

BALRANALD SHIRE COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT



Photo: Yanga Woolshed, Yanga National Park

2022-2023

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO COUNTRY

Council acknowledges the Custodians of the lands and waters within our Shire and recognises their continuing responsibilities to caring for country and of teaching and learning.

We pay respects to Elders past and present and emerging and extend our respects to all Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander First Nations Peoples.



*The Meeting Place located at the Mungo Visitor Centre,
Mungo National Park*

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ABOUT OUR ANNUAL REPORT

This annual report has been compiled to outline Council's achievements for the 2022/2023 financial year, as well as providing a detailed financial analysis on Council's operations. The annual report not only reports on the work of Council during the financial year, but also takes the opportunity to acknowledge our achievements for the community.

The Annual Report highlights the diversity of services Council provides to the community and how these services were achieved with the resources available to Council.

The report also presents how Council met its statutory requirements, as required by various Acts.

Annual Report – Summary

Key focuses of the annual report are:

- An overview of who we are;
- How the achievements occurred against Council's commitments, as outlined in the Community Strategic Plan;
- Measurement against expected results;
- How Council met its statutory reporting requirements; and
- Council's overall financial performance.

Further Information

Hard copies of this annual report are available from the Balranald Shire Council Office, 70 Market Street Balranald, during business hours.

Electronic copies are also available on our website. To request a copy, email or phone our Customer Service Centre using the details below:

Web: www.balranald.nsw.gov.au
Email: council@balranald.nsw.gov.au
Phone: (03) 5020 1300



ABOUT BALRANALD SHIRE

Balranald Shire Council (BSC) is located in the south western district of NSW, approximately 850km south west from Sydney and 450km north of Melbourne. It covers an area of 21,699 square kilometres, making it the fifth largest Shire in the State. The main townships are Balranald (population 1,159) and Euston (population 822) which are located on the banks of the Murrumbidgee and Murray Rivers respectively. Other localities in the Shire include Kyalite, Oxley, Penarie (Homebush), Hatfield and Clare. The total population of the Balranald Shire is just approximately 2,208 people. Approximately 6.4 percent of the Shire's population is indigenous.

The Balranald Shire is often described as 'a potential geographer's living classroom' (Toohey, 2010). It is the pivotal place of two great Australian landscapes: to the east the Riverine Plain and to the west the Murray Darling Depression. Their respective formation processes have created today's unique vegetative landscape.

Balranald Shire's waterscape is unique with 5 Rivers meandering and converging within and around the shire (the Murrumbidgee, Murray, Lachlan, Wakool & Edward rivers). This makes the area an ideal destination for fishing, camping, boating, canoeing, kayaking or just chilling on the banks of the rivers.























Culturally, the Shire is rich in both Indigenous and non-indigenous history. Mungo National Park, which is part of the world heritage listed Willandra Lakes region, is primarily located in the Balranald Shire and has world archaeological significance with evidence of human occupation dating back at least 50,000 years. South-western NSW was settled by Europeans from the late 1840's, and the Shire has important sites showcasing pastoral industry, inland port heritage and colonial built infrastructure.

The economy of the Balranald Shire Council is strongly connected to agriculture including grains (dryland and irrigated), sheep and cattle. However diversification has occurred to encompass horticulture, viticulture, organic agriculture, tree (fruit and nut), timber harvesting and tourism. The Sturt Highway provides the east west route for the flow of goods, services and visitors to the Shire.



ABOUT BALRANALD SHIRE

A Snapshot

 <p>Population 2,208</p>	 <p>First Nations Population 6.4%</p>	 <p>Median Age 43 yrs</p>
 <p>Households 68.7% are family households</p>	 <p>Employment Status 62.8% - Full Time 27.9% - Part Time 6% - Away 3.1% - Unemployed</p>	 <p>Household Income 22.1% of households have a weekly household income of LESS THAN \$650</p>
 <p>Industry of Employment Top Reponses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">  Grape Growing: 6.7%  Sheep Farming: 5.1%  Other Fruit & Nut Growing: 4.6%  Grape Growing: 4.3%  Local Government Administration: 4.2% 	 <p>Other Industries & Emerging Industries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">  Renewable Energy  Mining  Transport  Timber Harvesting  Retail & Visitor Services 	 <p>Participation in the Labour Force 68.7% in the Labour Force 27.9% Not in labour Force 15.3% Not Stated</p>
 <p>5 Rivers Murrumbidgee Murray Wakool Edward Lachlan</p>	 <p>National Parks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mungo National Park - World Heritage Willandra Lakes Region • Yanga National Park 	 <p>Area 21,699 square km</p>

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE PASSING OF JEFF SOWIAK

Council's General Manager from the 26th April 2022 until the 16th of November 2022

At the Ordinary Council Meeting held on the 29th November 2022, Council's Administrator, Mr Mike Colreavy announced the following:

"It is with great sadness that I advise of the sudden passing on 16 November 2022 of Council's General Manager, Mr Jeffrey Sowiak.

Jeff only commenced his role with Council in April this year, having come from Brewarrina Shire Council, but he had already made his mark on the organisation.

He had a long career in local government holding senior positions in councils in every Australian State, except South Australia. Right up until his passing, Jeff was playing an instrumental role in leading Council's flood preparations and supporting the SES and the Shire communities in combating the current emergency across Balranald Shire.

Jeff will be greatly missed, especially for his personal warmth and his passion for local government and our community. He was a friend to all in every community where he has served.

On behalf of Council and the wider community, I extend our deepest sympathy to Jeff's wife Jeanette and to the Sowiak family for their untimely loss."

Mike Colreavy
ADMINISTRATOR



Jeff Sowiak standing on the right of renowned chef Maggie Beer at the Great Murray River Salami Festival November 2022 held in Euston.

ADMINISTRATOR'S FOREWORD

Mr Mike Colreavy



After some very difficult years, including emerging from a prolonged period of drought, and from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2021/2022 financial year, the past 2022/2023 financial year was characterised by the worst floods in many years which demanded much of Council's attention throughout the year. Once again, there has been very little time for respite and recovery.

An ongoing side-effect of droughts, floods and the pandemic has been the continuation of unprecedented levels of grant funding that Council has received in the form of economic stimulus and flood recovery funding from the State and Commonwealth Governments for which we are very grateful, especially when the grant funding contributed significantly to keeping the local economy alive in tough economic times, mostly through infrastructure reinstatement and renewals.

The earnest interest and support that I continually receive from many local people across the Shire is greatly appreciated. I particularly, acknowledge the valued advice of participants in Council's Advisory Committees. These committees continued to make a significant contribution throughout 2022/2023 demonstrating considerable insight into Council's affairs.

Yet again, I want to thank Council's workforce, now led by General Manager, Mr Craig Bennett, for their tireless commitment to Council's operations and local service levels. Craig is implementing organisational reforms that will shape Council's course well into the future. No doubt most readers of this Annual Report will recall the passing of former General Manager, Mr Jeff Sowiak, in November 2022 with great sadness.

Council finished the 2022/2023 financial year with a healthy surplus, growing cash reserves, and is now in a relatively sound financial position. The period of Administration will conclude in September 2024. From a governance, financial, and asset management perspective, impediments to the restoration of an elected governing body at the September 2024 local government election have been removed and a program to encourage candidature at the September 2024 election is underway. Every eligible voter is required to participate in the election.

This Annual Report is published in compliance with Section 428 of the Local Government Act 1993 and Section 217 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021. The legislation envisages a report on Council's achievements in implementing its delivery programme for the year and other information that you will find throughout this document. I commend the Annual Report to you.

Mike Colreavy
ADMINISTRATOR

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr Craig Bennett

I am very pleased as the General Manager of the Balranald Shire Council to prepare and present a report on the Council's operations and its financial position for the year ended 30 June 2023 as part of the Annual Report for the 2022/2023 Financial Year.



This Annual Report includes an overview of the services delivered and some of the achievements of the Council over the past financial year and concludes with the Annual Audited Financial Statements and the Auditors Report.

Council managed to achieve an operational surplus for the second successive year. Council achieved an operational surplus of \$4M prior to capital grants and contributions (\$1.7M in the 2021/2022 Financial Year) for the 2022/2023 Financial Year. This is a very strong result.

The Financial Statements detail that Council now holds \$30M in reserves for future projects and services. It also has \$2.6M in unrestricted working capital.

This Annual Report reflects the fact that Council has continued to transform to one that is financially sustainable and 'fit for the future'. It now has sufficient reserves to address the long-term challenges that will present themselves. It also demonstrates that there have been significant achievements over the past financial year.

There continues to be challenges with attracting and retaining staff and the last 12 months also presented significant challenges to Council regarding severe flooding. Despite these setbacks Council was still able to achieve several projects.

These projects are detailed throughout this Annual Report.

I now take this opportunity to thank the Administrator, Mr Mike Colreavy, all of the wonderful staff at Balranald Shire Council, every member of the Advisory Committees, every member of the Section 355 Committee of course the community members for their guidance and involvement with the Council over the past year.

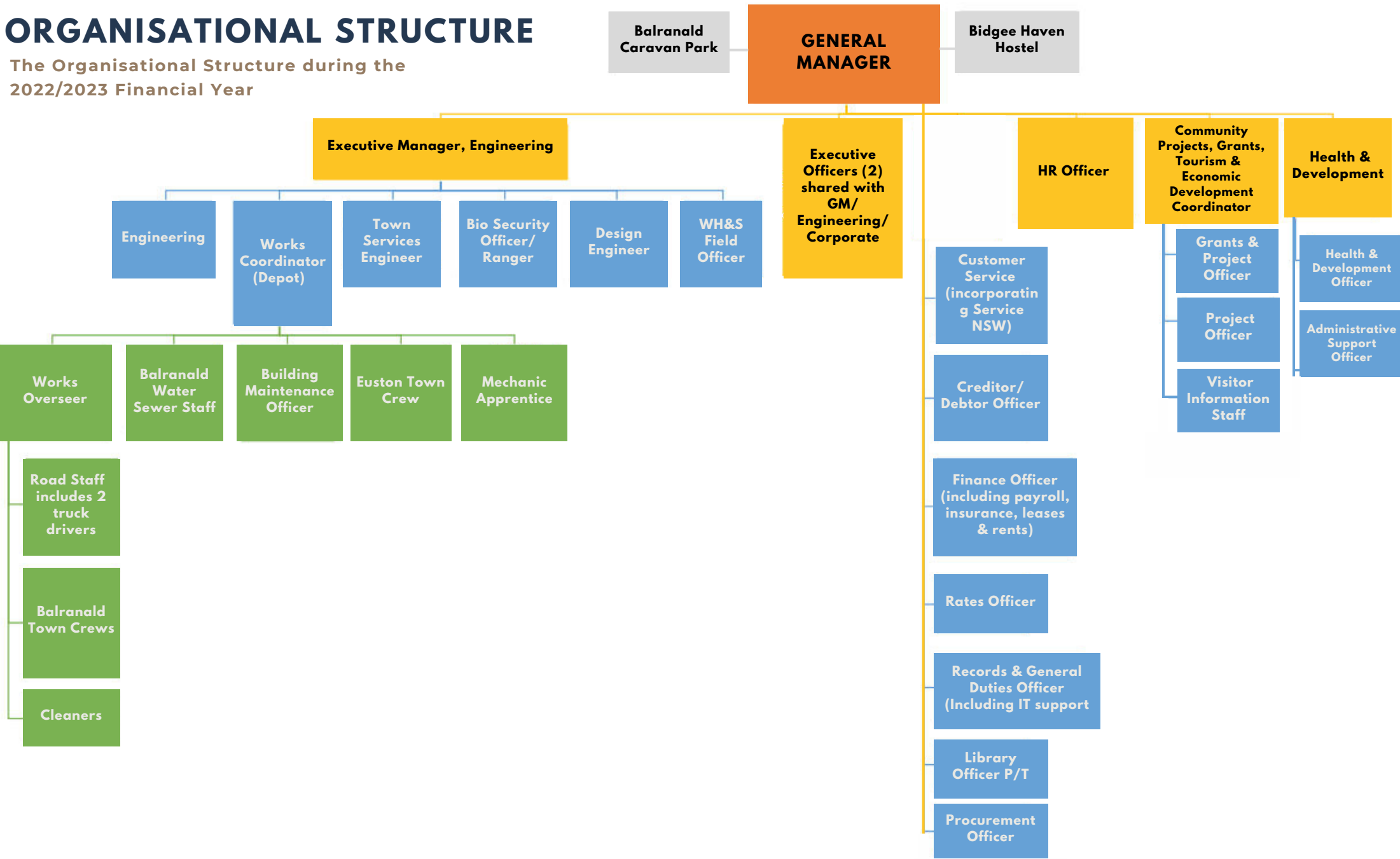
I finish this report by congratulating every staff member, every contractor and every consultant involved with Council for an outstanding effort during a very trying and difficult period. Your efforts are always appreciated by Council.

Best wishes Craig.

Craig Bennett CPA
GENERAL MANAGER

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

The Organisational Structure during the 2022/2023 Financial Year



ABOUT THE BALRANALD SHIRE ADMINISTRATOR

On Wednesday 29 January 2020, the Governor of New South Wales appointed Mr Michael Colreavy as the Administrator of the Balranald Shire Council. Mr Colreavy replaced the elected Mayor and Councillors whose offices were declared vacant by the NSW Governor. Mr Colreavy has been appointed for a term of more than four years, which will conclude at the next local government elections in September 2024.

Mr Colreavy's appointment provides independent leadership with priorities to:

- Restore good governance in cooperation with the Balranald Shire Council Executive Team
- Restore good relationships with the community
- Ensure that the community's voice is heard and represented

In the **2022/2023** financial year, under Administration, Council held 12 Ordinary Meetings. Meetings are generally held at the Council Chambers every third Tuesday of the month (except January

Council meetings are open to the public, except in circumstances where matters require confidentiality due to legal or commercial-in-confidence matters. Business papers are made available on Council's website at:

<https://balranald.nsw.gov.au/business/council-documents/council-agenda/>

Payments for the Administrator were as follows:

Expense Category	Amount
Salary	\$ 123,809.54
Accommodation & Away from Home Allowance	\$ 1,120.99
Telephone	\$ 344.74
Meeting Expenses	\$ 54.55
TOTAL	\$ 125,329.82

COUNCIL'S ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Youth Council Strategic Focus:

- Strengthen the capacity of our young people to participate and thrive in all facets of community life
- Identify training, education and enterprise skill development needs and connect with / advocate for relevant opportunities
- Promote Youth Mental Health awareness and create and support opportunities for the diversity of Shire youth to come together
- Youth Week event organisation
- Provide a welcoming and inclusive platform for young people to provide ideas and voice concerns to Council
- Develop a Term and annual (or biennial) Action Plan to guide Advisory Committee priorities and actions
- Assist Council with decisions regarding infrastructure, service and program growth and advocacy within mandate



Achievements

During the 2022/23 year the key tasks of the Youth Council was to stage the Youth Week Activities which was a great success.

Achievements of the Youth Week activities included:

- Successful in receiving funding of \$3,313 from the Department of Communities and Justice;
- Designing the promotional Flyer;
- Supporting the development of the Risk Management Plan;
- Executing promotions of the Youth Week Events;
- Receiving additional funding of \$2,513 as Council Contribution;
- Successful in organising and staging the Youth Disco; and
- Successful in organising and delivering the Mildura Bus Trip activities

YOUTH WEEK 2023 TWO AWESOME EVENTS!

Age Group: 12 - 24yrs

YOUTH DISCO NIGHT
FRIDAY 28th APRIL

- FREE EVENT
- 6.00pm - 9.00pm @ Balranald Theatre Royal
- Food & Drinks Supplied
- Dance the night with DJ Louie
- STRICTLY NO ALCOHOL
- A parent/guardian must sign in and sign out for youth under 18yrs of age
- Bookings would be desirable but not essential by calling the Visitor Information Centre on 03 5020 1599

BUS TRIP TO MILDURA
SUNDAY 30th APRIL

- FREE ALL DAY
- Bus Leaving from the Balranald Discovery Centre @ 9.00am
- Pick-Up at Euston Public Toilets @ 9.00am
- Laser Tags & Cinema With treats
- Lunch provided
- Estimated time of return to Balranald between 5.00pm - 5.30pm
- Medical Consent Form can be obtained from the Balranald Information Centre and must be signed by a parent or guardian and submitted to the Information Centre by 24th April 2023 or email the form to: cmallett@balranald.nsw.gov.au
- You can call 03 5020 1599 for a form

Logos for Balranald Shire Council, NSW Government, and other partners.

YOUTH WEEK 2023 28th & 30th April Activities

**RISK
MANAGEMENT
PLAN**

Logos for Balranald Shire Council, NSW Government, and other partners.

Youth Week Photos



Growing Business, Industry & Tourism

Strategic Focus:

- Represent the Shire community to encourage equitable access to the benefits of economic development and industry growth (includes identifying opportunities for increased local employment and local training needs to ensure improved employment options for residents)
- Maintain a Tourism Asset Portfolio to ensure the preservation and/or development of natural, heritage/cultural and built assets (sites), historic stories and narratives
- Assist with the establishment of new tourism events and the development of existing tourism events.
- Assist Council with investment attraction and tourism promotion
- Organise Business after dark events (as per Business Chamber and BEC topics/initiatives)
- Support infrastructure and event grant funding prioritisation and applications
- Actively seek and develop small business – industry synergy/ partnerships
- Develop a term and annual (or biennial) Action Plan to guide Advisory Committee priorities and actions
- Establish and nurture a volunteership of members (both from committee and community) to resource on-the-ground activity for tourism development
- Actively support and collaborate with the Euston Progressive Committee for business and tourism promotion and development



Achievements

- Reviewed and provided feedback on Council's Draft Settlement Strategy;
 - Commenced the research on the possible establishment of a Community Trust Fund;
 - Provided input in the Regional Economic Development (REDS) workshop which was hosted by Balranald Shire Council;
 - Provided input in Windlab's scoping & community consultation activities including Windlab's Community Benefit Pilot Program;
 - Provided input and recommendations for the Stronger Country Community Fund Round 5 application;
 - Supported a request for the erection of Pastoral Property History Plaques at a place of Council's choosing - Funding permitting;
 - Outlined priority projects for the Committee's Rolling Action Plan with the Discovery Centre project being allocated at the number one project;
 - Commenced contact with National Parks NSW in revitalising relationships between agencies and Balranald Shire Council; and
 - Supported the "Where the Wetlands Meet the Outback" project of a series of interpretative panels - Funding permitting.
- **Guest Speakers included:**
- **Glenn Stewart** from Our Place & the Robinvale Euston Workforce Network
 - **Travis Nadge** from the Foundation Broken Hill
 - **Bill Mundy** from Federation University

Strengthening Community Access, Inclusion & Well-Being Strategic Focus:

- Map & monitor provision of health, well-being and connection/inclusion services and programs
- Plan and advocate regarding closing service gaps and increasing equitable access
- Support and promote community knowledge of, and access to, all available services
- Provide a platform for increased coordination and collaboration of health, well-being and connection services and programs (both local and visiting)
- Identify and promote inclusion of community diversity and events and programs which celebrate diversity
- Develop a term and annual (or biennial) Action Plan to guide Advisory Committee priorities and actions
- Assist Council with decisions regarding infrastructure, service and program growth and advocacy within mandate



Achievements

- Development of a Sustainable Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) model for the Shire;
- Support in the delivery of the November 2022 White Ribbon Event including providing in-kind support to Maari Ma Health with the planning;
- Provided support with the Australia Day Event in January 2022;
- Provided continuous input in Council's Disability Inclusion Action Plan;
- Provided input and recommendations for the Stronger Country Community Fund Round 5 application;
- Reviewed and provided feedback on Council's Draft Settlement Strategy;
- Supported the unveiling of the Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners Plaque at Balranald's Vinnies outlet;
- Members of the committee attended the DV Inter-Agency Group Forum;
- In collaboration with Council staff, the committee were successful in receiving funding of \$84,764 each year for 3 years for Sustainable Mental Health First Aid model and related projects;
- Advocacy for Out of School Hours Care for school aged children;
- Development of the Balranald Emergency Accommodation Model (BEAM);
- Commenced planning for the 2023 Health Wellbeing & Support Services Expo;
- Advocacy to Transport NSW re safe bus transport; and
- Provided input to the Administrator on the qualities required for a new General Manager after Jeff Sowiak's passing.



PHOTO: Shows some of the members of the Strengthening Community Access Inclusion & Wellbeing Advisory Committee (SCAIW) along with the Administrator & Council staff instrumental in identifying the need, as well as gaining funding for the Emergency Accommodation



Achievements (cont.)

- Managed ongoing initiative including a Service Directory and LGA Health Profile;
 - Provided input in Windlab's scoping & community consultation activities including Windlab's Community Benefit Pilot Program;
 - Developed the Position Description for the Mental Health First Aid Admin Officer as part of the funding received from the Office of Responsible Gambling; and
 - Supported the application for the MESH training program.
- **Guest Speakers included:**
- **Jenene House** from Transport NSW to discuss local bus transport safety issues
 - **Brad Whelan** from MASP to inform the committee on MASP's "ending family violence" efforts and education delivery into the Balranald community



PHOTOS: White Ribbon event in November 2022 organised and staged by Balranald Maari Ma Health. This event was supported by the SCAIW committee including providing in-kind support to Maari Ma Health with the planning

Balranald Beautification Strategic Focus:

- Represent Shire communities in a coordinated and considered approach to town beautification
- Collaborate in the planning of larger beautification efforts to ensure consistent focus and branding
- Develop a term and annual (or biennial) Action Plan to guide Advisory Committee priorities and actions
- Assist Council with decisions regarding infrastructure, service and program growth and advocacy within mandate



PHOTO: The Windmill at the centre of the committee's "Windmill Project" in it's original location prior to being restored. The project will be completed in the 2023/24 financial year



Achievements

- Commenced the Windmill Project which aims at having a historical windmill installed at the Discovery Centre precinct and will also include an interpretive sign;
- Committee paid to have the Windmill restored;
- The committee allocated the location for the installation of the Windmill when it is ready to be installed at the precinct;
- Recommended artwork on Balranald's Water Towers - Pending grant funding;
- Project priorities were set to include:
 - Investigation of the Watering System in the Main Street & Moa Street; the Windmill Project; table & chairs at the Discovery Centre; more frog sculptures; Rotunda at the Theatre Royal; funding for a Splash Park;
- Instigated the proper working of the irrigation system in Balranald's Moa St and around Balranald Sports store;
- Instigated to have the Telstra Yard cleaned and attended to;
- Organised to have the roses pruned at the Balranald Cemetery;
- Organised to have the Christmas Tree erected and decorated at the Discovery Centre for Christmas;
- Purchased new Christmas Decorations at the end of the financial year with the balance of the committee's allocated funds; and
- Recommended that Council installs an Emergency Services Access Gate near the gate that leads into the Walking Trail on the Common side of the River.

Euston Progressive Strategic Focus:

- Provide the Euston community a platform through which to connect with Council in the absence of elected representatives
- Advocate for the Euston community identified areas of interest and priority
- Develop a term and annual (or biennial) Action Plan to guide Advisory Committee priorities and actions
- Collaborate regularly with Business, Industry, Tourism Committee to ensure a whole-of-Shire approach is taken on tourism, beautification and economic development



Achievements

- Raised the need for the Euston Recreation Reserve be upgraded so as to allow several sporting codes to use the grounds;
- Submitted irrigation plans for the Euston Recreation Reserve;
- Supported activities of the Robinvale Euston Workforce Network (REWN);
- Advised on repair work required to the sporting club rooms;
- Supported grant applications for Euston related projects;
- Supported Seniors week activities in Euston in February 2022;
- Advised Council on local road conditions and repair work required;
- Worked with Adrian Wells from Pretaurus on the Regent Parrot Project - Walking Track Interpretive Signage;
- Helped to develop plans for town approaching signage;
- Provided input for the Stronger Country Community Funds Round 5 application;
- Supported the Salami Festival in Euston in November 2022;
- Supported Australia Day Event in Euston in January 2023;
- Advised Council on town improvement needs and requirements;
- Provided feedback and prioritised activities on the "Summary of Meetings Action Plan" which summarised all requests and the recommendations made since commencement of the Euston Progressive Advisory Committee; and
- Provided feedback on Council's Euston Settlement Plan.

Sport & Recreation Strategic Focus:

- Represent the breadth of community sporting and recreation bodies equitably to ensure the broadest possible access of all community members to all available opportunities
- Partner with Council to catalogue and promote sporting and recreation opportunities across our Shire to encourage active participation for health and wellbeing benefits
- Encourage all sporting and recreation bodies to ensure positive messaging reaches all community members and especially our children and youth (including messages which prevent violence, discourage the use of drugs and alcohol, encourage fair and inclusive participation in sports for all – messaging to reflect State and Federal guidelines)
- Assist or partner with Council in development of projects and applications for infrastructure grant funding or events grant funding
- Assist Council with decisions regarding infrastructure, service and program growth and advocacy within mandate



Achievements

- Provided feedback on Council's Settlement Strategies;
- Supported Australia Day Activities in January 2023;
- Provided updates and requirements of each sporting club;
- Provided input on requirements for funding received for the upgrade of Balranald's cricket pitch and construction of new cricket nets;
- Provided input on funding received for the upgrade of netball courts and construction of a new basketball court as well as funding received for netball court lighting for both Balranald and Euston netball courts;
- Supported the need for the upgrade of the Balranald Pool fencing and the consequent funding received as part of the Stronger Country Community Round 5 grant funding;
- Recommended that Council organise a Grant Writing workshop; and
- The committee made the recommendation that a stand-alone disabled toilet/change room/shower facility be installed at the end of the toilet block at Greenham Park that will be accessible to the whole community and visitors 24 hours a day.



PHOTOS: Ryan Johnstone (far left) competed in the NSWPSA Boys Softball Championships in Mudgee. Next photo shows Ryan Johnstone who was selected to play for Riverina Primary Boys AFL team. The team went on to win the grand final. Photo on the right shows the seating installed at the Balranald football grounds.

Executive of Chairs Strategic Focus:

- Opportunity to collaborate on cross-committee interests or challenges
- Guidance/feedback from General Manager and Administrator on Committees' charters and achievements, fostering the Committee-Council relationship
- Share opportunities and challenges



Achievements

- Proposed the allocation of funds for the Stronger Country Communities Fund Round 5 Grant Application;
- Provided feedback to Council's Settlement Strategy documents;
- Supported Council's contribution of \$10,000 towards the Australia Day events in Balranald and Euston;
- Motioned that the Committee acknowledge the report of re-appointing memberships and the process of renewing Terms of References;
- Provided feedback on Winlabs's Community Benefit Program;
- Provided input on the fire damaged building on Market Street;
- Provided input and feedback on the Developer Contribution Plans Works Schedule;
- Provided input in Council's employment of the new General Manager;
- Recommended that the Euston Recreation Reserve upgrade be the immediate priority for grant funding; and
- Identified three key priority projects being:
 1. The Euston Recreation Reserve;
 2. Riverfront - Completion go the Riverside Trail; and
 3. Housing Strategy.



COUNCIL HAPPENINGS

1. Council Highlights

- Tip charges were re-introduced at the Balranald & Euston Landfill sites from the 1st of July.
- 4 new citizens in Euston and one in Balranald received their **Australian Citizenship Certificate**. The Certificates were presented to Rasha Fahima, Harison Kalavaanan, Kalaivaanan Subramaniam, Malia Melevahenga Smith and Hetalben Barrie.



- On the 30th of September 2022 Council's contract with Cleanway Pty Ltd for the management of the Balranald waste depot ended and Council assumed direct responsibility for providing this service to the community.
- Balranald Shire Council released the Settlement Strategy Plans (Village Plans) for Balranald & Euston which was developed by the consultancy firm IPlan Projects. The draft plans were put on public display in August 2022 for public comments.
- Sadly in November 2022 Council's Administrator announced the sudden passing of our then **General Manager, Jeff Sowiak**. Jeff had a long career in local government holding senior positions in councils in every Australian State except South Australia.

Right up until his passing, Jeff was playing an instrumental role in leading Council's flood preparations and supporting the SES and the Shire communities in combating the emergency across the Shire.



PHOTO: Council's General Manager, Jeff Sowiak from April 2022 - November 2022

- Well known **Melbourne Artist Ben Winspear** received **The Balranald Shire Council Acquisitive Award** at the October 2022 Bal-Archies Art Exhibition held at the Balranald's Art Gallery and organised and staged by the Bal-Archies Committee.



- In December 2022 Council held its annual **Christmas Lights Competition**. There were a number of outstanding entrants which made the decisions for the judges very difficult. The winning homes were:
 - 84 Bertram Road, Euston
 - 134 Church Street, Balranald
 - 142 Church Street, Balranald
 - 63 Market Street, Balranald



- On the 1st of March 2023, Council welcomed the new **General Manager, Mr Craig Bennett**. Craig brings a wealth of experience to the position, having worked in local government for the past 28 years, including holding jobs at the General Manager, Director, or Manager level in New South Wales councils for 18 years. He commenced his employment in local government with Burnie City Council (Tasmania) in 1995, and since then he has worked in Western Australian, Victorian and New South Wales local government. Craig is a Certified Practicing Accountant (CPA), and he also holds a Bachelor of Business Studies. His main sporting passions are cricket and watching the Kangaroos in the AFL.



- In March 2023 Council released a decision that was made at the 21st March 2023 about the Bidgee Haven Retirement Village. This was that prior to potentially deciding to proceed with any expansion of the Bidgee Haven Hostel, that Council:
 1. Is to explore with the Commonwealth Government the availability of contributions to meet the operational deficits of an expanded Hostel that complies with recently introduced legislation for Aged Care facilities, solves the cost disadvantages of remote community living for the elderly, and equips Hostel residents to meet increased personal cost to enter or remain at the Hostel;
 2. Consult with the Balranald Shire community about its willingness to accept a Special Rate Variation sufficient to meet the estimated ongoing operational costs of an expanded Hostel;
 3. Further clarify the suitability of the land footprint and the impact of the sewer main on the project;
 4. Publicise this decision in Balranald Shire Council's monthly Newsletter; and
 5. Publish the Administrator's Preamble to this decision in the Minutes of this Council Meeting.

The Preamble from the Administrator can be viewed as part of Council's minutes on the decision.

- On the 25th April 2023 three (3) ANZAC Day Services were held in the Balranald Shire. Services were held in Balranald, Euston & Kyalite. Balranald Shire Council's General Manager represented Council at the Kyalite service and attended the Balranald service and Council's Administrator represented Council at both the Euston & Balranald services.



- On the 20th of April 2023 Council supported a specialised team of flood recovery grant assessors who held a Grant Support session in Balranald at the Theatre Royal to assist residents, businesses and primary producers with grant applications. The grant session was a great opportunity for local flood-affected residents to talk to specialised people about what funding is available.



- On the 9th May 2023 Council supported the Far West Community Partnering Team Forum from Transport for NSW at the Balranald Theatre Royal. A presentation was also given by the Transport Team to Council with updates on current projects, programs and services.



2. Events

Within the 2022/23 reporting period, Council staged and/or supported through funding the following events:

- South West Arts Touring Events which took place throughout the year
- The Great Murray River Salami Festival Euston in November 2022
- Christmas Stop, Shop & Stay Market Day in December 2022
- Australia Day Events in Balranald & Euston in January 2023
- Seniors Festival held in February 2023
- Easter Egg Hunt in April 2023
- Easter Twilight Market in April 2023
- Youth Week Activities in April 2022

Through donations, Council was able to support the following events:

- Robinvale-Euston 80Km Ski Race in February 2023
- Balranald Murrumbidgee Classic in March 2023



PHOTOS: Senior citizens of Balranald Shire enjoying a fabulous day out at the Euston Club with a delicious 2 course meal and fabulous music and entertainment as part of the Seniors Festival in February 2023

PHOTOS: Stop, Shop, Stay Market Day - December 2022



Photo above is of Emma Moore winner of the Stop. Shop, Stay Buy Local Competition

PHOTOS: Australia Day in Balranald - January 2023



AUSTRALIA DAY 2022 - AWARD RECIPIENTS - BALRANALD & EUSTON

CITIZEN OF THE YEAR: Bronwyn Brougham; **SPORTSPERSON OF THE YEAR:** Bree Hodgson and Archie Alderuccio; **SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD:** Antonio Liparota & Balranald Football Netball Club; **COMMUNITY EVENT OF THE YEAR:** Great Murray River Salami Festival & 5 Rivers Outback Festival; **SPORTING TEAM OF THE YEAR:** Balranald A Grade Netball Team

PHOTOS: Australia Day in Euston - January 2023



PHOTOS: Easter Egg Hunt - April 2023



3. Tourism & Economic Development Highlights

Visitor numbers were severely impacted in the first three quarters of the 2022/23 financial year due to ongoing inclement weather and severe flooding within the Shire and surrounding shires. The flooded and badly damaged roads resulted in lengthy road closures which hampered the mobility of visitors and travellers. However, during this challenging period we continued to perform very well with our digital and social media activities and by April 2023 and the last quarter of the year visitor activity had bounced back. During the year we escalated our Economic Development activities to address both the emerging opportunities and challenges Council is facing in that area.

Snapshot of Activities & Performance

MEDIUM/MEDIA	CONTENT/PERFORMANCE
Visitor Walk-In at the VIC	With the negative impact on visitor numbers from September 2022 due to the floods, however by the last quarter of April - June 2023 visitor numbers had increased by 42% comparing to the previous 3 quarters of October 2022 - March 2023
Merchandise Sales at the VIC	Merchandise sales also increased by the last quarter of the year due to the increase of visitor numbers after the floods. Merchandise sales increased by 48% comparing to the previous quarters during the floods
Social Media Audience Reach & Impressions (with targeted audiences) Reach: The number of people who saw our posts at least once Impressions: The number of times our posts were seen on screen	Throughout the challenging flood period we focused on our social media paid promotions to stay “top of mind” with travellers and prospective visitors. From a total audience reach of 345,605 recorded for the July - Sept 2022 quarter, to an audience reach & impressions of \$750,497 for the last quarter of April - June 2023, an increase of 117%
Video Stories on FB (organic video stories not paid)	From a total of organic views of 1,597 recorded for the July - Sept 2023 quarter to a total of 5,892 for the last quarter of April - June 2023, an increase of 268%
Discover Balranald & Surrounds Website traffic	As the current website went down during the year, we commenced the development of a new website.

MEDIUM/MEDIA

Media Promotions



The full page advert & Flyer for the Easter events



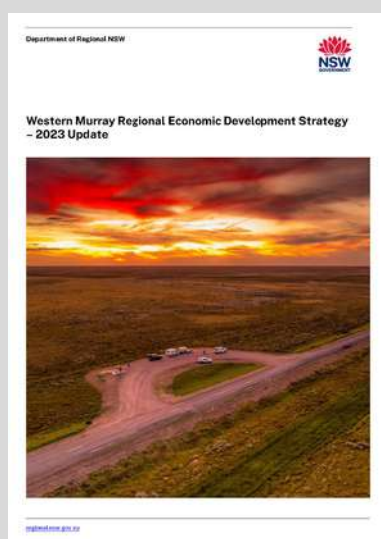
The full page advert & Flyer for the Shop, Stop, Stay Market Day & Christmas Shopping promotions

CONTENT/PERFORMANCE

- During the 2022/2023 financial year we had a full page advertisement plus a full page editorial in the Autumn and Spring editions of Caravanning Australia
- We ran a series of multi-media promotional and marketing activities to promote shopping in Balranald for Christmas via the Shop, Stop, Stay Market Day event. This included:
 - Print Media adverts in various publications with QR codes linked to a web landing page promoting all our local retailers and business operators and their Christmas offerings;
 - A series of 30 second Radio commercials over a 3 weeks period;
 - Social Media promotional posts;
 - Promotional flyer to Shire households via direct mail;
 - Council's Corporate & Tourism Websites; and
 - Advert in Council's Newsletter
- We used Council's monthly newsletter which is mailed out to all residents to promote events and tourism related happenings throughout the year, including the promotions of community run events and happenings;
- We ran a series of multi-media promotional and marketing activities during the first week of April to promote the Easter events. The media and mediums used included:
 - 2 x Full page Advert in the Guardian;
 - A series of 90X30 second Radio commercials;
 - Social Media promotional posts;
 - Flyer to Shire households via direct mail;
 - Council's Corporate & Tourism Websites; and
 - Council's Newsletter
- During the April-June 2023 quarter, we purchased a full Page Advertisement in the Hay 2023-2024 Accommodation Compendium which will be distributed to accommodation & retail outlets in the Hay and surrounding region for the coming year

MEDIUM/MEDIA

Economic Development & Tourism related workshops, forums, plans & activities



Balranald Shire Council hosted the REDS workshop in July 2023. The final document was released in April 2023 (Photo above is cover of the document)



We provided feedback on the Riverina Murray Destination Management Plan

CONTENT/PERFORMANCE

- We hosted the REDS (Regional Economic Development Strategies) Workshop held on the 18th July 2023 at Greenham Park Hall. Attendees included Economic and Tourism management from all the regional councils as well as regional and state government agencies/ stakeholders in the Economic Development and Tourism sector. The document that was to be developed from these consultative workshops was to be fundamental to state funded grants for regional development activities. The Final document was released in April 2023;
- We hosted an Aboriginal Cultural Tourism Workshop as part of the consultative process in the development of the Far West Regional Destination Management Plan. This consultation was the first step in identifying the potential of Aboriginal Cultural Tourism in the Balranald Shire and in the region and the process that will need to be put in place for authentic and meaningful tourism products and activities;
- In September 2022 we provided feedback to the draft Riverina Murray Destination Management Plan (RMDMP) after participating in consultation workshops earlier in the year. The final RMDMP was released in February 2023;
- We attended a series of the Riverina Economic Development Officers Meeting via Teams during the year;
- We attended a number of the Robinvale Euston Workforce Network (REWN) workshops;
- We attended the Regional Housing Delivery Plan Meeting - The Western Murray Functional Economic Region;
- We attended a series of the Flood Recovery Tourism Working Group meetings via Teams;
- We attended the Balranald & Wentworth Economic Development Forum jointly organised by RDA Murray & Regional NSW;
- We attended the Economic Development Meeting brief with the Department of Regional NSW;
- We attended the Transport of NSW Community Forum;
- We attended the Transgrid update meetings;
- We attended the monthly Growing Business Industry & Tourism Advisory Committee (GBITAC) meetings;
- We attended the monthly Euston Progressive Advisory Committee meetings; and
- At the end of June 2023 we received notification that we were successful in our application for funds for the development of our Economic Development Strategy.

MEDIUM/MEDIA

Destination & Visitor Economy Conference in Manly NSW



CONTENT/PERFORMANCE

During May 2022 we attended the Destination & Visitor Economy Conference in Manly NSW. It was a wonderful opportunity not only to learn the latest trends and opportunities in the tourism and the visitor economy sector but also to connect with key stakeholders, government agencies and with personnel and colleagues from our neighbouring and regional LGAs.

Events Calendar



During the reporting year we produced regular calendar of events which were released on community social media platforms and in Council's Newsletter. Events promoted over the 2022/2023 financial year included:

- Balranald's 5 Rivers Outback Festival
- The Balranald Races
- The Great Murray River Salami Festival
- Robinvale Euston Lantern Festival
- The Stop Shop Stay Market Day Event
- The Australia Day events held in Balranald & Euston
- The Murrumbidgee Classic Fishing Competition
- The End of Winter theatre production
- Kids Summer Activities at the Balranald Library
- The Homebush Rodeo
- Women's Wellbeing Workshops @ The Art Gallery
- Trauma Care Workshops
- Whole of Town Garage Sale
- Autumn Outback Retreat @ Lake Paika
- Beginner's Photography Workshop @ The Art Gallery
- Sip & Paint Workshop @ The Art Gallery
- Euston/Robinvale Ski Race
- Easter Play at St Joseph's School
- Happy Healthy Family Monthly get together
- Music Trivia Night
- Easter Goat Race
- Easter Egg Hunt & Easter Twilight Market
- Easter Good Friday Appeal
- Easter Social Golf Day
- Go Bald for Cancer Fundraising event
- Astrology Talks event
- Fusion Art Exhibition at the Balranald Art Gallery
- Illuka Mineral Sands Project Presentation
- Transport NSW Forum
- Flood Grant Support Session - Service NSW



Photos above are of the Great Murray Salami Festival 2022 which Council supported through funding and promoted via the Calendar of Events

4. Balranald Shire Library Happenings

The start of the **2022/2023** financial year saw the start of a positive trend in updating, consolidating, and appreciating the finer points of our library. The library gathered momentum and moved forward with the Stage 1 infrastructure grant, allowing for a fresh outlook for the community to come and utilise the library's creative experience. The library housed many new experiences and continued with successful activities during the year including the following:



Successful in winning a grant to develop Stage 2 of the Library Refurbishment project which is to revamp the kitchen, toilet and outdoor spaces at the Library



Conducted school holiday programs during the months of July, September and December 2022 and April 2023 with a wider support network of community volunteers showcasing their artistic abilities



Introduction of Primary School student focused "After School "program with the aim at generating a new love of the library space



Implementation of the "Youth Time" program focused on supporting the youth council and providing a safe space for our youth



Seniors Tec savvy sessions promoting the use of technology and community connectedness



Seniors morning tea inviting our seniors group back to the library after a Covid absence where new ideas were discussed for future implementation



Book week 2023 activities saw both public and catholic schools, and Early learning centre, attend the library for festivities



Successful application to the Sunraysia Solar Farm Community Fund which saw the revitalisation of wall murals along the front of the library. Local artists and students developed a colourful masterpiece. The grant also allowed for the purchasing of a new print system for the Tec Hub facility



New carpeting was installed throughout the library space



First time author visit from local Euston authors - Mrs R Gareffa & Mrs Sharman



Continued location and improvements to the History box room resources with community consultation and support



Multiple publications and radio interviews lead to a community focus of inclusion and exposure for our community space

It was all happening at the Library! 😊



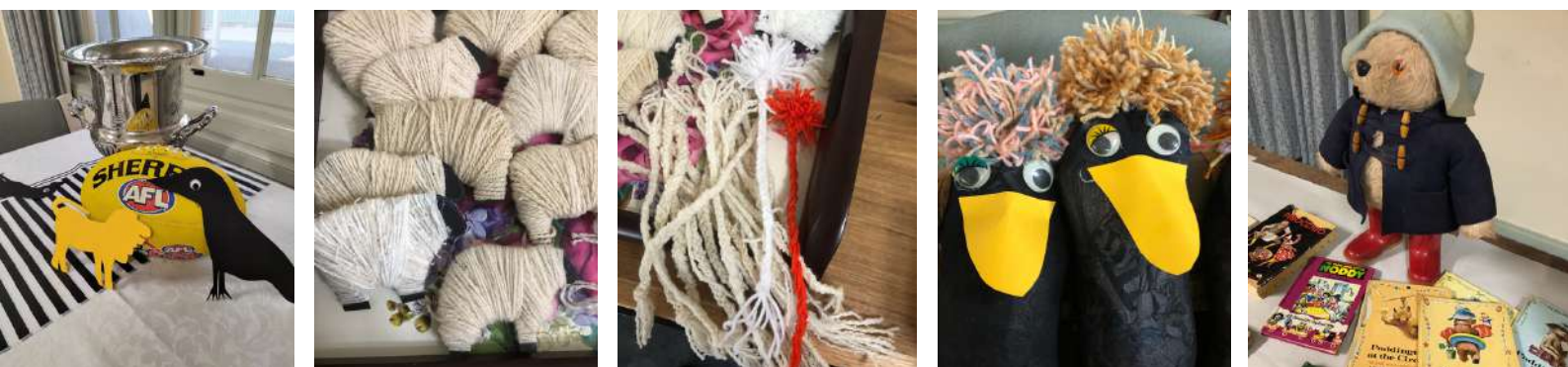
5. Bidgee Haven Happenings

Throughout the 2022/23 year residents of the Bidgee Haven Hostel enjoyed:

- Special guest Andrew Lock
- ANZAC DAY
- NAIDOC WEEK
- Eats & Treats
- The Grand Final 2022

The Hostel is becoming very multi-cultural and this is impacting on all areas of the Hostel. Residents are experiencing different food choices, customs and practices of other countries. The hostel was considerate of staff during Ramadhan, and all celebrating and learning together.

Photos below are of wool crafts, sheep magnets and wool bookmarks made by residents during the reporting year and the diversity flags that represent residents and staff.

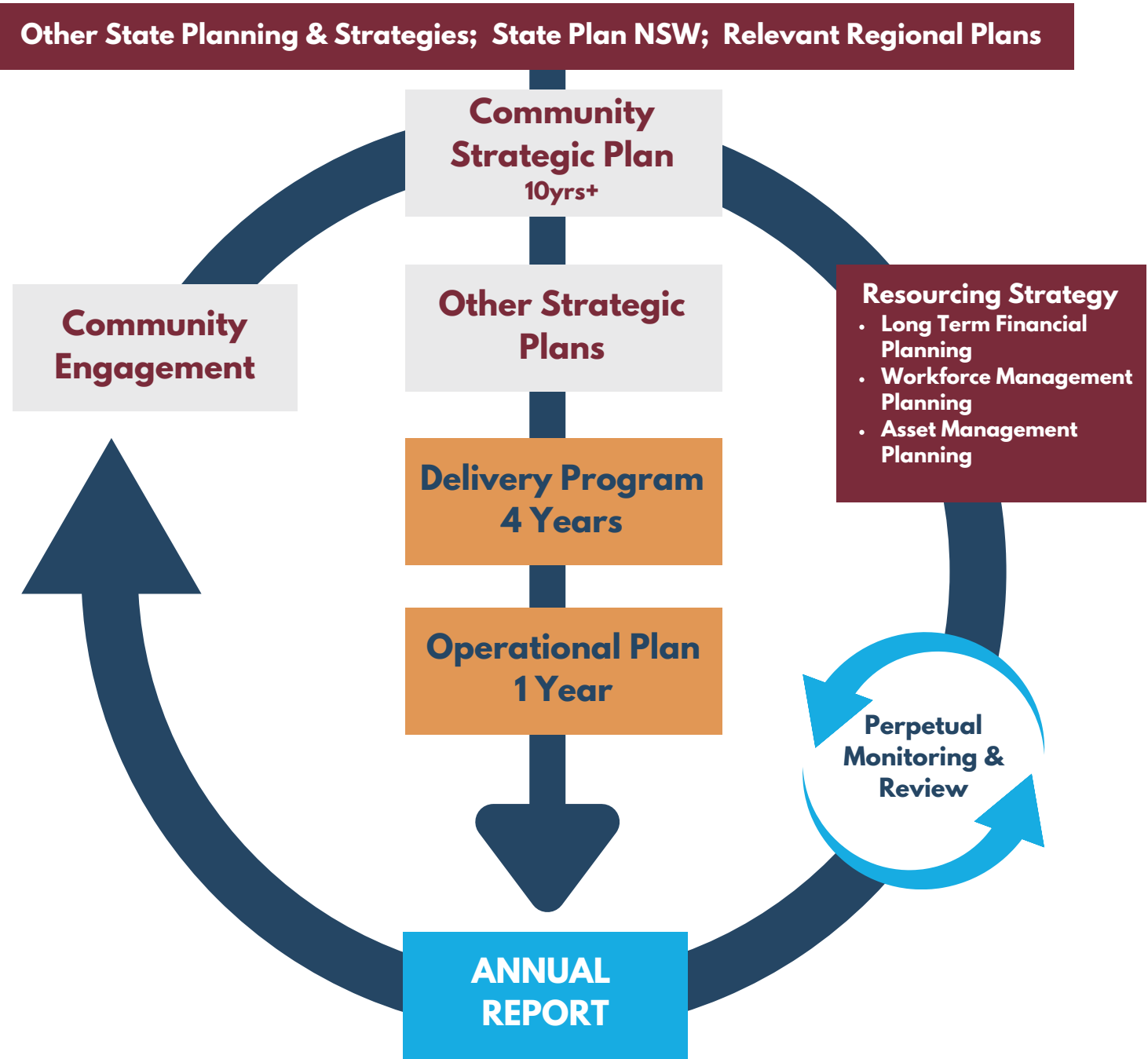


Photos above show celebration of Australia Day and ANZAC Day at the Hostel



THE INTEGRATED PLANNING & REPORTING FRAMEWORK

The Local Government Act 1993 (The Act) requires all Councils in NSW to operate within the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework. This allows Council to draw their various plans together, understand how they interact and get the maximum leverage from their efforts by planning holistically for the future.



HOW WE DELIVER ON THE VISION

What you want / Vision



Your Community Strategic Plan (CSP)

Sitting above all other Council plans and policies in the planning hierarchy, the Community Strategic Plan identifies the main priorities and aspirations of the community and provides a clear set of strategies to achieve this vision.

While Council has a custodial role in preparing and maintaining the Community Strategic Plan, other stakeholders, including NSW Government agencies and community groups, may also be engaged in developing and delivering the long-term objectives of the Plan.

How we propose to deliver



Delivery Program

The Delivery Program translates the goals of the community, as contained in the Community Strategic Plan, into actions. The Program sets out the principal activities to be undertaken by Council in implementing the Plan within the resources available under the Resourcing Strategy.

What we propose to do



Operational Plan

Spelling out the details of the Delivery Program, the Operational Plan lists the individual projects and activities that will be undertaken for the year to achieve the commitments made in the Delivery Program.

Enabling delivery of the CSP



Resourcing Strategy

The Resourcing Strategy articulates how Council intends to deliver the Community Strategic Plan. The Strategy consists of three components:

- Long Term Financial Plan
- Workforce Management Plan
- Asset Management Plan



Balranald Shire's Community Strategic Plan

“Balranald Shire 2027” was adopted by Council in 2017. It maps the ways Council will achieve the ‘Six Pillars of Well-Being’ over a 10 year period, namely:



Each pillar has community strategic objectives that the Council aims to deliver on. The six pillars were developed after listening to the community. Values that were highly appreciated by the community are identified.

Planning for a new draft Community Strategic Plan commenced in the reporting period aimed at keeping pace with a rapidly changing local and regional economy.

The following outlines the strategic objectives from the Community Strategic Plan and a summary of what was achieved in 2022/2023 financial year under each strategic pillar.

THE SIX PILLARS - Objectives & Achievements

PILLAR 1. Our People

A community that is proactive, engaged & connected



Key Objectives

- Expand opportunities for social interaction
- Implement a Welcoming Strategy
- Encourage understanding, respect and tolerance between our diverse communities
- Improve communications & information dissemination
- Improve Council Engagement with the Community



The Australia Day events held in January 2023 provided Council the opportunity to stage events in both Balranald & Euston for social interaction after the floods as well as the opportunity to encourage understanding, respect and diversity for all who live in our shire.



Achievements

- Balranald Shire Council supported and staged community events for social interaction and community engagement including:
 - Seniors Festival;
 - Youth Week events;
 - Australia Day Events in Balranald & Euston;
 - Easter Egg Hunt & Twilight Market events;
 - The Great Murray River Salami Festival;
 - The Christmas Stop, Shop, Stay Market Day & the Buy Local Shopping Competition;
 - Christmas Lights Competition; and
 - South West Arts Touring Events
- Council continued to work closely with all community service organisations to support, promote and encourage understanding, respect and tolerance within our shire communities;
- In August 2022, Council launched its new corporate website which will help to improve our online communications with the community and the public;
- Council's Community Newsletter continued to be distributed on a monthly basis informing the community of Council happenings and activities as well as offering community groups and organisations a medium to promote their events and activities for free;
- Regular social media posts continued on promoting Council and community activities and events as well as promotions of events via direct mail to shire residents; and
- The second stage funding was received for the Balranald Library to make our library more vibrant & engaging for the community.

PILLAR 2. Our Place

A liveable and thriving community that maintains lifestyle opportunities & addresses its disadvantages



Key Objectives

- Prepare a population retention and attraction strategy
- Promote opportunities from potential mining, horticultural and energy investments
- Towns are safe and inviting for locals and visitors
- Identify groups within our community facing hardship and disadvantage
- Plan for an ageing population
- Develop a Disability Inclusion Action Plan
- Plan, construct, operate and maintain recreational facilities
- Create and/or promote events



Our library ran a number of programs to support different groups within our community including the "Tech Savvy Seniors" program



Achievements

- Council met regularly with the Police and other agencies to ensure our towns are safe & inviting to locals and visitors;
- The Local Traffic Committee met several times during the year to address road safety matters to ensure safety on our roads;
- The Strengthening Access, Inclusion and Wellbeing Advisory Committee (SCAIW) identified and advised on groups within our community facing hardship and are disadvantaged which were reported & minuted to Council. The committee also confirmed funding for Mental Health First Aid training and confirmed funding for an Emergency Accommodation facility;
- Within the year Council's Strengthening Community Access, Inclusion & Wellbeing Advisory Committee reviewed and provided input in the Disability Inclusion Action Plan;
- The Ageing Well, Aged Care and Facilities Advisory Committee met during the year to provide recommendations to Council on needs of the aged in our community;
- On the 17th December 2021 Council resolved to establish a Section 355 Committee under the Local Government Act 1993, to manage Bidgee Haven Hostel complex;
- Council staged, supported & promoted various community events throughout the year addressing different sectors of the community including:
 - The Seniors Festival; Youth Week, Australia Day Events in Balranald & Euston; Easter Egg Hunt & Twilight Market events; The Great Murray River Salami Festival. The Christmas Stop, Shop, Stay Market Day; South West Arts Touring Events; and
- The Library delivered a range of programs to support different community groups including our seniors.



Achievements (cont.)

- Council supported community wellbeing programs by waiving the hall hire fees for programs such as the monthly Maari Ma Health Balranald's Happy Healthy Families Get Together program;
- As per one of the objectives of this pillar, Council consulted with organisations within the renewable energy and mineral sands industries in reference to proposed investments in the Shire and region. Council's Growing Business, Industry & Tourism Advisory Committee also advised Council of potential investments in the region and Shire;
- As per the objective to plan, construct, operate and maintain recreational facilities, Council was active in commencing the review of projects in constructing, upgrading and maintaining recreational facilities including:
 - Seeking funding for the upgrade of the Euston Recreation Reserve;
 - Developing the project scope for upgrading the Balranald netball courts;
 - Developing the project scope for the development of a new basketball court in Balranald;
 - Developing the project scope for the upgrading of the Euston Netball Changing Rooms;
 - Developing the project scope for a new cricket pitch and nets in Balranald; and
 - Developing the project scope for new pool fencing at the Balranald swimming pool
- Council also ensured that parks, public areas and facilities were maintained to agreed standards



PHOTOS: One of Maari Ma Balranald's Happy Healthy Families Get Together. Council provided support by waiving the hall hire fees

PILLAR 3. Our Economy

A community that ensures a strong and resilient economy



Key Objectives

- Implement regular business networking and training initiatives
- Promote use of enterprise creation and expansion schemes and funding sources
- Formulate and implement a Balranald Shire Tourism and Marketing Strategy
- Improve Heritage Park (Discovery Centre Precinct)
- Improve links between Balranald communities and Mungo and Yanga National Parks
- Develop and improve Shire signage
- Implement physical improvements to Market Street
- Maximise regional development opportunities



Achievements

- The Growing Business, Industry & Tourism Advisory Committee held regular monthly meetings with recommendations made to and addressed by Council;
- The Euston Progressive Advisory Committee held regular monthly meeting with recommendations made to and addressed by Council;
- At the end of June 2023 we received announcement that we were successful in receiving funding for the development of Council's Economic Development Strategy;
- During the 2022/23 year the revised plans for the Balranald Visitor Information Centre extension project plans and design were reviewed in readiness for the Tendering process;
- Council consulted with organisations within the renewable energy and mineral sands industry in reference to proposed investments in the Shire and region;
- Council's Growing Business, Industry & Tourism Advisory Committee also advised Council of potential investments in the region including scoping projects from emerging renewable energy organisations;
- In July 2022 we hosted the REDS (Regional Economic Development Strategies) Workshop for the development of the updated strategy. The final document was released in April 2023;
- Council's Beautification Advisory Committee continued to make recommendations to physical improvements to Market Street; and
- We hosted an Aboriginal Cultural Tourism Workshop as part of the consultative process in the development of the Regional Destination Management Plan.



Achievements (cont.)

- During the 2022/23 year we re-established our communications with National Parks in reference to product development ideas re Mungo and Yanga National Parks;
- In May 2022 we attended the Destination & Visitor Economy Conference in Manly NSW. It was a wonderful opportunity not only to learn the latest trends and opportunities in the tourism and the visitor economy;
- During the 2022/2023 financial year we attended a number of regional development workshops including:
 - Hosting the REDS (Regional Economic Development Strategy);
 - The Robinvale Euston Workforce Network (REWN) workshops;
 - The Regional Housing Delivery Plan Meeting - The Western Murray Functional Economic Region; and
 - The Balranald & Wentworth Economic Development Forum.
- In December 2022 Council funded (via a grant) the Stop, Shop Stay Market Day and marketing campaign which included an integrated strategy incorporating print media, radio adverts and social media promotions. It also included a market day with the radio live broadcasting on-site on Market Street and a "Shop Till You Drop - Buy Local" competition to drive traffic into the retail shops;
- Council continued to work collaboratively with government agencies, regional organisations and neighbouring Councils to identify collaborative economic development and destination marketing opportunities;
- Road works to improve access to Mungo National Park continued to be scheduled and completed through Council's ongoing capital works program for roads; and
- Council continued regular engagement and marketing activities with business operators to expand and strengthen business and tourism activities and growth



PHOTOS: The Stop, Shop Stay Market Day and the "Shop Till You Drop - Buy Local" competition during Market Day helped to drive traffic and dollars into local businesses

PILLAR 4. Our Culture

A community that respects and celebrates its diverse cultures, heritage & arts



Key Objectives

- Identify, protect and interpret our significant heritage sites
- Support cultural promotions & activities



Achievements

- Council was active in supporting and promoting a number of cultural events during the year including a series of events organised by South West Arts funded by Council via an events grant;
- Council promoted events and activities held at the Balranald Art Gallery including:
 - Beginners Photography Workshop;
 - Sip & Paint events;
 - Fusion Art Exhibition;
 - Silk/Wool Scarf Making Workshop;
 - Whole Town Garage Sale;
 - Swan Hill artist Julie Chislett-Duffus Art Exhibition;
 - Art Before Dark Workshop;
 - Prowsie's Paintings Art Exhibition;
 - The 2022 Bal-Archies Art Exhibition;
 - Outback Inspirations Art Exhibition; and
- Council carried out some conservation work at the Theatre Royal as part of Council's commitment to protecting our heritage assets. Council also installed new heating at the Theatre Royal;
- Council promoted heritage and cultural attractions throughout the year including:
 - Southern Cross Exhibition;
 - The Military Commemorative Trail;
 - Mungo Heritage & Cultural sites;
 - Yanga Homestead and Woolshed;
 - Balranald Museum; and
 - Balranald Old Lockup/Gaol.
- Council was invited and attended the South West Arts Board meeting which was held at the Balranald Art Gallery



PHOTOS: Some of the artwork from the "Fusion Art Exhibition" held at the Balranald Art Gallery and one of the gallery's events promoted by Council

PILLAR 5. Our Infrastructure

A community that maintains and strengthens its natural and built environment



Key Objectives

- Continual focus on reducing our environmental footprint and being environmentally sustainable
- Extend mobile coverage especially in the Hatfield/Clare area and National Parks
- Prepare strategic plans for water and sewer supply
- Prepare and implement Plans and strategies in support of maintaining health standards in the Shire
- Identify and lobby for key transport and road infrastructure improvements
- Provide for more and improved footpaths and mobility scooter paved concrete paths
- Identify potential access to new energy technologies & infrastructure
- Provide community infrastructure



Achievements

- Our infrastructure team achieved key goals in maintaining and strengthening our natural and built environment;
- Monthly activities and achievements were highlighted in Council's monthly newsletter; and
- Infrastructure updates were reported to Council on a monthly basis via an Infrastructure report.

Infrastructure and road projects during the 2022/2023 financial year included:

- Maintenance Grading;
- Construction works continued on Marma Box Creek Road and Tapalin Mail Road;
- A new air-conditioner & replacement lighting were installed in the CWA building;
- Repairs were completed to water damaged section of the floor at the Theatre Royal. The concrete subfloor was waterproofed and linoleum replaced with tiles to try and prevent this recurring problem in the future;
- A concrete stairway was constructed between Kyalite ANZAC Memorial Park and the riverfront, close to the boat ramp
- New, recycled plastic bollards were; installed along the Balranald riverfront, replacing the old, broken wooden rails
- Council staff carried out tree trimming and removal in and around Balranald; and
- Council teams have been very active carrying out general maintenance to beautifying the townships.





Achievements (cont.)

- Stage 1 of the funded Library upgrade commenced during the 2022/2023 financial year;
- Road construction and maintenance continued on Tapalin Mail Road, Turlee Leaghur Road, Abbotts Tank Road & Weimby Kyalite Road;
- We received permission from Transport for NSW to install signage with tourism icons 500m each side of the Euston roundabout on the Sturt Highway;
- Reconstruction works were done on Wampo Magenta Road and Hatfield The Vale Road from the Ivanhoe to Balranald Road;
- Maintenance Grading was executed on Euston Prungle Road, Prungle Mail Road and sections of the Weimby Benongal Road as well as on Thompson Road, Tillara Road and Tammit Road;
- Regular repair of pot holes and formation failures on sealed roads was ongoing;
- Four clusters of exercise equipment were installed along the Euston walking trails. Their unobtrusive appearance is in keeping with the natural environment;
- Planning commenced of works for the upgrade of Balranald Lions Park ;
- Council workers inspected and cleaned debris from cattle grids within the Shire;
- A conservation management plan of Euston Courthouse has been commissioned. The results of this plan will help to determine future conservation and renovation works on the building;
- Council was awarded a Crown Reserves Improvement Fund (CRIF) grant for upgrades at Balranald Caravan Park; and
- All three pools at Balranald were pumped out and cleaned. Minor repairs were carried out prior to repainting in time for the summer season.



PHOTOS: (left) Steps & railings installed at Kyalite and (right) The Balranald pools were pumped out and cleaned in time for the summer season



Achievements (cont.)

- The Theatre Royal row of buildings was subject to smoke and water damage after the fire which occurred on 7 August 2022. Insurance assessments have been carried out and repairs commenced on 12 September 2022. The repairs include removal and replacement of damaged ceiling portions, light fittings and carpets, and repainting of damaged areas. The Can Assist book shop was reallocated in the Theatre Royal “ticketing office” until repairs to the usual shop location have been completed;
- Kerb and gutter works were completed in Church Street, Balranald to improve drainage and reduce standing water;
- Stage 1 of upgrade works at the Balranald Library commenced. Works are funded by a grant received from the Library Council of NSW;
- The Balranald Tennis Courts car park and the Art Gallery car park were sealed;
- Council has purchased five LifePak CR2 AEDs (defibrillators) for community use in case of emergency. These were installed at the Balranald Shire Office, Balranald Discovery Centre, Balranald Swimming Pool, Balranald Shire Depot and the Euston Recreation grounds;
- Private swimming pool inspections implemented in accordance with regulations, with Compliance Certificates and fees/charges in place;
- Water sampling compliant with NSW Health allocated sample program;
- Completion of allocated funding for footpath works in Euston & Balranald;
- Cemeteries operated effectively and efficiently and meet acceptable community service levels;
- Aerodrome operated in accordance with acceptable community service levels and within CASA guidelines;
- Water and sewerage data collection done in a timely manner and reported within deadlines to State authorities and reports to Council;
- Potable water quality maintained in all town water supplies;
- Infrastructure renewal works completed as per approved capital works program;
- Noxious weeds procedures implemented to meet requirements of the Biosecurity Act 2015;
- Implementation of the Companion Animals Act 1998 and encouragement of compliance with legislation and community education was communicated through the community newsletter and social media; and
- Food premise inspections conducted twice per year.

PILLAR 6. Our Leadership

A community that values and fosters leadership, lifelong learning, innovation and good governance



Key Objectives

- Establish a Leadership Development Network and Strategy
- Seek approaches in both planning and delivery of community services
- Encourage community member participation in decision making
- Ensure that Council is efficiently managed to provide civic leadership and good governance to meet all future needs of the Balranald Shire area



Anna Coates received the annual “Norma Male Award” for 2022 for her outstanding contribution during the year



Achievements

- Council's **Advisory Committees** met regularly throughout the 2022/2023 financial year and remained diligent in their commitment to ensuring the community's voice is heard and consistently playing a pivotal role in informing and guiding the decisions of Council in an equitable, open and democratic manner;
- Council had a range of plans and **policies on public exhibition** for community comments. These included:
 - Balranald & Euston Settlement Strategies;
 - Draft Development Contributions Plan
 - Draft Public Gates & Stock Grid Policy;
 - Draft Loan Policy and Loan Policy; Business Case Template;
 - Draft Contractor WHS Management Policy;
 - Draft Contract Management Policy;
 - Draft Loss of Licence Policy;
 - Draft Operational Plan, Revenue; and Policy & Draft Budget for the 2023/24 Financial Year.
- Council continued to monitor the progress and performance of Grants and Projects via the maintenance of a **Grants/Projects Register** and a **Grants/Projects Monthly Report** that was presented to Council each month that reports on the monitor the status of projects and their alignment with project timelines, allocated funds and reporting requirements



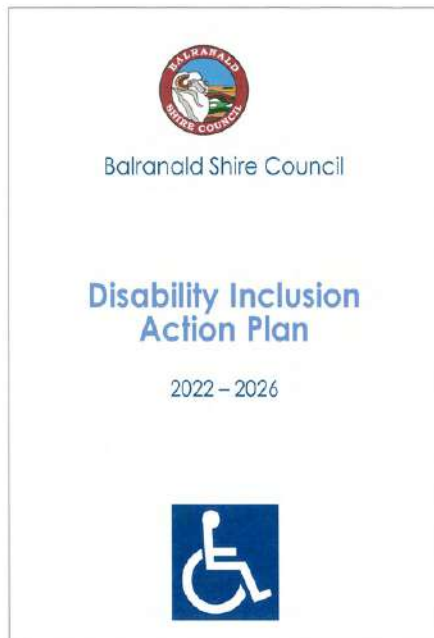
Achievements

- As part of long term planning, Council presented the draft village/locality plans for Balranald and Euston for public display and comments;
- Council has openly reported all decisions and information from the Executive of Chairs in open council and via the community newsletter;
- A Legislative Compliance Register continued to allow Council to report publicly any legislative non-compliances. This is an improvement process to allow staff and the community to learn from the reporting process;
- Council conducted **11 Ordinary Meetings** over the Financial Year;
- Council conducted only **1 Extraordinary** meeting for the Work Plan & Strategy. This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) - a of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors);
- In the September/October 2022 Newsletter the Administrator announced that Council **delivered a financially sound result** and reported a positive operating result of \$1.7m for the year ended 30th June 2022 and has set aside over \$1.8m for the replacement and upgrades to plant and equipment to deliver road and works upgrades for the community;
- Council management and senior staff attended regional development workshops to ensure ongoing awareness and learning of regional challenges and opportunities - current and emerging; and
- Council has supported grant applications that address the disadvantaged in our community and that help to deliver community services for effectively.

PLANS & POLICIES ADOPTED

In the the 2022/2023 financial year, the following Plans & Policies were adopted by Council:

Plans & Policies	Month Adopted
Conservation Management Plan for the Theatre Royal	16 August 2022
Disability Inclusion Plan 2022-2026	20 September 2022
Draft Loan Policy & Draft Loan Business Case Template	13 December 2022
Loss of Licence Policy	21 February 2023
Contract Management Policy	21 February 2023
Contractor WHS Policy	21 February 2023



CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE 'THEATRE ROYAL' - 90 MARKET ST, BALRANALD



PREPARED FOR:
BALRANALD SHIRE COUNCIL
70 MARKET STREET (PO Box 120)
BALRANALD NSW 2715

PREPARED BY:
NOEL THOMSON ARCHITECTURE PTY LTD
20 CHURCHILL AVE, (PO BOX 5090)
WAGGA WAGGA NSW 2650

APRIL 2021

RECORD OF AMENDMENTS

Date	Revision No	Comments	Authorised
21.4.2022	-	For Review	NT
			NT
			NT

THEATRE ROYAL BALRANALD - CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN



The Disability Inclusion Action Plan 2022-2026 & the Conservation Management Plan for the Theatre Royal were 2 Plans adopted in the 2022/2023 Financial Year

SUMMARY OF GRANTS & PROJECTS

✓ **Completed Grants/Projects in the 2022/2023 financial year as per the Grants/Projects Report & the Grants Register**

GRANT/PROJECT	Funding Value	Alignment with our Six Pillars					
		P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6
TRANSPORT ACCESS REGIONAL PARTNERSHIPS (TARP) 2019-2023 From Transport for NSW Projects completed at 30th June 2023 1. Beating Isolation - \$20,000 2. Transport for Balranald Youth - \$25,000	Total Grant Funding \$32,572	✓	✓		✓		✓
COMMUNITY BUILDING PARTNERSHIP 2021 From Department of Communities for the Kyalite Memorial Park & Foreshore Development. Components of project completed at 30th June 2023: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Solar Lighting along the steps Information Bay Slab 	Total Grant Funding \$32,572	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
YOUTH GRANT - YOUTH WEEK 2022 From the NSW Government Communities & Justice for Youth Week Events	\$3,644.30 (Grant) + \$2,513.00 (Council Contribution)	✓	✓	✓	✓		
CLUBGRANT EUSTON GYM From the Euston Club for the Euston Riverfront Outdoor Fitness Equipment	\$63,055	✓	✓	✓		✓	
FIXING LOCAL ROADS ROUND 1 (FLR1) From the Transport Of NSW for the sealing of the Weimby Kyalite Road and for Marma Box Creek Road project	Grant: \$1,927,500 Council Contribution: \$128,500		✓	✓		✓	✓

✓ Completed Projects (cont.)

GRANT/PROJECT	Funding Value	Alignment with our Six Pillars					
		P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6
DROUGHT COMMUNITY FUNDING GRANT From the Department of Industry, Science, Energy & Resources for drought relief funding for community projects and groups	\$1,000,000	✓	✓			✓	✓
LIBRARY SOLAR FARM GRANT From the Sunraysia Solar Farm Community Grant for murals on the front of the library and new printer	\$3,400	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
LIBRARY SUBSIDY GRANT 2022/2023 Annual Library Operational Funding for the 2022/23 year	\$49,668	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
AUSTRALIA DAY 2023 From the National Australia Day Council for the staging of Australia Day events in January 2023	\$19,968 (Grant) + \$5,000 Council Contribution	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
LOCAL ROADS & COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE 2 (LRCI2) From Local Roads and Community Infrastructure. Projects Completed from last financial year: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhancements to Kyalite Riverside Reserve - \$35,824 Seal off Street Parking Areas - Balranald Tennis Court & Art Gallery car parks - \$77,698 Church Street Drainage - \$51,040 	Total Project funding \$616,739		✓	✓		✓	✓

✓ Completed Projects (cont.)

GRANT/PROJECT	Funding Value	Alignment with our Six Pillars					
		P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6
FIXING LOCAL ROADS ROUND 2 From Transport NSW for the upgrade to Leslie Drive Euston	\$305,255		✓	✓		✓	✓
REGIONAL ROADS REPAIR PROGRAM PROJECT 1 From Transport NSW (Repair Program & Block Grant) For heavy patch works on MR67 repairing pushouts and edge breaks along large sections of the road	\$430,346		✓	✓		✓	✓
ROUTINE MAINTENANCE COUNCIL CONTRACT (RMCC) From Transport NSW for routine maintenance works on Market Street, Balranald	\$141,024		✓	✓		✓	✓
REGIONAL ROADS BLOCK GRANT 2021/2022 From Transport NSW for routine maintenance on the following regional roads: MR67 - Balranald Ivanhoe Road 192.9km MR514 - Oxley Road - 62.9km MR296 - Kyalite Road - 2.2km MR431 - Arumpo Road - 6.5km	\$565,268		✓	✓		✓	✓
LIBRARY TECH-SAVVY PROGRAM GRANT From the NSW State Library for the delivery of Seniors Technology Training Sessions	\$2,244	✓	✓				✓

✓ Completed Projects (cont.)

GRANT/PROJECT	Funding Value	Alignment with our Six Pillars					
		P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6
ROADS TO DISCOVERY - ONGOING FROM 2019 - 2024 From Regional Development & The Arts Completed Projects at 30th June 2023: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • O'Connor Street Reseal • McCabe Street Reseal • Perry Street Reseal • Shailer Terrace Reseal • Bertram Road Reseal • Tapalin Mail Road Reseal • Windomal Road Reseal • Mildura Ivanhoe Road Formation • Hatfield The Vale Road Drainage Formation • Weimby Kyalite Road Seal Construction • Mildura Ivanhoe Road Drainage Formation • Burke & Wills Road Installation of Double Grids • Marma Box Creek Road Seal Construction • Tarwong Freshwater Road Formation • Wooranbarra Corrong Road Formation 	Total Project funding \$4,997,524		✓	✓		✓	✓



Photos

Photos of a few projects completed in the 2022/23 year



PHOTOS: Community Building Partnership 2021 - Kyalite Memorial Park Development - Solar Lighting along steps & Information Bay Slab



PHOTO: Sunraysia Solar Farm Community Grant - Balranald Library murals for the front of the Library



PHOTOS: Fixing Local Roads Round 2 - Upgrade of Leslie Drive, Euston

SUMMARY OF GRANTS & PROJECTS



Water & Sewer

Water & Sewer works during the 2022/2023 financial year included:

- Works were carried out in August 2022 to upgrade the electrical switchboard at Balranald Raw Water Pump Station;
- Routine maintenance works continued in both Balranald & Euston; and
- Work on Council's Integrated Water Cycle Management Plan, it's primary planning & operational document for water and sewerage services continued in the 2022/2023 financial year.



Street Sweeping

During the 2022/2023 financial year, street sweeping occurred on the following dates:

Balranald

7 July 2022 - South of Market Street (Riverside). Includes Market Street & Caravan Park
28 July 2022 - North of Market Street (Racecourse side). Includes Market Street.
18 August 2022 - South of Market Street (River side). Includes Market Street & Caravan Park.
29 September 2022 - South of Market Street (River side). Includes Market Street & Caravan Park
20th October 2022 - North of Market Street (Racecourse side). Includes Market Street
10th November 2022 - South of Market Street (River side). Includes Market Street & Caravan Park
1st December 2022 - North of Market Street (Racecourse side). Includes Market Street
22 December 2022- South of Market Street (River side). Includes Market Street & Caravan Park.
6 April 2023 - North of Market Street (Racecourse side). Includes Market Street.
27 April 2023 - South of Market Street (River side). Includes Market Street & Caravan Park.
18 May 2023 - North of Market Street (Racecourse side). Includes Market Street.
08 June 2023 - South of Market Street (River side). Includes Market Street & Caravan Park.
29 June 2023 - North of Market Street (Racecourse side). Includes Market Street.

Euston

13 July 2022 - Whole town of Euston.
10 August 2022 - Whole town of Euston
14 September 2022 - Whole town of Euston
12 October 2022 - Whole town of Euston
9th November 2022 - Whole town of Euston
14th December 2023 - Whole town of Euston
12 April 2023 - Whole town of Euston
10 May 2023 - Whole town of Euston
14 June 2023 - Whole town of Euston

SUMMARY OF GRANTS & PROJECTS

📌 Projects In Progress as @ 30th June 2023

GRANT/PROJECT	Funding Value	Alignment with our Six Pillars					
		P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6
DISCOVERY CENTRE REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT From the Far West Joint Organisation for the Discovery Centre Redevelopment Project	\$950,000	✓		✓	✓	✓	
CROWN RESERVE IMPROVEMENT FUND 2021/22 & 2022/23 From The Crown Reserves Improvement Fund for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lions Park Upgrade \$587,991 Balranald Caravan Park Upgrade - \$771,500 	\$587,991 for Lions Park Upgrade \$771,500 for Balranald Caravan Park Upgrade	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
EVERYONE CAN PLAY From the Department of Planning, Industry & Environment which will support the Lions Park Upgrade for Play Equipment upgrade	\$200,000	✓	✓	✓		✓	
FIXING LOCAL ROADS ROUND 3 From Transport NSW for sealing existing Roads for safety improvements for the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tapalin Mail Road \$412,500 / Council contribution of \$27,500 Euston Prungle Road \$300,000 / Council contribution \$20,000 Marma Box Creek Road \$600,000 / Council Contribution \$40,000 	\$412,000 + \$27,500 Tapalin Mail Road \$300,000 + \$20,000 Prungle Road \$600,000 + \$40,000 Marma Box Creek Rd		✓	✓		✓	✓

Projects In Progress (cont.)

GRANT/PROJECT	Funding Value	Alignment with our Six Pillars					
		P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6
ROADS TO DISCOVERY - Ongoing from 2019 -2024 From the -Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications for various works including the following: Still in Progress: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kilpatrick Road Works Marma Box Creek Road Seal Construction Leslie Drive Shoulder Widening Tapalin Mail Road Seal Construction Euston Prungle Seal Construction Wiemby Kyalite Road Reseal 	Total Project Funding \$4,997,524		✓	✓		✓	✓
FIXING LOCAL ROADS ROUND 1 From the Department of Transport NSW Still in Progress: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upgrades to 17km of Marma Box Creek Road 	Total Project Funding \$3,350,000		✓	✓		✓	✓
COMMUNITY BUILDING PARTNERSHIP 2021 From the Department of Communities and Justice for the Kyalite Memorial Park & Foreshore Development, Still in Progress: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information Bay Signage 	Total Project Funding \$32,572	✓	✓	✓		✓	
PUBLIC LIBRARY INFRASTRUCTRE GRANT 2021/22 From the Library Council of NSW for Stage 1 of the Library Refurbishment Project which includes the development of a Technology Support Hub in the unused CWA room and other indoor refurbishment requirements.	\$67,862	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Projects In Progress (cont.)

GRANT/PROJECT	Funding Value	Alignment with our Six Pillars					
		P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6
TRANSPORT ACCESS REGIONAL PARTNERSHIPS From the Department of Transport NSW for local projects as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beating Isolation: Providing transport to community based facilities for disadvantaged community members (\$20,000) - Completed • Backing Balranald Youth: Transport initiative for Balranald youth (25,000) - Completed Still In Progress: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building Resources Balranald: To provide funding for at least 12 people to obtain their medium rigid license (\$18,000) 	\$63,000	✓	✓	✓			✓
OUR RIVERS OUR REGIONS From the Department of Department of Infrastructure, Regional Development and Cities for the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Riverfront Enhancement Eco Trail: \$30,007 (Completed) • Swing Bridge Widening: \$170,000 (Completed) Still in Progress <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Riverbend Reserve Place Making: 1.9 Km loop walking track 	Total Grant Funding \$820,234	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
OFFICE OF RESPONSIBLE GAMBLING NSW - COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUND Funding for the Refurbishment of emergency accommodation housing in Balranald	\$240,000	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓

Projects In Progress (cont.)

GRANT/PROJECT	Funding Value	Alignment with our Six Pillars					
		P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6
LOCAL ROADS & COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE ROUND 3 From the Department of 1. Euston Oval-Multicourt Upgrade & Shade Shelter: \$250,000 2. Balranald tennis Court Lighting: \$150,000: \$150,000 3. Construct new cricket practice nets at Greenham Park: \$60,000 4. Construct new cricket pitch to replace damaged pitch at Greenham Park: \$40,000 5. Balranald Swimming pool fence & facilities: \$175,000 6. Construct/replace 100m of footpaths in Euston: \$150,000 7. Construct/replace 200m of footpaths in Balranald: \$250,000 8. Heavy Patching Balranald/Ivanhoe Road: \$100,000 9. Reseal Weimby Kyalite Road: \$160,000 10. Marma Box Creek Rd & Wampo Magenta Rd Intersection Upgrade: \$330,842	\$1,665,842	✓	✓	✓		✓	
STRONGER COUNTRY COMMUNITY FUND ROUND 4 Euston Netball Change Rooms Upgrade: Demolition of existing netball change rooms and public toilets and construction of new and inclusive change rooms and public toilets. Also new outdoor lighting for both the Euston & Balranald netball courts	\$527,626	✓	✓			✓	✓

Projects In Progress (cont.)

GRANT/PROJECT	Funding Value	Alignment with our Six Pillars					
		P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6
LOCAL ROADS & COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE ROUND 2 From the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications for the following projects: In Progress: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$100,000 Euston Town Approaches • \$66,000 Balranald Irrigation Automation -Currently sourcing quotes • \$84,000 Theatre Royal refurbishments • \$30,000 Church and Harben Street Drainage Improvements – Excavation started • \$80,000 Balranald Riverfront Enhancements - Waiting for the river water to abate, will not be completed Completed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$110,000 Balranald Aerodrome Fencing • \$50,000 Toilet at Balranald Cemetery • \$40,000 Euston Recreation Reserve Upgrades • \$30,000 Kyalite Riverside Reserve Enhancements (funding in conjunction with Community Building Partnerships Grant) – Project near completion, awaiting Solar Light installation • \$26,739 Seal off Street Parking – Awaiting better weather for project to be completed 	\$616,739	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Projects In Progress (cont.)

GRANT/PROJECT	Funding Value	Alignment with our Six Pillars					
		P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6
COMMUNITY BUILDING PARTNERSHIP GRANT 2022 From the Department of Communities & Justice for the Enhancements/Up grade of IT multimedia communications and displays at the Discovery Centre's Interpretive Pavilion	\$40,000 Grant \$40,000 Council Contribution	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
RECONNECTING REGIONAL NSW COMMUNITY EVENTS PROGRAM Funding for the delivery of a series of events including: The Great Murray Salami Festival Euston \$44,554 (Completed) South West Arts Regional Events & Touring Program \$50,000 (Completed) Stop Shop Stay Market Day (Christmas Market Days \$12,050 (Completed) Still In Progress: The Sounds & Scribble Youth Summer Festival \$44,250	\$150,854	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
OFFICE OF RESPONSIBLE GAMBLING NSW - COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND Funding for the For the delivery of Mental Health First Aid Training for Community Members as well as Gambling Education & Awareness and other Mental Health related programs	\$254,292 (84,764 per year for 3 years)	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓

DONATIONS BY COUNCIL

One way Council supports and actively participates in the community is through it's donations and contributions program. Each year, Council makes available to community groups the opportunity to apply for grants that can be used in programs that provide community benefit.

Total donations made by Council to support our local community across different funding streams in the 2022/23 year is **\$19,300**. Donations and contributions can be either in the form of a cash donation, a waiver of fees or in-kind. For the 2022/23 year, Council approved the following donations and contributions:

Recipient & Purpose	Amount Donated
Balranald Murrumbidgee Fishing Classic - Donation	\$ 500
Stacey Johnstone - Donation for team costs/ uniforms	\$ 150
Balranald Combined Church's Community Carols - Waiving Hall Hire Fees	\$ 270
BalArchies Art Exhibition Committee - Donation Budgeted	\$ 3,000
Robinvale Ski Race - Donation Budgeted	\$ 2,000
Balranald Central School - Donation Budgeted	\$ 100
Christmas Light Competition	\$ 700
Ben Johnstone - Donation for Travel costs	\$ 500
Neama National - Waiving of Hall Hire Fees	\$ 160
The Maker Shop - Waiving of Rent Fees	\$ 2,000
Lani Jones - Donation Swimming Region Level	\$ 150
Noah Bodinnar - Donation AFL Trials	\$ 150
Balranald Child & Family Health & Maari Ma - Waiving Hall Hire Fees	\$ 660
Ryan Johnstone - Donation Primary AFL	\$ 150
Lucas Griffiths - Donation	\$ 150
Maari Ma Health - Waiver of Hall Hire Fees	\$ 660
Rural Doctors Network - Bush Bursaries & CWA Association Scholarship	\$ 3,000
Balranald Country Education Fund - Donation Budgeted	\$ 5,000
TOTAL	\$ 19,300

STATUTORY INFORMATION



Contracts Awarded Greater than \$150,000

- A Contract was awarded to **Harril Pty Ltd**, Trading as Coburns Earthmoving for **\$320,067** for Shoulder Widening of Leslie Drive in Euston NSW.
- A Contract was awarded to **FWG Contracting** for **\$260,000** for equipment hire at the Balranald Waste Facility

Note that employment contracts are excluded.



Disability Inclusion Act 2014 No 14

In accordance with the Disability Inclusion Act 2014, Council adopted its **Disability Inclusion Action Plan** on the **20th September 2022** at it's September 2022 Ordinary Meeting.

Balranald Shire Council embraces the inclusion of people with a d disability in all aspects of community life. 5.6% of the Balranald Shire population identify as needing assistance because of a disability.



Equal Employment Opportunities

Code of Conduct training is delivered to all staff across the organisation. Council has the appropriate policies and procedures in place to govern the Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) management Plan. Council actively supports the principles and practices of EEO.

The induction process and job advertisements adhere with Equal Employment policies.



Functions Delegated to Other Organisations

Council did not delegate any functions to other organisations in the 2022/23 financial year.



Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 and Regulation sl 25(1)

Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 and Regulation sl 25(1) Part 7 Section 125 (1) of the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009, known as the GIPA Act, states that each agency (of which Balranald Shire Council is one) must, within 4 months after the end of each reporting year, prepare an annual report on the agency's obligations under this Act for submission to the Minister responsible for the agency.

Council fulfilled its responsibilities in regard to reporting for the 2022/23 year. Council's GIPA reportable totals during the year are as follows:

- Received zero (0) access application requests
- Received zero (0) access application invalid requests
- Zero (0) applications reviewed Under Part 5 of the Act; and,
- Zero (0) applications transferred to other agencies

Council makes available to the public all relevant policies, Agendas of Council Meetings, including Advisory Committee Minutes, minutes of Council meetings, and any other documents where there is a public interest content, including the Community Strategic Plans, Operational Plans and Budget. This information is available on Council's website, and is also on display at Council's office. Documents to be adopted with a period of community consultation are displayed at Council's office, as well as at public venues, and when possible, in the other population centres within the Shire area. These locations and times are advertised in local media sources to raise awareness within the community.



Public Interest Disclosure Act 1994 and Regulation s31 c14

Public Interest Disclosure Act 1994 and Regulation s31 c14, similar to the reporting requirement under the GIPA Act and Regulations, Councils are required to submit a Public Interest Disclosures Annual Report to the Minister and a copy is also provided to the NSW Ombudsman. Council submitted their Public Interest Disclosure (PID) Annual Report with the required time frame, which is within 4 months after the end of the financial year. Council received zero (0) submissions for the 2022/23 financial year.

Council's policy conforms to its Code of Conduct, Equal Employment Opportunity Policy, Workplace Harassment Policy and Workplace Grievance Procedure Policy.

The policy is accessible to all staff and the public via Council's website and is required to be reviewed every two years (the current version was adopted in February 2017).

In the 2022/23 financial year there were:

- Zero (0) Public Officials who made PIDs
- Zero (0) PID's Received
- Zero (0) PIDs Finalised



Legal Proceedings

A summary of legal proceedings either commenced by, or commenced against, Council are summarised as follows. The figures show the total cost to Council.

Description	Status as at 30th June 2023	Cost to Council
Debt Recovery - Recovered as port of rates, water and debtors	Ongoing	18,159.74



Planning Agreements

Council did not enter into any planning agreements for the 2022/23 financial year.



Rates and Charges Written Off

The following rates were Written Off in the 2022/2023 financial year:

General Rates:	\$ 525.00
Filtered Water:	\$ 212.50
Interest	\$ 137.20
TOTAL	\$ 874.70



Special Rate Variation

In 2019 Council applied for a multi-year special variation to:

- increase its general income by 10% for each year from 2019/2020 to 2024/2025, a cumulative
- increase of 94.87% over seven years, and retain this increase in its rate base permanently

The SRV only applies to the General rate component of the annual rates notices – the increases under this SRV do not apply to the waste, water and sewer access charges.

The IPART decision highlighted the fact that even with the SRV, Council's forecast average rate in 2024/2025 financial year of \$555 is lower than neighbouring council's current rates and significantly below the NSW state average. **The additional funding generated for the 2022/23 financial year from the SRV was \$287,595**

The additional funding raised through the SRV was allowed to be spent for the purposes of funding operating and capital expenditure for its key assets - buildings, roads, bridges and drainage networks, and improving its financial sustainability.

In accordance with Section 217 (1) (b) of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021 the following information is provided:



General Manager's Remuneration - 2022/2023 Financial Year

The total remuneration package for Council's three General Managers during the **2022/2023** financial year is broken down in the following components:

DESCRIPTION OF COMPONENTS OF PACKAGES	GENERAL MANAGERS			TOTALS
	Jeff Sowiack 01-07-2022 - 16-11-2022	Kerry Jones 17-11-2022 - 28-02-2023	Craig Bennett 01-03-2023 - 30-06-2023	
(i) The total value of the salary components of their packages	\$ 85,540.00	\$ 64,779.25	\$ 77,584.47	\$227,903.72
(ii) the total amount of any bonus payments or other payments made to the general manager that do not form part of the salary components of their packages.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
(iii) The total amount payable by the Council by way of the employer's contribution or salary sacrifice to any superannuation scheme to which any of them may be a contributor	\$ 9,393.60	\$ 6,500.73	\$ 10,306.13	\$ 26,200.46
(iv) The total value of any non-cash benefits for which any of the general managers may elect under the package.	\$ 9,064.00	\$ 7,042.38	\$ 9,040.90	\$ 25,147.28
(v) the total amount payable by the Council by way of fringe benefits tax for any such non-cash benefits	\$ 1,840.30	\$ 2,827.69	\$ 740.30	\$ 5,408.29
TOTALS	\$105,837.90	\$81,150.05	\$ 97,671.80	\$284,659.75



Work Carried Out on Private Land

Council undertakes private works. For the 2022/2023 financial year, the revenue generated from private works was **\$98,270.71**. Council is, under Section 67 of the Local Government Act 1993, able to perform private works by agreement with the owner or occupier of any private land.

Examples of works done during 2022/23 year under Section 67 included:

- Water and sewer connections
- Water and sewer maintenance
- Driveway access construction
- Supply of Materials, Plant, Equipment & Labour hire
- Water from Council's standpipe



Swimming Pool Inspections

Under the Swimming Pools Act 1992, Council is required to make provision for the inspection, at least once every 3 years, of any swimming pool situated on premises on which there is tourist and visitor accommodation or more than 2 dwellings.

For the 2022/23 financial year, Council undertook **two (2)** inspections on Swimming Pools.



Companion Animals Management, Companion Animals Act (1998)

Only dogs are kept at the Council pound. For the **2022/2023** financial year, pound statistics were:

Description	Number
Placed into the Pound by seize by Council ranger or owner surrender	21
Stolen from Council Pound	0
Return to Owners	10
Euthanised Dogs	1
Sold/Re-homed	0
Released to re-homing organisations	10

There were **one dog attack** reported to Council for the 2022/2023 financial year.

Funding spent by Council in **2022/2023** totalled **\$5,747.31** compared with \$2,237.34 for the previous 2021/22 year. Expenditure includes animal upkeep, repairs to the pound and ranger costs.

There are no designated off-leash areas within the Balranald Shire Council local government area.



FINANCIAL REPORT

The following is Balranald Shire Council's Annual Financial Statements for the year ending 30th June 2023.

Balranald Shire Council

ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2023



Balranald Shire Council

GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2023



Balranald Shire Council

General Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2023

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Overview

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

70 Market Street
Balranald NSW 2715

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.balranald.nsw.gov.au.

Balranald Shire Council

General Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2023

Understanding Council's Financial Statements

Introduction

Each year NSW local governments are required to present audited financial statements to their council and community.

What you will find in the Statements

The financial statements set out the financial performance, financial position and cash flows of Council for the financial year ended 30 June 2023.

The format of the financial statements is standard across all NSW Councils and complies with both the accounting and reporting requirements of Australian Accounting Standards and requirements as set down by the Office of Local Government.

About the Councillor/Management Statement

The financial statements must be certified by senior staff as 'presenting fairly' the Council's financial results for the year and are required to be adopted by Council – ensuring both responsibility for and ownership of the financial statements.

About the Primary Financial Statements

The financial statements incorporate five "primary" financial statements:

1. The Income Statement

Summarises Council's financial performance for the year, listing all income and expenses. This statement also displays Council's original adopted budget to provide a comparison between what was projected and what actually occurred.

2. The Statement of Comprehensive Income

Primarily records changes in the fair value of Council's Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment.

3. The Statement of Financial Position

A 30 June snapshot of Council's financial position indicating its assets, liabilities and "net wealth".

4. The Statement of Changes in Equity

The overall change for the year (in dollars) of Council's "net wealth".

5. The Statement of Cash Flows

Indicates where Council's cash came from and where it was spent. This statement also displays Council's original adopted budget to provide a comparison between what was projected and what actually occurred.

About the Notes to the Financial Statements

The Notes to the Financial Statements provide greater detail and additional information on the five primary financial statements.

About the Auditor's Reports

Council's financial statements are required to be audited by the NSW Audit Office.

In NSW the auditor provides 2 audit reports:

1. an opinion on whether the financial statements present fairly the Council's financial performance and position, and
2. their observations on the conduct of the audit, including commentary on the Council's financial performance and financial position.

Who uses the Financial Statements?

The financial statements are publicly available documents and must be presented at a Council meeting between seven days and five weeks after the date of the audit report.

The public can make submissions to Council up to seven days subsequent to the public presentation of the financial statements.

Council is required to forward an audited set of financial statements to the Office of Local Government.

Balranald Shire Council

General Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2023

Statement by Administrator and Management

Statement by Administrator and Management made pursuant to Section 413(2)(c) of the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW)

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

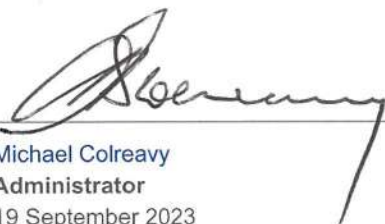
- the *Local Government Act 1993* and the regulations made thereunder,
- the Australian Accounting Standards and other pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board
- the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting.

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

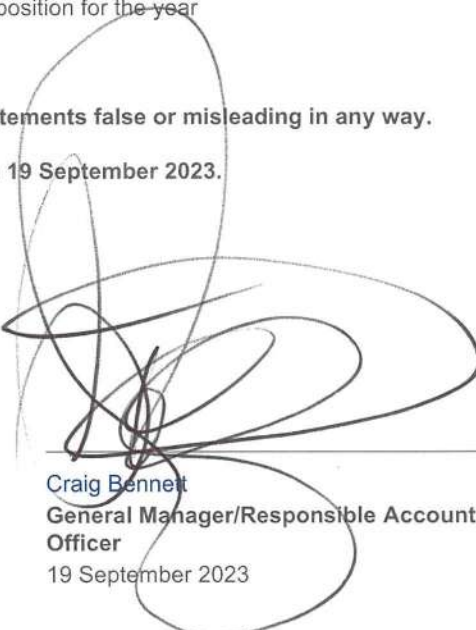
- present fairly the Council's operating result and financial position for the year
- accord with Council's accounting and other records.

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.



Michael Colreavy
Administrator
19 September 2023



Craig Bennett
General Manager/Responsible Accounting
Officer
19 September 2023

Balranald Shire Council

Income Statement

for the year ended 30 June 2023

Original unaudited budget 2023 \$ '000		Notes	Actual 2023 \$ '000	Actual 2022 \$ '000
Income from continuing operations				
5,238	Rates and annual charges	B2-1	5,052	4,557
3,346	User charges and fees	B2-2	2,225	2,191
707	Other revenues	B2-3	263	361
5,494	Grants and contributions provided for operating purposes	B2-4	14,216	9,612
11,027	Grants and contributions provided for capital purposes	B2-4	2,762	3,740
70	Interest and investment income	B2-5	665	119
409	Other income	B2-6	148	108
26,291	Total income from continuing operations		25,331	20,688
Expenses from continuing operations				
6,873	Employee benefits and on-costs	B3-1	4,936	5,432
5,819	Materials and services	B3-2	6,763	3,681
101	Borrowing costs	B3-3	101	119
5,191	Depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non-financial assets	B3-4	5,893	5,373
450	Other expenses	B3-5	424	416
–	Net loss from the disposal of assets	B4-1	300	71
–	Net share of interests in joint ventures and associates using the equity method	D2	65	200
18,434	Total expenses from continuing operations		18,482	15,292
7,857	Operating result from continuing operations		6,849	5,396
7,857	Net operating result for the year attributable to Council		6,849	5,396
3,170	Net operating result for the year before grants and contributions provided for capital purposes		4,087	1,656

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

Balranald Shire Council

Statement of Comprehensive Income

for the year ended 30 June 2023

	Notes	2023 \$ '000	2022 \$ '000
Net operating result for the year – from Income Statement		6,849	5,396
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	12,125	72,764
Impairment (loss) reversal / (revaluation decrement) relating to infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	C1-6	(3,649)	–
Total items which will not be reclassified subsequently to the operating result		8,476	72,764
Total other comprehensive income for the year		8,476	72,764
Total comprehensive income for the year attributable to Council		15,325	78,160

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

Balranald Shire Council

Statement of Financial Position

as at 30 June 2023

	Notes	2023 \$ '000	2022 \$ '000
ASSETS			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	C1-1	5,723	4,523
Investments	C1-2	26,522	18,000
Receivables	C1-4	3,121	2,338
Inventories	C1-5	216	258
Other	C1-8	22	26
Total current assets		35,604	25,145
Non-current assets			
Receivables	C1-4	110	54
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment (IPPE)	C1-6	226,452	221,493
Intangible assets	C1-7	–	300
Investments accounted for using the equity method	D2	867	932
Total non-current assets		227,429	222,779
Total assets		263,033	247,924
LIABILITIES			
Current liabilities			
Payables	C3-1	2,951	4,397
Contract liabilities	C3-2	4,510	3,212
Borrowings	C3-3	215	203
Employee benefit provisions	C3-4	839	736
Total current liabilities		8,515	8,548
Non-current liabilities			
Borrowings	C3-3	1,425	1,643
Employee benefit provisions	C3-4	129	94
Provisions	C3-5	170	170
Total non-current liabilities		1,724	1,907
Total liabilities		10,239	10,455
Net assets		252,794	237,469
EQUITY			
Accumulated surplus		71,124	64,275
IPPE revaluation reserve	C4-1	181,670	173,194
Council equity interest		252,794	237,469
Total equity		252,794	237,469

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

Balranald Shire Council

Statement of Changes in Equity

for the year ended 30 June 2023

	Notes	2023			2022		
		Accumulated surplus \$ '000	IPPE revaluation reserve \$ '000	Total equity \$ '000	Accumulated surplus \$ '000	IPPE revaluation reserve \$ '000	Total equity \$ '000
Opening balance at 1 July		64,275	173,194	237,469	58,879	100,430	159,309
Net operating result for the year		6,849	–	6,849	5,396	–	5,396
Net operating result for the period		6,849	–	6,849	5,396	–	5,396
Other comprehensive income							
Gain (loss) on revaluation of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	C1-6	–	12,125	12,125	–	72,764	72,764
Impairment (loss) reversal / (revaluation decrement) relating to infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	C1-6	–	(3,649)	(3,649)	–	–	–
Other comprehensive income		–	8,476	8,476	–	72,764	72,764
Total comprehensive income		6,849	8,476	15,325	5,396	72,764	78,160
Closing balance at 30 June		71,124	181,670	252,794	64,275	173,194	237,469

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

Balranald Shire Council

Statement of Cash Flows

for the year ended 30 June 2023

Original unaudited budget 2023 \$ '000		Notes	Actual 2023 \$ '000	Actual 2022 \$ '000
Cash flows from operating activities				
<i>Receipts:</i>				
5,238	Rates and annual charges		4,891	4,668
3,346	User charges and fees		2,185	2,770
70	Interest received		424	80
16,521	Grants and contributions		18,298	14,296
–	Bonds, deposits and retentions received		543	1,080
1,116	Other		795	235
<i>Payments:</i>				
(6,873)	Payments to employees		(4,788)	(5,493)
(3,415)	Payments for materials and services		(8,136)	(3,117)
(101)	Borrowing costs		(106)	(115)
–	Bonds, deposits and retentions refunded		(540)	(471)
(2,854)	Other		(1,087)	(1,575)
13,048	Net cash flows from operating activities	G1-1	12,479	12,358
Cash flows from investing activities				
<i>Receipts:</i>				
8,000	Sale of investments		3,000	10,000
–	Proceeds from sale of IPPE		–	43
<i>Payments:</i>				
(3,000)	Purchase of investments		(11,522)	(17,250)
(4,308)	Payments for IPPE		(2,551)	(7,730)
692	Net cash flows from investing activities		(11,073)	(14,937)
Cash flows from financing activities				
<i>Payments:</i>				
(206)	Repayment of borrowings		(206)	(190)
(206)	Net cash flows from financing activities		(206)	(190)
13,534	Net change in cash and cash equivalents		1,200	(2,769)
5,000	Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		4,523	7,292
18,534	Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	C1-1	5,723	4,523
21,000	plus: Investments on hand at end of year	C1-2	26,522	18,000
39,534	Total cash, cash equivalents and investments		32,245	22,523

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

Balranald Shire Council

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Balranald Shire Council

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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 consolidated 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 and investment property.

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 infrastructure, property, plant and equipment – refer Note C1-6
- (ii) estimated tip remediation provisions – refer Note C3-5
- (iii) employee benefit provisions – refer Note C3-4

A1-1 Basis of preparation (continued)

Significant judgements in applying the Council's accounting policies

(i) Impairment of IPPE

Council has made a significant judgement about the impairment of road and plant assets – refer Note C1-6.

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.

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

- General purpose operations
- Balranald water supply
- Euston water supply
- Balranald sewerage service
- Euston sewerage service

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 has not recognised volunteer services in the income statement as they are neither material nor able to be reliably measured.

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 at 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 for the first time at 30 June 2023.

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.

	Income		Expenses		Operating result		Grants and contributions		Carrying amount of assets	
	2023 \$ '000	2022 \$ '000	2023 \$ '000	2022 \$ '000	2023 \$ '000	2022 \$ '000	2023 \$ '000	2022 \$ '000	2023 \$ '000	2022 \$ '000
Functions or activities										
Governance	27	31	203	314	(176)	(283)	–	–	19	767
Administration	354	380	4,304	3,072	(3,950)	(2,692)	20	117	35,221	26,326
Public order and safety	136	107	517	381	(381)	(274)	107	208	1,401	829
Health	66	9	5	58	61	(49)	–	–	552	94
Environment	521	435	609	410	(88)	25	71	48	8,474	8,312
Community services and education	1,469	1,388	1,486	1,375	(17)	13	1,349	986	1,313	1,458
Housing and community amenities	134	188	209	644	(75)	(456)	19	46	8,397	6,455
Water supplies	1,342	1,588	1,014	837	328	751	–	–	16,881	13,199
Sewerage services	1,320	711	510	371	810	340	–	1,218	11,523	10,954
Recreation and culture	598	1,234	518	1,026	80	208	1,591	–	4,953	6,695
Mining, manufacturing and construction	10	6	71	84	(61)	(78)	–	–	37	268
Transport and communication	8,006	4,574	8,026	5,674	(20)	(1,100)	6,761	4,442	172,262	170,514
Economic affairs	813	819	945	846	(132)	(27)	160	119	1,134	1,121
General Purpose Income	10,535	9,218	–	–	10,535	9,218	6,900	6,168	–	–
FSWJO	–	–	65	200	(65)	(200)	–	–	866	932
Total functions and activities	25,331	20,688	18,482	15,292	6,849	5,396	16,978	13,352	263,033	247,924

B1-2 Components of functions or activities

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

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.

Administration

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

Public order and safety

Includes fire and emergency services, fire protection, enforcement of regulations and animal control.

Health

Includes immunisation, food control, health centres etc.

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.

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.

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.

Water supplies

Includes management of water schemes, costs of reticulation, treatment and supply, and management of water infrastructure.

Sewerage services

Includes management of sewerage schemes, costs of reticulation and treatment, and management of sewer infrastructure.

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.

Mining, manufacturing and construction

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

Transport and communication

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

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.

General Purpose Income

This includes financial assistance grant funding which has no specific function allocation and is expended in areas of council.

B2 Sources of income

B2-1 Rates and annual charges

	2023 \$ '000	2022 \$ '000
Ordinary rates		
Residential	433	400
Farmland	1,607	1,423
Business	1,094	1,022
Less: pensioner rebates (mandatory)	(19)	(19)
Rates levied to ratepayers	3,115	2,826
Pensioner rate subsidies received	11	11
Total ordinary rates	3,126	2,837
Annual charges (pursuant to s496, 496A, 496B, 501 & 611)		
Domestic waste management services	361	321
Water supply services	819	733
Sewerage services	677	609
Waste management services (non-domestic)	68	55
Stormwater Charges	19	19
Less: pensioner rebates (mandatory)	(40)	(39)
Annual charges levied	1,904	1,698
Pensioner annual charges subsidies received:		
– Water	7	7
– Sewerage	6	6
– Domestic waste management	9	9
Total annual charges	1,926	1,720
Total rates and annual charges	5,052	4,557

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

	Timing	2023 \$ '000	2022 \$ '000
Specific user charges (per s502 - specific 'actual use' charges)			
Sewerage services	2	100	73
Sewerage services contract aboriginal mission	2	27	26
Water service contract aboriginal mission	2	54	51
Water supply services	2	713	767
Total specific user charges		894	917
Other user charges and fees			
(i) Fees and charges – statutory and regulatory functions (per s608)			
Building services – other		–	7
Private works – section 67	2	108	149
Registration fees	2	1	1
Section 603 certificates	2	5	6
Tapping fees	2	6	–
Town planning	2	55	43
Other	2	15	4
Building services	2	13	23
Total fees and charges – statutory/regulatory		203	233
(ii) Fees and charges – other (incl. general user charges (per s608))			
Aged care	2	332	389
Caravan park	2	481	480
Cemeteries	2	71	29
Lease rentals	2	5	7
Refuse and effluent disposal	2	8	–
Transport for NSW works (state roads not controlled by Council)	2	142	108
Waste disposal tipping fees	2	56	2
Water connection fees	2	3	2
Other	2	30	24
Total fees and charges – other		1,128	1,041
Total other user charges and fees		1,331	1,274
Total user charges and fees		2,225	2,191
Timing of revenue recognition for user charges and fees			
User charges and fees recognised over time (1)		–	–
User charges and fees recognised at a point in time (2)		2,225	2,191
Total user charges and fees		2,225	2,191

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

	Timing	2023 \$ '000	2022 \$ '000
Commissions and agency fees	2	77	77
Diesel rebate	2	2	24
Insurance claims recoveries	2	—	7
Motor vehicle contributions	2	23	14
Raw water standpipe sales	2	8	20
Rebates	2	58	34
Sales – miscellaneous	2	3	32
Tourist information centre sales	2	70	52
Other	2	22	101
Total other revenue		263	361

Timing of revenue recognition for other revenue

Other revenue recognised over time (1)	—	—
Other revenue recognised at a point in time (2)	263	361
Total other revenue	263	361

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

		Operating 2023 \$ '000	Operating 2022 \$ '000	Capital 2023 \$ '000	Capital 2022 \$ '000
	Timing				
General purpose grants and non-developer contributions (untied)					
General purpose (untied)					
Current year allocation					
Financial assistance	1	1,403	2,431	–	–
Payment in advance - future year allocation					
Financial assistance	1	5,497	3,738	–	–
Amount recognised as income during current year		6,900	6,169	–	–
Special purpose grants and non-developer contributions (tied)					
Cash contributions					
Previously specific grants:					
Pensioners' rates subsidies:					
Aged care	2	1,299	978	–	5
Bushfire and emergency services	2	107	207	–	–
Community care	2	39	–	1	–
Employment and training programs	2	6	7	–	–
Environmental programs	2	39	17	–	–
Library – per capita	2	23	47	83	–
Library – special projects		–	–	–	15
Noxious weeds	2	32	27	–	–
Recreation and culture	1	–	5	1,387	1,094
Drainage	2	–	–	–	5
Youth week	2	3	3	–	–
Tourism	2	161	15	–	103
Street lighting	2	19	46	–	–
Transport (roads to recovery)	2	822	845	–	–
Transport (other roads and bridges funding)	2	3,426	–	798	2,233
Other specific grants	2	20	110	–	–
Previously contributions:					
Community services		–	–	–	57
Recreation and culture	2	–	–	98	–
Roads and bridges		–	–	–	186
Transport for NSW contributions (regional roads, block grant)	2	1,320	1,136	395	42
Total special purpose grants and non-developer contributions – cash		7,316	3,443	2,762	3,740
Total special purpose grants and non-developer contributions (tied)		7,316	3,443	2,762	3,740
Total grants and non-developer contributions		14,216	9,612	2,762	3,740
Comprising:					
– Commonwealth funding		8,732	8,099	1,954	3,178
– State funding		5,484	1,513	705	401
– Other funding		–	–	103	161
		14,216	9,612	2,762	3,740

B2-4 Grants and contributions (continued)

Developer contributions

	Operating 2023 \$ '000	Operating 2022 \$ '000	Capital 2023 \$ '000	Capital 2022 \$ '000
Total grants and contributions	14,216	9,612	2,762	3,740
Timing of revenue recognition for grants and contributions				
Grants and contributions recognised over time (1)	—	—	1,387	99
Grants and contributions recognised at a point in time (2)	14,216	9,612	1,375	3,641
Total grants and contributions	14,216	9,612	2,762	3,740

B2-4 Grants and contributions (continued)

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:

	Operating 2023 \$ '000	Operating 2022 \$ '000	Capital 2023 \$ '000	Capital 2022 \$ '000
Unspent grants and contributions				
Unspent funds at 1 July	119	357	3,212	3,259
Add: Funds received and not recognised as revenue in the current year	7,317	9,654	2,646	3,843
Less: Funds recognised as revenue in previous years that have been spent during the reporting year	(1,569)	(9,892)	–	(2,268)
Less: Funds received in prior year but revenue recognised and funds spent in current year	–	–	(1,093)	(1,622)
Unspent funds at 30 June	5,867	119	4,765	3,212

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 but include achievement of specified levels of service, delivery of specific goods or services, or the completion of agreed asset development. 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.

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

	2023 \$ '000	2022 \$ '000
Interest on financial assets measured at amortised cost		
– Overdue rates and annual charges (incl. special purpose rates)	21	29
– Cash and investments	644	90
Total interest and investment income (losses)	665	119
Interest and investment income is attributable to:		
Unrestricted investments/financial assets:		
Overdue rates and annual charges (general fund)	13	23
General Council cash and investments	514	69
Restricted investments/funds – external:		
Water fund operations	96	19
Sewerage fund operations	42	8
Total interest and investment income	665	119

Accounting policy

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

B2-6 Other income

	Notes	2023 \$ '000	2022 \$ '000
Rental income			
Commercial related		54	43
Room/Facility Hire		–	11
Health and day care related		1	2
Leaseback fees - council vehicles		31	3
Staff housing		62	49
Total rental income	C2-2	148	108
Total other income		148	108

B3 Costs of providing services

B3-1 Employee benefits and on-costs

	2023 \$ '000	2022 \$ '000
Salaries and wages	3,894	4,473
Employee leave entitlements (ELE)	362	377
Superannuation – defined contribution plans	386	386
Superannuation – defined benefit plans	39	46
Workers' compensation insurance	168	116
Fringe benefit tax (FBT)	24	33
Protective clothing	55	55
Medicals	9	9
Recruitment	29	9
Other	–	2
Total employee costs	4,966	5,506
Less: capitalised costs	(30)	(74)
Total employee costs expensed	4,936	5,432
Number of 'full-time equivalent' employees (FTE) at year end	45	45
Number of 'full-time equivalent' employees (FTE) at year end (incl. vacancies)	58	58

Accounting policy

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

Retirement benefit obligations

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.

Superannuation plans

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

	Notes	2023 \$ '000	2022 \$ '000
Raw materials and consumables		3,800	972
Consultancy & contractor costs		562	854
– Caravan park management		–	11
– Waste		431	213
Administrator fees and associated expenses	F1-2	127	133
Advertising		34	55
Audit Fees	F2-1	63	60
Bank charges		18	15
Cleaning		23	15
Computer software charges		1	75
Electricity and heating		218	206
Insurance		460	399
Office expenses (including computer expenses)		334	120
Postage		12	12
Printing and stationery		17	20
Repairs and maintenance		32	–
Street lighting		–	15
Subscriptions and publications		64	62
Telephone and communications		39	43
Tourism expenses (excluding employee costs)		243	87
Training costs (other than salaries and wages)		57	34
Travel expenses		61	63
Valuation fees		13	69
Other expenses		66	73
Legal expenses:			
– Legal expenses: planning and development		–	1
– Legal expenses: other		40	26
Lease expenses:			
Expenses from leases of low value assets		10	12
Other		38	36
Total materials and services		6,763	3,681

Accounting policy

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

B3-3 Borrowing costs

	2023 \$ '000	2022 \$ '000
(i) Interest bearing liability costs		
Interest on loans	101	119
Total interest bearing liability costs	101	119
Total borrowing costs expensed	101	119

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

	Notes	2023 \$ '000	2022 \$ '000
Depreciation and amortisation			
Furniture and fittings		17	21
Office equipment		29	26
Plant and equipment		405	394
Land improvements (depreciable)		31	3
Infrastructure:	C1-6		
– Buildings – non-specialised		621	565
– Buildings – specialised		19	8
– Footpaths		33	35
– Kerb and gutter		52	63
– Other structures		180	303
– Roads and bridges		3,997	3,362
– Sewerage network		99	165
– Stormwater drainage		65	56
– Swimming pools		15	34
– Water supply network		130	272
Other assets:			
– Library books		10	9
Other assets		38	32
Intangible assets	C1-7	–	25
Total depreciation and amortisation costs		5,741	5,373
Impairment / revaluation decrement of IPPE			
Plant and equipment		152	–
Infrastructure:	C1-6		
– Roads and bridges		3,649	–
Total gross IPPE impairment / revaluation decrement costs		3,801	–
Amounts taken through revaluation reserve	C1-6	(3,649)	–
Total IPPE impairment / revaluation decrement costs charged to Income Statement		152	–
Total depreciation, amortisation and impairment for non-financial assets		5,893	5,373

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. Useful lives are included in Note C1-6 for IPPE assets and Note C1-7 for intangible assets. Depreciation is capitalised where in-house assets have contributed to new assets.

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

	Notes	2023 \$ '000	2022 \$ '000
Impairment of receivables			
User charges and fees		27	20
Other		20	85
Total impairment of receivables	C1-4	47	105
Other			
Contributions/levies to other levels of government			
– Emergency services levy (includes FRNSW, SES, and RFS levies)		371	276
Donations, contributions and assistance to other organisations (Section 356)		6	35
Total other		377	311
Total other expenses		424	416

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

	Notes	2023 \$ '000	2022 \$ '000
Gain (or loss) on disposal of property (excl. investment property)			
Proceeds from disposal – property		–	4
Less: carrying amount of property assets sold/written off		–	(35)
Gain (or loss) on disposal		–	(31)
Gain (or loss) on disposal of plant and equipment	C1-6		
Proceeds from disposal – plant and equipment		–	39
Less: carrying amount of plant and equipment assets sold/written off		–	(44)
Gain (or loss) on disposal		–	(5)
Gain (or loss) on disposal of investments	C1-2		
Proceeds from disposal/redemptions/maturities – investments		3,000	10,000
Less: carrying amount of investments sold/redeemed/matured		(3,000)	(10,000)
Gain (or loss) on disposal		–	–
Gain (or loss) on disposal of intangible assets	C1-7		
Proceeds from disposal – intangible assets		–	–
Less: carrying amount of intangible assets sold/written off		(300)	(25)
Gain (or loss) on disposal		(300)	(25)
Other			
Proceeds from disposal of Library Books		–	–
Less: carrying amount of Library Books written off		–	(10)
Gain (or loss) on disposal		–	(10)
Net gain (or loss) from disposal of assets		(300)	(71)

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 17 May 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	5,238	5,052	(186)	(4)% U
Variance is due to elimination of internal rates and charges not included in original budget.				
User charges and fees	3,346	2,225	(1,121)	(34)% U
Revenue from water supply user charges and also private works income was lower than budgeted for, due to extensive rain and flooding events.				
Other revenues	707	263	(444)	(63)% U
Other revenues including tourism sales were impacted by prolonged weather events and extensive flooding during the year and did not reach budget predictions.				
Operating grants and contributions	5,494	14,216	8,722	159% F
Council received increased funding for operational works associated with the extensive flooding events, these were not anticipated in the original budget.				
Capital grants and contributions	11,027	2,762	(8,265)	(75)% U
Although Council received much of the anticipated capital grants in the budget, income able to be taken up was significantly less than expected, due to the inability to complete major projects as a result of prolonged flooding and rain events.				
Interest and investment revenue	70	665	595	850% F
Council was able to benefit from both significant unspent grant income and rising interest rates during the year.				
Other income	409	148	(261)	(64)% U
Council's other income was less than budget due to the effects of flooding and weather events.				

B5-1 Material budget variations (continued)

\$ '000	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2023 ----- Variance -----	
Expenses				
Employee benefits and on-costs	6,873	4,936	1,937	28% F
Wages & salary costs were less than expected as the recruitment of directors and other staff for vacant positions was delayed.				
Materials and services	5,819	6,763	(944)	(16)% U
Cost of materials is impacted by the focus on major repairs to infrastructure due to flood damage. Much of the work had to be carried out by external contractors which was not anticipated in the original budget. This work was largely funded by external emergency and other grant funding.				
Borrowing costs	101	101	–	0% F
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non-financial assets	5,191	5,893	(702)	(14)% U
Depreciation charges for 2023 were impacted by increased asset valuations which were undertaken at 30 June 2022 and were not included in the original budget.				
Other expenses	450	424	26	6% F
Joint ventures and associates – net losses	–	65	(65)	∞ U
Movements in relation to operation of the Far South West Joint Organisation are not included in the original budget.				
Statement of cash flows				
Cash flows from operating activities	13,048	12,479	(569)	(4)% U
Cash flows from investing activities	692	(11,073)	(11,765)	(1,700)% U
Council was able to hold and reinvest significant grant income which remained unspent and on investment at year end.				
Cash flows from financing activities	(206)	(206)	–	0% F

C Financial position

C1 Assets we manage

C1-1 Cash and cash equivalents

	2023 \$ '000	2022 \$ '000
Cash assets		
Cash on hand and at bank	4,211	145
Cash equivalent assets		
– Deposits at call	12	4,378
– Short-term deposits	1,500	–
Total cash and cash equivalents	5,723	4,523

Reconciliation of cash and cash equivalents

Total cash and cash equivalents per Statement of Financial Position	5,723	4,523
Balance as per the Statement of Cash Flows	5,723	4,523

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

	2023 Current \$ '000	2023 Non-current \$ '000	2022 Current \$ '000	2022 Non-current \$ '000
Debt securities at amortised cost				
Long term deposits	26,522	–	18,000	–
Total	26,522	–	18,000	–
Total financial investments	26,522	–	18,000	–
Total cash assets, cash equivalents and investments	32,245	–	22,523	–

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

Assets measured at amortised cost are financial assets where:

- the business model is to hold assets to collect contractual cash flows, and
- the contractual terms give rise on specified dates to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest on the principal amount outstanding.

Council's financial assets measured at amortised cost comprise trade and other receivables and cash and cash equivalents in the Statement of Financial Position. 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

	2023 Current \$ '000	2023 Non-current \$ '000	2023 \$ '000	2022 Current \$ '000	2022 Non-current \$ '000	2022 \$ '000
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(a) Externally restricted cash, cash equivalents and investments

Total cash, cash equivalents and investments

32,245	–	32,245	22,523	–	22,523
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Less: Externally restricted cash, cash equivalents and investments

(16,605)	–	(16,605)	(8,254)	–	(8,254)
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Cash, cash equivalents and investments not subject to external restrictions

15,640	–	15,640	14,269	–	14,269
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External restrictions

External restrictions – included in liabilities

External restrictions included in cash, cash equivalents and investments above comprise:

Specific purpose unexpended grants – general fund	4,504	3,206
Specific purpose unexpended grants – water fund	6	6
External restrictions – included in liabilities	4,510	3,212

External restrictions – other

External restrictions included in cash, cash equivalents and investments above comprise:

Specific purpose unexpended grants (recognised as revenue) – general fund	6,122	119
Water fund	3,664	2,962
Sewer fund	1,715	1,252
Stormwater management	20	19
Domestic waste management	574	690
External restrictions – other	12,095	5,042
Total external restrictions	16,605	8,254

Cash, cash equivalents and investments subject to external restrictions are those which are only available for specific use by Council due to a restriction placed by legislation or third-party contractual agreement.

C1-3 Restricted and allocated cash, cash equivalents and investments (continued)

	2023 Current \$ '000	2023 Non-current \$ '000	2023 \$ '000	2022 Current \$ '000	2022 Non-current \$ '000	2022 \$ '000
(b) Internal allocations						
Cash, cash equivalents and investments not subject to external restrictions	15,640	–	15,640	14,269	–	14,269
Less: Internally restricted cash, cash equivalents and investments	(12,996)	–	(12,996)	(11,618)	–	(11,618)
Unrestricted and unallocated cash, cash equivalents and investments	2,644	–	2,644	2,651	–	2,651

Internal allocations

At 30 June, Council has internally allocated funds to the following:

Plant and vehicle replacement	1,933	1,879
Infrastructure replacement	1,514	1,472
Employees leave entitlement	278	271
Caravan park reserve	500	486
Gravel pits rehabilitation	242	235
Hostel bonds	1,813	2,353
Self Care Unit Maintenance	4	–
Self Care Unit Bonds	140	140
Financial Assistance Funds	5,497	3,738
Future Development Fund	1,075	1,044
Total internal allocations	12,996	11,618

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

	2023 Current \$ '000	2023 Non-current \$ '000	2023 \$ '000	2022 Current \$ '000	2022 Non-current \$ '000	2022 \$ '000
(c) Unrestricted and unallocated						
Unrestricted and unallocated cash, cash equivalents and investments	2,644	–	2,644	2,651	–	2,651

C1-4 Receivables

	2023 Current \$ '000	2023 Non-current \$ '000	2022 Current \$ '000	2022 Non-current \$ '000
Rates and annual charges	274	46	177	30
Interest and extra charges	23	4	15	5
User charges and fees	394	60	330	19
Accrued revenues				
– Interest on investments	294	–	60	–
– Other income accruals	1	–	–	–
Government grants and subsidies	1,722	–	1,593	–
Net GST receivable	537	–	332	–
Total	3,245	110	2,507	54
Less: provision for impairment				
Rates and annual charges	(64)	–	(111)	–
User charges and fees	(27)	–	–	–
Other debtors	(33)	–	(58)	–
Total provision for impairment – receivables	(124)	–	(169)	–
Total net receivables	3,121	110	2,338	54
Externally restricted receivables				
Water supply				
– Rates and availability charges	77	13	136	–
– Other	173	52	160	–
Sewerage services				
– Rates and availability charges	40	7	38	–
– Other	23	8	22	–
Total external restrictions	313	80	356	–
Unrestricted receivables	2,808	30	1,982	54
Total net receivables	3,121	110	2,338	54

	2023 \$ '000	2022 \$ '000
Movement in provision for impairment of receivables		
Balance at the beginning of the year (calculated in accordance with AASB 139)	169	97
Add: new provisions recognised during the year	47	72
– amounts already provided for and written off this year	(92)	–
Balance at the end of the year	124	169

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 determining whether the credit risk of a financial asset has increased significantly since initial recognition, and when estimating ECL, the 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.

C1-4 Receivables (continued)

When considering the ECL for rates 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. For non-rates debtors, Council uses the presumption that an asset which is more than 30 days past due has seen a significant increase in credit risk.

The Council uses the presumption that a financial asset is in default when:

- the other party is unlikely to pay its credit obligations to the Council in full, without recourse by the Council to actions such as realising security (if any is held) or
- the financial assets (for non-rates debtors) are more than 90 days past due.

Credit losses are measured as 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.

On initial recognition of the asset, an estimate of the expected credit losses for the next 12 months is recognised. Where the asset has experienced significant increase in credit risk then the lifetime losses are estimated and recognised.

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

There has been no change in the estimation techniques or significant assumptions made during the current reporting period.

The Council writes off a trade 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 6 years past due, whichever occurs first.

None of the receivables that have been written off are subject to enforcement activity.

Where the 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.

Rates and annual charges outstanding are secured against the property.

C1-5 Inventories

	2023 Current \$ '000	2023 Non-current \$ '000	2022 Current \$ '000	2022 Non-current \$ '000
Inventories at cost				
Stores and materials	188	–	232	–
Trading stock	28	–	26	–
Total inventories at cost	216	–	258	–
Total inventories	216	–	258	–

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.

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	Depreciation expense	Impairment loss / revaluation decrements (recognised in P/L)	Impairment loss / revaluation decrements (recognised in equity)	WIP transfers	Revaluation increments to equity (ARR)	Gross carrying amount	Accumulated depreciation and impairment	Net carrying amount
	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000
Capital work in progress	2,974	–	2,974	773	136	–	–	–	(1,056)	–	2,827	–	2,827
Plant and equipment	5,914	(4,221)	1,693	228	27	(405)	(152)	–	–	–	6,168	(4,778)	1,390
Office equipment	558	(446)	112	–	9	(29)	–	–	32	–	600	(474)	126
Furniture and fittings	330	(241)	89	5	22	(17)	–	–	–	–	358	(259)	99
Land:													
– Operational land	3,607	–	3,607	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	3,607	–	3,607
– Community land	2,214	–	2,214	–	–	–	–	–	–	359	2,573	–	2,573
Land improvements – non-depreciable	798	–	798	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	798	–	798
Land improvements – depreciable	311	(171)	140	–	–	(31)	–	–	–	–	311	(203)	108
Infrastructure:													
– Roads and bridges	186,383	(38,047)	148,336	725	–	(3,997)	–	(3,649)	162	7,502	196,777	(47,700)	149,077
– Other structures	8,045	(1,850)	6,195	24	122	(180)	–	–	850	317	9,487	(2,159)	7,328
– Swimming pools	1,156	(265)	891	–	–	(15)	–	–	–	63	1,239	(300)	939
– Sewerage network	12,761	(3,436)	9,325	–	3	(99)	–	–	3	712	13,751	(3,808)	9,943
– Water supply network	17,028	(7,796)	9,232	–	3	(130)	–	–	1	702	18,345	(8,537)	9,808
– Buildings – specialised	1,457	(369)	1,088	–	–	(19)	–	–	–	76	1,562	(416)	1,146
– Stormwater drainage	5,664	(1,326)	4,338	–	–	(65)	–	–	–	329	6,101	(1,498)	4,603
– Kerb and gutter	4,447	(1,469)	2,978	–	47	(52)	–	–	5	173	4,761	(1,610)	3,151
– Footpaths	1,889	(570)	1,319	–	–	(33)	–	–	–	76	2,001	(638)	1,363
– Buildings – non-specialised	41,674	(16,046)	25,628	237	–	(621)	–	–	–	1,788	44,893	(17,860)	27,033
Other assets:													
– Library books	152	(123)	29	15	–	(10)	–	–	–	–	167	(133)	34
– Other	796	(289)	507	–	–	(38)	–	–	3	28	846	(347)	499
Total infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	298,158	(76,665)	221,493	2,007	369	(5,741)	(152)	(3,649)	–	12,125	317,172	(90,720)	226,452

(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)

	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	Revaluation decrements to equity (ARR)	Revaluation increments to equity (ARR)	Gross carrying amount	Accumulated depreciation and impairment	Net carrying amount
By aggregated asset class	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000
Capital work in progress	3,706	–	3,706	580	1,334	–	–	(2,645)	–	–	2,974	–	2,974
Plant and equipment	6,005	(3,943)	2,062	19	50	(44)	(394)	–	–	–	5,914	(4,221)	1,693
Office equipment	530	(420)	110	2	11	–	(26)	14	–	–	558	(446)	112
Furniture and fittings	330	(220)	110	–	–	–	(21)	–	–	–	330	(241)	89
Land:													
– Operational land	3,514	–	3,514	–	–	(35)	–	–	–	128	3,607	–	3,607
– Community land	2,214	–	2,214	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2,214	–	2,214
Land improvements – non-depreciable	798	–	798	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	798	–	798
Land improvements – depreciable	311	(168)	143	–	–	–	(3)	–	–	–	311	(171)	140
Infrastructure:													
– Buildings – non-specialised	34,731	(14,431)	20,300	26	645	–	(565)	143	–	5,078	41,674	(16,046)	25,628
– Buildings – specialised	938	(326)	612	–	–	–	(8)	–	–	484	1,457	(369)	1,088
– Other structures	23,579	(13,276)	10,303	604	87	–	(303)	61	(4,556)	–	8,045	(1,850)	6,195
– Roads	126,991	(53,138)	73,853	2,493	772	–	(3,362)	2,425	–	72,156	186,383	(38,047)	148,336
– Footpaths	1,886	(851)	1,035	15	25	–	(35)	–	–	280	1,889	(570)	1,319
– Stormwater drainage	4,747	(1,222)	3,525	–	–	–	(56)	–	–	868	5,664	(1,326)	4,338
– Water supply network	17,272	(7,325)	9,947	243	–	–	(272)	–	(688)	–	17,028	(7,796)	9,232
– Sewerage network	13,833	(4,655)	9,178	314	–	–	(165)	2	(3)	–	12,761	(3,436)	9,325
– Swimming pools	1,982	(664)	1,318	–	–	–	(34)	–	(393)	–	1,156	(265)	891
– Kerb and gutter	5,073	(1,441)	3,632	–	–	–	(63)	–	(590)	–	4,447	(1,469)	2,978
Other assets:													
– Library books	188	(163)	25	–	14	(10)	(9)	–	–	–	152	(123)	29
– Other	796	(248)	548	–	–	–	(32)	–	–	–	796	(289)	507
Total infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	249,424	(102,491)	146,933	4,296	2,938	(89)	(5,348)	–	(6,230)	78,994	298,158	(76,665)	221,493

(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

Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment are held at fair value. Independent 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.

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

Increases in the carrying amounts arising on revaluation are credited to the 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 revaluation reserves directly in equity to the extent of the remaining reserve attributable to the class; all other decreases are charged to the Income Statement.

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.

When infrastructure, property, plant and equipment are acquired by Council for nil or nominal consideration, the assets are initially recognised at their fair value at acquisition date.

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	10 to 20	Benches, seats etc.	10 to 20
Computer equipment	3 to 4		
Vehicles	5 to 8	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
Water and sewer assets		Stormwater assets	
Dams and reservoirs	20 to 100	Drains	70 to 100
Bores	10 to 50	Culverts	50 to 80
Reticulation pipes: PVC	50 to 80	Flood control structures	20 to 80
Reticulation pipes: other	25 to 50		
Pumps and telemetry	8 to 20		
Transportation assets		Other infrastructure assets	
Sealed roads: surface	15	Bulk earthworks	Indefinite
Sealed roads: structure	35 to 150	Swimming pools	25 to 140
Unsealed roads	90 to 150	Other open space/recreational assets	20
Bridge: concrete	80 to 120	Other infrastructure	20
Bridge: other	80 to 120		
Road pavements	35 to 130		
Kerb, gutter and footpaths	40		

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

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.

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

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

Council has assessed the value of rural firefighting assets ("Red fleet") and determined that the value of these assets are not material and have not recognised them in the financial statements.

Externally restricted infrastructure, property, plant and equipment

	as at 30/06/23			as at 30/06/22		
	Gross carrying amount \$ '000	Accumulated depn. and impairment \$ '000	Net carrying amount \$ '000	Gross carrying amount \$ '000	Accumulated depn. and impairment \$ '000	Net carrying amount \$ '000
Water supply						
WIP	536	–	536	432	–	432
Plant and equipment	315	94	221	315	78	237
Land						
– Operational land	34	–	34	34	–	34
Infrastructure	18,345	8,537	9,808	17,028	7,796	9,232
Total water supply	19,230	8,631	10,599	17,809	7,874	9,935
Sewerage services						
WIP	2	–	2	4	–	4
Plant and equipment	285	74	211	285	60	225
Land						
– Operational land	88	–	88	88	–	88
Infrastructure	13,751	3,808	9,943	12,761	3,436	9,325
Total sewerage services	14,126	3,882	10,244	13,138	3,496	9,642
Total restricted infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	33,356	12,513	20,843	30,947	11,370	19,577

C1-7 Intangible assets

Intangible assets are as follows:

	2023 \$ '000	2022 \$ '000
Other Intangibles		
Opening values at 1 July		
Gross book value	318	443
Accumulated amortisation	(18)	(93)
Net book value – opening balance	300	350
Movements for the year		
Amortisation charges	–	(25)
Gross book value written off	(300)	(125)
Accumulated amortisation charges written off	–	100
Closing values at 30 June		
Gross book value	18	318
Accumulated amortisation	(18)	(18)
Total Intangibles – net book value	–	300
Total intangible assets – net book value	–	300

Accounting policy

Intangible Assets

Aged care hostel bed licences

Council operates an aged care hostel which is licenced under Commonwealth Department of Health and Aged Care for 15 bed accommodation. Prior to the period ending 30 June 2023, Council carried the bed licences at cost of acquisition with an indefinite useful life. For the period ending 30 June 2023, Council has written off the carrying value of the bed licences as these are no longer deemed to hold ongoing value.

C1-8 Other

Other assets

	2023 Current \$ '000	2023 Non-current \$ '000	2022 Current \$ '000	2022 Non-current \$ '000
Prepayments	22	–	26	–
Total other assets	22	–	26	–

C2 Leasing activities

C2-1 Council as a lessee

Council had no leases in place as at 30 June 2023.

(a) Income Statement

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

	2023 \$ '000	2022 \$ '000
Expenses relating to low-value leases	10	12
	10	12

(b) Leases at significantly below market value – concessionary / peppercorn leases

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

	2023 \$ '000	2022 \$ '000
--	-----------------	-----------------

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

(i) Assets held as property, plant and equipment

Lease income (excluding variable lease payments not dependent on an index or rate)	148	108
Total income relating to operating leases for Council assets	148	108

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

	2023 Current \$ '000	2023 Non-current \$ '000	2022 Current \$ '000	2022 Non-current \$ '000
Goods and services – operating expenditure	439	–	1,176	–
Goods and services – capital expenditure	59	–	234	–
Accrued expenses:				
– Borrowings	4	–	9	–
– Salaries and wages	90	–	80	–
Security bonds, deposits and retentions	272	–	269	–
ATO – net GST payable	1	–	–	–
Retirement home contributions	1,813	–	2,353	–
Other	91	–	93	–
Prepaid rates	182	–	183	–
Total payables	2,951	–	4,397	–

Payables relating to restricted assets

	2023 Current \$ '000	2023 Non-current \$ '000	2022 Current \$ '000	2022 Non-current \$ '000
Externally restricted assets				
Water	61	–	65	–
Sewer	12	–	15	–
Payables relating to externally restricted assets	73	–	80	–
Total payables relating to restricted assets	73	–	80	–
Total payables relating to unrestricted assets	2,878	–	4,317	–
Total payables	2,951	–	4,397	–

Current payables not anticipated to be settled within the next twelve months

	2023 \$ '000	2022 \$ '000
The following liabilities, even though classified as current, are not expected to be settled in the next 12 months.		
Payables – security bonds, deposits and retentions	1,904	2,450
Total payables	1,904	2,450

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

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

		2023 Current \$ '000	2023 Non-current \$ '000	2022 Current \$ '000	2022 Non-current \$ '000
	Notes				
Grants and contributions received in advance:					
Unexpended capital grants (to construct Council controlled assets)	(i)	4,510	–	3,212	–
Total grants received in advance		4,510	–	3,212	–
Total contract liabilities		4,510	–	3,212	–

Notes

(i) Council has received funding to construct assets including sporting facilities, bridges, library 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.

Contract liabilities relating to restricted assets

	2023 Current \$ '000	2023 Non-current \$ '000	2022 Current \$ '000	2022 Non-current \$ '000
Externally restricted assets				
Water	6	–	6	–
Unspent grants held as contract liabilities (excl. Water & Sewer)	4,504	–	3,206	–
Contract liabilities relating to externally restricted assets	4,510	–	3,212	–
Total contract liabilities relating to restricted assets	4,510	–	3,212	–
Total contract liabilities	4,510	–	3,212	–

Significant changes in contract liabilities

Contract Liabilities increased during the year by \$1.3 million. This was due in part, to prolonged flooding events throughout the year which prevented any significant expenditure on grant funded programs.

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

	2023 Current \$ '000	2023 Non-current \$ '000	2022 Current \$ '000	2022 Non-current \$ '000
Loans – secured ¹	215	1,425	203	1,643
Total borrowings	215	1,425	203	1,643

(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.

Borrowings relating to restricted assets

	2023 Current \$ '000	2023 Non-current \$ '000	2022 Current \$ '000	2022 Non-current \$ '000
Externally restricted assets				
Water	79	480	74	559
Borrowings relating to externally restricted assets	79	480	74	559
Total borrowings relating to restricted assets	79	480	74	559
Total borrowings relating to unrestricted assets	136	945	129	1,084
Total borrowings	215	1,425	203	1,643

(a) Changes in liabilities arising from financing activities

	2022		Non-cash movements				2023
	Opening Balance \$ '000	Cash flows \$ '000	Acquisition \$ '000	Fair value changes \$ '000	Acquisition due to change in accounting policy \$ '000	Other non-cash movement \$ '000	Closing balance \$ '000
Loans – secured	1,846	(206)	–	–	–	–	1,640
Total liabilities from financing activities	1,846	(206)	–	–	–	–	1,640

	2021		Non-cash movements				2022
	Opening Balance \$ '000	Cash flows \$ '000	Acquisition \$ '000	Fair value changes \$ '000	Acquisition due to change in accounting policy \$ '000	Other non-cash movement \$ '000	Closing balance \$ '000
Loans – secured	2,036	(190)	–	–	–	–	1,846
Total liabilities from financing activities	2,036	(190)	–	–	–	–	1,846

C3-3 Borrowings (continued)

(b) Financing arrangements

	2023 \$ '000	2022 \$ '000
Total facilities		
Bank overdraft facilities ¹	200	200
Credit cards/purchase cards	150	150
Total financing arrangements	350	350
Drawn facilities		
– Credit cards/purchase cards	5	5
Total drawn financing arrangements	5	5
Undrawn facilities		
– Bank overdraft facilities	200	200
– Credit cards/purchase cards	145	145
Total undrawn financing arrangements	345	345

Additional financing arrangements information

Breaches and defaults

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

(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

	2023 Current \$ '000	2023 Non-current \$ '000	2022 Current \$ '000	2022 Non-current \$ '000
Annual leave	369	–	427	–
Long service leave	330	124	240	90
Other entitlements	111	–	40	–
ELE on-costs	29	5	29	4
Total employee benefit provisions	839	129	736	94
Total employee benefit provisions relating to unrestricted assets	839	129	736	94
Total employee benefit provisions	839	129	736	94

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

	2023 \$ '000	2022 \$ '000
The following provisions, even though classified as current, are not expected to be settled in the next 12 months.		
Provisions – employees benefits	453	418
	453	418

Description of and movements in provisions

	ELE provisions				
	Annual leave \$ '000	Long service leave \$ '000	ELE on-costs \$ '000	Other employee benefits \$ '000	Total \$ '000
2023					
At beginning of year	427	330	33	40	830
Additional provisions	341	177	17	89	624
Amounts used (payments)	(399)	(53)	(16)	(18)	(486)
Total ELE provisions at end of year	369	454	34	111	968
2022					
At beginning of year	455	435	–	33	923
Additional provisions	372	(52)	33	17	370
Amounts used (payments)	(400)	(53)	–	(10)	(463)
Total ELE provisions at end of year	427	330	33	40	830

Accounting policy

Short-term obligations

Liabilities for wages and salaries (including non-monetary benefits, annual leave and accumulating long service 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 long service leave is recognised in the provision for employee benefits. All other short-term employee benefit obligations are presented as payables.

C3-4 Employee benefit provisions (continued)

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.

The obligations are presented as current liabilities in the Statement of Financial Position if the 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.

C3-5 Provisions

	2023 Current \$ '000	2023 Non-Current \$ '000	2022 Current \$ '000	2022 Non-Current \$ '000
Asset remediation/restoration:				
Asset remediation/restoration (future works)	–	170	–	170
Sub-total – asset remediation/restoration	–	170	–	170
Total provisions	–	170	–	170

Description of and movements in provisions

	Other provisions	
	Asset remediation \$ '000	Total \$ '000
2023		
At beginning of year	170	170
Total other provisions at end of year	170	170
2022		
At beginning of year	170	170
Total other provisions at end of year	170	170

Nature and purpose of provisions

Asset remediation

Council has a legal/public obligation to make, restore, rehabilitate and reinstate the council tip.

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.

C3-5 Provisions (continued)

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

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 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.

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 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 infrastructure, property, plant and equipment. These costs are then depreciated over the lives of the assets to which they relate.

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.

D Council structure

D1 Results by fund

General fund refers to all Council activities other than water and 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 water and sewer columns are restricted for use for these activities.

D1-1 Income Statement by fund

	General 2023 \$ '000	Water 2023 \$ '000	Sewer 2023 \$ '000
Income from continuing operations			
Rates and annual charges	3,448	896	708
User charges and fees	1,394	722	109
Interest and investment revenue	527	96	42
Other revenues	174	62	27
Grants and contributions provided for operating purposes	14,216	—	—
Grants and contributions provided for capital purposes	2,762	—	—
Other income	148	—	—
Total income from continuing operations	22,669	1,776	886
Expenses from continuing operations			
Employee benefits and on-costs	4,700	187	49
Materials and services	5,795	619	349
Borrowing costs	65	36	—
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non-financial assets	5,634	145	114
Other expenses	396	28	—
Net losses from the disposal of assets	300	—	—
Share of interests in joint ventures and associates using the equity method	65	—	—
Total expenses from continuing operations	16,955	1,015	512
Operating result from continuing operations	5,714	761	374
Net operating result for the year	5,714	761	374
Net operating result attributable to each council fund	5,714	761	374
Net operating result for the year before grants and contributions provided for capital purposes	2,952	761	374

D1-2 Statement of Financial Position by fund

	General 2023 \$ '000	Water 2023 \$ '000	Sewer 2023 \$ '000
ASSETS			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	1,438	3,070	1,215
Investments	25,422	600	500
Receivables	2,808	250	63
Inventories	216	–	–
Other	22	–	–
Total current assets	29,906	3,920	1,778
Non-current assets			
Receivables	30	65	15
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	205,609	10,599	10,244
Investments accounted for using the equity method	867	–	–
Total non-current assets	206,506	10,664	10,259
Total assets	236,412	14,584	12,037
LIABILITIES			
Current liabilities			
Payables	2,878	61	12
Contract liabilities	4,504	6	–
Borrowings	136	79	–
Employee benefit provision	839	–	–
Total current liabilities	8,357	146	12
Non-current liabilities			
Borrowings	945	480	–
Employee benefit provision	129	–	–
Provisions	170	–	–
Total non-current liabilities	1,244	480	–
Total liabilities	9,601	626	12
Net assets	226,811	13,958	12,025
EQUITY			
Accumulated surplus	60,233	6,813	4,078
Revaluation reserves	166,578	7,145	7,947
Council equity interest	226,811	13,958	12,025
Total equity	226,811	13,958	12,025

D2 Interests in other entities

	Council's share of net assets	
	2023	2022
	\$ '000	\$ '000
Council's share of net income		
Net share of interests in joint ventures and associates using the equity method – expenses		
Joint ventures	65	200
Total net share of interests in joint ventures and associates using the equity method – expenses	65	200
Total Council's share of net income	(65)	(200)
Council's share of net assets		
Net share of interests in joint ventures and associates using the equity method – assets		
Joint ventures	867	932
Total net share of interests in joint ventures and associates using the equity method – assets	867	932
Total Council's share of net assets	867	932

D2-1 Interests in joint arrangements

The following information is provided for joint arrangements that are individually material to the Council. Included are the amounts as per the individual joint arrangement's financial statements, adjusted for fair-value adjustments, rather than Council's share.

Council is a member of the Far South West Joint Organisation of Councils (FSWJO). Details of Council's membership and participation is as follows:

The FSWJO is a separately constituted entity pursuant to Part 7 (Sections 400O to 400ZH) of the Local Government Act (NSW) 1993, as amended, and the Local Government (General) Regulation 2008. The FSWJO has the same year end date as the Council.

The principal functions of the Far West Joint Organisation will be to:

Establish strategic regional priorities for the joint organisation area and develop strategies and plans for delivering these priorities:

1. Provide regional leadership for the joint organisation area and to be an advocate for strategic regional priorities,
2. Identify and take up opportunities for intergovernmental cooperation on matters relating to the joint organisation area,
3. Enhancing strategic capacity to support member councils to deliver services to their communities,
4. Service delivery to provide services directly to communities within the region.

The percentage ownership interest held is equivalent to the percentage voting rights for all associates as follows:

FSWJO comprises the Councils of the Shires of Balranald, Wentworth, Broken Hill and Central Darling Shire Councils. The Board of the FSWJO comprises 4 voting members being the Mayors of the four member Councils, and non-voting members being the General Managers of the four member Councils, as well as 3 appointed members from the State Government and Cabinet (non-voting).

Balranald Shire Council, as a member of the FSWJO, has a one quarter voting right (25%) in respect to the decisions of the Board.

For the 2022/23 year, no member Councils were required to make contributions to the FSWJO. Members of the FSWJO are indemnified from liability for functions and duties carried out or omitted honestly, in good faith and with due care and diligence.

The FSWJO has engaged an Executive Officer on a standard Local Government employment contract for 3 years.

There are no liability issues identified for Council in the short to medium term.

D2-1 Interests in joint arrangements (continued)

Far South West Joint Organisation Equity Method

\$'000 \$'000
2023 2022

Summarised Statement of Financial Position

Current assets	3,476	3,745
Current liabilities	(10)	(18)
Net assets	3,466	3,726

Summarised Statement of Income and other Comprehensive Income

Grant funding	-	60
Interest income	3	2
Total income from continuing operations	3	62

Employee benefits	-	-
Depreciation and amortisation	-	-
Administration expenses	(263)	(861)
Other expenses	-	(2)
Total expense from continuing operations	(263)	(864)

Gain/(Loss) from continuing operations	(260)	(801)
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Total comprehensive income	(260)	(801)
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Summarised statement of Cash Flows

Cashflow from operating activities	(186)	(859)
Cashflow from investing activities	-	-

Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(186)	(859)
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Reconciliation of carrying amount of interest in the joint arrangement to summarised financial information for FWJO accounted for using the Equity method:

Balranald Shire Council's share of net assets	867	932
Carrying amount of net assets	867	932

Accounting policy

Interests in joint arrangements are accounted for using the equity method in accordance with AASB128 Investments in Associates and Joint Ventures.

Under this method, the investment is initially recognised as a cost and the carrying amount is increased or decreased to recognise the Council's share of the profit or loss and other comprehensive income of the investee after the date of acquisition. If the Council's share of losses of a joint arrangement equals or exceeds its interest in the joint arrangement, the Council discontinues recognising its share of further losses.

The Council's share in the joint arrangements gains or losses arising from transactions between itself and its joint arrangement are eliminated.

Adjustments are made to the joint arrangement's accounting policies where they are different from those of the Council for the purposes of the consolidated financial statements.

E Risks and accounting uncertainties

E1-1 Risks relating to financial instruments held

Council's activities expose it to a variety of financial risks including **(1)** price risk, **(2)** credit risk, **(3)** liquidity risk and **(4)** interest rate risk.

The 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 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 Council's finance section under policies approved by the Council.

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

	Carrying value 2023 \$ '000	Carrying value 2022 \$ '000	Fair value 2023 \$ '000	Fair value 2022 \$ '000
Financial assets				
Measured at amortised cost				
Cash and cash equivalents	5,723	4,523	5,723	4,523
Receivables	3,231	2,392	3,231	2,392
Investments				
– Debt securities at amortised cost	26,522	18,000	26,522	18,000
Total financial assets	35,476	24,915	35,476	24,915
Financial liabilities				
Payables	2,951	4,397	2,951	4,397
Loans/advances	1,640	1,846	1,640	1,846
Total financial liabilities	4,591	6,243	4,591	6,243

Council's objective is to maximise its return on cash and investments whilst maintaining an adequate level of liquidity and preserving capital.

Council's finance area manages the cash and Investments portfolio.

Council has an investment policy which complies with the Local Government Act 1993 and Minister's investment order 625. This policy is regularly reviewed by Council and its staff and an investment report is tabled before Council on a monthly basis setting out the portfolio breakup and its performance as required by Local Government regulations.

The risks associated with the instruments held are:

- **Price risk** – the risk that the capital value of Investments may fluctuate due to changes in market prices, whether these changes are caused by factors specific to individual financial instruments or their issuers or are caused by factors affecting similar instruments traded in a market.
- **Interest rate risk** – the risk that movements in interest rates could affect returns and income.
- **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 the investment counterparty will not complete their obligations particular to a financial instrument, resulting in a financial loss to Council – be it of a capital or income nature.

Council manages these risks (amongst other measures) by diversifying its portfolio and only purchasing investments with high credit ratings or capital guarantees.

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

(a) Market risk – interest rate and price risk

	2023 \$ '000	2022 \$ '000
<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	322	225

(b) Credit risk

Council's major receivables comprise (i) rates and annual charges and (ii) 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, whether through exposure to individual customers, specific industry sectors and/or regions.

The level of outstanding receivables is reported to Council monthly and benchmarks are set and monitored for acceptable collection performance.

Council makes suitable provision for doubtful receivables as required and carries out credit checks on most non-rate debtors.

There are no material receivables that have been subjected to a re-negotiation of repayment terms.

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

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.

	Not yet overdue \$ '000	overdue rates and annual charges				Total \$ '000
		< 5 years \$ '000	1 - 2 years \$ '000	2 - 5 years \$ '000	≥ 5 years \$ '000	
2023						
Gross carrying amount	–	220	54	46	–	320
2022						
Gross carrying amount	128	68	11	–	–	207

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.

	Not yet overdue \$ '000	0 - 30 days \$ '000	Overdue debts			Total \$ '000
			31 - 60 days \$ '000	61 - 90 days \$ '000	> 91 days \$ '000	
2023						
Gross carrying amount	2,036	–	3	1	995	3,035
Expected loss rate (%)	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	6.00%	1.97%
ECL provision	–	–	–	–	60	60
2022						
Gross carrying amount	786	–	19	269	1,280	2,354
Expected loss rate (%)	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	4.50%	2.45%
ECL provision	–	–	–	–	58	58

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.

	Weighted average interest rate %	Subject to no maturity \$ '000	payable in: ≤ 1 Year \$ '000	1 - 5 Years \$ '000	> 5 Years \$ '000	Total cash outflows \$ '000	Actual carrying values \$ '000
2023							
Payables	0.00%	2,085	866	–	–	2,951	2,951
Borrowings	6.42%	–	215	1,034	391	1,640	1,640
Total financial liabilities		2,085	1,081	1,034	391	4,591	4,591
2022							
Payables	0.00%	2,622	1,775	–	–	4,397	4,397
Borrowings	4.03%	–	192	1,330	324	1,846	1,846
Total financial liabilities		2,622	1,967	1,330	324	6,243	6,243

Loan agreement breaches

There were not any breaches to loan agreements which have occurred during the reporting year.

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

The fair value of assets and liabilities must be estimated in accordance with various accounting standards for either recognition and measurement requirements or for disclosure purposes.

AASB 13 Fair Value Measurement requires all assets and liabilities measured at fair value to be 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: Inputs for the asset or liability that are not based on observable market data (unobservable inputs).

Fair value measurement hierarchy									
\$ '000	Notes	Date of latest valuation		Level 2 Significant observable inputs		Level 3 Significant unobservable inputs		Total	
		2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	C1-6								
Plant and equipment		30/06/21	30/06/21	—	—	1,390	1,693	1,390	1,693
Office equipment		30/06/21	30/06/21	—	—	126	112	126	112
Furniture and fittings		30/06/21	30/06/21	—	—	99	89	99	89
Land – operational		30/06/22	30/06/22	3,607	3,607	—	—	3,607	3,607
Land community		30/06/23	30/06/20	—	—	2,573	2,214	2,573	2,214
Land improvements		30/06/22	30/06/22	—	—	906	938	906	938
Buildings non - specialised		30/06/22	30/06/22	—	—	27,033	25,628	27,033	25,628
Buildings specialised		30/06/22	30/06/22	—	—	1,146	1,088	1,146	1,088
Other structures		30/06/22	30/06/22	—	—	7,328	6,195	7,328	6,195
Roads and bridges		30/06/22	30/06/22	—	—	149,077	148,336	149,077	148,336
Kerb and channels		30/06/22	30/06/22	—	—	3,151	2,978	3,151	2,978
Footpaths		30/06/22	30/06/22	—	—	1,363	1,319	1,363	1,319
Stormwater drainage		30/06/22	30/06/22	—	—	4,603	4,338	4,603	4,338
Water supply network		30/06/22	30/06/22	—	—	9,808	9,232	9,808	9,232
Sewerage network		30/06/22	30/06/22	—	—	9,943	9,325	9,943	9,325
Swimming pools		30/06/22	30/06/22	—	—	939	891	939	891
Other		30/06/22	30/06/22	—	—	533	536	533	536
Total infrastructure, property, plant and equipment				3,607	3,607	220,018	214,912	223,625	218,519

Valuation techniques

Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment (IPPE)

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).

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

Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment

Plant & Equipment, Office Equipment and Furniture & Fittings

Plant & equipment, Office Equipment and Furniture & fittings are valued at cost but are 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 assets within these classes area as follows:

- Plant & equipment- Graders, Trucks, rollers, tractors and motor vehicles.
- Office equipment- Computers, photocopies, calculators etc.

E2-1 Fair value measurement (continued)

- Furniture & Fittings- Chairs, desks and display boards.

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

Operational & Community Land

Operational & community Land are based on either the market value approach (level 2) or the cost approach (level 3). Operational Land is represented by actual market values in the Balranald Shire LGA. Operational land was valued based on observable market values (level 2). Community land is based on values supplied by the Valuer General which is not based on market value and as such have been classified at a level 3.

Council changed its methodology for valuation of Community Land during FY 2022/23 to accord with the methodology supported by the NSW Auditor General. Council uses valuations supplied by the NSW Valuer General with a current base date of 2022.

Buildings- Non Specialised & Specialised

Non- Specialised & Specialised Buildings have been valued externally by APV Valuers and Asset Management of Level 18, 344 Queen Street Brisbane QLD 4000 using the market or cost approach, with effective date 30 June 2022. The approaches estimated the replacement cost of each building by componentising the building into significant parts.

While all buildings were physically inspected and the unit rates based on square market based evidence (level) 2 was established for some building assets, the majority of building assets were valued at a level 3.

Valuations for all building assets have been indexed at 30 June 2023 in line with relevant ABS indices.

Other Structures

Other structures comprise of aerodrome runway, lighting, irrigation systems and fencing etc. have been valued externally by APV Valuers and Asset Management of Level 18, 344 Queen Street Brisbane QLD 4000 using the cost approach, with effective date 30 June 2022. The approach estimated the replacement cost of the asset by componentising the asset into significant parts. No market evidence (level 2) inputs are available therefore level 3 valuation inputs were used for this asset class.

Valuations for all other structures have been indexed at 30 June 2023 in line with relevant ABS indices.

Roads, Bridges, Footpaths & Drainage Infrastructure.

Roads comprise roads carriageway, roadside shoulders & Kerb and Gutter and Channels. Bridges comprised of Bridges and Major Culverts. All these asset classes were valued externally by APV Valuers and Asset Management of Level 18, 344 Queen Street Brisbane QLD 4000 using the cost approach, with effective date 30 June 2022.

The approach estimated the replacement cost for each asset by componentising the assets into significant parts using Balranald Shire Council's internal data base of costs. From field observations taken during this revaluation most of the unsealed road network has been reclassified from a formed and paved road asset to a formed only road asset.

Unit rates applied to the most recent valuation have increased significantly from previous valuations and this is based on the valuer's determination of unit rates applicable to similar local government entities. The increase in unit rates has resulted in a substantial increase in the carrying value of Roads assets at 30 June 2022.

Valuations for all roads and transport assets have been indexed at 30 June 2023 in line with relevant ABS indices.

Water Supply Network

Assets within this class comprise reservoirs, pumping stations and water pipelines.

The cost approach estimated the replacement cost for each asset by componentising the asset into significant parts with different useful lives and taking into account a range of factors. All Water Supply Network Assets were valued externally by APV Valuers and Asset Management of Level 18, 344 Queen Street Brisbane QLD 4000 using the cost approach, with effective date 30 June 2022.

This valuation is based on inventory information provided by Council validated by onsite inspections and CCTV data. No market based evidence (level 2) inputs are available therefore Level 3 valuation inputs were used for this asset class.

Valuations for all water supply assets have been indexed at 30 June 2023 in line with relevant NSW Reference Rates Manual indices.

Sewerage Network

Assets within this class comprise treatment works, pumping stations and, sewerage mains.

The cost approach estimated the replacement cost for each asset by componentising the asset into significant parts with different useful lives and taking into account a range of factors. All Water Supply Network Assets were valued externally by APV

E2-1 Fair value measurement (continued)

Valuers and Asset Management of Level 18, 344 Queen Street Brisbane QLD 4000 using the cost approach, with effective date 30 June 2022.

This valuation is based on inventory information provided by Council validated by onsite inspections and CCTV data. No market based evidence (level 2) inputs are available therefore Level 3 valuation inputs were used for this asset class.

Valuations for all sewer assets have been indexed at 30 June 2023 in line with relevant NSW Reference Rates Manual indices.

Swimming Pools

Assets within this class comprise Council's outdoor swimming pool. valued externally by APV Valuers and Asset Management of Level 18, 344 Queen Street Brisbane QLD 4000 using the market or cost approach, with effective date 30 June 2022. The approach estimated the replacement cost for each pool by componentising its significant parts.

While some elements of gross replacement values may be supported from market evidence (Level 2 input) other inputs (such as estimates of pattern of consumption, residual value, asset condition and useful life) required extensive professional judgement and impacted significantly on the final determination of fair value.

Valuations for all swimming pool assets have been indexed at 30 June 2023 in line with relevant ABS indices.

E2-1 Fair value measurement (continued)

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 and equipment	Replacement Cost	Current Replacement Cost, Remaining Useful Life, Residual Value
Office equipment	Replacement Cost	Current Replacement Cost, Remaining Useful Life
Furniture and fittings	Replacement Cost	Current Replacement Cost, Remaining Useful Life
Community Land	Unimproved Value	New South Wales Valuer Generals Unimproved Value
Land improvements	Depreciated Replacement Cost	Current Replacement Cost, Remaining Useful Life, Residual Value
Buildings non specialised	Depreciated Replacement Cost	Current Replacement Cost, Remaining Useful Life, Residual Value
Building specialised	Depreciated Replacement Cost	Current Replacement Cost, Remaining Useful Life, Residual Value
Other structures	Depreciated Replacement Cost	Current Replacement Cost, Remaining Useful Life, Residual Value
Roads and bridges	Depreciated Replacement Cost	Current Replacement Cost, Remaining Useful Life, Residual Value
Kerb and gutter	Depreciated Replacement Cost	Current Replacement Cost, Remaining Useful Life, Residual Value
Footpaths	Depreciated Replacement Cost	Current Replacement Cost, Remaining Useful Life, Residual Value
Stormwater drainage	Depreciated Replacement Cost	Current Replacement Cost, Remaining Useful Life, Residual Value
Water supply network	Depreciated Replacement Cost	Current Replacement Cost, Remaining Useful Life, Residual Value
Sewerage network	Depreciated Replacement Cost	Current Replacement Cost, Remaining Useful Life, Residual Value
Swimming pools	Depreciated Replacement Cost	Current Replacement Cost, Remaining Useful Life, Residual Value
Other assets	Depreciated Replacement Cost	Current Replacement Cost, Remaining Useful Life, Residual Value

E2-1 Fair value measurement (continued)

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

	Plant and equipment		Office equipment		Furniture and fittings		Community Land	
	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022
	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000
Opening balance	1,693	2,062	112	110	89	110	2,214	2,214
Total gains or losses for the period								
Other movements								
Purchases (GBV)	255	69	41	27	27	–	–	–
Disposals (WDV)	–	(44)	–	–	–	–	–	–
Depreciation and impairment	(557)	(394)	(29)	(26)	(17)	(21)	–	–
Adjustments and Transfers	–	–	–	–	–	–	359	–
Revaluations	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–
Rounding	(1)	–	2	–	–	–	–	–
Closing balance	1,390	1,693	126	112	99	89	2,573	2,214

	Land improvement		Buildings n/spec'd		Building specialised		Other structures	
	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022
	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000
Opening balance	938	941	25,628	18,870	1,088	612	6,195	10,303
Total gains or losses for the period								
Other movements								
Purchases (GBV)	–	–	237	814	–	–	996	752
Transfers from/(to) level 2 FV hierarchy	–	–	–	865	–	–	–	–
Depreciation and impairment	(31)	(3)	(621)	–	(19)	(8)	(180)	(303)
Revaluations	–	–	1,788	5,078	76	484	317	(4,556)
Rounding	(1)	–	1	1	1	–	–	(1)
Closing balance	906	938	27,033	25,628	1,146	1,088	7,328	6,195

	Roads and bridges		Kerb and gutter		Footpaths		Stormwater drainage	
	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022
	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000
Opening balance	148,336	73,853	2,978	3,632	1,319	1,035	4,338	3,525
Total gains or losses for the period								
Other movements								
Purchases (GBV)	887	5,690	52	–	–	40	–	–
Depreciation and impairment	(7,646)	(3,362)	(52)	(63)	(33)	(35)	(65)	(56)
Revaluations	7,502	72,156	173	(590)	76	280	329	868
Rounding	(2)	(1)	–	(1)	1	(1)	1	1
Closing balance	149,077	148,336	3,151	2,978	1,363	1,319	4,603	4,338

	Water supply network		Sewerage network		Swimming pool		Other assets	
	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022
	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000
Opening balance	9,232	9,947	9,325	9,178	891	1,318	536	573
Total gains or losses for the period								
Other movements								
Purchases (GBV)	4	243	6	316	–	–	18	14
Disposals (WDV)	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	(10)
Depreciation and impairment	(130)	(272)	(99)	(165)	(15)	(34)	(48)	(41)
Revaluations	702	(688)	712	(3)	63	(393)	28	–
Rounding	–	2	(1)	(1)	–	–	(1)	–
Closing balance	9,808	9,232	9,943	9,325	939	891	533	536

continued on next page ...

E2-1 Fair value measurement (continued)

	Total	
	2023	2022
	\$ '000	\$ '000
Opening balance	214,912	138,283
Purchases (GBV)	2,523	7,965
Transfers from/(to) level 2 FV hierarchy	–	865
Disposals (WDV)	–	(54)
Depreciation and impairment	(9,542)	(4,783)
Adjustments and Transfers	359	–
Revaluations	11,766	72,637
Rounding	–	(1)
Closing balance	220,018	214,912

Information relating to the transfers into and out of the level 3 fair valuation hierarchy includes:

Buildings assets were revalued during the year and while a small number of assets were assessed with market inputs (level 2), Council has utilised the level 3 valuations effective 30 June 2023.

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.

LIABILITIES NOT RECOGNISED

1. Guarantees

(i) Defined benefit superannuation contribution plans

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 future service employer contributions and past service employer contributions to the Fund.

The future service 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 future service 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.

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 \$40,387.34. The last valuation of the Scheme was performed by Fund Actuary, Richard Boyfield, FIAA as at 30 June 2022. The amount of additional contributions included in

E3-1 Contingencies (continued)

the total employer contribution advised above is \$15,830.52. Council's expected contribution to the plan for the next annual reporting period is \$29,733.84.

The estimated employer reserves financial position for the Pooled Employers at 30 June 2022 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 member accounts and reserves in both assets and liabilities.

The share of any funding surplus or deficit that can be attributed to Council is 0.08%

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	6.0% per annum
Salary inflation	3.5% per annum
Increase in CPI	6.0% for FY 22/23 2.5% per annum

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.

Please note that the estimated employer reserves financial position above is a preliminary calculation, and once all the relevant information has been received by the Funds Actuary, the final end of year review, which will be a triennial actuarial investigation will be completed by December 2023.

(ii) Statewide Limited

Council is a member of Statewide Mutual, a mutual pool scheme providing liability insurance to local government.

Membership includes the potential to share in either the net assets or liabilities of the fund depending on its past performance. Council's share of the net assets or liabilities reflects Council's contributions to the pool and the result of insurance claims within each of the fund years.

The future realisation and finalisation of claims incurred but not reported to 30 June this year may result in future liabilities or benefits as a result of past events that Council will be required to fund or share in respectively.

(iii) StateCover Limited

Council is a member of StateCover Mutual Limited and holds a partly paid share in the entity. StateCover is a company providing workers compensation insurance cover to the NSW local government industry and specifically Council.

Council has a contingent liability to contribute further equity in the event of the erosion of the company's capital base as a result of the company's past performance and/or claims experience or as a result of any increased prudential requirements from APRA. These future equity contributions would be required to maintain the company's minimum level of net assets in accordance with its licence requirements.

E3-1 Contingencies (continued)

(iv) Other guarantees

Council has provided no other guarantees other than those listed above.

2. Other liabilities

(i) Third party claims

The Council is involved from time to time in various claims incidental to the ordinary course of business including claims for damages relating to its services.

Council believes that it is appropriately covered for all claims through its insurance coverage and does not expect any material liabilities to eventuate.

(ii) Potential land acquisitions due to planning restrictions imposed by Council

Council has classified a number of privately owned land parcels as local open space or bushland.

As a result, where notified in writing by the various owners, Council will be required to purchase these land parcels.

At reporting date, reliable estimates as to the value of any potential liability (and subsequent land asset) from such potential acquisitions has not been possible.

ASSETS NOT RECOGNISED

(i) Land under roads

As permitted under AASB 1051, Council has elected not to bring to account land under roads that it owned or controlled up to and including 30/6/08.

(ii) 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:

	2023 \$ '000	2022 \$ '000
Compensation:		
Short-term benefits	534	685
Termination benefits	40	226
Total	574	911

F1-2 Councillor and Mayoral fees and associated expenses

	2023	2022
	\$ '000	\$ '000

The aggregate amount of Councillor and Administrator fees and associated expenses included in materials and services expenses in the Income Statement are:

Administrator fee	123	130
Other Councillors' expenses (including Administrator)	4	3
Total	127	133

F2 Other relationships

F2-1 Audit fees

	2023 \$ '000	2022 \$ '000
--	-----------------	-----------------

During the year, the following fees were incurred for services provided by the auditor of Council, related practices and non-related audit firms

Auditors of the Council - NSW Auditor-General:

(i) Audit and other assurance services

Audit and review of financial statements

	63	60
Remuneration for audit and other assurance services	63	60
Total Auditor-General remuneration	63	60
Total audit fees	63	60

G Other matters

G1-1 Statement of Cash Flows information

Reconciliation of net operating result to cash provided from operating activities

	2023 \$ '000	2022 \$ '000
Net operating result from Income Statement	6,849	5,396
Add / (less) non-cash items:		
Depreciation and amortisation	5,741	5,373
(Gain) / loss on disposal of assets	300	71
Losses/(gains) recognised on fair value re-measurements through the P&L:		
– Revaluation decrements / impairments of IPP&E direct to P&L	152	–
Share of net (profits)/losses of associates/joint ventures using the equity method	65	200
Movements in operating assets and liabilities and other cash items:		
(Increase) / decrease of receivables	(794)	(110)
Increase / (decrease) in provision for impairment of receivables	(45)	72
(Increase) / decrease of inventories	42	(18)
(Increase) / decrease of other current assets	4	(12)
Increase / (decrease) in payables	(737)	582
Increase / (decrease) in accrued interest payable	(5)	4
Increase / (decrease) in other accrued expenses payable	10	26
Increase / (decrease) in other liabilities	(539)	722
Increase / (decrease) in contract liabilities	1,298	145
Increase / (decrease) in employee benefit provision	138	(93)
Net cash flows from operating activities	12,479	12,358

G2-1 Commitments

Capital commitments (exclusive of GST)

	2023 \$ '000	2022 \$ '000
--	-----------------	-----------------

Capital expenditure committed for at the reporting date but not recognised in the financial statements as liabilities:

Property, plant and equipment

Sewerage and water infrastructure	6	310
Buildings	5,005	4,669
Plant and equipment	–	111
Roads	972	914
Other Structures	3,082	1,909
Total commitments	9,065	7,913

These expenditures are payable as follows:

Within the next year	4,785	3,633
Later than one year and not later than 5 years	4,280	4,280
Total payable	9,065	7,913

Sources for funding of capital commitments:

Unrestricted general funds	–	111
Future grants and contributions	4,280	4,590
Unexpended grants	4,785	3,212
Total sources of funding	9,065	7,913

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 performance measures

G4-1 Statement of performance measures – consolidated results

\$ '000	Amounts 2023	Indicator 2023	Indicators 20222021		Benchmark
1. Operating performance ratio					
Total continuing operating revenue excluding capital grants and contributions less operating expenses ^{1,2}	4,604	20.40%	11.37%	6.35%	> 0.00%
Total continuing operating revenue excluding capital grants and contributions ¹	22,569				
2. Own source operating revenue ratio					
Total continuing operating revenue excluding all grants and contributions ¹	8,353	32.98%	35.46%	34.73%	> 60.00%
Total continuing operating revenue ¹	25,331				
3. Unrestricted current ratio					
Current assets less all external restrictions	18,686	12.49x	7.15x	6.14x	> 1.50x
Current liabilities less specific purpose liabilities	1,496				
4. Debt service cover ratio					
Operating result before capital excluding interest and depreciation/impairment/amortisation ¹	10,446	34.03x	24.01x	16.54x	> 2.00x
Principal repayments (Statement of Cash Flows) plus borrowing costs (Income Statement)	307				
5. Rates and annual charges outstanding percentage					
Rates and annual charges outstanding	283	5.45%	2.44%	3.80%	< 10.00%
Rates and annual charges collectable	5,189				
6. Cash expense cover ratio					
Current year's cash and cash equivalents plus all term deposits	32,245	26.03	24.66	20.51	> 3.00
Monthly payments from cash flow of operating and financing activities	1,239	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

G4-2 Statement of performance measures by fund

\$ '000	General Indicators ³		Water Indicators		Sewer Indicators		Benchmark
	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	
1. Operating performance ratio							
Total continuing operating revenue excluding capital grants and contributions less operating expenses ^{1, 2}	17.43%	5.75%	42.85%	45.08%	42.21%	45.45%	> 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	25.10%	26.93%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	> 60.00%
Total continuing operating revenue ¹							
3. Unrestricted current ratio							
Current assets less all external restrictions	12.49x	7.15x	∞	∞	∞	∞	> 1.50x
Current liabilities less specific purpose liabilities							
4. Debt service cover ratio							
Operating result before capital excluding interest and depreciation/impairment/amortisation ¹	45.77x	30.78x	8.56x	9.01x	∞	∞	> 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	4.15%	1.19%	9.61%	5.06%	6.38%	5.01%	< 10.00%
Rates and annual charges collectable							
6. Cash expense cover ratio							
Current year's cash and cash equivalents plus all term deposits	25.30 months	24.26 months	33.83 months	32.97 months	28.48 months	17.98 months	> 3.00 months
Monthly payments from cash flow of operating and financing activities							

(1) - (2) Refer to Notes at Note G6-1 above.

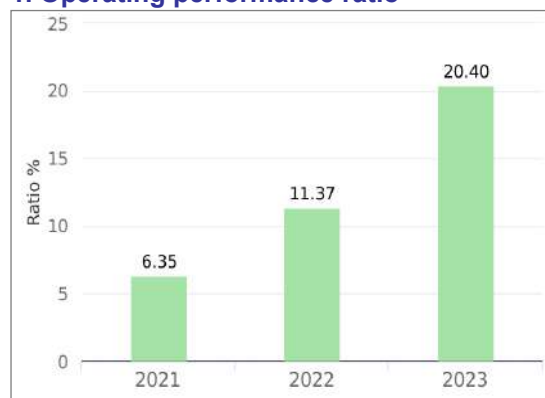
(3) General fund refers to all of Council's activities except for its water and sewer activities which are listed separately.

End of the audited financial statements

H Additional Council disclosures (unaudited)

H1-1 Statement of performance measures – consolidated results (graphs)

1. Operating performance ratio



Purpose of operating performance ratio

This ratio measures Council's achievement of containing operating expenditure within operating revenue.

Commentary on 2022/23 result

2022/23 ratio 20.40%

Council's operating performance for the year has been strong, however it is noted this is on the back of the forward receipt of the 2023/24 Commonwealth Financial Assistance grant, and other operating grants for emergency and road funding which have not been expended at year end.

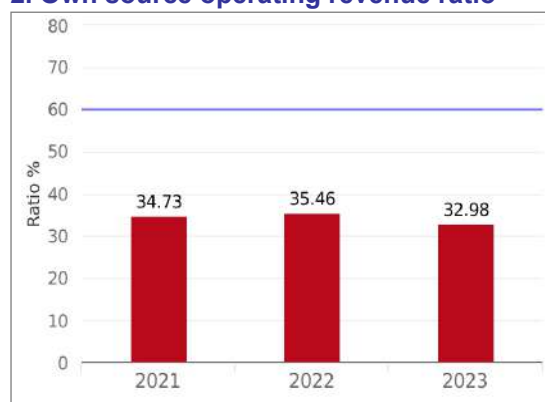
Benchmark: — > 0.00%

Source of benchmark: Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting

Ratio achieves benchmark

Ratio is outside benchmark

2. Own source operating revenue ratio



Purpose of own source operating revenue ratio

This ratio measures fiscal flexibility. It is the degree of reliance on external funding sources such as operating grants and contributions.

Commentary on 2022/23 result

2022/23 ratio 32.98%

Council's own source revenue ratio remains consistent with prior years. Council is heavily reliant on external grant funding for works and services due to the remoteness of the Shire and the relatively small population serviced by Council.

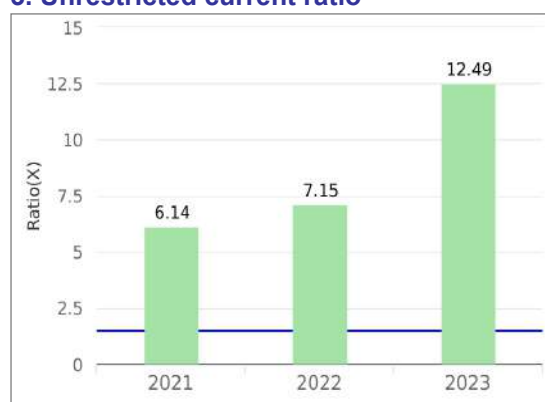
Benchmark: — > 60.00%

Source of benchmark: Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting

Ratio achieves benchmark

Ratio is outside benchmark

3. Unrestricted current ratio



Purpose of unrestricted current ratio

To assess the adequacy of working capital and its ability to satisfy obligations in the short term for the unrestricted activities of Council.

Commentary on 2022/23 result

2022/23 ratio 12.49x

The unrestricted current ratio is also impacted by the take-up of operational grant funding which remains unspent at year end.

Benchmark: — > 1.50x

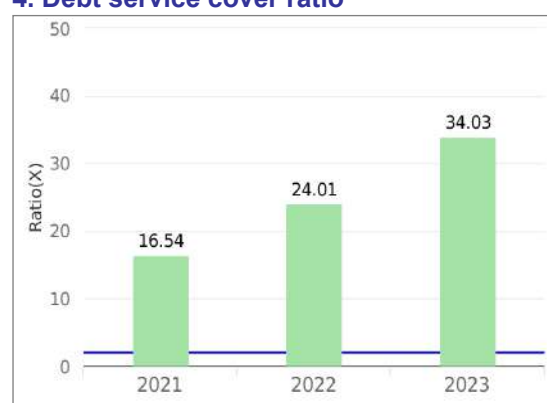
Source of benchmark: Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting

Ratio achieves benchmark

Ratio is outside benchmark

H1-1 Statement of performance measures – consolidated results (graphs) (continued)

4. Debt service cover ratio



Purpose of debt service cover ratio

This ratio measures the availability of operating cash to service debt including interest, principal and lease payments

Commentary on 2022/23 result

2022/23 ratio 34.03x

Council debt is relatively small and the ratio reflects the impact of increased revenue for the period.

Benchmark: — > 2.00x

Source of benchmark: Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting

Ratio achieves benchmark

Ratio is outside benchmark

5. Rates and annual charges outstanding percentage



Purpose of rates and annual charges outstanding percentage

To assess the impact of uncollected rates and annual charges on Council's liquidity and the adequacy of recovery efforts.

Commentary on 2022/23 result

2022/23 ratio 5.45%

Rates and charges outstanding has increased for the period but still remains well below the benchmark of 10%.

Benchmark: — < 10.00%

Source of benchmark: Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting

Ratio achieves benchmark

Ratio is outside benchmark

6. Cash expense cover ratio



Purpose of cash expense cover ratio

This liquidity ratio indicates the number of months a Council can continue paying for its immediate expenses without additional cash inflow.

Commentary on 2022/23 result

2022/23 ratio 26.03 months

Council has shown a consistent increase above benchmark for this ratio over the past 4 years.

Benchmark: — > 3.00months

Source of benchmark: Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting

Ratio achieves benchmark

Ratio is outside benchmark

H1-2 Financial review

H1-2 Financial review (continued)

Key financial figures of Council over the past 5 years

	2023 \$ '000	2022 \$ '000	2021 \$ '000	2020 \$ '000	2019 \$ '000
Inflows:					
Rates and annual charges revenue	5,052	4,557	4,129	3,875	3,289
User charges revenue	2,225	2,191	1,980	2,297	2,133
Interest and investment revenue (losses)	665	119	74	153	195
Grants income – operating and capital	16,978	13,352	12,476	12,137	11,089
Total income from continuing operations	25,331	20,688	19,113	18,816	18,540
Sale proceeds from IPPE	–	43	–	40	–
Outflows:					
Employee benefits and on-cost expenses	4,936	5,432	5,777	5,020	4,724
Borrowing costs	101	119	125	143	159
Materials and contracts expenses	6,763	3,681	2,814	4,437	2,553
Total expenses from continuing operations	18,482	15,292	14,675	15,246	13,780
Total cash purchases of IPPE	2,551	7,730	6,386	8,277	5,807
Total loan repayments (incl. finance leases)	206	190	257	265	248
Operating surplus/(deficit) (excl. capital income)	4,087	1,656	753	(487)	916
Financial position figures					
Current assets	35,604	25,145	20,586	14,357	12,644
Current liabilities	8,515	8,548	7,613	4,432	3,129
Net current assets	27,089	16,597	12,973	9,925	9,515
Available working capital (Unrestricted net current assets)	4,716	3,050	4,888	2,569	3,190
Cash and investments – unrestricted	2,644	2,651	4,297	1,453	1,133
Cash and investments – internal restrictions	12,996	11,618	6,287	6,446	5,075
Cash and investments – total	32,245	22,523	18,042	11,784	9,846
Total borrowings outstanding (loans, advances and finance leases)	1,640	1,846	2,036	2,293	2,293
Total value of IPPE (excl. land and earthworks)	310,194	291,539	242,898	235,913	222,731
Total accumulated depreciation	90,720	76,665	102,491	97,192	87,387
Indicative remaining useful life (as a % of GBV)	71%	74%	58%	59%	61%
Source: published audited financial statements of Council (current year and prior year)					

H1-3 Council information and contact details

Principal place of business:

70 Market street
BALRANALD NSW 2715

Contact details

Mailing Address:

PO Box 120
BALRANALD NSW 2715

Telephone: 03 5020 1300

Facsimile: 03 5020 1620

Opening hours:

8:30am - 5:00pm
Monday to Friday

Internet: www.balranald.nsw.gov.au

Email: council@balranald.nsw.gov.au

Officers

General Manager

Mr Craig Bennett

Administrator

Mr Michael Colreavy

Responsible Accounting Officer

Mr Craig Bennett

Public Officer

Carol Holmes

Auditors

Auditor General of NSW
Level 19, Darling Park Tower 2, 201 Sussex Street, Sydney
NSW 2000



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Report on the general purpose financial statements

Balranald Shire Council

To the Councillors of Balranald Shire Council

Opinion

I have audited the accompanying financial statements of Balranald 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:

- 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 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 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.

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.



Manuel Moncada
Delegate of the Auditor-General for New South Wales

31 October 2023
SYDNEY



Mr Michael Colreavy
Administrator
Balranald Shire Council
PO Box 120
BALRANALD NSW 2715

Contact: Manuel Moncada
Phone no: 02 9275 7333
Our ref: R008-16585809-47185

31 October 2023

Dear Administrator

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

I have audited the general purpose financial statements (GPFS) of the Balranald 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 an unmodified 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.

INCOME STATEMENT

Operating result

	2023	2022	Variance
	\$m	\$m	%
Rates and annual charges revenue	5.05	4.56	↑ 10.7
Grants and contributions revenue	16.98	13.35	↑ 27.2
Operating result from continuing operations	6.85	5.40	↑ 26.9
Net operating result before capital grants and contributions	4.09	1.66	↑ 146.4

Council's operating result (\$6.85 million including the effect of depreciation and amortisation expense of \$5.89 million) was \$1.45 million higher than the 2021–22 result due increased revenue from grants and contributions.

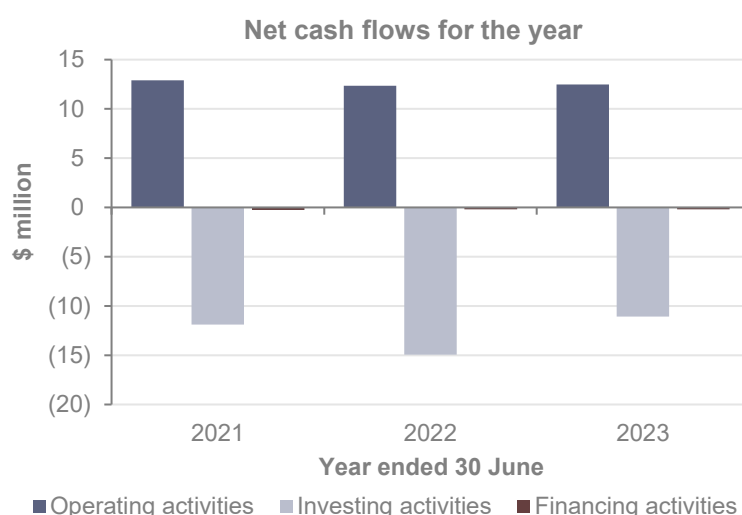
The net operating result before capital grants and contributions (\$4.09 million) was \$2.43 million higher than the 2021–22 result. This was mainly due to the increased grants provided for operating purposes including financial assistance and road repairs.

Rates and annual charges revenue (\$5.05 million) increased by \$490,000 (10.7 per cent) in 2022–2023. Council had an approved Special Rate Variation which resulted in an increase of general rates revenue by 10 per cent in 2022–23.

Grants and contributions revenue (\$16.98 million) increased by \$3.63 million (27.2 per cent) in 2022–2023 due to the recognition of additional revenue from grant funded projects for transport and other infrastructure and an increased in advance payments for financial assistance grants.

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

- The Statement of Cash Flows illustrates the flow of cash and cash equivalents moving in and out of Council during the year and reveals that cash increased by \$1.2 million to \$5.7 million at the close of the year.



FINANCIAL POSITION

Cash and investments

Cash and investments	2023	2022	Commentary
	\$m	\$m	
Total cash, cash equivalents and investments	32.2	22.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> External restrictions include unspent specific purpose grants and domestic waste management charges, and water and sewerage funds. Balances are internally restricted due to Council policy or decisions for forward plans including works program.
Restricted cash and investments:			
• External restrictions	16.6	8.3	
• Internal allocations	13.0	11.6	

Debt

After repaying principal and interest of \$307,000, total debt as at 30 June 2023 was \$1.6 million (2022: \$1.8 million).

PERFORMANCE

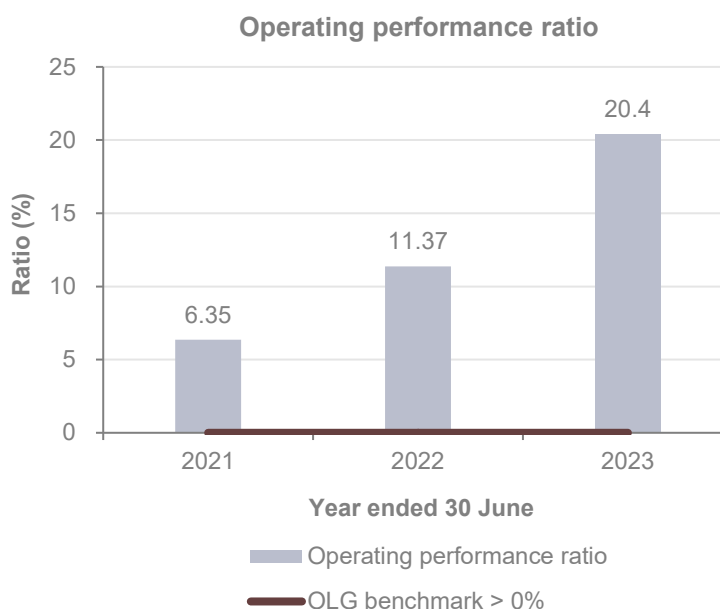
Performance measures

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 Council met the OLG benchmark for the current reporting period.

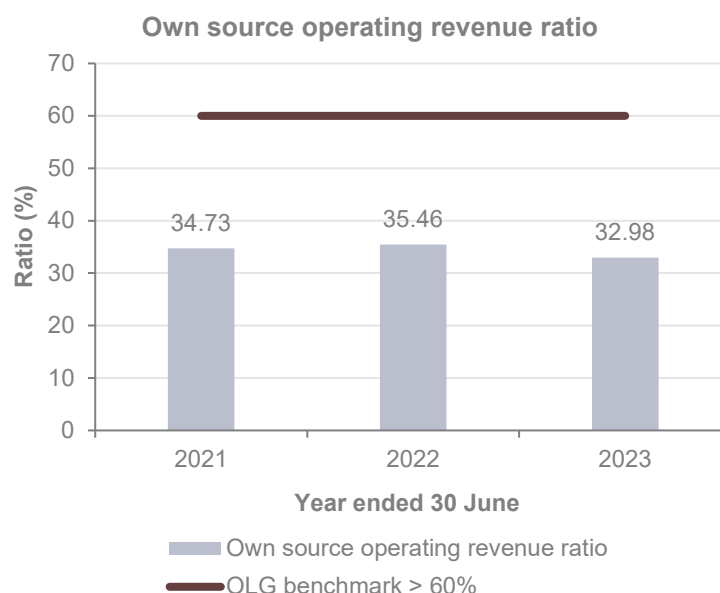
The 'operating performance ratio' measures how well council contained operating expenditure within operating revenue (excluding capital grants and contributions, fair value adjustments, and reversal of revaluation decrements). The benchmark set by OLG is greater than zero per cent.



Own source operating revenue ratio

The Council did not meet the OLG benchmark for the current reporting period.

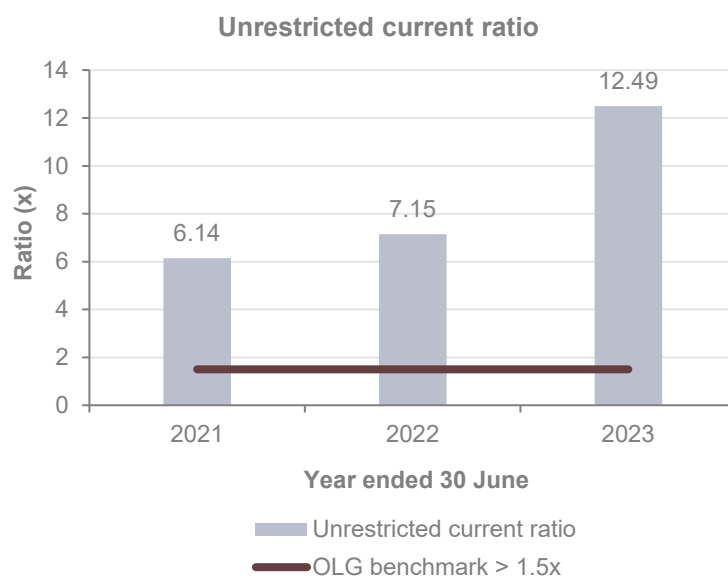
The 'own source operating revenue ratio' measures council's fiscal flexibility and the degree to which it relies on external funding sources such as operating grants and contributions. The benchmark set by OLG is greater than 60 per cent.



Unrestricted current ratio

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

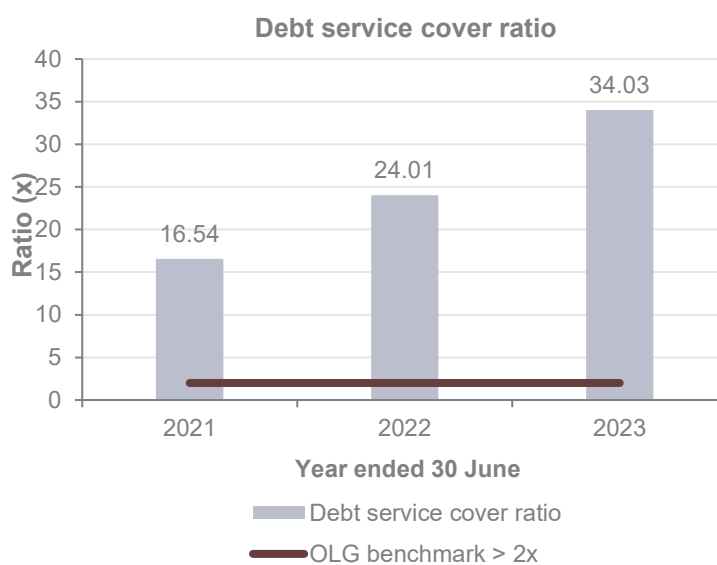
The 'unrestricted current ratio' is specific to local government and represents council's ability to meet its short-term obligations as they fall due. The benchmark set by OLG is greater than 1.5 times.



Debt service cover ratio

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

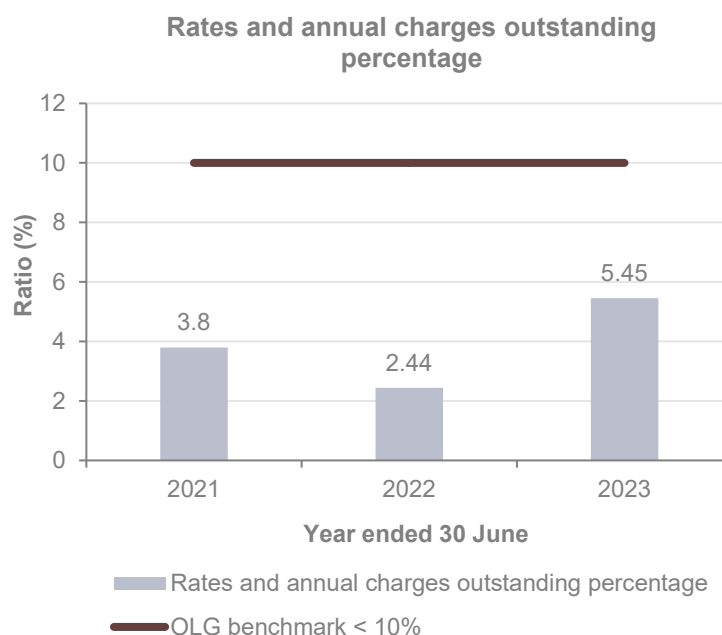
The 'debt service cover ratio' measures the operating cash to service debt including interest, principal and lease payments. The benchmark set by OLG is greater than two times.



Rates and annual charges outstanding percentage

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

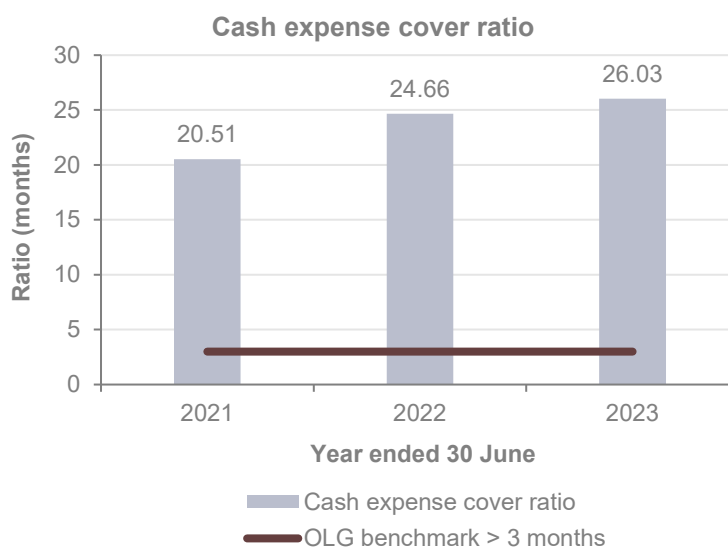
The 'rates and annual charges outstanding percentage' assesses the impact of uncollected rates and annual charges on council's liquidity and the adequacy of debt recovery efforts. The benchmark set by OLG is less than 10 per cent for metropolitan councils.



Cash expense cover ratio

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

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.



Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment renewals

- Council's asset renewal additions for the year were \$2.0 million compared to \$4.3 million for the prior year
- The level of asset renewals during the year represented 35 percent of the total depreciation expense (\$5.7 million) for the year.

OTHER MATTERS

Legislative compliance

My audit procedures did not identify any instances of non-compliance with legislative requirements or a material deficiency in the Council's accounting records or financial statements. The Council's:

- accounting records were maintained in a manner and form to allow the GPFS to be prepared and effectively audited
- staff provided all accounting records and information relevant to the audit.

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.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Manuel Moncada', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Manuel Moncada
Delegate of the Auditor-General for New South Wales

Balranald Shire Council

SPECIAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2023



Special Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2023

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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).

Balranald Shire Council

Special Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2023

Statement by Administrator and Management

Statement by Administrator 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:

- the NSW Government Policy Statement '*Application of National Competition Policy to Local Government*',
- the 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,
- the NSW Office of Water Best-Practice Management of Water and Sewerage Guidelines.

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

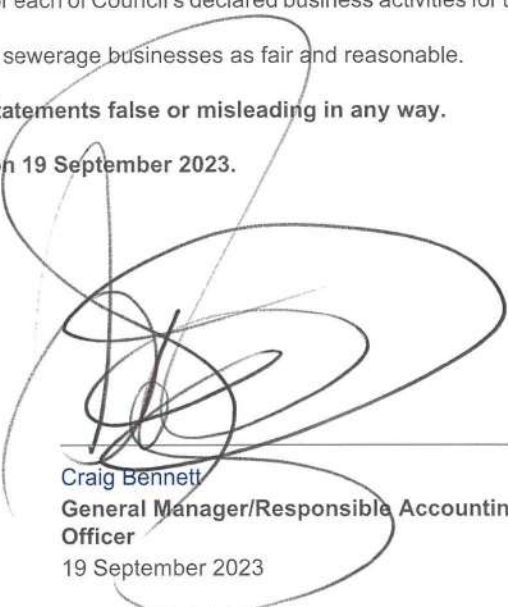
- present fairly the operating result and financial position for each of Council's declared business activities for the year, and
- accord with Council's accounting and other records.
- present overhead reallocation charges to the water and sewerage businesses as fair and reasonable.

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.



Michael Colreavy
Administrator
19 September 2023



Craig Bennett
General Manager/Responsible Accounting
Officer
19 September 2023

Balranald Shire Council

Income Statement of water supply business activity

for the year ended 30 June 2023

	2023 \$ '000	2022 \$ '000
Income from continuing operations		
Access charges	896	807
User charges	710	762
Fees	12	7
Interest and investment income	96	19
Other income	62	71
Total income from continuing operations	1,776	1,666
Expenses from continuing operations		
Employee benefits and on-costs	187	181
Borrowing costs	36	43
Materials and services	591	381
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment	145	287
Water purchase charges	28	23
Other expenses	28	—
Total expenses from continuing operations	1,015	915
Surplus (deficit) from continuing operations before capital amounts	761	751
Surplus (deficit) from continuing operations after capital amounts	761	751
Surplus (deficit) from all operations before tax	761	751
Less: corporate taxation equivalent (25%) [based on result before capital]	(190)	(188)
Surplus (deficit) after tax	571	563
Plus accumulated surplus	6,052	5,301
Plus adjustments for amounts unpaid:		
– Corporate taxation equivalent	190	188
Less:		
Closing accumulated surplus	6,813	6,052
Return on capital %	7.5%	8.0%
Subsidy from Council	—	—
Calculation of dividend payable:		
Surplus (deficit) after tax	571	563
Surplus for dividend calculation purposes	571	563
Potential dividend calculated from surplus	285	282

Balranald Shire Council

Income Statement of sewerage business activity

for the year ended 30 June 2023

	2023 \$ '000	2022 \$ '000
Income from continuing operations		
Access charges	708	641
User charges	96	70
Liquid trade waste charges	8	—
Fees	5	3
Interest and investment income	42	8
Other income	27	26
Total income from continuing operations	886	748
Expenses from continuing operations		
Employee benefits and on-costs	49	55
Materials and services	349	173
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment	114	180
Total expenses from continuing operations	512	408
Surplus (deficit) from continuing operations before capital amounts	374	340
Surplus (deficit) from continuing operations after capital amounts	374	340
Surplus (deficit) from all operations before tax	374	340
Less: corporate taxation equivalent (25%) [based on result before capital]	(94)	(85)
Surplus (deficit) after tax	280	255
Plus accumulated surplus	3,704	3,364
Plus adjustments for amounts unpaid:		
– Corporate taxation equivalent	94	85
Less:		
Closing accumulated surplus	4,078	3,704
Return on capital %	3.7%	3.5%
Subsidy from Council	38	13
Calculation of dividend payable:		
Surplus (deficit) after tax	281	255
Surplus for dividend calculation purposes	281	255
Potential dividend calculated from surplus	140	128

Balranald Shire Council

Statement of Financial Position of water supply business activity

as at 30 June 2023

	2023 \$ '000	2022 \$ '000
ASSETS		
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	3,070	2,368
Investments	600	600
Receivables	250	296
Total current assets	3,920	3,264
Non-current assets		
Receivables	65	—
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	10,599	9,935
Total non-current assets	10,664	9,935
Total assets	14,584	13,199
LIABILITIES		
Current liabilities		
Contract liabilities	6	6
Payables	61	65
Borrowings	79	74
Total current liabilities	146	145
Non-current liabilities		
Borrowings	480	559
Total non-current liabilities	480	559
Total liabilities	626	704
Net assets	13,958	12,495
EQUITY		
Accumulated surplus	6,813	6,052
Revaluation reserves	7,145	6,443
Total equity	13,958	12,495

Balranald Shire Council

Statement of Financial Position of sewerage business activity

as at 30 June 2023

	2023 \$ '000	2022 \$ '000
ASSETS		
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	1,215	752
Investments	500	500
Receivables	63	60
Total current assets	1,778	1,312
Non-current assets		
Receivables	15	—
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	10,244	9,642
Total non-current assets	10,259	9,642
Total assets	12,037	10,954
LIABILITIES		
Current liabilities		
Payables	12	15
Total current liabilities	12	15
Total liabilities	12	15
Net assets	12,025	10,939
EQUITY		
Accumulated surplus	4,078	3,704
Revaluation reserves	7,947	7,235
Total equity	12,025	10,939

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:

Category 1

(where gross operating turnover is over \$2 million)

Nil

Category 2

(where gross operating turnover is less than \$2 million)

a. Balranald Shire Council combined water supplies

Comprising the whole of the operations and assets of the raw and filtered water supply systems, that services the towns of Balranald and Euston.

b. Balranald Shire Council sewerage service

Comprising the whole of the operations and assets of the sewerage reticulation and treatment systems, that services the towns of Balranald and Euston.

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):

Note – Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Notional rate applied (%)

Corporate income tax rate – 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 \$4,616,000 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 the 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.

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 corporate income tax rate, currently 25% (21/22 25%).

Income tax is only applied where a gain/ (loss) from ordinary activities before capital amounts has been achieved.

Since the taxation equivalent is notional – that is, it is payable to 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.

Note – Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

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.

Local government water supply and sewerage businesses are permitted to pay an annual dividend from its water supply or sewerage business surplus.

Each dividend must be calculated and approved in accordance with the section 4 of DPE - Water's regulatory and assurance framework and must not exceed:

- 50% of this 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).

In accordance with section 4 of DPE - Water's regulatory and assurance framework, statement of compliance and statement of 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

Balranald Shire Council

To the Councillors of Balranald Shire Council

Opinion

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

The Declared Business Activities of the Council are:

- Water supply
- Sewerage

In my opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Council's declared Business Activities as at 30 June 2023, and their 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.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Manuel Moncada', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Manuel Moncada
Delegate of the Auditor-General for New South Wales

31 October 2023
SYDNEY

Balranald Shire Council

SPECIAL SCHEDULES
for the year ended 30 June 2023



Contents	Page
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Balranald Shire Council

Permissible income for general rates

	Notes	Calculation 2022/23 \$ '000	Calculation 2023/24 \$ '000
Notional general income calculation ¹			
Last year notional general income yield	a	2,880	3,170
Plus or minus adjustments ²	b	(4)	5
Notional general income	c = a + b	2,876	3,175
Permissible income calculation			
Special variation percentage ³	d	10.00%	10.00%
Plus special variation amount	h = d x (c + g)	288	318
Sub-total	k = (c + g + h + i + j)	3,164	3,493
Plus (or minus) last year's carry forward total	l	(6)	(30)
Less valuation objections claimed in the previous year	m	(18)	—
Sub-total	n = (l + m)	(24)	(30)
Total permissible income	o = k + n	3,140	3,463
Less notional general income yield	p	3,170	3,449
Catch-up or (excess) result	q = o - p	(30)	13
Carry forward to next year ⁴	t = q + r + s	(30)	13

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.
- (4) 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 Local Government Act 1993. 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

Balranald Shire Council

To the Councillors of Balranald Shire Council

Opinion

I have audited the accompanying Special Schedule – Permissible income for general rates (the Schedule) of Balranald 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.



Manuel Moncada
Delegate of the Auditor-General for New South Wales

31 October 2023
SYDNEY

Balranald Shire Council

Report on infrastructure assets as at 30 June 2023

Asset Class	Asset Category	Estimated cost to bring assets to satisfactory standard	Estimated cost to bring to the agreed level of service set by Council	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				
		\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	1	2	3	4	5
Buildings	Buildings	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	Buildings – non-specialised	170	125	29	37	27,033	44,893	35.0%	60.0%	5.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	Buildings – specialised	—	—	—	26	1,146	1,562	95.0%	0.0%	5.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	Other	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	Sub-total	170	125	29	63	28,179	46,455	37.0%	58.0%	5.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Other structures	Other structures	—	—	—	251	7,328	9,487	10.0%	40.0%	40.0%	10.0%	0.0%
	Other	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	Sub-total	—	—	—	251	7,328	9,487	10.0%	40.0%	40.0%	10.0%	0.0%
Roads	Roads	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	Sealed roads	2,700	2,700	65	685	114,172	132,339	75.0%	5.0%	15.0%	3.0%	2.0%
	Unsealed roads	1,800	1,800	683	2,246	38,750	59,331	5.0%	10.0%	50.0%	30.0%	5.0%
	Bridges	—	—	—	—	1,437	2,681	7.0%	0.0%	93.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	Footpaths	15	80	13	21	1,363	2,001	0.0%	25.0%	75.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	Other road assets	—	—	34	37	1,520	2,426	70.0%	0.0%	30.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	Kerb and channels	—	—	15	15	3,151	4,761	30.0%	45.0%	15.0%	10.0%	0.0%
	Other road assets (incl. bulk earth works)	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	Sub-total	4,515	4,580	810	3,004	150,440	203,539	51.8%	7.5%	27.0%	10.9%	2.8%
Water supply network	Water supply network	800	2,200	905	515	9,808	18,345	20.0%	10.0%	50.0%	12.0%	8.0%
	Other	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	Sub-total	800	2,200	905	515	9,808	18,345	20.0%	10.0%	50.0%	12.0%	8.0%
Sewerage network	Sewerage network	450	1,200	372	110	9,943	13,751	7.0%	50.0%	30.0%	8.0%	5.0%
	Other	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	Sub-total	450	1,200	372	110	9,943	13,751	7.0%	50.0%	30.0%	8.0%	5.0%
Stormwater drainage	Stormwater drainage	75	150	13	10	4,603	6,101	15.0%	80.0%	5.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	Other	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	Sub-total	75	150	13	10	4,603	6,101	15.0%	80.0%	5.0%	0.0%	0.0%

Balranald Shire Council

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

Asset Class	Asset Category	Estimated cost to bring assets to satisfactory standard	Estimated cost to bring to the agreed level of service set by Council	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				
		\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	1	2	3	4	5
Open space / recreational assets	Swimming pools	—	—	—	—	939	1,239	10.0%	40.0%	45.0%	0.0%	5.0%
	Other	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	Sub-total	—	—	—	—	939	1,239	10.0%	40.0%	45.0%	0.0%	5.0%
Other infrastructure assets	Other	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	Sub-total	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Total – all assets		6,010	8,255	2,129	3,953	211,240	298,917	43.3%	20.1%	25.2%	8.9%	2.5%

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

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

Balranald Shire Council

Report on infrastructure assets as at 30 June 2023

Infrastructure asset performance indicators (consolidated) *

\$ '000	Amounts 2023	Indicator 2023	Indicators 2022 2021		Benchmark
Buildings and infrastructure renewals ratio					
Asset renewals ¹	1,759	19.97%	89.06%	57.52%	> 100.00%
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment	8,808				
Infrastructure backlog ratio					
Estimated cost to bring assets to a satisfactory standard	6,010	2.81%	1.82%	2.75%	< 2.00%
Net carrying amount of infrastructure assets	214,067				
Asset maintenance ratio					
Actual asset maintenance	3,953	185.67%	92.73%	104.01%	> 100.00%
Required asset maintenance	2,129				
Cost to bring assets to agreed service level					
Estimated cost to bring assets to an agreed service level set by Council	8,255	2.76%	2.23%	2.61%	
Gross replacement cost	298,917				

(*) 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.

Balranald Shire Council

Report on infrastructure assets as at 30 June 2023

Infrastructure asset performance indicators (by fund)

	General fund		Water fund		Sewer fund		Benchmark
\$ '000	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	
Buildings and infrastructure renewals ratio							
Asset renewals ¹							
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment	20.50%	85.22%	0.00%	89.34%	0.00%	190.30%	> 100.00%
Infrastructure backlog ratio							
Estimated cost to bring assets to a satisfactory standard							
Net carrying amount of infrastructure assets	2.45%	1.35%	8.16%	8.64%	4.53%	4.72%	< 2.00%
Asset maintenance ratio							
Actual asset maintenance							
Required asset maintenance	390.61%	104.27%	56.91%	54.96%	29.57%	72.89%	> 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	1.82%	1.23%	11.99%	11.86%	8.73%	9.07%	

(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.