

The logo for Berri Barmerra Council is contained within a white circular graphic. It features the words "Berri Barmerra" in a large, dark blue, sans-serif font. A small sun icon is positioned above the letter "i" in "Berri". Below "Berri Barmerra" is a thin blue horizontal line, followed by the word "COUNCIL" in a smaller, dark blue, all-caps sans-serif font.

**Berri  
Barmerra**  
COUNCIL

**Annual Report**  
2017-18

*...Building a Better Community*



Berri   
Barmera  
COUNCIL

Annual Report  
2017-18



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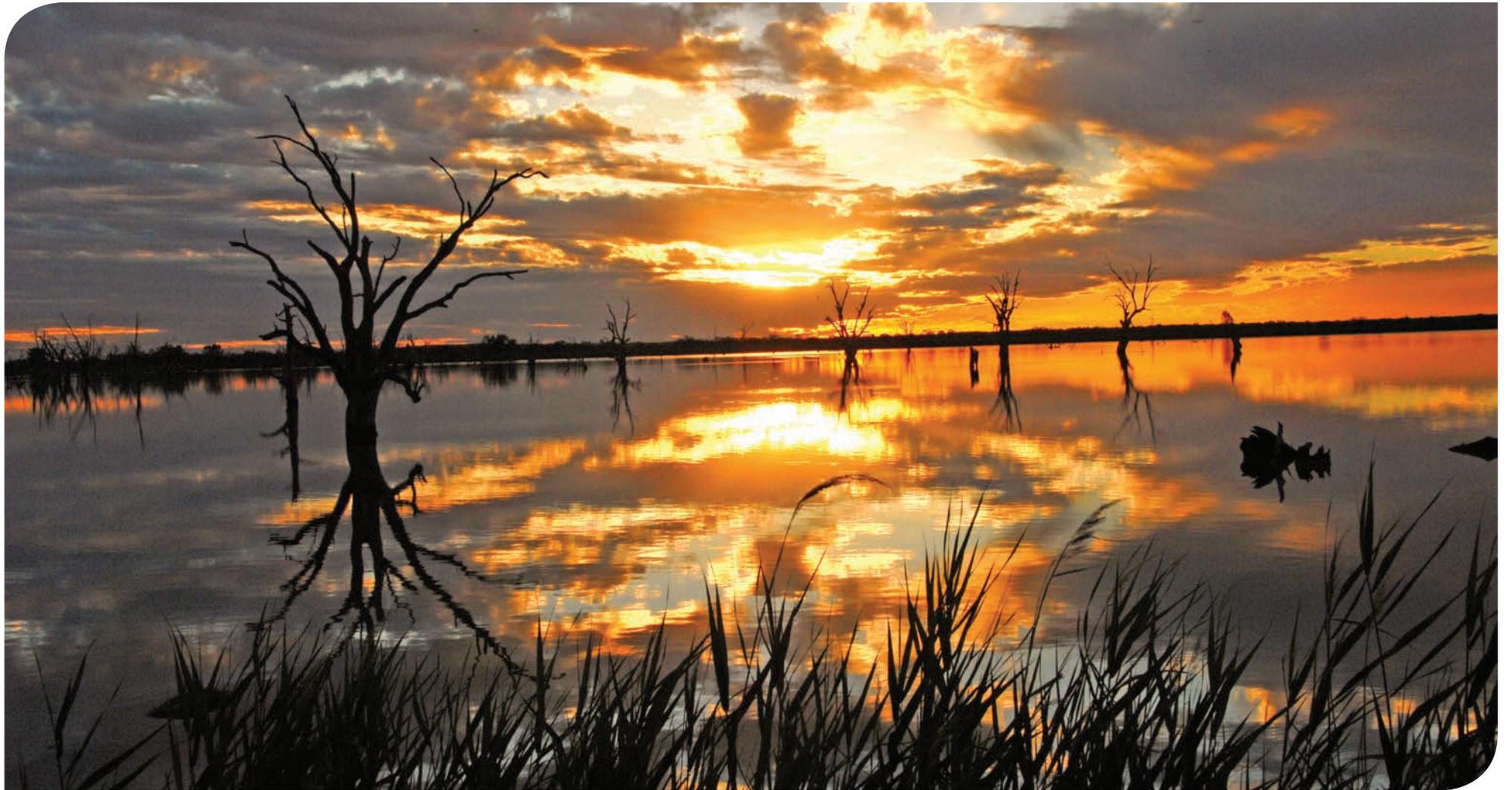
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■ **Special thanks to**  
Photography by Paul White



# Introduction



# Mayor's Report



It is with great pleasure that I present my Annual Report of the Berri Barmera Council for 2017-2018. I am pleased to say that we are continuing on our path of sustainability and progress within our Council district and it is showing in the results that are occurring.

At our Australia Day Awards Event held in Berri this year, we were pleased to announce that longtime resident and volunteer Mrs Jean Voigt - Citizen of the Year, Samantha Hauptman - Young Citizen of the Year, the Cobdogla Primary School Centenary Celebrations - Community Event of the Year and Barmera's Santa's Cave - the Building a Better Community Award.

After many years of wishful thinking, our new Riverland Regional Innovation and Sports Precinct Stadium at Glassey Park was officially opened by the Member for Barker Tony Pasin and myself in February. This magnificent facility will be there for everyone's enjoyment for many years to come and is a great asset, not only for our community but to the whole Riverland region.

In April, as the previous years National Keep Australia Beautiful Tidy Towns winner, we were

pleased to host the National Titles in Barmera with the winner for 2018 being Smithton from Tasmania. His Excellency the Honourable Hieu Van Le AC, Governor of South Australia and his wife Lan, were special guests at the event.

It was announced in June that the Berri District War Memorial Community Centre had purchased the remaining six blocks of land on the Berri Riverfront for further development of the Community-owned Caravan Park. Once finished and in combination with the Berri Hotel land and Councils riverfront precinct developments, we will all see a revitalised space. The area will not only be a more aesthetically pleasing area for walkers and people to relax and take in the views but also used for various community events in a safer environment.

Although the 10 MW Solar Facility has not started the construction phase, once we have all the areas of the project passed and then ratified by the Audit Committee and Council, we may see this happen by the end of the year. However, if the project does not come up to the expectations and deliveries that we believe it should, the project will not go ahead.



Council continues to support the notable local events such as the Riverland Country Music Festival, the Riverland Field Days, the Riverland Wine and Food Festival and the Baramera Christmas Pageant to name a few. Our Community Grants awards given out bi-annually are always well received and help a large number of organisations in many ways throughout our district.

At the end of June and after ten years of service we farewelled our CEO David Beaton who was appointed CEO of the District Council of Loxton Waikerie, and we wish David and Cathy all the very best for the future. Although there were mixed emotions with his departure, David believed it would be good for both our Council and himself. As the old saying goes, as one door closes another opens and consequently we welcome our new CEO André Stuyt, his wife Robyn and young daughter Jasmine to our Council area. André will commence employment with us on the 9th of July 2018.

In conclusion, I would once again 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 Baramera 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.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Peter R. Hunt."

Peter R. Hunt  
Mayor

# Chief Executive Officer's Report



The building of the Riverland Regional Innovation and Sports Precinct at Berri to completion was a significant highlight and is now a wonderful asset for the district and region. It was opened by Mayor Peter Hunt and Mr Tony Pasin MP in February 2018. Council and the community were only able to build the facility because of support from the federal government through the National Stronger Regions Fund, providing \$3.5million. While big projects and new facilities are a good news story for the district, it was pleasing how many smaller projects were brought to fruition as Council refocused on community building and empowerment.

Pleasing projects included the seniors "Tech Savvy" Riverland Libraries pilot project run by our Berri and Barmera libraries supported Telstra funding that saw 392 residents upgrading their skills. The six-month program was so successful; we have now expanded it in 2018. The Hope Street mural project lead by talented artist Sarah Boese in conjunction with members of the artistic and general communities has produced a bright new addition to the Berri streetscape.

Following Barmera becoming Australia's Tidiest Town, Council had the privilege of hosting the national awards at Barmera and congratulations go to Smithton TAS on its victory; the accolades continued what has been achieved by the Barmera community working together cohesively.

The Riverland Field Days site in May was the location for the Ulysses Annual General Meeting and great to see the bikers and the bikes enjoying the Riverland even if the weather was a bit cool. These events provide an economic boost to the region and the improvements to the Field Days site were on show providing an excellent regional facility.

This is my final annual report as I take up the position with the District Council of Loxton Waikerie and I wish to record my appreciation of the Council under the leadership of Mayor Peter Hunt, who have achieved improvements in the facilities of the district and provided sound financial management to keep expenses under control.

I wish to say thank you to the hard-working members of Council staff whose dedication has been a source of pride during my term at Council and in ending, I wish to say it was my privilege to work for the Council over the last ten years.

Good luck in the future as you continue to “Build a Better Community.”



David Beaton  
Chief Executive Officer



■ With His Excellency the Honorable Hieu Van Le AC and wife Lan at the Keep Australia Beautiful awards hosted by Barmera



# Executive Services



# Council Members Profile 2014-2018



**Mayor**  
**Peter Hunt JP**

**Contact**

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**Cr**  
**Andrew Kassebaum**

*(Deputy Mayor Nov 2014–Nov 2018)*

**Contact**

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**Cr**  
**Rhonda Centofanti**

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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 and Development Scheme Advisory (Chair)

## Committee Membership

- Strategic Governance and Asset Management Committee (Chair)
- Audit Committee (Proxy)
- Major Projects Committee (Chair)
- 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 Forum
- Queensland Fruit Fly Steering Committee
- Berri Barmera Health Advisory Council representative
- River Murray Advisory Committee
- Regional Development Australia Murraylands Riverland Committee
- Riverland Regional Innovation and Sporting Precinct Management Committee (Chair)

## 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
- Australia Day Awards Committee (Chair)

## 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

### Contact

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### Committee Membership

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

### Other

- RMMAC
- The Ruby Hunter Memorial, NO:RI Committee



## Cr Mike Fuller

### Contact

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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

### Contact

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### Committee Membership

- Audit Committee
- Strategic Governance and Asset Management Committee
- Major Projects Committee
- Berri Town Beautification Committee
- Martin Bend Recreation Area Committee

### Other

- Cobdogla Soldiers Memorial Hall Committee (Observer)
- Berri Barmera Landcare



**Cr**  
**Trevor Scott**

**Contact**

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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**

- 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**

**Contact**

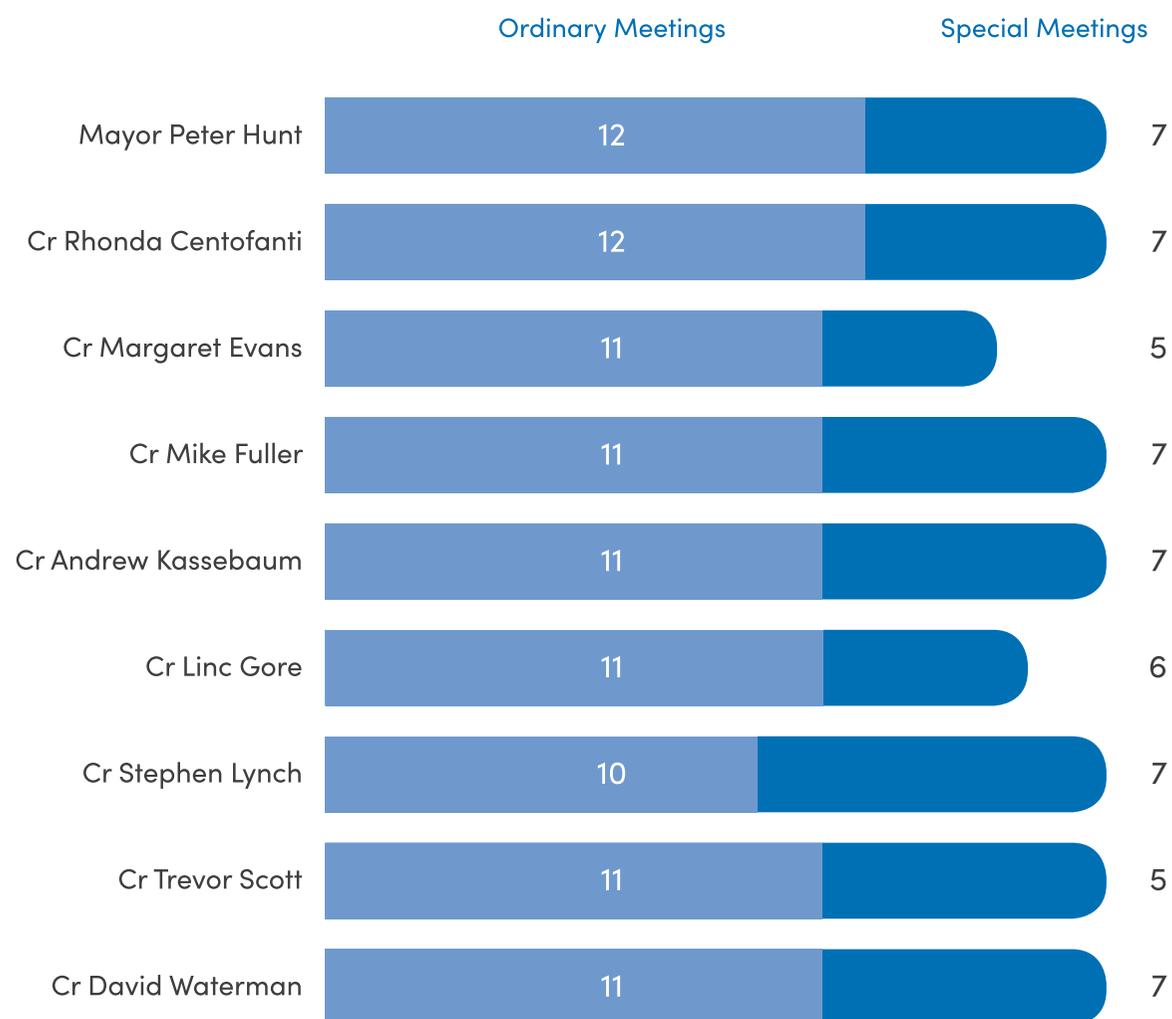
6/41 Queen Elizabeth Drive,  
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**Committee Membership**

- Strategic Governance and Asset Management Committee
- Audit Committee
- Barmera Town Beautification Committee
- Friends of the Bonney Theatre Complex (Chair)
- Community Grant Panel Review

# Council Meeting and Attendances by Members

for period 2017/2018



# Council General Information

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



## Elected Member Training and Development Activities

Throughout 2017/2018 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
- 2018 National General Assembly of Local Government
- Murray Darling Association Event and 73rd AGM
- Aboriginal Heritage Act 1988 Legislative Awareness Workshop
- TreeNet Conference
- Other associated Local Government Association training sessions

# Corporate Structure

## Corporate Structure

The Corporate and Functional Structure 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)

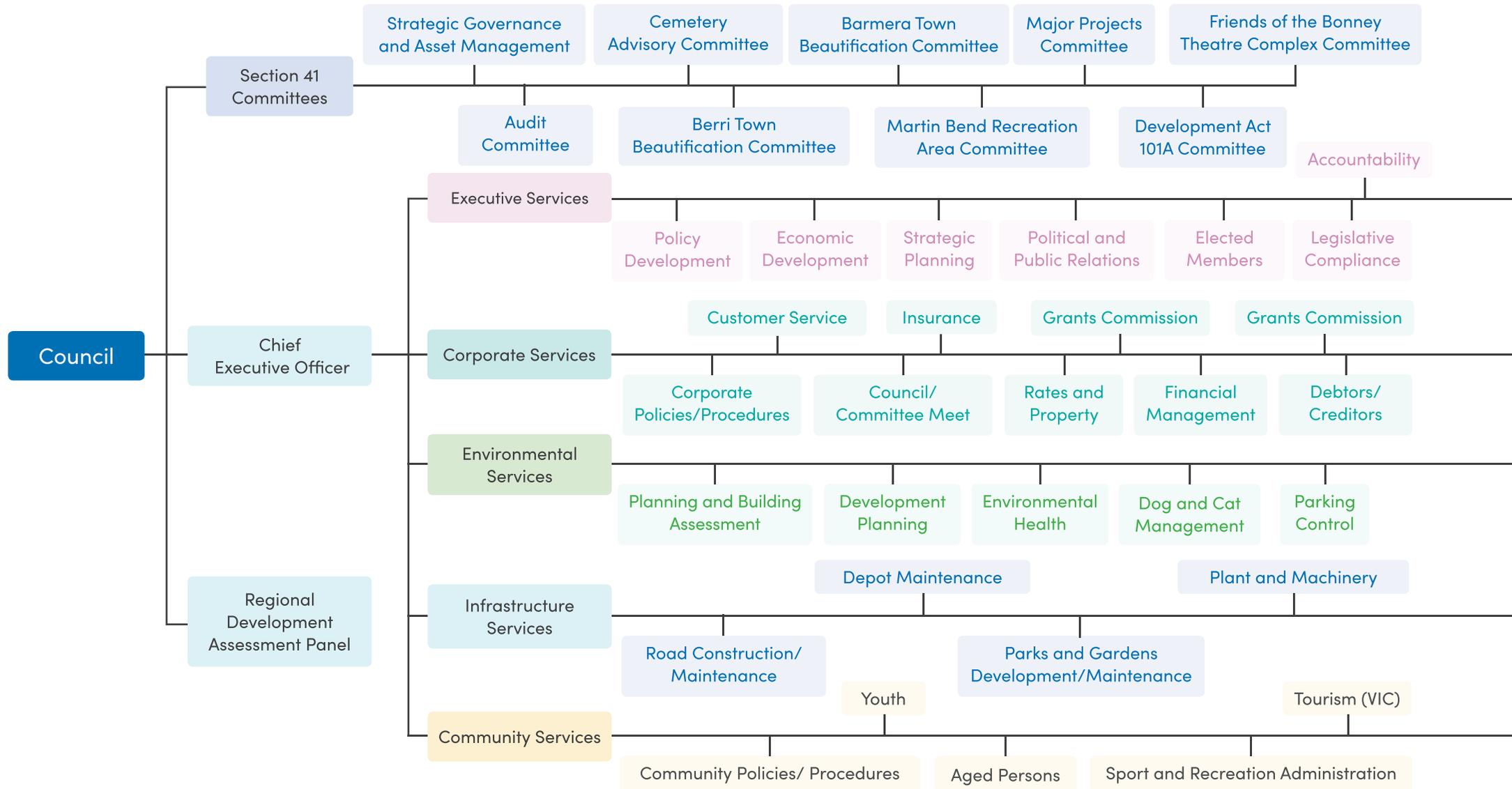
### Other Specific Purposes Committees:

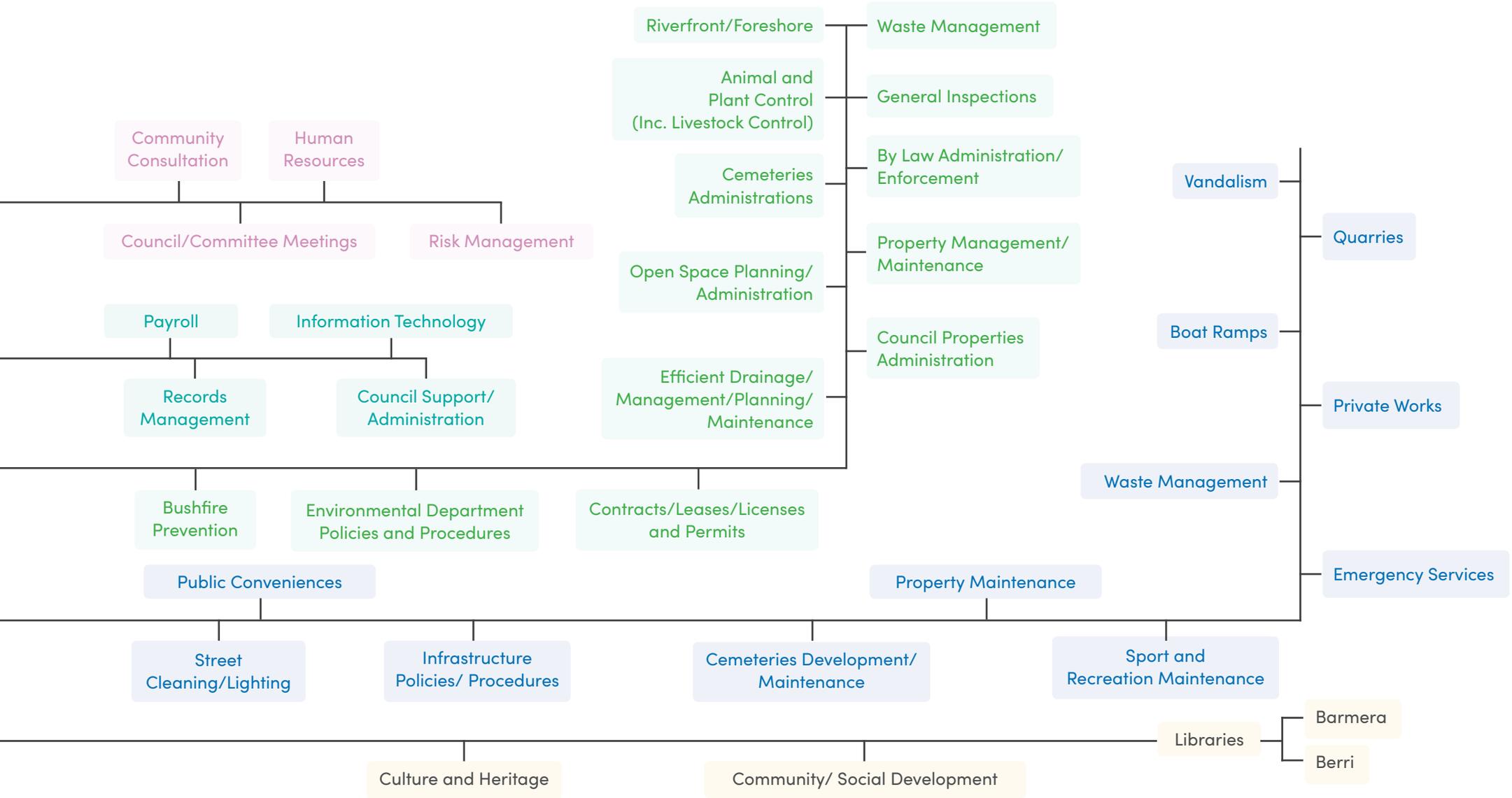
- Berri Barmera Council Building Fire Safety Committee
- Berri Barmera Bushfire Prevention Committee
- Riverland Regional Assessment Panel



■ Elected Members

# Corporate Structure





# 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 Section 43 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
- Rural City of Murray Bridge
- Renmark Paringa Council, and
- Southern Mallee District Council

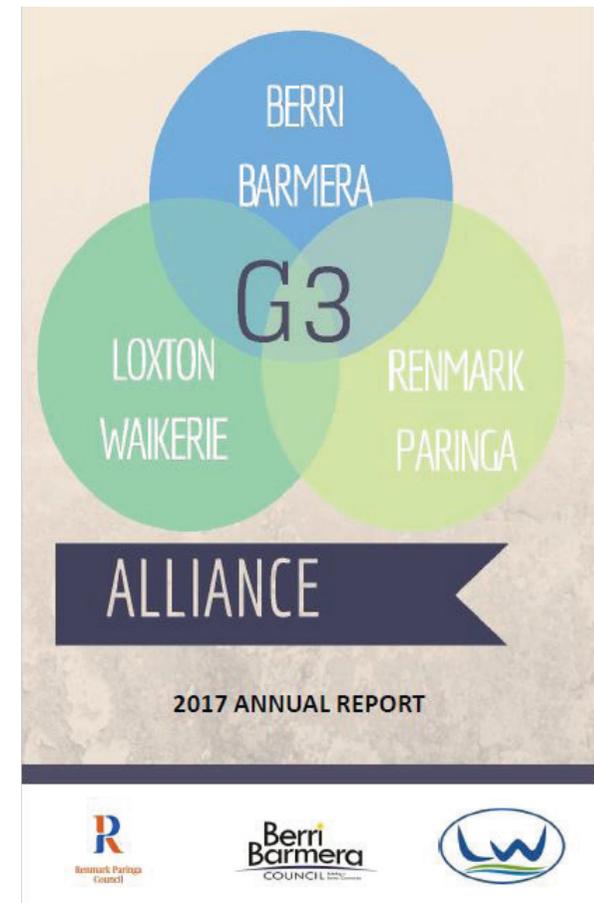
Pursuant to Schedule 2 (Section 28) of the Local Government Act 1999, the Annual Report of the Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association is included within this report under the heading “Regional Subsidiary Reports” (refer contents).

## 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.

In addition to the forum, Renmark Paringa Council, Berri Barmera Council and District Council of Loxton Waikerie formed an alliance in July 2013, to be known as the Riverland G3 Alliance (the Alliance). The purpose of the Alliance being to benefit from economies of scale, increase the range and quality of services and improve lifestyle to their residents and where possible reduce the cost of services to ratepayers through a consultative and collaborative approach. The G3 is held directly prior to the Riverland Local Government Forum (RLGF). The G3 reports on the progress of the projects to the RLGF and monitors progress of the projects against the stated aims and objectives.

The RLGF and Council carries out a formal review of the G3 annually, to ensure the aims and savings and benefits to the ratepayers and residents of the member councils are being achieved.



# Human Resources and Risk Management

## Senior Executive Officers

### Register of Salaries

Title of Position	Classification	Other Benefits
Chief Executive Officer	Contract Agreement	Car Provided 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 /Major Projects	Contract Agreement Includes EB Agreement	Mobile phone reimbursement and car provided
Library Manager	LG Award Includes EB Agreement	Library pool car provided
Manager Community Development	LG Award Includes EB Agreement	Mobile phone and car provided
Human Resources/ Risk Manager	LG Award Includes EB Agreement	Mobile phone and car provided

## Human Resources

Council's workforce for the period ending 2017/2018 equated to 75 employees. The workforce is dispersed considerably evenly between field

operations and corporate functions for the delivery of Council services and programs. Opportunities for multiskilling are encouraged to ensure Council has a workforce that is progressive, flexible and responsive to the needs of the community.

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 seven trainee placements in our parks and gardens; technical services; customer service; libraries; tourism and environmental services departments. The trainees through working with council have an opportunity to contribute to their community, while gaining a broad range of skills they will be able to use in future employment. 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 which is in addition to the Round 1 funding. The aim of the program is to increase regional youth workforce participation.

Council actively promotes Equal Employment Opportunities through its rigorous recruitment and selection process and through the ongoing delivery and management of its expectations and procedural obligations. Performance Management systems ensure that these expectations are regularly communicated, understood and that there is accountability by both Council and employees for the delivery of professional service standards in the discharging of duties. These contribute to the ongoing support of employee development and equitable access to opportunities.

Council continues to foster positive interaction with all its employees by focusing on positively influencing culture by encouraging Council's corporate values of: learning; adaptive; motivated; innovative; excellence.

## Training and Development

Training and development remains a key focus of council in supporting and progressing the skills and knowledge of staff within their professions. Compliance training in legislation and industry standards forms a large part of Council's training needs. For 2017/2018 approximately 230 training,

development and health monitoring sessions were attended by staff.

### **Emergency Management**

Helping to protect and assist the community to respond to and recover from disasters is a shared responsibility. Council, along with other agencies provide support through various activities in planning, preparedness, response and recovery within emergency management. Council continues to actively work with agencies and supporting departments in the development of strategies with representation on the Murray Mallee Zone and local emergency committees to ensure that plans are reflective of local government's capacity and within scope of responsibilities. Council has been part of the representation for the Local Government sector for the development and review of state and local strategies and initiatives.

The Riverland district experienced no significant events during 2017/2018 however was impacted by several events that caused localised issues due to damaging winds, heavy rains and extreme heat. Council during emergencies respond to and actively monitor Council infrastructure and

services, and provide 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 was an active participant in the Riverland Storm Recovery Committee and remains committed to the ongoing recovery functions. Part of this has been a resilience focus on the identification of opportunities for strengthening the capacity of the community for, and of, the effects from disaster events within the district areas

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.

### **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**

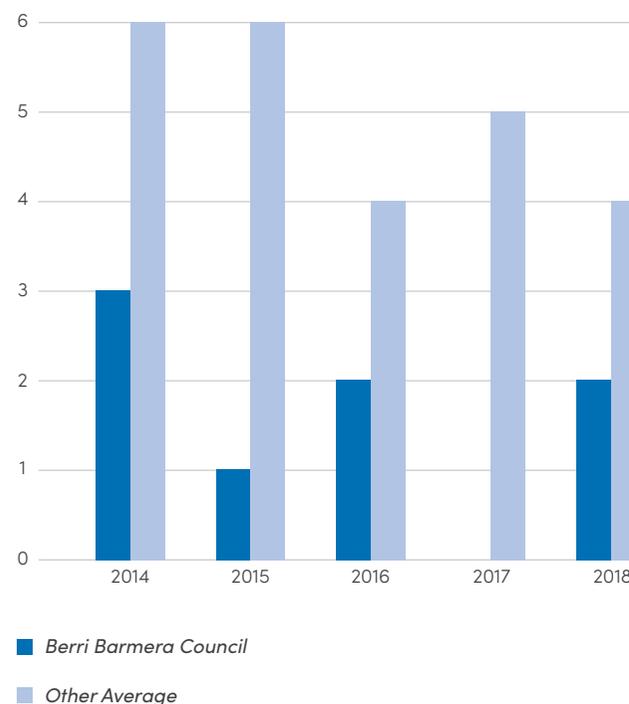
Under the requirements of the Performance Standards for Self Insurers (PSSI) as administered by ReturnToWork SA, Council undertook the biennial Key Performance Indicator (KPI) Audit conducted by LGAWCS in November 2016. It is an obligation of being self insured for Workers Compensation to meet the requirements of the PSSI. Council has been continuing to address the identified outcomes of the KPI audit through the developed and implemented action plans to address the areas of improvement and compliance.

For 2017/2018, the WHS focus for Council remained with the following programs: Hazard Management; KPI Audit Actions; and Return To Work. All programs have identified actions which are assigned to responsible officers which were monitored and reported on regularly to ensure that the focus of Council was timely and relevant.

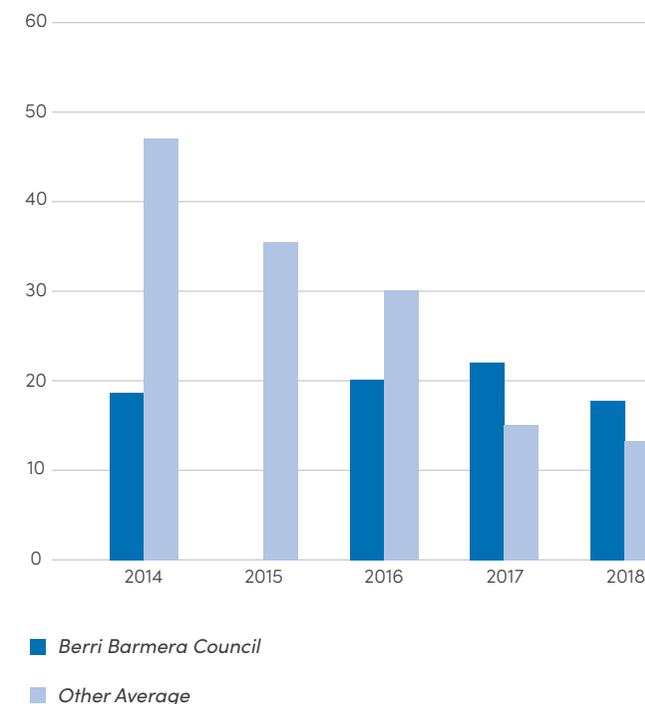
## Ageing and Work Health Pilot Project

Through the LGAWCS Council participated in the Ageing and Work Health Pilot Project. The pilot project was established to trial creative strategies aimed at assisting Council's older employees in high physical demand jobs to continue working in safe, productive and meaningful ways, and for Council's younger outdoor workers to have options and information available to them to support them as they become older. During 2017-2018 the project achieved the establishment of the Employee Representative Consultancy Forum; development of the Active Ageing Information Booklet; Stretching program; implementation of an Active Ageing Workplace Charter. Council has expressed interest in continuing with the pilot for an additional 12 months to further strengthen, deliver and implement additional initiatives of the pilot project.

## Claims



## Lost Time Injury Days



## Injury Management

### Workers Compensation Claims Data

The LTI days for 2017 BBC relate to claims that are a carry over from 2016. There were NO new claims in 2016-2017

Other: Similar Groups of Councils. (Group D)

Data Source: LGAWCS, Claims Analysis and Tracking System as at 30 June 2018. 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 Assessment Panel

**(RRAP)** Refer Page 90 for further details

## Audit Committee

The functions of the Audit Committee include:

- reviewing annual financial statements to ensure that they present fairly the state of affairs of the council; and
- proposing, and providing information relevant to, a review of the Council's strategic management plans or Annual Business Plan; and

- proposing, and reviewing, the exercise of powers under Section 130A; and
- 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
- liaising with the Council's auditor; and
- 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

Chief Executive Officer

### 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 or can 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.

## Goals

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'<sup>1</sup> systems and by becoming self-reliant in many areas.

### 5. Strong Internal Capability/Capacity.

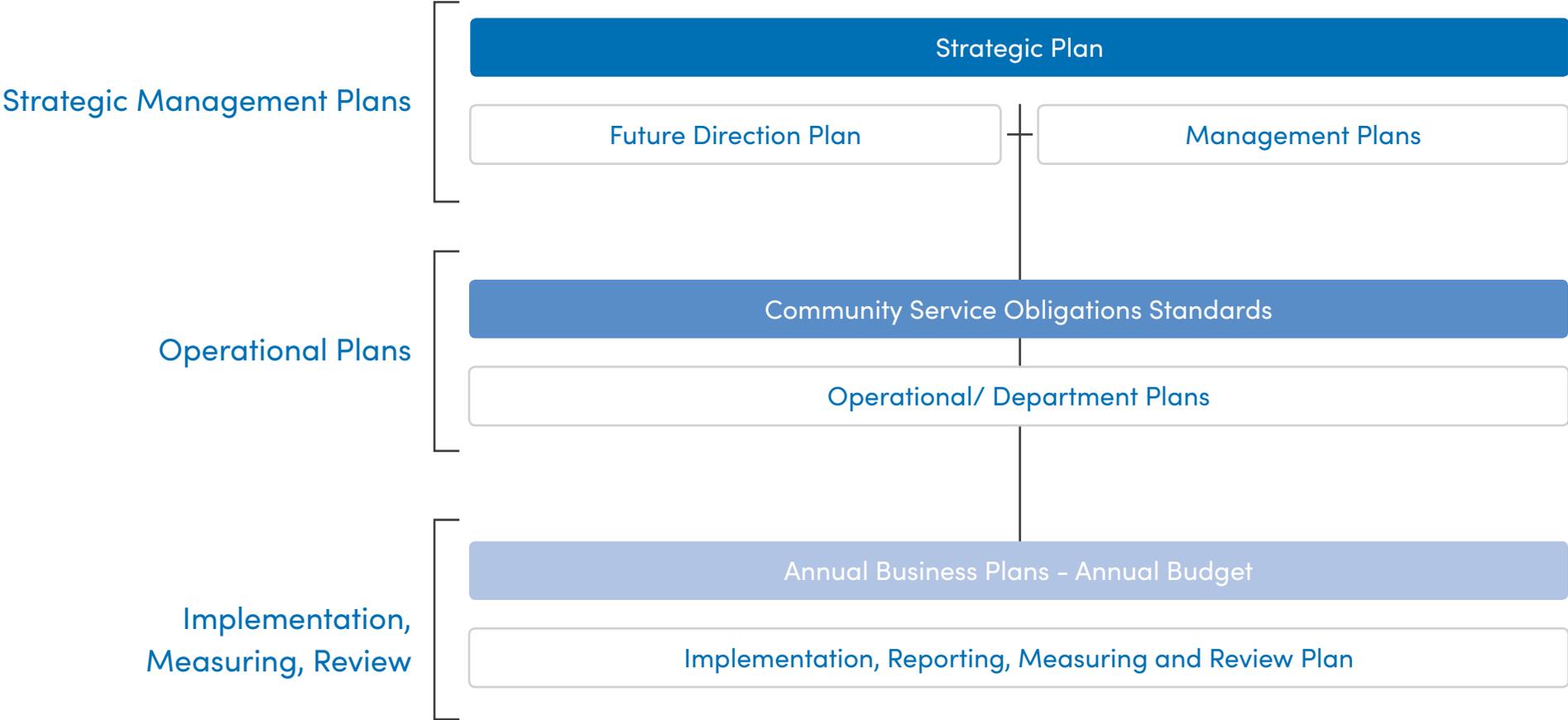
This Goal focuses on business practices for community benefit, accountability, good governance and clear decision making processes. Reduction in complexity, increased skill development of staff and Elected Members and resource sharing opportunities are pivotal to the goal.



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

<sup>1</sup>a system that adjusts itself to varying conditions by feeding output information back as input

# Strategic Planning Framework



# Action Plan

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

## COMMUNITY GOAL 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.

**Objective 1** We will create opportunity for active involvement and input to civic issues and decision making.

Actions 2017-18	Performance Outcomes (Measures)
<p>Increase in social media to disseminate information</p> <p>Opportunity for community feedback on projects provided</p> <p>Community Groups are provided the opportunity to suggest councils investment into community projects</p> <p>Community members have the opportunity to nominate for Annual Awards</p> <p>Community members have the opportunity to participate in Council committees and working groups</p>	<p>14% growth in followers of Council Facebook Pages</p> <p>Consultations undertaken</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Barmera Dog Park</li> <li>• Hope Street Art Installation</li> <li>• Berri Riverfront Redevelopment</li> <li>• Cat By-Law</li> <li>• Annual Business Plan</li> </ul> <p>24 community groups/events received funding via grant application process</p> <p>Annual Australia Day nominations received and awarded</p> <p>Community Members involved in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Berri Beautification Committee</li> <li>• Martin Bend Committee</li> <li>• Barmera Beautification Committee</li> <li>• Friends of Bonney Theatre Complex</li> <li>• RRISP Working Party</li> </ul> <p>Only two items still held in confidence</p>

<b>Objective 2</b> We will increase involvement in civic pride.	
<b>Actions 2017-18</b>	<b>Performance Outcomes (Measures)</b>
<p>Training undertaken by several staff to assist with greater use of social media</p> <p>Town Beautification Committees driving community projects</p> <p>Opportunity for community to nominate for awards</p>	<p>Increased social media responses</p> <p>Internal Social Media Plan and Policy drafted</p> <p>Assistance from Community Groups and Schools for KESAB submission</p>
<b>Objective 3</b> We will support First People.	
<b>Actions 2017-18</b>	<b>Performance Outcomes (Measures)</b>
<p>Barmerara Meru Committee</p> <p>Support of indigenous programs and events</p>	<p>Budget Allocation for Cultural, Heritage and Environmental Management Plan</p> <p>Draft Lake Bonney Caring for Country Management Plan developed and consulted upon for approval by Council/RMMAC</p> <p>NAIDOC week events conducted by community</p> <p>Funding provided for arts, social and sports programs</p>
<b>Objective 4</b> We will support and promote multicultural diversity.	
<b>Actions 2017-18</b>	<b>Performance Outcomes (Measures)</b>
<p>Support of Harmony Day events</p> <p>Support of Multicultural Programs</p>	<p>Harmony Day event held in Barmera supported</p> <p>Venue support provided to various Multicultural group events and activities</p> <p>Worked with Italian Community regarding installation of a commemorative statue</p>

<b>Objective 5</b> We will increase access to quality housing for a greater range of individuals.	
<b>Actions 2017-18</b>	<b>Performance Outcomes (Measures)</b>
Discussions with Renewal SA	
<b>Objective 6</b> We will create opportunities for community ownership and control of assets.	
<b>Actions 2017-18</b>	<b>Performance Outcomes (Measures)</b>
Newly built assets under the control and management of community groups Riverland Regional Innovation and Sports Precinct completed December 2017 Support community led facility improvements	Received grant from Federal Government of \$3,526,884 Handover to Sporting club tenants with Council support Engaged with 17 community sporting groups in regards to major facility upgrades. Classic Car Club to revitalise Cobdogla Hall as the organisations home
<b>Objective 7</b> We will work with communities of interest to increase safety.	
<b>Actions 2017-18</b>	<b>Performance Outcomes (Measures)</b>
Met with SAPOL Member of ZEMC / ZEST Planning, preparedness, response and recovery strategies and actions taken - High River - vulnerable persons / Extreme Weather - Riverland storm recovery	Decrease in reported crime. Strengthened capacity for disaster recovery through increased community resilience
<b>Objective 8</b> We will influence state, regional and local decision making.	
<b>Actions 2017-18</b>	<b>Performance Outcomes (Measures)</b>
Mayor Vice President of LGA Mayor Vice President of MRLGA Riverland Local Government Forum G3 Procurement Alliance	Emergency management influence for the local and state government sector. Continued joint sealing program between the three Councils

## COMMUNITY GOAL 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.

<b>Objective 1</b> We will develop partnerships to attract new industry (eg advanced manufacturing; green industries; alternative horticulture; education and training).	
<b>Actions 2017-18</b>	<b>Performance Outcomes (Measures)</b>
Supported Monash REWARD project	New businesses or expansions of existing businesses RDA supported programs
<b>Objective 2</b> We will attract investment to value add to current industry.	
<b>Objective 3</b> We will work with partners to attract business not reliant on the River.	
<b>Actions 2017-18</b>	<b>Performance Outcomes (Measures)</b>
Supported Monash REWARD project	
<b>Objective 4</b> We will develop a China strategy.	
<b>Actions 2017-18</b>	<b>Performance Outcomes (Measures)</b>
Limited scope for local business at present	
<b>Objective 5</b> We will promote quality Country Style living and lifestyle	
<b>Actions 2017-18</b>	<b>Performance Outcomes (Measures)</b>
Council continues to work with landowners to facilitate development of rural living in areas appropriately zoned for this use	New houses are being built

<b>Objective 6</b> We will facilitate development through appropriate zoning and amend where required (while protecting the natural assets of the region).	
<b>Actions 2017-18</b>	<b>Performance Outcomes (Measures)</b>
Working with State Government to facilitate future code and zone amendments	
<b>Objective 7</b> We will support local business and towns to work together to increase joint profitability.	
<b>Objective 8</b> We will support tourism.	
<b>Actions 2017-18</b>	<b>Performance Outcomes (Measures)</b>
Investment in Tourism Services and attractions. Provide information services to support visitor experience Support the development and operations of facilities that service RV and camping Support the attraction of events that result in increased visitor nights	Operate Berri VIC directly and Barmera VIC by allocation. Contributed to district and regional marketing materials No. of Tourism businesses Major funding partner of Destination Riverland Martin Bend facilities Barmera RV Park improvements Waste management support for peak season camping at Lake Bonney Funding provided to major and district events
<b>Objective 9</b> We will support more women in leadership roles.	
<b>Actions 2017-18</b>	<b>Performance Outcomes (Measures)</b>
Programs in place for development	Increase in women in mid and senior management roles

### COMMUNITY GOAL 3

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

**Objective 1** We will ensure fast, reliable NBN infrastructure. We will bolster technology capacity and capability across the region.

#### Actions 2017-18

NBN available in Barmera and Berri

#### Performance Outcomes (Measures)

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.

#### Actions 2017-18

Upgrade to Regional Hockey Facility  
Riverland Regional Innovation and Sports Precinct at Berri  
Glassey Park extension with Bowls  
Upgrades to lighting and BBQ's Barmera Lakefront, Glassey Park and Monash Adventure Park

#### Performance Outcomes (Measures)

Facilities upgraded  
Assisted financially/in support with sporting events  
Assisted sporting clubs  
Riverland Regional Innovation and Sports Precinct completed December 2017  
Working with selected schools to develop shared community use facilities and reduce duplication of infrastructure

**Objective 3** We will modernise and build community assets. We will enhance the combining and sharing of community resources (eg transport).

#### Actions 2017-18

Glassey Park will house 8 sports when completed

#### Performance Outcomes (Measures)

Facilities upgraded  
Hawdon Chambers and Soldiers Memorial Hall renovations  
Friends of Bonney Theatre Committee

<b>Objective 4</b> We will provide non structured recreational facilities, locally and regionally, to promote participation, well-being and aesthetic landscape quality.	
<b>Actions 2017-18</b>	<b>Performance Outcomes (Measures)</b>
Walking trails being developed	Facilities completed Barmera Lake Front exercise equipment and walking paths
<b>Objective 5</b> We will focus on amalgamating sporting, recreational and lifestyle facilities to continue to provide high quality services.	
<b>Actions 2017-18</b>	<b>Performance Outcomes (Measures)</b>
Glassey Park and Barmera facilities	A number of Joint use facilities now available in the community Barmera Hub committee - meeting and progressing Master Plan

## COMMUNITY GOAL 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.

**Objective 1** We will explore alternative energy supplies to reduce our carbon footprint.

Actions 2017-18	Performance Outcomes (Measures)
Approval for 10MW Solar Farm has received \$5 million from State Government	Solar Farm progression. PPA drafted, projects aims for March 2019 Construction commencement

**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

**Objective 4** We will implement best practice in Cat Management.

Actions 2017-18	Performance Outcomes (Measures)
Developing Cat By-Laws	By Laws commence August 2018 DACO being introduced 1 July 2018

## COMMUNITY GOAL 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.

**Objective 1** We will embed strategic procurement practices.

### Actions 2017-18

Using G3 Procurement Alliance and strategic purchasing

### Performance Outcomes (Measures)

Control of expenditure

**Objective 2** We will continuously improve process ensuring a focus on monitoring and evaluation.

### Actions 2017-18

Implementation of ICT strategy

### Performance Outcomes (Measures)

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.

### Actions 2017-18

G3 Procurement Alliance operating on numerous projects

### Performance Outcomes (Measures)

MOU signed with Riverland Councils and implemented Joint

- Planning Board Pilot Program involvement
- Sealing and Line Marking works

RPC/BBC Shared General Inspector role

<b>Objective 4</b> We will invest in workforce planning and upskilling of staff.	
<b>Actions 2017-18</b>	<b>Performance Outcomes (Measures)</b>
Workforce planning in place	Workforce Plan completed
<b>Objective 5</b> We will invest in upskilling/skill maintenance of Elected Members	
<b>Actions 2017-18</b>	<b>Performance Outcomes (Measures)</b>
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.

## Statutory Requirements

- Access to Meetings – Code of Practice
- Code of Conduct – Elected Members and 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
- Credit Card Purchasing Policy
- Debt Recovery
- Fees and Charges Policy and Schedule
- Fraud and Corruption Prevention Policy

- Financial Hardship (CWMS) Policy
- Grants 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
- Rating 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 and iPad Policy
- Elected Members Support
- Informal Gatherings Policy
- Mayor/Chairpersons Seeking Legal Advice
- Training – Elected Members
- Records Management – Elected Members

### Risk Management

- Children and 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

### Tourism

- Tourism Services

### Library

- Library Collection and Development Policy
- Library – Conditions of Use Policy

### Infrastructure Management

- Plant and 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 Development Act 1993 and Development Regulations 2008
- Unclad Bathing Policy
- Leases, Licences and Permit Policy
- Food Inspection Policy
- Horse Riding Policy
- Mobile/Temporary Vending Policy

### By-Laws

- No 1. Permits and Penalties
- No 2. Moveable signs
- No 3. Council Land
- No 4. Roads
- No 5. Dogs

### Member 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 2018.

Mayor	\$53,376
Deputy Mayor	\$16,680
Councillors	\$13,344

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 \$16,680 for the Strategic Governance and Asset Management Committees.

For the Martin Bend Recreation Area, Berri Town Beautification and Friends of Bonney Theatre Complex Committees Presiding Members, there

is an allowance of \$157 per meeting limited to an aggregate amount allowance of \$939 per annum. The Presiding Member of the Cemetery Advisory Committee declined to accept the allowance.

### 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	7,319
Council's Supplementary Roll	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,319</b>

Council's representation quota is therefore 813 electors per elected member.

Council completed a Elector Representation review of its size, composition and ward structure, as required by the provisions of Section 12 of the Act over the 2016/2017 year. The review, which was conducted in accordance with the specified process, public consultation requirements 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 next Review will be conducted as per legislative requirements.

Council	Elected Members <i>Including Mayor</i>	Electors	Ratio
Alexandrina	12	20,211	1,684
Barossa Council	12	17,555	1,462
Berri Barmera	9	7,319	813
Copper Coast	11	11,231	1021
Light Regional	11	10,358	941
Loxton Waikerie	11	8,272	752
Murray Bridge	10	14,372	1,437
Port Pirie	10	13,031	1,303
Victor Harbor	10	12,418	1,241
Wattle Range	12	8,506	708
Yorke Peninsula	12	9,197	766

### 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.

### 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 requirements 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 in accordance with Councils Procurement Policies and Procedures.



■ Road works on Barwell Avenue, Barmera.

# Contracted Services 2017/2018

Project/Service	Amount
Audit and Audit Committee Services	\$19,180
Information Technology Support	\$172,220
Barmera Recreation Centre Management	\$28,334
Dog and Cat Control	\$7,702
Cemetery Maintenance	\$4,000
Effluent Drainage Maintenance	\$202,693
CWMS Infrastructure renewal	\$201,988
CWMS Management	\$2,571,062
Garbage Collection and Disposal	\$1,099,421
Animal and Plant Control Board	\$7,033
Public Convenience Maintenance	\$112,380
Sealed Road Construction	\$641,810
Sealed Road Maintenance	\$58,903
Road Maintenance Sealing and Construction	\$242,172
Unsealed Road Construction	\$84,169
Kerbing Renewal	\$57,913
Landfill Rehabilitation – Monash	\$17,550
Street Lighting Upgrades	\$189,459
Town Planning Consultants	\$15,246

Building Inspection Services	\$97,508
Foreshore Maintenance	\$53,158
Footpath Paver Replacement	\$36,490
Footpath Construction	\$13,288
Swimming Pool Management	\$59,687
Swimming Pool Upgrade	\$64,217
Stone Ridge Quarry Operating Costs	\$60,000
Stormwater Upgrades	\$342,509
Solar Project	\$74,075
Riverland Regional Innovation and Sports Precinct	\$3,356,013
Barmera Memorial Oval Fencing	\$31,386
Monash Adventure Park Equipment Installation	\$19,540
Berri Riverfront Wharf Preliminary Costs	\$106,217
Berri Riverfront Development Construction Project	\$877,715
Berri Library Maintenance	\$5,303
Barmera Library Maintenance	\$10,474
Council Property Maintenance	\$75,428
Debt Collection Services	\$20,244
Halls and Other Buildings Maintenance	\$54,252

Bonney Theatre/ Hawdon Chambers Upgrades	\$34,977
Health Services including Immunisations	\$23,835
Street Tree Maintenance	\$33,946
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$11,183,497</b>

## 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

*Action: 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 2017/2018 two 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 49 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 2017/2018 year.

Total number of orders made under section 91(7) **6**

The number of expired, ceased to apply or revoked orders **4**

The number of operative orders at end of financial year **2**

#### Date and subject of each order

- 13 February 2018 – Berri War Memorial Committee (BWMC – Riverview Drive and Clarke Road, Berri (b)
- 10 April 2018 – Berri War Memorial Committee (BWMC – Lots 20-25 Riverview Drive Subdivision (b)
- 24 April 2018 – Lots 20-25 Riverview Drive, Berri (b)
- 22 May 2018—Confidential Minute Book—Release of Confidential Minutes –"Lake Bonney Environs" (j)
- 26 June 2018 – Request for Loan – Berri War Memorial Community Centre Inc. (d)
- 26 June 2018 – CEO and Acting CEO Appointments (a)

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	277	4	90 (3) (a) 90 (3) (b) (i) (ii) 90 (3) (d) 90 (3) (j)
Berri Town Beautification Committee	5	18	Nil	N/A
Barmera Town Beautification Committee	6	19	Nil	N/A
Audit Committee	4	24	Nil	N/A
Riverland Regional Assessment Panel	9	16 (Berri Barmera Council)	Nil	N/A
Martin Bend Recreational Area Committee	6	5	Nil	N/A
Major Projects	Nil	Nil	Nil	N/A
Cemetery Advisory Committee	2	9	Nil	N/A
Development Act 101A Committee	Nil	Nil	Nil	N/A
Strategic Governance and Asset Management Committee	8	58	3	90 (3) (b) (i) (ii) 90 (3) (k)
Friends of Bonney Theatre Complex Committee	7	11	Nil	N/A
Riverland Regional Building Fire Safety Committee	2	15	Nil	N/A

## Freedom of Information/ Statement

During 2017/2018 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;
  - (iv) to ensure, as far as is practicable, that the principles set out in Section 8 are observed.
- 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 Riverland Regional 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 Council's 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.

	2017-18*
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

\*Current 2017-18 GST Inclusive (Where applicable)

## 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 2017/2018 year, 13 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

*Action: 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.

# Community Services



# Library Services



Throughout the year our libraries have strived to provide spaces and create events that have catered to people of all ages in our community. We have also focused on advertising our events, especially via social media to maximise attendance. At Berri Library a survey was used to collect information and flyers were distributed to raise awareness of what we have to offer especially to our younger audience. Barmera Library has continued to involve the community in events through its interesting informational speakers and has celebrated some milestones during the year. The Berri Library partnership with Glossop High School is in the fourth year of operation and the library continues to provide teachers recreational and informational needs.

As we move forward to the future, we continue to be concerned with keeping abreast of current technologies which will enhance our offerings to our community. Work is currently underway to develop a new mobile App for SA Public Libraries, possibly allowing for local customisation. Our close liaison with Public Library Services will enable this to become a reality in the coming months, and

we look forward to raising awareness within our community regarding this new feature.

## SA History Festival

The Berri and Barmera libraries made a substantial contribution to the SA History Festival list of events. The Berri Library contribution included a Riverland Central Plaza display about Berri's early advertising history. A Retro Gaming and Computers of the 1970's and 1980's display was set up in our Reading Room during History Month in May. This display proved to be popular with Glossop High School students who spent a lot of their free time on the arcade style gaming machines, and people from nearby Riverland towns showed interest. Our thanks to the main contributors of equipment for this display, Rob Boyd and Ron Haynes, who kindly loaned us vintage computers, software and gaming machines that made this display event a great success. Other sessions during this month were Research Your Family History on Trove and Scrapbooking Your Family History.

Barmera Library presented a Family History Workshop for those wanting to make a start in exploring their family ancestry.

A highlight at Barmera was the Henry Lawson's The Loaded Dog storytelling performance for adults presented by the Splash Theatre Company. An Afternoon Tea held in conjunction with this performance raised \$90.00 for the Cancer Council.

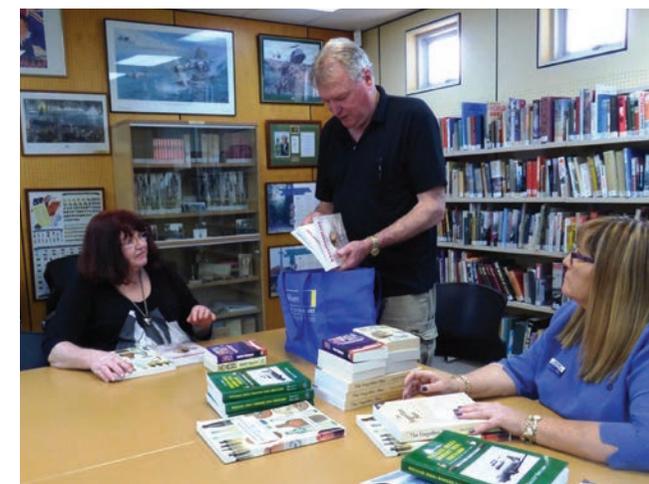
The History Trust's travelling exhibition "Gallantry" was also on display; this communicated the stories of the brave actions of five South Australians awarded the Victoria Cross and George Cross in the Second World War and the Vietnam War.

### Author Donation

During October former Riverland resident Hallett Shueard visited the Berri Library with his sister Rosemary Gower and made a substantial donation of his published works to all Riverland Public Libraries. We affixed book plates to all the books and delivered them to the other libraries on behalf of Hallett. We are pleased to have the literary works of a former local to add to our libraries' collections.



■ Rob Boyd (left) and Ron Haynes standing beside the Space Invaders game brought in by Ron for the Retro Gaming and Computers of the 1970's and 1980's Display.



■ Hallett Shueard (centre) pictured alongside sister Rosemary Gower (left) and the Berri Library Officer, Jacque Zagotis with the published works he donated to Riverland libraries.



■ Khloe Draper from Berri Primary School Year 1 Class showing off her rainmaker made during her visit to the Berri Library during Children's Book Week. Peter Ison, Library Manager (pictured far right) is assisting other students with the activity.



■ Cobdogla School children show off their Book Week creations at Barmera Library.

### Children's Book Week 17<sup>th</sup>- 24<sup>th</sup> August 2017

The 2017 Children's Book Week theme was Escape to Everywhere. The Berri Primary School reception classes visited Berri Library dressed in their favourite fantasy costumes and took part in a story reading and craft activity session which involved making a rainmaker. The children's area of the library was transformed into a world of enchantment with fairies, a magic tree and teepee with lots of fairy lights with the students enjoying the setup.

At Barmera Library different schools and classes visited for stories and craft activities. Around 120 children from pre-school through to year 7, their teachers and a few parents, attended during the week. Some children and teachers arrived in fancy dress, and all of the classes were interested to look, read and learn about the award-winning books, as well as discovering more about the myriad of library services on offer.

### Information Sessions

Barmera Library offered some interesting informational sessions which were very well attended. Hats Off to the Constitution was presented by retired Constitutional Lawyer John

Christensen. John used various hats to show the different nationalities involved in the making of our constitution as well as songs to illustrate constitutional history.

Children's author Mike Dumbleton presented the SA Writer's Centre Workshop for budding writers. Mike advised on the features and structure of narrative writing and gave each participant individual help.

Brenton from Anglican Community Care offered a session aimed at those wanting to learn more about becoming a foster carer in the Riverland.

### Children's Activities

Both libraries have worked very hard during the past year to provide entertaining, fresh and original craft and stories for our children's activity sessions. At Barmera, children's activities, based on a story or theme for 0 to 5-year-olds are held twice weekly during term time. School holiday sessions at both libraries are tailored for school-age children and planned around particular themes such as the Nature Play festival, Christmas, Easter, Winter Wonderland and a Science and Magic workshop are just some examples.



■ Eleni and Dafni Mason proudly showing off their wind chimes they created during the October school Holidays at Berri Library.



■ Sarah from EnviroEDU introducing one of Australia's unique wildlife creatures to some of the large and enthusiastic group of children at Berri Library.

## Work Experience Placement

Our partnership with Glossop High School in the joint-use library in Berri often means that we are thought of first as a workplace to visit when students are looking for places to carry out their Work Experience commitments. In June 2018, Glossop High School Year 11 student Sophie Dawes spent time at both Barmera and Berri. Sophie displayed a real passion for library work and involved herself enthusiastically in learning about how the library management system worked. She fitted into the work teams and interacted well with customers.



■ Year 12 Glossop High School student Sophie Dawes during Work Experience at the Berri Library.



■ The large group of children at Barmera Library being shown the python by Sarah from EnviroEDU.

## Holiday Activities

The highlight of our children's holiday activities this year has been the visit by zoologist Sarah Holmes from EnviroEDU which was organised by our new library trainee Breanna Freeman. In this interactive, hands-on session, children were introduced to some of Australia's unique wildlife such as the carpet python, woma python, sugar glider and sand monitor and a native giant cockroach was also part of the show. These were hugely successful and enjoyable events, with more than 50 people attending each session held at both libraries.

### Glossop High School Activities

Berri Library staff have continued to work closely with the staff and students of the Glossop High School Senior Campus providing assistance and support regarding their research information needs as well as reading for pleasure.

For the first time, School Services Librarian Maureen Spiers and School Services Officer Susanne Fisher issued textbooks to Glossop High School students at the start of the year using RFID pads on all stations; the use of the RFID pads streamlined the process a great deal.

Our online resource e-Library was promoted to students and staff involved in the Research Project and Childcare subjects; e-Library provides current research information in the form of news and journal articles. We have continued to attend Riverland Library Hub Group Meetings to stay abreast of current trends and to also network with our library colleagues. Purchases this year for Year 11 and 12 students have revolved around adding current popular fiction, and in our non-fiction subject areas we have focused on building additional resources in Childcare,

Research Project topics and Biology and Chemistry.

Andrew Pierson from Lighthouse Books also visited the school with a range of Teacher Reference material for our Senior Campus teachers to peruse.

### Tech Savvy Seniors South Australia

The Tech Savvy for Senior's (TSS) pilot program was officially launched at the Berri Library with representatives from all joint initiative partners, (State government with Office for the Ageing, and Service SA, Telstra and the Libraries Board of South Australia) in attendance. The Tech Savvy Seniors South Australia pilot project began in the Riverland in August 2017 and ran until January 2018 and was designed to encourage seniors to visit public libraries and learn about computers, mobile devices and other technological advances. Public Library staff from both libraries have been involved in training sessions, and we have been contacted by other libraries from around the state as our TSS web page has been promoted as a one-stop shop for information about the programme by Public Library Services. Staff have built a valuable range of training resources for the programme.



■ Berri senior citizen Kathy Caddick (left) participating in the launch of the Tech Savvy Senior's South Australia pilot project at the Berri Library, helped by Telstra area general manager Mark Bolton (pictured right). (Murray Pioneer photo)



■ Tech Savvy Seniors Lindsay and Hilda Strong, Cathy James, Margaret Dunstone in front and Elaine Piltz standing with Barmera Library's Joella Crossfield during a Tech Savvy Senior Session at Barmera Library.

## Author Visits

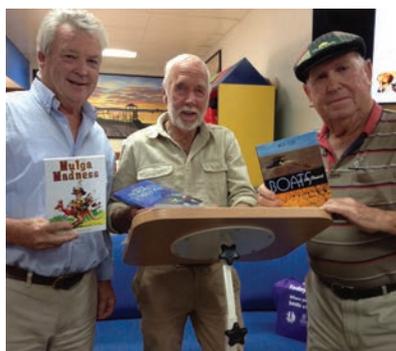
Both of our libraries featured author visits in their programme of events with strong participation from the local community. Tricia Stringer came to the Barmera Library in October to promote her latest book 'Come Rain or Shine'; she also shared her writing tips along with reading an excerpt from her book. In November, local adventurer Rex Ellis visited to share his experiences in life as a jackaroo, station overseer, pub owner, fencing contractor, outback guide, boat safari operator, paddle wheel owner and operator, pioneer of long-haul camel trekking as well as the author of nine books. Rex's books were available for purchase at the event, and the library now has many of these for loan.

In November, Berri Library was pleased to host two visiting authors who focus on World War 1 history research. Authors Chris Collins and Mike Wohltmann spoke for more than 30 minutes each about their books. Chris is an author of four books about WW1 soldiers and the SA country towns they originate from, he spoke about researching and writing the soldier ancestor's story. Mike Wohltmann is the author of 'A future unlive: a forgotten chapter in South Australia's history' which takes an in-depth

look at internment in SA. The successful evening concluded with a book signing by the authors.



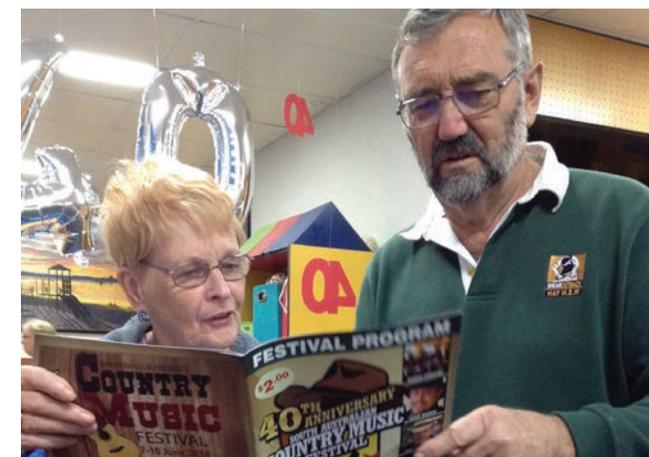
■ Award-winning Rural Romance Author Trisha Stringer (left) and Margie Arnold (right) from Meg's Bookshop at Barmera Library in October 2017.



■ Don Dalziel (left) and Peter Foley (right) attended the Rex Ellis (pictured centre) author event at Barmera Library.

## Bush Poets

Barmera Library has held an annual Bush Poetry event during Country Music Week since 2006, and 2018 marked the 40th anniversary of the Country Music Festival in Barmera. To celebrate, a bush poetry competition using the theme of "forty" was organised by Barmera Library. Three Bush Picnic Pack prizes were awarded to John Penna, John Chase and Berri Barmera Life Style Club members for their combined entry. Poets read their winning entries at the Bush Poetry afternoon, joining with other poets from near and far to make it a novel and entertaining celebration of the festival.



■ Bush Poets Jill Wherry and Bob Magor studying the Country Music Program at Barmera Library after their performances at the library's annual Bush Poetry Afternoon.



■ Charlie Hollis receiving his prize for the Summer Reading Club from Peter Ison (Library Manager).



■ Barmera Library's Summer Reading Club winner Jesslyn Tunkin with her prize.

### Summer Reading Club

Summer reading can help students return to school in the New Year ready to learn and with greater reading fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension. It can also have the benefit of maintaining or even increasing library use by children and their families over the summer break. With these benefits in mind, library staff prepared Summer Reading Club book packs for Pre-School, Primary and Secondary aged students; the packs were filled with things to do as well as a reading log to complete and return to the library to go into a prize draw. At the Berri Library, Charlie Hollis was the lucky winner of a Sphero. Jesslyn Tunkin was the lucky winner of Barmera Library's Summer Reading Club; she won a "Game-on action pack" containing totem tennis, a cricket set, soccer balls, a ride-on beach toy and a bucket and spade.

### Milestones and Celebrations

Two milestones were celebrated in October. It was on 18<sup>th</sup> October 2007 that the first ever Baby Rhyme Time session was held in Barmera Library by volunteer Melanie Alder who has continued in this role to the present day. Michelle Rogers joined the Barmera Library in 2016 to help run the extra Thursday morning sessions when the numbers got too many for just one session per week. Mayor Peter Hunt attended the Rhyme Time session to help celebrate and present Melanie and Michelle with flowers in recognition of their valuable work with our youngest library members. Free helium balloons were given to all children who attended the day's activities.

Barmera Library's 56<sup>th</sup> Birthday was quietly celebrated on October 31<sup>st</sup>. A free raffle containing some fun party items and books for library borrowers was won by Raelene Hobbs.

Barmera Library turned **56!**  **10 years** of 'Rhyme Time Sessions' at the Barmera Library



■ Miriam Howes was the winner of the Mother's Day Raffle at Berri Library.



■ Barmera Library's 2018 Easter raffle winner, Bobby Singh.

## Competitions and Raffle Draws

Competitions add interest to our customers' library experience. A Tech Savvy Seniors Win an iPad Competition (iPad kindly supplied by Public Library Services) was open to all of those who attended Tech Savvy sessions in any of the five Riverland Public Libraries. At Barmera Library 35 entries were received, and Roslyn Nairne was the happy prize winner.

Library Lovers' Day was held on 14<sup>th</sup> February, and both libraries had amazing displays of books and posters with authors sharing the reasons why they love libraries. Barmera Library held free competitions for customers to guess the number of lollies in the jar. Yvonne Ahrens was the winner of the adult section, and Zane Clayton won the children's section.

Easter Competitions and Raffles also took place at both libraries; at Barmera the Easter Raffle winner was Bobby Singh. Berri Library customers were asked to guess the number of eggs in the giant glass; the lucky winner was Melissa Sweeney.

To enter the Mother's Day Raffle at Berri, borrowers needed to borrow five items before entering their names in the prize draw for the gift basket. This is a simple and interesting way to boost loan statistics; the prize was won by Miriam Howes.



■ Mayor Peter Hunt reading *Hickory Dickory Dash* to the group of students from OLOR as part of National Simultaneous Storytime.

### Library and Information Week 21<sup>st</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> May 2018

The 2018 Library and Information Week theme was 'Find yourself in a Library'. This theme was designed to give all libraries the opportunity to promote themselves to their community, and both libraries certainly did this! Berri Library offered their customers a variety of activities which included a QR Code Competition, Lucky Squares, Children's Colouring Competition, Barbecue, Scrapbooking Your Family History and National Simultaneous Storytime. Mayor Peter Hunt was on hand to read *Hickory Dickory Dash* to a group of students from Our Lady of the River School for the Storytime event. Barmera Library also participated in National Simultaneous Story time, reading the story to students from Glossop Primary School. We were pleased to be able to forward \$350 from the Barbecue and Lucky Squares Competition to Cure Cancer Australia.

At Barmera, Library and Information Week was celebrated by decorating with mirrors and dress ups, as children and adults were invited to 'find a hat, strike a pose and take a selfie in the library or let us take their photo in the library.' A scavenger



■ Berri Library staff Susanne Fisher, Breanna Freeman, Maureen Spiers and Peter Ison working at the Barbecue fundraiser. (Murray Pioneer photo)

hunt organised by library staff for the children was a great success at Barmera, with all participants winning a bag of chips or popcorn.

### Volunteers

Both Barmera and Berri libraries are grateful for the volunteers who generously give their time and talents to help make our libraries the great places they are for all in the community. Volunteers at Berri Library have assisted with RFID tagging and Baby Rhyme Time. At Barmera, we are indebted to our regular volunteers who come in weekly to help with Rhyme Time sessions and One on One IT support sessions covering iPads, tablets, smart phones, laptops and basic computer lessons.



■ Barmera Library volunteers Amor Villanueva, Terri Fowles, Michelle Rogers, Melanie Alder, at back Kaye Stead.

### Internet Booking System Upgrade

A PC Booking System upgrade at Barmera now allows Barmera customers easier access and management for library staff are also streamlined. This system has been operating successfully at the Berri Library since 2015.

### PayPal Project Implementation

The PayPal project was rolled out to Berri Barmera libraries by Public Library Services in February; this changed the way that all our libraries generate holds, overdue items and tax invoices. It has the added benefit of providing an easy way for library customers to pay for lost items using their credit card or with PayPal and have their library account re-instated (without staff intervention).

### Staff Training and Development

To provide the best service to customers, the staff at both libraries are constantly undertaking training to update their skills and knowledge about library initiatives. Staff at both libraries have completed a scheduled Council Induction with Veronica Rothe (Human Resources and Risk Manager) as well as Child Safe Environments training. Breanna Freeman along with Sue Webber and Jodie

Bannear attended Zart Art craft training in Mildura in preparation for Children's Book Week. Breanna has also completed the Library component of her traineeship and is working towards completing the Business Administration aspect of her studies.

Peg Germein and Maureen Spiers both completed the four-week on-line course - 'YA Why not?' which concentrated on ways to improve young adults' use of libraries as well as strategies to increase their reading enjoyment.

## Berri Barmera Council Library Statistics 2017/2018

Statistics from your library service

Loans and Usage	Berri		Barmera		Totals
	2016-2017	2017-2018	2016-2017	2016-2017	2017-2018
Door Count	114,920	120,746	34,436	33,416	154,162
Total Loans	53,394	52,397	41,746	40,433	92,830
Internet Bookings	6,431	5,210	3,331	3,644	8,854
Holiday Activities	193	318	288	232	550
Weekly Children's Activities	230	433	1,249	712	1,145
Baby Rhyme Time	580	720	1,403	772	1,492
SA Library Network Incoming Transits	4,050	6,423	4,175	5,376	11,799
SA Library Network Outgoing Transits	8,969	9,687	5,023	5,203	14,890
Visits per capita (Berri 7,025, Barmera 4,188)	16.3	17.2	8.2	8.0	13.7
Loans per capita	7.6	7.4	10.0	9.6	8.3
Open hours per annum	2,422	2,422	1,950	1,950	4,372
Web Catalogue Sessions	8,064	10,480	Combined Stats.		10,480
Library Website Sessions	8,187	10,426	Combined Stats.		10,426

# Community Development

There are so many great organisations working in the community and Council endeavours to work in partnership with many of these groups to identify and develop programs and activities that meet the social, cultural, creative and recreation needs of our community. This support can be through direct funding and in-kind assistance with event and facility activities, or working with our sporting and community organisations to identify State and Federal Government funding opportunities and initiate the grant writing process.

Community groups undertake a significant contribution to the community's quality of life, committing hours of volunteer time in activities, projects and events. Council is often able to value-add to this contribution by providing varied levels of support, which may consist of financial, in-kind, or a combination of both. Council provides an opportunity for people to volunteer, to give back to their community, share their knowledge, learn, connect and support others from Rocky's Hall of Fame, library and special projects.

## Community Facilities

Each year, Council maintains a wide range of facilities that are provided at heavily subsidised rates to community organisations. Many of these are reliant on additional funding from various sources (including user fees) but, without Council contribution, many 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. Some 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.

## Recreation Facilities

There have been major additions to the sporting facilities this year with the launch of Riverland Regional Innovation and Sports Precinct and community groups continue to work on the planning for improvements at the Cobdogla Tennis Courts, Berri Tennis Courts, Monash Netball Club, Barmera Netball Courts, shared change-room facilities at our main Football Ovals, Monash Bowls Club and Barmera Soccer Club.

## Community Events

Aside from organisations and projects that were amongst those to receive direct support through the Community Grants Program, there are over 60 community events that are supported throughout the year with set up assistance, venue cost and road closures. The immense value of those community organisers who Council's works, community and property staff work with, deliver an amazing range of community events that deliver an immense return to the communities economy and help raise community spirit.

These events include Musical Society, School Performances and art spaces Bonney Theatre and Town Hall, Country Music Festivals, Orchid Shows, Harmony Day, NAIDOC Week, and a host of sporting events like state league soccer fixture, State and community triathlon events to name a few. In total, the investment into community activities is over \$250,000 which is only a small percentage of the total value that these activities return into the community in both economic and social terms.

## Tourism Information

Council's community development team through the Berri visitor information centre, play a role in building economic development by welcoming tourists to the region and providing information on local attractions, businesses and activities. Council also supports the promotion of events as it works in partnership with Destination Riverland to promote "What's On" in the Berri Barmera region.



Community Grants Program supported

over **60** community events

- investment into community activities

over **\$250,000**

■ R.C. - Road Closure  
H.H. - Hall Hire  
V.S - Venue Support

## Organisation Activity/Event Amount Supported In-Kind

Organisation	Activity / Event	Amount Supported	In-Kind
SSAA Barmera Pistol and Rifle Club	Handgun Metallic Silhouette Target	\$1,000	
Barmera Xmas Pageant Committee	Support for Barmera's Santa's Cave	\$1,500	H.H
Riverland Christmas Appeal	Financial Support for Food Hampers and Toys	\$1,000	
Riverland Youth Theatre	Support of the Annual Program	\$5,000	
St Catherine's Ladies Auxiliary	Development of an Advertising Banner	\$400	
Barmera Xmas Pageant	Event support Barmera Christmas Pageant	\$1,500	R.C, H.H
Riverland Country Music Club	SA Country Music and Awards	\$5,000	R.C, H.H
Riverland Foodbank	Program support	\$5,000	
Berri Cricket Club	Upgrade Lighting to Berri Oval	\$4,000	
Flinders University Clinical School	Program support	\$2,000	
Berri Golf Club	Fairway Sprinkler Upgrade	\$2,000	
Riverland United Indigenous Sports Association	Indigenous Sports Development Program	\$1,000	
Norwood Cycling Club Inc	44th Tour of the Riverland	\$1,500	R.C
Lions Club of Berri	Berri Merri Christmas	\$1,500	R.C
Barmera Sheep Dog Trials	Barmera Sheep Dog Trials	\$1,500	V.S

Organisation	Activity / Event	Amount Supported	In-Kind
Ruby Hunter Foundation	Donation to Scholarship Program	\$500	
Adelaide Triathlon Club	Murray Man Triathlon (Barmera)	\$1,500	R.C, V.S
Bruno Bay Fireworks Spectacular	Bruno Bay Fireworks Spectacular	\$1,000	V.S
Royal Flying Doctors	Sponsorship – charity concert	\$300	
Rotary Club of Berri	Sponsorship – Riverland and Mallee Vocational Awards	\$250	
Riverland Special School	Special School Community Art Project	\$750	
Riverland MyTime	Christmas Party for Special Children to Adelaide Zoo	\$500	
Riverland Aboriginal Mens Support Group	Donation	\$100	
Department for Child Protection	Donation for Children’s Christmas Party	\$100	
K Pampling	Youth Sponsorship – Interschool Equestrian State Championships	\$100	
M Jury	Youth Sponsorship – Australian youth Ultimate Championship	\$100	
R Herbert	Youth Sponsorship – U13 National Hockey Carnival	\$100	
A Bucon	Youth Sponsorship – Australian Youth Ultimate Championship	\$100	
C Sutton and M Mitchell	Youth Sponsorship – Girl Guides – Sydney Jamboree	\$200	

# Community Grants

Successful Grant Stories - "A little bit of support can be the catalyst for our community to deliver great outcome."



## Barmera Sheep Dog Trials

This event continues to grow as one of our district's iconic events. With the recent change to the timing of the event to run in conjunction with the Riverland Country Music Festival and associated market days, the organisers have strengthened the opportunities to showcase the trials and the event opener "The Running of the Sheep" again drew a huge crowd. With a number of community groups, along with many residents and companies supporting the event, it will be maintained as a favourite on the event calendar for many locals and visitors alike.



■ Harmony Day activities held in Barmera.

## Riverland Youth Theatre

With over 5000 children and young people from across the Riverland engaged in RYT's programs and projects, this group delivers workshops, programs and performances across the region. Council continues to invest in this youth focus group, to ensure our districts youth are provided with the opportunity to develop their performance and technical skills to be part of productions and community events. In addition to workshops held throughout the year, including Cirkids, physical theatre, singing and acting classes, RYT actively participates and supports our districts community events like Riverland Field Days, Barmera Christmas Pageant and Harmony Day.

## Berri Oval Lighting

This project showcases another combined community partnership that resulted in strong opportunities for a number of organisations. The goal was to raise the quality of lighting to target 170Lux which will help to develop night cricket, women's RFL games and night soccer fixtures.

The communities investment \$25,000 was shared between the Berri Football, cricket and soccer clubs, Council, SANFL, Berri Hotel, plus in-kind from local contractors.



### Foodbank Riverland

Foodbank is another group who leverages a small Council contribution to a broader range of community investment to provide further support to the programs of a further fifteen organisations. These services provide food to in need community members with potential savings of \$500,000 and delivery of food to the equivalent of 300,000 meals.

### Barmera's Santa's Cave

Santa's Cave is a stunning visual display which appeals to all ages and attracts locals and visitors alike to the township. Being open in December, it provides the opportunity for school groups, families and aged care residents to view the attraction which is housed in Bonney Theatre.

Created in 2015, the growth in visitors from 760 (2015) to 3500+(2017) was a major factor in the attraction receiving the Building a Better Community Award at Council's 2018 Australia Day Celebrations. Council has been able to provide some financial assistance and the in-kind use of the venue but it is the community investment of the dedicated volunteers that bring the space to life.



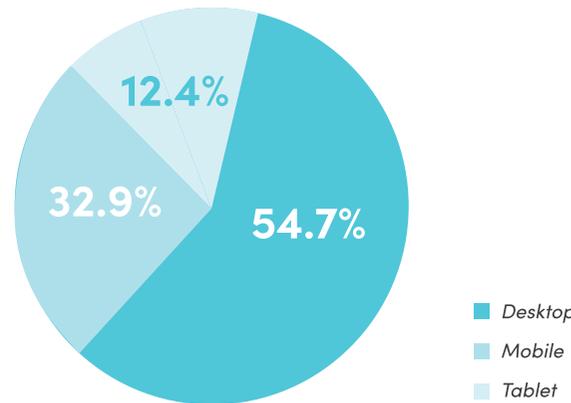
■ Displays at Barmera's Santa's Cave.

# Electronic Communications

In 2017/2018 Council continued to focus on improvements to Council’s on-line communications presence. It is recognised that while 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

In June 2018 Council launched a new website look, which incorporated a number of improvements including the site being more responsive to mobile devices. Since the beginning of the year, the use of mobile phones to search our website has increased by 3.1%, with desktop -3.1% and tablet -0.1%. The purpose of the upgrade was to have a fresh look and most importantly be easier to navigate and use. A significant amount of content has been updated; however there is still a large list of improved content to be updated in the next 12 months. We continue to work across departments to ensure that available information is improved and remains current.



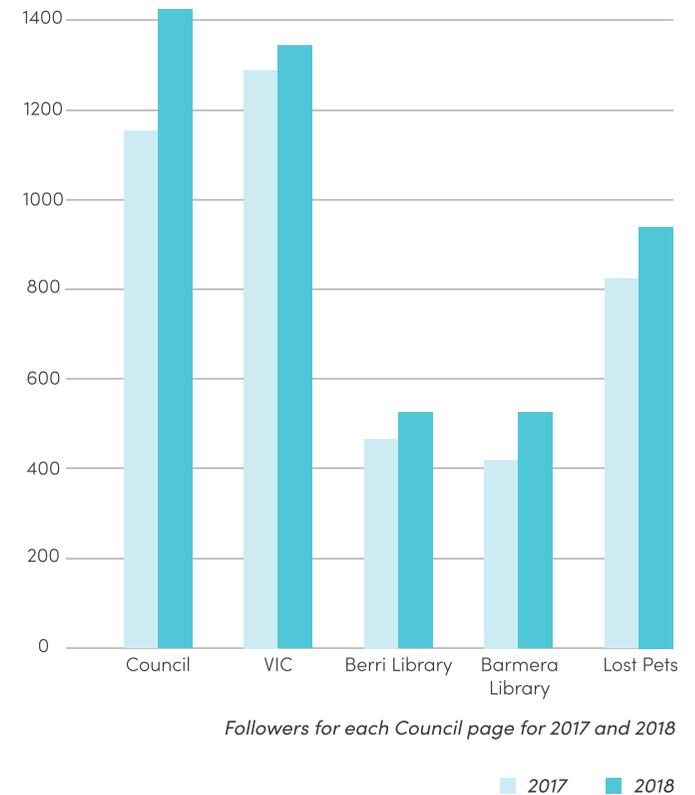
## Smart Phone App

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. Some 237 residents have now downloaded the App, which includes 24% growth for this year.

## Social Media

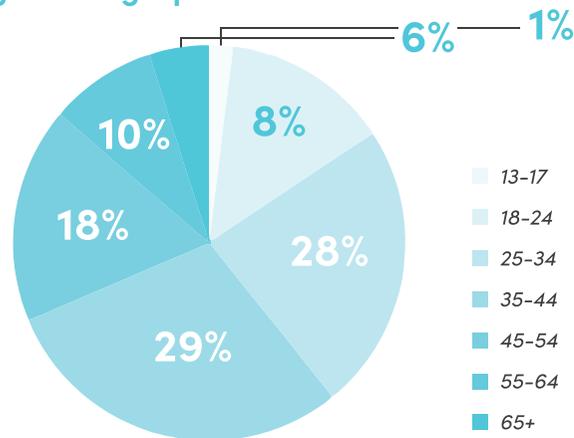
Berri Barmera Council’s social media sites have continued to grow over the past 12 months to over 4690 followers.

## Social Media Followers



There has been consistent growth across all of Council’s Facebook pages. Council recognises that social media is a good platform to inform the community on latest news, project updates, what’s going on in the region and event information.

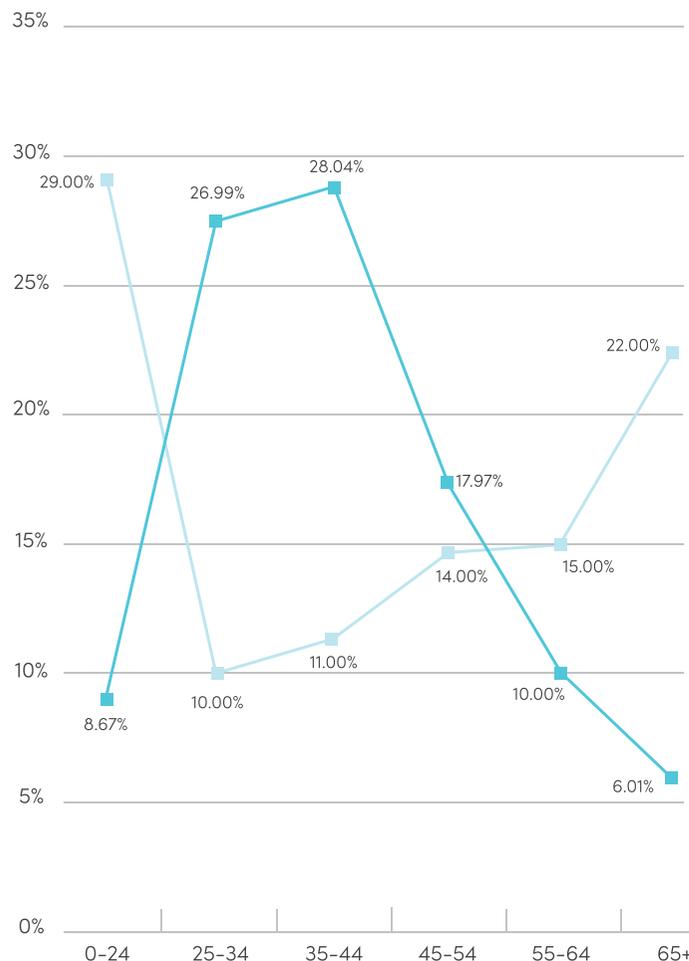
Council's Facebook Age Demographics 2018



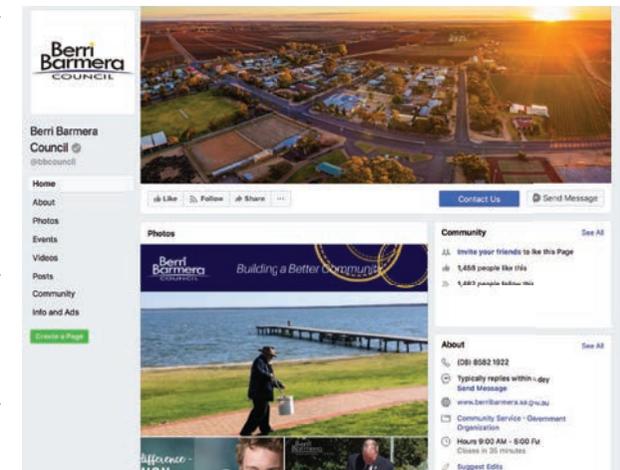
Council continues to develop news stories and articles of interest on the Council's website, however the posts on the Facebook page(s) allows for greater engagement with residents and visitors alike.

For Council's Facebook page, the age demographics of followers have remained consistent over the past 2 years; however Council are aware that other forms of communication are to be maintained.

Council Residents Facebook - Age Vs Followers Age



**4,690**  
Facebook  
followers



% of Council residents by age Vs % of Facebook followers by age

- % of Resident for age bracket
- % of Facebook followers for age group for Berri Barmera Council

# Council Events



■ Australia Day Citizen Award Ceremony.

## Australia Day 2018

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

Each year on Australia Day, an Australian Day Citizen Award ceremony is held, where those who are making a difference within our community are acknowledged and celebrated. The Berri Barmera region have many great sports persons, businesses, community groups and volunteers who often go unnoticed and this annual event allows the community to reward those who are doing great things in our community.

This year, the event was set on the Berri Riverfront. The morning kicked off with a community walk where 50 participants braved the early start, led by Councillor Rhonda Centofanti.

Over 250 residents then enjoyed the free breakfast, with tea/ coffee/juice, pancakes, bacon and eggs cooked by members from the Berri Rotary Club, Elected Members and Council staff who had all volunteered their time.

The river was a sensational backdrop for the mornings entertainment from Eric Cook and the Cobdogla Primary School Choir. The Berri Scout Group started the official ceremony with the raising of the flags, before the official speeches and the awards ceremonies.



■ Australia Day Citizen Award Ceremony.

We were lucky to be joined by last year's Young Citizen of the Year, Kelsey Wade who assisted Mayor Hunt with presenting Awards.

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 – Jean Voigt

Jean has spent many years giving back to the community and particularly, volunteering in the Berri and Barmera region. Volunteer roles have included assisting the Berri School, Scouts and Guides, she is a foundation member of Junior Motor Cycle Club, Riverland Speedway Life Member, Church (Berri Churches Welfare Group second-hand shop, with all money, raised going to local charities), Royal Flying Doctor Service, St Catherine's, Country Music Club, Barmera Show and Neighbourhood Watch. Jean finds volunteering very rewarding and particularly enjoys working with the elderly. As part of her charity work, Jean has assisted in raising funds for RFDS, and in 2015-16 they raised a record amount of \$64,700.



■ Australia Day Award winning recipients.

### Young Citizen Award – Samantha Hauptman

Samantha is an active member of our community through her volunteer work at the Riverland Regional Hospital, sports coaching, fundraising and umpiring, and medical research. Samantha's medical research has uncovered that glyphosate, a 2A carcinogen is the cause of a cancer cluster in the Riverland. In 2017, she was awarded Berri Lions Youth of the Year, Riverland Lions Youth of the Year, C2 District Lions Youth of the Year and was a finalist in the South Australian Youth of the Year. Samantha is an aspiring medicine student and is aiming to become the Riverland's first local oncologist.

### Event of the Year– Cobdogla Primary School Centenary Celebration

On Friday 21st and Saturday 22nd October 2017, Cobdogla Primary School celebrated their Centenary. This celebration brought together the school community who volunteered to ensure this family celebration was enjoyed by all. The event ignited a wonderful atmosphere with over 1000 people attending. The Centenary brought together many past and present students, teachers and families from all over Australia and some from New Zealand. The Hon, Susan Close MP unveiled the centenary plaque followed by afternoon tea

where each student received a cup cake specially decorated for the occasion by one of the parents. While the barbecue was cooking students played old-fashioned games; marbles, hop scotch, skipping, knuckle bones etc. much to the delight of past students. A graphic display was collated pulling together photos, memorabilia, historical video and time capsule to be opened in 2042.

### Building a Better Community Award – Barmera's Santa's Cave

Barmera's Santa's Cave is a stunning visual Christmas display which appeals to all ages and attracts locals and visitors alike. Over the past 3 years Monique Gordon and her family have single-handedly designed and built all the sets which fill the whole Bonney Theatre. With warm and welcoming volunteers to greet you upon arrival, locals and visitors, as well as a number of school groups, are amazed and delighted with the display. In 2017 it was estimated that over 3,500 people visited the Cave.



### Anzac Exhibit - Our Soldier Settlement

The Soldier Settlement exhibition was held in the Soldiers Memorial Hall in Barmera from 25 April until 13 May 2018. The exhibition included local memorabilia, artefacts, artworks and stories. The event was supported by the National Trust, CIT, Barmera Theatre Art Galley, Barmera Primary School, St Josephs School Barmera, 410 Army Cadet Unit (Berri), Local History Collection, RSL and various individuals. The display will be used to launch the "Pioneering Stories" project which aims to build our volunteer base across the Local History Group, Pioneers Museum and develop a core group working towards the Barmera Centenary. The display is also the starting base for the development of a Defence Force Pioneers Multimedia Display for use in November 2018, celebrating the Centenary of Armistice.

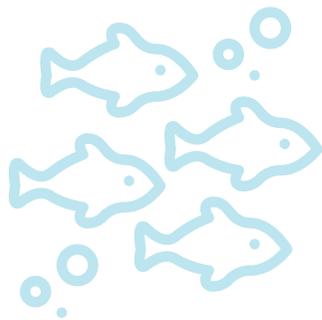
Community members are continuing to develop the stories of these original Soldier Settlers and their families.

## Fingerling Release

On 11 February an enthusiastic group of volunteers successfully released 25,000 Murray Cod fingerlings from Overland Corner into the River Murray. The weather was perfect and the day was well supported with a number of public members also making the trip to support the release. Special thanks to National Trust members Bob and Ron, Barmera Lions Club volunteers, Barmera Monash Football Club and Berri Barmera Landcare who assisted to ensure that the day ran well. Thanks also must go to project lead Renmark Paringa Landcare and partners, Renmark Paringa Council, RecFish SA, and Loxton Waikerie Council.

Volunteers successfully released

**25,000**  
Murray Cod  
fingerlings



# Tourism Services

## Berri Visitor Information Centre

The Berri Visitor Information Centre (VIC), situated on the riverfront, engages with over 12,000 visitors 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, the aim is to encourage them to spend more, stay longer, come back and tell their friends. Councils' enthusiastic staff go that bit further by telling the stories of the local district, its 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 have visited it.

The Berri VIC play a leadership role in the Riverland tourism industry, advocating for positive change for tourism operators, VICs and the region by 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 regions representation at all levels and provide valuable insight to stakeholders about current trends.

The Berri VIC attracts and supports visiting groups and clubs, by influencing destination choice, tailored itinerary planning and welcome packs. In 2017-18, The Berri Visitor Information Centre worked directly with visiting groups exceeding 1200 additional visitors.

## Merchandise and Souvenirs

The Berri Visitor Information Centre tells the story of the Berri Barmera region through visual merchandising of locally produced food, gifts and art. By choice, Council has committed to a 'buy local' focus and steering away from typical souvenir products available cheaply from overseas. A main 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 can use the opportunity to then direct visitors to other shop fronts, markets and cellar doors. The VIC stocks 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 and 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%).

## Exhibition

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

- SALA - Berri Art Group
- NAIDOC Week Primary School colouring Competition
- SA History Festival: History of Agriculture

in Berri Barmera

- Remembrance Day
- Local producers showcase

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 the community.



### NAIDOC 2017 August Berri Primary School Pictures

A colourful and inspiring display by local Primary School Children. The poems were delightful and very imaginative, the colouring and drawing were met with enthusiasm from the Berri Primary Children. Locals and visitors alike responded positively.



■ History Month Display.

### History Month 'History of Local Agriculture Past and Present' 2017

History Month Displays- May 2017 'History of Local Past and Present' sparked interest from visitors and many comments and questions were received about how the apricots/dried fruit were processed (a chart of the process of producing dried fruit was part of the display). Apricot trays and dip tins in the centre, used for product shelving, were a fantastic addition. Many locals or ex-local Riverlander's recognised different machinery, processes and pictures.



Berri Visitor Information Centre stocks

**160** local products

**60** local suppliers

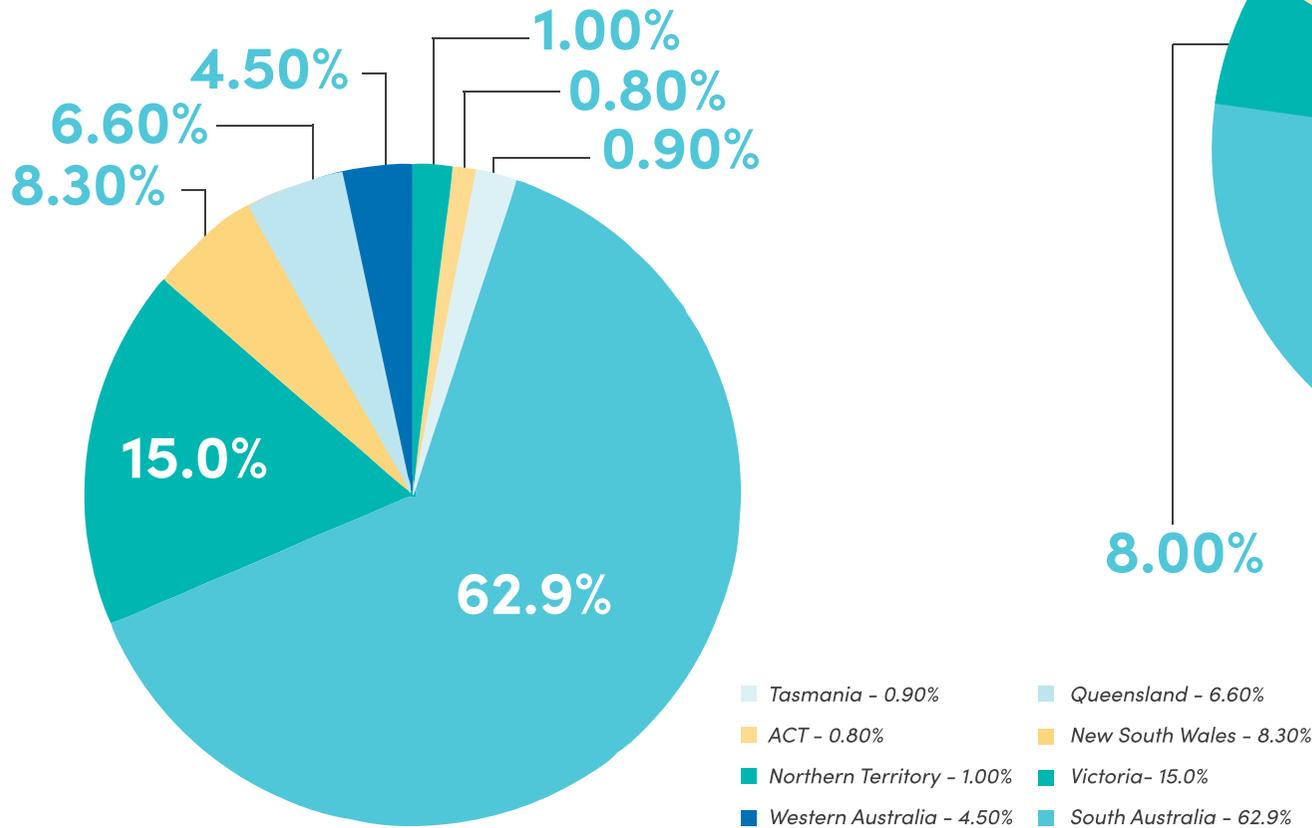
engaging with

**12,000** visitors

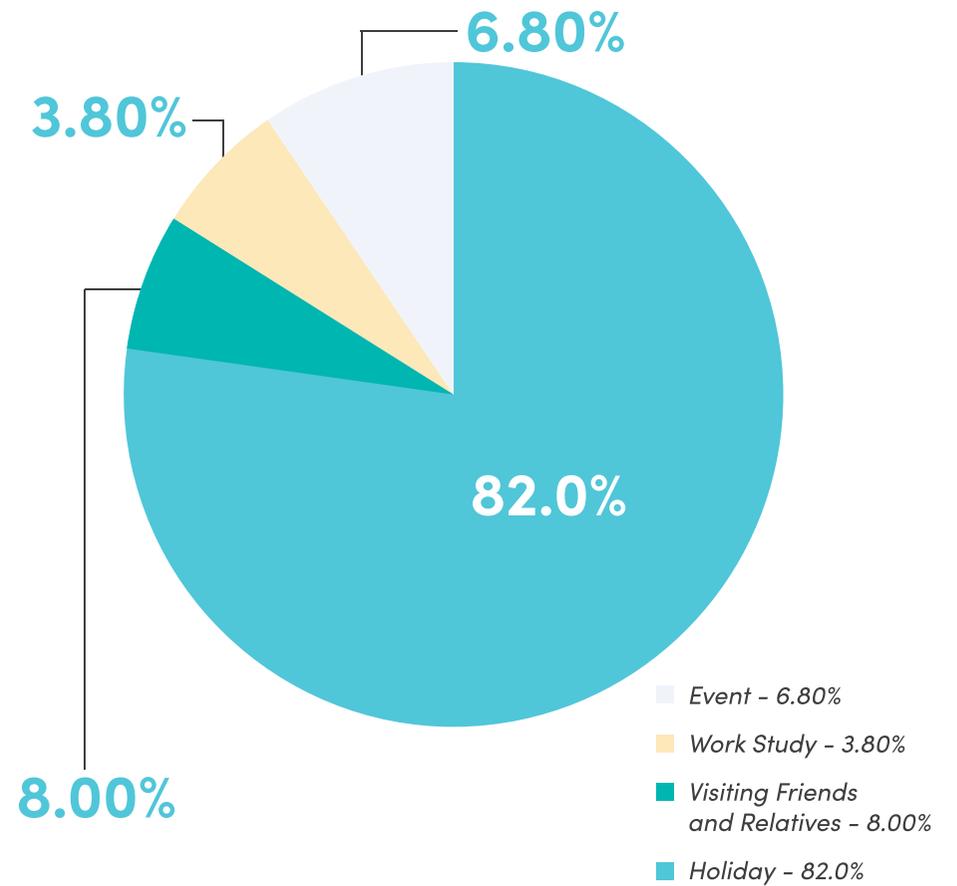
### Berri Visitor Information Centre Users 2017/2018

Below are the statistics captured from the Berri Visitor Information Centre users for the 2017/2018 year.

#### Popular State Visitors



#### Purpose of Visit

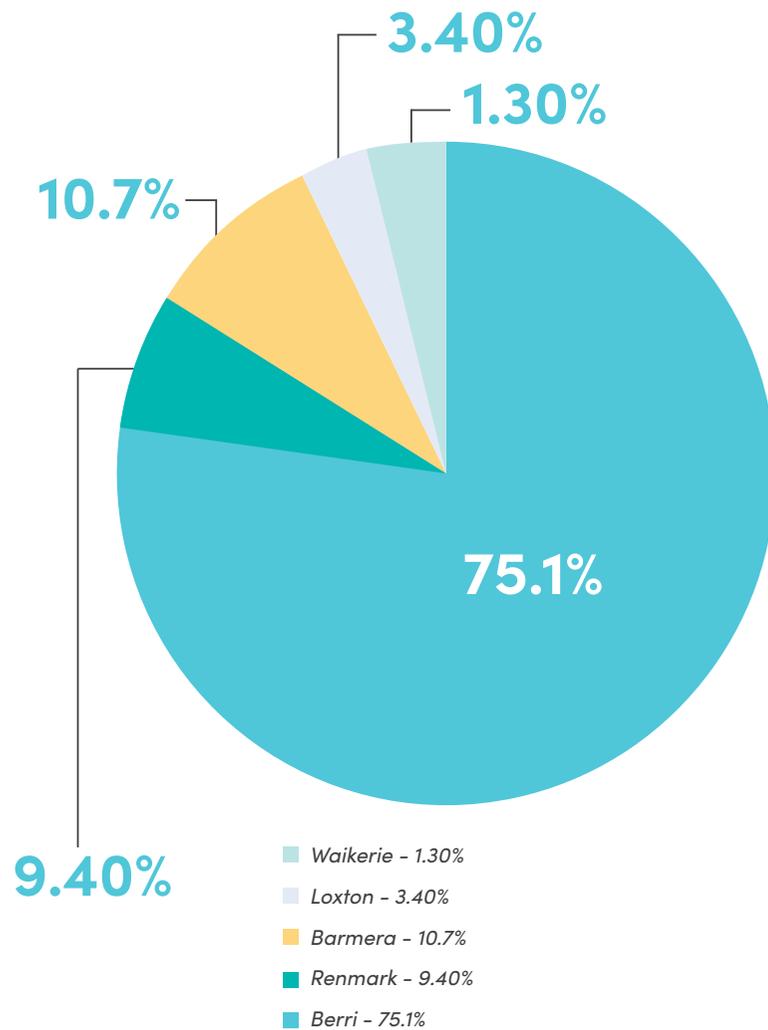


#### Length of Stay (Nights)

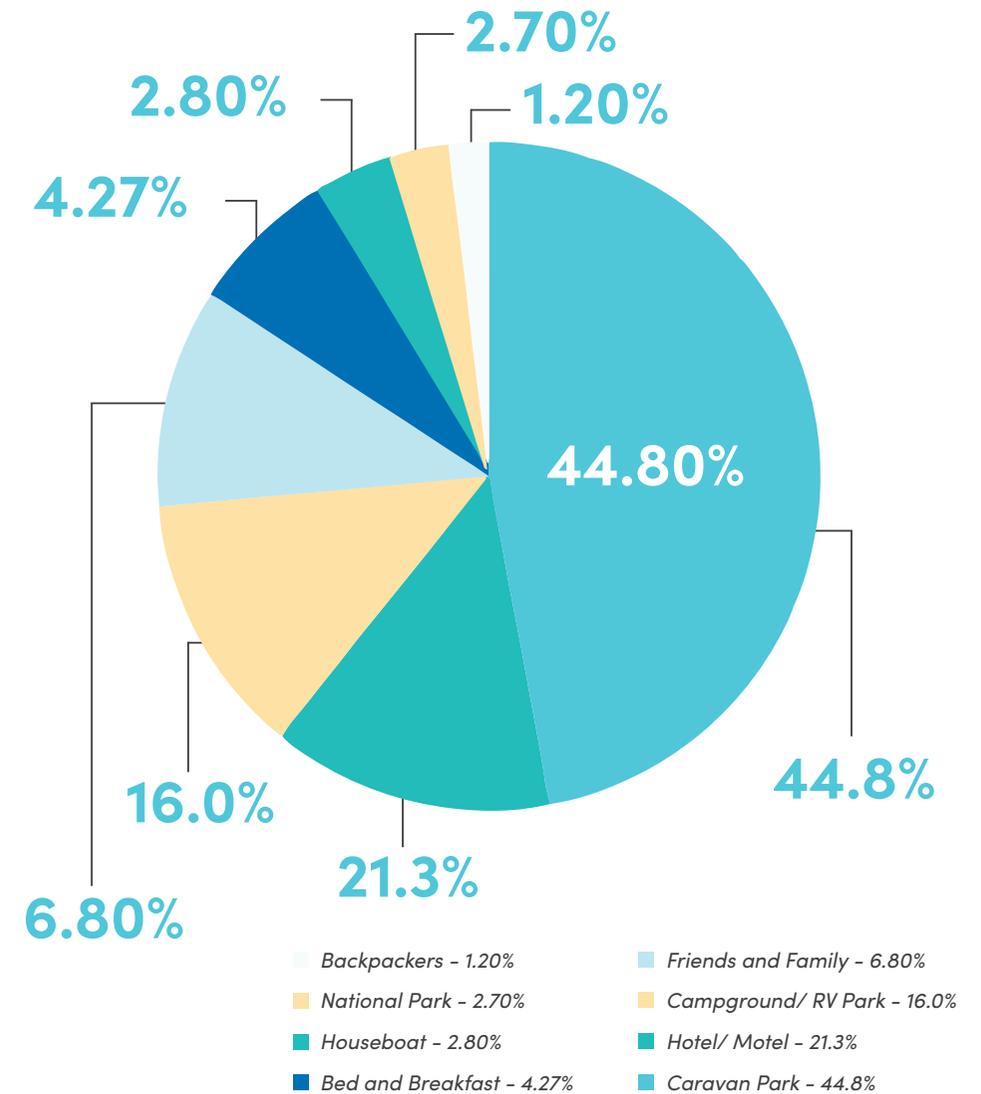
Minimum	Most Common	Average	Maximum
0*	2	4.2	90

\*day trips

Location of Accommodation



Type of Accommodation





# Infrastructure Services



# Operational

As part of Councils ongoing service to the community, it undertakes a myriad of tasks to help provide a safe and liveable lifestyle to the general community as a whole. Some of the core duties of Council are as follows;

- Parks and Gardens; mowing, irrigating, weeding, tree/shrub trimming and planting, playgrounds and BBQ cleaning
- Maintenance and Construction; road and footpath maintenance and replacements, grading, stormwater and effluent issues (including toilets), minor Council building maintenance, weed spraying, slashing, dead animal removal, road signage and white posts, vandalism, bins and concrete kerbing
- Cemetery works, road sealing, boat ramps, pontoons and landings, asset management, geographical information, technical advice and customer liaisons



■ Dedicated spray vehicle for roadside and laneway spraying.

## Weed Control

Council currently has two dedicated vehicles for weed spraying – Kubota UTV and a Quadbike, used predominantly to undertake township/footpath weed spraying in all of our towns. With the continuing rise in weed growth throughout the district an additional vehicle was purchased for dedicated roadside and laneway weed spraying, along with footpaths, if required.

## Mowing

Council maintains over 54 hectares (133 acres) of irrigated lawns split over 33 parks. This doesn't include small lawn areas, garden beds, trees, unirrigated areas or reserves such as road reserves and crown lands dedicated to Council for care and control. Mowing of irrigated lawns is undertaken on a rotational system and varies through the seasons with the highest hours spent in the summer months when the lawns are at their most active.



■ Council staff maintaining the Vaughan Terrace lawns.

## Green Waste

Council has continued to face difficulties with regards to contamination of kerbside green waste. The collection trucks are fitted with cameras to assist with the screening of green waste and

Council has suspended green waste collection for some residents who continue to contaminate their collection. Ensuring that only acceptable green waste is placed in the green bin is imperative to the quality of mulch created from the collections.

Council has undertaken industrial mulching of the green waste once contaminants were removed by staff.



■ Green waste collections ready for mulch.



■ Collected green waste.

# Projects

## Barmera Tree Carving

Former Riverland Artist, Tim Baulderstone, brought life back to a deceased eucalyptus tree on Barmera's Dean Drive through the carving of three kangaroos that follow the natural lines and curves of the tree. Tim was able to bring his vision of the kangaroos, which he got inspiration from the local area and the local football team the Barmera Roos, to life through the use of chainsaws, hand tools and sanding equipment.

■ *The transformation taking place of the eucalyptus tree on Dean Drive.*



### Cemetery – Painting and Concrete Beams

Council has a Section 41 Committee whose purpose is to consider and plan works involved at our two main cemeteries in Berri and Barmera, as well as being involved with the majority of the works at the Upper Murray Garden of Memory Cemetery for Returned Service men and women. Recent works undertaken within our cemeteries have included; the laying of new concrete beams for headstones, painting of the entrances and planning for new and upcoming cremation internment areas on top of ongoing maintenance and upkeep of both locations.

### Lakefront Shelters (Barmera Town Beautification Committee)

The Barmera Town Beautification Committee has procured a second shade shelter which compliments the one erected the previous year. These shelters provide added cover for locals and visitors to enjoy the beautiful Lake and sunshine throughout the year. The first shelter has been fitted with an awning to provide additional shade in the later afternoon when the sun is low.



■ *Sunset on Lake Bonney, Barmera.*

# Capital - Sport and Recreation



■ Streetlighting installed at Stadium Drive to compliment the new development.



## Alan Glassey Park, Berri

Council has continued its commitment to the Alan Glassey Sporting Precinct through a large lighting project within the area. The project incorporated lighting upgrades throughout the existing car parking, utilising new low powered LED technology and new lighting installations along Stadium Drive to provide patrons with a uniformed look throughout. Further looking at power savings and greenhouse emissions, an option to drop lighting levels within these areas to 60% after midnight was adopted.

The three BBQ's on site have been replaced with whole new units to complement the new facilities



and encourage community use and gatherings at the site. The previous units were in need of replacing due to ongoing issues and the condition of the cook plates.

Works continued again this year to replace the dated and deteriorating permapine post and rail borders with recycled plastic bollards and metal rails. This is an ongoing project which will see the complete removal of the permapine fencing at Alan Glassey Park.

These projects have further complimented the new amenities within the precinct which has seen a union of top quality sporting facilities within the Berri township.



■ Upgraded streetlighting located within Alan Glassey Park.



■ Kerbing works being undertaken at the RRISP.



■ Completed roadworks at the RRISP.

### Riverland Regional Innovation and Sports Precinct (RRISP)

Sub-base site works were undertaken in preparation for the RRISP construction with some 6,000m<sup>3</sup> of grass and unsuitable fill removed from the site.

Once the contracted footing works and walls for the stadium were erected, the Council was able to start on the bulk civil works and construction of the road, kerbing and stormwater infrastructure including the sealing of the area with hotmix to provide over 125 on road car spaces. Footpaths have been constructed around the stadium including some tree plantings with more planned to be included in the 2018/19 financial year.

**6,000m<sup>3</sup>**  
**equivalent of**  
**23 tennis courts**  
 of fill removed from  
 the RRISP site



■ Burgess Drive hotmix footpath.

### Burgess Drive, Berri

With the construction of the Riverland Regional Innovation and Sports Precinct and recent expansion at Alan Glassey Park, it was recognised that a formalised footpath was needed to better link the area with the township. The footpath that borders the existing kerb was hotmixed while the continuation was undertaken and spray sealed through to the Glossop High Schools Senior Compass entry gates.



■ New backboards and painted frames.



■ Newly laid soft fall mulch in general sections.



■ Newly installed soft fall matting in general sections.



■ Newly installed soft fall mulch in general sections.

### Colin Jennings Park, Berri Upgrade

As part of this year's parks and gardens Capital Projects the upgrade of facilities at Colin Jennings Park was undertaken by staff which included the following:

- Line marking of the tennis/basketball court
- Making new backboards and painting frames
- Installation of new post rail fencing

A donation of a tennis net from the Berri Tennis club was also an appreciated addition to this sporting area located in Berri North.



■ Linemarking of tennis/basketball court.

### Monash Adventure Park

The upgrading of soft fall at the Monash Adventure Park was undertaken under the Wave Bridge this year as part of maintaining Council's playgrounds. This is being undertaken for both safety and aesthetic reasons by utilising the Monash Adventure Park Equipment Upgrade budget allocation.

Relaying of soft fall was undertaken throughout the remaining general sections of play equipment.



■ *New hotplate in bbq shelter on Lakefront - Barmera.*

### BBQ Installation/replacements

Due to their high use, new BBQ hotplates were installed at Monash Adventure Park and along the Barmera foreshore in the 2017/2018 year. The BBQ's at Monash Adventure Park are feature of the park, allowing bbq use for family gatherings, special events or relaxing days out. The Barmera foreshore saw upgrades to the BBQ's in shelters near the football club and yacht club.

### Barmera Memorial Oval Fencing

The replacement of approximately 350m of fencing around the Barmera Memorial Oval was undertaken by Contractors and some base preparation by Council. The Barmera Town Beautification Committee contributed to the design of the fencing in consultation with the Barmera Monash Football Club. The new fencing has given the oval and surrounds a refreshed and more refined finish.



■ *Prior to fence.*



■ *Completed fence replacement.*

### Vaughan Terrace, Berri Median Improvement

The upgrade of the smaller section of median along Vaughan Terrace, parallel to the angled parking above the roundabout was undertaken by Council staff. This section had deteriorated and was becoming a hazard for pedestrians wanting to cross from parked cars to the western footpath on Vaughan Terrace due to the broken kerbing and large rocks within the median. The trees in this section which have disappeared over the years due to natural attrition needed replacing. New kerbing was installed and artificial turf replaced the crusherdust / rocks within the median along with new trees (Chinese Elms). The upgrade of this area has greatly improved both functionality and visual appearance of the median.



■ *Working on the Vaughan Tce median.*



■ *Completed median.*

# Kerbing and Footpaths



■ Renewal footpath Maddern Street, Berri

## Kerbing

### Kerbing Renewal

Through Council's asset management plan, kerbing renewals for the year were identified and planned and saw the following streets renewed; Todd Street, Mortimer Road, Seekamp Street, Hood Street, Maddern Street, Dennis Street, Cooper Street, McGregor Street, Hepworth Street, Sturt Street.

New kerbing works were undertaken as part of the Riverland Regional Innovation and Sports Precinct works with upright kerbing installed along Stadium Drive.

Council installed approximately 1,000m of new and renewal kerbing in the 2017-18 financial year.

## Footpaths

Council currently manages around 120km of footpaths within the Council district that are captured on the asset register. As part of the Council's asset management plan, a commitment has been made to renewing a large number of footpaths as part of the annual works. The footpaths are a mixture of high, medium and low use paths, some that have been undertaken this year were; Burgess Drive down to Alan Glassey Park, connecting to the new stadium and Zante Road along the western side, where there is a steep drop off to the road, with the level unable to be lowered due to numerous underground services being located within the footpath.

## Maddern Street, Berri

The kerbing on the north-western end of Maddern Street was identified for replacement due to large gum trees. Due to the species and size being unsuitable for footpaths, the trees, unfortunately, had to be removed.

When planning for this project was carried out, it was identified that there was traffic congestion around the Government Dental Clinic. The concrete kerbing was realigned to allow for parking on both sides of the street and prevent parking close to the corner of Hepworth Street, improving road safety. As part of Council's footpath upgrades, the existing hotmix path was extended to encompass the high pedestrian use in this area.



Council installed approximately  
**1,000m**  
of new and renewal kerbing  
in the 2017-18 financial year.



■ Bice Street, Barmera.



■ Kay Avenue, Berri.



■ Sturt Street- Barmera after kerbing and paving works.



■ Barwell Avenue- Bonney Theatre, Barmera.



■ Sturt Street- Barmera during works.

### Crawford Terrace, Berri

Crawford Terrace, Berri, adjacent the Senior Citizens carpark, experiences flooding issues on extreme rain events which pushes mulch and debris from the garden bed into the adjoining area below. The Senior Citizens car park is host to the weekly Farmers Markets and attracts visitors that park and walk over and through the mulched areas, as there is no formalised footpath along Crawford Terrace to the carpark. While Council is unable to do a lot about the weather or slope of the road, a sealed footpath was constructed for access and also to perform as a guide to direct stormwater surface flow back onto the road without any scouring and damage.

### Paver Replacement

CBD paver replacement is an ongoing project within the Berri Barmera Council. This project's aim is to focus on rejuvenating areas of degraded pavers to continue to enhance the township aesthetics. Areas of identified degraded paving that were replaced in the 2017-18 year included;

- Bice Street, Barmera
- Barwell Avenue (adjacent Bonney Theatre), Barmera
- Sturt Street, Barmera
- Kay Avenue, Berri



■ Sturt Street- Barmera after kerbing and paving works (works underway by the RSL to paint a mural on the Sturt Street face of the building).



■ Sturt Street- Barmera during works.

# Roadworks



■ Newly installed pram ramp as part of the Maddern Street Berri Project.

## Pram Ramps

Council has been installing pram ramp crossovers in various locations that have been identified through areas of high use and when concrete kerbing is being replaced on corners, especially if a noncompliant ramp was present. This project will take some time to complete but will benefit the wider community when finished.

## Sealing – Annual Reseals including Burgess Drive, Stadium Drive and Thomas Road

As part of ensuring Council is financially sustainable, a renewal program is required to be implemented which is known as the Infrastructure Asset Renewal Plan. The plan identifies what, when and how infrastructure assets are planned to be replaced or renewed and is based on life expectancies and providing fit for purpose infrastructure.

This year saw Stadium Drive constructed and sealed as part of the Riverland Regional Innovation and Sports Precinct build. Chapple and Thomas Roads were sealed after being identified in the Asset Renewal Plan as being suitable for an upgrade due to them meeting the new road sealing criteria.



■ Contractors undertaking hotmix works on Barwell Avenue.

## Barwell Avenue, Barmera Hotmix

The road surface in the main street of Barwell Avenue, Barmera was very undulated, cracked and in poor condition. While driving down Barwell Avenue the surface only seemed a bit rough but when inspected on foot, the surface had deteriorated past a stage where it couldn't be just patched as a maintenance option and in some areas was actually starting to disintegrate. Works included profiling of the complete surface from, and including, the roundabout at the top through to the bottom where it meets Nookamka Terrace. The profiled areas then received a nominal hot mix surface of 50mm before line marking completed the project. The avenue is now smooth, consistent and meets the expectations of a main street.



■ Constructed stormwater swales.

### Stormwater

Council excavated and constructed a number of earthen swales adjacent to Shiel and Woolston Roads during the year after they were found to hold significant pools of water after rain events. The water ponded out onto the sealed roads causing potential road hazards to vehicle traffic and damage to the road structure itself.

The swales were dug to drain the water away from the driving path of vehicles and help to prevent any further damage to the roads.

### Resheeting

Council maintains approximately 115 kms of unsealed roads. Each year a number of the roads are re-sheeted whereby the crushed rock which has been lost over years of use due to vehicle traffic is replaced. This year Council worked on Hallam, Neilson, Wutke and Davis Roads while also undertaking minor works on Finn and Mutton Road.



Council maintain  
**115kms**  
of unsealed road



# Environmental Services



# 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

classified as non-complying followed the public notification process.

In the past 12 months, Council received 154 applications, primarily comprising domestic uses, but also including exciting commercial and industrial uses. 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 Assessment Panel (RRAP)

In October 2017, the Minister for Planning constituted the Riverland Regional Assessment Panel (RRAP), in accordance with the Planning Development

and Infrastructure Act 2016. This Panel superseded the Riverland Regional Development Assessment Panel, which had operated since 2010.

The RRAP 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 and adopts its own Operating Procedures for the conduct of its members and for its meetings, pursuant to section 84 of the Act.

The Minister for Planning also appointed Council's Manager Environmental Services, Myles Somers, as Regional Assessment Manager for the Panel.

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

## 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

Councillor Rhonda Centofanti  
(Berri Barmera Council)

Councillors Michael Zeppel (DC Loxton Waikerie Council) and Mark Chown (Renmark Paringa Council) were members of the former Riverland Regional Development Assessment Panel for the period 1 July to 30 September 2017.

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 RRAP met on six occasions during the 2017-18 year, and the former Regional Development Assessment Panel met three times. The RRAP assessed 29 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.

### Policy Planning

#### *Planning Development and Infrastructure Act 2016*

The State Government is currently in an implementation phase for the new Planning Development and Infrastructure Act 2016, which will replace the Development Act 1993 by mid-2020. This includes development of State Planning Policies, Ministerial Policies and the state wide Planning and Design Code. This Code will replace Council's current Development Plans. Council staff continue to work with staff from the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure to raise issues pertinent to the Council area, and to contribute to effective land use policy, consistent wording and interpretation, applicable across multiple areas, as well as interface between urban, rural and township planning.

### 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

Local councils play an important role in protecting the safety of building occupiers and users, whether they are residents and workers who use the buildings or clients and visitors who use them.

Under the Development Act 1993 the council must appoint a building fire safety committee to ensure adequate fire safety in buildings. The Riverland Regional Building Fire Safety committee was implemented in October 2009.

The role of the building fire safety committee (the committee) includes;

- Examining the adequacy of fire safety provisions in buildings
- Issuing fire safety defect notices for building owners to upgrade to a reasonable level of safety for occupants
- Negotiating with building owners for cost effective solutions to reduce fire safety risks to an acceptable level
- Issuing notices of building work that must be carried out in order to raise the building fire safety to a reasonable level
- Ensuring a building owner complies with a notice of building works required by initiating enforcement or other action
- Revoking or varying fire safety notices

A building owner served with a fire safety notice has two months to develop an upgrading proposal and report to the building fire safety committee of the proposed measures to make the fire safety of the building adequate.

A building owner can;

- Make representations to the committee about the fire safety of the building and the work required
- Apply to the committee to have the fire safety notice revoked or varied
- Appeal to the Environmental Resources and Development (ERD) Court against the service of a notice

An owner must comply with a fire safety notice or risk prosecution and/or enforcement action through the ERD Court.

<https://www.sa.gov.au/topics/planning-and-property/owning-a-property/council-monitoring-of-fire-safety-for-buildings>

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 2017-18 reporting period the following inspections were undertaken within the Berri Barmera Council area;

Type of Inspection	Quantity	Number of Inspections
Hotels and Gaming venues	-	-
Motels	1	-
Caravan parks and backpackers	4	8
Clubs	-	-
Packing sheds	-	-
Commercial /Industrial complexes	8	8
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.

Council’s Environmental Health Officer (EHO) is primarily responsible for the implementation of legislation relating to the health of the community

# Environmental Health

such as the Food Act and South Australian Public Health Act. Areas that fall within this include food safety, wastewater management and public health.

## Food

Food business inspections are undertaken and inspection frequencies allocated as determined by the SA Food Business Risk Classification tool. As a result of these inspections, five improvement notices were issued to food businesses to ensure compliance with the Food Safety Standards.

Over the past year 3 food safety complaints were investigated. One complaint regarding labelling was justified. Complaints regarding contamination and microbial growth were investigated but found not substantiated.

Council continues to provide online food safety training to the community through 'I'M ALERT'. Online food safety training is available on Council's website and provides free and unlimited access to a training resource aimed at assisting businesses, community groups and food handlers in gaining valuable skills and knowledge in food safety and hygiene.

## Swimming Pools

Inspections are undertaken of public swimming pools within the district. Reports and/or letters are sent to pool operators following inspection advising of any required works to maintain compliance with the South Australian Public Health (General) Regulations 2013 and associated guidelines.

## High Risk Manufactured Water Systems

A register of High Risk Manufactured Water Systems, including warm water and cooling water systems, (HRMWS) is maintained. Notices are served on operators of these systems to ensure third party inspections are undertaken as required.

## Wastewater

Waste water works approvals are issued for the installation of new wastewater systems, replacement of defective systems and alterations to existing systems. Plumbing inspections are undertaken at times to ensure installations are undertaken in accordance with the approvals.

As a result of issues raised at a state level, Council's Environmental Health officer has focussed on ensuring the service agents inspecting and reporting on aerated wastewater treatment systems have the required qualifications and are listed with SA Health as approved service agents. To date one unapproved service agent has been identified and is no longer servicing these systems.





■ *'Flushable' wipes and solidified fat from a septic tank.*



■ *'Flushable' wipes and solidified fat from a septic tank blocking the contractor's equipment.*

### Household Septic Tank Desludging Program

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 approximately every four years. In reporting on the operations, the contractor includes details such as the location and condition of the septic tanks. 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.

Ongoing issues are faced by Council and the contractor in regards to 'flushable' wipes. As a result resources have been developed to educate residents and property owners regarding the impacts of wipes on Council infrastructure and the contractor's equipment.

### 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 2017 to April 2018. This was the nineteenth 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. 258 adult female mosquitoes were trapped. This is the lowest collection on record, however the types of mosquito species trapped was diverse.

This is a drastic change from the previous season when 12,339 adult female mosquitoes were trapped, the third highest collection on record for the 19 years of surveillance.

During each sampling trip the field officer also undertakes spot control of mosquito breeding sites. Larvae sites are identified and their location recorded enabling control to be conducted or engineering works are recommended.

The Healthy Environments, Healthy People Research Group use information obtained from the sampling (adult mosquito trapping), larval site monitoring, weather data, river flow data, arbovirus infection notification data, and arbovirus detection data, to forecast the likely numbers of cases of arbovirus during the season.

Regular reports are provided to the EHO including arbovirus disease predictions, newsletters, and the annual report 'A survey of mosquitoes along the Murray River in South Australia'. This information determines the level of health promotion activities and additional treatment undertaken by the EHO.



■ Permanent briquette station at Martin Bend, Berri

The field officer and EHO installed permanent briquette stations in known breeding sites of vector (disease spreading) mosquitoes in preparation for future seasons. These stations will ensure that known breeding sites are treated as rainfall events and minor inundation events occur, without reliance on staffing availability to attend and treat sites, or sites becoming inaccessible due to environmental conditions. Additional briquette stations will be installed as new sites are discovered.

The work undertaken by Uni SA over the past 19 years, and information obtained from this program, has created a long term data set, allowing significant seasonal and regional trends to be identified thereby providing a perspective of the River Murray, not as a series of segments each governed by a separate Council, but as an ecological continuum.

SA Health has provided a funding subsidy program which commenced in the year 2000 to assist Councils with the costs of administering their mosquito management activities. This model of funding is currently under review, forcing Councils to review the current arrangement with The Healthy Environments, Healthy People Research Group.

New models of surveillance and treatment are currently being developed by individual Councils.

A planned flooding event at Martin Bend was undertaken by Natural Resources SA during 2018. The flooded area is likely to begin drying out in December 2018 at which time treatment will likely be required.

During the mosquito season Council's EHO also:

- provides monthly reports to SA Health regarding mosquito surveillance, treatment and complaints.
- represents Council on 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 arbovirus disease.
- investigates mosquito related complaints and conducts treatment or refers these to the contractor when necessary for surveillance and/or treatment. This season only 1 complaint was received regarding the Hayden Stoeckel swimming pool which was not 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.



**258**  
**adult female**  
**mosquitos**

trapped down from

**12,339**

**in the previous season**



### School Immunisation Program

The school immunisation program is provided at Glossop High School middle school, Riverland Special School and Rivergum Christian College. Follow up clinics are provided at the schools approximately one week after each school clinic to ensure that all students are provided with adequate opportunities to attend.

In addition to the school program clinics, Council has participated in the Meningococcal B Vaccine Herd Immunity Study. The study was undertaken during the 2017/2018 school years. Clinics have been held at Glossop High School middle school, Glossop High School senior school and, Riverland Special School with additional follow up clinics held at the schools and after hours in the Berri Town Hall.

Focus One Health provides registered nurses for the clinics and assists with continued improvement of the program.

## 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 2017-18 period there were 2342 dogs registered within the council area.

### Dogs and Cats Online

New laws for cat and dog owners come into effect on 1 July 2018. The laws and rules include;

- Mandatory microchipping of cats and dogs
- Desexing of dogs and cats born after 1 July 2018
- New rules for breeders who sell dogs and cats
- Introduction of a statewide database, called Dogs and Cats Online



**2342** dogs  
registered within  
the council area

These new laws simplify the dog registration process, make it easier to reunite lost dogs and cats with their owners, help identify and put a stop to puppy farms and reduce euthanasia rates

From 1 July 2018, Dogs and Cats Online will be the central database for microchipped and registered dogs and cats and registration payments. Dogs and Cats Online will also be the register of breeders.

It will allow pet owners to better manage their own details and it will streamline dog and cat management in South Australia saving councils and ratepayers time and money.

The Dogs and Cats Online system is a one-stop online service for all registration payments, microchipping and breeder information. Dogs and Cats Online has replaced the 68 individual councils dog and cat registers and serves as a single online database that is accessible 24/7, including on mobile devices.

Dogs and Cats Online has been developed to allow pet owners to instantly update registration or microchip details if they move house or change phone numbers, and pay their annual council

registration fees.

Dogs and Cats Online will also assist councils, shelters and the general public in reuniting lost pets with their owners.

### Cat By-Law

During 2017 council consulted the community on a draft Cat Management By-Law. The By-Law was subsequently approved and gazetted coming into force in August 2018. Provisions of the By-Law include;

- Mandatory retention of cats on owners properties between the hours of 10pm and 6am
- Provisions for registration of cats, which will be further considered in 2019 following the full introduction of Dogs and Cats online.

### Animal Management Plan

Council's Animal Management Plan has been renewed until 2022. 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 Inspectors undertook the following duties;

Complaint	2017-18
Dog wandering at large	97
Dog impounded	118
Dog returned to owner	19
Dog attack	18
Dog harass	24
Noise complaint	30
Cat complaint	19

All impounded dogs that are not claimed by their owners or rehomed are transported to the Animal Welfare League in Adelaide.



**65**  
parking expiation  
notices were issued

### Parking Control

The General Inspectors continue to enforce parking regulations in the towns of Berri and Barmera. All expiation notices are issues under the Australian Road Rules for parking. 65 parking expiation notices were issued over the 2017/2018 year.

### 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 Statistic 2017-18

Section 105F notices issued **15**

Council action required **6**

Expiations issued **0**

In total the Council issued 42 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 lighting BBQs, training exercises, the disposal of drug crops and hot works for houseboats.

## Corella Management

The Council conducted a Corella Control Program within the district from September 2017 until April 2018.

## Litter and Local Nuisance Control

Littering and activities that cause nuisance such as noise, smoke and dust impact on our enjoyment of local areas. The introduction of the Local Nuisance and Litter Control Act 2016 helps communities resolve local environmental complaints more efficiently through their local council.

The Act gives councils increased powers to deal with issues in their areas, such as unsightly premises and illegal dumping.

The Act formalises the role of local government in managing local nuisance issues to provide consistency of services across all councils, create better tools for enforcement and more effectively deal with localised minor environmental complaints.

Since 1 July 2017, all local councils are responsible for responding to community complaints and enquiries regarding local nuisances in their area.

Litter and Local Nuisance Control Statistics	2017/2018
Complaints received	5
Notices issued	2
Expiations issued	10
Prosecution under the Act	Nil

The EPA will remain the main contact for significant environment complaints.

## 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



■ Dog Park located at Johnny Baynes Park, Amy Street, Barmera.

## Barmera Dog Park

In consultation with the Barmera Town Beautification Committee and Council's Manager of Infrastructure Services two sites were identified for the proposed Barmera Off Leash Dog Park. After public consultation it was determined that Johnny Baynes Park, Amy Street, Barmera would be the ideal site for the off leash dog park.

Works on the fencing will be completed early in the 2018/2019 financial year.



■ Myles Somers - Caring for Country Managements Plan.

## Caring for Country Management Plan

River Murray and Mallee Region Aboriginal Corporation (RMMAC) and Berri Barmera Council established a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) dated 23rd September 2014 providing a framework to guide administration of joint care, control and management arrangements of lands around Lake Bonney subject to the native title determination. In accordance with the MOU, relevant decisions require the authority of each party.

The draft Lake Bonney Caring for Country Management Plan has been compiled over the past six months with assistance from external resources including consultant Jacobs and current Renmark Paringa Council Environment Officer Myles Fauser. On several occasions the progress of the Plan has been reported to the Barmerara Meru Committee and the River Murray and Mallee Region Aboriginal Corporation (RMMAC).

The Plan will be released for public consultation in July 2018.

## Berri Riverfront Redevelopment

Berri Barmera Council embarked on an exciting redevelopment of Riverview Drive between Vaughan Terrace and the Caravan Park.

Council recognised that this area is changing with new developments soon to be established on the former Berri Bowling Club land and ongoing investments made by the Berri Hotel and Berri Caravan Park. This stretch of road is in a prime public space which our community and visitors enjoy for events, relaxing, exercising and outdoor dining. It is a special place which Council recognised the potential of the area.

Riverview Drive in this precinct was identified as having redundant road space, a legacy from when trucks and cars used it to access the old ferry crossing.

Works commenced early April 2018 with the erection of fencing and signage and heavy machinery were on site to start the excavation of the southern side of Riverview Drive. Stage 1 is scheduled to be complete in September 2018.



■ *Redevelopment at the Berri Riverfront.*



■ *Berri Riverfront redevelopment plans.*



## 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.

## 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.

The Riverland Regional Innovation Sports Precinct was completed in December 2017 and the associated clubs started holding sporting events. The official opening by Mr Tony Pasin MP and Mayor Peter Hunt was held in February 2018.



■ New development of the Riverland Regional Innovation and Sports Precinct.

# Corporate Services



# Rating Policy for the Year 2017/2018

This section sets out the policy of the Berri Barmera Council for setting and collecting rates from its Community for the 2017/2018 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](mailto:bbc@bbc.sa.gov.au)  
Web: [www.berribarmera.sa.gov.au](http://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 16/17	Valuation 17/18	Variance (\$)	Variance (%)
Residential	\$807,662,187	\$814,955,255	\$7,293,068	0.90%
Primary Production	\$213,904,503	\$214,187,782	\$283,279	0.13%
Commercial (all categories)	\$132,937,501	\$129,122,539	(\$3,814,962)	-2.87%
Industrial (all categories)	\$33,227,061	\$33,345,522	\$118,461	0.36%
Vacant	\$16,999,840	\$19,230,960	\$2,231,120	13.12%
Other	\$30,944,683	\$34,586,337	\$3,641,654	11.77%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,235,675,775</b>	<b>\$1,245,428,395</b>	<b>\$9,752,620</b>	<b>0.79%</b>

## 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 will 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 2017/2018. 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) 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](mailto: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](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. Refer to Section 9 – Funding the Business Plan.

### 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 \$7,706,358 in a total revenue budget of \$15,067,602 and will continue to use the differential rating method as follows:

Land use as defined	Cents*
Residential	0.6185
Commercial	0.6408
Industrial	0.7356
Primary Production	0.5565
Vacant Land	0.5115
Other	0.7332

*\* cents in the dollar on the capital value of such rateable property*

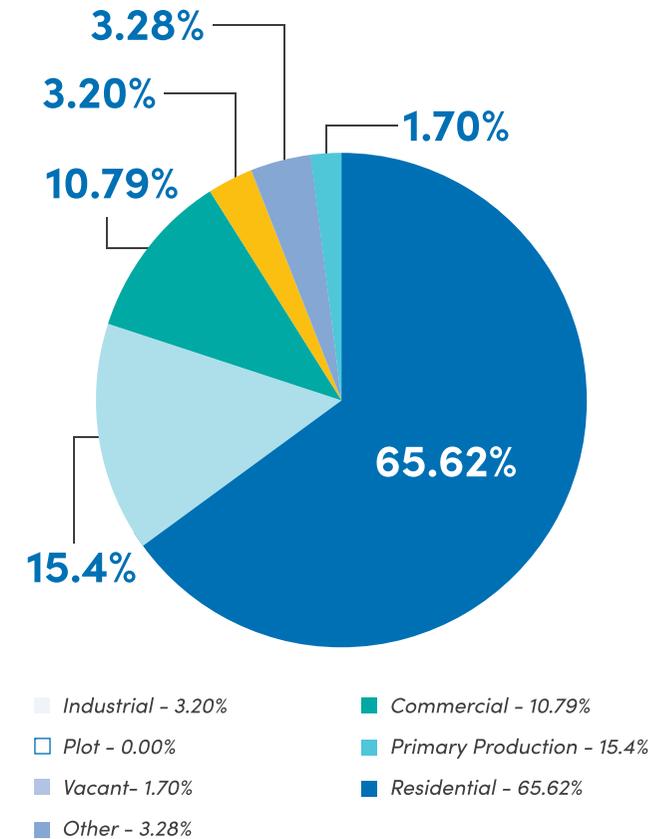
Land use is used as the factor to apply differential rates. If a ratepayer believes that a particular property has been wrongly classified as to its land use, then they may object to that land use within 60 days of receiving notice.

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 Code	Capital Value	% of total CV	No. of Properties	% of total Properties	Proposed Rates	% of rates levied
Non Rateable	\$ 75,908,105	5.74%	484	7.25%	\$ -	0.00%
Residential	\$ 814,955,255	61.68%	4429	66.37%	\$ 5,139,396.95	65.62%
Primary Production	\$ 214,187,782	16.21%	927	13.89%	\$ 1,206,324.50	15.40%
Commercial (all categories)	\$ 129,122,539	9.77%	392	5.87%	\$ 845,344.35	10.79%
Industrial (all categories)	\$ 33,345,522	2.52%	91	1.36%	\$ 250,454.40	3.20%
Vacant	\$ 19,230,960	1.46%	271	4.06%	\$ 133,015.15	1.70%
Other	\$ 34,586,337	2.62%	79	1.18%	\$ 257,130,55	3.28%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,321,336,500</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>6673</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>\$ 7,831,665.90</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

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 \$636 which shall be applied to all rateable properties within the Council district. This will affect 16.6% of rateable properties and will raise \$653,808 of rate revenue for the 2017/2018 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 2017/2018 is budgeted to be \$3,880,364. Capital expenditure of \$216,899 for the replacement and renewal of pumps and other equipment is proposed for 2017/2018.

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 (being vacant land) and \$697 for each occupied property unit. This charge remains unchanged from 2016/2017.

### 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 \$209 for the three bin collection and \$177 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 2017/2018 the Berri Barmera Council are required to make payable to the SA Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board an amount of \$315,037.

Council proposes that in order to recover this amount a separate rate of .0258 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 installments. These installments are to be payable in the months of September, December, March and June. It is not mandatory for ratepayers to pay by quarterly installments, however it is an option that Council must make available to all ratepayers.

The due dates for the quarterly installments of Council rates for 2017/2018 are:

- 1st September, 2017
- 1st December, 2017
- 1st March 2018
- 1st June, 2018

#### 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 (Cwlth) 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, 2016;

- Any such increase in the capital value of the rateable property is a result of improvements made on the property since 1 July, 2016 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) 8582 1922 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 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 Barmera 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 on 27 June 2017, being resolution number 4736/17 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.

Project Description	Status
Riverland Resource Sharing	Ongoing
Housing for 21st Century Project	Ongoing
Outdoor Court Maintenance – Cobdogla	Completed
Service Clubs Facility Business Plan	Ongoing
Artwork for Steps Berri Riverfront	Ongoing
Developer Facilitation Fund	Ongoing
Planning Records Storage and Archiving	Ongoing
Regional Public Health Plan	Ongoing
Martin Bend Recreation Area Committee Projects	Ongoing
Removal of Asbestos Council Buildings	Ongoing
Berri Youth Club Demolition	Ongoing
Friends of the Bonney Theatre	Ongoing
Lake Bonney CHEMP	Ongoing
Corella Management Plan	Ongoing
Berri Cemetery Cremation Garden	Ongoing
Berri and Barmera Cemeteries Beams	Completed

Project Description	Status
Landfill Gas Monitoring - Monash	Completed
Stoney Ridge Quarry Rehabilitation	Completed
Berri Boat Ramp Bank Stabilisation	Ongoing
Preparation Tidy Towns	Completed
Tree Removal and Safety Martin Bend	Completed
Artificial Turf Barwell Avenue Roundabout	Completed
Wood Carving Gum Tree Dean Drive	Completed
Berri and Barmera Beautification Committee Projects	Completed
Tree Plantings (various locations)	Completed
Demolish old pump sheds	Completed
Maintain 100 Memorial Palm Trees Sturt Highway	Completed
William/ Denny Streets Revitalisation Planning	Ongoing
Stormwater Solutions – adjacent Rosenthal/Metaland	Completed
<b>Economic Development and Corporate Services</b>	
Berri Renewable Energy Solar Power Generation Facility	Ongoing
Berri Riverfront Precinct Planning – stage 2	Ongoing
Places for People – Open Space (Berri Riverfront Precinct) – <i>Pending funding application outcomes.</i>	Ongoing
IT Plant and Equipment	Completed
Motor Vehicle Changeover - Corporate	Completed

Project Description	Status
<b>Community Services</b>	
Berri and Barmera Libraries – facilities improvements and Plant and Equipment purchases	Completed
Swimming Centre Upgrade and Plant and Equipment	Completed
Berri Visitor Information Centre – facilities improvements and Plant and Equipment	Completed
<b>Environmental Services</b>	
Dog Park – Barmera	Completed
Motor Vehicles Changeover – General Inspection	Completed
Motor Vehicle Changeover – Regulatory	Completed
CWMS Infrastructure Renewal	Completed
Martin Bend Recreation Area Committee Project – Boardwalk	Ongoing
Council Office Building Improvements and upgrade air conditioning	Completed
Buildings and Structures Renewals per Asset Management Plan	Completed
Cemetery Improvements	Ongoing
Street Lighting Upgrades (including Ahern Street) (carried fwd project)	Completed
<b>Infrastructure Services</b>	
Lake Bonney Foreshore Reconstruction (adjacent Yacht Club)	Completed

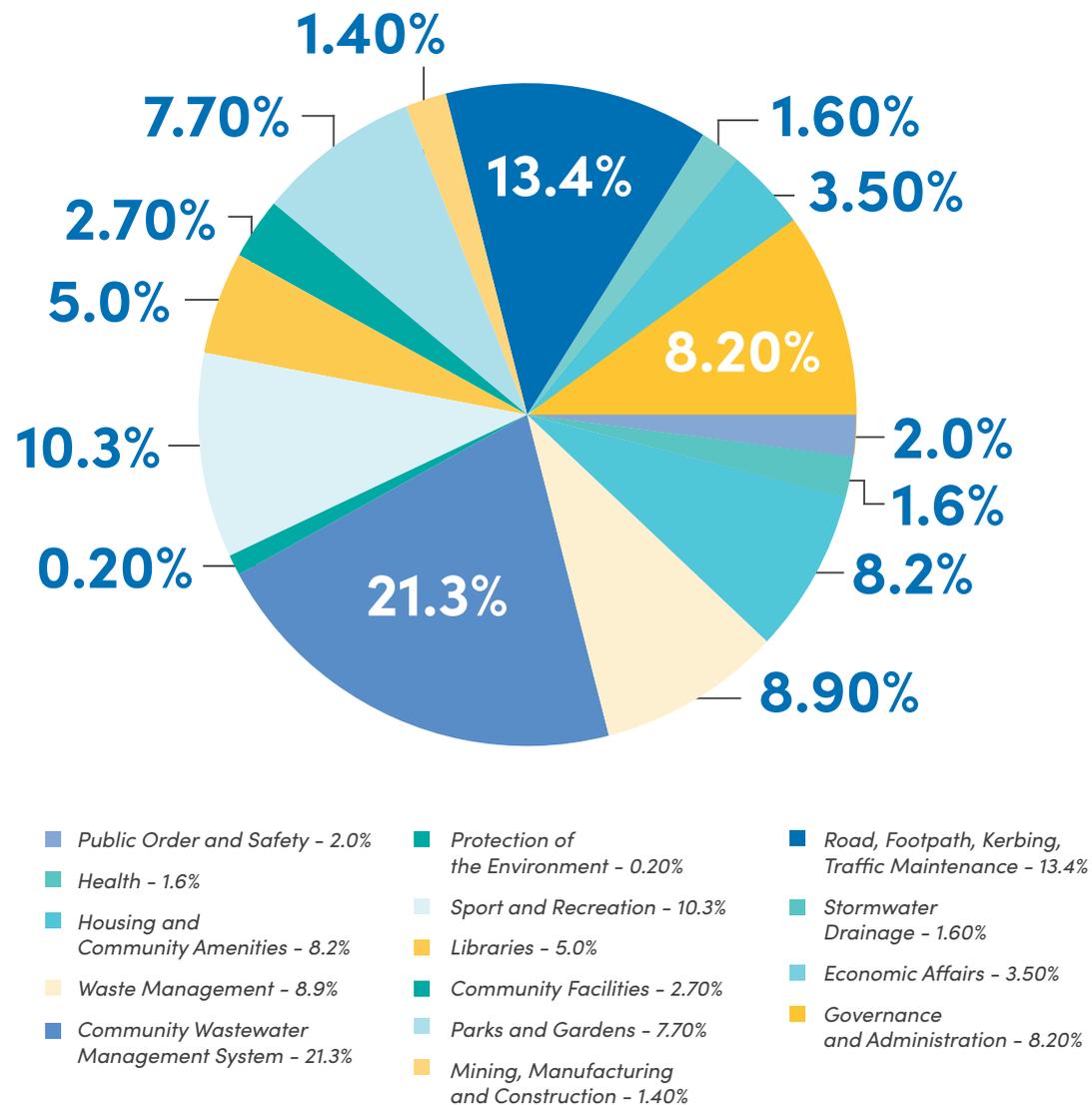
Project Description	Status
<b>Infrastructure Services</b>	
BBQ Replacements – Monash Adventure Park and Barmera Lakefront	Completed
Upgrade to Water Fountain Barwell Avenue Barmera	Ongoing
Irrigation Automation	Completed
Riverfront Pump Upgrades (Marina)	Ongoing
Irrigation – Sedunary Park Barmera	Completed
Colin Jennings Park Upgrade	Completed
Replacement Pine Posts around parks	Completed
Playgrounds replacements and renewals	Completed
Monash Adventure Park Equipment and Surrounds Upgrade	Completed
Glassey Park Playground relocate and upgrade playground	Ongoing
Barmera Memorial Oval Fencing	Completed
Road Reseals	Completed
Road Construction – Moritz Road	Ongoing
Road Construction – Burgess Drive	Completed
Unsealed Road Resheeting	Completed
Sealing Thomas Road Loveday	Completed
Road Upgrade – Chapple Road	Completed
Road Upgrade – Jury Road	Ongoing
Sealing Thomas Road Loveday	Completed
Road Upgrade – Chapple Road	Completed

Project Description	Status
<b>Infrastructure Services CONT.</b>	
Road Upgrade – Jury Road	Ongoing
Upgrade Vaughan Terrace Median	Completed
Kerbing replacement and renewal per Asset Management Plan	Completed
Kerbing and Footpath Construction – Fairway Avenue Barmera	Ongoing
Kerbing Upgrade – Pascoe Terrace Barmera	Ongoing
Footpaths Renewal per Asset Management Plan	Completed
Footpath Upgrade – Burgess Drive (Fenwick to Glassey Park)	Completed
Footpath Upgrade – Ahern Street	Ongoing
Footpath Upgrade – Fenwick to Library	Completed
Footpath Upgrade – Crawford Terrace	Completed
Footpath Reconstruction and Sealing – Short Street	Completed
Paver Replacements Berri CBD	Completed
Paver Replacements Barmera CBD	Completed
Pram Ramps – Various locations	Completed
Stormwater Upgrade – Barmera Western Entrance	Ongoing
Stormwater Upgrade – Ahern Street	Ongoing
Stormwater Upgrade – Jarvis Street	Completed
Stormwater Renewal – Mahoney Street	Ongoing
Stormwater Renewal – Worman/Powell Streets	Ongoing
Plant and Machinery Purchases	Completed

### Financial Management Statement

The pie chart (pictured aside) graphically presents a breakdown of operating expenditure by function for the Berri Barmera Council for 2017/2018.

Functions	Operating Expenditure	
Public Order and Safety	\$319,978	2.0%
Health	\$256,631	1.6%
Housing and Community Amenities	\$1,318,268	8.2%
Waste Management	\$1,430,201	8.9%
Community Wastewater Management System	\$3,428,510	21.3%
Protection of the Environment	\$30,391	0.2%
Sport and Recreation	\$1,649,320	10.3%
Libraries	\$803,814	5.0%
Community Facilities	\$436,869	2.7%
Parks and Gardens	\$1,240,830	7.7%
Mining, Manufacturing and Construction	\$224,553	1.4%
Road, Footpath, Kerbing, Traffic Maintenance	\$2,155,918	13.4%
Stormwater Drainage	\$263,023	1.6%
Economic Affairs	\$565,785	3.5%
Governance and Administration	\$1,966,118	12.2%



The following financial indicators for 2017/2018 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 2017/2018 is 3.7%.

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 3.9% 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

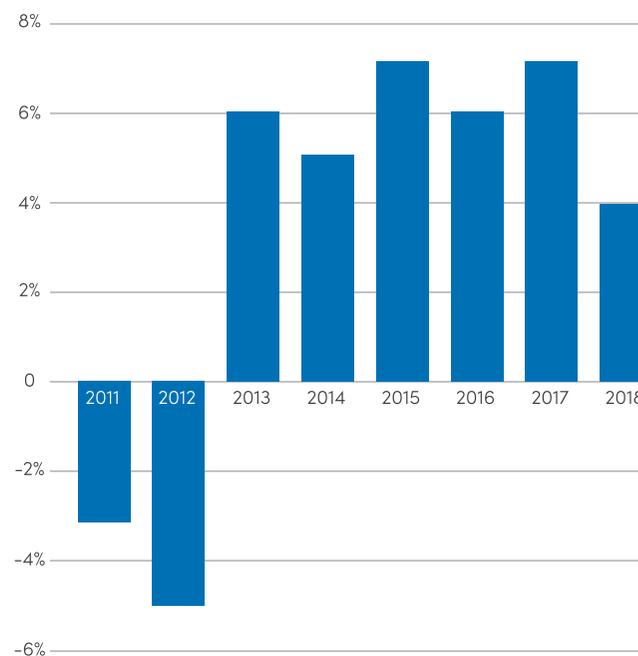
This ratio indicates the extent to which net financial liabilities of Council can be met by its operating revenue. Where the ratio is falling over time indicates that the Council's capacity to meet its financial obligations from operating revenue is strengthening. The 2017/2018 ratio of 26% is within 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 2017/2018 ratio is 78%.

Indicator	2018	2017	2016	2015
Operating Surplus Ratio	3.7%	14%	(3.0%)	15%
Adjusted Operating Surplus Ratio	3.9%	7.0%	6.0%	7.0%
Net Financial Liabilities Ratio	26%	25%	40%	26%
Asset Sustainability Ratio	78%	73%	36%	114%

### Adjusted Operating Surplus Ratio



# Annual Financial Statements



**BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL**  
**General Purpose Financial Reports**  
**for the year ended 30 June 2018**

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**BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL**

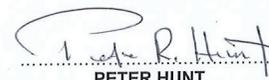
**ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 June 2018**

**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 2018 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.

  
 ANDRE STUYT  
 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

  
 PETER HUNT  
 MAYOR

Date: 16/10/2018

**BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL**  
**STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME**  
for the year ended 30 June 2018

	Notes	2018 \$	2017 \$
<b>INCOME</b>			
Rates	2	11,815,231	11,587,870
Statutory charges	2	310,676	194,926
User charges	2	191,250	214,568
Grants, subsidies and contributions	2	3,090,082	4,833,868
Investment income	2	50,945	32,961
Reimbursements	2	747,951	602,967
Other income	2	506,927	492,934
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>16,713,062</b>	<b>17,960,094</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Employee costs	3	4,637,904	4,441,553
Materials, contracts & other expenses	3	7,883,174	7,629,666
Depreciation, amortisation & impairment	3	3,316,534	3,037,546
Finance costs	3	252,597	309,801
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>16,090,209</b>	<b>15,418,566</b>
<b>OPERATING SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)</b>		<b>622,853</b>	<b>2,541,528</b>
Asset disposal & fair value adjustments	4	(667,232)	(3,244,357)
Amounts received specifically for new or upgraded assets	2	2,398,168	2,396,926
<b>NET SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)</b> transferred to Equity Statement		<b>2,353,789</b>	<b>1,694,097</b>
<b>Other Comprehensive Income</b> <i>Amounts which will not be reclassified subsequently to operating result</i>			
Changes in revaluation surplus - infrastructure, property, plant & equipment	9	3,341,409	1,894,318
<b>Total Other Comprehensive Income</b>		<b>3,341,409</b>	<b>1,894,318</b>
<b>TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME</b>		<b>5,695,198</b>	<b>3,588,415</b>

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

**BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**  
as at 30 June 2018

	Notes	2018 \$	2017 \$
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	5	4,382,830	548,499
Trade & other receivables	5	2,284,666	3,621,961
Inventories	5	311,891	493,664
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>6,979,387</b>	<b>4,664,124</b>
<b>Non-current Assets</b>			
Financial assets	6	968,828	18,892
Infrastructure, property, plant & equipment	7	127,958,744	119,647,308
Other non-current assets	6	1,471,595	4,108,647
<b>Total Non-current Assets</b>		<b>130,399,167</b>	<b>123,774,847</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>137,378,554</b>	<b>128,438,971</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Trade & other payables	8	6,926,726	1,957,998
Borrowings	8	392,479	2,802,766
Provisions	8	1,210,735	1,109,818
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<b>8,529,940</b>	<b>5,870,582</b>
<b>Non-current Liabilities</b>			
Borrowings	8	3,237,603	2,580,082
Provisions	8	203,998	276,492
<b>Total Non-current Liabilities</b>		<b>3,441,601</b>	<b>2,856,574</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<b>11,971,541</b>	<b>8,727,156</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>125,407,013</b>	<b>119,711,815</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Accumulated Surplus		25,640,503	23,366,399
Asset Revaluation Reserves	9	96,898,310	93,556,901
Other Reserves	9	2,868,200	2,788,515
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>		<b>125,407,013</b>	<b>119,711,815</b>

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 2018

2018	Notes	Accumulated	Asset	Other	TOTAL
		Surplus	Revaluation Reserve	Reserves	EQUITY
		\$	\$	\$	\$
Balance at end of previous reporting period		23,366,399	93,556,903	2,788,515	119,711,817
Restated opening balance		23,366,399	93,556,903	2,788,515	119,711,817
Net Surplus / (Deficit) for Year		2,353,789	-	-	2,353,789
<b>Other Comprehensive Income</b>					
Gain on revaluation of infrastructure, property, plant & equipment		-	3,341,409	-	3,341,409
Transfers between reserves		(79,685)	-	79,685	-
<b>Balance at end of period</b>		<b>25,640,503</b>	<b>96,898,312</b>	<b>2,868,200</b>	<b>125,407,015</b>
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
<b>Other Comprehensive Income</b>					
Changes in revaluation surplus - infrastructure, property, plant & equipment		-	1,894,318	-	1,894,318
Transfers between reserves		(1,293,213)	-	1,293,213	-
<b>Balance at end of period</b>		<b>23,366,399</b>	<b>93,556,903</b>	<b>2,788,515</b>	<b>119,711,817</b>

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 2018

	Notes	2018 \$	2017 \$
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>			
<u>Receipts</u>			
Rates - general & other		11,752,049	11,684,438
Fees & other charges		341,744	214,419
User charges		251,246	206,277
Investment receipts		50,945	32,961
Grants utilised for operating purposes		4,923,909	3,715,184
Reimbursements		607,452	665,075
Other revenues		1,349,183	2,599,390
<u>Payments</u>			
Employee costs		(4,689,437)	(4,562,093)
Materials, contracts & other expenses		(9,503,986)	(9,912,789)
Finance payments		(194,259)	(283,321)
<b>Net Cash provided by (or used in) Operating Activities</b>		<b>4,888,846</b>	<b>4,359,541</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>			
<u>Receipts</u>			
Amounts specifically for new or upgraded assets		7,432,168	2,396,926
Sale of replaced assets		208,715	111,093
Sale of surplus assets		2,466,943	69,700
Sale of real estate developments		253,182	816,818
Repayments of loans by community groups		34,168	46,057
<u>Payments</u>			
Expenditure on renewal/replacement of assets		(2,496,117)	(2,281,950)
Expenditure on new/upgraded assets		(6,120,217)	(5,473,182)
Development of real estate for sale		(30,591)	(77,178)
Loans made to community groups		(1,050,000)	-
<b>Net Cash provided by (or used in) Investing Activities</b>		<b>698,251</b>	<b>(4,391,716)</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>			
<u>Receipts</u>			
Proceeds from borrowings		1,050,000	-
<u>Payments</u>			
Repayments of borrowings		(2,802,766)	(377,472)
<b>Net Cash provided by (or used in) Financing Activities</b>		<b>(1,752,766)</b>	<b>(377,472)</b>
<b>Net Increase (Decrease) in cash held</b>		<b>3,834,331</b>	<b>(409,647)</b>
Cash & cash equivalents at beginning of period	11	548,499	958,146
<b>Cash &amp; cash equivalents at end of period</b>	11	<b>4,382,830</b>	<b>548,499</b>

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 2018

#### 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.

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## Berri Barmera Council

### NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2018

#### Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies (cont)

##### 3.1 Treatment of Financial Assistance Grant Payment

The Federal Government have again paid the untied financial assistance grants early with an amount of \$1,326,725 being received by Council in June 2018, which is half the approved funding intended for 2018/2019.

	Cash Payment Received	Annual Allocation		Difference
2015/16	\$1,306,340	\$2,639,660	-	\$1,333,320
2016/17	\$3,961,769	\$2,603,388	+	\$1,358,381
2017/18	\$2,597,113	\$2,565,467	+	\$31,656

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

The Operating Surplus Ratio and Net Liabilities Ratio disclosed in Note 15 have 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.

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.

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**Berri Barmera Council****NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
for the year ended 30 June 2018**Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies (cont)****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.

**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.

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**Berri Barmera Council****NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
for the year ended 30 June 2018**Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies (cont)**

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.

**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.

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**Berri Barmera Council****NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
for the year ended 30 June 2018**Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies (cont)**

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.

**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.

**Berri Barmera Council****NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
for the year ended 30 June 2018**Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies (cont)****13 Pending Accounting Standards**

Certain new accounting standards and UIG interpretations have been published that are not mandatory for the 30 June 2018 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 16	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 relation to the timing of 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 2018

## Note 2 - INCOME

	Notes	2018 \$	2017 \$
<b>RATES REVENUES</b>			
General Rates		7,813,669	7,606,741
Less: Mandatory rebates			
Less: Mandatory rebates, discretionary rebates, remissions & write offs		(261,591)	(261,628)
		7,552,078	7,345,113
Other Rates (including service charges)			
Natural Resource Management levy		324,320	326,603
Waste collection		1,050,929	1,023,428
Community wastewater management systems		2,772,345	2,775,970
		4,147,594	4,126,001
Other Charges			
Penalties for late payment		115,559	116,756
		115,559	116,756
		<u>11,815,231</u>	<u>11,587,870</u>
<b>STATUTORY CHARGES</b>			
Development Act fees		142,217	80,515
Town planning fees		26,100	28,598
Health & Septic Tank Inspection fees		20,545	3,636
Animal registration fees & fines		114,755	74,928
Parking fines / expiation fees		44	397
Sundry		7,015	6,852
		<u>310,676</u>	<u>194,926</u>
<b>USER CHARGES</b>			
Cemetery Fees		56,432	74,196
Septic Tank Fees		5,845	12,882
Commercial Activity Revenue		57,022	48,183
Hall & equipment hire		38,199	35,511
Parking fees		7,184	16,565
Sales - general		5,031	5,827
Subsidies received on behalf of users		-	2,370
Sundry		21,537	19,034
		<u>191,250</u>	<u>214,568</u>
<b>INVESTMENT INCOME</b>			
Interest on investments			
Local Government Finance Authority		35,457	14,649
Banks & other		13,028	13,592
Loans to community groups		2,460	4,720
		<u>50,945</u>	<u>32,961</u>

## BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
for the year ended 30 June 2018

## NOTE 2 - INCOME (continued)

	Notes	2018 \$	2017 \$
<b>REIMBURSEMENTS</b>			
- wastewater reuse scheme		410,288	305,769
- for private works		77,317	88,414
- by joint undertakings		192,106	185,123
- other		68,240	23,661
		<u>747,951</u>	<u>602,967</u>
<b>OTHER INCOME</b>			
Insurance & other recoupments - infrastructure, property, plant & equipment		116,246	68,994
Rebates received		104,178	109,843
Sundry		286,503	314,097
		<u>506,927</u>	<u>492,934</u>
<b>GRANTS, SUBSIDIES, CONTRIBUTIONS</b>			
Amounts received specifically for new or upgraded assets		2,398,168	2,396,926
Other grants, subsidies and contributions			
Untied - Financial Assistance Grant	2,597,113		3,943,746
Supplementary Local Road Funding	105,168		
Roads to Recovery	259,464		566,838
Home and Community Care Grant	-		11,989
Library & Communications	69,694		69,030
Sundry	58,653		242,265
		<u>3,090,082</u>	<u>4,833,868</u>
		<u>5,488,250</u>	<u>7,230,794</u>
<i>The functions to which these grants relate are shown in Note 12.</i>			
<b>Sources of grants</b>			
Commonwealth government		1,670,208	2,682,968
State government		3,711,019	4,311,587
Other		107,023	236,239
		<u>5,488,250</u>	<u>7,230,794</u>

## BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL

### NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2018

#### Note 3 - EXPENSES

	Notes	2018 \$	2017 \$
<b>EMPLOYEE COSTS</b>			
Salaries and Wages		4,077,787	3,764,396
Employee leave expense		442,292	515,721
Superannuation - defined contribution plan contributions	18	317,526	309,374
Superannuation - defined benefit plan contributions	18	109,755	109,037
Workers' Compensation Insurance		215,241	207,828
Less: Capitalised and distributed costs		<u>(524,697)</u>	<u>(464,803)</u>
<b>Total Operating Employee Costs</b>		<u>4,637,904</u>	<u>4,441,553</u>
<b>Total Number of Employees</b>		<b>68</b>	<b>67</b>
<i>(Full time equivalent at end of reporting period)</i>			
<b>MATERIALS, CONTRACTS &amp; OTHER EXPENSES</b>			
<u>Prescribed Expenses</u>			
Auditor's Remuneration			19,200
- Auditing the financial reports		19,180	19,200
Elected members' expenses		200,329	193,575
Operating Lease Rentals - cancellable leases		16,285	12,362
Subtotal - Prescribed Expenses		<u>235,794</u>	<u>225,137</u>
<u>Other Materials, Contracts &amp; Expenses</u>			
Contractors		2,055,989	2,184,117
Trility - Wastewater Re-Use Scheme Availability and Volumetric Charge		2,694,393	2,549,245
Legal Expenses		14,745	31,675
Levies paid to government - NRM levy		332,131	317,382
Parts, accessories & consumables		1,478,581	1,513,812
Contribution to Sporting Groups		163,770	-
Sundry		907,771	808,298
Subtotal - Other Materials, Contracts & Expenses		<u>7,647,380</u>	<u>7,404,529</u>
		<u>7,883,174</u>	<u>7,629,666</u>

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## BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL

### NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2018

#### Note 3 - EXPENSES (cont)

	Notes	2018 \$	2017 \$
<b>DEPRECIATION, AMORTISATION &amp; IMPAIRMENT</b>			
<b>Depreciation</b>			
Buildings and Structures		1,038,310	821,512
Infrastructure			
- Roads		901,314	876,570
- Footpaths		230,451	224,446
- Stormwater Drainage		157,179	158,681
- Effluent		296,191	275,962
- Kerbing		299,456	298,123
Other Assets		<u>511,059</u>	<u>537,642</u>
		<u>3,433,960</u>	<u>3,192,936</u>
Less: Capitalised and distributed costs		<u>(117,426)</u>	<u>(155,390)</u>
		<u>3,316,534</u>	<u>3,037,546</u>
<b>FINANCE COSTS</b>			
Interest on Loans		226,802	285,466
Unwinding of present value discounts		25,795	24,335
		<u>252,597</u>	<u>309,801</u>

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**BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL**

**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
for the year ended 30 June 2018**

**Note 4 - ASSET DISPOSAL & FAIR VALUE ADJUSTMENTS**

	2018	2017
Notes	\$	\$
<b>INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT &amp; EQUIPMENT</b>		
<i>Assets renewed or directly replaced</i>		
Proceeds from disposal	208,715	111,093
Less: Carrying amount of assets sold	<u>504,118</u>	<u>792,434</u>
<b>Gain (Loss) on disposal</b>	<u>(295,403)</u>	<u>(681,341)</u>
<i>Assets surplus to requirements</i>		
Proceeds from disposal	2,467,130	69,700
Less: Carrying amount of assets sold	<u>2,889,761</u>	<u>71,850</u>
<b>Gain (Loss) on disposal</b>	<u>(422,631)</u>	<u>(2,150)</u>
<b>REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT ASSETS</b>		
Proceeds from disposal	253,182	816,818
Less: Carrying amount of assets sold	<u>202,380</u>	<u>498,891</u>
<b>Gain (Loss) on disposal</b>	<u>50,802</u>	<u>317,927</u>
<b>FAIR VALUE ADJUSTMENTS</b>		
Revaluation decrements expensed	-	(2,878,793)
	<u>-</u>	<u>(2,878,793)</u>
<b>NET GAIN (LOSS) ON DISPOSAL OR REVALUATION OF ASSETS</b>	<u>(667,232)</u>	<u>(3,244,357)</u>

**BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL**

**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
for the year ended 30 June 2018**

**Note 5 - CURRENT ASSETS**

	2018	2017
Notes	\$	\$
<b>CASH &amp; EQUIVALENT ASSETS</b>		
Cash on Hand and at Bank	150,368	97,856
Deposits at Call	<u>4,232,462</u>	<u>450,643</u>
	<u>4,382,830</u>	<u>548,499</u>
<b>TRADE &amp; OTHER RECEIVABLES</b>		
Rates - General & Other	1,387,756	1,325,313
Rates postponed for State Seniors	14,659	13,920
Debtors - general	643,661	465,091
GST Recoupment	120,856	163,139
Prepayments	18,381	18,970
Loans to community organisations	99,353	33,457
Grants from other levels of Government	-	1,602,071
	<u>2,284,666</u>	<u>3,621,961</u>
<b>INVENTORIES</b>		
Stores & Materials	109,512	119,496
Real Estate Developments	<u>202,379</u>	<u>374,168</u>
	<u>311,891</u>	<u>493,664</u>

## BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL

### NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2018

#### Note 6 - NON-CURRENT ASSETS

FINANCIAL ASSETS	Notes	2018 \$	2017 \$
Receivables			
Loans to community organisations		968,828	18,892
<b>TOTAL FINANCIAL ASSETS</b>		<u>968,828</u>	<u>18,892</u>
<b>OTHER NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Capital Works-in-Progress		1,471,595	4,108,647
		<u>1,471,595</u>	<u>4,108,647</u>
<i>Real Estate Developments - Current &amp; Non-Current</i> (Valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value)			
Residential		202,379	374,168
<b>Total Real Estate for Resale</b>		<u>202,379</u>	<u>374,168</u>
<i>Represented by:</i>			
Development Costs		202,379	374,168
<b>Total Real Estate for Resale</b>		<u>202,379</u>	<u>374,168</u>
<i>Apportionment of Real Estate Developments</i>			
Current Assets	4	202,379	374,168
		<u>202,379</u>	<u>374,168</u>

**BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL**

**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
for the year ended 30 June 2018**

**Note 7 - INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT**

	Fair Value Level	2017 \$				2018 \$			
		AT FAIR VALUE	AT COST	ACCUM DEP'N	CARRYING AMOUNT	AT FAIR VALUE	AT COST	ACCUM DEP'N	CARRYING AMOUNT
Land	3	24,416,995	-	-	24,416,995	21,658,793	-	-	21,658,793
Buildings	2	1,411,935	-	(1,411,935)	-	17,062,752	-	(15,537,752)	1,525,000
Buildings Structures	3	33,046,968	729,073	(24,153,102)	9,622,939	21,957,720	-	(7,074,256)	14,883,464
Infrastructure	3	14,528,079	230,772	(6,933,598)	7,825,253	18,525,317	-	(7,097,481)	11,427,836
- Roads	3	54,664,702	4,577,779	(21,542,379)	37,700,102	58,707,162	1,326,903	(22,057,147)	37,976,918
- Footpaths	3	6,472,726	1,346,741	(4,669,483)	3,149,984	7,741,443	220,993	(4,839,222)	3,123,214
- Stormwater Drainage	3	14,009,162	14,316	(5,538,376)	8,485,102	14,051,023	635,495	(5,642,984)	9,043,534
- Effluent	3	22,401,705	115,627	(10,766,290)	11,751,042	22,365,299	216,647	(10,911,374)	11,670,572
- Kerbing	3	20,617,441	472,392	(7,148,319)	13,941,514	20,990,464	227,648	(7,416,039)	13,802,073
Plant and Machinery		-	4,944,251	(2,824,373)	2,119,878	-	5,076,066	(2,814,489)	2,261,577
Minor Plant		-	1,179,820	(717,807)	462,013	-	1,190,747	(777,287)	413,460
Office Equipment		-	1,364,999	(1,192,513)	172,486	-	1,415,913	(1,243,610)	172,303
<b>TOTAL INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT &amp; EQUIPMENT</b>		<b>191,569,713</b>	<b>14,975,770</b>	<b>(86,898,175)</b>	<b>119,647,308</b>	<b>203,059,973</b>	<b>10,310,412</b>	<b>(85,411,641)</b>	<b>127,958,744</b>
<i>Comparatives</i>		<i>191,569,713</i>	<i>14,975,770</i>	<i>(86,898,175)</i>	<i>119,647,308</i>	<i>191,569,713</i>	<i>14,975,770</i>	<i>(86,898,175)</i>	<i>119,647,308</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 2018

#### Note 7 - INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT

	2017	CARRYING AMOUNT MOVEMENTS DURING YEAR							2018	
	\$	\$							\$	
	CARRYING AMOUNT	Additions		Disposals	Depreciation	Impairment	Transfers		Net Revaluation	CARRYING AMOUNT
		New/Upgrade	Renewals				In	Out		
Land	24,416,995	-	-	(2,746,583)	-	-	-	-	(11,619)	21,658,793
Buildings	9,622,939	7,602,025	103,248	(143,178)	(512,096)	-	-	-	(264,474)	16,408,464
Structures	7,825,253	67,959	614,355	-	(526,214)	-	-	-	3,446,483	11,427,836
Infrastructure										
- Roads	37,700,102	400,217	926,686	(148,773)	(901,314)	-	-	-	-	37,976,918
- Footpaths	3,149,984	90,775	130,218	(17,312)	(230,451)	-	-	-	-	3,123,214
- Stormwater Drainage	8,485,102	635,495	-	(72,715)	(157,179)	-	-	-	-	9,043,534
- Effluent	11,751,042	153,371	63,276	(19,114)	(296,191)	-	-	-	152,831	11,670,572
- Kerbing	13,941,514	118,107	109,541	(67,633)	(299,456)	-	-	-	18,188	13,802,073
Plant and Machinery	2,119,878	-	702,775	(178,477)	(382,599)	-	-	-	-	2,261,577
Minor Plant	462,013	-	25,923	93	(74,569)	-	-	-	-	413,460
Office Equipment	172,486	-	53,708	-	(53,891)	-	-	-	-	172,303
<b>TOTAL INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT &amp; EQUIPMENT</b>	<b>119,647,308</b>	<b>9,067,949</b>	<b>2,729,730</b>	<b>(3,393,692)</b>	<b>(3,433,960)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,341,409</b>	<b>127,958,744</b>
<i>Comparatives</i>	<i>120,626,174</i>	<i>1,821,526</i>	<i>2,241,306</i>	<i>(864,285)</i>	<i>(3,192,936)</i>				<i>(984,475)</i>	<i>119,647,308</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 2018**

**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, Kerbing	\$2,000
Drains & Culverts	\$5,000

**Berri Barmera Council**

**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
for the year ended 30 June 2018**

**Note 7 – Property, Plant & Equipment (cont)**

*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
Kerbing	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**

Land and land improvements were revalued as at 30 June 2018 by JLL – Level 18, 25 Grenfell Street, Adelaide SA 5000 at fair value. Additions are recognised at cost.

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

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

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

**Buildings & Other Structures**

Buildings and other structures were revalued as at 30 June 2018 by JLL – Level 18, 25 Grenfell Street, Adelaide SA 5000 at written down replacement cost. Additions are recognised at cost.

It is recognised that there are a number of buildings and structure situated on land belonging to the Crown that is in the care and control of council and are assets neither maintained nor operated by Council but rather, by other community groups and/or sporting bodies. Arrangements are in place via operating lease agreements for the community groups to be entirely responsible for the renewal of these assets.

In addition, there are a number of buildings and structures situated on land belonging to the Crown that are not in the care and control of Council, yet are assets considered to be non-replaceable assets and are such are not maintained by Council.

Such assets are not included within the Council's accounts based on the following legal advice:

- Where the lease provides that the improvements vest in the lessee, it is for the lessee to depreciate those assets. However if the improvements remain after the expiration or termination of the lease;
  - in the case of Crown land, they become the property of the Crown and from that point depreciation is the Crown's responsibility; or
  - in the case of land owned by the Council, they become Council property and depreciation is the Council's responsibility.

**Berri Barmera Council****NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
for the year ended 30 June 2018**Note 7 – Property, Plant & Equipment (cont)**

- If the lease is silent regarding ownership of lessee improvements constructed during the term of the lease, any improvements that constitute a fixture (such as a building) become part of the land. In the case of Crown land, the improvements will be taken to be owned by the Crown and the Crown will be responsible for depreciating them.

**Infrastructure**

Roads, footpaths and kerbing 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.

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**BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL****NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
for the year ended 30 June 2018**Note 8 - LIABILITIES**

	2018		2017	
	Notes	\$	\$	\$
<b>TRADE &amp; OTHER PAYABLES</b>				
Goods & Services		1,606,339		1,228,072
Payments received in advance		5,043,309	-	499,713
Accrued expenses - employee entitlements		35,382	-	30,967
Accrued expenses - other		241,696	-	199,246
		<u>6,926,726</u>	-	<u>1,957,998</u>
<b>BORROWINGS</b>				
Loans		392,479	3,237,603	2,802,766
		<u>392,479</u>	<u>3,237,603</u>	<u>2,802,766</u>
<b>PROVISIONS</b>				
Employee entitlements (including oncosts)		1,210,735	3,998	1,109,818
Future reinstatement / restoration, etc		-	200,000	-
		<u>1,210,735</u>	<u>203,998</u>	<u>1,109,818</u>

**Movements in Provisions - 2018 year only**  
(current & non-current)

Opening Balance	
Add Unwinding of present value discounts	8,750
Add (Less) Remeasurement Adjustments	(58,750)
Closing Balance	<u>200,000</u>

**Future Landfill Reinstatement**

250,000
8,750
(58,750)
<u>200,000</u>

**BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL**

**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
for the year ended 30 June 2018**

**Note 9 - RESERVES**

ASSET REVALUATION RESERVE	1/7/2017	Net Increments (Decrements)	Transfers, Impairments	30/6/2018
Notes	\$	\$	\$	\$
Land	10,378,437	(11,619)	-	10,366,818
Structures	17,677	3,182,009	-	3,199,686
Infrastructure				
- Roads	33,711,113	-	-	33,711,113
- Footpaths	3,386,438	-	-	3,386,438
- Stormwater Drainage	9,900,659	152,831	-	10,053,490
- Effluent	13,060,549	18,188	-	13,078,737
- Kerbing	23,102,030	-	-	23,102,030
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>93,556,903</b>	<b>3,341,409</b>		<b>96,898,312</b>
<i>Comparatives</i>	<i>91,662,585</i>	<i>1,894,318</i>		<i>93,556,903</i>

OTHER RESERVES	1/7/2017	Transfers to Reserve	Transfers from Reserve	30/6/2018
Land Development Reserve	1,481,969	259,621	(58,552)	1,683,038
District CWMS	1,009,258	3,203,946	(3,347,634)	865,570
Work in Progress	295,500	140,000	(117,700)	317,800
Open Space	1,788	4	-	1,792
<b>TOTAL OTHER RESERVES</b>	<b>2,788,515</b>	<b>3,603,571</b>	<b>(3,523,886)</b>	<b>2,868,200</b>
<i>Comparatives</i>	<i>1,495,302</i>	<i>4,293,720</i>	<i>(3,000,507)</i>	<i>2,788,515</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 2018**

**Note 10 - ASSETS SUBJECT TO RESTRICTIONS**

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

CASH & FINANCIAL ASSETS	Notes	2018 \$	2017 \$
Unexpended amounts received from State Local Government			
Infrastructure Partnership (SLGIP) - Grant received for the construction of 10 megawatt solar generation facility		5,034,000	-
		<u>5,034,000</u>	<u>-</u>

## BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL

### NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2018

#### Note 11 - RECONCILIATION TO CASH FLOW STATEMENT

**(a) Reconciliation of Cash**

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

	Notes	2018 \$	2017 \$
Total cash & equivalent assets	5	<u>4,382,830</u>	<u>548,499</u>
Balances per Cash Flow Statement		<u>4,382,830</u>	<u>548,499</u>

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

Net Surplus (Deficit)	2,353,789	1,694,097
Non-cash items in Income Statement		
Depreciation, amortisation & impairment	3,316,534	3,037,546
Net increase (decrease) in unpaid employee benefits	65,793	(117,788)
Premiums & discounts recognised & unwound	25,795	24,335
Grants for capital acquisitions treated as Investing Activity	(2,398,168)	(2,396,926)
Net (Gain) Loss on Disposals	<u>667,232</u>	<u>365,564</u>
	4,030,975	2,606,828
Add (Less): Changes in Net Current Assets		
Net (increase) decrease in receivables	1,403,191	(1,559,690)
Net (increase) decrease in inventories	9,984	(44,613)
Net increase (decrease) in trade & other payables	<u>4,478,696</u>	<u>478,223</u>
<b>Net Cash provided by (or used in) operations</b>	<u>9,922,846</u>	<u>1,480,748</u>

**(c) Non-Cash Financing and Investing Activities**

Acquisition of assets by means of:		
- Estimated future reinstatement etc. costs	<u>(58,750)</u>	<u>(145,066)</u>
	<u>(58,750)</u>	<u>(145,066)</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	7,750,000

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 2018

#### Note 12 - FUNCTIONS

INCOMES, EXPENSES AND ASSETS HAVE BEEN DIRECTLY ATTRIBUTED TO THE FOLLOWING FUNCTIONS & ACTIVITIES										
	INCOME		EXPENSES		OPERATING SURPLUS (DEFICIT)		GRANTS INCLUDED IN INCOME		TOTAL ASSETS HELD (CURRENT & NON-CURRENT)	
	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	2018	2017	2018	2017
	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Public Order and Safety	172,985	78,023	319,978	298,996	(146,993)	(220,973)	-	-	341,563	310,026
Health	41,271	42,840	256,631	250,244	(215,360)	(207,404)	-	-	29,346	26,702
Social Security	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Housing and Community Amenities	4,474,176	4,270,227	6,176,979	5,883,544	(1,702,803)	(1,613,317)	13,300	-	13,083,251	13,239,095
Protection of the Environment	8,215	8,131	30,391	76,880	(22,176)	(68,749)	6,216	-	58,022	-
Sport and Recreation	445,872	408,184	4,130,833	3,654,031	(3,684,961)	(3,245,847)	2,403,227	2,230,179	28,067,584	17,057,571
Mining, Manufacturing and Construction	20,472	38,950	224,553	255,309	(204,081)	(216,359)	-	-	37,969	35,481
Transport and Communication	436,667	1,012,144	2,418,941	2,514,795	(1,982,274)	(1,502,651)	429,854	1,075,169	64,157,736	63,496,851
Economic Affairs	108,987	188,095	565,785	575,168	(456,798)	(387,073)	-	-	1,339,630	260,937
Other Purposes	592,782	561,895	1,948,750	1,909,599	(1,355,968)	(1,347,704)	-	66,719	4,251,118	4,221,374
Administration	10,411,635	11,351,605	17,368	-	10,394,267	11,351,605	2,528,630	3,622,488	26,012,335	29,790,934
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>16,713,062</b>	<b>17,960,094</b>	<b>16,090,209</b>	<b>15,418,566</b>	<b>622,853</b>	<b>2,541,528</b>	<b>5,381,227</b>	<b>6,994,555</b>	<b>137,378,554</b>	<b>128,438,971</b>

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 2018**

**Note 12 (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 2018**

**Note 13 - FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS**

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

**Accounting Policies - Recognised Financial Instruments**

<b>Bank, Deposits at Call, Short Term Accounting Policy:</b> Carried at lower of cost and net realisable value; interest is recognised when earned.	<b>Deposits</b>
<b>Terms &amp; conditions:</b> Deposits are returning fixed interest rates between 1.5% and 1.7% (2017: 1.5% and 1.8%). Short term deposits have an average maturity of 365 days and an average interest rates of 1.5% (2017: 365 days, 1.5%).	
<b>Carrying amount:</b> approximates fair value due to the short term to maturity.	
<b>Receivables - Rates &amp; Associated Accounting Policy:</b> 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.	<b>Charges (including legals &amp; penalties for late payment)</b>
<b>Note:</b> These receivables do not meet the definition of "financial instruments" and have been excluded from the following disclosures.	
<b>Terms &amp; conditions:</b> Secured over the subject land, arrears attract interest of 2% (2017: 2%). Although Council is not materially exposed to any individual debtor, credit risk exposure is concentrated within the Council's boundaries in the State.	
<b>Carrying amount:</b> approximates fair value (after deduction of any allowance).	
<b>Receivables - Fees &amp; other charges Accounting Policy:</b> 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.	
<b>Terms &amp; conditions:</b> 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.	
<b>Carrying amount:</b> approximates fair value (after deduction of any allowance).	
<b>Receivables - other levels of government Accounting Policy:</b> Carried at nominal value.	
<b>Terms &amp; conditions:</b> 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.	
<b>Carrying amount:</b> approximates fair value.	
<b>Liabilities - Creditors and Accruals Accounting Policy:</b> Liabilities are recognised for amounts to be paid in the future for goods and services received, whether or not billed to the Council.	
<b>Terms &amp; conditions:</b> Liabilities are normally settled on 30 day terms.	
<b>Carrying amount:</b> approximates fair value.	
<b>Liabilities - Interest Bearing Borrowings Accounting Policy:</b> Carried at the principal amounts. Interest is charged as an expense as it accrues.	
<b>Terms &amp; conditions:</b> secured over future revenues, borrowings are repayable 6 monthly; interest is charged at fixed and variable rates between 4% and 7.5% (2017: 4% and 8.1%)	
<b>Carrying amount:</b> approximates fair value.	
<b>Liabilities - Finance Leases Accounting Policy:</b> 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 2018**

**Note 13 (cont) - FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS**

Liquidity Analysis

2018	Due < 1 year	Due > 1 year; ≤ 5 years	Due > 5 years	Total Contractual Cash Flows	Carrying Values
<b>Financial Assets</b>					
Cash & Equivalents	4,382,830	-	-	4,382,830	4,382,830
Receivables	1,851,079	-	-	1,851,079	1,851,079
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,233,909</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>6,233,909</b>	<b>6,233,909</b>
<b>Financial Liabilities</b>					
Payables	1,615,648	-	-	1,615,648	6,649,648
Current Borrowings	392,479	-	-	392,479	392,479
Non-Current Borrowings	-	2,821,468	1,825,358	4,646,816	3,237,603
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,008,127</b>	<b>2,821,468</b>	<b>1,825,358</b>	<b>6,654,943</b>	<b>10,279,730</b>
ERROR					
Total					
<b>2017</b>					
<b>Financial Assets</b>					
Cash & Equivalents	548,499	-	-	548,499	548,499
Receivables	2,301,623	-	-	2,301,623	2,301,620
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,850,122</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,850,122</b>	<b>2,850,119</b>
<b>Financial Liabilities</b>					
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
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,530,551</b>	<b>2,134,734</b>	<b>1,199,522</b>	<b>7,864,807</b>	<b>7,110,633</b>

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

	30 June 2018		30 June 2017	
	Weighted Average Interest Rate	Carrying Value	Weighted Average Interest Rate	Carrying Value
Overdraft	%	\$	%	\$
Other Variable Rates	variable	-	variable	2,400,000
Fixed Interest Rates	6.5	3,630,082	6.75	2,982,848
		<u>3,630,082</u>		<u>5,382,848</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 2018**

**Note 14 - COMMITMENTS FOR EXPENDITURE**

	2018	2017
Notes	\$	\$
<b>Capital Commitments</b>		
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>
These expenditures are payable:		
Not later than one year	-	3,562,399
	-	<u>3,562,399</u>
<b>Other Expenditure Commitments</b>		
Other non-capital expenditure commitments in relation to investment properties:		
Audit Services	35,493	52,467
Waste Management Services	1,167,721	1,105,094
Household Desludging Contract	153,700	153,700
Wastewater Reuse Scheme - operating		
availability charge	2,142,252	2,153,532
volumetric charge	260,676	236,340
Cleaning Services Contract	35,254	105,762
Public Convenience Maintenance	21,521	64,562
IT Support Contract	211,120	19,280
	<u>4,027,737</u>	<u>3,890,737</u>
Not later than one year	3,889,088	3,798,469
Later than one year and not later than 5 years	138,649	92,268
Later than 5 years	-	-
Net Lease Liability	<u>4,027,737</u>	<u>3,890,737</u>

## BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL

### NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2018

#### Note 15 - FINANCIAL INDICATORS

	2018	2017	2016
These Financial Indicators have been calculated in accordance with <i>Information Paper 9 - Local Government Financial Indicators</i> 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.			

<b>Operating Surplus Ratio</b>			
<u>Operating Surplus</u>	3.7%	14.2%	(3.3%)
Total Operating Income			
<i>This ratio expresses the operating surplus as a percentage of total operating revenue.</i>			

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

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

#### Adjustments to Ratios

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

<b>Adjusted Operating Surplus Ratio</b>	3.9%	7.1%	5.2%
<b>Adjusted Net Financial Liabilities Ratio</b>	18%	19%	45%

<b>Asset Sustainability Ratio</b>			
<u>Net Asset Renewals</u>	78%	73%	36%
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 2018

#### Note 16 - UNIFORM PRESENTATION OF FINANCES

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

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

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

	2018 \$	2017 \$
Income	16,713,062	17,960,094
Expenses	<u>(16,090,209)</u>	<u>(15,418,566)</u>
<b>Operating Surplus / (Deficit)</b>	<b>622,853</b>	<b>2,541,528</b>
<b>Net Outlays on Existing Assets</b>		
Capital Expenditure on renewal and replacement of Existing Assets	(2,496,117)	(2,281,950)
Add back Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	3,316,534	3,037,546
Proceeds from Sale of Replaced Assets	<u>208,528</u>	<u>111,093</u>
	<b>1,028,945</b>	<b>866,689</b>
<b>Net Outlays on New and Upgraded Assets</b>		
Capital Expenditure on New and Upgraded Assets (including investment property & real estate developments)	(6,150,808)	(5,550,360)
Amounts received specifically for New and Upgraded Assets	2,398,168	2,396,926
Proceeds from Sale of Surplus Assets (including investment property and real estate developments)	<u>2,720,312</u>	<u>886,518</u>
	<b>(1,032,328)</b>	<b>(2,266,916)</b>
<b>Net Lending / (Borrowing) for Financial Year</b>	<b>619,470</b>	<b>1,141,301</b>

**BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL**

**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
for the year ended 30 June 2018**

**Note 17 - 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.

*Investment Property*

Rentals received, and outgoings reimbursed, in relation to Investment Property are also disclosed in Note 2. These lease agreements, all of which are classified as operating leases, are made on a non-cancellable basis wherever practicable.

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

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
Not later than one year	42,428	40,480
Later than one year and not later than 5 years	21,312	21,834
Later than 5 years	504	124
	<u>64,244</u>	<u>62,438</u>

*Lease payment commitments of Council*

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

Contingent rental payments exist in relation to the lease of one grader if utilisation exceeds 250 hours during any month. No contingent rentals were paid during the current or previous reporting periods.

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:

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
Not later than one year	9,005	15,620
Later than one year and not later than 5 years	7,216	16,220
Later than 5 years	-	-
	<u>16,221</u>	<u>31,840</u>

**BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL**

**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
for the year ended 30 June 2018**

**Note 18 – 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 2017/18; 9.50% in 2016/17). 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 2016/17) 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, Louise Campbell, FIAA, of Willie Towers Watson as at 30 June 2017. 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 2018

#### Note 19 - 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)  
2018 - \$20,860 2017 - \$20,451

##### Wastewater Re-Use Scheme

A joint venture has been entered into between Council and Trility 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 2017/2018 were:

Availability Charge - Annual Charge \$2,107,974

Volumetric Charge - Average annual charge \$272,139

##### 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 2018

#### Note 20 - CONTINGENCIES & ASSETS & LIABILITIES NOT RECOGNISED IN THE BALANCE SHEET

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.

##### 1. LAND UNDER ROADS

As reported elsewhere in these Statements, Council is of the opinion that it is not possible to attribute a value sufficiently 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 2018

**Note 21 - 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:

	2018 \$	2017 \$
Salaries, allowances & other short term benefits	1,361,055	1,323,871
Post-employment benefits		
Long term benefits		
Termination benefits		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,361,055</b>	<b>1,323,871</b>

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

	2018 \$	2017 \$
Contributions for fringe benefits tax purposes	36,452	37,670
Planning and building applications fees	-	-
Rentals for Council property	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>36,452</b>	<b>37,670</b>

**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 \$59,984 in 2017/2018.

The Berri Bowling Club is located at Glassey Park and costs are incurred by Council on behalf of the Berri Bowling Club for rubbish collection, sewerage, water and the like. These costs relate to Glassey Park as an entire sporting precinct provided to the

Some key management personnel or their close family members are affiliated with various service clubs, emergency service organisation 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 2017/2018 financial assistance of 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.

There were no planning and building applications lodged by key management personnel or close family members for 2017/2018.

**BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL**

**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
for the year ended 30 June 2018

**Note 22 - SIGNIFICANT EVENTS AFTER THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION DATE**

**1. BERRI RENEWABLE ENERGY SOLAR POWER GENERATION FACILITY**

The Berri Barmera Council has received 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 to be negotiated 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 2018.

The SLGIP Grant received by Council has been included within Amounts Received in Advance at Note 8 of these accounts. Additionally, Note 10 of these accounts discloses that the SLGIP Grant received by Council is subject to restrictions in that funding will be required to be returned in the event that the power purchasing agreement with local industry is not finalised.



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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 2018 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 2018 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

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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 CRETEN  
PARTNER

Signed on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of October 2018,  
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 2017 to 30 June 2018 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 2017 to 30 June 2018. 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 2017 to 30 June 2018.

#### DEAN NEWBERY & PARTNERS CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS



SAMANTHA CRETEN  
PARTNER

Signed on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of October 2018  
at 214 Melbourne Street, North Adelaide, South Australia, 5006

**BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL****ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 June 2018****CERTIFICATION OF AUDITOR INDEPENDENCE**

To the best of our knowledge and belief, we confirm that, for the purpose of the audit of Berri Barmera Council for the year ended 30 June 2018, 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*.

  
.....  
**ANDRÉ STUYT**  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

  
.....  
**JOHN COMIRIE**  
PRESIDING MEMBER  
AUDIT COMMITTEE

Date: 16/10/2018



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**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 2018, 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 CRETEN**  
Partner

**DEAN NEWBERY & PARTNERS**  
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

Dated this 16<sup>th</sup> day of October 2018

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# Regional Subsidiary Reports





The Murraylands and Riverland  
Local Government Association

# MURRAYLANDS & RIVERLAND LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION ANNUAL REPORT 2017 to 2018



Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association  
PO Box 236  
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The past year has been extraordinarily busy and productive for the Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association (MRLGA).

Our purpose remains staunchly focused on providing effective representation for local government and communities at regional, state and federal level in support of our Constituent Councils by sharing information, facilitating debate and influencing government policy through partnerships and advocacy.

This document represents the Annual Report of the Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association (MRLGA) for the period 1<sup>st</sup> July 2017 to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2018.

This report must be submitted to the Constituent Councils by 31<sup>st</sup> October in each Financial Year in accordance with the MRLGA Charter on the work and operations of the Subsidiary.

The report details the achievements of the MRLGA against its strategic objectives and incorporates the audited Financial Statements of the Subsidiary and any other information or reports required by the Constituent Councils.

This report also 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.

**Murraylands and Riverland LGA** Annual Report 2017-2018 | 2



The Annual Report articulates clearly the alignment of the Subsidiary with its role of Leadership, Advocacy, Regional Capacity Building and Collaborative Partnerships. The MRLGA represents engaged and informed member Councils, our board members apply rigorous principles of management and governance and our stakeholders value the disciplined representation of the Association.

**Mayor Dave Burgess**  
MRLGA President

**Peter Bond**  
MRLGA Chief Executive Officer

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## MRLGA ANNUAL REPORT SUMMARY 2017-2018

The MRLGA Board is pleased to provide the Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association (MRLGA) Annual Report on the work and operations of the Subsidiary for the financial year 2017-2018 in accordance with Clause 28, Schedule 2 of the Local Government Act (1999).

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. 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.

The MRLGA Board has represented its Constituent Councils on a range of issues pertinent to our region. Such issues have included in part, Local/State Government Reform, advocating for the implementation of the Murray-Darling Basin Plan, Planning Reform, abolition of Rubble Royalties, the Community Wellbeing program, the fight against rate capping and as a Board member on the Grants Commission.

The MRLGA Board looks forward to realising the opportunities that are available to our dynamic region. With the new State Government having local reform firmly in their sights this is a time for mature heads and strategic partnerships when making the critical decisions that will grow our region.

In closing the MRLGA Board sincerely thanks all constituent Councils and key partners for the role they have played in delivering a range of programs and projects over the last 12-months. The Board would particularly like 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 a range of strategic projects vital to the social and economic wellbeing of our flourishing region.

Murraylands & Riverland Local Government Association (MRLGA)

**Murraylands and Riverland LGA** Annual Report 2017-2018 | 4



## ROLE OF THE MRLGA

The Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association is comprised of the following Constituent Councils:

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

The Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association Strategic Plan 2016 - 2020 responds not only to the strategic needs and objectives of its 8 Constituent Councils, but also to a number of key strategies including States Seven Strategic Priorities, the LGA's Strategic Plan, the RDAs Regional Roadmap and the SA MDBNRM Board's Strategic and Business Plans.

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

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

### OUR VISION

A successful region led by progressive and responsive local governments. issues and projects and the lobbying for the benefit of our regional communities.

### OUR MISSION

To provide an effective and efficient regional organisation, facilitating the coordination of Local Government resources, the fostering of partnership approaches to regional issues and projects and the lobbying for the benefit of our regional communities.

Murraylands and Riverland LGA Annual Report 2017-2018 | 5

## MURRAYLANDS AND RIVERLAND LGA IN PROFILE

The Murraylands and Riverland Region covers over 36,000 kilometres<sup>2</sup> (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 composed of eight Constituent Councils from within the region as outlined in Figure 1. 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 13<sup>th</sup> 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 Association's 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.

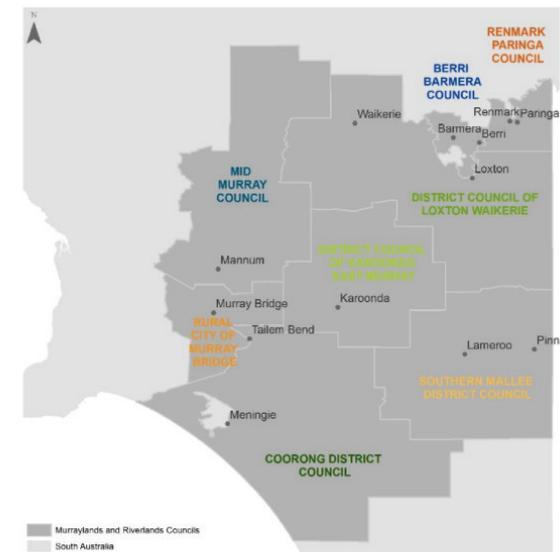


Figure 1: Map of the MRLGA region

## 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 9<sup>th</sup> 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 Subsidiary's 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 for 2017-2018

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 Kelly Kuhn, Deputy Mayor
Rural City of Murray Bridge	Mayor Brenton Lewis	Cr Theo Weinmann, 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 14<sup>th</sup> July 2017 and Mayor Peter Hunt, Berri Barmera Council was re-elected Vice President both for a full annual term of office.

**Murraylands and Riverland LGA** Annual Report 2017-2018 | 7

## MRLGA DELEGATES TO THE 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).

MRLGA delegates appointed to the LGA Board are;

- **Mayor Dave Burgess MMC** (President & LGA Immediate Past President)
- **Mayor Peter Hunt BBC** (LGA Vice President)
- **Mayor Neville Jaensch CDC**
- **Mayor Brenton Lewis RCMB** Deputy Member

MRLGA delegates appointed to SAROC include

- **Mayor Dave Burgess MMC** (President & LGA Immediate Past President)
- **Mayor Peter Hunt BBC** (LGA Vice President)
- **Mayor Neville Jaensch CDC** (Proxy)
- **Mayor Brenton Lewis RCMB** Deputy Member
- **Mr Peter Bond** Chief Executive Officer



The South Australian Regional Organisation of Councils (SAROC) is an important committee of the LGA that focuses on key issues affecting regional 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 by providing collegiate support to prepare submissions on behalf of regional and rural Councils that included continued lobbying and input into the ongoing review of the business plans, administrative fee and levy proposals of the Natural Resource Management lobbying in relation to legislative changes, Boundary Reform, Youth Traineeships, Community Wellbeing, Road Safety, Waste Management and Decentralisation/Regional Population Growth, to name a few.

**Murraylands and Riverland LGA** Annual Report 2017-2018 | 8

## ASSOCIATION COMMITTEES AND WORKING PARTIES

The following outlines representation on MRLGA Committee's and Working Parties to the 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2018:

### **Murray River Alliance SA**

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

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

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

### **Murray and Mallee Zone Emergency Management Committee:**

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



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**Murraylands and Riverland CEO's Network Group:**

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

**Murraylands and Riverland Regional Public Health Plan Committee:**

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



**Murraylands and Riverland LGA** Annual Report 2017-2018 | 10

## ASSOCIATION MEETINGS

During 2017-2018, the Association met on four occasions on:

- 14<sup>th</sup> July 2017 - Annual General Meeting - District Council of Karoonda East Murray Council Offices, 11 Railway Terrace, Karoonda,
- 16<sup>th</sup> October 2016 - General Meeting - Berri Barmera Council, 19 Wilson Street, Berri,
- 17<sup>th</sup> January 2017 - General Meeting - Coorong District Council, 95-101 Railway Terrace, Taillem Bend,
- 6<sup>th</sup> April 2018 - General Meeting - District Council of Karoonda East Murray Council Offices, 11 Railway Terrace, Karoonda March 2017,
- 31<sup>st</sup> May 2018 - Special Meeting - Rural City of Murray Bridge Council Offices, Murray Bridge

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](http://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:

- Emma Bradbury Chief Executive Officer, Murray Darling Association Inc
- Karen Raffan and Ruby Hannam, Brand SA

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 the 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/Barb Cowey, PIRSA/Regions SA 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 range of issues that impact on Local Government and the communities in the Region.



## STRATEGIC ACTIVITIES 2017-2018

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:

- **Inquiry into National Freight and Supply Chain Priorities, July 2017** - provided a submission responding to the Australia Government's "Inquiry into National Freight and Supply Chain Priorities" Discussion Paper released in May 2017,
- **Inquiry into Regional Development and Decentralisation, November 2017** - Provided evidence to the Select Committee on Regional Development and Decentralisation in support of the need for Decentralisation and proactive Regional Development across regional SA.
- **Murray-Darling Basin Royal Commission To Investigate The Operations And Effectiveness Of The Murray-Darling Basin System, April 2018** - Provided a submission to the Murray-Darling Basin Royal Commission for the purpose of investigating the operations and effectiveness of the Murray-Darling Basin system.

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



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**Key Project Activities for 2017-18**

- **Regional Roads Freight Movement Study** - The purpose of the Regional Roads Freight Movement Study was to identify the benefits and costs of upgrading key roads within the Region to cater for increased demands and larger vehicle types (Double Road Train and B-Triple vehicles). These benefits and costs would then be used in the development of business cases to obtain funding for the required road improvements.
- **Regional Commodity Route Network HVRA and Risk Analysis** - Partnering member Councils in carrying out Network Level Heavy Vehicle Route Assessment and Risk Analysis' of B-Double Commodity Routes. The MRLGA co-funded constituent Council route assessment based on the application of criteria.
- **Regional Road Action Plans and 2018 SLRP Roads Database Update** - The MRLGA engages HDS Australia Pty Ltd to provide that level of service at a variable fee for service depending on the extent of work involved. The data generated is used for the development of SLRP funding application priorities for 2017-18. This also included submitting SLRP Funding on behalf of member Councils for adopted priorities for the 2017-2018 SLRP program and referring to the LGTAP for funding.
- **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** - This project sort to identify opportunities for greater collaboration between member Councils in the planning and delivery of waste management services.
- **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 matters relating to Emergency Management and assisted the LGA in the inception of LGFS needs.
- **Regional Public Health and Wellbeing 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. The Committee met on 26/07/2017, 2/11/2017, 24/01/2018, 8/03/2018, 15/05/2018
- **Legal Charter Review** - During the course of the year a review of the MRLGA Charter was carried out (as may be required by new regulations arising from review of Local Government Act 1999). The review of the MRLGA Charter is also required as a consequence of the Strategic Review conducted in 2015-2016.
- **Asset Planning Business Case Analysis (BCA)** - a project is an initiative of the Murraylands and Riverland Local Government Association (MRLGA). It seeks to identify opportunities for greater collaboration between member Councils in meeting their asset management obligations.
- **NS Freight Route Review** - The MRLGA have partnered with S&HLGA and the RDA's in the Northern Freight Bypass project to consider the cost and benefits of a realigned Hills rail freight bypass from Tailem Bend/Monarto North through to the Sturt Highway. This study will inform the new State Government GlobelinkSA project. This project required attendance at Northern Freight Bypass Working Group meetings 19/10/2017, 8/02/2018, 27/04/2018, 2/05/2018

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## 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, Outreach Services, Rubble Royalties 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 2017-2018 are included in **Appendix 1** of this report.



Murraylands and Riverland LGA Annual Report 2017-2018 | 14



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

MRLGA acknowledges the Constituent Council Mayors, Elected Members, Chief Executive Officers and staff for the ongoing support of the regional role of the Association.

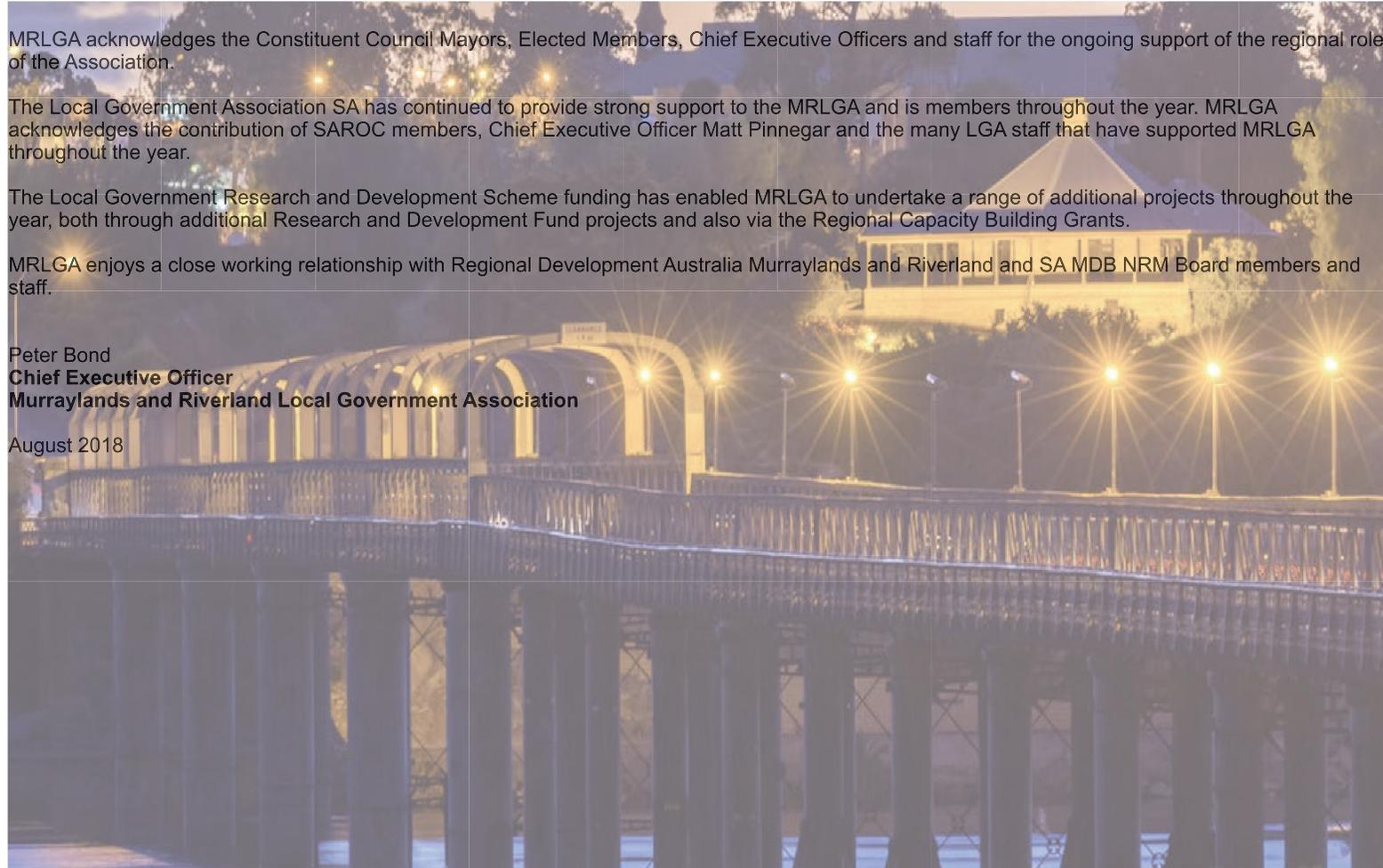
The Local Government Association SA has continued to provide strong support to the MRLGA and its members throughout the year. MRLGA acknowledges the contribution of SAROC members, Chief Executive Officer Matt Pinnegar and the many LGA staff that have supported MRLGA throughout the year.

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 2018



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## Appendix 1

Audited Financial Statements 2017-18

**Murraylands and Riverland LGA** Annual Report 2017-2018 | 16



The Murraylands and Riverland  
Local Government Association

## Murray and Mallee Local Government Association

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED  
30 June 2018

### Murray and Mallee Local Government Association

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## Murray and Mallee Local Government Association

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

	Note	2018 \$	2017 \$
<b>Income</b>			
MBM LGA Contributions	2	158,665	152,394
Other Grants & Contributions	2	257,518	324,185
Interest Revenue	2	4,689	2,904
<b>Total Revenue</b>		<u>420,872</u>	<u>479,483</u>
<b>Operating Expenses</b>	3	(277,094)	(255,693)
<b>Surplus (deficit) for the year</b>		<u>143,778</u>	<u>223,790</u>
<b>Total Comprehensive Profit (Loss)</b>		<u>143,778</u>	<u>223,790</u>

The accompanying Notes form part of these financial statements

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## Murray and Mallee Local Government Association

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION  
AS AT 30 JUNE 2018

	Note	2018 \$	2017 \$
<b>Assets</b>			
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	4	435,692	426,824
Trade and other receivables	5	148,706	11,729
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<u>584,398</u>	<u>438,553</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<u>584,398</u>	<u>438,553</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		2,066	
Trade and other payables	6	14,384	12,318
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<u>14,384</u>	<u>12,318</u>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<u>14,384</u>	<u>12,318</u>
<b>Net Assets</b>		<u>570,014</u>	<u>426,235</u>
<b>Member's Funds</b>			
Unspent funds reserve	7	-	(76,220)
Accumulated surplus	7	570,014	502,456
<b>Total Members Funds</b>		<u>570,014</u>	<u>426,235</u>

The accompanying Notes form part of these financial statements

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Murray and Mallee Local Government Association

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN MEMBER'S FUNDS  
AS AT 30 JUNE 2018

	Note	Accumulated Surplus \$	Unspent funds reserve \$	Total \$
<b>2018</b>				
Balance at the beginning of the year	7	502,456	(76,220)	426,236
Surplus for the year		143,778	-	143,778
Transfers		(76,220)	76,220	-
Balance at the end of year		<u>570,014</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>570,014</u>
<b>2017</b>				
Balance at the beginning of the year	7	157,342	45,104	202,446
Surplus for the year		223,790	-	223,790
Transfers		121,324	(121,324)	-
Balance at the end of year		<u>502,456</u>	<u>(76,220)</u>	<u>426,326</u>

The accompanying Notes form part of these financial statements

Murray and Mallee Local Government Association

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

	Note	2018 \$	2017 \$
<b>Cash from operating activities</b>			
Receipts from grants		257,518	324,185
Receipts from members		158,665	152,394
Interest received		4,689	2,904
less increase in debtors		(136,977)	(8,090)
Payments to suppliers		(277,094)	(255,693)
add increase in payables		2,066	(942)
<b>Net cash provided from operating activities</b>	<b>8</b>	<u><b>8,868</b></u>	<u><b>214,758</b></u>
<b>Net increase in cash held</b>			
Cash at beginning of financial year		8,868	214,757
		426,824	212,067
<b>Cash at end of financial year</b>	<b>4</b>	<u><b>435,692</b></u>	<u><b>426,824</b></u>

The accompanying Notes form part of these financial statements

## Murray and Mallee Local Government Association

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

## 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.

**(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.

## Murray and Mallee Local Government Association

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018**(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.

**Murray and Mallee Local Government Association**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018**

**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.

**Murray and Mallee Local Government Association**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018**

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 2018

## Note 2: Revenue

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
<b>MBM LGA Contributions</b>		
Berri Barmera	20,860	20,451
Coorong District Council	13,816	13,545
DC of Karoonda East Murray	7,315	7,172
DC of Loxton Waikerie	22,080	21,506
Mid Murray Council	16,525	16,201
The Rural City of Murray Bridge	27,633	27,091
Renmark Paringa Council	18,557	18,194
Southern Mallee DC	8,669	8,501
SLRP surcharge	23,210	19,733
	<u>158,665</u>	<u>152,394</u>
<b>Other Grants &amp; Contributions</b>		
Other Grants	3,450	-
Rubble Royalties	164,291	-
Regional Capacity Buildings	39,777	-
Local Government Association of SA	-	274,185
Out Reach Program Income	50,000	50,000
	<u>257,518</u>	<u>324,185</u>
<b>Interest Revenue</b>	4,689	2,904
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<u>420,872</u>	<u>479,483</u>

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## Murray Mallee Local Government Association

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

## Note 3: Other Operating Expenses

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
Allowances	3,000	-
Accounting software	276	498
Audit fees	3,300	3,500
Consultancy and contractors	-	967
Executive officer contract services	115,520	109,545
Insurance	7,208	5,697
LGA capacity building grant	-	2,395
Meeting expenses	2,221	1,424
Murraylands regional collaboration project	-	3,240
President's travelling allowance	649	1,950
SAROC regional meeting costs	1,115	(836)
Sundry expenses	1,200	6,088
SLRP Priority Setting	14,099	-
Administration Support	10,680	-
<b>Project Expenditure:</b>		
2030 Transport Plan Project - Roads Database	-	11,700
Discretionary Projects	18,700	-
Strategic ICT Projects	15,000	-
Commodity Route Assessment	16,960	13,400
Hills Road/Rail Bypass	-	5,000
Murray River Alliance Projects	11,022	10,000
Regional Freight Movement Study	29,735	50,284
Regional Waste Strategy	2,500	15,000
Sport and Recreation Facilities Needs Review	23,909	15,940
	<u>277,094</u>	<u>255,693</u>

## Note 4: Cash and cash equivalents

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
Cash on hand	100	100
Cash at bank	279,473	275,294
LGFA Investment	156,119	151,430
	<u>435,692</u>	<u>426,824</u>

## Note 5: Trade and other receivables

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
Trade Debtors	140,408	-
GST receivable (net)	8,298	11,729
	<u>148,706</u>	<u>11,729</u>

## Note 6: Trade and other Payables

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
Payables	14,384	-
Accruals	-	12,318
	<u>14,384</u>	<u>12,318</u>

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Murray and Mallee Local Government Association

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

Note 7: Accumulated Surplus	2018	2017
	\$	\$
Opening Balance	426,236	278,666
Surplus for the year	143,778	223,790
	570,014	502,456
<b>Net transfers (to)/from reserves:</b>		
Unspent funds reserve	76,220	(76,220)
<b>Net transfers (to)/from accumulated surplus:</b>	(76,220)	-
<b>Net Transfers (to)/from reserves</b>	-	(76,220)
<b>Balance at year end</b>	<b>570,014</b>	<b>426,236</b>

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

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

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
Net surplus for the year	143,778	223,790
<i>Changes in assets and liabilities</i>		
(Increase)/decrease in trade and other receivables	(136,977)	(8,090)
Increase/(decrease) in trade and other payables	2,067	(942)
	<b>8,868</b>	<b>214,757</b>

Murray and Mallee Local Government Association

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

Note 9: Financial Instruments

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

Categorisation of Financial Instruments

	Note	2018		2017	
		Carrying Amount	Fair Value	Carrying Amount	Fair Value
<b>Financial liabilities</b>		\$	\$	\$	\$
Trade and other Payables	6	14,384	14,384	12,318	12,318
<b>Total Financial liabilities</b>		<b>14,384</b>	<b>14,384</b>	<b>12,318</b>	<b>12,318</b>
<b>Financial Assets</b>					
Cash and cash equivalents	4	435,692	435,692	426,824	426,824
<b>Total Financial Assets</b>		<b>435,692</b>	<b>435,692</b>	<b>426,824</b>	<b>426,824</b>

Receivable and payable amounts disclosed exclude amounts relating to statutory receivables and payables.

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 2018iii. **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.

	2018		2017	
	% Weighted Average Interest rate	Carrying Value	% Weighted Average Interest rate	Carrying Value
<b>Financial liabilities</b>	\$	\$	\$	\$
Trade and other Payables	0%	14,384	0%	12,318
<b>Financial Assets</b>				
Cash at bank	0%	279,473	0%	275,294
LGFA Investment	1.8%	156,119	1.8%	151,430
Cash on hand	0%	100	0%	100

**Note 10: Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets**

At 30 June 2018, the association is unaware of any liability, contingent or otherwise, which has not already been recorded elsewhere in this financial report.

**Note 11: Capital Commitments**

At 30 June 2018, the association is unaware of any capital or leasing commitments which have not already been recorded elsewhere in this financial report.

**Note 12: Events after the end of the reporting period**

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 2018**Note 13: 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 14: Related Party Transactions**

The total remuneration paid to key management personnel of Murray & Mallee Local Government Association Incorporated during the year was as follows:

	2018
	\$
Executive Officer Contract Services	115,520

Key management personnel include the CEO and President.

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

**Note 15: Capital Management**

The Committee controls the capital of the entity to ensure that adequate cash flows are generated to fund its programs and that returns from investments are maximised within tolerable risk parameters. The Committee ensures that the overall risk management strategy is in line with this objective. The committee operates under policies approved by the board. Risk management policies are approved and reviewed by the board on a regular basis. 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 16: 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

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 2018 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:  
Position:  
Date:

Name:  
Position:  
Date:





# Berri Barmera COUNCIL

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*...Building a Better Community*