

2020 / 2021

Annual REPORT



SOUTHERN MALLEE DISTRICT COUNCIL



Ngarkat Acknowledgement

Southern Mallee District Council acknowledges the Ngarkat people as the traditional custodians of the land on which we meet and work. We respect their culture and we extend that respect to other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.



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ACHIEVEMENTS

SOUTHERN MALLEE DISTRICT COUNCIL HAD A LONG LIST OF ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE 2020/21 YEAR. THIS INCLUDED:



Pinnaroo Village Green Masterplan

Council's bold new vision to revitalise the heart of Pinnaroo commenced with the first stage of the project being delivered.

Council worked collaboratively with the local community to develop the Pinnaroo Village Green Masterplan by the end of last financial year. This financial year has seen Council engage LCS Landscapes to deliver the first stage of the project.

The plan includes a long-term vision to create a recreation, visitor, and community hub on underutilised rail corridor land in the town centre.

The first stage includes the development of a significantly improved paved and landscaped forecourt to the museum entry, footpath and kerbing works along the north side of the main street, refurbishment of the war memorial, a civic square, and improved access and parking for caravans, RVs and large vehicles and substantial landscaping.

Future stages of the plan will include further walking and cycling trails, a bike track, new playground, and new seasonal wetland areas.

The project continues to be driven by a project steering committee with community and Council representatives and continues to draw on community feedback.

The delivery of the plan, courtesy of substantial Commonwealth funding, is exciting and will significantly transform the heart of Pinnaroo into a space that will attract visitors and locals alike to play, relax and explore.

Experienced urban design firm Wax Design is working with Council to develop detailed design for stage two and three of the plan in consultation with the steering committee.

Delivery of stage two and three will commence in January 2022.

Ongoing improvement to local roads

Southern Mallee District Council again delivered a range of significant local road projects this financial year.

This included renewal of six unsealed roads across the district. Council also undertook substantial renewal works on Billiatt Road and Kulkami Road to improve safety.

Council also delivered six footpath projects across Pinnaroo and Lameroo.

Lameroo Town Centre Plan

Council also developed a plan to revitalise the centre of Lameroo which was adopted by Council late last financial year.

The plan includes a long-term vision to create a vibrant activity hub in the centre of Lameroo that will appeal to residents and visitors and stimulate activity in the town centre.

Stage one was complete this financial year and includes a bold new playground, dog park, pump track and substantial landscaping. LCS Landscapes was contracted to deliver the first stage.

Future stages of the plan will see the delivery of new paths, splash park, street tree planting, new road with improved access and parking for caravans, RVs and large vehicles and substantial landscaping.

The project has been driven by a project steering committee with community and Council representatives and has continued to include extensive community consultation.

This plan is exciting and will be transformative for the centre of Lameroo.

Experienced urban design firm Birdseye Studios developed the first stage design and is now working with Council and the steering committee to develop the detailed design for stage two and three.

Delivery of stage two and three will commence in January 2022.



Pinnaroo named the South Australian Agricultural Town of the Year

The community nominated Pinnaroo for this prestigious award. Council worked collaboratively with the community to support the nomination.

Pinnaroo was ultimately named the 2020 South Australian Agricultural Town of the Year at the State Government and Solstice Media's Regional Showcase Awards in Clare on 26 February 2021. Pinnaroo was selected by judges for the top title ahead of four other finalists – Woodside, Kapunda, Kimba and Parndana – with 70 towns nominated in this year's contest.

Pinnaroo was recognised for its thriving and diverse farming sector with broadacre farming, pistachio, olive, turf, honey, meat, potato and other vegetable production. The award also recognised the many successful community initiatives, events and projects progressing in Pinnaroo. The success of the town and its border community was acknowledged despite the ongoing challenges of COVID-19 and border restrictions.

The community celebrated the award at a well-attended family event at the Pinnaroo sports club with live entertainment and food. The event was sponsored by the State Government and attended by the Hon. David Basham MP, Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development.



MAYOR'S Message

THIS REPORT DEMONSTRATES A YEAR OF SOLID PROGRESS AGAINST THE STRATEGIES IN COUNCIL'S NEWLY ADOPTED STRATEGIC PLAN 2021-25."

I am pleased to present Southern Mallee District Council's Annual Report for the 2020/21 financial year.

This report demonstrates a year of solid progress against the strategies in Council's newly adopted Strategic Plan 2021-25. The Council elected in November 2018 moved into its third year of service to the community during this financial year. The Council continued to make robust and evidence-based decisions on the matters of strategic importance to our community. Council also directed funds to important projects aimed at upgrading our key roads, renewing our community buildings and pools and providing essential services to our community.

The challenges of the coronavirus pandemic and associated state border restrictions continued to impact our community, however, the community has remained resilient, and our organisation has continued to deliver.

We have supported various government agencies and the community to keep our community safe. Meanwhile our staff have continued to deliver services and projects.

This financial year saw the commencement of delivery of the masterplans for our two commercial centres. We also commenced the rollout of our newly adopted regional brand concept for our district to help drive future economic development.

We continued to expend and attract substantial external grant funding for our flagship projects through outstanding grant applications and a demonstrated success in delivering grant funded projects. This year we secured another \$1.35m of Commonwealth Government Local Roads and Community Infrastructure funding and \$800,000 of State Government Local Government Infrastructure Partnership Program funding. This will enable delivery of many local priority projects including the new Lameroo Multi-purpose Community Space, Pinnaroo Eastern Entrance Project and Lameroo Pool Renewal project.

We also continued to support community groups and provided \$40,000 in community grants to community groups across the district.

All of these significant achievements have been delivered whilst also ensuring continued strong financial management and long-term financial sustainability.

We continue striving to provide a range of projects and services that are responsive to our community's needs. Our Council staff and Councillors continue to work tirelessly with dedication to the community to make Southern Mallee an even better place than it already is.



Cr Jeff Nickolls
Mayor

CEO'S Message

The 2020/21 financial year was another busy and productive year for Southern Mallee District Council. Council has focused its efforts on achieving the strategies in its Strategic Plan whilst also delivering sound financial management and organisational efficiencies.

Council has continued to work towards its vision of a prosperous and welcoming community where we share a sustainable and safe environment and diverse economy.

This document represents the Annual Report of Southern Mallee District Council for the period 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021. The report details the achievements of Council against its strategic objectives and incorporates the audited financial statements of the organisation.

The document also includes the annual report from our subsidiary organisation the Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association.

Southern Mallee District Council staff are passionate and skilled and provide a diverse range of services that are highly valued by the community. These services include childcare, customer service, community buildings and pools, road works, parks and gardens, and waste management. Our staff have continued to work hard for the community over the financial year.

Council also delivered a range of capital projects including the first stage of the Lameroo Town Centre and much of the first stage of the Pinnaroo Village Green, major renewal of six of our rural unsealed roads, strategic footpath projects in Pinnaroo and Lameroo and upgrades to several community buildings.

Council continued to support community groups during 2020/21 with its generous \$40,000 community grants program. This led to a range of great community projects across the district.



Jason Taylor
Chief Executive Officer





ELECTED *Members*



Cr Jeff Nickolls
Mayor



Paul Ireland
Deputy Mayor



Andrew Grieger
Elected Member



Mick Sparnon
Elected Member



Neville Pfeiffer
Elected Member



Rebecca Boseley
Elected Member



Trevor Hancock
Elected Member



inspire engage connect

COUNCIL'S REPRESENTATION QUOTA

Council's representation structure is seven councilors elected as representative of the area as a whole.

As of 28 February 2021, there were 1,312 electors on the Council voters roll in Southern Mallee District Council with an average representation quota of 187.

The following table provides a comparison of representation quota with other similar sized Council's as at 28 February 2021.

COUNCIL	NUMBER OF ELECTORS	REPRESENTATION QUOTA
Barunga West	1961	218
Ceduna	2056	228
Kingston	1806	226
Mount Remarkable	2078	297
Southern Mallee	1312	187
Streaky Bay	1579	197
Tumby Bay	2008	287

An elector representation review (required by chapter 3, part 1, division 2 of the Local Government Act 1999) was completed in 2017. The Electoral Commissioner certified that the review undertaken by Council satisfied the requirements of the Act.

The outcome of the review saw Council reduce councilor representation from 9 to 7 and abolish wards to become a district from the November 2018 elections.

COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Elections for Council are held every four years in accordance with the Local Government (Elections) Act 1999.

Council elections were held in November 2018 with the **next general election scheduled for November 2022**.



COUNCIL DECISION MAKING STRUCTURE

Decisions of Council are made through various council meetings, committee meetings or by staff through delegated authority. Informed decision making is critical to ensure that decisions are made in the best interest of the wider community. All council and committee meetings are conducted in accordance with the Local Government Act (Procedures at Meetings) Regulations 2013. Meetings of the Development Assessment Panel and Building Fire Safety Committee are convened under the PDI Act 2016.

ELECTED MEMBER ATTENDANCE AT COUNCIL MEETINGS

(Ordinary and Special)

TOTAL NUMBER
OF MEETINGS

13

CURRENT COUNCIL	JULY 2020 - JUNE 2021
Cr Jeffrey Nickolls (Mayor)	13
Cr Neville Pfeiffer	13
Cr Rebecca Boseley	12
Cr Andrew Grieger	13
Cr Trevor Hancock	12
Cr Paul Ireland (Deputy Mayor)	12
Cr Mick Sparnon	12

ELECTED MEMBER ALLOWANCES 2020/2021

Elected member allowances are set by the Remuneration Tribunal and take effect from the first ordinary meeting of the Council held after the conclusion of the periodic elections. (Section 76 and Regulation 4, Local Government (Allowances and Benefits) Regulations 2010).

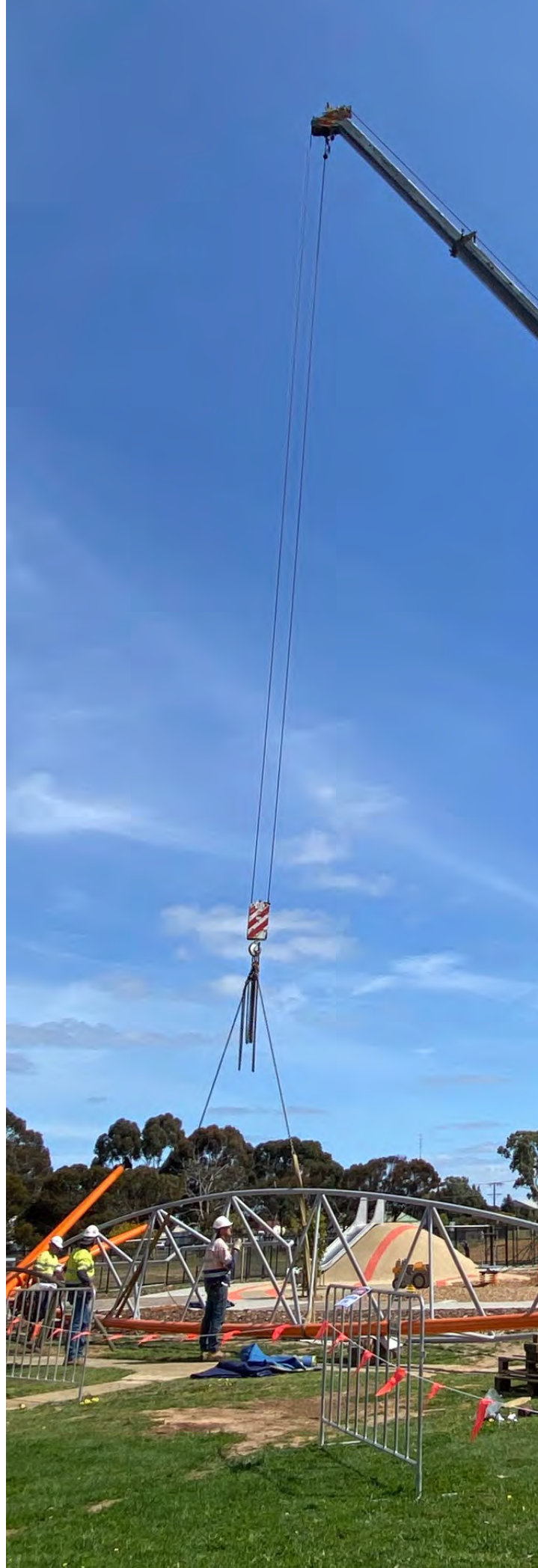
The following allowances are paid to elected members as at 30 June 2021:

Mayor	\$ 27,133.65
Deputy Mayor	\$ 8,479.28
Councillors	\$ 6,783.40

Members receive approved travel allowances to attend council meetings and for conducting council business.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATIONS

In accordance with Section 74 of the Local Government Act 1999, elected members and staff are given the opportunity to declare an interest in a matter before the Council which is recorded in the Council minutes. Training on the new updated conflict of interest requirements has previously been provided to all elected members.



CODE OF CONDUCT OR PRACTICE

The following is a list of Council codes of conduct or practice, adopted in accordance with the Local Government Act 1999 or the Local Government (Elections) Act 1999 and Local Government (Procedures at Meetings) Regulations 2000:

- Code of conduct for elected members
- Council members conduct complaint handling policy
- Employee conduct policy
- Volunteer code of conduct policy
- Access to council and committee meetings and council documents code of practice.

During 2020-2021 there were no formal code of conduct complaints lodged relating to the conduct of individual elected members.



ELECTED MEMBER TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT

Council is committed to provide training and development activities for its elected members. It also recognises its responsibility to develop and adopt a policy for this purpose under Section 80A of the Local Government Act.

All current elected members have previously undertaken an extensive induction program and all members have completed the mandatory training component. Elected members continue to receive regular informal updates on changes to legislation as it applies through regular briefings. They are also encouraged to attend various local government training sessions, seminars, conferences and on-line training programs.

The following activities have been attended by elected members since November 2018:

- Introduction to local government training
- Legal responsibilities training
- Council and committee meetings training
- Financial management training
- Media training
- Chaining and chamber etiquette training
- Local Government Association annual general meetings and conferences
- Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association meetings and workshops
- Due diligence training for elected members.

DELEGATIONS

In keeping with legislative requirements, Council determines:

- the policies to be applied by the Council in exercising its discretionary powers;
- the type, range and scope of projects to be undertaken by Council; and,
- the resources which are to be made available to undertake such works and services.

In accordance with Section 44 of the Local Government Act, certain powers, functions and duties have been delegated to the Chief Executive Officer from the Council by resolution.

The Chief Executive Officer has in turn sub-delegated some of these powers, functions and duties to appropriate Council officers. Such delegations enable the effective and efficient operation of the Council administration. No delegations have been given to Section 41 Committees by the Council. The Council reviews these delegations regularly.

REGIONAL SUBSIDIARIES

The Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association

The Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association represents Berri Barmera Council, Coorong District Council, District Council of Karoonda East Murray, District Council of Loxton Waikerie, Mid Murray Council, Renmark Paringa Council, Southern Mallee District Council, and the Rural City of Murray Bridge.

It facilitates, co-ordinates, advocates and undertakes projects for the councils it represents in the areas of the environment, economic and social development with the objective of achieving continuing improvement for the benefit of the communities of its constituent councils.

REVIEW OF COUNCIL'S DECISIONS

As required by the Local Government Act 1999, Council has developed a complaint framework which incorporates the review of decisions made by the Council or by administration under delegation.

The complaint framework demonstrates Council's commitment to transparent decision-making processes, providing a fair and objective procedure for the hearing of review of decisions and identifying areas for the improvement of services.

There was a single complaint received relating to Council expenditure on a specific project during 2019/2020.

CONFIDENTIALITY PROVISIONS

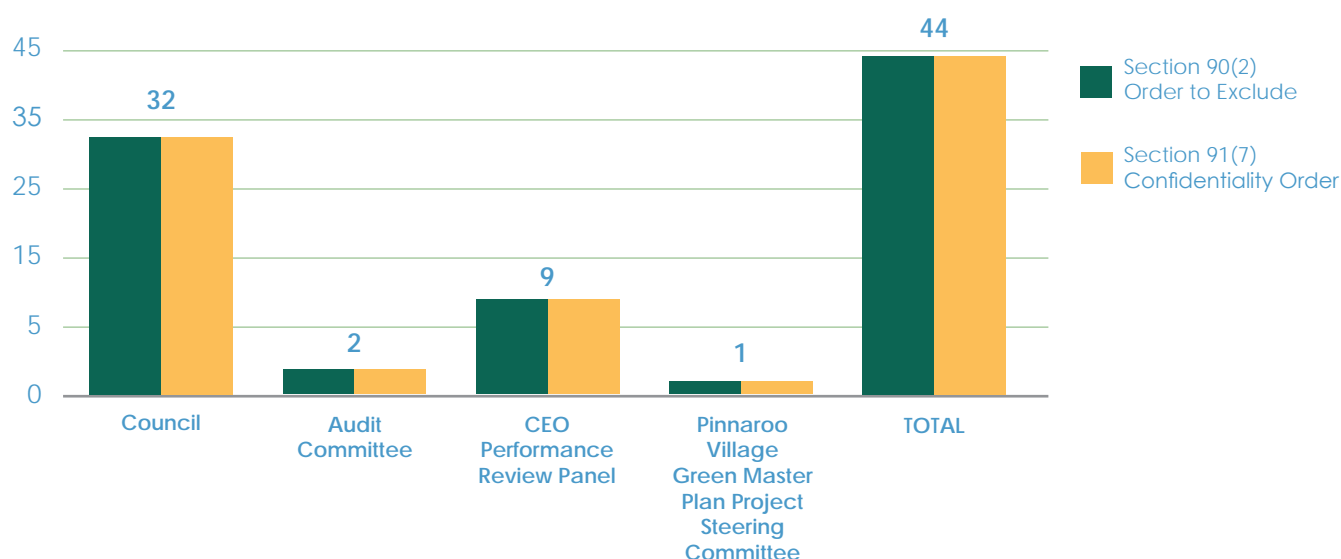
Use of Sections 90(2) and 91(7) of the Local Government Act 1999 by Council and its Council Committees

Section 90(2) of the Local Government Act 1999 (the Act) enables a meeting of Council or a committee to determine an order that the public be excluded from attendance at so much of a meeting as is necessary to receive and discuss, or consider in confidence, any information or matter as prescribed in Section 90(3) of the Act.

Section 91(7) of the Act enables a meeting of Council, or a committee having considered a matter on a confidential basis to determine an order that the document or part be kept confidential.

The table below identifies the total number of orders pursuant to Section 90(2) and Section 91(7) of the Act made at each meeting during the 2020–21 financial year.

NUMBER OF TIMES CONFIDENTIALITY PROVISIONS WERE USED DURING THE 2020–21 FINANCIAL YEAR:



The date, meeting, subject matter and basis for confidentiality for Section 90(2) of the Act and Section 91(7) of the Act orders in the 2020–21 financial year is enclosed.

The date and subject of each Section 91(7) of the Act confidentiality order remaining operative, in part or full, dated from 1 January 2010 to the end of the 2020–21 financial year is enclosed.

Use of Section 90(3) of the Local Government Act 1999

The table below identifies the number of times a provision under Section 90(3) of the Local Government Act 1999 was utilised to exclude the public:

(a)	Information, the disclosure of which, would involve the unreasonable disclosure of information concerning the personal affairs of any person (living or dead)	13
(b)	Information, the disclosure of which (i) Could reasonably be expected to confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting, or proposing to conduct, business, or to prejudice the commercial position of the Council and (ii) would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest	1
(c)	Information, the disclosure of which would reveal a trade secret	-
(d)	Commercial information of a confidential nature (not being a trade secret) the disclosure of which (i) could reasonably be expected to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied the information, or to confer a commercial advantage on a third party and (ii) would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest	5
(e)	Matters affecting the security of the Council, members or employees of the Council, or Council property, or the safety of any person	4
(f)	Information, the disclosure of which, could reasonably be expected to prejudice the maintenance of law, including by affecting (or potentially affecting) the prevention, detection or investigation of a criminal offence, or the right to a fair trial	-
(g)	Matters that must be considered in confidence in order to ensure that the Council does not breach any law, order or direction of a court or tribunal constituted by law, any duty of confidence, or other legal obligation or duty	2
(h)	Legal advice	3
(i)	Information relating to actual litigation, or litigation that the Council or Council committee believes on reasonable grounds will take place, involving the Council or an employee of the Council	-
(j)	Information, the disclosure of which would (i) divulge information provided on a confidential basis by or to a Minister of the Crown, or another public authority or official (not being an employee of the Council, or a person, or (ii) on balance, be contrary to the public interest	-
(k)	Tenders for the supply of goods, the provision of services or the carrying out of works	23
(m)	Information relating to a proposed amendment to a Development Plan under the Development Act 1993 before a Plan Amendment Report relating to the amendment is released for public consultation under that Act	-
(n)	Information relevant to the review of a determination of a Council under the Freedom of Information Act 1991	-
(d)(ii) & (k)	Combination of provisions above	1
(a), (e), (g) & (h)	Combination of provisions above	1
(a), (b)(ii), (e) & (h)	Combination of provisions above	1





REPORT ON THE USE OF 90(2) & (7) AND 91(7) BY COUNCIL AND ITS COMMITTEES JULY 2020 – JUNE 2021

90 (2) & (7) Order to Exclude

91 (7) Confidentiality Order

Subject Matter and Basis within ambit of 90 (3)

Order to Exclude and Confidentiality Orders

(90) (2)	Meeting Date	Meeting	Order to exclude – Section (90) (2) & (7) of the Local Government Act 1999 & Basis [Section 90(3) of the Local Government Act 1999	(91) (7)	Confidentiality Order – Section (91) (7) of the Local Government Act 1999 & Basis [Section 90(3)] of the Local Government Act 1999
1	28.10.2020	Audit Committee	In-Camera Discussion with External Auditor [item 5.1] Section 90(3) (h)	1	Documents considered by the Council, including the officer's report and all minutes
2	19.8.2020	Council	Remediation of Contaminated Land Update [item 16.1] Section 90(3) (d)(ii) and (k)	2	Documents considered by the Council, including the officer's report and all minutes
3	16.09.2020	CEO Performance Review Panel	Presentation of CEO Performance Review Survey Report [item 5.1] Section 90(3) (a)	3	Documents considered by the Council, including the officer's report and all minutes
4	16.09.2020	CEO Performance Review Panel	Review of the CEO's Strategic Goals [item 5.2] Section 90(3) (a)	4	Documents considered by the Council, including the officer's report and all minutes
5	16.09.2020	Council	Town Centre Revitalisation Projects Stage 2 & 3 Design Submissions [item 16.2] Section 90(3) (k)	5	Documents considered by the Council, including the officer's report and all minutes
6	16.9.2020	Council	Questions without notice – Cr Andrew Grieger – Council Property Works [item 16.1] Section 90(3) (a), (e), (g) and (h)	6	Documents considered by the Council, including the officer's report and all minutes
7	16.9.2020	Council	Legal Advice on Questions On Notice And Confidentiality [item 16.3] Section 90(3) (a), (b)(ii), (e) and (h)	7	Documents considered by the Council, including the officer's report and all minutes
8	21.10.2020	Council	Plant Replacement Program – Truck Tender [item 16.1] Section 90(3) (k)	8	Documents considered by the Council, including the officer's report and all minutes

(90) (2)	Meeting Date	Meeting	Order to exclude – Section (90) (2) & (7) of the Local Government Act 1999 & Basis [Section 90(3) of the Local Government Act 1999	(91) (7)	Confidentiality Order – Section (91) (7) of the Local Government Act 1999 & Basis [Section 90(3)] of the Local Government Act 1999
9	21.10.2020	Council	Pinnaroo Community Wastewater Management System Pipework Renewal Project Stage 2 – Awarding of Contract [item 16.2] Section 90(3) (k)	9	Documents considered by the Council, including the officer's report and all minutes
10	21.10.2020	Council	Council Land Sale [item 16.3] Section 90(3) (d)(i)	10	Documents considered by the Council, including the officer's report and all minutes
11	21.10.2020	Council	Minutes of the CEO Performance Review Panel Wednesday 16 September 2020 [item 16.4] Section 90(3) (d)(i)	11	Documents considered by the Council, including the officer's report and all minutes
12	04.11.2020	CEO Performance Review Panel	Review of the CEO's Strategic Goals [item 5.1] Section 90(3) (a)	12	Documents considered by the Council, including the officer's report and all minutes
13	04.11.2020	CEO Performance Review Panel	CEO Remuneration Review [item 5.2] Section 90(3) (a)	13	Documents considered by the Council, including the officer's report and all minutes
14	04.11.2020	CEO Performance Review Panel	Discussion of Proposed Strategic Goals and Remuneration Review with CEO [item 5.3] Section 90(3) (a)	14	Documents considered by the Council, including the officer's report and all minutes
15	18.11.2020	Council	Grader Tender [item 16.1] Section 90(3) (k)	15	Documents considered by the Council, including the officer's report and all minutes
16	18.11.2020	Council	Pinnaroo Community Wastewater Management System Pipework Renewal Project Stage 2 – Awarding of Contract [item 16.2] Section 90(3) (k)	16	Documents considered by the Council, including the officer's report and all minutes
17	18.11.2020	Council	Minutes of the CEO Performance Review Panel Wednesday 4 November 2020 [item 16.3] Section 90(3) (a)	17	Documents considered by the Council, including the officer's report and all minutes
18	15.12.2020	Audit Committee	External Auditors Tender [item 7.1] Section 90(3) (k)	18	Documents considered by the Council, including the officer's report and all minutes
19	16.12.2020	Council	Council Land Sale – Parilla Accommodation Facility [item 17.1] Section 90(3) (d)(i)	19	Documents considered by the Council, including the officer's report and all minutes
20	16.12.2020	Council	Awarding of Contract – Cleaning Services for Council Facilities [item 17.2] Section 90 (3) (k)	20	Documents considered by the Council, including the officer's report and all minutes
21	16.12.2020	Council	Awarding of Contract – Shoulder Widening at Kulkami Road and Billiatt Road [item 17.3] Section 90(3) (k)	21	Documents considered by the Council, including the officer's report and all minutes
22	20.01.2021	Council	Minutes of the Audit Committee Meeting Tuesday 15 December 2020 [item 7.1] Section 90(3) (a)	22	Documents considered by the Council, including the officer's report and all minutes

(90) (2)	Meeting Date	Meeting	Order to exclude – Section 90(2) & (7) of the Local Government Act 1999 & Basis [Section 90(3) of the Local Government Act 1999	(91) (7)	Confidentiality Order – Section (91) (7) of the Local Government Act 1999 & Basis [Section 90(3)] of the Local Government Act 1999
23	20.01.2021	Council	Awarding of contract - concrete footpath construction [item 17.1] Section 90(3) (k)	23	Documents considered by the Council, including the officer's report and all minutes
24	17.03.2021	Council	Town centres revitalisation project stage 1 tender award [item 18.1] Section 90(3) (k)	24	Documents considered by the Council, including the officer's report and all minutes
25	30.03.2021	CEO Performance Review Panel	Mid-Year Review of CEO's Performance [item 7.1] Section 90(3) (a)	25	Documents considered by the Council, including the officer's report and all minutes
26	30.03.2021	CEO Performance Review Panel	Discussion with Jason Taylor [item 7.2] Section 90(3) (a)	26	Documents considered by the Council, including the officer's report and all minutes
27	30.03.2021	CEO Performance Review Panel	CEO Performance Review June 2021 [item 7.3] Section 90(3) (a)	27	Documents considered by the Council, including the officer's report and all minutes
28	21.04.2021	Council	Confidential item [item 18.1] Section 90(3) (g)	28	Documents considered by the Council, including the officer's report and all minutes
29	21.04.2021	Council	Lameroo Town Centre Project – Centre Pivot Award of Contract [item 18.2] Section 90(3) (k)	29	Documents considered by the Council, including the officer's report and all minutes
30	21.04.2021	Council	Lameroo Town Centre Project – Pump Track Award of Contract [item 18.3] Section 90(3) (k)	30	Documents considered by the Council, including the officer's report and all minutes
31	21.04.2021	Council	Mower Tender [item 18.4] Section 90(3) (k)	31	Documents considered by the Council, including the officer's report and all minutes
32	21.04.2021	Council	Minutes of the confidential CEO performance review panel Tuesday 30 March 2021 [item 18.5] Section 90(3) €	32	Documents considered by the Council, including the officer's report and all minutes
33	21.04.2021	Council	Zerella Fresh request for Council assistance [item 18.6] Section 90(3) (d)(i)	33	Documents considered by the Council, including the officer's report and all minutes
34	19.05.2021	Council	Lameroo Swimming Pool [item 18.1] Section 90(3) (k)	34	Documents considered by the Council, including the officer's report and all minutes
35	19.05.2021	Council	Solar Program Tender – Award of Contract [item 18.2] Section 90(3) (k)	35	Documents considered by the Council, including the officer's report and all minutes
36	19.05.2021	Council	Pinnaroo Pool – Award of Contract [item 18.3] Section 90(3) (k)	36	Documents considered by the Council, including the officer's report and all minutes
37	05.05.2021	CEO Performance Review Panel	Discussion for the CEO Performance Review – June 2021 [item 6.1] Section 90(3) (a)	37	Documents considered by the Council, including the officer's report and all minutes

(90) (2)	Meeting Date	Meeting	Order to exclude – Section (90) (2) & (7) of the Local Government Act 1999 & Basis [Section 90(3) of the Local Government Act 1999	(91) (7)	Confidentiality Order – Section (91) (7) of the Local Government Act 1999 & Basis [Section 90(3)] of the Local Government Act 1999
38	19.05.2021	Council	Minutes of the CEO Performance Review Panel Wednesday 5 May 2021 [item 18.4] Section 90(3) (e)	38	Documents considered by the Council, including the officer's report and all minutes
39	20.05.2021	Pinnaroo Village Green Master Plan Project Steering Committee	Project Update – Budget & Tender Overview [item 6.1] Section 90(3) (k)	39	Documents considered by the Council, including the officer's report and all minutes
40	16.06.2021	Council	Minutes of the Pinnaroo Village Green Project Steering Committee meeting 20 May 2021 Project update – Budget and tender overview [item 7.2] Section 90(3) (k)	40	Documents considered by the Council, including the officer's report and all minutes
41	16.06.2021	Council	Desludge Program Tender – Award of Contract [item 18.1] Section 90(3) (k)	41	Documents considered by the Council, including the officer's report and all minutes
42	16.06.2021	Council	Pest Control Program Tender - Award of contract [item 18.2] Section 90(3) (k)	42	Documents considered by the Council, including the officer's report and all minutes
43	16.06.2021	Council	Pinnaroo Community Wastewater Management System Pipework Renewal Project Stage 2 – Awarding of Contract [item 18.3] Section 90(3) (k)	43	Documents considered by the Council, including the officer's report and all minutes
44	16.06.2021	Council	Lameroo Memorial Hall & Pinnaroo Institute Renewal Works Tender – Award of Contract [item 18.4] Section 90(3) (k)	44	Documents considered by the Council, including the officer's report and all minutes



OPERATIVE CONFIDENTIALITY ORDERS

(From 1 January 2010 to end 2020/21 financial year as at 30 June 2021)

	Date	Operative Confidentiality Order – Section (91) (7) of the Local Government Act 1999 Subject Matter & Basis – Section 90(3) of the Local Government Act 1999
1	10.03.2010	Personal Affairs of a person [item 100319] (a)
2	12.01.2011	Ombudsman SA Preliminary Investigation of Complaint [item 1] (g)
3	21.04.2015	Chief Executive Officer's Development [item 3.1.1, 3.1.2 & 3.1.3] (a) & (h)
4	24.11.2015	Matters pertaining to the Acting Chief Executive Officer [item 3.1] (a)
5	16.12.2015	Matters pertaining to the Acting Chief Executive Officer [item 13.3] (a)
6	27.01.2016	Matters pertaining to the Acting Chief Executive Officer [item 13.5.1] (a)
7	17.02.2016	Matters pertaining to the Acting Chief Executive Officer [item 13.2] (a)
8	16.08.2017	Staffing Matters [item 14.1] (a)
9	21.02.2018	Code of Conduct Complaint [item 14.1] (a)
10	19.12.2018	Legal Matter [item 16.2] (g), (h) & (i)
11	17.07.2019	Unreasonable complaint [item 17.1] (a)
12	19.02.2020	Tourism and Economic Development [item 17.1] (d) (i) & (ii)
13	20.05.2020	Proposed remediation of contaminated land [item 16.1] (d)(ii) & (k)
14	17.06.2020	Pinnaroo Caravan Park [item 16.2] (a), (b)(i), (d)(i)
15	28.10.2020	In-Camera Discussion with External Auditor [item 5.1] (h)
16	19.8.2020	Remediation of Contaminated Land Update [item 16.1](d)(ii) and (k)
17	16.09.2020	Presentation of CEO Performance Review Survey Report [item 5.1] (a)
18	16.09.2020	Review of the CEO's Strategic Goals [item 5.2] (a)
19	16.09.2020	Town Centre Revitalisation Projects Stage 2 & 3 Design Submissions [item 16.2] (k)
20	16.9.2020	Questions without notice – Cr Andrew Grieger – Council Property Works [item 16.1] (a), (e), (g) and (h)
21	16.9.2020	Legal Advice on Questions On Notice And Confidentiality [item 16.3] (a), (b)(ii), (e) and (h)
22	21.10.2020	Plant Replacement Program – Truck Tender [item 16.1] (k)
23	21.10.2020	Pinnaroo Community Wastewater Management System Pipework Renewal Project Stage 2 – Awarding of Contract [item 16.2] (k)
24	21.10.2020	Council Land Sale [item 16.3] (d)(i)
25	21.10.2020	Minutes of the CEO Performance Review Panel Wednesday 16 September 2020 [item 16.4] (d)(i)
26	04.11.2020	Review of the CEO's Strategic Goals [item 5.1] (a)
27	04.11.2020	CEO Remuneration Review [item 5.2] (a)
28	04.11.2020	Discussion of Proposed Strategic Goals and Remuneration Review with CEO [item 5.3] (a)
29	18.11.2020	Grader Tender [item 16.1] (k)
30	18.11.2020	Pinnaroo Community Wastewater Management System Pipework Renewal Project Stage 2 – Awarding of Contract [item 16.2] (k)
31	18.11.2020	Minutes of the CEO Performance Review Panel Wednesday 4 November 2020 [item 16.3] (a)
32	15.12.2020	External Auditors Tender [item 7.1] (k)
33	16.12.2020	Council Land Sale – Parilla Accommodation Facility [item 17.1] (d)(i)
34	16.12.2020	Awarding of Contract – Cleaning Services for Council Facilities [item 17.2] (k)
35	16.12.2020	Awarding of Contract – Shoulder Widening at Kulkami Road and Billiatt Road [item 17.3] (k)

	Date	Operative Confidentiality Order – Section (91) (7) of the Local Government Act 1999 Subject Matter & Basis – Section 90(3) of the Local Government Act 1999
36	20.01.2021	Minutes of the Audit Committee Meeting Tuesday 15 December 2020 [item 7.1] (a)
37	20.01.2021	Awarding of contract - concrete footpath construction [item 17.1] (k)
38	17.03.2021	Town centres revitalisation project stage 1 tender award [item 18.1] (k)
39	30.03.2021	Mid-Year Review of CEO's Performance [item 7.1] (a)
40	30.03.2021	Discussion with Jason Taylor [item 7.2] (a)
41	30.03.2021	CEO Performance Review June 2021 [item 7.3] (a)
42	21.04.2021	Confidential item [item 18.1] (g)
43	21.04.2021	Lameroo Town Centre Project – Centre Pivot Award of Contract [item 18.2] (k)
44	21.04.2021	Lameroo Town Centre Project – Pump Track Award of Contract [item 18.3] (k)
45	21.04.2021	Mower Tender [item 18.4] (k)
46	21.04.2021	Minutes of the confidential CEO performance review panel Tuesday 30 March 2021 [item 18.5] (e)
47	21.04.2021	Zerella Fresh request for Council assistance [item 18.6] (d)(i)
48	19.05.2021	Lameroo Swimming Pool [item 18.1] (k)
49	19.05.2021	Solar Program Tender – Award of Contract [item 18.2] (k)
50	19.05.2021	Pinnaroo Pool – Award of Contract [item 18.3] (k)
51	05.05.2021	Discussion for the CEO Performance Review – June 2021 [item 6.1] (a)
52	19.05.2021	Minutes of the CEO Performance Review Panel Wednesday 5 May 2021 [item 18.4] (e)
53	20.05.2021	Project Update – Budget & Tender Overview [item 6.1] (k)
54	16.06.2021	Minutes of the Pinnaroo Village Green Project Steering Committee meeting 20 May 2021 Project update – Budget and tender overview [item 7.2] (k)
55	16.06.2021	Desludge Program Tender – Award of Contract [item 18.1] (k)
56	16.06.2021	Pest Control Program Tender - Award of contract [item 18.2] (k)
57	16.06.2021	Pinnaroo Community Wastewater Management System Pipework Renewal Project Stage 2 – Awarding of Contract [item 18.3] (k)
58	16.06.2021	Lameroo Memorial Hall & Pinnaroo Institute Renewal Works Tender – Award of Contract [item 18.4] (k)





REGISTERS, CODES, POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

(Required to be kept under the Local Government Act and/or Local Government Elections Act 1999)

REGISTERS	
Section 68	Members register of interests
Section 79	Members register of allowances and benefits
Section 105	Officers register of salaries
Section 116	Officer register of interests
Section 188	Fees and charges
Section 196	Community land management plans
Section 207	Community land
Section 231	Public roads

CODES	
Section 63	Members code of conduct
Section 92	Code of practice for access to meetings and documents
Section 110	Employees code of conduct

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

The Council maintains the principles of the Freedom of Information Act 1991 for the 2020/2021 period.

Number of requests received under the Freedom of Information Act	- Nil
Number of external reviews under the Freedom of Information Act	- Nil

COMPLAINTS TO THE OMBUDSMAN

The SA Ombudsman is an independent authority that investigates complaints made against South Australian Government and local government agencies.

Formal Ombudsman investigations requiring referral to Council for 2020/2021	- Nil
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USE OF LOCAL GOODS AND SERVICES

Council is committed to identifying opportunities for improved outcomes when acquiring goods and services. Council has developed policy, procedures and practices directed towards obtaining value in the expenditure of public money, ethical and fair treatment for all participants and ensuring probity, accountability, and transparency in all of its operations.

Copies of Council's Procurement policy are available for public inspection and/or purchase.

A copy is also available on the Council's website at www.southernmallee.sa.gov.au

NATIONAL COMPETITION POLICY

Principles of competitive neutrality are designed to neutralise any net competitive advantage that a government or local government agency engaged in significant business activities would otherwise have, by virtue of its control by the government or local government, over private business operating in the same market. Councils are required to identify their business activities and disclose those in Category One (annual gross operating income greater than \$2 million per year) and Category 2 (annual gross operating income less than \$2 million per year).

In 2020/2021 Southern Mallee District Council did not engage in any category one or category two business activities. There has been no commencement or cessation of significant business activities controlled by Council. No complaints were received during the year with regard to competitive neutrality.

COMPETITIVE TENDERING

Council is committed to purchasing goods and services in an honest manner that ensures a fair, transparent and accountable process is available to all parties involved. Council aims to ensure that its methods of purchasing goods and services are cost effective and meet the needs of the community.

GENERAL Information



PRINCIPAL MEMBER
Mayor Cr Jeff Nickolls



CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Jason Taylor



STAFF
50



TOTAL AREA
5,695 square kilometers



RATEABLE PROPERTIES
1,721



TOTAL ROAD LENGTH
1,342 km



SEALED ROAD LENGTH
132 km



COMMERCIAL CENTRES
Pinnaroo & Lameroo



LIBRARIES
Geranium, Lameroo & Pinnaroo



SCHOOLS
Geranium, Lameroo & Pinnaroo



SPORT & RECREATION FACILITIES
Geranium, Lameroo, Parilla, Parrakie, Pinnaroo & Wilkawatt



CEMETERIES
Lameroo, Pinnaroo & Parrakie



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EQUAL EMPLOYMENT

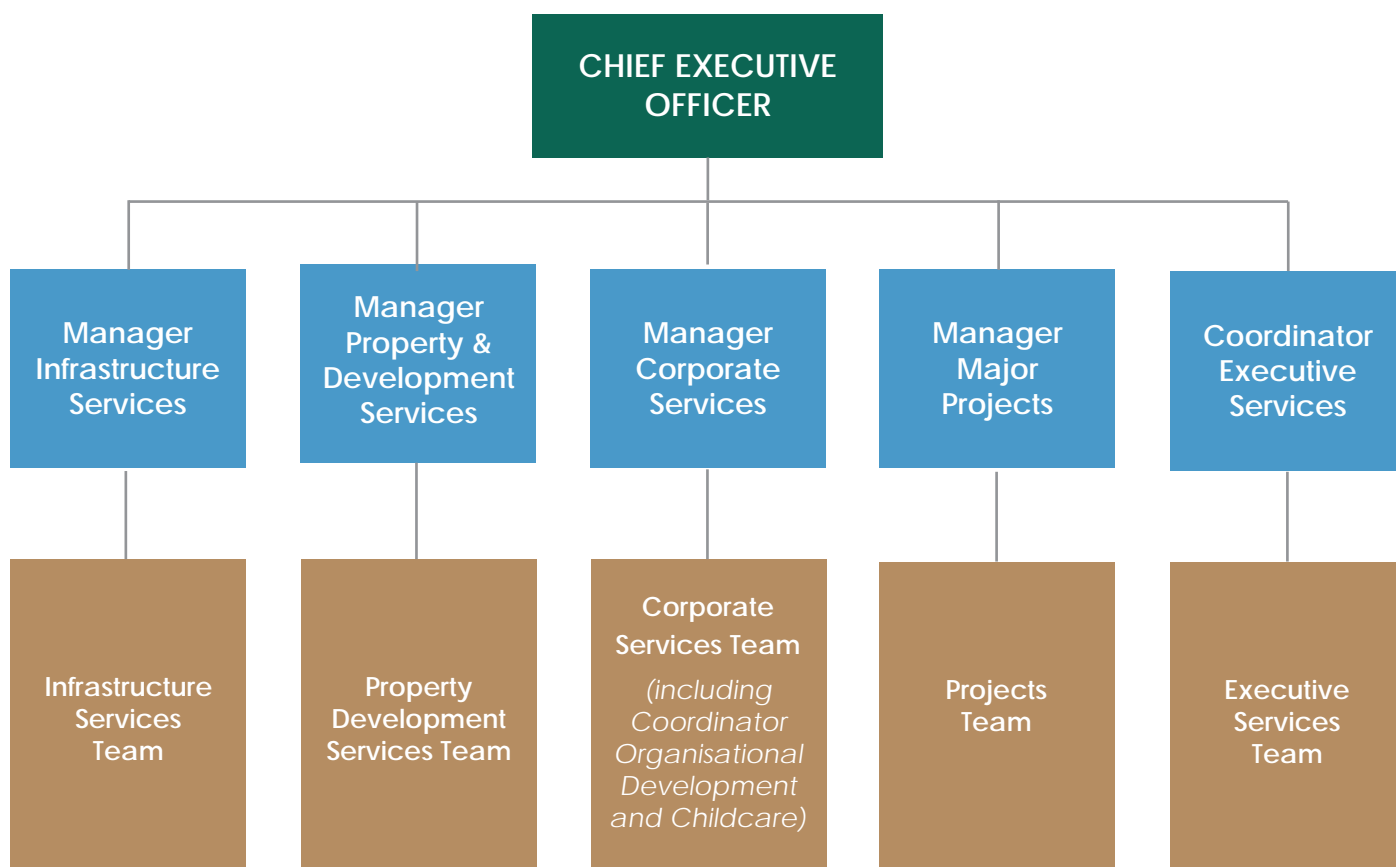
Southern Mallee District Council is committed to equal opportunity in employment and the provision of a work environment that celebrates difference and diversity and is free from discrimination.

Council embraces its responsibility to create an environment free from discrimination and to ensure that the principle of merit operates unhindered by regard to irrelevant criteria. To this end the Council actively works to ensure that its structures are free from direct or indirect discrimination on the grounds of sex, marital status or pregnancy, race, age, sexual orientation, gender history, religious or political beliefs, impairment, family responsibility or family status.

CORPORATE STRUCTURE

Management and staff of Southern Mallee District Council work for and on behalf of the community in response to the policies and directions set by Council's elected members. The Chief Executive Officer is responsible for the overall administration of Council and for ensuring policies; programs and services are delivered and implemented by staff.

At the end of June 2020 the CEO had an executive team comprising three managers and two coordinators. These senior staff are responsible for the organisational portfolios of Corporate services; Infrastructure services; Property and development services; Executive services; and Organisational development.



FUNCTIONAL STRUCTURE

Chief Executive Officer Responsible for:

- Council administration
- Executive leadership
- Corporate planning and strategy
- Organisational development
- Public relations and media
- Economic development, grants and investment
- Community development

Coordinator Executive Services Responsible for:

- CEO support
- Governance
- Records management
- Elected member support
- Executive support

Manager Corporate Services Responsible for:

- Finance and audit committee
- Rates and debtors
- Contract management and procurement
- Asset management
- Information technology
- Customer service
- Childcare services (COGS)
- Payroll and human resources
- Work health and safety
- Risk management and permits
- Insurance
- Library services

Manager Infrastructure Services Responsible for:

- Roads, footpaths and drainage
- Contract management and procurement
- Capital works program - infrastructure
- Works and services
- Parks and gardens, cemeteries, and caravan park
- Swimming pools
- Waste management
- Cleaning services
- Airport management

Manager Property and Development Responsible for:

- Environmental health services
- Building services
- Statutory and strategic land use planning
- Emergency management
- Community buildings and land leases and licences
- Animal management
- Contract management and procurement
- Retirement village
- Capital works program – property

Manager Major Projects Responsible for:

- Delivery of Commercial Centres Revitalisation Project
- Environment Action Plan development and delivery
- Pinnaroo Village Green and Lameroo Town Centre steering committees
- Executive staff housing project
- Miscellaneous projects



SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICERS – REGISTER OF SALARIES

TITLE OF POSITION	CLASSIFICATION	OTHER BENEFITS/ PACKAGES
Chief Executive Officer	Contract Agreement	Private use of vehicle; Internet provision at residence (up to \$100/month); Superannuation 11.5%; Annual Leave 6 weeks per annum; Housing allowance of \$10,686
Manager Corporate Services	Wage - MOA-SA	Private use of vehicle
Manager Infrastructure Services	Wage - MOA-SA	Private use of vehicle
Manager Property and Development Services	Wage - MOA-SA	Private use of vehicle
Manager Major Project Delivery	Wage - MOA-SA	Housing subsidy of \$5,720

STAFF TRAINING

Staff Training during the 2020/21 year included:

Dog handling	Fire safety training
Fire warden training	Diploma in Childcare
Procurement training	Funding in hibernation
Report writing workshop	SA strategic management
Certificate III in Horticulture	The planning cycle webinar
Authorised officer's training	Grader construction training
Project management training	Driving school - Truck licence
Employment relations training	Payroll and allowances training
CPR updates and senior first aid	Section 7 – Statements, managing enquiries training
Childcare planning, critical reflection and dispositions training	Council and committee meeting agenda and minute preparation training

CORPORATE SERVICES

Work Health and Safety and Return to Work

Council is committed to the health and wellbeing of its workforce. As part of this commitment, Council promotes the Healthy Lifestyle Program in conjunction with the Local Government Association Workers' Compensation Scheme (LGAWCS) to provide screenings and preventative programs.

Offerings in 2020/2021 included:

- Monthly health tips
- Health assessments
- Skin cancer screenings
- Hearing assessments
- Flu Vaccinations

Continuous improvement underpins Council's approach to all activities. The Work Health Safety and Return to Work Plan ensures Council can identify key deficiency areas and measure the success of systematic targets designed to improve performance. Council's 2020-2023 Work Health Safety & Return to Work Plan was prepared during 2019/2020 for adoption by the Work Health Safety Committee in early 2020/2021.

The committee meets regularly to review and update its plan, policies and various procedures in line with scheme rules to meet the requirements of the Performance Standards for Self-Insurers (PSSI).

During the year council also continued to address the identified outcomes of the 2019 WHS/IM & Risk Audit through targeted KPI action plans to address the areas of improvement and compliance. With dedicated commitment and effort from the WHS team, Council achieved a 100% close out rate for the 2020/2021 identified actions.



Risk Management

Council continued its work with the LGRS Strategic Risk Team to progress its risk management systems and ensure the expectations of the Audit Committee and Council can be met.

In 2020/2021 Council adopted its Strategic Risk Register and completed several workshops and training sessions with the Executive Team and other key staff to make significant progress in the development of its Operational Risk Register.

Council was also successful in its application to the Mutual Liability scheme and Workers Compensation scheme for risk incentive funding to complete two important risk-based projects. The Workplace and Emergency Evacuation Diagrams project and Mallee Cinema Stairway Safety project were both successfully completed and recognised by the schemes as great examples of projects that help mitigate hazards and risks in our community buildings.

With Covid-19 continuing to affect our border community Council continued regular meetings of its Business Continuity and Response Team (BCART). Council's Business Continuity Plan is reviewed annually to ensure that the organisation can support critical business functions in times of uncertainty and respond and recover from business disruption.

Treasury Report

The overall financial results of Council showed sound and responsible financial management.

Borrowings

Council has paid its loans as scheduled payments require and this has resulted in the closing balance of loans (both current and non-current) decreasing from \$1,132,076 in 2020 to \$877,009 in 2021.

BORROWINGS	30 June 2020	30 June 2021
Council loans	1,132,076	877,009

Revenue

The rates revenue has increased by \$45,878 when compared with 2020. Council rates is the major revenue stream for Council accounting for 55% of total revenue.

	30 June 2020	30 June 2021
Rates	4,320,220	4,366,098
Total revenue	7,908,956	7,999,676

The increase in overall revenue was largely due to an increase in utilisation at councils two childcare centres.

Expenses

Employee costs have increased since 2020 mainly as a result of increased leave provisions and employee accruals together with the appointment of two trainees.

	30 June 2020	30 June 2021
Employee costs	2,954,209	3,096,495

Depreciation incurred an increase of \$112,340 following the construction of new roads and footpaths that are now being depreciated and the changeover of plant that had previously reached the end of their useful lives.

	30 June 2020	30 June 2021
Depreciation, amortisation & impairment	2,563,013	2,675,353

Library Services

Council supports three community libraries that are situated in the townships of Pinnaroo, Lameroo and a depot at Geranium which is part of the Lameroo community library.

Council continues to support the operation of libraries through annual contributions. The contributions exceed the required amounts specified by the Libraries Board of SA. Council allocated \$13,000 to each of the three library facilities in 2020/2021.

During the year the Libraries Management Board comprising of the three school principals, library staff and a council representative continued to meet and work together to review services and implement changes or improvements. The ongoing effects of Covid-19 and lockdowns did provide challenges for libraries, however they adapted well to provide innovative solutions for the community.

Murraylands STARclub Field Officer Program

In 2020/2021 Council continued its commitment to the funding of the Murraylands STARclub Field Officer Program. This was formalised with a memorandum of understanding between the five Murraylands councils and the State Government's Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing (ORSR) in 2017/18. The 2020/2021 year was the last year of the current funding arrangement with the State Government now focussing on its "Game On" strategy to get South Australians moving.

The Integrated Murraylands Physical Activity Committee (IMPAC) has provided direction for the STARclub Program, and membership includes key leaders from each of the five funding councils (Rural City of Murray Bridge, Coorong District Council, Mid Murray Council, District Council of Karoonda East Murray and the Southern Mallee District Council).

STARclub focuses on growing and sustaining strong sport and recreation clubs, where quality coaches and officials work alongside valued volunteers in a safe and welcoming environment.

The STARclub program in the Murraylands has been one of the largest and most successful, exceeding all targets set every year by ORSR and the management committee. The STARclub field officer has made a huge difference across the region in helping clubs run better and attract grant funding.

The field officer has also continued to play a key role through the continuation of the Covid-19 pandemic and provide crucial updates and information to clubs through social media channels. The information provided has helped with social distancing, crowd control, cleaning protocols and anything else that assisted clubs to responsibly run community sport and recreation activities during times of state government imposed restrictions.





Event Approvals

During the 2020/2021 financial year there were 88 approvals given to organisations and individuals for a range of community activities. This is an increase from the previous year where the total number of permits approved was 60 when events were heavily impacted by the COVID-19 global pandemic. The number of approved permits were still significantly reduced from 130 permits in 2018/2019 and demonstrates that COVID-19 is still affecting people's confidence in planning events and the impacts of lockdowns and cross border travel restrictions.

Key events for the year included:

Breast Screen SA-Breast Screening Van	Lameroo Sports Club- Playground Launch
Southern Mallee Scout Group Climbing Wall and Games	Lameroo Regional Community School 'Splash Day'
Australia Day Events in Lameroo and Pinnaroo	Lameroo Regional School Production - "Alice-The Musical"
Teaching Migrant Parents to Swim	Country Arts SA performances "A Migrants Son"; "Euphoria" and "Mirror Bird"
Parilla Seasonal Markets	Pinnaroo Football and Netball Club's Cocktail and Auction Night
Focus One Health Community Health Education Program and Seminars	Mallee Life Church Easter Sunday Church Service Lake Roberts
Anzac Day Events in Lameroo and Pinnaroo	Uni SA: REACH: Health Age Study Research Project
Lameroo Country Music Festival	Pinnaroo Community Celebration Winning Ag Town of the Year 2020
Lameroo Country Women's Association- Mother's Day Stall	Food Van Permit for Gaz and Kaz my Van Rolls Lameroo
Mallee Swim Club - Training Squads & Lessons	Cabaret Fundraiser - "Sing, Sing, Sing"
Pinkerton Palm Hamlyn & Steen - Pinnaroo Off Shears Sale	Lions Club of Lameroo - Driver Reviver Station
Pinnaroo Lions Club - Auction	DanceSA Classes and Annual Showcase 'Interstellar'
Eastern Districts Swimming Association - Interclub Swimming Competition	Christmas Street Parades & Celebrations in Lameroo and Pinnaroo
AUSTSWIM Swimming and Water Safety Course	Pinnaroo Fitness Health and Wellness – Fitness Classes
Murray lands & Riverland Landscape Board - Distribution of fox baits	

In addition to the events listed above there was also various stalls, swimming activities and classes, weddings, funerals, fundraisers, accountant visits, school presentations, movie nights, car displays, and other activities held across the district.

Internal Controls

In April 2021 Councils newly appointed auditors, Galpins conducted an interim audit of the Council's Internal Financial Controls, and the resulting interim management letter and report was presented to the audit committee and council for review and implementation.

The key result was the finding that 61 out of the 65 core controls reviewed were in place and found to be operating effectively. The audit team did highlight four matters to Council which is a sizeable reduction from the previous year and is a result of the efforts and improvements made by administration. The audit priority ratings of the activities highlighted are as follows:

ACTIVITIES 2020	AUDIT PRIORITY RATING	ACTIVITIES 2021	AUDIT PRIORITY RATING
1	High		High
5	Moderate	3	Moderate
2	Low	1	Low
1	N/A		N/A
9	Total	4	Total

Council is committed to continuous improvement and upon receipt of the interim management letter and report the Corporate Services team met to review the comments and recommendations. As part of managements response council staff implemented, where reasonable, a further range of activities, checks and reports to help address the highlighted activities.

Audit Committee Activity Report

The purpose of the Audit Committee is to assist the Council in the conduct of its responsibilities for the management of risk, corporate and financial governance and legal compliance, related to financial reporting and audit initiatives, the internal control system and the audit functions. The committee acts as a source of advice to Council and the Chief Executive Officer in relation to these matters.

The Committee:

- enhances the communication between the external auditor and the Council;
- assists the management of business risks to ensure the protection of Council assets;
- monitors the effectiveness of audit and corporate and financial governance functions;
- enhances the integrity of the financial reporting of the Council; and
- reviews the effectiveness of the Council's internal controls and risk management systems.

The following information is a summary of the Southern Mallee District Council Audit Committee's activities undertaken and recommendations made during the 2020/2021 financial year.



Membership

Council has appointed Members to its Audit Committee as follows:

NAME	POSITION
Mr. Ross Haslam	Independent Chair – appointed February 2020
Mr. Robert Reiman	Independent Member – reappointed November 2020
Cr. Jeffrey Nickolls	Council Member – term expired November 2020
Cr. Trevor Hancock	Council Member – term expired November 2020
Cr. Neville Pfeiffer	Council Member – reappointed November 2020
Cr. Paul Ireland	Council Member – appointed November 2020
Cr. Mick Sparnon	Council Member – appointed November 2020

The following staff members have attended meetings as observers:

- Chief Executive Officer
- Manager Corporate Services
- Shona Hyde, Governance Officer
- Katrina Bell, Coordinator Organisational Development
- Nyree Hayes, Corporate Services Officer (Rates)
- Janelle Hyde, Corporate Services Officer (Finance)

The following people have attended meetings in person or via video conference as guests:

- Jim Keogh, Dean Newbery and Partners
- Vanessa McDonald, SMDC finance consultant
- Tim Muhlhausler, Galpins Accountants, Auditors and Business Consultants

Meetings

During 2020/2021 meetings resumed to a more normal cycle with the committee meeting in person or via zoom on four separate occasions.

During the year independent member Mr. Rob Reiman and Cr. Neville Pfeiffer were reappointed to the committee. Cr. Jeffrey Nickolls and Cr. Trevor Hancock saw their terms expire which then resulted in Cr. Paul Ireland and Cr. Mick Sparnon being appointed to the committee.

Attendance at meetings was as follows:

MEETING DATE	ATTENDANCE
28 October 2020	Cr. Jeffrey Nickolls was an apology
15 December 2020	All in attendance
29 March 2021	Cr. Paul Ireland was an apology
31 May 2021	All in attendance

Mr. Jim Keogh of Dean Newbery and Partners, External Auditors met with the Audit Committee in camera at the ordinary meeting on 28 October 2020.

Mr. Tim Muhlhausler of Galpins Accountants, Auditors and Business Consultants met with the Audit Committee via video conference at the ordinary meeting on 31 May 2021.

Training Activities

There were no scheduled training activities during 2020/2021.

Committee Activities

The following table sets out the principal issues addressed by the Audit Committee during 2020/2021 in line with the Audit Committees Terms of Reference:

ACTIVITY	OUTCOME
Financial Reporting	Budget reviews 1, 2 and 3 and financial performance report Review of investments Financial policy reviews Closure of redundant deposit accounts Draft annual business plan and budget 2020-2021 2020-2021 Annual business plan and budget
Internal Controls and Risk Management Systems	Review of internal financial controls Operational risk register update Strategic risk register adoption Review of emergency management Review of CEO's corporate purchase card Review of employee excessive leave balances New and emerging risks and discussion points including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • impacts of COVID-19 • sourcing contractors • proposed pool closures • infrastructure grant applications • increasing financial literacy of elected members • regional housing challenges
External Audit	2019/2020 Interim audit and management response 2019/2020 Audited annual financial statements Meeting with external auditor (in camera) 2020/2021 Interim audit and management response Meeting with external auditor (videoconference)
Audit Committee Performance	Activity report 2019-2020 Audit committee work plan Appointment of external auditor – request for tender Audit committee self-assessment & performance review Reappointment of independent member and council members

Rating Policy Framework

Council has a Rating policy and framework which includes the following attributes:

Information on Valuer-General valuations	The rating model used
Community wastewater management system service charges	Method used to value land
Provisions for an objection to valuation	Explanation of differential general rates
Details of the minimum rate	Details of the Regional Landscape levy
Explanation of service charges	State government concession information
Details about postponement of rates for seniors	Rebate of rates information
Sale of land for non-payment of rates	Payment of rates
Discount for early payment of rates	Late payment of rates information.

Childcare Services

Southern Mallee District Council is the approved provider for two childcare services. The childcare services, located in Lameroo and Pinnaroo, provide long day care as well as out of school hours care to children across the region. The services aim to provide individual quality care by nurturing and educating young children through a play-based program in an environment which is safe and secure, complimenting and valuing the family and community, and supporting their diverse backgrounds.

The childcare services are a vital service for families in the Southern Mallee who are in the workforce as well as those self-employed families. Across the two services, Council can offer up to 330 childcare places per week.

Mallee COGS has achieved a number of milestones, changes and improvements over the past 12 months, some of which include;

- Increased utilisation across both sites.
- Continued partnership with Gowrie SA surrounding inclusion support for children with additional needs.
- Progression towards improving the outdoor play spaces.
- Supporting staff in upskilling their qualifications.
- Providing workplace learning placements for Lameroo Regional Community School, Loxton High School and Unity College students.
- Undertaking the services first assessment and rating evaluations under their new service approvals.

The assessment and rating visit was a huge undertaking being the first time that the centres, and the staff, had participated in such a formal validation process. It was a great opportunity for the services to showcase the fantastic work that they perform in the Early Learning Space and learn about some areas that could be the focus for further improvement.

An ongoing challenge for the centres has been staffing, which is also an industry wide issue, however this has eased slightly with the engagement of some additional casual relief educators. Council is now working closely with local schools to help entice students to consider Early Childhood Education as a career path and hopefully provide them with an opportunity for future employment.

Covid-19 has certainly been an ongoing challenge for the centres however the professional staff have showed great resilience to overcome many obstacles and keep our services open. Remaining open during periods of lockdown provided much needed support to those families classified as essential workers.





INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

The Infrastructure services team had a productive 2020/21. With the responsibility of managing a large portion of the Council's annual budget, it was truly a team effort to complete all the works planned for the year.

A number of significant capital and renewal projects were delivered in 2020/21 as well as maintenance of current assets.

Council is responsible for 1,342 kilometers of roads across the district of which 132 kilometers are sealed. Other areas of responsibility include community swimming pools, cemeteries, the Pinnaroo Aerodrome, wastewater, parks and gardens, waste and recycling, plant and equipment, storm water and quarries.

Council's overall expenditure on infrastructure services including road renewal and road maintenance works was \$6.937 million. This was funded by rates but also by specific government grants

Road Construction and Maintenance Works

Works carried out included:

Resheeting of Unsealed Roads

Council has 1,210kilometers of unsealed roads to maintain across the district. Depending on volume and type of traffic and quality of rubble, they need resheeting every 20 to 25 years. In 2020/21 Council spent \$1,050,574 carrying out various resheets.

ROAD NAME	AMOUNT (\$)
Longtrail Road – 3km	113,295
Karte West Road - 4km	164,562
Beehive Road - 4 km	128,665
O'Loughlin Road – 4.8km	206,973
O'driscoll Road	216,269
Lameroo South Road	221,010
Total	1,050,574

Maintenance Works

Maintenance works carried out across the district included:
(Includes, weed spraying, roadside mowing and inspections)

ROAD NAME	AMOUNT (\$)
Patrol grading/patching	714,789
Sealed road repairs	38,187
Footpath maintenance	8,415
Other road services	13,208
Total	744,599

Road Reseals

Council undertook 4km of reseal work on Billiatt Road as well as undertaking 3.4km shoulder work on the Kulkami Road for a combined expenditure of \$652,749.

Town Streets Upgrades

Footpath Works

Footpath construction works were carried out in Lameroo and Pinnaroo with a total footpath expenditure of \$151,613 comprising 900 meters of footpath.

Parks, Gardens, and Recreational Reserves

Council has a significant area of parks, gardens and reserves to maintain in Pinnaroo and Lameroo and a smaller area to maintain in Geranium and Parilla. Council has over the years embraced a system for all parks, reserves and roadsides so that the highly utilised parks receive more maintenance and attention compared to the less used parks and reserves.

The expenditure on all parks, gardens and recreational reserve maintenance in 2020/21 was \$347,840.

Plant & Machinery

Council has continued to upgrade and replace plant (vehicles and machinery) in accordance with its 10-year plant replacement program. This ensures Council turns over plant at the optimum time.

During 2020/21 the Council procured \$751,689 worth of plant and machinery including Tipper Truck, Grader, 2 x Ride-on mower and 2 x Manager vehicles

During the financial year Council expended \$195,280 on purchasing fuel and oil, and \$209,467 on maintaining its plant and machinery.

Waste Management

Southern Mallee District Council operates three transfer stations throughout the district located at Pinnaroo, Lameroo and Geranium. The landfill site is located at Lameroo.

Waste management expenditure in 2020/2021 was \$381,000.

The main expenditure items were:

- Transfer stations \$110,330
- Landfill maintenance \$62,207
- Collection of 240 litre waste bins from town properties weekly \$79,734
- Collection of 240 litre recycling bins from town properties monthly \$30,513

Community Wastewater Management Systems (CWMS)

Council has a CWMS in Lameroo and Pinnaroo. The cost of running these two schemes in 2020/21 was \$263,883, which is totally funded by the service charges applied against users of the schemes.

Council has continued to undertake a full pipe replacement of the Pinnaroo CWMS lines with an expenditure in 202/21 of \$2,081,543

Aerodrome

Council maintains a single authorised landing field at Pinnaroo that has one strip which is unsealed. It is used by the Royal Flying Doctor Service and local pilots. Safety audits are undertaken each year as well as regular inspections followed by any necessary maintenance to ensure that the aerodrome remains suitable for continuing use.

Council undertook an extensive upgrade of the runway as well as sealing of the taxi-way at a cost of \$236,729

Other Work

Street Cleaning

Street cleaning is undertaken by a contractor who does a 6-week cycle of the district streets. Expenditure in 2020/21 was \$31,787.

Cemeteries

Council has three cemeteries that it maintains.

The cost of maintaining our cemeteries in 2020/21 was \$17,017

Swimming Pools

The Southern Mallee District Council operate two community swimming pools located in Lamerook and Pinnaroo.

In 2020/21 Council expenditure on pool was \$171,872

The Southern Mallee District Council operate two community swimming pools located in Lamerook and Pinnaroo.

In 2019/2020 Council was fortunate enough to receive commonwealth drought funding of which a substantial proportion was allocated to the upgrade of change rooms in both Lamerook and Pinnaroo, this was well received from the community.



PROPERTY AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

The following portfolio of responsibilities are conducted by the delegated Council staff or contractor.

- Assessment & approval of waste control systems
- Property management
- Planning & building approvals
- Development control
- Immunisation promotion
- Food safety
- Fire prevention
- Animal management
- SA Public Health Act requirements
- Local Nuisance and Litter Control

General Environmental Health & Food Safety

Regional Public Health Planning

As required by the SA Public Health Act 2011 the Local Government Murray Mallee Public Health, consisting of the Murray Mallee Local Government Association formed to combine a joint plan for the region. This committee meet on a quarterly basis to plan and develop projects for each Local Government area.

The resulting plan has become a living document and thus a guide to future Public Health initiatives, particularly in relation to “lifestyle diseases”.

The Murray Mallee Local Government Association Public Health Committee was the first regional group to have our plan developed and operating and provided a guide for the rest of the Local Government Association groups.

The Murray Mallee Local Government Association consists of the following areas:

- The Rural City of Murray Bridge
- Mid Murray Council
- Berri Barmera Council
- District Council of Loxton Waikerie
- Renmark Paringa District Council
- District Council of Karoonda East Murray
- Southern Mallee District Council

Shared Services

The Southern Mallee District Council and the Rural City of Murray Bridge continue to partner under a shared services arrangement targeting the following service provisions:

- Public health
- Safe food handling
- Food safety audits
- Waste control systems

Immunisation Promotion

The school’s immunisation programs continued to be conducted, under contract to the Council, by the Mallee Health Service. All returns for the 2020/2021 programs were completed and returned to the Department of Health in a timely fashion.

Local Nuisance and Litter Control Act and Regulations

Council received one complaint of local nuisance for the 2020/2021 period.

Animal Management

The provisions of the Dog & Cat Management Act 1995 were administered throughout the year.

There was the same number of impounded dogs during the 2020/2021 financial year along with and the same in dog attack and harassment reports made to Council. There was an increase in the number of dogs wandering at large.

There was an increase in the number of expiations issued to owners and no dogs were euthanized during the 2020/2021 financial year. Southern Mallee District Council issued several public notifications relating to owners' responsibilities under the Dog and Cat Management Act 1995.

Complaints regarding barking dogs were also followed up with correspondence reminding the owners of their obligations as responsible dog owners.

There were complaints or incidents involving cats and the council continues to provide live cat traps to rate payers to allow them to deal with feral cat issues on their properties.

Development Application Fees

These fees, which are adjusted by the State Government each year, vary in accordance with the nature and type of project being undertaken.

A list of types of applications and fees are provided to fully appreciate the cost of development as set by the State Government.

Development Control

PDI Act 2016 and the Council's Development Plan during the year.

The types of applications processed were as follows:

Verandas/Patio/Shade sail	6
Carports	3
Domestic Sheds / Garages	13
Farm Sheds	15
New Dwellings	25
Land Division	4
Refurbishment of business to showroom and warehouse	1
Replace Toilet facilities	2
Industrial Building and Cool Room storage	1
House Extension	2
Signage	1
Sea containers	1
Decking	2
Swimming pool	1
30kW solar generator ground mount	1
Administration office	2
Workers Accommodation	3
Food van	1
Extension of licenced area	1
Lunchroom	1
Change of use	1
TOTAL	87

Assessment and Approval of Waste Control Systems

Council received applications for the installation of / or alterations to waste control systems and these were assessed against the requirements of SA Public Health Act (Waste Control) Regulations 1995 via the Shared Services agreement with Rural City of Murray Bridge.

Number of waste control system applications approved: 32

Property Management

The Pinnaroo Retirement Village had a capital works budget of \$35,000.00 for two kitchen upgrades which were successfully completed in 2020/2021. The Pinnaroo and Lamerloo Depots amenities were approved for upgrades with an allocated capital works budget of \$60,000.00. These upgrades were also successfully completed.

Council had allocated \$50,000.00 towards capital works for the implementation of outcomes from the Council Building Assessment report. With an interrupted year due to Covid-19 approximately 40% of this work was achieved in 2020/2021.

The ongoing effects of Covid-19 have had an impact on projects, including the availability of suitably qualified contractors and the supply chain for materials. Several projects from the 2019/2020 capital works budget were carried forward and completed in the 2020/2021 year including;

- Pinnaroo institute rising damp treatment
- Lamerloo Hall power board replacement
- Lamerloo office roof restoration and power board replacement
- Pinnaroo Retirement Village roof restoration
- Pinnaroo office entry

Bush Fire Prevention

Bushfire prevention activities undertaken included:-

- Public information and education
- Issuing of risk reduction notices where required, and
- The carrying out of block clearance work in default when notices were not complied with

Notices

A total of one hundred 105F reminder notices were issued in the 2020/21 financial year.

Burning Permits

The issuing of burning permits during the fire danger season continued to be undertaken by the Council's permit officers.

Murray Mallee Bushfire Management Committee

Southern Mallee District Council continues to be represented on the Murray Mallee Bushfire Management Committee. This committee has the primary function of preparing and implementing new plans for bushfire prevention and management across the Murray Mallee region.

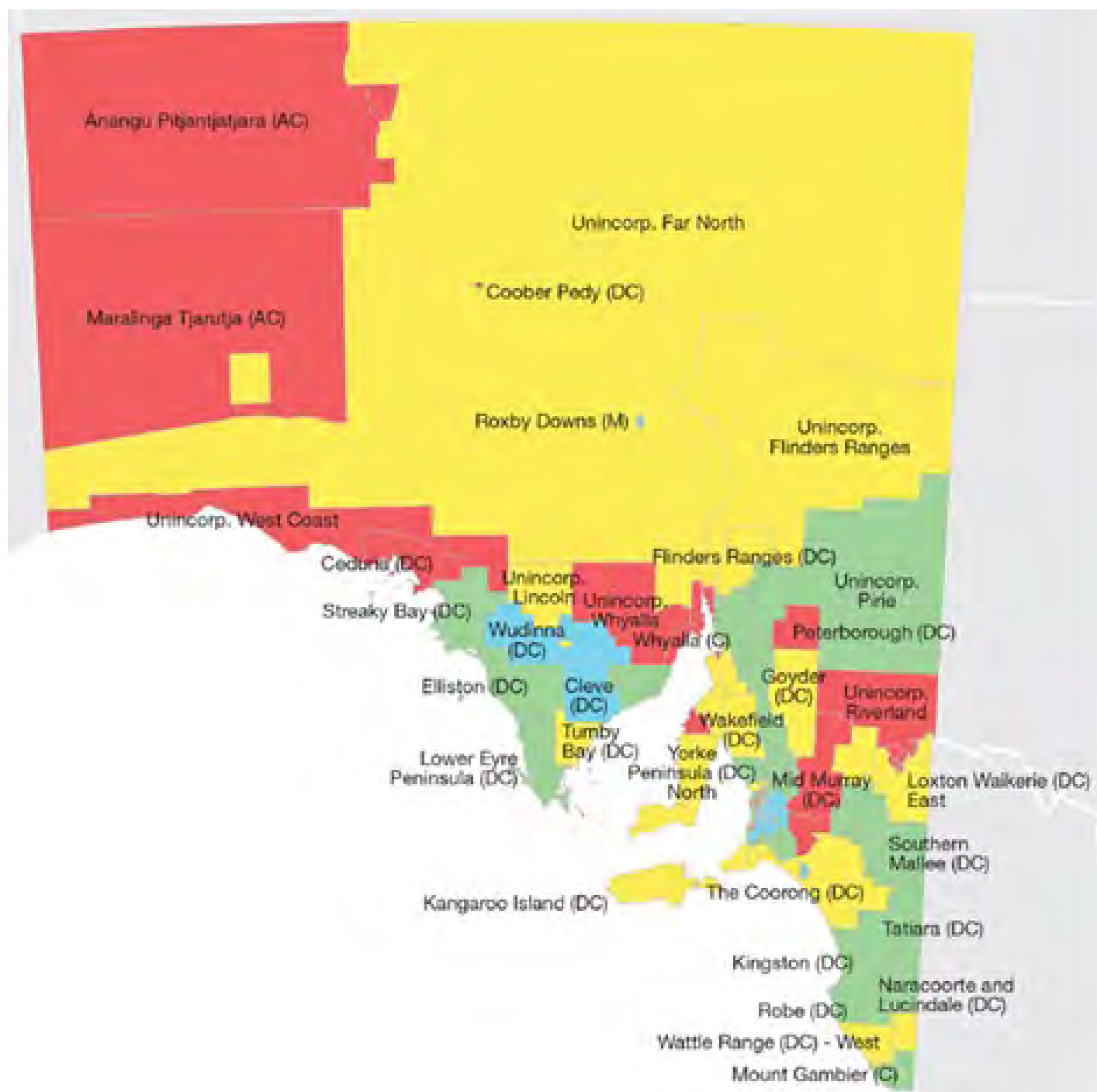
Grain Harvesting Code of Practice

The Grain Harvesting Code of Practice, developed by the South Australian Farmers Federation, in consultation with the SA Country Fire Service, was again voluntarily implemented during the fire danger season by the local farming community with great success.

Development Plan Amendment

The State Government has implemented a new planning system, with a new Act, regulations and state wide planning policies going into force on 31 July 2020 for regional councils. Whilst the portal and reforms were supposed to speed up and streamline the application process, there continues to be significant issues with the system causing delays.

REGIONAL MAP



COUNCIL BOUNDARIES



APPENDICES



APPENDIX A: FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SOUTHERN MALLEE DISTRICT COUNCIL

General Purpose Financial Reports for the year ended 30 June 2021

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SOUTHERN MALLEE DISTRICT COUNCIL
Annual Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2021

CERTIFICATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

We have been authorised by the Council to certify the financial statements in their final form. In our opinion:

- the accompanying financial statements comply with the *Local Government Act 1999*, *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011* and Australian Accounting Standards.
- the financial statements present a true and fair view of the Council's financial position at 30 June 2021 and the results of its operations and cash flows for the financial year.
- internal controls implemented by the Council provide a reasonable assurance that the Council's financial records are complete, accurate and reliable and were effective throughout the financial year.
- the financial statements accurately reflect the Council's accounting and other records.


Jason Taylor
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Date: 20/10/2021


Jeffrey Nickolls
MAYOR

SOUTHERN MALLEE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Statement of Comprehensive Income

for the year ended 30 June 2021

	Notes	2021 \$	2020 \$
INCOME			
Rates	2	4,366,098	4,320,220
Statutory charges	2	94,888	55,865
User charges	2	888,750	782,833
Grants, subsidies and contributions	2	2,357,392	2,408,188
Investment income	2	31,955	55,035
Reimbursements	2	87,975	118,252
Other income	2	172,618	168,563
Total Income		7,999,676	7,908,956
EXPENSES			
Employee costs	3	3,096,495	2,954,209
Materials, contracts & other expenses	3	2,106,554	2,085,626
Depreciation, amortisation & impairment	3	2,675,353	2,563,013
Finance costs	3	81,809	97,380
Total Expenses		7,960,211	7,700,228
OPERATING SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)		39,465	208,728
Asset disposal & fair value adjustments	4	(659,564)	(85,268)
Amounts received specifically for new or upgraded assets	2	1,271,014	100,000
NET SURPLUS / (DEFICIT) (transferred to Equity Statement)		650,915	223,460
Other Comprehensive Income			
<i>Amounts which will not be reclassified subsequently to operating result</i>			
Changes in revaluation surplus - infrastructure, property, plant & equipment	9	-	7,369,719
Total Other Comprehensive Income		-	7,369,719
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME		650,915	7,593,179

This Statement is to be read in conjunction with the attached Notes.



SOUTHERN MALLEE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Statement of Financial Position

as at 30 June 2021

		2021	2020
	Notes	\$	\$
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	5	2,751,165	4,895,124
Trade & other receivables	5	667,504	591,212
Inventories	5	57,108	129,395
Total Current Assets		3,475,777	5,615,731
Non-current Assets			
Financial assets	6	61,000	59,000
Infrastructure, property, plant & equipment	7	72,887,701	70,130,186
Total Non-current Assets		72,948,701	70,189,186
Total Assets		76,424,478	75,804,917
LIABILITIES			
Current Liabilities			
Trade & other payables	8	1,122,236	974,132
Borrowings	8	265,905	255,067
Provisions	8	873,650	803,162
Total Current Liabilities		2,261,791	2,032,361
Non-current Liabilities			
Borrowings	8	611,104	877,009
Provisions	8	21,079	15,958
Total Non-current Liabilities		632,183	892,967
Total Liabilities		2,893,974	2,925,328
NET ASSETS		73,530,504	72,879,589
EQUITY			
Accumulated Surplus		16,935,033	14,271,103
Asset Revaluation Reserves	9	57,615,734	57,615,734
Other Reserves	9	(1,020,263)	992,752
TOTAL EQUITY		73,530,504	72,879,589

This Statement is to be read in conjunction with the attached Notes.



SOUTHERN MALLEE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Statement of Changes in Equity

for the year ended 30 June 2021

2021	Notes	Acc'd Surplus	Asset Rev'n Reserve	Other Reserves	TOTAL EQUITY
		\$	\$	\$	\$
Balance at end of previous reporting period		14,271,103	57,615,734	992,752	72,879,589
Restated opening balance		14,271,103	57,615,734	992,752	72,879,589
Net Surplus / (Deficit) for Year		650,915	-	-	650,915
Other Comprehensive Income					
Transfers between reserves	9	2,013,015	-	(2,013,015)	-
Balance at end of period	9	16,935,033	57,615,734	(1,020,263)	73,530,504

2020	Notes	Acc'd Surplus	Asset Rev'n Reserve	Other Reserves	TOTAL EQUITY
		\$	\$	\$	\$
Balance at end of previous reporting period		14,040,633	50,246,015	999,762	65,286,410
Restated opening balance		14,040,633	50,246,015	999,762	65,286,410
Net Surplus / (Deficit) for Year		223,460	-	-	223,460
Other Comprehensive Income					
Changes in revaluation surplus - infrastructure, property, plant & equipment	9	-	7,369,719	-	7,369,719
Transfers between reserves	9	7,010	-	(7,010)	-
Balance at end of period	9	14,271,103	57,615,734	992,752	72,879,589

This Statement is to be read in conjunction with the attached Notes

SOUTHERN MALLEE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 30 June 2021

		2021	2020
		\$	\$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	Notes		
<i>Receipts:</i>			
Rates - general & other		4,324,761	4,326,946
Fees & other charges		94,888	55,865
User charges		987,405	1,339,658
Investment receipts		36,115	55,278
Grants utilised for operating purposes		2,098,248	2,408,188
Reimbursements		96,773	118,252
Other revenues		645,507	174,028
<i>Payments:</i>			
Employee costs		(2,996,636)	(2,911,866)
Materials, contracts & other expenses		(2,510,668)	(1,807,201)
Finance payments		(93,559)	(139,699)
Net Cash provided by (or used in) Operating Activities	11	2,682,834	3,619,449
 CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
<i>Receipts:</i>			
Amounts specifically for new or upgraded assets		1,524,706	100,000
Sale of replaced assets		238,000	128,340
Sale of surplus assets		263,636	116,645
Repayments of loans by community groups		3,000	-
<i>Payments:</i>			
Expenditure on renewal/replacement of assets		(5,121,842)	(1,902,801)
Expenditure on new/upgraded assets		(1,472,226)	(1,182,545)
Loans made to community groups		(7,000)	-
Net Cash provided by (or used in) Investing Activities		(4,571,726)	(2,740,361)
 CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
<i>Payments:</i>			
Repayments of borrowings		(255,067)	(270,838)
Net Cash provided by (or used in) Financing Activities		(255,067)	(270,838)
Net Increase (Decrease) in cash held		(2,143,959)	608,250
 Cash & cash equivalents at beginning of period	11	4,895,124	4,286,874
Cash & cash equivalents at end of period	11	2,751,165	4,895,124

This Statement is to be read in conjunction with the attached Notes



SOUTHERN MALLEE DISTRICT COUNCIL
Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2021

Note 1 - SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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

1 Basis of Preparation

1.1 Compliance with Australian Accounting Standards

This general purpose financial report has been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards as they apply to not-for-profit entities, other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board, Interpretations and relevant South Australian legislation.

The financial report was authorised for issue by certificate under regulation 14 of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011.

1.2 Historical Cost Convention

Except as stated below, these financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the historical cost convention.

1.3 Critical Accounting Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Australian Accounting Standards requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates and requires management to exercise its judgement in applying Council's accounting policies. The areas involving a higher degree of judgement or complexity, or areas where assumptions and estimates are significant to the financial statements are specifically referred to in the relevant sections of this Note.

1.4 Rounding

All amounts in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest dollar (\$).

1.5 Covid-19

The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted the 2020/21 financial statements, which may impact on the comparability of some line items and amounts reported in these financial statements and/or the notes. The financial impacts are a direct result of either Council's response to the pandemic or due to mandatory shutdowns as directed by the Australian Government and the advice from the Australian Government Department of Health and SA Health.

COVID-19 is not expected to have a significant financial impact on Council operations with the Council working to reduce discretionary expenditure in the short term to help mitigate the effect of the reduced revenue and increased costs. It is expected further financial impacts will flow into the 2021/22 financial year, but these have been largely taken into account during the development of the budget process for 2021/22. The budget assumptions for 2021/22 assume that no further harsher restrictions are put in place by the government. However, Council has determined that there is no material uncertainty that casts doubt on Council's ability to continue as a going concern.

2 The Local Government Reporting Entity

Southern Mallee District Council is incorporated under the SA Local Government Act 1999 and has its principal place of business at Day Street Pinnaroo SA 5304. These consolidated financial statements include the Council's direct operations and all entities through which Council controls resources to carry on its functions. In the process of reporting on the Council as a single unit, all transactions and balances between activity areas and controlled entities have been eliminated.



SOUTHERN MALLEE DISTRICT COUNCIL
Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2021
Note 1 - SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

3 Income recognition

3.1 Revenue

The Council recognises revenue under AASB 1058 Income of Not-for-Profit Entities (AASB 1058) or AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers (AASB 15) when appropriate.

In cases where there is an 'enforceable' contract with a customer with 'sufficiently specific' performance obligations, the transaction is accounted for under AASB 15 where income is recognised when (or as) the performance obligations are satisfied (i.e. when it transfers control of a product or service to a customer). Revenue is measured based on the consideration to which the Council expects to be entitled in a contract with a customer.

In other cases, AASB 1058 applies when a not-for-profit (NFP) entity enters into transactions where the consideration to acquire an asset is significantly less than the fair value of the asset principally to enable the entity to further its objectives. The excess of the asset recognised (at fair value) over any 'related amounts' is recognised as income immediately, except in the case where a financial asset has been received to enable the council to acquire or construct a recognisable non-financial asset that is to be controlled by the council. In this case, the council recognises the excess as a liability that is recognised over time in profit and loss when (or as) the entity satisfies its obligations under the transfer.

In recent years, the payment of untied grants (financial assistance grants/ local roads/ supplementary grants) has varied from the annual allocation as shown in the table below:

	Cash Payment Received	Annual Allocation	Difference	
2018-19	\$1,804,656	\$1,526,233	+ / -	\$278,423
2019-20	\$1,539,484	\$1,580,061	+ / -	\$40,577
2020-21	\$1,528,976	\$1,546,691	+ / -	\$17,715

Because these grants are untied, the Australian Accounting Standards require that payments be recognised upon receipt. Accordingly, the operating results of these periods have been distorted compared to those that would have been reported had the grants been paid in the year to which they were allocated.

The Operating Surplus Ratio disclosed in Note 15 has also been calculated after adjusting for the distortions resulting from the differences between the actual grants received and the grants entitlements allocated.

4 Cash, Cash Equivalents and Other Financial Instruments

4.1 Cash, Cash Equivalent Assets

Cash assets include all amounts readily convertible to cash on hand at Council's option with an insignificant risk of changes in value with a maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition.

4.2 Other Financial Instruments

Receivables for rates and annual charges are secured over the subject land, and bear interest at rates determined in accordance with the Local Government Act 1999. Other receivables are generally unsecured and do not bear interest.

All receivables are reviewed as at the reporting date and adequate allowance made for amounts the receipt of which is considered doubtful.

All financial instruments are recognised at fair value at the date of recognition. A detailed statement of the accounting policies applied to financial instruments also form part of Note 13.



SOUTHERN MALLEE DISTRICT COUNCIL
Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2021

Note 1 - SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

5 Inventories

Inventories held in respect of stores have been valued by using the weighted average cost on a continual basis, after adjustment for loss of service potential. Inventories held in respect of business undertakings have been valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

6 Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment

6.1 Initial Recognition

All assets are initially recognised at cost. For assets acquired at no cost or for nominal consideration, cost is determined as fair value at the date of acquisition.

All non-current assets purchased or constructed are capitalised as the expenditure is incurred and depreciated as soon as the asset is held "ready for use". Cost is determined as the fair value of the assets given as consideration plus costs incidental to the acquisition, including architects' fees and engineering design fees and all other costs incurred. The cost of non-current assets constructed by the Council includes the cost of all materials used in construction, direct labour on the project and an appropriate proportion of variable and fixed overhead.

6.2 Materiality

Assets with an economic life in excess of one year are only capitalised where the cost of acquisition exceeds materiality thresholds established by Council for each type of asset. In determining (and in annually reviewing) such thresholds, regard is had to the nature of the asset and its estimated service life. Examples of capitalisation thresholds applied during the year are given in Note 7. No capitalisation threshold is applied to the acquisition of land or interests in land.

6.3 Subsequent Recognition

All material asset classes are revalued on a regular basis such that the carrying values are not materially different from fair value. Significant uncertainties exist in the estimation of fair value of a number of asset classes including land, buildings and associated structures and infrastructure. Further detail of these uncertainties, and of existing valuations, methods and valuers are provided at Note 7.

6.4 Depreciation of Non-Current Assets

Other than land, all infrastructure, property, plant and equipment assets recognised are systematically depreciated over their useful lives on a straight-line basis which, in the opinion of Council, best reflects the consumption of the service potential embodied in those assets.

Depreciation methods, useful lives and residual values of classes of assets are reviewed annually.

Major depreciation periods for each class of asset are shown in Note 7. Depreciation periods for infrastructure assets have been estimated based on the best information available to Council, but appropriate records covering the entire life cycle of these assets are not available, and extreme care should be used in interpreting financial information based on these estimates.

7 Payables

7.1 Goods & Services

Creditors are amounts due to external parties for the supply of goods and services and are recognised as liabilities when the goods and services are received. Creditors are normally paid 30 days after the month of invoice. No interest is payable on these amounts.

7.2 Payments Received in Advance & Deposits

Amounts received from external parties in advance of service delivery, and security deposits held against possible damage to Council assets, are recognised as liabilities until the service is delivered or damage reinstated, or the amount is refunded as the case may be.

Council also holds a Bond for Aged Care Residential Accommodation. This bond is held in accordance with the Retirement Villages Act 2016(SA).

8 Borrowings



SOUTHERN MALLEE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2021

Note 1 - SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Loans are carried at their principal amounts which represent the present value of future cash flows associated with servicing the debt. Interest is accrued over the period to which it relates and is recorded as part of "Payables". Interest free loans are carried at their nominal amounts; interest revenues foregone by the lender effectively being a reduction of interest expense in the period to which it relates.

9 Provisions

9.1 Employee Benefits

Liabilities for employees' entitlements to salaries, wages and compensated absences expected to be paid or settled within 12 months of reporting date are accrued at nominal amounts (including payroll based on costs) measured in accordance with AASB 119.

Liabilities for employee benefits not expected to be paid or settled within 12 months are measured as the present value of the estimated future cash outflows (including payroll based on costs) to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the reporting date. Present values are calculated using government guaranteed securities rates with similar maturity terms.

Weighted average discount rate	0.36% (2020, 0.34%)
Weighted average settlement period	1 year (2020, 1 year)

9.2 Superannuation

The Council makes employer superannuation contributions in respect of its employees to the Statewide Superannuation Scheme. The Scheme has two types of membership, each of which is funded differently. Details of the accounting policies applied and Council's involvement with the schemes are reported in Note 17.

10 GST Implications

In accordance with UIG Abstract 1031 "Accounting for the Goods & Services Tax"

- Receivables and Creditors include GST receivable and payable.
- Except in relation to input taxed activities, revenues and operating expenditures exclude GST receivable and payable.
- Non-current assets and capital expenditures include GST net of any recoupment.
- Amounts included in the Statement of Cash Flows are disclosed on a gross basis.

13 New and amended standards and interpretations

The Council applied for the first-time certain standards and amendments, which are effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2020. New standards and amendments relevant to the Council are listed below. The Council has not early adopted any other standard, interpretation or amendment that has been issued but is not yet effective.

Amendments to AASB 101 and AASB 108 Definition of Material:

The amendments provide a new definition of material that states, "information is material if omitting, misstating or obscuring it could reasonably be expected to influence decisions that the primary users of general purpose financial statements make on the basis of those financial statements, which provide financial information about a specific reporting entity." The amendments clarify that materiality will depend on the nature or magnitude of information, either individually or in combination with other information, in the context of the financial statements. A misstatement of information is material if it could reasonably be expected to influence decisions made by the primary users. These amendments had no impact on the financial statements of, nor is there expected to be any future impact to the Council.

Amendments to AASB 16 Covid-19 Related Rent Concessions:

In 2020, the AASB issued AASB 2020-4, Amendments to AASs - Covid-19-Related Rent Concessions. The amendments provide relief to lessees from applying AASB 16 guidance on lease modification

SOUTHERN MALLEE DISTRICT COUNCIL
Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2021

Note 1 - SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

accounting for rent concessions arising as a direct consequence of the Covid-19 pandemic. As a practical expedient, a lessee may elect not to assess whether a Covid-19 related rent concession from a lessor is a lease modification. A lessee that makes this election accounts for any change in lease payments resulting from the Covid-19 related rent concession the same way it would account for the change under IFRS 16 if the change were not a lease modification. The amendment applies to annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 June 2020. This amendment had no impact on the consolidated financial statements of the Group.



SOUTHERN MALLEE DISTRICT COUNCIL
Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2021

Note 2 - INCOME

	2021	2020
Notes	\$	\$
RATES REVENUES		
<u>General Rates</u>	3,623,907	3,635,002
Less: Mandatory rebates	(49,290)	(77,977)
Less: Discretionary rebates, remissions & write offs	-	(17,908)
	3,574,617	3,539,117
<u>Other Rates</u> (including service charges)		
Natural Resource Management levy	125,361	116,388
Waste collection	211,663	196,252
Community wastewater management systems	424,370	421,658
	761,394	734,298
<u>Other Charges</u>		
Penalties for late payment	30,087	46,805
	30,087	46,805
	4,366,098	4,320,220
STATUTORY CHARGES		
Town planning fees	64,593	24,831
Health & Septic Tank Inspection fees	7,110	9,056
Animal registration fees & fines	16,683	17,604
Property Search Fees	6,502	4,374
	94,888	55,865
USER CHARGES		
Cemetery/crematoria fees	14,684	15,003
Health Care Centres	90	732
Mallee Mobile Childcare Service	716,819	522,217
Waste Transfer Fees	23,324	18,339
Council Housing Rents	25,859	28,580
Aged Care Rentals	24,541	24,331
Museum Entry Charges	-	1,737
Sport & Recreation Charges	19,269	26,512
Swimming Pools	5	16,503
Parilla Accommodation	40,370	103,430
Hall & equipment hire	13,724	11,570
Sundry	10,065	13,879
	888,750	782,833

SOUTHERN MALLEE DISTRICT COUNCIL
Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2021

Note 2 - INCOME (con't)

	Notes	2021 \$	2020 \$
INVESTMENT INCOME			
Interest on investments:			
Local Government Finance Authority		31,771	54,860
Banks & other		184	175
		<u>31,955</u>	<u>55,035</u>
REIMBURSEMENTS			
Private Works		9,045	3,642
Immunisations		-	726
Drummuster & Karoonda Rubbish Collection		59,898	105,316
Other		19,032	8,568
		<u>87,975</u>	<u>118,252</u>
OTHER INCOME			
Fire Prevention		1,667	1,703
Mallee COGS		45,000	30,000
Garbage		2,269	986
Halls		851	2,731
Swimming Pools		2,551	6,553
Plant and Fuel Rebate		42,940	43,253
Donations		919	796
Sundry		76,421	82,541
		<u>172,618</u>	<u>168,563</u>
GRANTS, SUBSIDIES, CONTRIBUTIONS			
Amounts received specifically for new or upgraded assets		1,271,014	100,000
Other grants, subsidies and contributions			
Untied - Financial Assistance Grant		1,528,976	1,580,060
Roads to Recovery		610,772	610,771
Childcare		211,797	213,214
Library & Communications		847	845
Sundry		5,000	3,298
		<u>2,357,392</u>	<u>2,408,188</u>
		<u>3,628,406</u>	<u>2,508,188</u>
<i>The functions to which these grants relate are shown in Note 12.</i>			
Sources of grants			
Commonwealth government		1,805,234	923,985
State government		1,818,172	1,580,905
Other		5,000	3,298
		<u>3,628,406</u>	<u>2,508,188</u>

SOUTHERN MALLEE DISTRICT COUNCIL
Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2021

Note 3 - EXPENSE

	Notes	2021 \$	2020 \$
EMPLOYEE COSTS			
Salaries and Wages		2,736,912	2,503,542
Employee leave expense		209,501	205,575
Superannuation - defined contribution plan contributions	17	198,102	181,174
Superannuation - defined benefit plan contributions	17	59,130	57,820
Workers' Compensation Insurance		130,857	125,202
Less: Capitalised and distributed costs		(238,007)	(119,104)
Total Operating Employee Costs		3,096,495	2,954,209
 Total Number of Employees		 36	 35
<i>(Full time equivalent at end of reporting period)</i>			
MATERIALS, CONTRACTS & OTHER EXPENSES			
<u>Prescribed Expenses</u>			
Auditor's Remuneration			
- Auditing the financial reports		23,295	16,925
Elected members' expenses		83,362	87,904
Subtotal - Prescribed Expenses		106,657	104,829
<u>Other Materials, Contracts & Expenses</u>			
Contractors		752,683	673,600
Maintenance		672,253	716,114
Levies paid to government - NRM levy		126,984	118,658
Community Grants		73,649	66,518
Fuel and Oil		195,281	192,209
Sundry		179,047	213,698
Subtotal - Other Materials, Contracts & Expenses		1,999,897	1,980,797
		2,106,554	2,085,626

SOUTHERN MALLEE DISTRICT COUNCIL
Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2021
Note 3 - EXPENSE con't

	2021	2020
Notes	\$	\$
DEPRECIATION, AMORTISATION & IMPAIRMENT		
Depreciation		
Buildings & Other Structures	356,608	339,933
Infrastructure Transport	1,616,492	1,578,654
Infrastructure Stormwater	97,838	97,838
Infrastructure Common Effluent	151,801	129,574
Infrastructure Other	37,019	36,040
Plant, Machinery & Equipment	405,687	368,153
Furniture & Fittings	9,520	12,434
Other Assets	388	387
	<u>2,675,353</u>	<u>2,563,013</u>
FINANCE COSTS		
Interest on Loans	81,809	97,380
	<u>81,809</u>	<u>97,380</u>

Note 4 - ASSET DISPOSALS AND FAIR VALUE ADJUSTMENTS

	2021	2020
Notes	\$	\$
INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT		
<i>Assets renewed or directly replaced</i>		
Proceeds from disposal	238,000	128,340
Less: Carrying amount of assets sold	869,397	96,166
Gain (Loss) on disposal	<u>(631,397)</u>	<u>32,174</u>
<i>Assets surplus to requirements</i>		
Proceeds from disposal	263,636	116,645
Less: Carrying amount of assets sold	291,803	234,087
Gain (Loss) on disposal	<u>(28,167)</u>	<u>(117,442)</u>
NET GAIN (LOSS) ON DISPOSAL OR REVALUATION OF ASSETS	<u>(659,564)</u>	<u>(85,268)</u>

SOUTHERN MALLEE DISTRICT COUNCIL
Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2021

Note 5 - CURRENT ASSETS

		2021	2020
	Notes	\$	\$
CASH & EQUIVALENT ASSETS			
Cash on Hand and at Bank		51,165	42,350
Deposits at Call		2,700,000	2,102,774
Short Term Deposits & Bills, etc		-	2,750,000
		<u>2,751,165</u>	<u>4,895,124</u>
TRADE & OTHER RECEIVABLES			
Rates - General & Other		583,030	541,693
Accrued Revenues		667	4,827
Debtors - general		10,610	20,390
GST Recoupment		71,197	24,302
Loans to community organisations		2,000	-
		<u>667,504</u>	<u>591,212</u>
INVENTORIES			
Stores & Materials		12,113	85,000
Trading Stock		44,995	44,395
		<u>57,108</u>	<u>129,395</u>

Aggregate write-downs and other losses recognised as an expense, and reversals of these, were not material in amount in either year. All such reversals occurred principally as a result of clerical inaccuracies during stores operations.

Note 6 - NON-CURRENT ASSETS

		2021	2020
	Notes	\$	\$
FINANCIAL ASSETS			
Receivables			
Loans to community organisations		61,000	59,000
TOTAL FINANCIAL ASSETS		<u>61,000</u>	<u>59,000</u>

SOUTHERN MALLEE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2021

Note 7 - INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT (IPP&E)

	Fair Value Level	2020 \$'000				2021 \$'000			
		Fair Value	Cost	Acc' Dep'n	Carrying Amount	Fair Value	Cost	Acc' Dep'n	Carrying Amount
Land - Other	2	420,000	-	-	420,000	420,000	-	-	420,000
Land - Community	3	1,877,200	-	-	1,877,200	1,847,600	-	-	1,847,600
Land Improvements	3	1,187,000	-	-	1,187,000	1,187,000	90,357	-	1,277,357
Buildings & Other Structures	2	2,598,900	54,907	(155,828)	2,497,979	2,544,734	120,415	(213,808)	2,451,341
Buildings & Other Structures	3	17,733,500	2,051,349	(12,180,431)	7,604,418	17,733,500	1,892,349	(12,307,243)	7,318,606
Infrastructure Transport	3	66,345,119	-	(19,075,642)	47,269,477	66,345,119	1,239,174	(20,385,859)	47,198,434
Infrastructure Stormwater	3	4,490,980	543	(2,333,743)	2,157,780	4,490,980	543	(2,431,581)	2,059,942
Infrastructure Common Effluent	3	7,670,757	240,411	(4,812,437)	3,098,731	7,670,757	2,321,954	(4,964,238)	5,028,473
Infrastructure Other		-	1,158,198	(366,320)	791,878	-	2,393,697	(403,340)	1,990,357
Plant, Machinery & Equipment		-	5,466,325	(2,330,856)	3,135,469	-	5,595,990	(2,388,461)	3,207,529
Furniture & Fittings		-	305,093	(226,186)	78,907	-	306,247	(229,144)	77,103
Other Assets		-	250,866	(239,519)	11,347	-	250,866	(239,907)	10,959
Total IPP&E		102,323,456	9,527,692	(41,720,962)	70,130,186	102,239,690	14,211,592	(43,563,581)	72,887,701
Comparatives		92,159,185	15,279,901	(44,870,699)	62,568,387	102,323,456	9,527,692	(41,720,962)	70,130,186

This Note continues on the following pages.

Note: The above figures include all Work in Progress. No Work in Progress has been depreciated through the year.

SOUTHERN MALLEE DISTRICT COUNCIL
Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2021
Note 7 - INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT

	2020 \$	2021 \$							
	Carrying Amount	Additions		Disposals	Dep'n	Transfers		Net Reval'n	Carrying Amount
		New / Upgrade	Renewals			In	Out		
Land - Other	420,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	420,000
Land - Community	1,877,200	-	-	(12,100)	-	-	(17,500)	-	1,847,600
Land Improvements	1,187,000	-	90,357	-	-	-	-	-	1,277,357
Buildings & Other Structures	2,497,979	-	120,415	(279,703)	(51,049)	163,699	-	-	2,451,341
Buildings & Other Structures	7,604,418	-	183,446	-	(305,559)	-	(163,699)	-	7,318,606
Infrastructure Transport	47,269,477	236,728	1,861,705	(570,484)	(1,616,492)	17,500	-	-	47,198,434
Infrastructure Stormwater	2,157,780	-	-	-	(97,838)	-	-	-	2,059,942
Infrastructure Common Effluent	3,098,731	-	2,081,543	-	(151,801)	-	-	-	5,028,473
Infrastructure Other	791,878	1,235,498	-	-	(37,019)	-	-	-	1,990,357
Plant, Machinery & Equipment	3,135,469	-	776,660	(298,913)	(405,687)	-	-	-	3,207,529
Furniture & Fittings	78,907	-	7,716	-	(9,520)	-	-	-	77,103
Other Assets	11,347	-	-	-	(388)	-	-	-	10,959
Total IPP&E	70,130,186	1,472,226	5,121,842	(1,161,200)	(2,675,353)	181,199	(181,199)	-	72,887,701
Comparatives	62,568,387	1,182,545	1,902,801	(330,253)	(2,563,013)	-	-	7,369,719	70,130,186

This note continues on the following pages.

Note: The above figures include all Work in Progress. No Work in Progress has been depreciated through the year.

SOUTHERN MALLEE DISTRICT COUNCIL
Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2021

Note 7 (con't) – INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT

Valuation of Assets

General Valuation Principles

Accounting procedure: Upon revaluation, the current new replacement cost and accumulated depreciation are re-stated such that the difference represents the fair value of the asset determined in accordance with AASB 13 *Fair Value Measurement*: accumulated depreciation is taken to be the difference between current new replacement cost and fair value. In the case of land, fair value is taken to be the current replacement cost.

Highest and best use: For land which Council has an unfettered right to sell, the "highest and best use" recognises the possibility of the demolition or substantial modification of some or all of the existing buildings and structures affixed to the land.

Much of the land under Council's care and control is Crown land or has been declared as community land under the provisions of the Local Government Act 1999. Other types of restrictions also exist.

For land subject to these restrictions, the highest and best use is taken to be the "highest and best use" available to Council, with a rebuttable presumption that the current use is the "highest and best use". The reason for the current use of a large proportion of Council's assets being other than the "highest and best use" relates to Council's principal role as the provider of services to the community, rather than the use of those assets for the generation of revenue.

For buildings and other structures on and in the land, including infrastructure, "highest and best use" is determined in accordance with the land on and in which they are situated.

Fair value hierarchy level 2 valuations: Certain land, and the buildings and structures thereon, are shown above as being based on fair value hierarchy level 2 valuation inputs. They are based on prices for similar assets in an active market, with directly or indirectly observable adjustments for specific advantages or disadvantages attaching to the particular asset.

Fair value hierarchy level 3 valuations of land: Valuations of Crown land, community land and land subject to other restrictions on use or disposal, shown above as being based on fair value hierarchy level 3 valuation inputs, are based on prices for similar assets in an active market, but include adjustments for specific advantages or disadvantages attaching to the particular asset that are not directly or indirectly observable in that market, or the number and / or amount of observable adjustments of which are so great that the valuation is more fairly described as being based on level 3 valuation inputs.

Fair value hierarchy level 3 valuations of buildings, infrastructure and other assets: There is no known market for these assets and they are valued at depreciated current replacement cost. This method involves:

The determination of the cost to construct the asset (or its modern engineering equivalent) using current prices for materials and labour, the quantities of each being estimated based on recent experience of this or similar Councils, or on industry construction guides where these are more appropriate.

The calculation of the depreciation that would have accumulated since original construction using current estimates of residual value and useful life under the prime cost depreciation method adopted by Council.

This method has significant inherent uncertainties, relying on estimates of quantities of materials and labour, residual values and useful lives, and the possibility of changes in prices for materials and labour, and the potential for development of more efficient construction techniques. Accordingly, formal sensitivity analysis does not provide useful information.

SOUTHERN MALLEE DISTRICT COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2021

Note 7 (con't) – INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT

Transfers between fair value hierarchy levels

During the course of the year, some building assets previously reported as designated community land under the Local Government Act 1993 was deemed to be held for operational purposes. The change in designation introduced a new, unobservable input and necessitated the transfer of its valuation from fair value hierarchy level 3 to level 2, and the adjustment of the valuation.

In addition to the building asset resulting in a change of fair value hierarchy levels the air strip was previously classified as land and following the upgrade this asset has been transferred to infrastructure transport.

Capitalisation thresholds used by Council for a representative range of assets are shown below. No capitalisation threshold is applied to the acquisition of land or interests in land.

Office Furniture & Equipment	\$5,000
Other Plant & Equipment	\$5,000
Buildings - new construction/extensions	\$5,000
Park & Playground Furniture & Equipment	\$5,000
Road construction & reconstruction	\$5,000
Paving & footpaths, Kerb & Gutter	\$5,000
Drains & Culverts	\$5,000

Estimated Useful Lives: Useful lives are estimated for each individual asset. In estimating useful lives, regard is had to technical and commercial obsolescence, as well as legal and other limitations on continued use. The range of useful lives for a representative range of assets is shown below, although individual assets may have an estimated total useful life of greater or lesser amount:

Plant, Furniture & Equipment	
Office Equipment	5 to 10 years
Office Furniture	10 to 20 years
Vehicles and Road-making Equip	5 to 8 years
Other Plant & Equipment	5 to 15 years
Water Supply Equipment	5 to 25 years
Building & Other Structures	
Buildings – masonry	50 to 100 years
Buildings – other construction	20 to 40 years
Park Structures – masonry	50 to 100 years
Park Structures – other construction	20 to 40 years
Playground equipment	5 to 15 years
Benches, seats, etc	10 to 20 years
Infrastructure	
Sealed Roads – Surface	15 to 25 years
Sealed Roads – Structure	70 to 100 years
Unsealed Roads	35 years
Bridges – Concrete	10 years
Paving & Footpaths, Kerb & Gutter	20 to 80 years
Stormwater Drainage	65 to 70 years
Drains	80 to 100 years
Culverts	50 to 75 years
Flood Control Structures	80 to 100 years
Dams and Reservoirs	80 to 100 years
Bores	20 to 40 years
Community Waste Water Scheme	35 to 40 years

SOUTHERN MALLEE DISTRICT COUNCIL
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2021

Note 7 (con't) – INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT

Reticulation Pipes – PVC	70 to 80 years
Reticulation Pipes – other	25 to 75 years
Pumps & Telemetry	15 to 25 years

Land & Land Improvements

Council being of the opinion that it is not possible to attribute a value sufficiently reliably to qualify for recognition, land under roads has not been recognised in these reports. Land acquired for road purposes during the year is initially recognised at cost, but transferred to fair value at reporting date, effectively writing off the expenditure.

Freehold land and land over which Council has control, but does not have title, is recognised on the cost basis. No capitalisation threshold is applied to the acquisition of land or interests in land.

Land improvements, including bulk earthworks with an assessed unlimited useful life, are recognised on the cost basis, originally deriving from a valuation at 1 July 2016 by Christopher Chaney of Asset Valuation and Consulting. Additions are recognised at cost.

Estimated future costs of reinstatement of land, capitalised in accordance with AASB 116.16(c), are reviewed annually (see Note 1).

Category 2 Land was revalued as at 1 July 2016 by Christopher Chaney of Asset Valuation and Consulting.

Category 3 Land was revalued as at 30 June 2018 by the Valuer Generals Department.

Buildings & Other Structures

Buildings and other structures were revalued as at 1 July 2016 by Christopher Chaney of Asset Valuation and Consulting.

Infrastructure

Transportation assets were valued by Mr John Olson, Managing Director and Principal Engineer, Road Transport HDS Australia Pty Ltd at depreciated current replacement cost during the reporting period ended 30 June 2020, based on actual costs incurred during the reporting periods ended 30 June 2019 and 2020. All acquisitions made after the respective dates of valuation are recorded at cost.

Stormwater drainage infrastructure was valued by Wallbridge Gilbert Aztec (WGA) as at 30 June 2018 at depreciated current replacement cost, based on actual costs incurred during the reporting period ended 30 June 2018. All acquisitions made after the respective dates of valuation are recorded at cost.

Community wastewater management system infrastructure was valued at depreciated current replacement cost on 1 July 2016 by Wallbridge Gilbert Aztec (WGA). All acquisitions made after the respective dates of valuation are recorded at cost.

Infrastructure Other includes recreational assets such as street furniture, parks and garden equipment etc. All acquisitions made have been recorded at cost and have not been valued.

Plant, Furniture & Equipment

These assets are recognised on the cost basis.

All other assets

These assets are recognised on the cost basis.



SOUTHERN MALLEE DISTRICT COUNCIL
Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2021

Note 8 - LIABILITIES

		2021		2020	
		\$		\$	
TRADE & OTHER PAYABLES	Notes	Current	Non-current	Current	Non-current
Goods & Services		779,576	-	402,781	-
Payments received in advance		258,809	-	500,000	-
Accrued expenses - employee entitlements		60,522	-	36,272	-
Accrued expenses - other		18,329	-	30,079	-
Deposits, Retentions & Bonds		5,000	-	5,000	-
		1,122,236	-	974,132	-
BORROWINGS					
Loans		265,905	611,104	255,067	877,009
		265,905	611,104	255,067	877,009
<i>All interest bearing liabilities are secured over the future revenues of the Council.</i>					
PROVISIONS					
LSL Employee entitlements (including oncosts)		374,904	21,079	348,152	15,958
AL Employee entitlements (including oncosts)		395,381	-	367,407	-
Other Employee Provisions		103,365	-	87,603	-
		873,650	21,079	803,162	15,958

SOUTHERN MALLEE DISTRICT COUNCIL
Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2021

Note 9 - RESERVES

ASSET REVALUATION RESERVE	1/7/2020	Net Increments/ (Decrements)	Transfers, Impairments	30/6/2021
Notes	\$	\$	\$	\$
Land	2,123,795	-	-	2,123,795
Building & Other Structures	8,150,938	-	-	8,150,938
Infrastructure Transport	46,547,121	-	-	46,547,121
Infrastructure CWMS	769,649	-	-	769,649
Infrastructure Stormwater	24,231	-	-	24,231
TOTAL	57,615,734	-	-	57,615,734
Comparatives	50,246,015	7,369,719	-	57,615,734

OTHER RESERVES	1/7/2020	Transfers to Reserve	Transfers from Reserve	30/6/2021
Long Service Leave	275,000	(275,000)	-	-
Reserve - CWMS	717,752	(1,738,015)	-	(1,020,263)
TOTAL OTHER RESERVES	992,752	(2,013,015)	-	(1,020,263)
Comparatives	999,762	423,049	(430,059)	992,752

PURPOSES OF RESERVES

Asset Revaluation Reserve

The asset revaluation reserve is used to record increments and decrements arising from changes in fair value of non-current assets (less any subsequent impairment losses, where applicable).

Other Reserves

Long Service Leave

Was previously held for future cash requirements of staff leaving. Under Treasury Management Reserve is no longer required

CWMS (Community Waste Water Management Scheme)

Is for the future cash requirements of asset replacement of the Community Waste Water Management scheme

SOUTHERN MALLEE DISTRICT COUNCIL
Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2021

Note 10 - ASSETS SUBJECT TO RESTRICTIONS

The uses of the following assets are restricted, wholly or partially, by legislation or other externally imposed requirements. The assets are required to be utilised for the purposes for which control was transferred to Council, or for which the revenues were originally obtained.

CASH & FINANCIAL ASSETS	Notes	2021 \$	2020 \$
Unexpended amounts received from Federal Government			
Federal Drought Funding		-	500,000
LCRIP Funding		253,692	-
		253,692	500,000
TOTAL ASSETS SUBJECT TO EXTERNALLY IMPOSED RESTRICTIONS		253,692	500,000



SOUTHERN MALLEE DISTRICT COUNCIL
Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2021

Note 11 - RECONCILIATION TO CASH FLOW STATEMENT

(a) Reconciliation of Cash

Cash Assets comprise highly liquid investments with short periods to maturity subject to insignificant risk of changes of value. Cash at the end of the reporting period as shown in the Cash Flow Statement is reconciled to the related items in the Balance Sheet as follows:

	Notes	2021 \$	2020 \$
Total cash & equivalent assets	5	2,751,165	4,895,124
Balances per Cash Flow Statement		<u>2,751,165</u>	<u>4,895,124</u>

(b) Reconciliation of Change in Net Assets to Cash from Operating Activities

Net Surplus (Deficit)	650,915	223,460
Non-cash items in Income Statement		
Depreciation, amortisation & impairment	2,675,353	2,563,013
Net increase (decrease) in unpaid employee benefits	99,859	32,694
Grants for capital acquisitions treated as Investing Activity	(1,524,706)	(100,000)
Net (Gain) Loss on Disposals	659,564	85,268
	<u>2,560,985</u>	<u>2,804,435</u>
Add (Less): Changes in Net Current Assets		
Net (increase) decrease in receivables	(74,292)	69,259
Net (increase) decrease in inventories	72,287	(60,515)
Net increase (decrease) in trade & other payables	123,854	806,270
Net Cash provided by (or used in) operations	<u>2,682,834</u>	<u>3,619,449</u>

(c) Financing Arrangements

Unrestricted access was available at balance date to the following lines of credit:

Corporate Credit Cards	16,000	16,000
LGFA Cash Advance Debenture facility	2,300,000	1,500,000

The bank overdraft facilities may be drawn at any time and may be terminated by the bank without notice.



SOUTHERN MALLEE DISTRICT COUNCIL
Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2021

Note 12 - FUNCTIONS

INCOMES, EXPENSES AND ASSETS HAVE BEEN DIRECTLY ATTRIBUTED TO THE FOLLOWING FUNCTIONS & ACTIVITIES

	INCOME		EXPENSES		OPERATING SURPLUS (DEFICIT)		GRANTS INCLUDED IN INCOME		TOTAL ASSETS HELD (CURRENT & NON-CURRENT)	
	ACTUAL	2020	ACTUAL	2020	ACTUAL	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020
	2021	\$	2021	\$	2021	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Dog and Fire Prevention	19,489	19,798	71,136	70,023	(51,647)	(50,225)	-	-	-	-
Health Services	9,301	12,163	38,387	28,942	(29,086)	(16,779)	-	1,253	-	-
Welfare & Childrens Services	974,116	765,509	934,500	746,202	39,616	19,307	211,797	213,214	-	-
Housing & Community Amenities	815,627	840,542	923,349	924,997	(107,722)	(84,455)	-	1,777	7,433,427	5,503,685
Sport & Recreation	38,884	69,167	903,911	966,075	(865,027)	(396,908)	847	1,113	2,526,123	1,237,287
Development Services & Gravel Pits	37,395	-	256,105	252,541	(218,710)	(252,541)	-	-	-	-
Road & Aerodrome	1,105,407	1,107,222	2,546,997	2,547,390	(1,441,590)	(1,440,168)	1,046,582	1,050,761	46,772,748	46,959,129
Economic Affairs	47,177	104,606	199,771	212,526	(152,594)	(107,920)	5,000	-	-	-
Finance, Plant, Depot & Other Purposes	106,402	120,869	395,511	312,467	(289,109)	(191,598)	-	-	7,326,624	7,256,756
Governance	-	-	645,002	596,186	(645,002)	(596,186)	-	-	-	-
Administration & Support Services	1,006	1,030	918,558	924,221	(917,552)	(923,191)	-	-	-	-
Rate & Grant Revenue	4,844,872	4,868,050	126,984	118,658	4,717,888	4,749,392	1,093,166	1,140,070	12,365,556	14,848,060
TOTALS	7,999,676	7,908,956	7,960,211	7,700,228	39,465	208,728	2,357,392	2,408,188	76,424,478	75,804,917

SOUTHERN MALLEE DISTRICT COUNCIL
Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2021

Note 12 (con't) - COMPONENTS OF FUNCTIONS

The activities relating to Council functions are as follows:

Dog and Fire Prevention

Dog and Cat Control, Fire Prevention and Other Public Order and Safety.

Health Services

Health Services, Pest Control - Health, Immunisation, Prevention Health Services, Dental Clinics and Other Health Services.

Welfare and Childcare Services

Community Support, elderly Citizens Facilities, Other Services for the Aged and Disabled, Mobile Child Care Service, Children and Youth Services, Community Assistance, Community Transport and Other Community Support.

Housing and Community Amenities

Community Amenities, Cemeteries, Public Conveniences, Waste Management Facility and Recycling, Kerbside Waste and Recycling Collection, Community Waste Water Management Schemes, Street Lighting, Street Cleaning, Stormwater, Street Furniture, Aged Accommodation and Other Community Amenities.

Sport and Recreation

Halls, Swimming Pools, Library Services and Static Libraries, Parks and Gardens, Sports Venues, Cultural Services, Cultural Venues, Heritage and Museums.

Agricultural Services

Agricultural Services, Agricultural Water and Other Agricultural Services.

Development Services and Gravel Pits

Building and Planning Development Regulatory Services, Reinstatement of Gravel Pits.

Roads and Aerodrome

Aerodrome, Footpaths and Kerbing, Roads – sealed, Roads – formed, Roads – natural formed, Roads – unformed, Traffic Management, LGGC – roads (formula funded), and Other Transport.

Economic Affairs

Regional Development, Support to Local Businesses, Caravan Parks, Seasonal Worker Accommodation Facility, Community Telecentres, Tourism and Other Economic Development.

Finance, Plant and Other Purposes

Council Investments Income, Council Debt Repayments, Operational Expenses associated with Council Depot and Construction Plant and Machinery, reinstatement of vandalism damage and Other Property Expenses.

Governance

Governance, Elected Members Expenses.

Administration Support Services

Support Services, Accounting/Finance, Payroll, Human Resources, Information Technology, Communication, Rates Administration, Records, Occupancy, Contract Management, Customer Service, Other Support Services.

Unclassified Activities

Items not elsewhere included.

Rate and Grant Revenue

Rates, Natural Resource Management Levy and Revenues, LGGC - General Purpose



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SOUTHERN MALLEE DISTRICT COUNCIL
Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2021

Note 13 - FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

All financial instruments are categorised as *loans and receivables*.

Accounting Policies - Recognised Financial Instruments

Bank, Deposits at Call, Short Term Deposits	<p>Accounting Policy: initially recognised at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost, interest is recognised when earned</p> <p>Terms & conditions: Deposits are returning fixed interest rates between 0.30% and 0.45% (2020: 0.4% and 1.25%). Short term deposits have an average maturity of 90 days and an average interest rates of 0.52% (2020: 90 days, 1.1%).</p> <p>Carrying amount: approximates fair value due to the short term to maturity.</p>
Receivables - Rates & Associated	<p>Accounting Policy: initially recognised at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost. An impairment provision is recognised using the expected credit loss method</p> <p>Terms & conditions: Secured over the subject land, arrears attract interest of 0.43% (2020: 0.55%) Although Council is not materially exposed to any individual debtor, credit risk exposure is concentrated within the Council's boundaries in the State.</p> <p>Carrying amount: approximates fair value (after deduction of any allowance).</p>
Receivables - Fees & other charges	<p>Accounting Policy: initially recognised at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost. An impairment provision is recognised using the expected credit loss method</p> <p>Terms & conditions: Unsecured, and do not bear interest. Although Council is not materially exposed to any individual debtor, credit risk exposure is concentrated within the Council's boundaries.</p> <p>Carrying amount: approximates fair value (after deduction of any allowance).</p>
Receivables - other levels of government	<p>Accounting Policy: initially recognised at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost. An impairment provision is recognised using the expected credit loss method.</p> <p>Terms & conditions: Amounts due have been calculated in accordance with the terms and conditions of the respective programs following advice of approvals, and do not bear interest. All amounts are due by Departments and Agencies of State and Federal Governments.</p> <p>Carrying amount: approximates fair value.</p>
Liabilities - Creditors and Accruals	<p>Accounting Policy: Liabilities are recognised for amounts to be paid in the future for goods and services received, whether or not billed to the Council.</p> <p>Terms & conditions: Liabilities are normally settled on 30 day terms.</p> <p>Carrying amount: approximates fair value.</p>
Liabilities - Interest Bearing Borrowings	<p>Accounting Policy: initially recognised at fair value and subsequently at amortised cost, interest is charged as an expense using the effective interest rate</p> <p>Terms & conditions: secured over future revenues, borrowings are repayable; interest is charged at fixed or variable rates between 5.63% and 7.62% (2020: 5.63% and 7.62%)</p> <p>Carrying amount: approximates fair value.</p>

SOUTHERN MALLEE DISTRICT COUNCIL
Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2021

Note 13 - FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (con't)

Liquidity Analysis

2021	Due < 1 year	Due > 1 year ≤ 5 years	Due > 5 years	Total Contractual Cash Flows	Carrying Values
Financial Assets	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Cash & Equivalents	2,751,165	-	-	2,751,165	2,751,165
Receivables	669,804	-	59,000	728,804	728,504
Total	3,420,969	-	59,000	3,479,969	3,479,669
Financial Liabilities					
Payables	802,905	-	-	802,905	802,905
Current Borrowings	320,309	-	-	320,309	265,905
Non-Current Borrowings	-	674,785	-	674,785	611,104
Total	1,123,214	674,785	-	1,797,999	1,679,914

2020	Due < 1 year	Due > 1 year; ≤ 5 years	Due > 5 years	Total Contractual Cash Flows	Carrying Values
Financial Assets	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Cash & Equivalents	4,895,124	-	-	4,895,124	4,895,124
Receivables	591,212	-	59,000	650,212	650,212
Total	5,486,336	-	59,000	5,545,336	5,545,336
Financial Liabilities					
Payables	437,860	-	-	437,860	437,860
Current Borrowings	326,934	-	-	326,934	255,067
Non-Current Borrowings	-	995,094	-	995,094	877,009
Total	764,794	995,094	-	1,759,888	1,569,936

The following interest rates were applicable to Council's borrowings at balance date:

	30 June 2021		30 June 2020	
	Weighted Average Interest Rate	Carrying Value	Weighted Average Interest Rate	Carrying Value
	%	\$	%	\$
Fixed Interest Rates	6.85%	877,009	6.85%	1,132,076
		877,009		1,132,076

SOUTHERN MALLEE DISTRICT COUNCIL
Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2021

Note 13 - FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (con't)

Net Fair Value

All carrying values approximate fair value for all recognised financial instruments. There is no recognised market for the financial assets of the Council.

Risk Exposures:

Credit Risk represents the loss that would be recognised if counterparties fail to perform as contracted. The maximum credit risk on financial assets of the Council is the carrying amount, net of any impairment. All Council investments are made with the SA Local Government Finance Authority and are guaranteed by the SA Government. Except as detailed in Notes 5 & 6 in relation to individual classes of receivables, exposure is concentrated within the Council's boundaries, and there is no material exposure to any individual debtor.

Market Risk is the risk that fair values of financial assets will fluctuate as a result of changes in market prices. All of Council's financial assets are denominated in Australian dollars and are not traded on any market, and hence neither market risk nor currency risk apply.

Liquidity Risk is the risk that Council will encounter difficulty in meeting obligations with financial liabilities. In accordance with the model Treasury Management Policy (LGA Information Paper 15), liabilities have a range of maturity dates. Council also has available a range of bank overdraft and standby borrowing facilities that it can access.

Interest Rate Risk is the risk that future cash flows will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates. Council has a balance of both fixed and variable interest rate borrowings and investments. Cash flow fluctuations are managed holistically in seeking to minimise interest costs over the longer term in a risk averse manner.



SOUTHERN MALLEE DISTRICT COUNCIL
Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2021

Note 14 - COMMITMENTS FOR EXPENDITURE

	2021	2020
Notes	\$	\$
Other Expenditure Commitments		
Expenditure committed at the reporting date but not recognised in the financial statements as liabilities:		
Audit Contract	38,900	16,925
Cleaning Contract	173,759	26,589
Employee Contracts	1,234,926	1,038,500
Town Centre Revitalisation Works	1,240,412	32,978
Preparation of Detailed design Documentation	182,555	19,034
Pinnaroo CWMS Gravity Drain Renewal Works	2,787,654	418,885
Swimming Pools	592,072	-
	6,250,278	1,552,911
These expenditures are payable:		
Not later than one year	5,705,791	946,411
Later than one year and not later than 5 years	544,487	606,500
	6,250,278	1,552,911

SOUTHERN MALLEE DISTRICT COUNCIL
Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2021

Note 15 - FINANCIAL INDICATORS

	2021	2020	2019
Operating Surplus Ratio			
<u>Operating Surplus</u>	0.5%	2.6%	5.8%
Total Operating Income			

This ratio expresses the operating surplus as a percentage of total operating revenue.

Net Financial Liabilities Ratio

<u>Net Financial Liabilities</u>	-7.3%	-33.1%	-33.1%
Total Operating Income			

Net Financial Liabilities are defined as total liabilities less financial assets. These are expressed as a percentage of total operating revenue.

Adjustments to Ratios

In recent years the Federal Government has made advance payments prior to 30th June from future year allocations of financial assistance grants, as explained in Note 1. These **Adjusted Ratios** correct for the resulting distortion in key ratios for each year and provide a more accurate basis for comparison between years.

Adjusted Operating Surplus Ratio	0.7%	2.0%	6.0%
Adjusted Net Financial Liabilities Ratio	3.0%	-23.0%	-23.0%

Asset Renewal Funding Ratio

<u>Net Outlays on Existing Assets</u>	125%	66%	76%
Net Asset Renewals - IAMP			

Net asset renewals expenditure is defined as net capital expenditure on the renewal and replacement of existing assets, and excludes new capital expenditure on the acquisition of additional assets.



SOUTHERN MALLEE DISTRICT COUNCIL
Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2021

Note 16 - UNIFORM PRESENTATION OF FINANCES

The following is a high level summary of both operating and capital investment activities of the Council prepared on a simplified Uniform Presentation Framework basis.

All Councils in South Australia have agreed to summarise annual budgets and long-term financial plans on the same basis.

The arrangements ensure that all Councils provide a common 'core' of financial information, which enables meaningful comparisons of each Council's finances

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
Income	7,999,676	7,908,956
Expenses	<u>(7,960,211)</u>	<u>(7,700,228)</u>
Operating Surplus / (Deficit)	39,465	208,728
 Net Outlays on Existing Assets		
Capital Expenditure on renewal and replacement of Existing Assets	(5,121,842)	(1,902,801)
Add back Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	2,675,353	2,563,013
Proceeds from Sale of Replaced Assets	<u>238,000</u>	<u>128,340</u>
	(2,208,489)	788,552
 Net Outlays on New and Upgraded Assets		
Capital Expenditure on New and Upgraded Assets <i>(including investment property & real estate developments)</i>	(1,472,226)	(1,182,545)
Amounts received specifically for New and Upgraded Assets	1,524,706	100,000
Proceeds from Sale of Surplus Assets <i>(including investment property and real estate developments)</i>	<u>263,636</u>	<u>116,645</u>
	316,116	(965,900)
Net Lending / (Borrowing) for Financial Year	<u>(1,852,908)</u>	<u>31,380</u>



SOUTHERN MALLEE DISTRICT COUNCIL
Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2021

Note 17 – SUPERANNUATION

The Council makes employer superannuation contributions in respect of its employees to Statewide Super (formerly Local Government Superannuation Scheme). There are two types of membership, each of which is funded differently. Permanent and contract employees of the South Australian Local Government sector with Salarylink benefits prior to 24 November 2009 have the option to contribute to the Accumulation section and/or Salarylink. All other employees (including casuals) have all contributions allocated to the Accumulation section.

Accumulation only Members

Accumulation only members receive both employer and employee contributions on a progressive basis. Employer contributions are based on a fixed percentage of ordinary time earnings in accordance with superannuation guarantee legislation (9.50% in 2019-20; 9.50% in 2020-21). No further liability accrues to the Council as the superannuation benefits accruing to employees are represented by their share of the net assets of the Fund.

Salarylink (Defined Benefit Fund) Members

Salarylink is a defined benefit scheme where the benefit payable is based on a formula determined by the member's contribution rate, number of years and level of contribution and final average salary. Council makes employer contributions to Salarylink as determined by the Fund's Trustee based on advice from the appointed Actuary. The rate is currently 6.3% (6.3% in 2019-20) of "superannuation" salary.

In addition, Council makes a separate contribution of 3% of ordinary time earnings for Salarylink members to their Accumulation account. Employees also make member contributions to the Salarylink section of the Fund. As such, assets accumulate in the Salarylink section of the Fund to meet the member's benefits, as defined in the Trust Deed, as they accrue.

The Salarylink section is a multi-employer sponsored plan. As the Salarylink section's assets and liabilities are pooled and are not allocated by each employer, and employees may transfer to another employer within the local government sector and retain membership of the Fund, the Actuary is unable to allocate benefit liabilities, assets and costs between employers. As provided by AASB 119.34(a), Council does not use defined benefit accounting for these contributions.

The most recent actuarial investigation was conducted by the Fund's actuary, Louise Campbell, FIAA, of Willis Towers Watson as at 30 June 2021. The Trustee has determined that the current funding arrangements are adequate for the expected Salarylink liabilities. However, future financial and economic circumstances may require changes to Council's contribution rates at some future time.

Contributions to Other Superannuation Schemes

Council also makes contributions to other superannuation schemes selected by employees under the "choice of fund" legislation. All such schemes are of the accumulation type, where the superannuation benefits accruing to the employee are represented by their share of the net assets of the scheme, and no further liability attaches to the Council.

SOUTHERN MALLEE DISTRICT COUNCIL
Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2021

Note 18 - CONTINGENT ASSETS AND CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

The following assets and liabilities do not qualify for recognition in the Statement of Financial Position but knowledge of those items is considered relevant to user of the financial report in making and evaluating decisions about the allocation of scarce resources.

1. LAND UNDER ROADS

As reported elsewhere in these Statements, Council is of the opinion that it is not possible to attribute a value sufficiently reliable for these assets to qualify for recognition, and accordingly land under roads has not been recognised in these reports. Land acquired for road purposes during the year is initially recognised at cost, but transferred to fair value at reporting date, effectively writing off the expenditure.

At reporting date, Council controlled 1,386 km of road reserves of average width 22 metres.

2. POTENTIAL INSURANCE LOSSES

Council is a multi-purpose organisation providing a large range of building, parks infrastructure, playgrounds and other facilities accessible to the public. At any time, it is likely that claims will have been made against Council that remain unsettled.

Council insures against all known insurable risks using a range of insurance policies, each of which is subject to a deductible "insurance excess", the amount of which varies according to the class of insurance.

Council has recognised the potential losses arising from claims known at reporting date based on average historical net cost (including insurance excess) of similar types of claims. Other potential claims not reported to Council may have existed at reporting date.

3. LEGAL EXPENSES

Council is the planning consent authority for its area under the Development Act 1993 (as amended). Pursuant to that Act, certain persons aggrieved by a planning decision of the Council may appeal. It is normal practice that parties bear their own legal costs. At the date of these reports, Council had notice of NIL appeals against planning decisions made prior to reporting date. All known costs have been recognised, but the amount of further costs cannot be known until the appeals are determined.



SOUTHERN MALLEE DISTRICT COUNCIL
Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2021

Note 19 - RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL

The Key Management Personnel of the Council include the Mayor, Councillors, CEO and certain prescribed officers under section 112 of the Local Government Act 1999. In all, 12 persons were paid the following total compensation:

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
Salaries, allowances & other short term benefits	676,155	558,511
TOTAL	676,155	558,511

Other than amounts paid as ratepayers or residents (e.g. rates, swimming pool entry fees, etc.), Council received the following amounts in total:

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
Planning and building applications fees	1,258	3,077
TOTAL	1,258	3,077

PARTIES RELATED TO KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL

KMP and relatives of KMPs own retail businesses from which various supplies were purchased as required either for cash or on 30 day account. Purchases from none of these individual businesses exceeded \$23,000 during the year.

Key management personnel or close family members (including related parties) lodged a total of five planning and building applications during the year. In accordance with the Local Government Act 1999, these persons declared conflicts of interest and took no part in the assessment or approval processes for these applications.

One Key Management Personnel is a member of the Parilla CFS. In Accordance with the Local Government Act 1999, this person declares an interest in matters relating to the Parilla CFS.

One Key Management Personnel is a director of the Lameroo Community Hotel Board. In Accordance with the Local Government Act 1999, this person declares an interest in matters relating to the Lameroo Community Hotel Board.

One Key Management Personnel is a member of the Lameroo Football Club. In Accordance with the Local Government Act 1999, this person declares an interest in matters relating to the Lameroo Football Club.

One Key Management Personnel is a member of the Pinnaroo Primary School Parent Club. In Accordance with the Local Government Act 1999, this person declares an interest in matters relating to the Pinnaroo Primary School Parent Club.

SOUTHERN MALLEE DISTRICT COUNCIL
Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2021
Note 19 - RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES Cont.

Two Key Management Personnel is a member of Lameroo Forward. In Accordance with the Local Government Act 1999, this person declares an interest in matters relating to Lameroo Forward.

One Key Management Personnel is a member of Pinnaroo Community Incorporated. In Accordance with the Local Government Act 1999, this person declares an interest in matters relating to Pinnaroo Community Incorporated.

One Key Management Personnel is a member of the Pinnaroo Agricultural Society. In Accordance with the Local Government Act 1999, this person declares an interest in matters relating to the Pinnaroo Agricultural Society. During the year the Pinnaroo Agricultural Society received \$5,000.

One Key Management Personnel is a member of the Pinnaroo Lions Club. In Accordance with the Local Government Act 1999, this person declares an interest in matters relating to the Pinnaroo Lions Club. During the year the Pinnaroo Lions Club received \$2,500.



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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the members of Southern Mallee District Council

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial report of Southern Mallee District Council (the Council), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2021, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and cash flow statement for the year then ended, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the Council Certificate of Southern Mallee District Council.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report presents fairly, in all material aspects, the financial position of the Council as at 30 June 2021, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards, *Local Government Act 1999* and *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011*.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the Council in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110: *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (Including Independence Standards)* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Council's responsibility for the financial report

Council is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations), the *Local Government Act 1999* and the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011* and for such internal control as Council determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, Council is 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 unless Council either intends to liquidate the Council or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so. Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Council's financial reporting process.

Auditor's responsibility for the audit of the financial report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit of the financial report in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit of the financial report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Council's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of Council's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Council's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Council to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

GALPINS ACCOUNTANTS, AUDITORS & BUSINESS CONSULTANTS



Tim Muhlhausler CA, Registered Company Auditor
Partner

11 November 2021

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To the members of Southern Mallee District Council

Opinion

We have audited the compliance of Southern Mallee District Council (the Council) with the requirements of Section 125 of the *Local Government Act 1999* in relation only to the Internal Controls established by the Council to ensure that financial transactions relating to the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, acquisition and disposal of property and incurring of liabilities for the period 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021 have been conducted properly and in accordance with law.

In our opinion, Southern Mallee District Council has complied, in all material respects, with *Section 125 of the Local Government Act 1999* in relation to Internal Controls established by the Council in relation to the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, acquisition and disposal of property and incurring of liabilities so as to provide reasonable assurance that the financial transactions of the Council have been conducted properly and in accordance with law for the period 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our engagement in accordance with applicable Australian Standards on Assurance Engagement ASAE 3000 *Assurance Engagements Other than Audits or Reviews of Historical Financial Information* and ASAE 3150 *Assurance Engagements on Controls*, issued by the Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards Board, in order to state whether, in all material respects, the Council has complied with Section 125 of the *Local Government Act 1999* in relation only to the internal controls specified above for the period 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021. ASAE 3000 also requires us to comply with the relevant ethical requirements of the Australian professional accounting bodies.

We believe that the evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

The Council's responsibility for internal controls

The Council is responsible for implementing and maintaining an adequate system of internal controls, in accordance with Section 125 of the *Local Government Act 1999* to ensure that the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, acquisition and disposal of property, and incurring of liabilities have been conducted properly and in accordance with law.

Our independence and quality control

We have complied with the independence and other relevant ethical requirements relating to assurance engagements, and apply Auditing Standard ASQC 1 *Quality Control for Firms that Perform Audits and Reviews of Financial Reports and Other Financial Information, and Other Assurance Engagements* in undertaking this assurance engagement.

Auditor's responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Council's compliance with Section 125 of the *Local Government Act 1999* in relation only to the internal controls established by the Council to ensure that financial transactions relating to receipt, expenditure and investment of money, acquisition and disposal of property and incurring of liabilities have been conducted properly and in accordance with law, based on our procedures. Our engagement has been conducted in accordance with applicable Australian Standards on Assurance Engagements ASAE 3000 *Assurance Engagements Other than Audits or Reviews of Historical Information* and ASAE 3150 *Assurance Engagements on Controls*, issued by the Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards Board, in order to state whether, in all material respects, the Council has complied with Section 125 of the *Local Government Act 1999* in relation only to the internal controls specified above for the period 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021. ASAE 3000 also requires us to comply with the relevant ethical requirements for the Australian professional accounting bodies.

Limitations of controls

Because of the inherent limitations of any internal control structure it is possible that, even if the controls are suitably designed and operating effectively, the control objectives may not be achieved so that fraud, error, or non-compliance with laws and regulations may occur and not be detected.

An assurance engagement on controls is not designed to detect all instances of controls operating ineffectively as it is not performed continuously throughout the period and the tests performed are on a sample basis. Any projection of the outcome of the evaluation of controls to future periods is subject to the risk that the controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with them may deteriorate.

Limitation of use

This report has been prepared for the members of the Council in Accordance with Section 129 of the *Local Government Act 1999* in relation to the internal controls specified above. We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report to any persons or users other than the members of the Council, or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

GALPINS ACCOUNTANTS, AUDITORS & BUSINESS CONSULTANTS

Tim Muhlhausler CA, Registered Company Auditor
Partner

11 November 2021

SOUTHERN MALLEE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Annual Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2021

CERTIFICATION OF AUDITOR INDEPENDENCE

To the best of our knowledge and belief, we confirm that, for the purpose of the audit of Southern Mallee District Council for the year ended 30 June 2021, the Council's Auditor, Galpins Accountants, Auditors & Business Consultants, has maintained its independence in accordance with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 1999* and the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011* made under that Act.

This statement is prepared in accordance with the requirements of Regulation 22(3) *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011*.



Jason Taylor
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



Ross Haslam
PRESIDING MEMBER
AUDIT COMMITTEE

Date: 13/10/2021

David Chant CA, FCPA
Simon Smith CA, FCPA
David Sullivan CA, CPA
Jason Seidel CA
Renae Nicholson CA
Tim Muhlhausler CA
Aaron Coonan CA
Luke Williams CA, CPA
Daniel Moon CA



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SOUTHERN MALLEE DISTRICT COUNCIL

GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS For the year ended 30 June 2021

Statement by Auditor

I confirm that, for the audit of the financial statements of Southern Mallee District Council for the year ended 30 June 2021, I have maintained my independence in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110: *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (Including Independence Standards)* (the Code), in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1999* and the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011* made under that Act.

This statement is prepared in accordance with the requirements of Regulation 22 (5) *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulation 2011*.

GALPINS ACCOUNTANTS, AUDITORS & BUSINESS CONSULTANTS

Tim Muhlhausler CA, Registered Company Auditor

Partner

11 November 2021

APPENDIX B: REGIONAL SUBSIDIARY REPORTS



Murraylands and Riverland
Local Government Association

Annual Report

2020/21

A regional subsidiary established under the
Local Government Act 1999

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Constituent Councils



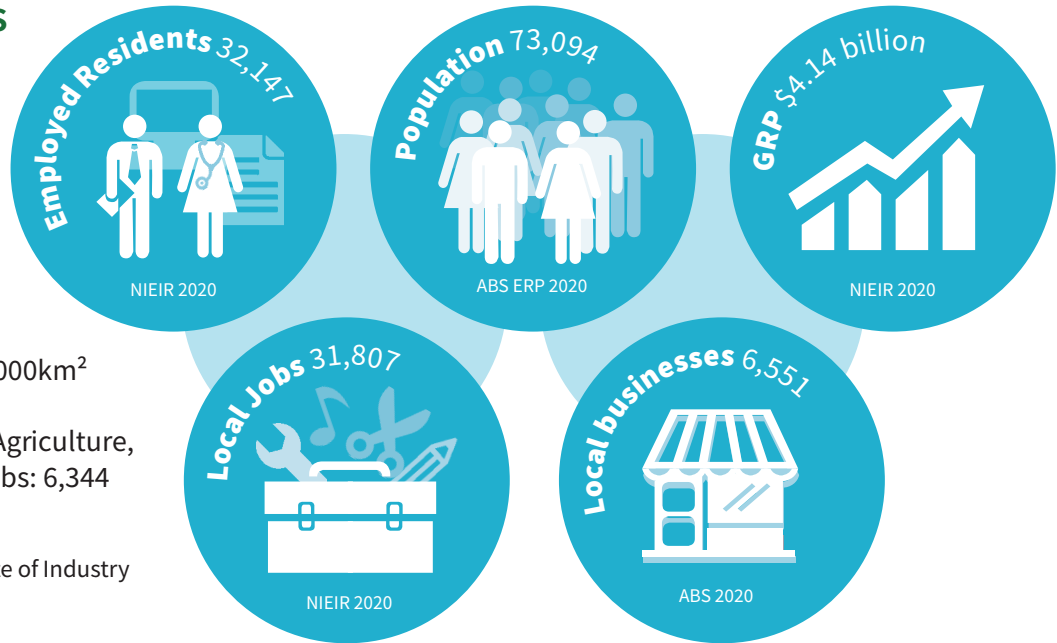
MRLGA is a Section 43 regional subsidiary established under the *Local Government Act 1999*.

About the Region

Key Statistics

Regional Area: 36,000km²
Median Age: 45 yrs
Largest Industry: Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing Jobs: 6,344 (NIEIR 2019)

NIEIR – National Institute of Industry and Economic Research



2020-2025 MRLGA Strategic Plan *in brief*

VALUES

Integrity

Leadership

Collaboration

Credibility

Unity

VISION

Attractive, Liveable Region
 – Prosperous Communities.

MISSION

To be a unified local government sector working in the best interest of the region and our communities.

LINKS WITH OUR CHARTER

Speaking with one voice
 Building partnerships
 Working with the LGA
 Planning for and with the region
 Coordinating resources and representation
 Enhancing efficiencies

Connected Region

1. Improve transport movement, efficiency and safety (L & P)
2. Attract funding for 'fit for purpose' transport infrastructure (P)
3. Support big data analytics that increase efficiencies (S)
4. Improve internet, mobile coverage (S)
5. Increase uptake of digital collaboration platforms and information sharing across councils (L)

Resilient Communities

1. Improve social connectedness, especially across priority groups (P)
2. Further improve service delivery (S)
3. Support 'Ageing well' practices/planning (P)
4. Apply evidence-based research to improve housing options (S)
5. Improve access to skills development programs (P)

Healthy Environment

1. Plan for changing water security and stewardship (S)
2. Create sustainable region waste management (L)
3. Improve climate change adaptation (P)
4. Sustainable management of natural environments & systems (S)

Economic Opportunity

1. Initiate place-based economic development (RDA lead) (P)
2. Attract investment for enabling infrastructure (P)
3. Coordinate effort to improve MRLGA councils' shared services (initially concentrating on 1 or 2 areas) (L)
4. Attract and develop skills to grow the region (S)

The MRLGA selects the most efficient role on key issues that is; Support (S) other lead agencies, Partner (P) or take the Lead (L) – to deliver the region the greatest return with limited resources.

President's Report



**Mayor
Peter Hunt**

I am pleased to present my President's Report for 2020-2021. The report highlights the Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association's (MRLGA) key achievements of the year.

It's been another busy year for local government across the region, state and nation. Infrastructure works have been advanced by the dispensing of funds to help stimulate growth as the economy adjusts to the disruptions caused by Covid-19, drought and the ongoing transitions to new arrangements under the Murray Darling Basin Plan.

In addition to busy infrastructure teams working to procure resources to undertake and complete projects, there has also been the local government reform bill and the introduction of planning reform under the Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016. As we work our way through the change and look to the future, there's every reason to think that Regional Local Government Associations will have a growing role to play.

Our preference is to pursue a partnership approach to innovative service delivery, creating efficiency and value.

There's a tendency to only see the parts of an organisation that you directly engage with and not look beyond to see how many parts come together. MRLGA has managed and convened in excess of 26 meetings across the Board, CEO Network, Public Health and Wellbeing Committee, Regional Transport and Assets Committee, Connected Councils Working Group and Water Position Working Groups in 2020/21.

The committees and working groups are a coming together of the eight constituent councils; a coalescing of the right expertise and skills to engage or work on the issues, opportunities and challenges that local government face in the region. Indeed,

I was privileged to see the Information Technology staff from across councils come together and guide the Association through a process that contributed to establishing a cloud-based framework for secure file storage and sharing. While I confess to finding it difficult to understand what they were proposing (and am still none the wiser), I found it interesting that some of the staff had never had cause to interact with each other before.

The coming together of staff and elected members from across councils in a purposeful manner builds trust in one another. In trusting, we understand that there is merit in us working together to build our region and promote it for the wonderful place it is; all the while understanding that we have already been the beneficiaries.

The development of a Regional Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy is an example of how councils can work together for common benefit. Being clear about our desire to be leaders in the circular economy sends a clear signal to the private sector; that is, that we're not trying to outsource our responsibility for a problem but rather, our preference is to pursue a partnership approach to innovative service delivery; creating efficiency and value as we go. I look forward to seeing the results of the natural extension and implementation of the strategy as it guides a joint procurement process for waste management services across many of our councils.

Likewise, the updating of the 2030 Regional Transport Plan has allowed constituent councils to review regionally significant local roads, consider fit for purpose conditions and build a forward plan for forecast works on those roads. Undertaking this work allows the region to come together and prioritise the roads most in need of Special Local Roads Program (SLRP) funding each year. This process yielded \$2,582,000 in direct support to councils from SLRP in 2020/21 and also allows the individual pursuit of funding through other streams such as the Heavy Vehicle Safety

and Productivity Program.

From an asset management perspective there is merit in the constituent councils working together to develop hierarchies and fit for purpose standards. To this end, the region has benefited from the continued progress of the Regional Road Hierarchy Plan which uses an adapted Austroads system of classification and creates sub-categories better suited to the needs of regional councils. Mapping the roads across the region by classification allows for quick and easy gap analysis to be undertaken. Such analysis allows councils to strategically review the assets against intended purpose; determining whether the service level is suitable; whether alternative routes should be considered; or, whether a case for a change in ownership may be required.

The Public Health and Wellbeing Committee has also been busy working through the requirements of bringing a new regional Public Health and Wellbeing Plan into operation. This has included coordinating the passage of the draft plan through the chambers of each council, seeking permission from the Minister for Health and Wellbeing to proceed to public consultation, undertaking the consultation and considering feedback before submitting to the Chief Public Health Officer.

As we reflect this process, it's worth noting the range of works that councils deliver to derive public good for our communities. In doing so, we need to avoid getting caught in the obligatory nature of the Regional Public Health Plans (imposed by the Public Health Act 2011) and hence only take a minimalistic approach to compliance in the process. While the risk of cost shifting needs to be managed, there's also real opportunity for leadership from local government in this space. It starts by understanding our role in developing and promoting environments in which communities can thrive, while at the same time continuing to advocate for access to coordinated service delivery.

I note also that the Association continues

to look beyond collaboration at a local government level. I commend the efforts of the MRLGA CEO, Tim Smythe and RDAMR CEO, Ben Fee as they've sought to build robust institutional arrangements that recognise the benefits of coordinating at a regional level and pursuing a common set of goals. The commencement of Andrew Meddle in the role of General Manager of the MR Landscape Board bodes well for a strengthening of relationships that will provide the impetus for strategically positioning the region for success.

MRLGA continues to look beyond collaboration at a local government level.

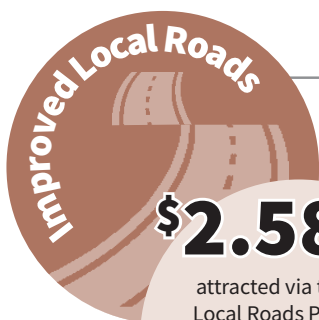


In closing, I sincerely thank all constituent councils and MRLGA Board Members for the opportunity afforded to me in being your President. The work undertaken by our CEO, Tim Smythe, in the last 12 months must also rate a mention here; his service to the Association has been outstanding.

I particularly want to thank Deputy President, Mayor Dave Burgess, whose leadership in local government across many years has been an asset to the region and state. Dave did not seek re-election to office within the Association in 2021/22, so I take this opportunity to acknowledge the role he has played in guiding the Association in to what it is today as both Deputy President and President since June 2012.

As I look to the next 12-18 months, I see good cause for our councils to continue to support the MRLGA. This will of course require us to be clear about what we want from the Association and what is required for it to deliver against those expectations. With State, Federal and Local Government elections all set to occur within this period, it makes sense for us to be working to establish informed positions that advance the case for ongoing investment and commitment to the Murraylands and Riverland region.

Key Outcomes



\$2.58mil

attracted via the Special Local Roads Program and Supplementary Local Roads Program for improved freight and tourism connectivity within the region and surrounds

Individual constituent councils pursued the work completed under the High-Risk Intersection Project and submitted funding application for safety upgrades to a number of the intersections.

Regional Road Hierarchy Plan developed and regional road classifications endorsed.



Draft Regional Public Health Plan progressed through public consultation and is now ready to be submitted to the Chief Public Health Officer.



2021-26 Regional Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy, Implementation Plan and Joint Procurement Tender Documents developed.

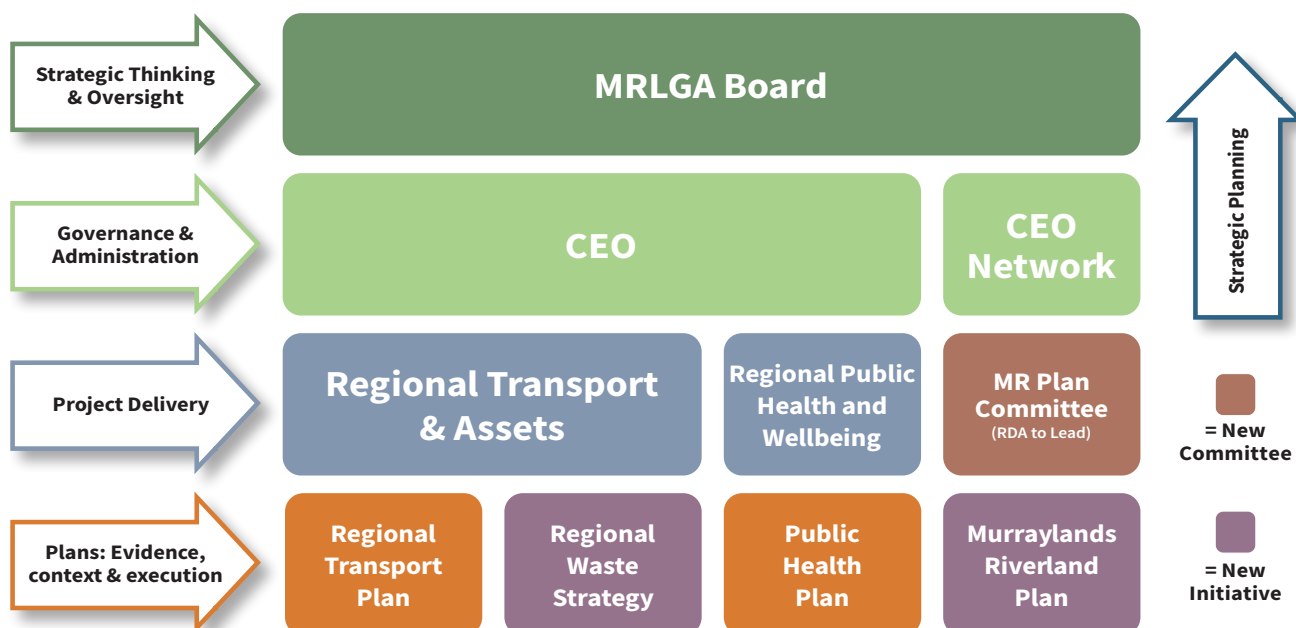


A connected council working group was formed, via nominations from the CEO Network, and guided MRLGA's transition to a cloud-based operating system.



A Water Position Working Group was endorsed by the MRLGA Board and committed to partnership with the Murray Darling Association Region 5 and 6. The group will guide the preparation of strategic advocacy document that targets the importance of water from the Murray Darling Basin for our region and its communities.

MRLGA Structure



MRLGA Board and Committees

Board Member	
Current June 2021	
Mayor Peter Hunt (President)	Berri Barmera Council
Mayor Paul Simmons	Coorong District Council
Mayor Caroline Phillips	District Council Karoonda East Murray
Mayor Leon Stasinowsky	District Council Loxton Waikerie
Mayor Dave Burgess (Deputy President)	Mid Murray Council
Mayor Neil Martinson	Renmark Paringa Council
Mayor Brenton Lewis	Rural City of Murray Bridge
Mayor Jeffery Nickols*	Southern Mallee District Council

* Replaced Cr Andrew Grieger as of November 2020

Deputy Delegates	
Current June 2021	
Cr Rhonda Centofanti	Berri Barmera Council
Cr Ella Winnall (Deputy Mayor)	Berri Barmera Council
Cr Jeff Arthur (Deputy Mayor)	Coorong District Council
Cr Sharon Bland	Coorong District Council
Cr Daryl Sparks (Deputy Mayor)*	District Council Karoonda East Murray
Cr Trevor Norton (Deputy Mayor)	District Council Loxton Waikerie
Cr Simone Bailey (Deputy Mayor)**	Mid Murray Council
Cr Henry Du Rieu (Deputy Mayor)	Renmark Paringa Council
Cr Wayne Thorley (Deputy Mayor)	Rural City of Murray Bridge
Cr Paul Ireland (Deputy Mayor)	Southern Mallee District Council

* Cr Yvonne Smith - DCKEM deputy Delegate prior to November 2020
 ** Cr Kevin Myer - MMC deputy Delegate prior to November 2020

MRLGA Committees

CEO Network	
<i>Current June 2021</i>	
<i>Mayor Peter Hunt (ex officio)</i>	
Karyn Burton	Berri Barmera Council
Bridget Mather	Coorong District Council
Martin Borgas*	District Council Karoonda East Murray
David Beaton	District Council Loxton Waikerie
Ben Scales	Mid Murray Council
Tony Siviour	Renmark Paringa Council
Michael Sedgman	Rural City of Murray Bridge
Jason Taylor	Southern Mallee District Council
Tim Smythe	MRLGA

* Matthew Morgan - DCKEM representative until September 2020

MRLGA Regional Transport & Assets Committee	
<i>Current 30 June 2021</i>	
Mayor Neil Martinson Chair	
<i>Mayor Peter Hunt (ex officio)</i>	
Mayor Paul Simmons	
Harry Du	Berri Barmera Council
Dave Degraney	Berri Barmera Council
Vacant*	Coorong District Council
James Clarke (proxy)	Coorong District Council
Calvin Hoyer**	District Council Karoonda East Murray
Greg Perry	District Council Loxton Waikerie
Dom Perre (proxy)	District Council Loxton Waikerie
David Hassett	Mid Murray Council
Russell Pilbeam (proxy)	Mid Murray Council
Vacant***	Renmark Paringa Council
Tarik Wolf (proxy)	Renmark Paringa Council
Heather Barclay	Rural City of Murray Bridge
Vacant**** (proxy)	Rural City of Murray Bridge
Mathew Sherman	Southern Mallee District Council
Tim Smythe	MRLGA

* David Mosel – CDC representative until November 2020

** Jarrod Manuel – DCKEM representative until February 2021

*** Tim Tol – RPC representative until June 2021

**** Matt James – RCMB representative until April 2021

MRLGA Committees

MRLGA Regional Public Health & Wellbeing Committee	
<i>Current 30 June 2021</i>	
Mayor Peter Hunt (<i>ex officio</i>)	
Andrew Haigh	Berri Barmera Council
Myles Sommers	Coorong District Council
Cr Sharon Bland	Coorong District Council
Kellie Jaensch	Coorong District Council
Martin Borgas*	District Council Karoonda East Murray
Cheryl Pedler	District Council Loxton Waikerie
Thomas McKellar	Mid Murray Council
Kristy Morgan	Mid Murray Council
Stephanie Brookes	Renmark Paringa Council
Dara Frankel	Renmark Paringa Council
Jeremy Byrnes	Rural City of Murray Bridge
Reg Budarick	Rural City of Murray Bridge
Geoff Parsons	Rural City of Murray Bridge
Caroline Thomas	Rural City of Murray Bridge
Lee Prestwood	Rural City of Murray Bridge
Shilo Wyatt	Southern Mallee District Council
Tim Smythe	MRLGA

* Jarrod Manuel – DCKEM representative until February 2021

MRLGA Connected Council Working Group	
<i>Current 30 June 2021</i>	
Mayor Peter Hunt (<i>ex officio</i>)	
Darren Arbon	Mid Murray Council
Matt Morgan*/Katrina Fromm	District Council Karoonda East Murray
Mark Huxtable	Riverland Councils
Tim Vonderwall	Rural City Murray Bridge
Tony Secomb	Southern Mallee District Council
Tim Smythe	MRLGA

* Matt Morgan – DCKEM representative until September 2020

MRLGA Connected Council Working Group	
<i>Current 30 June 2021</i>	
Mayor Peter Hunt (<i>ex officio</i>)	
Cr Andrew Kassebaum (Chair)	Berri Barmera Council/ MDA Region 5
Cr Peter Raison	Mid Murray Council/ MDA Region 5 (Chair)
Cr Melissa Rebbeck	Alexandrina Council/ MDA Region 6 (Chair)
Tracey Strugnell	Coorong District Council/ MDA Region 6
Emma Bradbury	Murray Darling Association
Tim Smythe	MRLGA

MRLGA Activities

MRLGA Board

The MRLGA Board meets quarterly. Membership of the Board is filled by the Principal Members (Mayor) of each Constituent Council. Meetings of the Board were held on:

1. Friday 10 July 2020
2. Friday, 23 October 2020
3. Friday, 5 February 2021
4. Friday, 7 May 2021

In addition to the general oversight of the Associations activities the MRLGA Board:

- Endorsed the 2020-2025 MRLGA Strategic Plan
- Established a Water Position Working Group to develop a water position paper as a strategic advocacy tool. Meetings of the Working Group were held 8 September 2020, 18 November 2020 and 25 February 2021.
- Endorsed the Regional Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy
- Participated in consultation with the Department of Infrastructure and Transport over the development of rural highway corridors; advocated for the upgrade of High-Risk Intersections.
- Established a levy for the implementation of the Regional Public Health and Wellbeing Plan

The meetings of the Board also provide a forum for regular updates from:

- LGA SA administration
- Regional Development Murraylands and Riverland
- PIRSA
- Members of Parliament

CEO Network

The MRLGA CEO Network is established as a strategic advisory group to the MRLGA Board. As the name suggests it is its membership is the CEOs of the eight constituent councils. Meetings of the CEO Network were held on:

1. Monday, 17 August 2020
2. Monday, 20 November 2020
3. Monday, 21 February 2021
4. Monday, 21 June 2021

In addition to providing guidance on project activities and operations, the CEO Network:

- Established a Connected Council working Group to guide the transition of MRLGA to cloud-based file management and sharing platform. Meetings were held 10 September 2020, 28 September 2020 and 23 November 2020.
- Consulted with the Native Vegetation Council re: roadside native vegetation management guidelines.
- Considered place based economic development initiatives and agreed to Terms of Reference for a Murraylands and Riverland Plan Steering Committee, with RDA Murraylands and Riverland as the lead agency.
- Sought advice from the Minister of Planning and Local Government on the possibility of MRLGA entering a Planning Agreement to oversee the development of a Regional Plan under the Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016.
- Received a presentation from the Essential Services Commission and the Energy and Water Ombudsman of SA – councils required to become members of the Energy and Water Ombudsman SA.

Regional Transport and Assets (RTA) Committee

MRLGA Regional Transport and Assets (RTA) Committee is a forum that brings together the Directors of Infrastructure, Assets and Environment as well as Works Managers from each of the 8 constituent councils.

Meetings of the RTA Committee were held on:

1. Monday, 17 August 2020
2. Wednesday, 1 December 2020
3. Friday, 4 March 2021
4. Friday, 15 April 2021

Key activities of the committee included:

- Updated regionally significant routes and corresponding action lists within the 2030 Regional Transport Plan; refreshed the regional roads database with regionally significant routes that are scheduled for works, to address major deficiencies, in the next 3 to 5 years.
- Co-ordinated the application process for Councils to the Special Local Roads Program.
- Participated in consultation with the Department of Infrastructure and Transport over the development of rural highway corridors; advocated for the upgrade of High-Risk Intersections.
- Endorsed the Regional Road Hierarchy Plan and agreed to progress to road construction and maintenance standards
- Consulted with the Native Vegetation Council re: roadside native vegetation management guidelines
- Guided the strategic engagement with constituent councils and contributed to the development of the Regional Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy (regional forums held on 23 October 2020 and 16 March 2021).

Regional Public Health and Wellbeing Committee

The MRLGA Regional Public Health and Wellbeing Committee includes environmental health officers, community development managers and planning managers from each of the 8 constituent councils.

Meetings of the Committee were held on:

1. Wednesday, 19 August 2020
2. Tuesday, 13 October 2020
3. Thursday, 17 December 2020
4. Thursday, 25 March 2021
5. Thursday, 20 May 2021

Key activities of the committee included:

- Progressed Regional Public Health and Wellbeing Plan by:
- Obtained approval from constituent councils to seek permission from the Minister for Health and Wellbeing to release the Plan for Public Consultation
- Released the Plan for Public Consultation from 12 April to 10 May 2021.
- Sought endorsement from constituent councils for the amended Plan to be submitted to the Chief Public Health Officer.
- Submitted section 52 (Public Health Act 2011) reports to the Deputy Chief Public Health Officer.

Regional Organisation Executive Officers

The Regional Organisations Executive Officers Management Group is an informal coalition of the Executive Officers of the Regional Local Government Associations. Meetings of the Management Group were held on:

1. Thursday, 27 August 2020
2. Wednesday, 28 October 2020
3. Wednesday, 16 December 2020
4. Wednesday, 3 February 2021
5. Thursday, 29 April 2020

Key focus of the Management Group in 2020/21 were as follows:

- Regional Waste Management
- Special Local Roads Program
- Community Waste Water Management Schemes
- Regional Plans and Joint Planning Boards
- SA Coastal Alliance

Functions of the Management Group include:

- Provide input into SAROC Business Plan and the Agenda
- Develop a working relationship with the LGA Management team
- Advocate on behalf of the regions
- Share information and provide collegiate support
- Coordinate collaborative project activity

SA Regional Organisation of Councils

The South Australian Regional Organisation of Councils (SAROC) is a Committee of the LGA that meets bimonthly to focus on key issues affecting country Councils.

MRLGA representatives to SAROC in 2020/21 were President, Mayor Peter Hunt and Deputy President Mayor Dave Burgess.

MRLGA supports SAROC by attending the meetings, submitting items of business to SAROC meetings and preparing regional reports. Key activities that MRLGA supported SAROC to deliver included:

- Delivery of a Public Health and Wellbeing Forum on 15 December 2020 – MRLGA presented on the work it had undertaken as part of a Community Wellbeing Alliance Pilot Project.
- Delivery of a Regional Waste Pathways Forum on 31 May 2021 – MRLGA formed part of the local government panel that discussed the role of regional local government in optimising resource recovery and reducing the amount of waste being sent to landfill.

Government Engagement and Advocacy

The following engagement has occurred with Government

- Victorian Cross Border Commissioner – COVID-19 impacts, Regional Development Victoria – Strategic Planning Consultation.
- SA Productivity Commissioner – cross border red tape reduction.
- Letter to Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development re: Genetically Modified Crops.
- Native Vegetation Council – roadside native vegetation guidelines (MRLGA CEO Network & MRLGA RTA Committee)
- Department of Infrastructure and Transport - consultation on Rural Highway Corridors.

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the members of the Murraylands & Riverland Local Government Association

Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial report of the Murraylands and Riverland Government Association ("the Association"), which comprises the balance sheet as at 30 June 2021, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and cash flow statement for the year then ended, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information and the statement by the Executive Officer and the Chairperson.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report presents fairly, in all material aspects, the financial position of the Association as at 30 June 2021, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards, *Local Government Act 1999* and *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011*.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the entity in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110: *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including independence standards)* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibility for the Financial Report

The Association is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations), the *Local Government Act 1999* and the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011* and for such internal control as the Association determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the Association is responsible for assessing the Association's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the entity or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Association's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibility for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the entity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

GALPINS ACCOUNTANTS, AUDITORS & BUSINESS CONSULTANTS



Tim Muhlhausler CA, Registered Company Auditor
Partner

7 / 09 / 2021

David Chant CA, FCPA
Simon Smith CA, FCPA
David Sullivan CA, CPA
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INDEPENDENT ASSURANCE REPORT ON THE INTERNAL CONTROLS

To the members of the Murraylands & Riverland Local Government Association

Opinion

We have audited the compliance of the Murraylands & Riverland Local Government Association (the Association) with the requirements of Section 125 of the *Local Government Act 1999* in relation only to the Internal Controls established by the Association to ensure that financial transactions relating to the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, acquisition and disposal of property and incurring of liabilities for the period 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021 have been conducted properly and in accordance with law.

In our opinion, the Murraylands & Riverland Local Government Association has complied, in all material respects, with *Section 125 of the Local Government Act 1999* in relation to Internal Controls established by the Association in relation to the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, acquisition and disposal of property and incurring of liabilities so as to provide reasonable assurance that the financial transactions of the Association have been conducted properly and in accordance with law for the period 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our engagement in accordance with applicable Australian Standards on Assurance Engagement ASAE 3000 *Assurance Engagements Other than Audits or Reviews of Historical Financial Information* and ASAE 3150 *Assurance Engagements on Controls*, issued by the Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards Board, in order to state whether, in all material respects, the Association has complied with Section 125 of the *Local Government Act 1999* in relation only to the internal controls specified above for the period 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021. ASAE 3000 also requires us to comply with the relevant ethical requirements of the Australian professional accounting bodies.

We believe that the evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

The Association's responsibility for internal controls

The Association is responsible for implementing and maintaining an adequate system of internal controls, in accordance with Section 125 of the *Local Government Act 1999* to ensure that the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, acquisition and disposal of property, and incurring of liabilities have been conducted properly and in accordance with law.

Our independence and quality control

We have complied with the independence and other relevant ethical requirements relating to assurance engagements, and apply Auditing Standard ASQC 1 *Quality Control for Firms that Perform Audits and Reviews of Financial Reports and Other Financial Information, and Other Assurance Engagements* in undertaking this assurance engagement.

Auditor's responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Association's compliance with Section 125 of the *Local Government Act 1999* in relation only to the internal controls established by the Association to ensure that financial transactions relating to receipt, expenditure and investment of money, acquisition and disposal of property and incurring of liabilities have been conducted properly and in accordance with law, based on our procedures. Our engagement has been conducted in accordance with applicable Australian Standards on Assurance Engagements ASAE 3000 *Assurance Engagements Other than Audits or Reviews of Historical Information* and ASAE 3150 *Assurance Engagements on Controls*, issued by the Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards Board, in order to state whether, in all material respects, the Association has complied with Section 125 of the *Local Government Act 1999* in relation only to the internal controls specified above for the period 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021. ASAE 3000 also requires us to comply with the relevant ethical requirements for the Australian professional accounting bodies.

Limitations of controls

Because of the inherent limitations of any internal control structure it is possible that, even if the controls are suitably designed and operating effectively, the control objectives may not be achieved so that fraud, error, or non-compliance with laws and regulations may occur and not be detected.

An assurance engagement on controls is not designed to detect all instances of controls operating ineffectively as it is not performed continuously throughout the period and the tests performed are on a sample basis. Any projection of the outcome of the evaluation of controls to future periods is subject to the risk that the controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with them may deteriorate.

Limitation of use

This report has been prepared for the members of the Association in Accordance with Section 129 of the *Local Government Act 1999* in relation to the internal controls specified above. We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report to any persons or users other than the members of the Association, or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

GALPINS ACCOUNTANTS, AUDITORS & BUSINESS CONSULTANTS

Tim Muhlhausler CA, Registered Company Auditor
Partner



**Murraylands and Riverland
Local Government Association**

Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
30 June 2021**

Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association

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Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021**

	Note	2021	2020
		\$	\$
Income			
M&R LGA Contributions	2	179,795	172,661
Other Grants & Contributions	2	115,242	316,148
Interest Revenue	2	6,555	11,773
Total Revenue		301,592	500,582
Operating Expenses	3	(292,930)	(438,644)
Surplus (deficit) for the year		8,662	61,938
Total Comprehensive Profit (Loss)		8,662	61,938

The accompanying Notes form part of these financial statements

Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT 30 JUNE 2021**

	Note	2021 \$	2020 \$
Assets			
Current Assets			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	4	1,030,339	945,263
Trade and Other Receivables	5	9,154	20,585
Total Current Assets		<u>1,039,493</u>	<u>965,848</u>
Total Assets		<u>1,039,493</u>	<u>965,848</u>
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Trade and Other Payables	6	68,550	3,567
Total Current Liabilities		<u>68,550</u>	<u>3,567</u>
Total Liabilities		<u>68,550</u>	<u>3,567</u>
Net Assets		<u>970,943</u>	<u>962,281</u>
Member's Funds			
Accumulated Surplus	7	970,943	962,281
Total Members Funds		<u>970,943</u>	<u>962,281</u>

The accompanying Notes form part of these financial statements

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN MEMBER'S FUNDS
AS AT 30 JUNE 2021**

	Note	Accumulated Surplus \$	Unspent funds reserve \$	Total \$
2021				
Balance at the beginning of the year	7	962,281	-	962,281
Surplus for the year		8,662	-	8,662
Balance at the end of year		<u>970,943</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>970,943</u>
2020				
Balance at the beginning of the year	7	900,343	-	900,343
Surplus for the year		61,938	-	61,938
Balance at the end of year		<u>962,281</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>962,281</u>

The accompanying Notes form part of these financial statements

**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021**

	Note	2021 \$	2020 \$
Cash from operating activities			
Receipts from grants		115,242	316,148
Receipts from members		179,795	172,661
Interest received		6,555	11,773
less: increase/(decrease) in debtors		11,431	(19,835)
Payments to suppliers		(292,930)	(438,644)
add: increase/(decrease) in payables		64,983	801
Net cash provided from operating activities	8	<u>85,076</u>	<u>42,904</u>
Net increase in cash held		85,076	42,904
Cash at beginning of financial year		945,263	902,359
Cash at end of financial year	4	<u>1,030,339</u>	<u>945,263</u>

The accompanying Notes form part of these financial statements

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021**

Note 1: Statement of Significant Accounting Policies

The financial statements are general purpose financial statements that have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards (including Australian Accounting Interpretations) and the Local Government Act (1999). The association is a not-for-profit entity for financial reporting purposes under Australian Accounting Standards.

Australian Accounting Standards set out accounting policies that the AASB has concluded would result in financial statements containing relevant and reliable information about transactions, events and conditions to which they apply. Material accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are presented below and have been consistently applied unless stated otherwise.

The financial statements, except for the cash flow information, have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical costs, modified, where applicable, by the measurement at fair value of selected noncurrent assets, financial assets and financial liabilities. The amounts presented in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest dollar.

The financial statements were authorised for issue by the members of the committee.

(a) Comparatives

When required by Accounting Standards, comparative figures have been adjusted to conform to changes in presentation for the current financial year.

Where the association has retrospectively applied an accounting policy, made a retrospective restatement or reclassified items in its financial statements, an additional statement of financial position as at the beginning of the earliest comparative period will be disclosed (subject to materiality).

(b) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits held at-call with banks, other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts.

(c) Income taxes

The activities of the Association are exempt from taxation under the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.

(d) Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office. In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense. Receivables and payables in the statement of financial position are shown inclusive of GST.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021**

(e) Financial Instruments

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the entity becomes a party to the contractual provisions to the instrument. For financial assets, this is equivalent to the date that the association commits itself to either purchase or sell the asset (i.e. trade date accounting is adopted).

Financial instruments are initially measured at fair value plus transaction costs except where the instruments are classified "at fair value through profit or loss", in which case transaction costs are expensed to profit or loss immediately.

Classification and subsequent measurement

Financial instruments are subsequently measured at fair value, amortised cost using the effective interest method, or cost. Fair value represents the amount for which an asset could be exchanged or a liability settled, between knowledgeable, willing parties. Where available, quoted prices in an active market are used to determine fair value. In other circumstances, valuation techniques are adopted.

Amortised cost is calculated as the amount at which the financial asset or financial liability is measured at initial recognition less principal repayments and any reduction for impairment, and adjusted for any cumulative amortisation of the difference between that initial amount and the maturity amount calculated using the effective interest method.

The effective interest method is used to allocate interest income or interest expense over the relevant period and is equivalent to the rate that discounts estimated future cash payments or receipts (including fees, transaction costs and other premiums or discounts) over the expected life (or when this cannot be reliably predicted, the contractual term) of the financial instrument to the net carrying amount of the financial asset or financial liability. Revisions to expected future net cash flows will necessitate an adjustment to the carrying amount with a consequential recognition of income or expense in profit or loss.

The association does not designate any interests in subsidiaries, associates or joint venture entities as being subject to the requirements of Accounting Standards specifically applicable to financial instruments.

(i) Loans and receivables

Loans and receivables are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market and are subsequently measured at amortised cost. Gains or losses are recognised in profit or loss through the amortisation process and when the financial asset is derecognised.

(ii) Financial liabilities

Non-derivative financial liabilities other than financial guarantees are subsequently measured at amortised cost. Gains or losses are recognised in profit or loss through the amortisation process and when the financial liability is derecognised.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021**

Impairment

At the end of each reporting period, the association assesses whether there is objective evidence that a financial asset has been impaired. A financial asset or a group of financial assets is deemed to be impaired if, and only if, there is objective evidence of impairment as a result of one or more events (a "loss event") that has occurred, which has an impact on the estimated future cash flows of the financial asset(s).

In the case of available-for-sale financial assets, a significant or prolonged decline in the market value of the instrument is considered to constitute a loss event. Impairment losses are recognised in profit or loss immediately. Also, any cumulative decline in fair value previously recognised in other comprehensive income is reclassified to profit or loss at this point.

In the case of financial assets carried at amortised cost, loss events may include indications that the debtors or a group of debtors is experiencing significant financial difficulty, default or delinquency in interest or principal payments, indications that they will enter bankruptcy or other financial re-organisation and changes in arrears or economic conditions that correlate with defaults.

For financial assets carried at amortised cost (including loans and receivables), a separate allowance account is used to reduce the carrying amount of financial assets impaired by credit losses. After having taken all possible measures of recovery, if the management establishes that the carrying amount cannot be recovered by any means, at that point the writing off amounts are charged to the allowance account or the carrying amount of impaired financial assets is reduced directly if no impairment amount was previously recognised in the allowance accounts.

When the terms of financial assets that would otherwise have been past due or impaired have been renegotiated, the association recognises the impairment for such financial assets by taking into account the original terms as if the terms have not been renegotiated so that the loss events that have occurred are duly considered.

Derecognition

Financial assets are derecognised where the contractual right to receipt of cash flows expires or the asset is transferred to another party, whereby the entity no longer has any significant continuing involvement in the risks and benefits associated with the asset. Financial liabilities are derecognised where the related obligations are discharged, cancelled or expire. The difference between the carrying amount of the financial liability extinguished or transferred to another party and the fair value of consideration paid, including the transfer of non-cash assets or liabilities assumed, is recognised in profit or loss.

(f) Impairment of assets

At the end of each reporting period, the association assesses whether there is any indication that an asset may be impaired. The assessment will consider both external and internal sources of information. If such an indication exists, an impairment test is carried out on the asset by comparing the recoverable amount of that asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs to sell and its value-in-use, to the asset's carrying amount. Any excess of the asset's carrying amount over its recoverable amount is immediately recognised in profit or loss.

Where the future economic benefits of the asset are not primarily dependent upon the asset's ability to generate net cash inflows and when the entity would, if deprived of the asset, replace its remaining future economic benefits, value in use is determined as the depreciated replacement cost of an asset where it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, the association estimates the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021**

Where an impairment loss on a revalued asset is identified, this is recognised against the revaluation surplus in respect of the same class of asset to the extent that the impairment loss does not exceed the amount in the revaluation surplus for that class of asset.

(g) Revenue

Where it has been determined that the grant agreement is enforceable and sufficiently specific performance obligations exist, revenue is recognised in profit and loss as performance obligations are met. Otherwise, revenue is recognised on receipt.

If an amount received is in advance of the performance of obligations, a revenue in advance liability is recognised and reduced as performance obligations are met.

Revenue from membership subscriptions are recognised as income in proportion to the stage of completion of the transaction at the reporting date. The stage of completion is determined by reference to the membership year.

Revenue from the rendering of a service is recognised upon the delivery of the service to the customer.

Interest revenue is recognised using the effective interest method, which for floating rate financial assets is the rate inherent in the instrument.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST).

New Accounting Standards Implemented:

AASB 15: Revenue from contracts with customers and AASB 1058: Income of Not-for-Profit Entities have been applied using the cumulative effective method. Therefore, the comparative information has not been restated and continues to be reported under AASB 1004: Contributions and AASB 118: Revenue.

(h) Trade and other payables

Accounts payable and other payables represent the liability outstanding at the end of the reporting period for goods and services received by the association during the reporting period that remain unpaid. The balance is recognised as a current liability with the amounts normally paid within 30 days of recognition of the liability.

(i) Trade and other receivables

These include amounts due from the ATO and accrued interest on deposits in financial institutions. Receivables expected to be collected within 12 months of the end of the reporting period are classified as current assets. All other receivables are classified as non-current assets.

Accounts receivable are initially recognised at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any provision for impairment.

(j) Critical Accounting Estimates and Judgments

Key estimates

(i) Impairment - general

The association assesses impairment at the end of each reporting period by evaluation of conditions and events specific to the association that may be indicative of impairment triggers. Recoverable amounts of relevant assets are reassessed using value-in-use calculations which incorporate various key assumptions.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021**

Note 2: Revenue

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
M&M LGA Contributions		
Berri Barmera	21,527	21,423
Coorong District Council	16,421	15,266
DC of Karoonda East Murray	8,788	8,132
DC of Loxton Waikerie	23,576	23,071
Mid Murray Council	20,829	18,859
The Rural City of Murray Bridge	33,027	30,634
Renmark Paringa Council	19,099	19,032
Southern Mallee DC	10,708	9,784
SLRP surcharge	25,820	26,460
	<u>179,795</u>	<u>172,661</u>
Other Grants & Contributions		
Other Grants	-	-
Rubble Royalties	-	177,787
Regional Capacity Buildings	42,151	41,221
Community Wellbeing Alliance	-	-
Out Reach Program Income	-	-
Riverland Social Indicators	38,091	84,790
Regional Road Hierarchy Plan	-	12,350
M & R Regional Waste Strategy	35,000	-
	<u>115,242</u>	<u>316,148</u>
Interest Revenue	6,555	11,773
Total Revenue	<u><u>301,592</u></u>	<u><u>500,582</u></u>

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021**

Note 3: Other Operating Expenses

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
Allowances	3,155	3,032
Accounting software	4,079	50
Audit fees	3,100	3,100
Executive officer contract services	119,296	118,500
Insurance	7,701	5,922
Meeting expenses	1,122	1,780
Sundry expenses & fees	946	382
Strategic Planning	-	12,210
Administration Support	11,473	20,240
Legal Charter Review	-	1,741
CEO Succession Planning / Recruitment	-	-
MDB Social Planning Forum	-	-
Project Expenditure:		
Transport of Roads Projects	20,660	66,222
Community Wellbeing Initiative	13,805	55,812
Connected Councils	5,950	
SLRP Priority Setting	425	
Regional Capacity - Rubble Royalty Project	-	6,000
Regional Joint Planning Board	-	12,005
Regional Road Hierarchy Plan	6,421	
Regional Waste Strategy	94,797	-
Riverland Social Indicators	-	131,648
	<u>292,930</u>	<u>438,644</u>

Note 4: Cash and cash equivalents

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
Cash on hand	100	100
Cash at bank	145,832	67,311
LGFA Investment	884,407	877,852
	<u>1,030,339</u>	<u>945,263</u>

Note 5: Trade and other receivables

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
Trade Debtors	1,298	3,396
GST receivable / (payable)	7,856	17,189
Prepayments	-	-
	<u>9,154</u>	<u>20,585</u>

Note 6: Trade and other Payables

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
Payables	28,550	3,567
Revenue in Advance - Regional Public Health Plan	40,000	-
	<u>68,550</u>	<u>3,567</u>

Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020

Note 7: Accumulated Surplus

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
Opening Balance	962,281	900,343
Surplus for the year	8,662	61,938
Balance at year end	970,943	962,281

Note : reserves no longer used in relation to unspent funds as a result of change in accounting treatment.

Note 8: Reconciliation of cash flow from operations with surplus for year

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
Net surplus for the year	8,662	61,938
<i>Changes in assets and liabilities</i>		
(Increase)/decrease in trade and other receivables	11,431	(19,835)
Increase/(decrease) in trade and other payables	64,983	801
Net cash provided from operating activities	85,076	42,904

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021**

Note 9: Financial Instruments

Details of the significant accounting policies and methods adopted including the criteria for the recognition, the basis of measurement and the basis on which income and expenses are recognised with respect to each class of financial asset, financial liability and equity instrument are disclosed in Note 1 Summary of Significant Account Policies.

Categorisation of Financial instruments

	Note	2021		2020	
		Carrying Amount	Fair Value	Carrying Amount	Fair Value
Financial liabilities		\$	\$	\$	\$
Trade and other Payables	6 (i)	28,550	28,550	3,567	3,567
Total Financial liabilities		28,550	28,550	3,567	3,567
Financial Assets					
Cash and cash equivalents	4	1,030,339	1,030,339	945,263	902,360
Trade and other Receivables	5	9,154	9,154	20,585	20,585
Total Financial Assets		1,030,339	1,030,339	945,263	902,360

The fair values disclosed in the table above have been based on cash and cash equivalents, trade and other receivables and trade and other payables short term instruments of a nature whose carrying value is equal to fair value.

i. Credit Risk

Exposure to credit risk relating to financial assets arises from the potential non-performance by counterparties of contract obligations that could lead to a financial loss to the association.

Credit risk is managed through maintaining procedures to regularly monitor the financial stability of customers and counterparties and by investing surplus funds in financial institutions that maintain a high credit rating.

There is no collateral held by the association securing trade and other receivables.

ii. Liquidity Risk

Liquidity risk arises from the possibility that the association might have difficulty in settling its debts or otherwise meeting its obligations related to financial liabilities. The association manages this risk by preparing and monitoring budgets, only investing surplus cash with major financial institutions and proactively monitoring the recovery of unpaid debts.

No assets have been pledged as security for any liabilities.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021**

iii. **Market Risk**

Exposure to interest rate risk arises on financial liabilities recognised at the end of the reporting period whereby a future change in interest rates will affect future cash flows.

The following table illustrates sensitivities to the association's exposure to changes in interest rates.

	2021		2020	
	% Weighted Average Interest rate	Carrying Value	% Weighted Average Interest rate	Carrying Value
Financial liabilities	\$	\$	\$	\$
Trade and other Payables	0%	28,550	0%	3,567
Financial Assets				
Cash at bank	0%	145,832	0%	67,311
LGFA Investment	1.8%	884,407	1.8%	877,852
Cash on hand	0%	100	0%	100
Trade and other Receivables	0%	9,154	0%	20,585

Note 10: Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets

At 30 June 2021, the association is unaware of any liability, contingent or otherwise, which has not already been recorded elsewhere in this financial report.

Note 11: Capital Commitments

At 30 June 2021, the association is unaware of any capital or leasing commitments which have not already been recorded elsewhere in this financial report.

Note 12: Events after the end of the reporting period

The South Australian Government has continued to issue public health directives related to the 2019 novel corona virus (COVID-19) global pandemic. The financial risk related to restrictions on business have had minimal impact on MRLGA. Interest earnings reduced but this represents only a small percentage of total revenue.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021**

Note 13: Economic Dependence

Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association is dependent on the Local Councils within its jurisdiction and other funding bodies for the majority of its revenue used to operate the business. At the date of this report, the Committee believe that the Local Councils and other bodies will continue to fund the Association.

Note 14: Related Party Transactions

The total remuneration paid to key management personnel of Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association Incorporated during the year was as follows:

	2021
	\$
Chief Executive Officer Contract Services	119,296

Key management personnel include the CEO and President.

Other related parties includes close family members of key management personnel and entities that are controlled or jointly controlled by those key management personnel individually or collectively with their close family members. There were no transactions with other related parties.

Note 15: Capital Management

The Committee controls the capital of the entity to ensure that adequate cash flows are generated to fund its programs and that returns from investments are maximised within tolerable risk parameters. The Committee ensures that the overall risk management strategy is in line with this objective. The committee operates under policies approved by the board. Risk management policies are approved and reviewed by the board on a regular basis. The entity's capital consists of financial liabilities, supported by financial assets. There have been no changes to the strategy adopted by the Committee to control the capital of the entity since the previous year.

Note 16: Association details

The registered office of the association and principal place of business is;

Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association

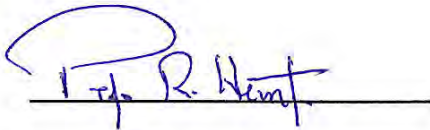
STATEMENT BY MEMBERS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

In the opinion of the committee, the Financial Statements comprising of the Statement of Financial Performance, Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Changes in Members' Funds, Statement of Cash Flows and Notes to the Financial Statements:

1. Presents a true and fair view of the financial position of Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association as at 30 June 2021 and its performance for the year ended on that date in accordance with Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements.
2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

The Committee is responsible for the reliability, accuracy and completeness of the accounting records and the disclosure of all material and relevant information.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Committee and is signed for and on behalf of the Committee by:



Name: PETER HUNT
Position: President
Date: 13/08/21



Name: Tim Smythe
Position: Chief Executive
Date: 13/08/21

APPENDIX C: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION STATEMENT

Freedom of Information Statement 2020-2021



Introduction

This Freedom of Information Statement is published by Southern Mallee District Council in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 1991 (FOI Act),

Subject to certain restrictions, the FOI Act 1993 gives members of the public a legally enforceable right to access information held by South Australian (Local) Government agencies such as councils. The purpose of this statement is to assist members of the public to identify the functions and decision making processes of Council, detail the type of information held by Council and advise how it can be accessed by the public.

An updated Information statement will be published on the Council's website each financial year. This statement was released on 1 July 2021

Structure and functions of Council

Southern Mallee District Council is a regional council located on the South Australian/Victorian border south of the Riverland. Southern Mallee is a central hub to the Riverland, Murray Mallee and South East regions of the State. As the centrally located local government in the region, Council works closely with other governments and agencies in the region. The Council includes staff administration and seven elected members who represent the whole district for a four-year term. Council and committee meetings are public meetings where the Council considers reports, information and recommendations from Council administration to assist with Council decision making. This includes matters such as policies, budgeting, community engagement and strategic planning. Council administration implements the decisions of Council and performs daily operations under the direction of the Chief Executive Officer.

The *Local Government Act 1999* (the Act) is the primary legislation for the operation of Local Government in South Australia. The provisions of the Act are supported by the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2013* and the *Local Government (Procedures at Meetings) Regulations 2013*. These regulations apply to all council committees with the exception of the Council Assessment Panel which is established in accordance with the provisions of the *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016*.

Full Council and provisions for meeting procedures

Following the local government elections held in November 2018, the Council consists of seven elected members who represent residents and ratepayers in the Southern Mallee District Council.

“Council” is the body corporate consisting of elected members as constituted under the Local Government Act 1999. Council is established to provide for the government and management of its area at the local level and, in particular:

- a) to act as a representative, informed and responsible decision-makers in the interest of its community;
- b) to provide and coordinate various public services and facilities and to develop its community and resource in a socially just and ecologically sustainable manner;
- c) to encourage and develop initiatives within its community for improving the quality of life of the community;
- d) to represent the interests of its community to the wider community; and
- e) to exercise, perform and discharge the powers, functions and duties of local government under the Local Government Act and other acts in relation to the area for which it is constituted. [s.6, Local Government Act]

Ordinary meetings of the Council are held in the Council Chambers in either Lameroo or Pinnaroo or in locations throughout the Council area as determined by resolution of Council. These meetings commence at 6:30 pm on the third Wednesday of each month. All meetings are open to the public, with the exception of any matters subject to an order of confidentiality. [s.90 of the Local Government Act]. Notices of all meetings and associated minutes of Council and its committees are available on the website and from the Council offices.

One of the main opportunities for the community to gain information about the business of Council is through meeting agendas and associated reports prepared for Council and committee meetings. Agendas, including minutes of the previous meetings and supporting documentation, are placed on public display no less than three days prior to meetings. Council also holds informal information gatherings and these dates along with Council meeting dates and associated information are available on Council's website at www.southernmallee.sa.gov.au and at the Council offices.

Ordinary Council meetings are also livestreamed on Councils' You Tube channel.

Council committees and subsidiaries

Schedule 1 of this statement lists the various committees of Council and identifies under which section of the Local Government Act 1999 or Development Act 1993 they have been formed. Committees streamline Council business and assist in the performance of its functions. The membership of committees and their terms of reference are determined by the Council.

Committees meet at intervals determined in their terms of reference (available on Council's website and at the Council offices) and make recommendations to Council. Meetings of Section 41 Committees are open to the public with the exception of any matters subject to an order of confidentiality [s.90, Local Government Act], and are publicly notified in the same way as Council meetings. (See 1.1 above)

Chapter 6 of the Local Government Act and the Local Government (Procedures at Meetings) Regulations prescribe the way meetings of a Council and its committees are to be conducted.

External committees/boards/associations

Council participates in a number of external committees, boards and associations, comprising elected members, staff and the public and these are listed in Schedule 1.

Delegations

The Council Assessment Panel and the Chief Executive Officer have delegated authority from Council to make decisions on specified administrative and policy matters. The Chief Executive Officer may sub-delegate to an employee or a committee. Council's delegations register reflects the delegated authority from the Council to the CEO (and subsequently any further sub delegations). The delegations register is reviewed annually by Council.

Functions of Council

The functions of Council, set out in s7 of the Local Government Act 1999, include:

- (a) to plan at the local and regional level for the development and future requirements of its area;
- (b) to provide services and facilities that benefit its area, its ratepayers and residents, and visitors to its area (including general public services or facilities (including electricity, gas and water services, and waste collection, control or disposal services or facilities), health, welfare or community services or facilities, and cultural or recreational services or facilities);
- (c) to provide for the welfare, well-being and interests of individuals and groups within its community;
- (d) to take measures to protect its area from natural and other hazards and to mitigate the effects of such hazards;
- (e) to manage, develop, protect, restore, enhance and conserve the environment in an ecologically sustainable manner, and to improve amenity;
- (f) to provide infrastructure for its community and for development within its area (including infrastructure that helps to protect any part of the local or broader community from any hazard or other event, or that assists in the management of any area);
- (g) to promote its area and to provide an attractive climate and locations for the development of business, commerce, industry and tourism;
- (h) to establish or support organisations or programs that benefit people in its area or local government generally;
- (i) to manage and, if appropriate, develop, public areas vested in, or occupied by, the council;
- (j) to manage, improve and develop resources available to the council;
- (k) to undertake other functions and activities conferred by or under an Act.

Section 41 of the Local Government Act 1999 empowers a Council to establish committees:

- to assist the Council in the performance of its functions

- to enquire into and report to the Council on matters within the ambit of the Council's responsibilities
- to provide advice to the Council
- to exercise, perform or discharge delegated powers, functions or duties

Council's Strategic Management Plan is developed based on community consultation and informs Council's Annual Business Plan and Budget.

Services for the community

Council is required by legislation to:

- Determine policies to be applied by the Council
- Develop and adopt strategic management plans
- Prepare and adopt annual business plans and budgets
- Establish an audit committee
- Develop appropriate policies, practices and processes of internal control
- Set performance objectives
- Establish policies and processes for dealing with complaints, requests for service, and internal review of Council decisions
- Determine the type, range and scope of projects to be undertaken by the Council
- Deliver planning and development, dog and cat management, fire prevention and certain public health services
- Provide the necessary administrative services to support Council's functions

Other services and activities are provided through the decision making processes of Council in response to local needs, interests and aspirations of individuals and groups within the community to ensure that Council resources are used equitably.

Other services provided by Council include:

- Road networks
- Open space facilities
- Community waste water management schemes
- Retirement villages
- Outdoor swimming pools
- Economic development

Public participation

Members of the public have a number of opportunities to express their views on particular issues before Council. This includes:

Deputations to Council – With the written permission of the Presiding Member of Council or a committee, a member of the public can address a committee or the Council personally or on behalf of a group of residents for up to 5 minutes on any item that is relevant to that Committee or the Council, depending on the number of deputations scheduled for a particular meeting. If a decision is required from the deputation, Council seeks a report from administration to be presented at the next appropriate meeting.

Petitions – Written petitions can be addressed to the Council on any issue within the Council's jurisdiction.

Council members – Members of the public can contact members of Council to discuss any issue relevant to Council. Contact details for all elected members are available on Council's website.

Written requests – Members of the public can write to Council on any Council policy, activity or service.

Community consultation

Southern Mallee District Council is committed to open, honest, accountable and responsible decision making. Council's Public consultation policy facilitates effective communication between Council and the community, encouraging community involvement and partnerships in planning and decision making. This policy sets out the steps Council will take in relation to community engagement and ensures that the most cost effective methods of informing and involving the community, which are appropriate for specific circumstances and consultation topics, are used. This document is available via Council's website.

Documents held by Council

Most information and documentation held by Council is available for public viewing and is readily available without recourse to the Freedom of Information Act and we invite you to discuss your information needs with us.

Records system: Council operates an electronic and hardcopy records and document management system for the effective management of Council's records.

Land and property information system: Council's land and property information system contains property related information (valuation, rates, ownership details) on each property in the council area.

Access to documents

Policy documents available for inspection

At the time of publishing this statement the following documents can be accessed from Council's website and are available for public inspection at Council during ordinary business hours. Any new policy adopted by Council after publication of this statement will be similarly available.

- Access to council and committee meetings and documents code of practice (April 2020)
- Annual budget policy (November 2020)
- Asset management and accounting policy (March 2021)
- Building and swimming pool inspection policy (May 2020)
- Caretaker policy (March 2020)

- Community facility usage policy (June 2019)
- Community grants policy (May 2019)
- Complaints handling policy (January 2018)
- Corporate purchase card policy (May 2020)
- Council members conduct complaint handling policy (May 2015)
- Council member training and development (March 2020)
- Council policy framework policy (May 2020)
- Customer experience policy (December 2021)
- Elected members allowance, benefits and general policy (August 2018)
- Elected members legal advice policy (November 2019)
- Elected members recognition of years of service policy (August 2019)
- Election process policy (March 2020)
- Electronic communications policy (February 2021)
- Emergency management policy (August 2020)
- Employee conduct policy (June 2019)
- Fraud and corruption prevention policy (May 2019)
- Funding policy (May 2019)
- Funeral flag use policy (December 2015)
- Hardship policy for residential customers of minor and intermediate water retailers (February 2021)
- Informal gatherings policy (April 2020)
- Internal financial control policy (May 2019)
- Internal review of a council decision policy (January 2016)
- Media and communications policy (February 2021)
- Memorials and monuments policy (November 2019)
- Open space policy (December 2020)
- Order making policy (March 2020)
- Pinnaroo retirement village policy (April 2020)
- Privacy policy (August 2016)
- Procurement policy (March 2020)
- Prudential and strategic decision making policy (January 2018)
- Prudential management policy (May 2020)
- Public consultation policy (June 2016)
- Public interest disclosure policy (October 2019)
- Rating policy (March 2021)
- Records management elected members policy (December 2015)
- Risk management policy (November 2018)
- Roads policy (December 2020)
- Safe environment for children policy (January 2021)
- Selection of road and public place name policy (March 2020)
- Service range policy (December 2020)
- Treasury management policy (February 2019)

- Tree and streetscape policy (February 2014)
- Unreasonable complaints policy (August 2016)
- Venue hire policy (April 2019)
- Volunteer code of conduct policy (May 2014)
- Waste and recycling policy (December 2020)

Other Council documents

Other documents which can be accessed on Council's website include:

- Animal management plans
- Annual business plans
- Annual reports
- Application forms
- Asset management plans
- Audited financial statements
- Committee terms of references
- Confidential items register – retained items
- Confidential items register – released items
- Council and committee agendas and minutes
- Customer charter – water and sewerage services
- Development application register
- Development plan
- Elected members register of interests
- Environmental management plans
- Freedom of information statements
- Gift and benefits register – elected members
- Gift and benefits register – council staff
- Long term financial plan
- Roadside vegetation management plan
- Strategic management plan
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The following documents are available for public inspection and purchase from Council's Principal Office, Day Street, Pinnaroo.

- Assessment book
- Register of employees' salaries and wages and benefits
- Voters roll
- Register of public roads and streets

Other information requests

Requests for other information not publicly available will be considered in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 1991. Under this legislation, applicants seeking access to documents held by Council need to provide sufficient information to enable the correct documents to be identified and must complete the required application form and lodge it at the Council offices.

Applications must be in writing and must specify that it is made under Section 13 of the Freedom of Information Act 1991. Council has also resolved that the name of the person lodging a request will be made available when undertaking third party consultation unless there is a legal impediment not to do so.

If the documents relate to the applicant's personal affairs, proof of identity may be requested. Requests will be dealt with as soon as practicable (and in any case, within 30 days) after receipt. If documents are being sought on behalf of another person relating to their personal affairs, Council may ask for a consent form signed by that person.

Forms of access may include inspection or copies (subject to copyright laws) of documents, hearing and/or viewing of audio and/or video tapes, transcripts of recorded documents, transcripts of words recorded in shorthand or encoded form, or the reproduction of documents from digitised information.

Council, on receiving a freedom of information application, may assist the applicant to direct the application to another agency or transfer the application to another agency if appropriate.

If Council refuses access to a document, Council must issue a certificate stating why the document is a restricted document.

In rare cases, retrieving the requested information involves considerable staff time. It is important to specify what is required as clearly as possible so staff can assist quickly and efficiently. If extraordinary staff time is required to comply with an information request, charges may apply.

All general enquiries on Freedom of Information Act 1991 issues should be directed to an accredited freedom of information officer.

Amendment to Council records

Under the Freedom of Information Act 1991, persons may request a correction to any information about themselves that is incomplete, incorrect, misleading or out of date.

To gain access to these Council records, a person must complete and lodge with Council an application form as indicated above outlining the records that he/she wishes to inspect.

If it is found that these require amendment, details of the necessary changes are to be lodged with Council's Freedom of Information Officer. There are no fees or charges for the lodgment, or the first two hours of processing of this type of application, and where there is a significant correction of personal records and the mistakes were not the applicant's, any fees and charges paid for the original application will be fully refunded.

Freedom of information application summary

A summary of Freedom of Information applications received as identified in Council's Annual Report.

	16-17	17-18	18-19	19-20	20-21
Applications processed	0	0	1	2	0
Applications determined	0	0	1	2	0
Full release	0	0	1	2	0
Partial release	0	0	0	0	0
Refused access	0	0	0	0	0
Proceeded to internal review	0	0	0	0	0

Freedom of information application fees and processing

Approved application fees are set in the FOI (Fees and Charges) Regulations 2018 and the Fees Notice 2021.

A cheque/money order/cash for the appropriate amount must be forwarded to Council with the freedom of information application. Processing charges may also apply for dealing with the application. These are set in the Freedom of Information Regulations and may include some free time when the request relates to the personal affairs of the applicant.

Schedule	Fees and Charges as at 1 July 2021
On application for access to an agency's documents (section 13(c))	\$38.25
For dealing with an application for access to an agency's documents and in respect of the giving of access to the document (section 19(1)(b) and (c))— (a) In the case of a document that contains information concerning the personal affairs of the applicant— (i) for up to the first 2 hours spent by the agency in dealing with the application and giving access no charge (ii) for each subsequent 15 minutes so spent by the agency	No charge \$14.40 \$14.40
Where access is to be given in the form of a photocopy of the document (per page)	\$0.20
Where access is to be given in the form of a written transcript of words recorded or contained in the document (per page)	\$8.55

Where access is to be given in the form of a copy of a photograph, x-ray, video tape, computer tape or computer disk the actual cost incurred by the agency in producing the copy	The actual cost incurred by the agency in producing the copy
Postage or delivery charges	The actual cost incurred by the agency
An application for review by an agency of a determination made by the agency under Part 3 of the Act	\$38.25

Fees will be waived for disadvantaged persons, as set in the Freedom of Information Regulations. i.e. No fee is required for current concession holders or if payment of the fee would cause financial hardship. At all times Council retains a discretion to waive, reduce or remit a fee for any reason it thinks fit.

If, in the Council's opinion, the cost of dealing with an application is likely to exceed the application fee, an advance deposit may be requested. The request will be accompanied by a notice that sets out the basis on which the amount of the deposit has been calculated. The freedom of information officer will endeavor to work with the applicant to define the scope of the request and the costs involved.

Freedom of information requests to Southern Mallee District Council are to be addressed to:

Accredited Freedom of Information Officer
PO Box 49
PINNAROO SA 5304

To download an application form, please visit:

<http://www.archives.sa.gov.au/content/foi-in-sa>

Schedule 1 – Committees of Council

Council Committees

SCHEDULE 1 – SOUTHERN MALLEE DISTRICT COUNCIL – COMMITTEE STRUCTURE

Name of Committee	Applicable Legislation	Decision Making Authority	Membership	Function
Audit Committee	Local Government Act, 1999 - S126 Established under S41	Advisory Only	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Independent Chairperson x 1 (<i>payment provided for meeting attendance</i>) • Independent Members x 1 • Council Members x 3 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plays a critical role in the financial reporting framework of Council by overseeing and monitoring the participation of • Management and external auditors in the financial reporting process. • Addresses issues such as the approach being adopted by Council and management to address business risks, corporate and financial governance responsibilities and legal • Compliance as well as receiving reports from Council's internal controls.
Building Fire Safety Committee	Development Act, 1993 – S71	Delegated Authority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Independent Presiding Member x 1 • Metropolitan Fire Service representatives • Country Fire Service representatives • Council appointed authorised officers, 	Responsible for the checking of fire safety provisions in new and existing buildings. Of particular interest to the Committee are those types of buildings that may constitute a high fire safety risk, such as large commercial/industrial buildings, motels and hotels

Council Assessment Panel	Planning Development and Infrastructure Act 2016 S83	Delegated Authority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elected Member of Council x 1 • Independent Members x 4 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To act as a delegate of the Council in accordance with the requirements of the Development Act during transition from the Development Act to the Act; • Thereafter, to act as a relevant authority under the Act; • To act in accordance with the requirements of this Terms of Reference. • The CAP may provide advice and reports to the Council as it thinks fit on trends, issues and other matters relating to planning or development that have become apparent or arisen through its assessment of development applications; • The CAP may cause an Annual Performance Review (APR) to be undertaken of the CAP, examining the composition of the CAP from a 'needs' perspective, the contribution, behaviour and conduct of CAP Members, the function and procedures of the CAP, and other relevant matters. The outcome of any APR undertaken by the CAP shall be reported to Council within one month of being completed.
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Lameroo Town Centre Plan Project Steering Committee	Local Government Act, 1999 - Established under S41	Advisory Only	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council Members x 2 • Community Members x 6 • Council Staff x 3 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play a leadership role in the delivery of the Lameroo Town Centre Plan project • Promote and champion the Lameroo Town Centre Plan project • Represent the broad interests of the community and stakeholders • Help ensure effective engagement with the community • Provide advice on project matters such as community engagement, draft documents, plan development, project timelines, media, communications and project direction, as required • Contribute to the successful project delivery through considered, innovative and enthusiastic involvement in the project • Work in a collaborative way with the firm appointed by Council to provide professional expertise and project delivery.
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Pinnaroo Village Green Masterplan Project Steering Committee	Local Government Act, 1999 - Established under S41	Advisory Only	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council Members x 2 • Community Members x 5 • Council Staff x 3 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play a leadership role in the delivery of the Pinnaroo Village Green Masterplan project • Promote and champion the Pinnaroo Village Green Masterplan project • Represent the broad interests of the community and stakeholders • Help ensure effective engagement with the community • Provide advice on project matters such as community engagement, draft documents, plan development, project timelines, media, communications and project direction, as required • Contribute to the successful project delivery through considered, innovative and enthusiastic involvement in the project • Work in a collaborative way with the firm appointed by Council to provide professional expertise and project delivery.
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Business and Visitor Wayfinding Signage Project Steering Committee	Local Government Act, 1999 - Established under S41	Advisory Only	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council Members x 2 • Community Members x 5 • Council Staff x 3 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play a leadership role in the delivery of the Business and Visitor Wayfinding Signage project • Promote and champion the Business and Visitor Wayfinding Signage project • Represent the broad interests of the community and stakeholders • Help ensure effective engagement with the community • Provide advice on project matters such as community engagement, draft documents, project development, project timelines, media, communications and project direction, as required • Contribute to the successful project delivery through considered, innovative and enthusiastic involvement in the project • Work in a collaborative way with the firm appointed by Council to provide professional expertise and project delivery.
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Council Subsidiaries

SCHEDULE 2 – Southern Mallee District Council – Regional Subsidiary Structure (established under Section 43, Local Government Act 1999)

Name of Regional Subsidiary	Membership	Purpose
Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Berri Barmera Council • Coorong District Council • District Council Karoonda East Murray; • District Council of Loxton Waikerie; • District Council of Mid Murray • District Council of Renmark Paringa; • Rural City of Murray Bridge • Southern Mallee Council 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake coordinating, advocacy and representational roles for its constituent Councils at a regional level. • Facilitate and co-ordinate activities of local government at a regional level related to environment, economic and social development with the object of achieving continuing improvement for the benefit of the communities of its constituent Councils. • Develop, encourage, promote, foster and maintain consultation and cooperation and to strengthen the representation and status of local government when dealing with other levels of government, private enterprise and the community. • Develop further cooperation between its constituent Councils for the benefit of the communities in the region. • Develop and manage policies which guide the conduct of programs and projects in the region with the objective of securing the best outcomes for the communities in the region. • Undertake projects that benefit the region and its communities

External committees/boards/ associations

- Local Government Association
- Local Government Finance Authority
- Mallee and Coorong Local Government Natural Resource Management Group



THE SOUTHERN MALLEE

Southern Mallee District Council

Day Street, Pinnaroo SA 5304

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