REVIEW	6

PART 1 – AUTHORITY TO ACT

The council of a local government area is the local control authority for land within that local government area.

PART 2 – FUNCTIONS OF LOCAL CONTROL AUTHORITY

A local control authority has the following functions under NSW *Biosecurity Act 2015 No 24* (hereinafter called “Act”), in relation to the land for which it is the local control authority:

- a) The prevention, elimination, minimisation and management of the biosecurity risk posed or likely to be posed by weeds,
- b) To develop, implement, co-ordinate and review weed control programs,
- c) To inspect land in connection with its weed control functions,
- d) To keep records about the exercise of the local control authority’s functions under this Act,
- e) To report to the Secretary about the exercise of the local control authority’s functions under this Act.

PART 3 – WEED MANAGEMENT CATEGORIES

Weed management categories at the regional and local scale.

Category	Objective	Description of weeds in this category
Prevention	To prevent the weed species arriving and establishing in the Council area.	High-risk (highly invasive and high threat) weeds that have a high likelihood of arriving in the area because of their potential distribution and/or an existing high-risk pathway. These species are not known to be present in the area currently.
Eradication	To permanently remove the species and its propagules from the area OR to destroy infestations to reduce the extent of the weed in the area or a part of it within the aim of local eradication.	Very high-risk weeds with a very high feasibility of coordinated control. These species are present in the area to a limited extent only and the risk of re-invasion is either minimal or can be easily managed.
		Or weeds that have a very high or high-risk and very high or high feasibility of coordinated control. These species have a limited extent in part of the area and the risk of re-invasion in that part of the area is either minimal or can be easily managed.

Category	Objective	Description of weeds in this category
Containment	To prevent the ongoing spread of the species in all or part of the area.	These weeds have a limited distribution in the area. Local and regional containment strategies aim to prevent the spread of the weed from an invaded part of the area (core infestation), and/or exclude the weed from an uninvaded part of the area (exclusion zone).
Asset Protection	To prevent the spread of the species to key sites/assets of high economic environmental and or social value or to reduce impact on these values if spread has occurred.	

PART 4 – RESOURCES

4.1 □ Financial

Council will submit a 5-year program to Department of Primary Industries (DPI) for approval and funding over the 5-year period of the plan. This funding is supplied as an annual grant administered by the Riverina Local Lands Service and is in addition to resources allocated from the Junee Shire budget.

Financial resources for weeds control are limited so Council will:

- i) Aim to obtain maximum landholders co-operation and participation in the effective implementation of the weed control program through the coordination program.
- ii) Place greater emphasis on those weeds that are threatening weeds recently established or are invasive weeds in rare and isolated infestations.

4.2 □ Staff

i. □ Weeds Advisory

Council is a member of the Riverina Eastern Noxious Weeds Authority (RENWA). RENWA is a cooperative arrangement between Junee, Coolamon and Temora Shires to facilitate efficient and cost-effective weed management across the three local government areas.

RENWA staff are responsible for fulfilling Council's statutory requirements under the *Biosecurity Act 2015 No 24*.

RENWA's responsibilities are:

- To adhere to Council's invasive weeds policy and weeds strategy.
- To apply for, manage and maintain records of any relevant available grant funding.
- To report regularly to Council and maintain such records as to provide public and legislative accountability for Council's actions and activities dealing with Weeds.

Through RENWA, Council is committed to:

- a) Inspect all properties within the Council area with a view to locate, map and encourage control of weeds infestations by the relevant Land Manager.
- b) Advise all land managers of their responsibilities under the NSW *Biosecurity Act 2015*.
- c) Enforce the NSW *Biosecurity Act 2015 No 24* as required.
- d) Inform and educate land managers and the community as to identifying invasive and emerging weeds within the Shire and those weeds that are close to and threatening the Shire.
- e) To liaise and cooperate with Federal, State and Regional Organisations and Authorities involved in invasive weeds management.
- f) The reduction of existing invasive weeds infestations and the prevention or limiting of establishment of new invasive weeds within the Shire.
- g) To plan and manage the operational control of invasive weeds on Council controlled lands.

ii. □ **Other Staff**

RENWA employs contract staff to carry out control activities. Contractors are required to carry all relevant insurances and certificates –

- Public liability
- Workers compensation
- Registered/permitted equipment
- Current relevant pesticide usage certification.

Operations contractors are required to use on Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority registered and approved products. All products are to be applied strictly according to label recommendations and all pesticide usage regulation and legislation is to be adhered to.

iii. □ **Contractors**

Where required, contractors may be engaged to assist in control programs during peak control periods. Contractors will be engaged under Council's Specification for Plant and Equipment Hire.

4.3 □ **Work Methods**

Inspections - Notices – Records

Property inspections will be carried out properly appointed Biosecurity Officers carrying identity cards.

- a) Council will issue notices of Intent to Inspect to property owners/managers prior to carrying out general private property weeds inspections.
- b) Inspections may be carried out without the land owner/ manager being on site
- c) Any issues requiring action on the part of the land owner/manager will be explained to the land owner/manager by a Council appointed Biosecurity officer
- d) Each property inspection will have an electronic record created for that inspection

PART 5 – TECHNICAL ADVICE

RENWA's Biosecurity Officer -Weeds can assist by advising landholders of methods of treatment to suite each infestation (eg: cultivation, pasture or chemical means). Staff being in regular contact with the DPI regarding latest recommended control measures, however the property owner will be advised the information provided for general information only and any landholder should not act on anything without considering, and if necessary, seeking appropriate specialist advice.

PART 6 – WEED CONTROL PROGRAM

The weeds control program within Junee Shire area will operate with reference to regional priorities, (Riverina Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan 2017-2022) and local priorities that protect the environmental, business and social values of the Junee Shire rate payers and residents.

Council will liaise with other local control authorities to ensure effective control of invasive weeds on areas of common interest such as boundaries and shared catchments.

PART 7 – HERBICIDES

- a) The selection of herbicides for invasive weed control will give first consideration to operator and environmental safety.
- b) Recommendations will be taken from NSW DPI WeedWise web site or app.
- c) Volatile herbicide formulations will not be used in anything other than emergency situations requiring immediate action.

PART 8 – REVIEW

The policy may be reviewed at any time but unless otherwise requested at least every two years from date of adoption.

Version Control and Change History

Version	Date	Action
V1.0	17/12/2019	Adoption of Policy

Item 9 REGIONAL EMERGENCY ROAD REPAIR FUNDING

Author Director Engineering Services

Attachment Attachment 1 - Regional Emergency Road Repair Funding Letter
Attachment 2 - Regional Road Repair Funding Guidelines

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 1. That an additional operational funding allocation of \$2,241,530 across the next four years from the Regional Emergency Road Repair Fund is received and noted.***
 - 2. The pausing of the Regional Roads Repair Funding Program for the next four financial years, totalling approximately \$63,000 per annum, is received and noted.***
 - 3. The funding split detailed in the body of the report is endorsed by Council for allocation at the next Quarterly Budget Review (QBR).***
-

SUMMARY

Junee Shire Council has recently been advised that Transport for New South Wales will provide \$2,241,530, for urgent repairs of damaged roads within the Shire network under the *Regional Emergency Repair Funding Program*. This coincides with the pausing of the *Regional Roads Repair Program* of \$63,000 per annum, for four years, which Council has historically provided a 50% / 50% contribution towards to rehabilitate Canola Way. The funding will allow Council to undertake road maintenance works including rehabilitations, heavy patching and pothole repair across the full sealed road network between now and the end date of 31 October 2027.

BACKGROUND

There is a significant backlog of funding for regional and local roads throughout New South Wales. In addition to that, we have undergone a significant period of severe weather, flooding and bushfires. The newly elected Minister for Regional Transport and Roads, Jenny Aitchison MP has acknowledged the impact this has had on regional communities throughout the state and assisted in providing additional funding. The funding statewide totals to \$390 million in this program alone.

This funding has extremely flexible guidelines and is structured to allow maintenance across a large proportion of Council assets rather than single roads. Funding was allocated to each council based on the distance of their road network for Local and Regional roads and was proportioned based on the available funding. While the funding is not as consistent as the federal government *Roads to Recovery (R2R)* funding, the funding is a big step towards a reliable but flexible grant funding program.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT TO THE ORDINARY MEETING OF JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL HELD ON 17 NOVEMBER 2023.

The funding covers corrective maintenance and partially covers renewals and upgrades as detailed below:

- Pothole patching sealed pavements
- Heavy patching sealed pavements
- Maintenance grading (reshaping) unsealed pavements
- Culvert replacement and surface drainage
- Pavement rehabilitation works
- Resealing of sealed pavements
- Sealing shoulders
- Widening shoulders
- Bridge maintenance

The funding does not include as-new replacements of assets and therefore does not include works that extend the overall life of the asset. It also excludes any asset enhancement, duplications or upgrades along with capital purchases of plant and equipment.

CONSIDERATIONS

Policy & Risk Assessment

This funding will assist Council to deliver asset maintenance in accordance with Councils Asset Management Strategy.

This is significant additional funds on top of an already full program. Resourcing the grant will be a challenge, however, the timeframe is adequate to ensure delivery. A project program must be provided to Transport for New South Wales by 30 April 2024 detailing how the funding will be delivered.

Financial

The additional funding will result in a total additional operational grant income of \$2,241,530. The proposed split of the operating income/expenditure is outlined in Table I below.

Table I Proposed Operational Expenditure

Maintenance Task	Allocation Total	FY 2023-2024	FY 2024-2025	FY 2025-2026	FY 2026-2027
Canola Way Resealing and Rehabilitation. Approx 1km/yr.	\$650,000	\$325,000	\$325,000		
Oura Road Resealing and Rehabilitation. Approx 1km/yr.	\$425,000	\$75,000	\$350,000		
Brabins Road Resealing and Rehabilitation. Approx 1km.	\$340,000		\$340,000		
Resealing & Heavy Patching Rural Sealed Roads.	\$826,530	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$226,530	\$200,000
Sum	\$2,241,530	\$600,000	\$1,215,000	\$226,530	\$200,000

CONCLUSION

The Regional Roads Repair Funding provides much needed support to Council to ensure the road network remains in a serviceable condition. The funding will allow for significant support to Councils program for the next two-three years, with the need for additional funding in the latter years of the program (FY 2025-2026 and FY 2026-2027).



JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL

ATTACHMENT TO ITEM 9

21 NOVEMBER 2023



Clr Neil Smith
Mayor
Junee Shire Council
PO Box 93
JUNEE NSW 2663
customerserviceteam@junee.nsw.gov.au

Dear Mayor

Re: Regional Emergency Road Repair Fund (RERRF)– funding allocation

I am writing to advise that under the Regional Emergency Road Repair Fund, your council has been allocated an additional \$2,241,530.00.

The RERRF is a \$670 million initiative which provides funding to assist local councils across regional NSW with urgent road repairs, priority corrective maintenance and repair of potholes on their Local and Regional roads. We understand your communities have been hard hit by severe weather and this funding aims to support councils to continue these essential and urgent repairs.

The RERRF builds on and includes the \$280 million regional portion of the Regional and Local Road Repair Program (RLRRP), which was paid to your Council in early 2023, and creates a new fund, with an additional \$390 million made available to support regional NSW councils.

The road network has been significantly impacted by severe flooding, storm damage and natural disasters over the past few years. This funding will assist councils to address priority repairs and to deliver safer journeys for local communities, industry, and the people of NSW. We know in many areas across regional NSW, recovery work is still ongoing, and this Fund is about making it simple for councils to access funding to repair and recover impacted roads.

All eligible regional councils have been granted funding allocations based on kilometres of road network (Local and Regional roads) managed in a council's Local Government Area (\$/km), based on the previous submissions made by regional councils under the Regional and Local Road Repair Program in January 2023.

The funding amount is based on the length (in kilometres) of Regional and Local roads and as set out below and provided by you in early 2023:

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Local Road Network (in kms)	Regional Road Network (in kms)	Total Road Network (in kms)	Funding
816	61	877	\$2,241,530.00

A representative from Transport for NSW will contact Council shortly to finalise funding arrangements. I remind Council that payment of this grant can be processed as soon as the Funding Deed Variation is fully executed. All works and reporting, including those funded under the RLRRP must be completed by 31 October 2027.

If you have questions about the Regional Emergency Road Repair Fund please email RERRF@transport.nsw.gov.au.

Congratulations again on receiving funding for this important work.

Yours sincerely

The Hon. Jenny Aitchison MP
Minister for Regional Transport and Roads

cc: Ms Steph Cooke MP, Member for Cootamundra
via: cootamundra@parliament.nsw.gov.au

cc: Hon Michael McCormack MP, Federal Member for Riverina
via: Michael.McCormack.MP@aph.gov.au

OFFICIAL

Regional Emergency Road Repair Fund

Guidelines

September 2023



Table of Contents

Message from the Minister.....	3
1. Context.....	4
Overview of the Fund	4
What does the funding cover and not cover?	4
How funding is determined for each council	6
2. Funding allocation process.....	6
Criteria to be met.....	6
Funding calculation	6
3. Receiving the funding allocation	7
Notification of funding allocations	7
Payment details.....	7
Reporting requirements.....	7
4. Further information	8
Complaints management	8
Appendix A - Road Administrative Classification.....	9
Appendix B – Eligible Councils / Authorities	10

Message from the Minister

Following a significant period of severe weather, flooding and bushfires, the road network across regional NSW is in urgent need of repair. Damaged roads increase hazards that pose safety risks for our communities, increase the likelihood of wear and tear, add to traffic congestion and make it more difficult for emergency services to get where they're needed.

The Regional Emergency Road Repair Fund will prioritise supporting councils across regional NSW to fix damaged roads and ensure the road network we rely on every day is up to scratch.

This fund will provide an additional \$390 million to regional councils to start vital repair and maintenance work. This commitment builds on the existing \$280 million allocated to regional NSW councils through the Regional and Local Roads Repair Program. This brings to a total of \$670 million allocated to NSW regional councils in 2023.

The Regional Emergency Road Repair Fund gives councils more support to fix the damage and keep communities and industry moving to, from and through regional towns and centres across NSW. We know that councils manage more than 80 per cent of the NSW road network. This fund is about making it simple for councils to access funding to repair and recover impacted roads, especially after the devastating effects of severe weather and natural disasters.

We understand communities across regional NSW have been hard hit by these unprecedented natural disaster events and councils need support as they recover from them. We've simplified the process of accessing this additional funding so councils can focus on starting urgent repairs as soon as possible.

We know regional councils are extremely busy with ongoing repair and maintenance schedules and require this support to carry out critical repairs. The Regional Emergency Road Repair Fund allows us to partner with councils to support their recovery efforts and keep regional communities and businesses connected.



The Hon. Jenny Aitchison MP
Minister for Regional Transport and Roads

1. Context

Overview of the Fund

The entire NSW road network is over 185,000 kilometres in length. Severe weather events and floods experienced across NSW over the past few years have increased the number and severity of potholes across the Local and Regional road network.

The Regional Emergency Road Repair Fund (RERRF) is a \$670 million initiative which provides funding, to assist local councils across regional NSW with urgent road repairs, priority corrective maintenance and repair of potholes on their Local and Regional roads. Funding may also be provided for some asset renewals.

The RERRF leverages the principles of the \$280 million regional portion of the Regional and Local Road Repair Program (RLRRP) and creates a new fund, with an additional \$390 million made available to support regional NSW.

The decision maker who approves or declines funding allocations under the RERRF is the Minister for Regional Transport and Roads. Transport for NSW will be the administering agency on behalf of the NSW Government.

Local and Regional Roads are council managed roads and are two of the three administrative classifications used in NSW [refer to Appendix A for further information]:

- Local Roads
- Regional Roads
- State Roads

The funding will be made available to eligible councils and authorities to undertake priority maintenance works and immediate repair of potholes on their Local and Regional roads. The funding envelope provided will be based on kilometres of road network managed in their Local Government Area (\$/km) and will be based on the previous submissions made under the RLRRP from January 2023.

This initiative aligns with and delivers on the [Future Transport Strategy](#) by connecting customers and communities with a safe, reliable, and sustainable integrated transport system.

What does the funding cover and not cover?

The Fund adopts the scope and requirements of the RLRRP from January 2023. The below outlines three descriptions of what is covered and not covered by the funding:

- Corrective Maintenance (Covered)
- Renewals (Partially Covered)
- Upgrades (Partially Covered)

Corrective maintenance, renewal and upgrade works covered under the fund.

Corrective maintenance includes unplanned maintenance activities that are necessary to ensure continued access and the safe operation of the road network. Corrective maintenance works are focused on restoring an appropriate level of service and ensuring the road asset fulfils its current design life by stopping further deterioration. Priority corrective maintenance works, may include:

- Patching: this involves filling holes that have developed in a sealed road with a mixture of bitumen and stone. Pothole patching methods may be either temporary or semi-permanent with a focus on quick repairs to help control further deterioration and expensive repair of the road pavement later.
- Heavy Patching or In-situ Modified: required when the failed material must be either removed/replaced or a stabilisation treatment implemented. The intention is to repair the defect(s) to a life commensurate with the remaining life of the carriageway pavement. See [TfNSW Quality Assurance Specification M250 - 'Heavy Patching \(Flexible Pavement\)](#) for further information.
- Smoothing or Reshaping (unsealed roads): smoothing of the unsealed surface may be required to fix minor damage or potholes that can be fixed relatively easily through this method. Reshaping may be required where the road surface is too damaged to be smoothed or potholes easily filled.
- Drainage and Culverts: carrying out works where the existing road drainage has been impacted by weather events and is no longer able to effectively remove and dispose of water from the road surface. Works may also include rehabilitation or clearing of culverts that have been impacted by weather events.
- Pavement Rehabilitation works: in situations where the road pavement has failed beyond practical heavy patching repairs sections of road may need to be rehabilitated by:
 - Applying a partial asphalt overlay on top of the deteriorated road surface;
 - Improving the existing pavement with the addition of new material; or
 - Removal of the old pavement and replacement with new pavement.
- Resealing/ resurfacing: where an existing bitumen spray seal or asphaltic concrete wearing course is showing signs of failure, such as oxidation, flushing, bleeding, cracking or ravelling, bitumen resealing or a thin asphaltic concrete overlay may be undertaken as preventative maintenance.
- Gravel resheeting: where the gravel wearing course on an unsealed road has deteriorated, gravel resheeting may be undertaken to restore the road pavement.
- Sealing shoulders: unsealed road shoulders may be bitumen sealed to help prevent water ingress into the road pavement.
- Widening shoulders/ carriageway: where required widening activities may be undertaken, however this cannot duplicate the carriageway or add an additional lane..
- Bridge maintenance: where required routine bridge maintenance activities may be undertaken.

Renewal and upgrade works not covered under the fund

The RERRF has been established to provide a further funding boost specifically to regional NSW councils in response to the wet weather and flooding impacts on the Regional and Local Road network. The capital purchase of plant and equipment is not eligible under RERRF as the Fund is a fixed term initiative.

The Fund will not cover all types of planned or scheduled asset renewals. Asset renewals are defined as those works which return the road asset to its “as-new” condition and in doing so extend the design life of the asset. Scope such as culverts and drainage replacements will not be covered.

Asset upgrades go beyond renewals by creating new assets or significantly enhancing the asset in place. Scope such as duplication of the carriageway, drainage system upgrades, sealing gravel roads, building kerb and gutter, and footpaths will not be covered by the Fund.

Any replacement or strengthening of bridges are not covered under the RERRF, nor is initial sealing of gravel roads.

How funding is determined for each council

The funding envelope provided will be based on kilometres of road network managed in their Local Government Area (\$/km). The funding is determined by considering:

- the total number of kilometres of Local Roads in each council area
- the total number of kilometres of Regional Roads in each council area
- funding availability.

Please see **Appendix B** for eligible Councils and local authorities.

2. Funding allocation process

Criteria to be met

Every council and local authority in regional NSW [refer to Appendix B] which is responsible for managing the Local and Regional road network is entitled to receive funding under the RERRF, provided that all the following minimum criteria are met. The RERRF excludes NSW State Government Agencies and roads that are part of the State Road network.

- Works must meet the following:
 - Eligible works must be underway on or after 1 January 2023 in accordance with the current RLRRP start date and completed by the new RERRF end date of 31 October 2027
 - Council and local authorities agree to adhere to the requirements of existing RLRRP funding deed and accept the terms of the variation to include the additional time and funding for the RERRF; and
 - All works are completed and open to traffic before 31 October 2027.
- Work must be completed on Local Roads and Regional Roads only.
- Council and local authorities must be able to report on expenditure* and ability to deliver 'value for money'.
- Council and local authorities must be able to measure and report on tangible deliverables and outcomes for the community to Transport for NSW.

**It is expected reporting will only need to be on a monthly basis via similar processes in place for the existing RLRRP and other Transport for NSW programs, see 'Reporting Requirements'.*

Funding calculation

A submission is not required by councils or local authorities. The RLRRP conducted an application process in January 2023 which captured the following information:

- Total length (in kilometres) of the Local and Regional road network within the LGA**
- The benefits the funding will realise for the community and road users.

The RERRF will leverage the validated information which was provided by councils or local authorities in the above-mentioned process.

***The [NSW Local Grants Commission](#) maintains an up-to-date table for all [Local Road length data](#) for NSW Councils, this information formed the basis of the funding allocation for RLRRP, and will be the same information used for RERRF. For Regional road lengths councils were advised to simply reference the data submitted in their most recent Regional Road Block Grant reporting schedule(s).*

Transport for NSW will therefore use the previously supplied and validated information from the RLRRP to calculate the funding allocation, the allocation will be based on the total number of kilometres of local and regional roads in each council area and the available funding.

3.Receiving the funding allocation

Notification of funding allocations

As the RLRRP conducted an application process and each submission was assessed in January 2023, Transport for NSW will rely on this information to calculate each funding allocation under RERRF. Funding allocations will then be determined based on the total number of kilometres of Local and Regional road network within each Local Government Area (LGA) and the available funding under the fund.

Councils will receive notification of the funding allocation via a letter and funding deed variation that will need to be signed and returned to Transport for NSW within the specified timeframes.

Allocations will be published on the NSW Grant Finder website within 45 days of the funding agreement taking effect.

Payment details

Councils will receive a 100 per cent upfront payment of the funding when the funding deed variation is signed and returned by council, and fully executed by Transport for NSW. A detailed work plan will be required by 30 April 2024.

Any funding that is not expended by 31 October 2027 will be forfeited and recovered by Transport for NSW.

The launch of the RERRF allows regional councils to combine their funding allocation with the existing RLRRP funding provided in February 2023. This new funding coincides with an extension of the RLRRP to the overarching end date of 31 October 2027.

Reporting requirements

Reporting will be aligned with similar processes already in place for other Transport for NSW programs, such as the RLRRP and Fixing Local Roads. Reporting for the RERRF will be combined with reporting under RLRRP, there is no need for additional reporting.

From time-to-time, Transport for NSW may request specific or detailed information on particular works or need to be notified when works are completed and open to traffic. It is a requirement that Council provide this in a timely and efficient manner when requested to do so. Noting Transport for NSW will complete a progress review with councils at the end of each financial year, with councils expected to report and present evidence of expenditure and work progressed by 1 September in each year of the fund or when the funding is completely expended if this occurs before the fund end date of 31 October 2027.

An auditor will be appointed by Transport for NSW to review a sample of council works and evidence that funding provided has been used for the intended purpose with audits to take place over the course of the fund duration.

4. Further information

Questions about the RERRF, including eligibility and the application process, can be emailed to RERRF@transport.nsw.gov.au

Complaints management

Transport for NSW is committed to responding appropriately to customer complaints and feedback.

Written complaints can be sent to the Program email RERRF@transport.nsw.gov.au and verbal feedback provided in person or over the phone will be recorded in a feedback register to ensure they are addressed.

Complaints will be responded to within 21 days of receipt. Where this is not possible, due to the nature of the enquiry, Transport for NSW will:

- inform the stakeholder of the time needed to provide a final response,
- provide a name and telephone number to call for further queries.

Any personal information shared through the complaints process will only be used to investigate and respond to that feedback in accordance with the [Transport for NSW Privacy Policy \(PDF, 243.96 KB\)](#). For more information visit our [privacy page](#).

Appendix A - Road Administrative Classification

The NSW road network uses three administrative categories: State, Regional and Local. They are assigned to indicate who is responsible for the management of a road and reflect the funding arrangements for that road. However, the categories are also broadly applied to describe the role the road plays in the network. The image below provides further explanation on the three administrative classifications. A map of the road network classifications can be accessed here: <https://roads-waterways.transport.nsw.gov.au/classification/map/>

State Roads

State Roads are major arterial links throughout the State and within major urban areas which are the responsibility of the State government to fund and prioritise, due to their significance in the network.

State Roads include roads classified under the *Roads Act 1993* as Freeways, State Highways and Important Main Roads.

Regional Roads

Regional Roads are routes of secondary importance between State Roads and Local Roads. Some Regional-classified roads are located within metropolitan areas. They are designated Regional based on their significance rather than their geographical location.

Regional Roads include roads classified under the Act as Secondary Roads and the less significant Main Roads. They also include some roads not classified under the Act.

It is the responsibility of councils to fund, prioritise and carry out works on Regional Roads. They are eligible for funding assistance from the State government in recognition of their importance to the network.

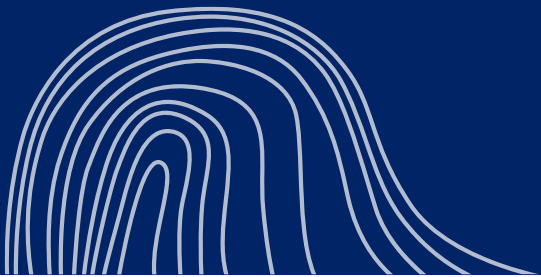
Local Roads

Local Roads are the remaining council-controlled roads which provide for local circulation and access. It is the responsibility of councils to fund, prioritise and carry out works on Local Roads.

Local Roads are eligible for State government grant funding to support maintenance through the \$500m Fixing Local Roads program as well as Financial Assistance Grant funding through the Federal Government.

Appendix B – Eligible Councils / Authorities

Albury City Council	Goulburn Mulwaree Council	Narrandera Shire Council
Armidale Regional Council	Greater Hume Shire Council	Narromine Shire Council
Ballina Shire Council	Griffith City Council	Oberon Council
Balranald Shire Council	Gunnedah Shire Council	Orange City Council
Bathurst Regional Council	Gwydir Shire Council	Parkes Shire Council
Bega Valley Shire Council	Hay Shire Council	Port Macquarie-Hastings Council
Bellingen Shire Council	Hilltops Council	Port Stephens Council
Berrigan Shire Council	Inverell Shire Council	Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council
Bland Shire Council	Junee Shire Council	Richmond Valley Council
Blayney Shire Council	Kempsey Shire Council	Shellharbour City Council
Bogan Shire Council	Kiama Municipal Council	Shoalhaven City Council
Bourke Shire Council	Kyogle Council	Singleton Council
Brewarrina Shire Council	Lachlan Shire Council	Snowy Monaro Regional Council
Broken Hill City Council	Lake Macquarie City Council	Snowy Valleys Council
Byron Shire Council	Leeton Shire Council	Tamworth Regional Council
Cabonne Council	Lismore City Council	Temora Shire Council
Carrathool Shire Council	Lithgow City Council	Tenterfield Shire Council
Central Coast Council	Liverpool Plains Shire Council	Tweed Shire Council
Central Darling Shire Council	Lockhart Shire Council	Unincorporated Far West
Cessnock City Council	Lord Howe Island Board	Upper Hunter Shire Council
Clarence Valley Council	Maitland City Council	Upper Lachlan Shire Council
Cobar Shire Council	MidCoast Council	Uralla Shire Council
Coffs Harbour City Council	Mid-Western Regional Council	Wagga Wagga City Council
Coolamon Shire Council	Moree Plains Shire Council	Walcha Council
Coonamble Shire Council	Murray River Council	Walgett Shire Council
Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council	Murrumbidgee Council	Warren Shire Council
Cowra Council	Muswellbrook Shire Council	Warrumbungle Shire Council
Dubbo Regional Council	Nambucca Shire Council	Weddin Shire Council
Dungog Shire Council	Narrabri Shire Council	Wentworth Shire Council
Edward River Council		Wingecarribee Shire Council
Eurobodalla Shire Council		Yass Valley Council
Federation Council		
Forbes Shire Council		
Gilgandra Shire Council		
Glen Innes Severn Council		



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JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL

COMMITTEE REPORTS/MINUTES



AGENDA OF THE JUNEE SHIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 29 BELMORE STREET, JUNEE ON THURSDAY, 26 OCTOBER 2023.

The meeting opened at 9.02am.

PRESENT

Linda Calis, Maggie Salisbury, Keith Griffin and Sue Wood.

STAFF

Lloyd Hart and Sam Perry

APOLOGIES

The Committee noted the absence of Kate Brabin, Anna Lashbrook, Annette Black and Maryanne Khan.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nil

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Junee Shire Advisory Committee resolved to note and receive the Minutes of the meeting held 24 August 2023.

AGENDA ITEMS

1. **JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL 2023 ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The Junee Shire Advisory Committee were presented with the 2023 Annual Financial Statements. These Statements provide a comprehensive overview of the financial performance and position of the Junee Shire Council for the 2023 financial year.

It was MOVED by K Griffin SECONDED by L Calis that Junee Shire Advisory Committee note the presentation of the Junee Shire Council 2023 Annual Financial Statements.

2. **EASTERN RIVERINA ARTS – 2022 ANNUAL REPORT**

The Eastern Riverina Arts (ERA) 2022 Annual Report was presented to the Junee Shire Advisory Committee. This report underscores the ERA's unwavering commitment to nurturing and advancing arts and creative industries in the region and also reflects ERA's focus on enhancing

CHAIRPERSON: _____

COUNCIL DELEGATE: _____

AGENDA OF THE JUNEE SHIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 29 BELMORE STREET, JUNEE ON THURSDAY, 26 OCTOBER 2023.

organisational performance and fostering collaboration and engagement with local stakeholders and the broader community.

It was MOVED by K Griffin SECONDED by M Salisbury that the Junee Shire Advisory Committee note the presentation of the Eastern Riverina Arts 2022 Annual Report.

3. VILLAGE ENHANCEMENT INITIATIVES – ENCOURAGING COMMITTEE MEMBER IDEAS

The Acting Director Development and Community Development presented a report regarding village enhancement initiatives. Junee Shire Council recognises the importance of fostering the growth and development of community villages within the Junee Local Government Area (LGA) and encourages Junee Advisory Committee members to express their ideas and contribute to the ongoing village improvement initiatives. Some of the ideas that were discussed were:

- Wantabadgery transfer station wrap is torn. Suggested replacing with a screen of tree plantings.
- General clean up in villages. Maybe a hard rubbish clean up once a year or free tip days.
- Heavy vehicles travelling through the villages damaging roads.
- Wantabadgery footpath, which was constructed recently, needs to be completed.

It was recommended that the Junee Shire Advisory Committee members participate and express their ideas for village enhancement initiatives as per the Terms of Reference.

4. JUNEE YOUTH UPDATE

A discussion was held regarding the youth of Junee and ways to help them become engaged. Linda suggested that the Youth Council be re-established to give youth a platform to have their voices heard. One of their main concerns being that there is no where for the older youth to go and eat and have get togethers.

The Acting Director Planning and Community Development and the Recreation Centre Coordinator advised that Council has applied for grant funding for youth programs to facilitate youth mentoring for high school students which will be held at the Junee Library. Also, the Council, along with the Junee Community Centre and 54 Reasons have been meeting youth in Junee trying to get them engaged in activities. Adult 101, which consists of business and community members, have also been engaging with youth and passing on knowledge to help them into the future.

The Junee Shire Advisory Committee noted the verbal update on Junee Youth matters.

CHAIRPERSON: _____

COUNCIL DELEGATE: _____

AGENDA OF THE JUNEE SHIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 29 BELMORE STREET, JUNEE ON THURSDAY, 26 OCTOBER 2023.

5. JUNEE LIBRARY REFURBISHMENT UPDATE

The Recreation Centre Coordinator gave an update on the Junee Library refurbishments. Work will begin next week which will entail re-organising the library to create more floor space for people to be able to use. The Conference Room will also be turned into a media room with this work to be completed before the end of the year.

The Junee Shire Advisory Committee noted the verbal update on the Junee Library Refurbishment.

6. ATHENIUM CREATIVE CAPITAL UPDATE

The Acting Director Planning and Community Development gave an update on the Athenium Theatre Creative Capital grant project. There is an issue with water pressure at the Theatre which is a fire safety issue. Council has engaged a Project Manager to help out and hopefully find a solution to this problem.

The kitchenette is coming along with tiling commencing next week and cabinetry going in before the end of the year.

The Junee Shire Advisory Committee noted the verbal update on the Athenium Theatre works.

7. PUBLIC TOILETS

The Acting Director Planning and Community Development gave a verbal report regarding public toilets and how the matter of gender neutral/unisex toilets could be addressed. The family bathroom located at the Junee Junction Recreation & Aquatic Centre can be turned into a unisex facility and the disability toilet at the Junee Library can be turned into an inclusive facility.

The Junee Shire Advisory Committee noted the verbal report regarding gender neutral/unisex facilities.

8. MURAL PAINTING

The Recreation Centre Coordinator gave a verbal report advising the Committee that he was contacted by an artist who has been awarded \$500,000 to complete community artwork. As the artist once lived in Junee, he has confirmed that he would like to return to the town to paint a mural. Suggested sites include the car park wall of the JJRAC and the side wall of the building adjacent to the outdoor entertainment space of the Athenium. It is envisaged that a few designs will be completed which will be bought to the Junee Shire Advisory Committee for discussion and then community consultation will be held.

The Junee Shire Advisory Committee noted the verbal report regarding mural painting options in Junee.

CHAIRPERSON: _____

COUNCIL DELEGATE: _____

AGENDA OF THE JUNEE SHIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 29 BELMORE STREET, JUNEE ON THURSDAY, 26 OCTOBER 2023.

GENERAL BUSINESS

- Maggie Salisbury enquired about changing one of the toilets at the Wantabadgery Hall into a unisex toilet and asked if Council would be able to include it in its cleaning schedule. She also relayed her thanks for the “bus” warning signs and whether an additional signage could be provided.
- Long grass and dogs roaming around Wantabadgery village is also an issue.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Junee Shire Advisory Committee is scheduled for 21 December 2023.

The meeting closed at 10.10am.

CHAIRPERSON: _____

COUNCIL DELEGATE: _____

MINUTES OF JUNE SHIRE COUNCIL AUDIT RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 2.00pm THURSDAY, 9 NOVEMBER 2023 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS.

The meeting opened at 2.00pm.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Mr Steve McGrath (Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council), Ms Linda Wiles (Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council), Cr Robin Asmus

STAFF:

Mr James Davis, Mr Luke Taberner, Mrs Sherri Longmore (Junee Shire Council)

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr Stephen Bunting (Morrison Low), Dannielle MacKenzie (Crowe)

APOLOGIES:

Cr Andrew Clinton, Cr Marie Knight and Mr Jonty Bruce

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:

RESOLVED on the motion of Linda Wiles seconded Cr Robin Asmus that the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee note and receive the Minutes of the meeting held 3 July 2023.

MATTERS ARISING

Nil

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None were received.

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. 2023 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS & MANAGEMENT LETTER

Dannielle Mackenzie from Crowe provided a presentation to the Committee on the 2023 Financial Statements. The Financial Statements show Council in a good position from a risk perspective. The Management letter detailed eight points and Council has plans in place to address these.

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr Robin Asmus seconded Linda Wiles that the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee (ARIC) endorse the 2023 Financial Statements and Management Letter.

MINUTES OF JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL AUDIT RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 2.00pm THURSDAY, 9 NOVEMBER 2023 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS.

2. IP&R INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT

The Internal Auditor congratulated Council on their IP&R documents. The Chief Financial Officer addressed the new mandatory requirement that will see the Operational Plan and the Delivery Plan separate documents. The Chairperson requested that the ARIC Committee compile a register detailing management responses, stating whether there was any action required and if so, who was responsible and when it was due.

RESOLVED *on the motion of Cr Robin Asmus seconded Linda Wiles that the ARIC Committee compile a register to detail management responses, who would be responsible and when it was due.*

3. STATECOVER GENERAL MANAGERS REPORT AND PREMIUM CALCULATION

RESOLVED *on the motion of Linda Wiles seconded Robin Asmus that the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee note the StateCover General Managers Report.*

4. JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL INTERNAL AUDIT RECOMMENDATIONS

There were no major concerns raised in the Internal Audit Recommendations. The Chairman suggested that the Risk Rating should be retained in the schedule.

RESOLVED *on the motion of Cr Robin Asmus seconded Linda Wiles that the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee note and endorse the status of the updated Internal Audit Recommendations List.*

5. REPORTABLE INCIDENTS

The Chief Financial Officer advised the Committee on a workplace incident involving a workers compensation matter which resulted in two weeks loss time injury. The matter has been resolved.

6. NEXT MEETING

Next meeting of the Internal Audit Committee is scheduled for early March 2024.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 2.33pm.

Steve McGrath
Chairperson



JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL

DELEGATES REPORTS



Riverina Regional Library Report

18th October 2023

Financial Reports for Financial Year 2022 are not complete, as Wagga Wagga City Council still has finalised the Financial Year 2021 Report for the Riverina Regional Library, despite requests so to do, and WWCC also still holds a considerable sum belonging to the RRL. However, RRL did show an operating profit.

Fees to reserve items will be discontinued from 1 July 2024, in line with what is happening in other libraries.

Junee Library's membership per capita is 22%, but we do not have the lowest membership per capita.

Loans per capita are 2.52%, which is above the RRL average loans per capita.

The NSW Public Library Funding details for the next four years are recurrent, and include the \$6M capital grants program. This means NSW Libraries will receive \$40.892M in 2023/24.

Spydus, the new Library Management System, is now operating well, and is becoming cheaper, as the RRL is now supporting other libraries in their transition to Spydus from Libero.

Media and Marketing will see an uplift as the year progresses, to encourage more people to engage with libraries. BorrowBox, your library in one app, is also considerably cheaper than last financial year, due to our strategic marketing.

MEETING MINUTES

A2I Inland Rail Albury to Illabo
Wagga Wagga Sub-Committee
Community Consultative Committee

DATE / TIME	LOCATION
18 October 2023 2.000pm	Wagga Wagga City Library

FACILITATOR	MINUTE TAKER	DISTRIBUTION
Garry West	Garry West	Albury to Illabo CCC

ATTENDEES (SHOW ORGANISATION IF NOT ARTC)

- ▶ Garry West (Independent Chair)
- ▶ Miles Connell (Community representative)
- ▶ Mark Cunningham (Community Representative)
- ▶ Roslyn Prangnell (Urban Landcare)
- ▶ Peter Veneris (Lockhart Shire Council)
- ▶ Lloyd Hart (Acting Director, Community Development, Junee Shire Council)
- ▶ David Carter (Community Representative)
- ▶ Cr Pam Halliburton (Junee Shire Council Representative)
- ▶ Melvyn Maylin (A2P Project Director)
- ▶ Casey Bootsma (Stakeholder Engagement Lead A2I)
- ▶ Wayne Window (Environmental Manager NSW & VIC)
- ▶ Andrew Garratt (Stakeholder Engagement Manager A2P)
- ▶ Olufemi Kolawole (Stakeholder Engagement Advisor A2I)

APOLOGIES (SHOW ORGANISATION IF NOT ARTC)

- ▶ John Zannes (Project Manager, Inland Rail, Transport for NSW)
- ▶ Cr Greg Verdon (Lockhart Shire Council)
- ▶ James Davis (General Manager, Junee Shire Council)
- ▶ Martin Honner (NSW Farmers Representative)

GUESTS (SHOW ORGANISATION IF NOT ARTC)

- ▶ Clarissa Farrington (A/g Director – Inland Rail Program Assurance – Commonwealth Infrastructure Projects Division)
- ▶ Jennifer Ross (Community & Stakeholder Engagement Manager, Martinus Rail)

Discussions

NO.	DISCUSSIONS
1. Welcome & Introductions	The Chair opened the meeting with an acknowledgement of country. The Chair sought agreement for him to record the meeting for the purpose of preparing minutes. No objections. The Chair welcomed all to the meeting.
2. Declarations of Interest	David Carter advised he has a part interest in LX 605
3. Minutes of Previous Meeting	It was noted and agreed that the minutes of 23 August 2023 were approved and uploaded to the project website.
4. Proponent’s Reports	<p>Melvyn Maylin (A2I Project Director) Program Update. North of Parkes the focus is on securing the corridor through forward planning, approvals and land acquisition. South of Parkes the Project is funded with planned delivery by 2027. Construction started on S2P on 23-25 September 2023 utilising an ARTC 60-hour possession. The I2S contract is under tender review following the close of tenders on 19 September 2023. Planning approvals for A2I and I2S are well advanced however construction on these sections cannot commence until consent is granted by the NSW Minister for Planning. Construction is underway on the Beveridge (Melbourne) to Albury (B2A).</p> <p>Martinus contract was awarded for A2I & S2P on 23 June 2023, however they cannot commence construction of A2I until the DPE approvals are granted and the Notice to Proceed is issued which is expected in May 2024. Some geotechnical works can be carried out and some design work can commence. Signalling removal works can commence along with utilities relocation.</p> <p>A2I Preferred Infrastructure report (PIR) and Response to Submissions (RtS) Report are in the process of being finalised. The PIR is scheduled</p>

NO.	DISCUSSIONS
	<p>to be lodged with DPE on 2 November 2023. It will then go on exhibition on 15 November 2023 for 3 weeks closing on 6 December 2023.</p> <p>Wayne Window (Environmental Manager NSW & VIC) Wayne provided an update to the pathway to approval which includes the RtS and the PIR which will be submitted to the DPE on 2 November 2023.</p> <p>Due to the volume of submissions DPE has resolved to place the PIR on public exhibition. Following the close of exhibition, a further RtS report will be prepared and submitted to DPE early in 2024. The A2I project does not need Commonwealth Government planning approval.</p> <p>As indicated at the last CCC meeting 155 submissions were received following the exhibition of the EIS: 134 from members of the public, mostly from Wagga Wagga; 8 community groups, 3 councils and 10 State agencies and departments. 64% of submissions were from individuals located within 5km of the proposed site. The RtS will address all the topics raised providing clarifications and revisions.</p> <p>The PIR will respond to the extra work requested by the departments on train numbers and speeds, particularly clarifying the numbers north and south of Junee. Traffic and transport issues were raised in Wagga Wagga and Junee, as well as operational noise and minor questions on air quality, hydrology, heritage, bridges, and urban design. Wayne provided an overview of the detail arising from additional studies on the above topics that will be covered in the PIR. The additional assessments and simulations provide more detailed analysis of construction phase impacts on traffic and pedestrians. This has found there are minor impacts in Albury, Culcairn and Henty arising from vehicle movements.</p> <p>The PIR request was also for operational phase traffic assessments. In Wagga Wagga additional work was undertaken due to bridge closures for long periods to determine where that traffic would go and the potential impact along the rail corridor. When the bridge in Junee is closed all traffic will have to be diverted through the middle of the town. Also additional studies were required showing impacts once the whole Inland Rail project is operational on level crossings which is linked to both train length and speed. The finding is that on a conservative basis average closures times will increase by 1.5 times.</p>

NO.	DISCUSSIONS
	<p>The changes would be minimal. The studies also show the major cause for change is the background growth in traffic in the urban areas.</p> <p>Two Level Crossings LX 605 & 1472 proposed actions are detailed in the PIR. These proposals arose as a result of proposed track slews in the location as the tracks are too close together. The tracks will also be moved further away from the highway. LX 605 is a shared access road to a Junee Shire Council Quarry and a property owned by David Carter. It is proposed the level crossing would be modified to accommodate a realigned track, about 16m south of the existing location and will be upgraded from a passive to an active level crossing. LX1472, Wornes Gate Lane is a short distance west of LX605. The preferred design solution is permanent closure of this level crossing. Some CCC members indicated this crossing was part of a stock route. Wayne advised it is not clear that it is a stock route but is crown land. Further consultations will be held with LLS and stakeholders. David Carter asked if it could be kept for emergency access for bushfire fighting purposes as well.</p> <p>Operational Noise and Vibration has been another of the key assessment areas. The Rail Infrastructure Noise Guideline identifies how to identify project impacts and mitigation options. The request was made to model operational noise along the entire A2I alignment rather than just the worksites. Over 28,343 receivers were modelled which has allowed identification of mitigation measures that are both feasible and reasonable, when such mitigations could be available and when it could be rolled out. These are not locked in stone but are designed to provide the public with a greater understanding of the issue and possible outcomes.</p> <p>DPE and Heritage have an interest in the ‘look and feel’ outcome of the bridges that are being replaced. The concept designs established will be shared with councils to best integrate them into the townscape and as they will be high structures, they will all need DDA accessibility outcomes. Some additional heritage issues needed clarification.</p> <p>General discussion about what noise barriers were being considered and feasibility. Melvyn indicated some work was also being undertaken to see what could be done to mitigate locomotive noise by the use of mufflers. It is not known how many properties will need noise mitigation, and more studies are being done.</p>

NO.	DISCUSSIONS
	<p>Question: David Carter sought advice on the characteristic of noise of the train passing through an urban area as compared to a stopped train. Wayne explained Inland Rail trains are ‘through trains’ and would normally be louder than an idling trains due to the work load. The model looks at both scenarios. Miles Connell sought comment on speed restriction at the viaduct in Wagga Wagga. Wayne advised that at the moment there are speed limits due to constructional conditions. Once this is fixed the speed restriction will be lifted but unsure what will be the proposed speed.</p> <p>ACTION: Wayne to check what the speed will be at the viaduct.</p> <p>Casey Bootsma (Stakeholder Engagement Lead A2I) Most current engagement is focused on briefings associated with the PIR. When the PIR is on exhibition there will be community drop-in sessions held in conjunction with DPE in Albury, Henty, Wagga Wagga and Junee. These sessions will be extensively advertised. A summary of findings document will be released and available to the community.</p> <p>ACTION: Casey and Garry West will arrange for a link to the full PIR and RtS documents on the DPE website together with details of the drop-in sessions.</p> <p>The Inland Rail Skills Academy is continuing with the Certificate in Rail Infrastructure, Safety Access, Working at Heights, and Confined Spaces. Hopefully the Academy can offer in the future the White Card for existing Certificate II Rail Graduates in conjunction with TAFE NSW. These courses provide qualifications for potential work on Inland Rail or other rail infrastructure projects.</p>
6.General Business	NIL

Actions

NO.	ACTIONS	ACTION BY	DUE DATE
1	Provide link to RtS and PIR on DPE website with communications pack to CCC members.	Garry West & Casey Bootsma	November 2023

NO.	ACTIONS	ACTION BY	DUE DATE
2	Clarify train speed at the viaduct in Wagga Wagga once the construction is complete.	Wayne Window	ASAP

Next Meeting

To Be Advised

MEETING MINUTES
I2S Inland Rail Illabo to Stockinbingal
Community Consultative Committee



DATE / TIME

19 October 2023
 1.00pm

LOCATION

Cootamundra Library

FACILITATOR

Garry West

MINUTE TAKER

Garry West

DISTRIBUTION

Illabo to Stockinbingal CCC

ATTENDEES (SHOW ORGANISATION IF NOT ARTC)

- ▶ Garry West (Independent Chair)
- ▶ Mark Ellis (Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council)
- ▶ Russell Vincent (Community Representative)
- ▶ James Coleborne (Community Representative)
- ▶ David Carter (NSW Farmers)
- ▶ Geoffrey Larsen (Community Member)
- ▶ David Carr (Community Member)
- ▶ Lloyd Hart (Acting Director, Planning & Community Development, Junee Shire Council)
- ▶ Melvyn Maylin (Project Director A2P)
- ▶ Grant Johnson (Stakeholder Engagement Lead I2S)
- ▶ Jessica Jackson (Stakeholder Engagement Advisor I2S)
- ▶ Kirsten Velthuis (Senior Environmental Advisor I2S)
- ▶ Wayne Window (Environmental Advisor)
- ▶ Andrew Garratt (Stakeholder Engagement Manager A2P)

APOLOGIES (SHOW ORGANISATION IF NOT ARTC)

- ▶ Cr Pam Halliburton (Junee Shire Council)
- ▶ James Davis (General Manager, Junee Shire Council)
- ▶ Martin Honner (NSW Farmers)
- ▶ John Zannes (Project Manager, Inland Rail, Transport for NSW)

GUESTS (SHOW ORGANISATION IF NOT ARTC)

- ▶ Clarissa Farrington (Inland Rail Regional Liaison Officer, Department of Infrastructure, Regional Development and Cities)
- ▶ Alexander Scott, Mick Fallon & Chris Marsh (NSW Department of Planning) (via MS Teams)

Discussions

NO.	DISCUSSIONS
1.Welcome	The Chair opened the meeting with an acknowledgement of country and welcomed all to the meeting. The Chair sought agreement for him to record the meeting for the purpose of preparing minutes. No objections.
2.Declarations of Interest	No new declarations
3.Minutes of Previous Meeting	It was noted and agreed that the minutes of 28 July 2022 were approved and uploaded to the Proponents website.
5.Correspondence	NIL

NO.	DISCUSSIONS
<p>6.Proponent’s Reports</p>	<p>Mick Fallon (DPE) provided an overview of the role of the Department of Planning in reviewing the EIS and make recommendations to the Minister who will be the decision maker for the project.</p> <p>Melvyn Maylin (Project Director A2P) Project Update. Dr Kerry Schott AO was appointed by the Australian Government in October 2022 to undertake and Independent review of Inland Rail. The Review findings were released on 6 April 2023 and the Government agreed to the 19 recommendations in full or in principle. As a result, Inland Rail Pty Ltd was established as a subsidiary of the ARTC with its own board to govern the delivery of the Inland Rail project effective 1 July 2023. On 7 July 2023 the Government announced the Chair, Board members and interim Statement of Expectations outlining the objectives and expectations for the future delivery of Inland Rail.</p> <p>The Review findings had a strong focus on prioritising construction south of Parkes with completion by 2027. The works have been budgeted subject to the granting of the necessary planning approvals. North of Parkes there are minor parts that have been constructed, but the focus is on securing approvals and securing land to protect the route. There is no timeline for further funding for these parts of the project. The findings also made it clear that the route will not be changed. This means the I2S alignment will not change providing certainty to the project.</p> <p>The I2S EIS was exhibited from 14 September to 26 October 2022 which resulted in 29 submissions from the public and government agencies. Design and Construct Tender has closed on 19 September 2023 with 3 tenderers, and these are currently being evaluated and negotiated following the completion of the Reference Design. The Detailed Design will be undertaken by the successful tenderer. The EIS approval is scheduled for February 2024.</p> <p>A cadastral survey of all properties along the alignment has now been completed and land acquisition is scheduled for completion in May 2024. Land acquisition is being undertaken through voluntary negotiation and through compulsory acquisition under the <i>Land Acquisition (Just terms Compensation) Act 1991 NSW</i>.</p>

NO.	DISCUSSIONS
	<p>The Design and Construct (D&C) Contract is scheduled to be awarded in May 2024, after the approval by DPE and completion of the acquisition program.</p> <p>Further geotechnical investigations have been undertaken where access to the alignment is available so as to give tenderers more certainty for their pricing. Further work has been done on erosion threshold velocity (ETV) testing to gain more knowledge of the velocity of water coming out of culverts and waterways. These results are under discussion with DPE. Further biodiversity surveys have commenced this week. These are seasonal surveys on land where access was previously not available.</p> <p>Question: David Carter questioned why there is another opportunity for A2I submissions that is not available for I2S. Melvyn explained that A2I received a lot more submissions resulting in DPE requesting further work to be undertaken by way of a Preferred Infrastructure Report (PIR). DPE has advised the PIR for A2I will be exhibited for 3 weeks, hence an opportunity for more submissions on that project. Whilst the Response to Submissions (RtS) for both projects will be submitted to DPE and placed on their website there is not another exhibition of this document. Alex Scott (DPE) talked to the difference between the extra work required for both projects but advised when the RtS is received the Department will be prepared to talk to anybody who made a submission.</p> <p>The I2S Response to Submissions report is scheduled to be submitted in November 2023. The EIS approval is scheduled for February 2024 with the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act (EPBC) (Federal Government) approval scheduled for May 2024 together with the awarding of the D&C Contract. The detailed design will take place between May 2024 and March 2025 at the same time as any secondary approvals and early works construction commencing in August 2024.</p> <p>Question: David Carr asked if the Independent Review of Infrastructure will have an impact on the Inland Rail Project. Clarissa confirmed that Inland Rail is outside the scope of the IRP Review. Some extraneous and complimentary investment to Inland Rail is caught up in the Review. It included some ARTC projects but excluded Inland Rail.</p>

NO.	DISCUSSIONS
	<p>David questioned what happens if there is a blowout in the costings above what has been provided by the budget. Melvyn explained that there has to be greater cost certainty before any additional funds will be granted. Beveridge to Parkes (B2P) has been provided budget to proceed. For the rest of the Inland Rail project there is no certainty for timing or funding. There is an expectation that we deliver the Beveridge to Parkes program is delivered to time and budget. There is no uncertainty associated with A2I and I2S except for the final approvals. For example, the contract for A2I has been awarded and came to 2% below estimates. Due to probity limitations, I can't disclose detail on the I2S contract but am reasonably confident it will be at or around our estimate. I2S is an essential project so as to avoid the Bethungra Spiral.</p> <p>David Carter sought clarification on the A2P completion date and what does early works mean? Melvyn confirm the programmed operational date for A2P is 2027 and early works will include works such as laybys, storage places, and moving utilities.</p> <p>Kirsten Velthuis (I2S Senior Environmental Advisor) Main work has been preparing a response to the submissions to the EIS. There were a total of 29 submissions; 12 members of the public, 2 community groups, 3 public authorities and 12 NSW government departments and agencies.</p> <p>Issues raised by member of the public: 46% were land use and property; 16% traffic and transport; 16% flooding; 7% vibration; 6% hazard and safety; 3% landscape and visual; 3% socio-economic; 2% biodiversity; 0.9% waste and 0.1% air quality.</p> <p>Key issues by authorities and agencies: property and land use, hydrology and flooding, traffic and transport, noise and vibration, biodiversity and visual and landscape character.</p> <p>Key changes since EIS exhibition in response to consultation with landowners and other stakeholders, footprint changes and design refinements include: relocation of two compounds in response to landowner feedback, improved property access and improved road user safety, increased road seal length at Old Sydney Rd level crossing, borrow pit no longer proposed, Troy Street (Stockinbingal) no longer proposed as a detour during construction and reduced impacts to existing farmland. The revised footprint is 31.12 ha smaller.</p> <p>Comment: David Carter, the Old Sydney Rd level crossing should be activated to improve safety. Kirsten explained that the crossing had been assessed in accordance with the Australian Level Crossing</p>

NO.	DISCUSSIONS
	<p>Assessment Model (ALCAM) standard which doesn't recommend activation.</p> <p>Question: James Coleborne sought clarification about reference to compounds. Kirsten explained these are construction compounds not for accommodation.</p> <p>Geoffrey Larsen raised flooding concern as result of the 2022 and 2023 floods and whether there has been any changes to the design. Kirsten explained additional flood modelling has been undertaken in Stockinbingal and updated as a result.</p> <p>The Biodiversity Development Assessment Report has been updated with additional biodiversity surveys in summer and spring. There has been a review and refinement of the mapping of biodiversity features as well as assessing the impact of the proposed footprint changes. There has been preliminary fauna connectivity studies undertaken and there has been a recalculation of the biodiversity credit obligation.</p> <p>As a result of feedback from DPE the Flood and Hydrology Impact Assessment Report has been updated by additional hydrology survey of the Stockinbingal area resulting in the flood model being updated and the flood and hydrology impact and mitigation measures being brought forward. This work was to be undertaken during the detailed design stage. Also verified compliance with the intentions of the Stockinbingal Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan (2002). The additional studies show where the water flows now and where it will flow when the new infrastructure is in place.</p> <p>Question: Russell Vincent asked when this additional information will be released. There are still roads closed following the last floods. Kirsten explained all the information will be part of the Response to Submissions (RtS) Report that will be submitted to the department next month. The RtS will also include responses to the submissions made as a result of the EIS exhibition.</p> <p>Mark Ellis advised council is scheduled to do the clean up work but they haven't received approval to undertake repair work.</p> <p>ACTION: Garry West will send a link to the RtS when it is available on the DPE website.</p> <p>Question: David Carr sought advice if rectification is undertaken if the modelling is show to be incorrect in four to five years time. Wayne Window explained there will be extensive and ongoing reviews as part of the verification process which covers the first fifteen years after the</p>

NO.	DISCUSSIONS
	<p>project is completed. There is a scheduled program of monitoring. DPE explained that they will have the modelling independently reviewed and have the project appropriately conditioned.</p> <p>David Carter asked if existing dams are modelled as a result of the new infrastructure potentially impacting ground flow. Wayne explained that all existing dams are considered but sometimes not in regard to hydrology but more in line with property adjustment post development.</p> <p>Other assessments and clarifications include impact assessment of the proposed footprint changes, land use conflict risk assessment of workforce accommodation camp, supplementary landscape character & visual impact assessment and updated noise and vibration. Property severance and connectivity measures have been included to cover stock underpasses and private level crossings. Typical layouts were provided during the meeting. These will be part of the individual property negotiations.</p> <p>Question: David Carter is there possible warning in conjunction with private level crossings? Wayne explained that each private crossing will be assessed through the safety assessment process.</p> <p>Grant Johnson (Stakeholder Engagement Lead I2S) Primary focus has been on engaging with owners and tenants to reach negotiated outcomes in accordance with the <i>Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991 NSW</i>. Twenty-five properties are involved, 3 have been acquired, 5 in-principal agreements and are progressing toward contacts, and the remaining are still in negotiation. Progressing towards commencement of compulsory acquisition in consultation with TfNSW. The issuing of a Proposed Acquisition Notice (PAN) commences a 90-day compulsory acquisition process. The 1st tranche of properties will move into the PAN process with the issue of a pre-PAN letter which triggers a 21-day notification period, then the PAN is issued. Negotiations continue throughout the PAN period. The 1st tranche of Pre-PAN letters will be issued this month (October)</p> <p>Question: David Carr. Once you have an in-principal agreement when does it get settled? There appears to be no certainty in the time lines. You cannot sell, property management timeframes are hindered. Grant explained it is difficult to discuss individuals publicly. Whilst a PAN is issued private negotiations can and will continue in an endeavour to achieve settlement.</p>

NO.	DISCUSSIONS
	<p>ACTION: Inland Rail will investigate if there are hold ups in settlement where voluntary agreement has been reached.</p> <p>David Carter. The 3 properties that have been acquired are they whole or part of properties. Where a whole property has been acquired yet not required beyond construction when and how will you dispose of the balance? Grant advised there is a divestment team in place and they will develop a strategy for those properties.</p> <p>David Carr expressed that he believed there was uncertainty about the project proceeding up to May 2024 due to possible cost blowouts. Melvyn assured the meeting there is no uncertainty about the project proceeding south of Parkes as the Federal Government has made it very clear. We have a high degree of certainty we can deliver the project within the scope of funds provided. Clarissa explained if additional funds are required they will be by the Equity Finance Agreement which is already in place where construction has commenced in Victoria. I2S is contingent to south of Parkes being completed.</p> <p>Question: James Coleborne. Will you have acquired all the land by May 2024? Melvyn assured the meeting they will as they can't issue D&C contracts for access without proper ownership.</p> <p>Since July 2022 stakeholder engagement has entailed meeting landowners, meeting shortlisted contractor events and councils with responses to the EIS. The sponsorship and donations program is ongoing along with supplier capability development. A cadastral survey has been conducted for all properties on the alignment.</p> <p>Question: David Carr. Has there been difficulty gaining access to people's properties? Has it been considered about paying people for access? Grant indicated there were some difficulties in gaining access.</p>
7.General Business	<p>Russell Vincent sought assistance in having the railway station at Stockinbingal repaired and finding a tenant to provide a service to the community. Grant will provide Russell with an ARTC contact to discuss possible grant funding. It is not an Inland Rail project.</p> <p>David Carter questioned whether sufficient water was available for construction. Kirsten indicated she wasn't aware of any difficulties. Details will be available in the RtS.</p> <p>David Carter raised concern that access down the rail corridor may not be available to brigades where a fire is not on the corridor. Also, can</p>

NO.	DISCUSSIONS
	<p>major crossings be kept open for Category 1 fire vehicles to access the corridor.</p> <p>ACTION: Inland Rail to follow up with ARTC what the policies for Bush Fire brigades are accessing rail corridors in emergencies.</p> <p>Mark Ellis advised there needs to be a communication with the Stockinbingal community regarding the Troy Street decision.</p> <p>ACTION: Develop communication strategy for Troy Street changes.</p>

Actions

NO.	ACTIONS	ACTION BY	DUE DATE
1	Send link for access to the RtS to CCC members	Garry West	November 2023
2	Inland Rail to investigate if there are hold ups in settlement where voluntary agreement has been reached.	Melvyn Maylin & Grant Johnson	ASAP
3	Investigate ARTC policies for Bush Fire Brigades accessing rail corridors in emergencies.	Wayne Window	ASAP
4	Develop a communication strategy for Troy Street changes	Grant Johnson	ASAP

Next Meeting

TBA

RIVERINA EASTERN REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD
Friday 27 October 2023

Held at the Wagga Wagga Country Club Wagga Wagga

Meeting commenced at: 9.20am

PRESENT

Grant Baker	Bland Shire Council	
Cr Brian Monaghan	Bland Shire Council	
Cr David McCann <i>OAM</i>	Coolamon Shire Council	
Tony Donoghue <i>PSM</i>	Coolamon Shire Council	
Stephen McGrath	Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council	
Cr Tony Quinn	Greater Hume Shire Council	
Evelyn Arnold	Greater Hume Shire Council	
Cr Bob Callow	Junee Shire Council	
James Davis	Junee Shire Council	
Cr Greg Verdon	Lockhart Shire Council	
Peter Veneris	Lockhart Shire Council	
Cr Rick Firman <i>OAM</i>	Temora Shire Council	CHAIRMAN
Melissa Boxall	Temora Shire Council	
Cr Matt Stadtmiller	Goldenfields Water	
Aaron Drenovski	Goldenfields Water	
Giles Butler	Dept Regional NSW	
Dianna Sommerville	RDA - Riverina	
Julie Briggs	REROC	
Leah Gain	REROC	
William Adlong	REROC	

APOLOGIES

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr B. Monaghan seconded Cr. T. Quinn that apologies be received from Cr. C. Sheahan and Rachel Whiting.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED on the motion of J. Davis seconded Cr. T. Quinn that the minutes of the REROC Annual General Meeting held on 28 October 2022 be confirmed.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cr. R Firman spoke to his written report.

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr. R Firman seconded Cr. B. Monaghan that the Chairman's Report be received.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

T. Donoghue presented the Financial Statements.

Cr. Firman expressed the Board's thanks to Coolamon Shire, Tony Donoghue and Courtney Armstrong for their management of the REROC finances. Cr McCann echoed Cr. Firman's comments.

RESOLVED on the motion of T. Donoghue, seconded Cr. G. Verdon that the Financial Statements be received.

ADOPTION OF THE AMENDED REROC CONSTITUTION

RESOLVED on the motion of M. Boxall seconded Cr. B. Monaghan that the Board of the Riverina Eastern Regional Organisation of Councils resolves to adopt the amended Constitution.

The motion was carried unanimously.

ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS

Cr. R Firman vacated the Chair. J Briggs acted as Returning Officer.

Chairperson

J. Briggs called for nominations for the position of Chairperson for the ensuing term.

Cr. R Firman was nominated by Cr. D. McCann, seconded Cr. G. Verdon. Cr. Firman accepted the Nomination.

There being no further nominations, J. Briggs declared Cr. R Firman elected as Chairperson of REROC for the ensuing term.

CARRIED

Deputy Chairperson

J. Briggs called for nominations for the position of Deputy Chairperson for the ensuing term.

Cr. B. Monaghan was nominated by Cr. D. McCann, seconded Cr. G. Verdon. Cr. Monaghan accepted the Nomination.

There being no further nominations, J. Briggs declared Cr. B. Monaghan elected as Deputy Chairperson of REROC for the ensuing term.

CARRIED

Treasurer

J. Briggs called for nominations for the position of Treasurer for the ensuing term.

T. Donoghue was nominated by M. Boxall, seconded by P. Veneris. Mr Donoghue accepted the nomination.

There being no further nominations, J Briggs declared T Donoghue elected as Treasurer of REROC for the ensuing term.

CARRIED

Executive Committee

Cr. Rick Firman and Cr. B. Monaghan are already on the Executive by virtue of their Chairman and Deputy Chairman positions. The Treasurer and CEO are on the Executive in an ex-officio capacity.

A further 2 councillors and 3 General Managers are required to be appointed, no two from the same council plus a representative from Goldenfields Water.

Moved Cr. B. Monaghan seconded Cr. B. Callow that Cr. David McCann be appointed to the REROC Executive.

Move Cr. R. Firman, seconded Cr. B. Monaghan that Cr. Charlie Sheahan be appointed to the REROC Executive.

Moved Cr. R. Firman, seconded Cr. G. Verdon that Peter Veneris be appointed to the REROC Executive.

Moved Cr. T. Quinn, seconded P. Veneris that Evelyn Quinn be appointed to the REROC Executive.

Moved G. Baker, seconded E. Arnold that James Davis be appointed to the REROC Executive.

Moved Cr. R. Firman, seconded Cr. B. Monaghan that Cr. Matt Stadtmiller be appointed to the REROC Executive.

There being no further nominations the above persons were appointed to the REROC Executive for the ensuing year.

CARRIED

APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS

RESOLVED on the motion of *T. Donoghue*, seconded *M. Boxall* that *Crowe* be re-appointed as Auditors to REROC for the 2022-23 Financial Year.

CLOSURE

Meeting closed at 9.55am

RIVERINA EASTERN REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS
MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING
held at Wagga Wagga Country Club, Wagga Wagga
Friday 27 October 2023

Meeting opened at 9.55 a.m.

PRESENT

Grant Baker	Bland Shire Council	
Cr Brian Monaghan	Bland Shire Council	
Cr David McCann <i>OAM</i>	Coolamon Shire Council	
Tony Donoghue <i>PSM</i>	Coolamon Shire Council	
Stephen McGrath	Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council	
Cr Tony Quinn	Greater Hume Shire Council	
Evelyn Arnold	Greater Hume Shire Council	
Cr Bob Callow	Junee Shire Council	
James Davis	Junee Shire Council	
Cr Greg Verdon	Lockhart Shire Council	
Peter Veneris	Lockhart Shire Council	
Cr Rick Firman <i>OAM</i>	Temora Shire Council	CHAIRMAN
Melissa Boxall	Temora Shire Council	
Cr Matt Stadtmiller	Goldenfields Water	
Aaron Drenovski	Goldenfields Water	
Giles Butler	Dept Regional NSW	
Dianna Sommerville	RDA - Riverina	
Julie Briggs	REROC	
Leah Gain	REROC	
William Adlong	REROC	

APOLOGIES

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr. B. Monaghan seconded Cr. T. Quinn that apologies be received from Cr. C. Sheahan and Rachel Whiting.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED on the motion of S. McGrath, seconded Cr. G. Verdon that the minutes of the meeting held on 25 August 2023 be confirmed.

BUSINESS ARISING

Letter to the Minister for Emergency Services – follow-up on previous correspondence regarding RFS asset ownership. Remains outstanding.

Arrange Joint Meeting with the Presidents of LGNSW and the Country Mayors' Association– to discuss a review of structure of Emergency services in NSW. Remains outstanding.

Regional Housing Fund Rd 2 Funding Application – application has been lodged.

Letter to Reconstruction Authority about inadequacy of current acquittal reporting requirements for Natural Disaster Claims – letter sent.

CORRESPONDENCE

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr. G. Verdon, seconded Cr. B. Monaghan that the correspondence be received.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

J. Briggs, W. Adlong and L. Gain left the room at 10.10 a.m.

Chief Executive Officer Contract and Transition

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr. G. Verdon, seconded Cr. B. Monaghan that:

- 1) The existing CEO contract be extended until 31 December 2024 on agreed terms.
- 2) a) That REROC seek quotes from a minimum of two consultants for the recruitment process from appropriately qualified consultants.
b) That the engagement of recruitment consultants be endorsed at the April 2024 Board meeting.
c) That the report from the consultant setting out the recruitment process be provided to the June 2024 Board Meeting.

J. Briggs, W. Adlong and L. Gain returned to the meeting at 10.30a.m.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

The report was tabled. J Briggs raised the following issues with Members:

Meeting at Parliament House

Thank you letters to be sent to all the Ministers, Shadow Ministers and senior bureaucrats that spoke at the meeting.

Cr. Monaghan raised concerns about the cost of biodiversity offsets on the expansion of the mine at Lake Cowal. J. Briggs to send Marcus Wright's contact details to G. Baker. Marcus was formerly employed by REROC as REROC's Biodiversity Conservation Officer and is currently employed in a similar role with the Department of Environment.

G. Butler advised that there would be consultations held in Wagga Wagga in mid-November on the proposed Regional Development Advisory Council. The consultation will be targeted with the Chairs of ROCs and JOs invited. An interim Advisory Council will be appointed for a 12 month period until the permanent Council is appointed.

Concerns were raised that Minister Jackson's address focused on social housing and appeared to fail to recognise the bigger problems with housing. J. Briggs advised that she had spoken to the Minister's Advisor about REROC's proposal for a regional community housing project in order to create the economies of scale and scope that these types of projects need. The Advisor showed interest and J. Briggs is to follow-up.

Rural Fires Amendment (Red Fleet) Bill 2023

Members confirmed that the last Service Level Agreements that councils entered into with the RFS was in 2010/11, there is no end date on the agreement, and they stay in effect until new agreements are signed.

RESOLVED on the motion of J. Davis, seconded Cr. G. Verdon that REROC, in its thank you letter to the Minister Hoenig, address the inaccuracies contained in the Minister's address to REROC in relation to the Red Fleet.

Section 7.12 Contributions

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr. G. Verdon, seconded E. Arnold that REROC, in its thank you letter to the Minister Paul Scully includes advocacy about s7.12 contributions.

Rural Road Funding

Noted.

Local Government Natural Disaster Claims

Noted.

Local Water Utilities Inquiry

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr. M. Stadtmiller, seconded Cr. B. Monaghan REROC responds to the Local Water Utilities Inquiry, taking into account the response made by Goldenfields Water.

60 Day Dispensing

Noted.

NAB Bank Closures Temora and Cootamundra

Noted.

Regional Bank Closures Inquiry Hearings

Cr. Stadtmiller advised that the hours for the Bank in Harden had been reduced. Members agreed to take no further action until the Inquiry's report is released.

Moving Forward

Noted.

Rates Methodology Review.

Noted.

Health and Knowledge Precinct

Noted.

FOGO Collection Grants

Noted.

NSW Planning Portal

Noted.

NSW Planning Portal – lack of recognition of County Councils as Approval Authorities

Noted.

Bin Trim Grant

Noted

Southern Lights

Noted.

Consultation on Murray Murrumbidgee Water Sharing Plan

Noted.

Expansion of Build a Bridge

Noted.

Application for Regional Housing Fund Round 2

Noted.

Border Rail Advocacy Group (BRAG)

Noted.

Youth and Community Network

Noted.

Skills Shortage Project

Noted.

Expansion of *Build a Bridge*

Noted.

Contaminated Land Management Project

Noted.

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr. G. Verdon, seconded T. Donoghue that the CEO Report be received.

RESOURCE SHARING REPORT

The report was tabled. J Briggs spoke to the report.

Regional ARIC Project

Noted.

Planning Technical Group

Noted.

Workforce Development Group

Noted.

Water and Wastewater Technical Group

Noted.

Infrastructure/Engineers Group

Noted.

Riverina Spatial Information Group (RIVSIG)

Noted.

Energy and innovation Conference

Noted.

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr. B Callow, seconded P. Veneris that the Resource Sharing report be received.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The report was tabled by T. Donoghue

RESOLVED on the motion of T. Donoghue, seconded Cr. D. McCann that the Treasurer's Report be received.

WASTE FORUM REPORT

The report was tabled. L. Gain spoke to the report.

Bin Trim Grant

Noted.

FOGO Audits

Note.

E-Waste Collections

Noted

Recycle Night? Recycle Right!

Noted

Regional Contracts

Noted.

***No Time to Waste* Conference**

Noted.

School Projects

Noted.

Community Recycling Centres

Noted.

Food and Green Keep it Clean!

Noted.

Landfill Gas Capture Project

Noted.

***No Time to Waste* Conference**

Noted.

RENEW Meeting August 2023

Noted.

RESOLVED on the motion of Cr. D. McCann, seconded Cr. B. Monaghan that the Waste Forum report be received.

ENERGY AND NET ZERO PROJECT REPORT

The Report was tabled. W. Adlong spoke to the report.

Access to Electricity Retailer Online Portals

Noted.

BEAM Council Solar/Battery Tool

Noted.

REROC Regional Energy Efficiency and Net Zero Plan

Members were asked to review the LGA profiles that had been prepared for the Plan and advise any changes required.

Legislation on Emission Targets

Noted.

Small Generation Aggregator Services

Noted.

EVX Partnership with Essential Energy

Noted.

Low Carbon Procurement

Noted.

***RESOLVED** on the motion of M Boxall seconded T. Donoghue that the Energy and Net Zero Project report be received.*

DISASTER RISK RECOVERY PROJECT REPORT

The Report was tabled, J. Briggs spoke to the report.

DRR Project Committee

Noted.

GAP Analysis

Noted.

Spatial NSW Involvement

Noted.

Transport Mapping

Noted.

Community Education Platform

Noted.

RRPAC Meetings

Noted.

Extension of DRRF Project

Noted.

Monthly Reporting

Noted.

***RESOLVED** on the motion of Cr. G. Verdon, seconded Cr B. Callow that the Disaster Risk Recovery Project Report be received.*

GENERAL BUSINESS

Motion to review the Non-rateable Land – Cr. D. McCann advised that Coolamon Shire had a motion going to the LGNSW Conference advocating for a review of non-rateable land in NSW. Cr McCann advised that it was estimated that 45% of land in NSW is non-rateable.

NEXT MEETING

Friday 8 December 2023 at The Rules Club, Fernleigh Rd, Wagga Wagga.

CLOSURE

Meeting closed at 12:00pm

DRAFT



JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL

INFORMATION BOOKLET





JUNEE SHIRE COUNCIL

INFORMATION BOOKLET

ORDINARY MEETING TUESDAY, 21 NOVEMBER 2023

- 1[GM] COUNCILLOR DELEGATE MEETINGS**
- 2[HR] WORKERS' COMPENSATION/REHABILITATION**
- 3[DPCD] LIBRARY**
- 4[DPCD] EXECUTIVE SUPPORT OFFICER**
- 5[DES] WORKS PROGRAM**
- 6[RSO] ROAD SAFETY OFFICER**
- 7[DES] SEWERAGE SYSTEM**
- 8[DPCD] RANGER REPORT**
- 9[DES] SOLID WASTE REPORT**
- 10[EO] WEEDS**
- 11[DPCD] 10.7 CERTIFICATES**
- 12[DPCD] DEVELOPMENT/COMPLYING DEVELOPMENT DETERMINATIONS**
- 13[DPCD] HEALTH, BUILDING, PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL INSPECTIONS**
- 14[DPCD] COMMUNITY AND RECREATION**
- 15[GM] CUSTOMER SERVICE REQUESTS SUMMARY**

1[GM] COUNCILLOR DELEGATE MEETINGS

Notification of Council committee meetings or community meetings for which Councillors may be attending.

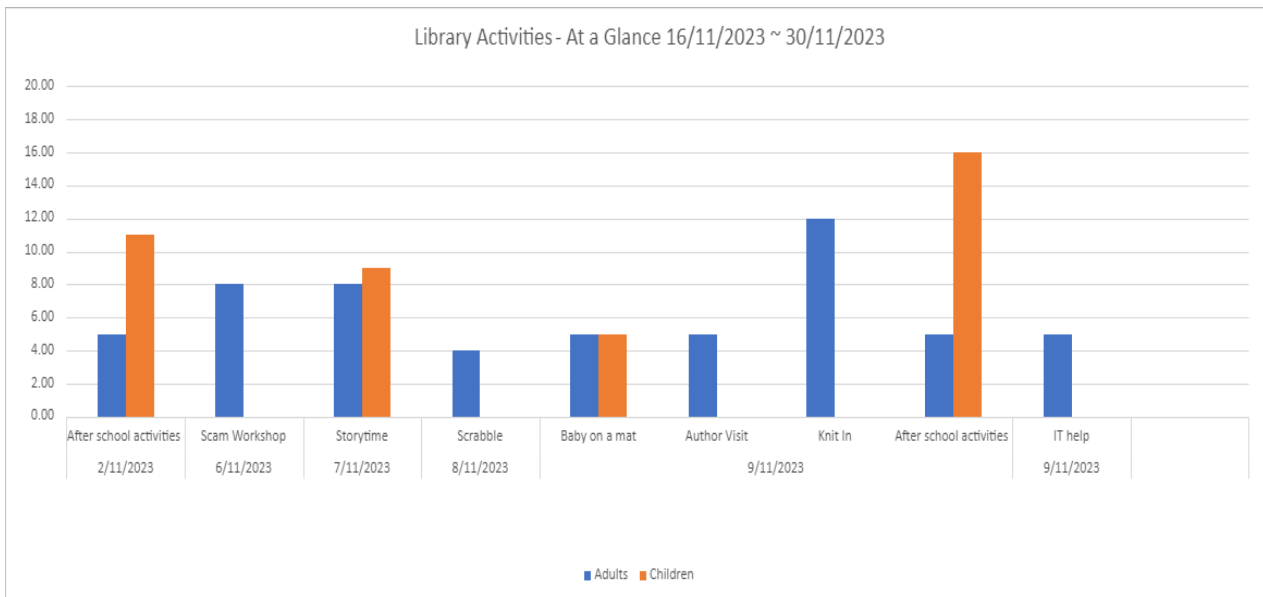
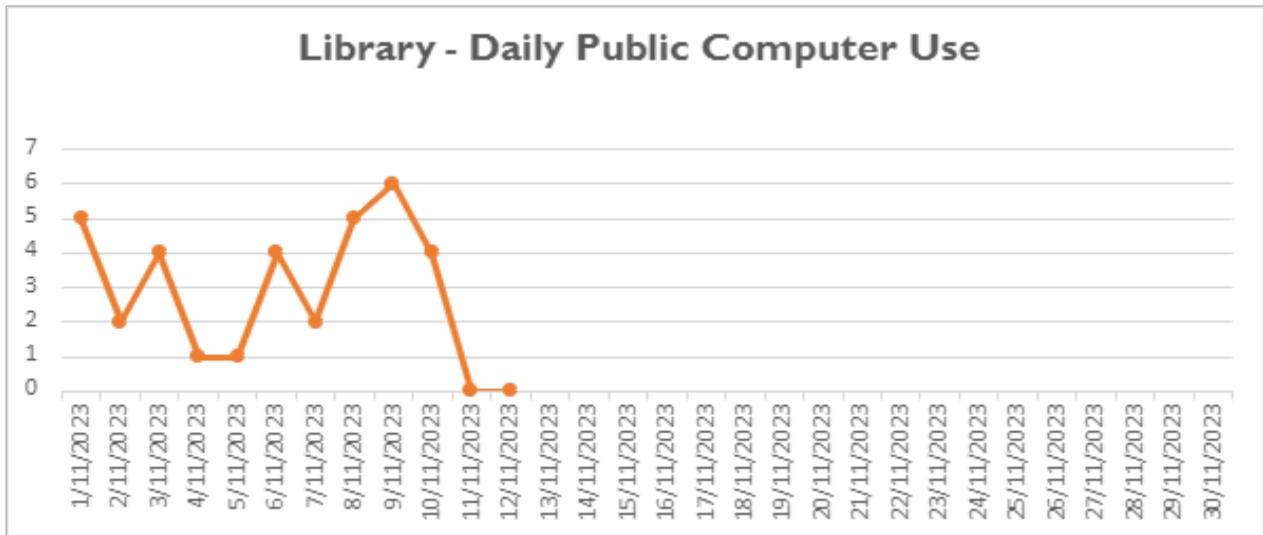
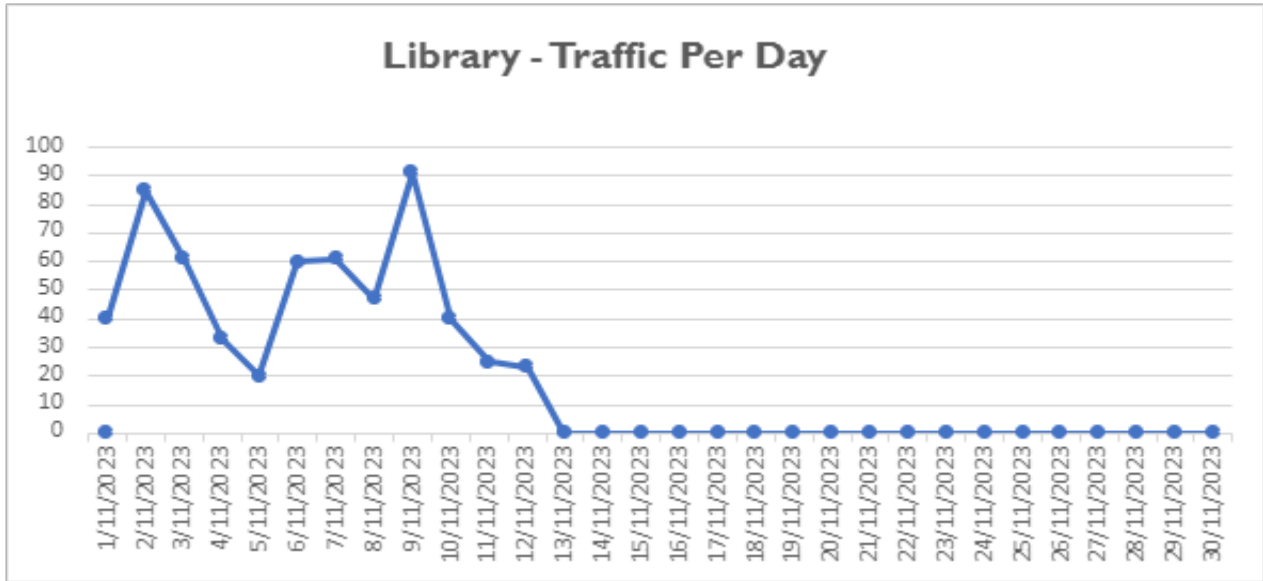
Council Committee and Delegate Meetings

Attendee	Delegate Meeting	Date
General Manager	REROC Executive Meeting	17 November 2023
Mayor/General Manager	Police Community Liaison Meeting	5 December 2023
TBA	Weeds Committee	5 December 2023
General Manager	Coolamon Junee Local Emergency Management Committee	6 December 2023
Mayor/General Manager	REROC Board Meeting	8 December 2023
Councillor Knight	Junee Sports Committee	8 February 2024
Councillor Clinton and Councillor Knight	Audit Risk & Improvement Committee	March 2024
Councillor Halliburton	Riverina Regional Library Advisory Committee	27 March 2024
Councillor Carter	Riverina Zone, Rural Fire Service Bushfire Management Committee	TBA
Councillor Halliburton Councillor Halliburton	Inland Rail Community Consultative Committees: A2I I2S	TBA 2024 TBA 2024
Councillor Carter	Riverina Zone Service Level Agreement Committee	TBA
Councillor Clinton and Councillor Halliburton	Senior Citizens Festival Committee	TBA
Councillor Cook	Junee Traffic Committee	As required
General Manager	Riverina Murray Regional Emergency Management Committee	As required

2[HR] WORKERS' COMPENSATION/REHABILITATION

There was one recordable incident for the month of October 2023.

3[DPCD] LIBRARY



4[CFO] EXECUTIVE SUPPORT OFFICER

School Based Traineeships 2024

- The Executive Support Officer (ESO) attended Junee High School on 12 October 2023 and conducted a presentation to all Year 9 and 10 students regarding school-based traineeship opportunities for 2024.
- Students were provided with information detailing the positions available, mode of study, work model, work experience opportunities and the application process. Six students requested an Information Pack on the day.
- Junee High School Careers Teacher, Elaine Bunyan, reiterated the benefits of this program and the wonderful outcomes previous students attained via Council.
- This visit and recruitment program will recur annually as a strategy to address recruitment issues identified in Councils Workforce Management Plan (“WMP”) as we continue to strive to ‘grow our own’ workforce.

Careers at Council Day

- In partnership with Junee High School and REROC, Council facilitated the Careers at Council Day on 17 October 2023.
- The objectives aligned to address issues identified in Councils WMP and were to:
 - i. Increase high school student awareness of career opportunities in local government.
 - ii. Promote Councils ongoing commitment to providing opportunities for our local youth.
 - iii. Create awareness of the benefits and opportunities of being employed within a small rural Council.
- 24 students from Junee High School and four teachers attended a full day of presentations and workshops introducing them to the diversity in Council work and career pathways. Students rotated in groups and were exposed to many areas of the business including: office/corporate services, finance, engineering, planning, outdoor/depot, recreation, library and the sewage treatment plant. Staff put a great deal of effort into planning the day and did an outstanding job at providing students with a positive experience.
- Mr Paul Worsfold attended on behalf of REROC and gave an excellent presentation to the students about the benefits of a career at Council and encouraged students to start critically thinking about their future working life.
- Junee High School Principal, Darren Hamilton, attended for part of the day and commended Council for a such a terrific opportunity.
- Special thanks to Narelle Hobson for her effort in coordinating this event and to the High School for the use of their bus for transport.
- This event demonstrates Councils performance against *DPOP action 4.1.1.1 - Implement Workforce Plan to provide for local employment capability* and it is proposed to run every two years.

5[DES] WORKS PROGRAM

MR78 (Olympic Highway)

- Potholes patched.
- Rest areas and toilets have been maintained.
- Weekly safety inspections have been undertaken.
- Signs and guideposts have been maintained and replaced.
- Slashing.

MR 57 (Goldfields Way)

- Potholes patched, repaired wearing surfaces.
- Signs and guideposts maintained and replaced.
- Fortnightly safety inspections have been conducted.
- Slashing (ongoing)

MR243 (Regional Roads - Canola Way, Old Junee Road and Gundagai Road, Byrnes Road)

- Signs and guideposts maintained.
- Potholes patched, repaired wearing surfaces.
- Fortnightly safety inspections completed.
- Byrnes Road culvert works completed and sealed.
- Slashing.

Rural Sealed Roads

- Signs and guideposts maintained.
- Jet patched and cold mix patched various roads.
- River Road Stages 1 and 2 - pavement works and final seal completed.
- Coursing Park - heavy patching completed.
- Blackgate Road - shoulder grading.
- Coffin Rock Road - shoulder grading.
- Dirnaseer Road - shoulder grading.
- River Rd – slashing.
- Allawah Road – slashing.
- Kiaree Road – slashing.
- Eurongilly Road – slashing.
- McGledes Hill Road – slashing.
- Combaning Road – slashing.
- Clear Hill Road – slashing.

Rural Unsealed Roads

- Signs and guideposts maintained.
- Coffin Rock Road - formation grading.

Urban Sealed Roads

- Jet patched various town streets.
- Stormwater issues rectified and managed.
- Fallen trees removed.
- Tar patching.
- Drainage works.

Junee

- General maintenance.
- Gutters/drains cleaned.
- Various merits requests completed.
- Footpath inspections.

Villages

- Rest area maintenance.
- Wantabadgery village – slashing.
- Illabo Village – slashing.

Parks And Gardens

- Mowed and whipper snipped the parks, ovals and cemeteries.
- Weeded the gardens.
- Carried out other routine gardening works.

6[RSO] ROAD SAFETY OFFICER (RSO)

- Meeting with MLHD Health Promotion Officer, Catherine Pratt, on 4 October 2023 at Junee Library.
- Attended Junee Interagency Meeting on Wednesday, 18 October at Junee Ex-Services Memorial Club.
- Tentative dates locked in for both *Older Drivers (65+) - Wednesday, 27 March 2024* at Junee Ex-Services Memorial Club – 6.00pm to 8.00pm and *Help Learner Drivers Become Safer Drivers (HLDBSD) - 24 April 2024* at Junee Library – 10.00am to 12.00pm.
- RSO confirmed the following venues will take part in this year's *Plan B Win A Swag* competition. The list includes Illabo Hotel who confirmed their participation in this year's campaign: Junee Hotel, Red Cow Hotel, Junee Ex-Services Memorial Club, Junee Commercial Hotel and Illabo Hotel.

7[DES] SEWERAGE SYSTEM

- Over the month of October there was two chokes in the mains and three chokes in the services.
- Installed new Sewer Service connection at 25 Gloucester Street.
- Locate and replaced covers to Manhole MMO/3 and MMO/7 at the GHA in preparation for sewer relining scheduled for week two of November.
- Remove sewer vent shaft at rear of 15 Bolton Street.
- Total inflow to the treatment plant for the month was 57.6ML with 31.6ML of effluent reused.
- Final effluent discharge totalled 12ML.
- Junee Highschool Students visited the site. While all students gained an insight of how the process worked, some enjoyed the experience more than others.
- Site tests indicate the process is still producing good effluent.
- Programmed power outages on the 20 and 25 October required hiring a generator to keep the plant running.

8[DPCD] RANGER REPORT

Abandoned/Impounded Vehicle

	Notices attached – impoundment process commenced	Vehicles impounded
July 2023	4	0
August 2023	4	0
September 2023	3	0
October 2023	3	0

Impounded Dog Activity

During October 2023, there were two dogs impounded. All dogs were returned to their owners.

9[DES] SOLID WASTE REPORT

Junee Landfill Waste Facility (JLWF)

The Junee Transfer Station is functioning well with no issues or incidents at the site.

Rural Transfer Stations

All rural transfer stations were inspected on the 9 November 2023 and were in good condition. Wantabadgery and Illabo transfer stations had excess waste.

10[EO] WEEDS

- Private property inspections carried out with a focus on emerging St John's Wort.
- River inspection complete.
- WAP reporting complete.
- High risk roadways inspected across the Shire.
- Staff have completed inspections of high-risk pathways and sites.
- Early spraying of St John's Wort undertaken; expected to be a significant germination.
- Coolatai Grass treated at Old Junee.
- Working with a company developing electronic weed control. Early stages but could be a promising technique if we lose some of our chemicals to bans.

11[DPCD] S.10.7 CERTIFICATES

Average Processing time (Working Days) for last 10 Certificates	Two days
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12[DPCD] DEVELOPMENT/COMPLYING DEVELOPMENT DETERMINATIONS

DA/CDC No.	Development Type	Address	Determination Date	Determination
DA 2023/58	Alterations/Additions to Existing pools/ Decks/ Fencing	111 Tathra Drive, Junee	03/10/2023	Approved By Delegation

DA/CDC No.	Development Type	Address	Determination Date	Determination
DA 2023/47	2 Lot Subdivision	80 Kinvara Drive, Junee	04/10/2023	Approved by Delegation
CDC 2023/10	New Swimming Pool	6 Johnston Street, Junee	04/10/2023	Approved By Delegation
CDC 2023/12	New Portable Swimming Pool	25 Marquis Street, Junee	13/10/2023	Approved By Delegation
DA 2023/44	Carport attached to rear of existing Shed	5 Loughan Road, Junee	17/10/2023	Approved by Council
DA 2023/51	New Dual Occupancy	29 Tathra Drive, Junee	17/10/2023	Refused By Council
DA 2023/37	New Double Garage	1 Stewart Street, Junee	18/10/2023	Approved by Delegation
DA 2023/40	New Shed	4 Smythe Road, Junee	19/10/2023	Approved by Delegation
DA 2023/48	Shipping Container Install	8 King Street, Junee	25/10/2023	Approved by Delegation
DA 2023/50	New Change of Use	1 Hill Street, Junee	25/10/2023	Approved by Delegation
DA 2023/56	New Dual Occupancy	26 Hilton Place, Junee	25/10/2023	Approved By Delegation
CDC 2023/13	New Swimming Pool	9 Walster Street, Junee	26/10/2023	Approved By Delegation
CDC 2023/14	New Deck	5 Cassia Way, Junee	26/10/2023	Approved By Delegation
DA 2023/49	New Shed	50 Belmore Street, Junee	31/10/2023	Approved by Delegation

13(DPCD) HEALTH, BUILDING, PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL INSPECTIONS

There were 27 health, building and planning inspections carried out during the month of October 2023.

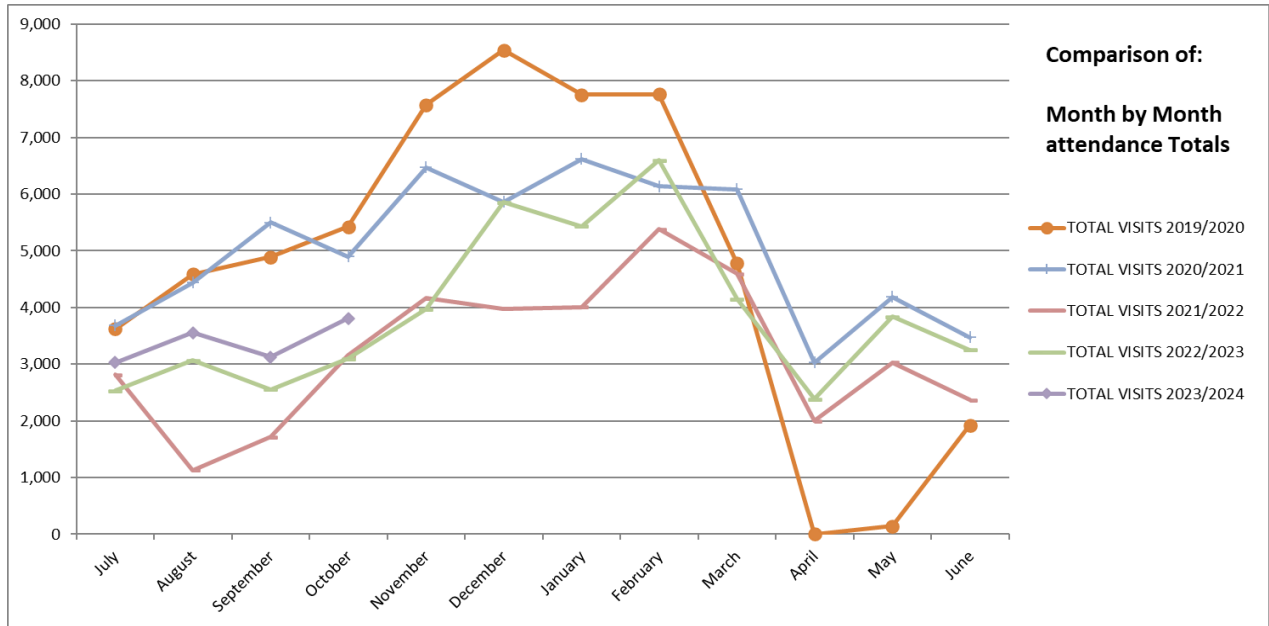
14[DPCD] COMMUNITY AND RECREATION

Junee Junction Recreation and Aquatic Centre - Statistics for October 2023

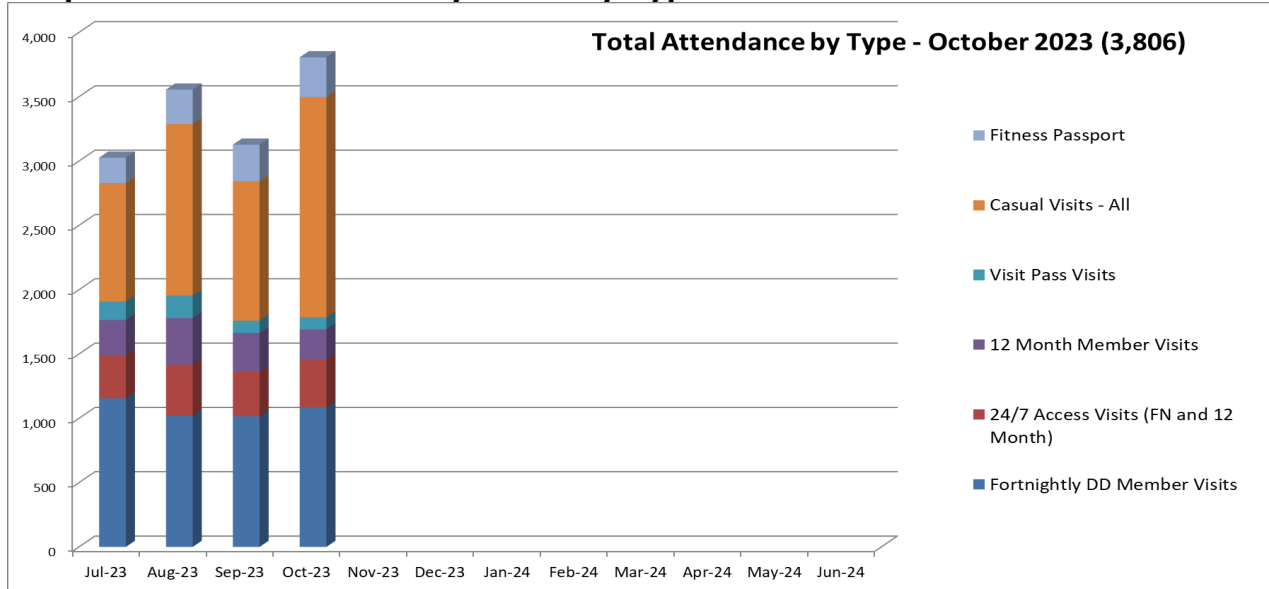
The following tables summarise the attendance and membership statistics at JJRAC for September 2023.

- With the weather heating up, we have seen Membership numbers increase (→ 14).
- Stadium usage has increased with the commencement of basketball and school holiday programs.

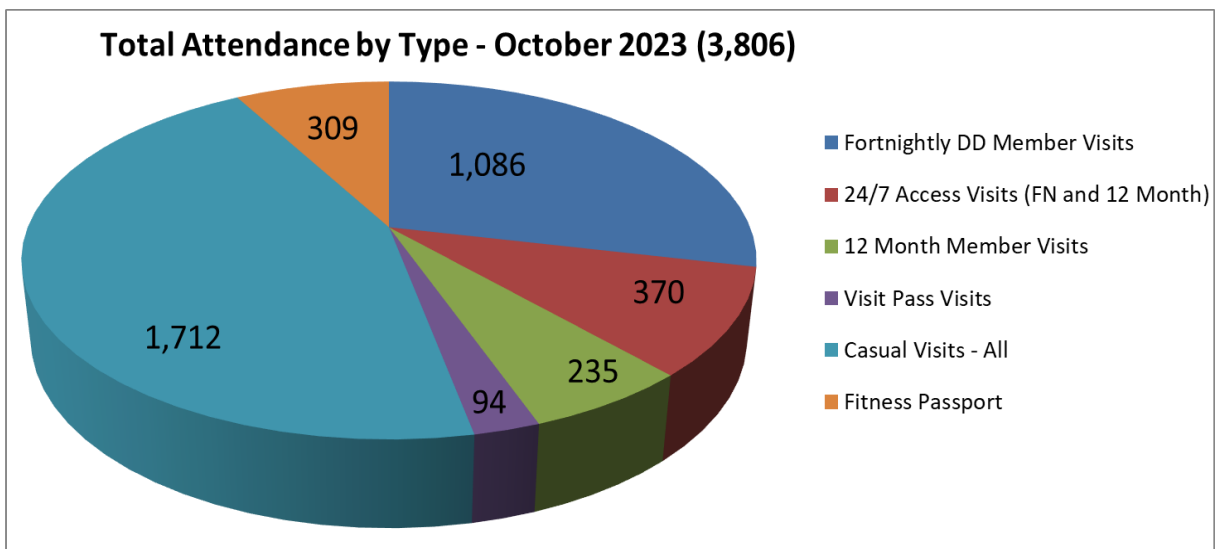
Graph 1: Total Attendances by Month



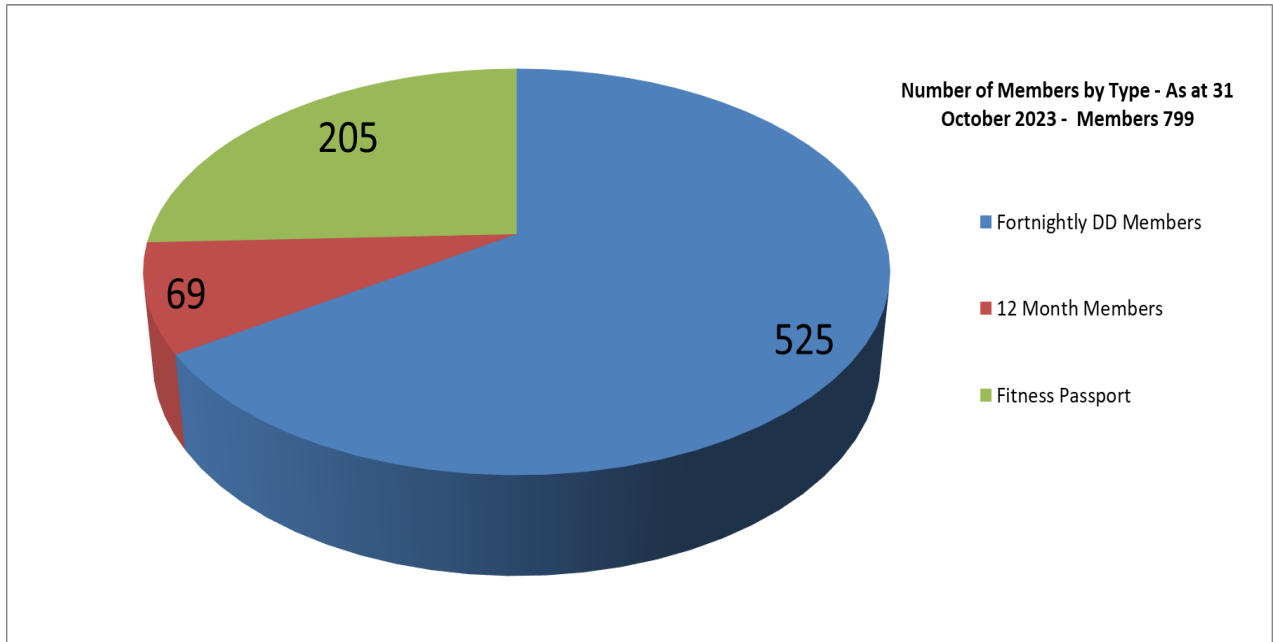
Graph 2: Total Attendances by Month by Type of Visit



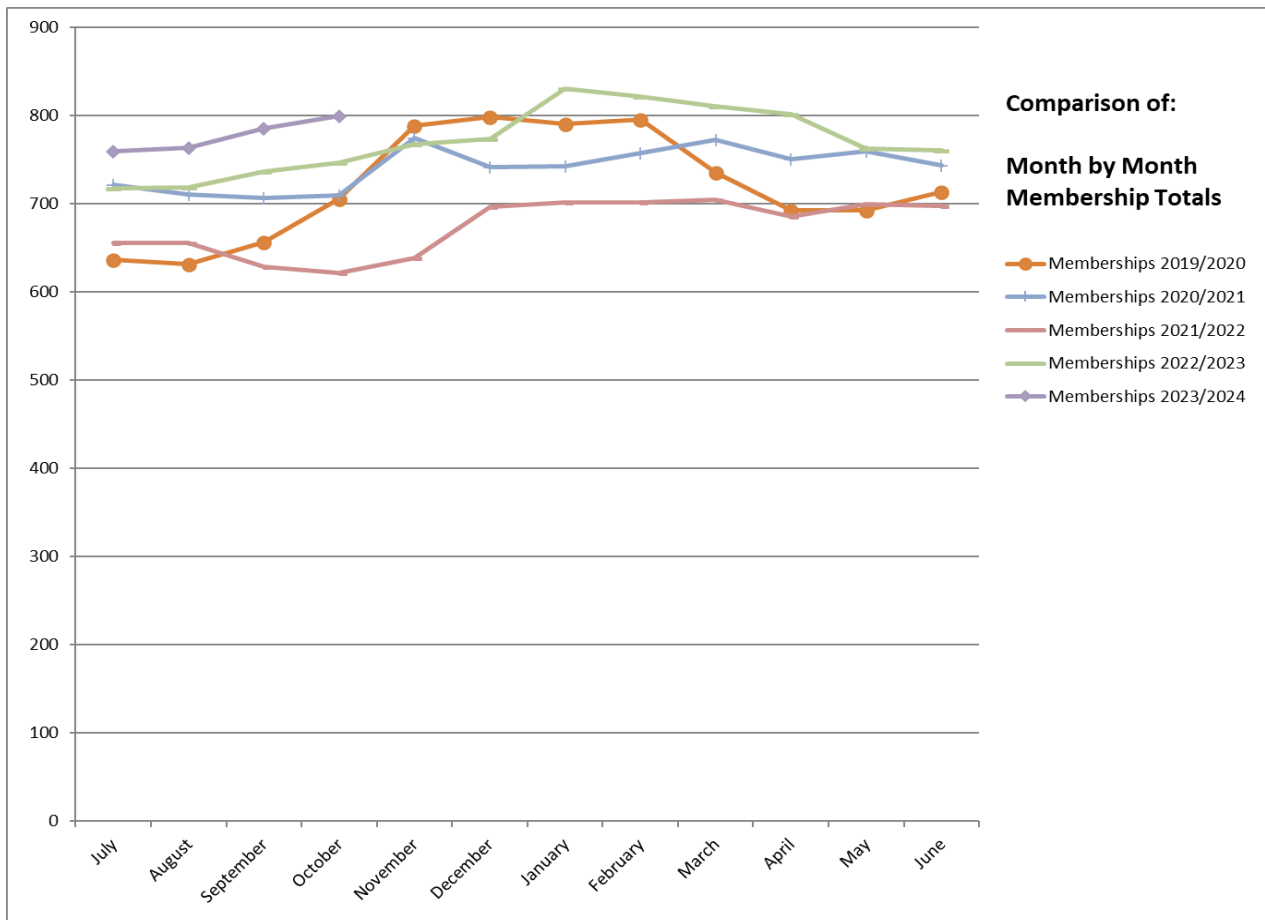
Graph 3: Centre Attendance by Type



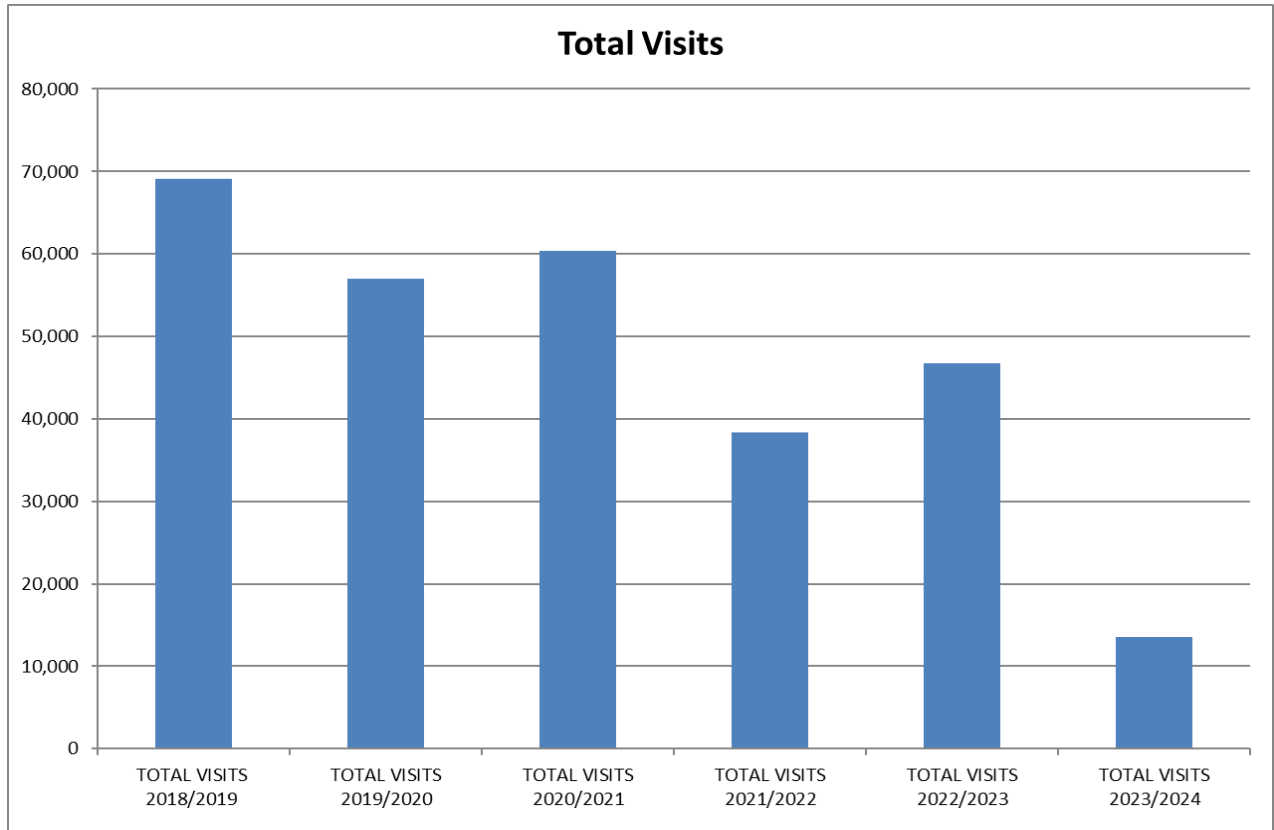
Graph 4: Membership Numbers by Type



Graph 5: Yearly Comparison of Month by Month Membership Numbers



Graph 6: Comparison of Visits by Year



Social Media Statistics

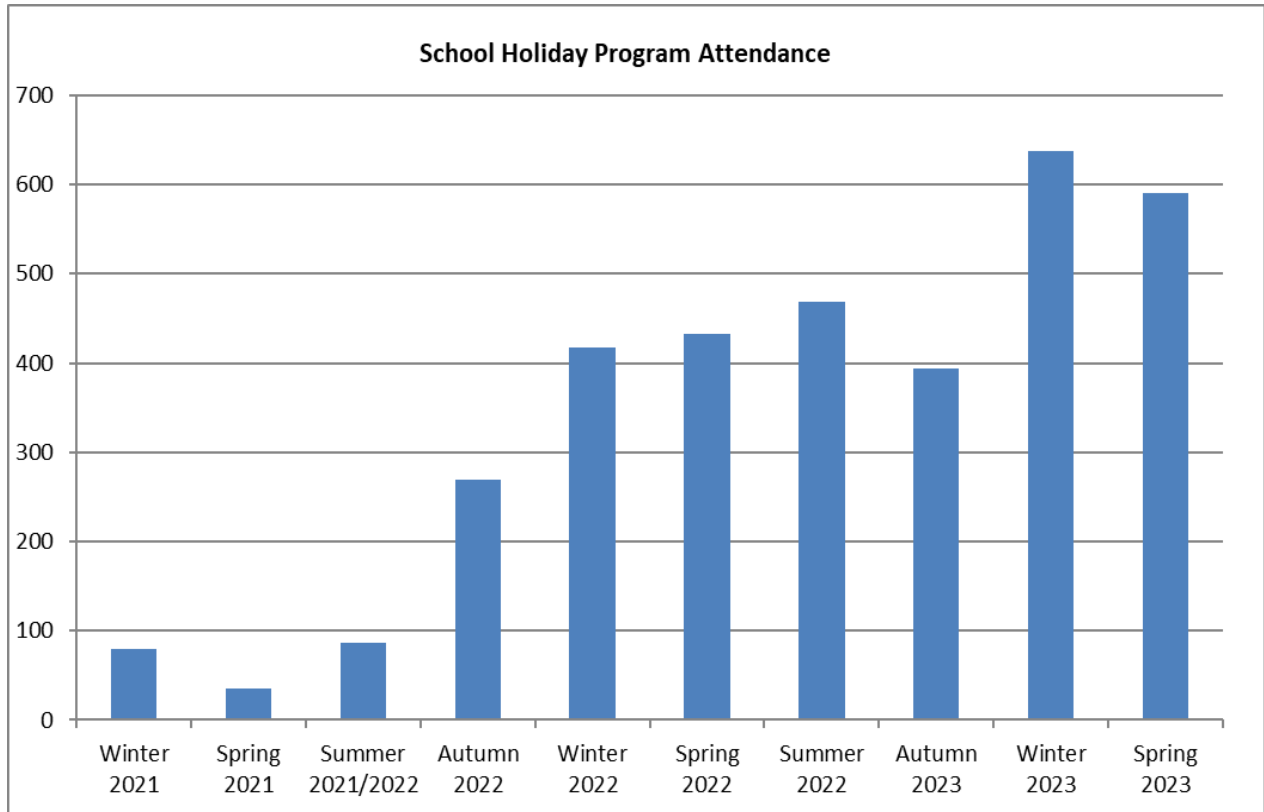
JJRAC social media data. The following statistics were recorded:

MONTH	Facebook Page Likes	Facebook Page Reach	Instagram Page Followers
January 2023	1,840	8,370	775
February 2023	1,850	3,976	776
March 2023	1,853	1,905	777
April 2023	1,861	1,476	780
May 2023	1,883	2,976	784
June 2023	1,890	8,989	785
July 2023	1,899	3,085	785
August 2023	1,916	1,626	785
September 2023	1,947	6,049	785
October 2023	1,969	3,607	786

Community Development

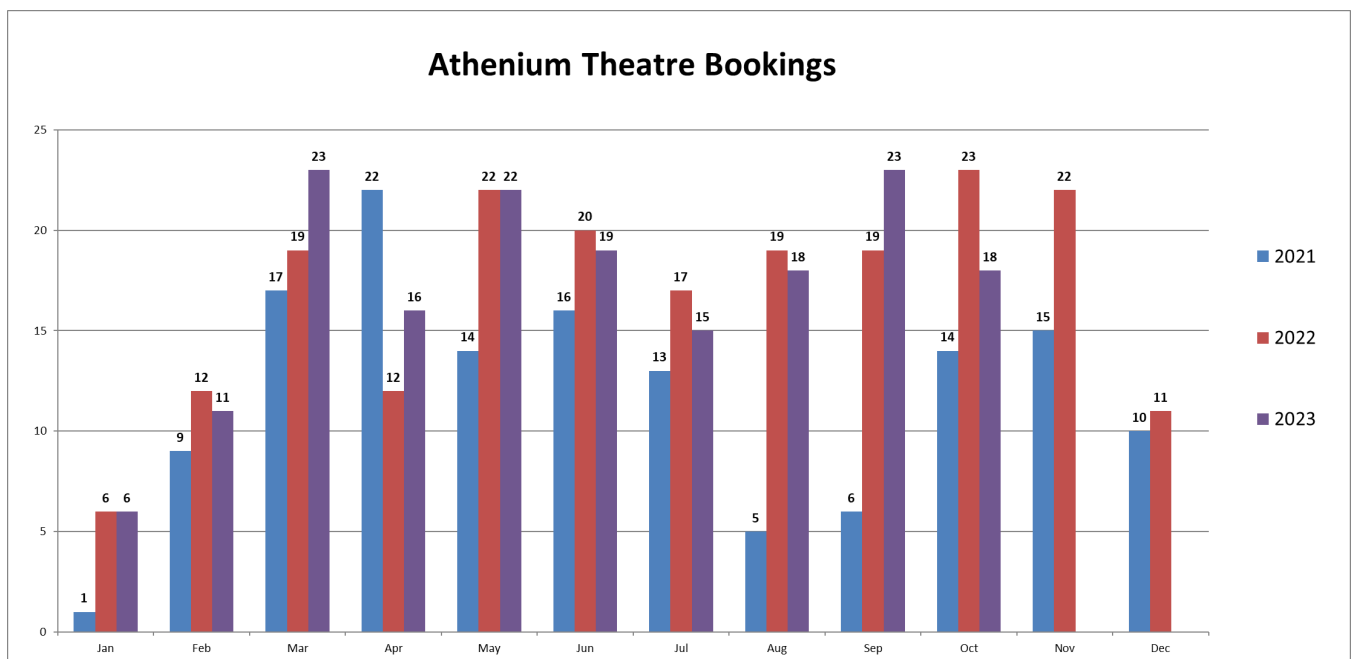
Youth Program/Youth Council

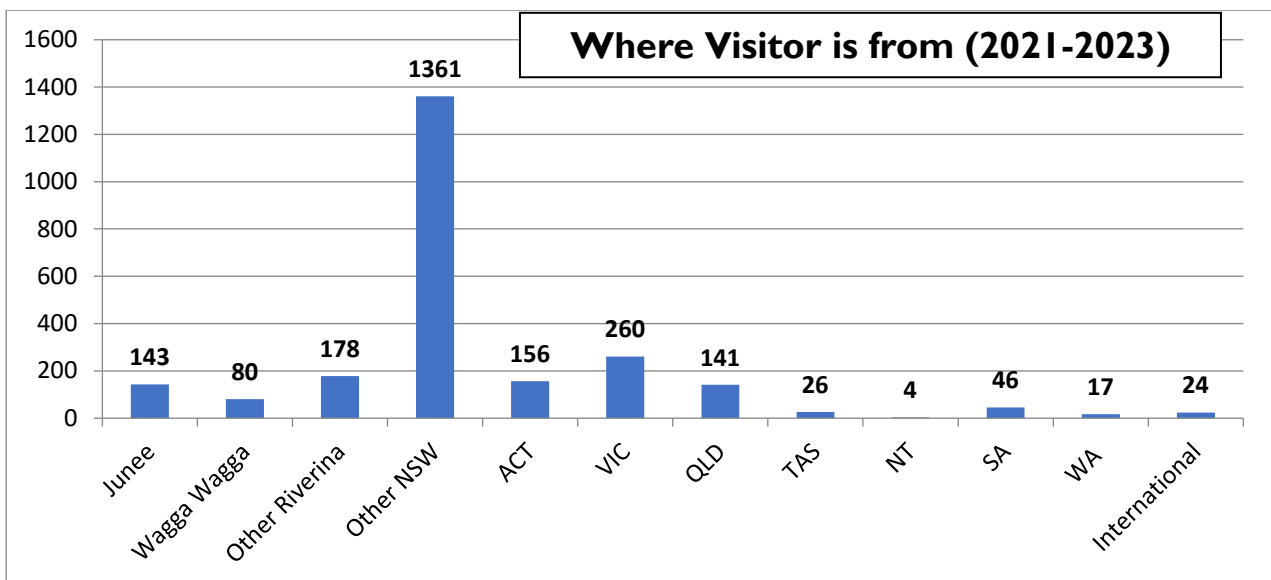
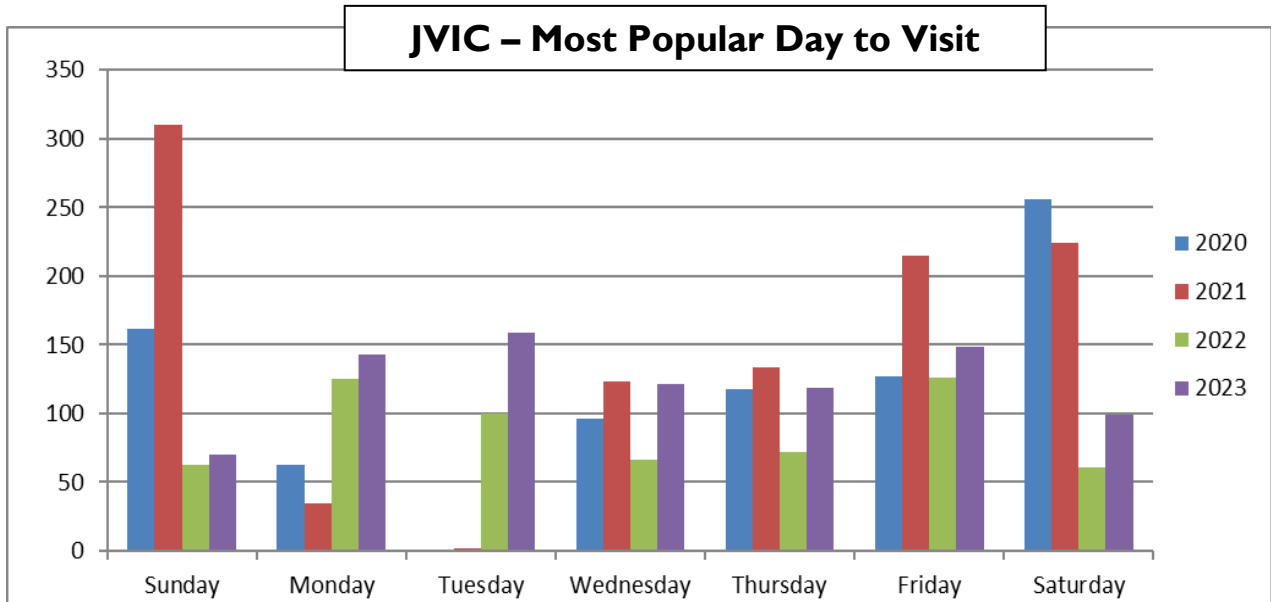
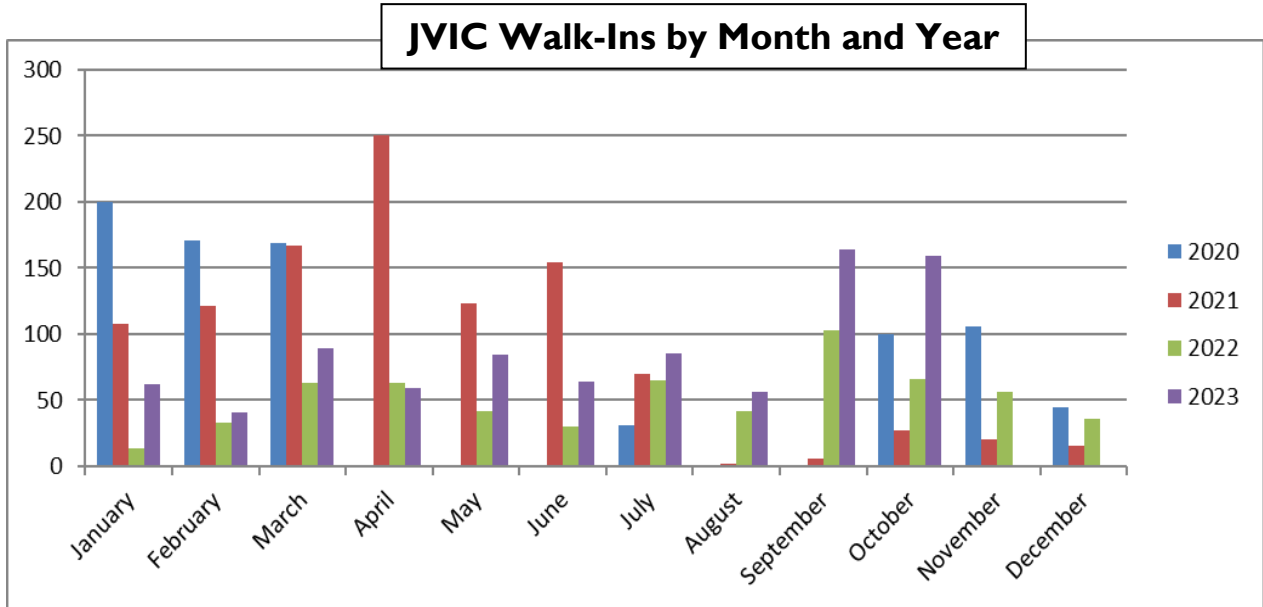
Spring School Holidays were a great success as we had 590 participants. Spring School Holiday funding helped immensely when organising events.



June Athenium Theatre

The Athenium Theatre remained constant funding still in place from the NSW Government – movies have still been well attended.





15[GM] CUSTOMER SERVICE REQUESTS SUMMARY

OCTOBER MERIT 2023	Count of Function Name
Depot Operations	
Collection Service	1
Engineering Services Administration	
Cemetery	2
Collection Service	6
Footpaths Kerb and Gutter Hazard	4
Playground Equipment	1
Reserves	1
Road Maintenance	10
Rural Trees	1
Street Signs	2
Township/Village	6
Trees Urban and Village	3
Finance	
Animals	3
Buildings and Surrounds	2
Enforcement	20
Grand Total	62