

# ANNUAL REPORT

## 2011-2012



*influencing today ... shaping tomorrow*

### District Council of Loxton Waikerie

Principal Office 29 East Terrace, Loxton SA • Postal Address Box 409, Loxton SA 5333

Branch Office: **Strangman Road, Waikerie SA 5330**

Loxton Telephone (08) 8584 8000 • Fax (08) 8584 6622 • Waikerie Telephone (08) 8541 0700 • Fax (08) 8541 3777

Email [council@loxtonwaikerie.sa.gov.au](mailto:council@loxtonwaikerie.sa.gov.au) • Web [www.loxtonwaikerie.sa.gov.au](http://www.loxtonwaikerie.sa.gov.au)



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## Leon Stasinowsky

### Mayor

RSD 2114B  
Wunkar via LOXTON SA 5333  
Phone: 8589 7028  
Fax: 8589 7038  
Mobile: 0428 897 028

Reflecting upon the past year, which has seen the River again record high flows for the second season in a row bringing with it increasing confidence in the Riverland, albeit which still bears the physical and emotional scars of the recent prolonged drought, I believe that Council has been able to focus some of its attention and effort to working towards achieving regional outcomes.

This is evidenced by the leadership shown by the three Riverland Councils in commissioning the "Towards 2015 and Beyond - Riverland Tourism Development Plan" which together with a 7 point tourism plan for tourism also developed by the Councils, was the catalyst for the forming of the Interim Riverland Tourism Industry Board. This then evolved into Destination Riverland Inc, an industry lead regional tourism body to drive advancement in this sector of our regional economy. Destination Riverland has subsequently produced the first Strategic Plan for Riverland tourism which has been financially underpinned by the three Riverland Councils for the first 12 months of its operation, our contribution being approximately \$43,000. Funding for subsequent years is contingent on Destination Riverland being able to demonstrate achievement of the goals in the first 12 month portion of the plan.

The three Councils have also continued in our joint endeavours to implement a regional waste solution which has been a protracted and mammoth undertaking. Early in this reporting period, the decision was made to abandon the development of a regional waste facility north of Berri due largely to public concern in favour of the Councils calling for registrations of interests for companies to propose solutions for a kerbside collection including recyclables and also disposal options. Three registrations were received with Trans Pacific Industries eventually being selected as the preferred provider with negotiations well underway to implement a service within this Council area early in 2013. In conjunction with this regional level process, Council commenced a kerbside recyclable collection trail with 120 households in Loxton and has used the information gained to assist the planning for the district wide service.

The continuing federally led consultation process on the draft Murray Darling Basin Plan has seen many meetings and information sessions held within our region, including an information session for Elected Members and staff. This resulted in a joint three Council response to the plan, essentially supporting the South Australian Government's position in seeking recognition for South Australia's (and the Riverland's) past and continuing responsible stewardship of the water resource, seeking assurances that all opportunities to recover the required water from infrastructure improvements are exhausted and that the social and economic impacts on regions like the Riverland are recognised and mitigated through transitional support mechanisms.

Council also offered support to the Mid Murray Council in strong opposition to the State Government proposal to close the Cadell Ferry which is vital for the economic and social wellbeing of people in the Riverland West area, which ultimately resulted in the abandoning of the proposal to close the service.

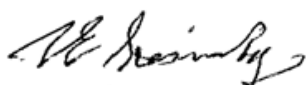


# Mayors Report

The western portion of our district suffered a severe storm event in early November which resulted in a large portion of the Waikerie Institute's roof being blown off, many other public buildings being damaged to varying degrees and significant impact on trees and vegetation. I would like to record my thanks to the many volunteers, emergency services personnel and Council staff that gave a tremendous effort in the resulting clean up. We are extremely thankful that no serious injury or death occurred. Council incurred direct costs in excess of \$200,000 in addition to insured items which had to be found from existing budgets. Efforts to seek financial support from the State Government towards these costs did not bear fruit.

Council has continued to operate well, both at Elected Member and staff levels resulting in us delivering the vast majority of its budgeted projects this year and remaining in a positive financial position.

I recognise and thank my fellow Elected Members for their efforts, constructive but good natured debate and collective desire to see our Council continue to improve and our region work together and prosper. To our staff I thank you for your advice and implementation of Council's decisions and commend this Annual Report to you to gain detailed information on Council's performance this year.



Mayor Leon Stasinowsky

## **2011/12 COMMITTEES ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO SECTION 41**

- Performance Review Committee
- Asset Committee
- Wunkar Recreation Grounds Committee (Chairperson)

## **2011/12 REPRESENTATIVE AND DELEGATE ON EXTERNAL COMMITTEES**

- Local Government Association of South Australia State Executive Committee
- Strategic Planning & Development Policy Committee
- Murray & Mallee Local Government Association (MMLGA)
- Riverland Regional Development Assessment Panel (RRDAP)
- Murray & Mallee Local Government Association Regional Waste Management Strategy Committee
- Riverland Local Government Forum
- Audit Committee
- Community Award Programme Assessment Panel
- Local Government Finance Authority—AGM Council representative
- Community Grants Assessment Reference Panel
- SA Regional Organisation of Councils (SAROC)



## Cr Mark Ward

### Deputy Mayor

PO Box 699  
LOXTON SA 5333  
Phone: 8584 1409  
Fax: 8584 1409  
Mobile: 0407 956 668  
Email: mward@loxtonwaikerie.sa.gov.au

#### 2011/12 COMMITTEES ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO SECTION 41

- Loxton North Recreation Grounds Committee (Vice Chairman)
- Loxton Retirement Village Committee
- Policy Review Committee

#### 2011/12 REPRESENTATIVE AND DELEGATE ON EXTERNAL COMMITTEES

- Murray & Mallee Local Government Association Regional Community Wastewater Management Scheme Committee (CWMS)
- Murray & Mallee Local Government Association Regional Transport Strategy Committee
- Murray Darling Association Region 5 Committee (Chairman)
- Murray Darling Association General Council
- Loxton High School Council
- Innovative Community Action Networks (ICAN) Working Group
- Riverland Local Government NRM Advisory Group of the SA Murray Darling Basin NRM Board
- Riverland Recreation, Sport and Open Space Strategy
- Riverland Passenger Transport Scheme
- Loxton Health Advisory Council (HAC)
- Strategic Planning & Development Policy Committee
- Loxton Sport & Recreation Facilities Group
- Community Grants Assessment Reference Panel



## Cr Deborah Thiele

PO Box 152  
LOXTON SA 5333  
Phone 8584 6930  
Mobile 0429 846 571  
Email: dthiele@loxtonwaikerie.sa.gov.au

#### 2011/12 COMMITTEES ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO SECTION 41

- Loxton Historical Village Committee
- Policy Review Committee (Deputy Chair)

#### 2011/12 REPRESENTATIVE AND DELEGATE ON EXTERNAL COMMITTEES

- Murray & Mallee Local Government Association Broadband and Steering Committee
- Strategic Planning & Development Policy Committee
- Loxton Neighbourhood Watch
- Loxton Playground Working Group
- Innovative Community Action Networks (ICAN) Working Group
- East Terrace Revitalisation Working Group



## Cr Ross Copeland

7 Marks Terrace  
 WAIKERIE SA 5330  
 Phone: 8541 2053  
 Fax: 8541 2053  
 Mobile: 0428 584 020  
 Email: rcopeland@loxtonwaikerie.sa.gov.au

### 2011/12 COMMITTEES ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO SECTION 41

- Policy Review Committee (Chairperson)
- Waste Management Committee
- Performance Review Committee
- Asset Committee

### 2011/12 REPRESENTATIVE AND DELEGATE ON EXTERNAL COMMITTEES

- Murray Darling Association General Council
- Murray Darling Association Region 5 Committee
- Community Award Programme Assessment Panel
- Waikerie Community Arts Centre
- Community Grants Assessment Reference Panel
- SA's Country Health Plan Working Group
- Waikerie Cemetery Committee
- Strategic Planning & Development Policy Committee
- Waikerie Senior Citizen Club



## Cr Jody Flavel

CMB 1769  
 MERIBAH via LOXTON SA 5333  
 Phone: 8587 3049  
 Fax: 8587 3049  
 Mobile: 0428 873 049  
 Email: jflavel@loxtonwaikerie.sa.gov.au

### 2011/12 COMMITTEES ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO SECTION 41

- Lease Committee
- District Bushfire Prevention Reference Committee
- Asset Committee
- Performance Review Committee
- Waste Management Committee

### 2011/12 REPRESENTATIVE AND DELEGATE ON EXTERNAL COMMITTEES

- Regional Bushfire Committee
- Strategic Planning & Development Policy Committee
- Loxton Sport & Recreation Facilities Group
- Murray & Mallee Local Government Association Regional Waste Management Strategy
- Browns Well Complex Committee
- Riverland Regional Waste Management Committee
- Audit Committee



## Cr David Kimber

31A Drabsch Street  
LOXTON SA 5333  
Phone: 8584 5024  
Mobile: 0427 546 237  
Email: [dkimber@loxtonwaikerie.sa.gov.au](mailto:dkimber@loxtonwaikerie.sa.gov.au)

### 2011/12 COMMITTEES ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO SECTION 41

- Loxton Recreation Grounds Committee

### 2011/12 REPRESENTATIVE AND DELEGATE ON EXTERNAL COMMITTEES

- Murray & Mallee Local Government Association Regional Waste Management Strategy Committee
- Strategic Planning & Development Policy Committee
- Community Award Programme Assessment Panel
- Houseboat Working Group
- Riverland Local Government NRM Advisory Group of the SA Murray Darling Basin NRM Board
- Loxton Senior Citizen Club
- East Terrace Revitalisation Working Group



## Cr Trevor Norton

PO Box 8  
KINGSTON ON MURRAY SA 5331  
Mobile: 0419 846 036  
Email: [tnorton@loxtonwaikerie.sa.gov.au](mailto:tnorton@loxtonwaikerie.sa.gov.au)

### 2011/12 COMMITTEES ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO SECTION 41

- Lease Committee
- Policy Review Committee
- Asset Committee
- Moorook Recreation Grounds Committee (Dissolved 20/4/2012)
- Waste Management Committee

### 2011/12 REPRESENTATIVE AND DELEGATE ON EXTERNAL COMMITTEES

- Riverland Local Government NRM Advisory Group of the SA Murray Darling Basin NRM Board
- Houseboat Working Group
- Loxton to Bookpurnong LAP
- South Australian Fruit Fly Standing Committee (LGA representative)
- Strategic Planning & Development Policy Committee
- Loxton Sport & Recreation Facilities Group
- Moorook & Kingston on Murray Community Association
- Regional Development Australia Board





## Cr Margaret Malthouse

PO Box 570  
WAIKERIE SA 5330  
Phone: 8541 4063  
Mobile: 0428 849 361  
Email: mmalthouse@loxtonwaikerie.sa.gov.au

### 2011/12 COMMITTEES ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO SECTION 41

- Policy Review Committee
- Performance Review Committee
- Disability Access Action Plan Committee
- Waikerie District Community Committee (resigned 17/8/2012)

### 2011/12 REPRESENTATIVE AND DELEGATE ON EXTERNAL COMMITTEES

- Audit Committee
- Strategic Planning & Development Policy Committee
- Waikerie Health Advisory Council (HAC)



## Cr Michael Zeppel

PO Box 335  
LOXTON SA 5333  
Phone: 8584 6824  
Fax: 8584 6824  
Mobile: 0427 820 815  
Email: mzep-

### 2011/12 COMMITTEES ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO SECTION 41

- Loxton Centenary Feature Committee
- Pines Management Committee
- Lease Committee
- Performance Review Committee
- Loxton Retirement Village Committee
- Waste Management Committee
- Asset Committee

### 2011/12 REPRESENTATIVE AND DELEGATE ON EXTERNAL COMMITTEES

- Audit Committee
- Innovative Community Action Networks (ICAN) Working Group
- Strategic Planning & Development Policy Committee



## Cr Michael Vowles

PO Box 243  
LOXTON SA 5333  
Phone: 8584 6962  
Fax: 8584 6874  
Mobile: 0427 846 512  
Email:

### 2011/12 COMMITTEES ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO SECTION 41

- Performance Review Committee
- Waste Management Committee
- District Bushfire Prevention Reference Committee
- Loxton Recreation Grounds Committee
- Lease Committee

### 2011/12 REPRESENTATIVE AND DELEGATE ON EXTERNAL COMMITTEES

- Loxton Community Centre
- Houseboat Working Group
- Strategic Planning & Development Policy Committee
- Loxton Sport and Recreation Facilities Group
- Loxton Chamber of Commerce
- Riverland Regional Waste Management Committee
- CORES Riverland (Community Response to Eliminating Suicide)
- East Terrace Revitalisation Working Group



## Cr Kym Webber

PO Box 301  
WAIKERIE SA 5330  
Phone: 8541 3238  
Fax: 8541 3811  
Mobile: 0419 609 271  
Email: [kwebber@loxtonwaikerie.sa.gov.au](mailto:kwebber@loxtonwaikerie.sa.gov.au)

### 2011/12 COMMITTEES ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO SECTION 41

- Lease Committee
- Asset Committee

### 2011/12 REPRESENTATIVE AND DELEGATE ON EXTERNAL COMMITTEES

- Waikerie Community Sports Centre
- Riverland West Landcare
- Waikerie High School
- Waikerie Advisory Council for Youth (WACY)
- Strategic Planning & Development Policy Committee
- Riverland West Chamber of Commerce
- Regional Development Australia Board

# District Council of Loxton Waikarie

## Corporate Members

Elected November 2011



Back row: Cr Trevor Norton, Chris Fels, Director Infrastructure Services, Cr John Flavel, Cr Ross Copeland and Cr Michael Vowles

Middle row: Cr Deborah Thiele, Cr Kym Webber, Cr David Kimber, Cr Margaret Malthouse, Tanya Cregan, Executive Assistant

Front row: Peter Ackland, Chief Executive Officer, Mayor Leon Stasinowsky, Deputy Mayor Mark Ward, Cr Michael Zeppel





## Peter Ackland

### Chief Executive Officer

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Council's direction this year has been one of continuing to deliver quality services required by our community and in doing so we have begun a progressive review of the need for key services, their scope, cost, equity of delivery and the required service level, rather than purely relying on historical delivery.

This is evidenced by a commitment to structure our annual business plan on the information coming from our suite of Strategic and Asset Management Plans which have begun to engender change within the focus of our priorities. Council has consulted on and adopted our final Asset Management Plans covering Plant and Machinery, Playgrounds and Skate parks and are commencing the review process of our existing Asset Plans. The review has resulted in an annual increase of \$790,000 in depreciation of our road network, due in part to the changing road use of heavy transport as traditional bulk grain receival sites have all not been reopened this season coupled with climatic impacts from prolonged dry periods followed by two wet years. This annual impact has been able to be accommodated in the 2012 / 13 annual business plan due to a combination of Council's strong financial position and an increased focus on maintenance.

To guide this process Council has formed an Asset Committee tasked with reviewing Council's asset portfolio to identify opportunities to reduce the financial impact on Council's operating position and add to our financial sustainability.

Council has also adjusted its economic development focus slightly to include an increasing effort towards existing business via the following initiatives:

- Provision of in kind support to the Loxton Chamber of Commerce and the Riverland West Chamber of Commerce in facilitating a major review and drafting of each organisation's strategic plan.
- Support and participation in a business breakfast in Waikerie to gather ideas for business growth and better understand inhibitors.
- Sale of land to a winery to assist its growth prospects and in turn employment outcomes.
- Submission to the federal Regional Telecommunications Review to seek inclusion of Loxton in the National Broadband Rollout (Waikerie already included in the plan at that time).
- Commencement a process of aggregating demand for heavy freight movements from the region to determine the potential for a business case to reinvigorate the rail connection from Loxton as a supplementary transport route to road freight.
- As part of the opening of the 1.0M+ revitalised Waikerie Riverfront, and in conjunction with the Riverland West Chamber of Commerce, staged a twilight market and deck chair cinema to showcase Waikerie and its businesses.
- Adoption of a significant marketing and redevelopment plan for the Loxton Historical Village to reinvigorate the attraction in order to attract more people to the region and also better manage costs.

# Chief Executive Officers Report

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- Extension of mooring rights to the new lessee of the Murray River Queen at Waikerie to convert the unused boat to accommodation for up to 95 international backpackers at a time
- Agreement to commence the process to rezone land in support of the proposed \$5.0M redevelopment of the "Old Caravan Park" in Waikerie
- Contribution to the feasibility study to establish a Riverland and Mallee Primary Producers Business Centre designed to provide high quality administrative and professional support and engender a united voice for the regions primary producers

In partnership with the Berri Barmera and Renmark Paringa Councils, opportunities for resource sharing between the Councils have been identified and investigations commenced into shared platforms for Information Technology, a regional Development Unit and also Procurement / Regional Economic Benefit, the latter being lead by this Council.

Council, the Loxton Recreation Grounds Committee ( a committee of Council) and the Loxton and District Chamber of Commerce have worked together to develop a concept for the revitalisation of the town's main shopping strip though a project titled Our Hub Our Pride.....East Terrace Revitalisation. The concept aims to re-energize the shopping district through improved visual amenity, traffic calming and importantly encouragement for visitors and locals to spend more time in the precinct through such things as an outdoor cinema, public art and improved facilities. This combined effort has been overwhelmingly supported by the community with stage 1 to be delivered in 2012/ 13.

These and many other projects contained in this report have been achieved within an audited operating surplus of \$2.019M, which when adjusted for amounts received in advance (-1.054M) and operations of the Loxton Retirement Village (-0.892M) gives an underlying operating surplus of \$73,000. Whilst this is slightly less than our Long Term Financial Management Plan projection of an operating surplus of \$206,000 for the same period, when considering the \$200,000 plus financial impact of the storm event experienced in November, it is a very satisfying outcome.

I record the staff and my thanks to the Elected Members for their direction and unqualified support and also to our staff, appreciation for the extra efforts and care factor that infuse your approach to your work.



Peter Ackland  
Chief Executive Officer



# Governance

## ALLOWANCES PAID TO ELECTED MEMBERS AND COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Council Members are entitled to receive an annual allowance plus reimbursement of expenses incurred in attending Council and committee meetings related to travelling within the Council area and for the care of a dependent.

The levels of allowance is determined by the independent Remuneration Tribunal and set every four years, with the amounts indexed by CPI in the intervening years. The Tribunal is required to determine allowances by taking into account a number of factors including the size, population and revenue of each Council, as well as any relevant economic, demographic and regional factors

Councils may also resolve, on a discretionary basis, to reimburse Council Members for a range of additional expenses. For example, travel outside the Council area, attendance at conferences, or to provide support such as laptop computers, facsimile machines or telephones.

### **Allowances**

Elected Members are entitled to receive the following annual allowances following the determination of the Remuneration Tribunal as gazetted on Thursday 26 August 2010 to help cover the cost of performing and discharging their official functions and duties.

Section 76 (9) of the Local Government Act provides for allowances to be adjusted on the first, second and third anniversaries of periodic elections to reflect changes in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) under a scheme prescribed by the regulations.

As at November 2011 the annual allowances were adjusted as follows:-

Principal Member	\$ 48,221.00
Council Deputy Mayor	\$ 15,069.00
Chairman of Standing Committees	\$ 15,069.00
Elected Members	\$ 12,056.00

The allowances were set by the Remuneration Tribunal in the Report and Determination no. 6 of 2010: Members of Local Government Councils.

In addition to the allowances as determined by the Remuneration Tribunal a travel time payment has been granted to eligible elected members, under part 4 of the determination.

The following will be payable to council members, excluding principal members, of non-metropolitan councils whose usual place of residence is within the relevant council area and is located **50km or more** distance from that council's principal office, via the nearest route by road:

\$500.00 per annum

*Computer, printer, internet access, mobile telephone, phone/fax machine, motor vehicle, office space, personal assistance.*

# Governance

## **ALLOWANCES PAID TO ELECTED MEMBERS AND COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

The independent chair of Council's Audit Committee is paid \$4000.00 per annum for the role

The independent member of the Riverland Regional Development Panel is paid a sitting fee of \$770.00 per meeting, this cost is shared between the member councils.

## **FACILITIES AND SUPPORT**

Pursuant to Section 78 of the Local Government Act, Council resolved from a meeting held 19 September 2008, to make available to the Mayor the following facilities and support to assist in performing and discharging official functions and duties:

Computer, printer, internet access, mobile telephone, phone/fax machine, motor vehicle, office space, personal assistance.

As from a resolution of Council from a meeting held 29 November 2010 the Mayor has been granted limited private use of a Council vehicle within South Australia, subject to him keeping and presenting as required, a vehicle log book.

The Mayor has elected to only avail himself of the use of the vehicle provided and personal assistance.

Council resolved at a meeting of Council held 19 August 2011 that all Elected Members are provided, upon request, with an iPad.

iPad's were provided to Elected Members to improve the way that information is provided, accessed and managed. Elected Members, in the past, were provided with hard copy agendas and minutes of council and committee meetings, some of these could be in excess of 200-300 pages each. iPad's also provide the opportunity to schedule meetings and communicate with Elected Members easily and effectively.

In practical terms the issue of iPads has eliminated the need to print in excess of 30 copies of monthly agendas and minutes for council meetings. Hard copies of agendas for council meetings were hand delivered to a number of Elected Members, in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act.

The ability to communicate effectively with Elected Members and for Elected Members to manage and access information has empowered the decision making of Council.

## TRAINING, SEMINARS AND CONFERENCES

In accordance with the District Council of Loxton Waikerie's Training and Development for Elected Members Policy, Council members were provided with opportunities to undertake training and development activities during 2011- 2012 and attended the following as per the table below:

Name	Date	Details
Mayor LE Stasinowsky	29/ 30 July 2011 14 September 2011 25/ 26 August 2011 27/28 October 2011 16-18 November 2011	Mayors' & Chairpersons' Residential Seminar 2011 President's Forum on Regional Development & Growing Country Communities SA Roads & Works Conference 2011 LGA AGM & associated sessions & LGFA AGM National Roads & Transport Congress
Cr ML Ward	22 July 2011 22/24 August 2012	iPad training Murray Darling Basin Association National Conference & AGM
Cr R Copeland	22 July 2011	iPad training
Cr JF Flavel	22 July 2011 25/26 August 2011 16-18 November 2011	iPad training SA Roads & Works Conference National Roads & Transport Congress
Cr DG Kimber	22 July 2011 25/26 August 2011	iPad training SA Roads & Works Conference
Cr MJ Malthouse	22 July 2011 7 September 2011 12 April 2012	iPad training Strategic Financial Sustainability Tools for Good Governance Riverland Regional Development Assessment Panel training - overview of planning services

## TRAINING, SEMINARS AND CONFERENCES

### - Continued

Cr TJ Norton	22 July 2011 25/26 August 2011 8 September 2011  11 May 2012	iPad training SA Roads & Works Conference Licensed premises. What can we do? What should we do? Land Division Masterclasses
Cr DA Thiele	22 July 2011	iPad training
Cr MJ Vowles	22 July 2011	iPad training
Cr KA Webber	22 July 2011	iPad training
Cr MA Zeppel	22 July 2011 22 June 2012	iPad training Northern Areas Building offices Seminar

## COUNCIL'S REPRESENTATION QUOTA

Derived from information provided by the Electoral Commission of SA, current as at last collection of elector figures statistics (28/02/2011) there were 8142 electors represented by 11 Elected Members including the Mayor. The representation quota was 740.

Local Government authorities throughout the state are placed in groups of similar size and type. The District Council of Loxton Waikerie is classed a "Rural Agricultural Very Large" (RAV) Council and is grouped with ten (10) other Councils in this category in South Australia.

The statewide average representation quota for the reporting period was 1636

Note:- representation quota for a council is the amount ascertained by dividing the number of electors for the area of the council ( as at the last closing date under the Local Government (Elections) Act 1999) by the number of members who constitute the council (ignoring any fractions resulting from the division and expressed as a quota) Local Government Act 1999, schedule 4.

If any electors of the area wish to make a submission in regard to representation to Council they may do so in writing addressed to the Chief Executive Officer, PO Box 409, Loxton, 5333.

## **PERIODICAL REVIEW OF ELECTOR REPRESENTATION**

The Local Government Act 1999 requires that Council must ensure that all aspects of the composition of the Council, and the issue of the division, or potential division of the area of the Council into wards are comprehensively reviewed under this section at least once in each relevant period that is prescribed by the regulations.

The last representation review for the District Council of Loxton Waikerie was undertaken and presented to Council on the 17 July 2009. The structure and composition was implemented at the next general election of Council, held 13 November 2010.

Pursuant to Section 12 (4) of the Local Government Act 1999 (The Act) and the schedule as gazetted 31 May 2012, (2618), the next representational review for the District Council of Loxton Waikerie is planned for October 2016 - October 2017.

## **COUNCIL ELECTIONS**

With amendments made to the Local Government (Elections) Act 1999 and other relevant legislation, Local Government Elections are now held in November of the relevant year with a four year term of office.

The next Local Government Periodic Elections are to be conducted in November 2014.

## **CONFIDENTIALITY PROVISIONS - MEETINGS & DOCUMENTS**

It is a requirement of the Local Government Act 1999 (The Act), schedule 4, clause 1(ga) that Council include in the Annual Report, information in relation to any orders of the Council or Council Committee that the public have been excluded from attendance in accordance with Section 90 (2) of the Local Government Act 1999.

It is also a requirement of the Act Council to include in the Annual Report, information in relation to any orders of the Council or Council Committee that documents be kept on a confidential basis in accordance with Section 91 (7) of the Local Government Act 1999.

Council held twelve (12) ordinary meetings and six (6) special meetings during 2010 - 2011.

On sixteen (16) separate occasions during the course of the Council meetings, Council met in confidence to discuss issues in relation to:

### **Section 90 (3) (a)**

Information the disclosure of which would involve the unreasonable disclosure of information concerning the personal affairs of any person (living or dead);

(ii) would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest; (1)



## **CONFIDENTIALITY PROVISIONS - MEETINGS & DOCUMENTS** **- Continued**

### **Section 90 (3) (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 (4)

### **Section 90 (3) (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; (4)

### **Section 90 (3) (h)**

Legal advice (4)

### **Section 90 (3) (k)**

Tenders for the supply of goods, the provision of services or the carrying out of works; (2)

### **Section 90 (3) (b) and (k)**

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;

Tenders for the supply of goods, the provision of services or the carrying out of works (1)

## **REVIEW OF ITEMS HELD IN CONFIDENCE**

Review of items discussed in confidence is undertaken on a regular basis, quarterly or as required and this process has seen 14 of the 16 items released from confidentiality provisions over the course of the year.

# Governance

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During the course of the financial year Council made a total of 533 resolutions, these were not procedural, ie motions to break for lunch or defer a speaker to a later time during the course of a meeting were not counted within this total, but rather reflect the decisions made by Council. Council resolved to enter into confidence in 3% of instances

## **COUNCILS DECISION MAKING STRUCTURE**

Council believes strongly in open and accountable municipal governance, and therefore under Section 41 of the Local Government Act 1999, has established community based committees by which it is advised.

## **SECTION 41 COMMITTEES**

Reports and minutes containing recommendations from Section 41 Committees listed below are included in the Council monthly meeting Agenda for consideration and adoption by Elected Members. Agenda and Minutes of the committee meetings are also available on the Council website - [www.loxtonwaikerie.sa.gov.au](http://www.loxtonwaikerie.sa.gov.au)

## **SECTION 41 COMMITTEES (Internal)**

Asset Committee - established by resolution of Council at the meeting of 19 August 2011  
Disability Access Action Plan Committee  
Lease Committee  
Performance Review Committee  
Policy Review Committee  
Waste Management Committee

## **SECTION 41 COMMITTEES (External)**

Alawoona Hall Committee  
District Bushfire Prevention Reference Committee - formerly known as Bushfire Prevention Advisory Committee  
Loxton Centenary Feature Committee  
Loxton Christmas Lights Committee  
Loxton Historical Village Committee  
Loxton North Recreation Grounds Committee  
Loxton Recreation Grounds Committee  
Loxton Retirement Village Committee  
*Loxton Show and Recreation Centre Committee - dissolved by resolution of Council at the meeting of 18 May 2012*  
*Moorook Kingston Recreation Grounds Committee - dissolved by resolution of Council at the meeting of 20 April 2012*  
The Pines Management Committee  
Waikerie District Community Committee  
*Waikerie SK8/ BMX Park Committee - dissolved by resolution of Council at the meeting of 20 April 2012*  
Wunkar Recreation Grounds Committee

# Governance

## OTHER COMMITTEES

Audit Committee (pursuant to Section 126 (1) of the Local Government Act 1999)  
Building Fire Safety Committee (Regional) (pursuant to the Development Act 1993)  
Standing Drug Orders Endorsement Committee (Controlled Substances Act 1994)  
Riverland Regional Development Assessment Panel (pursuant to Section 34 of the Development Act 1993)  
OHS Committee (pursuant to the OHS Act)  
Strategic Planning & Development Policy Committee (pursuant to Section 101A of the Development Act 1993)  
Community Grants Assessment Panel  
Community Award Programme Assessment Panel

## MEETINGS

The full Council meets on the third Friday of every month commencing at 9:00am. Meetings alternate between Loxton and Waikerie in the respective Council Chambers.

MEETING ATTENDANCE SCHEDULE 2011-12		
Elected Members	Council	Special
Mayor LE Stasinowsky	12	6
Cr ML Ward	9	5
Cr R Copeland	12	5
Cr JF Flavel	10	5
Cr DG Kimber	11	4
Cr MJ Malthouse	11	6
Cr TJ Norton	12	5
Cr DA Thiele	12	5
Cr MJ Vowles	11	6
Cr KA Webber	12	3
Cr MA Zeppel	12	6
<b>Number of Meetings held</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>6</b>

## **DELEGATION REGISTER**

Councils have a range of powers and functions to perform which are conferred under a number of different Acts of Parliament including the Local Government Act 1999.

Section 44 of the Local Government Act 1999 allows a Council to delegate many of its decision making powers and functions under these Acts. The primary purpose of delegating powers and functions is to facilitate an efficient and effective organisation by allowing decisions to be made by the staff who carry out day to day operations.

Section 44 (6) of the Act requires council to review delegations at least once in every financial year, a review of all delegations was adopted by Council at the meeting of 20 May 2011.

The delegations register is able to be accessed via Council's website:

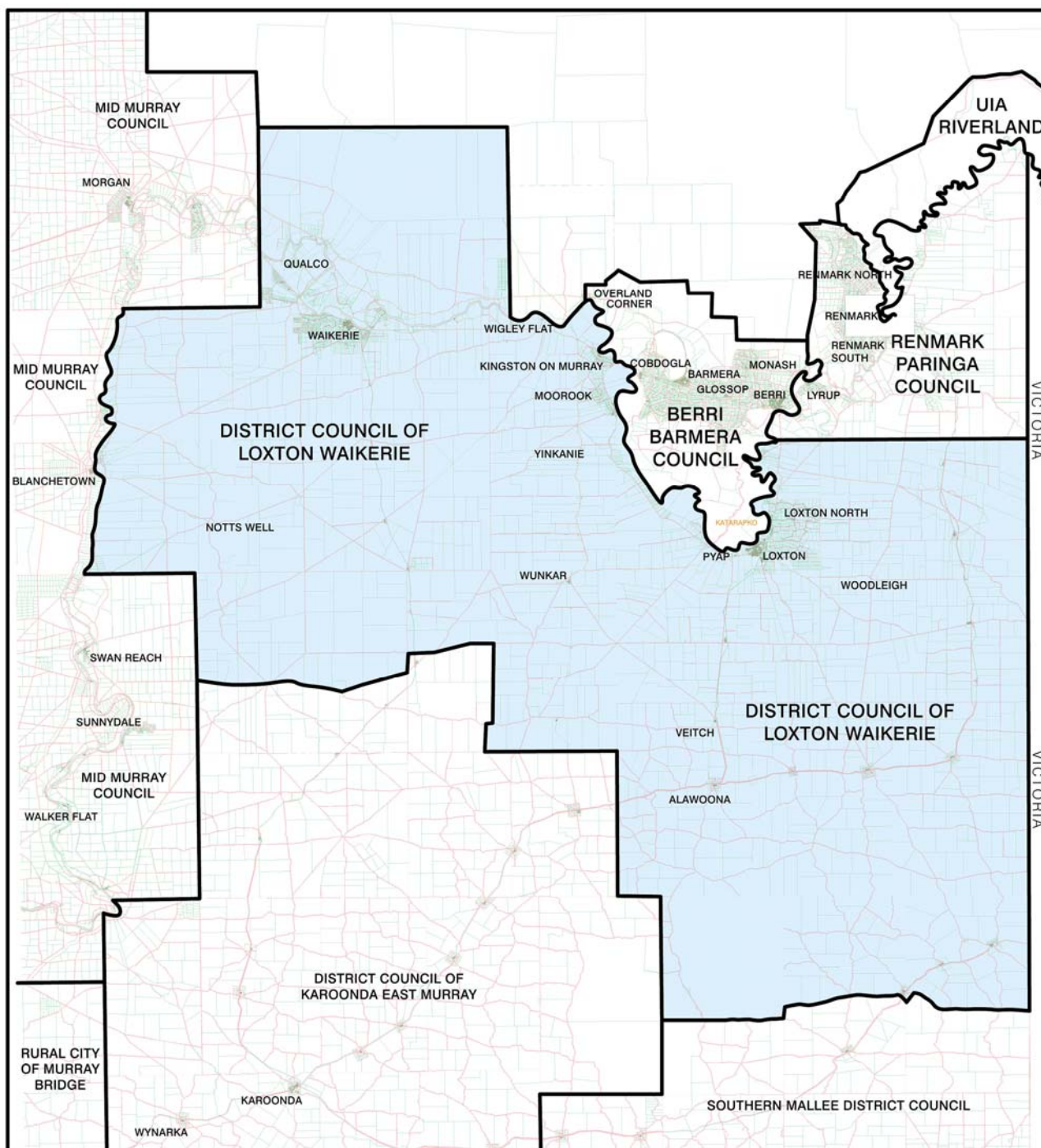
[www.loxtonwaikerie.sa.gov.au](http://www.loxtonwaikerie.sa.gov.au)

Council documents

Other documents

Delegations register

# Loxton Waikerie Regional Map



## GENERAL INFORMATION

Area	7,957km <sup>2</sup>
Population	12,101
Rateable Assessments	7,671
Electors	8,099
Road Length	2,235 kms



## GOAL 1 - SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

To actively contribute to the economic environment of the District and region, in order to promote the sustainable growth and development of new and existing business and economic opportunities

### Strategy 1.1 Create an economic environment that provides impetus for growth and diversification of existing businesses

#### 1.1.1 Develop a business charter to establish a framework for engagement with key sectors of the economy

	Develop and agree business charters with the Loxton and Riverland West Chambers of Commerce and make provision to implement and agreed element from each Charter	Charter development held over at the request of both Chambers in favour of Council facilitating a major review of the Loxton Chambers Strategic Plan and in Waikerie to determine future direction and format of the Chamber
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#### 1.1.3 Ensure that land, infrastructure and services can meet demand

	Investigate the relocation of Loxton Aquatic Club / Houseboat moorings.	Met with representatives of DEWR and application for ski beach has been lodged Investigations continuing in regard to houseboat moorings with Department of Environment and Natural Resources.
	Replacement of effluent pump at the Nalara Avenue / Third Street stormwater basin. By replacing the pump Council reduces its risk of this pump being interrupted during extreme rainfall events. It can currently be deluged.	Completed
	Replacement of effluent pump at the Corowa Estates stormwater basin. The current pump is insufficient for the requirement at this location.	Completed
	Construction of earthen bund wall along West Terrace (Waikerie). Project includes the revegetation / landscaping of this area. Project will aid in reducing flood risk potential.	Completed including revegetation

# District Council of Loxton Waikerie Strategic Plan 2010/2011

<b>Strategy 1.2 Encourage a vibrant tourism industry</b>		
<b>1.2.1</b>	Foster tourism opportunities at a local, district and regional level by building upon existing tourism and business icons	
	Investigate the best option for management and operation of the Loxton caravan park to increase occupancy and net profit and provide stimulus to the traders in Loxton	Reports commissioned on options to increase the visitation impact of the Park on Loxton and optimise the financial return to the operator / Council. Valuations also undertaken with Council to formally consider its preferred option early in the new financial year
	Construction of a caravan / recreational vehicle dump station adjacent to the Waikerie civic centre	Investigations commenced into other possible locations in addition to the Civic Centre. Possible sites identified by the Waikerie District Community Committee with a recommendation of preferred to expected early in the new financial year - project to be carried over
<b>Strategy 1.3 Create partnerships that provide economic opportunities</b>		
<b>1.3.2</b>	Work with local business associations to identify and address barriers to growth	
	Provide financial support to Regional Development Australia to assist in establishment of new business and the fostering and support of existing businesses within the Riverland.	See 1.1.1 Budget allocation to Regional Development Australia
<b>1.3.4</b>	Work with industry and government to identify and facilitate development opportunities and new investment	
	Proceed with a road closing process and undertake an expression of interest for the construction of the new Loxton visitor information centre / eatery.	Prior to road closing being considered, a long running land division incorporating the area has been advanced to the point of agreed new boundaries and dedications of land. Plan of division to be lodged in the new financial year and feasibility study to be prepared and consulted upon prior to a final decision on whether to relocate the Visitor Centre or not
<b>Strategy 1.5 Economic Wealth</b>		
<b>1.5.1</b>	Adopt an economic development strategy	
	Articulate a strategy to attract funding, increase population and extract the maximum economic benefit from existing infrastructure and define Councils role in economic development.	See 1.1.1

### GOAL 3 - PROVISION AND MAINTENANCE OF INFRASTRUCTURE, ASSETS AND FACILITIES:

To provide and maintain community infrastructure that is responsive to the changing needs of the community and its visitors.

#### Strategy 3.1 Asset Management

<b>3.1.1</b>	Ensure long term management of infrastructure is based on asset management plans	
	Complete remaining classes of asset management plan covering playgrounds and plant and equipment. Update existing asset management plans and obtain training to reduce our reliance on asset management consultants	Final Asset Plans for Plant and Machinery and Playgrounds / Skate Parks prepared, consulted and adopted. Roads Asset Plan reviewed. Training for in-house staff organised to lessen the reliance on consultants for this work. Budget allocation for this task to be reduce in the coming financial year
	Repairs and maintenance of identified Council buildings including the Loxton library, Alawoona hall, Waikerie institute and Loxton Council chamber	Continued development of schedule of works together with progressive budget allocation undertaken
	Continued completion of asbestos registers at identified sites / buildings. Further preventative treatment of termites at identified sites / buildings	Asbestos registers completed Preventative termite treatment program implemented
	Programmed resealing of Council's road network in accordance with roads asset management plan	Completed
	Resealing of Ramco Road	Completed
	Programmed re-sheeting of Council's unsealed road network in accordance with roads asset management plan	Completed
	In accordance with final year of special local road program perform final section of seal of Maggea Road	Completed
	Irrigation Shoulders - Taplan Road	Completed
	Anderson Road Rehabilitation	Completed

# District Council of Loxton Waikerie Strategic Plan 2010/2011

	Upgrade of White Street laneway at Waikerie	Fencing completed, quotations for paving received, works in progress
	Replacement of Pine Avenue kerbing at Loxton	Completed
	Relocate bus park at East Terrace Loxton	Project suspended until the new concept plan for East Terrace has been finalised
	Upgrade of kerbing at Pflaum Terrace Loxton	Completed
	Plant, Machinery and minor equipment	Completed
	Staged replacement of solar lighting at the Loxton aerodrome	Completed
	Roof repair at Loxton recreation centre to eliminate safety risk resulting from leaking roof	Completed
	Roof replacement at Waikerie recreation centre to eliminate safety risk resulting from current leaking roof. Project is inclusive of relocation of swimming pool heating system	Completed
<b>3.1.3</b>	Provide and manage the collection, retention, reuse or disposal of storm water in a manner that promotes sustainability of the water resource within the community, district and region	
	Increased provision made available for damage to infrastructure resulting from anticipation of high intensity rainfall events and resultant storm damage	Completed
	Installation of drainage infrastructure at the Paruna Netball / Tennis Court to prevent inundation of nearby buildings	Completed
	Enlarge the catchment basin in Eyre Street inclusive of upgrade to the service road and drainage on the Paruna Road. Catchment basin will be linked to the stormwater network to be utilised for irrigation purposes and for future storm proofing of the Loxton south area.	Completed

# District Council of Loxton Waikerie Strategic Plan 2010/2011

	Construction of Loxton West Stormwater catchment and reuse project. Due to increased development South of Hayward Terrace in Loxton the existing Loxton West underground stormwater infrastructure requires upgrading to a size and standard necessary to cater for the disposal of increased volumes of stormwater.	Ongoing
<b>Strategy 3.2 Public Spaces</b>		
<b>3.2.1</b>	Provide accessible and sustainable open space, parks and gardens for passive and active recreation	
	Increased provision for grounds maintenance of grounds at Brownsell in accord with facilities being taken over by Council. Inclusive is the provision for maintenance on the cricket oval.	Completed
	Finalise the survey and division of the Loxton riverfront that will permit rededication of the entire riverfront area. Survey required to assist several projects on the Loxton riverfront.	See 1.3.4
	Continued work on identified projects within the Loxton Riverfront Master Plan including construction of a service road to the town wharf, installation of BBQ's and associated stone masoned walls and riverbank stabilisation.	Completed
	Continued work on identified projects within the Waikerie Riverfront Master Plan including construction of toilet facilities as identified.	Completed
	Continued work on identified projects within the Moorook and Kingston on Murray riverfront areas including bank stabilisation and installation of new pontoon. Funds to be leveraged to attract grant funding.	Grant funding successful, high river has stalled progress, programmed for 2012/2013
	Development of a new site for the Loxton Aquatic Club including surveys, dedications and minor works.	Discussions had with the Aquatic Club and potential site identified - project delayed due to high river but progress plan developed to progress the project
	Riverfront stabilisations at the KOM riverfront.	Stalled due to high river, programmed in 2012/2013



# District Council of Loxton Waikerie Strategic Plan 2010/2011

	Renewal of fencing at Ramco Point.	Delayed due to high river, programmed for 2012/2013
	Construction of multipurpose courts servicing 4 netball and 4 tennis courts at the Loxton North recreation and sporting grounds. Project also included is a covered structure for part of the facility and associated toilet facilities.	Completed
	Construction of netball / tennis courts at the Waikerie recreation centre precinct including 2 netball courts and 3 tennis courts.	Completed
	Resurfacing the existing netball and tennis courts at the Wunkar recreation grounds to further enhance the facility by providing a safe playing surface.	Completed
	Enhance and upgrade the surrounds of the Loxton Skate / BMX Park including the construction of barbeque facilities and installation of colourbond roof shade shelter.	Completed
<b>3.2.2</b>	Provide attractive entrances and streetscapes to enhance the character of the townships	
	Continued development and maintenance of memorial gardens at Waikerie	Ongoing
	Landscaping at Federation Park (Waikerie)	Stage 1 completed
	Sustainable plantings to be planted at Pioneer gardens	Completed
	Sustainable plantings to be planted at Tobruk Tce	In progress, funding application was not successful
	Development of a concept plan for the future development of the Waikerie main street.	See 1.1.1.

# District Council of Loxton Waikerie Strategic Plan 2010/2011

	Development and consultation of a concept plan for the revitalising of East Terrace, Loxton.	Working party establish consisting of Loxton Chamber of Commerce, Loxton Recreation Grounds Committee and Council representatives appointed with consultant selected and concept plan in draft form prior to consultation phase
	Implementation of stage one of the East Terrace revitalisation plan.	To be held over to the next financial year until concept consulted and agreed
	Programmed replacement of footpath network.	Completed
	Upgrade of bypass median strips at Waikerie.	Eastern end completed, waiting approval from DPTI for western end
<b>Strategy 3.3 Community Assets and Facilities</b>		
<b>3.3.1</b>	Identify opportunities and partnerships for joint use / multi purpose facilities to increase community use and viability of current and any, new infrastructure	
	Upgrade of toilets at The Pines historical house to encompass disabled access to these facilities	Completed
<b>3.3.2</b>	Examine opportunities to develop, maintain or rationalise Council owned assets and facilities based primarily on strategic objectives, assessment of risk (if any), usage, spread of potential benefit and community well being	
	Investigate the feasibility of constructing a joint community / Loxton Retirement Village community centre and to develop plans if feasible	Meeting of interested parties conducted securing in principle support for the investigation and key requirements of each party identified , funding to be carried over into next financial year
<b>Strategy 3.4 Municipal Facilities</b>		
<b>3.4.1</b>	Determine the feasibility of relocation of the Loxton works depot and associated development opportunities	
	Loxton Council Depot Design	Under further investigation
<b>Strategy 3.5 Infrastructure</b>		

# District Council of Loxton Waikerie Strategic Plan 2010/2011

<b>3.5.2</b>	Support greater access to telecommunications and broadband networks	
	Upgrade to Corowa Estates TV Reception junction boxes including the sealing of these boxes	Completed
<b>3.5.3</b>	Establish and implement a policy which provides a program for equitable access to all community facilities and infrastructure	
	Develop Disability Access and Action Plans	Establishment of Disability Access Action Plan Committee representative of persons living with a disability in the District to consult on development of DCLW Disability Action Plan.
<b>3.5.4</b>	Implement a directional signage program that enables increased usage of infrastructure and facilities	
	Installation of directional signage at the Bookpurnong / East Tce junctions for business houses	DPTI did not approve, not completed
<b>GOAL 4 - RECOGNITION AND PROTECTION OF A SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT:</b>		
To ensure the importance of environmental spaces are recognised and protected for the enjoyment of future generations.		
<b>Strategy 4.1 Water resource management</b>		
<b>4.1.1</b>	Identify and pursue opportunities for the development and upgrading of sustainable methods of water and waste water management and disposal	
	Construction of stormwater capture basin to provide for runoff at the Loxton North Netball / Tennis Court	Under investigation
<b>Strategy 4.1 Water resource management</b>		
<b>4.2.1</b>	Encourage waste minimisation and resource conservation through the promotion of regional best practices in recycling, reuse and minimisation	
	Completion of the Loxton community wastewater management system treatment plant.	Completed
	Second stage of subsurface irrigation installation in East Terrace. Project will provide additional wastewater disposal option for the effluent / stormwater capture treatment system.	Completed

# District Council of Loxton Waikerie Strategic Plan 2010/2011

<b>Strategy 4.2 Waste management</b>		
<b>4.2.3</b>	Work regionally to secure cost efficient long term disposal options for waste	
	Jointly fund construction of a regional waste management facility at suitable location	Preferred regional site identified and concept plan commenced but later abandoned in favour of a regional level Registration of Interest process for waste companies to propose a solution for kerbside residential recyclables collection and disposal. Preferred company selected from that process and plans well underway to implement late 2012 / early 2013
	Closure of landfill sites at Waikerie and Moorook with waste transfer stations constructed and operational as an alternative.	Completed
<b>4.2.4</b>	Take a leadership position in regional waste management initiatives	
	Commencement and evaluation of a trialled kerbside waste collection in selected areas	Kerbside recycling and waste collection trials involving 120 homes in Loxton continued throughout 2011/12 giving indicative figures for segregated waste
<b>Strategy 4.4 Environmental Management</b>		
<b>4.4.4</b>	Protect, enhance and actively manage the natural and built environment	
	Increased allowance made for mosquito control expenditure resulting from high river event and anticipated follow up high river event	Completed
	Provision made available for high river flood maintenance in the anticipation of further follow up high river event	Completed
	Continued construction of toilet facilities at the Loxton / Waikerie Riverfronts	Not commenced
	Rehabilitate the effluent ponds adjacent to Ramco Road in Waikerie and create a landscaped stormwater catchment treatment and reuse wetland at that location	Under investigation

## GOAL 5 - STRENGTHEN OUR COMMUNITY THROUGH PROVISION OF CULTURAL, RECREATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICES:

Develop, enhance and maintain cultural and community services that improve the quality of life for the community.

### Strategy 5.1 Community Well-being

<b>5.1.2</b>	Foster an increase in community capacity through a sense of ownership and pride, the celebration of the arts, community “can do” spirit, recognition of achievements and the value of volunteering	
	To establish community gardens in Loxton and Waikerie in partnership with service clubs, community representatives, schools and special interest groups.	Public meetings to establish community gardens in Loxton and Waikerie conducted during 2011/12. Further investigation into operations of community gardens continues.
	Ongoing program of the historical identification of local Waikerie sites with installation of plaques as a recognition.	Continuing
	Extend the existing building used by the Loxton Christmas lights committee that contributes to the Loxton and Riverland regional festivals including the purchase and installation of a steel colourbond shed with concrete flooring.	Completed

### Strategy 5.2 Cultural Development

<b>5.2.3</b>	Encourage artistic and cultural expression	
	Construction of a significant artistic feature to recognise the centenary of Loxton. Sculpture to be inclusive and of interest, interactive and reflect Loxton's community spirit; celebrating the past, building optimism for the future.	Construction completed

### Strategy 5.4 Recreation and Sport

<b>5.4.3</b>	Develop a recreational plan to meet future recreation, sport and open space needs	
	Develop a Loxton sporting precinct feasibility study and masterplan	Stakeholder and public meetings conducted. Contractor engaged, feasibility study and masterplan developed. Continuing discussion with stakeholder group

## GOAL 6 - EFFECTIVE DELIVERY OF RELEVANT SERVICES THROUGHOUT RESPONSIBLE CORPORATE MANAGEMENT:

Ensure the delivery of Council's services is undertaken in an accountable and efficient manner, consistent with Council's Strategic Plan and that policies are implemented which ensure Council is seen as an employer of choice.

### Strategy 6.1 Organisational Development

#### 6.1.2 Attract, retain and empower qualified, forward thinking staff to provide leadership

Engage consultant to review and initiate best practice methodology to review of contract employment positions

Not commenced

#### 6.1.4 Deliver necessary services in a cost effective and efficient manner

Employment of one full time equivalent staff member (building technician) in developmental area of Council to aid in reducing application turnaround times.

Completed

Position is inclusive of vehicle with restricted private usage.

Completed

Install microwave link to enable staff at the Loxton Historical Village access to Councils information network .

Not achievable due to line of sight between Council office and LHV. ADSL service installed at LHV as alternative

#### 6.1.6 Continue to review OHS & W principles and systems for all staff, volunteers and contractors

Training initiatives for outside workforce to provide multiskilling advantages and pride of work. Training to focus on Occupational health and safety and long term succession planning of work force

Training Needs Analysis completed and schedule of training developed. Continuing focus on development of multi skilled workforce and workplace culture

#### 6.1.7 Provide professional administration, structured to achieve Council's strategic plans

Install amplification within one Council chamber

Continuing



# District Council of Loxton Waikerie Strategic Plan 2010/2011

<b>Strategy 6.3 Long Term Planning</b>		
<b>6.3.1</b>	Implement and review strategic and annual business plans each year	
	Implement a annual delivery plan that incorporates an appraisal system and performance system related to the strategic and departmental corporate management plans	Continuing development to integrate Annual Delivery Plan with annual performance appraisals.
<b>6.3.3</b>	Develop a business continuity plan	
	Develop Business Continuity Plan for critical business functions of Council	Business Continuity Plan completed with Local Government Risk services
<b>Strategy 6.4 Financial Sustainability</b>		
<b>6.4.1</b>	Provide a fair and equitable rating system	
	Provision for objections to property valuations	Provision made

# Human Resources

## **SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICERS ALLOWANCES, BONUSES AND BENEFITS**

The Senior Management Team consists of the Chief Executive Officer and 2 Directors.

### **TITLE OF POSITION**

#### **CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

Other Benefits Provided

- Full unrestricted private use of motor vehicle.
- Mobile phone & cost of reasonable private calls.
- Home phone reimbursement up to \$1,000 limit per annum.
- Reimbursement of professional fees up to \$400.

#### **CLASSIFICATION**

Contract (5 years)

#### **DIRECTOR INFRASTRUCTURE**

Other Benefits Provided

- Full unrestricted private use of motor vehicle.
- Membership Fees & Subscriptions as approved By the CEO.
- Mobile Phone & cost of reasonable private calls.

#### **CLASSIFICATION**

Contract

#### **DIRECTOR CORPORATE & COMMUNITY SERVICES**

Other Benefits Provided

- Full unrestricted private use of motor vehicle.
- Membership Fees & Subscriptions as approved By the CEO.
- Mobile Phone & cost of reasonable private calls.

#### **CLASSIFICATION**

Contract (5 years)

The Register of Salaries is available in full on the Council website :-

[www.loxtonwaikerie.sa.gov.au](http://www.loxtonwaikerie.sa.gov.au)

# Human Resources

## **STAFF NUMBERS**

According to the latest salary survey return of Council, the total number of employees excluding casuals is 87. The number of casuals currently employed is 21 including a Trainee for a total of all employees of 108. This figure is broken up by the following:-

- Employees covered by the SA Municipal Salaried Officers Award which are all administration staff, the Chief Executive Officer and all Senior Officers, Supervisors and staff covered under the Environmental Services function.

Total Permanent	42
Casual	4
Trainees	0

- Employees covered by the Local Government Employees Award which predominantly covers staff employed under the Infrastructure Services function.

Total Permanent	44
Casual	8
Trainees	1

- For all employees not covered by the MOA or LGE Awards.

Total Permanent	1
Casual	8

## **INSIDE STAFF CHANGES**

On behalf of Council I would like to thank the following staff, who have left to pursue other opportunities:-

Jeff Grinnell  
Margi Hartwig  
Normy Geremoth  
Andrian Pipe  
Ian Crambrook

Also during the 2011/12 year the following commenced employment with Council:-

Lynn Hand	Human Resource, OHS & Risk Officer
Debbie Branson	Personal Assistant to Director of Corporate & Community Services
Daniel Brown	Assistant Building Surveyor
Jeff Willmott	Assistant Building Surveyor
Stacy Portolesi	Accounting Officer
Jenny Barry	Casual Administration

## **ENTERPRISE BARGAINING AGREEMENTS**

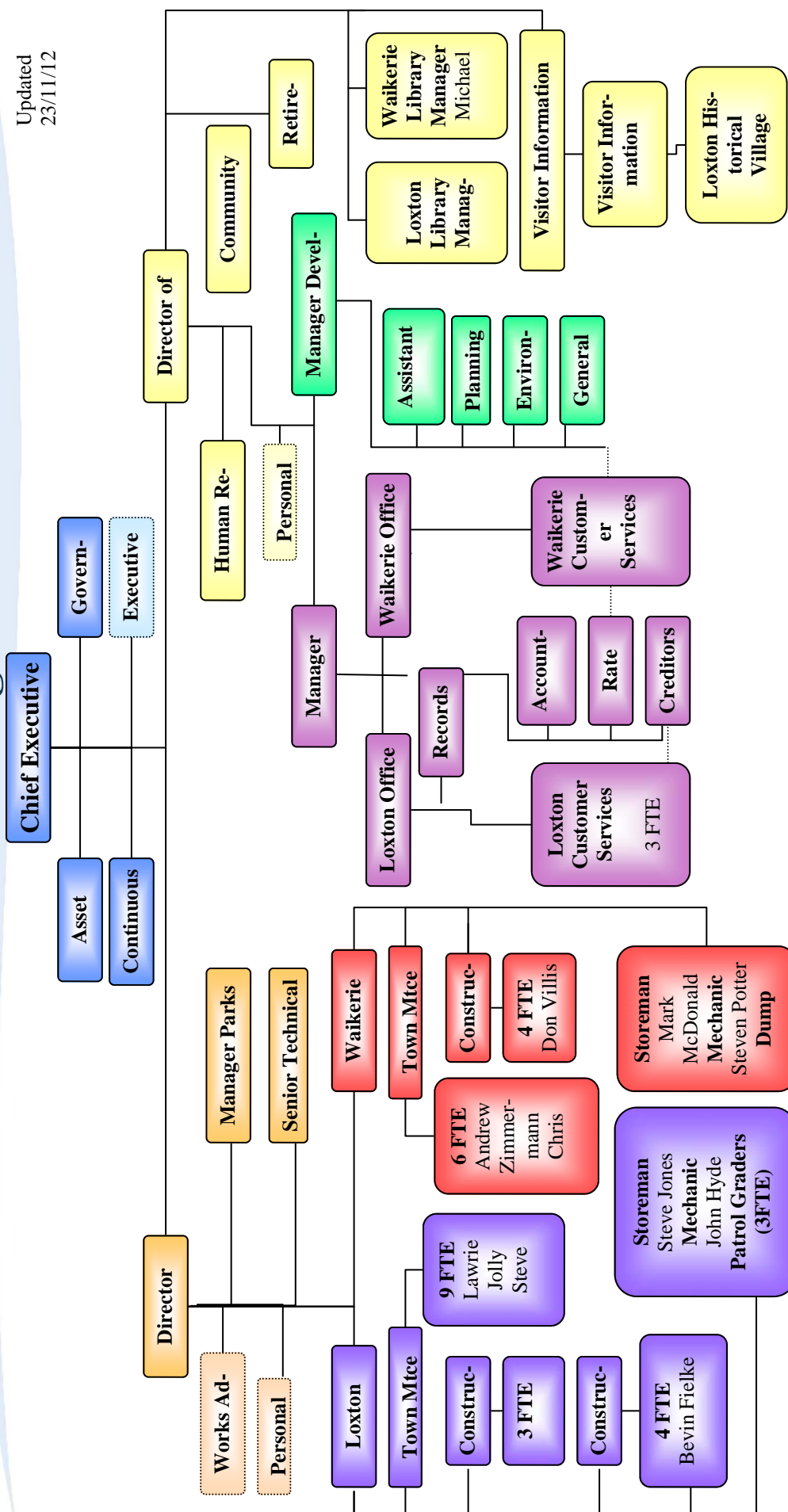
The current Enterprise Bargaining Agreements for staff

# Human Resources

## ALLOCATION OF COUNCILS HUMAN RESOURCES ACROSS FUNCTIONAL AREAS

Council employed 95 full time equivalent (FTE) employees effective 30 June 2012. These employees are dispersed across many functions and areas of discipline, broadly categorised as follows:

DIRECTORATE & TOTALS	Male No.	Female No.	Total	Male No.	Female No.	Total
	(Actual)	(Actual)	(Actual)	(FTE)	(FTE)	(FTE)
<b>Chief Executive Officer</b>	1		1	1		1
Continuous Improvement Officer		1	1		1	1
Asset Coordinator	1		1	1		1
Governance Officer		1	1		1	1
Executive Assistant		0.5	0.5		0.5	0.5
<b>DIRECTORATE TOTAL</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>4.5</b>
<b>Corporate &amp; Community Services</b>						
Director		1	1		1	1
Manager Development & Community Services	1		1	1		1
Manager Corporate Services	1		1	1		1
OHS & Risk Coordinator		0.5	0.5		0.5	0.5
Community Development Officer		1	1		1	1
Rate Administrator	1		1	1		1
Accounting Officer		1	1			
Human Resources		0.5	0.5		0.5	0.5
Payroll		0.5	0.5		0.5	0.5
Records		1.5	1.5		1.5	1.5
Building	3		3	3		3
Environmental Health Officer		1	1		1	1
General Inspector	1		1	1		1
Creditors		1	1		1	1
Administration	1	7.1	8.1		8.1	8.1
Personal Assistant to Director		.70	.70		.70	.70
Retirement Village/CATCH	1		1	1		1
Library Manager	1	1	2	1	1	2
Libraries		7	7		5.5	5.5
Visitor Info. Centre & Historical Village Manager		1	1		1	1
Tourism		3	3		1.6	1.6
Swimming Pools	1	2	3	0.5	1	1.5
Loxton Historical Village	1	5	6	1	1.9	2.9
<b>DIRECTORATE TOTAL</b>	<b>12.0</b>	<b>34.8</b>	<b>46.8</b>	<b>10.5</b>	<b>27.8</b>	<b>38.3</b>
<b>Infrastructure Services</b>						
Director	1		1	1		1
Management	2		2	2		2
Administration		0.7	0.7		0.7	0.7
Manager Parks & Gardens Development	1		1	1		1
Technical Officer	1		1	1		1
<b>Works/Construction</b>						
Team Coordinators	2		2	2		2
Construction	17		17	17		17
Waste Depot/Garbage Collection	3		3	3		3
Cleaners	3	1	4	2.1	0.2	2.3
Storeman	2		2	2		2
Mechanical Support	2		2	2		2
Trainee	1		1	0.2		0.2
<b>Parks &amp; Gardens</b>						
Team Coordinators	2		2	2		2
Maintenance	18		18	16		16
<b>DIRECTORATE TOTAL</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>1.70</b>	<b>56.7</b>	<b>51.3</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>52.2</b>
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>63.8</b>	<b>31.2</b>	<b>95</b>

Updated  
23/11/12



# Ruth Firstbrook

## Director Corporate & Community Services

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### KEY DEPARTMENTAL RESPONSIBILITIES

#### Administration

- Administration
- Risk Management
- Performance Measurements
- Records Management
- Human Resources
- Occupational Health & Safety
- Freedom of Information
- Section 41 Committees

#### Finance

- Finance
- Rates
- Information Technology
- Website
- Workers Compensation
- Budgets
- Payroll
- Purchasing
- Caravan Park Management

#### Community Services

- Tourism
- Sport and Recreation
- Heritage
- Volunteers
- Community Development
- Playgrounds
- Libraries
- Aged and Youth Services
- Special Events and Event Management
- CATCH Centre Management
- Cultural / Art
- Workers Compensation Rehabilitation

#### Environmental Services

- Development Services (Building, Planning and Health)
- Asset Management - Land & Buildings
- Animal Management (Dog Control)
- By- Laws
- Cemeteries
- Waste Management

### 2011/2012 ANNUAL BUDGET & BUSINESS PLAN

The General Rates section of the Plan showed that an expected 5.0% increase in general rates was raised. This increase was calculated on the net increase of rates from that raised in the 2010/2011 year with the amount allocated to be rebated back to landowners who apply successfully for a rebate under the provision of a single farm enterprise excluded.

This increase was once again quite low in comparison to the rise in costs anticipated but with the region in continued economic downturn, Council has for the fifth year in a row held the net increase in general rates to approximately 5% or under.

A rate cap was once again applied to assessments that experienced a rise in their rates payable compared to their rates that were due to be paid in the 2008/2009 year. The cap percentage was 12.5%.



# Corporate & Community Services

## **COUNCIL LOAN BORROWINGS**

Council's outstanding loan liability as a 30 June 2012 totalled \$1.166 million.

## **RATE REBATE APPLICATIONS FOR RETIREMENT VILLAGES**

Section 23 (4) of the Local Government Act 1999 sets out the requirements for reporting the rebate of rates provided under Sections 161 and 166 (1)(h) of the Local Government Act 1999. In regard to the 2011/2012 rating period, the following rebates were allowed:

Organisation	Rebate %
Waikerie Community Senior Citizens Homes	75%
Riversgate Housing Association	75%
Peter Jackson Retirement Village	75%
Frank Petch Retirement village	75%
Leatrice Pfitzner Retirement Village	75%
Riverview Rest Home	75%
Kimbo Investments Pty Ltd	75%
Adelaide Aid Community Housing Association	75%
Anglican Community Care Housing Association	75%
Red Shield Housing Association	75%
The Womens Housing Association	75%

## **APPLICATION OF THE NATIONAL COMPETITION POLICY**

Part 4 of the Government Business Enterprises (Competition) Act 1996 requires that an annual report be provided in regard to competitive neutrality in regard to any Council operations.

The Loxton Caravan Park is leased to a private operator with their charges being similar to rates charged within the region by private operators.

## **SIGNIFICANT BUSINESS ACTIVITIES**

Category One: Nil

Category Two: Nil

In-House Tenders: Nil

Competitive Neutrality Complaints: Nil

Council engages in no other relevant business activities

# Corporate & Community Services

## **RATING STRUCTURE**

In proposing its rates for the 2011/2012 financial year Council considered its Strategic Management Plan 2010 to 2015, the current economic climate, specific issues faced by the Community and the budget requirements for the 2011/2012 financial year.

Land use categories as provided in the Local Government (General) Regulations 1999 are applied as the basis of Council's general rate calculation with capital values used as the basis for valuing land within the Council area. Differential rating continues to be the method in which general rates are levied with two individual differential applying identified as:

- For all land uses located within the planning zones within the Loxton Waikerie (DC) Development Plan in the townships of Loxton and Waikerie identified as Residential Town Centre, Public Purpose and Industry a rate of 0.4202 cents in the dollar applied
- For all other land of any land use within the Council area a rate of 0.3992 cents in the dollar applied

### **Fixed Charge**

A fixed charge of \$225 was also imposed for 2011/2012. This charge is levied against the whole of an allotment (including land under a separate lease or licence) and only one fixed charge is levied against two or more pieces of adjoining land (whether intercepted by a road or not), if they are owned by the same owner and occupied by the same occupier.

### **Service Charge**

Council provides Community Wastewater Management Systems to residential and commercial properties in Loxton, Waikerie, Moorook and Kingston on Murray. The full cost of operating and maintaining this service for the 2011/2012 financial year was recovered through the imposition of a service charge to properties in these areas.

### **Separate Rate**

Council is within the Murray Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board area and is required under the Natural Resources Management Act 2004 to fund the operations of the Board at a figure determined by the Board and approved by the Minister. It does so by imposing a separate rate for all rateable properties within the Council.

The Council is required to act as a collection agent for the Natural Resources Management Board in this regard. Council does not retain this revenue nor determine how it is spent.

# Corporate & Community Services

## **OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH SAFETY & WELFARE / RISK MANAGEMENT**

The District council of Loxton Waikerie continues to promote a safe working environment through its management of Occupational Health Safety and Welfare.

Local Government is an industry that must achieve a very high standard in this area to maintain its Workcover Exempt Employer status. Council has maintained its partnership with the Mid Murray Council with the employment of Mr Warren Couzens as the OHS and Risk Coordinator, to ensure we maintain our responsibility to the Local Government Workers compensation Scheme and to the safety of our staff. Warren ceased employment on 15 April 2011 and Council is currently seeking to fill the vacancy.

During the past 12 months the Council's management and HHS committee have developed an OHS and Injury Management Plan with scheduled actions, and implementation dates to achieve conformance with the Scheme's criteria developed for Local government. The identified areas of improvement are monitored and prioritised and assessed against the standards of compliance.

## **LONG TERM FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT PLAN**

In accordance with Section 122 of the Local Government Act 1999, Council is required to adopt a Strategic Management Plan. The Strategic Management Plan consists of many documents and one of those is a Long Term Financial Management Plan. In accordance with the Regulations this Plan must be adopted by Council before 20 November 2008.

Council's Long Term financial Management Plan was adopted in November 2008 and is currently being reviewed in line with recommendations made.

# **Corporate & Community Services**

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## **AUDIT COMMITTEE**

Section 126 of the Local Government Act 1999 states that Council must have appointed an Audit committee prior to 30 June 2001. The Committee must consist of between 3 and 5 members with at least 1 person who is not a member of Council.

An Audit Committee was appointed in November 2010 and held meetings in October, December, April and June during the Current reporting period. Mr John Comrie holds the position of the Audit Committee's Presiding Officer and has extensive experience in Local Government and financial management.

The appointed elected Member representatives as at 30 June 2012 were:

Mayor L E Stasinowsky  
Cr M J Malthouse  
Cr J Flavel  
Cr M Zeppel

All appointments were made for a period up to the next general election of Council unless otherwise determined by Council or upon a resignation of a member of the Committee.

## **EXTERNAL AUDIT APPOINTMENT**

In accordance with Section 128 of the Local Government Act 1999, Council is required to appoint an external auditor for a five year term.

Audits must be carried out in accordance with Auditing Standards and Auditing Guidance Statements published by the Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards Board.

Council is required under the Local Government Act 1999 to appoint a registered company auditor for a term of five years by written agreement. Ian McDonald Chartered Accountant has been appointed for a five year term expiring at the completion of the 2013/2014 financial audit

## **ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION—COUNCIL WEBSITE AND INTRANET**

Communicating via electronic means is an integral aspect of day to day business that must be maintained at a high standard.

Council's website has become a valuable and key method of providing information to the public and one that is utilized far more frequently than in the past. Hits or visits to Council's website are monitored with the results showing hits over the twelve month period averaging 10,100 with peak visits of just over 13,000 logged in August 2010.

As an extension to the website, Council continued to maintain its intranet site. The Intranet is based on Council's website for internal use of Council staff. It contained information from the publicly accessible website as well as other material such as administration policies and procedures, staff consultation matters, training dates and other various information required by staff.

# Corporate & Community Services

## **COUNCILS PERFORMANCE AGAINST ITS ANNUAL BUSINESS PLAN**

The 2011/2012 Annual Business Plan was adopted by Council at a meeting held on 22 July 2011.

Included in the report were a summary of the Financial Indicators with Proposed Targets which measure Council Performance in the area of financial Sustainability.

A total of seven indicators are tracked which also form part of Councils Financial Statements.

For each indicator a proposed target has been set with Council achieving its target for the 2011/2012 for six of the seven indicators.

All indicators and their proposed targets as stated in the Annual Business Plan and results are listed below.

As a qualification for Councils operating surplus result it is important for users to focus its vision on the underlying result. It is the underlying result which removes any abnormal expenditure (or income) which gives users of the financial statements a clearer picture of the real result achieved.

After removing abnormal income from the surplus result an underlying surplus of \$73 000 would have been realised.

These Financial Indicators have been calculated in accordance with Information Paper 9 - Local Government Financial Indicators prepared as part of the LGA Financial Sustainability Program for the Local Government Association of South Australia. Detailed methods of calculation are set out in the SA Model Statements.

# Corporate & Community Services

Key Financial Indicators and Definition	Long Term Financial Management Plan Target	2011/2012 Actual Result (\$'000's)
<b>Operating Surplus</b>		
Being the operating surplus (deficit) before capital amounts	Break even or greater over 5 year period	\$2019
<b>Operating Surplus Ratio</b>		
Operating Surplus / (Deficit) as a percentage of general and other rates, net or NRM levy	Between 0 and 15% over any 5 year period	22%
<b>Net Financial Liabilities</b>		
Net Financial Liabilities are defined as total liabilities less financial assets	No greater than operating revenue and not less than 0 over a rolling 5 year period	\$8,191
<b>Net Financial Liabilities Ratio</b>		
Net financial liabilities as a percentage of operating revenue less NRM levy	Greater than 0% and less than 100%	46%
<b>Interest Cover Ratio</b>		
Net interest expense as a percentage of total operating revenue less NRM levy less investment income	Less than 5%	(0%)
<b>Asset Sustainability Ratio</b>		
Net Asset Renewals (defined as net capital expenditure on the renewal and replacement of existing assets and excludes new capital expenditure on the acquisition of additional assets) as a percentage of depreciation expense	Net Asset Renewal expenditure to be equal to 100% of depreciation expenditure	60%
<b>Asset Consumption Ratio</b>		
Total carrying value of depreciable assets divided by total reported value of depreciable assets before accumulated depreciation	Between 40% and 80%	56%

A summary of some of the major projects/initiatives that were planned and completed within this financial year were as follows:

- Provision of rate relief options
- Continued provision of Audit committee under legislative requirement.
- Continuation of the Community Grants Program
- Continuation of programmed maintenance for identified significant building assets
- Continued road construction in accordance with sealed and unsealed roads program
- Construction of parking, kerbing and other traffic control devices
- Replacement of inefficient irrigation systems throughout the district
- Continued construction of stormwater reuse facilities
- Continued remediation of existing landfill sites in line with EPA requirements
- Continued progress of projects identified in both Waikerie and Loxton Riverfront Plans



# Corporate & Community Services

## CULTURAL SERVICES

### *Celebrating Achievements*

#### Australia Day Awards

Each year Council presents three awards to acknowledge outstanding efforts made by local people and groups to the community. Citizen of the Year, Young Citizen of the year are presented to individuals and Community Event of the Year is presented to an outstanding group.

Australia day celebrations were held throughout the district with two Australia day breakfasts one held at Kingston on Murray riverfront and the other in the main street of Loxton which marked the 20th year of the Loxton Australia Day Breakfast held adjacent to the Loxton Rotunda. Loxton served breakfast to over 900 community and visitors.



Loxton Australia Day breakfast



Kingston on Murray Australia Day breakfast

Awards for 2012 in Loxton were presented to:

- Citizen of the Year – Kent Spangenberg
- Young Citizen of the Year – Ian Crambrook
- Community Event of the Year – Loxton Christmas Lights Festival

and in Waikerie were presented to

- Citizen of the Year – Jan Heppner
- Young Citizen of the Year – Michael Ward
- Community Event of the Year – Waikerie's Got Talent



### Salute our top citizen

Residents are being urged to help acknowledge their Citizens and Event of the Year winners at a special ceremony during Waikerie's Australia Day Spectacular.

Citizen of the Year was awarded to Jan Heppner, who has been involved with the Waikerie Lions Club for 15 years and spent many long hours organising the Down Memory Lane event.

She is also a keen gardener and has been a committee member of the Waikerie and District Garden Club since its inception 10 years ago.

During these years she has been the main organiser of the Christmas float for

the Waikerie pageant, taking the lead role of administering the designs for the float.

Young Citizen of the Year winner Michael Ward has been a valuable member of the Waikerie Apex Club over the past three years.

Michael has also been involved with the volunteer Growsmart Program and has given freely his time to engage high school students to consider studying science by telling them "his story".

He has also acted

as a judge at the Growsmart Sci Fair.

Waikerie's Got Talent received Community Event of the Year award.

It was co-sponsored by Country Art and the Waikerie and managed by Waikerie Rotary.

It was the talk of the town for several weeks, boasting success in raising a sum of \$6000, which will be spent on community projects.

Mayor Leon Stasinowsky will publicly recognize the winners at the Waikerie Australia Day Spectacular Saturday, January 14th at the Waikerie Football Oval commencing 7pm.

**CITIZEN of the Year**  
award winner Jan Heppner.

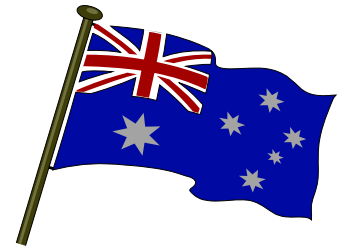
**YOUNG Citizen of the Year**  
winner Michael Ward.

# Corporate & Community Services

## CULTURAL SERVICES

### *Celebrating Achievements*

#### Australia Day Awards



The 16th Waikerie's Australia Day Extravaganza and fireworks evening continues to be a significant event, not only on Waikerie's calendar but the Riverland region and state, with over 3000 visitors attending.

The highly acclaimed Waikerie Australia Day Spectacular event boasts one of the most organised and best attended Australia Day events in regional Australia.

Organisers were approached in August 2011 to represent South Australia at the Australia Day National Conference in Melbourne.

The Australia day community event is emphasized on a family event including entertainment for kids, party band Fizzy Pop, sideshow alley, combined church service, Council Australia day awards, huge array of food stalls and a fireworks display.

Thanks to the fantastic effort of the Waikerie Australia Day Committee.



# Corporate & Community Services

## CULTURAL SERVICES

### NAIDOC

NAIDOC celebrations are held annually around Australia in the first week in July to celebrate the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. The week is celebrated not just in the Indigenous community, but also in increasing numbers of government agencies, schools, local councils and workplaces.

The 2012 National NAIDOC theme was aimed at the celebrations of the 40th anniversary of the Aboriginal Tent Embassy and acknowledging the key contributors to its long history.

Deputy Mayor Mark Ward was present at the Waikerie Flag raising ceremony to facilitate the Acknowledgement to Country with help from the youth of Waikerie who raised the Indigenous flag.

Mayor Leon Stasinowsky was present at the Loxton Flag Raising ceremony to facilitate the Acknowledgement to Country and raise the Indigenous flag with assistance from Loxton elder Michael Kropinyeri.





# Corporate & Community Services

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

### **KESAB Sustainable Communities (tidy towns)**

The KESAB Sustainable Communities Award winners were announced on Wednesday 26 October

The Loxton Waikerie communities were again prominent at the 2011 KESAB Sustainable Communities Award presentations.

2011 saw Loxton once again excel with being awarded the 2011 Best Murraylands Regional Town winner. The following awards were also presented to district projects

#### Water Conservation category

Changes in Water Use

Banrock Station Wine and Wetland Centre

#### Recyclers category

Recyclers Award

Loxton Ice Works and Recycling Centre

#### Education and Innovation category

Education Initiatives

Loxton Preschool Centre

#### Community Engagement category

Commerce and Industry

Loxcare Inc

Heritage and Culture

Waikerie

#### Community Commendation Awards

Barrie Davis

Loxton Preschool Centre

#### Water for Good

Commendation

Loxton Preschool Centre



Loxton Awards

Pictured MP Leesa Vlahos, Sue Schultz, Cr Margaret Malthouse, Barry Davis, and Jan Cass



Waikerie Awards

Pictured second from left Cr Margaret Malthouse, Margaret Thiel and Jan Hepner

# Corporate & Community Services

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

### Community Grants

The District Council of Loxton Waikerie Community Grants Program has been in place since 2004. To date, the council has approved more than 154 projects which have been completed by more than 95 organisations and community groups.

The rounds thirteen and fourteen of Council's Community Grants Program were advised and funded during the 2011/2012 financial year. These grants supported local community initiatives, met community needs and improved the provision of services, facilities and resources to the communities of the Loxton Waikerie district. Successful applications were:

Organisation	Project	Amount incl. GST
Christmas Wonderland	Computerized Christmas Lights	\$500.00
Loxton Horse Riding Club Inc.	Ride-on lawn mower	\$1000.00
Loxton Primary School	Community Garden Feature wall & gate	\$2500.00
Loxton Scout Group	Upgrade of Loxton Scout Hall kitchen	\$2749.00
Loxton Uniting Church	Painting of a 30 metre mural	\$1000.00
Waikerie & District Machinery Preservation Society	Retainer Wall	\$3000.00
Waikerie Amateur BA Association basketball	Basketball equipment	\$500.00
Waikerie Lutheran Church Parish Inc.	Enclosed trailer	\$2500.00
Waikerie Rifle Club Inc.	Portable shooting bench	\$450.00
Lions Club of Waikerie	Riverfront seats	\$2800.00
Riley Stone	2011 Thailand Junior Volleyball championships	\$200.00
Tara Allister	Aust Women's U18 Hockey championships	\$100.00
Amelia Harkness	State u15 women's Hockey team	\$100.00
Amy Stephens	SAPSASA athletics, Darwin	\$100.00
Gerard Dutton	World Youth Day 2011, Madrid	\$100.00
Reaghan Petherick	State Kumite Sparring event	\$100.00
Jason Redemski	U18 Men's Hockey championships	\$100.00
Lisa Redemski	SAOSASA 12 & under Hockey championships	\$100.00
Loxton Kart Club	Seating upgrade	\$3000.00
Loxton North Primary School	Pedal Prix Team	\$1000.00
Loxton United Soccer Club	New Equipment	\$1200.00
Moorook Kingston Football Club	Tim keepers box	\$1000.00
Ramco Primary School	Interactive community garden	\$2000.00
St Paul's Lutheran Church—Lowbank	Amenities block	\$2000.00
The Terrace Gallery	SALA Festival	&968.00
Waikerie Community Arts Centre	River Dreams	\$2000.00
Waikerie Lutheran Primary School	Sustainable waste management program	\$1000.00
Waikerie Men's Probus Club	Portable Amplifier system	\$825.00
Aaron Evans	Hockey	\$100.00
Alisha Rudiger	Equestrian/Dressage	\$100.00
Bradley Santella	Karate	\$100.00
Luke Santella	Karate	\$100.00
Matthew Wilson	Boxing	\$100.00
Reagan Petherick	Karate	\$100.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$33592.00</b>

# Corporate & Community Services

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

### Partnerships

Representation and networking within the community and service industry sectors by way of participation in appropriate and relevant forums and committees include:

- Riverland and Mallee Youth Sector Networks
- Drug and Alcohol Working Group
- Riverland NAIDOC Group
- Local Government Volunteer Managers' Forum
- Local Government Youth Services

### Official Opening of Waikerie Riverfront Development

Just three years after planning, expenditure of \$611,900 the District Council of Loxton Waikerie proudly held the official opening of the Waikerie Riverfront Development on Saturday 24 March 2012 at the Waikerie Riverfront adjacent to the Waikerie Lions Riverfront Park Leonard Norman Drive. The official opening was officiated by Mayor Leon Stasi-nowsky.

The Waikerie Riverfront Development project was a joint funded project in a cooperative partnering arrangement between the State Government through Places for People under the planning and development fund contributing \$242,700, South Australia Boating Facility Advisory fund totalling \$126,500 and Council contributing \$242,700.



It now boasts a significant improvement to the safety and aesthetics of the riverfront - including beautiful waterfront feature areas for families to enjoy BBQ's, space for games and aquatic activities, adult fitness park and new toilet facilities".

The impressive riverfront development includes a road reversal of the traffic flow from the CBD along the riverfront which has included an emergency slip lane access from Rowe Street to the riverfront, installation of six impressive BBQ and shade shelters and construction of a new parking facility to include cars, car/trailers, caravans and buses including an upgrade to the existing Waikerie boat ramps, the replacement of the existing public toilets with new toilet facilities, an adult fitness park and car parking adjacent the to the Lions Den.

Prior to the opening ceremony, the Riverland West Chamber of Commerce and the District Council of Loxton Waikerie held twilight markets from 4.00pm, presentation of the Waikerie Caravan Park – stage 2 expansion at 8.00pm and the official opening of the Waikerie Riverfront Development at 8.05pm with the Deckchair Cinema commencing at 8.30pm featuring popular Australian family film Red Dog.





# Corporate & Community Services

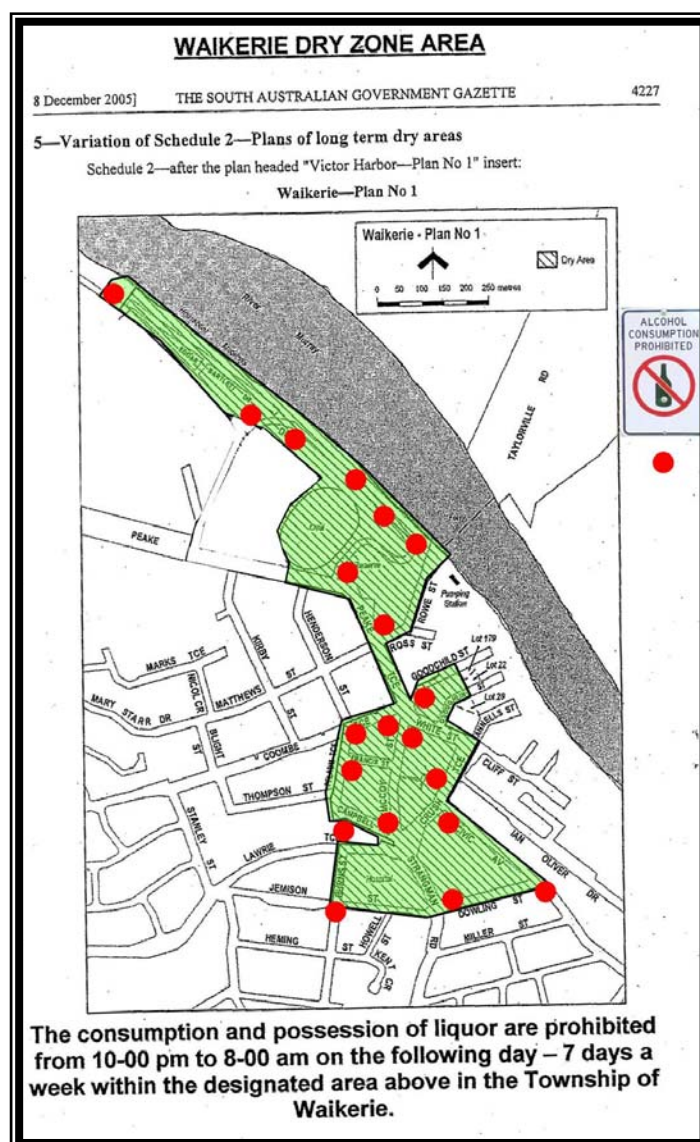
## Waikerie Dry Zone

Council undertook a comprehensive evaluation of the effectiveness of the Waikerie dry area which included consultation with members of the local community, youth and organisations representing young Aboriginal people and women as a matter of priority.

A request was submitted for consideration that a redefinition of the riverfront dry area to exclude between Peake Terrace, Leonard Norman Drive to the town oval to encompass the "Overflow" section of the Waikerie Caravan Park development as this would be in variance with the dry area requirements.

The Waikerie Dry Area Evaluation Report was submitted to the Office of Liquor and Gambling Commissioner requesting a 5 year extension to the Waikerie Dry Area.

On the 15 December 2011 a regulation made under section 131 of the Liquor Licensing Act 1997 which prohibits the possession and consumption of liquor in certain parts of Waikerie was approved for a further five years until 15 September 2016.



# Corporate & Community Services

## AGED AND YOUTH SERVICES

The District Council of Loxton Waikerie is committed to providing a high quality of life for our young people by recognising and acknowledging that young people are a significant and valuable part of the community. Council acknowledges the contribution made by youth towards the community's vitality as local residents, visitors, workers, consumers, tourist seekers and seekers of culture.

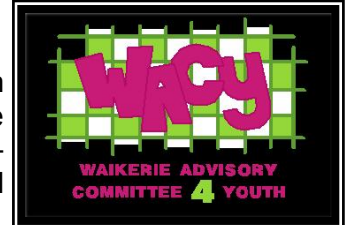
### **Waikerie Youth Advisory Committee 4 Youth - WACY**

WACY is a group of young people aged 12-25 years who work in partnership with the District Council of Loxton Waikerie to provide advice on decisions that affect their lives. WACY also plan activities and projects that encourage young people's active engagement in their local communities. One of the highlights in 2012 was the WACY Pool Party.

A free event for young people and their families in Riverland West and aimed to provide young people and families with a drug and alcohol free event which promotes healthy lifestyles. It was also to provide a collaborative event with WACY, Council and the community. Other aims of the event included;

- To provide a local event for young people to promote a local youth place and space
- To promote the Waikerie Swimming Pool as the hub for recreation in the Waikerie region.
- To build a sense of community for young people in Waikerie.
- To promote YAC initiatives including movie nights and youth week.
- To promote a drug and alcohol free event.
- To provide a range of recreation activities to promote an active lifestyle and to act as an event that established preventative health measures.

Final evaluation of the event saw over 350 people attend. Excellent media coverage and feedback was given to WACY. A Thousand dollars worth of prizes were up for grabs donated by Relationships Australia which was converted into vouchers to local Waikerie establishments were given out through-out the day as prizes. The community enjoyed a free day include free entry to the pool, the DJ, Riverland Head-space, Free drinks, lilies, icy poles, games, inflatable and the Rotary BBQ.



Children compete in a tug-of-war to win a host of awards. More than \$1000 worth of prizes were given away over the day.

## **Waikerie gets wet 'n' wild**

The Waikerie Advisory Committee 4 Youth pool party was held over the weekend, drawing a crowd of more than 350 people.

Although overcast, the weather stayed pleasantly warm and through the help of Crusta and the Waikerie Rotary Club, children had

plenty to eat and drink all day.

"It was fantastic and had a great atmosphere, especially with DJ Risky there," Suzie Schultz, community development officer of Loxton Waikerie Council said.

There was \$1000 worth of prizes donated to the organisers

by Relationships Australia, which was converted into vouchers at local Waikerie establishments, then given out throughout the day as prizes for different events.

"We had things like the big bomb competition, a dance-off, the tug-of-war and piñatas," Mrs Schultz said.

"The dance competition was very well received, but you would have to say the highlight was the 'inflatable'.

"The line-up did not falter all day, it was huge.

"The lifeguards at the Waikerie Pool did a marvellous job keeping an eye on so many people all day."



# Corporate & Community Services

## AGED AND YOUTH SERVICES

### **Loxton Youth Advisory Committee**

The Loxton Youth Advisory Committee (YAC) is an informal committee that works for the benefit of youth in the town of Loxton, and is comprised of voluntary members aged between 12 and 25. The Loxton YAC seeks to provide for the youth community through a number of key aims. One of these aims is to provide opportunities for training and personal development for the youth of the town.

Over the last 12 months the Loxton Youth Advisory Committee conducted:

- Survey to establish the views of the young people of Loxton about their town. The committee wanted to know what they think about the young people, their attitudes, their beliefs, their actions, what there is to do, and if it is enough.
- The Loxton YAC engaged in the Quit SA's 'Kick It' program in 2011, which targets youth smoking. Posters and booklets were placed around the main street and in the Loxton High School, which provided resources to help young people in Loxton 'kick' the habit. The YAC also ordered and received resource material for the 'Kick It' program from Quit SA, which aims to help young people 'kick' their smoking habits. Posters, booklets and business cards have been made available to the youth of the service area at the Loxton Library and Loxton High School.
- On the 23rd August 2011 at 7.30am in the Multimedia Room at the Loxton High School, a course was offered for young people to learn and develop skills in running a meeting, preparing an agenda taking minutes, and other roles to do with general meeting procedure. The course was run by Tanya Cregan, the Executive Assistant at the District Council of Loxton Waikerie. Invited to the meeting procedure were the Loxton High School Prefect body. The course was attended by fourteen young people in Years 11-12 from this group.
- Loxton YAC provided a positive environment for youth to learn key driver skills. Although everyone who gains their 'Learner' Driver's licence learns the basics of driving, many young people do not learn techniques for avoiding collisions, driving safely in different conditions, and what to do in the event of a crash.

On the 2nd November, 2011 at 6.00pm in the Loxton Council Office Chambers (East Terrace), a presentation was delivered targeted at parents of new or soon-to-be learner drivers. The course was aimed at increasing awareness of parents as to the road rules, and their responsibilities while teaching their children to drive. The presentation was delivered by Senior Constable Michael Lord of the South Australian Police.

- The YAC ran a competition for the youth to design their new logo. Entry forms were made available from the Loxton Library, the Loxton Council Office, the Loxton High School, Moorook Primary School and Kingston-On-Murray Primary Schools, so that young people from all of the service area were included. \$100 would be awarded to the winning designer, and their winning design will become the new corporate Logo for the Loxton YAC. Ashleigh Langford and Tyla Nelson were voted by the YAC the winners.

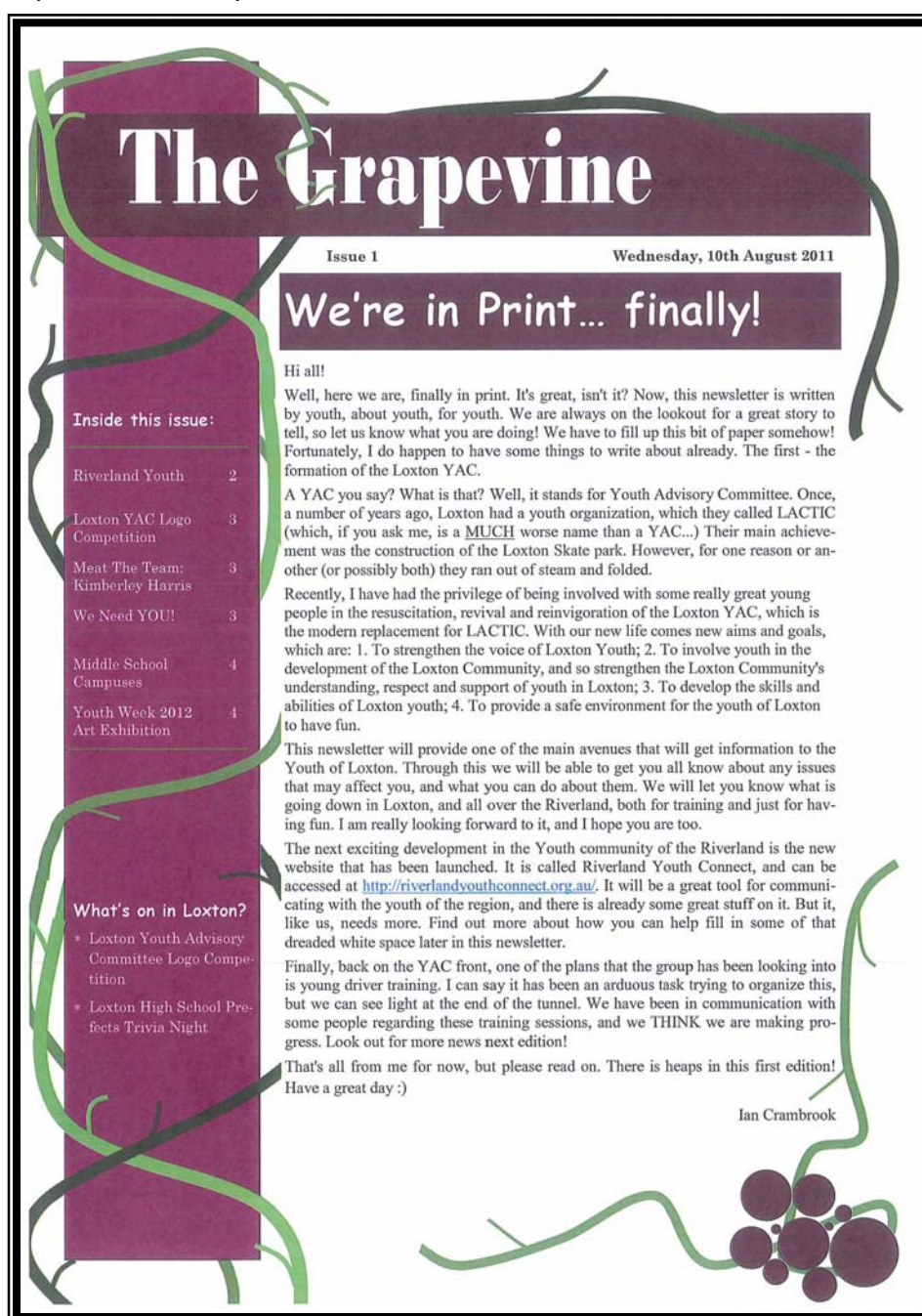


# Corporate & Community Services

## AGED AND YOUTH SERVICES

### **Loxton Youth Advisory Committee (Continued)**

- A youth newsletter was published in the Loxton YAC's service area, which advertised the YAC's upcoming events, and promoted events of other YAC groups in the region. It provided avenues for the youth of the service area to have their say on issues. In addition to being made available in hard copy format, the newsletter was published on the Riverland Youth Connect website, so that electronic copies of the newsletter were available to the youth of the region. It was also available to people of other ages who are interested in what the YAC is up to. A fantastic concept and the committee received great feedback, but only saw one publication completed due to the extensive manual labour.



# Corporate & Community Services

## AGED AND YOUTH SERVICES

### Seniors Month

In October 2011 the District Council of Loxton Waikerie together with Warrawee Lodge announced the winners of the 2011 Waikerie Senior of the Year Award. Mayor Leon Stasinowsky announced and publicly recognised joint winners Jan Pearson and Ross Copeland for their achievements at the Waikerie Senior of the Year Awards luncheon at Warrawee Lodge on Wednesday 26 October 2011. This popular Seniors Event saw the Mayor and councilors and over 120 people joining in the festivities at Warrawee Lodge.

Included in Seniors month for Warrawee was a local history quiz and a well attended Ipad trial program "connecting Seniors with the Community" run by the University of Adelaide which has been going for 6 months, with two ipads for seniors of the district to borrow from the office for a short time to try/use at home, and meet with the researchers for tuition when they visit.

### Volunteering

National Volunteer Week is the largest celebration of volunteers and volunteerism in Australia, and provides an opportunity to highlight the role of volunteers in our communities and to say thank you.

The theme for National Volunteer Week 2012 was: **Volunteers – Every One counts**

The District Council of Loxton Waikerie celebrated National Volunteer Week and held an appreciation morning for council volunteers at an event at the Pines and Waikerie Council Chambers to say thank you to all the local residents who volunteer their time at council coordinated programs.

Council Volunteer programs include the Loxton Historical Village, the Loxton Visitor Information Centre, The Pines Historic House and Garden, Loxton Christmas Lights, the Catch Centre and Libraries in Loxton and Waikerie and the Waikerie works depot.



# Corporate & Community Services

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

### Partnerships

#### *Workshopping About Time in Loxton*

The topic under discussion at the Loxton Council Chamber on Monday 16 January was About Time: South Australia's History Festival. People represented a diverse group of previous and potential event organisers came along to talk about the festival and hear what Mandy Paul, Karen Blackwood and Pauline Cockrill from History SA had to say about organising history events.

Local libraries, local history groups including Waikerie History Society and the Loveday Internment Camp museum committee, and a representative from the Loxton Community Hotel and Cr Kimber were among those present.

Mandy talked about organising a successful event, and encouraged participants to draw on the strengths of their groups – collections, stories, communities and members - and to think laterally, creatively and collaboratively when devising events. Karen spoke about promoting events, particularly using direct marketing and media releases. This prompted very useful discussion about the particularities of the local media in the Riverland, and practical tips about how to get festival events, and history stories more generally, into circulation. Pauline provided participants with lots of ideas about creative and inexpensive display techniques – and reminded us all about the importance of key messages.





# Corporate & Community Services

## CULTURAL SERVICES

### Library Services—Loxton

The library has been well utilized in the last 12 months with an increase in participants in children's programs and services by 25% and new technology being implemented for print disabled patrons. Currently 3,743 members of our community are actively borrowing from the library and more than 60,000 people visit the library each year. Provision of internet services through the public access computers and wireless connection has allowed over 6,000 people to access this vital service.

A strong visibility within the community has been maintained with participation and partnerships in community and cultural events.

### Budget

The library budget enabled the eastern side of the library to have some frosted signage on the windows to indicate to the public that the building is a library which has generated many positive comments. It also has the added advantage of cutting down the sun glare for computer users who face this window from inside the library. E-readers and e-book content were also purchased to give patrons the opportunity to access this relatively new technology and another medium of reading and accessing books. This has also been a welcome addition to our resources with young and old being curious and trying them out. Another DVD spinner was also purchased to house our ever growing DVD collection which enabled staff to separate them into genres to help patrons finding and choosing titles.

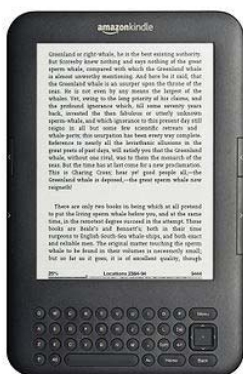
### DAISY (Digital Access Information system) Players

The Loxton Public Library was fortunate to receive 3 DAISY players through the FACHSIA/ALIA Initiative whose aim was to improve access for people with print disability to print material in a digital format through public libraries around the country. The Initiative has been funded by the Australian Government and supported by the Department of Families and Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs and Australian Library & Information Association. These players are designed for sight impaired patrons and can play audio CDs & MP3s so that patrons can listen to audio books, newspapers or music and have been beneficial to some of our home bound patrons.



### E-book Readers

Since the e-book readers have been purchased they have been heavily utilized by patrons wanting to try this format of reading books to see what it is like.





# Corporate & Community Services

## CULTURAL SERVICES

### **Library Services—Loxton**

#### **Home Service Delivery**

This service is available for people unable to access the library due to ill health and is made available with the help of library staff and volunteers each Friday morning. Library items are delivered and collected to and from 15 individuals and the Loxton District Hospital and Riverview Rest Home.

#### **Internet access**

Internet access provided through the PLAIN (Public Library and Information Network) on 3 computers is accessed over 4,000 times a year by our local patrons and visitors to the area.

#### **Navigators**

The audio navigators continue to be accessed by sight impaired patrons for listening to audio books which staff reload and return back to them. This is a valuable service to keep these patrons connected with their community and to add value to their everyday life.

#### **Photocopying**

Photocopying facilities are provided for patrons and utilized daily.



#### **Printing and scanning**

The public access internet computers have a printer/scanner available for patrons to use.

#### **SMS Messaging**

This cost effective service continues to be beneficial to patrons and staff by providing notification almost instantaneously and saving postage, printing and handling on 2,200 notices.

#### **Wireless/Wi-fi**

Over 2,000 people accessed the wireless network provided through PLAIN which continues to be well utilized and provides a valuable service for tourists and visitors to our area.

#### **The Advertiser: The Little Big Book Club book bags for babies**

The Advertiser continues to support libraries by providing library bags filled with a 'My first numbers book', 'It's play time' book, It's story time growth chart, It's rhyme time booklet & DVD, It's play time activity book plus promotional pamphlets which we distribute to parents of newborns to welcome them to the library.

#### **Book Discussion Groups**

The library continues to engage with patrons by providing access to book discussion groups which are held on a monthly basis and are important to foster and develop an appreciation of literature and reading.

#### **Get Reading—50 books you can't put down**

During the month of September we promoted the 50 top reads for the past 12 months which were reviewed in a handout booklet. These are all Australian titles and range from children through to adults and this is an important promotion to highlight 'good reads' for our patrons.

# Corporate & Community Services

## CULTURAL SERVICES

### Library Services—Loxton

#### Loxton Lights up Day craft session

In collaboration with the Loxton Lights up Day the library supported the event by holding a Christ-mas story and craft session on the Saturday morning which was well patronized.



#### Loxton Show Display

As part of our community participation this year we promoted our Children's Book Week activities which had the theme 'One world many stories' to highlight the importance of reading as a means of communication around the world.



#### MS Readathon

Each year the library supports the MS Readathon to highlight the importance of reading and how reading can help others less fortunate by raising necessary funds.

#### NAIDOC week

As part of embracing cultural diversity we celebrated NAIDOC week by displaying children's artwork from the local pre-school and primary school.



# Corporate & Community Services

## CULTURAL SERVICES

### Library Services—Loxton

#### **Children's Book Week**

A week long program of promoting Australian author's and their books which have been nominated for the prestigious Children's Book Week awards. Throughout the week 12 classes ranging from Pre-School to year 6 attended information, story, craft & borrowing sessions. The theme for this national program was 'one world many stories' which the library embraced with a magnificent display in the children's area.

#### **Children's Holiday Program**

Story and craft sessions are held each school holidays catering for 16 sessions and 370 attendees

#### **National simultaneous story time**

During May each year our library joins a national celebration of reading by reading the chosen book and having activities to support it.

#### **Pre-School sessions**

As part of our outreach programming we have the local pre-school come in 6 times a term for library visits which include borrowing, stories and an activity.



#### **Rhyme time**

The partnership with Child & Youth Health to encourage new parents to join the library & attend Rhyme Time sessions has gained strength with another Rhyme Time session programmed on Tuesday afternoons to accommodate all participants. This program is ably organized and implemented by Kylie Smith who has a devout band of followers.

#### **SA History Week**

This year we had a photographic display of the Loveday internment camp provided by local historian Rosemarie Gower who held an information session giving interested people a closer look at this camp and it's operations during the second world war.



# Corporate & Community Services

## CULTURAL SERVICES

### **Library Services—Loxton**

#### **LMS project**

The next 12 months are going to present some wonderful opportunities and challenges as we prepare to change library management systems and join all South Australian public libraries using the One Card system. Staff look forward to working with the assigned PLS Project Manager from March 2013 to perform the second stage of preparations and plan work operations. This new system is expected to be operational in our library in October 2013. Patrons will benefit from a fully integrated system giving 24/7 access to millions of items across all public libraries and able to access items at any public library with their library card.

#### **E-books**

The Libraries Board on behalf of the SA Public Library Network has recently signed a contract with OverDrive for the provision of a state-wide digital content solution that will give library customers access to eBooks, audiobooks, and other digital content. This service will be available early next year and will help to meet the needs of some of our technology advanced patrons.

#### **Local History**

Presently and during the next year we are collaborating with other councils, Waikerie Library Manager, Tourism Manager & Community Development Officer into how we can best manage our local history in regard to consolidation, cataloguing, storage and access. We envisage to have a clear direction with the development of a strategic plan and hopefully have some of the actions in place in the coming year.

#### **Library facilities**

It is increasingly difficult each year with the present library facilities to successfully manage the advances in technology and juggling of programs, services and resources in the confines of a small library. At a recent visit to our library by the SA Libraries Board it was made very clear by the members that the library was an insufficient size to support the town's population, questions were asked on our plans for the future which need to be addressed.

Our library service could do a lot more for the community if we had more space. Services for tourists could include powering up of electronic devices in a designated wi-fi area which would create a more welcoming environment and a positive memorable experience for our visitors to the area. There is a need for more youth services in the town which could be incorporated in the library with an area specifically designed to meet their needs. Presently we have a small children's area and study area which have to be transformed to implement any programs that we have, our children's activities are held in the study area which has an effect on patrons who require a quiet area or are using wi-fi having to move to another part of the library while this is in progress. Library staff need to manage the logistics of where patrons can use the library when there are programs, activities and large numbers of people.

Limited space also impacts our library service by not having enough shelf space to house the amount of books we require in our collection. As space is at a premium we need to de-bid items that are in good condition and still relevant, which could be utilized in the collection. This creates a disservice to our community by not acquiring the maximum value out of our expenditure.

These are some of the issues which effect the library service whilst operating out of an under-sized venue.



# Corporate & Community Services

## CULTURAL SERVICES

### Library Services—Loxton



*The past 12 months have been quite exciting as the final decisions have been made on the new management system and how it will be utilized and implemented. Staff have been making preparations for the new system by learning from libraries which have migrated so that the best outcomes will be achieved.*

*The maintaining of quality library services, promotion of programs and partnerships could not be achieved without the flexibility, professionalism and dedication of our staff team—Karen Flavel, Kylie Smith and Jessica Main along with support from our Waikerie library colleagues and Ruth Firstbrook—Director Corporate & Community Services. Our volunteers are integral to offering some of these services and programs and their value is not to be underestimated. We currently have 5 volunteers regularly volunteering at the library delivering resources to our home service patrons weekly and assisting with preparation for our programs for children.*

**Karen Rubarth**  
Manager Library Services  
Loxton Public Library

# Corporate & Community Services

## CULTURAL SERVICES

### **Library Services—Waikerie**

2012 has been a year of consolidation of our existing services, new ties with other community agencies and focussing on the National Year of Reading.

Our other main focus has been centred on getting ready for the One LMS service, in terms of the practical considerations necessary to have a clean database. This will require a great deal of work, meetings, as well as changes in work practices, but will result in a state of the art system that will provide borrowers with a much better library service.

### **Children's Programmes**

#### **Rhyme time**

Rhyme time is an early childhood programme designed for babies and toddlers from 6 to 18 months. Attendance at the library has been piecemeal at best, however I have continued to promote this programme through the Waikerie Playgroup as well as the Community Youth and Health and Community Centre organizations. My thanks to those individuals for their help in supporting this programme. About 90 little baby book club bags were given out at Waikerie as well as Morgan.



# Corporate & Community Services

## CULTURAL SERVICES

### **Library Services—Waikerie**

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#### **Children's Book Week**

All local schools were contacted to participate in book week activities and we had 14 classes participate including the entire primary school at Cadell. My thanks to all the teachers for their support. Children's Book Week allows us to showcase the best in Australian children's literature and promote our library to children who normally do not use us.





# Corporate & Community Services

## CULTURAL SERVICES

### Library Services—Waikerie



#### **Premier's Reading Challenge**

The library has continued to support the Premier's reading challenge by tagging the Children's and teenage collection for easy identification. And also providing reader guidance to school students and home schooled students.

#### **NAIDOC week**

The library once again provided storytelling and craft activities to children to celebrate NAIDOC week. My thanks to Sue Schultz and Marilyn Dutschke for their support and also the community centre who provided lunches for the children and their guests.

### **National Year of Reading 2012**

All local primary schools were invited to participate in a colouring in programme highlighting their favourite books. We had a very good response and these have been displayed in the children's library as part of our year long focus.

Other activities included some shop front displays highlighting all of our services and the importance of literacy as well as a programme entitled the Reading Hour inviting parents to come into the library and read to their children. A special incentive prize of an IPAD was also part of this programme. The Reading Hour worked really well in our library and maybe an activity that we do on an annual basis to promote literacy in the primary school age group.



# Corporate & Community Services

## CULTURAL SERVICES

### **Library Services—Waikerie**

#### **Simultaneous Storytime**

This is an initiative from ALIA (Australian Library & Information Association) encouraging the importance of storytelling in our profession. We did the story down at the Kindergarten and Child Care we had 48 children participate, which was an excellent result.

#### **Summer Reading Programme 2012**

The library will once again provide activities for children to do as well as books to read culminating in a special afternoon tea with prize presentations for the most books read. We will be getting details on the theme of this programme shortly.



### **Adult Programs**

#### **Broadband for Seniors Program**

Through the expertise and enthusiasm of Sandra Lambert this programme has continued to be the flagship of the library empowering seniors so that they can now deal with the digital world. Sandra has also participated in Forward IT training which provides tutors with useful websites explaining new technologies and how to use them.

In conjunction with the Waikerie Recreation Centre Sandra was nominated for the Joy Noble medal award from the office of volunteers. She continues to participate in webseminars provided by Broadband for Senior sharing her on-line knowledge with other tutors.



# Corporate & Community Services

## CULTURAL SERVICES

### **Library Services—Waikerie**

#### **Waikerie Public Library Book Club**

Our book club remains popular although very static. All members enjoy the intellectual stimulation that it provides and it is of great benefit to me giving me insight into what sort of books people like to read.

#### **Talking River News**

Once again a big thank you to all my volunteers who keep this service going for the sight-impaired in the community. Shortly this service will be digitized going from a cassette format to audio navigator. We acknowledge the continuing financial support of the Waikerie Intercare shop for this service.

#### **Library Lover's week**

The library once again promoted the collection through Valentine's day, providing chocolates to the borrowers both children and adults who borrowed a certain number of books in their preferred genre of literature.

#### **Get Reading 2012**

This is Australia's largest book promotion involving bookshops and public libraries and is heavily promoted through T.V. and radio.

It showcases the best in Australian books in both the adult and children's books and we have been involved in this program for a number of years. Borrowers are given free booklets highlighting all of the books, and the library endeavours to buy all of the titles.



#### **Author Visit - Wendy Altschwager**

The library was delighted to host Wendy Altschwager whose books about farming made a real impression on a lot of borrowers. The author visit was complemented with an afternoon tea and we had 32 people attend.

#### **Morgan Public Library**

Morgan Public Library continues to thrive under the very professional guidance of Lisa Walker. The library was given an honorary mention at the LGA Jim Crawford awards for their continual support of the economic and social structures of the town of Morgan.

# Corporate & Community Services

## CULTURAL SERVICES

### Library Services—Waikerie



### One LMS System Upgrade 2013

Karen Rubarth and I highlighted the benefits of this system at a council meeting during the year at which the system was endorsed. There is no doubt that the system will deliver excellent services to compliment an already excellent centralized infrastructure. The system will also capture the techno savvy generation through the use of modern technologies as well as streamlining the collection. There will be changes in work practices and routines particularly in the area of inter-library-loans, but with good preparation we will be able to adopt the system without too many problems.

### Future Directions

The library requires a great deal of refurbishment work and extension so that it can accommodate what is now a floating population. The days of the library just being about books is well and truly over with more and more time being devoted to technology and the management of the Internet and other associated technologies. The outside of the library also needs some serious signage which will project a more modern outlook.

In the near future we would like to get rid of the entire reference section and replace this with modern furniture to better meet the needs of wireless users, as well as students. The provision of power points as well as a new study areas will make the library more desirable to this clientele.

Local history at both Loxton and Waikerie requires a great deal of work and we will be putting in a joint submission with the Loxton library to create a position for a local history officer to catalogue this material and also create a web page that will enable all local history resources to come under one web page. Presently different organizations have gone on their own tangents which makes this material harder to manage. Loxton has done an excellent job so far using the Noarlunga database and we would like to adopt this system at Waikerie.

The issue of funding cuts remains a challenge for next year, however the one LMS system may come to our aid in providing books which we would otherwise purchase and I'm certain that the 10 year agreement with the State government will far outweigh the disadvantages of these cuts. We will have a State of the Art system that will give borrowers access to more than 4 million items from any of the State's 135 public libraries.

*In conclusion I would like to thank the my staff and the staff at both the Loxton and Morgan Public Libraries who have tirelessly worked to promote the good image of the library service and I feel privileged to work with such a great team of dedicated professionals.*

**Michael Cox**

Manager Library Services  
Waikerie Public Library



# Corporate & Community Services

## Loxton Retirement Village

I am pleased to report another successful year for the Loxton Retirement Village . Your management committee has provided due diligence on the business affairs of the village and reports regularly to council as required of a Section 41 committee. Financially the expenditure has seen significant increases in water, electricity and council rates and these are expected to again be the biggest cost pressures facing the village.

A modest turn over of units this year has seen changes to only 5 units with 2 others finalising occupancies from the previous year. As always some of these changes are as a result of the residents passing away or transferring to higher care. There is always potential residents readily available from our extensive listing but still the slow real estate market does not help in speedy change overs. The Committee is currently happy with the size of the complex at 100 units and although there is land acquired for extensions there is very low interest in new development at this time.

During the course of the year, 18 occupied units with no major refurbishment in 10 years, have been inspected for wear and tear. Progressively, carpeting, painting, tiling and general freshening up is taking place. This is what the Maintenance Reserve was set up for and continues to be the source of funding for this activity.

The Leatrice Pfitzner Court stage 3 project (also incorporating the first 10 units in Jan Cass court) was finalised with the completion of the Gazebo area which makes for a pleasant gathering spot and is being used regularly. The committee has investigated and located an appropriate location for a Gazebo in Frank Petch Court and is following through with this project. Again accolades were received from the Sustainable Communities ( previously Tidy Towns) judging for the village gardens and surrounds with Leatrice Pfitzner Crescent receiving a tidy street award. This was a fitting finale to our Maintenance Caretaker Barrie Muller who retired in December. Trevor Manuel is the new Caretaker and is suitably qualified to take over.

It is pleasing that the quality of residences and surrounds are continually being commented on by those looking to develop similar style or wishing to take up residence and we believe that the Retirement Village is a significant asset to Loxton.

Jan Cass  
Chairman



# Corporate & Community Services

## TOURISM—PROMOTION AND MARKETING

*“Lift the profile of the area and region through targeted promotion and marketing, event coordination and publicising of success”*



Both the Loxton and Waikerie Visitor Information Centers strive to maintain their Level 1 accreditation with the National Tourism Accreditation Program, permitting the use of the well recognized and trusted blue and yellow 'i' logo.

The VIC's are best practice visitor information centres where visitors are given a warm welcome and introduced to the Loxton and Waikerie districts and Riverland region. The knowledgeable staff and volunteers are skilled at responding to and anticipating visitors' information needs, providing an unexpected level of outstanding, friendly service.

The VIC's are recognised by operators, traders and the broader communities as vital to the economic well-being of the district and as providing a valuable service for all residents.

2010-11 saw the introduction of the a Visitor Information Outlet (VIO) at the Rainmoth Gallery in Waikerie. This services is to compliment the fully accredited centre on the Sturt Highway and to service the needs of visitors in the town centre.



The contract with Mrs Lucy Quintel for the Waikerie Visitor Information Centre has been extended for a further 2 years, with an option for an additional extension of 4 years on the proviso that the Visitor Information Centre is upgraded to reflect the direction of Council with regard to tourism, and Waikerie as the gateway to the Riverland.

## **VIC VISITOR SERVICING AND STATISTICS**

### **National Tourism Accreditation**

A successful onsite audit was undertaken in July 2012 with no outstanding compliances and an online renewal process undertaken. Certificate of currency to be provided.

### **Destination Riverland/Riverland Tourist Association**

With the Riverland Tourist Association ceasing as the regional tourism body during this period and the establishment of Destination Riverland a number of enquiries have been serviced by the VIC that in the past would have been coordinated, or undertaken by, the regional marketing body. These include (but not limited to):

- Proof reading regional maps for the SATC
- Managing a visiting film production crew for the SATC
- The provision of information and proof reading the 2012 Murray River Visitor Guide for the SATC and Destination Riverland
- Advice and assistance to Destination Riverland's 2102 Riverland Events Calendar
- General advice to Destination Riverland including SA Caravan and Camping Show volunteers, photographers and statistics.

# Corporate & Community Services

## TOURISM—PROMOTION AND MARKETING

### VIC VISITOR SERVICING AND STATISTICS

#### Event Ticket and Voucher Sales

- Loxton Chamber of Commerce: Loxton VIC is the outlet for the Loxton Gift Voucher. 2011/12 Loxton VIC serviced 403 sales with a total value of \$16,335.00. Loxton VIC receives 2% commission on these sales.
- Event/Ticket Sales: Support for community events area combination of contra, non-commission and commissionable sales and included events such as The Riverland Field Days, Mardi Gras Farmer Brings a Wife, Bridal Fashion Parade, Time Machine (New Years Eve Party, Renmark), History Sure Aint Boring and the Riverland Country Music Festival. Total commissionable income for consignment and tickets sales (including coach) was \$81,881.16, with commission to LVIC \$7,524.89

#### Saleable Goods

- Profit on sales of 74.5% was achieved compared to 44.3% in 2010-11
- Stock on hand as of 30th June 2011 was valued at \$3468.00 (inc GST)

#### The Terrace Gallery

- We boast a harmonious relationship with The Terrace Gallery Committee and continue to work together to ensure the smooth running of the centres operations to meet the requirements of both parties.
- All sales on behalf of the gallery are processed through the MYOB point of sales system on a non-commissionable basis and totalled \$2449.00 in 2011-12.

#### Loxton Tourism Club 2011/12

- Budgets were exceeded by 17.8% by 'up-selling' the benefits of the campaign and the Tourism Officers are to be commended for their efforts in this campaign
- The Loxton Hotel and Loxton Club Inc continue to be major supporters of this campaign.

Tourism Club	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
No. Businesses	56	54	47	48	42	49
Income (less GST)	\$14,165.00	\$15,944.00	\$14,825.00	\$13,745.50	\$11,031.00	\$12,007.00



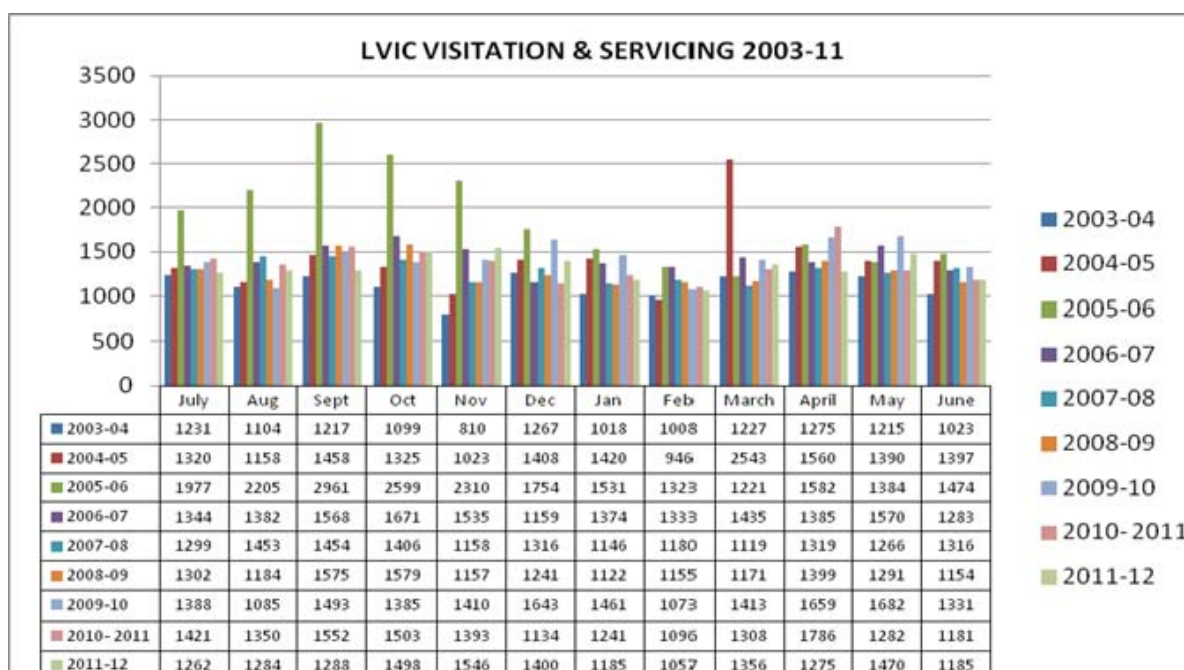
# Corporate & Community Services

## TOURISM—PROMOTION AND MARKETING

### VIC VISITOR SERVICING AND STATISTICS

#### Loxton VIC Statistics

- So many external factors are influencing holiday trends, such as natural disasters, with the most obvious during this period being the flooding of the Murray River and the adverse publicity received during this time.
- Many phone calls and email were serviced in regard to the availability of riverside camping, as site were at a premium.
- Loxton VIC serviced 15,806 people during 2011-12, a decrease of 2.8% (441 people) compared to 2010-11.
- Taking into account the external factors influencing holiday trends this slight decrease in numbers I feel, is acceptable as these obstacles are outside of our control.
- 2011-12 statistics for all the Riverland VIC's are unavailable at this time:
  - Waikerie 2% increase in servicing compared to 2010-11
  - Barmera 6% increase in servicing compared to 2010-11
- The Riverland 2010/11 figure was down by 10% on the 2009-10 total revenue of \$110 million due to the significant downturn in visitors associated with the negative publicity associated with the term 'floods'. (sourced by Destination Riverland Strategic plan 2012-2015)



# Corporate & Community Services

## TOURISM—PROMOTION AND MARKETING

### VIC VISITOR SERVICING AND STATISTICS

#### Tourism vs Operational Servicing

- Tourism servicing: 76%
  - 43% SA, 7% Vic, 3% NSW/ACT, 1% WA, 1% NT, 0% Tas, 2% Qld, 8% International, 1% unknown, 11% phone/email
- Operational servicing: 24%
  - 13% Stateliner/Greyhound, 11% The Terrace Gallery

#### Marketing and Promotional Activities

All marketing and promotional activities undertaken by Loxton VIC are funded from monies generated from membership to the Loxton District Tourism Club and expenditure for 2011-12 was \$9770.00.

### LOXTON HISTORICAL VILLAGE

#### Master Plan of Services

A plan was created to highlight the location of power, water, drains, pipes, etc. Available via DCLW server and onsite



#### Review of Business Practises

A detailed review of the Villages practises has been undertaken and actions have been implemented to ensure we are fulfilling, or working towards fulfilling, our obligations to DCLW including OHS, records management and procedures.

#### Staff & Volunteers

- We have around 50 volunteers registered, with approximately half of these regularly active.
- 20-25 inductions (or re-inductions) have been undertaken in the past 12-months to ensure up to date policies and procedures have been provided.
- Staff job descriptions have been reviewed and researched to match current awards, with levels selected to suit our staffing requirements.
- Training:
  - Child safe course for staff and volunteers
  - MYOB (point of sale) training for all shop staff
  - In-house OHS training and ongoing reminders regarding working safely

# Corporate & Community Services

## TOURISM—PROMOTION AND MARKETING

### LOXTON HISTORICAL VILLAGE

#### Friends of the Village

- Awarded the Ministers Award in 2012 SA Heritage Hero category, in recognition of their dedication to volunteering by History SA.
- Hosted numerous catering opportunities including the Packard and Hillman Car Clubs and three successful Alive Days.
- Increased their budgeted revenue for 2011-12 from \$6,000 to \$20,857.
- Invested \$13,340.00 on renovations, restoration and repairs at the Village.
- Were awarded the Random Act Of Yum for their tireless volunteering efforts by Wendy's of Berri.
- Obtained an impressive amount of free media coverage for the Village.



# Corporate & Community Services

## TOURISM—PROMOTION AND MARKETING

### LOXTON HISTORICAL VILLAGE

#### Fees and services

Entry fees, service and sundry charges have been reviewed and altered accordingly.

#### OH&S

- We are in the process of implementing best practises to ensure the safety of staff, volunteers and the general public.
- Working closely with LHV and DCLW staff to ensure policies and procedures are being met.
- Maintenance schedule drafted, including risk assessment of current and future maintenance and projects.

#### Programs, marketing and promotions

- Current programs eg Alive Days, catering and the education program have been assessed to gauge value, both financially and promotionally, to the Village
- New programs to be considered during 2012-13 including the introduction of a school holiday program.
- A consultant was employed to review the current education program, coordinate a teacher workshop (with 65 participants), survey teachers, create a data base of contacts, review the curriculum and match activities that can be hosted at the Village across all levels to promote return visitation.
- Branding: new logos, letterhead and stationery created
- Brochure: new brochure produced and distributed
- Advertising: placement and management of commercials (radio and TV) and general advertising opportunities including The Riverland Sun, Murray River Guide, Civic Guide, etc
- Marketing opportunities: numerous media releases and images distributed as well as inclusion in the filming with Out of the Blue program.
- Events calendar: coordination and management of calendar
- Settlers Pass: sent to all schools offering a reduced rate to utilise the village and surrounds as a class room. Three schools have participated on a half yearly basis for 2012.



# Corporate & Community Services

## TOURISM—PROMOTION AND MARKETING

### LOXTON HISTORICAL VILLAGE

#### Shop sales and visitation

An increase of 18% in shop sales and 4% in visitor numbers was experienced during 2011-12 when compared to 2010-11

<b>TOTAL SALES</b>	<b>2010-11</b>	<b>2011-12</b>
July	\$3,334.55	\$4,083.10
Aug	\$2,799.50	\$4,208.50
Sept	\$7,253.55	\$5,788.95
Oct	\$6,979.40	\$10,092.50
Nov	\$3,060.20	\$4,042.50
Dec	\$4,602.30	\$3,018.55
Jan	\$4,408.00	\$4,565.00
Feb	\$1,576.00	\$2,080.10
Mar	\$3,281.70	\$5,926.05
April	\$11,056.60	\$15,191.00
May	\$5,581.40	\$6,382.75
June	\$8,287.10	\$10,621.75
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$62,220.30</b>	<b>\$76,000.75</b>

<b>VISITORS</b>	<b>2010-11</b>	<b>2011-12</b>
July	539	496
Aug	375	508
Sept	903	643
Oct	759	1160
Nov	411	424
Dec	486	333
Jan	486	412
Feb	163	169
Mar	423	466
April	1229	1445
May	668	620
June	991	1061
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7433</b>	<b>7737</b>



# Corporate & Community Services

## TOURISM—PROMOTION AND MARKETING

### THE PINES

#### 'The Pines' Loxton's Historic House and Garden

The Pines has experienced an increase of around 50% in visitor numbers during 2010-11 compared to 2009/10. This can be attributed to the hosting of wedding ceremonies, use of the facilities for family celebrations, visiting coach groups and staging events such as a Jazz Festival and a Sunday Fun-day.

Approximately 60 volunteers donated around 3,000 hours during this period and undertake a wide variety of activities including gardening, tour guides, catering and function coordination.





# Corporate & Community Services

## EVENTS AND FESTIVALS

*“Foster, encourage and where possible support community events and festivals that are sustainable and align with strategic objectives”*

Council continues to support new and existing events and festivals through the provision of financial assistance, event management (through Councils Community Development Officer) and the active promotion of Loxton Waikerie to event organisers.

Major events that continue to raise the profile and encourage visitation to the district include, (but not limited to):- Australia Day Celebrations in both Loxton and Waikerie, Waikerie Rotary Food Fair, Waikerie Rock & Roll Festival, Waikerie Enduro, Waikerie's Santa's Cave, Loxton's Annual Spring Show, Moorook Music Festival, Loxton's Annual Mardi Gras, Nippy's Loxton Gift, Loxton Christmas Lights Festival.

### **Other Annual Community Events supported by Council include**

- Australia Day celebrations
- KESAB Tidy Towns
- Loxton Annual Show
- Loxton Light Up Celebrations
- Loxton Nippy's Gift
- Loxton Triathlon
- Active Riverland Community Challenge
- Youth Week Celebrations
- Waikerie Christmas Pageant
- Loxton Mardi Gras
- Moorook Rivertstock Music Festival
- NAIDOC Celebrations
- Waikerie Senior of the Year Awards



# Corporate & Community Services

## EVENTS AND FESTIVALS

### **Loxton's History Sure Ain't Boring**

An inaugural 'Loxton's History Sure Ain't Boring' presentation was held on May 22nd, 2012 at the Loxton Bowling Club.

Four intriguing speakers reminisced about history in front of a crowd of over 170 locals.

The guest speakers and their topics were:

- Howard Hendrick, DFC: 'Drive to Survive' (or how I turned a perfectly good bomber into scrap metal)
- Soldier Settler Tony Auld: 'Early Experiences on a Fruit Block'
- Robert Fielke, Grandson of German Pioneer: 'Why I'm Proud to be called a Box-Head'
- Dennis Hann, Retired Newspaper Editor: 'The Story behind The Loxton News (or Clark Kent reveals all!)

The attendance surpassed organizer's expectations and organizer Cr David Kimber hopes to hold another similar event in the future.



The four speakers (from left) Howard Hendrick, Denis Hann, Robert Fielke and Tony Auld. Each gave a 20-minute presentation on an aspect of their life.

# Corporate & Community Services

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## ENVIRONMENT

Develop a program aimed at implementing sustainable development which will preserve and enhance the natural environment within the Loxton Waikerie community as outlined in the objectives of the Strategic Management Plan.

### **Goal:**

## RECOGNITION AND PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT ACTIONS

- Maintain recycling at dump sites with the separation and resale of waste occurring onsite
- Ensuring that all Council operations are compliant with relevant environmental legislation
- Maximise staff productivity by improving the work environment
- Council promoting a caring environmental image
- Council setting an environmental example at all times
- Thinking globally, acting locally and developing community involvement in the resolution of sustainable development issues
- Investigate options for the Loxton CWMS
- Commissioning of the Waikerie Wastewater Treatment Plant

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*"Preserving and  
enhancing the  
natural environment"*

# Corporate & Community Services

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## HEALTH

### THE ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Environmental Health Management Plan (EHMP) in conjunction with the Public and Environmental Health Act 1987 was developed by Council staff in consultation with the local community was implemented in 2008. The overall aim of the EHMP is to adopt a pro-active, strategic and risk based approach to managing environmental health issues in the Council area.

### NEW PUBLIC HEALTH ACT

The South Australian Public Health Act 2011 was approved by Parliament in June 2011.

The Act is the result of a review of the *Public and Environmental Health Act 1987* and consultation with key stakeholders, particularly local government and Environmental Health Australia SA Branch, other people who have an interest in public health and the general community.

The *South Australian Public Health Act 2011* aims to provide a modernised, flexible legislative framework, so South Australia can better respond to new public health challenges as well as traditional hazards.

The Act has a number of new elements but maintains and improves many of the provisions within the current legislation.

The new legislation will help the State prepare and respond to modern public health risks by:

- allowing health officials to take immediate action on a health hazard that presents a serious and immediate threat to public health
- providing stronger powers to health professionals, so they can take action to minimise the risk of communicable diseases
- creating a new position in the Chief Public Health Officer who can use special powers to respond to an epidemic, threat of an epidemic or other significant public health emergencies
- improving coordination between health officials to plan for and deal with public health issues
- defining the roles and powers of public health officials
- providing guidance and codes of practice to help tackle the growing incidence of chronic non-communicable conditions in our community.

The new Act will be progressively introduced over the next two years. New provisions and powers will come on stream following further stakeholder consultation linked to workforce capacity development strategies.

# Corporate & Community Services

## HEALTH

### HEALTH INSPECTIONS

<b>Waste Control Applications</b>	Applications received	53
	Applications approved	53
	Applications pending processing	0
	Applications refused	0
<b>Waste Control Inspections</b>	Number of installation inspections conducted	42
	Number of enforcement inspections conducted	0

### FOOD INSPECTIONS

All food businesses in South Australia are required to comply with the Food Act, Regulations and Food Safety Standards.

Risk Classification	No. of Businesses	No. of routine Inspections conducted	No. of follow up Inspections conducted	No. of Inspections resulting from complaints
Low	93	43	0	0
Medium	65	20	0	0
High * (please <b>exclude</b> businesses that service "Vulnerable Populations*")	14	5	1	1
TOTAL	172	68	1	1

### IMMUNISATION

Early last year it was resolved that the council clinics discontinue due to falling numbers attending these clinics and the time and money spent on them. As of early 2012 these clinics finished and it was monitored the effect on the community to whether the clinic would re-open. Since the closure of the clinic council has received no complaints so far, and immunisations numbers are still being maintained through out the community.

We also ran the School Based Immunisation Program at the Loxton and Waikerie High Schools, where we vaccinated a total of 208 Year 8 students with Hepatitis B, Varicella (Chicken Pox) and only females received the Human Papillomavirus (Gardasil) vaccine. With a total of 191 Year 9 Students receiving the adult/adolescent diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis vaccine.

In early 2012 council staff were once again asked to participate in the annual Influenza Program. There was a total of **75** council employees who took up the opportunity.



# Corporate & Community Services

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## **DEVELOPMENT**

During the year council approved the following types of development;

Dwelling	32
Extensions to dwellings	38
Commercial/Industrial	35
Extensions to Commercial/Industrial	29
Garages, Carports, Verandas, Swimming pools, Fences, retaining walls, etc.	164
Land Division	26

Generally when development applications have been adequately documented, approvals have been issued well within statutory timeframes. Council will continue to review its assessment process and strive to reduce turn around times for applications. Applicants are encouraged to provide suitably documented information to assist in the approval process.

## **BUILDING**

Council's Development officers (building) perform the role of assessing development applications for compliance with the National Construction Code and the Building Code of Australia. Assessments are interesting and can also be very challenging.

The structural components checked include the footing design for the soil conditions, tie-down requirements for the design wind speed, structural steel work, timber framing etc. Other performance provisions that are checked include dampness and weather proofing, fire safety, health and amenity (light and ventilation, facilities etc), safe movement and access and energy efficiency.

Once the design and specifications of the proposed development has been checked for compliance with the National Construction Code, Building Code of Australia, relevant codes and standards then the Building Surveyor issues Development Approval on Council's behalf.

Inspections are also undertaken of work in progress in accordance with Council's Building Inspection Policy and may involve the inspection of dwellings, dwelling additions, carports, verandahs, sheds, offices or industrial buildings. It also includes inspections of swimming pools and safety barriers.

Council's Building, staff must ensure they keep abreast of legislation and the many changes to legislation that may impact on the role, the profession and the built environment as a whole.

# Corporate & Community Services

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## **REGIONAL BUILDING FIRE SAFETY COMMITTEE**

Local government plays an important role in protecting the ongoing safety of building occupiers and users through the provisions of the Development Act 1993 and is therefore required by legislation to have a Building Fire Safety Committee. A Regional Building Fire Safety Committee was formed and has operated for the three Riverland Councils for the past 3 years, the committee includes an independent Building Surveyor as presiding member, a Building officer from each Council, an officer from the Metropolitan Fire Service and Country Fire Service,

The Committee is charged with the responsibility for all matters arising under Section 71 of the Development Act 1993, and has the powers to investigate whether building owners are maintaining proper levels of fire safety in their buildings for the protection of all occupiers, whether they are residents and workers who use them regularly.

## **PLANNING**

### **BETTER DEVELOPMENT PLAN CONVERSION & ALIGNMENT DPA**

The Better Development Plan conversion and Alignment Development Plan Amendment is a detailed process that involves using standard modules of objectives and principles prepared by the State Government together with the inclusion of required local additions to recognise the specific local character and ideals. The Plan was submitted to the Minister in June 2011; the plan was approved by the Minister and gazetted accordingly.

### **DEVELOPMENT ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE**

The Riverland Regional Development Assessment Panel entered its third year of operation. Council appointed Mr David Kanizay as its Independent Member and Cr Margaret Malthouse as Council's Elected Member to the panel. Both members will continue their role until January 2014.

The Minister for Planning and Urban Development appointed Mr Bruce Ballantyne to the position of Presiding Member of the Riverland Regional Development Assessment Panel for a period of 2 years from 1 January 2012 until 1 January 2014.

# Corporate & Community Services

## RIVERLAND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSESSMENT PANEL

Mr Peter Ackland, Council's Chief Executive Officer as appointed as Public Officer from January 2011 to January 2012. He replaced Mr David Beaton, CEO Berri Barmera Council.

Council also took over the administrative role of the panel from Berri Barmera for the 2011 calendar year.

The Panel met on 7 occasions and considered 35 applications, 13 were from the District Council of Loxton Waikerie.

Member	Meetings conducted	Meetings attended
Mr Bruce Ballantyne (presiding member)	7	7
Mr Leon Stasinowsky (Loxton Waikerie)	7	4
Mr David Kanizay (Independent—Loxton Waikerie )	7	6
Mrs Rhonda Centofanti (Berri Barmera)	7	7
Mr Ken Stokes (Independent—Berri Barmera)	7	5
Mr Neville Nattrass (Renmark Paringa) - (retired from panel)	2	2
Mr Mark Chown (Renmark Paringa) - (replaced Neville Nattrass)	5	4
Mr Geoff Parson (Independent—Renmark Paringa)	7	6

## INSPECTORIAL

The following infringements and notices were issued throughout the Council area during the year:

Dog Control	57
Parking (permit zone, expiation time)	6
Abandoned Vehicles	2
EPA Burning	1
CFS Burning	Nil
Littering	1
Court enforcements on unpaid expiations	43
Fire 105F Notices	278
Schedule 9 Fire Permits	69
Schedule 10 Fire Permits	15

# Corporate & Community Services

## ENVIRONMENTAL

### REGIONAL AND LOCAL COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM

During November 2008, Prime Minister Kevin Rudd made the announcement as part of the Economic Stimulus Package that Council had received an amount of \$474,000 which was allocated in Round 1, Council also received \$185,000 in Round 2 and \$193,000 in Round 3 funding.

Round 2 projects were completed in 2010/2011 with Round 3 projects either completed or near completion.

Council allocated the funding to the following Round 2 Projects

- |   |          |
|---|----------|
| • Upgrade to Paruna Netball/Tennis Courts         | \$80,000 |
| • Refurbishment of Cobweb Art and Craft Shop      | \$13,500 |
| • Pilot Rest and Debriefing Room Loxton Aerodrome | \$20,000 |
| • Waikerie Federation Park Walking Track          | \$71,500 |

Council allocated the funding to the following Round 3 Projects

- |  |          |
|--|----------|
| • Loxton North Netball/Tennis Courts project       | \$60,000 |
| • Waikerie Recreation Centre Netball/Tennis Courts | \$80,000 |
| • Loxton Skate & BMX Park BBQ & Shelter            | \$20,000 |
| • Wunkar Netball & Tennis Courts                   | \$21,000 |
| • Loxton Christmas Lights Shed Extension           | \$12,000 |

### WELCOME TO WAIKERIE SIGNS

Council received a formal request from the Waikerie District Development Committee Inc for Council to fund the proposed "Welcome to Waikerie" sign approx 10 km on the Adelaide side of Waikerie adjacent the Speedway on private land approx 10m in from the fence line.

Council accepted the proposed 'Welcome to Waikerie' sign and funded the proposal from proceeds of the sale of the Waikerie Caravan Park. Soil tests have been carried out, footing & frame designs completed, council infrastructure department are due install the sign on the property near the junction of Ziegler Road and Sturt Highway in Waikerie.



### REVIEW OF EXISTING BY LAWS

Council has the authority to create by-laws in accordance with section 246 of the Local Government Act 1999. Council by-laws were endorsed at council meeting held 21 May 2010. Council's newly adopted by-laws come into operation on 2 January 2011 and expire in 2018.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| • By-law No.1 Permits and Penalties By-law 2010  | • By-law No. 4 Moveable Signs By-law 2010 |
| • By-law No. 2 Local Government Land By-law 2010 | • By-law No. 5 Dogs By-law 2010           |
| • By-law No. 3 Roads By-law 2010                 | • By-law No. 6 Cats By-law 2010           |

# Corporate & Community Services

## INSPECTORIAL

### DOG REGISTRATIONS

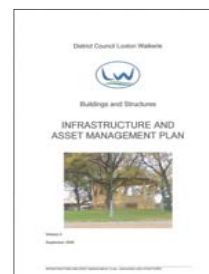
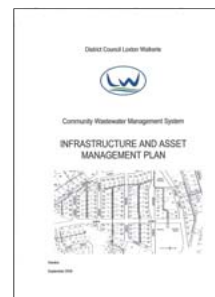
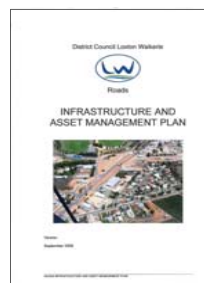
The control of dogs throughout the district is administered by the General Inspector and currently there are 2661 dogs registered in the Council area.

Concessions apply for guide dogs, disability dogs, working dogs & greyhounds and discounts apply for dogs that are desexed, trained & micro chipped, however documentary evidence is required in all cases to determine eligibility.



## ASSET MANAGEMENT PLANS

Council has adopted Asset Management Plans for its roads, community waste water systems buildings and structures. The plans include descriptions of various assets, levels of service, life cycle plan, projected maintenance performance measurement and future improvements and monitoring. The plans are available on the Council website and staff are now preparing asset management plans for land, stormwater and irrigation assets. Council will have an additional Irrigation and Stormwater Management Plan by December 2011.







## Chris Fels

### Director Infrastructure Services

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#### **KEY DEPARTMENTAL RESPONSIBILITIES**

- Road Construction and Maintenance
- Infrastructure Asset Management
- Stormwater Management
- Road Closures
- Fleet Management
- Parks and Gardens
- Waste Collection and Management
- Traffic Control
- Contracts (Works)
- Survey and Design
- Assets (Roads)

In accordance with Council's Strategic Plan, the Infrastructure Services Department remains committed to maintaining appropriate and sustainable community infrastructure and also ensuring the provision of a comprehensive range of quality services.

#### **ROAD CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE**

##### **Maggea Road**

The final 8kms of Maggea Road has been constructed and sealed. Funding from Special Local Roads and Roads to Recovery has assisted to provide a sealed north-south link from the Sturt Highway to the Stott Highway, with a total of 33kms.

The project has taken four years to complete, with a total project cost of \$3,910,500.



# Infrastructure Services

## ROAD CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE

### **Unsealed Roads**

Flowery Plains - 3km  
Notts Well Rd - 3km  
Lowbank Road - 3km  
Wormald Rd - 3km  
Rollbusch Rd - 3km  
Christie Rd - 3km  
Aunger Rd - 3km  
Curtis Rd - 3km



Wormald Road

### **Sealed Roads**

Irrigation Shoulders Taplan - 3km  
Anderson Road - 2km  
Maggea Road - 8km

### **Reseals**

Throughout the district approximately 19 kms of township streets were resealed in line with Council's 20 year construction and maintenance program from The Roads Asset Management Plan.

### **Footpaths - Mobility access**

Council has again this year allocated significant funds towards providing disabled or mobility access to our major towns. Upgraded footpaths have been completed from Warrawee Lodge along Hemming, Schiller and Lawrie Terrace to the Waikerie CBD.



Lawrie Terrace Footpath

# Infrastructure Services

## PARKS AND GARDENS

Council has continued to develop parks and gardens throughout the district based on long term sustainability with a focus on ensuring developed landscapes are aesthetically pleasing.

In consultation with the Loxton Recreation Grounds committee and the Waikerie District Development Committee, the following projects were completed:

Mill Corner Median Strips  
Park Seating (Loxton & Waikerie)  
Pioneer Park (design only)

Stage 1 of Federation Park

Stage 2 of the Loxton Irrigation Upgrade to sub surface/dripper irrigation has been completed, this stage encompassing the medians strips along Bookpurnong, Kokoda and Tobruk Terraces.

Stage 3 is programmed for the 2013/2014 financial year and will see the completion of the Loxton Irrigation Upgrade to sub surface/dripper irrigation, which will include East Terrace and the river front.

## MAJOR PROJECTS

The following projects with the assistance of both State and Federal funding partners have seen the following projects completed, or near completion:

- Waikerie Netball/Tennis Courts completed (RLCIP Round 3 funding)
- Wunkar Netball/Tennis Courts (RLCIP Round 3 funding) completed
- Loxton North Netball/Tennis Courts completed (RLCIP Round 3 funding) completed
- Loxton Skate Park BBQ/Shelter (RLCIP Round 3 funding) completed
- New Waikerie Riverfront Toilet Block completed
- Portable fencing between the Waikerie oval and riverfront completed
- Peake Terrace upgrade and road reversal to riverfront, constructed and sealed
- Waikerie adult fitness playground installed
- Construction of Two new BBQ facilities on the Loxton Riverfront
- Loxton Riverfront BBQ Shelters x 2
- New paved service road from the Loxton Riverfront car park to the town wharf completed



Loxton Riverfront BBQs



Waikerie Riverfront Playground

# Infrastructure Services

## **STORMWATER AND COMMUNITY WASTE WATER CATCHMENT AND RE-USE**

Council has continued on with development and construction of significant stormwater catchment and reuse projects, with Eyre Street basin being completed and the continuation of the Loxton West Project.

Eyre Street basin in the Woodleigh Estate precinct has been constructed and will allow for a total, catchment of approximately 20 megalitres of water that be transferred throughout council's irrigation system. The area serviced by this dam is prone to flooding so the Eyre Street basin has a secondary function in assisting with storm proofing the area.

Luther Road dam has seen a general clean up and a new fence installed. This area is also prone to flooding, so a new 5 megalitre dam has been constructed in the Railway yards off Railway Terrace to allow water to be transferred from Luther Road into the new basin then linked into our irrigation and reuse system.

The last phase of this project is the Loxton West Riverfront basin that is currently under construction and will hold 25 megalitres of captured stormwater to be used to irrigate the Loxton Riverfront. Once completed council has the ability to capture approximately 80 megalitres of stormwater in these basins, plus generate approximately 180-200 megalitres of treated waste water from its CWMS. All of which combines will place minimal or zero requirement for water for irrigation to be taken from the River Murray.

The total project costs of \$2.4million was funded by the Australian Government Strengthening Basin Communities initiative of \$1.2 million dollars.

## **WASTE MANAGEMENT**

Council continues towards implementing its new residential kerbside waste collection service. The service is expected to be operational from 4 February 2013.

There will be a 3 bin system in the major townships of Loxton and Waikerie being a 140L red lid domestic bin, a 240L yellow lid recycling bin and a 240L green lid green organics bin with a 8L food scraps bin included. The remainder of the district that currently receives a collection will be serviced by a two bin system being 140L red lid domestic bin and a 240L yellow lid recycling bin.

The Loxton Landfill is heading towards closure with the construction of a waste transfer station expected to be completed and operational by December 2012. Once the transfer station is operational and the landfill site is closed, residual domestic waste will be diverted out of the district.

Waikerie and Moorook landfill sites have been closed and capped to the approval of the Environment Protection Authority. Transfer stations have been constructed to replace the landfill sites.

A large emphasis on recycling has been put in place at both sites, with recyclable materials being accepted by local recyclers.

# Infrastructure Services

## **WASTE MANAGEMENT**

The waste collection tonnage statistics for the reporting period are provided below:

Year 2010/2011		
Waste	10,220	Tonnes
Recycling	1,091	Tonnes
Total	11,311	Tonnes

## **WORKS REQUEST SYSTEM**

Trialled in 2007, the Works Request System allows rate payers to lodge any concerns on line via our website, at any time of the day or night. Residents can notify us of graffiti, concerns with playgrounds, footpaths or roads, at any time, in their own words, 24 hours a day. Works requests can still be lodged via traditional letters, faxes and phone calls.

Requests not completed on time are captured in an 'exceptions report' and further investigated as to why we were unable to meet the service standard.

The works request system not only allows all complaints or requests to be documented, it is also a tool for programming of staff and machinery - which in situations where machinery is shared between Waikerie and Loxton is exceptionally valuable. Its list of requests and completions becomes a record of trends, allowing future planning and budgeting for events and Council equipment and infrastructure.

The works request system is reviewed annually for the continuous improvement of the system, with the 2011/2012 review leading to new service levels being added. The works request system has once again proven to be an extremely useful tool for Council and we are currently looking into adding new departments such as all environmental and planning.

## **REGISTER OF PUBLIC ROADS**

The Register of Public Roads was developed and implemented in May 2012. The Register includes Loxton and Waikerie township maps as well surrounding districts with public toilets, recreation centres, emergency services, hospitals etc identified for customer service queries.

The Register allows Council to categorise sealed roads by either rural sealed roads or township sealed roads. Unsealed roads are categorised into categories 1,2 and 3 based on volumes of traffic and B double and commodity routes.

Based on these road classifications Council has set road construction and maintenance standards that set a service level that we aim to achieve yearly in order to track over or under servicing of sealed and unsealed roads. A set of service levels allows Council to allocate resources in the most efficient way and answer any customer queries.

The categorization, maintenance and construction standards of roads is continuously reviewed by Council based on road usage.



# **Schedule 4 Compliance Information**

Pursuant to Section 131 (2) of the Local Government Act 1999 the following information is provided in compliance with the Act.

## **LIST OF REGISTERS**

The following are the registers that Council is required to keep under the Local Government Act 1999 and the Local Government Elections Act 1999.

- By-Law Register
- Community Management Plans
- Fees and Charges Register
- Register of Allowances and Benefits (Elected Members)
- Register of Community Land
- Register of Interests (Council members)
- Register of Interests (Council officers)
- Register of Public Roads
- Register of Salaries and Wages

## **CODES OF CONDUCT, PRACTICE AND GUIDELINES**

The following is a list of the Codes of Conduct or Practice that Council is required to keep under the Local Government Act 1999.

- Code of Conduct – Elected Members
- Code of Conduct – Employees and Volunteers
- Code of Practice – Public Access to Council and Committee Meetings and to Associated documents
- Code of Practice for Meeting Procedures

## **STATUTORY POLICIES**

- Tender, Quotation and Procurement Policy
- Public Consultation Policy
- Elected Members Allowances and Benefits Policy
- Training and Development Policy for Elected Members
- Road and Street Naming Policy
- Order Making Policy
- Internal Review of Council Decisions (Grievance) Policy
- Internal Control Policies which include the following but are not limited to:-
  - Bad Debt Policy
  - Credit Card Policy
  - Fraud and Corruption Prevention Policy
  - Treasury Management Policy
  - Sale and Disposal of Land and Other Assets Policy

# Schedule 4 Compliance Information

## **ADDITIONAL REGISTERS**

Additional registers are maintained and include the following:-

- Assessment Record
- Approval Register
- Asset Register
- Certificate of Title Register
- Common Seal Register
- Confidential Minute Register
- Contracts, Licences and Agreements Register
- Register of Campaign Donation Returns
- Delegations Register
- Gift Register
- Internal Review Register Policy Register
- Lease Register
- Training Register

## **ADDITIONAL CODES**

Additional codes of conduct have been adopted by Council and include:-

- Code of Conduct - Child Safe Environments

## **GUIDELINES**

Guidelines include:-

- Conflict of Interest - Guidelines
- Control of Election Signs - Guidelines

## **INFORMATION STATEMENT**

The following information is provided in accordance with the Freedom of Information provisions of the Local Government Act 1999.

## **COUNCIL POLICIES**

All policies listed are available for inspection at the Council offices at Loxton or Waikerie during ordinary business hours at no charge.

Copies of the policies are also available from Councils website [www.loxtonwaikerie.sa.gov.au](http://www.loxtonwaikerie.sa.gov.au) or postal copies may be obtained from the Council office, to be charged at the scheduled rate according to the Fees and Charges Register.

- Advice/ Information to Elected Members Policy
- Alterations and Business Use of a Public Road
- Appointment to External Organisations Policy
- Caretaker Policy

# Schedule 4 Compliance Information

## **COUNCIL POLICIES - Continued**

- Child Safe Environments Policy
- Community Award Policy
- Community Development and Support Grant Policy
- Community Donations Policy
- Community Event Funding Policy
- Community Land Policy
- Complaints Management Policy
- Control of Election Signs Guidelines for Federal, State & Local Government Elections, Referenda & Polls
- Council Policy Framework
- Customer Service Policy
- Drug and Alcohol Management Policy
- Elected Member Conduct Complaint Handling Policy
- Electronic Communication Facilities Policy
- Encroachments onto Council Land Policy
- Financial Hardship Policy
- General Permit Policy
- Immunisation Policy
- Induction Policy for Elected Members
- Library Policy
- Light Vehicle Crossover Policy
- Media Policy
- Policy for the Mayor Seeking Legal Advice
- Postponement of Rates – Seniors Policy
- Privacy Policy
- Public Water Donations Policy
- Rate Capping Rebate Policy
- Rate Rebate Policy
- Rate Relief Policy
- Records Management Policy
- Remission and Postponement of Fines and Interest Policy
- Risk Management Policy
- Social Media Policy
- Supplementary Elections Policy
- Tourism Policy
- Tree Maintenance Policy
- Volunteer Policy
- Whistleblowers Protection Policy

## **POLICY AND ADMINISTRATIVE DOCUMENTS**

- Contract and Tenders Policies and Procedures
- Strategic Plan: Roadmap to the Future 2010 – 2015
- Annual Business Plan/ Annual Budget
- Audited Financial Statements
- Annual Report
- Management Plans for Community Land
- Internal Review of Council Decisions (Grievance) Procedure

# Schedule 4 Compliance Information

## **COMPETITIVE TENDERING ARRANGEMENTS**

The 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. The Council aims to ensure that its methods of purchasing goods and services are cost effective and meet the needs of the community.

### **Use of local goods and services**

Council recognises that local businesses are an integral part of the overall community and is committed to providing assistance that will support and encourage their success.

When seeking quotations and calling for tenders officers will be mindful of relevant local suppliers and the impact on the local community if goods or services were purchased from outside the Council area. National Competition Policy guidelines and associated legislation will be observed at all times.

Copies of the District Council of Loxton Waikerie Tender, Quotation and Procurement Policy are available for public inspection and/ or purchase. A copy is also available on Council's website at [www.loxtonwaikerie.sa.gov.au](http://www.loxtonwaikerie.sa.gov.au)

## **EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY PROGRAMS, HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS**

The District Council of Loxton Waikerie has a firm commitment to equal opportunity principals and will ensure that no discriminatory policies, practices or procedures exist in any aspect of employment or its delivery of services.

The District Council of Loxton Waikerie is also committed to providing a workplace that is free from discrimination, harassment (including sexual harassment) and bullying.

# Schedule 4 Compliance Information

## **COMMUNITY LAND MANAGEMENT PLANS**

The District Council of Loxton Waikerie has the following Community Land Management Plans:-

- Aerodromes
- Caravan park
- Cemeteries
- Community buildings
- Council Buildings
- Playgrounds
- Sporting grounds - Multi - occupiers
- Sporting grounds - single occupiers

## **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION APPLICATIONS**

The District Council of Loxton Waikerie provides information to residents/ ratepayers whenever possible, without referral to the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 1991.

Where information is requested under the Freedom of Information Act an application fee must be forwarded with the completed request forms provided for in the Act, unless an exemption is granted.

Applications are responded to as soon as possible within the statutory 30 days of receipt of a request, together with the application fee or proof of exemption.

No Freedom of Information Applications were received during the reporting period

Pursuant to Section 38 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 1999 a person who is aggrieved by a determination made by the council is entitled to an internal review of the determination. There were no internal reviews for this reporting period.

All Freedom of Information applications and inquiries should be addressed to Council's FOI Officer, Karen Wetherall.



## Conclusion

The District Council of Loxton Waikerie is pleased to be able to present this Annual Report for 2011/2012. The 2011/2012 Annual Report was adopted by Council at its meeting on the Tuesday, 27 November 2012

Copies are available for perusal on Councils website at [www.loxtonwaikerie.sa.gov.au](http://www.loxtonwaikerie.sa.gov.au)

Further enquiries can be made to the Chief Executive Officer as follows:

The Chief Executive Officer  
District Council of Loxton Waikerie  
PO Box 409  
LOXTON SA 5333  
Telephone (08) 8584 8000  
Email - [council@loxtonwaikerie.sa.gov.au](mailto:council@loxtonwaikerie.sa.gov.au)