



DISTRICT COUNCIL OF LOXTON WAIKERIE  
**ANNUAL REPORT 2022-23**







DISTRICT COUNCIL  
OF LOXTON WAIKERIE

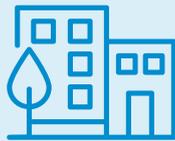
**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**2022-23**

# COUNCIL INFORMATION SNAPSHOT



## Principal Office

35 Bookpurnong Terrace, Loxton



## Waikerie Office

Strangman Road, Waikerie



## Postal Address

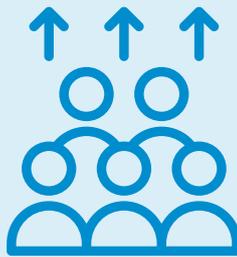
PO Box 409  
Loxton SA 5333



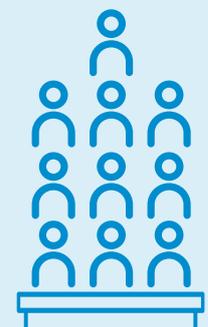
## One Mayor Elected at large



Area  
7,767km<sup>2</sup>



Population  
11,666 2021 Census



## Ten Councillors



LoxtonWaikerieCouncil



@loxtonwaikeriecouncil

**Traditional Owners** First Peoples of the River Murray and Mallee Region



08 8584 8000



08 8584 6622



council@lwdc.sa.gov.au



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# INTRODUCTION



# MAYOR'S REPORT

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*It is my privilege to report as Mayor of the District Council of Loxton Waikerie for the first time.*

*In November, a newly elected council of six first term and four returning members along with a first-time mayor came together to face a "baptism of flood" as the region experienced the second greatest recorded flood of the Murray River.*

During this time of catastrophe, I would like to acknowledge the extraordinary efforts of CEO David Beaton and his directors for their leadership and all staff and elected members for their commitment to meeting the challenges of a rising river with no bounds.

A flooding river respects no person or thing and many weekends and out of hours duty was required to protect as many community and personal assets as possible.

Paisley and parts of Kingston-on-Murray were unable to be spared and are yet to be returned to normal; Council will continue to work in partnership to remedy their devastation as quickly as possible.

Betterment of the Bookpurnong Road to Berri and the heavy vehicle route around Moorook remain a priority for our advocacy

to state and federal governments as does a dual lane highway from Adelaide to Mildura.

On top of the turmoils of the flood the core business of Council continued and despite some necessary adjustment of priorities most services were well provided.

Recent commencement of new major projects, including the Waikerie Hub at Waikerie Memorial Oval, a new library and toilet block in East Terrace, Loxton, and new stormwater reuse infrastructure at the Waikerie Riverfront will dominate the coming year.

While they are ongoing it will provide the new council with an opportunity to renew Council's strategic plan and long-term finances.

The Loxton Waikerie District Council once again has the lowest increase in rates collected in the region and it remains my goal to lead a conservative council which continues to respect the rising costs of living while delivering services in the most efficient way.

Council is currently undertaking a growth strategy which will focus on people and housing. Population growth will be paramount to maintaining and improving good access to doctors, hospitals, and health care along with driving the need for good schools and childcare.

In closing, I want to acknowledge and thank all our volunteers and service groups who continue to complement our Council and serve our communities - making

them as liveable as they are.

Thank you to former councillors Jordann Kleemann, Deb Thiele, Peter Walker, Kym Webber and Terry Wheeldon for your passion and service.

Finally, I would like to pay tribute to former mayor Leon Stasinowsky for his long service to our district and acknowledge the generosity he has shown in sharing his experience and knowledge. Lynn and Leon have been great assistance to Colleen and I and their continued support is always appreciated.



**Trevor Norton**  
Mayor

# COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES

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## Elected Member Committee Representation



*Left to Right - Back Row: Cr Kym Webber, Cr Michael Vowles, Cr Jordan Kleemann, Cr Peter Walker, Cr Jody Flavel, Cr Clive Matthews and Cr Terry Wheeldon*

*Front Row: Cr Deb Thiele, CEO David Beaton, Mayor Leon Stasinowsky, Cr Trevor Norton and Cr Sonya Altschwager*



*Left to Right: Cr Michael Vowles, Cr Craig Ferber, Cr Sonia Fowler, Cr Jody Flavel, Cr Kent Andrew, CEO David Beaton, Mayor Trevor Norton, Cr Ian Light, Cr Gary Pfeiler, Cr Michelle Hill, Cr Sonya Altschwager, Cr Clive Matthews*

# COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES

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## Elected Member Committee Representation Pre Local Government Elections (November 2022)



*Pursuant to Section 41 (6) of the Local Government Act the Mayor is appointed as ex-officio to all committees established pursuant to section 41 of the said Act.*

### **MAYOR LEON STASINOWSKY**

#### **Council Committees and Working Groups**

- Asset Management Committee
- Audit Committee
- Community Award Programme Assessment Panel
- Loxton North Recreation Grounds Committee
- Loxton Recreation Grounds Committee
- Loxton Retirement Village Committee
- The Pines Management Committee
- Waikerie Ramco Recreation Grounds Committee

#### **Representative/delegate on External Committees or Working Groups**

- Local Government Association (LGA) of SA  
LGA of SA State Executive Committee (proxy)
- Local Government Association of SA – AGM  
Council representative
- Murraylands and Riverland LGA
- Riverland Local Government Forum
- Local Government Finance Authority – AGM  
Council representative



### **DEPUTY MAYOR CR TREVOR NORTON**

#### **Council Committees and Working Groups**

- Asset Management Committee
- Audit Committee
- Boating Facilities Advisory Group
- Community Award Program  
Assessment Panel
- Loxton North Recreation  
and Grounds Committee
- Loxton Retirement Village Committee
- Loxton Riverfront Advisory Group

#### **Representative/delegate on External Committees or Working Groups**

- Riverland Local Government Forum
- Murray Mallee Riverland Local Government  
Association
- Riverland Biosecurity Alliance – Fruit Fly  
Working Committee
- South Australian Fruit Fly Standing  
Committee (SA Local Government  
Association representative)
- Murray Lands Riverland Regional  
Development Australia Board
- River Murray Environmental Projects Group
- Riverland Regional Development Assessment  
Panel

# COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES

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## Elected Member Committee Representation Pre Local Government Elections (November 2022)



**CR SONYA  
ALTSCHWAGER**

**Council Committees  
and Working Groups**

- Asset Management Committee
- Loxton Recreation Grounds Committee
- Loxton Riverfront Advisory Group

**Representative/delegate  
on External Committees  
or Working Groups**

- Loxton Community Centre
- Loxton Neighbourhood Watch Committee
- Loxton High School Council



**CR JODY FLAVEL**

**Council Committees  
and Working Groups**

- Asset Management Committee (Chairperson)
- Audit Committee
- Loxton Retirement Village
- Loxton Riverfront Advisory Group



**CR JORDANN  
KLEEMANN**

**Council Committees  
and Working Groups**

- Waikerie Delivers 2018 – 2022 (merged with Waikerie Ramco Recreation Grounds Committee 2022)
- Waikerie Ramco Recreation Grounds Committee
- Community Award Programme Assessment Panel

**Representative/delegate  
on External Committees  
or Working Groups**

- Waikerie Community Sports Centre

# COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES

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## Elected Member Committee Representation Pre Local Government Elections (November 2022)



**CR CLIVE MATTHEWS**

### **Council Committees and Working Groups**

- Asset Management Committee
- Australia Day Selection Panel
- Community Award Programme Assessment Panel
- Boating and Riverfront Facilities Plan
- Waikerie Ramco Recreation Grounds Committee

### **Representative/delegate on External Committees or Working Groups**

- Waikerie Health Advisory Council
- Waikerie High School



**CR DEB THIELE**

### **Council Committees and Working Groups**

- Asset Management Committee
- Audit Committee
- Australia Day Selection Panel
- The Pines Management Committee
- Loxton Riverfront Advisory Group

### **Representative/delegate on External Committees or Working Groups**

- Loxton Health Advisory Council
- Loxton Chamber of Commerce
- Loxton High School – Independent Learning Centre



**CR MICHAEL VOWLES**

### **Council Committees and Working Groups**

- Asset Management Committee
- Audit Committee
- Loxton Riverfront Advisory Group

# COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES

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## Elected Member Committee Representation Pre Local Government Elections (November 2022)



**CR PETER WALKER**

### **Council Committees and Working Groups**

- Asset Management Committee
- Audit Committee
- Australia Day Selection Panel
- Waikerie Ramco Recreation Grounds Committee

### **Representative/delegate on External Committees or Working Groups**

- Murray Darling Association Region 5 Committee
- CORES (Communities Response to Eliminating Suicide)
- Waikerie Cemetery Committee
- Riverland Community Suicide Prevention Network



**CR KYM WEBBER**

### **Council Committees and Working Groups**

- Asset Management Committee
- Waikerie Delivers 2018-2022 (merged with Waikerie Ramco Recreation Grounds Committee 2022)
- Waikerie Ramco Recreation Grounds Committee
- Boating and Riverfront Facilities Plan

### **Representative/delegate on External Committees or Working Groups**

- Murray Darling Association Region 5 Committee
- Riverland Local Government NRM Advisory Group of the SA Murray Darling Basin NRM Board
- Riverland West Landcare
- Riverland West Chamber of Commerce
- Waikerie Community Arts Centre



**CR TERRY WHEELDON**

### **Council Committees and Working Groups**

- Asset Management Committee
- Australia Day Selection Panel
- Loxton Recreation Grounds Committee
- Boating and Riverfront Facilities Plan

### **Representative/delegate on External Committees or Working Groups**

- Loxton Health Advisory Council

# COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES

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## Elected Member Committee Representation Post Local Government Elections (November 2022)



*Pursuant to Section 41 (6) of the Local Government Act the Mayor is appointed as ex-officio to all committees established pursuant to section 41 of the said Act.*

### **MAYOR TREVOR NORTON**

#### **Council Committees and Working Groups**

- Asset Management Committee
- Audit Committee
- Australia Day Selection Panel
- Loxton North Recreation Grounds Committee
- Loxton Recreation Grounds Committee
- The Pines Management Committee
- Waikerie Ramco Recreation Grounds Committee
- Community Award Assessment Panel
- Flood Recovery Committee
- Boating and Riverfront Facilities Plan
- Loxton Recreation Centre Project Control Group

#### **Representative/delegate on External Committees or Working Groups**

- Local Government Association of South Australia -delegate
- Local Government Finance Authority – AGM Council Representative
- Loxton Health Advisory Council (proxy)
- Murraylands & Riverland Local Government Association (proxy)
- Riverland Regional Assessment Panel (1/7/22 – 31/12/23)



### **DEPUTY MAYOR CR CLIVE MATTHEWS**

#### **Council Committees and Working Groups**

- Asset Management Committee
- Australia Day Selection Panel
- Waikerie Ramco Recreation Grounds Committee
- Community Award Assessment Panel
- Flood Recovery Committee
- Sporting and Recreation Facilities Group
- Waikerie High School

#### **Representative/delegate on External Committees or Working Groups**

- Waikerie Health Advisory Council

# COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES

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## Elected Member Committee Representation Post Local Government Elections (November 2022)



### **CR SONYA ALTSCHWAGER**

#### **Council Committees and Working Groups**

- Asset Management Committee
- Loxton Recreation Grounds Committee
- Flood Recovery Committee

#### **Representative/delegate on External Committees or Working Groups**

- Loxton High School Council
- Loxton High School Independent Learning Centre
- Loxton Community Centre
- Loxton Neighbourhood Watch Committee
- Landscape SA Advisory Group



### **CR KENT ANDREW**

#### **Council Committees and Working Groups**

- Asset Management Committee
- Australia Day Selection Panel
- Waikerie Ramco Recreation Grounds Committee
- Flood Recovery Committee



### **CR CRAIG FERBER**

#### **Council Committees and Working Groups**

- Asset Management Committee
- Audit Committee
- Flood Recovery Committee

#### **Representative/delegate on External Committees or Working Groups**

- Loxton Chamber of Commerce
- Loxton Health Advisory Council
- Murray Darling Association Region 5 Committee
- Loxton Christmas Lights Committee

# COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES

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## Elected Member Committee Representation Post Local Government Elections (November 2022)



**CR JODY FLAVEL**

### **Council Committees and Working Groups**

- Asset Management Committee
- Audit Committee
- Loxton Retirement Village Committee
- Flood Recovery Committee
- Sporting and Recreation Facilities Group



**CR SONIA FOWLER**

### **Council Committees and Working Groups**

- Asset Management Committee
- Waikerie Ramco Grounds Committee
- Community Award Assessment Panel
- Flood Recovery Committee

### **Representative/delegate on External Committees or Working Groups**

- Waikerie Historical Society
- Waikerie Health Advisory Council



**CR MICHELLE HILL**

### **Council Committees and Working Groups**

- Asset Management Committee
- Australia Day Selection Panel
- Loxton North Recreation Grounds Committee
- The Pines Management Committee
- Flood Recovery Committee
- Sporting and Recreation Facilities Group

### **Representative/delegate on External Committees or Working Groups**

- Loxton District Landcare
- South Australian Fruit Fly Standing Committee (LGA Representative)
- Riverland Biosecurity Alliance – Fruit Fly Working Committee

# COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES

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## Elected Member Committee Representation Post Local Government Elections (November 2022)



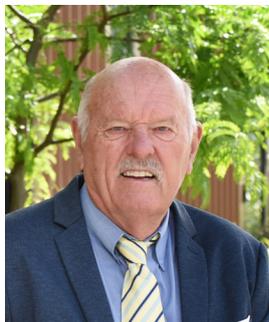
**CR IAN LIGHT**

### **Council Committees and Working Groups**

- Asset Management Committee
- Australia Day Selection Panel
- Waikerie Ramco Recreation Grounds Committee
- Flood Recovery Committee

### **Representative/delegate on External Committees or Working Groups**

- Riverland West Chamber of Commerce
- Waikerie Neighbourhood Watch



**CR GARY PFEILER**

### **Council Committees and Working Groups**

- Asset Management Committee
- Audit Committee
- Loxton North Recreation Grounds Committee
- Flood Recovery Committee
- Sporting and Recreation Facilities Group

### **Representative/delegate on External Committees or Working Groups**

- Murray Darling Association Region 5 Committee



**CR MICHAEL VOWLES**

### **Council Committees and Working Groups**

- Asset Management Committee
- Audit Committee
- Loxton Retirement Village Committee
- Flood Recovery Committee
- Sporting and Recreation Facilities Group

# CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

*I am honoured to present Council's Annual Report showcasing our community's resilience, dedication, and outstanding accomplishments during the 2022-23 financial year.*

The past year has presented us with several formidable challenges, the foremost being the Murray River Flood. The need for extensive preparation, managing the prolonged duration, and orchestrating the recovery efforts demanded extraordinary commitment from our staff. I want to take this opportunity to acknowledge and express my deepest gratitude to our dedicated team for their unwavering commitment to our district. Their tireless efforts ensured the safety and well-being of our community.

Additionally, we faced the challenge of limited available contractors to complete our Council works program. This resulted in the postponement of some projects to the 2023-24 financial year. While this posed a challenge, it has also provided us with an opportunity to strategize and refine our project management approach to better serve our community in the future.

Despite these challenges, our community has seen remarkable accomplishments over the past year:

- The Loxton Retirement Village Community Centre

stands as a testament to our commitment to providing our aging population with a safe and vibrant living environment. The Community Centre will serve as a hub of activity, fostering a sense of belonging and community among our retirees.

- We have also expanded our housing options for seniors by adding new units to the Loxton Retirement Village. This initiative aligns with our goal of ensuring that all members of our community have access to suitable accommodation.
- The refurbishment of the McCoy Street toilets in Waikerie has enhanced the quality of experience for both residents and visitors to the Waikerie CBD, aligning with a main priority for us in ensuring clean and functional public facilities.
- The sealing of Taplan Road to the Taplan township has improved connectivity and safety for all road users and bolstered the resilience of our local road heavy vehicle networks in moving freight more efficiently, promoting economic growth and making our community more accessible.
- Council has once again kept its rates at low comparison levels while maintaining a strong financial position and balance sheet. This prudent financial management ensures our continued ability to deliver essential services.

I would like to extend a warm

welcome to our new Mayor, Trevor Norton, who has assumed his role with dedication and enthusiasm. I also want to acknowledge the invaluable contributions of our former Mayor, Leon Stasinowsky, who served Council for an impressive 40 years. His dedication and service to our community are truly commendable.

A warm welcome to our newly elected councillors: Craig Ferber, Michelle Hill, Sonia Fowler, Gary Pfeiler, Kent Andrew, and Ian Light. Your passion and commitment to our community are greatly appreciated, as we look forward to achieve our collective vision.

The past year has presented us with challenges that highlighted the community's resilience and unity. Together, we have achieved remarkable milestones, and I am confident that our mutual efforts will continue to drive progress and prosperity in our area.

Thank you for your unwavering support, and I look forward to another year of growth, collaboration, and success.



**David Beaton**  
Chief Executive Officer

# GOVERNANCE STATEMENT



# DECISION MAKING STRUCTURE

## Local Government Act 1999 - Section 41

*Council believes strongly in open and accountable local government and has established community-based committees to offer advice and make recommendations under Section 41 of the Local Government Act.*

Council is actively working towards structures that facilitate positive community engagement, not just in the form of consultation, but also assisting

in the formation of plans and decision making. To date, the assistance of reference and advisory groups has assisted with this process.

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. Agendas and minutes of the committee meetings are also available on the Council website: [lwdc.sa.gov.au](http://lwdc.sa.gov.au)

Council Officers have delegated authority to make certain decisions under the direction of Council whilst other decisions will be referred to Council. Delegations under various acts of legislation and policies of Council are noted within Council's delegations register.

Council website:  
[lwdc.sa.gov.au](http://lwdc.sa.gov.au)

*District Council of Loxton Waikerie  
- Delegation Register*

## SECTION 41 COMMITTEES

COMMITTEE	PURPOSE OF COMMITTEES
<b>Asset Management</b>	<p>Review Council's asset portfolio to identify opportunities and develop policies to reduce the financial impact on Council's operating position and strengthen its financial sustainability.</p> <p>Investigate consistency in treatment across community groups and sporting organisations and their respective lease and license arrangements.</p> <p>Development and review of Community Land Management Plans.</p>
<b>Audit</b>	<p>Pursuant to Section 126 (1) of the Local Government Act 1999: A council must have an audit committee.</p> <p>The function of an audit committee include, but are not limited to – the review of annual financial statement, strategic management plans or annual business plan, liaising with Council's auditor and reviewing internal controls.</p>
<b>Flood Recovery</b>	<p>Provides strategic direction and input to the recovery process for the district. Areas affected have included roads, homes, rural buildings, community infrastructure and the economic capacity of the region and the effects on mental health of residents.</p>
<b>Loxton North Recreation Grounds</b>	<p>Maintenance and administration of the Loxton North Recreation Grounds.</p>

# SECTION 41 COMMITTEES

COMMITTEE	PURPOSE OF COMMITTEES
<b>Loxton Recreation Grounds</b>	To assist Council in relation to recreation grounds and facilities under the care and management of Council within the Loxton township.
<b>Loxton Retirement Village</b>	Management of the Loxton Retirement Village.
<b>The Pines Management</b>	Maintenance of the character and attend to the upkeep of The Pines Historic Home.
<b>Sporting and Recreation Facilities</b>	Provides information, advice and recommendations to Council in relation to the breadth of sports, recreation and facility matters throughout the community.
<b>Waikerie Ramco Recreation Grounds Committee</b>	Maintenance and administration of the Waikerie Ramco Recreation Grounds and provide a conduit to Council for the community.

## Other Council Committees, Panels or Working Groups

COMMITTEE	PURPOSE OF COMMITTEES
<b>Riverland Building Fire Safety (Regional)</b>	Responsible, under the Planning Development & Infrastructure Act 2016, for building fire safety matters.
<b>Riverland Regional Assessment Panel</b>	Pursuant to Section 84(1)(a) and Schedule 8, Clause 13(1)(a) of the Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016, as a relevant authority.
<b>Community Award Program Assessment</b>	To advise Council staff regarding assessment of applications/nominations for Community Awards.
<b>Loxton Riverfront Advisory</b>	To make recommendations for potential upgrades to the Loxton Riverfront.
<b>Waikerie Sporting Precinct Masterplan Consultative Forum</b>	Stakeholders provided the opportunity to add input into the development of a draft masterplan for the future development of the precinct.
<b>Loxton Library / VIC Building Working Group</b>	Provide the opportunity for collaborative input into the development of a draft masterplan for the future development.
<b>Historical Collections Working Group</b>	Formalising Council policy surrounding archiving and recording methods, systems to assess digital and physical material, ownership of archived material and location/s for physical storage and requirements to protect the collections.

Agendas and minutes of committees of Council are available on Council's website: [lwdc.sa.gov.au](http://lwdc.sa.gov.au)

# ALLOWANCES PAID

## To Elected Members and Council Committee Members

*Elected Members receive an allowance as provided for under the Local Government Act 1999 for discharging their formal duties, which is set by the Remuneration Tribunal and adjusted annually by formula prescribed by the regulations.*

ELECTED MEMBERS ALLOWANCES AND BENEFITS	
Mayoral allowance	\$61,524 <i>Plus a fully maintained vehicle with limited private use within South Australia</i>
Deputy Mayoral allowance	\$19,226
Chairman of standing committees allowance	\$19,226
Elected Member allowance	\$15,381

ADDITIONAL ALLOWANCES PAYABLE	
For those members (excluding the principal member) whose usual place of residence is at least 30km but less than 50 km from the principal office. One Member	\$454 per annum
For those members (excluding the principal member) whose usual place of residence is located at least 50km but less than 75km from that Council's principal office. Two Members	\$775 per annum
For those members (excluding the principal member) whose usual place of residence is located at least 75km but less than 100km from that Council's principal office. Three Members	\$1,162 per annum
Independent Chair of the Audit Committee	\$1,250.00 per meeting
<b>Riverland Regional Assessment Panel</b> <i>Note: Shared across the three Councils</i>  <i>1 July 2022 - 31 December 2023 - DCLW Elected Member</i> <i>1 January 2023 - 30 June 2023 - RPC Elected Member</i>	Independent presiding member sitting fee: \$750.00 Independent member (three) sitting fee: \$400.00 Council appointment representative (one), appointed on a rotational basis across the Councils: \$350.00

# TRAINING, SEMINARS AND CONFERENCES

## Training and Development for Elected Members

*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 2022-23.*

A periodical election was held in November 2022 and as such, both terms of Councillors have been included in the report, attending the following:

### **JULY 2022 - NOVEMBER 2022** Pre Local Government Elections

<b>NAME</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>DETAILS</b>
<b>Mayor Leon Stasinowsky</b> (Mayor)	28 October 2022	Local Government Association AGM & Conference.
<b>Cr Trevor Norton</b> (Deputy Mayor)	28 October 2022	Local Government Association AGM & Conference.
<b>Cr Sonya Altschwager</b>	24-25 August 2022	Local Government Association Roads & Works Conference.
<b>Cr Jody Flavel</b>	28 October 2022	Local Government Association AGM & Conference.
<b>Cr Jordann Kleemann</b>	Nil	
<b>Cr Clive Matthews</b>	Nil	
<b>Cr Deb Thiele</b>	Nil	
<b>Cr Michael Vowles</b>	Nil	
<b>Cr Peter Walker</b>	Nil	
<b>Cr Kym Webber</b>	Nil	
<b>Cr Terry Wheeldon</b>	24-25 August 2022	Local Government Association Roads & Works Conference.

# TRAINING, SEMINARS AND CONFERENCES

## Training and Development for Elected Members

### NOVEMBER 2022 - JUNE 2023 Post Local Government Elections

NAME	DATE	DETAILS
<b>Mayor Trevor Norton</b> (Mayor)	23 February 2023	Strategy & Finance Bundle facilitated by UHY Accounting at The Precinct Loxton
	24 March 2023	State/Local Government Economic Partnership Forum, Adelaide
	27 April 2023	ICAC Awareness Information Session, Berri
	10 May 2023	Murraylands Riverland Local Government Association Planning Day, Murray Bridge
	22 May 2023	Civic and Legal Bundle facilitated by Kelledy Jones, electronic session Loxton
	16 June 2023	Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) National General Assembly (NGA2023) Canberra
<b>Cr Clive Matthews</b> (Deputy Mayor)	3 December 2022	Civic and Legal Bundle facilitated by Norman Waterhouse at Remark Paringa Council Office
	23 February 2023	Strategy & Finance Bundle facilitated by UHY Accounting at The Precinct Loxton
	24 March 2023	State/Local Government Economic Partnership Forum, Adelaide
	15 May 2023	Local Government Association Deputy Mayor Forum held at LG House 148 Frome Street Adelaide
	16 June 2023	Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) National General Assembly (NGA2023) Canberra
<b>Cr Sonya Altschwager</b>	3 December 2022	Civic and Legal Bundle facilitated by Norman Waterhouse held at Remark Paringa Council Office
	3 February 2023	Docs on Tap Training facilitated by Harbour Software held at The Precinct Loxton
	23 February 2023	Strategy & Finance Bundle facilitated by UHY Accounting held at The Precinct Loxton

# TRAINING, SEMINARS AND CONFERENCES

## Training and Development for Elected Members

NAME	DATE	DETAILS
Cr Kent Andrew	3 February 2023	Docs on Tap Training facilitated by Harbour Software held at the Waikerie Council Office
	12 April 2023	Strategy & Finance Bundle facilitated by Kelledy Jones, held at the Berri Barmera Principal office
	22 May 2023	Civic and Legal Bundle facilitated by Kelledy Jones, electronic session at the Loxton Council office
Cr Craig Ferber	3 December 2022	Civic and Legal Bundle facilitated by Norman Waterhouse held at the Renmark Paringa Council office
	3 February 2023	Docs on Tap Training facilitated by Harbour Software held at the Precinct Loxton
	12 April 2023	Strategy & Finance Bundle facilitated by Kelledy Jones held at the Berri Barmera Council principal office
Cr Jody Flavel	12 April 2023	Strategy & Finance Bundle facilitated by Kelledy Jones held at the Berri Barmera Council principal office
	27 April 2023	ICAC Awareness Information Session, Berri
	22 May 2023	Civic and Legal Bundle facilitated by Kelledy Jones, electronic session Loxton office
Cr Sonia Fowler	3 December 2022	Civic and Legal Bundle facilitated by Norman Waterhouse held at the Renmark Paringa Council Office
	3 February 2023	Docs on Tap Training facilitated by Harbour Software held at the Waikerie Council office
	23 February 2023	Strategy & Finance Bundle facilitated by UHY Accounting, held at the Precinct Loxton
	27 April 2023	ICAC Awareness Information Session, Berri
Cr Michelle Hill	3 December 2022	Civic and Legal Bundle facilitated by Norman Waterhouse held at the Renmark Paringa Council office
	3 February 2023	Docs on Tap Training facilitated by Harbour Software held at The Precinct Loxton
	23 February 2023	Strategy & Finance Bundle facilitated by UHY Accounting held at The Precinct Loxton
	27 April 2023	ICAC Awareness Information Session, Berri

# TRAINING, SEMINARS AND CONFERENCES

## Training and Development for Elected Members

NAME	DATE	DETAILS
<b>Cr Ian Light</b>	3 December 2022	Civic and Legal Bundle facilitated by Norman Waterhouse held at the Renmark Paringa Council office
	3 February 2023	Docs on Tap Training facilitated by Harbour Software held at the Waikerie Council office
	23 February 2023	Strategy & Finance Bundle facilitated by UHY Accounting held at the Precinct Loxton
	27 April 2023	ICAC Awareness Information Session, Berri
<b>Cr Gary Pfeiler</b>	3 February 2023	Docs on Tap training facilitated by Harbour Software held at the Waikerie Council office
	23 February 2023	Strategy & Finance Bundle facilitated by UHY Accounting held at the Precinct Loxton
	27 April 2023	ICAC Awareness Information Session
	12 May 2023	Civic and Legal Bundle facilitated by Kelledy Jones, electronic session held at the Loxton
<b>Cr Michael Vowles</b>	3 February 2023	Docs on Tap Training facilitated by Harbour Software held at The Precinct Loxton
	23 February 2023	Strategy & Finance Bundle facilitated by UHY Accounting held at The Precinct Loxton
	22 May 2023	Civic and Legal Bundle facilitated by Kelledy Jones, electronic session held at the Loxton

# MEETINGS

## Attendance at Council Meetings

*Council Meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month commencing at 9:00am. Council meetings alternate between Loxton and Waikerie.*

Meetings in Loxton are held at The Precinct, and meetings in Waikerie are held in the Council Chamber. The public are welcome to attend all Council meetings.

Council agendas are available from the Council offices, website and a copy is provided at the

Council Meeting for public viewing.

Elected Members also sit on committees of Council and within the community, they are noted within the Annual Report - Elected Member Committee Representation.

### COUNCIL MEETING ATTENDANCE SCHEDULE 2022-23

Elected Members	Pre Local Government Elections July 2022 - November 2022		Post Local Government Elections November 2022 - June 2023	
	Council Meetings	Special Council Meetings	Council Meetings	Special Council Meetings
<b>L Stasinowsky</b> Mayor July 2022 - Nov 2022	4	1		
<b>T Norton</b> Dep. Mayor July 2022 - Nov 2022 Mayor Nov 2022 - June 2023	4	1	7	3
<b>Cr C Matthews</b> Councillor July 2022 - Nov 2022 Dep. Mayor Nov 2022 - June 2023	3	1	7	2
<b>Cr S Altschwager</b>	3	1	5	3
<b>Cr K Andrew</b>			6	3
<b>Cr C Ferber</b>			7	3
<b>Cr J Flavel</b>	3	1	6	3
<b>Cr S Fowler</b>			7	2
<b>Cr M Hill</b>			7	3
<b>Cr J Kleemann</b>	3	1		
<b>Cr I Light</b>			7	2
<b>Cr G Pfeiler</b>			7	3
<b>Cr D Thiele</b>	3	1		
<b>Cr M Vowles</b>	4	1	7	3
<b>Cr P Walker</b>	4	1		
<b>Cr K Webber</b>	4	-		
<b>Cr T Wheeldon</b>	4	-		
<b>Total Meetings Held</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>

# DELEGATION REGISTER

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## Local Government Act 1999

*Councils have a range of powers and functions to perform which are conferred under a number of different Acts of Parliament. 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. The delegations register is available to be viewed on the Council's website [www.lwdc.sa.gov.au/your-council/governance/delegation-register](http://www.lwdc.sa.gov.au/your-council/governance/delegation-register)

## POLICIES

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*Policies, codes of practice and codes of conduct are fundamental components of Council's good governance framework.*

Council uses them to:

- set direction
- guide decision making by the elected Council and administration; and
- inform the public about how Council will normally act.

Policies and codes are reviewed, as required either by legislation

or the direction of Council, firstly by the Policy Review Committee of Council and then referred to Council for consideration. The Policy Review Committee was dissolved in November 2019 and Policies and Codes were referred directly to Council.

Giving effect to policy direction is then the responsibility of the Chief Executive Officer and administration, this involves setting clear and detailed procedures to be followed by staff.

In addition to mandatory registers and codes, Council has a number of policies which can be viewed on Council's website.

All policies of Council are available for inspection at the Council offices in Loxton or Waikerie during business hours at no charge. Copies of the policies are also available from Council's website or postal copies may be obtained from the Council offices free of charge

# COUNCIL ELECTIONS

*The Local Government (Elections) Act 1999 provides for periodic Local Government elections to be held in November every four years.*

Council endorsed the Caretaker Policy and Guidelines and commenced training elected members and staff in the requirements of the Caretaker Period in preparation for the elections in 2022.

Information from the South Australian Electoral Office; at the close of nominations at 12 noon on Tuesday 6 September 2022, the following nominations were received and accepted for this election. In accordance with the Local Government (Elections) Act 1999.

The periodical election was held on the 11 November 2022.

Council had four members retire at the end of the 2018-2022 term, who did not stand for re-election.

- **Mayor Leon Stasinowsky**  
40 years service  
(1982-2022)
- **Cr Jordann Kleemann**  
4 years service  
(2018-2022)
- **Cr Deb Thiele**  
12 years service  
(2010-2022)
- **Cr Peter Walker**  
4 years service  
(2018-2022)

There were two candidates contesting the election of Mayor:

Formal ballot papers (4,477) Informal ballot papers (1) Election Quota (2,239)

CANDIDATES	FIRST PREFERENCE VOTES	ELECTED OR EXCLUDED	VOTES AT ELECTION OR EXCLUSION
<b>Trevor Norton</b>	2,686	Elected 1	Quota
<b>Bob Nicholls</b>	1,791		1,791

There were 13 candidates contesting 10 vacancies for the position of Councillor

Formal ballot papers (4,310) Informal ballot papers (211) Election Quota (392)

CANDIDATES	FIRST PREFERENCE VOTES	ELECTED OR EXCLUDED	VOTES AT ELECTION OR EXCLUSION
<b>Altschwager, Sonya</b>	565	Elected 1	Quota
<b>Fowler, Sonia</b>	558	Elected 2	Quota
<b>Vowles, Michael</b>	474	Elected 3	Quota
<b>Pfeiler, Gary</b>	436	Elected 4	Quota
<b>Hill, Michelle</b>	424	Elected 5	Quota
<b>Light, Ian</b>	346	Elected 6	Quota
<b>Ferber, Craig</b>	341	Elected 7	Quota
<b>Flavel, Jody</b>	288	Elected 8	Quota
<b>Matthews, Clive</b>	235	Elected 9	Quota
<b>Andrew, Kent</b>	193	Elected 10	Quota
<b>Simes, Frances</b>	134	Excluded	212
<b>Wheeldon, Terry</b>	196		308
<b>Webber, Kym</b>	120	Excluded	146

Of the members of the Council in the 2018-2022 term, Councillors not re-elected were:

- **Cr Kym Webber**  
16 years service  
(2006-2022)
- **Cr Terry Wheeldon**  
4 years service  
(2018-2022)



# CORPORATE STATEMENT



# STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

## CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAM

### OUR ENVIRONMENT - Responsibly manage our built and natural environment.

Loxton Library & Visitor Information Centre - Build a new Loxton Library and Visitor Information Centre in the Old Council Office. Project to be staged over two financial years. Includes demolition of Old Library to allow for New Toilets.	Carry Forward
Roads - Re-sheeting - Re-sheeting to be undertaken in accordance program as approved by Council.	Completed
Loxton Retirement Village New Unit Development - Construction of 8 new Units.	Carry Forward
Waikerie Stormwater Project - Construction of Stormwater retention dam for water reuse as irrigation.	Carry Forward
Plant - Replacement of various Plant and Fleet items.	Partial Carry Forward
Waikerie Community Centre Re Roofing - Re Roof the Waikerie Recreation Centre.	Carry Forward
Loxton Retirement Village Unit Refurbishment - General Refurbishment and changeover refurbishment.	Carry Forward
Loxton Town to River Project - Create accessible and inclusive connectivity between Loxton's main street, East Terrace, and the riverfront precinct.	Carry Forward
Loxton CWMS- Pump Station and Chamber Upgrades - Upgrades to a number of CWMS pump and chambers.	Carry Forward
Roads - Reseals - Resealing road network Road as per program approved by Council.	Completed
Waikerie Jetty Replacement - Replacement of Jetty.	Carry Forward
Loxton Tennis Court Lights - New light development at the Loxton Tennis Club lawn court area.	Carry Forward
Replacement kerbs and footpaths - Replacement of kerbs and footpaths in Loxton and Waikerie Area.	Carry Forward
Refurbishment of WA1 - Waikerie - Refurbishment of the CWMS pump.	Completed
Waikerie Boat Ramp - Additional funding required to complete Waikerie Boat Ramp #2.	Carry Forward
Stormwater - Loxton - Stormwater improvements in the Loxton Area.	Carry Forward

# STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAM	
Waikerie Volunteer Group Sheds- 5 bay shed located with other service groups of men's shed, rotary and lions.	Carry Forward
Beautification of the Kingston on Murray Riverfront - Signage to deter trailers being parked on lawn, install recycled bollards to delineate area and a Swing set.	Carry Forward
Hentschke Rose Garden Carpark - Removal of roses, leaving a section on the north end as a tribute to the Hentschke family and the existing plaques, Pram ramp crossings to get to Woodleigh.	Carry Forward
Loxton Swimming Pool Fencing project - Current fence is non-compliant. Tubular fencing similar to the Precinct to be installed.	Completed
Formalised carpark - McIntosh and Fourth Street crossover - Establish a semi formalised carpark including irrigation line run through this area.	Completed
Waikerie cemetery stormwater mitigation.	Carry Forward
Gavle Stairs at Cliff Street - Complete Galvanised steel staircase at Cliff Street Waikerie - Snake Gully area.	Completed
Waikerie Riverfront exercise equipment - Relocate the existing equipment in the Water & Nature Play Park to the riverfront. Purchase and install exercise equipment along the Waikerie riverfront.	Carry Forward
Kirby Street effluent line - Replacement of the effluent line on Kirby Street.	Carry Forward
Kirby Street Stormwater - Stormwater improvements at Kirby Street.	Carry Forward
Stormwater - Waikerie Bowling Club - Investigation into stormwater runoff pooling in the parklands adjacent to the Waikerie netball/tennis courts.	Carry Forward
Holder Pontoon - Installation of pontoons.	Carry Forward
Tourism Frames - Installation of Tourism Frames across the district.	Carry Forward
Loxton CWA Toilet Upgrade - The works include toilet upgrade, minor changes to front toilet to make accessible and front entrance ramp/access upgrades.	Carry Forward
Waikerie Hockey Oval Irrigation - Supply and install new stainless steel fabricated fittings and new filter to handle current flowrate including lockable cage. Installation of sustaining valve.	Completed
Pram ramps - Renewal installation of pram ramps in Loxton and Waikerie Area.	Carry Forward

# STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

## CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAM

Loxton Squash Club Building Upgrades - Roof repairs and building upgrades.	Completed
Update Industrial signage - Waikerie - Review of Waikerie Industrial signs.	Carry Forward
Ramco Oval Toilet Refurbishment - Refurbishment to the public toilet at the Ramco Toilet Oval.	Completed
Waikerie Memorial Toilet Refurbishment - Refurbishment to the public toilet at the Waikerie Memorial Park.	Completed
DCLW Cemetery signs - To allocate signs to all Loxton Cemeteries.	Completed

## INNOVATION AND EXCELLENCE - Being an organisation that has a constructive culture and the capacity to be innovative, effective and efficient in delivering quality services to the community.

ICT Upgrades – Replacement of Information Technology hardware.	Completed
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## STRATEGIC PROJECTS

### OUR COMMUNITY - Actively enhancing the quality of life of our communities by encouraging health, wellbeing and safety.

Local History Officer - Support the ideas of the DCLW History Collection Working Group to begin digitising the library photographic collection and organise the items collected. The project will enable community access to these items.	Completed
Pines Projects - Projects as per pines committee.	Completed

### OUR ECONOMY - Encouraging and supporting a strong diverse economy that will provide prosperity, growth and employment opportunities for our community.

Arts Officer and Programming – Partnership with Country Arts SA.	In Progress
Tourism IT Maintenance / Subscriptions / Tourism Websites - Continue with Spend Map and tourism website and subscriptions.	Completed

### OUR ENVIRONMENT - Responsibly manage our built and natural environment.

Sturt Street Playground - Removal of old playground equipment, beautify area.	Completed
Kingston on Murray - CWMS - HRAP Project - Continued partnership with Flinders University and LGA for wastewater research at Kingston on Murray.	Completed

# STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

STRATEGIC PROJECTS	
Waikerie Community Sport Centre - Gym Equipment - Year 3 of 3 Lease replacement Gym Equipment for the Waikerie Community Sports Centre.	Completed
Trees and seating along western end of the Waikerie Riverfront - Plant trees and install seating along the Western end of the Waikerie Riverfront (Boat Ramp #2 end).	Completed
Removal of Athel Pines on Cliff Street.	Completed
Luther Road Dam Beautification - Works include Removal of old tree stumps, Mulch area, Install new irrigation, Plant medium size trees.	Completed
Waikerie Swimming Pool Painting - Biannual Maintenance scheduled every 2 years.	Completed
Termite inspection of all Council leased buildings - Undertake a termite inspection of all Council buildings within the first 12 months of the lease. Inspections will then be carried out on a needs basis as suggested by the Contractor.	Completed
Council contribution to Plan SA project – Murray Mallee Plan - The State Government will commence work on the Murray Mallee Plan, to meet the requirements of the Planning Development and Infrastructure Act.	Carry Forward
This will help to ensure the Plan is applicable to our Council area and the broader Riverland environment.	Carry Forward
Code Amendments – Council Contributions - This funding will allow the Council to consider requests for assistance with Code amendments, or to provide some assistance with planning for specific infrastructure requirements.	
<b>INNOVATION AND EXCELLENCE - Being an organisation that has a constructive culture and the capacity to be innovative, effective and efficient in delivering quality services to the community.</b>	
ICT Projects - Implementation of initiatives to improve and enhance Council's information technology delivery.	Completed
Land and Building Revaluations - Full Revaluation due to legislative requirements for Financial Statements/ Accounting Standards	Completed
Disability Access & Inclusion Plan, and Ageing Well Strategy Actions - Complete actions from the Disability Access and Inclusion plan including; Software Improvements, Staff and Elected Member Training, Assistive technologies, infrastructure reporting/investigation.	Completed

# STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

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*District Council of Loxton Waikerie has a number of plans and strategies to enable us to deliver council services, undertake projects and develop long term thinking. The Local Government Act 1999 requires council to have a plan for its region.*

## STRATEGIC PLAN

The 2015 Strategic Plan for District Council of Loxton Waikerie is due for review and the 2023-2028 Strategic Plan document is currently in the process of being updated.

The Strategic Plan will provide the strategic planning framework and is the basis upon which Council determines its strategic platforms and then measures its performance against these in order to demonstrate its effectiveness to the community.

The Strategic Plan outlines Strategic Directions and was developed in consultation with the community, business and government stakeholders.

## GROWTH STRATEGY

The Loxton Waikerie Growth Strategy describes our plan for how the region should grow to become more liveable, competitive and sustainable. The Plan enables the establishment of a holistic vision for the next 25-years.

This vision will build on the work undertaken in the Community Plan and will guide Council's decision making and investment. The policies and strategies in

the Plan seek to build on the strengths of the region, such as its idyllic landscapes, strength in primary production and other key industries.

Given the spatial nature of the Growth Strategy, it will enable the State Planning Commission and Government of South Australia to utilise its contents to inform planning policy documentation including the Regional Plans.

The Growth Strategy has been available to the community for

public consultation. Council sought the community's input into the Plan to make sure it reflects the vision of our community as identified in our community plan. The data and feedback gathered will support the formulation of the final Growth Strategy and underpin key principles, priorities and projects for Townships and smaller settlements.

The Growth Strategy will be completed following additional community consultation in 2023.

## ARTS AND CULTURE STRATEGIC PLAN

The Arts and Culture Strategic Plan is currently in creation with public consultation planned.

The Arts and Culture Strategic Plan plays a key role in establishing opportunities for community arts education and participation, progressing artistic professionalism, showcasing the region's creative talent, creating a sense of shared identity for our community, stimulating local

economy, and promoting well-being.

Council plays the roles of provider, funder, partner, facilitator and advocate of arts and cultural development throughout the region.

Our region's arts, cultural heritage and creative industries are born out of its unique history. We work with the creative sector and the community to foster an environment in which creativity can flourish and grow because

we believe, that a harmonious and healthy community is actively engaged in arts and cultural activities.

Our arts and cultural activities will be underpinned by the Arts and Culture Strategic Plan 2023-2028. The key themes and goals will be developed as a result of conversations with the community and also support Council's key strategic priorities.

# COUNCIL FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

*Council maintained its strong financial performance during the 2022-23 financial year. Council achieved an operating surplus of \$0.217m. This result is \$1.398m more than Council's adopted budget deficit of \$1.181m.*

Maintaining an operating surplus is critical to ensuring all core services are delivered along with maintaining the of community

facilities, infrastructure, and open space assets under Council's control in accordance with our Asset Management Plans without creating a burden on future generations.

The following information highlights key aspects of the full Financial Statements contained in the Annual Report:

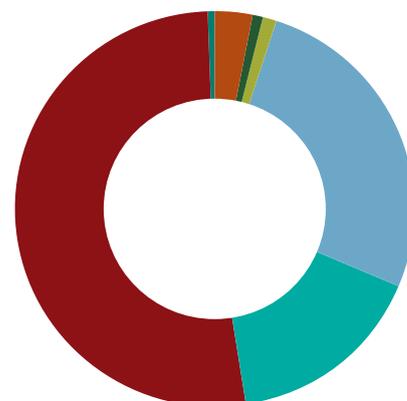
- attracted \$10.448m in grant funding to support council's operating activities. This includes \$1.972m for River Murray Flood Assistance
- attracted an additional \$4.623m in grant funding

for new and upgraded to Council infrastructure

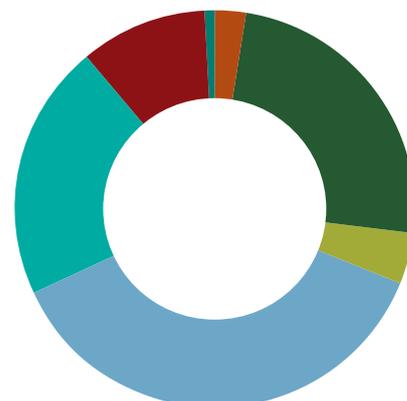
- \$28.036m in operating revenue with 51.4% coming from rates compared with 56.5% in 2021-22.
- \$27.819m in operating expenditure. Council incurred \$2.787m in expenditure related to River Murray Flood.
- Council's total assets increased by \$19.961m with Council's Infrastructure, Property, Plant and Equipment increasing by \$13.928m.

## FUNCTIONS & ACTIVITIES

INCOME	\$'000	%
Economic Services	938	3.3
Recreation & Culture	237	0.8
Regulatory Services	268	1.0
Transport	7,435	26.5
Housing & Community Amenities	4,524	16.1
Council Administration	14,493	51.7
Health	141	0.5
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>28,036</b>	



EXPENSES	\$'000	%
Economic Services	753	2.7
Recreation & Culture	6,730	24.3
Regulatory Services	1,148	4.1
Transport	10,289	37.1
Housing & Community Amenities	5,765	20.8
Council Administration	2,813	10.1
Health	231	0.8
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>27,729</b>	



# COUNCIL FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

Council is required to report on defined Key Performance Indicators (KPI) which measures the impact of the Council's financial performance and position on its long-term sustainability. Council's Long-Term Financial Plan establishes the target for the particular year, combined with target ranges adopted by Council.

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	YEAR	RESULT SURPLUS/ STATUS
<b>OPERATING SURPLUS</b> The operating result shows the financial performance of Council by looking at total income less expenses.	2022-23 Long Adopted Budget	(\$1,181,000)
	2022-23 Long Term Financial Management Plan Target	(\$1,181,000)
	2022-23 Financial Result	\$217,000
<b>OPERATING SURPLUS RATIO</b> The Operating Surplus Ratio is the operating surplus/(deficit) expressed as a percentage of general and other rates, net of rate rebates and revenues from the Regional Landscape levy.	2022-23 Adopted Budget	(8.45%)
	2022-23 Long Term Financial Management Plan Target	(8.45%)
	2022-23 Financial Result	0.8%
	<i>Council's target is to achieve, on average over time, an operating surplus ratio of 0%.</i>	
<b>NET FINANCIAL LIABILITIES</b>	2022-23 Adopted Budget	36%
	2022-23 Long Term Financial Management Plan Target	36%
	2022-23 Financial Result	4%
	<i>The Council's and the LGA target is to be greater than zero and less than 100% of total operating revenue.</i>	
<b>ASSET SUSTAINABILITY RATIO (ASSET MANAGEMENT PERFORMANCE)</b> Net asset renewal expenditure is defined as net capital expenditures on the renewal and replacement of existing assets and excludes new capital expenditure on the acquisition of additional assets. This ratio indicates whether the Council is renewing or replacing existing assets at the rate of consumption.	2022-23 Adopted Budget	127%
	2022-23 Long Term Financial Management Plan Target	127%
	2022-23 Financial Result	90%
	<i>A long-term average ratio of 100% would indicate that Council is investing adequately in maintaining its asset base. The annual target is between 90–110%.</i>	

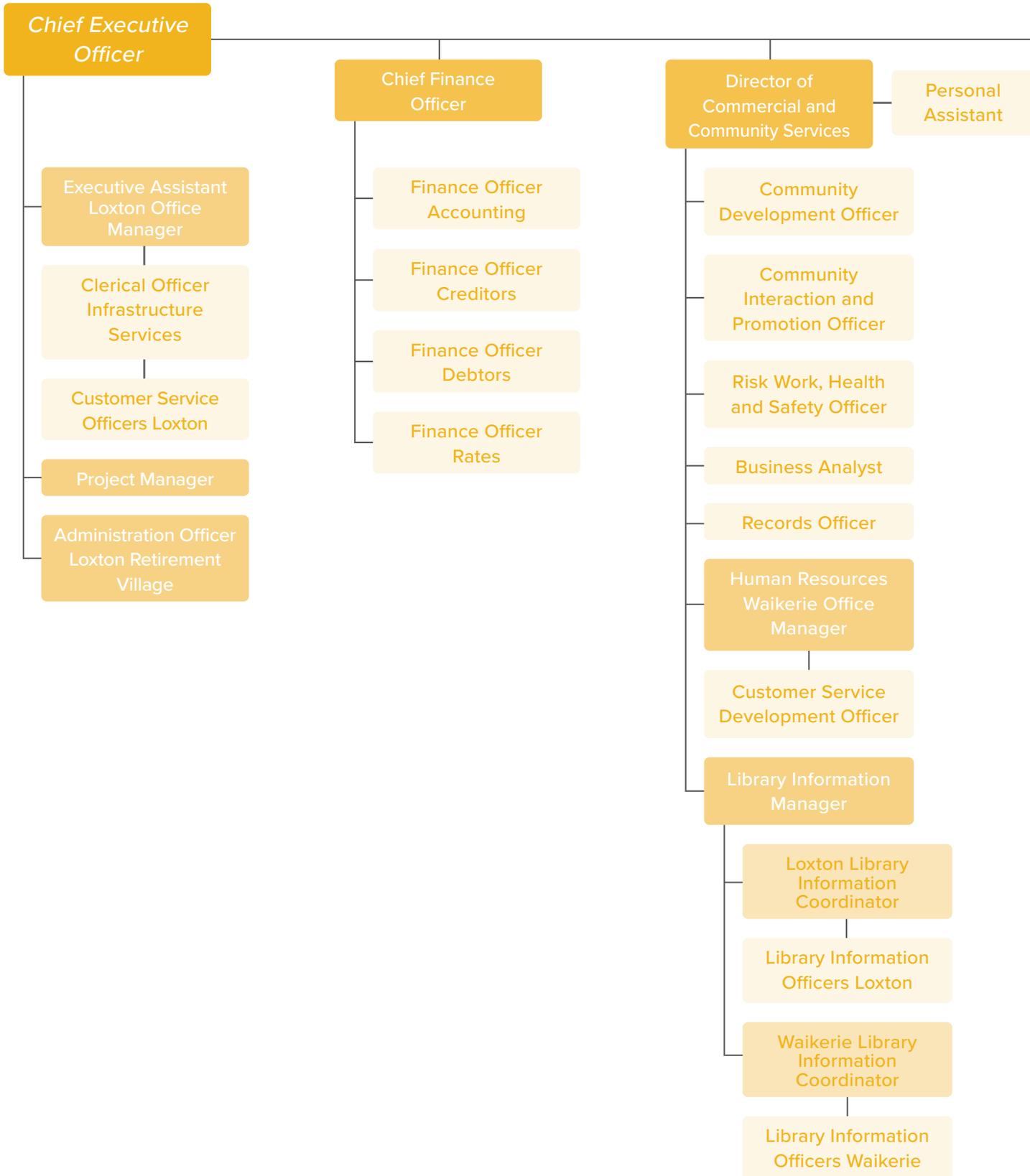
# RATING AND VALUATION SUMMARY

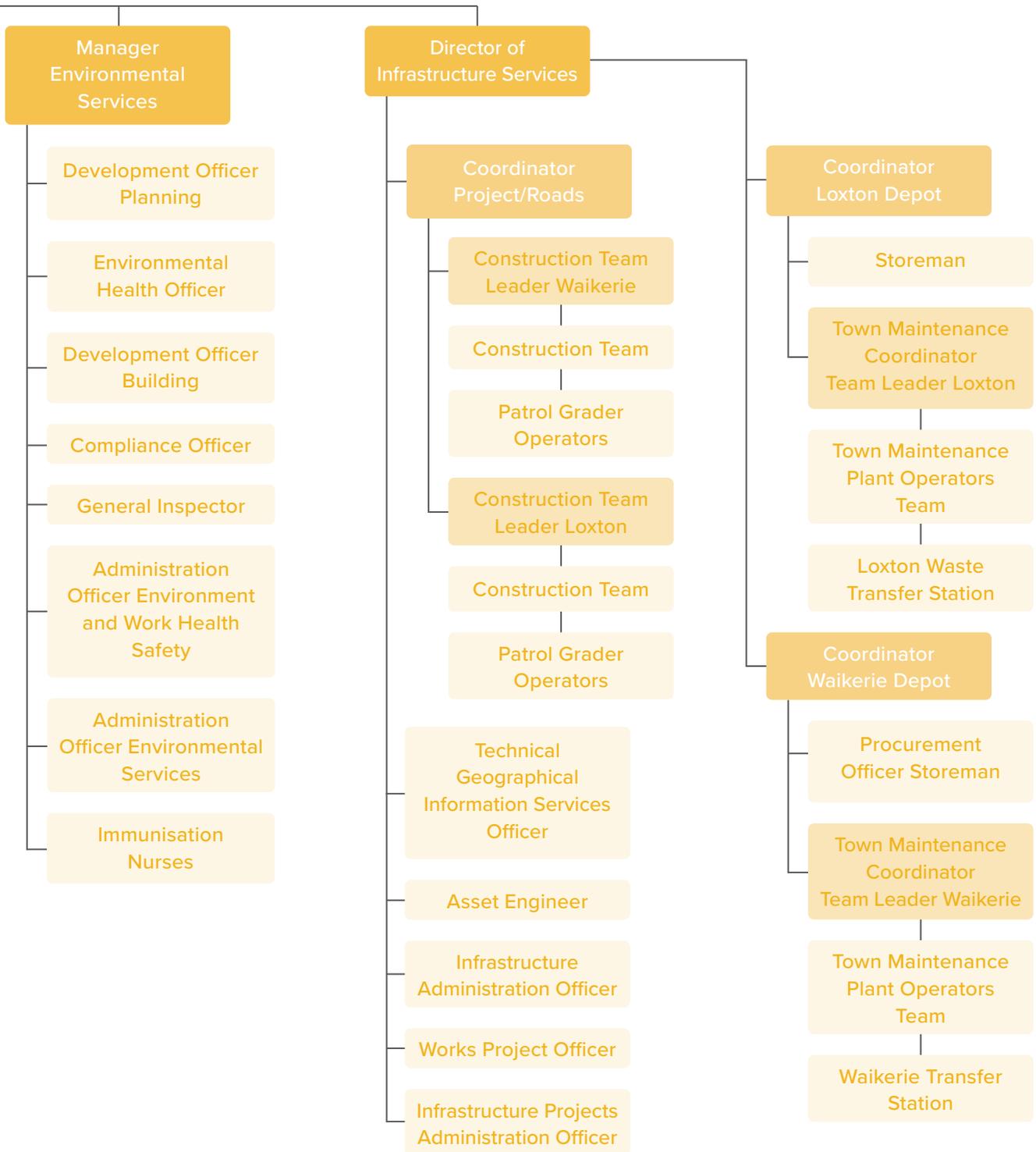
RATING COMPONENT		2021-22	2022-23
1	<b>FIXED CHARGE</b>	\$325	\$350
	Amount Total Collection	\$2,288,975	\$2,457,000
	% of Total Rates	22.3%	22.3%
2	<b>DIFFERENTIAL RATES</b>		
	1. In Town	\$2,451,371	\$2,574,540
	2. Out of Town	\$5,577,250	\$5,810,941
3	<b>VALUATION</b>		
	Rateable Land	\$2,337,946,560	\$2,698,218,182
	Non Rateable Land	\$54,865,180	\$61,801,338
	All Land	\$2,392,811,740	\$2,760,019,520
4	<b>SEPARATE RATE</b>		
	Catchment Board Contribution	n/a	n/a
	Catchment/NRM Levy	\$478,981	\$509,621

VALUATION COMPARISON	2021-22			2022-23		
	PROPERTIES	ASSESSED VALUE (\$)	% INCREASE	PROPERTIES	ASSESSED VALUE (\$)	% INCREASE
1 Residential	4621	1,093,337,867	9.83	4660	1,221,621,957	10.5
2 Commercial	382	101,880,409	1.93	373	102,898,393	0.99
3 Industry	96	33,356,512	10.07	96	35,967,512	7.26
4 Primary Production	2162	1,040,845,742	11.42	2165	1,260,231,136	17.41
5 Vacant Land	618	52,942,460	10.1	602	59,987,900	11.74
6 Other	239	15,583,570	5.28	246	17,511,284	11.01
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>8118</b>	<b>2,337,946,560</b>	<b>10.17</b>	<b>8142</b>	<b>2,698,218,182</b>	<b>13.35</b>

# STAFF ORGANISATIONAL CHART

As at 30 June 2023





# HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

The District Council of Loxton Waikerie is committed to a policy of equal opportunity in employment. The Council accepts that it has a responsibility to create an environment free from discrimination, and to ensure that the principle of merit operates unhindered by regard to irrelevant criteria.

## AWARD AND ENTERPRISE AGREEMENTS

The Australian Workers Union Enterprise Bargaining Agreement No.13 has been successfully negotiated and will be put in place in the next financial year for a period of 3 years ending 30 June 2025. The Australian Services Union Enterprise Bargaining Agreement No. 14 was successfully negotiated and will commence from 1 July 2023 for a period of 3 years, ending on 30 June 2026.

These agreements vary the wage and conditions of the Local Government Employees Award and the South Australian Municipal Salaried Officers Award to be organisation specific.

## EMPLOYEE MATTERS

At 30 June 2023 Council employed 87 staff equalling 76.5 Full Time Equivalent positions (FTE). There are 3 vacancies equalling an FTE of 2.3, bringing the total FTE to 78.8.

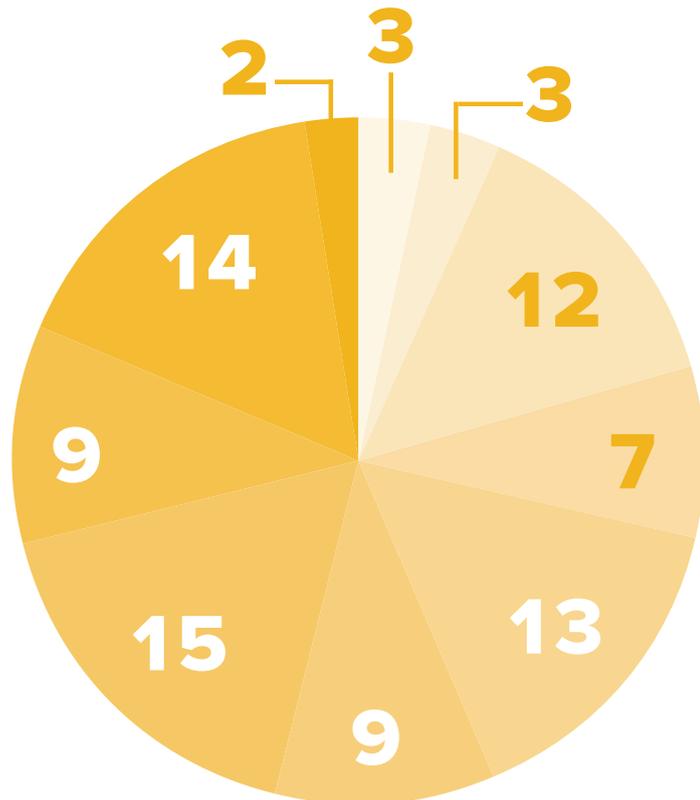
### New Employees

The total number of new employees engaged in 2022-23 is 14.

### Retirements/Resignations

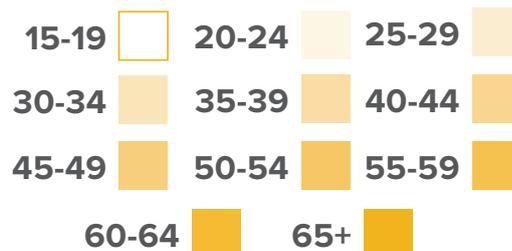
The total number of employees that left Council in 2022-23 is 21 which is significantly higher than previous years. On behalf of the Council and the community, we wish them all the very best for the future.

## AGE PROFILE FOR EMPLOYEES



### Total 90 Employees

Male Employees	49
Female Employees	38
Vacancies	3



# WORK HEALTH AND SAFETY

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## **Health and Wellbeing**

Council is committed to maintaining and improving the health and wellbeing of its workforce. As part of this commitment, Council encourages staff to take part in the Health and Wellbeing Program which is provided by the Local Government Association Workers' Compensation Scheme (LGAWCS) in conjunction with the Corporate Health Group. The program provides employees the opportunity to participate in screening and preventative programs and information sessions. These include:

- Healthy Lifestyle Program – Annual Health Assessments
- Positivity in Practice and Work Life Balance workshops
- Nutrition Seminar
- Annual Skin Cancer Screenings

In May each year Council runs a staff Flu vaccination clinic at Loxton and Waikerie, which has a high participation rate. For the first time in many years our Infrastructure staff were also offered the opportunity to participate in a vaccination program for coverage against Hepatitis A & B.

To maximise worker safety and wellbeing we continue to monitor what we are doing and how we do it, to maintain legal compliance in Work Health Safety. This is done by:

- Work Health and Safety Implementation Plan
- Continual improvement of Council's Contractor Management processes

- Documentation improvement in Hazard Management and use of hazardous chemicals.
- Further development of various document registers.

As council is self-insured, the Strategic Plan for Work Health and Safety requires Council to set its own Work Health and Safety objectives in accordance with the Return to Work Performance Standards for Self Insurers (PSSI), while integrating Work Health and Safety into the organisation's Strategic Management Plan.

Council continues to work on achieving these objectives by:

- Maintaining low incident rates
- Improving compliance with Work Health and Safety by improving Council's systems
- Assessing and maintaining a high level of safety for Employees, Contractors and Volunteers
- Participating in programs offered to assist Council in the improvement of Council's systems and practices
- Working closely with the Regional Risk Coordinator to improve Council's systems
- Conducting workplace inspections on a regular basis.
- Maintaining updated document registers
- Improving Council's procurement processes

## **Work Health Safety and Risk Committee**

Council's Work Health Safety and Risk Committee comprises equal representation of management and employees. The Work Health Safety and Risk Committee meets quarterly to address work health and safety issues. The committee has an ongoing commitment to Work Health and Safety to achieve the best policies, procedures and practices for the safety of all employees, contractors and volunteers.

## **WHS and Return to Work**

Continuous improvement underpins Council's approach to all its activities. The Work Health Safety and Injury Management Plan (containing specific WHS programs) ensures Council can identify key deficiency areas and measure the success of systematic targets designed to improve performance. Key areas of focus for 2022-23 were:

- Plant Procedure Review
- Plant Verification of Competencies
- WHS KPI Action Plan
- Improving the WHS Management System – Skytrust.

# WORK HEALTH AND SAFETY

## RISK MANAGEMENT

### ***Business Continuity Plan***

Council's Business Continuity Management Plan is reviewed annually to ensure the organisational capabilities support the continued achievements of critical business objectives in the face of uncertainty. This outlines the technical infrastructure, key responsibilities and processes that are required to enable Council to respond and recover from a business disruption.

### ***Training and Development***

All new staff are required to participate in a general induction process to ensure they are aware

of Council policies, procedures and systems. These include:

- Corporate Induction
- Work Health and Safety Induction

In addition, staff are required to attend a number of training and awareness programs applicable to their position including:

- Workplace Health and Safety
- Due Diligence
- ICAC Training for Public Officers
- Code of Conduct for Employees
- Bullying, Discrimination and Sexual Harassment
- Child Mandatory Reporting

Ongoing Work Health and Safety training programs are held for

new staff and staff who are due to renew their accreditation.

These included:

- Accident, Incident and Investigation
- Rehabilitation and Return to Work
- First Aid
- Workzone Traffic Management
- Emergency Warden Training
- Health and Safety Representative Course
- White Card Construction Training
- Asbestos Awareness and Handling
- Chemcert
- I-responda (Emergency Management Response Training)



# INFRASTRUCTURE STATEMENT



# FLOOD PREPARATION & RECOVERY

*The Murray River Floods in 2022 caused significant impacts across the state with devastating impacts to communities, business and infrastructure. The District Council of Loxton Waikerie committed considerable resources into preparing and protecting assets in the lead up to the peak, assessing and monitoring during the flood event and finally reinstating and repairing impacted areas post flood.*

The flood placed substantial workload on Council staff and local contractors, which caused other developments, plans and works to be put on hold, delayed and carried over. A total of \$2.78m in flood preparation,

restoration and clean up was incurred in the 2022-23 financial year with close to \$2m received from the State Government in grant funding.

In preparing for the flood, Council was regularly in contact with relevant agencies and created flood hazard mapping in determining predicted river heights, levee bank requirements and an emergency response plan. Infrastructure along our riverfronts such as roads, houseboat moorings, toilets, BBQ's, power, CWMS and boat ramps were assessed on what needed to be removed, isolated or protected. Levee banks were installed or reinstated in Kington on Murray, Waikerie, Loxton and Moorook to protect communities to a river height of up to 220GL.

To prepare and inform residents, increased communications occurred with flood information published on Council's website,

monthly newsletter, social media platforms and shared within community meetings.

During the peak of the event, assessment of levee integrity was monitored daily and a Flood Recovery Committee formed which included the Mayor, all Elected Members and various staff to enable quick responses and decisions. As the water receded, inspections and the reinstatement of infrastructure begun.

Major work such as road repairs and levee reduction/removal took place as well as clean up, reinstating storm water, power, CWMS and irrigation. Council continued to work closely with agencies such as Green Industries and Disaster Management Australia to provide information to residents on clean up, kerbside waste collection, insurance assessments and demolition.

LOCATION / INFRASTRUCTURE	ACTION TAKEN / DETAILS	ML AT BORDER / TRIGGER
<b>Flood Preparation</b>		
Loxton Town Wharf	Barrier mesh installed to prevent public access.	30,000
Loxton Boat Ramp pontoons	Access restricted and gang plank removed.	30,000
Qualco Boat Ramp	Infrastructure closed and signage installed at access points.	35,000
Moorook Riverfront	Buoys placed along Moorook Riverfront to maintain visibility during high water, 'submerged infrastructure' signage installed.	40,000
Loxton Town Wharf	Town wharf removed and power isolated by electrician.	45,000
Loxton Holiday Park	Installation of pump/water harvester and DefenCell levee.	50,000
Waikerie Town Jetty	Buoys placed at town jetty to maintain visibility during high water.	50,000
Waikerie Houseboat Moorings	Mooring posts were moved and installed, allowing houseboat owners to move their boats periodically during rising water levels.	50,000

# FLOOD PREPARATION & RECOVERY

Waikerie Boat Ramp (Edgar Bartlett Drive) Causeway	Roadway closed to public and road closure signs installed at access points.	50,000
Maize Island	Roadway closed to public and road closure signs installed at access points.	50,000
Riccuito Road	Roadway closed to public and road closure signs installed at access points	50,000
Holder Boat Ramp	Infrastructure closed and signage installed at access points.	55,000
Ramco Point Boat Ramp	Infrastructure closed and signage installed at access points.	55,000
Loxton Boat Ramp Pontoons	Pontoons removed.	55,000
Thieles Sand Bar	Roadway closed to public and road closure signs installed at access points.	55,000
Rilli's Reserve	Roadway closed to public and road closure signs installed at access points.	55,000
Loxton Riverfront	Riverfront closed to public and road closure signs installed at access points.	70,000
Habel Landing	Houseboat moorings moved and power isolated by electrician.	70,000
Loxton Boat Ramp	Access to boat ramp closed and closure signs installed.	70,000
Lions Park Toilets	Septic and power isolated by trades.	70,000
Lions/Aquatic Club BBQs	BBQs removed and power isolated by electrician.	70,000
Loxton Riverfront Effluent Pumps	Pumps removed and power isolated by electrician.	70,000
Loxton Riverfront Irrigation Pumps	Pumps removed and power isolated by electrician.	70,000
Loxton Holiday Park	Bottom half of caravan park closed.	70,000
Grant Schubert Drive	Roadway closed to public and road closure signs installed at access points.	70,000
Waikerie Riverfront BBQ's	BBQs removed and power isolated by electrician.	75,000
Waikerie Riverfront Pumps	Pumps removed/raised and power isolated by electrician.	75,000
Houseboat Moorings	Houseboat moorings moved to accommodate rising water level.	75,000
Milich Landing	Roadway closed to public and road closure signs installed at access points.	80,000
Moorook Riverfront Pump	Pump removed and power isolated by electrician.	90,000
Moorook Riverfront BBQs	BBQ's removed and power isolated by electrician.	95,000
Leonard Norman Drive	Roadway closed to public and road closure signs installed at access points.	105,000
District-wide	Stormwater blocked in all towns and pumped assessed.	150,000

# FLOOD PREPARATION & RECOVERY

Waikerie Ferry	Moved to upper platform – only impacted ferry operation for a few hours.	
District-wide	Council's GIS Officer captured AHD data, flow levels and levee heights periodically throughout flood.	
District-wide	Levee height assessment completed at Kingston on Murray, Loxton Historical Village and Moorook. Council moved to raise levees to tolerate a flow of 220,000ML.	
Online	Closure status of National Parks and camping areas provided on Council's website.	
<b>During Peak</b>		
District-wide	Levees within district assessed daily by staff/engineers.	Boxing day 2022
Online	Important flood updates published on Council's website daily, including a table of impacted infrastructure and their open/closed status.	
Online – social media	Important flood updates published on Council's social media platforms, including Loxton's Tree of Knowledge flood images.	
Online	Closure status of National Parks and camping areas provided on Council's website.	
<b>Flood Recovery</b>		
	Flood recovery committee developed including Mayor, Elected Members and key staff members, allowing decisions and actions on flood recovery to be made efficiently.	
	Levees across district were removed, though the Kingston on Murray Levee and CWMS Levee, and a portion of the Waikerie Riverfront Levee were battered to a minimum slope of 1:2, with final height appropriate to mitigate flows of 120GL across the border.	
District-wide	Infrastructure reinstated (where able), and updates provided on <a href="http://lwdc.sa.gov.au">lwdc.sa.gov.au</a> to residents about which areas remain out of action.	
	Communication to community continued online, providing small business support information, mental health assistance, insurance details, clean up timelines, Green Industry assessments.	
	Road repair across the district, with works continuing into 2023-24.	
	Waste disposal vouchers provided to residents by Green Industries SA for flood-affected waste, valid until 31 July 2023.	
	Portable toilets installed throughout the district in place of public toilets still uncommissioned.	
Kingston on Murray and Paisley	Skip bins provided by Green Industries SA at Paisley and Kingston on Murray to assist with flood recovery clean up, prior to kerbside collection commencing.	

# ROAD CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE

## RE-SHEETING

*Council has a total road network of 2,300km to maintain.*

Each financial year a number of roads are identified from the Asset Management Plan for re-sheeting whereby the crushed rock which has been

lost over the years of use due to vehicle traffic is replaced. In the 2022-23 financial year Council completed upgrades including Hogg Road and Biggins Road.

## TAPLAN ROAD SEALING

*Council has been successful in securing additional funding to complete the road sealing from Christie Road to the Taplan township.*

Council reconstructed and sealed 17km of Taplan Road in the 2022-23 financial year by securing Federal Funding, under the Heavy Vehicle Safety Productivity Program (HSVPP) to fund half of the total project cost. The sealing of Taplan Road improved driving conditions and safety for all road users and bolstered the resilience of our local road heavy vehicle networks moving freight more efficiently.

Taplan Road township resealing will continue in the 2023-24 financial year.



# ROAD CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE

## HEAVY VEHICLE SAFETY & PRODUCTIVITY PROGRAM (HVSP)

Funding was received through the Heavy Vehicle Safety & Productivity Program (HVSP) for upgrades to intersections identified from the B-Double Network Level Heavy Vehicle Route Assessments.

In the 2022-23 financial year Council completed upgrades

to various intersections where Council owned roads met with Department of Transport Infrastructure (DIT) roads through the District, improving overall safety for all road users. These upgrades will continue in the 2023-24 financial year.

## KERBING, FOOTPATHS & PRAM RAMP

Each year Council allocates funds to upgrade kerbs, footpaths and pram ramps to improve safety and accessibility to town centers, health services and other infrastructure and assets.

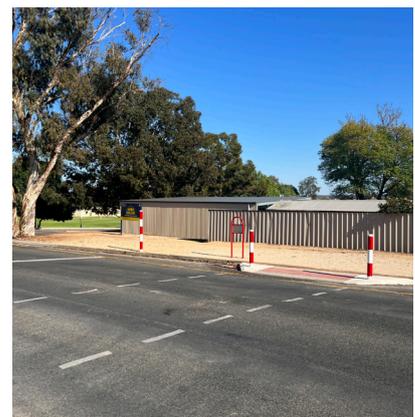
With a large footpath network Council has a key focus on upgrades to footpaths and infrastructure that improves safety and accessibility connecting the town centre, health services, schools, lifestyle villages and other infrastructure/assets.

In 2022-23 Council completed new school crossing zones at both Waikerie Primary School and Loxton Primary school with the installation of new pram ramps, guttering, signage and line marking.

Paving completed on Pflaum Terrace to compliment the Loxton Hotel alfresco dining area.



Waikerie Primary School Crossing



Loxton Primary School Crossing



Pflaum Terrace alfresco dining area

# PROJECTS

## LOXTON AND WAIKERIE BOAT RAMP AND PONTOON UPGRADE

Council was successful in receiving \$195,000 from the SA Boating Facilities Fund Stage 2 for the upgrade of the Edgar Bartlett Drive Boat Ramp and \$157,000 in funding through the Recreational Fishing, Boating and Camping Facilities Fund Grant to facilitate the upgrade of the Loxton Boat Ramp.

Both projects have improved the Riverfronts and will be widely used by visitors and locals.

### **Waikerie Boat Ramp**

The new Waikerie Boat ramp has new concrete dual boat ramp and floating pontoon, formalized rigging and derigging area, bituminised carpark, instillation of lighting and landscaping.

### **Loxton Boat Ramp**

The Loxton Boat ramp saw the upgrade and installation of a smartbar pontoon and assist railing.



Waikerie Boat Ramp



Loxton Boat Ramp

## HENTSCHKE ROSE GARDEN AND STURT STREET REDEVELOPMENT

The Sturt Street area was redeveloped and now includes irrigation, hardy plants and pathways to create a more useable urban space.

The Hentschke Rose garden is an established rose garden that recently underwent an upgrade. This area was beautified with new paving, garden beds, irrigation and mulch.



Hentschke Rose Garden



Sturt Street Redevelopment

# PROJECTS

## RIVERFRONT PING PONG TABLES

In 2022-23, local artists were engaged to transform outdoor ping pong tables for each major township.

Council published an expression of interest for local artists to submit their ideas for the tables, and the successful designs were selected by the community through a survey published online.

Loxton's table was brought to life by Lyn Anstey, who created a beautiful naturescape that pays tribute to the beautiful flora and fauna in the region.

Waikerie's ping pong table was transformed by Liz and Clint Frankel, who's design depicted their interpretation of 'Healthy River, Healthy Community', featuring citrus, flying swans and yabbies.

Waikerie's table was installed within the Water & Nature Play Park during 2023-24.



Loxton - Artwork by Lyn Anstey



Waikerie - Artwork by Liz & Clint Frankel

## WELCOME TO WAIKERIE SIGNAGE

The Waikerie Ramco Recreation Grounds Committee delivered the Welcome to Waikerie Signage as one of their main projects during 2022-23. The new signs enhance the entrances into the Waikerie township via Ian Oliver Drive, Taylorville Road and Ramco Road.



Welcome to Waikerie Signage

# PROJECTS

## LOXTON RETIREMENT VILLAGE UNITS

A 2019 economic development report of the Loxton Waikerie Council region highlighted the continued decline in working age people in the region and the significant increase in older residents.

The Loxton Retirement Village is a highly sought-after choice for older residents in Loxton and surrounds. The limiting factor with the Village is the capacity which cannot meet current demand. The existing 100 units were fully occupied with more than 140 residents on the waiting list.

To meet the increasing demand, Council applied for funding in Round 3 of the Murray Darling Basin Economic Development Program for the construction

of eight new two-bedroom independent living units with landscaping. The application was successful in obtaining \$1M to support the project.

Architectural and Engineering Designs were created and a request for quote for construction of the new units was sent to 4 local contractors. Request for quote was also issued for local civil works. Council worked closely with successful contractors Hand Built Homes, Alvanos Earthmoving and Creative Pools and Landscaping to deliver the project.

The units were completed in October 2023 and are currently fully occupied.



*Loxton Retirement Village new unit development upon completion*



*Vacant land prior to construction*



*Concrete pour of units 29 and 31*



*Framework of units 29 and 31*



*Aerial view of new unit development*



*Road surfacing along Jan Cass Crs*

# WASTE

## HARD WASTE PROVISION

Council provided a hard waste amnesty to residents throughout the month of May 2023 by way of a hard waste dumping voucher to the value of a 6 x 4 trailer at water level (\$90). The aim of the voucher was to subsidise the cost to dispose of unwanted or unused household waste at the Loxton, Waikerie or Moorook Waste Transfer Stations (WTS).

A total of 253 vouchers were collected from the Loxton and Waikerie Council Office and 167 of these vouchers were claimed.

Waste Transfer Station Location	No. of Vouchers Collected	No. of Vouchers Claimed
Loxton	115	71
Moorook		5
Waikerie	138	91
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>253</b>	<b>167</b>

## WASTE MANAGEMENT

The table below shows the total tonnage of waste transported to the Riverland Resource Recovery Facility in Monash from 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023.

Material Type	No. of Transactions	Lifts	Tonnes
Kerbside putrescible	472	235,978	2,179
Kerbside recyclables	219	104,451	758.65
Council transfer station	51	-	303.76
Organics	91	31,016	592.02
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>833</b>	<b>371,445</b>	<b>3,833.43</b>

From 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023, a total of 3,833.43 tonnes of waste sourced from collection across the district, entered the Riverland Resource Recovery Facility, 64.76% of this was sent to landfill, representing a diversion from landfill of 35.24%. This includes recyclables that have

been stockpiled on site for further processing.

Council engaged a new contractor to undertake the waste collection services in the district. The transition to the new contractor has bought new technology to the forefront with inbuilt mapping,

route location and monitoring cameras. Council conducts regular contract performance meetings with the contractor to monitor service delivery standards and the contractor's and Council's compliance with the conditions of the contract.

# ENVIRONMENT STATEMENT



# ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

*The Environmental Health section of Council continued to provide a broad range of public and environmental health services in 2022-23 to address aspects of the natural and built environment that may affect the health and wellbeing of the community.*

Key functions and responsibilities include education, monitoring and regulatory management of food safety and surveillance, notifiable disease investigation, mosquito and vector surveillance, wastewater system approvals, Legionella control, public swimming pool safety and other public health risk activities.

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

### **Food Safety**

- A new Food Safety Standard 3.2.2A was introduced in December 2022 and is due to be implemented by 8 December 2023. Only category 1 and 2 businesses will be impacted.
- Council's food businesses had to be reclassified as category 1 and 2 food businesses.
- Impacted food businesses were notified by email, through social media, visits, newspaper, radio, website.
- Food businesses were encouraged to attend the information session and feedback was that it was highly attended
- 30 community, sporting, and service groups were provided with a food temperature

probe, sanitising wipes, and an information pack to assist them with implementing the Food Safety Standard 3.2.2A.

*Table 1 shows the number of permanent, mobile, and temporary food businesses in the Loxton Waikerie Council area in 2022-23 and number of premises inspected.*

Business Inspections	
Number of businesses	240
Routine inspections	44
Follow up inspections	15
Inspections resulting from complaints	0

### **Swimming Pool Operation and Management**

- There are 11 swimming pools and one hydrotherapy pool within the Council area that are monitored by staff for public health compliance. During the summer period public swimming pools water quality was tested to ensure the essential requirements to maintain balanced water chemistry were met to protect public safety.

### **Mosquito Surveillance and Control**

- A total of 65,450 mosquitoes were trapped across the seven trap locations over the 2022-23 season. The average number of mosquitoes trapped across all trap locations was 735. This was an increase compared to the 2021-22 season (n=264) and the 2020-21 season (n=67).
- Of species identified, the most abundant species

trapped in the District Council of Loxton Waikerie was *Culex australicus* which accounted for 21.9% (n=14,331) of the total season catch. The second most abundant species was *Anopheles annulipes* which accounted for 17% (n=11,105) of the total season catch, followed by *Aedes camptorhynchus* which accounted for 13.9% (n=9,069) of the total season catch. *Culex annulirostris* accounted for 14% (n=6,728) of the total season catch.

- Murray Valley encephalitis virus (MVEV) and Kunjin Nile virus were detected in February/March 2023. The council responded with public messaging – via website, and by providing Fight the Bite leaflets to our event organisers, caravan parks, library, council offices, Council Depot. Corflutes were erected to public high-risk areas including the Riverfront, sporting grounds, dog parks, etc.
- The principal concern with mosquito nuisance was around the location of the Loxton boardwalk and Thiele's trap sites. These sites are close to town and known past breeding areas. Other areas of concern are around the Kingston on Murray trap site, as its very close to the caravan park and town centre, and Paisley as this is also close to the caravan park and private residences.

# ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

## Legionella Control

- Council has eight high risk manufactured water systems (HRMWS) within the area that are regulated for the control of Legionella under the Public Health Act and Regulations. During 2022-23, a new cooling tower was commissioned at one of the premises and was registered with Council.

## Septic Tank Maintenance

- Council continues to provide a septic tank pump-out service as part of the routine operation and maintenance of the Community Wastewater Management System (CWMS) for properties within the townships of Loxton, Waikerie, Moorook and Kingston-on-Murray. Approximately 870 septic tanks were de-sludged by Council's contractors during the 2022-23 year.
- Communication continued with property owners to highlight the importance of septic tank maintenance. Fact sheets are available to describe how to locate septic tank lids and bring risers to ground level, and the problems associated with flushing wipes.
- Aerobic Waste Treatment Systems (AWTS) are serviced every 3 months by authorised service agents and reports are forwarded to council as part of the installation approval. Approximately 200 service reports were received.
- A total of 64 wastewater works approval applications were received, which

included CWMS, aerobic, and onsite soakage systems.

- Two Compliance Notices were served on onsite wastewater systems that were not compliant.

## Functions of the Environmental Health Section

Council's public and environmental health functions are coordinated and undertaken by the Environmental Health Officer (EHO). The EHO administers these functions in accordance with the *Food Act 2001*; *Public Health Act 2011* and associated Regulations, Codes and Guidelines. The type of functions administered under the legislation include:

- Food safety
- Infectious disease

- investigations
- School immunisation programs
- Legionella control
- Hoarding and squalor premises
- Mosquito surveillance and control
- Public swimming pool safety
- Hairdresser and beauty salon inspections
- Wastewater systems management
- Public health education, promotion and planning
- General public health risk activities.

Operational statistics reflecting core environmental health activities undertaken during 2022-23 include:

## ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ACTIVITIES

<b>Routine food business inspections</b>	<b>44</b>
<b>Routine food audits of premises that service vulnerable people</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Food related complaints</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Routine public swimming pool inspections</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Public swimming pool investigations</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Infectious disease investigations</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Air pollution/odour/air quality/dust/noise complaints</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Wastewater system applications</b>	<b>64</b>
<b>Onsite plumbing inspections</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Discharge of waste investigations</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Mosquito related investigations</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>High risk manufactured water system registered and inspected</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Legionella investigation</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Hoarding and squalor complaint investigations</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>General health complaints</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Hairdresser inspections</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Skin Penetration (beauty) inspections</b>	<b>1</b>

# PLANNING

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*The Planning Development and Infrastructure Act 2016, the Planning and Design Code and SA Planning Portal are now in force for development assessment across all areas of South Australia.*

Most applications processed by Council during the reporting period were performance assessed applications which do not involve public notification and are dealt with by Council staff using delegated authority provided to them by the Riverland Regional Assessment Panel and the Regional Assessment Manager.

## **Riverland Regional Assessment Panel**

The Riverland Regional Assessment Panel (RAP) is charged with the responsibility of considering development applications where a proposal is subject to public notification. During the 2022-23 year, the RAP met on 6 occasions and considered 9 development applications on behalf of the Councils – 4 of these were on behalf of the Loxton Waikerie Council.

The current members of the RRAP are as follows:

Independent members: Geoff Parsons (Presiding Member), Michael Doherty, Julie Lewis, and Stephen Smith.

Elected Member representatives: Mayor Trevor Norton (June to December 2022) and Cr James John (Renmark Paringa Council, for the period January to June 2023)

Each of the independent members has vast experience in urban and regional planning, and an excellent level of expertise to support the knowledge of planning staff in the three Councils. The Council representative role is shared on a rotational basis between the three Councils.

The administration and responsibility of compiling agenda, minutes and hosting the meetings is shared between the three Riverland Councils. Panel meetings are scheduled for the third Thursday of the month.

The Chief Executive of the Attorney General's Department appointed Cheryle Pedler, Manager Environmental Services as Assessment Manager in August 2021. Jordan Hunt, consultant to the Renmark Paringa Council was appointed as Assessment Manager in March 2023.

## **Environment Resources and Development Court Appeal Proceedings**

In certain circumstances, rights of appeal exist for applicants and representors in respect of Council decisions on Development Applications. Those appeals are lodged with the Environment, Resources and Development Court.

There were no appeals lodged during the 2022-23 financial year.

## **Strategic Planning**

The recent introduction of the Planning and Design Code has highlighted the need for continual review of policy for land use purposes. The Council engaged URPS to prepare a Growth Strategy for the region, highlighting the opportunities and challenges for the Council as we consider future development in the region. In time, it is intended that the Strategy will provide background information for the Murray Mallee Region Plan.

The Council will continue to work with Planning and Land Use Services to commence works on the Murray Mallee Region Plan, and subsequent Code Amendments.

# BUILDING DIVISION

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*Council's building surveyors perform the role of assessing development applications for compliance with the National Construction Code of Australia, the Development and Infrastructure Act 2016.*

Assessments are interesting and can be challenging; the structural components assessed include footing design for

the soil conditions, tie-down requirements for the design wind speed, structural steel work, timber and steel roof trusses, traditional timber framed roof, timber and steel wall framing, brickwork, and other similar type workload.

Once the design and specifications of the proposed development has been assessed for compliance with the code and relevant standards, the building surveyor issues Building Consent on Council's behalf. Alternatively, applicants may

choose to engage the services of an appropriately qualified independent building surveyor.

Inspections are also undertaken of work in progress as required by the statewide Practice Direction, as established by the Minister for Planning. These inspections may relate to work on dwellings, dwelling additions, carports, verandahs, sheds, swimming pools and safety barriers, retaining walls, commercial and industrial buildings.

# REGIONAL BUILDING FIRE SAFETY COMMITTEE

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*Local Government plays an important role in protecting the ongoing safety of building occupiers and users via the provisions of the Planning Development and Infrastructure Act 2016, which provides that Council must have a Building Fire Safety Committee.*

A Regional Building Fire Safety Committee was formed and has operated for the three Riverland Councils for a number of years, an important component of the three Council's on-going collaboration. The committee includes an independent building surveyor as Presiding Member,

a Building Officer from each Council, and officers from the Metropolitan Fire Service and Country Fire Service.

The committee is charged with the responsibility for all building fire safety matters 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 and users of public buildings.

The committee meets on a quarterly basis to undertake inspections of commercial or accommodation premises to determine the adequacy of fire safety for occupants. The committee assesses items such as fire safety equipment (extinguishers, hose reels etc),

exits (suitable door hardware allowing a person to escape without requiring keys, suitable numbers, location and path of travel to exits), smoke alarms and smoke detectors.

Following the inspections, the committee forwards a list of matters that require rectification and requests a response from the owner that details a timeframe or program of works. The committee is aware that current budgets may not allow for completion of work immediately and allows for work to be scheduled and completed in stages where appropriate, without risk to safety, to assist with any financial concerns.

# GENERAL INSPECTOR DIVISION

## Animal Management

Council has a plan prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Dog and Cat Management Act 1995. Council adopted the Animal Management Plan in July 2019 and identifies strategies and actions to implement the mission, aims and objectives for the management of dogs, cats, and other animals within the district. It contains recommendations for a wide range of actions to be undertaken by the Council.

Council is responsible for the management of dogs within the district pursuant to the Act. The objectives of the legislation are to encourage responsible ownership, promote effective management and reduce the public and environmental impact from dogs and cats. Council is the responsible Authority under the Act to receive registrations for dogs.

During the reporting year, Council received 2,551 individual dog registrations and had 122 registered breeders.

Dog Control Statistics 2022-23	
Expiations issued	5
Wandering at large	62
Impounded	15
Impounded and returned to owners	20
Returned to owner prior to impounding	27
Barking complaints	2
Attack - Person	1
Attack - Animal	7
Harass - Person	5
Harass - Animal	1

As of 1 July 2018, dog registrations are managed through the new state-wide database, Dogs and Cats Online (DACO). This allows owners to register, renew and keep their details up to date at any time, online. Cat owners are also encouraged to register their cats at no cost, to allow Council to return identified cats to their owners.

Council adopts a schedule of fees for registrations of dogs and cats as part of the budget deliberations each year.

Discounts on registration fees are available for people who are the recipients of a concession card. Council also offers a subsidy to concession card holders who desex their dog or cat.

Whilst Council has not determined to introduce cat management controls at this time, cat traps are available for hire by residents to assist in the removal of stray or feral cats, to lessen their impact on the environment and the community.

# GENERAL INSPECTOR DIVISION

## Fire Prevention

The Fire and Emergency Services Act 2005 stipulates that each rural Council must appoint a Fire Prevention Officer for its area. The role of Council's Fire Prevention Officers includes the monitoring of residential areas to ensure landowners take reasonable steps to protect property from fire. Inspections of residential areas leading up to and during the fire danger season are carried out to assess compliance.

Section 105F notices are issued pursuant to the Act, requiring landowners to attend to maintenance of land to reduce the risk of fire. Council also has the responsibility to ensure that reserves which come under its care and control are maintained to good bushfire prevention standards.

### Fire Prevention Statistics 2022-23

<b>Section 105F Notices issued</b>	414
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<b>Council action required</b>	0
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<b>Expiations Issued</b>	0
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Council's Fire Prevention Officers are also responsible for the issuing of permits and monitoring compliance, pursuant to the Act, for the common agricultural purpose of burning off stubble to lessen weed and pest infestation.

### Fire Permit Statistics 2022-23

<b>Fire Permits issued</b>	39
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<b>Number of burn offs with Fire Permit</b>	39
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<b>Expiation Notices issues for non compliance</b>	0
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## Parking

Car parking is monitored by Council staff, who have observed that parking in parking regulated areas has been generally complied within the reporting period. Several car parking cautions were issued during this period, mainly for parking on the footpath, and requirements explained to the offenders.

## Abandoned Vehicles and Litter

Abandoned vehicles have generally been stolen and/or burnt. Most are recovered by insurance companies or the owner after Council officers make enquiries.

The commencement of the littering provisions of the Local Nuisance and Litter Control Act 2016 provides guidance for Council in dealing with litter complaints and exercising enforcement functions.



# COMMUNITY STATEMENT



# 2022-23 COUNCIL SUPPORTED EVENTS, FESTIVALS AND PARTNERSHIPS

*There are many great organisations working in our community. Council endeavours to work in partnership with many of these groups to identify and develop programs and activities that meet the social, cultural, creative and recreation needs of our community.*

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

activities are of a wide variety and where possible involve working with other groups to develop partnerships, increase the promotion and help to build the skills of our community

TIME	ORGANISATION	MONETARY	OUTCOMES
Jul 2022	Foodbank	\$5,000	Annual Regional support agreement from 2021/22 to 2025/26 for relief of food services within the Riverland.
	Loxton Community Men's Shed	\$4,496	Memorandum of Understanding between Council and the Men's Shed supporting a range of projects to benefit Loxton.
	Waikerie Men's Shed	\$4,496	Memorandum of Understanding between Council and the Men's Shed supporting a range of projects to benefit Waikerie.
	Riverland Youth Theatre	\$6,000	Supported programs which engage youth throughout the Riverland region in the arts.
	Riverland Brass Band	\$1,500	Supported the group to mentor young people to play/practise instruments and included scheduled performances within our district.
	Waikerie Christmas Decoration Project	\$15,000	To assist in the purchase of Christmas decorations for the Waikerie CBD – 3 Spiral Christmas trees with decorations. And \$5000 for Waikerie Street banners.
	Volunteer Management	\$7,000	Appreciation event for all Loxton and Waikerie residents who volunteer their time for community and council coordinated programs. Administration associated with Council volunteer programs includes the Pines Historic House and Garden, Loxton Christmas Lights, Loxton and Waikerie Libraries and the Parks and Gardens.
	Community Donations	\$1,000	Provided support to various high schools and primary school presentation awards; Apprentice of the Year event; Loxton Christmas display and the Riverland Primary School Music Festival.

# 2022-23 COUNCIL SUPPORTED EVENTS, FESTIVALS AND PARTNERSHIPS

TIME	ORGANISATION	MONETARY	OUTCOMES
Aug 2022	Arts on Terrace	\$7,900	To provide support on the Loxton arts focused community event to celebrate SALA month to create increased economic benefit for local businesses in an off-peak period.
	Operation Flinders	\$3,300	Supported the Flinders Rangers Wilderness therapy program providing students from the Waikerie district on a leadership and mentoring 8-day trek who have a background of disengagement from education and exhibiting anti-social behaviours.
Sept 2022	Youth Sports and Cultural Sponsorships	\$3,000	Council committed funds to five recipients for the purpose of providing one-off donations to assist young local individuals to attend State, National or International representative activities. Events included sporting endeavours.
	Little Town Productions	\$10,000	Supported Kick off your Boots production.
	Riverland Rose & Garden Festival	\$3,000	Support to Riverland event.
Oct 2022	Waikerie Santa's Cave	\$12,078	Supported the magical experience of the annual Christmas event in the Waikerie Institute by waiving the facility hire fees.
	Loxton Show	\$2,027	Temporary fencing to support the horses in action events at the Loxton Show.
		\$6,465	Supported a team of 200 Loxton Show volunteers to present the 103rd Annual Loxton Show.
	Waikerie Flower Show	\$1,854	Supported the Waikerie Flower Show event in the Waikerie Institute by waiving the facility hire fees.
Nov 2022	Loxton Lights Up Festival	\$12,130	Supported the Loxton Chamber of Commerce to host the Loxton Light Up Day.
	Loxton Chamber of Commerce	\$7,566	Additional funding to support Loxton Gift card promotion.
	Waikerie Lions Christmas Pageant	\$8,000	Support the Waikerie Lions Club to host the Waikerie Christmas Pageant.
	Loxton Christmas Lights Committee	\$13,780	Support of the committee's operational budget to decorate the town of Loxton.
	Hysterical Carnage Backyard Running Event	\$5,910	Support with media and promotions for event.
	Moorook Kingston Community Association	\$1,500	Support the Moorook Muster event.
	Moorook Community Hall Inc.	\$1,400	Supported the Moorook riverfront carols and sunset event.

# 2022-23 COUNCIL SUPPORTED EVENTS, FESTIVALS AND PARTNERSHIPS

TIME	ORGANISATION	MONETARY	OUTCOMES
Dec 2022	Waikerie Christmas Carols	\$2,197	Supported the event by way of infrastructure services.
	Waikerie Christmas Decoration Group	\$4,500 \$5,860	MDF Reindeers decorations. Installation and removal of Christmas decorations and street banners
	Riverland Christmas Appeal	\$300	Funding to support the under privileged Christmas program.
Jan 2023	Loxton Australia Day Celebrations	\$5,250	Supported Councils community event to acknowledge the citizen awards and celebrate Australia Day as a community.
	Kingston On Murray Australia Day Celebrations	\$1,000	Support for Australia Day community event.
	Waikerie Australia Day Celebrations	\$6,690	Supported the Waikerie Australia Day community event and to acknowledge the citizen awards and celebrate Australia Day as a community.
	Paruna/Nadda Australia Day Celebrations	\$400	Support for Australia Day community events.
Feb 2023	Loxton's Nippy's Gift	\$4,500	Supported the 22nd annual Nippy's Loxton Gift by way of infrastructure services.
	Loxton Mardi Gras	\$4,200	Supported the Loxton Mardi Gras committee to celebrate the 67th Mardi Gras with money raised going towards community projects by was of infrastructure services.
	Ramco Football & Netball Club	\$2,000	Funding to assist with marketing and raffle prizes for the Riverland West Fisherama event.
May 2023	SANFL - Russell Ebert Tribute Match	\$35,000	To support Russell Ebert Tribute game - West Adelaide v Port Adelaide held at Loxton.
	Loxton's History Sure Ain't Boring	\$600	Supported of the History month event in May.
	Loxton and Waikerie Neighbourhood Watch partnerships	N/A	Supported both committees with assistance in photocopying quarterly newsletters.

# 2022-23 COUNCIL SUPPORTED EVENTS, FESTIVALS AND PARTNERSHIPS

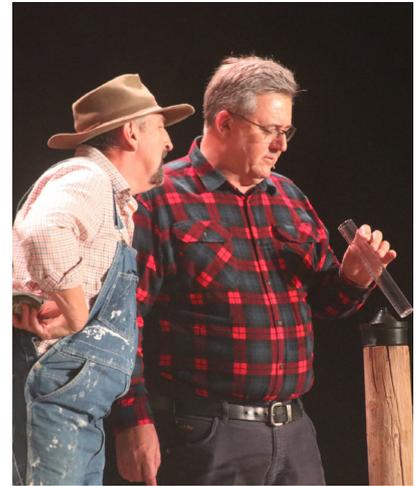
TIME	ORGANISATION	MONETARY	OUTCOMES
Jun 2023	Rotary Club of Waikerie	\$5,000	Support to facilitate a community mental health program.
	Loxton High School	\$5,000	Supported Ignite week program.
	Loxton Netball Club	\$1,610	Support to assist with Junior Netball Carnival.
	Waikerie Tennis Club	\$5,000	Assistance with a tennis hitting wall.
	Waikerie Football Club	\$5,000	Part assistance to purchase new football goal posts.
	Community Infrastructure Support Grants	\$10,000	Supports not for profit, incorporated groups or organisations by donating the use of Council owned major plant, equipment and/ or materials.
	Event/General permit support	\$3,800	Supported council to support new community events with waste management, road closures/signage and park and gardens readiness.
	Waikerie Bowling Club	\$1,000	Support to the Senior Supa Series event.
	Moorook Kingston Community Association	\$6,000	Assistance with purchasing 2 defibrillator machines for Moorook and Kingston.
	Moorook Kingston Community Association	\$800	Assistance with annual public liability insurance .
	Pool Pass donations	\$400	Supported two schools and a community group with an adult pool pass as fundraising prizes.
	Alawoona Hall Committee	\$6,000	Assist with a staged project to apply acoustics to the Alawoona Hall.
	Browns Well Football and Netball Club	\$5,950	Flooring refurbishment.

# 2022-23 COUNCIL SUPPORTED EVENTS, FESTIVALS AND PARTNERSHIPS

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*Nippy's Gift*



*Kick off Your Boots*



*Waikerie Santa's Cave*



*Waikerie Markets*



*Loxton Mardi Gras*



*Russell Ebert SANFL Tribute Match*

*Image Credit: Grant Schwartzkopff*



*Waikerie Christmas Decorations*

# VOLUNTEERING

*Council values the significant and important contribution made by volunteers across our community.*

2022-2023 year saw our volunteer programs functioning back to 95% normal with some minor changes.

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. 2023 National Volunteer Week was celebrated from 15-21 May with more than 6 million Australian volunteers recognised for their contribution to their communities.

Council celebrated National Volunteer Week with program morning teas to say thank you and recognise their valuable contributions as change makers in our community every day.

Council volunteer programs play an integral role in strengthening

gaps in our community which are supported by employed staff and volunteer managers. Our roles are carefully formulated to not being a substitute for paid staff work.

### Loxton Christmas Lights

- Christmas Tree Festival
- Committee and Fundraising
- Garden Display/Maintenance
- Street Decorating
- Tour Guide

### Loxton and Waikerie Library Services

- Library Technology Tutor

### Parks and Gardens

- Loxton Tree Carer Group
- Loxton Rose Carer Group

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

- Customer Service/Tour Guide Volunteer
- Event Coordinator
- Hospitality/Food Preparation/Catering/Bar Tender
- Fundraising and Quilting
- Cleaner
- Gardener/Nursery Volunteer

## 2022-23 DCLW VOLUNTARY HOURS

Loxton Christmas Lights Program	739
The Pines	244
Library	55
Rose Carers	20.5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1058.50</b>



**66**  
DCLW  
Volunteers

**1058.50**  
Volunteer  
Hours



**\$26,463**  
Contributing  
Hours



**NATIONAL** 15-21 MAY 2023  
**VOLUNTEER**  
THE CHANGE MAKERS WEEK



# LOXTON RETIREMENT VILLAGE

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*The Loxton Retirement Village is a testament to Council's commitment to offering quality and affordable housing solutions to its ageing population. Comprising 100 over approximately 6.28ha, the Village offers comfortable living with opportunity for future expansion.*



## STRUCTURE AND ADMINISTRATION

The Loxton Retirement Village is effectively a standalone business entity under the Council's umbrella. The Village is managed by a committee (in accordance with the Local Government Act 1999 s41), and its administration is led by a dedicated Council staff member.

Constructed over three parcels of land, the Village is divided into four adjoining courts:

- Peter Jackson Court (22 units)
- Frank Petch Court (20 units)
- Leatrice Pfitzner Court (48 units)
- Jan Cass Court (10 units).

## ANNUAL ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Within the 2022-23 financial year, the Village had considerable activity:

- The Retirement Village Community Centre was constructed, located on the corner of Bookpurnong Terrace and View Street in Loxton, spanning 580m<sup>2</sup>.

- Council was successful in receiving additional funding from the Federal Government under the Murray Darling Basin Economic Development Program to facilitate the construction of 8 new units in Jan Cass Court.
- SA Home Mods & Maintenance was successful in the tender for the Gardener/Caretaker contract for 3 years at the Village.
- Murray Pest Control was engaged by Council to carry out termite inspections and spider spraying for a 3-year term.
- 8 units were refurbished as a result of changeover, and 4 units were given a more extensive renovation following 10-year inspections.
- The lawns of every unit within the Village were scarified and top dressed, with multiple units receiving necessary upgrades or replacement of their sprinkler systems.
- Major repairs were carried out across various units in Leatrice Pfitzner Crescent and Winn Circuit, while insurance investigations are ongoing for units in View Street and Frank Petch Crescent.
- A quarterly newsletter was distributed to all residents within the Village throughout the year.

These activities highlight a commitment to maintaining and elevating the standard of living for residents of the Loxton Retirement Village. Federal Government funding played a pivotal role in significant developments within the last financial year, which has ensured the village remains vibrant for its community. With the scope for future development and a vision for sustainability, the Village is poised for further growth and service to its community.

# ECONOMIC AND REGIONAL STATEMENT



HEALTHY RIVER  
HEALTHY COMMUNITY

ARTIST... gary duncan

# LOXTON WAIKERIE LIBRARY AND VISITOR CENTRES

## LIBRARY SERVICES

*The 2022/23 year has proven to be a busy year with a 13.5% increase in visitation and an 80% increase in attendance for events and programs on offer across both libraries.*

This change in momentum can be attributed to community confidence as people move forward and learn to live with the global health pandemic, feeling safer leaving their homes and visiting the Centres again.

The number of physical and digital items loaned within the library have again increased marginally compared to last year.

## LIBRARY USAGE STATISTICS

Library items loaned	83,195
Digital items loaned	10,793
Loans per capita	8
Reservations	12,742
Active Library Borrowers	2,936
Children's program total attendees	6,104
Library and Visitor Centre Visits	72,320
Visits per capita	??

## CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

### STEM Sessions

A four-week block of Little Creators STEM workshops covering, magnetism, coordination and balance, light & colour and sound were facilitated at each library by staff each term. Children attending were aged between 2–5 years and had a parent or carer assisting them with their science discovery journey. Waikerie Library also held a STEM workshop at the Kingston-on-Murray Primary School which included building bubbles, making slime and exploring the magic of water.

**Weekly sessions** are available during school terms with the Waikerie Library having Wriggle & Rhyme sessions consisting of music, action songs and nursery rhymes along with a story and craft for children to participate in.

**Story Time** at the Loxton Library continues to be well attended. Children engage in sensory play activities, learn new songs, be part of the interactive story-telling and make a craft to take home. These sessions are developing confidence and social skills in the young children that attend providing a foundation before they begin pre-school.

**School Holiday Activities** are organised in the school holidays for children with 34 sessions planned and implemented. Children listen to a story and make a craft to take home. Some of the themes explored were Marvellous Minibeasts, Down on

the River, Kid Detective, Ancient Lands and Mechanical Madness setting the scene for children to have a fun time.

**Children's University** is hosted and administered by The University of Adelaide and provide extra learning opportunities for school aged children. Both libraries are learning destinations and had A Dazzling DNA Workshop facilitated by Dr Georgina Sylvia from the University of Adelaide who grew up in Loxton. Children had an amazing time extracting DNA from strawberries during the session. Waikerie library also had an Insect Investigations session in the January school holidays where children learnt about insects, wasps and biodiversity. We look forward to having more of these educational programs to amaze us.

**Children's Book Week** held in August was celebrated with staff visiting schools, pre-schools and child-care centres and some schools visiting the libraries. The theme 'Dreaming with Eyes Open' assisted with engaging with young minds through discussions, readings and crafts and was a very busy and enjoyable week.

**National Simultaneous Storytime** was held on Wednesday 24 May with the book 'The Speedy Sloth' by Rebecca Young being read to children nationally throughout Australia at schools, libraries and childcare centres. This story was shared throughout the week with our local children who enjoyed making their own speedy sloths.

# LOXTON WAIKERIE LIBRARY AND VISITOR CENTRES

The **1001 Books Before School** program encourages parents to read daily to their 0-4 year old aiming to read 1001 books before their child begins school to assist in developing early literacy skills leading to a smooth educational transition.

The **Summer Reading Club** encourages children to read during the school holidays to maintain and develop their reading skills over the long break before returning to school. The libraries have books grouped by reading levels for the children to choose from.

**Loxton Light Up Day** is a big day for Loxton as the Christmas season is celebrated with market and food stalls and entertainment for the children in the main street during the day completed with fireworks and the lighting up of Christmas displays at night. The Loxton Library organised 2 story and craft sessions on the Saturday morning for young children which was well attended. Children had fun creating Christmas tree decorations.

**Pre-school, Play Centre and Child-care Visits** are an important outreach service the libraries provide by bringing books for them to loan, reading stories and providing craft-based activities for the children to enjoy on a regular basis.



Loxton Lights Up Activities

## CHILDREN'S PROGRAM ATTENDANCE

Children's Book Week	728
Children's Holiday Program	1,002
Weekly Rhyme/Story Time	1,170
Pre-school and Childcare Visits	2,005
Light Up Day	150
STEM - Sessions	291
National Simultaneous Story Time	55



STEM Sessions



Weekly Sessions



School Holiday Activities



Children's University



1001 Books Before School



Children's Book Week Activities

# LOXTON WAIKERIE LIBRARY AND VISITOR CENTRES

## EVENTS

A **History Month** exhibition at the Loxton Library portraying how the River Murray shaped the community's history, was available to view for the month of May. River trade, water use for agriculture, the formation of the locks, flood events and how the river was used for recreation were all depicted in the display.

During History Month riverland historian Rosemary Gower was a speaker at the libraries and provided an overview of the operations and daily life within the Loveday Internment Camp during World War II which had over 5,000 internees.

An **Author Visit** occurred in March when both libraries had a visit from author Dean Jamieson whose book 'They Called me Lightning' was available to purchase at the events which included morning or afternoon tea. Dean recounted with a good dose of humour, his early years as a jackaroo working on outback stations in Australia, while chasing his dream of becoming a real-life cowboy. Over 60 people attended the two events and had plenty of questions for Dean as many of them had travelled and visited the places Dean was talking about.

**Coffee and a Catch Up** are held monthly in the Waikerie Library providing an opportunity for locals to get together and chat over coffee and cake. There's always lots of fun and laughter, and the short quiz provided by library staff is a highlight of the morning.

**Digital Awareness Sessions** took place due to a partnership with nbn Australia who facilitated the events in June with Waikerie Library having their event in the council chamber and Loxton Library utilising the Retirement Village Community Centre. Guest speakers were invited from the RAA – road safety and online services, Riverland Community Justice Services – free legal services, nbn Australia – scam alerts and online safety, Aged Care Services of Australia –

support available to navigate aged care services and Loxton Waikerie Library Service – online council services & digital library services and assistance. 120 people attended these sessions and appreciated the opportunity to have questions answered and enjoy the refreshments afterwards. It was a great opportunity to have such a range of speakers and services highlighted to community members to create awareness of services available to them.



History Month



History Month



Coffee and a Catch Up



Author Visit - Dean Jamieson



Digital Awareness Session - Loxton



Digital Awareness Session - Waikerie

# LOXTON WAIKERIE LIBRARY AND VISITOR CENTRES

1,774 bookings  
total of 1,773hrs



'being digital'  
Technology  
Assistance

229hrs  
1,484 people

Justice of the Peace  
service utilised



986  
people

2,503  
verified documents



Business  
Services

Printing, copying,  
scanning, email and fax

## Book Reviews

Monthly reviews in Murray  
Pioneer to promote library  
collections and services



Adult Book  
Groups

Facilitate and provide  
books for 5 book  
discussion groups

## LIBRARY SERVICES

The **Being Digital** program assisted 1,484 people with digital literacy queries and technology help provided by library staff and volunteers to print, scan, photocopy, use email, find online forms, access information, download and use Applications and get to know their devices.

**Local History Services** are developing due to the funding received from the Libraries Board Innovation Fund to assist organising and preserving the districts local history. This funding has provided the opportunity to work closely with staff from the State Library of South Australia, Public Library Services and other public libraries in South Australia in a pilot group to develop an online platform to showcase South Australia's history and make it accessible in one place. The platform is scheduled to be operational in 2023/24. Whilst working on this project work has also been undertaken to ensure existing digital content meets the standards for the new platform and various items have been digitised including audio cassettes (oral histories), DVDs, VHS tapes, mini DV tapes, 8mm tape, camcorder tapes and audio reels documenting history within the council district.

A **Justice of the Peace** service is available at each library and provided by either a staff member or volunteers who are certified JPs for South Australia. This service provides consistent access to the services provided by JPs.

**Business Services** are highly sought after at the libraries with the availability of Libraries SA free Wi-Fi, scanning, printing and emailing services via the photocopier available with assistance provided by staff. Public access computers are available to use at both libraries.

**Library Newsletters** are printed monthly and available digitally providing information on new items available for loan and what is happening in the libraries. Loxton Waikerie Libraries Facebook page engages with community members by promoting and reporting on events and services and notice boards promote events and programs within the library and wider community.

**Book Reviews** written by staff to promote library collections are available to read monthly in the Murray Pioneer along with an update of programs and services in each of the libraries.

**Book Groups** are facilitated and supported at the libraries by providing a planned meeting list of titles and multiple copies of books for each meeting. Book groups meet monthly.

# LOXTON WAIKERIE LIBRARY AND VISITOR CENTRES

## LOXTON LIBRARY & VISITOR CENTRE RELOCATION

The Loxton Library and Visitor Information Centre will be moving into the renovated and extended former Loxton Institute building, planned to be completed by the end of 2024. This building is where the first library in Loxton originated so it will be wonderful

to reinstate these services where they first began. The project is exciting for staff as the current building has been outgrown and is challenging to provide the level of service and programs required. Staff have been working on plans for the new space including

renovating the library collection to enable easier location of reading materials for customers. Visitor services will have a larger presence in the Centre and there will be space to house the newly developed history services.

## TOURISM SERVICES

The rising river levels of the Murray River and subsequent restrictions to its recreational use affected the demographic of visitors coming into the Visitor Information Centres as they were visiting to see the 'once in a lifetime flooding event'. Camping area closures and compromised caravan park services made it difficult for young families to find suitable accommodation to visit. To assist with recreational vehicle stays the council opened some temporary parks at the Waikerie art silo and the Loxton football oval grounds.

### **Riverland Website**

After being provided with training by the developers of the Visit Riverland website staff have added more interactive features, itineraries and information for visitors to discover in the council area [www.visitriverland.com.au/](http://www.visitriverland.com.au/).

### **Let's Go Caravan & Camping Show**

The Riverland Visitor and Information Centre staff were ambassadors at the Adelaide Caravan and Camping Show

held in July showcasing what the Riverland has to offer to entice visitors to the region after the disruption from Covid. The newly designed Riverland branding was also on show at the event. The Loxton and Waikerie Coordinators attended the 2022 show on the Thursday.

### **South Australian Accredited Visitor Information Centre Conference (SAAVIC)**

The Manager and Coordinators of both Centres attended the annual SAAVIC conference which was held in Adelaide and organised by the Adelaide Economic Development Agency and was

held at the National Wine Centre. The conference incorporated the Tourism Industry Commission of South Australia conference on the first day with the SAAVIC conference being held on the second day. This conference brought staff across the 43 accredited Visitor Information Centres together to develop knowledge, tourism skills, and networking opportunities. As part of the conference famils and tours were organised within Adelaide culminating at the Adelaide Zoo where zookeepers gave an overview of the management and operations of the zoo along with the Monarto Safari Park.



*Loxton Waikerie district representation at the Caravan & Camping Show*



*South Australian Accredited Visitor Information Centre Conference*

# COMPLIANCE STATEMENT



# CONFIDENTIALITY PROVISIONS

## Meetings and Documents

*In accordance with Section 90 (1) of the Local Government Act 1999 (the Act) all Council and Committee meetings were conducted in a place open to the public.*

The policy does allow for informal gatherings to be held for briefing, planning and educational sessions but does clarify that these gatherings will not be for the purpose of debating issues, building consensus positions or decision making.

Council held 11 ordinary meetings and 4 special meetings during 2022-2023. On 9 separate occasions during the course of the Council meetings held 2022-2023, Council met in confidence. This decreased by one separate occasion during 2022-2023.

Issues considered in confidence during 2022-23 listed below:

MEETING DATE	SUBJECT	REASONS	RELEASED DATE*
15 Jul 2022	Chief Executive Officer Annual Appraisal	Section 90 (3) (a)	20 Apr 2023 *
19 Aug 2022	Sale of Land	Section 90 (3) (d) (i) (ii)	20 Apr 2023 *
21 Oct 2022	Loxton Retirement Village Incoming Premium for Stage 3B New Unit Development	Section 90 (3) (c)	21 Oct 2022
21 Oct 2022	Sale of 53 Tobruk Terrace	Section 90 (3) (a)	20 Apr 2023 *
14 Dec 2022	Development Application 551/D0005/11	Section 90 (3) (d) (i) (ii)	20 Apr 2023 *
18 Jan 2023	Expression of Interest Submissions for land on Centruy Boulevard	Section 90 (3) (d) (i) (ii)	20 Apr 2023 *
15 Feb 2023	Loxton Tennis Court Light Tender	Section 90 (3) (k)	20 Apr 2023 *
15 Mar 2023	Sale of Land on Century Boulevard	Section 90 (3) (d) (i) (ii)	20 Apr 2023 *
17 May 2023	Funding for Waikerie Hub	Section 90 (3) (d) (i) (ii)	17 May 2023
17 May 2023	Lease Opportunities for the Penrose Room (Waikerie Institute)	Section 90 (3) (b) (i) (ii)	17 May 2023
21 Jun 2023	Loxton Library, Visitor information & Cultural Centre and Amenities	Section 90 (3) (k)	21 June 2023
21 Jun 2023	Tender responses - Regional Intersection Upgrades	Section 90 (3) (k)	21 Jun 2023

*\*Released under delegation to the Chief Executive Officer or by resolution of the Council*

### **Review of items held in confidence**

Review of items discussed in confidence is undertaken on a regular basis, as determined by the resolution, and this process has seen 19 items released from confidentiality provisions over the course of the year, with the remainder of the items being of an on-going nature.

# SUBSIDIARY OF COUNCIL

Council is required to provide the annual report of any subsidiary. The Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association (MRLGA) is a regional subsidiary of member Councils. The association works to coordinate, advocate and represent the member Councils at a regional level.

Member councils:

- Berri Barmera Council
- Coorong District Council
- District Council of Karoonda East Murray
- District Council of Loxton Waikerie
- Mid Murray Council
- Renmark Paringa Council

- Rural City of Murray Bridge
- Southern Mallee District Council

The annual report (which includes the audited financial statement) for the MRLGA is located on the association's website [mrlga.sa.gov.au](http://mrlga.sa.gov.au) and at the end of this report.

## ELECTOR REPRESENTATION

### Periodical Review

*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 as prescribed by regulation.*

### Representation Quota

*The total representation quota is the number of electors for each Elected Member: **8,231**. Electors are represented by **11** Elected Members (including the Mayor). The District Council of Loxton Waikerie's representation quota is **748** and compares with other similar sized Councils.*

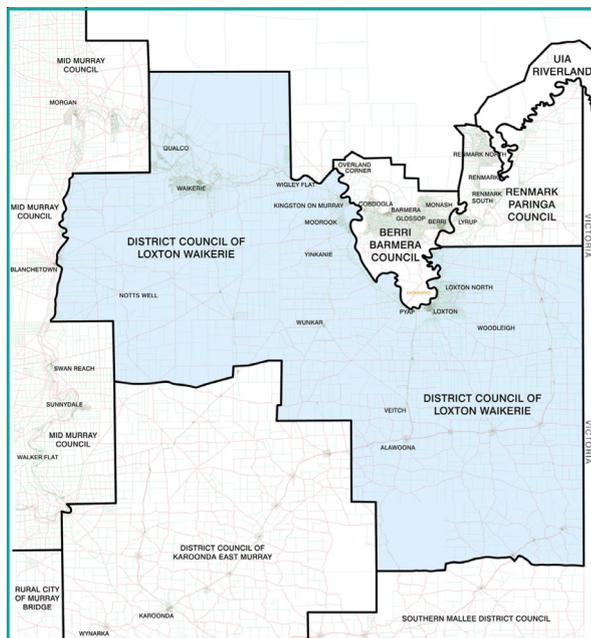
Elector data, representation and areas (Councils with similar elector numbers):

Council	Councillors inc. Mayor	Electors	Representation Quota	Ratio
Loxton Waikerie (7,957km <sup>2</sup> )	11	8,231	748	1:748
Berri Barmera (508km <sup>2</sup> )	9	7,500	833	1:833
Clare and Gilbert Valleys (1,840km <sup>2</sup> )	10	6,850	685	1:685
Light Regional (1,278km <sup>2</sup> )	10	11,201	1120	1:1120
Wattle Range (3,924km <sup>2</sup> )	12	8,786	732	1:732
Yorke Peninsula (5,834km <sup>2</sup> )	12	9,095	757	1:757

Source: Electoral Commission SA

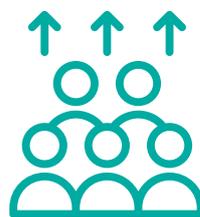
# REGIONAL MAP

## General Information



**Area**  
**7,763km<sup>2</sup>**

**2,235 km**  
of roads



**Population**  
**11,666** 2021 Census

Current estimated population 11,928 per ABS Statistics

## 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**

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

The Council has formed an alliance with neighbouring Councils Berri Barmera and Renmark Paringa, known as the Riverland G3, in order to

benefit from economies of scale, increase the range and quality of services and improve lifestyles for our residents, and where possible reduce the cost of services to ratepayers through a consultative and collaborative approach. It also has the aim to protect the employment in the towns and districts of the participating councils and enhance local economies.

Copies of the District Council of Loxton Waikerie Procurement Policy are available for public inspection or can be printed, copies are also available on Council's website.  
<https://www.lwdc.sa.gov.au>

# EXTERNAL AUDITORS

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Council is required under the Act to appoint a suitably qualified person as its external auditor. The external auditor reports to Council on the General Purpose and Special Purpose Financial Report prepared annually.

The external auditor is also required to report to Council on matters arising from the audit and must specifically identify in the report any irregularity in Council's accounting practices or

the management of its financial affairs.

During 2020-21 the Riverland G3 Alliance identified that calling for tenders collectively will result in financial and logistical benefits for the Councils as well as for the successful auditing firm. As a result of this competitive tending process Council appointed Bentleys as its external auditor for a five-year term ending in 2025.

Pursuant to the Local Government Act 1999 s128, Council must disclose the remuneration paid to its external auditor.

In 2022-23, \$22,400 (ex GST) was paid for annual audit of statutory financial records and related specific purpose statements to Bentleys.

# COMMUNITY LAND MANAGEMENT PLANS

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*A comprehensive review of Council's Community Land Management Plan has commenced in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act.*

# FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

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## 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 and application fee or proof of exemption.

One (1) Freedom of Information Application was received during the reporting period.

Pursuant to Section 38 (1) of the Freedom of Information Act 1991 a person who is aggrieved by a determination made by the Council is entitled to an internal review of the determination.

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

# ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

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## GOVERNANCE & STRATEGY

Governance & Administration

Finance & Rates

Information Technology

Records Management

Economic Development

Development Control & Regulatory Services

Projects

Customer Service

## COMMERCIAL & COMMUNITY

Human Resources

Work Health Safety & Risk

Tourism & Events

Community Development & Volunteer Management

Library & Information Centres

Asset Management & Leases

Communications & Marketing

Business Analytics & Information Communication Technology

Cemeteries

## INFRASTRUCTURE

Parks & Gardens

Waste Management (CWMS & Transfer Stations)

Strategic Infrastructure Planning

Recreation, Open Space and Reserves

Roads & Footpaths

Infrastructure Maintenance Programs

Capital Program delivery

## ENVIRONMENTAL

Environmental Health

Food Safety

Swimming Pool Inspection and Compliance

Planning and Building

Mosquito Surveillance and Control

Strategic Planning

Building Fire Safety

Fire Prevention

Animal Management

Nuisance and Litter

Parking

# BY LAW REVIEW

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*Section 246 of the Local Government Act 1999 (the Act) provides for Councils to make By-laws for the good rule and government of an area and for the convenience, comfort and safety of its community.*

The District Council of Loxton Waikerie has six by-laws, these being:

- By-law No. 1 – Permits and Penalties
- By-law No. 2 – Local Government Land
- By-law No. 3 – Roads
- By-law No. 4 – Movable Signs
- By-law No. 5 – Dogs
- By-law No. 6 – Cats

Council adopted the by-laws at the meeting of 21 July 2017. The relevant notice was published by gazette on 8 August 2017 and forwarded to the Legislative Review Committee. The by-laws commenced on 8 December 2017, and expire on 1 January 2025.

The by-laws can be viewed on the Council's website.

# INTERNAL REVIEW

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## Council Decisions

*Under Section 270 of the Local Government Act 1999 Council is required to have policies, practices and procedures to manage any request for a review of a Council decision.*

Council has an Internal Review of Council Decisions Policy and Procedure. The policy and procedure are explained and available on Council's website.

For the period of 2022-23, Council did not receive an application for an internal review under Section 270(8) of the Local Government Act 1999.

# REGISTERS, CODES AND POLICIES

## Schedule 4 Compliance Information

*Pursuant to Section 131 (2) of the Local Government Act 1999 the following information is provided:*

### LIST OF REGISTERS

- By Law Register
- 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

- Employees Code of Conduct
- Code of Practice for Access to Council and Committee Meetings and Documents
- Code of Practice (Procedures at Meetings)

### STATUTORY POLICIES

- Building and Swimming Pool Inspection Policy
- Caretaker Policy
- Model Behaviour Management Policy
- Public Consultation Policy
- Elected Members Allowances and Benefits Policy

### INTERNAL CONTROL POLICIES

(including the following but not limited to)

- Bad Debt Policy
- Credit Card Policy
- Fraud and Corruption Prevention Policy
- Treasury Management Policy
- Disposal of Land and Other Assets Policy
- Induction, Training and Development Policy for Elected Members
- Informal Gathering Policy
- Internal Review of Council Decisions Policy
- Order Making Policy
- Procurement Policy
- Prudential Management Policy
- Road and Street Naming Policy

### ADDITIONAL REGISTERS

- Assessment Record
- Approval Register
- Asset Register
- Certificate of Title Register
- Common Seal Register
- Confidential Minute Register
- Contracts, Licenses and Agreements Register
- Register of Campaign

Donation Returns

- Delegations Register
- Gift and Benefits Register
- Internal Review Register Policy Register
- Lease Register
- Training Register – Elected Members and Employees

### ADDITIONAL CODES OF CONDUCT

- Code of Conduct – Child Safe Environments

### GUIDELINES

- Caretaker Guidelines
- Conflict of Interest – Guidelines
- Confidentiality Guidelines
- Guidelines and General Approval for the Placement or Affixation of Election Signs

The following procedure has been adopted to support the Code of Conduct for Council Members:

- Complaints Handling Procedure under the Code of Conduct for Council Members

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS



# District Council of Loxton Waikerie

GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
for the year ended 30 June 2023

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## General Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2023

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General Purpose Financial Statements  
for the year ended 30 June 2023

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Certification of Financial Statements

**We have been authorised by the Council to certify the financial statements in their final form.**

**In our opinion:**

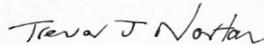
- the accompanying financial statements comply with the *Local Government Act 1999, Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011* and Australian Accounting Standards,
- the financial statements present a true and fair view of the Council's financial position at 30 June 2023 and the results of its operations and cash flows for the financial year,
- internal controls implemented by the Council provide a reasonable assurance that the Council's financial records are complete, accurate and reliable and were effective throughout the financial year,
- the financial statements accurately reflect the Council's accounting and other records.



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David Beaton  
Chief Executive Officer

18 October 2023



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Trevor Norton  
Mayor

18 October 2023

## Statement of Comprehensive Income

for the year ended 30 June 2023

\$ '000	Notes	2023	2022
<b>Income</b>			
Rates	2a	14,423	13,953
Statutory charges	2b	369	382
User charges	2c	1,288	1,248
Grants, subsidies and contributions - operating	2g	10,448	7,716
Investment income	2d	357	59
Reimbursements	2e	247	166
Other income	2f	904	1,160
<b>Total income</b>		<b>28,036</b>	<b>24,684</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Employee costs	3a	6,290	6,005
Materials, contracts and other expenses	3b	13,903	9,044
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment	3c	7,572	6,734
Finance costs	3d	54	17
<b>Total expenses</b>		<b>27,819</b>	<b>21,800</b>
<b>Operating surplus / (deficit)</b>		<b>217</b>	<b>2,884</b>
Asset disposal and fair value adjustments	4	(2,136)	(542)
Amounts received specifically for new or upgraded assets	2g	4,623	3,172
<b>Net surplus / (deficit)</b>		<b>2,704</b>	<b>5,514</b>
<b>Other comprehensive income</b>			
<b>Amounts which will not be reclassified subsequently to operating result</b>			
Changes in revaluation surplus - I,PP&E	9a	14,198	4,844
Available-for-sale Financial Instruments - Change in Fair Value		100	1,100
<b>Total amounts which will not be reclassified subsequently to operating result</b>		<b>14,298</b>	<b>5,944</b>
<b>Total other comprehensive income</b>		<b>14,298</b>	<b>5,944</b>
<b>Total comprehensive income</b>		<b>17,002</b>	<b>11,458</b>

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

## Statement of Financial Position

as at 30 June 2023

\$ '000	Notes	2023	2022
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>Current assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalent assets	5a	15,182	12,522
Trade and other receivables	5b	1,692	1,605
Inventories	5c	88	57
<b>Total current assets</b>		<u>16,962</u>	<u>14,184</u>
<b>Non-current assets</b>			
Trade and other receivables	6a	487	498
Other non-current assets	6b	15,205	13,724
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	7	230,035	216,107
Investment property	7	16,670	15,185
<b>Total non-current assets</b>		<u>262,397</u>	<u>245,514</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<u>279,359</u>	<u>259,698</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Trade and other payables	8a	16,306	13,756
Borrowings	8b	16	15
Provisions	8c	1,925	1,776
<b>Total current liabilities</b>		<u>18,247</u>	<u>15,547</u>
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>			
Borrowings	8b	224	240
Provisions	8c	110	135
<b>Total non-current liabilities</b>		<u>334</u>	<u>375</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<u>18,581</u>	<u>15,922</u>
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>260,778</u>	<u>243,776</u>
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Accumulated surplus		95,663	92,864
Asset revaluation reserves	9a	163,498	149,200
Other reserves	9b	1,617	1,712
<b>Total equity</b>		<u>260,778</u>	<u>243,776</u>

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

## Statement of Changes in Equity

for the year ended 30 June 2023

\$ '000	Notes	Accumulated surplus	Asset revaluation reserve	Other reserves	Total equity
<b>2023</b>					
Balance as at 1 July		92,864	149,200	1,712	243,776
Net surplus / (deficit) for year		2,704	–	–	2,704
<b>Other comprehensive income</b>					
Gain (loss) on revaluation of IPP&E	7a	–	14,198	–	14,198
Available-for-sale Financial Instruments - Change in Fair Value		–	100	–	100
<b>Other comprehensive income</b>		<b>–</b>	<b>14,298</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>14,298</b>
<b>Total comprehensive income</b>		<b>2,704</b>	<b>14,298</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>17,002</b>
Transfers between reserves		95	–	(95)	–
<b>Balance at the end of period</b>		<b>95,663</b>	<b>163,498</b>	<b>1,617</b>	<b>260,778</b>
<b>2022</b>					
Balance as at 1 July		87,557	143,256	1,505	232,318
Net surplus / (deficit) for year		5,514	–	–	5,514
<b>Other comprehensive income</b>					
Gain (loss) on revaluation of IPP&E	7a	–	4,844	–	4,844
Available-for-sale Financial Instruments - Change in Fair Value		–	1,100	–	1,100
<b>Other comprehensive income</b>		<b>–</b>	<b>5,944</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>5,944</b>
<b>Total comprehensive income</b>		<b>5,514</b>	<b>5,944</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>11,458</b>
Transfers between reserves		(207)	–	207	–
<b>Balance at the end of period</b>		<b>92,864</b>	<b>149,200</b>	<b>1,712</b>	<b>243,776</b>

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

Statement of Cash Flows

for the year ended 30 June 2023

\$ '000	Notes	2023	2022
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
<u>Receipts</u>			
Rates receipts		14,436	13,836
Statutory charges		369	382
User charges		1,288	1,248
Grants, subsidies and contributions		10,182	7,720
Investment receipts		357	59
Reimbursements		247	162
Other receipts		2,778	2,531
<u>Payments</u>			
Payments to employees		(6,385)	(5,919)
Payments for materials, contracts and other expenses		(14,002)	(9,807)
Finance payments		(5)	(7)
<b>Net cash provided by (or used in) operating activities</b>	10b	<b>9,265</b>	<b>10,205</b>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>			
<u>Receipts</u>			
Amounts received specifically for new or upgraded assets		4,623	3,172
Sale of replaced assets		213	342
Sale of surplus assets		150	128
Repayments of loans by community groups		11	20
<u>Payments</u>			
Expenditure on renewal/replacement of assets		(5,297)	(2,981)
Expenditure on new/upgraded assets		(5,908)	(10,923)
Purchase of investment property		(1,462)	(342)
<b>Net cash provided (or used in) investing activities</b>		<b>(7,670)</b>	<b>(10,584)</b>
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>			
<u>Receipts</u>			
Proceeds from bonds and deposits		–	33
Proceeds from aged care facility deposits		2,042	1,054
<u>Payments</u>			
Repayments of loans		(15)	(15)
Repayment of bonds and deposits		(15)	–
Repayment of aged care facility deposits		(947)	(757)
<b>Net cash provided by (or used in) financing activities</b>		<b>1,065</b>	<b>315</b>
<b>Net increase (decrease) in cash held</b>		<b>2,660</b>	<b>(64)</b>
plus: cash & cash equivalents at beginning of period		12,522	12,586
<b>Cash and cash equivalents held at end of period</b>	10a	<b>15,182</b>	<b>12,522</b>

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

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements  
for the year ended 30 June 2023

Contents of the Notes accompanying the General Purpose Financial Statements

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## Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2023

### Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The principal accounting policies adopted by Council in the preparation of these consolidated financial statements are set out below.

These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

#### (1) Basis of preparation

##### 1.1 Compliance with Australian Accounting Standards

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

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

##### 1.2 Historical cost convention

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

##### 1.2 Critical accounting estimates

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

##### 1.3 Rounding

All amounts in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest thousand dollars (\$'000).

##### 1.4 Estimates and assumptions

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

#### (2) The local government reporting entity

The District Council of Loxton Waikerie is incorporated under the SA Local Government Act 1999 and has its principal place of business at 35 Bookpurnong Terrace, Loxton. These consolidated financial statements include the Council's direct operations and all entities through which Council controls resources to carry on its functions. In the process of reporting on the Council as a single unit, all transactions and balances between activity areas and controlled entities have been eliminated.

#### (3) Income recognition

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

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

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

## Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2023

### Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

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

	Cash Payment Received	Annual Allocation	Difference
2016/17	\$6,498,824	\$4,290,475	+ \$2,208,349
2017/18	\$4,293,314	\$4,246,796	+ \$46,518
2018/19	\$5,276,235	\$4,592,560	+ \$683,675
2019/20	\$4,379,992	\$4,635,026	- \$255,034
2020/21	\$4,242,751	\$4,652,154	- \$409,403
2021/22	\$6,109,717	\$4,732,121	+\$1,377,596
2022/23	\$6,846,686	\$4,971,755	+\$1,874,931

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

The Operating Surplus Ratio disclosed in Note 14 has also been calculated after adjusting for the distortions resulting from the differences between the actual grants received and the grants entitlements allocated.

#### Construction contracts

Construction works undertaken by Council for third parties are generally on an agency basis where the third party reimburses Council for actual costs incurred, and usually do not extend beyond the reporting period. Reimbursements not received are recognised as receivables and reimbursements received in advance are recognised as "payments received in advance".

For works undertaken on a fixed price contract basis, revenues are recognised over time using the input method, with costs incurred compared to total expected costs used as a measure of progress. When it is probable that total contract costs will exceed total contract revenue, the expected loss is recognised as an expense immediately.

#### (4) Cash, cash equivalents and other financial instruments

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

#### Other Financial Instruments

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

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

All financial instruments are recognised at fair value at the date of recognition. A detailed statement of the accounting policies applied to financial instruments also form part of Note 12.

#### (5) Inventories

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

## Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2023

### Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

#### (6) Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment

##### 6.1 Initial recognition

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

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

Capital works still in progress at balance date are recognised as other non-current assets and transferred to infrastructure, property, plant & equipment when completed ready for use.

##### 6.2 Materiality

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

##### 6.3 Subsequent recognition

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

##### 6.4 Depreciation of non-current assets

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

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

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

##### 6.5 Impairment

Assets whose future economic benefits are not dependent on the ability to generate cash flows, and where the future economic benefits would be replaced if Council were deprived thereof, are not subject to impairment testing.

Other assets that are subject to depreciation are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. An impairment loss is recognised for the amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount (which is the higher of the present value of future cash inflows or value in use).

Where an asset that has been revalued is subsequently impaired, the impairment is first offset against such amount as stands to the credit of that class of assets in Asset Revaluation Reserve, any excess being recognised as an expense.

##### 6.6 Borrowing costs

Borrowing costs in relation to qualifying assets (net of offsetting investment revenue) have been capitalised in accordance with AASB 123 "Borrowing Costs". The amounts of borrowing costs recognised as an expense or as part of the carrying amount of qualifying assets are disclosed in Note 3, and the amount (if any) of interest revenue offset against borrowing costs in Note 2.

## Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2023

### Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

#### (7) Payables

##### 7.1 Goods & Services

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

##### 7.2 Payments Received in Advance & Deposits

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

#### (8) Borrowings

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

#### (9) Employee benefits

##### 9.1 Salaries, Wages & Compensated Absences

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

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

No accrual is made for sick leave as Council experience indicates that, on average, sick leave taken in each reporting period is less than the entitlement accruing in that period, and this experience is expected to recur in future reporting periods. Council does not make payment for untaken sick leave.

##### 9.2 Superannuation

The Council makes employer superannuation contributions in respect of its employees to the Statewide Superannuation Scheme. The Scheme has two types of membership, each of which is funded differently. Details of the accounting policies applied and Council's involvement with the schemes are reported in Note 16.

#### (10) GST implications

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

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

## Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2023

### Note 2. Income

\$ '000	2023	2022
<b>(a) Rates</b>		
<b>General rates</b>		
General rates	10,793	10,405
Less: mandatory rebates	(181)	(174)
Less: discretionary rebates, remissions and write-offs	(103)	(62)
<b>Total general rates</b>	<b>10,509</b>	<b>10,169</b>
<b>Other rates (including service charges)</b>		
Landscape levy	510	479
Waste collection	1,537	1,489
Community wastewater management systems	1,792	1,752
<b>Total other rates (including service charges)</b>	<b>3,839</b>	<b>3,720</b>
<b>Other charges</b>		
Penalties for late payment	75	64
<b>Total other charges</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>64</b>
<b>Total rates</b>	<b>14,423</b>	<b>13,953</b>
<b>(b) Statutory charges</b>		
Development Act fees	53	69
Town planning fees	107	118
Health and septic tank inspection fees	121	105
Animal registration fees and fines	88	88
Other licences, fees and fines	-	2
<b>Total statutory charges</b>	<b>369</b>	<b>382</b>
<b>(c) User charges</b>		
Cemetery Fees	130	130
Sundry	15	10
Marina Fees	85	83
Retirement Village	739	650
Private Works	1	4
Hire/Lease/Rent Fees	117	128
Tourism Income	89	124
Search Fees	26	26
Waste Management	84	91
Food Inspections	2	2
<b>Total user charges</b>	<b>1,288</b>	<b>1,248</b>

## Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2023

### Note 2. Income (continued)

\$ '000	2023	2022
<b>(d) Investment income</b>		
Interest on investments		
- Local Government Finance Authority	327	50
- Loans to community groups	7	9
Investment property rental income	23	-
<b><u>Total investment income</u></b>	<b><u>357</u></b>	<b><u>59</u></b>
<b>(e) Reimbursements</b>		
Fuel Rebate	74	65
Trainee Reimbursement	11	21
Planning Reimbursement	43	1
Long Service Leave	50	-
Waikerie Truck Stop	26	25
Insurance Claims	-	46
SA Health	30	4
Other	13	4
<b><u>Total reimbursements</u></b>	<b><u>247</u></b>	<b><u>166</u></b>
<b>(f) Other income</b>		
Sundry	53	56
Loxton Riverfront Holiday Park	665	883
Workers Compensation Scheme Bonus	119	137
Local Government Finance Authority Bonus	29	48
Temporary Water Licence Sales	4	4
Sponsorship Income	33	32
Other	1	-
<b><u>Total other income</u></b>	<b><u>904</u></b>	<b><u>1,160</u></b>
<b>(g) Grants, subsidies and contributions</b>		
Amounts received specifically for new or upgraded assets	4,623	3,172
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>4,623</u></b>	<b><u>3,172</u></b>
<b>Other grants, subsidies and contributions</b>		
Untied - Financial Assistance Grant	6,847	6,110
Roads to Recovery	744	744
Library and communications	39	48
River Murray Flood Assistance	1,972	-
Sundry	846	814
<b>Total other grants, subsidies and contributions</b>	<b><u>10,448</u></b>	<b><u>7,716</u></b>
<b><u>Total grants, subsidies and contributions</u></b>	<b><u>15,071</u></b>	<b><u>10,888</u></b>

The functions to which these grants relate are shown in Note 12.

## Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2023

### Note 2. Income (continued)

\$ '000	2023	2022
<b>(i) Sources of grants</b>		
Commonwealth Government	5,447	4,079
State Government	9,378	6,650
Other	246	159
<b>Total</b>	<b>15,071</b>	<b>10,888</b>

### Note 3. Expenses

\$ '000	Notes	2023	2022
<b>(a) Employee costs</b>			
Salaries and wages		5,453	5,343
Employee leave expense		1,183	1,199
Superannuation - defined contribution plan contributions	16	528	510
Superannuation - defined benefit plan contributions	16	125	115
Workers' compensation insurance		322	296
Other employee related costs		40	19
Less: capitalised and distributed costs		(1,361)	(1,477)
<b>Total operating employee costs</b>		<b>6,290</b>	<b>6,005</b>
Total number of employees (full time equivalent at end of reporting period)		77	83

### (b) Materials, contracts and other expenses

#### (i) Prescribed expenses

Auditor's remuneration			
- Auditing the financial reports		18	18
Elected members' expenses		223	211
<b>Subtotal - prescribed expenses</b>		<b>241</b>	<b>229</b>

## Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2023

### Note 3. Expenses (continued)

\$ '000	2023	2022
<b>(ii) Other materials, contracts and expenses</b>		
Contractors	7,073	3,876
Energy	485	453
Legal expenses	78	155
Levies paid to Government - NRM levy	523	491
Parts, accessories and consumables	1,948	1,597
Professional services	315	387
Cleaning	319	295
Fuel	665	492
Insurance	482	428
Management Fee	760	731
Registration Fee	78	80
Revaluation decrement - Retirement Village	892	206
Subscriptions	275	126
Telecommunications	76	101
Water	216	195
Less: capitalised and distributed Costs	(523)	(798)
<b>Subtotal - Other material, contracts and expenses</b>	<b>13,662</b>	<b>8,815</b>
<b>Total materials, contracts and other expenses</b>	<b>13,903</b>	<b>9,044</b>

### (c) Depreciation, amortisation and impairment

#### (i) Depreciation and amortisation

Buildings and other structures	2,652	2,304
Infrastructure		
- Road Infrastructure	2,683	2,468
- Footpaths, Kerb & Gutter	377	323
- Stormwater drainage	193	156
- CWMS	512	489
- Other Infrastructure	2	-
- Irrigation	96	76
Plant, Machinery & Equipment	949	893
Office Equipment, Furniture & Fittings	108	25
<b>Total depreciation, amortisation and impairment</b>	<b>7,572</b>	<b>6,734</b>

### (d) Finance costs

Interest on loans	5	7
Unwinding of present value discounts	49	10
<b>Total finance costs</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>17</b>

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements  
for the year ended 30 June 2023

#### Note 4. Asset disposal and fair value adjustments

\$ '000	2023	2022
<b>Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment</b>		
<b>(i) Assets renewed or directly replaced</b>		
Proceeds from disposal	213	342
Less: carrying amount of assets sold	(638)	(884)
<b>Gain (loss) on disposal</b>	<b>(425)</b>	<b>(542)</b>
<b>(ii) Assets surplus to requirements</b>		
Proceeds from disposal	150	128
Less: carrying amount of assets sold	(1,861)	(128)
<b>Gain (loss) on disposal</b>	<b>(1,711)</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net gain (loss) on disposal or revaluation of assets</b>	<b>(2,136)</b>	<b>(542)</b>

#### Note 5. Current assets

\$ '000	2023	2022
<b>(a) Cash and cash equivalent assets</b>		
Cash on hand and at bank	14	58
Deposits at call	15,168	12,464
<b>Total cash and cash equivalent assets</b>	<b>15,182</b>	<b>12,522</b>
<b>(b) Trade and other receivables</b>		
Rates - general and other	591	604
Accrued revenues	376	77
Debtors - general	435	492
GST recoupment	217	294
Prepayments	141	206
Loans to community organisations	11	11
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>1,771</b>	<b>1,684</b>
Less: provision for expected credit losses	(79)	(79)
<b>Total trade and other receivables</b>	<b>1,692</b>	<b>1,605</b>
<b>(c) Inventories</b>		
Stores and materials	88	57
<b>Total inventories</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>57</b>

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

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements  
for the year ended 30 June 2023

Note 6. Non-current assets

<u>\$ '000</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
<b>(a) Trade and other receivables</b>		
<b>Receivables</b>		
Loans to community organisations	487	498
<b><u>Total financial assets</u></b>	<b><u>487</u></b>	<b><u>498</u></b>
<b>(b) Other non-current assets</b>		
Capital work in progress	7,105	5,724
Intangible Asset - Water Rights	8,100	8,000
<b><u>Total other non-current assets</u></b>	<b><u>15,205</u></b>	<b><u>13,724</u></b>

## District Council of Loxton Waikerie

Financial Statements 2023

### Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2023

#### Note 7. Infrastructure, property, plant & equipment and investment property

##### Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment

	Fair Value Level	as at 30/06/22				Asset movements during the reporting period							as at 30/06/23			
		At Fair Value	At Cost	Accumulated Depreciation	Carrying amount	Asset Additions New / Upgrade	Asset Additions Renewals	WDV of Asset Disposals	Depreciation Expense (Note 3c)	Adjustments & Transfers	Revaluation Decrements to Equity (ARR) (Note 9)	Revaluation Increments to Equity (ARR) (Note 9)	At Fair Value	At Cost	Accumulated Depreciation	Carrying amount
\$ '000																
Land - community	2	13,017	-	-	13,017	-	-	-	-	(13,017)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Land - community Buildings and other structures	2	19,816	-	-	19,816	-	-	(247)	-	13,017	-	1,553	-	-	-	34,139
Buildings and other structures	3	11,164	-	(8,429)	2,735	-	-	-	-	(2,735)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Buildings and other structures	3	91,488	-	(38,623)	52,865	3,305	593	(1,614)	(2,652)	2,735	-	5,398	-	(52,676)	60,632	
- Road Infrastructure	3	100,528	5,463	(24,910)	81,081	1,383	3,265	(449)	(2,683)	-	-	2,822	108,542	4,649	(27,771)	85,420
- Footpaths, Kerb & Gutter	3	19,728	2,335	(6,433)	15,630	51	53	-	(377)	-	-	680	23,169	103	(7,237)	16,035
- Stormwater drainage	3	12,409	328	(5,085)	7,652	-	-	-	(193)	-	-	2,205	16,231	-	(6,567)	9,664
- CWMS	3	24,256	1,794	(13,408)	12,642	-	163	(25)	(512)	-	-	1,245	28,999	163	(15,649)	13,513
- Irrigation	3	3,474	847	(1,695)	2,626	-	15	-	(96)	-	-	330	4,775	15	(1,914)	2,876
- Other Infrastructure	3	203	44	(196)	51	-	-	-	(2)	-	-	3	251	-	(198)	53
Plant, Machinery & Equipment	3	-	11,887	(5,072)	6,615	153	653	(163)	(949)	-	-	-	-	11,985	(5,676)	6,309
Office Equipment, Furniture & Fittings	3	-	2,395	(1,603)	792	160	4	-	(108)	-	-	-	-	2,559	(1,711)	848
Book Stocks	3	585	-	-	585	-	-	-	-	-	(38)	-	546	-	-	546
<b>Total Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment</b>		<b>296,668</b>	<b>24,893</b>	<b>(105,454)</b>	<b>216,107</b>	<b>5,052</b>	<b>4,746</b>	<b>(2,498)</b>	<b>(7,572)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(38)</b>	<b>14,236</b>	<b>329,960</b>	<b>19,474</b>	<b>(119,399)</b>	<b>230,035</b>
Comparatives		274,274	28,384	(97,564)	205,094	10,934	2,982	(1,012)	(6,734)	-	-	4,844	296,668	24,893	(105,454)	216,107

## District Council of Loxton Waikerie

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements  
for the year ended 30 June 2023

### Note 7. Infrastructure, property, plant & equipment and investment property

#### Investment property

\$ '000	Fair Value Level	as at 30/06/22		Asset movements during the reporting period							as at 30/06/23		
		At Fair Value	At Cost	Accumulated Depreciation	Carrying amount	Asset Additions / Upgrade	Asset Additions Renewals	Revaluation Increments/ Decrements to P&L - Investment Properties (Note 4)	Revaluation Decrements to P&L (Note 4)	At Fair Value	At Cost	Accumulated Depreciation	Carrying amount
	2	15,185	-	-	15,185	855	607	23	-	16,670	-	-	16,670
		15,185	-	-	15,185	855	607	23	-	16,670	-	-	16,670
		15,048	-	-	15,048	-	342	-	(205)	15,185	-	-	15,185

## Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2023

### Note 7. Infrastructure, property, plant & equipment and investment property (continued)

#### Valuation of infrastructure, property, plant & equipment and investment property

##### Valuation of assets

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

*AASB 13 Fair Value Measurement* requires all assets and liabilities measured at fair value to be assigned to a "level" in the fair value hierarchy as follows:

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

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

Level 3: Inputs for the asset or liability that are not based on observable market data (unobservable inputs).

Refer to Note 7(a) for the disclosure of the Fair Value Levels of Infrastructure, Property, Plant and Equipment Assets.

##### Information on valuations

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

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

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

- The determination of the cost to construct the asset (or its modern engineering equivalent) using current prices for materials and labour, the quantities of each being estimated based on recent experience of this or similar Councils, or on industry construction guides where these are more appropriate.
- The calculation of the depreciation that would have accumulated since original construction using current estimates of residual value and useful life under the prime cost depreciation method adopted by Council.

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

Transfers between fair value hierarchy levels

In the course of revaluing Land, Buildings and Structures the nature of the inputs applied was reviewed in detail for each asset and where necessary, the asset reassigned to the appropriate fair value hierarchy level. Such transfers take effect as at the date of the revaluation.

Council has transferred all land, building and structures with the exception of investment properties to Fair Value level 3. A review will be undertaken within the 2023-24 financial reporting year to reclassify and reassign to the appropriate fair value hierarchy level.

##### Other information

At 1 July 2004 upon the transition to AIFRS, Council elected pursuant to *AASB 1.D5* to retain a previously established deemed cost under GAAP as its deemed cost. With subsequent addition at cost, this remains as the basis of recognition of non-material asset classes.

Upon revaluation, the current new replacement cost and accumulated depreciation are re-stated such that the difference represents the fair value of the asset determined in accordance with *AASB 13 Fair Value Measurement*: accumulated

## Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2023

## Note 7. Infrastructure, property, plant &amp; equipment and investment property (continued)

depreciation is taken to be the difference between current new replacement cost and fair value. In the case of land, current replacement cost is taken to be the fair value.

**Highest and best use**

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

Highest and best use - For land which Council has an unfettered right to sell, the "highest and best use" recognises the possibility of the demolition or substantial modification of some or all of the existing buildings and structures affixed to the land. Much of the land under Council's care and control is Crown land or has been declared as community land under the provisions of the Local Government Act 1999. Other types of restrictions also exist.

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

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

**Transition to AASB 13 - Fair Value Measurement**

The requirements of AASB 13 Fair Value Measurement have been applied to all valuations undertaken since 1 July 2013 as shown by the valuation dates by individual asset classes below.

**Capitalisation Thresholds**

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

	\$
Office Furniture & Equipment	3,000
Other Plant & Equipment	3,000
Buildings - new construction/extensions	10,000
Park & Playground Furniture & Equipment	5,000
Road construction & reconstruction	10,000
Paving & Footpaths, Kerb & Gutter	5,000
Drains & Culverts	5,000

**Estimated Useful Lives**

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

*Plant, Furniture & Equipment*

Office Equipment	4 to 10 years
Office Furniture	10 to 20 years
Vehicles and Road-making Equipment	5 to 8 years
Other Plant & Equipment	5 to 15 years

*Building & Other Structures*

Buildings - masonry	50 to 100 years
Buildings - other construction	20 to 40 years
Park Structures - masonry	50 to 100 years
Park Structures - other construction	20 to 40 years
Playground Equipment	5 to 15 years
Benches, Seats, etc	10 to 20 years

## Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2023

### Note 7. Infrastructure, property, plant & equipment and investment property (continued)

#### Infrastructure

Sealed Roads - Surface	15 to 25 years
Sealed Roads - Structure	20 to 50 years
Unsealed Roads	10 to 20 years
Bridges - Concrete	80 to 100 years
Paving & Footpaths, Kerb & Gutter	80 to 100 years
Drains	80 to 100 years
Culverts	50 to 75 years
Flood Control Structures	80 to 100 years
Dams and Reservoirs	80 to 100 years
Bores	20 to 40 years
Reticulation Pipes - PVC	70 to 80 years
Reticulation Pipes - Other	25 to 75 years
Pumps & Telemetry	15 to 25 years

#### Land & Land Improvements

Land and Land Improvements undertook a full independent revaluation as at 30 June 2023 provided by Preston Rowe Paterson Adelaide Pty Ltd (PRP).

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

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

Estimated future costs of reinstatement of land, capitalised in accordance with AASB 116.16(c), are reviewed annually (see Note 1) and depreciated over the estimated remaining life of the relevant asset.

#### Buildings & Other Structures

A full independent revaluation of Buildings and other structures was undertaken as at 30 June 2023. This was provided by Preston Rowe Paterson Adelaide Pty Ltd (PRP).

#### Infrastructure

Roads, Footpaths, Kerb and Gutters was reviewed by Tonkin Consulting Services using a desk-top revaluation approach at depreciated current replacement cost as at 1 July 2022, based on actual costs incurred during the reporting period ended 30 June 2022. All acquisitions made during 2022-23 financial reporting period are recorded at cost.

Stormwater drainage infrastructure was reviewed by Tonkin Consulting Services using a desk-top revaluation approach at depreciated current replacement cost as at 1 July 2022, based on actual costs incurred during the reporting period ended 30 June 2022. All acquisitions made during 2022-23 financial reporting period are recorded at cost.

Community Wastewater Management System infrastructure was reviewed by Tonkin Consulting Services using a desk-top revaluation approach at depreciated current replacement cost as at 1 July 2022, based on actual costs incurred during the reporting period ended 30 June 2022. All acquisitions made during 2022-23 financial reporting period are recorded at cost.

Irrigation infrastructure was reviewed by Tonkin Consulting Services using a desk-top revaluation approach at depreciated current replacement cost as at 1 July 2022, based on actual costs incurred during the reporting period ended 30 June 2022. All acquisitions made during 2022-23 financial reporting period are recorded at cost.

#### Plant, Furniture & Equipment

These assets are recognised on the cost basis and depreciated using the straight-line method.

#### Book Stocks

Book Stocks and other lending materials were revalued as at 30 June 2023 by Council staff and recorded at fair value.

#### Investment Property

## Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2023

### Note 7. Infrastructure, property, plant & equipment and investment property (continued)

The basis of valuation of investment properties is fair value being the amounts for which the properties could be exchanged between willing but not anxious parties in an arm's length transaction, based on current prices in an active market for similar parties in the same location and subject to similar leases. The 2022-2023 valuation was independently made by Preston Rowe Paterson Adelaide Pty Ltd (PRP).

### Note 8. Liabilities

\$ '000	2023		2022	
	Current	Non Current	Current	Non Current
<b>(a) Trade and other payables</b>				
Goods and services	689	–	286	–
Payments received in advance	1,697	–	1,963	–
Accrued expenses - employee entitlements	–	–	87	–
Accrued expenses - other	1,568	–	692	–
Retirement Village Facility Deposits	12,334	–	10,695	–
Deposits, retentions and bonds	18	–	33	–
<b>Total trade and other payables</b>	<b>16,306</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>13,756</b>	<b>–</b>

### (b) Borrowings

Loans	16	224	15	240
<b>Total Borrowings</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>240</b>

All interest bearing liabilities are secured over the future revenues of the Council

### (c) Provisions

Employee entitlements (including oncosts)	69	–	77	–
AL Employee Entitlements (including oncosts)	744	–	697	–
LSL Employee Entitlements (including oncosts)	1,112	110	1,002	135
<b>Total provisions</b>	<b>1,925</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>1,776</b>	<b>135</b>

## Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2023

### Note 9. Reserves

\$ '000	as at 30/06/22		Transfers	Impairments	as at 30/06/23	
	Opening Balance	Increments (Decrements)			Closing Balance	
<b>(a) Asset revaluation reserve</b>						
Land - community	21,612	1,553	-	-	23,165	
Buildings and other structures	39,842	5,398	-	-	45,240	
Infrastructure						
- Road Infrastructure	71,890	2,822	-	-	74,712	
- Bridges, footpaths, kerb and gutter	-	680	-	-	680	
- Stormwater drainage	-	2,205	-	-	2,205	
- CWMS & Stormwater	7,551	1,245	-	-	8,796	
Irrigation	-	330	-	-	330	
Other Infrastructure	295	3	-	-	298	
Library books	10	(38)	-	-	(28)	
Water Rights	8,000	100	-	-	8,100	
<b>Total other assets</b>	<b>8,000</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>8,100</b>	
<b>Total asset revaluation reserve</b>	<b>149,200</b>	<b>14,298</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>163,498</b>	
Comparatives	143,256	5,944	-	-	149,200	

\$ '000	as at 30/06/22		Tfrs to Reserve	Tfrs from Reserve	Other Movements	as at 30/06/23	
	Opening Balance					Closing Balance	
<b>(b) Other reserves</b>							
CWMS	1,712	47	(142)	-	-	1,617	
<b>Total other reserves</b>	<b>1,712</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>(142)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,617</b>	
Comparatives	1,505	313	(106)	-	-	1,712	

### Purposes of reserves

#### Asset revaluation reserves

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

#### CWMS - Community Waste Management Scheme

In compliance with the Local Government Act 1999 s155, Council has created a reserve for Community Waste Management Scheme.

## Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2023

### Note 10. Reconciliation to Statement of Cash Flows

\$ '000	Notes	2023	2022
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#### (a) Reconciliation of cash

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

Total cash and equivalent assets	5	15,182	12,522
<b>Balances per Statement of Cash Flows</b>		<b>15,182</b>	<b>12,522</b>

#### (b) Reconciliation of change in net assets to cash from operating activities

<b>Net surplus/(deficit)</b>		2,704	5,514
<b>Non-cash items in income statements</b>			
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment		7,572	6,734
Grants for capital acquisitions treated as investing activity		(4,623)	(3,172)
Net (gain)/loss on disposals		2,136	542
		<b>7,789</b>	<b>9,618</b>
<b>Add (less): changes in net current assets</b>			
Net (increase)/decrease in receivables		(87)	(43)
Change in allowances for under-recovery of receivables		–	1
Net (increase)/decrease in inventories		(31)	(9)
Net (increase)/decrease in other assets		–	(2)
Net increase/(decrease) in trade and other payables		1,470	576
Net increase/(decrease) in unpaid employee benefits		92	64
Net increase/(decrease) in other provisions		32	–
<b>Net cash provided by (or used in) operations</b>		<b>9,265</b>	<b>10,205</b>

#### (c) Financing arrangements

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

Bank overdrafts	200	200
Corporate credit cards	163	134
LGFA cash advance debenture facility	–	2,000

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

## District Council of Loxton Waikerie

### Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2023

#### Note 11(a). Functions

	Income, Expenses and Assets have been directly attributed to the following Functions / Activities. Details of these Functions/Activities are provided in Note 11(b).												
	2023	INCOME	2023	EXPENSES	2023	2022	2023	OPERATING	2023	2022	2023	2022	TOTAL ASSETS HELD
\$ '000								SURPLUS (DEFICIT)		GRANTS INCLUDED			(CURRENT AND NON-CURRENT)
<b>Functions/Activities</b>													
Economic Services	938	1,391	753	1,190	185	201	230	413	—	—	—	—	—
Public Order & Safety	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Recreation & Culture	237	247	6,730	3,626	(6,493)	(3,379)	2,017	48	—	53,078	49,349	—	—
Regulatory Services	268	304	1,148	1,340	(880)	(1,036)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Transport	7,435	4,645	10,289	9,147	(2,854)	(4,502)	3,002	2,295	—	134,092	124,672	—	—
Housing & Comm Amenities	4,524	4,277	5,765	5,073	(1,241)	(796)	—	355	—	69,840	64,933	—	—
Council Administration	14,493	13,711	2,813	1,217	11,680	12,494	5,199	4,602	—	22,349	20,744	—	—
Health	141	109	231	207	(90)	(98)	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Total Functions/Activities</b>	<b>28,036</b>	<b>24,684</b>	<b>27,729</b>	<b>21,800</b>	<b>307</b>	<b>2,884</b>	<b>10,448</b>	<b>7,716</b>	<b>279,359</b>	<b>259,698</b>			

Revenues and expenses exclude net gain (loss) on disposal or revaluation of assets, amounts received specifically for new or upgraded assets and physical resources received free of charge.

## Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2023

### Note 11(b). Components of functions

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The activities relating to Council functions are as follows:

#### **Economic Services**

Economic Initiatives, tourism, caravan parks.

#### **Public Order & Safety**

Supervision of various laws, fire prevention, road safety, bird and dog control.

#### **Recreation & Culture**

Maintenance & Operation of libraries, recreation centres, swimming pools, internet centre, parks, gardens and reserves, playgrounds, sports grounds, and halls.

#### **Regulatory services**

Development and Planning Act administration and inspectorial services.

#### **Transport**

Aerodrome, Footpaths and Kerbing, Roads – sealed, Roads – formed, Roads – natural formed, Roads – unformed, Traffic Management, and Other Transport.

#### **Housing & Community Amenities**

Town planning, road sweeping, roadside rubbish collection, domestic refuse collection, operation of rubbish tips, stormwater drainage, street signs, tree management, cemetery operations, retirement village operation, youth services and community information.

#### **Council administration**

Governance, Administration n.e.c., Elected Members, Organisational, Support Services, Accounting/Finance, Payroll, Human Resources, Information Technology, Communication, Rates Administration, Records, Customer Service, Other Support Services.

#### **Health**

Health Act administration, immunisation services and pest and pest plant control.

## Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2023

### Note 12. Financial instruments

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#### Recognised financial instruments

##### Bank, deposits at call, short term deposits

**Accounting Policy:**

Initially recognised at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost; interest is recognised when earned.

**Terms & Conditions:**

Deposits are returning fixed interest rate of 4.3% (2022: between 1.05% and 2.31%). Short term deposits have an average maturity of 0 days and an average interest rate of 4.30% (2022: 23 days and 1.56%).

**Carrying Amount:**

Approximates fair value due to the short term to maturity.

##### Receivables - rates and associated charges

**Accounting Policy:**

Initially recognised at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost. An impairment provision is recognised using the expected credit loss method.

**Terms & Conditions:**

Secured over the subject land, arrears attract interest of 2% (2022: 2%). Council is not materially exposed to any individual debtor, credit risk exposure is concentrated within the Council's boundaries in the State.

**Carrying Amount:**

Approximates fair value (after deduction of any allowance).

##### Receivables - fees and other charges

**Accounting policy:**

Initially recognised at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost. An impairment provision is recognised using the expected credit loss method.

**Terms and conditions:**

Unsecured, and do not bear interest. Council is not materially exposed to any individual debtor, credit risk exposure is concentrated within the Council's boundaries.

**Carrying amount:**

Approximates fair value (after deduction of any allowance).

##### Receivables - other levels of government

**Accounting policy:**

Initially recognised at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost. An impairment provision is recognised using the expected credit loss method.

**Terms and conditions:**

Amounts due have been calculated in accordance with the terms and conditions of the respective programs following advice of approvals, and do not bear interest. All amounts are due by Departments and Agencies of State and Federal Governments.

**Carrying amount:**

Approximates fair value.

## Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2023

### Note 12. Financial instruments (continued)

---

#### Receivables - retirement home contributions

**Accounting policy:**

Initially recognised at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost. An impairment provision is recognised using the expected credit loss method.

**Terms and conditions:**

Amounts due have been calculated in accordance with the terms and conditions of the respective legislation.

**Carrying amount:**

Approximates fair value (after deduction of any allowance).

#### Liabilities - creditors and accruals

**Accounting policy:**

Liabilities are recognised for amounts to be paid in the future for goods and services received, whether or not billed to the Council.

**Terms and conditions:**

Liabilities are normally settled on 30 day terms.

**Carrying amount:**

Approximates fair value.

#### Liabilities - retirement home contributions

**Accounting policy:**

To avoid inconvenience when complying with the separate audit requirements imposed by the relevant legislation, amounts are carried at nominal values.

**Terms and conditions:**

Pursuant to Commonwealth legislation certain intending residents are required to contribute amounts on an interest free basis. The amounts are subject to certain deductions as prescribed by the legislation, the balance being repaid on termination of tenancy.

**Carrying amount:**

Approximates fair value for short tenancies; may be non-materially overstated for longer tenancies.

#### Liabilities - interest bearing borrowings

**Accounting Policy:**

Initially recognised at fair value and subsequently at amortised cost using the effective interest rate.

**Terms & Conditions:**

Secured over future revenues, borrowings are repayable (describe basis); interest is charged at fixed (or variable - describe) rates between 2.6% and 4.50% (2022: 2.6% and 4.5%).

**Carrying Amount:**

Approximates fair value.

## Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2023

### Note 12. Financial instruments (continued)

\$ '000	Due < 1 year	Due > 1 year and ≤ 5 years	Due > 5 years	Total Contractual Cash Flows	Carrying Values
<b>Financial assets and liabilities</b>					
<b>2023</b>					
<b>Financial assets</b>					
Cash and cash equivalents	15,182	–	–	15,182	15,182
Receivables	1,421	73	475	1,969	1,771
<b>Total financial assets</b>	<b>16,603</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>475</b>	<b>17,151</b>	<b>16,953</b>
<b>Financial liabilities</b>					
Payables	12,977	–	–	12,977	13,041
Current borrowings	22	–	–	22	16
Non-current borrowings	–	74	201	275	224
<b>Total financial liabilities</b>	<b>12,999</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>13,274</b>	<b>13,281</b>
<b>Total financial assets and liabilities</b>	<b>29,602</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>676</b>	<b>30,425</b>	<b>30,234</b>
<b>2022</b>					
<b>Financial assets</b>					
Cash and cash equivalents	12,521	–	–	12,521	12,522
Receivables	1,184	73	493	1,750	1,684
<b>Total financial assets</b>	<b>13,705</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>493</b>	<b>14,271</b>	<b>14,206</b>
<b>Financial liabilities</b>					
Payables	12,977	–	–	12,977	11,014
Current borrowings	22	–	–	22	15
Non-current borrowings	–	80	217	297	240
<b>Total financial liabilities</b>	<b>12,999</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>13,296</b>	<b>11,269</b>
<b>Total financial assets and liabilities</b>	<b>26,704</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>710</b>	<b>27,567</b>	<b>25,475</b>

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

\$ '000	2023		2022	
	Weighted Avg Interest Rate	Carrying Value	Weighted Avg Interest Rate	Carrying Value
Fixed interest rates	2.73%	240	2.76%	255
		<b>240</b>		<b>255</b>

#### Net fair value

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

#### Risk exposures

**Credit Risk** represents the loss that would be recognised if counterparties fail to perform as contracted. The maximum credit risk on financial assets of the Council is the carrying amount, net of any impairment. All Council investments are made with the SA Local Government Finance Authority and are guaranteed by the SA Government. Except as detailed in Notes 5 and

## Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2023

## Note 12. Financial instruments (continued)

6 in relation to individual classes of receivables, exposure is concentrated within the Council's boundaries, and there is no material exposure to any individual debtor.

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

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

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

**Expected credit losses (ECL)**

Council uses an allowance matrix to measure expected credit losses for receivables from individual customers, which comprise a large number of small balances. As rates and annual charges are secured over subject land no allowance for such receivables is made. The following table provides information about Council's ECLs from receivables (excluding secured rates and charges, GST and other amounts held in trust). Impairment analysis is performed each reporting date. ECLS are based on credit history adjusted for forward looking estimates and economic conditions.

Set out below is the movement in the allowance for expected credit losses:

## Note 13. Capital expenditure and investment property commitments

\$ '000	2023	2022
<b>Capital commitments</b>		
<b>Capital expenditure committed for at the reporting date but not recognised in the financial statements as liabilities:</b>		
Buildings	163	177
Infrastructure Services	303	215
IT Services	88	24
Parks and Gardens	229	549
Riverfront	264	1
Sports Grounds and Facilities	194	3
Road, Footpath, Kerb and Gutters	59	476
Stormwater	55	130
Tourism	17	74
Retirement Village	792	3,328
	<b>2,164</b>	<b>4,977</b>
<b>These expenditures are payable:</b>		
Not later than one year	2,164	4,977
	<b>2,164</b>	<b>4,977</b>

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements  
for the year ended 30 June 2023

Note 14. Financial indicators

	Indicator 2023	Indicators 2022      2021	
<p>Financial Indicators overview <i>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.</i></p>			
<b>1. Operating Surplus Ratio</b>			
Operating surplus			
Total operating income	<b>0.8%</b>	11.7%	1.0%
<p><i>This ratio expresses the operating surplus as a percentage of total operating revenue.</i></p>			
<b>2. Net Financial Liabilities Ratio</b>			
Net financial liabilities			
Total operating income	<b>4%</b>	5%	1%
<p><i>Net Financial Liabilities are defined as total liabilities less financial assets (excluding equity accounted investments in Council businesses). These are expressed as a percentage of total operating revenue.</i></p>			
<b>Adjusted Operating Surplus Ratio</b>			
Operating surplus			
Total operating income	<b>(5.4)%</b>	6.8%	2.8%
<b>Adjustments to Ratios</b>			
<p><i>In recent years the Federal Government has made advance payments prior to 30th June from future year allocations of financial assistance grants, as explained in Note 1. These Adjusted Ratios correct for the resulting distortion in key ratios for each year and provide a more accurate basis for comparison.</i></p>			
<b>Adjusted Net Financial Liabilities Ratio</b>			
Net financial liabilities			
Total operating income	<b>22%</b>	19%	11%
<b>3. Asset Renewal Funding Ratio</b>			
Asset renewals			
Infrastructure and Asset Management Plan required expenditure	<b>90%</b>	34%	122%
<p><i>Asset renewals expenditure is defined as capital expenditure on the renewal and replacement of existing assets relative to the optimal level planned, and excludes new capital expenditure on the acquisition of additional assets.</i></p>			

## Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2023

### Note 15. Uniform presentation of finances

\$ '000	2023	2022
The following is a high level summary of both operating and capital investment activities of the Council prepared on a simplified Uniform Presentation Framework basis.		
All Councils in South Australia have agreed to summarise annual budgets and long-term financial plans on the same basis.		
The arrangements ensure that all Councils provide a common 'core' of financial information, which enables meaningful comparisons of each Council's finances.		
<u>Income</u>		
Rates	14,423	13,953
Statutory charges	369	382
User charges	1,288	1,248
Grants, subsidies and contributions - operating	10,448	7,716
Investment income	357	59
Reimbursements	247	166
Other income	904	1,160
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>28,036</b>	<b>24,684</b>
<u>Expenses</u>		
Employee costs	6,290	6,005
Materials, contracts and other expenses	13,903	9,044
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment	7,572	6,734
Finance costs	54	17
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>27,819</b>	<b>21,800</b>
<b>Operating surplus / (deficit)</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>2,884</b>
<b>Adjusted Operating surplus / (deficit)</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>2,884</b>
<u>Net outlays on existing assets</u>		
Capital expenditure on renewal and replacement of existing assets	(5,297)	(3,323)
Add back depreciation, amortisation and impairment	7,572	6,734
Add back proceeds from sale of replaced assets	213	342
	<b>2,488</b>	<b>3,753</b>
<u>Net outlays on new and upgraded assets</u>		
Capital expenditure on new and upgraded assets (including investment property and real estate developments)	(7,370)	(10,923)
Add back amounts received specifically for new and upgraded assets	4,623	3,172
Add back proceeds from sale of surplus assets (including investment property, real estate developments and non-current assets held for resale)	150	128
	<b>(2,597)</b>	<b>(7,623)</b>
<b>Annual net impact to financing activities (surplus/(deficit))</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>(986)</b>

## Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2023

### Note 16. Superannuation

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

#### **Accumulation only members**

Accumulation only members receive both employer and employee contributions on a progressive basis. Employer contributions are based on a fixed percentage of ordinary time earnings in accordance with superannuation guarantee legislation (10.50% in 2022/23; 10.00% in 2021/22). No further liability accrues to the Council as the superannuation benefits accruing to employees are represented by their share of the net assets of the Fund.

#### **Salarylink (Defined Benefit Fund) members**

Salarylink is a defined benefit scheme where the benefit payable is based on a formula determined by the member's contribution rate, number of years and level of contribution and final average salary. Council makes employer contributions to Salarylink as determined by the Fund's Trustee based on advice from the appointed Actuary. The rate is currently 6.3% (6.3% in 2021/22) of "superannuation" salary.

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

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

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

## Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2023

## Note 17. Related party transactions

## Key management personnel

## Transactions with key management personnel

The Key Management Personnel of the Council include the Mayor, Councillors, CEO and certain prescribed officers under section 112 of the Local Government Act 1999. In all, 17 persons were paid the following total compensation.

\$ '000	2023	2022
<b>The compensation paid to key management personnel comprises:</b>		
Short-term employee benefits	1,284	1,202
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,284</b>	<b>1,202</b>

## Receipts from key management personnel comprise:

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

Planning and building application Fees	1	2
Other	42	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>2</b>

Some key management personnel or their close family members are affiliated with various service clubs, sporting clubs or benevolent organisations of the region. From time to time council will assist such organisations by way of community support, rate rebate in accordance council will assist such organisations by way of community support, rate rebate in accordance with the Local Government Act 1999, or in kind assistance. These sporting clubs regular hire council facilities and pay council hire fees in accordance with Fees and Charges register adopted by Council.

Key management personnel or key management personal relatives lodged a total of two planning and building applications during the year. In accordance with the Local Government Act 1999, these persons declared conflicts of interest and took no part in the assessment or approval processes for these applications. Total Fees for these applications was \$695.07.

A number of key management personnel or relatives own businesses which Council has financial transactions with. The total payments to their business was \$5,702.

Three close family members of key management personnel are employed by Council in accordance with the terms of the Award, and as recorded in the public Register of Salaries maintained in accordance with section 105 of the Local Government Act 1999.

Key Management Personnel or Key Management Personal relatives are members of the following committees and organisations:

Riverland West Chamber of Commerce	Loxton Chamber of Commerce
Berri Lion's Club	Waikerie Australia Day Committee
Regional Development Australian Murrumbidgee Riverland	Riverland West Landcare
Nippy's Loxton Gift Carnival	Loxton Christmas Lights Committee
Central Irrigation Trust	Waikerie Senior Citizens
Loxton Netball Club	Loxton Football Club
Waikerie Firearms Club	Loxton Amateur Basketball Association
Berri Rowing Club	Loxton Community Hotel
Loxton North Sports Club	

In accordance with the Local government Act 1999, these persons declared a conflict of interest and leave the meeting environs when any matter affecting their organisation/club is discussed or voted upon. During 2022/23 Council made contributions totalling \$55,345 to the above committees and organisations.

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## **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE DISTRICT COUNCIL OF LOXTON WAIKERIE**

### **Opinion**

We have audited the accompanying financial report of District Council of Loxton Waikerie, which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2023, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies and the Certification of the Financial Statements.

In our opinion, the financial report gives a true and fair view of the financial position of District Council of Loxton Waikerie as of 30 June 2023, and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Local Government Act 1999* and the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011*.

### **Basis for Opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the Council in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (including Independence Standards) (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

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

### **Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Report**

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

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

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



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### **Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report**

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

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial report is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at <http://www.auasb.gov.au/Home.aspx>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

### **BENTLEYS SA AUDIT PARTNERSHIP**



DAVID PAPA  
PARTNER

Dated at Adelaide this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of October 2023

**Bentleys SA Audit Partnership**

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## **INDEPENDENT ASSURANCE REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROLS OF THE DISTRICT COUNCIL OF LOXTON WAIKERIE**

### **Opinion**

We have audited the compliance of District Council of Loxton Waikerie (the Council) with the requirements of *Section 125 of the Local Government Act 1999* in relation to the Internal Controls established by the Council to ensure that financial transactions relating to the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, acquisition and disposal of property and incurring of liabilities for the period 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023 are in accordance with legislative provisions.

In our opinion, the Council has complied, in all material respects, with *Section 125 of the Local Government Act 1999* in relation to Internal Controls, established by the Council in relation to the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, acquisition and disposal of property and incurring of liabilities so as to provide reasonable assurance that the financial transactions of the Council have been conducted properly and in accordance with legislative provisions for the period 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023.

### **Limitation on Use**

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

### **Limitations of Controls**

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

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

### **Independence**

In conducting our engagement, we have complied with the independence requirements of the Australian professional accounting bodies.



A member of Bentleys, a network of independent advisory and accounting firms located throughout Australia, New Zealand and China that trade as Bentleys. All members of the Bentleys Network are affiliated only, are separate legal entities and not in partnership. Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation. A member of Allinial Global – an association of independent accounting and consulting firms.



### **The Council's Responsibility for the Internal Controls**

The Council is responsible for implementing and maintaining an adequate system of internal controls, in accordance with *Section 125 of the Local Government Act 1999* in relation to Internal Controls, to ensure that the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, the acquisition and disposal of property, and incurring of liabilities are in accordance with legislative provisions.

### **Our Responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Council's compliance with *Section 125 of the Local Government Act 1999* in relation only to the Internal Controls established by the Council to ensure that financial transactions relating to the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, acquisition and disposal of property and incurring of liabilities, based on our procedures. Our engagement has been conducted in accordance with applicable Australian Standards on Assurance Engagements *ASAE 3000 Assurance Engagements Other than Audits or Reviews of Historical Financial Information* and *ASAE 3150 Assurance Engagement on Controls*, issued by the Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards Board, in order to state whether, in all material respects, the *Council* has complied with *Section 125 of the Local Government Act 1999* in relation only to the Internal Controls specified above for the period 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023. ASAE 3000 also requires us to comply with the relevant ethical requirements of the Australian professional accounting bodies.

Our procedures included obtaining an understanding of internal controls in relation to the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, the acquisition and disposal of property and the incurring of liabilities, evaluating management's assessment of these internal controls, assessing the risk that a material weakness exists, and testing and evaluating the design and implementation of controls on a sample basis on the assessed risks.

### **BENTLEYS SA AUDIT PARTNERSHIP**



DAVID PAPA  
PARTNER

Dated at Adelaide this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of October 2023

General Purpose Financial Statements  
for the year ended 30 June 2023

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Certification of Auditor Independence

To the best of our knowledge and belief, we confirm that, for the purpose of the audit of District Council of Loxton Waikerie for the year ended 30 June 2023, the Council's Auditor, Bentleys has maintained its independence in accordance with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 1999* and the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011* made under that Act.

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



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David Beaton  
Chief Executive Officer



---

Tim Muhlhausler  
Presiding Member, Audit Committee

Date: 13 October 2023

**Bentleys SA Audit Partnership**

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**Certification of Auditor Independence**

I confirm that, for the audit of the financial statements of District Council of Loxton Waikerie for the year ended 30 June 2023, I have maintained my independence in accordance with the requirements of APES 110 – Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards), Part 4A published by the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board, in accordance with the Local Government Act 1999 and the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011 made under that Act.

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

**Bentleys SA Audit Partnership**



David Papa  
Partner

Dated at Adelaide this 28<sup>th</sup> day of September 2023



Murraylands & Riverland Local  
Government Association

# 2022/23 ANNUAL REPORT



# 2022/23 ANNUAL REPORT

MURRAYLANDS & RIVERLAND LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association



## Constituent Councils



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**MRLGA OVERVIEW**

**Mission**

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

**Our Charter**

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

**Values and Behaviours**

Integrity, Leadership, Collaboration, Credibility, Unity

**Role**

Working to the MRLGA Charter, the Association motivates, advocates and represents its eight constituent Councils to advance cooperation, strategic partnerships and governance arrangements that oversee programs and projects in the region. Through its coordination of effort, the Association leads and assists its councils with evidence-based approaches to high level planning, communication and representation. The MRLGA works closely with Local Government Association SA, Commonwealth and State Governments, as well as regional partners including Regional Development Australia Murraylands and Riverland (RDA MR) and Murraylands & Riverland Landscape Board.

**Strategic Framework**

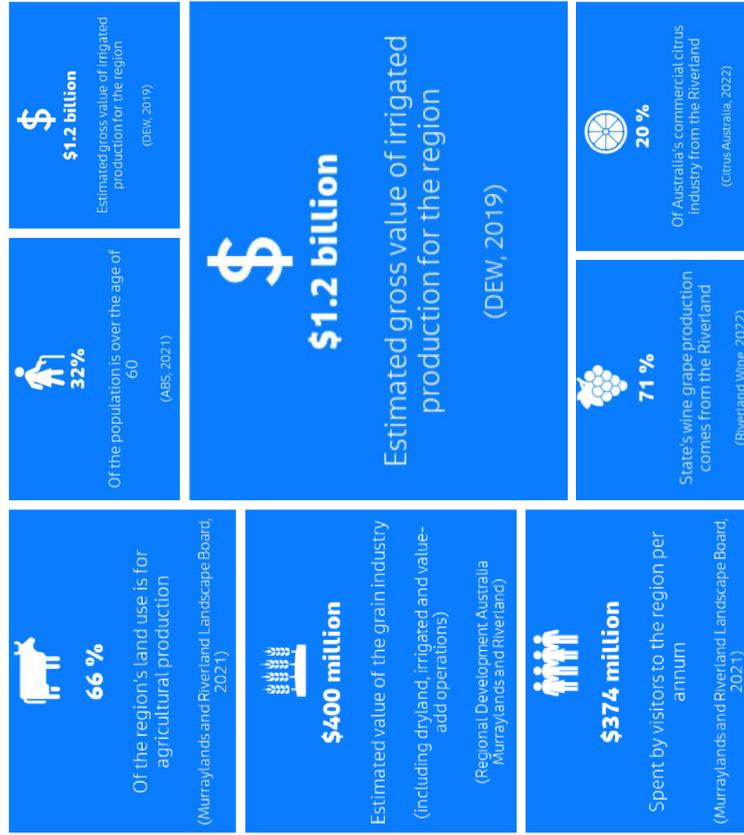


## REGIONAL STATISTICS

The Murraylands and Riverland's Gross Regional Product is estimated at **\$4.64 billion**, which represents 3.73% of the state's GDP (Gross State Product).



In the Murraylands and Riverland region, Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing had the largest total exports by industry, generating **\$2.736 billion** in 2021/22.



NIER – National Institute of Industry and Economic Research

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT



MRLGA President  
Mayor Caroline Phillips

The Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association, along with its eight constituent councils, continued in 22/23 towards its goal of working collaboratively to be a unified local government sector working in the best interest of the region and our communities.

As Regional Councils continue their amazing efforts across the state to serve local communities, it was important that in our role as listeners and leaders we take time to talk to our neighbouring councils about shared regional issues and opportunities. Through this collaboration we set ourselves up for greater conversations, the sharing of ideas and solutions, networking, co-operation, efficiencies, support and progress. And on behalf of the Association, I wish to thank everyone, including Board Members, CEOs, Committee Members and staff for your ongoing collaborating as a sector. It is through collaboration we can achieve our goal of unity, and together we are stronger.

The year began with a continuing Board from 21/22. Many of whom were long serving elected members and Mayor's in Local Government and I'd like to acknowledge their contributions made over the years and decades of service, including Mayor Peter Hunt, Mayor Leon Stasinowsky, Mayor Dave Burgess, Mayor Neil Martinson, Mayor Brenton Lewis and Mayor Jeffrey Nickolls. Since joining the MRLGA Board I have sat with each of them at many board meetings to discuss pressures in regional communities and opportunities for strategic collaboration. The Association wishes to extend its thanks for their time, experience and collaboration, for without it, we wouldn't be where we are today to continue ongoing work.

During the first quarter of the year, the Association welcomed a new CEO, Carron McLeod. Her story, not too dissimilar to some, of growing up in region (Berri, SA) and after pursuing career opportunities in cities and interstate, ultimately decided to return to South Australia, and in this case drop her feet in a regional role. Her background in Infrastructure, Planning, Architecture and Environmental Design at both Local and State Government management positions has afforded her the opportunity to develop skills sets across a range of strategic portfolios that support the continued progress of MRLGA. I'd like to thank Ms McLeod for her strong approach to collaboration and working with others, and incrementally bringing new strategic ideas to the table.

The first quarter also saw key achievements across two regional Strategies' including Transport, and Waste and Resource Recovery. Through ongoing collaboration via the Regional Transport and Assets Committee, our Infrastructure leaders oversaw the 2030 Regional Transport Plan, Regional Road Hierarchy Plan and database that prioritise roads for funding. It subsequently led to a collection of grant applications through the Special Local Roads Program and the region receiving \$3.5 million in road funding. This was the largest sum received in the region to date and is a credit to the Infrastructure Managers and MRLGA for it's ongoing co-ordination to build applications up to a scope and quality that attract this scale of funding.

The ongoing collaboration to oversee the regional road network helps to list a pipeline of projects to demonstrate to State and Federal Government about regional road demands. Some councils already use the discipline and procedures developed through the 2030 Regional Transport Plan to pursue other funding opportunities to improve their road networks. This is continually encouraged and, indeed, is the prerogative of each of the councils. Together, there is opportunity to take information contained in regional plans and advocate for network improvements across the region.

The Regional Road Hierarchy Plan provides a classification system which considers the interaction of local government roads with the main arterial routes managed and owned by the state and federal governments. The Hierarchy has now been advanced to include road construction and maintenance standards and has been captured in a cloud-based Geographic Information System. As the project continues to develop, a framework for the strategic management of our roads is beginning to unfold and will undoubtedly prove to be a valuable tool for future planning and advocacy.

Another key milestone achieved was the execution of a joint Waste Services Contract between 5 participating regional Councils; Berri Barmera Council, Coorong District Council, District Council of Loxton Waikerie, Renmark Paringa Council and Rural City of Murray Bridge. LGA Procurement were engaged to run the tender

and after a much anticipated process, it successfully resulted in a new regional contract. This lays the foundation for further advancement in waste and resource management and recovery as a region. The state requirement for a Regional Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy was a positive outcome for regions as it enabled it to develop its own targets and pathways for diversion from landfill, recycling and efficiencies (different to that of metro councils) whereby it could factor in regional constraints. We also saw the collective efforts at Local Government level influence other private and public investment in the region, and on that note it welcomed the announcement that Peats Soil would be receiving funding from the Australian Government to build a composting facility in the Riverland.

As quarter two began to roll in, the Local Government elections were held and voting closed on 10 November 2022. The outcome of the 2022 elections resulted in 6 new Mayors welcomed to the region and subsequently the MRLGA Board. We formally extend our congratulations to Mayor Ella Winnall of Berri Barmera Council, Mayor Trevor Norton of District Council of Loxton Waikerie, Mayor Simone Bailey of Mid Murray Council, Mayor Peter Hunter of Renmark Paringa Council, Mayor Wayne Thornley of Rural City of Murray Bridge and Mayor Ron Valerine of Southern Mallee District Council. Mayor Paul Simmons of Coorong District Council and I were fortunate to be voted in as returning Mayors and have been delighted to welcome new people to the regional conversation.

For incoming Mayors, their onboarding was one that could only be described as expeditious. Each of whom upon being sworn in were swiftly catapulted into the epicenter of a State Emergency. The River Murray Flood. Their leadership, along with CEOs and staff across all Councils to guide preparation, response and recovery in conjunction with State services was a credit to their dedication to the role, community and fortitude as they embarked on efforts to remove, reduce or limit the impact of flood on people, property and assets where it could. Over the course of many months, MRLGA observed outstanding achievements across the region and sector from CEOs, Staff, Mayors, Elected Members and Volunteers of all flood impacted Councils and surrounds. We extend our sincerest congratulations to the leadership, dedication, empathy, advocacy, time, courage and fortitude displayed by all in the lead up to and during the state emergency flood. Everyone performed their roles in a manner that was simply 'above and beyond', and I'm sure family, friends and colleagues will never forget it and are immensely proud.

The scale of the preparedness placed an immediate impost, and large draw on local government resources, as significant numbers of staff were deployed into emergency preparedness. A visit to all Councils was done during preparedness and recovery phases of the flood, connecting with teams, listening to the issues and seeing how the impact (of a draw-out emergency) was being experienced by local government staff. In light of resources being focused on flood preparedness, MRLGA had a two pronged approach; a) to carry on business as usual where it could (noting many CEOs, Directors and Managers who sit on committees were in full scale emergency preparedness and respect for their time and priorities was to be provided) and b) listen, observe and identify gaps where it may be able to offer skills, management, advocacy or support. A few examples of how this developed and took the form of, include:

- Attending ZEST meetings for a bird's eye view of the situation and listening to Agency, Department and Council reports. Where needs and assistance requests were emerging and/or when there were individual and shared challenges for Councils, we could be a breadth of it. That intel later led to supporting Berri Barmera Council and its Infrastructure Department for levee construction over a two week period in November/December and Mid Murray Council over Christmas/New Year holiday to provide existing staff a short relief.
- It developed a strong partnership with Wellbeing SA leaders that led to a \$90,000 grant coming into the region (which has since grown into another \$90,000 and \$125,000 funding (with no co-contribution required)). Wellbeing SA then followed this up with a visit in January 2023 with the MRLGA Board. Over the course of the partnership, we saw Wellbeing SA staff who are trained, qualified and experienced in Mental Health and Wellbeing programs liaising with Council staff delivering community services, wellbeing or grants on ground. Insight into the operations of SA Health, Housing SA during state emergency's and collective identify learnings and areas for improvement.
- Linking to the Australian Psychology Society and brokering access to their Disaster Response Network and Program, that offers free sessions and services to staff enduring emergency's. MRLGA released the offer to all flood impacted Councils as part of its collaboration.
- Setting up an interim Land Use Planning Committee whereby Councils Planning Department heads were able to convene to discuss the complexity of planning issues that were arising. Upon the first committee meeting, it became apparent that the issues required all seven state agency's to be working together in consultation with Local Government, and that the issues were beyond the scope for Local Government delegation. This led to MRLGA advocating for the immediate establishment of a working group to be led by PLUS, which succeeded and the working group collaboratively developed the first release (Flood) Code amendment.
- Liaising with the LGA Local Government Functional Support team, and similarly identifying gaps and

opportunities for the sector to be supported, informed or efficient.

- Facilitated planning technical support from Onkaparinga City Council and Mitcham City Council to flood impacted Councils (until PLUS established the working group).
- Inviting the Deputy Premier to meet with the Board and enable advocacy to be highlighted for a collective review / 'lessons learned' process, as opposed to internal/separated reviews. The meeting also highlighted the decision to review a decision for no mental health and wellbeing (post flood) funding to be set aside in the 23/24 budget.

During these times we observed the strong organisational cultures that exist in our regional Councils. No doubt the healthy cultures and positive working environments that are nurtured in the 'everyday' played a major role in the Local Government sector shining for its efforts during the event. And in many cases built a deeper trust between community and Council.

An acknowledgement of thanks is to also go out to the many regional and metro Councils who provided resources, equipment, reporting templates and other support to all flood impacted Councils. Within the region a special acknowledgement goes to Coorong District Council and Director of Infrastructure, Matt James and District Council of Karoonda East Murray Martin Borgas for staff resource and equipment during levee construction, we thank Mark Coulter and Anthony McKenzie for their fantastic work.

As the region approaches its one-year milestone (to the date of the declared emergency) business as usual has returned for many. Recovery though, continues along side this and to varying degrees through river side towns. MRLGA hope to continue to support its constituent councils through the recovery journey and recognise the importance of collaboration and efficiency during emergency events. The more we can do to plan and be prepared for future emergency's only helps staff, community's, businesses, assets, environment and region to endure and recover. As such, we'll continue to offer the MRLGA platform for collaboration and to support advancements in joint planning and preparation.

Side step across into MRLGA business as usual, and one project that was placed on hold during the flood was the MRLGA Water Advocacy Paper. Now due for completion in late 2023. The purpose of the paper is to strategically acknowledge the importance of water to the region in all facets. With the Murray Darling Basin Plan subject to formal review in 2024-26, it took a proactive role to start building the foundations for collaborative agreements and shared opportunities and challenges. With the peak of the flood now passed, the paper has been revived and engagement with First Peoples and stakeholders to recommence.

In closing, I sincerely wish to thank all constituent councils and MRLGA Board Members for the opportunity to be the MRLGA President. The work and service undertaken by our CEO for the Association is valued and I can see our cumulative team work, cooperation and collaboration building with each year passing.

I also wish to thank Deputy President, Mayor Paul Simmons for not only stepping into the role but representing the region through his involvement in the SA Regional Organisation of Councils. Through his role as Deputy, Mayor Simmons brought a calm and experienced approach to board and planning day sessions at MRLGA as well as SAROC and I wish to recognise the many days of contributions he has made in 22/23.

As I look to the next 12-18 months, I see the benefit of MRLGA platforms. With new state and federal governments elected, it is important that local government demonstrate a coordinated and cohesive approach to preparing place based regional strategy's and advocating for their communities.

We also acknowledge the Mayors and Councilors who served the first of a four year term to its communities. There's a lot of work that goes unseen in roles, plenty of expectation and a responsibility to carry out our duties in the interest of all, with impartiality. Congratulations on your achievements in the first year, and together we can continue growing the regional community of 73,000 onwards and upwards.

Lastly, as change naturally occurs in the region and we endeavor to keep up with the pressure, expectations and an emerging modern world, it highlights the importance of collaboration. We exist beyond our own council boundaries and quite often we can gain more by working together at all levels of Council and all levels of Government. Thank you again for the work you do in all regional communities and the MRLGA looks forward to consolidating on its current work as together we collaborative, identify and advance the sector where we can for the benefit of the region and our community's.

Mayor Caroline Phillips  
**MRLGA President**

## MRLGA Board

<b>Vice President</b> Berri Barmera Council	<b>President</b> District Council of Karoonda East Murray	<b>District Council of Loxton Waikerie</b>	<b>Mid Murray Council</b>	<b>Renmark Paranga Council</b>	<b>Rural City of Murray Bridge</b>	<b>Southern Mallee District Council</b>
						
+8 Councillors	+4 Councillors SAROC Rep	+10 Councillors	+8 Councillors	+8 Councillors	+9 Councillors	+8 Councillors
<b>Active CEO</b>	<b>CEO</b>	<b>CEO</b>	<b>CEO</b>	<b>CEO</b>	<b>CEO</b>	<b>CEO</b>
						
<b>Murraylands and Riverland LGA</b>						
						

## Board Members (July '22 to November '22)

Berri Barmera Council (BBC)	Mayor Peter Hunt (President)
Coorong District Council (CDC)	Mayor Paul Simmons
District Council of Karoonda East Murray (DCKEM)	Mayor Caroline Phillips (Deputy President)
District Council of Loxton Waikerie (DCLW)	Mayor Leon Stasinowsky
Mid Murray Council (MMC)	Mayor Dave Burgess
Renmark Paranga Council (RPC)	Mayor Neil Martinson
Rural City of Murray Bridge (RCMB)	Mayor Brenton Lewis
Southern Mallee District Council (SMDC)	Mayor Jeffrey Nickols

## Board Members (Nov '22 to June '23)

Berri Barmera Council (BBC)	Mayor Ella Wintall
Coorong District Council (CDC)	Mayor Paul Simmons (Deputy President)
District Council of Karoonda East Murray (DCKEM)	Mayor Caroline Phillips (President)
District Council of Loxton Waikerie (DCLW)	Mayor Trevor Norton
Mid Murray Council (MMC)	Mayor Simone Bailey
Renmark Paranga Council (RPC)	Mayor Peter Hunter
Rural City of Murray Bridge (RCMB)	Mayor Wayne Thorley
Southern Mallee District Council (SMDC)	Mayor Ron Valentine

## Deputy Delegates (Proxy Members, Nov '22 to June '23)

Berri Barmera Council (BBC)	Cr Trevor Scott
Coorong District Council (CDC)	Cr Jeff Arthur
District Council of Loxton Waikerie (DCLW)	Cr Clive Matthews
District Council of Karoonda East Murray (DCKEM)	Cr Russell Norton
Mid Murray Council (MMC)	Cr Jen Davis and Cr John Forrester
Renmark Paranga Council (RPC)	Cr Margaret Howie
Rural City of Murray Bridge (RCMB)	Cr Andrew Beitensperger
Southern Mallee District Council (SMDC)	Cr Chris Mead

## South Australian Regional Organisation of Councils (SAROC) Representatives (July '22 to Oct '23)

Berri Barmera Council	Mayor Peter Hunt (President)
District Council of Karoonda East Murray	Mayor Caroline Phillips (Deputy President)

## South Australian Regional Organisation of Councils (SAROC) Representatives (Oct '22 to June '23)

Coorong District Council	Mayor Paul Simmons (Deputy President)
District Council of Karoonda East Murray	Mayor Caroline Phillips (President)

## CEO Network

Berri Barmera Council	Dylan Strong
Coorong District Council	Bridget Mather
District Council of Loxton Waikerie	David Beaton
District Council of Karoonda East Murray	Martin Borgas
Mid Murray Council	Ben Scates
Renmark Paranga Council	Tony Siviour
Rural City of Murray Bridge	Michael Sedgman (1 July '22 - 12 May '23)
Rural City of Murray Bridge	Heather Barclay (12 May '22 - 30 June '23)
Southern Mallee District Council	Matthew Sherman
Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association	Carron McLeod

## MRLGA CEO Network and Committees

At the January 2023 Board Meeting, Committees were rationalised to 1 representative per Council, creating a committee of 8 people, plus MRLGA CEO and President. The membership from 20 January 2023 is provided below.

## Regional Transport and Asset Committee

BBC	David Pluckhahn	Manager Infrastructure Services
CDC	Matt James	Director Infrastructure & Assets
DCLW	Greg Perry	Director of Infrastructure Services
DCKEM	Calvin Hoyer	General Manager, Infrastructure
MMC	David Hassett	Director Infrastructure & Field Services
RPC	Stephen Whitehead (until Feb '23)	Director Infrastructure & Environmental Services
RCMB	Tarik Wolf (Feb – Jun '23)	General Manager Assets & Infrastructure
	Heather Barclay (until March '23)	
	Tim Tol (March – June '23)	
SMDC	Matthew Sherman	CEO
MRLGA	Carron McLeod	CEO
MRLGA	Mayor Caroline Phillips	Ex officio, MRLGA President

### Regional Public Health and Wellbeing Committee

BBC	Andrew Haigh	Manager Community Development
CDC	Myles Somers	Director Community and Corporate Services
DCHEM	Katrina Fromm	Deputy Chief Executive Officer
DCLW	Cheryle Pedler	Manager Environmental Services
MMC	Jake McVicar	Director Environmental Services
RPC	Tim Pfeiffer	Manager Community Development
RCMB	Kriston Manson	General Manager Community Development
SMDC	Shilo Wyatt	Manager Property & Development Services
MRLGA	Mayor Caroline Phillips	Ex officio, MRLGA President
MRLGA	Carron McLeod	Chief Executive Officer

### Water Paper Working Group

MRLGA	Carron McLeod	Chief Executive Officer
MDA Region 5	Cr Peter Raison	Region 5, Mid Murray Council
MDA Region 5	Cr Andrew Kassebaum (Chair)	Chair Region 5, Berri Barmera Council
MDA Region 5 - Proxy	Cr Peter Walker	Member Region 5, DCLW
MDA Region 6	Cr Melissa Rebbeck	Chair Region 6, Alexandrina Council
MDA Region 6	Bridget Wather	Exec Member Region 6, CDC
MDA Region 6 - Proxy	Tracey Strugnell	Coorong District Council
Murray Darling Ass.	Mark Lamb	Chief Executive Officer
MRLGA	Mayor Caroline Phillips	Ex officio, MRLGA President

### Local Government Regional Planning Committee Representatives

Murraylands Council	Michael Sedgman	Chief Executive Officer, Rural City of Murray Bridge
Riverland Council	David Beaton	Chief Executive Officer, District Council Loxton Waikerie

### Zone Emergency Management (Chaired by SES)

MRLGA	Carron McLeod	OEO (Attendee)
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### Murraylands Riverland Plan, Steering Committee Representatives

RDA MR	D. Mutton	(Chair)
PIRSA	Ben Fee	OEO
Landscape Board MR	Barb Cowey	Regional Co ordinator
MRLGA	Andrew Meddle	OEO
Murraylands Council	Carron McLeod	OEO
Riverland Council	Michael Sedgman	OEO, Rural City Murray Bridge
C.I.T	David Beaton	OEO, District Council Loxton Waikerie
	Greg McCarron	Community Representative
	H. Loller	Community Representative
	W. Jackson	Murraylands and Riverland Aboriginal

	Representative
Sheryl Giles	Murraylands and Riverland Aboriginal Representative

### MRLGA Board:

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

1. Friday 26 August 2022
2. Friday 9 December 2022 (postponed due to State Emergency Floods)
3. Friday 20 January 2023
4. Thursday 20 April 2023
5. Wednesday 10 May 2023

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

- LGA SA Secretariat
- Regional Development Australia, Murraylands and Riverland
- PIRSA
- Landscape Board, Murraylands and Riverland
- Wellbeing SA
- Members of Parliament

### SA Regional Organisation of Councils

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

MRLGA representatives at SAROC in 2022/23 were President, Mayor Peter Hunt and Deputy President Mayor Caroline Phillips from July to November 2022. In January 2023, the SAROC Representatives voted in were Mayor Caroline Phillips and Mayor Paul Simmons.

MRLGA supports SAROC by attending meetings, submitting items of business and preparing regional reports. The committee met on:

- 21 July 2022
- 14 September 2022
- 28 October 2022
- 19 January 2023
- 2 March 2023
- 11 May 2023

A link to the 2022-23 SAROC Annual Business Plan (as adopted by the LGA Board of Directors, pages 43-51) is provided below outlining the key priorities, projects and deliverables set by the region for LGA

[https://www.lga.sa.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0021/1147008/Public-LGA-Board-of-Directors-Agenda-19-May-2022.pdf](https://www.lga.sa.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0021/1147008/Public-LGA-Board-of-Directors-Agenda-19-May-2022.pdf)

An overview of the initiatives listed in the Annual Business Plan for 22/23 include:

- Housing supply and affordability
- Digital Connectivity
- Regional Medical workforce
- Hoarding and Squalor
- Planning Reforms
- Jetties – Asset Management
- Coastal Management
- Water Policy
- Circular Economy and regional waste management
- Cat Management
- **Rating equity and mandatory rebates**

## CEO Network

The MRLGA CEO Network is established as a strategic advisory group to the MRLGA Board as well as to assist and advise the MRLGA CEO in governance, project delivery and the development and implementation of the Annual Business Plan, or other plans. As the name suggests its membership is the CEOs of the eight constituent councils. The Charter outlines at Clause 7.11.8 that the Network will operate on an informal basis, and is therefore not subject to formal meeting procedures.

The Network provided a range of support including oversight, updates, feedback, guidance and discussion regarding:

- Onboarding and establishment of the new CEO
- MR (Drought Resilience) Plan
- MRLGA's role in the Flood 22/23 SLRP
- Water Position Paper
- Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy (and Contracts) and future resourcing
- VIC Cross Border Commissioner update
- Using Regional Plans (by DTI) to advocate for freight routes

The MRLGA wishes to acknowledge the enormous dedication that regional CEOs play each and every day in our region to:

- Support healthy teams and cultures amongst staff and working environments at Councils
- Guiding successful services, governance, reporting and oversight to Council operations
- Providing leadership, strategic thinking (for micro and macro applications) and professionalism to the local government sector and more.

The role they play is instrumental in setting the tone of successful Council operations, and without them the MRLGA would not be as enhanced and capable as it is without them, both individually and collectively.

The 22/23 year was significantly consumed by planning, preparation, responding and recovering to flood for many of them.

Beginning in October 2022, the peak struck in January 2023 but recovery is ongoing even though business as usual returned early 2023. The State has described the event as one of the largest emergency's the state has endured and the outstanding efforts from all flood impacted CEOs and Staff warrant the highest recognition and respect. In recognition of the CEOs from flood impacted Councils we list (from the border, south):

- Tony Siviour, Renmark Paringa Council
- David Beaton, District Council of Loxton Waikerie
- Dylan Strong, Berrit Barmera Council
- Ben Scales, Mid Murray Council
- Michael Sedgeman and Heather Barclay, Rural City of Murray Bridge
- Bridget Mather, Coorong District Council

MRLGA also wishes to acknowledge CEO, Martin Borgas of District Council of Karoonda East Murray, who provided operational staff and equipment to a neighbouring council for immediate levee construction during the event. It goes to show that no matter the size of a Council, the spirit of giving and supporting others in tough times exists in our regional community.

Overall the year for regional CEOs across the region was a success. Constantly going above and beyond to position Councils to be the best they can and through their leadership, they continue to advance regional Councils. Now business has returned back to normal for many flood impacted Councils, MRLGA looks forward to engaging with the network and providing a platform for these amazing leaders to collaborate and continue to identify the opportunities that benefit the regional community.

## Placed Based Regional Strategies (Collaborating for efficiency and community. Delivered through Committees)

Statutory strategy pursuant to the Public Health and Wellbeing Act

The MRLGA Regional Public Health and Wellbeing Committee includes Directors, from each of the 8 constituent councils with the Public Health and Wellbeing portfolio.

Key activities included:

- Strategy was released in 2022.
- Completion and finalising of Section 52 (Public Health Act 2017) reports for the Deputy Chief Public Health Officer for submission by September 2022.
- An external services agreement with RDAMR to provide PH&W Co-ordination services was placed on hold and reviewed. A further review of the nature and scale of administration and resource support required by MRLGA to deliver parts of the regional strategy is underway.
- Goal 3 of the Strategy relates to Emergency Management. MRLGA undertook the following activities in accordance with the Strategy:
  - Obtained funding for wellbeing resources during the floods.
  - Participate and respond to decisions of the Murray and Mallee Zone Emergency Management Committee
  - Share resources to help ensure our community is prepared and knows how to respond in an emergency.
  - Participated in emergency management and disaster response planning.



Statutory strategy pursuant to the Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy

The MRLGA Regional Waste & Resource Recovery Committee includes Directors from each of the 8 constituent councils.

Key activities included:

- Establishment of a Regional Waste and Resource Recovery Committee was established in January 2023.
- Award and contract execution of a regional wide waste services contract.
- Establishment of a Regional Performance Working Group, with representation from all 5 regional councils participating in the waste services contract, and a 6 regional council is an observatory capacity.
- Submission to the CEO Network tabling resourcing options and needs to support delivery of the strategy.
- Partnership building with other Councils in regards to the scope and methods for Education Officers on waste strategy's and kerbside pick up changes.

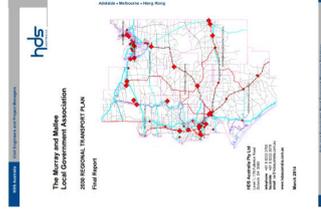


Collaborative strategy enabling better funding to the region for roads.

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

Key activities of the committee included:

- An update to the 2030 Regional Transport Plan during 22/23 which included:
  - Update to the Regional Roads Action Plan
  - Walker Flat Road in District Council of Karoonda East Murray was upgraded to a regionally significant freight route.
  - Co-ordinated the application process for Councils to the Special Local Roads Program.
  - Subsequent submission of four projects for SLRP funding in May 2023.
  - Enhancement of MRLGA Regional Roads GIS
  - Roads Construction and Maintenance Standards Update



Following a report developed through SAROC on regional roads, the MRLGA participated in a working group with DIT to begin to discuss the findings of the report.

**Collaborative piece to facilitate early discussions ahead of stakeholder engagement for Murray Darling Basin Plan (2.0).**



MRLGA successfully received a grant from Building Better Regions Fund (BBRF) in 21/22 to support the development of a water position paper. Jacobs Consulting were engaged to prepare the paper in response to stakeholder workshops, working group meetings, census data and specialist knowledge on the Murray Darling Basin. Meetings with the Working Group were held across up to 2022.

- The paper intends to :
- Acknowledge the regions dependency on water, and begin to decipher the role Local Government can play in water advocacy and water management,
  - Identify advocacy topics to support local and regional communities, industries, the environment, first nations and stakeholders,
  - Identify opportunities if/when all levels of government can collaborate for the betterment of easier process' and less politicised environments
  - Acknowledge the Murray Darling Basin Plan review will commence soon, and how the MRLGA and its constituent councils can prepare for the review
  - Identify opportunities where Local Government can adopt best practice water management principles as well as plan for and respond to moments of flood and drought.
- The document is accompanied by a Regional Impact Statement. The paper was delayed while floods occurred and is planned for finalisation in late 2023.

In addition to looking within the regional sector for collaboration, efficiency, shared resources, knowledge or other opportunities, the Association collaborated other Regional LGAs's.

#### **Regional LGA's, Chief Executive Officers**

The Regional LGA's CEO Group is an informal meeting of Executive Officers of the Regional Local Government Associations. Functions of the Management Group include:

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

Meetings of the Management Group were held on:

1. Thursday, 8 July 2021
2. Monday, 6 September 2021
3. Tuesday, 8 February 2022
4. Thursday, 28 April 2022

The Association also availed itself to other opportunities occurring in the region including:

#### **Future Drought Fund**

In 20/21 two South Australian regions were selected to participate in a pilot year to develop Regional Drought Resilience Plans. The plans in SA were funded by the Australian Government's Future Drought Fund Program: Regional Drought Resilience Planning Program to the approximate value of \$1.18m.

The MRLGA were invited to participate in a joint partnership with Regional Development Australia, Murraylands and Riverland (RDAMR) and Landscape Board, Murraylands and Riverland to develop a regional drought resilience plan.

For more information on the background, process or a copy of the plan, please visit:



- MR Plan landing page <https://www.mrplan.com.au/theplan>
- The Process <https://rdamr.com.au/information/mrplan/#--text=The%20Murraylands%20and%20Riverland%20Plan%20MR%20Plan%20is%20about%20supporting%20Riverland%20towards%20achieving%20this%20vision.>
- Future Drought Fund, Regional Drought Resilience Program <https://www.agriculture.gov.au/agriculture-land/farm-food-drought/drought/future-drought-fund/regional-drought-resilience-planning#staff-page-mail>

The Murraylands and Riverland (MR) (Drought Resilience) Plan was finalised as draft in May 2022 and submitted to PIRSA and CSIRO for review. In November 2022 CSIRO released a report on its review and provided 19 items of feedback. The Steering Committee reviewed the feedback and comments to the CSIRO report were submitted back as part of next steps to the funding program.

#### **Operational (external) Service Agreements**

The list below outlines the Service Agreements MRLGA held in 22/23 to support operations:

- o Regional Development Australia (Murraylands and Riverland), Public Health and Wellbeing Coordinator Services (in Q1 and Q2)
- o Payroll and BAS services provided by EKM Accounting (22/23).

**2022 / 2023 Audit**

The 22/23 external audit was undertaken by Dean Newbery (ABN 30 164 612 890)  
Financial Statements prepared by Formula Accounting (ABN 50 410 043 228)

# **Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association**

## **General Purpose Financial Reports**

**for the year ended 30 June 2023**

**Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association**  
**General Purpose Financial Reports**  
**for the year ended 30 June 2023**

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Statement of Changes in Equity	4
Statement of Cash Flows	5

**Notes to, and forming part of, the Principal Financial Statements**

Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies
Note 2 - Income
Note 3 - Expenses
Note 4 - Current Assets
Note 5 - Liabilities
Note 6 - Reconciliation of Cash Flow Statement
Note 7 - Financial Instruments
Note 8 - Related Party Transactions

<b>Audit Report - Financial Statements</b>
<b>Association Certificate of Audit Independence</b>
<b>Auditor Certificate of Audit Independence</b>

**Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association**  
**Statement of Comprehensive Income**  
**for the year ended 30 June 2023**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>INCOME</b>		
Council Subscriptions	215,204	199,695
Grants, Subsidies and Contributions	116,232	82,783
Investment income	27,332	6,478
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>358,768</b>	<b>288,956</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Employee costs	179,892	-
Materials, contracts & other expenses	80,791	373,836
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>260,683</b>	<b>373,836</b>
<b>OPERATING SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)</b>	<b>98,085</b>	<b>(84,880)</b>
<b>Other Comprehensive Income</b>		
<b>Total Other Comprehensive Income</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME</b>	<b>98,085</b>	<b>(84,880)</b>

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

**Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association**  
Statement of Financial Position  
as at 30 June 2023

ASSETS	Notes	2023 \$	2022 \$
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	4	1,057,115	897,507
Trade & other receivables	4	2,366	30,071
		<u>1,059,481</u>	<u>927,578</u>
		<u>1,059,481</u>	<u>927,578</u>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>			
		<u>1,059,481</u>	<u>927,578</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>			
		<u>1,059,481</u>	<u>927,578</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Trade & other payables	5	62,841	41,515
Provisions	5	12,492	-
		<u>75,333</u>	<u>41,515</u>
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>			
		<u>75,333</u>	<u>41,515</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>			
		<u>984,148</u>	<u>886,063</u>
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Accumulated surplus		984,148	886,063
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>		<u>984,148</u>	<u>886,063</u>

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

**Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association**  
Statement of Changes in Equity  
for the year ended 30 June 2023

	Notes	Acc'd Surplus	TOTAL EQUITY
		\$	\$
<b>2023</b>			
Balance at end of previous reporting period		886,063	886,063
Restated opening balance		886,063	886,063
<b>Net Surplus / (Deficit) for Year</b>		<u>98,085</u>	<u>98,085</u>
<b>Balance at end of period</b>		<u>984,148</u>	<u>984,148</u>
<b>2022</b>			
Balance at end of previous reporting period		970,943	970,943
Restated opening balance		970,943	970,943
<b>Net Surplus / (Deficit) for Year</b>		<u>(84,880)</u>	<u>(84,880)</u>
<b>Balance at end of period</b>		<u>886,063</u>	<u>886,063</u>

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

**Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association**  
Statement of Cash Flows  
for the year ended 30 June 2023

CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	2023	2022
<i>Receipts:</i>	\$	\$
Council Subscriptions	242,909	170,922
Investment receipts	27,332	6,478
Grants utilised for operating purposes	116,232	82,783
Other revenues	-	7,856
<b>Payments:</b>		
Employee costs	(146,059)	-
Materials, contracts & other expenses	(80,806)	(400,871)
<b>Net Cash provided by (or used in) Operating Activities</b>	<b>159,608</b>	<b>(132,832)</b>
<b>Net Increase (Decrease) in cash held</b>	<b>159,608</b>	<b>(132,832)</b>
Cash & cash equivalents at beginning of period	897,507	1,030,339
<b>Cash &amp; cash equivalents at end of period</b>	<b>1,057,115</b>	<b>897,507</b>

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

**Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association**  
Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements  
for the year ended 30 June 2023

**Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies**

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

**1 Basis of Preparation**

**1.1 Compliance with Australian Accounting Standards**

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

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

**1.2 Historical Cost Convention**

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

**1.3 Critical Accounting Estimates**

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

**1.4 Rounding**

All amounts in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest dollar.

**2 The Local Government Reporting Entity**

The Association is a Regional Subsidiary under Section 43 and Schedule 2 of the SA Local Government Act 1999.

The Constituent Councils are:

- Berr Barmera Council
- Coorong District Council
- District Council Loxton Waikerie
- District Council Karoonda East Murray
- Mid Murray Council
- Renmark Paranga Council
- Rural City of Murray Bridge
- Southern Mallee District Council

All funds received and expended by the Group have been included in the Financial Statements forming part of this Financial Report.

**3 Income recognition**

**3.1 Revenue**

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

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

## Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2023  
Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies

In other cases, AASB 1058 applies when Association enters into transactions where the consideration to acquire an asset is significantly less than the fair value of the asset principally to enable the entity to further its objectives. The excess of the asset recognised (at fair value) over any related amounts is recognised as income immediately, except in the case where a financial asset has been received to enable the Association to acquire or construct a recognisable non-financial asset that is to be controlled by the Association. In this case, the Association recognises the excess as a liability that is recognised over time in profit and loss when (or as) the entity satisfies its obligations under the transfer.

### 4 Cash, Cash Equivalents and Other Financial Instruments

#### 4.1 Cash, Cash Equivalent Assets

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

#### 4.2 Other Financial Instruments

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

All financial instruments are recognised at fair value at the date of recognition, except for trade receivables from a contract with a customer, which are measured at the transaction price.

### 5 Payables

#### 5.1 Goods & Services

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

#### 5.2 Payments Received in Advance & Deposits

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

### 6 GST Implications

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

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

### 7 New and amended standards and interpretations

The Association applied for the first-time certain standards and amendments, which are effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2022. New standards and amendments relevant to the Association are listed below. The Association has not early adopted any other standard, interpretation or amendment that has been issued but is not yet effective.

## Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2023  
Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies

### 8 Superannuation

The Association contributed the statutory 10.5% Superannuation Guarantee to the nominated superannuation fund of the Executive Officer.

### 9 Provisions

#### 9.1 Employee Benefits

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

Liabilities for employee benefits not expected to be paid or settled within 12 months are measured as the present value of the estimated future cash outflows (including payroll based on-costs) to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the reporting date.

No accrual is made for sick leave as Council experience indicates that, on average, sick leave taken in each reporting period is less than the entitlement accruing in that period, and this experience is expected to recur in future reporting periods. No payment is made for untaken sick leave.

### 10 Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets

At 30 June 2023, the Association is unaware of any liability, contingent or otherwise, which has not already been recorded elsewhere in this financial report.

### 11 Events after the end of the reporting period

There are no events subsequent to 30 June 2023 that need disclosure in the financial statements.

### 12 Economic Dependence

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

## Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements  
for the year ended 30 June 2023

### Note 2 - INCOME

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
<b>COUNCIL SUBSCRIPTIONS</b>		
General Subscriptions	215,204	199,695
	<u>215,204</u>	<u>199,695</u>
<b>INVESTMENT INCOME</b>		
Interest on investments:		
Local Government Finance Authority	27,332	6,478
	<u>27,332</u>	<u>6,478</u>
<b>GRANTS, SUBSIDIES, CONTRIBUTIONS</b>		
Other grants, subsidies and contributions		
Regional Capacity Buildings	40,000	42,783
Community Wellbeing Alliance	40,000	40,000
Building Better Regions	36,232	-
	<u>116,232</u>	<u>82,783</u>
<b>Sources of grants</b>		
Commonwealth government	76,232	42,783
State government	40,000	40,000
	<u>116,232</u>	<u>82,783</u>

## Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements  
for the year ended 30 June 2023

### Note 3 - EXPENSE

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
<b>EMPLOYEE COSTS</b>		
Salaries and Wages	150,000	-
Employee leave expense	12,492	-
Superannuation	15,750	-
Workers' Compensation Insurance	1,850	-
	<u>179,892</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Total Number of Employees</b>	1	-
<i>(Full time equivalent at end of reporting period)</i>		
<b>MATERIALS, CONTRACTS &amp; OTHER EXPENSES</b>		
Prescribed Expenses		
Auditor's Remuneration	2,900	3,200
- Auditing the financial reports	3,025	3,200
Elected members' expenses	5,925	6,400
Subtotal - Prescribed Expenses	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Other Materials, Contracts &amp; Expenses</b>		
Accounting Services	3,726	-
Administration Support	-	7,433
CEO Succession Planning	1,950	21,793
Computer & Software	2,076	2,347
Executive Officer Contract Services	-	121,780
Insurance	6,725	4,804
Meeting Expenses	2,281	2,140
Office Expenses	5,184	-
Project Expenditure	50,268	202,719
Website Maintenance	50	4,116
Sundry	2,606	304
Subtotal - Other Materials, Contracts & Expenses	<u>74,866</u>	<u>367,436</u>
	<u>80,791</u>	<u>373,836</u>

**Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association**  
Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2023

Note 4 - CURRENT ASSETS

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
<b>CASH &amp; EQUIVALENT ASSETS</b>		
Cash on Hand and at Bank	103,704	156,621
Deposits at Call	953,411	740,886
	<u>1,057,115</u>	<u>897,507</u>
<b>TRADE &amp; OTHER RECEIVABLES</b>		
Subscriptions - General & Other	2,366	16,500
GST Recoupment	-	13,571
	<u>2,366</u>	<u>30,071</u>

**Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association**  
Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2023

Note 5 - LIABILITIES

	2023		2022	
	Current	Non-current	Current	Non-current
	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>TRADE &amp; OTHER PAYABLES</b>				
Goods & Services	-	-	15	-
Payments received in advance	40,000	-	40,000	-
Accrued expenses - other	10,347	-	-	-
GST Payable	12,494	-	1,500	-
	<u>62,841</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>41,515</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>PROVISIONS</b>				
AL Employee entitlements (including oncosts)	12,492	-	-	-
	<u>12,492</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

**Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association**  
**Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements**  
**for the year ended 30 June 2023**

**Note 6 - RECONCILIATION TO CASH FLOW STATEMENT**

**(a) Reconciliation of Cash**

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

	2023	2022
Total cash & equivalent assets	Notes 4	\$
Less: Short-term borrowings	1,057,115	897,507
Balances per Cash Flow Statement	<u>1,057,115</u>	<u>897,507</u>

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

Net Surplus (Deficit)	98,085	(84,860)
Add (Less): Changes in Net Current Assets		
Net (increase) decrease in receivables	27,705	(20,917)
Net increase (decrease) in trade & other payables	21,326	(27,035)
Net increase (decrease) in other provisions	12,492	-
<b>Net Cash provided by (or used in) operations</b>	<u>159,608</u>	<u>(132,832)</u>

**Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association**  
**Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements**  
**for the year ended 30 June 2023**

**Note 7 - FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS**

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

**Accounting Policies - Recognised Financial Instruments**

**Bank, Deposits at Call, Short Term Deposits** **Accounting Policy:** initially recognised at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost, interest is recognised when earned

**Terms & conditions:** Short term deposits are available on 24 hour call with the LGFA and have an interest rate of 4.3% as at 30 June 2023 (2022: 1.05%)

**Carrying amount:** approximates fair value due to the short term to maturity.

**Receivables - Trade and other debtors** **Accounting Policy:** Carried at nominal value

**Terms & conditions:** Amounts due have been calculated in accordance with the terms and conditions of the respective programs following advice of approvals, and do not bear interest.

**Carrying amount:** approximates fair value.

**Liabilities - Creditors and Accruals** **Accounting Policy:** Liabilities are recognised for amounts to be paid in the future for goods and services received, whether or not billed to the Association.

**Terms & conditions:** Liabilities are normally settled on 30 day terms.

**Carrying amount:** approximates fair value.

**Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association**  
Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2023

Note 7 - FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (cont'd)

**Liquidity Analysis**

**2023**

	Due < 1 year	Due > 1 year ≤ 5 years	Due > 5 years	Total Contractual Cash Flows	Carrying Values
<b>Financial Assets</b>					
Cash & Equivalents	\$ 1,057,115	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,057,115	\$ 1,057,115
Receivables	2,366	-	-	2,366	2,366
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,059,481</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,059,481</b>	<b>1,059,481</b>
<b>Financial Liabilities</b>					
Payables	22,841	-	-	22,841	22,841
<b>Total</b>	<b>22,841</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>22,841</b>	<b>22,841</b>

**2022**

	Due < 1 year	Due > 1 year ≤ 5 years	Due > 5 years	Total Contractual Cash Flows	Carrying Values
<b>Financial Assets</b>					
Cash & Equivalents	\$ 897,507	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 897,507	\$ 897,507
Receivables	30,071	-	-	30,071	30,071
<b>Total</b>	<b>927,578</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>927,578</b>	<b>927,578</b>
<b>Financial Liabilities</b>					
Payables	1,515	-	-	1,515	1,515
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,515</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,515</b>	<b>1,515</b>

**Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association**  
Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2023

Note 7 - FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (cont'd)

**Net Fair Value**

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

**Risk Exposures:**

**Credit Risk** represents the loss that would be recognised if counterparties fail to perform as contracted. The maximum credit risk on financial assets of the Association is the carrying amount, net of any impairment. All Association investments are made with the SA Local Government Finance Authority and are guaranteed by the SA Government. Except as detailed in Note 4 in relation to individual classes of receivables, exposure is concentrated within the Association's boundaries, and there is no material exposure to any individual debtor.

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

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

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

## Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association

### Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2023

#### Note 8 - RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

##### KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL

The Key Management Personnel of the Association include the Mayors/Chairpersons of the constituent Councils and the CEO. The following total compensation was paid:

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
CEO salary and superannuation	165,750	-
CEO Contract	-	121,780
Member Allowance	3,025	3,200
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>168,775</b>	<b>124,980</b>

##### PARTIES RELATED TO KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL

During the reporting period, no Key Management Personnel or parties related to them had any transactions on more favourable than those available to the public.

##### OTHER RELATED PARTIES

Amounts received from Related Parties during the financial year and owed by Related Parties at the end of the financial year (inclusive of GST):

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Berri Barmera Council	23,726	21,630
Coorong District Council	19,923	17,559
District Council Loxton Walkerie	27,074	24,080
District Council Karoonda East Murra	10,343	9,444
Mid Murray Council	26,004	22,800
Renmark Paringa Council	22,000	19,165
Rural City of Murray Bridge	41,320	35,420
Southern Mallee District Council	13,343	11,632
SLRP Surcharge	31,472	37,965
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>215,205</b>	<b>199,695</b>

##### Description of Services provided to all Related Parties above:

The Association's primary purpose focuses on the wealth, wellbeing and social cohesion of these communities via a sustainable approach of productive landscapes and natural environment. Its focus is on the key roles of local government.

## Thank you

To the MRLGA Board, CEO Network, Committees, Berri Barmera Council, Coorong District Council, District Council of Karoonda East Murray, District Council of Loxton Walkerie, Mid Murray Council, Renmark Paringa Council, Rural City of Murray Bridge, Southern Mallee District Council, Elected Members, Landscape Board MR, Regional Development Australia MR, PIRSA, SAROC, LGA, engaged consultants ZEMC, ZEST, SAPOL, Wellbeing SA, SA State Government Departments, MDA, MDBA, LGFA, First Nations and our vibrant, passionate, hard working and connected community. Thank you for your ongoing efforts to nurture the Murraylands and Riverland region to a :

Connected Region, Resilient Community, Economic Opportunity and Healthy Environment .



## DISTRICT COUNCIL OF LOXTON WAIKERIE

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*Influencing Today... Shaping Tomorrow*