

Annual Report

2016 - 2017



Front cover images used with permission from Keep Australia Beautiful

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MAYORS REPORT

It is with great pleasure that I present the Annual Report of the Berri Barmera Council for 2016/2017.

Once again I am pleased to say that Council is continuing on a path of sustainability and progress within our district and it is showing in the results that are occurring.

For a start, Barmera being named the Keep South Australia Beautiful (KESAB) Sustainable Communities Overall Award Winner for SA, and then take out the 2017 Keep Australia Beautiful (KAB) National Tidy Towns Winner, is overwhelming. This has been a great achievement for all those who have been involved.

The new Riverland Regional Innovation and Sports Precinct at Glassey Park got underway with a ground breaking ceremony with the Member for Barker Tony Pasin in October and although it is not expected to be operating until later in 2017, this magnificent facility is a real sight to see.

The Berri Riverfront land that went to auction at the start of the year, did not go as planned initially, however has turned out to be a winner in the end for Council and the Berri Hotel Group. The Hotel initially purchased four blocks and consequently with no sales of land from the public at the auction, they decided to purchase another fifteen blocks, giving them a total of nineteen. It's great to see the Community Hotel looking to the future for their operations and we all wait in anticipation to see the development progressing over the coming years.



In May, Council were advised that the application of a \$25,000,000 10 MW Solar Facility to be built on the old Berri race course land was awarded a grant amount of \$5,034,000 towards the project. This was all made possible through the State Local Government Infrastructure Partnership (SLGIP) Fund. Hopefully once all the areas of the project are passed and ratified by Council, we may see things start to happen by the end of the year.

To say that most of the community are ecstatic at what is happening within our Council District would be an understatement and I'm happy to say continues in our motto of "Building a Better Community".

At Councils Australia Day Event held in Barmera on the magnificent foreshore of Lake Bonney, it was announced that long time Barmera resident and volunteer Joy Mules as Citizen of the Year, Kelsey Wade Young Citizen of the Year, the Bruno Bay Fireworks Spectacular: Event of the Year and Step UP / For Down Syndrome the Building a Better Community Award. Along with the awards I was pleased to naturalise and welcome five new Australian Citizens to our Community.

"To say that most of the community are ecstatic at what is happening within our Council District would be an understatement and I'm happy to say continues in our motto of "Building a Better Community".

Dr. William (Bill) Griggs AM ASM was our Australia Day Ambassador and helped to present the Awards on the Day.

Council supported many notable events throughout the 2016/2017 year including the Riverland Country Music Festival, Riverland Field Days, Riverland Wine and Food Festival and the Barmera Christmas Pageant just to name a few. Our Community Grants Awards that are given out bi-annually are always well received and help a large number of organisations in many ways throughout our district.

In conclusion, I would like to pass on my sincere appreciation to my fellow Elected Members, CEO David Beaton, Executive Officers and all Staff and Volunteers for their continued dedication in serving the Berri Barmera Council and for the support they have given me during the year.

I would furthermore recommend that to find out more on the operations of your Council; please consider reading through the Annual Report in its entirety.

Peter R. Hunt
Mayor



Riverfront Land Auction Photo credit The Murray Pioneer

CEO'S REPORT

The 2016/2017 year was a great result for a number of reasons. Barmera was voted Australia's Tidiest Town in May 2017, a major achievement following on from winning the SA Sustainable Communities Award run by KESAB.

The building of the Riverland Regional Innovation and Sports Precinct at Berri is nearing completion and will be a wonderful asset for the district and region.

Council achieved a large operating surplus due to the movement of 50% of the Financial Assistance Grant from 2017/2018 to 2016/2017 though it was still an underlying surplus.

Council has been able to restrict its rate increases over the last decade. It's interesting to note that over the period 2010/2011 to 2015/2016 Councils average rates for a residential property have gone from the 26th lowest out of 68 Councils to the 15th lowest. Over that period the average rates have increased from \$1021 to \$1128 and overall increase of 10.5%. In 2015/2016 1.9% increase was the lowest of Councils that had a surplus budget and the 2014/2015 figure of 1% was the lowest in the state.

Council will continue to pursue tight monetary control to make sure the rates are affordable for local ratepayers many of whom are struggling with increased costs for water, electricity, emergency services levy and motor registration costs.

Council continues to use social media to get information to our residents in a timely and efficient manner.

Council was a major contributor to the SA Regional Tourism Summit and SA Accredited Visitor Information Centre Conference that was very successfully run in May 2017 and all involved are to be congratulated on showcasing what the Riverland has to offer.

These positive results by Council for the 2016/2017 year are a reflection of hard work and dedication of the Council staff to provide first rate services and amenity for the Community. The staff in partnership with the foresight of the Councillors has formed a direction and purpose that has achieved significant improvements while operating within Councils financial capacity.

“The staff in partnership with the foresight of the Councillors has formed a direction and purpose that has achieved significant improvements while operating within Councils financial capacity.”



David Beaton
Chief Executive Officer



Mayor Peter Hunt JP

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Committee Membership

Strategic Governance and Asset Management Committee
Audit Committee (ex Officio)
Major Projects Committee (Chair)
Berri Town Beautification Committee
Barmera Town Beautification Committee
Community Grant Panel Review (Chair)
Martin Bend Recreation Area Committee (ex Officio)
Cemetery Advisory Committee (ex Officio)
Friends of the Bonney Theatre Complex (ex Officio)
Australia Day Awards Committee (Chair)

Other

Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association (Vice President)
LGA of SA—Board Member Vice President
LGA Executive Committee
Riverland Local Government Forum
Local Government Finance Authority
SAROC
LG Research & Development Scheme Advisory (Chair)



Cr Andrew Kassebaum

(Deputy Mayor Nov 2014—Nov 2017)

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Committee Membership

Strategic Governance and Asset Management Committee (Chair)
Audit Committee (proxy)
Major Projects Committee
Martin Bend Recreation Area Committee

Other

Monash and Lone Gum Community Association Inc (Observer)
Murray Darling Association Region 5 representative
Riverland Wine and Food Festival Steering Committee
Riverland Local Government NRM Advisory Group
Riverland Local Government Forum
Murraylands Riverland Local Government Association representative
Riverland Cat Management Forum
Queensland Fruit Fly Steering Committee
Berri Barmera Health Advisory Council representative (from Oct 2016)
South Australia Murray Darling Basin Natural Resource Management Board member, Local Government representative



Cr Rhonda Centofanti

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Committee Membership

Strategic Governance and Asset Management Committee
Barmera Town Beautification Committee
Major Projects Committee
Martin Bend Recreation Area Committee
Signage Committee
Community Grant Panel Review
Berri Town Beautification Committee
Cemetery Advisory Committee
Friends of the Bonney Theatre Complex

Other

Riverland Regional Development Assessment Panel
Upper Murray Garden Of Memory (Cemetery) Committee (Observer)
RMMAC
The Ruby Hunter Memorial, No:ri Committee
Australia Day Event committee
Riverland Suicide Prevention Network
Country Arts Council Reference Group Riverland



Cr Margaret Evans OAM

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Committee Membership

Strategic Governance and Asset Management Committee
Cemetery Advisory Committee
Berri Town Beautification Committee
Community Grant Panel Review

Other

Berri Barmera HAC (Observer) (until Oct 2016)
RMMAC
The Ruby Hunter Memorial, No:ri Committee

Cr Mike Fuller

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Committee Membership

Audit Committee
Strategic Governance and Asset Management Committee
Barmera Town Beautification Committee
Friends of the Bonney Theatre Complex

Cr Linc Gore

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Committee Membership

Audit Committee
Strategic Governance and Asset Management Committee
Major Projects Committee
Martin Bend Recreation Area Committee

Other

Cobdogla Soldiers Memorial Hall Committee (Observer)
Berri Barmera Landcare
Riverland Natural Resources Management Group

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Committee Membership

Strategic Governance and Asset Management Committee
Major Projects Committee
Berri Town Beautification Committee (Chair)
Martin Bend Recreation Area Committee
Friends of the Bonney Theatre Complex

Other

Business Riverland (Observer)
Glossop High School Governing Council (Observer)

Cr Stephen Lynch

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Committee Membership

Strategic Governance and Asset Management Committee
Major Projects Committee
Cemetery Advisory Committee
Barmera Town Beautification Committee (Chair)
Community Grant Panel Review
Friends of the Bonney Theatre Complex

Cr David Waterman

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Committee Membership

Strategic Governance and Asset Management Committee
Audit Committee
Barmera Town Beautification Committee
Friends of the Bonney Theatre Complex (Chair)

Community Services

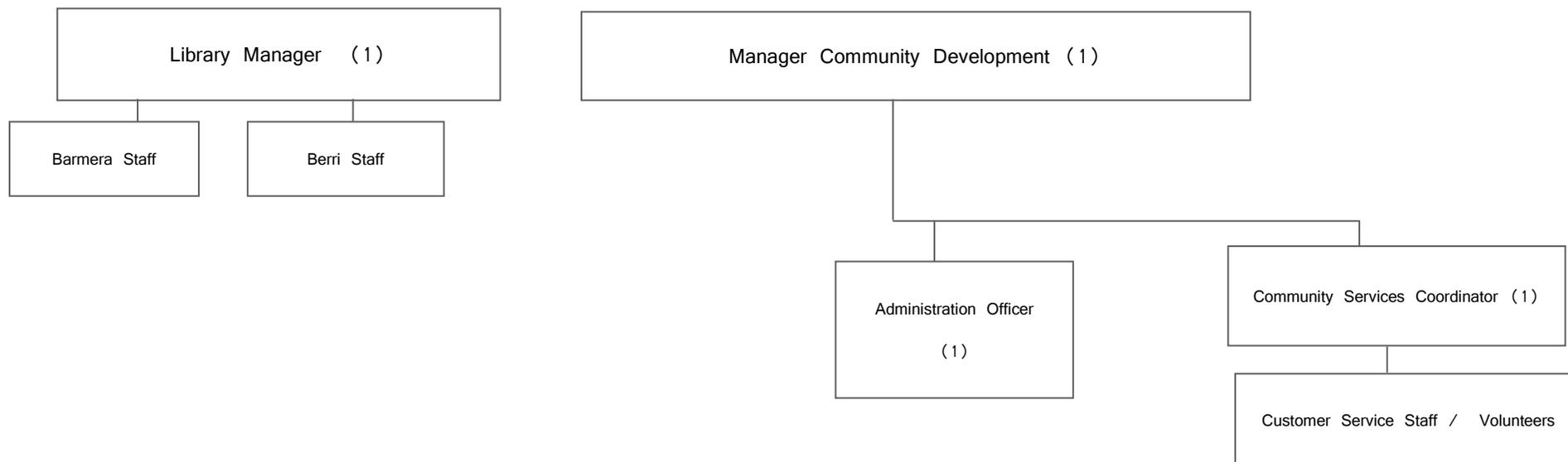


Department Operations and Structure Outline

The Community Services Department is responsible for the management and operations of the following functions of Council:

- Community Grants
- Tourism
- Library
- Community Transport
- Culture and Heritage
- Community/Social Development
- Sport & Recreation Development
- Communications, Community News and Information

To effectively implement the management and operations of the Department, the following Staffing Structure applies:



Library Services

Our libraries have continued to be a hub of activity in each of our towns where people can gather to focus on their lifelong learning and recreational needs. At Berri we have commenced our third year of operation with our joint-use partner, Glossop High School and the new partnership is working effectively to meet the needs of both members of the public as well as the teachers and students of the Glossop High School Senior Campus. The Barmera Library and Customer Service Centre has continued to work closely with businesses and schools in the area to promote the town as well as the library itself.

Library and Information Week was one of the main highlights of the year at Berri with a packed program of activities, competitions and visits from school children as well as our local Member of Parliament, Tim Whetstone. The Bush Poetry readings were a highlight of the year at Barmera Library; the event is listed in the Country Music Week program and draws many tourists into the town. The Library Service as a whole continues to strive to be at the cutting edge where technology is concerned; both libraries have 3D printer technology and RFID Self Check-out kiosks in operation to improve the library experience for our customers.

As this year closes we are already looking to the future and a new training program *Tech Savvy Seniors South Australia* is being organised for seniors in the community; this is a partnership between Telstra, Libraries Board of South Australia and the South Australian Government. We will continue to seek out new ideas and technology so that we may present them to our customers and we appreciate the support from Public Library Services in assisting us to keep abreast of new developments in regard to technology and training.

GOAL 1: Confident and Contributing Community
Objective 2: We will increase involvement in civic pride.

History Month

Displays of historical photographs were of great interest to customers during History Month in May at the Berri Library. We had three events/photographic displays listed in South Australia's History Festival magazine, "Do You Remember When Berri Celebrated?" and "Berri Library: Then and Now". An information session "Introduction to Family History Resources" was also offered.

A very professional looking graphic display titled *The Meat Pie: Australia's Own Fast Food* by the Australian Society of Engineering and Technology (ASHET), was a feature of Barmera Library's History Month. Angus the Baker in Barmera gave a talk to adults about the history of pie making at Barmera and donated party pies for a children's pie eating challenge. He also provided vouchers for a special priced pie and coffee deal to hand out to all who visited the exhibition during May. Year 5, 6 and 7 Children from St Joseph's Primary School in Barmera attended the exhibition as part of their history studies.



Proprietors of the Barmera Bakery, Angus and Tammie Boase standing near The Meat Pie: Australia's Own Fast Food Exhibition at the Barmera Library.



Do You Remember When Berri Celebrated? photographic Exhibition at Berri Library during History Month in May

Displays a Drawcard

The library provides a perfect place for various groups in the community to promote events and to make others aware of their activities. We are proud of our connections with community groups as well as the colourful and eye-catching displays that have graced our library spaces throughout the year. At Berri Library we promoted our new *Memory Resource Collection* to show off the resources we have available in relation to Alzheimer's disease and dementia. Cynthia Harvey was responsible for setting up the Berri-Barmera Garden Club promotional display which provided a real splash of colour. *The Meat Pie: Australia's Own Fast Food* display was in the Berri Library during the month of June and proved to be very popular: to celebrate the end of the exhibition the Library gave away a free meat pie to customers.

Barmera Library displays during 2016-17 included a stunning photographic exhibition from the Riverland Camera Club, showcasing high quality photos from the 2017 SA Photographic Federation exhibition. Lions International Peace Poster competition entries from three local schools were also displayed at Barmera Library. Some internal displays highlighted local events including Remembrance Day, Christmas, Easter, St Patrick's Day and a special Pokémon Go display.

Library Lover's Week was celebrated in February with both libraries involved in promoting a love of reading through displaying a range of reading material. Cherie Walkington organised displays in both library locations on behalf of The Cancer Council to promote the 2016 Relay for Life event in October.

GOAL 1: Confident and Contributing Community

Objective 4: We will support and promote multicultural diversity.

Book Week 20th–26th August, 2016

Australia Story Country was the theme for Book Week this year and at Berri Library we celebrated with a free Book Week Raffle, a Favourite Book Competition as well as a front foyer and special teen display. Over a two week period, Barmera Library hosted over 150 children and their teachers from Cobdogla Primary School, St Joseph's School Barmera, Barmera Primary School, Barmera Kindergarten and Kingston Primary School. Some classes came dressed up, all came eager to read the different Book Week books and lots of clever craft creations were made.



Josh Kemp won the Book Week Raffle by guessing the closest to the number of lollies in the jar.

Library Information Sessions

Berri Library Manager, Peter Ison has continued to offer library orientation sessions as well as information sessions on a range of IT related topics to many groups. Some of the topics included Introduction to your iPad or Android Tablets, Understanding your Smartphone, Introduction to Android Phones and Tablets, Introduction to iPads, IT Q&A as well as a Zinio Digital Magazine Tutorial.

A highlight was a series of presentations made to the state-wide Rural Women's Gathering in Renmark as well as other groups that included library customers, young mums, Berri Senior Citizens, Carers SA as well as a collaboration with the University of the 3rd Age Riverland.



Cobdogla Primary School Reception to year 1 students with teachers Ebony Geue (left) and Jo Nettle (right) came dressed up for Book Week activities at Barmera Library

GOAL 3: Smart Infrastructure

Objective 2: We will continue to invest in sports, recreation and lifestyle infrastructure working to partner with businesses when appropriate.

Tech Savvy Seniors South Australia

A new initiative, Tech Savvy Seniors South Australia was proposed in June 2017, the project is a partnership between Telstra, Office for the Ageing and the Libraries Board of SA to provide free digital literacy training for older residents living in the 3 Riverland Council areas. Staff at libraries will receive training and commence implementing the project in coming weeks. Each of the Riverland libraries will receive a grant of approximately \$6000 to cover existing staff to run the training sessions over a 6 month period. The need for such a program was identified by the 2016 Digital Inclusion Index which was powered by Roy Morgan Research, the research found that South Australians scored behind other states and territories with regional areas scoring below Adelaide in all three measures of access, affordability and ability.

Children's Activities

A highlight of the Berri Library School Holiday Program held in January was a special James the Travelling Magician workshop. The workshop was very well received with over 45 participants attending the 2:30pm session to learn how to do magic tricks that would impress their parents and friends.



Above: James the Magician giving instructions about how to complete a magic trick to the many children who attended the Berri Library workshop

Below: Abraham and Amira Islam wearing the hats they made during children's activities at Barmera Library.



Work Experience Students

In September 2016 Glossop High school student Shakena Wilson took part in a week's work experience at the Barmera Library. Shakena loved learning about the library's operations and particularly loved helping with the children's craft activities under the mentorship of Kiara and other library staff.

In May 2017, Glossop High School Year 10 student Natalie Bradford-Marshall spent a week with us at the Berri Library to gain valuable knowledge regarding library work. Natalie displayed a real passion as well as an affinity for library work and involved herself enthusiastically in all tasks that she was asked to participate in.

Traineeships

Breanna Freeman, our new Berri Library trainee commenced work in April, 2017. Breanna has a wealth of customer experience and will be with us for 2 years as she completes a traineeship with funding being supplied by the Minister for Regional Development Geoff Brock as part of the Regional Youth Traineeship program.

In February 2017 Barmera Library and Customer Service Centre farewelld school based trainee, Kiara Rowland, who has now finished her 12 month traineeship. Kiara successfully managed the difficult challenge of combining Year 12 studies, part-time work and studying for her Certificate 4 in Business.



Kiara Rowland, school-based trainee at Barmera Library setting up kid's craft activities.



Left:
Library Services Trainee, Breanna Freeman (on the right) assisting Glossop High School Work Experience student Natalie Bradford-Marshall to borrow some items at the Berri Library.



Right:
Work Experience student Shakena Wilson with her paper plate craft activity at Barmera Library.

Partnerships with local businesses and organizations

Barmera Library and local businesses often work hand in hand to promote our library services and our town. Barmera Bakery generously donated party pies for our kids' pie eating challenge. Barmera Newsagency once again provided us with small toys and gift items for the children's activities. We provided a photocopy service for Neighbourhood Watch for their Community Newsletters and gratefully received donations from the local Op-Shops when we needed extra items for displays. Barmera Central Irrigation Office donated large colour photocopies of historic irrigation maps for both Barmera and Berri libraries. The Riverland Filipino Dance group visited during Children's Week and showed traditional dances and craft activities. Hearing Australia conducted free hearing checks over two days.

We have continued our partnership with the University of the Third Age (U3A) who held Mah-jong sessions at Barmera Library every week on Wednesdays. U3A also partnered with us during Adult Learner's week running a Creative Writing and Zentangle workshop in the library. At Berri, Library Manager Peter Ison in conjunction with U3A Riverland presented some courses on Android Phones and Tablets.

Glossop High School Activities

This year has been a very busy and enjoyable year for our staff that work closely with the Glossop High School teachers and students; many regular tasks were tackled as well as some special extra ones as it was the 75th year since the school opened.

School Services Librarian Maureen Spiers and School Services Officer Suzanne Fisher spent time locating historic photos from our collection to be included in a PowerPoint presentation for the school's 75th Reunion held in October 2016; a front foyer display containing historic photos and school memorabilia was also created.

A Library Orientation Program that included a tour of the joint-use library along with an information session was held for the 5 Year 10 classes who would be joining the Senior Campus as Year 11 students in 2017. The focus this year was on developing the non-fiction collection in the Physics, Chemistry and Biology areas and as well the usual fiction resources were purchased to support the English students who have a comparative texts assignment. The Research Project has also been a subject area where specific resources have been purchased to support student learning.

We have supported the Maths faculty by purchasing and managing online resources and also made a more concerted effort to meet with our counterparts at the Middle Campus on a more regular basis to discuss matters relevant to both libraries. The Supervised Private Study Room has had a great deal of use and school library staff have monitored attendances using DayMap software.

Goal 3: Smart Infrastructure

Objective 3: We will modernise and build community assets. We will enhance the combining and sharing of community resources e.g. transport.

One Card Network Liaison

Our One Card system allows all library customers in the state to share resources between libraries within South Australia. Library Manager Peter Ison has represented the River Murray region on the Public Library Services User Group Committee which meets on a monthly basis, either in person or by tele-conferencing, to discuss issues, policies and procedures in relation to the One Card system across the state. Peter keeps local libraries up to date about recent policy and procedure updates and also provides feedback to the User Group. The group is currently working on implementing a payment system that works for all councils across the network. It has also been responsible for producing a policy document on *Managing Lost and Destroyed Items as a Result of Natural Disasters*; the need for this came about especially after the Pinery fires. The Berri-Barmera Library Service as well as other libraries in close proximity all benefit from Peter's involvement in this working group.

Goal 3: Smart Infrastructure

Objective 4: We will provide non-structured recreational facilities, locally and regionally, to promote participation, well-being and aesthetic landscape quality.

Storm Damage Affects Library Services

A severe thunder and hail storm hit the Riverland on the evening of Friday 11th November 2016, this impacted on services and both libraries were closed the following day. At Berri water entered through the front door causing extensive damage to our carpet and also through the roof causing a section of the ceiling to collapse. Once excess water was removed, ceiling tiles replaced and electrical light work repaired, the Berri Library re-opened on Monday 14th November at 2pm.

At Barmera, a lot of water entered through the ceiling and impacted on the customer service area, public internet work-stations and large print and audiobook collections. On 17th November Barmera Library opened again for business; staff operated from a desk near the back entrance of the library until repairs could be made to the front entrance area. Another closure was needed commencing on the 25th November for further repairs to be made in preparation for the installation of new carpet and furniture.



Top: Water which entered through the front entrance at Berri needed to be pumped out to remove it from the carpet area

Below: Sue Webber and Jodie Bannear operating the check-out desk at the rear of the Barmera Library after the storm damage impacted on their customer service area at the front of the library.



Rhyme Time

The Berri Library customers, particularly the Baby Rhyme Time parents, experienced some difficulty with parking during June and July as two independent private study groups using the library for study sessions clashed with our Baby Rhyme Time program on Wednesday mornings. After consultation with all concerned we began using traffic cones to reserve 4-5 spaces for the Baby Rhyme Time parents and this has proved to be a successful solution to the problem. It is very pleasing to see the Rhyme Time groups at both libraries have a large and regular group of attendees each week.

3D Printing

Keeping up with new technology is vital in the library and information sector and studies have shown that one of the fastest most exciting technologies today involves 3D printers for educational, mathematical, technical and medicinal purposes. With this in mind, Barmera Library purchased a 3D printer in March 2017. Children and adults have been keen to make use of this exciting and educational technology. The 3D Printer has continued to create interest with our customers at Berri and Library Manager Peter Ison has presented workshops to various groups including the Berri Senior Citizen's Club, Riverland Special School Staff and Glossop High School.

Competitions & Raffle Draws

The Berri Library has promoted reading by encouraging customers to borrow 5 items or more in order to enter a raffle draw at special times such as Easter and Mother's Day. Competitions held this year at Barmera included a Summer Reading Club prize of an instant Minimax camera kit, offered as an incentive to read more books. During History Month adults who borrowed 5 or more books went into the draw to win a Sunbeam pie maker or a pie dish and cooking items and for the children there was a pie colouring and story competition.



Mother's Day Raffle Winner Noella Vasiliadis with her daughter collecting her prize at Berri Library.



Left: Peggy Foley was very pleased to win the pie maker during History Month at Barmera Library.



Berri Library patron Heather Butler (left), being presented with her Easter Raffle prize by Cynthia Harvey.



Below: Lucas and Toby Allder with their prizes from the pie colouring and story writing competition at the Barmera Library.

Library and Information Week 22nd to 28th May 2017

The 2017 Library & Information Week theme was *Celebrate*, this fitted in well with celebrating ALIA's (Australian Library and Information Association) 80th birthday! At the Berri Library we had a week of celebratory events which appealed to all ages. Tim Whetstone, Member for Chaffey joined us on Wednesday for National Simultaneous Story Time and read *The Cow Tripped Over the Moon* to a very attentive class from Rivergum Christian College. A Family History Session was planned for Thursday and the week closed on Friday with the Cancer Council Biggest Morning Tea with the *Guess the Lollies in the Jar Competition* being won by Nicola Hill. A highlight of the morning tea was a book shaped cake made especially for us by Julie Tsoriotis. Other events which ran all week and were very popular included a *Guess the Book in the Jar* competition which was won by Brenton Tamblin and a Pin It-Favourite Book Board.



Above: Tim Whetstone (Member for Chaffey) reading *The Cow Tripped Over the Moon* to Rivergum Christian College students as part of National Simultaneous Story Time during Library and Information Week.



Above: Marie Tavener and Jill Linke watching Glossop High School students Chelsea Greer and Brittany Stevens cutting the cake at the Cancer Council Biggest Morning Tea.

Country Music Week and Bush Poetry at Baramba Library

For the 10th year running, Baramba Library staged another successful Bush Poetry afternoon as part of the official Country Music Week program in June 2017. Award winning poet and author Bob Magor was our special guest and talented poet and performer Jill Wherry our special compere. With walk-up poets from all corners of South Australia and interstate, the afternoon's entertainment and the delicious afternoon tea afterwards was really appreciated by the 40 attendees. Library staff filled the library with Country Music themed decorations and this year life sized singers with cut out faces were added to our outside display courtesy of the Baramba Men's Shed. People of all ages enjoyed standing behind the cut outs and having their photos taken as country music stars.

Volunteers

Our libraries are fortunate to have the involvement of volunteers who add a great deal to our library environment. At Berri we have really appreciated the services of Sarah Plush (Baby Rhyme Time), Jenny Duggin (Local History) and Trevor Waterman and David Andrews (RFID tagging).



Left: Bush poets Jill Wherry and Bob Magor at Baramba Library's bush poetry afternoon: part of the Riverland Country Music Official program.



Below: Baramba Library Staff Peggy, Sue and Joella dressed appropriately for Country Music Week.

At Barmera Library, volunteer Melanie Allder has been successfully running our Rhyme Time for babies and children every Tuesday during the school term for nearly 10 years. To cope with growing attendance numbers, in 2016 another volunteer coordinator, Michelle Rogers, began running extra weekly Rhyme Time sessions on Thursdays. Three more volunteers, Theresa Fowles, Kaye Stead and Amor Villanueva have also been invaluable running our one-on-one computer, tablet, phone and laptop lessons. These sessions have provided vital training and support for many in our community who struggle with the increased need to be digitally literate.

Di Tillett has been sharing her vast library knowledge and experience by running our Reader's Book Group for over 10 years.

GOAL 5: Strong Internal Capability and Capacity

Objective 2: We will continuously improve processes ensuring a focus on monitoring and evaluation

RFID Project Update (Radio Frequency Identification)

At Berri Library we are in the final stages of the RFID project with RFID tags currently being added to the Glossop High School collection; the Local History Collection is still to be tackled. The project has been completed at Barmera Library. This enables our borrowers to use a Self Service Checkout machine to borrow items if they wish and it will also have long term benefits related to the management of our collection. We appreciate the continued effort being made by Trevor and David at Berri to complete this necessary work. Bibliotheca have fitted security gates and trained library staff in the use of the gates and issuing pads and the RFID Self Service Checkout machines are now in operation at both libraries. Many customers of all ages are embracing the new technology.

Staff Training and Development

Building on existing skills and developing new ones has been an exciting part of our year. At Berri Library staff have been involved in a User Experience in Libraries Workshop. Among the professional development Barmera staff undertook this year were craft workshops for Children's Book week projects, Fire Warden training and attending OHS committee meetings. Staff from both libraries attended First Aid Training, Public Library One Card library training, Little Bang Training, Tech Savvy Senior planning and programming sessions and a Staff Development Workshop conducted by John Hogan.

BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL LIBRARY STATISTICS 2016/2017					
LOANS & USAGE	BERRI		BARMERA		2016-2017 TOTALS
	2015-2016	2016-2017	2015-2016	2016-2017	
Door Count	112,749	114,920	39,101	34,436	149,356
Total Loans	59,643	53,394	40,883	41,746	95,140
Internet Bookings	5,782	6,431	4,253	3,331	9,762
Holiday Activities	200	193	398	288	481
Weekly children's	335	230	1,262	1,249	1,479
Baby Rhyme Time	580	580	1,460	1,403	1,983
SA Library Network Incoming Transits	6,384	4,050	5,819	4,175	8,225
SA Library Network	14,252	8,969	7,361	5,023	13,992
Visits per capita (Berri)	16.0	16.3	9.3	8.2	13.3
Loans per capita	8.5	7.6	9.8	10.0	8.5
Open hours per annum	2,422	2,422	1,950	1,950	4,372
Web Catalogue Sessions	6,786	8,064	combined statistics		8,064
Library Website Sessions	6,926	8,187	combined statistics		8,187

Community Development

Community Organisation Support

Community groups undertake a significant contribution to the community's quality of life, committing hours of volunteer time in providing activities, projects and events for residents of our district. Council is often able to value add to this contribution by providing varied levels of support. Whether it's through project partnership agreements, community grant applications or operational contributions, Council's support may consist of financial, in kind or a combination of both. As part of our strategic plan, Council is focused on creating opportunities for active contributions from the community to assist in the retention of population for its future success. Part of this, is building a culture of "Have a go!"

Sports and recreation are a major component of regional Australia. The Riverland is no exception! Many of our sporting clubs / groups and other community organisations look for funding opportunities through State and Federal Government Grants. As part of our community service, Council can provide assistance by providing letters of support or by feedback throughout the grant writing process.

Each year Council also maintains a wide range of facilities that are provided at heavily subsidised rates to community organisations. Many of these are heavily reliant on additional funding from various sources (including user fees) but without Council contribution many of these services would not be viable.

Some of these include Rocky's Hall of Fame, Barmera Recreation Centre, Berri District Swimming Pool and most recreation and sports grounds in the district. A number of organisations also gain supplementary funding through Council for their operations, including Regional Development Australia, Destination Riverland, Riverland Youth Theatre, Foodbank and Barmera Visitor Information Centre.

Aside are some organisations and projects that were amongst those to receive direct support through the Community Grants Program and event services in 2016/2017. In addition to those outlined, there are a number of other projects that Council collaborate on and/or provide additional assistance. These include multicultural events like Harmony Day, NAIDOC Week, sporting events like state soccer, triathlon and cycling to name a few. In total the investment into community activities, not including facility maintenance and operations, is over \$500,000 which is only a small percentage of the total value that these activities return into the community in both economic and social.

Organisation	Activity / Event	Amount Supported	In-Kind
Barmera District War Memorial Community Centre	Barmera Easter Markets		\$558
Barmera Pageant Committee	Barmera Christmas Pageant		\$2,730
Barmera Sheep Dog Trial	Barmera Sheep Dog Trial and sheep run	\$1,500	\$1,000
Barmera Santa's Cave	Santa's Cave		\$4,763
Barmera Ministers Association	Berri Carols by the River	\$1,000	
Berri Football Club Inc	Playground Facilities for Berri Town Oval	\$2,000	
Berri Golf Club Inc	Fairway Sprinkler Replacement	\$2,000	
Berri Junior Netball Club	Team bags and first aid kits	\$457	
Berri Rowing Club	Berri Rowing Regatta		\$377
Berri Scout Group	New Kitchen	\$4,000	
Berri Tennis Club	Berri Master Tennis Tournament		\$534
Berri Uniting Church	Kitchen Upgrade	\$2,000	
Bowls SA	Seniors Supa Bowls Series	\$2,500	
Bruno Bay Development Committee	Bruno Bay Fireworks Spectacular	\$1,000	
Cancer Council SA - Riverland	Relay for Life		\$1,734
Cobdogla Steam Friends Society Inc	Shelter Shed	\$2,000	
Families SA	Christmas Party Event 19.12.16	\$100	
Flinders Uni Rural Clinical School	Flinders Uni Rural Clinical School	\$2,000	
Foodbank Riverland	Foodbank Riverland	\$5,000	
Football Federation SA	SA Soccer League Fixture	\$4,000	\$2,174
J. Westley	Youth Sport Sponsorship - AFL	\$100	
Lions Club of Berri Inc	Berri Easter Breakfast		\$2,404
Lions Club of Berri Inc	Berri Merri Christmas	\$1,500	\$4,498
Monash Bowling Club Inc	Demolition and Rebuild of New Clubrooms	\$4,000	
Norwood Cycling Club Inc	43rd Tour of the Riverland 2017	\$1,500	\$1600
R. Herbert	Youth Sport Sponsorship - Hockey	\$100	
Riverland Brass Inc	General Operations	\$1,250	
Riverland Brass Inc	Air conditioning Upgrade	\$4,000	
Riverland Christmas Appeal	Looking for support for Christmas Appeal	\$100	
Riverland Country Music Club	SA Country Music Festival & Awards	\$5,000	\$2,876
Riverland Multicultural Forum	Harmony Day	\$500	\$1000
Riverland Special School	Riverland Community and ART	\$500	
Riverland Wine	Riverland Wine and Food festival	\$7,500	\$6,500
Riverland Youth Theatre	Riverland Youth Theatre Annual program	\$5,000	
Rotary Club of Berri	Sponsorship - 2016 Riverland & Mallee Vocational Awards	\$250	
Ruby Hunter Foundation	Riverland NO:RI Music Festival	\$5000	\$1000
St Edmund's Anglican Church	Insulation for Barmera Hall	\$2,245	
Tennis SA	Foundation Cup	\$2,500	\$320
Triathlon Club of Adelaide	Murrayman Triathlon		\$8,125
U3A Riverland Inc	Riverland Rendezvous	\$500	\$350
Ulysses	2018 AGM in the Riverland	\$4,000	

Successful Grant Stories

The Riverland Youth Theatre was established in 1985, a company where children and young people have the capacity to create and deliver inspiring, engaging and challenging performing arts through a diversity of collaborative processes. It is a place where youth can create in a safe and supportive environment. In 2016, over 5000 children and young people engaged in RYT's program and projects.



The program offers something for everyone and is able to capture the needs of multicultural, indigenous and low socio-economic backgrounds. This year, the group participated in three Riverland Christmas pageants, workshops and other community events.

This year, the Barmera Sheep Dog Trial moved their date (previously held in October) to coincide with the SA Country Music Festival – the June long weekend. The event opened with the “Running of the Sheep” where hundreds of spectators lined Barwell Avenue, Barmera on the Saturday morning to see a flock of sheep run down the main street to the football oval, where the Dog Trials are held. This event is very popular with the public, and was even shown on Adelaide news on the Saturday night.



The event, which brings a lot of people from around the state and country to not only participate but view, was a great success this year with record crowds attending on the Saturday and Sunday. Barmera was absolutely packed on the long weekend, with lots of people enjoying the country music and also witnessing the magnificent dogs using their skills to work the sheep in set obstacle courses.



The Riverland Creative Writing Group required assistance to support works to be showcased at the Berri VIC as part of the SALA Festival. The exhibition consisted of paintings, sculptures, textiles and creative writing original works. The pieces were displayed during the month of August 2016. It was a great way of promoting local artists and encouraging participants of all ages.



Electronic Communications

In 2016/2017 Council continued to focus on improvements to Council's on-line communications presence. It is recognised that whilst social media and internet services may not be accessible to our entire community, a significant portion of the community use online services to seek up to the minute information on a range of topics.

Website

The Latest News section on the website's front page has been improved to include Community news items as well as Council information. An improved frequency of articles published to Latest News has been maintained. The 'What's On' page also maintains a strong list of Community events and links to the Destination Riverland regional events guide.

Investigations have also started to support continued improvements in fact sheet development, tourism information access and ease of navigation throughout website. A new responsive (Mobile device friendly) website should be launched by late 2017.

Smart Phone App

Council has continued to work closely with the Local Government Association (SA) to ensure that event lists, what's nearby, rubbish bin notifications and a 'report it' functions are available on a smart device app called 'My Local Services'. This App is available to residents and visitors alike and can be downloaded from both Google Play and the Apple App Stores.

Social Media

Adding to the existing social media pages of the Council, Berri Visitor Information Centre, Lost and Found Pets, Berri Library and Information Centre and Barmera Library, Council has now established a Facebook page to support the volunteers at Rocky's Hall of Fame and also Bonney Theatre. Each of these Council social media sites will continue to grow from the current of over 4100 followers (Council 1146, VIC 1331, Berri Library 465, Barmera Library 414, Lost pets 821 – 22% increase), and are now recognised as good sources of latest news, notifications and event information by many in the community.

We are always looking for ways to improve our communication. We look forward to continued community engagement.

With the NBN rolling out in our district, as we are predominately a society who rely on more electronic devices everyday, it is a good opportunity to have build on our knowledge. We are going to be holding seminars where residents can have the opportunity to liaise with NBN staff and ask any questions. Dates and times will be advertised on our events page and also on our Facebook site.

Council Events

Australia Day 2017

One of Council's objectives is to generate civic pride and a sense of belonging.

Each year on Australia Day, we hold our Australian Day Citizen Award ceremony. This is a day where we acknowledge and celebrate those who are making a difference within our community. We have so many great sports persons, businesses, community groups and volunteers and the like who love what they do and don't think they are doing anything special, but they are!

This year, the event was set on Lake Bonney foreshore in Barmera. Celebrations commenced with a community walk, where 50 participants braved the early start, led by Councillor Rhonda Centofanti.



Over 200 residents then enjoyed the free breakfast, with tea/ coffee/juice, pancakes, bacon and eggs cooked by members from the Barmera Lions Club, Elected Members and Council staff who had all volunteered their time.

The lake was a sensational backdrop for entertainment from Eric Cook and Sing Australia Riverland. The Barmera Girl Guides started the official ceremony with the raising of the flags, followed by Auntie Francis Day undertaking the Welcome to Country. The official speeches and ceremonies then started around 8.15am.

We were lucky to again be joined by an official Australia Day Ambassador; Dr Bill Griggs who began his medical career in 1976 as a volunteer paramedic while studying as a medical student. Since then he has had a long involvement in the care of the injured and has been involved in caring for the victims of many multiple casualty events.

He has completed many hundreds of aeromedical retrievals including a number of maritime helicopter winch rescues. He is considered a world authority on trauma and disaster medicine and worked in the immediate aftermath of the Boxing Day Tsunami and the consequences of the Bali bombings.

In 2004, Dr Griggs conceived and created the Roads2Survival young driver road safety program. In 2006, he was the recipient of the Australian of the Year for South Australia and was a national finalist. In 2009, he was named the South Australian of the Year.

A key component of each Australia Day Event is the awarding of the Citizen of the Year Awards, with this year's recipients being:

Citizen Award – Joy Mules

Joy Mules of Barmera is an active member of the local community and a passionate fund raiser. Joy has participated in raising funds for various charities including Royal Flying Doctors, Riverland Cancer Council and Woodville Spastic Centre raising over \$100,000 over 10 years.

Through her sporting connections, having been a member of the Barmera Tennis Club since 1958, Joy has been awarded Life Membership. With a love of music, Joy has served the Lutheran Church as an organist for 66 years. Joy was also a member of the Riverland Musical Society and part of the Riverland Choral Group and Sing-a-longs at Hawdon House.

Young Citizen Award – Kelsey Wade

Kelsey Wade is a proactive Year 12 student of Glossop High School and is heavily involved in environmental, leadership and community activities in and out of school. As a school prefect, member of the River Murray Youth Council and Formal Committee member, Kelsey has undertaken her duties with passion and community focus. She was awarded the Lake Bonney Masonic Lodge Scholarship in 2015, and was recently awarded the Zonta International Young Woman Continuing Study Scholarship. Kelsey has also won numerous academic excellence, service and subject awards. She has participated in the 40 hour famine for the past 4 years and is one of the principle co-ordinators of Step Up! for Down Syndrome Riverland, a cause close to her heart.

Event of the Year– Bruno Bay Fireworks Spectacular

Bruno Bay Fireworks Spectacular has been organised over the past 10 years, consistently achieving attendances of above 1500 people. The event brings the community together, by being family friendly and encouraging broader community involvement.

The event consists of local musicians, fireworks, amusement rides, side show alley local businesses stalls (Pete's Pizza, Mario Coffee van, ice cream, popcorn, henna) and committee food and drink fundraising stalls.

The funds raised over the years have gone a long way; making donations to Make A Wish Foundation, Cobdogla Football Club, Cobdogla Tennis Club and the Cobdogla Steam Friends. They have also erected shade over the playground at the Cobdogla Oval and shade sails at the Bruno Bay Boat ramp. The volunteers also beautify the boat ramp by having working bees to keep it tidy and clean.

Building a Better Community Award – Step UP! For Down Syndrome Riverland

This year's recommendation for Building a Better Community Award is Step UP! for Down Syndrome Riverland. This fundraising event held its inaugural event in September of 2016 and was organised by mother and daughter team, Michelle and Kelsey Wade, secondary teacher David Binney and several senior students of Glossop High School. One of the many goals of this project is to bring awareness to and improve the lives of people living with Down Syndrome by encouraging others to "step up" in support of this worthwhile cause.

The volunteers involved in this program have co-ordinated events, "hit the pavement" and utilised social media networking to raise funds in support of local families with Down Syndrome children. Since its inception, a strong number of local businesses, organisations and media outlets have assisted in providing support to this project. Step UP! Riverland will be organising another event this year based on the knowledge and experience gained and successful outcomes of the inaugural event.

We were lucky enough to obtain a video recording of this year's award ceremony. From that, part of Kelsey's speech was also utilised to promote Youth Week for 2017.

The South Australian Australia Day Council, also promoted Kelsey's speech during their 2017 National Australia Day conference held in Adelaide on 25 and 26 July 2017. What an inspirational young lady!



Recipients of the 2017 Australia Day awards from left—Young Citizen of the Year Kelsey Wade who was also Building a Better Community Award for Step UP! For Down Syndrome Riverland, Citizen of the Year Joy Mules with Mayor Peter Hunt, Members from the Bruno Bay Fireworks Spectacular.

Photo Credit—The Murray Pioneer

Tourism Services

The Berri Visitor Information Centre (VIC) is situated on the riverfront, with over 25,000 visitors through the door annually. The VIC is a popular first-stop for travellers on their trip to the Riverland.

A primary goal of any VIC is to not only provide information to visitors, but to generate unintended spend by visitors in the community. This means that for each person that comes through the facilities doors, our aim is to encourage them to spend more, stay longer, come back & tell their friends. Our enthusiastic staff go that bit further by telling the stories of our local district, it's people, producers and tourism operators, allowing customers a detailed insight into the region. By doing this they attempt to ensure people visiting our region leave feeling as though they know and love the area, rather than simply visited it.

The Berri VIC plays a strong leadership role in the Riverland tourism industry, advocating for positive change for tourism operators, VICs and the region. This means working closely with the four Riverland VICs, three Riverland Councils, Destination Riverland, SA Tourism Commission and SA Tourism Industry Council. These close partnerships strengthen the region's representation at all levels, and provide valuable insight to stakeholders about current trends.

The strong tourism foot traffic provides the Berri Visitor Information Centre with an opportunity for gift sales; in fact many tourists expect it. By choice, Council has committed to a 'buy local' focus and steering away from typical souvenir products available cheaply from overseas. Our target has been to support local producers and creators, and by introducing the customer to the people behind the products; telling how the product came to be, we are able to use the opportunity to then direct visitors to other shop fronts, markets and cellar doors.

We now stock one of the most diverse ranges of local products available in the region, and are constantly working directly with locals to ensure their products are customer-ready. Locally made food products include jams, sauces, dried fruit, almonds, chocolate treats, honey, mettwurst, olive oil, pecans, and 'arts & crafts' like brooches, jewellery, cards, and cheese boards. Each of our suppliers is proud to say that the Berri VIC retails their products and providing many with an opportunity for a shop front they otherwise wouldn't have had. After a staged implementation of this 'Buy local' strategy, we are now in a position of boasting more than 160 local products on the shelves (95% of all stock), provided by over 60 local suppliers (93%). Through a workshop delivered at the SA Regional Tourism Summit we identified the need to refit our visual merchandise displays to generate more sales. This has now been completed and has been well received by visitors and locals, as well as seeing increased turnover.

Exhibitions

This year we identified the opportunity to host exhibitions and educational displays within the Berri Visitor Information Centre space. This initiative has been incredibly well supported by community, as well as encouraged more local residents into the VIC. This year our exhibits have included:

- SALA Word Art
- History of agriculture in Berri Barmera
- Local Vietnam Veterans display
- Rivergram #myriverland instagram campaign
- Local art & crafts "Treasures"
- Bushfire prevention
- NRM nature education display
- History Festival: Berri now and then
- Country Music

The exhibitions and displays were only made possible with generous donations and assistance from many community groups and individuals. They create a changing space in the VIC so repeat visitors and locals can see something different each visit, create partnerships with and celebrate our community.

Riverland Community Transport Office Transition

This year the VIC hosted Riverland Community Transport through the contract transition to Red Cross. The contract transition occurred in January, while Red Cross were able to move into their new premises in June, providing opportunity for a reconsideration of the Berri VIC work space.

The Council has been extremely helpful in all matters of this transaction & Red Cross can not speak highly enough of the endeavours of the staff to ensure that the transference of this program occurred as smoothly as possible

Rosalie Pace (Red Cross SA)

Collaboration

Staff continue to collaborate extensively on regional projects, with other Riverland VICs, Destination Riverland and local businesses and organisations. This year, our main collaborative project was the South Australian Regional Tourism Summit. The region saw 87 delegates representing tourism industry from every region in South Australia, as well as delegates from Wentworth. In addition to these delegates, we hosted an additional 13 VIP speakers or guests, many of whom are industry leaders. Importantly, this cohort represented every Accredited Visitor Information Centre in SA, key staff at South Australian Tourism Commission, and South Australian Tourism industry Council representation.

Throughout the event, we were able to showcase the region as having an exciting, collaborative and unified tourism industry. 94% of delegates indicated that they will return to the Riverland or recommend others to visit based on their experience at the summit.

Another collaboration underway is a review of printed tourism publications in the region. This project is now coming together as SATC have withdrawn support of the official regional guides, providing a catalyst for this to progress. Significant research has been completed by Destination Riverland this financial year, resulting in a new printed guide expected to be released early 2018. This guide will replace the Murray River Lakes and Coorong Guide previously produced by SATC.

I thought I knew the Riverland but I was very impressed by what I found was there . I will be sending people that way now!

SA Regional Tourism Summit Delegate

Visitor Numbers

Berri Visitor Information Centre Statistics			
	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017
Local	7529	7726	7942
Intrastate	6921	7139	7045
Interstate	3476	3584	3647
International	1254	1276	1365
Unknown	8095	8157	8647
Bus enquiries	2183	2245	2254
TOTAL	29458	30124	30900

Information Requested			
	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017
Directions/Maps	4761	4614	4844
Attractions	4655	5124	5047
Cruises/Tours	1219	1245	1234
Restaurants/cafes	705	903	947
Shops	682	721	749
Accommodation	961	1045	1347
Camping	422	431	480
Events	897	912	988
National Parks	555	395	684
Souvenirs	5705	5604	5799
Just looking	2866	3124	3087
Detail not gathered	6130	6006	5694
TOTAL	29458	30124	30900

Infrastructure Services

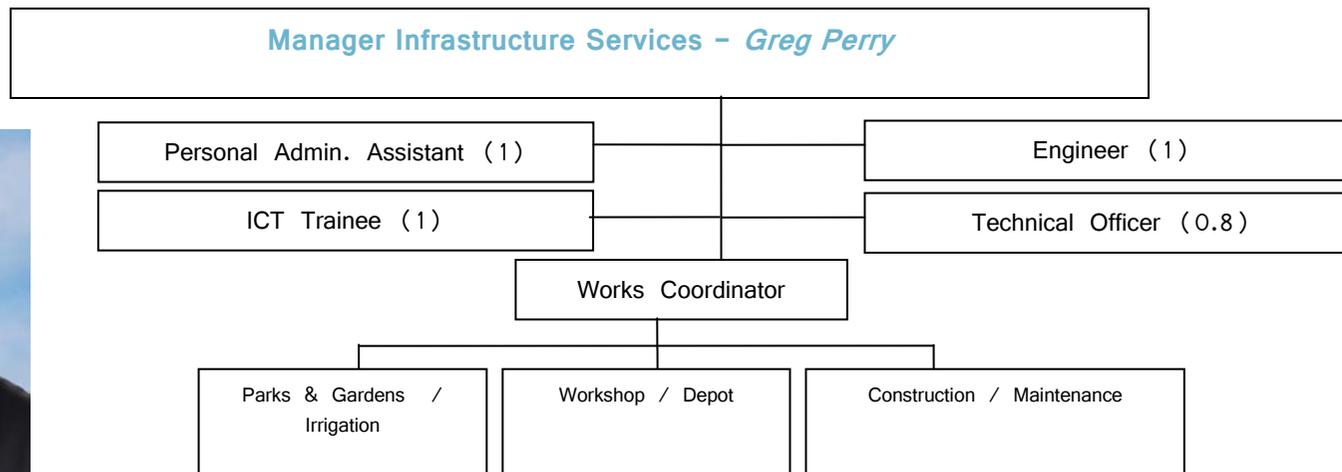


Department Operations and Structure Outline

The Infrastructure Services Department is responsible for the management and operations of the following functions of Council:

- Cemeteries
- Waste Management
- Street Cleaning
- Public Lighting
- Foreshore Protection
- Parks & Gardens
- Private Works
- Sport & Recreation
- Quarries
- Road Maintenance
- Stormwater Drainage
- Parking Off Street
- Plant Operations
- Works Depots
- Vandalism

To effectively implement the management and operations of the Department the following Staffing Structure applies:



The 2016/17 financial year tested and stretched the Infrastructure Department past its normal tasks. This period experienced high river levels that caused closures of boat ramps, jetties and removal of public use bbq's. The receding high water levels also left behind a lot of foreshore damage which needed to be reinstated, some of which was been completed and some that has been included as part of the 2017/18 annual business plan.

Around November 2016 the Berri Barmera area suffered wide spread storm damage from both wind and hail. This storm event required all outside staff to participate in the clean-up works along with the engagement of appropriate contractors. The damage was wide spread and the core clean up took around 4 to 5 weeks while the less important works were left and completed when possible.

The extra works created by the above mentioned demands resulted in some capital works being carried over to the 2017/18 budget. While it is possible to carry over these types of projects, the general maintenance and core business works of Council need to be maintained at an acceptable service level.

As a whole the Infrastructure Services Department were fortunate in securing funding for the Berri Wharf Project to be delivered in 2017/18, delivering the Battams Road Intersection Upgrade for the funding secured in 2015/16 and are working towards securing funding for the upgrade of Jury Road from the Old Sturt Highway to McKay Road for the 2018/19 budget year.

The work undertaken and delivered by the department is somewhat testament to the look and the current way our towns are presented, testament to this is the success Barmera has experienced in winning both the South Australian KESAB Sustainable Communities and National Tidy Town overall awards.

Sealing Works

Berri Barmera Councils annual resealing of roads is largely guided by the Asset Management Plan which sets out a controlled and sustainable means to treat all roads. Roads are categorised and assessed on a regular basis to formulate forward planning.

Council decided again in 2016/17 to commit to another 3 year sealing contract with the other two Riverland Councils as part of the collaboration of services in an attempt realise better pricing. The contract was awarded to Inroads who offered several additional services to previous sealing contractors along with very competitive sealing rates.

Council took advantage of some of the rates offered and decided to use a crumbed rubber additive in the bitumen which gives better flexibility and longevity to the seal surface. The results have surpassed expectation and have been described by some of the road works field staff as being some of the best that they can remember.

New Sealed Roads

Council again decided that during 2016/17 they would commit to sealing some unsealed roads due to influencing factors such as vehicle use, number of dwellings on that road and if sealing would attract more vehicles to that section of road. The biggest factor that should determine the sealing of an unsealed road should be the cost of future works to maintain the road or roads in a suitable condition, over and above what would be required of a standard unsealed road.

Roads that were upgraded to a sealed surface with the aid of some Special Local Roads Programme funding were:

Curren Road Berri, Pommy Avenue Loveday, Field Day Drive, Coates Road Loveday, Telfer Road East Monash.



Curren Road Sealing Upgrade – two coat, 14mm / 7mm blue metal poly-modified crumbed rubber bitumen.



Reseals

William Street, Denny Street, Wilson Street, Gilmour Road, DeFontenay Road, West Road, Loveday Road, Dunstone Road, Evans Road



Unsealed Roads – Re-sheeting

Davidson Road, English Road, Anderson Road, Garrard Street, Draper Road, Stockdale Road, Bishops Lane, Lower Winkie Road and Von Bertouch Road

Kerbing Renewals

Powell/Madeira Berri, Amy Street Cobdogla, Dean Drive Barmera, Laffer Street Barmera, Pascoe Terrace Barmera, Hood Street Berri, Todd Street Berri, Trenaman Crescent Berri, Park Terrace Cobdogla, Madison Road Monash, McGilton Road Berri

Footpath Upgrade / Renewals

Corney Street, Monash, Ritchie Street Barmera, Gilchrist Crescent Barmera, Lake Avenue Barmera, Langdon Terrace Barmera, Aitken Street Berri, Derrick Street Berri, Berri North (Gordo, Maderia) Knight Street Berri, Sandercock Street Berri, Strawbridge Street Berri, Viviancock Street Berri, Berri Lookout Tower



Martin Bend Campground Internal Roads Upgrade

The Martin Bend Recreation Area Committee requested that the internal tracks throughout the Martin Bend campgrounds be upgraded due to flooding issues and access issues during wet weather. An assessment and design was undertaken with local contractors undertaking the upgrade by laying a compacted road base tack which will serve to enable all weather access to vehicles through the area and better defined camping areas.



CBD Paver Replacements

Paver replacements have continued to be undertaken throughout the Berri CBD. Areas of degraded paving that were replaced included; sections of Kay Avenue, Vaughan Terrace median crossover and other areas and Crawford Terrace. This is a continuing project that focuses on rejuvenating areas of paving that are identified as requiring replacement.



Vaughan Terrace paver replacements



Battams Road & Old Sturt Highway Intersection Upgrade

Council applied for and received a grant from Heavy Vehicle Safety and Productivity Programme Round Four to assist in the upgrade of the Battams Road and Old Sturt Highway Intersection. This intersection leads into the main weigh bridge entrance to Accolade Wines catering for more than 200,000 tonnes during the vintage period excluding the constant movement of bulk wine which also uses this entrance and intersection.

The prime purpose for upgrading this area is for safety and uninterrupted movement of vehicles predominantly heavy vehicles including B Doubles as the current design forces the vehicles off the bitumen to safely navigate.

The existing spray seal surface and pavement was poor and degraded. The original design did not cater for the volumes, movements and size of the current day transport vehicles. The intersection is now compliant and the surface is a poly modified hot mix designed for the torsional forces of B Double heavy vehicle movements.



Left and above: Battams Road & Old Sturt Highway Intersection Upgrade

Miscellaneous Projects

Sport and Recreation

As part of maintaining Council's playgrounds the soft fall for the Giant Slide located at the Monash Adventure Park was upgraded for both safety and aesthetics reasons by utilising the Monash Adventure Park Equipment Upgrade budget allocation.



Left: Before
and Right :
After



Soft Fall at
Monash
Adventure
Park

Berri No 2 Oval – Irrigation valve replacements

Old hydraulic valves along with a new water main replaced existing asbestos pipes that were failing due to age (40+ years).



Barmera Recreation Centre – Retaining Wall

Footpath and retaining wall works were carried out at the Barmera Recreation Centre to provide safer access to the facility for patrons parking on Dean Drive. The project included the installation of an access driveway and retaining wall to the north of the building, installation of a two tiered retaining wall along the front of the centre which includes low maintenance plants and an irrigation system which backs up to a crushed rock footpath creating a more open and welcoming look for the Centre.



Berri Look Out Tower – Path and Retainer Wall Extension

A path was constructed from the end of the existing paved path onto the path that meanders along the edge of Vaughn Terrace. The new portion of path will add an additional safe and easy access and egress point to the Look Out Tower while the extended retainer wall provides a finish point to the grassed area and adjacent rose bed. The other added benefit of this project is stormwater surface runoff is channelled down and around the corner using the path onto Vaughn Terrace.



Pine Post Replacement

This project is a continuation from last year and has been a well worth investment for Council. The replacement of pine posts with recycled plastic bollards and galvanised rails has given areas a much needed lift, visually and will reduce the need for maintenance.

In the 2016/17 financial year Glassey Park pine posts have been replaced.

Berri and Barmera Town Beautification Committee

Our major towns of Berri and Barmera have been influenced by the two beautification committees again this past year.

In November 2016 Barmera was announced Overall Winner of the KESAB Sustainable Communities for South Australia. This then moved them into the National Awards where Barmera was awarded 'Winner' of the Keep Australia Beautiful, 2017 Australian Tidy Towns Awards Overall'. A fantastic achievement due to the ongoing commitment of both the Committee members and Council staff.

Barmera Town Beautification Committee was again involved with the continuation of fitness equipment along the Lakefront, adding to the equipment that was completed last year. This project has been well received within the community and also with visitors, taking advantage of the opportunity to exercise with a fantastic view. This project was undertaken with support from the Community, Beautification Committee and Council.

The Berri Town Beautification was also involved with the addition of extra equipment on the Berri Riverfront. Softfall (artificial grass) has been laid beneath some pieces of equipment in both Berri and Barmera to prevent 'wear and tear' on grass and streamline maintenance around each equipment piece, as shown below and will be added to the remainder in the near future.

Paths – Lakefront Extension

The Barmera Lakefront path was extended a further 315 meters from the lakefront toilets to the Lake Bonney Yacht Club. The path was constructed to intersect the fitness equipment, border the playground and provides added paved access along the lakefront.

Lake Bonney Foreshore Reconstruction

Wave action from storms experienced during the recent high water levels had caused erosion around the Sue Fieldhouse Boat Ramp on the Lake Bonney Foreshore. To protect the bank from future erosion when storms hit, vandal proof geotextile bags were filled and placed on the foreshore. These bags were placed on either side of the boat ramp and provide bank stabilisation, reducing costs to Council in reinstatement works after storm events and minimising any disruption to boat ramp users.



Environmental Services

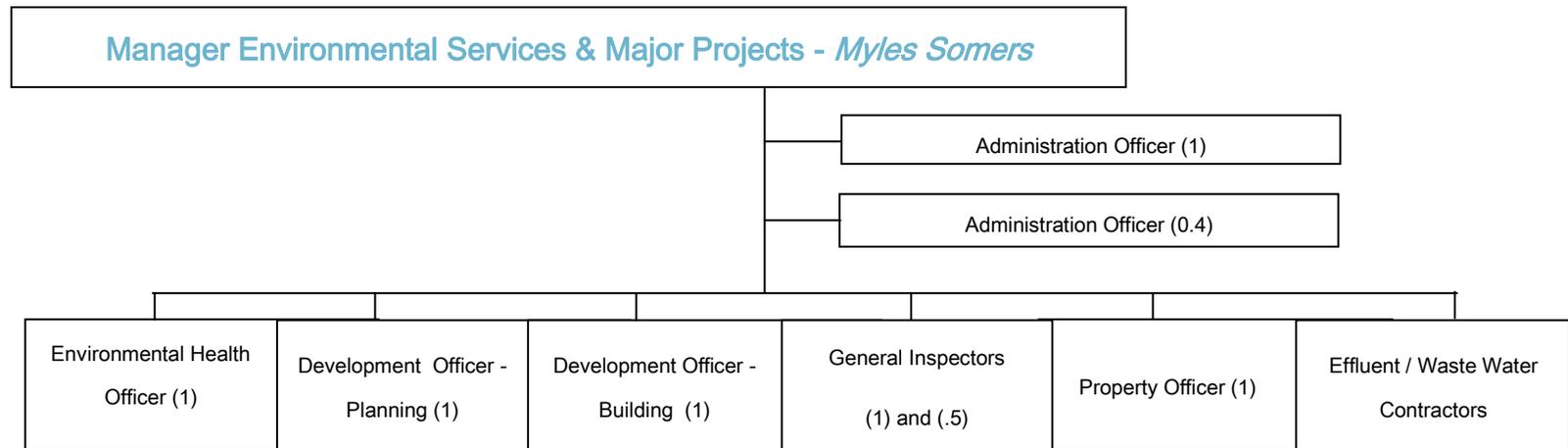


Department Operations and Structure Outline

The Environment Services Department is responsible for the management and operations of the following functions of Council:

- Development Assessment
- Environmental Health
- Dog and Cat Management
- Parking Control
- Bushfire Prevention
- Animal and Plant Control
- General Inspections
- By Law Enforcement
- Community Wastewater Management System (CWMS)
- Property Leasing/Licensing
- Building Maintenance
- Major Projects

To effectively implement the management and operations of the Department the following staffing structure applies:



Development Assessment

Council's development services encompass the following main areas of responsibility:

- Development assessment
- Policy planning
- Building control
- Building fire safety
- Illegal development/compliance

Development Assessment

Development plan assessment involves assessment of a development proposal against the relevant development provisions contained within the Berri Barmera Development Plan to determine the appropriateness of a development and land use upon a particular site.

The majority of applications processed by Council under the Development Act were 'merit' applications which do not involve public notification and are dealt with by Council staff using extensive delegated authority granted to them by Council.

Other applications considered as Category 2 or 3 forms of development pursuant to the Development Act required public notification procedures to be followed. Similarly, those forms of development classed as non-complying followed the public notification process.

In the past 12 months, Council received 168 applications, primarily comprising domestic uses, and including 11 land divisions.

The Development Assessment Commission also issued a number of approvals for Crown development.

Appeal Proceedings

As provided for by the *Development Act 1993*, should a person be aggrieved by a decision of Council with respect to their development application, or who are third parties that have lodged representations during the public notification period, appeals may be lodged with the Environment, Resources and Development Court. No appeals were lodged against Council decisions in the previous 12 months which is a good indication of the sound decision making within this process.

Riverland Regional Development Assessment Panel (RRDAP)

In January 2010, the Berri Barmera Council, together with the Renmark Paringa and Loxton Waikerie Councils formed the RRDAP pursuant to Section 34 of the *Development Act 1993*. The RRDAP commenced operations on 1 January 2010. The formation of the RRDAP is an important way of promoting a common approach to assessment and policy development in the Riverland region.

The RRDAP considers recommendations and if required conducts hearings, as a delegate on behalf of the Renmark Paringa, Loxton Waikerie and Berri Barmera Councils. The Panel adheres to the Minister's Code of Conduct under section 21A of the *Development Act 1993*, and adopts its own Operating Procedures for the conduct of its members and for its meetings.

The following people have been appointed as members of the RRDAP:

Independent Presiding Member – Mr Bruce Ballantyne

Independent Members: Mr Jake McVicar (Berri Barmera Council), Ms Julie Lewis (Loxton Waikerie Council), Mr Geoffrey Parsons (Renmark Paringa Council)

Elected Members: Crs Rhonda Centofanti (Berri Barmera Council), Michael Zeppel (Loxton Waikerie Council) and Mark Chown (Renmark Paringa Council).

All members have a keen interest in community planning and have knowledge of the Development Act and Regulations with appropriate qualifications and/or experience relevant to development assessment. The Panel met on seven occasions during the 2016-17 year. The RRDAP assessed 16 applications on behalf of the Councils. Panel members are remunerated by each relevant Council; independent and Elected Member representatives are paid \$350 per meeting. Mr Ballantyne, as the Presiding Member, is reimbursed \$700 plus GST (including travel) per meeting.

The terms of both the Elected Member and Independent Member appointments will cease at 30 September 2017, at which time the RRDAP will be replaced by the Regional Assessment Panel, pursuant to the *Planning Development and Infrastructure Act 2016*.

Policy planning

Development Plan Review

Pursuant to the Development Act 1993 and Development Regulations 2008, each Council is required to have, and maintain, a Development Plan. The Development Plan is the property of the Minister for Urban Development and Planning, however it is the responsibility of the Council to periodically review the Development Plan through the Section 30 Review process, and both Council and the Minister have the power to amend the Development Plan through the Development Plan Amendment process.

Continual updating of the Development Plan is vitally important to ensure the policy is tailored to take account of current issues and provides for "best outcome" developments through the development assessment process.

Council undertook a review of the Development Plan and made minor amendment, resulting in the gazettal of the Berri Barmera Development Plan on 8 December 2016.

Development Act 101A Committee

Council is required to form a strategic planning and development policy committee pursuant to section 101A of the Development Act 1993. The functions of the committee are to advise and assist Council in undertaking strategic planning and monitoring, and to ensure that Councils strategic planning and development policies accord with the Regional Planning Strategy. The committee comprises all elected members and the Mayor, and is advised by staff members.

Compliance / Illegal development

Council undertakes to inspect properties at various stages of development as part of a development application process. It also inspects incidences of illegal development where development approval has not been sought for changes in land use and building work. Mindful of costs involved with action through the Environment, Resources and Development Court, Council attempts to work with property owners towards a suitable outcome for all parties. Council has investigated and taken both formal and informal action on a number of occasions during the year.

Building Fire Safety Committee

The Riverland Regional Building Fire Safety committee was implemented in October 2009. The purpose of the committee is to undertake inspections of public use buildings (those other than for domestic purposes) to determine its adequacy of fire safety. During the past twelve months the Committee have inspected a number of premises where the public either work or assemble for pleasure. In the course of these inspections deficiencies were noted and action taken to rectify the situation.

During the 2016/17 reporting period the following inspections were undertaken within the Berri Barmera Council area;

Type of Inspection	Quantity	Number of Inspections
Hotels and Gaming venues	1	
Motels		
Caravan Parks & Backpackers	4	7
Clubs		
Packing sheds		
Commercial/industrial complexes	9	
Council buildings		
Age care facility		

In addition to the Committee's role Council's Contracted Building Surveyor conducted follow up inspections to determine compliance with fire safety issues linked to development applications.

Environmental Health

Food

Council continues to undertake its legal responsibilities under the provisions of the Food Act 2001. 10 routine inspections were undertaken and 1 follow up inspections were also undertaken to ensure compliance with outstanding issues.

During the reporting period 1 complaint was received involving food safety. One inspection was undertaken as results of complaints.

Two facilities that provide food for vulnerable persons had audits conducted by Council's Environmental Health Officers (EHO)/SA Health approved auditor. The two local hospitals and associated aged care facility are audited by SA Health.

Food truck passport system

Council's EHO was involved in the working group for the Food Truck Passport System. If instigated, this will be an opt in system designed to ensure food trucks are inspected comprehensively, enabling councils to inspect based on risk and compliance history and is aimed at reducing red tape for food truck operators.

I'm Alert on-line food safety training

On line food safety training is provided on Councils web site providing free and unlimited access to a training resource aimed at assisting businesses, including community groups, and food handlers in gaining valuable skills and knowledge in food safety and hygiene.

Public and Environmental Health

Legionella

The South Australian Public Health (Legionella) Regulations 2013 require all High Risk Manufactured Water Systems (HRMWS), i.e. warm water systems and cooling water systems, to be inspected annually.

Pursuant to Regulation 15, Notices requiring inspections of cooling water systems and warm water systems were issued to HRMWS operators to cause an inspection to be carried out by an independent third party inspector.

There are 5 premises with a total of 17 cooling water systems and 1 premises with a total of 3 warm water systems. A number of warm water systems have been converted to hot water and are no longer regulated. All systems were inspected by third party inspectors.

A number of serious issues were found with the inspection reports from one of the third party inspectors. The inspection reports were scrutinised and additional information requested from the inspector. The EHO will be undertaking Council inspections of these premises in the 2017-18 period to determine the actual level of compliance at these businesses. A presentation will be made at the Environmental Health Australia SA State Conference to highlight these issues and.

During this reporting period one expiation notice was issued for failure to comply with the notice for third party inspections. The expiation was issued during this reporting period.

Swimming Pools

There are 12 public swimming pools and one public spa pools within the district. 11 routine inspections were undertaken. 11 of the pools and the spa pool were inspected. Inspections check for compliance with the South Australian Public Health (General) Regulations 2013 and associated guidelines.

Two Cryptosporidim notifications were received from SA Health. Each of these notifications was to alert Council and the pool operators that someone had been swimming in local public pools during the infectious period. At the time they were swimming they would not have been aware they were infectious. Pool operators were advised to prepare for decontamination; however, there was no decontamination necessary with either case. The pool operators were provided with public health material regarding cryptosporidium to display in their facilities.

The Berri Riverside Caravan Park organised swimming pool operator training to be held at their facility. This was seen as an opportunity to promote the training to other swimming pool operators in the district. A subsidy of \$50 was offered for one person from each facility to be paid by Council on successful completion of the course. Unfortunately this offer was not taken up by pool operators. This subsidy was offered following an identified lack of skills and knowledge in some pool facilities as demonstrated during inspections and a number of premises failing to conduct water testing during weekends although pools remain open for use.

Waste Control Systems

A total 67 applications to install new or alter existing waste control systems were received and 58 approvals were issued pursuant to the South Australian Public Health (Wastewater) Regulations 2013. Inspections are undertaken when possible.



Council engages a contractor to undertake a desludging program of the septic tanks connected to the Community Wastewater Management System (CWMS). On a rotational basis each septic tank is pumped about every four years. In reporting on the operations, the contractor includes details such as the location and condition of the septic tanks. This past year a total of 866 septic tanks were desludged. Where septic tanks are not exposed for desludging or defects were found with the septic tanks, letters are sent to property owners advising them of the action required to expose or maintain the septic tank. A number of septic tanks have been repaired or replaced as a result of these letters.

For the first time compliance notices were served on defective septic tanks to be replaced or to be inspected by a licensed plumber to determine appropriate action.

Immunisation

School Immunisation Program

The School Immunisation Program was provided for year 8 students at the Riverland Special School and Glossop High School. For the first time the program was also provided at Rivergum Christian College. Follow up clinics are provided approximately one week after each school clinic to ensure that all students are provided with adequate opportunities to attend.

The Riverland Division of General Practice provides registered nurses for the clinics and to assist with continued improvement of the School Based Immunisation Program.

The vaccines offered to all year 8 students were Boostrix, Varicella (Chicken Pox), and Gardasil (Human Papillomavirus).

B Part of It – The South Australian Meningococcal B Vaccine Herd Immunity Study

The study is being undertaken in South Australia between 2016 – 2019 through a partnership between The University of Adelaide and SA Health and is funded by GlaxoSmithKline.

The main aim of the Study is to assess the impact of the meningococcal B vaccine on carriage of *Neisseria meningitidis* in adolescents attending South Australian schools in years 10, 11 and 12 in 2017. SA has been selected for this Study because SA has the highest notification rate in Australia.

The study was offered to the Riverland Special School and Glossop High School, middle campus and senior school. All students in 2017 year levels 10, 11, and 12 have been invited to enrol in the study.



Mosquito Surveillance and Control Activities

The Healthy Environments, Healthy People Research Group at the University of South Australia provided mosquito surveillance and spot control services to seven local government areas along the River Murray from late August 2016 to April 2017. This was the eighteenth consecutive year of this service for six of the local councils, including Berri Barmera Council.

The program saw eleven sampling trips performed by the field officer for each adult trap location. Regular reports are provided to Council's Environmental Health Officer along with regular newsletters and updates, and the annual report 'A survey of mosquitoes along the Murray River in South Australia'.

In September 2016 some pre-emptive treatment of known *Ae.camptorhynchus* (vector species) sites was undertaken. The heavy rainfall during September resulted in increased effort to identify active and potential larvae sites.

A large number of the vector species *Cx. annulirostris* were trapped during December, primarily around Berri Caravan Park and Cobdogla. This is problematic as potential larvae sites are difficult to access and the increase may be due to the unregulated flow inundating shallow pools around Martin Bend and Cobdogla. Shallow pools are both difficult to access and tend to be difficult for predators such as fish to access and control larvae.

A total of 12,339 adult mosquitoes were trapped in the Council area during the season, the third highest catch since the commencement of this program. This was almost 50 times the number of mosquitoes caught in the previous season.

The unregulated flow event that occurred in the latter half of 2016 undoubtedly had an effect on mosquito abundance. These events are difficult to control, particularly around areas such as Martin Bend and Cobdogla which tend to have large areas of flat floodplain which are inundated creating large areas of potential larvae habitat that are difficult to access.

During the mosquito season Council's EHO provides monthly reports to SA Health regarding mosquito surveillance, treatment and complaints.

Council's EHO is the representative for the Arbovirus Response Cross Agency Group (ARCAG). The group keeps informed by, and provides feedback to, SA Health on all aspects of planning and implementation of coordinated mosquito control programs; assists SA Health to plan for and if necessary implement a state coordinated response to arboviral disease.

As a result of the high river and expected increase in mosquito numbers "Fight the Bite" (FTB) resources were actively distributed by the EHO & visitor information centre to residents, tourists and business operators. Facebook and Council e-news was used to promote FTB messages.

FTB pamphlets and a fact sheet regarding flooding and mosquitoes were distributed with rates notices.

Council's EHO investigates mosquito related complaints and conducts treatment or refers these to the contractor when necessary for surveillance and/or treatment.

There were large numbers of mosquitoes being trapped region wide, however it was common for residents to assume it is the nearest visible source of water that was the cause. After investigation the majority of these complaints were unable to be justified.

Complaints are investigated and appropriate actions taken which may include, advice regarding personal protection, preventing mosquitoes entering homes, referral to state agencies for Crown land, and treatment of sites where it is likely to be effective and evidence of mosquito breeding exists.

The River Murray Councils instigated a regional review of mosquito management programs with SA Health and this will continue into the following year.

An additional \$3,000 funding was received this year from SA Health. The money was invested in mapping breeding and trapping sites in the Exponare mapping system and purchasing materials to construct permanent treatment stations.



Dog and Cat Management

Council has responsibility for dog and cat management in accordance with the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995*. The objectives of the act are to encourage responsible dog ownership, promote effective management and reduce the impact of dogs and cats on the public and environment.

Over the 2016/17 period there were 2384 dogs registered within the council area.

Council's Animal Management Plan is in the process of being renewed, public consultation has taken place and the plan at the Dog and Cat Management Board for endorsement. The plan provides Council with a sound basis and direction from which it can plan, co-ordinate and make future decisions to meet the needs of the community. It aims to establish management guidelines where people and their pets can integrate harmoniously within the Berri Barmera community.

During the reporting period 118 dogs were impounded, and Council's General Inspector undertook the following duties;

Complaint	2016/17
Dog wandering at large	97
Dog impounded	118
Dog returned to owner	72
Dog attack	18
Dog harass	24
Noise complaint	30

The Berri Barmera Council Lost and Found Pets Facebook page was established in 2015 and has proven to be a very efficient tool for reuniting impounded dogs with their owners. All impounded dogs that are not claimed by their owners or rehomed are transported to the Animal Welfare League in Adelaide.

Parking Control

The General Inspectors continues to enforce parking regulations in the towns of Berri and Barmera. In total, 160 parking expiation notices were issued.

Bushfire Prevention

In 2009/2010 following changes to regulations, the Berri Barmera Council District Bushfire Prevention Committee was replaced and bushfire prevention is now managed by the Regional Bushfire Prevention Committee.

The *Fire and Emergency Services Act 2005* stipulates that each rural council must appoint a Fire Prevention Officer for its area. The Fire Prevention Officers role includes the monitoring of residential and rural areas to ensure land owners take responsible steps to protect their property from fire, as required under the act. Inspections are carried out, leading up to and during the Fire Danger Season to assess compliance. Notices are issued where compliance has not been met.

Section 105F Notices are issued pursuant to the Act, requiring landowners to maintain their properties to reduce the risk of fire. Council also has the responsibility to ensure that reserves under its care and control are maintained to fire prevention standards.

The Fire Prevention Officer continue to monitor these land holdings and issued clean up notices where required.

Section 105F Statistics	2016/2017
Section 105F notices issued	185
Council action required	
Expiations issued	Nil

In total the Council issued 27 permits under the Fire and Emergency Services Act to burn during the fire danger season. The type of activities that were allowed by these permits included burning off stubble, burning old plantings and rubbish, lighting BBQs, training exercises, burning general garden waste and the disposal of drug crops.

Corella Management

The Council conducted a Corella Control Program within the district from September 2016 until April 2017.

Animal and Plant Control

The Berri Barmera Council is a member of the Riverland Local Government NRM Advisory Group established by the SA Murray Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board.

Effluent Drainage/Management/Planning/Maintenance

Council has an agreement with Trility to operate and maintain infrastructure for waste water in the Berri Barmera Council Area. This facility produces on average 200-210 megalitres per year of water that will be available for use on public spaces in the towns of Berri and Barmera.

Regular meetings between Trility and representatives of Council occur to ensure effective communication between the parties.

Council Projects

Bonney Theatre Complex Painting

During 2016/17 the council undertook external painting of the Bonney Theatre Complex. The work was part of staged activity identified in the Bonney Theatre Renovations Master Plan.



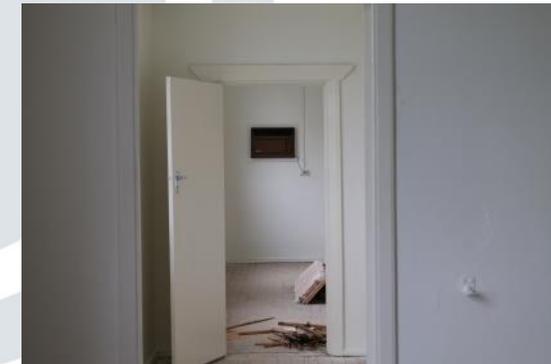
Bonney Theatre Stage

The stage floor within the Bonney Theatre Complex was replaced during the financial year to allow for a smoother safer surface.



Hawdon Chambers Renovations

Renovations of Hawdon Chambers commenced in March with the patching and painting of the walls and the fixing, sanding and sealing of the floors.



Berri Riverfront Development

The redevelopment of the old bowling club commenced in 2016 with 25 blocks being released for auction on the 10 January 2017. Sale of lots 1-19 to the Berri Hotel Group is proceeding. The remaining 6 lots are on the market for sale.

Riverland Regional Innovation and Sports Precinct

The Riverland Regional Innovation Sports Precinct commenced in August 2016 with the ground breaking by the Mayor, the contractor and associated clubs.

Community Land

Pursuant to Section 196 of the Local Government Act 1999, the Council is required to prepare, adopt and maintain management plans for all of the land classified as community land.

The Council has satisfied the provisions of the Act with the preparation and adoption of key Community Land Management Plans and conducts annual reviews and inspections. The relevance of the management Plans is to ensure that the Plans reflect the activities for which the Community Land facilities are used.

Welcome to
**Berri Riverfront
Development**
Lot 1-25 Riverview Drive

AUCTION
20th January 2017
at 11am
Berri Hotel

Premier Land Release

- Close to Berri main street shopping precinct
- High quality residential & flexible small scale mixed use development allotments
- Encumbrance protection for high standard construction

Elders
ELDERS REAL ESTATE BERRI
26B Kay Avenue
Berri SA 5343
RLA 62833
08 8588 6066
www.eldersrealestate.com.au/office/riverland

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ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Corporate Services



Department Operations and Structure Outline

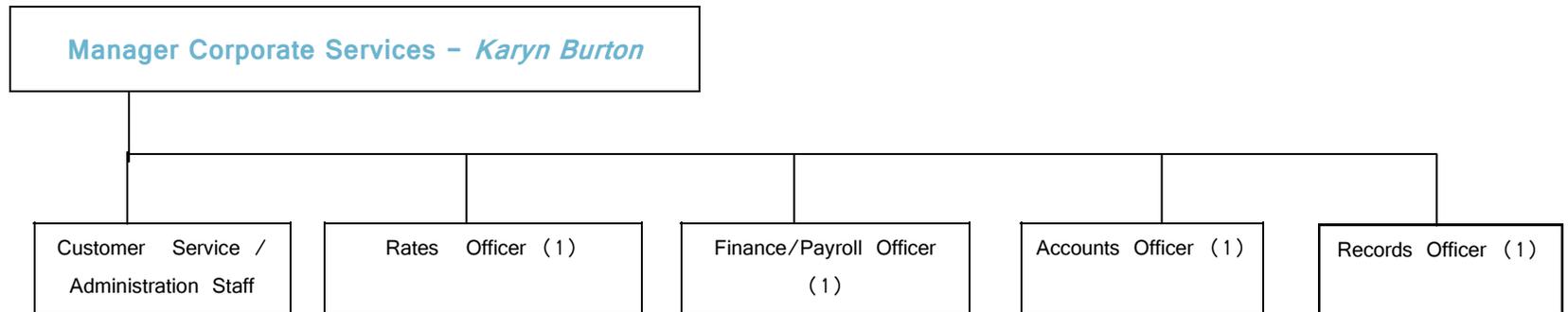
Audit Committee
Strategic Governance and Asset Management Committee

Major Projects Committee
Berri Town Beautification Committee

The Corporate Services Department is responsible for the management and operations of the following functions of Council as summarised in the Functional and Corporate Structure:

- Corporate Policies / Procedures
- Council / Committee Meetings
- Customer Services
- Rates and Property
- Grants Commission
- Insurance
- Financial Management
- Debtors / Creditors
- Payroll
- Records Management
- Council Support / Administration Information Technology

To effectively implement the management and operations of the Department, the following Staffing Structure applies:



Rating and Valuations

Rating Policy for the Year 2016/2017

This document sets out the policy of the Berri Barmera Council for setting and collecting rates from its Community for the 2016/2017 financial year. The Policy covers;

- Valuation used for rating
- Method used to value land
- Adoption of valuations
- Notional Values
- Councils revenue raising powers
- Deferential general rates
- Minimum rate
- Service Charge—Community Wastewater Management System
- Service Charge—Waste Management
- Natural resource management levy
- Payment of rates
- Late payment of rates
- Rebate of rates
- Rate Capping
- Remission and postponement of rates
- Sale of land for non-payment of rates
- Rate Impact Statement
- Application of the policy
- Disclaimer
- Adoption and review

Contact Details for Further Information

The Berri Barmera Council's principal office is located at 19 Wilson Street, Berri, South Australia. The office is open to the public between the hours of 9.00am and 5.00pm, Monday to Friday.

Postal Address: PO Box 229, Berri SA 5343
Phone: (08) 8582 1922
Fax: (08) 8582 3029
Email: bbc@bbc.sa.gov.au
Web: www.berribarmera.sa.gov.au

For the convenience of ratepayers, an office is also located at the Barmera Library Barwell Avenue, Barmera, with opening hours being on Mondays from 9.30am to 1pm and Tuesday to Friday between 9.30am to 5.00pm.

Phone: (08) 8588 1477
Fax: (08) 8588 1243

Valuations Used For Rating

The following information relates to the valuation changes in each of the Land use Codes used by Council for rating purposes. The valuations displayed are valuations used for rating purposes, that is non-rateable valuations are not included.

Land Use Code	Valuation 15/16	Valuation 16/17	Variance (\$)	Variance (%)
Residential	\$808,358,917	\$807,662,187	(\$696,730)	-0.09%
Primary Production	\$212,221,603	\$213,904,503	\$1,682,900	0.79%
Commercial (all categories)	\$121,451,591	\$132,937,501	\$11,485,910	9.46%
Industrial (all categories)	\$32,116,965	\$33,227,061	\$1,110,096	3.46%
Vacant	\$12,606,840	\$16,999,840	4,393,000	34.85%
Other	\$27,896,980	\$30,944,683	\$3,047,703	10.92%
Total	\$1,214,652,896	\$1,235,675,775	\$21,032,879	1.73%

Method Used To Value Land

The Council may adopt one of three valuation methodologies to value the properties in its area. They are:

Capital Value – the value of the land and all of the improvements on the land.

Site Value – the value of the land and any improvements which permanently affect the amenity or use of the land, such as drainage works, but excluding the value of buildings and other improvements.

Annual Value – a valuation of the rental potential of the property.

The Council has decided to continue to use **Capital Value** as the basis for valuing land within the Council area. The Council considers that this method of valuing land provides the fairest method of distributing the rate burden across all ratepayers on the following basis:

- the equity principle of taxation requires that taxpayers of greater wealth pay more tax than those of lesser wealth;
- property value is a relatively good indicator of wealth and capital value, which closely approximates the market value of a property and provides the best indicator of overall property value.

Adoption Of Valuations

The Council proposes to adopt the valuations made by the Valuer-General as provided to the Council for the financial year 2016/2017. If a ratepayer is dissatisfied with the valuation made by the Valuer-General then the ratepayer may object to the Valuer-General in writing, within 60 days of receiving the notice of the valuation, explaining the basis for the objection, provided they have not:

- (a) previously received a notice of this valuation under the Local Government Act, 1999, in which case the objection period is sixty (60) days from the receipt of the first notice; or
- (b) This 60 day objection period may be extended by the Valuer-General where it can be shown there is reasonable cause;
- (c) (c) you may not object to the valuation if the Valuer-General has already considered an objection by you to that valuation.

Objections are to be forwarded to:

State Valuation Office
GPO Box 1354
ADELAIDE SA 5001
Email: LSGObjections@sa.gov.au
Telephone: 1300 653 345.
Fax: (08) 8226 1428

Online:

http://www.landservices.sa.gov.au/1Public/Property_Values_and_Sales/ValuationObjection.asp

Please note that the Council has no role in this process. It is also important to note that the lodgment of an objection does not change the due date for the payment of rates.

Notional Values

Certain properties may be eligible for a notional value under the Valuation of Land Act 1971 where the property is the principal place of residence of a ratepayer. This can relate to certain primary production land or where there is State heritage recognition. A notional value is generally less than the capital value and this will result in reduced rates, unless the minimum rate already applies. Application for a notional value must be made to the Office of the Valuer-General.

Council's Revenue Raising Powers

All land within a Council area, except for land specifically exempt (e.g. Crown Land, Council occupied land and other land prescribed in the Local Government Act 1999 – refer Section 147 of the Act), is rateable. The Local Government Act provides for a Council to raise revenue for the broad purposes of the Council through a general rate, which applies to all rateable properties, or through differential general rates, which apply to classes of properties. In addition, Council can raise separate rates for specific

areas of the Council, or service rates or charges for specific services.

The Council also raises revenue through fees and charges, which are set giving consideration to the cost of the service provided and any equity issues.

Differential General Rates

The Council has decided to impose differential general rates according to the land use of the property, pursuant to Section 156 (1)(c) of the Local Government Act 1999.

In applying Differential General Rates Council has considered and is satisfied that the rating system addresses the issue of consistency and comparability across all Council areas, particularly as it relates to the various sectors of the business and wider community. This satisfies the requirements of Section 153(2) of the Local Government Act 1999.

As an encouragement to have vacant land within townships developed, Council have recently reviewed and adopted its Business and Residential Development Support Policy where-

1. Council will support potential new residential development when a residential dwelling is proposed to be built on land vacant for a period of 2 years within the townships of Berri and Barmera.
2. Council can support new residential development in the following ways -
 - a) Place a freeze on Council rates to that of the minimum for 2 years;
 - b) Reduction of planning and/or building fees.

The differential general rates imposed by Council are separate and distinct from the service charges imposed for the Community Wastewater Management System and Waste Management. Details of the service charges are provided further in this document.

The Council is proposing to raise general rate revenue of \$7,487,995 in a total revenue budget of \$16,667,613 and will continue to use the differential rating method as follows:

(1) Land use as defined:			
(a) Residential	0.6078 cents in the dollar on the capital value of such rateable property		
(b) Commercial (all categories)	0.6149	“	“
(c) Industrial (all categories)	0.7449	“	“
(d) Primary Production	0.5440	“	“
(e) Vacant Land	0.5020	“	“
(f) Other	0.7726	“	“

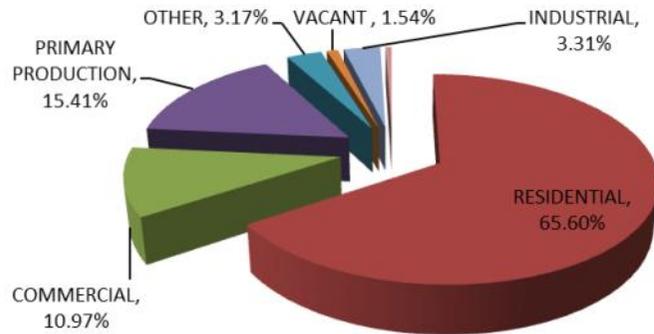
Land use is used as the factor to apply differential rates. If a ratepayer believes that a particular property has been wrongly classified as to its land use, then they may object to that land use within 60 days of receiving notice.

A ratepayer may discuss the matter with the Council’s Rates Officer in the first instance and Council will provide a copy of Section 156 of the Local Government Act 1999 which sets out the rights and obligations of ratepayers in respect of objections to a land use.

The following table shows the proportion of general rates raised per category of land use

Land Use	Capital Value	% of total CV	No. of Properties	% of total Properties	Proposed Rates	% of rates levied
Non Rateable	\$ 73,123,205	5.59%	480	7.22%	\$ -	0.00%
Residential	\$ 807,662,187	61.71%	4430	66.61%	\$ 5,009,645.70	65.60%
Primary Production	\$ 213,904,503	16.34%	924	13.89%	\$ 1,177,093.05	15.41%
Commercial (all categories)	\$ 132,937,501	10.16%	396	5.95%	\$ 837,389.35	10.97%
Industrial (all categories)	\$ 33,227,061	2.54%	92	1.38%	\$ 252,577.50	3.31%
Vacant	\$ 16,999,840	1.30%	251	3.77%	\$ 117,441.25	1.54%
Other	\$ 30,944,683	2.36%	78	1.17%	\$ 242,365.55	3.17%
	\$ 1,308,798,980	100.00%	6651	100.00%	\$ 7,636,512.40	100.00%

Percentage of total rates raised by land use



Minimum Rate

A Council may impose a minimum amount payable by way of rates, provided that it has not imposed a fixed charge. Where two or more adjoining properties have the same owner and are occupied by the same occupier, only one minimum rate is payable by the ratepayer. Where a Council imposes a minimum rate it must not apply to more than 35% of properties in the Council area.

The Council proposes to set a minimum rate of \$624 which shall be applied to all rateable properties within the Council District. This will affect 16.79% of rateable properties and will raise \$646,464 of rate revenue for the 2016/2017 financial year. The reasons for imposing a minimum rate are:

- The Council considers it appropriate that all rateable properties make a base level contribution to the cost of administering the Council’s activities;
- The cost of creating and maintaining the physical infrastructure that supports each property.

Service Charge - Community Wastewater Management System

Council may impose an annual service charge on rateable (and non rateable) land within its area for the provision of a prescribed service. A prescribed service is legislated as any of the following services:-

- The treatment or provision of water;
- The collection, treatment or disposal (including recycling) of waste;
- Any other service prescribed by the regulations (which includes the collection, treatment or disposal of wastewater or effluent).

The Council provides a community wastewater management system to properties in the townships of Barmera, Berri, Cobdogla, Glossop, Monash and Loveday. The full cost of operating and maintaining the service for the financial year 2016/2017 is budgeted to be \$4,018,418. Capital expenditure of \$150,000 for the replacement and renewal of pumps and other equipment is proposed for 2016/2017.

The service charge for CWMS is calculated using the Code for Establishing and Applying Property Units for the Imposition of Annual Services Charges for CWMS. The Council will recover the operating cost through the imposition of a service charge of \$348.50 for each unoccupied property unit and \$697 for each occupied property unit.

Service Charge - Waste Management

Council provides a recycling and green waste collection service in its district. The service includes –

- Weekly domestic collection in a smaller 140 litre bin for all properties
- Fortnightly recycling collection in a 240 litre bin for all properties
- Fortnightly green waste collection in a 240 litre bin for town residential properties.

To recover the cost of collection and disposal of waste Council will set an annual service charge of \$204 for the three bin collection and \$173 for the two bin collection.

Natural Resources Management Levy

The Natural Resources Management Act 2004 requires that the Berri Barmera Council collect on behalf of the SA Murray–Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board a levy on all rateable properties within its Council area.

The SA Murray–Darling Basin NRM Board is responsible for distributing the levy collected by Council and is used to fund projects that are vital to the region to protect and manage precious natural resources such as water and soil and control pest plants and animals.

For the financial year 2016/2017 the Berri Barmera Council are required to make payable to the SA Murray–Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board an amount of \$316,658.

Council proposes that in order to recover this amount a separate rate of .0262 cents in the dollar based on the capital value of all rateable land within the Council area along with a minimum separate rate of \$20.00 for such rateable land.

Payment Of Rates

The Local Government Act 1999 requires that Council must provide an opportunity for all ratepayers to pay rates by quarterly instalments. These instalments are to be payable in the months of September, December, March and June. It is not mandatory for ratepayers to pay by quarterly instalments, however it is an option that Council must make available to all ratepayers.

The due dates for the quarterly instalments of Council rates for 2016/2017 are:

- 1st September, 2016
- 1st December, 2016
- 1st March 2017
- 1st June, 2017

Council rates may be paid by:

- mail (cheque or money order)
- telephone, using a debit or credit card, phone (08) 8582 1922
- Bpay facility as detailed on the rate notice
- internet as detailed on the rate notice
- through Centrepay as detailed on the rate notice
- Australia Post billpay facility as detailed on the rate notice, or
- in person at the Council Office locations – EFTPOS facilities are available for payments.

Any ratepayer who may, or is likely to, experience difficulties with meeting the standard payment arrangements should contact the Rates Officer on (08) 8582 1922 to discuss alternative payment arrangements. Such enquiries are treated confidentially.

Late Payment Of Rates

The Local Government Act provides that Councils impose a penalty of a 2% fine on any payment for rates, whether instalment or otherwise, that is not paid on or before the due date. A payment that continues to be late is then charged a prescribed interest rate, set each year according to a formula in the Act, for each month it continues to be late.

The purpose of this penalty is to act as a deterrent to ratepayers who might otherwise fail to pay their rates on time, to allow Councils to recover the administrative cost of following up unpaid rates and to cover any interest cost the Council may meet because it has not received the rates on time.

When the Council receives a payment in respect of overdue rates the Council applies the money received as follows:

- first – to satisfy any costs awarded in connection with court proceedings;
- second – to satisfy any interest costs;
- third – in payment of any fines imposed;
- fourth – in payment of rates, in chronological order (starting with the oldest account first).

Rebate Of Rates

The Local Government Act requires Councils to rebate the rates payable on some land. Specific provisions are made for land used for health services, community services, religious purposes, public cemeteries and educational institutions.

Discretionary rebates may be applied by the Council under Section 166 of the Act, upon receipt of applications in accordance with Council's Rate Rebate Policy that deem to satisfy the criteria specified within this section. The Council under the discretionary rebate of rates, may grant a rebate in any of the following purposes and cases:

- Where the rebate is desirable for the purpose of securing the proper development of the area (or a part of the area).
- Where the rebate is desirable for the purpose of assisting or supporting a business in its area.
- Where the rebate will conduce to the preservation of buildings or places of historic significance.
- Where the land is being used for educational purposes.
- Where the land is being used for agricultural, horticultural or floricultural exhibitions.
- Where the land is being used for hospital or health centre.
- Where the land is being used to provide facilities or services for children or young persons.
- Where the land is being used to provide accommodation for the aged or disabled.
- Where the land is being used for a residential aged care facility that is approved for Commonwealth funding under the Aged Care Act 1997 (Cwth) or a day therapy centre.
- Where the land is being used by an organisation which, in the opinion of the council, provides a benefit or service to the local community.

- Where the rebate relates to common property or land vested in a community corporation under the Community Titles Act 1996 over which the public has a free and unrestricted right of access and enjoyment.
- Where the rebate is considered by the council to be appropriate to provide relief against what would otherwise amount to a substantial change in rates payable by a ratepayer due to –
 - A redistribution of the rates burden within the community arising from a change to the basis or structure of the council's rates, or
 - A change to the basis on which land is valued for the purpose of rating, rapid changes in valuation, or anomalies in valuations.
 - Any rebate over and above the legislated percentage provided by the Act, for mandatory rebates or discretionary rebates, will need to be considered by Council upon written application and in conjunction with the Rate Rebate Policy adopted by Council on 26th July 2005. Applications for such additional rebates are required on an annual basis.

Rate Capping

To address any potential inequities in how the rates are levied across the district, Council has decided to provide relief by way of rate capping. Where a ratepayer is levied an increase in general rates greater than 12% a rate cap will be applied to ensure no ratepayer will pay any more than 12% on the previous year's general rates.

This rebate will not apply where:

- Ownership of the rateable property has changed since 1 July, 2015;
- Any such increase in the capital value of the rateable property is a result of improvements made on the property since 1 July, 2015 with a value in excess of \$10,000;
- There has been a change of land use, or there have been zoning changes which have contributed to the increase in valuation.

A copy of Council's Rate Capping Policy is available from its offices or on Council's website.

Remission And Postponement Of Rates

Section 182 of the Local Government Act permits the Council, on the application of the ratepayer, to partially or wholly remit rates or to postpone rates, on the basis of hardship. Where a ratepayer is suffering hardship in paying rates, it is recommended to contact the Rates Officer on (08) 85821922 to discuss the matter.

A ratepayer may be required to submit evidence of the hardship being suffered to benefit from the application of Section 182. Such enquiries are treated confidentially by the Council.

For those ratepayers who are on fixed incomes such as pensioners and self funded retirees, we propose to remit a fixed amount of \$20 per annum of the general rates and \$20 per annum of the effluent drainage service charge as well as \$20 per annum of the waste management service charge to assist those ratepayers who may be experiencing hardship. To be eligible to receive the remission an application must be made to council and is subject to the following criteria:

- The property is the principal residence of the ratepayer and is the only property owned by the ratepayer;
- The property has been owned by the ratepayer and has been their principal residence for a minimum of 5 years;
- The ratepayer is able to produce one of the following identification cards;
 - Pensioner Concession Card – Centrelink
 - Pensioner Concession Card – Veteran Affairs
 - T.P.I. Card – Veteran Affairs
 - Or they can demonstrate to Council that they are a self funded retiree with an income of less than \$35,000 per annum.

Section 182A of the Local Government Act permits the Council, upon application by the ratepayer, to postpone payment of any amount of rates in excess of \$500.00 for the current or future financial year by:

- A (prescribed) ratepayer who holds a current State Seniors Card issued by the State Government, or spouse of a prescribed ratepayer;
- Where the rates are payable on the principal place of residence;
- Where the land is owned by the prescribed ratepayer, or the prescribed ratepayer and his or her spouse, and not other person has an interest, as owner, in the land.

Any rates that are postponed will become due and payable:

- When the title to the land is transferred to another person, or
- There is failure to comply with a condition of postponement.

Interest will accrue on the amount postponed at the prescribed rate per month until the full amount is paid. Postponement is available as a right and can only be refused when the applicant/s has less than 50% equity in the property.

Sale of Land For Non-Payment Of Rates

The Local Government Act (Section 184) provides that a Council may sell any property where the rates have been in arrears for three years or more. The Council is required to notify the owner of the land of its intention to sell the land, provide the owner with details of the outstanding amounts, and advise the owner of its intention to sell the land if payment of the outstanding amount is not received within one month.

Rate Impact Statement

The Council has considered the impact of rates on all classes of properties in its area.

In setting rates, Council has taken into account a number of factors including:

- The affects of the current economic climate.
- Imposed legislative changes.
- The need to manage, maintain and improve the community's infrastructure and other assets.
- The requirement to maintain current service levels to the community.
- The need to ensure long term financial sustainability of the Council.
- Cost increases that are over and above inflation.

Council takes into consideration the effect of rates on all ratepayers and is mindful of maintaining the balance between economic and community development.

Application of the Policy

Where a ratepayer believes that the Council has failed to properly apply this policy it should raise the matter with the Council. In the first instance contact should be made with the Manager of Corporate Services on (08) 8582 1922 to discuss the matter. If after the initial contact a ratepayer is still dissatisfied they should write to the Chief Executive Officer, Berri Baramera Council, PO Box 229, Berri SA 5343.

Disclaimer

A rate cannot be challenged on the basis of non-compliance with the rating policy and must be paid in accordance with the required payment provisions.

Adoption and Review

This policy was adopted at the Council meeting held 28th June 2016, being resolution number 4437/16 of the Council meeting. The policy will be reviewed annually in May or June to coincide with Council adopting its annual budget and declaring the annual rates.

Annual Business Plan Implementation

The Annual Business Plan, which is prepared in accordance with the requirements of Section 123 of the *Local Government Act 1999*, provides details as to the projects and activities of the Council for the year and how these projects and activities integrate with the Measures and Corporate Objectives contained in the Strategic Plan. The projects that were contained specifically within the Annual Business Plan are listed in the table aside, which also advises as to the status of the projects as at 30th June 2016.

The status refers to whether the project was completed, deferred for future completion or carried forward for inclusion within the 2016/2017 year.

It is noted from the table overleaf that there are a number of projects that have been carried forward to the 2015/2016 year, primarily due to the fact that either the projects are very large and planning stages are still proceeding or, in fact, the project was being undertaken but had not been finalised by the reporting date. Some projects are shown as 'on-going' as they are programmed projects and are prioritised according to Council's Asset Management Plans.

Overall, the assessment of the performance of the Council for the year is satisfactory as a majority of the projects committed to by Council were completed during the year and within their financial constraints.

Corporate/Executive Services	Status
Berri Town Centre Renewal	Ongoing
Riverland Resource Sharing	Ongoing
Housing for 21 st Century Project	Ongoing
Strategic & Corporate Planning	Ongoing
IT Plant & Equipment	Ongoing
Motor Vehicle Changeovers	Ongoing
Community Services	
Berri and Baramera Library Facilities Improvements & Plant and Equipment Purchases	Completed
Swimming Centre Upgrade and Plant & Equipment	Completed
Baramera Recreation Centre Retaining Wall	Completed
Berri Visitor Information Centre Facilities Improvements & Plant & Equipment	Completed
Environmental Services	
Monash Wastewater Treatment Plan Asbestos Re-	Completed
Developer Facilitation Fund	Ongoing
Aerial Photography of District	Completed
Development Plan Amendment	Ongoing
Section 30 Planning Review	Ongoing
Spot DPA Review	Completed
Berri Riverfront Precinct Planning	Ongoing
Dry Area Review and Signage	Completed
Planning Records Storage and Archiving	Ongoing
Developer Facilitated DPA Review	Completed
Regional Public Health Plan	Ongoing
Vandalproof Public Convenience Fixtures	Ongoing
Martin Bend Recreation Area Committee Projects	Ongoing
Removal of Asbestos Council Buildings	Ongoing
Building Highworks Requirements	Completed
Establish Group - Friends of Bonney Theatre	Completed
Buildings Asset Management Plan and Revaluations	Completed
Corella Management Plan	Ongoing
Motor Vehicle Changeovers	Ongoing
Dry Area Signage	Completed
CMWS Infrastructure Renewal	Completed
Council Office Building Improvements	Completed
Buildings & Structures Renewals per Asset Man-	Completed
Bonney Theatre External Painting & Lighting	Completed

Infrastructure Services	Status
Dump Rehabilitation Loveday, Stoney Ridge, Gas monitoring Monash	Ongoing
Hardwaste Collection	Completed
Mulching Green Waste	Ongoing
Future Projects Planning	Ongoing
Monash Hall Landscaping	Ongoing
Apex Park Baramera (horse floats)	Completed
Street Decorations	Completed
Preparations for Tidy Towns Application	Completed
Tree Removal Safety Martin Bend	Ongoing
Artificial Turf Barwell Avenue Roundabout	Ongoing
Berri and Baramera Beautification Committee Projects	Ongoing
Wood Carving Gum Tree Dean Drive Baramera	Ongoing
Tree Plantings - Various Locations	Ongoing
Maintain 100 Memorial Palm Trees Sturt Highway	Ongoing
Cemetery Furniture & Equipment	Ongoing
Street Lighting Upgrades (including Ahern Street)	Ongoing
Baramera West Median Upgrade	Completed
Zante Road & Mortimer Road Park Upgrade	Ongoing
Recreation/Exercise Stations Baramera Lakefront & Berri Riverfront	Completed
Irrigation Automation	Completed
Removal and Substitute Pine Posts Various Parks	Ongoing
Playground Equipment Renewals	Ongoing
Monash Adventure Park Equipment Upgrade	Ongoing
Construction Berri Sports Precinct	Ongoing
Road Reseals	Completed
Unsealed Road Resheeting	Completed
Sealing Field Days Road Baramera	Completed
Sealing Pommy Avenue Loveday	Completed
Sealing Coates Road Loveday	Completed
Sealing Telfer Road East Monash	Completed
Sealing Curren Road Monash	Completed
Wade Street Berri Reconstruction	Ongoing
Martin Bend Campground Internal Roads Upgrade	Completed
Kerbing Replacement & Renewal per Asset Management Plan	Completed
Footpaths Renewal per Asset Management Plan	Completed
Bike/Walking Track Cobdogla (Caravan Park to Bruno Bay)	Completed
Extension Baramera Lakefront Path	Completed
Pave Replacements Berri CBD	Ongoing
Pram Ramps - various locations	Completed
Stormwater Renewal - Anderson Street Baramera	Ongoing
Stormwater Upgrade Coneybeer Street Berri	Ongoing
Stormwater Renewal - Vaughan Terrace Berri	Ongoing
Stormwater Renewal - Shiell Road Berri	Ongoing
Plant & Machinery Purchases	Ongoing

Financial Management Statement

The pie chart (pictured aside) graphically presents a breakdown of operating expenditure by function for the Berri Barmera Council for 2016/2017.

The following financial indicators for 2016/2017 are interpreted as follows:

Operating Surplus Ratio

This ratio expresses the operating surplus as a percentage of general and other rates, net of the NRM levy. The operating surplus ratio for 2016/2017 is 14%.

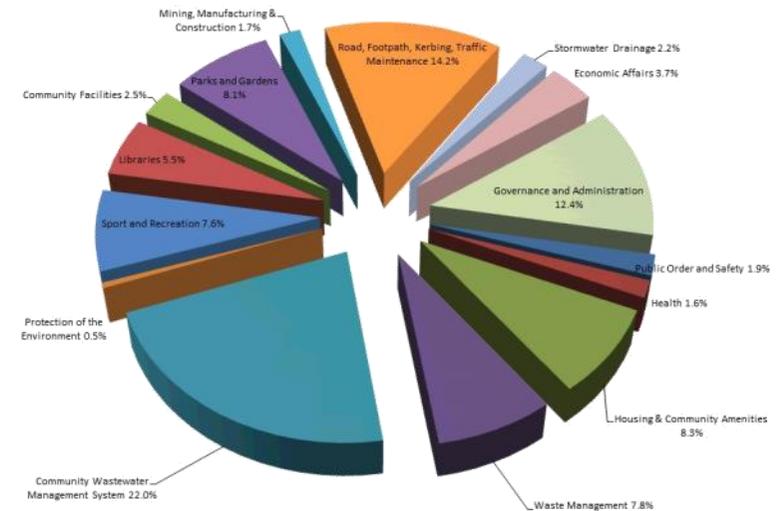
In recent years the Federal Government has made advance payments prior to 30th June from future year allocations of financial assistance grants - the adjusted operating surplus ratio of 7% adjusts for the distortion in the disclosed operating result for each year and indicates that Council is maintaining sustainability (see table and graph below).

Net Financial Liabilities Ratio

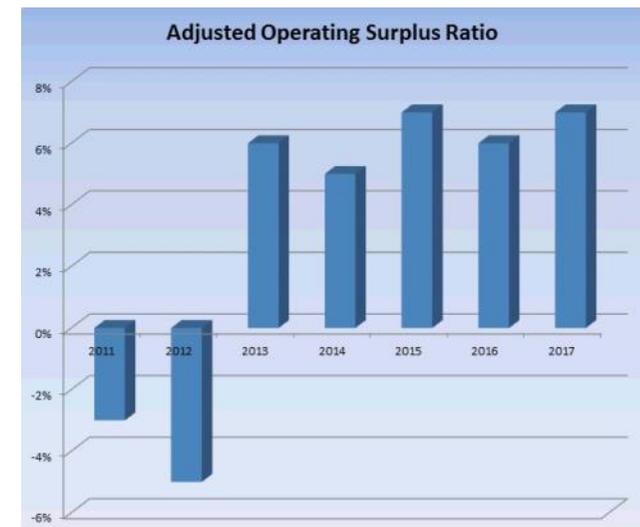
This ratio indicates the extent to which net financial liabilities of Council can be met by its operating revenue. Where the ratio is falling over time indicates that the Council's capacity to meet its financial obligations from operating revenue is strengthening. The 2016/2017 ratio of 25% is within the adopted target.

Asset Sustainability Ratio

This ratio indicates whether Council is renewing or replacing its existing non-financial assets at the same rate the assets are wearing out. The 2016/2017 ratio is 73%.



Indicator	2017	2016	2015
Operating Surplus Ratio	14%	(3.0%)	15%
Adjusted Operating Surplus Ratio	7.0%	6.0%	7.0%
Net Financial Liabilities Ratio	25%	40%	26%
Asset Sustainability Ratio	73%	36%	114%



Annual Financial Statements

FOR THE YEAR ENDED
30TH JUNE 2017

BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL

General Purpose Financial Reports for the year ended 30 June 2017

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BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL

ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 June 2017

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 2017 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.


.....
DAVID BEATON
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER


.....
PETER HUNT
MAYOR

Date: 18/10/2017

BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
for the year ended 30 June 2017

	Notes	2017 \$	2016 \$
INCOME			
Rates	2	11,587,870	11,172,047
Statutory charges	2	194,926	168,716
User charges	2	214,568	182,869
Grants, subsidies and contributions	2	4,833,868	2,070,915
Investment income	2	32,961	57,119
Reimbursements	2	602,967	588,770
Other income	2	492,934	569,715
Total Income		17,960,094	14,810,151
EXPENSES			
Employee costs	3	4,441,553	4,615,360
Materials, contracts & other expenses	3	7,629,666	7,182,657
Depreciation, amortisation & impairment	3	3,037,546	3,204,004
Finance costs	3	309,801	297,398
Total Expenses		15,418,566	15,299,419
OPERATING SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)		2,541,528	(489,268)
Asset disposal & fair value adjustments	4	(3,244,357)	(410,417)
Amounts received specifically for new or upgraded assets	2	2,396,926	142,736
NET SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)		1,694,097	(756,949)
Other Comprehensive Income			
<i>Amounts which will not be reclassified subsequently to operating result</i>			
Changes in revaluation surplus - infrastructure, property, plant & equipment	9	1,894,316	(1,003,367)
Total Other Comprehensive Income		1,894,316	(1,003,367)
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME		3,588,413	(1,760,316)

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

BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
as at 30 June 2017

	Notes	2017 \$	2016 \$
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	5	548,499	958,146
Trade & other receivables	5	3,621,961	2,061,063
Inventories	5	493,664	870,764
Total Current Assets		4,664,124	3,889,973
Non-current Assets			
Financial assets	6	18,892	66,157
Infrastructure, property, plant & equipment	7	119,647,308	120,626,174
Other non-current assets	6	4,108,647	515,939
Total Non-current Assets		123,774,847	121,208,270
Total Assets		128,438,971	125,098,243
LIABILITIES			
Current Liabilities			
Trade & other payables	8	1,957,998	1,592,186
Borrowings	8	2,802,766	2,777,472
Provisions	8	1,109,818	1,209,054
Total Current Liabilities		5,870,582	5,578,712
Non-current Liabilities			
Borrowings	8	2,580,082	2,982,848
Provisions	8	276,492	413,281
Total Non-current Liabilities		2,856,574	3,396,129
Total Liabilities		8,727,156	8,974,841
NET ASSETS		119,711,815	116,123,402
EQUITY			
Accumulated Surplus		23,366,399	22,965,515
Asset Revaluation Reserves	9	93,556,901	91,662,585
Other Reserves	9	2,788,515	1,495,302
TOTAL EQUITY		119,711,815	116,123,402

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

BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY
for the year ended 30 June 2017

	Notes	Accumulated Surplus	Asset Revaluation Reserve	Available for sale Financial Assets	Other Reserves	TOTAL EQUITY
		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
2017						
Balance at end of previous reporting period		22,965,515	91,662,585	-	1,495,302	116,123,402
Restated opening balance		22,965,515	91,662,585	-	1,495,302	116,123,402
Net Surplus / (Deficit) for Year		1,694,097				1,694,097
Other Comprehensive Income						
Gain on revaluation of infrastructure, property, plant & equipment		-	1,894,316	-	-	1,894,316
Transfers between reserves		(1,293,213)	-	-	1,293,213	-
Balance at end of period		23,366,399	93,556,901	-	2,788,515	119,711,815
2016						
Balance at end of previous reporting period		23,453,342	92,665,952	-	1,764,424	117,883,718
Restated opening balance		23,453,342	92,665,952	-	1,764,424	117,883,718
Net Surplus / (Deficit) for Year		(756,949)				(756,949)
Other Comprehensive Income						
Changes in revaluation surplus - infrastructure, property, plant & equipment		-	(1,003,367)	-	-	(1,003,367)
Transfers between reserves		269,122	-	-	(269,122)	-
Balance at end of period		22,965,515	91,662,585	-	1,495,302	116,123,402

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

BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
for the year ended 30 June 2017

	Notes	2017 \$	2016 \$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
<u>Receipts</u>			
Rates - general & other		11,684,438	11,347,174
Fees & other charges		214,419	185,588
User charges		206,277	250,208
Investment receipts		32,961	57,119
Grants utilised for operating purposes		3,715,184	2,173,042
Reimbursements		665,075	854,888
Other revenues		2,599,390	1,790,977
<u>Payments</u>			
Employee costs		(4,562,093)	(4,595,190)
Materials, contracts & other expenses		(9,912,789)	(8,886,686)
Finance payments		(283,321)	(330,160)
Net Cash provided by (or used in) Operating Activities	10	4,359,541	2,846,960
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
<u>Receipts</u>			
Amounts specifically for new or upgraded assets		2,396,926	142,736
Sale of replaced assets		111,093	235,340
Sale of surplus assets		69,700	167,380
Sale of real estate developments		816,818	-
Repayments of loans by community groups		46,057	192,625
<u>Payments</u>			
Expenditure on renewal/replacement of assets		(2,281,950)	(1,072,710)
Expenditure on new/upgraded assets		(5,473,182)	(4,384,293)
Development of real estate for sale		(77,178)	(716,881)
Net Cash provided by (or used in) Investing Activities		(4,391,716)	(5,435,803)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
<u>Receipts</u>			
Proceeds from borrowings		-	400,000
<u>Payments</u>			
Repayments of borrowings		(377,472)	(372,250)
Net Cash provided by (or used in) Financing Activities		(377,472)	27,750
Net Increase (Decrease) in cash held		(409,647)	(2,561,093)
Cash & cash equivalents at beginning of period	10	958,146	3,519,239
Cash & cash equivalents at end of period	10	548,499	958,146

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

BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2017

Note 1 - SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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

1 Basis of Preparation

1.1 Compliance with Australian Accounting Standards

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

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

1.2 Historical Cost Convention

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

1.3 Critical Accounting Estimates

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

1.4 Rounding

All amounts in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest dollar.

2 The Local Government Reporting Entity

Berri Barmera Council is incorporated under the SA Local Government Act 1999 and has its principal place of business at 19 Wilson Street, Berri SA. These 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

Income is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable. Income is recognised when the Council obtains control over the assets comprising the income, or when the amount due constitutes an enforceable debt, whichever first occurs.

Where grants, contributions and donations recognised as incomes during the reporting period were obtained on the condition that they be expended in a particular manner or used over a particular period, and those conditions were undischarged as at the reporting date, the amounts subject to those undischarged conditions are disclosed in these notes. Also disclosed is the amount of grants, contributions and receivables recognised as incomes in a previous reporting period which were obtained in respect of the Council's operations for the current reporting period.

Berri Barmera Council

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2017

Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies (cont)

3.1 Treatment of Financial Assistance Grant Payment

In June 2015 the Federal Government paid \$1,333,320 of untied financial assistance grants, being two quarters of the 2015/2016 allocation. Council opted at this time to record this advance payment as amounts received in advance which is a departure of Australian Accounting Standard, AASB1004 as well as a departure from the Local Government Industry Model Financial Statements. AASB1004 requires that untied income must be recorded as income within the year it is received meaning \$1,333,320 was to be recorded as income within the 2014/2015 year. Council considered that compliance with AASB1004 would distort the operating result for 2014/2015 and 2015/2016 and elected to treat the advance receipt of grant funds as 'amounts received in advance' ensuring the grant money was recorded within the financial year for which it was intended.

The following table details the financial effect of the departure from the requirements of AASB1004.

	Cash Payment Received	Annual Allocation	Difference
2014/2015	\$3,992,938	\$2,659,618	\$1,333,320
2015/2016	\$1,306,340	\$2,639,660	(\$1,333,320)

Again, the Federal Government paid the untied financial assistance grants early with an amount of \$1,358,381 being received by Council in June 2017, which is half the approved funding intended for 2017/2018.

As this practice has become a regular occurrence, Council have opted to comply with Australian Accounting Standard AASB1004 and record receipt of the untied grant funds within the year of receipt. Likewise, alterations have been made to the financial statements within the comparative figures for 2015/2016 making adjustment for the advance payment of \$1,333,320 received in June 2015.

The specific alterations made to the financial statements within the comparative figures are disclosed in Note 21.

The following table details the financial effect of these adjustments –

	Cash Payment Received	Annual Allocation	Difference
2014/2015	\$3,992,938	\$2,659,618	\$1,333,320
2015/2016	\$1,306,340	\$2,639,660	(\$1,333,320)
2016/2017	\$3,961,769	\$2,603,388	\$1,358,381

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.

The actual amounts of untied grants received during the reporting periods (including the advance allocations) are disclosed in Note 2.

3.2 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. As there is no profit component, such works are treated as 100% completed. Reimbursements not received are recognised as receivables and reimbursements received in advance are recognised as "payments received in advance".

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.

Berri Barmera Council

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2017

Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies (cont)

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 forms part of Note 13.

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.

5.1 Real Estate Assets Developments

Real Estate Assets developments have been classified as Inventory in accordance with AASB 102 and are valued at the lower of cost or net realisable value. Cost includes the costs of acquisition, development, borrowing and other costs incurred on financing of that acquisition and up to the time of sale. Any amount by which cost exceeds the net realisable value has been recognised as an expense.

Revenues arising from the sale of property are recognised in the operating statement when settlement is completed.

5.2 Other Real Estate held for resale

Properties not acquired for development, but which Council has decided to sell as surplus to requirements, are recognised at the carrying value at the time of that decision.

6 Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment

6.1 Land under roads

Council has elected not to recognise land under roads acquired prior to 1 July 2008 as an asset in accordance with AASB 1051 Land under Roads. Land under roads acquired after 30 June 2008 has not been recognised as in the opinion of Council it is not possible to reliably attribute a fair value, and further that such value if determined would be immaterial.

6.2 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.

Berri Barmera Council

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2017

Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies (cont)

6.3 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.

6.4 Subsequent Recognition

All material asset classes are revalued on a regular basis such that the carrying values are not materially different from fair value. For infrastructure and other asset classes where no active market exists, fair value is determined to be the current replacement cost of an asset less, where applicable, accumulated depreciation calculated on the basis of such cost to reflect the already consumed or expired future economic benefits of the asset. Further detail of existing valuations, methods and valuers are provided at Note 7.

6.5 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.

6.6 Impairment

Assets that have an indefinite useful life are not subject to depreciation and are reviewed annually for impairment. Assets carried at fair value 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 assessed for impairment.

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 outflows 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.

6.7 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.

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.

Berri Barmera Council

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2017

Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies (cont)

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 oncosts) 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 oncosts) 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 Local Government Superannuation Scheme. The Scheme has two types of membership, each of which is funded differently. No changes in accounting policy have occurred during either the current or previous reporting periods. Details of the accounting policies applied and Council's involvement with the schemes are reported in Note 18.

10 Leases

Lease arrangements have been accounted for in accordance with Australian Accounting Standard AASB 117.

In respect of finance leases, where Council substantially carries all of the risks incident to ownership, the leased items are initially recognised as assets and liabilities equal in amount to the present value of the minimum lease payments. The assets are disclosed within the appropriate asset class, and are amortised to expense over the period during which the Council is expected to benefit from the use of the leased assets. Lease payments are allocated between interest expense and reduction of the lease liability, according to the interest rate implicit in the lease.

In respect of operating leases, where the lessor substantially retains all of the risks and benefits incident to ownership of the leased items, lease payments are charged to expense over the lease term.

Berri Barmera Council

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2017

Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies (cont)

11 Joint Ventures and Associated Entities

Council participates in cooperative arrangements with other Councils for the provision of services and facilities. Council's interests in cooperative arrangements, which are only recognised if material, are accounted for in accordance with AASB 128 and set out in detail in Note 19.

12 GST Implications

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

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

13 Pending Accounting Standards

Certain new accounting standards and UIG interpretations have been published that are not mandatory for the 30 June 2017 reporting period and have not been used in preparing these reports.

AASB 7	Financial Instruments – Disclosures
AASB 9	Financial Instruments
AASB 15	Revenue from Contracts with Customers
AASB 17	Leases
AASB 1058	Income of Not-for-Profit Entities

Standards containing consequential amendments to other Standards and Interpretations arising from the above - AASB 2010-7, AASB 2014-1, AASB 2014-3, AASB 2014-4, AASB 2014-5, AASB 2014-6, AASB 2014-7, AASB 2014-8, AASB 2014-9, AASB 2014-10, AASB 2015-1, AASB 2015-2, AASB 2015-3, AASB 2015-4, AASB 2015-5, AASB 2015-6 and AASB 2015-7.

(Standards not affecting local government have been excluded from the above list.)

Council is of the view that other than AASB 16 and AASB 1058, none of the above new standards or interpretations will affect any of the amounts recognised in the financial statements, but that they may impact certain information otherwise disclosed.

Accounting Standard AASB 16 *Leases* may have a material effect on the amounts disclosed in these reports, particularly in relation to Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment, but does not commence until the 2019/20 financial period, and it is not Council's intention to adopt this Standard early.

Accounting Standard AASB 1058 *Income of Not-for-Profit Entities* may have a material effect on the amounts disclosed in these reports, particularly in revenues from grants & subsidies, but does not commence until the 2019/20 financial period, and it is not Council's intention to adopt this Standard early.

BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2017

Note 2 - INCOME

	2017	2016
	Notes	Notes
	\$	\$
RATES REVENUES		
<u>General Rates</u>	7,606,741	7,391,360
Less: Mandatory rebates, Discretionary rebates, remissions & write offs	<u>(261,628)</u>	<u>(219,301)</u>
	7,345,113	7,172,059
<u>Other Rates (including service charges)</u>		
Natural Resource Management levy	326,603	131,668
Waste collection	1,023,428	999,870
Community wastewater management systems	<u>2,775,970</u>	<u>2,740,505</u>
	4,126,001	3,872,043
<u>Other Charges</u>		
Penalties for late payment	116,756	127,945
	<u>116,756</u>	<u>127,945</u>
	<u>11,587,870</u>	<u>11,172,047</u>
STATUTORY CHARGES		
Development Act fees	80,515	58,200
Town planning fees	28,598	25,143
Health & Septic Tank Inspection fees	3,636	5,349
Animal registration fees & fines	74,928	74,700
Parking fines / expiation fees	397	-
Sundry	<u>6,852</u>	<u>5,324</u>
	<u>194,926</u>	<u>168,716</u>
USER CHARGES		
Cemetery fees	74,196	45,214
Septic Tank Fees	12,882	12,974
Commercial activity revenue	48,183	52,868
Hall & equipment hire	35,511	35,922
Parking fees	16,565	6,902
Sales - general	5,827	4,870
Subsidies received on behalf of users	2,370	4,890
Sundry	<u>19,034</u>	<u>19,229</u>
	<u>214,568</u>	<u>182,869</u>
INVESTMENT INCOME		
Interest on investments		
Local Government Finance Authority	14,649	35,145
Banks & other	13,592	12,762
Loans to community groups	<u>4,720</u>	<u>9,212</u>
	<u>32,961</u>	<u>57,119</u>

BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2017

NOTE 2 - INCOME (continued)

	2017	2016
	Notes	Notes
	\$	\$
REIMBURSEMENTS		
- wastewater reuse scheme	305,769	232,500
- for private works	88,414	152,721
- by joint undertakings	185,123	183,716
- other	<u>23,661</u>	<u>19,833</u>
	<u>602,967</u>	<u>588,770</u>
OTHER INCOME		
Insurance & other recoupments - infrastructure, property, plant & equipment	68,994	102,210
Rebates received	109,843	115,797
Sundry	<u>314,097</u>	<u>351,708</u>
	<u>492,934</u>	<u>569,715</u>
GRANTS, SUBSIDIES, CONTRIBUTIONS		
Amounts received specifically for new or upgraded assets	2,396,926	142,736
Other grants, subsidies and contributions		
Untied - Financial Assistance Grant	3,943,746	1,087,152
Roads to Recovery	566,838	439,435
Home and Community Care Grant	11,989	163,292
Library & Communications	69,030	68,554
Sundry	<u>242,265</u>	<u>312,482</u>
	<u>4,833,868</u>	<u>2,070,915</u>
	<u>7,230,794</u>	<u>2,213,651</u>
<i>The functions to which these grants relate are shown in Note 12.</i>		
Sources of grants		
Commonwealth government	2,682,968	504,435
State government	4,311,587	2,994,500
Other	<u>236,239</u>	<u>(1,285,284)</u>
	<u>7,230,794</u>	<u>2,213,651</u>

BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2017

Note 3 - EXPENSES

	Notes	2017 \$	2016 \$
EMPLOYEE COSTS			
Salaries and Wages		3,764,396	3,954,433
Employee leave expense		515,721	466,689
Superannuation - employer market link	18	309,374	300,887
Superannuation - employer salary link (defined benefit)	18	109,037	117,147
Workers' Compensation Insurance		207,828	203,618
Less: Capitalised and distributed costs		<u>(464,803)</u>	<u>(427,414)</u>
Total Operating Employee Costs		<u>4,441,553</u>	<u>4,615,360</u>
 Total Number of Employees		67	66
<i>(Full time equivalent at end of reporting period)</i>			
 MATERIALS, CONTRACTS & OTHER EXPENSES			
<u>Prescribed Expenses</u>			
Auditor's Remuneration			
- Auditing the financial reports		19,200	14,400
Bad and Doubtful Debts		-	467
Elected members' expenses		193,575	187,437
Operating Lease Rentals - cancellable leases		<u>12,362</u>	<u>14,122</u>
Subtotal - Prescribed Expenses		<u>225,137</u>	<u>216,426</u>
 <u>Other Materials, Contracts & Expenses</u>			
Contractors		2,184,117	2,139,395
Trility - Wastewater Re-Use Scheme Availability and Volumetric Charge		2,549,245	2,247,394
Legal Expenses		31,675	38,579
Levies paid to government - NRM levy		317,382	127,659
Parts, accessories & consumables		1,513,812	1,523,614
Sundry		<u>808,298</u>	<u>889,590</u>
Subtotal - Other Materials, Contracts & Expenses		<u>7,404,529</u>	<u>6,966,231</u>
		<u>7,629,666</u>	<u>7,182,657</u>

BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2017

Note 3 - EXPENSES (cont)

	Notes	2017 \$	2016 \$
DEPRECIATION, AMORTISATION & IMPAIRMENT			
Depreciation			
Buildings and Structures		821,512	946,796
Infrastructure			
- Roads		876,570	875,783
- Footpaths		224,446	218,185
- Stormwater Drainage		158,681	153,009
- Effluent		275,962	251,500
- Kerbing		298,123	298,832
Other Assets		<u>537,642</u>	<u>571,191</u>
		<u>3,192,936</u>	<u>3,315,296</u>
Less: Capitalised and distributed costs		<u>(155,390)</u>	<u>(111,292)</u>
		<u>3,037,546</u>	<u>3,204,004</u>
 FINANCE COSTS			
Interest on Loans		285,466	277,155
Unwinding of present value discounts		<u>24,335</u>	<u>20,243</u>
		<u>309,801</u>	<u>297,398</u>

BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2017

Note 4 - ASSET DISPOSAL & FAIR VALUE ADJUSTMENTS

	Notes	2017 \$	2016 \$
INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT			
<i>Assets renewed or directly replaced</i>			
Proceeds from disposal		111,093	235,340
Less: Carrying amount of assets sold		<u>792,434</u>	<u>501,137</u>
Gain (Loss) on disposal		<u>(681,341)</u>	<u>(265,797)</u>
<i>Assets surplus to requirements</i>			
Proceeds from disposal		69,700	167,380
Less: Carrying amount of assets sold		<u>71,850</u>	<u>312,000</u>
Gain (Loss) on disposal		<u>(2,150)</u>	<u>(144,620)</u>
REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT ASSETS			
Proceeds from disposal		816,818	-
Less: Carrying amount of assets sold		<u>498,891</u>	<u>-</u>
Gain (Loss) on disposal		<u>317,927</u>	<u>-</u>
FAIR VALUE ADJUSTMENTS			
Revaluation decrements expensed		<u>(2,878,793)</u>	<u>-</u>
		<u>(2,878,793)</u>	<u>0</u>
NET GAIN (LOSS) ON DISPOSAL OR REVALUATION OF ASSETS		<u>(3,244,357)</u>	<u>(410,417)</u>

BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2017

Note 5 - CURRENT ASSETS

	Notes	2017 \$	2016 \$
CASH & EQUIVALENT ASSETS			
Cash on Hand and at Bank		97,856	82,878
Deposits at Call		<u>450,643</u>	<u>875,268</u>
		<u>548,499</u>	<u>958,146</u>
TRADE & OTHER RECEIVABLES			
Rates - General & Other		1,325,313	1,420,440
Rates postponed for State Seniors		13,920	15,361
Debtors - general		465,091	453,755
GST Recoupment		163,139	119,047
Prepayments		18,970	20,211
Loans to community organisations		33,457	32,249
Grants from other levels of Government		<u>1,602,071</u>	<u>-</u>
		<u>3,621,961</u>	<u>2,061,063</u>
INVENTORIES			
Stores & Materials		119,496	74,883
Real Estate Developments	6	<u>374,168</u>	<u>795,881</u>
		<u>493,664</u>	<u>870,764</u>

BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2017

Note 6 - NON-CURRENT ASSETS

	2017	2016
	Notes	Notes
FINANCIAL ASSETS	\$	\$
Receivables		
Loans to community organisations	18,892	66,157
TOTAL FINANCIAL ASSETS	<u>18,892</u>	<u>66,157</u>
OTHER NON-CURRENT ASSETS		
Capital Works-in-Progress	4,108,647	515,939
	<u>4,108,647</u>	<u>515,939</u>
<i>Real Estate Developments - Current & Non-Current</i> <i>(Valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value)</i>		
Residential	374,168	795,881
Total Real Estate for Resale	<u>374,168</u>	<u>795,881</u>
<i>Represented by:</i>		
Development Costs	374,168	716,881
Other Properties - Book Value	-	79,000
Total Real Estate for Resale	<u>374,168</u>	<u>795,881</u>
<i>Apportionment of Real Estate Developments</i>		
Current Assets	374,168	795,881
	<u>374,168</u>	<u>795,881</u>

BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2017

Note 7 - INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT

	Fair Value Level	2016				2017			
		AT FAIR VALUE	AT COST	ACCUM DEP'N	CARRYING AMOUNT	AT FAIR VALUE	AT COST	ACCUM DEP'N	CARRYING AMOUNT
Land	3	18,444,867	-	-	18,444,867	24,416,995	-	-	24,416,995
Buildings	2	1,386,803	-	(874,127)	512,676	1,411,935	(1,411,935)	-	-
Buildings	3	33,283,281	4,295,034	(20,979,049)	16,599,266	33,046,968	729,073	(24,153,102)	9,622,939
Structures	3	13,479,865	2,884,053	(5,099,683)	11,264,235	14,528,079	230,772	(6,933,598)	7,825,253
Infrastructure									
- Roads	3	55,410,124	2,931,519	(21,215,221)	37,126,422	54,664,702	4,577,779	(21,542,379)	37,700,102
- Footpaths	3	6,591,589	1,079,413	(4,539,655)	3,131,347	6,472,726	1,346,741	(4,669,483)	3,149,984
- Stormwater Drainage	3	13,163,892	303,726	(4,558,491)	8,909,127	14,009,162	14,316	(5,538,376)	8,485,102
- Effluent	3	16,862,189	373,491	(9,472,811)	7,762,869	22,401,705	115,627	(10,766,290)	11,751,042
- Kerbing	3	20,706,650	260,647	(6,922,984)	14,044,313	20,617,441	472,392	(7,148,319)	13,941,514
Plant and Machinery		-	4,896,495	(2,720,952)	2,175,543	-	4,944,251	(2,824,373)	2,119,878
Minor Plant		-	1,159,315	(645,627)	513,688	-	1,179,820	(717,807)	462,013
Office Equipment		-	1,290,126	(1,148,305)	141,821	-	1,364,999	(1,192,513)	172,486
TOTAL INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT		179,329,260	19,473,819	(78,176,905)	120,626,174	191,569,713	14,975,770	(86,898,175)	119,647,308
<i>Comparatives</i>		<i>174,917,869</i>	<i>13,046,097</i>	<i>(69,159,421)</i>	<i>118,804,545</i>	<i>179,329,260</i>	<i>19,473,819</i>	<i>(78,176,905)</i>	<i>120,626,174</i>

This Note continues on the following pages.

BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2017

Note 7 - INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT

	2016	CARRYING AMOUNT MOVEMENTS DURING YEAR							2017
	\$	\$							\$
	CARRYING AMOUNT	Additions		Disposals	Depreciation	Impairment	Transfers		Net Revaluation
	New/Upgrade	Renewals	In				Out		
Land	18,444,867	220,130	-	(71,850)	-	-	-	5,823,848	24,416,995
Buildings	17,111,942	388,393	340,680	-	(416,161)	-	-	(7,801,915)	9,622,939
Structures	11,264,235	196,492	34,280	-	(405,351)	-	-	(3,264,403)	7,825,253
Infrastructure									
- Roads	37,126,422	832,337	813,923	(229,810)	(876,570)	-	-	33,800	37,700,102
- Footpaths	3,131,347	176,350	90,978	(24,245)	(224,446)	-	-	-	3,149,984
- Stormwater Drainage	8,909,127	1,332	12,984	(149,979)	(158,681)	-	-	(129,681)	8,485,102
- Effluent	7,762,869	-	115,627	(172,215)	(275,962)	-	-	4,320,723	11,751,042
- Kerbing	14,044,313	6,492	205,253	(49,572)	(298,123)	-	-	33,151	13,941,514
Plant and Machinery	2,175,543	-	518,890	(166,326)	(408,229)	-	-	-	2,119,878
Minor Plant	513,688	-	25,195	(288)	(76,582)	-	-	-	462,013
Office Equipment	141,821	-	83,496	-	(52,831)	-	-	-	172,486
TOTAL INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT	120,626,174	1,821,526	2,241,306	(864,285)	(3,192,936)	-	-	(984,477)	119,647,308
<i>Comparatives</i>	118,804,545	4,430,410	2,602,020	(813,138)	(3,315,296)		(79,000)	(1,003,367)	120,626,174

This Note continues on the following pages.

BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2017

Note 7 (cont) – INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT

Valuation of Assets

General Valuation Principles

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

This method has significant inherent uncertainties, relying on estimates of quantities of materials and labour, residual values and useful lives, and the possibility of changes in prices for materials and labour, and the potential for development of more efficient construction techniques.

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	\$1,000
Other Plant & Equipment	\$1,000
Buildings - new construction/extensions	\$10,000
Park & Playground Furniture & Equipment	\$2,000
Road construction & reconstruction	\$10,000
Paving & footpaths, Kerb & Gutter	\$2,000
Drains & Culverts	\$5,000
Reticulation extensions	\$5,000
Sidelines & household connections	\$5,000

Berri Barmera Council

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2017

Note 7 – Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment

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	
Electronic Office Equipment	4 years
Office Furniture	10 years
Vehicles and Road-making Equip	10 years
Other Plant & Equipment	3 to 5 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 20 years
Benches, seats, etc	5 to 25 years
Infrastructure	
Road Surfaces – Sealed and Unsealed	15 to 30 years
Road Pavements – pavements under sealed surfaces	60 to 90 years
Kerb and Gutter	60 to 70 years
Footpaths	15 to 50 years
Drains	80 to 100 years
Culverts	50 to 75 years
Flood Control Structures	80 to 100 years
Reticulation Pipes – PVC	70 to 80 years
Reticulation Pipes – other	25 to 75 years
Pumps & Telemetry	15 to 25 years

Land & Land Improvements

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

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

Land improvements, including bulk earthworks with an assessed unlimited useful life, are recognised on the cost basis, originally deriving from a valuation at 30 June 1997 at current replacement cost. Additions are recognised at cost.

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

Buildings & Other Structures

Buildings and other structures were revalued as at 1 July 2016 by Maloney Field Services at written down replacement cost. Additions are recognised at cost.

It is recognised that there are a number of buildings and structures situated on land that is in the care and control of Council but are not assets maintained nor operated by Council but rather, by other community and/or sporting bodies. Council have previously included such assets within its accounts at salvage value.

A change in accounting policy has occurred whereby such assets have been removed from the accounts on the basis that by way of ground lease arrangements the community/sporting groups are to be entirely responsible for the renewal of these assets. This change has resulted in a reduction to the carrying amount as shown within Note 7 and a decrement to the revaluation reserve for buildings and structures assets as shown at Note 9.

Berri Barmera Council

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2017

Note 7 – Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment

Infrastructure

Road, kerbing and footpaths infrastructure are recognised at depreciated current replacement cost, deriving from a valuation at 1 July 2015. Additions are recognised at cost. The revaluation was undertaken by Tonkin Consulting.

Stormwater drainage infrastructure is recognised at depreciated current replacement cost deriving from a valuation at 1 July 2016. Additions are recognised at cost. The revaluation was undertaken by Tonkin Consulting.

Community wastewater management system infrastructure is recognised at depreciated current replacement cost from a valuation at 1 July 2016. Additions are recognised at cost. The revaluation was undertaken by Tonkin Consulting.

Plant, Furniture & Equipment

These assets are recognised on the cost basis.

All other assets

These assets are recognised on the cost basis. Library books and other lending materials are capitalised in bulk, and written out when fully depreciated.

BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL

**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2017**

Note 8 - LIABILITIES

	Notes	2017		2016	
		Current	Non-current	Current	Non-current
		\$	\$	\$	\$
TRADE & OTHER PAYABLES					
Goods & Services		1,228,072	-	1,418,877	-
Payments received in advance		499,713	-	21,763	-
Accrued expenses - employee entitlements		30,967	-	33,461	-
Accrued expenses - other		199,246	-	118,085	-
		<u>1,957,998</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,592,186</u>	<u>-</u>
BORROWINGS					
Loans		2,802,766	2,580,082	2,777,472	2,982,848
		<u>2,802,766</u>	<u>2,580,082</u>	<u>2,777,472</u>	<u>2,982,848</u>
PROVISIONS					
Employee Long Service Leave entitlements (including oncosts)		756,049	26,492	807,356	24,053
Employee Annual Leave entitlements (including oncosts)		353,769	-	401,698	-
Future reinstatement / restoration, etc		-	250,000	-	389,228
		<u>1,109,818</u>	<u>276,492</u>	<u>1,209,054</u>	<u>413,281</u>

*Movements in Provisions - 2017 year only
(current & non-current)*

Opening Balance

Add Unwinding of present value discounts

Add (Less) Remeasurement Adjustments

Closing Balance

Future Landfill Reinstatement

389,228

5,838

(145,066)

250,000

BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL

**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2017**

Note 9 - RESERVES

ASSET REVALUATION RESERVE	Notes	1/7/2016	Net Increments (Decrements)	Transfers, Impairments	30/6/2017
		\$	\$	\$	\$
Land		4,554,589	5,823,848	-	10,378,437
Buildings		4,923,120	(4,923,120)	-	0
Structures		3,282,080	(3,264,403)	-	17,677
Infrastructure					0
- Roads		33,677,313	33,800	-	33,711,113
- Footpaths		3,386,438	-	-	3,386,438
- Stormwater Drainage		10,030,340	(129,681)	-	9,900,659
- Effluent		8,739,826	4,320,723	-	13,060,549
- Kerbing		23,068,879	33,151	-	23,102,030
TOTAL		<u>91,662,585</u>	<u>1,894,318</u>		<u>93,556,903</u>
<i>Comparatives</i>		<i>92,665,952</i>	<i>(1,003,367)</i>		<i>91,662,585</i>
OTHER RESERVES		1/7/2016	Transfers to Reserve	Transfers from Reserve	30/6/2017
Land Development Reserve		639,281	922,016	(79,328)	1,481,969
District CWMS		735,533	3,091,204	(2,817,479)	1,009,258
Work in Progress		118,700	280,500	(103,700)	295,500
Open Space		1,788	-	-	1,788
TOTAL OTHER RESERVES		<u>1,495,302</u>	<u>4,293,720</u>	<u>(3,000,507)</u>	<u>2,788,515</u>
<i>Comparatives</i>		<i>1,764,424</i>	<i>3,292,582</i>	<i>(3,561,704)</i>	<i>1,495,302</i>

PURPOSES OF RESERVES

Asset Revaluation Reserve

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

Land Development Reserve

Reserve created for the specific use of funding certain economic development projects throughout the district.

District CWMS Reserve

Reserve set up for the express purpose of managing the income and expenditure of Council's Community Wastewater Management Scheme which includes the maintenance of the scheme and upgrades as required.

Work in Progress Reserve

Reserve used to carry funds over from one year to the next for projects and capital works that are unfinished at year end and to be completed the following year.

Open Space Reserve

Reserve used to set aside developer contributions and to be used in the development of open space areas for use of the community.

BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2017

Note 10 - 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:

	2017	2016
	Notes	
	\$	\$
Total cash & equivalent assets	5 <u>548,499</u>	<u>958,146</u>
Balances per Cash Flow Statement	<u>548,499</u>	<u>958,146</u>

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

Net Surplus (Deficit)	1,694,097	(756,949)
Non-cash items in Income Statement		
Depreciation, amortisation & impairment	3,037,546	3,204,004
Net increase (decrease) in unpaid employee benefits	(117,788)	30,177
Premiums & discounts recognised & unwound	24,335	20,243
Grants for capital acquisitions treated as Investing Activity	(2,396,926)	(142,736)
Net (Gain) Loss on Disposals	365,564	410,417
	<u>2,606,828</u>	<u>2,765,156</u>
Add (Less): Changes in Net Current Assets		
Net (increase) decrease in receivables	(1,559,690)	411,640
Net (increase) decrease in inventories	(44,613)	(20,710)
Net increase (decrease) in trade & other payables	478,223	(1,381,674)
Net increase (decrease) in other provisions	-	(260,772)
Net Cash provided by (or used in) operations	<u>1,480,748</u>	<u>1,513,640</u>

(c) Non-Cash Financing and Investing Activities

Acquisition of assets by means of:		
- Estimated future reinstatement etc. costs	<u>(145,066)</u>	<u>(260,772)</u>
	<u>(145,066)</u>	<u>(260,772)</u>

(d) Financing Arrangements

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

Bank Overdrafts	140,000	140,000
Corporate Credit Cards	135,000	135,000
LGFA Cash Advance Debenture facility	7,750,000	5,100,000

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

BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2017

Note 11 - FUNCTIONS

INCOMES, EXPENSES AND ASSETS HAVE BEEN DIRECTLY ATTRIBUTED TO THE FOLLOWING FUNCTIONS & ACTIVITIES										
	INCOME		EXPENSES		OPERATING SURPLUS (DEFICIT)		GRANTS INCLUDED IN INCOME		TOTAL ASSETS HELD (CURRENT & NON-CURRENT)	
	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	2017	2016	2017	2016
	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Public Order and Safety	78,023	74,700	298,996	223,845	(220,973)	(149,145)	-	-	310,026	337,106
Health	42,840	32,505	250,244	238,643	(207,404)	(206,138)	-	-	26,702	31,709
Social Security	-	6,000	-	37,828	-	(31,828)	-	6,000	-	539,191
Housing and Community Amenities	4,270,227	4,090,393	5,883,544	5,960,661	(1,613,317)	(1,870,268)	-	39,700	13,239,095	9,770,672
Protection of the Environment	8,131	8,000	76,880	58,649	(68,749)	(50,649)	-	-	-	-
Sport and Recreation	408,184	442,224	3,654,031	3,775,869	(3,245,847)	(3,333,645)	2,230,179	116,847	17,057,571	26,888,824
Mining, Manufacturing and Construction	38,950	32,205	255,309	444,416	(216,359)	(412,211)	-	-	35,481	42,031
Transport and Communication	1,012,144	872,371	2,514,795	2,991,774	(1,502,651)	(2,119,403)	1,075,169	886,915	63,496,851	63,372,797
Economic Affairs	188,095	138,671	575,168	456,716	(387,073)	(318,045)	-	-	260,937	872,612
Other Purposes	561,895	444,951	1,909,599	966,425	(1,347,704)	(521,474)	66,719	29,001	4,221,374	3,866,055
Administration	11,351,605	8,668,131	-	144,593	11,351,605	8,523,538	3,622,488	2,420,472	29,790,934	19,377,246
TOTALS	17,960,094	14,810,151	15,418,566	15,299,419	2,541,528	(489,268)	6,994,555	3,498,935	128,438,971	125,098,243

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

BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2017

Note 11 (cont) - COMPONENTS OF FUNCTIONS

The activities relating to Council functions are as follows:

Public Order and Safety

CFS Fire Protection, Dog Control, General Inspection, Other Public Order and Safety Services.

Health

Health Inspections, Immunisations, Septic Tank Inspections, Noxious Insect Control, Community Bus Service, Other Health Services.

Social Security and Welfare

Aged and Disabled Services, Families and Children Services, Youth Programmes and Services, Other Social Security and Welfare Services.

Housing and Community Amenities

Council Housing, Town Planning, Land Development, Cemeteries, Sanitation and Garbage, Community Wastewater Management Systems, Public Conveniences, Urban Stormwater Drainage, Pollution Control, Protection Works, Street Cleaning, Public Lighting, Other Community Development and Amenity Services.

Protection of the Environment

Foreshore Protection, Jetty Maintenance, Flood Prevention, Natural Resource Management.

Sport and Recreation

Libraries, Community Information, Community Centres, Halls, Ovals, Parks and Gardens, Reservices, Sporting Facilities, Contribution to Regional Sporting Bodies, Swimming Centre, Recreation Centre, Other Sport and Recreation, Cultural Services, Museums.

Mining, Manufacturing and Construction

Building Act, Development Control, Quarries, Other Mining Manufacturing and Construction.

Transport and Communication

Road Construction and Maintenance, Bridges, Footpaths, Parking, Other Transport, Kerbing and Watertable, Stormwater Drainage, Passenger Transport and Cancer Patient Bus, Traffic Control.

Economic Affairs

Offstreet Parking, Land Development, Employment, Tourism, Community Festivals, Youth Camp, Regional Development Corporation.

Other Purposes NEC

Public Debt Transactions, Debenture Loans, Interest, Plant and Equipment, Council Depot and Overheads, Vandalism, Other Property and Services.

Administration

Governance, Elected Members, Office Administration, Council Chambers, Organisation, Support Services, Accounting/Finance, Payroll, Human Resources, Information Technology, Communication, Rates Administration, Records, Occupancy, Contract Management, Customer Service, Other Support Services, Revenues, LGGC – General Purpose.

BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2017

Note 12 - 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: Carried at lower of cost and net realisable value; Interest is recognised when earned. Terms & conditions: Deposits are returning fixed interest rates between 1.5% and 1.8% (2016: 1.75% and 2.3%). Short term deposits have an average maturity of 365 days and an average interest rates of 1.5% (2016: 365 days, 2%). Carrying amount: approximates fair value due to the short term to maturity.
Receivables - Rates & Associated Charges (including legal fees & penalties for late payment)	Accounting Policy: Carried at nominal values less any allowance for doubtful debts. An allowance for doubtful debts is recognised (and re-assessed annually) when collection in full is no longer probable. Note: These receivables do not meet the definition of "financial instruments" and have been excluded from the following disclosures. Terms & conditions: Secured over the subject land, arrears attract interest of 2% (2016: 2%). Although 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 & other charges	Accounting Policy: Carried at nominal values less any allowance for doubtful debts. An allowance for doubtful debts is recognised (and re-assessed annually) when collection in full is no longer probable. Terms & conditions: Unsecured, and do not bear interest. Although Council is not materially exposed to any individual debtor, credit risk exposure is concentrated within the Council's boundaries. Carrying amount: approximates fair value (after deduction of any allowance).
Receivables - other levels of government	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. All amounts are due by Departments and Agencies of State and Federal Governments. Carrying amount: approximates fair value.
Receivables - Retirement Home Contributions	Accounting Policy: Carried at nominal values less any allowance for doubtful debts. An allowance for doubtful debts is recognised (and re-assessed annually) when collection in full is no longer probable. Terms & 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 & 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 & 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 over stated for longer tenancies.
Liabilities - Interest Bearing Borrowings	Accounting Policy: Carried at the principal amounts. Interest is charged as an expense as it accrues. Terms & conditions: secured over future revenues, borrowings are repayable 6 monthly; interest is charged at fixed and variable rates between 4% and 8.1% (2016: 4% and 8.1%) Carrying amount: approximates fair value.
Liabilities - Finance Leases	Accounting Policy: accounted for in accordance with AASB 117.

BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2017

Note 12 (cont) - FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Liquidity Analysis

2017	Due < 1 year	Due > 1 year; ≤ 5 years	Due > 5 years	Total Contractual Cash Flows	Carrying Values
Financial Assets					
Cash & Equivalents	\$ 548,499	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 548,499	\$ 548,499
Receivables	2,301,623	-	-	2,301,623	2,301,620
Total	2,850,122	-	-	2,850,122	2,850,119
Financial Liabilities					
Payables	1,727,785	-	-	1,727,785	1,727,785
Current Borrowings	2,802,766	-	-	2,802,766	2,802,766
Non-Current Borrowings	-	2,134,734	1,199,522	3,334,256	2,580,082
Total	4,530,551	2,134,734	1,199,522	7,864,807	7,110,633

2016	Due < 1 year	Due > 1 year; ≤ 5 years	Due > 5 years	Total Contractual Cash Flows	Carrying Values
Financial Assets					
Cash & Equivalents	\$ 958,146	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 958,146	\$ 958,146
Receivables	691,419	-	-	691,419	691,419
Total	1,649,565	-	-	1,649,565	1,649,565
Financial Liabilities					
Payables	1,440,640	-	-	1,440,640	1,440,640
Current Borrowings	2,987,581	-	-	2,987,581	2,777,472
Non-Current Borrowings	-	2,631,887	1,507,492	4,139,379	2,982,848
Total	4,428,221	2,631,887	1,507,492	8,567,600	7,200,960

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

	30 June 2017		30 June 2016	
	Weighted Average Interest Rate	Carrying Value	Weighted Average Interest Rate	Carrying Value
Overdraft	variable	\$ 2,400,000	variable	\$ 2,400,000
Fixed Interest Rates	6.75	2,982,848	6.75	3,360,320
		<u>5,382,848</u>		<u>5,760,320</u>

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 allowance for doubtful debts. All Council investments are made with the SA Local Government Finance Authority and are guaranteed by the SA Government. Except as detailed in Notes 5 & 6 in relation to individual classes of receivables, exposure is concentrated within the Council's boundaries, and there is no material exposure to any individual debtor.

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

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

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

BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2017

Note 13 - COMMITMENTS FOR EXPENDITURE

	2017	2016
	Notes \$	\$
Capital Commitments		
Capital expenditure committed for at the reporting date but not recognised in the financial statements as liabilities:		
Construction Riverland Regional Innovation Sports Precinct	3,562,399	-
	<u>3,562,399</u>	<u>-</u>
These expenditures are payable:		
Not later than one year	3,562,399	-
	<u>3,562,399</u>	<u>-</u>
Other Expenditure Commitments		
Audit Services	52,467	68,946
Waste Management Services	1,105,094	1,078,140
Household Desludging Contract	153,700	150,000
Wastewater Reuse Scheme - operating availability charge	2,153,532	2,152,500
volumetric charge	236,340	205,000
Cleaning Services Contract	105,762	176,270
Public Convenience Maintenance	64,562	107,603
IT Support Contract	19,280	63,630
	<u>3,890,737</u>	<u>4,002,089</u>
Not later than one year	3,798,469	3,779,299
Later than one year and not later than 5 years	92,268	222,790
Later than 5 years	-	-
Minimum lease payments	3,890,737	4,002,089
Less: future finance charges	-	-
Net Lease Liability	<u>3,890,737</u>	<u>4,002,089</u>

BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2017

Note 14 - FINANCIAL INDICATORS

2017 2016 2015

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

The Information Paper was revised in May 2015 and the financial indicators for previous years have been re-calculated in accordance with the revised formulas.

Operating Surplus Ratio			
<u>Operating Surplus</u>	14.0%	(3.0%)	15.0%
Total Operating Revenue			

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

Adjusted Operating Surplus Ratio	7.0%	6.0%	7.0%
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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. The Adjusted Operating Surplus Ratio adjusts for the resulting distortion in the disclosed operating result for each year.

Net Financial Liabilities Ratio			
<u>Net Financial Liabilities</u>	25%	40%	26%
Total Operating Revenue			

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

Asset Sustainability Ratio			
<u>Net Asset Renewals</u>	73%	36%	114%
Infrastructure & Asset Management Plan required expenditure			

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

BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2017

Note 15 - UNIFORM PRESENTATION OF FINANCES

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

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

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

	2017 \$	2016 \$
Income	17,960,094	14,810,151
less Expenses	15,418,566	15,299,419
Operating Surplus / (Deficit)	2,541,528	(489,268)
less Net Outlays on Existing Assets		
Capital Expenditure on renewal and replacement of Existing Assets	2,281,950	1,072,710
Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	(3,037,546)	(3,204,004)
Proceeds from Sale of Replaced Assets	(111,093)	(235,340)
	(866,689)	(2,366,634)
less Net Outlays on New and Upgraded Assets		
Capital Expenditure on New and Upgraded Assets <i>(including investment property & real estate developments)</i>	5,550,360	5,101,174
Amounts received specifically for New and Upgraded Assets	(2,396,926)	(142,736)
Proceeds from Sale of Surplus Assets <i>(including investment property and real estate developments)</i>	(886,518)	(167,380)
	2,266,916	4,791,058
Net Lending / (Borrowing) for Financial Year	1,141,301	(2,913,692)

BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2017

Note 16 - OPERATING LEASES

Leases providing revenue to the Council

Council owns various buildings, plant and other facilities that are available for hire or lease (on a non-cancellable basis wherever practicable) in accordance with the published revenue policy. Rentals received from such leases are disclosed as rent and hire of non-investment property in Note 2.

Lessees commitments under all non-cancellable lease agreements, including those relating to Investment Property, are as follows:

	2017	2016
	\$	\$
Not later than one year	40,480	11,565
Later than one year and not later than 5 years	21,834	46,241
Later than 5 years	124	244
	<u>62,438</u>	<u>58,050</u>

Lease payment commitments of Council

Council has entered into non-cancellable operating leases for various items of computer and other plant and equipment.

No lease imposes any additional restrictions on Council in relation to additional debt or further leasing.

Leases in relation to computer and office equipment permit Council, at expiry of the lease, to elect to re-lease, return or acquire the equipment leased.

No lease contains any escalation clause.

Commitments under non-cancellable operating leases that have not been recognised in the financial statements are as follows:

	2017	2016
	\$	\$
Not later than one year	15,620	13,008
Later than one year and not later than 5 years	16,220	13,586
Later than 5 years	-	-
	<u>31,840</u>	<u>26,594</u>

BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2017

Note 17 - SUPERANNUATION

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

Accumulation only Members

Accumulation only members receive both employer and employee contributions on a progressive basis. Employer contributions are based on a fixed percentage of ordinary time earnings in accordance with superannuation guarantee legislation (9.50% in 2016/17; 9.50% in 2015/16). 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 2015/16) 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 119.32(b), Council does not use defined benefit accounting for these contributions.

The most recent actuarial investigation was conducted by the Fund's actuary, A C Miller, FIAA, of Russell Employee Benefits Pty Ltd as at 30 June 2014. The Trustee has determined that the current funding arrangements are adequate for the expected Salarylink liabilities. However, future financial and economic circumstances may require changes to Council's contribution rates at some future time.

Contributions to Other Superannuation Schemes

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

BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2017

Note 18 - INTERESTS IN OTHER ENTITIES

Regional Subsidiary

Council is a member of the Murraylands and Riverlands Local Government Association (MRLGA) which was established pursuant to Section 43 of the Local Government Act, 1999. Contribution paid to the Association were (ex GST)
2017 - \$20,451 2016 - \$20,149

Wastewater Re-Use Scheme

A joint venture has been entered into between Council and Trillity Ltd (formerly United Utilities) to build, operate and maintain a Wastewater Re-use Scheme as a solution to the treatment and reuse of septic tank effluent from townships of Berri, Barmera, Glossop, Monash, Cobdogla and Loveday and winery wastewater from Constellation Wines at Glossop. Operating Expenditure payable in 2016/2017 were:
Availability Charge - Annual Charge \$2,085,584
Volumetric Charge - Average annual charge \$239,686

Joint Use Library

Council is party to an agreement between the Minister for Education and Children's Services and Council to provide a 'dynamic library and information service responsive to library clients in meeting their educational, cultural and lifelong learning needs.'
Primary Client Groups are:
Staff and students of the Glossop High School Senior Campus
Community of the Berri Barmera Council

Each party is responsible for its own costs however shared facilities are split between the parties on a 50/50 percentage basis being

BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 30 June 2017

Note 19 - CONTINGENCIES & ASSETS & LIABILITIES NOT RECOGNISED IN THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

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

LAND UNDER ROADS

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

At reporting date, Council controlled 490 km of road reserves of average width 25 metres.

BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2017

Note 20 - RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL

The Key Management Personnel of the Council include the Mayor, Councillors, CEO and certain prescribed officers under section 112 of the Local Government Act 1999. In all, 18 persons were paid the following total compensation:

	2017 \$
Salaries, allowances & other short term benefits	1,323,871
Post-employment benefits	
Long term benefits	
Termination benefits	
TOTAL	1,323,871

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

	2017 \$
Contributions for fringe benefits tax purposes	37,670
Planning and building applications fees	
Rentals for Council property	
TOTAL	37,670

PARTIES RELATED TO KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL

Two elected members are members of the Barmera District War Memorial Community Centre Inc. Additionally, one elected member is a member of the Berri Bowling Club. In accordance with the Local Government Act 1999, these persons declare a conflict of interest and leave the meeting environs when any matter affecting their organisation/club is discussed or voted upon. Council made payment to the Barmera District War Memorial Community Centre Inc an annual contribution towards tourism and improvements for the Barmera District of \$51,050 in 2016/2017. In recent years, the Berri Bowling Club have relocated to Glassey Park. Payment made in 2016/2017 by Council to finalise the move was \$30,000 for the re-leveling of greens. Other costs incurred by Council on behalf of the Berri Bowling Club, such as rubbish collection, sewerage, water and the like are costs relating to Glassey Park as an entire sporting precinct provided to the community at large.

Some key management personnel or their close family members are affiliated with various service clubs, emergency service organisations or benevolent organisations of the region. From time to time Council will assist such organisations by way of community grant, rate rebate in accordance with the Local Government Act, 1999 or in kind assistance. During 2016/2017 financial assistance in this manner did not exceed \$1,500.

Other key management personnel or close family members are affiliated with various sporting clubs of the district. These sporting clubs regularly hire council facilities and pay Council hire fees in accordance with Fees and Charges Schedule adopted by Council.

Key management personnel or close family members (including related parties) 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 (all of which are payable on lodgement) amounted to \$2,181.

BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2017

Note 21 - Retrospective Restatement of 2015-2016 Comparative Data

A material adjustment in the treatment of the advance payment by the Federal Government of untied financial assistance grants received June 2015 has been made for 2015/2016 financial year. Grants, subsidies and contributions was overstated for the 2015/2016 financial year and an adjustment is required for comparative purposes.

Statement of Comprehensive Income

Reported 2015/2016 – Grants, subsidies and contributions	3,404,235
<i>adjustment</i>	(1,333,320)
Adjusted 2015/2016 – Grants, subsidies and contributions	\$2,070,915
Reported 2015/2016 – Total Income	16,143,471
<i>Adjustment</i>	(1,333,320)
Adjusted 2015/2016 – Total Income	14,810,151
Reported 2015/2016 – Operating Surplus(Deficit)	844,052
<i>Adjustment</i>	(1,333,320)
Adjusted 2015/2016 – Operating Surplus(Deficit)	(489,268)
Reported 2015/2016 – Net Surplus(Deficit)	576,371
<i>Adjustment</i>	(1,333,320)
Adjusted 2015/2016 – Net Surplus(Deficit)	(756,949)
Reported 2015/2016 – Total Comprehensive Income	(426,996)
<i>Adjustment</i>	(1,333,320)
Adjusted 2015/2016 – Total Comprehensive Income	(1,760,316)

Statement of Changes in Equity

Reported 2015/2016 – Opening Balance 2016 (end of previous reporting period, 2015)	22,120,022
<i>adjustment</i>	1,333,320
Adjusted 2015/2016 – Opening Balance 2016 (end of previous reporting period, 2015)	23,453,342

BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2017

Note 22 - EVENTS AFTER THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION DATE

AASB110 requires disclosure of events that have occurred after the reporting date and prior to authorisation of the financial statements.

Berri Renewable Energy Solar Power Generation Facility

The Berri Barmera Council has been offered a grant of \$5,034,000 under the State Local Government Infrastructure Partnership (SLGIP). This grant will go towards the construction of a 10 megawatt solar generation facility to provide more stable supply and pricing of electricity to local users. The construction cost of this facility will be \$25,170,000.

In addition to the commitment from the SLGIP to fund 20% of the cost of construction of the Berri Solar Facility, Council will borrow the remaining 80% at a discounted loan rate over 15 years via the Local Government Finance Authority.

The construction of the Berri Solar Facility is a commercial undertaking by Council which will require ongoing operational expenditure outlays.

A power purchasing agreement is in place with local industry ensuring an alternative revenue source will be ongoing.

All project risk management plans, independent financial modelling processes and legislated prudential review requirements have been undertaken prior to Council approving commencement of the project which will begin in the latter part of 2017.

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the members of The Berri Barmera Council

Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a general purpose financial report, of The Berri Barmera Council (the Council), which comprises the Certification of Financial Statements on the annual statements giving a true and fair view of the financial position and performance, the Statement of Comprehensive Income, the Statement of Financial Position, the Statements of Changes in Equity, the Statement of Cash Flows for the year then ended 30 June 2017 and the notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of the Council is in accordance with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 1999* and the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulation 2011*, including:

- (i) giving a true and fair view of the Council's financial position as at 30 June 2017 and of its performance and cash flows for the year then ended; and
- (ii) that the financial records kept by the Council are such as to enable financial statements to be prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described as 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 auditor independence requirements of the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (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 the Chief Executive Officer for the Financial Report

The Chief Executive Officer is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations), the *Local Government Act 1999* and the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011*. This responsibility includes determining that the basis of preparation described in Note 1 is appropriate to meet the need of the members. The Chief Executive Officer's responsibility also includes designing, implementing and maintaining internal controls relevant to enable the preparation of the financial report to be free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the Chief Executive Officer is responsible for assessing the Council'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 Council or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

The Chief Executive Officer of the Council is responsible for overseeing the Council's financial reporting process.

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 the 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 financial report.

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

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

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

DEAN NEWBERY & PARTNERS
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS



SAMANTHA ALLARD
PARTNER

Signed on the 18th day of October 2017,
at 214 Melbourne Street, North Adelaide

INDEPENDENT ASSURANCE REPORT ON THE INTERNAL CONTROLS OF THE BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL

We have audited the Internal Controls of the Berri Barmera Council (Council) under the requirements of *Section 129(1)(b) of the Local Government Act 1999* in relation only to the Internal Controls established by the Council to ensure that financial transactions relating to the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, acquisition and disposal of property and incurring of liabilities for the period 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017 have been conducted properly and in accordance with law.

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* to ensure that the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, the acquisition and disposal of property, and incurring of liabilities have been conducted properly and in accordance with law.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Council's compliance with *Section 129(1)(b) 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 have been conducted properly and in accordance with law. Our engagement has been conducted in accordance with applicable Australian Standards on Assurance Engagements ASAE 3100 *Compliance Engagements*, 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 2016 to 30 June 2017. ASAE 3100 also requires us to comply with the relevant ethical requirements of the Australian professional accounting bodies.

Our procedures included obtaining an understanding of 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 controls, assessing the risk that a material weakness exists, and testing and evaluating the design of controls on a sample basis based on the assessed risks.

Limitation on Use

This report has been prepared for the members of the Council in accordance with *Section 129(1)(b) of the Local Government Act 1999* in relation to the Internal Controls specified above. We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report to any persons or users other than the members of the Council, or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

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.

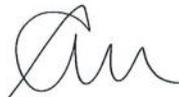
Independence

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

Opinion

In our opinion, the Council has complied, in all material respects, with *Section 129(1)(b) of the Local Government Act 1999* in relation to Internal Controls established by the Council relating to the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, acquisition and disposal of property and incurring of liabilities so as to provide reasonable assurance that the financial transactions of the Council have been conducted properly and in accordance with law for the period 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017.

**DEAN NEWBERY & PARTNERS
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS**



**SAMANTHA ALLARD
PARTNER**

Signed on the 18th day of October 2017
at 214 Melbourne Street, North Adelaide, South Australia, 5006

BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL

**ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 June 2017**

CERTIFICATION OF AUDITOR INDEPENDENCE

To the best of our knowledge and belief, we confirm that, for the purpose of the audit of SA Model Council for the year ended 30 June 2017, the Council's Auditor, Dean Newbery and Partners, have maintained their 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*.


.....
**DAVID BEATON
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**
.....
**JOHN COMRIE
PRESIDING MEMBER
AUDIT COMMITTEE**

Date: 18/10/2017

Certification of Auditor's Independence

I confirm that, for the audit of the financial statements of the Berri Barmera Council for the year ended 30 June 2017, I have maintained my independence in accordance with the requirements of APES 110 – Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants, Section 290, 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*.



SAMANTHA ALLARD

Partner

DEAN NEWBERY & PARTNERS

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

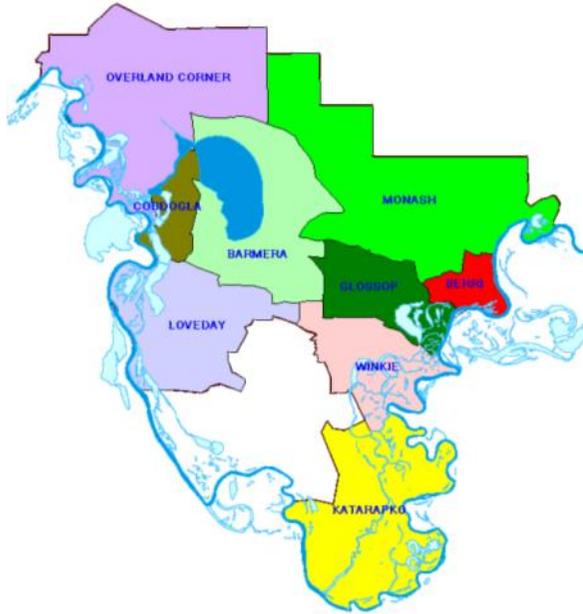
Dated this 18th day of October 2017

Executive Services



Council General Information- Council Area

The Berri Barmera Council area incorporates the Berri, Barmera, Cobdogla, Loveday, Monash, Glossop, Winkie and Overland Corner districts. There are no Wards, with all eight elected members (and the Mayor) representing the interests of the entire community and district.



Elected Member Training and Development Activities

Throughout 2016/2017 Elected Members attended the following Conferences and Training Sessions;

- Local Government Association AGM
- Local Government Association OGM and Showcase
- Local Government Association Roads and Works Conference
- 2017 National General Assembly of Local Government
- Other associated Local Government Association training sessions

Council Meeting and Attendances by Members for period 2016/2017

Elected Member	Ordinary Meetings	Special Council Meetings
Mayor Peter Hunt	11	7
Cr Rhonda Centofanti	11	7
Cr Margaret Evans	11	7
Cr Mike Fuller	11	4
Cr Andrew Kassebaum	10	6
Cr Linc Gore	12	7
Cr Stephen Lynch	12	7
Cr Trevor Scott	12	7
Cr David Waterman	12	7

Corporate Structure

The Corporate and Functional Structure (overleaf) reflects areas of responsibility within Council's various Departments/Functions.

To compliment the Corporate and Functional Structure further, Committees have been appointed to enhance decision making and accountability of the Department/Functional areas.

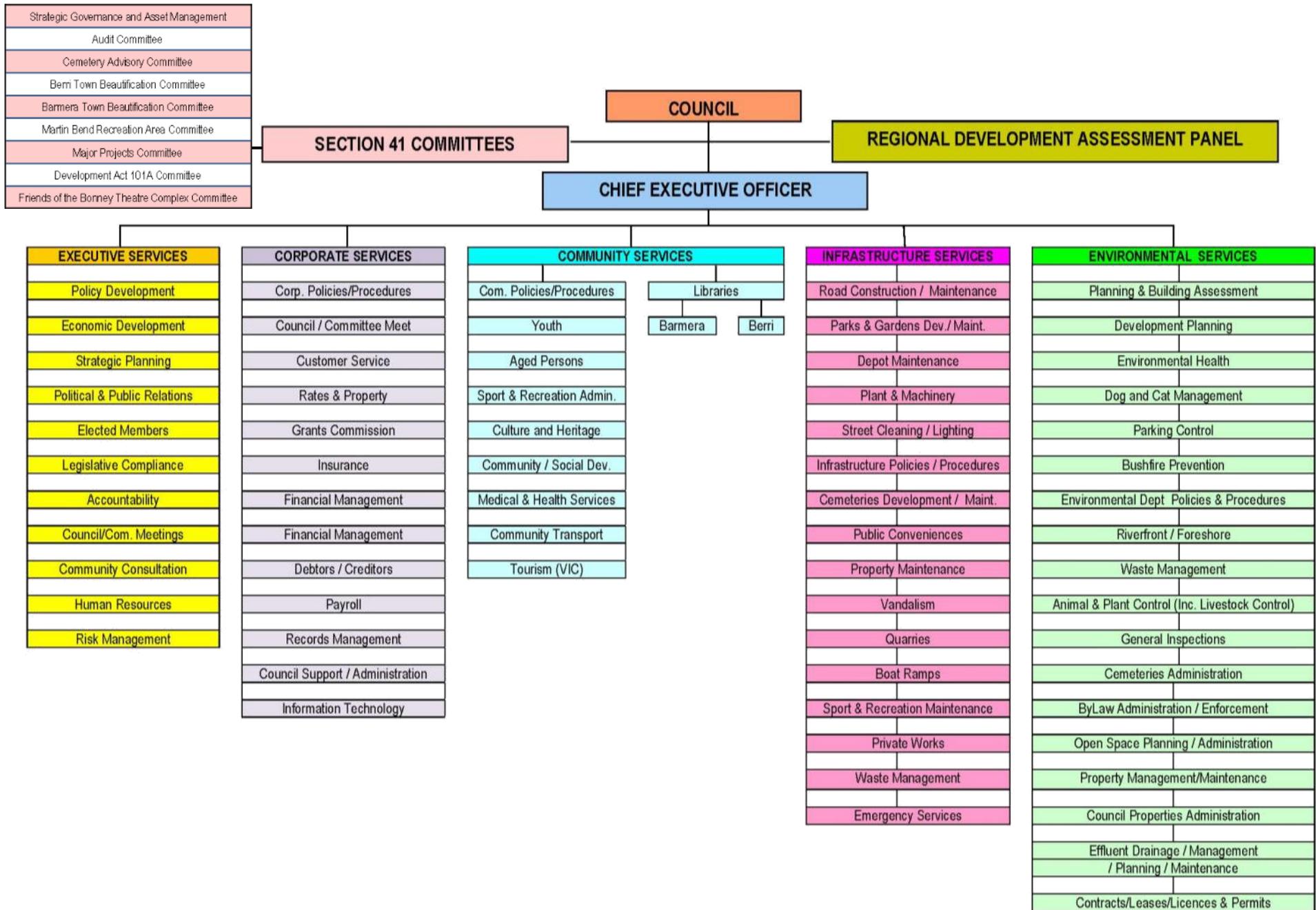
The Committees are:

- Strategic Governance and Asset Management Committee
- Audit Committee
- Cemetery Advisory Committee
- Berri Town Beautification Committee
- Barmera Town Beautification Committee
- Martin Bend Recreational Area Committee
- Major Projects Committee
- Development Act 101A Committee
- Friends of the Bonney Theatre Complex Committee

(Additional information on the roles and functions of the Council is included in the "Decision Making Structure of the Council" section of the report)

Other Specific Purposes Committees:

- Berri Barmera Council Building Fire Safety Committee
- Berri Barmera Bushfire Prevention Committee
- Riverland Community Transport
- Riverland Regional Development Assessment Panel



EXECUTIVE SERVICES

Regional Involvement

Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association

Council is a member of the Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association which is a Regional Subsidiary established pursuant to the Schedule 2, Schedule 28 of the *Local Government Act, 1999*. The membership of the Association includes the following Councils:

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

Pursuant to Schedule 2 (Section 28) of the *Local Government Act 1999*, the Annual Report of the Murray and Mallee Local Government Association is included within this report under the heading “Regional Subsidiary Reports” (refer contents).

Riverland Local Government Forum

The Berri Barmera Council, along with the District Council of Loxton Waikerie and Renmark Paringa Council form the Riverland Local Government Forum. Though the Forum is not constituted under the *Local Government Act*, the Forum does provide an opportunity for the Riverland Councils to meet and discuss issues affecting the region.

Senior Executive Officers – Register of Salaries

Title of Position	Classification	Other Benefits Packages Provided
Chief Executive Officer	Contract Agreement	Novated Lease Available Annual salary increase CPI – as per contract Mobile Phone / Work related calls
Manager Corporate Services	Contract Agreement Includes EB Agreement	Novated Lease Allowance
Manager Infrastructure Services	Contract Agreement Includes EB Agreement	Mobile phone and car provided
Manager Environmental Services and Special Projects	Contract Agreement Includes EB Agreement	Mobile phone and car provided

Human Resources / Work Health and Safety

Human Resources

For the 2016–2017 period Council's workforce equated to 78 employees. Council's trainee and apprenticeship program continues to provide excellent pathways for individuals by facilitating career opportunities within council and the local community. Through the Regional Youth Traineeship Program (RYTP) Council was successful in securing three additional traineeship positions – one trainee in the information technology stream; one trainee in library services; and a trainee in tourism. This equates to six trainees employed at council through this program. The RYTP was an idea of the Minister for Regional Development, Hon Geoff Brock, which he is pleased to be able to fund with \$2million from the Regional Development Fund for Round 2 of the program. The aim of the program is to increase regional youth workforce participation.

Council is committed to providing Equal Employment Opportunities through programs that support merit based recruitment and encourage career and personal development. Council values a diverse workforce and providing equity with training opportunities resulting in an innovative workforce and pathways for a rewarding career.

Training and Development

The focus for training and development has been on the up skilling of staff with increasing their knowledge and skill sets within their professions. For 2016–2017 approximately 135 training and development sessions were attended by staff. Staff are required to keep up-to-date with legislation and industry standards. Compliance training forms a large part of Council's training needs.

Council continues to foster positive interaction with all its employees by focusing on positively influencing culture and harnessing emerging opportunities.

Emergency Management

Council continues to actively work with agencies and supporting departments in the development of strategies in the planning, preparedness, response and recovery phases of emergency management. Representation of Council on the Murray Mallee Zone and local emergency committees ensures that plans are reflective of local governments capacity and within scope of responsibilities. Changes in the State Emergency Management Plan that came into effect in December 2016 with the introduction of the Local Government Functional Support Group are still being established and implemented across the Local Government sector.

The Riverland district experienced some significant events during 2016–2017 including the September Statewide Blackout; the Riverland Storms in November and the High River Event from September to January. Other events caused localised issues due to damaging winds, heavy rains and extreme heat. During emergencies, Council responds to and actively monitors Council infrastructure and services, and provides support to the emergency services and supporting agencies. The response to and management of events by the emergency services personnel and agencies are recognised along with the staff of Council all of whom work collectively to minimise the impact of events on the community.

Council, along with the surrounding Councils, meet regularly with the community functional services of SAPOL to discuss crime prevention and community safety within the region. This provides for a collective approach to issues that are or have the potential for impact on the safety of the community.



River Murray Flood Marker, located Riverview Drive Berri SA. Photo taken on 6th December 2017 during the High River Event 2016–2017. River height at Berri on 9/12/2017, 15.71m (AHD).

Risk Management

Council’s exposure to liability has been limited through proactive management and maintenance of Council’s assets, infrastructure and facilities. Plans and programs were formulated for these areas and will continually be reviewed for appropriateness.

Work Health and Safety

Council undertook the annual Key Performance Indicator (KPI) Audit conducted by LGAWCS in December 2016. It is an obligation of being self insured for workers compensation to meet the requirements of the Performance Standards for Self Insurers (PSSI). Due to on going partnership programs with WorkCover SA and Councils across the state, again, only 11 sub elements of the PSSI were selected to form the 2016 KPI audit. Council achieved seven areas of conformance, three opportunities for improvement and one area of non-conformance. Action plans were developed and implemented to address the areas of improvement and compliance.

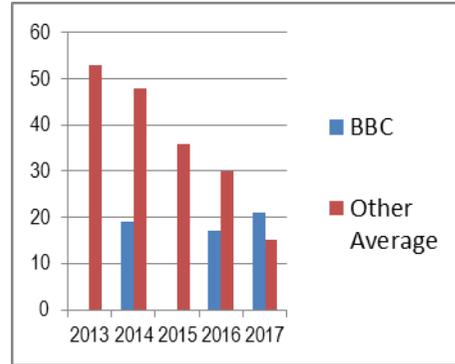
Following consultation for 2016–2017 the WHS focus for Council were the following programs: Hazard Management; WHS KPI Audit Action Plan; and Return To Work. All programs had identified actions which were assigned to responsible officers and were monitored and reported on regularly to ensure that the focus of Council was timely and relevant.

Injury Management

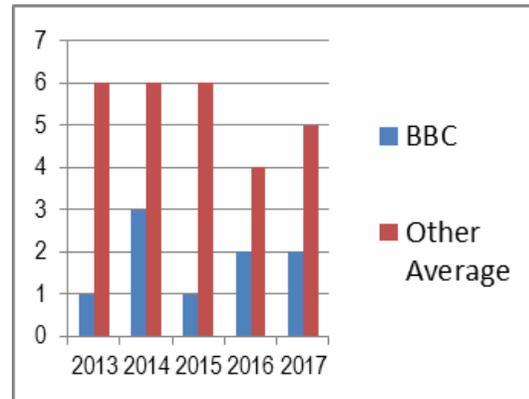
Workers Compensation Claims Data

Claims

The number of claims for 2017 BBC is carry over of existing (open) claims from 2016. There were NO new claims in 2016–2017



Lost Time Injury Days

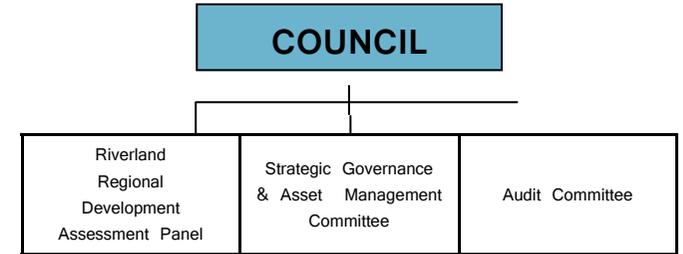


Other: Similar Groups of Councils.(Group D)

Data Source: LGAWCS, Clams Analysis and Tracking System as at 30 June 2017. Statistical information is update monthly by LGAWCS but the accuracy is dependent on the timing of information being lodged and processed.

Decision Making Structure of Council

To facilitate sound governance and to ensure that decision making processes are carried out in the most efficient manner the Council has adopted the following decision making structure. The structure of Council and its major committees which integrate with Council’s Corporate Structure are as follows:



Riverland Regional Development Assessment Panel (RRDAP)
Refer Page 35 for further details

Audit Committee

The functions of the Audit Committee include:

- 1) reviewing annual financial statements to ensure that they present fairly the state of affairs of the council; and
- 2) proposing, and providing information relevant to, a review of the Council’s strategic management plans or Annual Business Plan; and
- 3) proposing, and reviewing, the exercise of powers under Section 130A; and
- 4) if the Council has exempted a subsidiary from the requirement to have an audit committee, the functions that would, apart from the exemption, have been performed by the subsidiary’s audit committee; and
- 5) liaising with the Council’s auditor; and
- 6) reviewing the adequacy of the accounting, internal control, reporting and other financial management systems and practices of the council on a regular basis.

Membership

One independent member (John Comrie)
Crs M Fuller, D Waterman, Cr L Gore
Mayor P Hunt (ex officio)
Cr A Kassebaum (Proxy)
Chief Executive Officer
Manager Corporate Services
Internal/External Auditors
Human Resources/Risk Management

Strategic Governance and Asset Management Committee

The functions of the Strategic Governance and Asset Management Committee include:

Strategic Governance

- 1) To develop, implement and review a Strategic Plan for the Berri Barmera Council area including undertaking extensive public consultation.
- 2) To develop a policy framework for the Council to support the strategic direction of the Council.
- 3) To review and make recommendations regarding the Council's Management Plan.
- 4) To receive deputations and/or representations from interested parties, which may aid Council, in determining its objectives, strategies and priorities.
- 5) To establish sub-committees and/or working parties to assist in carrying out the Committee's functions.
- 6) To consider any other matters referred to it by the Council, other Council Committees and the Chief Executive Officer.

Asset Management

- 1) To guide the development of an asset management policy framework for the Council and make recommendations for consideration in forward financial estimates, and to deal with matters in respect of Council's asset management programs.
- 2) To oversee the regular evaluation of asset management and programs and the review of relevant service levels.

- 3) To formulate and deliver appropriate strategies in relation to its strategic property holdings.
- 4) To receive deputations and/or representations from interested parties, which may aid Council, in determining its objectives, strategies and priorities.
- 5) To establish sub-committees and/or working parties to assist in carrying out the Committee's functions.
- 6) To consider any other matters referred to it by the Council, other Council Committees and the Chief Executive Officer.

Membership – All Councillors

Chairperson – Cr A Kassebaum
Attendees – Chief Executive Officer and Management Team
Co-ordinator – CEO

Council / Committee Meetings

Council meetings are generally held on the fourth Tuesday of every month commencing at 5:45pm. These meetings are maintained in a public forum with the exception of items that Council considers for reasons pursuant to Section 90 of the *Local Government Act* need to be discussed in confidence.

Although meetings are held in a public forum, members of the public attending are not permitted to speak, however individuals are provided with an opportunity to make representation and address Council on specific issues that are raised.

In addition, the Council maintains a wide distribution of its Council and Committee Agendas to the local community via the website and Council office.

The Council and Committee agendas are placed on public display within the Council office at least three days prior to the Council and committee meetings in accordance with the provisions of the *Local Government Act 1999*.

In addition to the above mentioned Committees, the Council also has formed a number of other committees that incorporate either full Council representation or a mixture of Council and community representation and perform various tasks or manage Council facilities.

These committees include the following:

- Cemetery Advisory Committee
- Berri Town Beautification Committee
- Barmera Town Beautification Committee
- Martin Bend Recreational Area Committee
- Major Projects Committee
- Development Act 101A Committee
- Friends of Bonney Theatre Complex

Following meetings of Council and Committees, the minutes of such are available on the Council's website. Minutes can also be viewed at the Council Office or purchased if desired.



Strategic and Corporate Plan

The Strategic Plan to 2015—2020, adopted in January 2016, established the following Vision for the Council:

Vision

In 2030, the Berri Barmera Community will be a sustainable, prosperous, confident regional community throughout the Riverland of SA.

Our Strategic Plan is shaped by five Goals, including the objectives for key areas namely ;

1. Confident and Contributing Community;

This Goal focuses on creating opportunities for active contributions from the community and retaining the population. The goal encourages the community to participate. It is underpinned by an entrepreneurial spirit, partnerships and the region's future success and leadership.

2. Diverse Economy;

This Goal focuses on broadening the economic base of the region. Recognising that the region has successfully grown through horticultural and associated industries, now is the time to create and attract new economic opportunities and talent.

3. Smart Infrastructure;

This Goal focuses on effectively managing assets, ensuring contemporary systems are in place to enhance community wellbeing, communication, and access.

4. Valued Natural Environment / Resources;

This Goal focuses on protecting and enriching our natural resources for future generations. While the river is foundational to our identity and lifestyle, this goal extends beyond to the creation of 'closed loop'¹ systems and by becoming self-reliant in many areas.

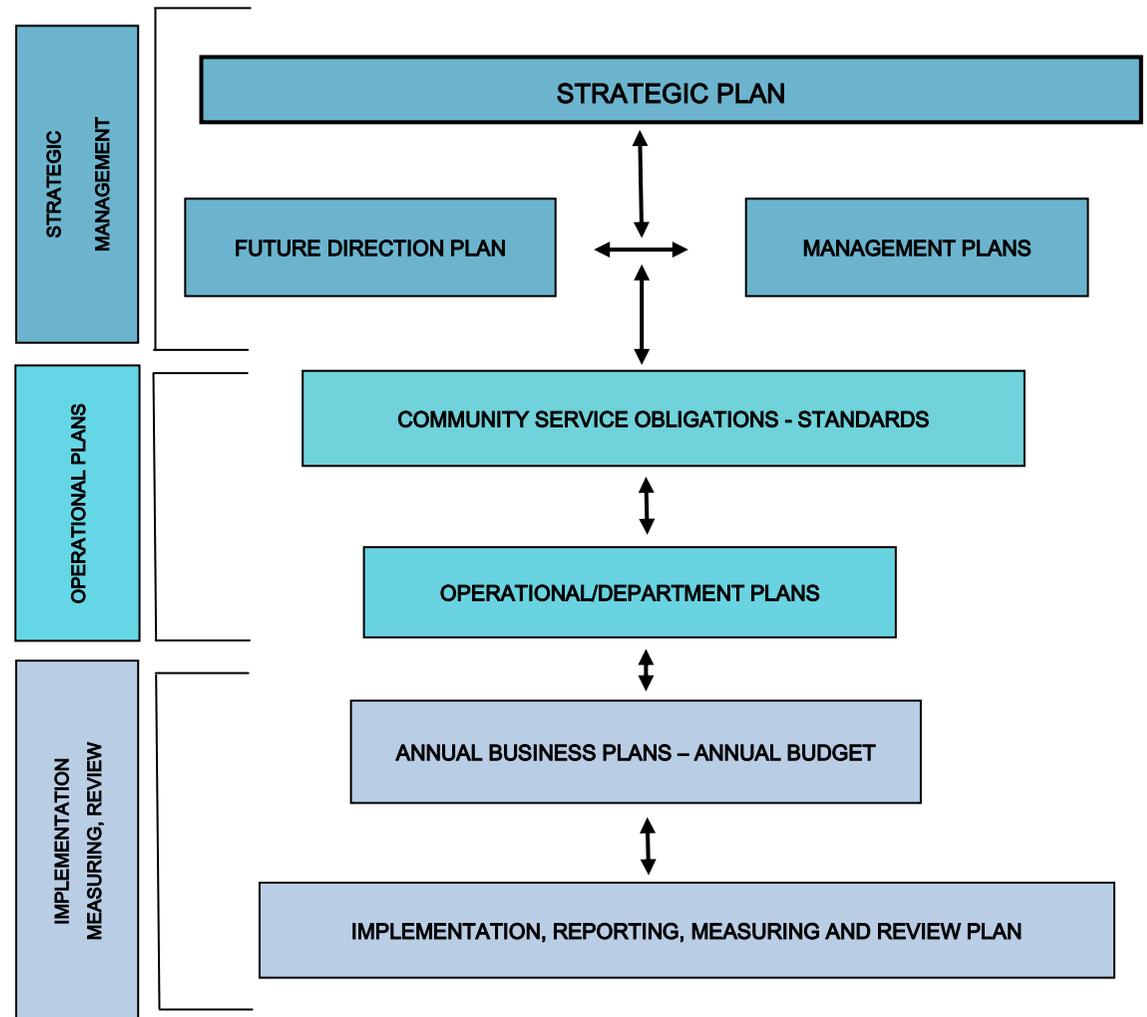
5. Strong Internal Capability / Capacity.

This Goal focuses on business practices for community benefit, accountability, good governance and clear decision making processes. Reduction in complexity, increased skill development of staff and Elected Members and resource sharing opportunities are pivotal to the goal.

1. a system that adjusts itself to varying conditions by feeding output information back as input

Strategic Planning Framework

The following Strategic Planning framework ensures integration of Council's Strategic Direction with the day to day operations of the Council.



Action Plan

The following Action Plans encompass the major activities that Council will undertake to achieve its objectives.

1. Confident and Contributing Community

This Goal focuses on creating opportunities for active contributions from the community and retaining the population. The goal encourages the community to participate. It is underpinned by an entrepreneurial spirit, partnerships and the region's future success and leadership.

1. Confident and Contributing Community		Actions 2016/2017	Performance Outcomes (Measures)
Objective 1	We will create opportunity for active involvement and input to civic issues and decision making.	Increase in social media to disseminate information	Only one item still held in confidence
Objective 2	We will increase involvement in civic pride.	Greater use of social media	Increased social media responses
Objective 3	We will support First People	Barmerara Meru Committee	Budget Allocation for Cultural, Heritage and Environmental Management Plan
Objective 4	We will support and promote multicultural diversity.		
Objective 5	We will increase access to quality housing for a greater range of individuals.	Discussions with Renewal SA	
Objective 6	We will create opportunities for community ownership and control of assets.	Newly built assets to be under the control and management of community groups Riverland Regional Innovation and Sports Precinct	Received grant from Federal Government of \$3,526,884
Objective 7	We will work with communities of interest to increase safety.	Met with SAPOL Member of ZEMC	Decrease in reported crime
Objective 8	We will influence state, regional and local decision making.	Mayor Vice President of LGA Mayor Vice President of MRLGA Riverland Local Government Forum G3 Alliance	

2. Diverse Economy;

This Goal focuses on broadening the economic base of the region. Recognising that the region has successfully grown through horticultural and associated industries, now is the time to create and attract new economic opportunities and talent.

2. Diverse Economy		Actions 2016/2017	Performance Outcomes (Measures)
Objective 1	We will develop partnerships to attract new industry (eg advanced manufacturing; green industries; alternative	Partnered with Accolade for application to Building Stronger Region Fund for new	New businesses or expansions of existing businesses.
Objective 2	We will attract investment to value add to current industry.	Partnered with Accolade for application to Building Stronger Region Fund for new warehouse	
Objective 3	We will work with partners to attract business not reliant on the River	Aldi store opened	New Business
Objective 4	We will develop a China strategy	Limited scope for local business at present	
Objective 5	We will promote quality Country Style living and lifestyle	More allotments of a larger scale have been approved	New houses built
Objective 6	We will facilitate development through appropriate zoning and amend where require (while protecting the natural assets of the region).	New legislation to change processes	New houses built
Objective 7	We will support local business and towns to work together to increase joint profitability.	Council has membership and makes an allocation to "Business Riverland"	
Objective 8	We will support tourism	Berri VIC directly and Barmera VIC by allocation. Regional Tourism Summit.	No. of Tourism businesses
Objective 9	We will support more women in leadership roles.	Programs in place for development	Increase in women in mid and senior management roles

3. Smart Infrastructure;

This Goal focuses on effectively managing assets, ensuring contemporary systems are in place to enhance community wellbeing, communication, and access.

3. Smart Infrastructure		Actions 2016/2017	Performance Outcomes (Measures)
Objective 1	We will ensure fast, reliable NBN infrastructure. We will bolster technology capacity and capability across the region.	NBN in Barmera Roll out in Berri Oct 2017	NBN working to community satisfaction
Objective 2	We will continue to invest in sports, recreation and lifestyle infrastructure working to partner with businesses when appropriate.	Upgrade to Regional Hockey Facility Riverland Regional Innovation and Sports Precinct at Berri	Facilities created
Objective 3	We will modernise and build community assets. We will enhance the combining and sharing of community resources (eg transport).	Glassey Park will house 8 sports when completed	Facilities upgraded
Objective 4	We will provide non structured recreational facilities, locally and regionally, to promote participation, well-being and aesthetic landscape quality.	Walking trails being developed	Facilities completed
Objective 5	We will focus on amalgamating sporting, recreational & lifestyle facilities to continue to provide high quality services.	Glassey Park and Barmera facilities	Number of Joint use facilities

4. Valued Natural Environment / Resources;

This Goal focuses on protecting and enriching our natural resources for future generations. While the river is foundational to our identity and lifestyle, this goal extends beyond to the creation of ‘closed loop’ systems and by becoming self-reliant in many areas.

4. Valued Natural Environment/Resources		Actions 2016/2017	Performance Outcomes (Measures)
Objective 1	We will explore alternative energy supplies to reduce our carbon footprint.	Approval for 10MW Solar Farm has received \$5 million from State Government	Solar Farm built
Objective 2	We will explore business opportunities in the waste stream area. We will continue to upgrade and promote practices		
Objective 3	We will promote and encourage eco-tourism. We will invest in the provision of high quality tourism facilities, services	Loch Luna Development Approved	New eco-tourism businesses
Objective 4	We will implement best practice in Cat Management.	Developing Cat By-Laws	New By-Laws working well

5. Strong Internal Capability / Capacity;

This Goal focuses on business practices for community benefit, accountability, good governance and clear decision making processes. Reduction in complexity, increased skill development of staff and Elected Members and resource sharing opportunities are pivotal to the goal.

5. Strong Internal Capability and Capacity		Actions 2016/2017	Performance Outcomes (Measures)
Objective 1	We will embed strategic procurement practices.	Using G3 Alliance and strategic purchasing	Control of expenditure
Objective 2	We will continuously improve process ensuring a focus on monitoring and evaluation.	Reviewed ICT services	Improvements made
Objective 3	We will enhance resource sharing with other councils (exploration of enhanced service provision through regional collaboration, public private partnerships and sector-wide approaches.	G3 operating on numerous projects	MOU signed with Riverland Councils and implemented
Objective 4	We will invest in workforce planning and upskilling of staff.	Workforce planning in place	Workforce Plan completed
Objective 5	We will invest in upskilling / skill maintenance of Elected Members.	Members have attended training sessions and conferences	Decision making

Registers, Codes, Policies and Procedures

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

Registers

- Section 68 Members Register of Interests
- Section 79 Members Register of Allowances and Benefits
- Section 105 Officers Register of Salaries
- Section 116 Officer Register of Interests
- Section 188 Fees and Charges
- Section 207 Community Land
- Section 231 Public Roads
- Section 252 By Laws

Codes

- Section 63 Members Code of Conduct
- Section 92 Code of Practice for Access to Meetings and Documents
- Section 110 Employees Code of Conduct
- Reg 6 Code of Practice for Meeting Procedures

Council Policies and Bylaws

The Berri Barmera Council has their Policies displayed via the Council website and are continually updated to reflect changes in circumstances or if a new issue arises.

Council's Policies and Bylaws Index are listed overleaf-



Statutory Requirements	Access to Meetings – Code of Practice
	Code of Conduct – Elected Members & Committee Members
	Code of Conduct – Council Employees
	Procedure for Managing Elected Members Code of Conduct (Breach of Code) Complaints
	Confidentiality Provisions – Code of Practice
	Procurement (Contracting and Tendering) Policy and Procedure
	Order Making Policy
	Public Consultation and Community Engagement
	Review of Council Decisions (Including Handling Complaints)
Financial Management	Annual Budget Policy
	Asset Accounting
	Asset Management
	Business and Residential Development Support Policy
	Debt Recovery
	Fees & Charges Policy and Schedule
	Fraud & Corruption Prevention Policy
	Financial Hardship (CWMS) Policy
	Internal Financial Control Policy
	Treasury Management
	Valuation of Land Under Roads Policy
	Whistleblower Protection Policy

Rates	Fines / Rates Recovery Policy
	Rate Capping Policy
	Rate Rebate Policy
	Rate Remission Policy
Governance	Chief Executive Officer Appraisal
	Elections – Caretaker Policy
	Elections – Casual Vacancies (Supplementary Election)
	Policy Development
Public Relations	Citizenship Ceremonies
	Electronic Communications
	Flag Flying Policy
	Media and Communications Policy
Elected Members	Code of Practice – Meeting Procedures
	Council Member Access to Information
	Council Representations and Delegations
	Deputy Mayor / Chairperson Council Committees
	Elected Member Electronic Communication & Ipad Policy
	Elected Members Support
	Informal Gatherings Policy
	Mayor / Chairpersons Seeking Legal Advice
	Training – Elected Members
	Records Management—Elected Members

Risk Management	Children & Vulnerable Persons' Safety Policy
	Risk Management Policy
	Risk Management Framework
	Provision of Council Resources to Support the Emergency Services in Emergencies Policy
	Volunteer Management Policy
Community Services	Community Grants and Assistance Policy
	Community Bus Use
Community Transport Scheme	Community Transport Policy
Tourism	Tourism Services
Youth Services	Youth Services Policy
Library	Library Collection & Development Policy
	Library – Conditions of Use Policy
Infrastructure Management	Plant & Equipment – Emergency Use of
	Plant and Equipment – Employee Use of
	Plant Operations – Plant Replacement
	Private Works
	Township and Rural Tree Policy
	Urban House Numbering Policy
	Road and Street Naming Policy
	Vaughan Terrace War Memorial Policy

Roads and Footpaths	Crossings (Driveways) Policy
	Footpath Construction
	Construction of Unmade Roads Policy
Waste Management	Hard Waste Collection Policy
	Kerbside Waste, Recycling and Green Waste Service Policy
Environmental Services	Community Wastewater Management Scheme (CWMS) (Connection Fees)
	Abandoned Vehicles Policy
	Building and Swimming Pool Inspection Policy
	Camping, Caravanning and Recreational Vehicle Policy
	Election Signs
	Liquor Licencing Policy
	Outdoor Dining Policy
	Permit Parking Policy
	Signage Policy
	Land Development Infrastructure Guidelines
	Delegations under the <i>Development Act 1993</i> and Development Regulations 2008
	Unclad Bathing Policy
	Leases, Licences and Permit Policy
	Food Inspection Policy
	Horse Riding Policy
	Mobile/Temporary Vending Policy

Members Allowances

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

The following allowances are paid to Elected Members as at 30 June 2017.

Mayor	\$52,412
Deputy Mayor	\$16,378.75
Councillors	\$13,103

Council has, in the past, foregone an extra allowance for Presiding Members (Chair) on Committees (i.e. allowance paid has been equal to that of all Councillors). The allowance set by the Remuneration Tribunal 2014 for the position of Presiding Member for the Berri Barmera Council is \$16,378.75 for the Strategic Governance and Asset Management Committees.

For the Martin Bend Recreation Area, Berri Town Beautification, Barmera Town Beautification, Friends of Bonney Theatre Complex and Cemetery Advisory Committees (as per 3.3.2.2 of the Remuneration Tribunal Determination of Allowances) an allowance of \$154 per meeting limited to an aggregate amount allowance of \$922 per annum.

Elector Representation Review

Under the requirements of the *Local Government Act 1999*, Councils representation must comply with a specified quota tolerance. The Berri Barmera Council is represented by a Mayor and eight Councillors. The *Local Government (Elections) Act 1999* requires that as at 1 January of every election year, the Council Voters Roll is to be purged of all landlords, business lessees and resident non-citizens in readiness for the period election. The total number of electors in the district of The Berri Barmera Council is as follows:

House of Assembly as provided by the State Electoral Commission	7,325
Council's Supplementary Roll	<u>2</u>
Total:	7327

Council's representation quota is therefore 814 electors per elected member.

Over the 2016/2017 year, Council completed a Elector Representation review of its size, composition and ward structure, as required by the provisions of Section 12 of the Act. The review, which was conducted in accordance with the specified process and addressed the matters detailed under Sections 26 and 33 of the Act, culminated in Council resolving that:

- the principal member of Council continue to be a Mayor elected by the community at council-wide elections;
- the Council area not be divided into wards (i.e. the existing "no wards" structure be retained);
- Council continue to comprise eight (8) area councillors and the Mayor; and
- the current name of Council be retained.

The report is referred to the Electoral Commissioner in accordance with the provisions of Section 12(12) of the Act, and certification is hereby sought so as to enable Council's proposal, as detailed herein, to be in effect at the Local Government elections in 2018.

Council	Elected Members Including Mayor	Electors	Ratio
Alexandrina	12	19,735	1,644
Barossa Council	12	17,248	1,437
Berri Barmera	9	7,327	814
Copper Coast	11	11,047	1004
Light Regional	11	10,145	922
Loxton Waikerie	11	8,186	744
Murray Bridge	10	14,076	1,407
Port Pirie	10	12,910	1,291
Victor Harbor	10	12,148	1,214
Wattle Range	12	8,530	710
Yorke Peninsula	12	9,194	766

Competitive Tendering / Cost Effective Delivery of Service

Contractors are awarded on a tender / quotation basis as Councils commitment towards providing cost effective services to its community and providing the opportunity for competitive tendering. Resulting from this approach by Council. Significant amounts of Councils operations are contracted out to minimise Councils requirement to provide expensive plant and equipment and to maintain a relatively small workforce to reduce overheads.

The table below outlines the contract work awarded through tendering / quotation processes for specific projects and functions of the Council.

Contractors 2016/2017 (Major)		
Audit Contract (External)	Dean Newbery and Partners	19,200
Baramba Recreation Centre Management	Chubb Fire	347.00
	Auto Doors	284.00
	Verrall's Cleaning	10,953.00
	Initial Hygiene	8,925.00
	Others	1,497.00
Effluent Drainage Maintenance	D. Kuhn Plumbing	19,404.00
	N. Kuhn	10,547.00
	Laser Alignment Maintenance	58,279.00
	Riverland Tank and Drain	118,130.00
Garbage Collection	National Trust	720.00
	Transpacific - Cleanaway	498,780.00
	Transpacific Industries	473,464.00
	Transpacific Industries—Cleanaway	69,266.00
	Hard Waste	46,788.00
Animal and Plant Control Board	Casey's Pest Control	305.00
	Pigeon Control	7,047.00
	MADEC—Weed Control	13,840.00
Public Convenience Management		94,818.00
Sealed Road Construction	InRoads	308,696.00
	Topcoat	140,706.00
Road Maintenance Sealing	Telfer Road	17,207.00
	Field Day Drive	24,793.00
	Battams Road	176,895.00
	Pommy Ave	39,841
	Coates Road	84,027.00
	Curren Road	35,496.00
Kerbing Replacement—Renewal	Amy	13,536.00
	Powell	18,554.00
	Dean	680.00
	Laffer	3,571.00
	Pascoe	12,352.00
	Hood	3,232.00
	Todd	13,976.00
	Trenaman	20,445.00
	Park	33,467.00
	Madison	5,889.00

Contractors 2016/2017 (Major) continued		
Dump Rehabilitation—Monash	Tonkin Consulting	7,630.00
	Tonkin Consulting	76,392.00
Sealed Road Maintenance		52,571.00
		48,343.00
Paths extensions—Lakefront	Riverscape Landscaping	23,773.00
Footpath Pavers Replacement		26,460.00
Swimming Pool Management	Casa Leisure	66,667.00
		11,779.00
		3,704.00
Swimming Pool Upgrade		62,102.00
Stone Ridge Quarry	Scherer Contractors	185,572.00
Community Wastewater Management Scheme	Trility	2,431,116.00

Contractors 2016/2017 Sundries (Multiple Contractors)	
Berri Library Maintenance	5,129.00
Baramba Library Maintenance	11,471.00
Council Office Building	25,243.00
Debt Collection Costs	22,464.00
Halls Building Maintenance	56,262.00
Bonney Theatre External Maintenance	59,609.00
Immunisation Maintenance	3,610.00
Town Planning Consultants Fees	600.00
Town Planning Legal Fees	4,037.00
Street Tree Maintenance - Riverland High Works	23,173.00
TOTAL (Major and Sundries combined)	5,613,664.00

Delegations of Power

To assist in the decision making process of Council, the Council has delegated responsibilities and powers to the Chief Executive Officer and/or specific committees of Council. These delegations are reviewed on an annual basis and are available for public inspection free of charge at the Council Office.

Grievance Procedures

In relation to grievance procedures and review of Council’s decisions, the Council has formally adopted a procedure for internal review of Council decisions as per the requirements of Section 270 of the *Local Government Act*. The procedure provides a mechanism for persons grieved by a Council decision or a decision made by an officer and sets out the procedures for application for the review of the decision. Further, the procedure states the following as its primary principles:

When a complaint is received it shall be referred to the Chief Executive Officer for internal investigation in the first instance. In the event that the Chief Executive Officer is of the opinion that the complaint requires an independent investigation then the Chief Executive Officer shall offer independent mediation or neutral evaluation or further refer the complaint to an external review process eg. Ombudsman’s Office, Legal advice and/or the courts.

Action: Within seven working days from receipt of the complaint:

- #record the complaint in the complaints register
- #acknowledge the complaint
- #advise the complainant who will be dealing with the complaint
- #provide the complainant with a copy of the policy
- #provide the complainant with a copy of the complaints process

Within twenty one working days from receipt of the complaint:

- #investigate the complaint
- #advise the complainant of the result of the investigation and any corrective action taken
- #record the outcome in the complaints register

In the event that the complaint does or is likely to take longer than twenty one days to resolve, a deadline for resolution of the complaint will be set with the complainant.

If the complainant is not satisfied with the advice given and requests a review of the outcome and the complaint was originally handled internally the applicant will be advised of other options for review such as the State Ombudsman, legal advice and/or the courts.

During 2016/2017 three complaints were received that were deemed as necessary to be recorded in Councils “Complaints Register”, and grievance procedures put in place. Processes were followed in accordance with the requirements of Section 270 of the *Local Government Act 1999* and Council Policy, and the matters were resolved to the satisfaction of all parties concerned.

Council and Committee Meetings /Matters considered in Confidence

Further to Council’s decision making structure, there were a number of occasions during the financial year that Council considered matters in confidence pursuant to Section 90 of the *Local Government Act 1999*. During the year there were 12 Ordinary and seven Special Meetings of Council and 71 Committee/Sub-Committee Meetings.

At the time Council resolves to consider a matter in confidence, Council complies with its Access to Meetings – Code of Practice. Also, Council specifies a time for the item to remain confidential with delegated power provided to the Chief Executive Officer to remove the confidentiality provision, provided the item has satisfactorily been completed or the need for the item to remain confidential has been reviewed. The table below and overleaf outlines the Council and Committee’s use of section 90(2), 90(3) and 91(7) for the 2016/2017 year.

Total number of orders made under section 91(7)	7
The number of expired, ceased to apply or revoked orders	6
The number of operative orders at end of financial year	2
Date and subject of each order	<p>26 July 2016—Confidential Minute Book—Release of Confidential Minutes—”Lake Bonney Environs” (j)</p> <p>23 August 2016—Berri Bowling Club, Glassey Park Rinks (b) (h)</p> <p>25 October 2016—Release of Confidential Minutes “ Draft Memorandum of Understanding—Developer Assisted Development Plan Amendment” (m)</p> <p>22 November 2016—24 Vaughan Terrace Berri (b)</p> <p>31 January 2017—Berri Riverfront Blocks (b)</p> <p>28 March 2017—Berri Solar Farm (b)</p> <p>27 June 2017— Confidential Minute Book—Release of Confidential Minutes—”Lake Bonney Environs” (j)</p>

The following table contains details of the Council/Committee Meetings.

Particulars	No. of Meetings	Total Resolutions Passed	Confidential Resolutions	Reason for Confidentiality
Council Meetings (including Special Meetings)	19	311	9	90 (3) (j) (i) (ii) 90 (3) (b) (i) (ii) 90 (3) (h) 90 (3) (j) 90 (3) (k) 90 (3) (m)
Berri Town Beautification Committee	5	14	Nil	N/A
Baramba Town Beautification Committee	6	26	Nil	N/A
Audit Committee	4	29	Nil	N/A
Riverland Regional Development Assessment Panel	10	10	Nil	N/A
Martin Bend Recreational Area Committee	6	15	Nil	N/A
Major Projects	1	Nil	Nil	N/A
Cemetery Advisory Committee	3	12	Nil	N/A
Development Act 101A Committee	Nil	Nil	Nil	N/A
Strategic Governance and Asset Management Committee	8	55	Nil	N/A
Friends of Bonney Theatre Complex Committee	6	11	Nil	N/A
Riverland Regional Building Fire Safety Committee	3	20	Nil	N/A

Freedom of Information / Information Statement

During 2016/2017 there were two Freedom of Information (FOI) applications received.

Information Statement (General)

The following information statement is published by the Berri Barmera Council in accordance with the requirements of Schedule 4 of the *Local Government Act 1999*.

Council's Role

The Council's role is to provide for the government and management of its area at the local level. Section 6 of the *Local Government Act 1999*, defines the role of Council as follows:

- To act as a representative, informed and responsible decision-maker in the interests of its community; and
- To provide and co-ordinate various public services and facilities and to develop its community and resources in a socially just and ecologically sustainable manner; and
- To encourage and develop initiatives within its community for improving the quality of life of the community; and
- To represent the interests of its community to the wider community; and
- To exercise, perform and discharge the powers, functions and duties of local government under the *Local Government Act* and other Acts in relation to the area for which it is constituted.

The role of the Principal Member and Members of Council

The role of the principal member (Mayor) and members of Council is defined in Sections 58 and 59 of the *Local Government Act 1999*.

1) The role of the principal member is:

- a) to preside at meetings of the Council;
- b) if requested, to provide advice to the Chief Executive Officer between Council meetings on the implementation of a decision of the Council;
- c) to act as the principal spokesperson of the Council;
- d) to exercise other functions of the Council as the Council determines;
- e) to carry out the civic and ceremonial duties of the office of principal member

2) The role of members of Council is:

- a) as a member of the governing body of the Council-
 - (i) to participate in the deliberations and civic activities of the Council;
 - ii) to keep the Council's objectives and policies under review to ensure that they are appropriate and effective;
 - (iii) to keep Council's resource allocation, expenditure and activities, and the efficiency and effectiveness of its service delivery under review;
- b) as a person elected to the Council-
 - (i) to represent the interests of residents and ratepayers, to provide community leadership and guidance, and to facilitate communication between the community and the Council.

Activities that Council provides or is associated with (financial or otherwise)

The activities that Council provides or is associated with are:

public functions, donations to local organisations, dog control, fire prevention, animal and plant control, health inspections, immunisation program, cemeteries, public toilets, garbage collection and disposal, district halls, Community Library and Information Centre, parks and gardens, play equipment, boat ramps, ovals, building and development control, road maintenance and construction, footpaths, gopher routes, kerbs and guttering, storm water control, bike tracks, street lighting, tourism, private works, industrial estate, support re loans to sporting clubs, leasing of Council owned property to community organisations, etc.

Agendas and Minutes

Agendas for all Council and Committee meetings are placed on public display not less than three days prior to meetings, minutes being made available for perusal within five days of a meeting. Agendas and Minutes for Council and DAP Meetings (now Regional Development Assessment Panel) are also available on Council’s website. The timeframes for the availability of Council agendas and minutes are in accordance with the Local Government Act and Regulations.

Public Participation

Members of the public have a number of opportunities to put forward their views on particular issues before Council.

These include:

Deputations

with the permission of the Mayor, a member of the public can address the Council or a Committee, personally or on behalf of a group of residents

Presentations to Council

with prior notification and arrangement with the Mayor, a member of the public can address the Council for a period of time determined by the Mayor on any issue relevant to Council.

Petitions

written petitions can be addressed to the Council on any issue within the Council’s jurisdiction.

Written Requests

a member of the public can write to the Council on any Council Policy, activity or service

Elected Members

Members of the public can contact their Elected Members to discuss any issue relevant to Council.

Community Consultation

The Council has adopted a Public Consultation Policy in accordance with Section 50 of the Local Government Act 1999. Though the Act specifies that Councils must have public consultation policies in place for mandatory consultation with the public on specific issues, the policy is also used for general consultation with the public on other issues at the Councils discretion.

In addition there are also opportunities for the public to attend public meetings or information forums on certain issues or to complete a survey on specific issues. The Council is also required to consult with the public on other matters as a requirement of relevant legislation.

Access to Council Documents

A list of documents available for inspection or copy are listed below, with the relevant fee per page or entry listed, should a copy be required. A comprehensive listing of Council’s Fees and Charges is available on the website.

Documents are available for public inspection at the Principal Office of Council between 9.00am – 5.00pm Monday to Friday (excluding Public Holidays). Members of the public may also purchase copies of these documents at Council’s Principal Office.

The Council also readily provides information to the public, with Council Agendas and Minutes being available on Council’s website and the Council Office.

Fees and Charges Particulars Council Documents Etc.	Current 2016/2017 GST Inclusive (Where applicable) \$
Sale of Minutes / Agendas	5.00
Annual Financial Statements	10.00
Annual Report	10.00
Budget Report	20.00
Search Fees - Standard (8 days)	As per Act
Search Fees - Rates Only	As per Act
Extract from Assessment Book	20c per page



Amendment of Council Records

A member of the public may request a correction to any information relating to them that is incomplete, incorrect, misleading or out of date. To gain access to Council records a member of the public must indicate in writing the documents required to be inspected and complete a Freedom of Information Request Form.

Citizenship

During the 2016/2017 year, 24 people received citizenship certificates.



Other information requests

Council readily provides information requested by the public. Requests for any other information will be considered in accordance with the Freedom of Information provisions of the *Local Government Act*. Under this legislation an application fee and a search fee must be forwarded with a completed request for access form as provided by Council that satisfies the requirements of Section 13 of the *Freedom of Information Act, 1991*, unless the applicant is granted an exemption.

Should the applicant require copies of any documents inspected pursuant to a Freedom of Information request, legislative charges will apply.

Freedom of Information Request Forms and other requests regarding the access to Council documents must be addressed to:

Freedom of Information Officer
Berri Barmera Council
19 Wilson Street (or PO Box 229)
BERRI SA 5343

Response to applications will be within the statutory thirty (30) days from the date of receipt of the properly completed Freedom of Information Request Form, together with the application and appropriate fees.

National Competition Policy

Pursuant to the *Government Business Enterprises (Competition) Act 1996* and the revised Clause 7 Statement published in September 2002, the following information is provided:

1) Significant Business Activities

Category One	-	Nil
Category Two	-	Nil

2) Complaints Mechanism

Council has adopted an entitled "Review of Council Decisions (including Handling Complaints)", which reads as follows:

When a complaint is received it shall be referred to the Chief Executive Officer for internal investigation in the first instance.

In the event that the Chief Executive Officer is of the opinion that the complaint requires an independent investigation then the Chief Executive Officer shall offer independent mediation or neutral evaluation or further refer the complaint to an external review process eg. Ombudsman's Office, Legal advice and/or the courts.

Action: Within seven working days from receipt of the complaint:

- #record the complaint in the complaints register
- #acknowledge the complaint
- #advise the complainant who will be dealing with the complaint
- #provide the complainant with a copy of the policy
- #provide the complainant with a copy of the complaints process

Within twenty one working days from receipt of the complaint:

- #investigate the complaint
- #advise the complainant of the result of the investigation and any corrective action taken
- #record the outcome in the complaints register

In the event that the complaint does or is likely to take longer than twenty one days to resolve a deadline for resolution of the complaint will be set with the complainant.

If the complainant is not satisfied with the advice given and requests a review of the outcome and the complaint was originally handled internally the applicant will be advised of other options for review such as the State Ombudsman, legal advice and/or the courts.



Regional Subsidiary Reports



The Murraylands and Riverland
Local Government Association

MURRAYLANDS & RIVERLAND LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION ANNUAL REPORT 2016 to 2017



Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association
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VICTOR HARBOR, SA, 5211

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PRESIDENTS ANNUAL REPORT 2016-2017



I am very pleased to provide the Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association (MRLGA) Presidents Annual Report on the work and operations of the Subsidiary for the financial year 2016-2017 in accordance with Clause 28, Schedule 2 of the Local Government Act (1999).

This being my fifth term as President of the Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association (formerly the Murray and Mallee LGA), it has been an immense honour to have served the needs of our Constituent Councils through the MRLGA Board over the last 12 months.

Our vision is to be **'a successful region led by progressive and responsive local governments'** and our ability to deliver this vision has been enhanced significantly through the year with the release of the MRLGA's updated Strategic Plan 2016-2020. The Strategic Plan was adopted by the MRLGA Board in April 2016 after a considerable engagement program with our Constituent Councils and key stakeholders. Our way forward will focus predominantly in the formation of partnerships that will add strength to the resolution of regional issues and provide for the most effective mechanisms to deliver regional programs.

My role as President of the MRLGA has been paralleled with the role of President of LGA of SA and more recently the role of immediate Past President. This duplicate role has provided me a clear understanding of the range of issues and opportunities that exist both within our Murraylands and Riverland region, as well as within the rest of the State.

During the course of my term as President, I have met with a range of State/Federal Ministers and Members of Parliament to discuss a range of regional issues pertinent to our region. Such issues have included in part, Local/State Government Reform, Planning Reform, Rubble Royalties, Proposed Community Wellbeing program, Rate capping and the LGA's 2017 public awareness campaign.

The role of President to the MRLGA and my role as LGA President has in my view provided for a higher profile for issues facing the regions. The duplicate roles have also allowed me to let State Government know the strength there is in the regions.

In closing I sincerely thank all constituent Councils and MRLGA Board Delegates for the opportunity afforded to me being your President again for the past year. I also wish to thank our CEO, Peter Bond for his commitment and support provided to me and the Association over the past year; in particular the role he took in leading the strategic review process that will be vital in the rental of the Subsidiary over the next few years.

Mayor Dave Burgess
President

INTRODUCTION

This document is the Annual Report of the Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association (MRLGA) for the period 1st July 2016 to 30th June 2017. This report must be submitted to the Constituent Councils by 31st October in each Financial Year in accordance with Clause 28 to Schedule 2 of the Local Government Act (1999) on the work and operations of the Subsidiary detailing achievement of the aims and objectives of its Annual Business Plan and incorporating the audited Financial Statements of the Subsidiary and any other information or reports required by the Constituent Councils.

The Board shall present financial statements in accordance with the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011 to the Constituent Councils at the end of each Financial Year and before the 31st October of the year.

This Report details the activities of the Association to represent and serve our Constituent Councils and to advance the Murraylands and Riverland communities through effective advocacy, facilitation and innovation.

The Annual Report articulates clearly the alignment of the Subsidiary with its role and purpose as outlined below;

Role	MRLGA will provide for ...
Leadership and Advocacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> μ Initiate action and lead regional activity μ Set the agenda and direction μ Represent the region, and pursue outcomes on behalf of the Constituent Councils and the region
Capacity Building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> μ Work with member Councils to build capacity and increase sustainability μ Provide for integrated and coordinated regional collaboration for Constituent Councils μ Act as the central organisation for shared Local Government responsibilities μ Join with other stakeholders to deliver a service or project
Continuous Improvement through Best Practice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> μ Facilitate continuous improvement for our Constituent Councils
Collaborative Partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> μ Join with other stakeholders to build the capacity of the region

MURRAYLANDS AND RIVERLAND LGA IN PROFILE

The Murraylands and Riverland Region covers over 36,000 kilometres² (third largest region in South Australia) spanning eight Constituent Councils. It is home to around 69,000 people and some 5,000 businesses. The major economic output is primary production accounting for 34% of all GRP generated, 20% of jobs and 15% of household incomes. Our region has the highest proportion of agriculture dependence for any region in South Australia.

The Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association (MRLGA) operates as a Regional Subsidiary under the provisions of the Local Government Act 1999.

MRLGA is comprised of eight Constituent Councils from within the region: the 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, and Southern Mallee District Council.

As a Regional Subsidiary the Association has as its governing document a Charter as provided for under the Local Government Act 1999 which came into effect on 13th December 2001.

The MRLGA Charter identifies a broad range of roles to deliver the objectives of the Association. Given our limited resources, it is necessary to closely define the role of MRLGA in delivering the five regional strategies. The Charter defines the Associations role as follows;

- To undertake coordinating, advocacy and representational roles for its constituent Councils at a regional level
- To facilitate and coordinate activities of local government at a regional level on behalf of our constituent Councils.
- To develop, encourage, promote, foster and maintain consultation and cooperation and to strengthen the representation and status of local government
- To develop further cooperation between its constituent Councils for the benefit of the communities in the region.
- To develop and manage policies which guide the conduct of programs and projects in the region
- To undertake projects that benefit the region and its communities

The Charter requires the MRLGA to prepare a Strategic Plan every three (3) years. This Strategic Plan sets the activities and outcomes for the work of the MRLGA for the financial year 2016-2017. The direction of the Association is now governed by the current Strategic Plan 2016–2020 adopted by the MRLGA Board in April 2016 and identifies the Subsidiaries' Vision, Mission, Commitment and Role over the next 5-years.



THE MRLGA BOARD

The MRLGA Board comprises representatives from each of the Constituent Councils and is chaired by the MRLGA President. Historically each Constituent Council could nominate up to two voting members to the Board. At the General Meeting of the Subsidiary held on 9th December 2015 the Board resolved to reduce voting representation at MRLGA Board meetings to one vote per Council (being a total of eight voting delegates).

All voting delegates shall be the Mayor of each Council and proxy representatives shall be Council Members with CEO's encouraged to attend as observers. This will ultimately require amendment of the Subsidiaries Charter under Clause 4.2 Membership of the Board where it states;

“the Board shall consist of two (2) persons from each Constituent Council appointed by the Constituent Council and each Constituent Council shall, following every periodic Local Government election, appoint, and give notice in writing to the Chief Executive Officer of the Subsidiary, of those persons who are its Board members, of whom one shall be an elected member of the Constituent Council and one may be the Chief Executive Officer or other officer of the Constituent Council.”

MRLGA Board Members from 9th December 2015

Council	Voting Delegate	Non-Voting Proxy Delegate
Berri Barmera Council	Mayor Peter Hunt - Vice President	Cr Andrew Kassebaum, Deputy Mayor
Coorong District Council	Mayor Neville Jaensch	Cr Sharon Bland, Deputy Mayor
District Council of Karoonda East Murray	Mayor Kevin Burdett	Cr Caroline Phillips, Deputy Mayor
District Council of Loxton Waikerie	Mayor Leon Stazinowski	Cr Michael Vowles, Deputy Mayor
Mid Murray Council	Mayor Dave Burgess - President	Cr Mardi Jennings, Deputy Mayor Cy Kevin Myers
Rural City of Murray Bridge	Mayor Brenton Lewis	Cr Tyson Mathews, Deputy Mayor
Renmark Paringa Council	Mayor Neil Martinson	Cr Peter Hunter, Deputy Mayor
Southern Mallee District Council	Mayor Andrew Grieger	Cr Neville Pfeiffer, Deputy Mayor

Mayor Dave Burgess, Mid Murray Council was re-elected President at the Annual General Meeting held at Karoonda on 13th July 2016 and Mayor Peter Hunt, Berri Barmera Council was re-elected Vice President both for a full annual term of office.

MRLGA DELEGATES TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION OF SA (LGA SA)

Under the Constitution of the Local Government Association of South Australia (LGA SA) regions are represented via appointed members to serve on the LGA Board and the South Australian Regional Organisation of Councils (SAROC).

Mayor Dave Burgess and Mayor Peter Hunt served on the LGA Board (previously termed the State Executive of the Local Government Association of South Australia), with Mayor Neville Jaensch Coorong District Council as proxy member representing the Associations at the LGA Board and the SAROC Committee.

The South Australian Regional Organisation of Councils (SAROC) is an important committee of the LGA that focuses on key issues affecting country Councils. Membership is drawn from each of the six non-metropolitan Regional Local Government Associations with members meeting bi-monthly to discuss key issues affecting non-metropolitan Councils.

The MRLGA supports the Governance process by contributing to agenda items for SAROC meetings, the distribution of Key Outcomes Statements of meetings to MRLGA Board meetings and collegiate support to prepare submissions on behalf of regional and rural Councils that included:

- Continuing lobbying and input into the ongoing review of the business plans, administrative fee and levy proposals of the Natural Resource Management Boards
- Continuing lobbying for a more balanced & nationally consistent approach to planning, regulation for rural and regional road safety & speed limits
- Lobbying and continuing the development of a balanced and consistent policy approach to Council sustainability, finances and rate revenue in the face of the call for a State Rate Capping policy.
- Further Development of a Mining Engagement Protocol and implementation of a pilot program
- Lobbying on Emergency Services Levy impacts
- Input into the LGA submissions on Planning Reform
- Input into the draft Local Nuisance and Litter Control Bill 2015

Consideration of the Removal of Local Government Natural Resource Management (NRM) Levy Collection requirement.

ASSOCIATION COMMITTEES AND WORKING PARTIES

The following were the Association Committee Members up until the AGM of the 30th June, 2017:

LGA Board (Formerly State Executive Committee):

- μ President, Mayor David Burgess, Mid Murray Council (Immediate Past President).
- μ Vice President, Mayor Peter Hunt, Berri Barmera Council (*by virtue of position held*).
- μ Mayor Neville Jaensch, Coorong District Council (*by virtue of position held*).
- μ Deputy Member for President or Vice President, Mayor Brenton Lewis, Rural City of Murray Bridge.

South Australian Regional Organisation of Councils (SAROC):

- μ President, Mayor David Burgess, Mid Murray Council (ex-officio).
- μ Vice President, Mayor Peter Hunt, Berri Barmera Council (*by virtue of position held*).
- μ Mayor Neville Jaensch, Coorong District Council (Proxy for President and/or Vice President),
- μ Mayor Brenton Lewis, Rural City of Murray Bridge (Deputy Member),
- μ CEO MRLGA - Peter Bond (*by virtue of position held*).

Regional Development Australia (Murraylands and Riverland) Board.

- μ Mayor Neil Martinson, Renmark Paringa Council (*by virtue of position held as Chairman*).
- μ President, Mayor Dave Burgess, Mid Murray Council (ex-officio).
- μ Cr. Andrew Kassebaum, Berri Barmera Council (*by virtue of position held*).

SA MDB NRM Board.

- μ Cr. Andrew Kassebaum, Berri Barmera Council.
- μ President, Mayor Dave Burgess, Mid Murray Council (ex-officio).

Murray River Alliance SA

- μ President, Mayor Dave Burgess, Mid Murray Council (ex-officio).
- μ Peter Bond, CEO MRLGA

MRLGA Transport Reference Group. - Community Transport:

- μ President, Mayor Dave Burgess, Mid Murray Council (ex-officio).
- μ Peter Smithson, CEO, District Council of Karoonda East Murray.
- μ Cr. Mike Fuller, Berri Barmera Council.

Murraylands and Riverland Regional Coordination Network:

- μ President, Mayor Dave Burgess, Mid Murray Council (ex-officio).
- μ Peter Smithson, CEO, District Council of Karoonda East Murray.

Murraylands and Riverland (previously Murray and Mallee) Local Government Association Regional Transport Strategy Committee:

- μ Mayor Neil Martinson, Renmark Paringa Council, Chair (*by virtue of position held*)
- μ President, Mayor David Burgess, Mid Murray Council (President, Mayor Dave Burgess, Mid Murray Council (ex-officio)
- μ Peter Bond, CEO MRLGA
- μ Paul Day, Director Infrastructure & Environmental Services, Renmark Paringa Council (Geoff Meaney - proxy)
- μ Greg Perry, Manager Infrastructure Services, Berri Barmera Council
- μ Greg Hill, Director, Infrastructure, Mid Murray Council.
- μ Tim Tol, Director of Infrastructure, District Council of Loxton Waikerie, (Domenic Perre - proxy)
- μ Peter Smithson, CEO, District Council of Karoonda East Murray
- μ Simon Bradley, GM Infrastructure and Environment, Rural City of Murray Bridge (Matt James - proxy)
- μ Matthew Sherman, Works Manger, Southern Mallee District Council
- μ David Mosel, Director Infrastructure and Assets, Coorong District Council
- μ Jo Podoliak, Chief Executive, Regional Development Australia - Murraylands and Riverland

Murray and Mallee Zone Emergency Management Committee:

- μ Deputy Mayor Kevin Myers, Mid Murray Council, Chair.
- μ President, Mayor Dave Burgess, Mid Murray Council (ex-officio).
- μ Mayor Peter Hunt, Berri Barmera Council.
- μ Michael Sedgman, CEO, Rural City of Murray Bridge (Ros Kruger – Proxy).
- μ David Beaton, Berri Barmera Council (Veronica Rothe - Proxy)
- μ Tim Tol, Director Infrastructure Services, District Council of Loxton Waikerie.
- μ David Mosel, Director Infrastructure and Assets, Coorong District Council.
- μ Tony Secomb, Manager Corporate Services (seconded), Southern Mallee District Council.

Murraylands and Riverland CEO's Network Group:

- μ Tony Siviour, CEO, Renmark Paringa Council,
- μ Michael Sedgman, CEO, Rural City of Murray Bridge,
- μ Russell Peate, CEO, Mid Murray Council,
- μ Mia Dohnt, CEO, Southern Mallee District Council,
- μ Peter Ackland, District Council of Loxton Waikerie,
- μ David Beaton, CEO, Berri Barmera Council.
- μ Vince Cammell, CEO, Coorong District Council
- μ Peter Smithson, CEO, District Council of Karoonda East Murray
- μ Peter Bond, CEO, MRLGA

Murraylands and Riverland Regional Public Health Plan Committee:

- μ President, Mayor Dave Burgess, Mid Murray Council (ex-officio).
- μ Katina Nikas, EHO, Renmark Paringa Council, Chairperson
- μ Caroline Thomas, Manager Health Services, Mid Murray Council,
- μ Tom McKellar, EHO, Mid Murray Council,
- μ Myles Somers, Manager Environmental Services, Berri Barmera Council,
- μ Rebecca Burton, Berri Barmera Council,
- μ Vacant, Southern Mallee District Council and District Council of Karoonda East Murray,
- μ Jim Quinn, Manager Development and Environmental Services, Coorong District Council,
- μ Reg Buderick, Rural City of Murray Bridge,
- μ Phil Eckert, Team Leader Regulation, Rural City of Murray Bridge,
- μ Jeremy Byrnes, EHO, Rural City of Murray Bridge,
- μ Dara Clayton, EHO, District Council of Loxton Waikerie.
- μ Peter Bond, CEO, MRLGA

ASSOCIATION MEETINGS

During 2016-2017, the Association met on four occasions on:

- 13th July 2016 - Annual General Meeting - District Council of Karoonda East Murray Council Offices, 11 Railway Terrace, Karoonda,
- 12th October 2016 - General Meeting - Rural City of Murray Bridge, Second Street, Murray Bridge,
- 13th January 2017 - General Meeting - Mid Murray Council, Mannum,
- 31st March 2017 - General Meeting - District Council of Karoonda East Murray Council Offices, 11 Railway Terrace, Karoonda

All Association Meetings, including Committee Meetings Agendas and Minutes are available for viewing and or downloading from the Association's website at www.mmlga.sa.gov.au

A number of guest speakers and attendees have made presentations/addresses to the Association meetings throughout the year. They include:

- Simone Reinertsen, Stakeholder Specialist (SA, Tas & Vic), National Heavy Vehicle Regulator
- Mark Bolton, Area General Manager, Telstra
- Neil Andrew AO, Chair, Murray–Darling Basin Authority
- Adam Wilson, Chief Executive Officer, ESCOSA

Representatives of the LGA SA, RDA MR, SA MDB NRM, SAPOL and PIRSA attended each meeting and took the opportunity to brief the Association of the relevant matters being addressed by their respective bodies.

We acknowledge the support of outgoing CEO of the LGA, Matt Pinnegar, Jo Podoliak, CEO, RDA Murraylands and Riverland, Sharon Starick SA MDB NRM Board Presiding Member, James Blandford, SAPOL and Tim Smythe, PIRSA who have been ready to assist the region and ensure a presence at our meetings. The Association has also enjoyed a close working relationship with its State and Federal Members of Parliament, a number of whom have been regular attendees at our meetings.

The President has continued the practice of giving each of our guests the opportunity to address our meetings briefly about matters and issues before them that may be of interest to the Association and Member Councils. The contribution from all of the speakers, presenters and guests has kept the Association and the Delegates abreast of a wide ranging number of issues that impact on Local Government and the communities in the Region.

STRATEGIC ACTIVITIES 2016-2017

The Subsidiary undertakes a coordinating role, in conjunction with Constituent Councils on their issues and those raised by the Local Government Association of South Australia, the community and other key stakeholders.

State and Federal Members of Parliament representing our Region continue to be briefed both individually and through invitations to attend our quarterly meetings.

Submissions and briefings undertaken during the reporting period include:

- **River Murray Shack Wastewater Management Planning** - provided a submission in relation to the draft River Murray shack wastewater management position statement, advising that the MRLGA is supportive of the creation of the position statement. It is an appropriate step to create additional documentation surrounding the matter so as to provide a clear position that is understood by all concerned.
- **Australian Senate Inquiry – Relocation of Government Bodies to Regional Areas** - provided a submission that emphasised the importance of this initiative as it allows Commonwealth entities to easily gain and leverage on-the-ground experience and expertise from local businesses and industry, which the MRLGA believe delivers better policy decisions.
- **Submission into the Northern Basin Review** - provided a submission that highlighted a concern that South Australia may now be at risk of losing up to 450GL of water and \$1.77 Billion that would have been applied to infrastructure that was agreed to in the Basin Plan in 2012. Therefore, those Councils who make Region 5 and 6 of the Murray Darling Association strongly consider that the Murray Darling Basin Plan as agreed to should be fully implemented notwithstanding the Northern Basin Review being undertaken by the Murray Darling Basin Authority.
- **Inquiry into National Freight and Supply Chain Priorities** - provided a submission responding to the Australia Government's "Inquiry into National Freight and Supply Chain Priorities" Discussion Paper released in May 2017,

The CEO MRLGA has also attended Forums, Workshops and Briefings throughout the year regarding evolving issues and to make contribution on behalf of the Association.

Key Activities for 2016-17

- **Regional Roads Freight Movement Study** - engaged Tonkin Consulting to;
 - deliver short-term solutions to improving the movement of freight within the existing regional road network by improving access on key commodity routes and providing for a Network Assessment of the region's road infrastructure.
 - provide for a review of the business case for the North South Freight Corridor by breaking the scope of the project into the three components to allow review of the benefits of Road, Rail and Commuter needs, but not a combined road/rail solution, and
 - incorporate the outcomes from the Southern and Hills Local Government Association (S&HLGA) scoping report on the benefits of such a bypass.
- **Regional Roads Commodity Route Assessment Study** - linked to the above project, this study look at both a commodities only outcome as well as a full commodities route assessment across the region.
- **Deputations** - The CEO MRLGA and President attended two deputations in December 2016 with Senator's Anne Ruston and Nick Xenophon. The President and CEO MRLGA also attended deputations with Federal Ministers and senior advisors in Canberra on the 20th and 21st March 2017,
- **MRLGA Website Upgrade** - The MRLGA website was upgraded during the course of the year to ensure it better served its client base,
- **Regional Road Action Plans and 2015 SLRP Roads Database Update** - continued to review the Regional Road Action Plans and SLRP Roads Database through the RTS Committee,
- **Murraylands Regional Collaboration Pilot** - Finalised Business Case Analysis templates for Public and Environmental Health Stream, Local Nuisance and Litter Control and Building Control and Planning to assist in the implementation of the Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act,
- **LGA Outreach Services Project** - secured \$50,000 towards the LGA Outreach Services Program to be delivered as part of the 2016/17 Annual Business Plan.
- **Regional Sport and Recreation Facilities Needs Review** - Tredwell Management were appointed to deliver this project through the 2016/2017 and 2017/2018 financial years,
- **Regional Waste Management Strategy BCA** - engaged Jeff Tate Consulting to lead the process of preparing a Business Case Analysis relating to opportunities for Councils collaborate on waste management initiatives,
- **Regional Planning Boards** - both the Riverland and Murraylands Councils have submitted proposals to form Regional Planning Boards under the pilot program fostered by DPTI.
- **One River Murray Authority Governing Structure** - the Murray River SA Alliance initiated a review of governance structures over the South Australian section of the River Murray,
- **Murray and Mallee Zone Emergency Management Committee (ZEMC)** - continued to represent the Local Government sector on matter relating to Emergency Management and the assisted the LGA in the inception of LGFS needs,
- **Regional Public Health Plan** - As required under the Act, the Association's Regional Public Health Plan report to SA Health has been compiled and submitted by the Association's Regional Public Health Plan Committee. That committee provided for the implementation and monitoring of a Regional Public Health Plan for MRLGA, held Working group meetings and liaised with LGA Public Health Program Manager
- **River Murray Ferries** - continued to work with DPTI through the Ferry Working Party to ensure the ongoing viability and operation of the River Murray Ferry Fleet,
- **SLRP Funding** - through the Murraylands and Riverland Regional Transport Strategy (RTS) Committee set the priorities for 2016/2017 SLRP be adopted and referred to the LGTAP for funding.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER SERVICES

The Chief Executive Officer services for the Association for the year were again provided by Peter Bond under a contract arrangement.

In accordance with a resolution of Member Council Delegates, the Chief Executive Officer is subject to ongoing performance review with the Association.

The Review Panel consists of the President of the Association, and four CEO's appointed from Constituent Councils within the Association.

FINANCES

The Annual Business Plan for each year balances the objective of ensuring the MRLGA's long-term financial sustainability whilst increasing investment in key projects and preparing for future development and improvement opportunities.

Income for the Murraylands & Riverland Local Government Association is derived from three main sources:

1. Subscriptions from Constituent Councils of MRLGA;
2. Funding from the LGA SA for Regional Capacity Building and R&D Projects; and
3. Project funding through partnerships with external organisations.

A small amount of income is derived from interest and project management fees.

Annual expenditure is divided between two main areas:

1. Operating – expenditure required to employ a Chief Executive Officer, and general costs for administration, Board expenses and other general operating expenses;
2. Projects – expenditure required to deliver specific projects, including where applicable the engagement of external resources.

Financial reports are considered by the MRLGA Board at each meeting. The Audited Financial Statements for 2016-2017 are included in **Appendix 1** of this report.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

MRLGA acknowledges the Constituent Council Mayor's, Elected Members, Chief Executive Officers and staff for the ongoing support of the regional role of the Association.

The Local Government Association SA has continued to provide strong support to the MRLGA and its members throughout the year. MRLGA acknowledges the contribution of SAROC members, Chief Executive Officer Matt Pinnegar and the many LGA staff that have supported MRLGA throughout the year.

The Local Government Research and Development Scheme funding has enabled MRLGA to undertake a range of additional projects throughout the year, both through additional Research and Development Fund projects and also via the Regional Capacity Building Grants.

MRLGA enjoys a close working relationship with Regional Development Australia Murraylands and Riverland and SA MDB NRM Board members and staff.

Peter Bond
Chief Executive Officer
Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association

August 2017

Appendix 1

Audited Financial Statements 2016 -17



Murray and Mallee Local Government Association

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
30 June 2017

Murray and Mallee Local Government Association

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Murray and Mallee Local Government Association

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE
OR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

	Note	2017 \$	2016 \$
Income			
MBM LGA Contributions	2	324,185	130,837
Regional Enhancement Fund Grant	2	152,394	99,226
Interest Revenue	2	2,904	2,897
Total Revenue		<u>479,483</u>	<u>232,960</u>
Operating Expenses	3	(255,693)	(174,056)
Surplus (deficit) for the year		<u>223,790</u>	<u>58,904</u>
Total Comprehensive Profit (Loss)		<u>223,790</u>	<u>58,904</u>

The accompanying Notes form part of these financial statements

Murray and Mallee Local Government Association

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT 30 JUNE 2017

	Note	2017 \$	2016 \$
Assets			
Current Assets			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	4	426,824	212,067
Trade and other receivables	5	11,729	3,639
Total Current Assets		<u>438,553</u>	<u>215,706</u>
Total Assets		<u>438,553</u>	<u>215,706</u>
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Trade and other payables	6	12,318	13,260
Total Current Liabilities		<u>12,318</u>	<u>13,260</u>
Total Liabilities		<u>12,318</u>	<u>13,260</u>
Net Assets		<u>426,235</u>	<u>202,446</u>
Member's Funds			
Unspent funds reserve	7	(76,220)	45,104
Accumulated surplus	8	502,456	157,342
Total Members Funds		<u>426,235</u>	<u>202,446</u>

The accompanying Notes form part of these financial statements

Murray and Mallee Local Government Association

Statement of Changes in Members' Funds
AS AT 30 JUNE 2017

	Note	Accumulated Surplus \$	Unspent funds reserve \$	Total \$
2017				
Balance at the beginning of the year	8	157,342	45,104	202,446
Surplus for the year		223,790	-	223,790
Transfers		121,324	- 121,324	(0)
Balance at the end of year		<u>502,456</u>	<u>- 76,220</u>	<u>426,235</u>
2016				
Balance at the beginning of the year	8	98,438	60,400	158,838
Surplus for the year		58,904	(15,296)	43,608
Balance at the end of year		<u>157,342</u>	<u>45,104</u>	<u>202,446</u>

Murray and Mallee Local Government Association

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

	Note	2017 \$	2016 \$
Cash from operating activities			
Receipts from members		348,513	130,837
Receipts from grants		167,633	109,148
Interest received		2,904	2,896
Payments to suppliers		(304,293)	(192,537)
Net cash provided from operating activities	9	<u>214,757</u>	<u>50,344</u>
Net increase in cash held			
Cash at beginning of financial year		214,757	50,344
		212,067	161,723
Cash at end of financial year	4	<u>426,824</u>	<u>212,067</u>

The accompanying Notes form part of these financial statements

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017**

Note 1: Statement of Significant Accounting Policies

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

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

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

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

(a) Comparatives

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

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

The comparative figures relating to the unspent funds reserve have been adjusted as the movements in the reserve in the prior year were not recognised. This has had no impact on the overall balance of the financial statements.

(b) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits held at-call with banks, other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities in the statement of financial position.

(c) Income taxes

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

(d) Goods and Services Tax (GST)

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

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017**

(e) Financial Instruments

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

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

Classification and subsequent measurement

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

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

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

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

(i) Loans and receivables

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

(ii) Financial liabilities

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

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017**

Impairment

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

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

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

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

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

Derecognition

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

(f) Impairment of assets

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

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

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017**

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

(g) Revenue

Non-reciprocal grant revenue is recognised in the statement of comprehensive income when the association obtains control of the grant and it is probable that the economic benefits gained from the grant will flow to the association and the amount of the grant can be measured reliably.

If conditions are attached to the grant which must be satisfied before it is eligible to receive the contribution, the recognition of the grant as revenue will be deferred until those conditions are satisfied. When grant revenue is received whereby the association incurs an obligation to deliver economic value directly back to the contributor, this is considered a reciprocal transaction and the grant revenue is recognised in the statement of financial position as a liability until the service has been delivered to the contributor, otherwise the grant is recognised as income on receipt.

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

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

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

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

(h) Trade and other payables

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

(i) Trade and other receivables

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

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

(j) Critical Accounting Estimates and Judgments

Key estimates

(i) Impairment - general

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

Murray and Mallee Local Government Association

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

Note 2: Revenue

	2017	2016
	\$	\$
MBM LGA Contributions		
Berri Barmera	20,451	20,150
Coorong District Council	13,545	13,345
DC of Karoonda East Murray	7,172	7,065
DC of Loxton Waikerie	21,506	21,326
Mid Murray Council	16,201	15,962
The Rural City of Murray Bridge	27,091	26,690
DC of Renmark Paringa	18,194	17,924
Southern Mallee DC	8,501	8,375
SLRP surcharge	19,733	-
	<u>152,394</u>	<u>130,837</u>
Other Contributions		
Local Government Association of SA	274,185	49,226
Out Reach Program Income	50,000	50,000
	<u>324,185</u>	<u>99,226</u>
Interest Revenue	2,904	2,897
Total Revenue	<u>479,483</u>	<u>232,960</u>

Murray Mallee Local Government Association

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

Note 3: Other Operating Expenses

	2017	2016
	\$	\$
Accounting software	498	545
Audit fees	3,500	3,000
Consultancy and contractors	867	-
Executive officer contract services	109,545	109,093
Insurance	5,697	5,602
LGA capacity building grant	2,395	-
LGA outreach project	-	25,000
Meeting expenses	1,424	3,255
Murraylands regional collaboration project	3,240	20,440
President's allowance	1,950	1,950
SAROC regional meeting costs	(836)	2,492
Sundry expenses	6,088	2,679
Project Expenditure:		
2030 Transport Plan Project - Roads database	11,700	-
Commodity Route Assessment	13,400	-
Hills Road/Rail Bypass	5,000	-
Murray River Alliance Projects	10,000	-
Regional Freight Movement Study	50,284	-
Regional Wine Strategy	15,000	-
Sport and Recreation Facilities Needs Review	15,940	-
	<u>255,693</u>	<u>174,056</u>

Note 4: Cash and cash equivalents

	2017	2016
	\$	\$
Cash on hand	100	100
Cash at bank	275,294	63,442
LGFA Investment	151,430	148,525
	<u>426,824</u>	<u>212,067</u>

Note 5: Trade and other receivables

	2017	2016
	\$	\$
GST receivable (net)	<u>11,729</u>	<u>3,639</u>

Note 6: Trade and other Payables

	2017	2016
	\$	\$
Payables	-	1,269
Accruals	12,318	11,991
	<u>12,318</u>	<u>13,260</u>

Murray and Mallee Local Government Association Incorporated

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

Note 7: Unspent Funds Reserve

The unexpended funds reserve represent funds set aside for future use on projects managed by the association

	2017	2016
	\$	\$
Hills Road/Rail Bypass		
Balance brought forward	-	-
Payments received	-	-
Project payments	(5,000)	-
Project funds expended at year end	(5,000)	-
Murray River Alliance Projects		
Balance brought forward	-	-
Project payments	(10,000)	-
Project funds expended at year end	(10,000)	-
2030 Transport Plan Project		
Balance brought forward	(5,000)	(5,000)
Project payments	(11,700)	-
Project funds expended at year end	(16,700)	(5,000)
Regional Public Health Plan		
Balance brought forward	500	500
Project funds not expended at year end	500	500
Riverland Resource Sharing Project		
Balance brought forward	13,500	13,500
Project funds not expended at year end	13,500	13,500
Murraylands Resource Sharing Project		
Balance brought forward	16,154	16,154
Project funds not expended at year end	16,154	16,154
Annual Priorities project		
Balance brought forward	1,300	1,300
Project funds not expended at year end	1,300	1,300
Succession Planning Consultancy Project		
Balance brought forward	13,790	13,790
Project funds not expended at year end	13,790	13,790
Review of Regional Transport Strategy Project		
Balance Brought forward	9,085	9,085
Project funds not expended at year end	9,085	9,085
Transport Strategy Project		
Balance Brought forward	(4,225)	(4,225)
Project payments	(13,400)	-
Project funds expended at year end	(17,625)	(4,225)

Murray and Mallee Local Government Association Incorporated

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

Regional Freight Movement Study

Balance Brought forward	-	-
Project payments	(50,284)	-
Project funds expended at year end	(50,284)	-

Regional Waste Strategy

Balance Brought forward	-	-
Project payments	(15,000)	-
Project funds expended at year end	(15,000)	-

Sport & Recreation Facilities Needs Review

Balance Brought forward	-	-
Project payments	(15,940)	-
Project funds expended at year end	(15,940)	-

Total unspent funds reserves

	(76,220)	45,104
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Note 8: Accumulated Surplus

	2017	2016
	\$	\$
Opening Balance	157,288	98,438
Surplus for the year	223,790	58,850
Balance	381,078	157,288

Net transfers (to)/from reserves:

Hills Road/Rail Bypass	5,000	-
Murray River Alliance Projects	10,000	-
2030 Transport Plan	11,700	-
Transport strategy project	13,400	-
Regional freight movement study	50,284	-
Regional Waste Study	15,000	-
Sport & Recreation Facilities Needs Review	15,940	-
Net Transfers (to)/from reserves	121,324	-
Balance at year end	502,402	157,288

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017**

Note 9: Reconciliation of cash flow from operations with surplus for year

	2017	2016
	\$	\$
Net surplus for the year	223,790	58,850
<i>Changes in assets and liabilities</i>		
(Increase)/decrease in trade and other receivables	(8,090)	4,233
Increase/(decrease) in trade and other payables	(942)	(12,739)
	<u>214,757</u>	<u>50,344</u>

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017**

Note 10: Financial Instruments

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

Categorisation of Financial Instruments

	Note	2017		2016	
		Carrying Amount	Fair Value	Carrying Amount	Fair Value
Financial liabilities		\$	\$	\$	\$
Trade and other Payables	6	12,318	12,318	13,260	13,260
Total Financial liabilities		12,318	12,318	13,260	13,260
Financial Assets					
Cash and cash equivalents	4	426,824	426,824	212,067	212,067
Total Financial Assets		426,824	426,824	212,067	212,067

Receivable and payable amounts disclosed exclude amounts relating to statutory receivables and payables (i.e. GST Receivable).

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

i. **Credit Risk**

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

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

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

ii. **Liquidity Risk**

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

No assets have been pledged as security for any liabilities.

Murray and Mallee Local Government Association

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

iii. **Market Risk**

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

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

	2017		2016	
	% Weighted Average Interest rate	Carrying Value	% Weighted Average Interest rate	Carrying Value
Financial liabilities	\$	\$	\$	\$
Trade and other Payables	0%	12,318	0%	13,260
Financial Assets				
Cash at bank	0%	275,294	0%	63,441
LGFA Investment	1.8%	151,430	1.8%	148,525
Cash on hand	0%	100	0%	100

Note 11: Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets

At 30 June 2016, the association is unaware of any liability, contingent or otherwise, which has not already been recorded elsewhere in this financial report.

Note 12: Capital Commitments

At 30 June 2016, the association is unaware of any capital or leasing commitments which have not already been recorded elsewhere in this financial report.

Note 13: Events after the end of the reporting period

Since the reporting date, there have been no events that would materially impact on the contents of this report.

Murray and Mallee Local Government Association

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

Note 14: Economic Dependence

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

Note 15: Related Party Transactions

The total remuneration paid to key management personnel of Murray & Mallee Local Government Association Incorporated during the year was as follows:

	2017
	\$
Executive Officer Contract Services	109,545

Key management personnel include the CEO and President.

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

Note 16: Capital Management

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

Note 17: Association details

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

Murray and Mallee Local Government Association
PO Box 236
Victor Harbor SA 5211

Murray and Mallee Local Government Association

**STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017**

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

1. Presents a true and fair view of the financial position of Murray and Mallee Local Government Association as at 30 June 2017 and its performance for the year ended on that date in accordance with Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements.
2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that Murray and Mallee Local Government Association will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

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

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



Name: Mayor Dave Burgess
Position: President
Date: 18th October 2017



Name: Peter Bond
Position: CEO
Date: 18th October 2017