

# Berri Barmera COUNCIL

Building a Better Community



*Annual Report 2010/2011*



**Front cover picture:  
Berri Supply Stores**

Berri celebrated its Centenary 1911—2011

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# mayor's report



It is with great pleasure that I present the 2010/2011 Berri Barmera Council Annual Report.

During this financial year we have certainly seen some change for the better. Who would have believed that we could go from a drought to high waters in such a short time? My thoughts and prayers continue to be with those individuals, families and businesses who are still finding things difficult within our region.

During November 2010, Council elections were held and I would like to congratulate Councillors Rhonda Centofanti, Vicki Beech, Trevor Chapple and Bruce Richardson on being re-elected. I also congratulate Councillor Margaret Evans OAM, back after a four year break as well as welcome Michelle Campbell, Mike Fuller and Andrew Kassebaum to Local Government. Once again it is gratifying to see our Elected Members coming from a diverse range of backgrounds.

I would also like to acknowledge and thank Councillors Les Hill, Bruce Casey, Barry Fletcher, Bill Kanakaris, Geoff Higgs and Jim Rolfe for the contributions made by them to the community during their terms of office.

On retirement from Council, Councillors Bill Kanakaris and Barry Fletcher had completed ten and a half years of service, Bruce Casey 7½ years, and Geoff Higgs and Jim Rolfe 4 years. Councillor Hill served a total of twenty nine and a half years in Local Government, 6 years with the Broken Hill City Council, 9½ with the District Council of Berri and fourteen years with the Berri Barmera Council. Well done Les.

Without a doubt, the best event to happen throughout the year has been the reconnection of Lake Bonney to the River Murray. The difference it has made to the community of Barmera over the past 6 months has been astronomical. To see Barmera so alive with tourists over the Christmas holidays, continuing through Easter and into the June long weekend Country Music Festival was most pleasing and something that I haven't seen for many years.

The Berri and Barmera Town Beautification Committees are progressing well and making a big difference within their communities. Working alongside Council, with Chairpersons and Committee Members from within the community has given the committees a voice as to where and what they would like to see within their towns.

On the 9 February 2011, Berri celebrated its 100th anniversary with a Proclamation Day Function and launch of the Berri Centenary Book "Berri: Life in a River Town", written by notable author Rob Linn.

*"Who would have believed that we could go from a drought to high waters in such a short time?"*

Throughout 2011, there has and will be many celebrations to honour our town and district. Some thus far have included; the Centenary Service of Celebration, the Centenary Zonta Women's Day UNIFEM Dinner, the Centenary Riverland Floral Spectacular, the Centenary Easter Carnival and Parade and the Centenary Mayoral Ball.

Over the past few months we have started to install sub-surface watering systems to various ovals and parks throughout the district from funds received through the Federal Government. Various bitumen road reseals, road reconstructions, ongoing construction of new footpaths and gopher routes within our towns have progressed well and will continue into the future as part of our works program. To see the final stages of the McKay Road Project coming to fruition has also been a blessing.

Council continued to support notable events throughout the year such as the Riverland Food and Wine Festival, Riverland Field Days, Seniors Christmas Parties, Barmera Christmas Pageant and Tennis Australia Tournament. We were also privileged to have as our Australia Day Ambassador Mr. Ivan Copley at our enjoyable Australia Day Breakfast celebrations in Barmera followed by a morning tea in Berri.

In conclusion, I would like to pass on my sincere appreciation to fellow Elected Members, CEO David Beaton, Executive Officers and all staff and volunteers for their continued dedication in serving the Berri Barmera Council and for the support they have given to me during the year. I recommend that to find out more on the operations of the Berri Barmera Council, please read through the Annual Report in its entirety.

**PETER R HUNT**

# chief executive officer's report



*"greater flows have renewed enthusiasm and the reopening of Lake Bonney to the river system has greatly improved the amenity of Barmera and tourist opportunities in the region"*

Last year saw a marked change in the immediate environment of the Council area, as the result of drought breaking rains in the eastern states and high rainfall in the Riverland affecting horticulture and Council operations. Hopefully the next year with full water allocations will provide some economic relief to the region though the high Australian dollar will continue to affect returns to our growers. Economic growth and financial profitability for the businesses of the region sets the affordability of what our community can support and Council is encouraged by the allocations from the State Governments Riverland Sustainable Futures Fund as the region rebuilds its economic base.

The Murray River is the life blood of the region and greater flows have renewed enthusiasm and the reopening of Lake Bonney to the river system has greatly improved the amenity of Barmera and tourist opportunities in the region. The controversy over the draft plan from the Murray Darling Basin Authority has seen many changes predicted in the next document which will have a profound effect on the future of the Riverland.

The opening of the Barmera Playspace funded jointly by the State Government and Council and many hours of community input has produced an area we can all be proud of and the use of the area by families has been outstanding.

Council has had several changes with the retirement of several Councillors, the election of three new Councillors, one of which being the former mayor, Margaret Evans OAM and promotion of Greg Perry to Manager of Infrastructure Services, following the departure of Tom King to Queensland. The "new" Council and staff face the challenges of financial prudence, demand for increased services and increased community expectation that can not always be met. Council will continue to pursue government grant funding to assist in the upgrades required of ageing facilities.

Council has begun the installation of sub-surface irrigation throughout the district and this substantial upgrade should provide better playing surfaces, leading edge irrigation practices and large water savings. Additionally the federal funds towards storm water capture and reuse should provide further water savings and assist towards drought proofing the Council operations with major savings.

Council continues to work towards the development of upmarket residential development in Berri in facilitating the move of the Bowls Club to Glassey Park and at Barmera at the former Youth camp site. These ventures have not happened as quickly as originally forecast due to the global financial crisis and delays with the state government agencies.

I wish to acknowledge the contribution made to the Community by the Mayor and Councillors who have many public calls on their private time and who respond diligently. To the Council staff, thank you for your continued efforts and dedication on behalf of the community as we jointly "Build a Better Community"

**DAVID BEATON**

# *executive services*



## **GOVERNANCE**

Council Members Profile: November 2010 - 2014  
Council General Information  
Corporate Structure  
Regional Involvement - MMLGA/Riverland Local Government Forum  
Senior Executive Officers – Register of Salaries  
Human Resource Management /Occupational Health, Safety and Welfare/Injury and Rehabilitation Management/Risk Management  
Decision Making Structure of Council  
Council/Committee Meetings  
Strategic Plan  
Corporate Objectives

## **COMPLIANCE**

Registers, Codes, Policies and Procedures  
Members Allowances  
Elector Representation Review  
Local Government Representation Ratios SA 2010/11  
Competitive Tendering/Cost Effective Delivery of Service  
Delegations of Power  
Grievance Procedures  
Council and Committee Meetings/Matters Considered in Confidence  
Freedom of Information/Information Statement - General  
National Competition Policy

## executive services

Council elections were held in November 2010. Prior to the elections Council undertook its compulsory Elector Representation Review and as a result, the number of Councillors was reduced from 10 to 8, plus the Mayor.

The Mayor and Councillors representing the district prior to the Elections were:

Mayor: Peter Hunt

Councillors:	Bruce Richardson	Jim Rolfe
	Bill Kanakaris	Les Hill
	Rhonda Centofanti	Trevor Chapple
	Barry Fletcher	Vicki Beech
	Geoff Higgs	Bruce Casey

Crs Kanakaris, Fletcher, Higgs, Rolfe, Hill and Casey either retired or were defeated at Election.

### Council Members Profile 2010 - 2014

#### MAYOR PETER HUNT, JP

PO Box 1326  
BERRI SA 5343  
Phone 0408821922



#### Committee Membership

Asset Management Committee  
Strategic Governance Committee  
Berri Town Beautification Committee  
Barmera Town Beautification Committee  
Berri Centenary 2011 Multicultural Festival Committee  
Berri Centenary Committee (ex Officio)  
Audit Committee (ex Officio)

#### Other

Riverland Regional Development Assessment Panel (Chair)  
Murray Mallee Local Government Association  
LGA of SA  
Regional Development Australia  
Riverland Local Government Forum  
Local Government Finance Authority

## *executive services*

### **DEPUTY MAYOR RHONDA CENTOFANTI** (Appointed November 2010)

PO Box 182  
WINKIE SA 5343  
Phone 85837216



#### **Committee Membership**

Asset Management Committee  
Strategic Governance Committee  
Berri Town Beautification Committee  
Cemetery Advisory Committee  
Berri Centenary Committee  
Berri Centenary 2011 Multicultural Festival Committee

#### **Other**

Riverland Regional Development Assessment Panel  
Upper Murray Garden Of Memory (Cemetery) Committee  
(Observer)  
Murray Mallee L.G.A  
Riverland Local Government Forum  
Local Government Finance Authority (Proxy)  
Riverland Regional Development Assessment Panel

### **CR VICKI BEECH**

11 Rosenthal Drive  
BERRI SA 5343  
Phone 85821293



#### **Committee Membership**

Asset Management Committee  
Strategic Governance Committee  
Berri Town Beautification Committee  
Berri Centenary Committee  
YACU (Youth and Council Unite) Committee

#### **Other**

Riverland Regional Development Assessment Panel

### **CR MICHELLE CAMPBELL**

23 Powell Street  
BERRI SA 5343  
Phone 85824858



#### **Committee Membership**

Asset Management Committee  
Strategic Governance Committee  
YACU (Youth and Council Unite)  
Berri Centenary 2011 Multicultural Festival Committee

#### **Other**

Riverland Regional Waste Management Strategy Committee  
Riverland Recreation and Sport "Be Active" Steering Committee  
Cobdogla Soldiers Memorial Hall (Observer)  
Berri Barmera Local Action Planning

## *executive services*

### **CR TREVOR CHAPPLE**

PO Box 567  
BERRI SA 5343  
Phone 85832057



#### **Committee Membership**

Asset Management Committee  
Strategic Governance Committee  
Audit Committee  
Berri Town Beautification Committee  
Irrigation Upgrade Committee

#### **Other**

Berri Traders Association (Observer)

### **CR MARGARET EVANS OAM**

2/1 McGilton Road  
BERRI SA 5343  
Phone 85821764



#### **Committee Membership**

Asset Management Committee  
Strategic Governance Committee  
Cemetery Advisory Committee  
Berri Centenary 2011 Multicultural Festival Committee  
Berri Town Beautification Committee

### **CR MIKE FULLER**

54 Nookamka Terrace  
BARMERA SA 5345  
Phone 85881130



#### **Committee Membership**

Asset Management Committee  
Strategic Governance Committee  
Barmera Town Beautification Committee  
Audit Committee

#### **Other**

Riverland Regional Waste Management Strategy Committee  
MMLGA—Riverland Community Transport Advisory Scheme Committee  
Barmera District War Memorial Community Centre (Observer)  
Murray Darling Association

## *executive services*

### **CR ANDREW KASSEBAUM**

PO Box 14  
GLOSSOP SA 5344  
Phone 85837116



#### **Committee Membership**

Asset Management Committee  
Strategic Governance Committee  
Audit Committee (Proxy)  
Berri Centenary 2011 Multicultural Festival Committee  
Cemetery Advisory Committee

#### **Other**

Monash and Lone Gum Community Association Inc (Observer)  
Murray Darling Association

### **CR BRUCE RICHARDSON**

PO Box 509  
BERRI SA 5343  
Phone 85823015



#### **Committee Membership**

Asset Management Committee (Chairman)  
Strategic Governance Committee  
Audit Committee  
Irrigation Upgrade Committee

#### **Other**

Berri War Memorial Community Centre (Observer)

## *executive services*

### COUNCIL MEETINGS AND ATTENDANCES BY MEMBERS FOR PERIOD JULY 2010 - NOVEMBER 2010

Elected Member	Ordinary Meetings	Special Council Meetings
Mayor Peter Hunt	4	3
Cr Rhonda Centofanti	4	3
Cr Barry Fletcher	4	3
Cr Geoff Higgs	3	3
Cr Vicki Beech	4	3
Cr Bill Kanakaris	4	2
Cr Bruce Casey	4	3
Cr Bruce Richardson	3	2
Cr Les Hill	4	1
Cr Trevor Chapple	4	3
Cr Jim Rolfe	4	2

### COUNCIL MEETINGS AND ATTENDANCES BY MEMBERS FOR PERIOD 2010 - 2011

Elected Member	Ordinary Meetings	Special Council Meetings
Mayor Peter Hunt	8	1
Cr Rhonda Centofanti	8	1
Cr Margaret Evans	8	1
Cr Michelle Campbell	8	1
Cr Vicki Beech	8	1
Cr Mike Fuller	8	-
Cr Bruce Richardson	5	-
Cr Trevor Chapple	7	1
Cr Andrew Kassebaum	6	1

### ELECTED MEMBER TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

Throughout 2010/2011 Elected Members attended the following Conferences and Training Sessions;

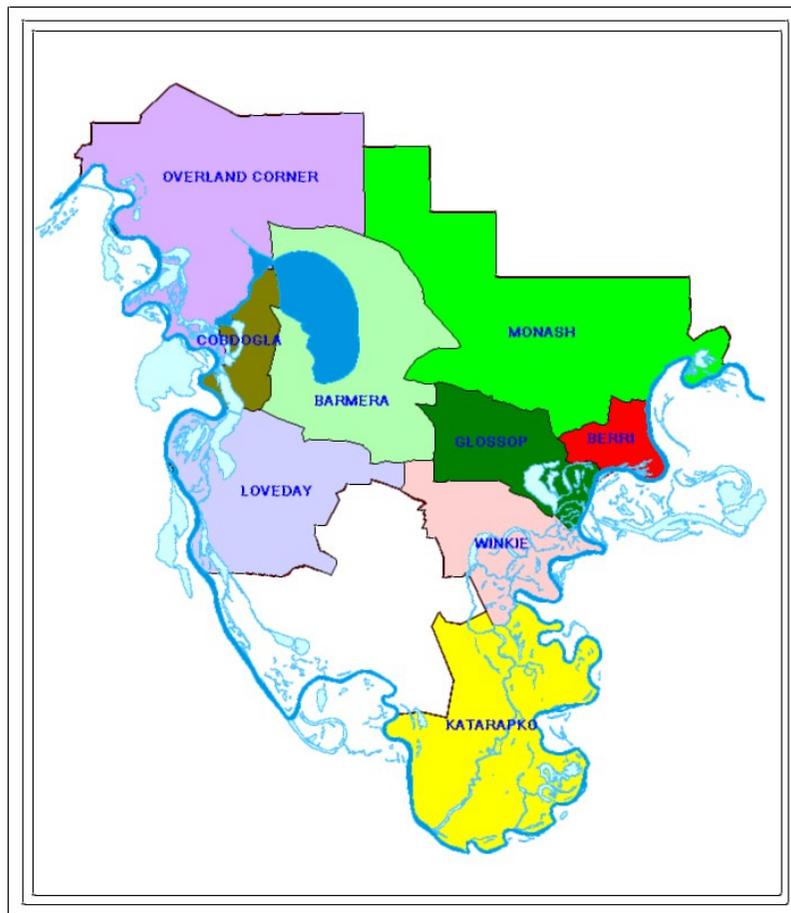
- Local Government Showcase and Conference
- SA Local Government Roads and Works Conference
- National Local Roads & Transport Congress
- LGA – AGM and associated sessions
- National General Assembly of Local Government (Canberra)
- Local Government Constitutional Summit
- Other associated LGA sessions
- Training (Wallmans Lawyers)

# *executive services*

## COUNCIL GENERAL INFORMATION

### Council Area

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



## CORPORATE STRUCTURE

The following 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:

- Asset Management Committee
- Strategic Governance Committee
- Audit Committee
- Cemetery Advisory Committee
- Youth and Council Unite (YACU)
- Berri Town Beautification Committee
- Barmera Town Beautification Committee
- Berri Centenary 2011 Multicultural Festival Committee
- Berri Centenary Committee
- Irrigation Upgrade Committee

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

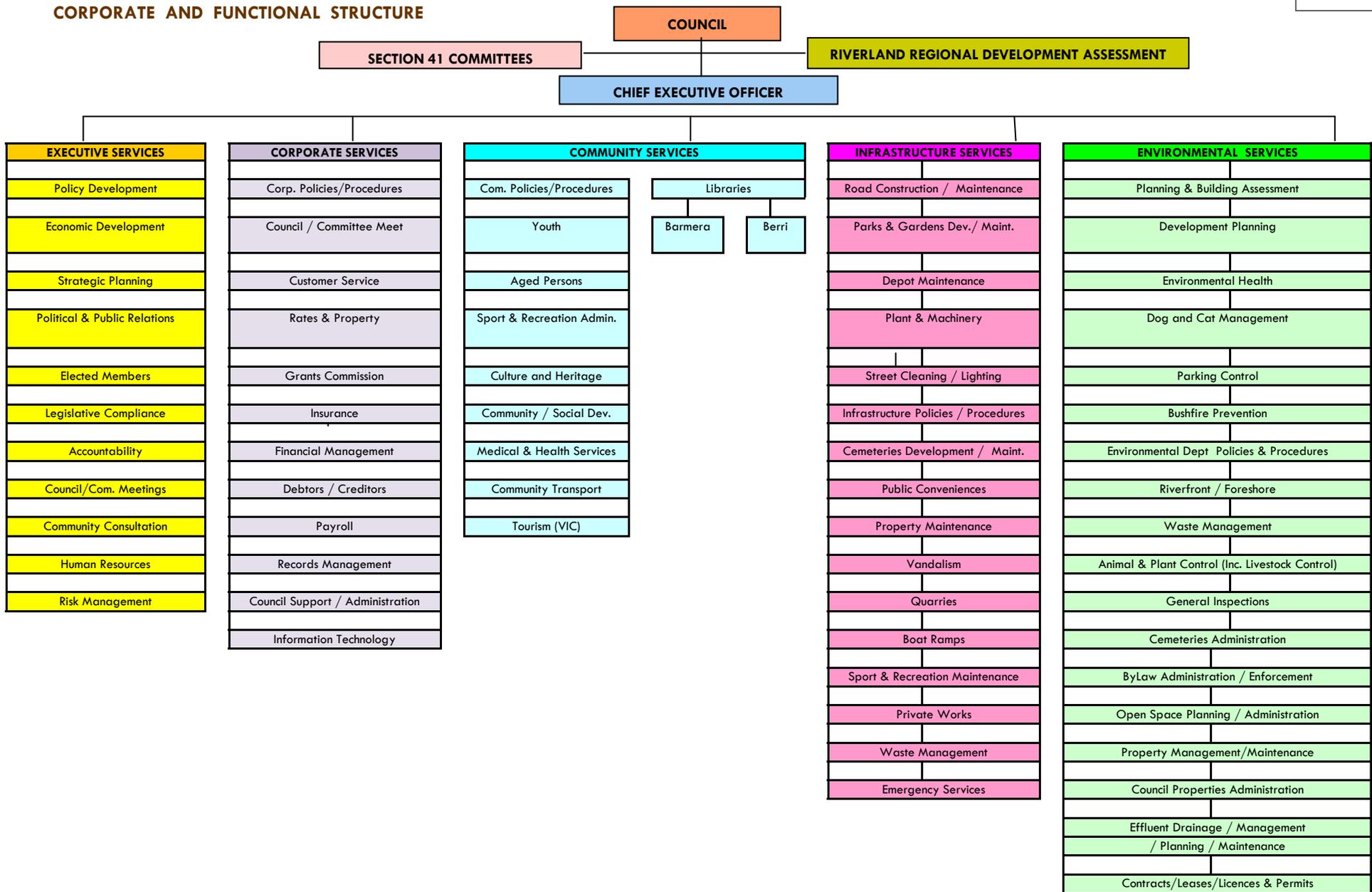
Other Specific Purposes Committees:

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

# executive services

## CORPORATE AND FUNCTIONAL STRUCTURE

June 2011



# executive services

## REGIONAL INVOLVEMENT

### Murray and Mallee Local Government Association

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

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

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

### Riverland Local Government Forum

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

## SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

### Register Of Salaries

TITLE OF POSITION	CLASSIFICATION	OTHER BENEFITS PACKAGES PROVIDED
Chief Executive Officer	Contract Agreement	Novated Lease Available Annual salary increase CPI – as per contract Mobile Phone / Work related calls
Manager Corporate Services	Contract Agreement Includes EB Agreement	Novated Lease Allowance Telephone allowance
Manager Infrastructure Services	Contract Agreement Includes EB Agreement	Novated Lease available Telephone allowance
Manager Environmental Services	ASU Award Senior Officer Level 2 Inc. 1 Includes EB Agreement	Novated Lease Available All telephone rental & calls incl. Mobile (excluding overseas calls)

## HUMAN RESOURCES

Within Berri Barmera Council, Human Resources contributes to Council's mission and strategic objectives through the development and integration of human resources principles and practices to enhance individual and organisational effectiveness.

### Staffing Profile

For the period 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011, Council employed 74 full time equivalent (FTE) staff. Council develops and supports a flexible workforce and management structure committed to the continued improvement and success of the Berri Barmera Council. With a variety of worksites with varying needs, a flexible workforce enables Council to provide and deliver a high level of service to the community and visitors to the region.

### Career Development Program

Council continues to actively participate in the up skilling of the community by providing opportunities to begin or further enhance career paths within our region through recognised apprenticeship programs. Over the past 12 months, eight positions across Council's infrastructure (four), corporate (two) and community (two) services departments were filled by trainees. Training is also linked to career paths of individuals, evolution and expiation of positions and skill matching for projects. Funds are allocated to training in the annual budget and are managed by departments.

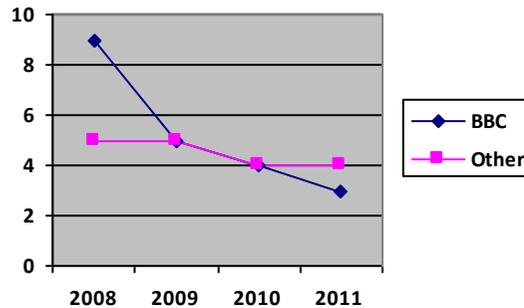
# executive services

## INJURY AND REHABILITATION MANAGEMENT

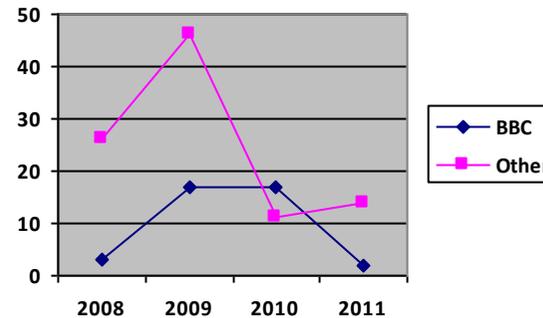
Effective and efficient injury management is crucial to the rehabilitation of an injured employee. Council assists the employee to return to work and achieve the best practicable level of physical and mental recovery through its Injury and Rehabilitation Management (IRM) Procedure.

### WorkCover Claims History / Tracking

Number of claims



### Lost Time Injury Days



Other: Similar group of Councils.

Data source: LGAWCS, Claims Analysis and Tracking System (CATS)

## OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE (OHSW)

Council aims to minimise the risk of injury and ill health to its employees by adopting a planned and systematic approach to the management of occupational health, safety and welfare and developing strategies for its successful implementation. Council will achieve this occupational health, safety and welfare aim by developing and implementing appropriate policies and procedures which document standards and guide managers and employees in performing their responsibilities.

### WorkCover Audit

Berri Barmera Council is a member of The Local Government Association Workers Compensation Scheme (LGAWCS), the second largest non-Crown Self Insurer in South Australia, for the administration and facilitation of Council's workers compensation claims and rehabilitation. As well as meeting legislation it is a requirement that all self insurers meet the WorkCover Performance Standards for Self Insurers (PSSI).

A WorkCover Audit, which in an OHSW Adequacy Check of Council against the PSSI's, was conducted on selected South Australian Council's in 2008 with the granting of a two year licence. In 2010, four Councils in the state (two metropolitan, two regional) undertook the audit. Berri Barmera Council was one of the four Councils selected. Council was assessed against the PSSI. The PSSI is made up of five standards / 23 elements / 51 sub elements. The five standards are:

- Commitment and Policy
- Planning
- Implementation
- Measurement and Evaluation
- Management Systems Review and Improvement

## *executive services*

As advised by the LGAWCS, Council's initial results against the 51 sub elements were 26% Compliant, 47% Observations and 27% Non-compliant.

As Council undertook the 2010 WorkCover Audit it did not complete the annual OHSW Key Performance Indicator (KPI) Audit. The KPI Audit is a tool used to assess Council's performance for any possible rebates. One half (50%) of the dollar value rebate amount is put aside and Council's KPI Audit score determines whether Council receives all or part of that half of the calculated dollar rebate. Using the 2009 Key Performance Indicator (KPI) Audit report and assessing this against the WorkCover Evaluator OHSW Adequacy Check, LGA have calculated a 90% KPI rebate for 2010, 10% higher than 2009. Through effective OHSW systems and injury management, Council's loss ratio (contributions paid in to LGAWCS by Council against claims paid over a four year period) has decreased from 18% in 2010 to 12% in 2011.

### **ONE SYSTEM IMPLEMENTATION PROJECT**

In February 2011, Council participated in the LGAWCS One System Implementation Project (formerly known as the Lighthouse Project or Pilot Program). The scope of the project was to implement key aspects of the One System Occupational Health and Safety Management System (OHSMS) into Council within a defined six week period. The nature of the key aspects for Council were:

- Planning and Programming
- Policies and Procedures
- Hazard Management

Throughout the six week period an external project team were on site working closely with the management team. The management team attended intense professional development sessions and all staff undertook further training through workshops and one-on-one sessions.

### **OHSW Management Plan**

The objectives of the OHSW and Injury Management (IM) Plan are to ensure that the Performance Standards for Self Insurers are met and for facilitating continuous improvement of the OHSW system. When appropriate, responsibilities, key performance indicators and time frames have been included to assess against the targets as determined by the management team and the WHS Committee. The OHSW and IM Plan addresses strategies on issues such as;

- Training
- Safety culture
- Performance Measurement and continuous improvement OHSW systems

### **WHS Committee**

With the introduction of the new national system of OHS on 1 January 2012, Council has begun to implement some of the changes. The first being the new term of 'Work Health and Safety', as the new act is so titled. Council has renamed what was formerly known as the Occupational Health, Safety and Welfare (OHSW) Committee to the Work Health and Safety (WHS) Committee.

The current structure of the WHS Committee consists of two employers and three employees, with at least one member representing each worksite. The WHS Committee is governed by the constitution and rules as developed and endorsed by the committee, and by various legislation.

The prime objective of the WHS Committee is to continually monitor and review the OHSW and IM Plan and OHSW system by addressing areas of non compliance, to either rectify the issue or improve performance.

### **Health and Safety Representatives**

Two designated workgroups being Infrastructure Services and Corporate and Community Services have been identified and a Health and Safety Representative (HSR) has been appointed for each workgroup by their relevant peers. The HSR's have been appointed in accordance with the provisions under the OHSW Act.

### **RISK MANAGEMENT**

Council endeavors through planning, implementation and completion stages to minimize risk of the potential losses against employees, assets, liabilities and the community. Council is a member of the Local Government Association Mutual Liability Scheme (LGAMLS) for civil liability cover. LGAMLS provides Council with the effective and efficient means of managing public liability and professional indemnity (civil liability) claims. The management of limiting the exposure of civil liability to Council can be achieved by the application of risk management strategies.

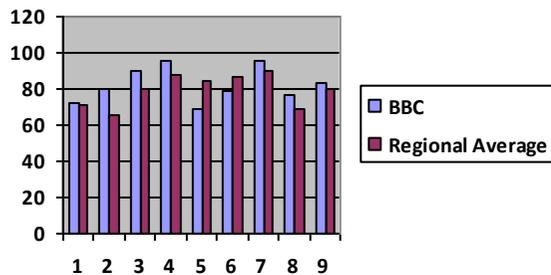
As part of the rules of membership with LGAMLS, Council undertakes an annual Risk Management Review of the following areas;

- Risk Management
- Land Management
- Road Management
- Tree Management

# executive services

The annual review gives Council the opportunity to be rewarded back (as a “discount”) a percentage of its Gross Contribution via the Bonus System. Berri Barmera Council’s result for the 2010/2011 contribution period was 83.1% (4.4% higher than 2009/2010), resulting in a 15% bonus.

## Comparison of Berri Barmera Council scores against the Regional Average by category

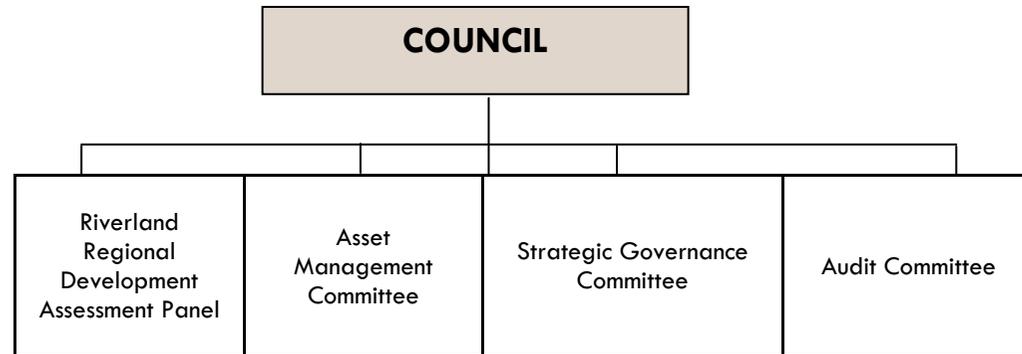


### KEY

- Risk Management Systems and Frameworks
- Business Continuity and Emergency
- Managing committees, volunteers/community programmes and grants
- Contract Management systems
- Land / Assets – General Asset Management
- Land / Assets – Land Use and Operational Framework
- Roads / Systems and Programmes
- Tree Management
- Overall score

## DECISION MAKING STRUCTURE OF COUNCIL

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



### Riverland Regional Development Assessment Panel (RRDAP)

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

The RRDAP assesses applications and hears applicants, as a delegate of Council on behalf of the Renmark Paringa, Loxton Waikerie and Berri Barmera Councils. The Panel adheres to the Minister’s Code of Conduct under section 21A of the Development Act 1993, and adopts its own Operating Procedures for the conduct of its members and for its meetings.

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

- Independent Presiding Member - Mr Bruce Ballantyne
- Independent Members: Messrs Ken Stokes (Berri Barmera Council), David Kanizay (Loxton Waikerie Council), Geoffrey Parsons (Renmark Paringa Council)
- Elected Members: Cr Rhonda Centofanti (Berri Barmera Council), Mayor Leon Stasinowsky (Loxton Waikerie Council) and Cr Mark Chown (Renmark Paringa Council).

## *executive services*

All members have a keen interest in community planning and have knowledge of the Development Act and Regulations with appropriate qualifications and/or experience relevant to development assessment. The Panel met on seven occasions during the 2010/11 year. The RRDAP assessed 17 applications on behalf of Council. Panel members are remunerated by each relevant Council; independent and Elected Member representatives are paid \$150 per meeting. Mr Ballantyne, as the presiding member, is reimbursed \$700 plus GST (including travel) per meeting.

### **Asset Management Committee**

The basic function of the Asset Management Committee is to implement Council's asset management strategy and policy framework and recommend divisional operations to best meet the needs and aspirations of the Berri Barmera community.

#### Specific Functions

- 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 B Richardson

Attendees - Chief Executive Officer and Management Team

Co-Ordinator - Manager Infrastructure Services

### **Project Monitoring Committee**

The purpose of the Committee is to monitor the progress of delivering all funded capital and major operating projects included in Council's annual Management Plan and Budget.

#### Specific Functions

- 1) To receive reports and enquiry on the progress of Council's capital and operating projects budget program.
- 2) To monitor the timeliness of Council planning and execution of Council's approved projects.
- 3) Ensure compliance with Council's purchasing policies in regard to tendering of works, services or products.
- 4) Recommend areas of process improvement to increase effectiveness of project delivery.

Membership - All Councillors

Chairperson - Cr T Chapple (Appointed September 2008)

Attendees - Chief Executive Officer and Management Team

Co-ordinator - Chief Executive Officer

### **Strategic Governance Committee**

1. The basic function of the Strategic Governance Committee is to develop and implement and review Council's long term Strategic Plan. Develop a policy framework based on the Strategic Plan and recommend divisional operations to best meet the needs and aspirations of the Berri Barmera community.

2. To monitor the progress of delivering all funded capital and major operating projects included in Council's annual Management Plan and Budget.

#### Specific Functions

- 1) To develop, implement and review a Strategic Plan for 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 receive reports and enquiry on the progress of Council's capital and operating projects budget program.
- 6) To monitor the timeliness of Council planning and execution of Council's approved projects.
- 7) Ensure compliance with Council's purchasing policies in regard to tendering of works, services or products.
- 8) Recommend areas of process improvement to increase effectiveness of project delivery.
- 9) To establish sub-committees and/or working parties to assist in carrying out the Committee's functions.
- 10) To consider any other matters referred to it by the Council, other Council Committees and the Chief Executive Officer.

Membership – All Councillors

Chairperson - Cr R Centofanti

Attendees - Chief Executive Officer and Management Team

Co-ordinator - Chief Executive Officer

# *executive services*

## **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
- Cr B Richardson
- Cr L Hill
- Mayor P Hunt (ex officio)
- Cr Trevor Chapple (Proxy)
- Chief Executive Officer
- Manager Corporate Services
- Internal/External Auditors
- Human Resources/Risk Management

## **COUNCIL / COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

Council meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of every month commencing at 6.30pm. 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 also 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
- Lake Bonney Management Committee
- Youth and Council Unite (YACU)
- Berri Centenary 2011 Committee
- Berri Centenary 2011 Multicultural Festival Committee
- Irrigation Upgrade Committee

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

# executive services

## STRATEGIC PLAN

The Strategic Plan (The Plan) 2006-2016 established the following Vision and Mission for the Council:

### Vision— Building a Better Community

The Vision of the Council is underpinned by the basic principle that everything the Council does affects the quality of life of the community and therefore everything that is done in the future must enhance the quality of life, thus “Building a Better Community”.

**Mission— Enhance the quality of life, the natural character and economic potential of our district through sustainable management, service delivery and development opportunities.**

The mission underpins the vision and also addresses the quadruple bottom line as follows:

- Social—quality of life
- Environment—natural character
- Economic—economic potential and sustainable development opportunities, which also leads into our planning framework
- Governance—sustainable management and serviced delivery

The Plan also recognises and adopts a number of definitions as to the approach to financial sustainability, business activities and community service obligations.

### Financial Sustainability

A Council’s long-term financial management performance and position is sustainable where planned long-term service and infrastructure levels and standards are met without unplanned increases in rates or disruptive cuts to services.

### Business Activities

To be efficient, effective and sustainable in our approach to all responsibilities, services and activities, while continuing to measure, question, review and develop methodologies and partnerships to ensure our approach utilises best practice methods and up to date technologies and equipment.

### Community Service Obligation

Community Service Obligations (CSO) are those services provided by Council at a subsidised cost by legislative requirement or agreement in order to meet social, equity, governance or environmental goals associated with the Council’s delivery of services.

Further, the Plan establishes the Governance and Management framework to be sustained by the Council along with the Functional and Organisational Structure that integrates with Council’s key department areas.

The Plan also refers to the Organisational Culture of the Council that has been developed around the primary principle of Employer of First Choice and creates an environment that forms a basis for sustainability and encourages innovation. The culture is based on the following set of guiding principles:

- 1) Worthwhile work
- 2) Taking control of achieving goals
- 3) Encouraging each other
- 4) Be involved and innovative

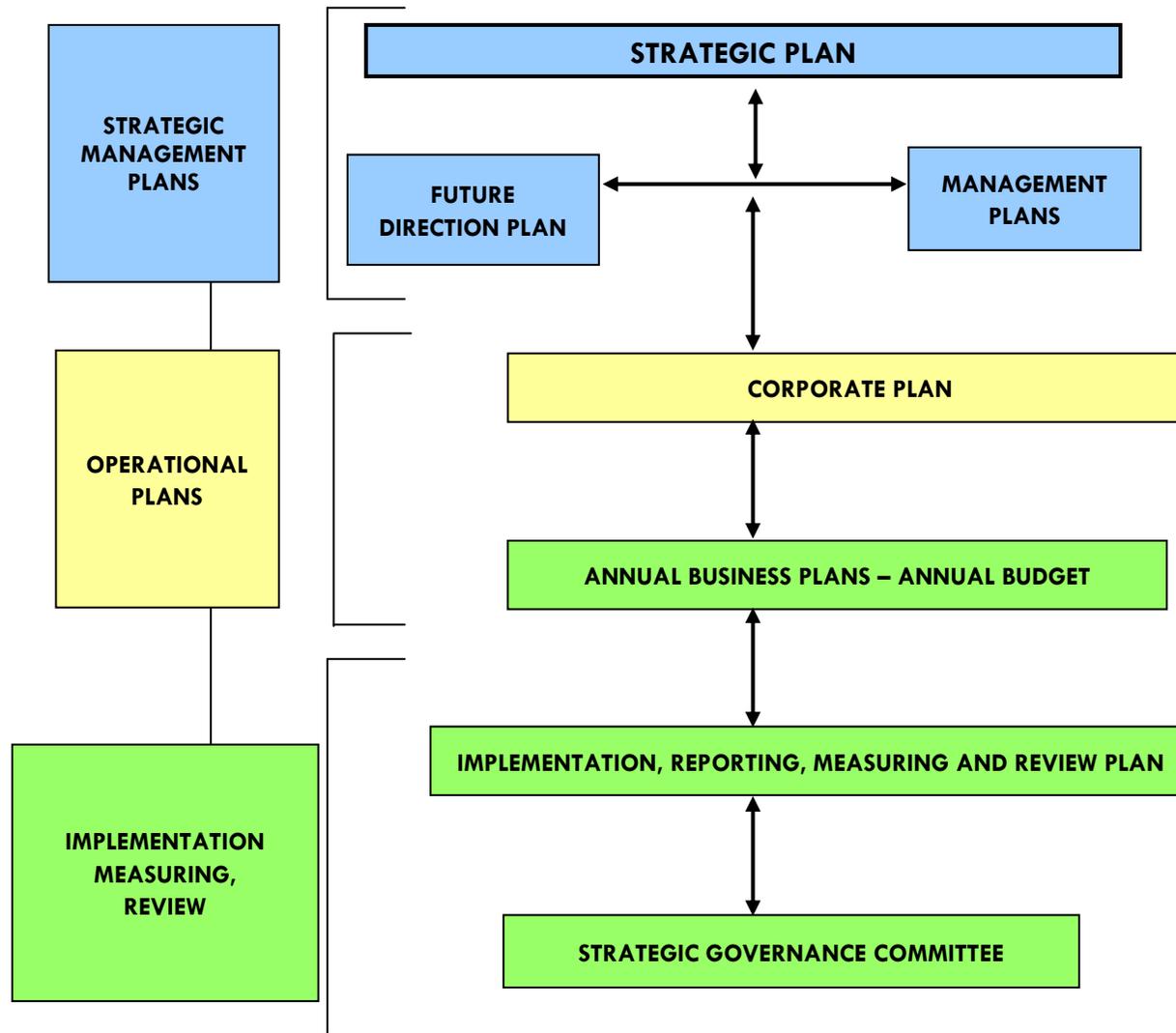
The Plan integrates a number of Council’s Objectives with those of both the State Strategic Plan and the State Infrastructure Plan. This is an important component of the Plan to ensure that the Council’s direction is aligned with that of the State and maximises future opportunities for the obtaining of Grant Funding for specific projects to implement Council’s vision and direction.

In conclusion, the Plan is a critical document in ensuring that Council’s and the Communities vision for the future is both shared and implemented. The Plan is designed to keep the whole organisation focussed on the big issues and the wider vision, which enables the day to day issues to be managed in an environment based on the principles of accountability and freedom while maintaining the focus.

The Council, through a strategic approach, encourages everyone within its community and all stakeholders to be involved and “come along for the ride” in achieving our long-term sustainability and above all, our vision **Building a Better Community**.

# executive services

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



## CORPORATE OBJECTIVES

To build on the eight scorecards, the following are corporate objectives that integrate with the scorecards and drive the vision and mission of the Council. The objectives will form the basis of everything the Council does from management to day-to-day operations.

### Social and Community

- SC1** Encourage community participation and active inclusion in council decisions and activities
- SC2** Enhance lifestyle, quality of life and social development
- SC3** Ensure effective management of community facilities to meet community needs that includes rationalisation, accessibility and fit for purpose
- SC4** Encourage youth to be involved in council decision making processes and future planning for youth facilities and activities via the YACU Committee

### Environment and Heritage

- EH1** Encourage the efficient and effective management and use of energy, water and other natural resources in the community and council operations through district wide strategies and Council policies
- EH2** Implement strategies and establish facilities and services that ensure effective waste management, recycling and minimisation practices that align with Regional and State Strategies and principles

## *executive services*

**EH3** Ensure development principles are established and implemented to enhance the preservation of our environment and heritage to achieve ecologically sustainable development

**EH4** Implement strategies and practices for the reuse of waste including water, green waste and other reusable waste streams

### **Economic Development**

**ED1** Encourage, facilitate and secure private and public funding and investment in the establishment of infrastructure to support development opportunities

**ED2** Encourage and facilitate economic and sustainable development by promoting opportunities and securing alliances or partnerships with the private and public sector and Regional Development Corporation

**ED3** To be involved and assist with the promotion and development of tourism activities within the district and region, via the Visitor Information Centre and sponsorship of major events and icons, and which involves integration with local businesses and tourism operators

### **Governance and Financial**

**GF1** Ensure transparent, accountable, compliant and sustainable governance through open measurement and performance reporting against established criteria

**GF2** Ensure long term financial management through the development of key management goals, principles, measures, ratios and performance indicators that integrate with long term asset management planning, community service obligations, service delivery and core business activities

**GF3** Implement training and development programs for Elected Members, Executive and Management employees to ensure best practice governance and financial principles are implemented and adhered to

**GF4** Ensure the continued development and implementation of OHS&W policies, programs, actions and training to provide for a safe working environment

**GF5** Ensure the continued development and implementation of Risk Management Plans, programs and actions to mitigate against risks in the community

### **Infrastructure**

**IN1** Establish and implement long term infrastructure maintenance, replacement, rehabilitation and development principles, priority criteria and programs to meet community needs and expansion

**IN2** Develop strategies that integrate with economic development objectives that assist with supporting the development of new and existing opportunities

**IN3** Explore and secure funding opportunities that assist with the development and replacement of infrastructure and implementation of developed programs and forward plans

**IN4** Ensure that infrastructure programs and forward plans integrate with and adhere to developed Financial Management principles

### **Learning and Growth**

**LG1** Maintain and enhance a positive culture that is based on the “Employer of First Choice” principle that contributes to achieving organisational growth

**LG2** Maintain and enhance employees’ skills, knowledge, personal development and work satisfaction

**LG3** Maintain and enhanced information management and flow, while encouraging innovation

### **Customer Satisfaction**

**CS1** Maintain and enhance presence, open communication, civic leadership, advocacy and involve stakeholders to achieve sound public relations

**CS2** Ensure efficient and effective service delivery and customer service to meet community needs that integrates with the community service obligations

### **Internal Processes**

**IP1** Develop and implement community service obligations and service standards for Council services to ensure effective, efficient and sustainable delivery methods

**IP2** Develop and implement a services review program to ensure that up to date technology and procedures are utilised, and that integrates with employee training and development programs

**IP3** Improve productivity, processes and increase infrastructure and resource capacity

**STRATEGIC PLAN 2010 - 2011**

<b>Corporate Objective 1: Social and Community</b>		
<i>How our decisions contribute to and affect the communities quality of life through effective management of community facilities and how we manage social and community consultation, participation and inclusion.</i>		
<b>Strategic Plan Reference</b>	<b>Actions 2010/2011</b>	<b>Performance Outcomes</b>
Encourage community participation and active inclusion in council decisions and activities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Establish Barmera Committee</li> <li>2. Establish Berri Beautification Committee</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Committee meets on a monthly basis</li> <li>2. Committee meets on a monthly basis</li> </ol>
Enhance lifestyle, quality of life and social development	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Berri and Barmera Seniors Parties</li> <li>2. Medical Transport systems</li> <li>3. Community Grants</li> <li>4. New facilities established</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Well attended event</li> <li>2. Highly supported service renewed</li> <li>3. Fully subscribed</li> <li>4. Facilities completed</li> </ol>
Ensure effective management of community facilities to meet community needs that includes rationalisation, accessibility and fit for purpose	Asset Management Committee established	Priorities established with a framework of financial sustainability
Encourage youth to be involved in council decision making processes and future planning for youth facilities and activities via the YACU Committee	YACU facilitated and supported by Youth Officer	Many events supported or co-ordinated by YACU

## *executive services*

<b>Corporate Objective 2: Environment and Heritage</b> <i>How we manage and preserve the natural character, environment and heritage.</i>		
<b>Strategic Plan Reference</b>	<b>Actions 2010/2011</b>	<b>Performance Outcomes</b>
Encourage the efficient and effective management and use of energy, water and other natural resources in the community and Council operations through district wide strategies and Council policies	Implementing sub-surface irrigation with federal government grant	Save 4 billion litres of water over 10 years
Implement strategies and establish facilities and services that ensure effective waste management, recycling and minimisation practices that align with Regional and State Strategies and principles	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Regional Waste Strategy developed</li> <li>2. Regional Waste Committee meetings</li> </ol>	On going process
Ensure development principles are established and implemented to enhance the preservation of our environment and heritage to achieve ecologically sustainable development	DAP with Planning Minister	Project completed
Implement strategies and practices for the reuse of waste including water, green waste and other reusable waste streams	Received funding for stormwater re-use	To be completed 2010/2011

## *executive services*

<b>Corporate Objective 3: Economic Development</b> <i>How we manage and encourage development opportunities while ensuring sustainable development principles are implemented.</i>		
<b>Strategic Plan Reference</b>	<b>Actions 2009/2010</b>	<b>Performance Outcomes</b>
Encourage, facilitate and secure private and public funding and investment in the establishment of infrastructure to support development opportunities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Riverland Taskforce ceased</li> <li>2. \$20 million Sustainable Futures Fund established</li> </ol>	Funds allocated
Encourage and facilitate economic and sustainable development by promoting opportunities and securing alliances or partnerships with the private and public sector and Reg. Development Australia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Reports from Riverland Development Australia</li> <li>2. Regional Development Australia Board for region established</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. On going process</li> <li>2. To be completed in 2009/2010</li> </ol>
To be involved and assist with the promotion and development of tourism activities within the district and region, via the Visitor Information Centre and sponsorship of major events and icons, and which involves integration with local businesses and tourism operators	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Visitor Information Centre</li> <li>2. Riverland Food and Wine Festival</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 17,852 Visitors to the Berri Barmera area in 2010/11</li> <li>2. 2000+ participants</li> </ol>

## *executive services*

<b>Corporate Objective 4: Governance and Finance</b>		
<i>How we manage the governance and financial affairs of the Council to ensure accountability, sustainability, compliance and transparency.</i>		
<b>Strategic Plan Reference</b>	<b>Actions 2010/2011</b>	<b>Performance Outcomes</b>
Ensure transparent, accountable, compliant and sustainable governance through open measurement and performance reporting against established criteria	Reduce the amount of Council reports in confidence and items kept in confidence	Only two items kept in confidence over the year
Ensure long term financial management through the development of key management goals, principles, measures, ratios and performance indicators that integrate with long term asset management planning, community service obligations, service delivery and core business activities	Long Term financial plan developed and adopted	Regularly reviewed and updated
Implement training and development programs for Elected Members, Executive and Management employees to ensure best practice governance and financial principles are implemented and adhered to	Elected Members attend conferences and training	Crs Centofanti and Beech completed Governance Course run by Flinders University
Ensure the continued development and implementation of OHSW policies, programs, actions and training to provide for a safe working environment	Review of OHSW and Injury Management Plan	Participated in 2010 Workcover Audit and the 2011 LGA implementation program
Ensure the continued development and implementation of Risk Management Plans, programs and actions to mitigate against risks in the community	Risk Management plans developed for major exposures	Review of Risk Management policy and risk register

# *executive services*

**Corporate Objective 5: Infrastructure**

*How we manage our infrastructure to ensure safe and reliable access to services, facilities and property to meet community needs.*

Strategic Plan Reference	Actions 2010/2011	Performance Outcomes
Establish and implement long term infrastructure maintenance, replacement, rehabilitation and development principles, priority criteria and programs to meet community needs and expansion	Asset Management Committee established	Plans developed for each class of Council asset
Develop strategies that integrate with economic development objectives that assist with supporting the development of new and existing opportunities	Global financial crisis has affected local business outcomes	Greater focus during recovery 2010/2011
Explore and secure funding opportunities that assist with the development and replacement of infrastructure and implementation of developed programs and forward plans	Regional and Community Infrastructure Grants	
Ensure that infrastructure programs and forward plans integrate with and adhere to developed Financial Management principles	Asset management plans integrated with long term financial plan	

# *executive services*

## **REGISTERS, CODES, POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

**(REQUIRED TO BE KEPT UNDER THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT AND/OR LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS ACT 1999)**

### **Registers**

The Common Seal Register (Sec. 38)  
Register of Interests - Members (Section 64)  
Register of Allowances and Benefits - Elected Members (Section 79)  
Delegations Register (Section 103)  
Register of Remuneration, Salaries and Benefits (Employees) (Section 105)  
Register of Interest (Staff) (Section 111-119)  
Register of Community Land (Section 207)  
Register of Public Roads (Section 231)  
Register of Approvals for Use of Community Land (Section 242)  
Register of By-laws  
Register of Gifts  
Register of Fees and Charges  
Declarations by Elected Members

### **Council Policies and Bylaws**

The Berri Barmera Council has developed a Policy Manual which is continually updated to reflect changes in circumstances or if a new issue arises.

Council's Policies and Bylaws Index is listed overleaf-

### **List of the Codes of Conduct / Practice**

(Note: These Codes etc. are available on Council's website)

Access to Meetings - Code of Practice (Policy A10)  
Code of Conduct for Council Employees (Policy C17)  
Code of Conduct for Council Members (Policy C18)  
Confidentiality Provisions - Code of Practice (Policy C19.5)  
Consultation Policy (Policy C20)  
Contracting and Tendering Policy (Policy C22)  
Council Decisions Procedure - Review of (Policy C62)  
Order Making Policy (Policy O20)  
Rating Policy (Policy R22)



*compliance*

## *executive services*

<b>Statutory Requirements</b>	Access to Meetings – Code of Practice
	Code of Conduct – Elected Members & Committee Members
	Code of Conduct – Council Employees
	Confidentiality Provisions – Code of Practice
	Contracting and Tendering
	Order Making Policy
	Public Consultation
	Rate Policy (2010-2011)
	Review of Council Decisions (Including Handling Complaints)
<b>Financial Management</b>	Annual Budget Policy
	Asset Accounting
	Asset Management
	Credit Card Use
	Debt Recovery
	Fees & Charges Policy and Schedule
	Fraud & Corruption Prevention Policy
	Full Cost Attribution
	Treasury Management
	Valuation of Land Under Roads Policy
	Whistleblower Protection Policy

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

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<b>Risk Management</b>	Children & Vulnerable Persons' Safety Policy
	Risk Management Policy
<b>Community Services</b>	Community Grants Policy
	Community Bus Use
<b>Community Transport Scheme</b>	Community Transport Policy
<b>Tourism</b>	Tourism Services
<b>Youth Services</b>	Youth Services Policy
<b>Library</b>	Library Collection & Development Policy
	Library – Conditions of Use Policy
<b>Infrastructure Management</b>	Plant & Equipment – Emergency Use of
	Plant and Equipment – Employee Use of
	Plant Operations – Plant Replacement
	Private Works
	Tree Planting
	Urban House Numbering Policy
	Vaughan Terrace War Memorial Policy

<b>Roads and Footpaths</b>	Crossings (Driveways) Policy
	Footpath Construction
<b>Waste Management</b>	Hard Waste Collection Policy
	Refuse Collection – 240 litre Bin Allocation and Replacement
<b>Environmental Services</b>	Community Wastewater Management Scheme (CWMS) (Connection Fees)
	Abandoned Vehicles Policy
	Election Signs
	Permit Parking Policy
	Land Development Infrastructure Guidelines
	Delegations under the <i>Development Act 1993</i>
	Building Inspection Policy

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## MEMBERS ALLOWANCES

The following allowances are paid to Elected Members

	July 2010-October 2010	November 2010-June 2011
Mayor	\$33,000	\$45,200
Deputy Mayor	\$10,000	\$14,125
Councillors	\$ 8,000	\$11,300

## 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 10 Councillors. Recent changes to the Local Government (Elections) Act 1999 means that as at 1 January of every election year, the Council Voters Roll is required 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	7207
Council's Supplementary Roll	<u>0</u>
Total:	7207

Council's representation quota is therefore 655 electors per elected member.

Pursuant to section 12(13)(a) of the Act, the Electoral Commissioner has certified that the most recent review undertaken by Council satisfies the requirements of Section 12. The representation arrangements are as follows:

- Retain the status quo of a Mayor and 10 Councillors; and
- The Council area will not be divided into wards, thereby requiring all members to represent the Council area as a whole.

Accordingly, during 2008/2009 an Elector Representation Review was undertaken. During the process for conducting the review, all electors were given the opportunity to make submissions on the representation and ward boundary structure of the Council. The first phase of consultation was conducted with the preparation of a public consultation report that outlined the current status of Council's ward boundary structure and representation. This report provided details on options under the Local Government Act that were able to be considered during the process.

For example these included the option of the review of numbers of Elected Members, which was subsequently reduced from 10 to 8 (not including the Mayor) - applicable from the General Elections to be held in November 2010.

The second phase of consultation involved the preparation of options based on consideration of submissions received during the first phase of consultation and Council discussion. The report prepared as part of the second phase of consultation was specific to the options provided for consideration and provided relevant details. Although persons were given the opportunity to forward written submissions none were received.

COUNCIL	ELECTED MEMBERS	ELECTORS	RATIO
Alexandrina	12	18,313	1526
Barossa Council	12	16,231	1352
Berri Barmera	9	7,258	806
Copper Coast	11	9,833	893
Light Regional	11	9,472	861
Loxton Waikerie	11	8,142	740
Murray Bridge	10	13,007	1300
Port Pirie	11	12,185	1107
Victor Harbor	10	11,079	1107
Wattle Range	12	8,642	720
Yorke Peninsula	12	9,419	784

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### 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 minimize Councils requirement to provide expensive plant and equipment and to maintain a relatively small workforce to reduce overheads.

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

<b>CONTRACTORS 2010/2011 (Major)</b>		
Audit Contract (External)	Dean Newbery & Partners	11810.00
Barmera Recreation Centre Management	YMCA (Adelaide)	57362.00
Building Service Contract	Programme Maintenance Services	46443.00
Effluent Drainage Maintenance	D. Kuhn Plumbing	32290.80
	Laser Alignment Maintenance	142888.90
	Riverland Tank and Drain	69765.50
	Kingham Plumbing	13662.00
	Various	6864.80
Garbage Collection	Riverland Litter Services	295436.00
Garbage Disposal	Riverland Litter Services	89427.00
Information Technology	Caramel	44477.00
Animal & Plant Control	Milburn Consultants	114321.00
Public Convenience Management	Wayne's Cleaning Services	61302.00
Sealed Road Construction		219038.00
Swimming Pool Management	YMCA (Adelaide)	87272.00
Community Wastewater Management Scheme	Trility	2221684.00

<b>CONTRACTORS 2010/2011 - Sundries (Multiple Contractors)</b>	
Barmera Recreation Building Maintenance	350.00
Berri Library Maintenance	1620.00
Council Office Building	18500.00
Debt Collection Costs	26855.00
Footpath Construction	8660.00
Garbage Disposal	3917.00
Halls Building Maintenance	40374.00
Immunization Maintenance	1158.00
Sport Recreation Maintenance	315.00
Town Planning Consultants Fees	15581.00
Town Planning Legal Fees	9024.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,640,398.00</b>

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## **DELEGATIONS OF POWER**

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

## **GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES**

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

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

*In the event that the Chief Executive Officer is of the opinion that the complaint requires an independent investigation then the Chief Executive Officer shall refer the complaint to the independent panel established by the Local Government Association.*

Action: *Within five working days from receipt of the complaint:*

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

*Within twenty 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 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 complaint will be referred to a person from the panel established by the Local Government Association.*

*Where a complaint has been addressed through the Local Government process the complainant may refer the complaint to the Competition Commissioner.*

## **COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS / MATTERS CONSIDERED IN CONFIDENCE**

Further to Councils 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 three Special Meetings of Council and 36 Committee/Sub-Committee Meetings.

At the time Council resolves to consider a matter in confidence, Council complies with its access to Council Meetings, Council Committees and Council Documents Code. 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.

## executive services

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

Particulars	No. of Meetings	Total Resolutions Passed	Confidential Resolutions	Reason for Confidentiality
Council Meetings	15	353	12	Pursuant to Sections: <u>90(2) and 90(3)(d)(i)</u> - Commercial in Confidence <u>90(2) and 90(3)(j)(ii)</u> - Contrary to public interest <u>90 (2) and 90(3)(k)</u> - Tenders
Berri Town Beautification Committee	5	23	Nil	N/A
Project Monitoring Committee	2	8	Nil	N/A
Lake Bonney Management Committee	2	12	Nil	N/A
Asset Management Committee	2	10	Nil	N/A
Audit Committee	3	21	Nil	N/A
Riverland Regional Development Assessment Panel	7	15 (Berri Barmera Council only)	Nil	N/A

# *executive services*

## **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION STATEMENT / INFORMATION STATEMENT**

During 2010/2011 there were no Freedom of Information (FOI) applications received.

## **INFORMATION STATEMENT (GENERAL)**

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

### **Council's Role**

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

- To act as a representative, informed and responsible decision-maker in the interests of its community; and
- To provide and co-ordinate various public services and facilities and to develop its community and resources in a socially just and ecologically sustainable manner; and
- To encourage and develop initiatives within its community for improving the quality of life of the community; and
- To represent the interests of its community to the wider community; and

- To exercise, perform and discharge the powers, functions and duties of local government under the Local Government Act and other Acts in relation to the area for which it is constituted.

### **The role of the Principal Member and Members of Council**

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

1)The role of the principal member is:

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

2)The role of members of Council is:

- a) as a member of the governing body of the Council-
  - (i) to participate in the deliberations and civic activities of the Council;
  - ii) to keep the Council's objectives and policies under review to ensure that they are appropriate and effective;
  - (iii) to keep Council's resource allocation, expenditure and activities, and the efficiency and effectiveness of its service delivery under review;

b) as a person elected to the Council-

- (i) to represent the interests of residents and ratepayers, to provide community leadership and guidance, and to facilitate communication between the community and the Council.

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

The activities that Council provides or is associated with are:

public functions, donations to local organisations, dog control, fire prevention, animal and plant control, health inspections, immunisation program, cemeteries, public toilets, garbage collection and disposal, District Halls, Community Library and Information Centre, parks and gardens, play equipment, boat ramps, ovals, building and development control, road maintenance and construction, footpaths, 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.

# executive services

## Agendas and Minutes

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

## Delegations

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. The delegations are available for public inspection free of charge at the Council Office.

## 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.

FEES AND CHARGES PARTICULARS COUNCIL DOCUMENTS, ETC.	CURRENT 2010/2011 GST INCLUSIVE (Where applicable) \$
Sale of Minutes / Agendas	3.25
Annual Financial Statements	11.30
Annual Report	11.30
Budget Report	20.50
Search Fees - Standard (8 days)	30.00
Search Fees - Urgent	40.00
Search Fees - Rates Only	10.00
Extract from Assessment Book	20c per A4 page

Documents are available for public inspection at the Principal Office of Council between 8.30 am - 5.00 pm 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.

# executive services

## 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.

## 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 "Competition Principles—complaints Process" (Policy C19), 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 refer the complaint to the independent panel established by the Local Government Association.*

Action: *Within five working days from receipt of the complaint:*

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

*Within twenty 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 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 complaint will be referred to a person from the panel established by the Local Government Association.*

*Where a complaint has been addressed through the Local Government process the complainant may refer the complaint to the Competition Commissioner.*

# *community services*

**DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS AND STRUCTURE OUTLINE**

**RIVERLAND COMMUNITY TRANSPORT**

**COUNCIL VOLUNTEERS**

**COMMUNITY ORGANISATION SUPPORT**

**COMMUNITY EVENTS SUPPORT**

**YOUTH**

**LIBRARY SERVICES**

**BERRI VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE**

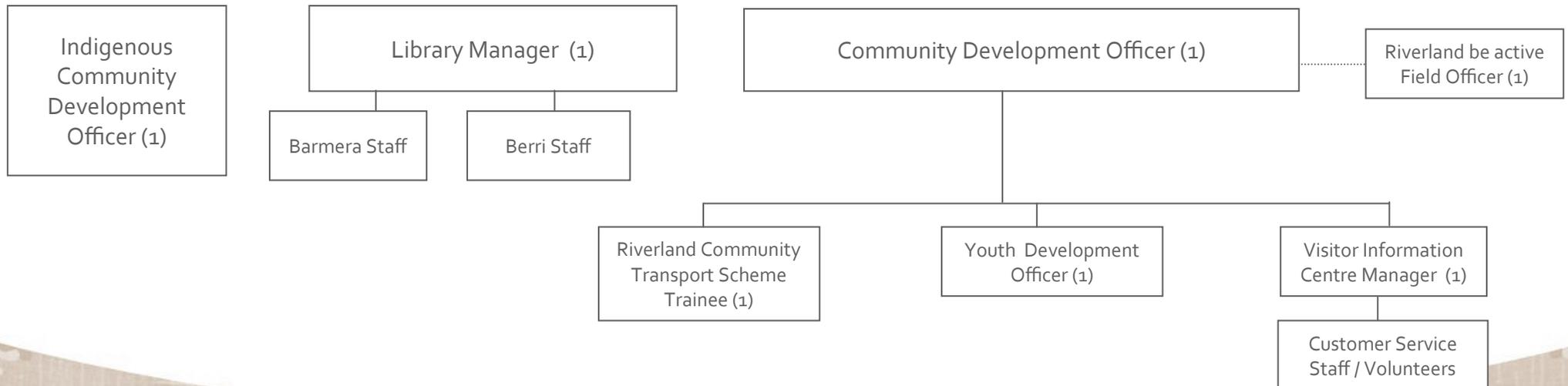


# community services

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

- Grants Commission
- Tourism
- Library
- Community Transport
- Youth
- Culture and Heritage
- Community / Social Development
- Sport & Recreation Administration
- Aged Persons
- Medical and Health Services

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



# community services

## RIVERLAND COMMUNITY TRANSPORT

Riverland Community Transport (RCT) was established in 1998 and has been coordinated by the Berri Barmera Council since its inception. The key goal of RCT is to link Riverland residents with the commercial operators, including the Taxi Services and Bus operators such as Link SA, Premier Stateliner and Townsend's. Achieving this priority will ensure increased use of these public transport options, so they may continue to be sustainable well into the future.

Commercial transport options may not always meet the needs of all community members and in these situations RCT is able to provide volunteer driven vehicles to ensure that the frail, isolated and other transport disadvantaged residents get to medical appointments and other priority activities.

Over 1000 Riverlanders used the services of RCT in 2010/11, these clients are equally shared amongst the three Councils. RCT relies on the generosity of some 28 volunteers who have provided over 14,000 hours this year towards transporting clients between Riverland towns and also to Adelaide. RCT consists of two cars, Council's community bus and a partnership Community Bus operating locally and the Medical Bus for trips to Adelaide, collectively these vehicles travelling over 270,000km for the year. In total over 9000 client trips were provided during the past twelve months, a staggering 25% increase over the year before.

The Medical Bus service alone clocked up in excess of 386,351km since commencing the service in early 2007. Providing over 3500 client trips for Riverlander's to access medical treatment in Adelaide, our team of volunteer drivers have ensured that this essential service successfully links the Riverland community with specialist medical services unavailable in the region.

Every community transport trip would not be viable with out the donations made by clients and the broader community, and most importantly the dedicated volunteers giving their time to ensure those in need get to their destinations. Funding is provided Home and Community Care and the State Government's Public Transport Division towards the operational costs and the vehicles purchased by the Berri Barmera Council.



# community services

## COUNCIL VOLUNTEERS

The staff and elected members would like to convey our sincere gratitude to each and every volunteer, in fact all 75 Council volunteers who assist in building a better community by undertaking vital duties with in community services at the Libraries, Visitor Information Centre, Community Transport Scheme and Rocky's Hall of Fame.

A further 125 community members sit on committees that plan community activities such as Youth Services, the Berri Centenary celebrations and the Riverland Multicultural Festival, many contribute further voluntary hours ensuring that activities are a success..

Each year our volunteers make a significant contribution toward ensuring that many community services can be provided to the broader community. These fantastic volunteers provide us with more than 17,650 hours of duties per year to an estimated valued of over \$550,000 per year.

## COMMUNITY ORGANISATION SUPPORT

### Supporting our Community to build a better Community

Council has taken a proactive approach for a number of years in supporting community groups that are committed to contributing to the community's quality of life. Whether it is through project partnership agreements, community grant applications or operational contributions, Council's support has consisted of financial, in kind or a combination of both.

Each year Council also maintains a wide range of facilities that are provided at heavily subsidised rates to community organisations. Many of these are heavily reliant on additional funding from various sources (including user fees) but without Council contribution many of these services would not be viable. Some of these include Rocky's Hall of Fame, Barmera Recreation Centre, Berri District Swimming Pool and most recreation and sports grounds in the district. A number of organisations also gain supplementary funding through Council for their operations, including the Riverland Tourism Association, Riverland Youth Theatre and Barmera Visitor Information Centre.

In total the investment into community activities, not including facility maintenance and operations, is over \$500,000 which is only a small percentage of the total value that these activities return into the community in both economic and social impact.

The following organisations and projects received support through the Community Grants Program in 2010/2011(see opposite)

## community services

Youth Support Grants	
Claudia Shearer	Girl Guides SA State Camp
Community Programs	
Berri Scout Group	Multi-Purpose Canoes for water activities
Aboriginal Sobriety Group Riverland	Aboriginal Women's Art's and Cultural Pilot Program
Community Events	
Berri District Business Association	Berri Merri Christmas
Norwood Cycling Club Inc	37th Tour of the Riverland Cycling Event
Riverland Horticultural Council (GrowSmart)	GrowSmart Science Investigation Awards
BDWCC - Live Action Sub Committee	Barmera Christmas Pageant & Fireworks
Berri Barmera Ministers Association	Berri Carols by the River
Glossop High School	Barmera Sheep Dog Trials
Berri Senior Citizens Club	Country Launch of Seniors Month
Anglicare	Carers Week Support
NAIDOC Week Organising committee	NAIDOC Week activities
Barmera Primary School	Riverland Environment Day School Expo
Capital Development Funding	
Barmera Scout Group	Barmera Scout Hall electrical upgrades
The Rotary Club of Berri	Rotary 150 Park refurbishment Manifold Crescent Berri
Cobdogla Football Club	Stage 1 Refurbishment of football club rooms
Berri Rowing Club	Berri Rowing Club- Kitchen Upgrade
Lake Bonney Yacht Club Inc	Replace motor on safety boat
Berri District Youth Club Inc	Vaulting Table and Safety Padding
Barmera Men's Shed	For upgrade of electrical services at the Bruce Oval Pavilion.
Major Events Support	
Riverland Country Music Club	SA Country Music Festival & Awards
Riverland Wine Industry Development Council	Riverland Wine and Food Festival
Tennis Australia	International Tennis Tournaments

Other in-kind support provided:

Subsidised Hall Hire	
Berri Primary School	Riverland Primary School Music Festival
Riverland Musical Society	CATS
Meals on Wheels	Meals on Wheels
Blue light Disco	Blue light Disco
Glossop High School	Presentation night
Murray Mallee Aged Care Inc	Murray Mallee Aged Care Inc
Berri Barmera Ministers Association	Berri Barmera Ministers Association
Youth opportunities	Youth opportunities
Riverland and Mallee Youth Sector Network	Network Meeting
Women's and Children's Auxiliary	Women's and Children's Auxiliary
Riverland Floral Spectacular	Riverland Floral Spectacular
River of Life - Assembly of God Church	River of Life - Assembly of God Church
Road Closure Advertising and implementation	
Barmera District War Memorial Community Centre	Barmera Main Street Markets
Riverland Special School	Prom night
Glossop High School	Prom night
Adelaide Vales Triathlon Club	Barmera Triathlon

# community services

## COMMUNITY EVENTS SUPPORT

### Seniors Christmas Parties 2010

Each year the staff and Elected Members of the Berri Barmera Council work together with a number of Community Service organisations to give our senior citizens a Christmas party to remember. Over 400 seniors enjoyed the entertainment and catering provided at events in Berri or Barmera. Over 120 individuals volunteer their time (including all of the staff) to produce the event.

It must be acknowledged that without the support of the Service Club volunteers (Berri Rotary, Berri Zonta, Barmera Lions, Barmera Rotary), and our own YACU group that these events would be far more daunting.

The senior citizens thoroughly enjoy the evening and look forward to the various performances provided by staff. Plans for this event get underway early to choose entertainment and organise the venues, food and drinks. Mayor Hunt says, 'It is one way that we can give just a little back to those who have contributed so much to our local community in the past'.

### Australia Day 2011

Set on the banks of Lake Bonney, the 2011 Australia Day celebrations were again launched with the annual community walk at dawn. The success of this activity set the tone for the day, with some 65 participants from across our district, embracing the opportunity to welcome the day with a stroll. Over 200 residents enjoyed the free breakfast, cooked by volunteers from the Barmera Rotary Club, with up to 250 attending the official speeches and ceremonies. The backdrop of the lake on such a perfect day made for a great setting for this years special guest Australia Day Ambassador, Ivan Copley, South Australian of the Year (2009), who shared his visions about being an Australian.

A special part of each Berri Barmera Council Australia Day Celebration is the presentation of our districts Australia Day Awards. This years recipients were:

- **2010 Citizen of the Year** – Christine Wutke
- **2010 Young Citizen of the Year** – Alysha Herrmann
- **Community Event** – A day on the KAT, Katfish Reach Committee

Each year Council submits its Citizen's of the year to the SA Australia Day Council Awards and in what's believed to be a first for our region, Alysha was announced as South Australian Young Citizen of the year, a fantastic recognition for the spirit and hard work that she invests into building a better community through her artistic and mentoring skills.

### Berri Centenary Project

Berri Barmera Council staff have worked jointly with a large committee of local residents to plan and promote a strong number of community events. The launch of the Centenary year and the newly produced book "Berri: Life in a River Town" was held at the town hall on February 9 2011, the commemorative date of Berri's Proclamation in 1911.

A large number of organisations are supporting Berri's Centenary year through linking their own events to the official calendar, listed on the Centenary's own website and posters distributed throughout the town.

This celebration of Berri's 100<sup>th</sup> year will continue across 2011 with an even broader range of events and exhibitions.



# community services

## YOUTH



### Youth and Council Unite (YACU)

During the 2010/2011 financial year, YACU has evaluated and reflected on how youth engagement has previously been undertaken in our Council area. The members have looked at new ways to provide opportunities for young members of our community to create change and engage in our community.

While busy redeveloping the committee and what it hopes to achieve members have continued to support community events and activities such as Australia Day, Senior Citizens Christmas Party, Monash Shindig and Relay for Life.

The National Youth Week activity gave young people an opportunity to voice how they see our community, a little differently, through pictures. YACU hosted a photographic competition & exhibition called 'ShutterBug.' The exhibition featured photographic works from locals representing TIME. How they spent their time or their representation of time in celebration of the Berri Centenary.

YACU connects young people with services and opportunities that promotes further development in leadership. The new structure provides more ways to get involved and on a level that suits the members needs. For example, anyone aged 12-25 who lives, works or plays in the Berri Barmera Council district can be a volunteer without being a 'YACU member.' If there is only specific interest based activities someone is interested they can be contacted when something that fits that interest is taking place. The new model offers greater flexibility and more ownership depending on the needs and interests of the individual. So now that YACU have a new structure, it's time for recruitment! We need the 'new young minds' before we can plan what YACU will achieve over the next year.

### Youth Development Officer

The Council Youth Development Officer core role is co-ordinating YACU and liaising with local organisations across the region to support the development of young people and the opportunities provided in our community. The role also involves communication with other organisations both government and non-government, local & non-local to strengthen ties and develop partnerships to tackle common issues.



During the financial year Michelle has been a representative on

- Early Intervention group
- Riverland & Mallee Youth Sector Network
- YACSA's Regional Policy Council Committee
- Various working groups and conferences on both local and state level



# community services

## LIBRARY SERVICES

During 2010/11, Berri Barmera Council Libraries have continued to improve services and facilities for our patrons. Some highlights have included the expansion of public internet services at Berri Library and the soft fall surfacing of the Barmera Library outdoor children's area. This year has seen both libraries build on their Kindle e-book trial programs and due to customer demand we have increased the number of e-book readers and resources. Indications are that libraries and the publishing industry in general are embracing this new technology and it is likely we will see an expansion in this area over the short term.

With the increased acceptance of social media, library staff have begun an update of the library web site to include web 2.0 technologies and to integrate Berri and Barmera libraries under the same web presence. This will be increasingly important when the new single state wide Library Management System (one card, one patron) is introduced over the next few years. This will allow information to flow from the library to its users in multiple directions, not just from the library to our patrons, but from our patrons back to the library and to each other.

### Displays and Regular or Special Events

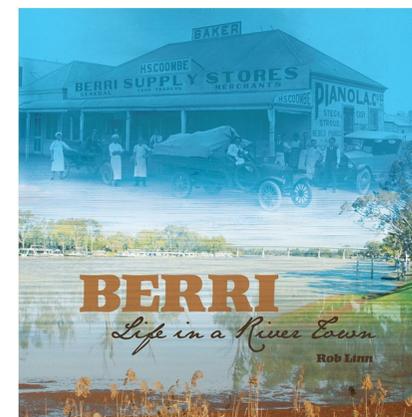
Special displays and events were organised for:

- ANZAC day
- History week
- Various community groups displaying information at both Berri and Barmera libraries
- School holiday and weekly children's activities at Berri library, weekly Rhyme time and holiday activities at the Barmera Library. These included a free magic show and cartooning session held at different times at Barmera and a free childrens concert show at Berri

- Library lovers day (St Valentine's day)
- Fred Hollows display at the Berri Library
- New mother's group to introduce books to babies and parental support resources at Berri
- Computer lessons for beginners which was introduced at the Barmera Library, a one-on-one lesson between a volunteer 'teacher' and a community member
- Monthly Book discussion groups at both libraries
- Outreach services to St Catherine's and Cottage homes at Berri
- Children's Book week during August and the Get Reading! Campaign during September of each year. Approximately 100 children from 5 different schools visited the Barmera library during Children's Book Week for literacy based activities
- Barmera kindergarten children continue to visit the Barmera library weekly to hear a story and participate in a craft activity and library staff visit the kindergarten to share stories with the children
- Visits by Winkie Primary School and the Berri cubs to the Berri Library.
- Library Staff attended the Riverland Field Days to assist in running children's storytelling and craft activities in the new parent and children's tent on 15<sup>th</sup> and 16 September
- The Berri Library hosted an OCLC Amlib User Group meeting in July and all school and public libraries using Amlib participated
- Peter Ison and Di Tillett, a long time volunteer at Barmera Library, continued to participate in the ABC roster for weekly "A Novel Idea" book reviews on ABC radio. This initiative increases loans of those books reviewed and reaches a wider audience to promote our library services
- Peter Ison presented a session on the Kindle program at the Berri Library to public librarians at the Future Formats workshop and to TAFE librarians at a LRC Network meeting at Kadina both held in September

### Berri Centenary Project

The celebration of Berri's 100 year milestone has seen a variety of events take place in the first half of the year and has galvanised community spirit once again in our great town. Berri Barmera Council staff from the Berri Library and Berri Office have worked jointly with members of the Centenary Committee (who have been meeting since 2007) to organise and run a number of community events with the highlight being the launch of the Centenary year and the book "Berri: Life in a River Town" at the town hall on February 9 2011, the commemorative date of Berri's Proclamation in 1911. Berri library staff and volunteers have concentrated on collecting and cataloguing historic information and photographs collected from community members to ensure that the book and spin-off projects like the Berri Community News and centenary website were completed successfully.



The cover of the Berri Centenary book "Berri : Life in a River Town" by Rob Linn, launched at the town hall on 9 February 2011

## community services

### Country Music Week - Barmera Library

SA Bush Poets group continued their long standing tradition of visiting the Barmera Library for poetry readings and workshops during Country music Week. This year, Bush poets Heather Giles and Jill Wherry gave their time to put on two poetry shows and their performances were enriched with the addition of walk ups who shared their poems and stories with the audiences.

The Splash Theatre Company production of Me 'n Me Mate attracted an audience of 60, including the Renmark Library Readers group and many from other towns, as well as locals and Country Music Week visitors. The professional actors Chris John and Elliot Howard gave stirring renditions of poems by Henry Lawson, Banjo Paterson and CJ Dennis which they interspersed with lively bush songs and the audience was encouraged to participate.



Me 'n me mate Chris John and Elliot Howard

### Statewide Library Management System (LMS)

Peter Ison and Merridy Rady have been involved with specialised committees set up by Public Libraries SA to select a statewide LMS which will connect 134 public libraries across South Australia. Merridy was involved with a Subject Matter group which evaluated modules of shortlisted Library Management Systems and Peter was involved with the Evaluation team that determined the final candidate for the LMS. Both staff attended multiple meetings in Adelaide and Peter was involved in a trip to Sydney and Auckland, New Zealand to see a large library consortia in action. The one LMS will lead to greater and efficient sharing of resources between libraries across the state and as a consequence, better services for users.

### Barmera Oral histories and Rob Linn Workshop

In May and June 2011 we were fortunate to secure the services of Rob Linn, noted historian and author for a workshop on oral histories and to interview some of our community members and record their life stories for the future. Eight oral histories were recorded with the aim of recording more stories as more members of the community are engaged to help with this important work.

### Public Internet and Furnishings Improved at Berri Library

This year we upgraded our internet access facilities to cater for the large number of customers who make use of this free state-wide service. Two extra computers have been installed and a new desk built to allow for this expansion. As our original fittings are wearing out with considerable use, we have purchased new lounge seating and new lecture chairs for our multi-media suite which will enable classes and training sessions to be conducted for all three user groups.

Display areas will be increasingly improved by installing slat wall to hold posters and pamphlets, giving the library a modern, up to date image.

### Outdoor Area Improvements at Barmera Library

The final touch to our outdoor area was completed in May this year, with the installation of "soft fall" surface replacing the previous potholed and unsightly asphalt. A river pattern with green background complements the Glossop High School mural and the whole area is now safe and child friendly for our outside children's term and holiday activities, school visits and Book week activities.

### Digital Signage System Upgrade at Berri Library

After more than seven years using the multiscreen system, the library upgraded its digital signage system to a new system, OneLAN, that allows for more versatility in messaging for patrons. The system has the ability to integrate live web feeds, video and Microsoft office media and it is much simpler for all library staff to contribute electronic notices. This combined with new hardware will improve communication with our patrons.

### Staff Training

Staff participated in a number of training programs in order to improve our service to our clients. Training highlights for the 2010/11 year included:

- Managing aggressive customer training
- Fire warden and extinguisher training
- Aussie host customer service training
- Various OHS training provided by Council

# community services

BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL LIBRARY STATISTICS 2010/2011					
LOANS	BERRI		BARMERA		2010-2011 TOTALS
	2009-2010	2010-2011	2009-2010	2010-2011	
Adult Fiction	10,500	9,838	7,035	6,593	16,431
Adult Non-Fiction	6,094	5,092	3,084	2,566	7,658
Large Print	5,713	5,573	5,983	5,249	10,822
<b>Sub Total Adult</b>	<b>22,307</b>	<b>20,503</b>	<b>16,102</b>	<b>14,408</b>	<b>34,911</b>
Children	9,747	8,748	5,969	6,049	14,797
Paperbacks - Adult	5,217	5,809	5,725	5,599	11,408
Paperbacks - Children	3,646	2,552	1,701	1,125	3,677
Periodicals	3,565	2,726	3,504	3,454	6,180
CDs	2,804	3,386	2,057	1,940	5,326
CD-ROMs	1,437	1,650	630	556	2,206
Videos	618	330	755	558	888
DVDs	13,705	13,891	11,969	11,906	25,797
Hear-A- Books	1,071	694	857	692	1,386
LOTE	165	155	153	19	174
School Resources	4,665	3,637	79	41	3,678
TAFE Resources	5,164	3,111	92	60	3,171
ILLs & Other	741	922	1,055	1,263	2,185
AV Equipment	761	10,909*	NA	NA	10,909
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>75,613</b>	<b>79,023</b>	<b>50,648</b>	<b>47,757</b>	<b>126,693</b>
USAGE	BERRI		BARMERA		2010-2011 TOTALS
	2009-2010	2010-2011	2009-2010	2010-2011	
Door Count	113,592	118,364	65,792	45,178	163,542
Internet Bookings	8,770	8,611	4,989	5,289	13,900
Holiday Activities	163	186	288	325	511
Weekly children's Activities*	525	444	1,157	1,239**	1,683
<u>SA Network Inter Library Loans</u>	7,388	6,479	4,874	4,476	10,955
Visits per capita (Berri 7,025, Barmera 4,188)	16.2	16.8	15.7	10.8	14.6
Loans per capita	10.7	11.2	12.1	11.4	11.3
Open hours per annum	2,750	2,750	1,950	1,950	4,700
Web Catalogue Searches	11,693	10,513	combined statistics		10,513

\*Includes school laptop loans

\*\* includes Barmera Baby Rhyme Time (512 visits)

# community services

## **BERRI VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE**

During the past twelve months the Berri Visitor Information Centre has continued to provide high quality customer service to our members, the community and visitors to the region.

The Visitor Information Centre continues to provide far more than just information for visitors. Aside from being an agency for the purchase of bus tickets, the centre also provides a range of administrative duties for Community Services, including producing the 'What's on guide', Community Directory maintenance and providing the operations for Riverland Community Transport.

The staff and volunteers are also developing ideas for trails and tours around the entire region for specific interests, including brochures for walking/bike ride trail ideas, mystery shopping tours, town history walks and a range of local attractions.

Volunteers continue to provide essential support the Visitor Information Centre in a variety of ways, one key duty is welcoming visitors and providing a friendly conversation about what there is to see and do whilst these visitors are in our region. This is a small team and we do need more friendly faces so if you would like to assist in building a stronger district by sharing your knowledge then please contact Council to join our volunteer team.

## **Visitor Numbers**

Visitor numbers have again unfortunately been lower than previous years, a factor attributed in part to the drought and global financial crisis. Council is investigating whether this trend is Riverland wide or being experienced just in the Berri District and will implement strategies to address.

## **Souvenir Area**

Our souvenir area has undergone a revamp and has expanded yet again with new glass cabinets enabling us to stock and display more local products and artwork which have been well received by the public and visitors who are looking for that something special to take home with them. As well as the usual souvenirs of postcards, tea spoons, hatpins and magnets, we currently have on display paintings by local artists, dip tin birds by Tim Baulderstone, Bella Lavender products, hand made pewter jewellery and Berri Direct dried fruit. With the ever growing range of products that we offer, we hope that we are catering to the demands of visitors and local residents alike, so why not pop in and find that special gift.

## **Plans for 2011/2012**

Staff continue to produce a monthly Berri Barmera events guide, which is now available in email format. In the coming year it is hoped that we can expand the email distribution list so that more people are aware of the strong array of events that our region has to offer. Contact our staff if you'd like to be added to this list.

Rather than a website, staff have developed the Visitor Information Centre's own facebook page. The VIC now has over 600 friends, growing every day, including many local businesses and organisations, allowing us to keep up them up to date with what's on but also for them to further promote there events and activities. The VIC page has information on places to stay and things to do, and will shortly add a "wining and dining" section. In the next 12 months we wish to further promote the regions great strength (in it's diverse range of events) on the page and get this information out to more locals. We have also maintained some other Berri "pages" and added things like contacts, phone, and addresses to other facebook location pages, ensuring the millions of facebook users have the best chance of contacting the local Berri businesses.



## community services

<b>STATISTICS</b>			
<b>Description</b>	<b>2008 - 2009</b>	<b>2009 - 2010</b>	<b>2010 - 2011</b>
Local Visitors	2833	4279	3505
Intrastate Visitors	3733	2640	2023
Interstate Visitors	2986	2461	1266
Overseas Visitors	1743	1705	772
Unknown Visitors	4345	6175	5636
Bus Enquiries	5333	4551	3017
<b>TOTAL VISITORS</b>	<b>20,973</b>	<b>21,811</b>	<b>16,219</b>
<b>Information Requested</b>	<b>2008 - 2009</b>	<b>2009 - 2010</b>	<b>2010 - 2011</b>
Directions/Maps	5603	4412	3154
Attractions	3038	2462	1608
Cruises/Tours	1123	999	713
Food Outlets	1100	719	559
Restaurants/Café's	367	346	186
Shops	564	361	270
All Accommodation Enquiries (Hotels/Motels, Caravan Parks, B&B, Houseboats, Backpackers, Self Contained)	1174	900	579
Camping	273	355	451
Events	812	809	591
Walks	415	319	156
National Parks	603	603	379
Souvenirs	1046	1156	1192
Just Looking	3956	3434	3500
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>20,074</b>	<b>16,872</b>	<b>13,338</b>
<b>Phone Enquiries</b>	<b>2008 - 2009</b>	<b>2009 - 2010</b>	<b>2010 - 2011</b>
All phone enquiries	3,525	2924	2976
Mail outs	283	196	51

# *corporate services*

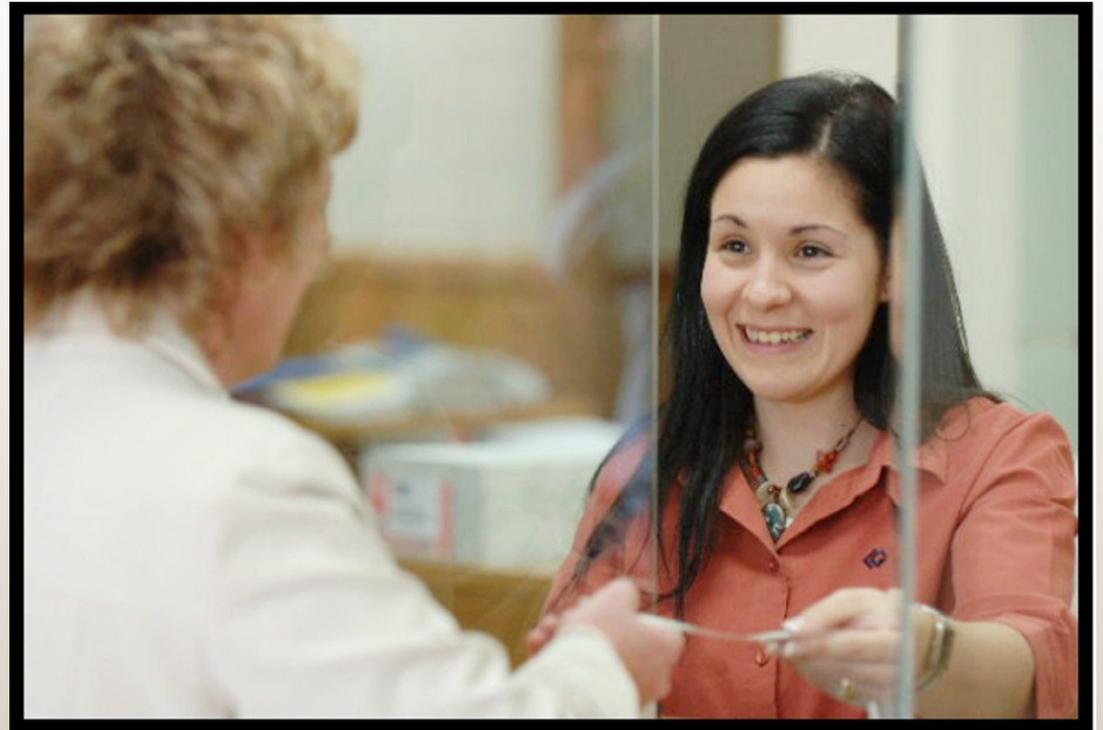
**DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS AND STRUCTURE OUTLINE**

**RATING AND VALUATIONS - RATING POLICY FOR THE YEAR 2010/2011**

**ANNUAL BUSINESS PLAN IMPLEMENTATION**

**FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT STATEMENT**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR 2010/2011**



# corporate services



**Ms Karyn Burton**  
**Manager Corporate Services**

## DEPARTMENT MEMBERSHIP

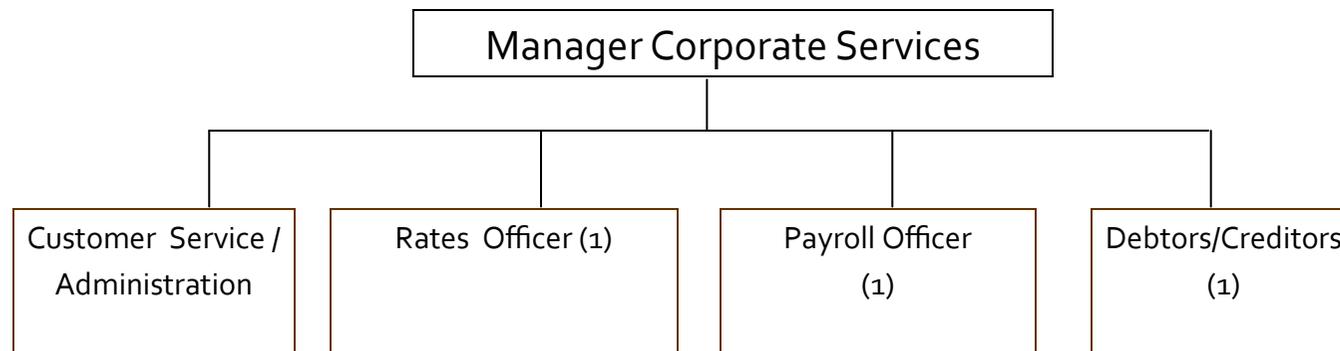
Audit Committee  
Project Monitoring Committee  
Irrigation Upgrade Committee

Asset Management Committee  
Strategic Planning and Review Committee  
Berri Town Beautification Committee

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

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

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



# corporate services

## RATING POLICY FOR THE YEAR 2010 / 2011

### Introduction

This document sets out the policy of the Berri Barmera Council for setting and collecting rates from its Community for the 2010/2011 financial year.

- 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
- Natural resource management levy
- Rate concessions
- Payment of rates
- Late payment of rates
- Rebate of rates
- Rate Capping
- Remission and postponement of rates
- Deferment of Rates - Primary Producers
- 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@berribarmera.sa.gov.au](mailto:bbc@berribarmera.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

# corporate services

## VALUATIONS USED FOR RATING

The following table and information provides a breakdown of valuation movements within the Council area, separated in the respective Land Use Codes provided by the Valuer Generals Office.

Land Use Code	Valuation 09/10	Valuation 10/11	Variance (\$)	Variance (%)
Residential	731,401,763	740,800,000	9,398,237	1.28
Commercial (Shops)	47,445,000	46,902,000	-543,000	-1.14
Commercial (Offices)	11,756,000	12,864,000	1,108,000	9.4
Commercial (Other)	69,036,799	71,222,880	2,186,081	3.16
Industrial (Light)	6,201,500	6,412,500	211,000	3.4
Industrial (Other)	27,538,225	31,253,500	3,715,275	13.5
Primary Production	239,030,850	226,448,600	-12,582,250	-5.26
Vacant Land	27,936,108	26,509,240	-1,426,868	-5.1
Others	83,587,455	82,874,940	-712,515	-0.85
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,243,933,700</b>	<b>1,245,287,660</b>	<b>1,353,960</b>	<b>0.11</b>

The figures contained within the above table are provided by the Valuer Generals Office and demonstrates a minimal overall increase of .11% of valuations over the Council area. The impact of the Government's recent Exceptional Circumstances Exit Packages can be seen with the value of Primary Production properties decreasing significantly.

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-ratable valuations are not included.

Land Use Code	Valuation 09/10	Valuation 10/11	Variance (\$)	Variance (%)
Residential Towns	469,285,547	475,635,102	6,349,555	1.35
Residential Rural	262,116,216	287,150,106	25,033,890	9.55
Primary Production	239,030,850	209,043,473	-29,987,377	-12.55
Rural Dry/Vacant	13,917,300	16,285,020	2,367,720	17.02
Other	23,350,588	23,283,088	-67,500	-0.29
Commercial Towns	112,991,315	110,571,785	-2,419,530	-2.14
Commercial Rural	17,456,484	19,484,411	2,027,927	11.62
Industrial Towns	6,720,500	6,252,500	-468,000	-6.96
Industrial Rural	26,965,400	26,592,000	-373,400	-1.38
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,171,834,200</b>	<b>1,174,297,485</b>	<b>2,463,285</b>	<b>0.21</b>

# corporate services

## METHOD USED TO VALUE LAND

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

**Capital Value** - the value of the land and all of the improvements on the land.

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

**Annual Value** - a valuation of the rental potential of the property.

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

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

## ADOPTION OF VALUATIONS

The Council proposes to adopt the valuations made by the Valuer-General as provided to the Council for the financial year 2010/2011. 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) previously had an objection to the valuation considered by the Valuer-General.

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 number is 1300 653 345.

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.

# corporate services

## DIFFERENTIAL GENERAL RATES

The Council has decided to impose differential general rates according to the locality of the land and its use, 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.

The localities and uses are as follows:

1. Township of Barmera, Berri, Cobdogla, Glossop, Loveday and Monash as defined, with land use categories including residential, commercial, industrial and other.
2. Outside of aforesaid Townships as defined, with land use categories including residential, primary production, vacant rural dry, other, commercial and industrial.

The Council is proposing to raise rate revenue of \$6,450,414 in a total revenue budget of \$13,013,550 and will continue to use the differential rating method as follows:

1. Townships of Barmera, Berri, Cobdogla, Glossop, Loveday and Monash as defined:

a)	Residential	0.5372	cents in the dollar on the capital value of such rateable property
b)	Commercial	0.5876	“ “
c)	Industrial	0.6478	“ “
d)	Other	0.5384	“ “
2. Outside the aforesaid Townships as defined:

a)	Residential	0.5338	cents in the dollar on the capital value of such rateable property
b)	Primary Production	0.4987	“ “
c)	Vacant	0.3936	“ “
d)	Other	0.5384	“ “
e)	Commercial	0.5855	“ “
f)	Industrial	0.6520	“ “

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.

## 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 \$546 which shall be applied to all rateable properties within the Council District. This will affect 15.57% of rateable properties and will raise \$555,828 of rate revenue for the 2010/2011 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

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 2010/2011 is budgeted to be \$2,643,133. This includes the running of the Wastewater Re-Use Scheme as well as capital expenditure of \$65,000 for the replacement and renewal of pumps and other equipment.

As per the declaration of the service charge relating to Effluent Drainage Schemes, the Council will recover the operating cost through the imposition of a service charge of \$296 for each unoccupied property unit and \$592 for each occupied property unit. The occupied property unit includes an amount of \$36 per unit for septic tank desludging.

# corporate services

## 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 levy funds ongoing NRM 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 2010/2011 the Berri Barmera Council are required to make payable to the SA Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board an amount of \$91,412.

In order to recover this amount a separate rate of .000079 cents in the dollar has been declared, based on the capital value of all rateable land within the Council area. A minimum separate rate of \$7.00 has also been declared for such rateable land.

## RATE CONCESSIONS

The State Government, in providing equity across SA in this area, funds a range of concessions on Council rates. The concessions are administered by various State Agencies who determine eligibility and pay the concession directly to Council on behalf of the ratepayer. Concessions are available only on the principal place of residence.

Ratepayers who believe they are entitled to a concession should not withhold payment of rates pending assessment of an application by the State Government as penalties apply to overdue rates. A refund will be paid to an eligible person if Council is advised that a concession applies and the rates have already been paid.

### • State Seniors Card Ratepayer (Self Funded Retirees)

This concession is administered by Revenue SA. If you are a self-funded retiree and currently hold a State Seniors Card you may be eligible for a concession toward Council rates. In the case of couples, both must qualify, or if only one holds a State Senior's Card, the other must not be in paid employment for more than 20 hours per week. If you have not received a concession on your rate notice or would like further information please contact the Revenue SA Call Centre on 1300 366 150.

### • Pension Concession

If you are an eligible pensioner you may be entitled to a remission on your rates. Application forms (including information on the concessions) are available from the Council office or by phoning the DFC Concessions Hotline on 1800 307 758 or Council on 8582 1922.

An eligible pensioner must hold a Pension Card, State Concession Card or be a T.P.I. Pensioner. They must also be responsible for the payment of rates on the property for which they are claiming a concession. The State Government administers the applications.

It is important to note that seeking a remission does not change the due date for payment of rates.

### • Unemployed Persons Concessions

The Department for Families and Communities (DFC) Department of Human Services (DHS) may assist with the payment of Council rates for your principal place of residence (remissions are not available on vacant land or rental premises). Please contact the Concessions Hotline on 1800 307 758 or your nearest DHS office for details.

## PAYMENT OF RATES

The Local Government Act 1999 requires that Council must provide an opportunity for all ratepayers to pay rates by quarterly instalments. These instalments are to be payable in the months of September, December, March and June.

It is not mandatory for ratepayers to pay by quarterly instalments, however it is an option that Council must make available to all ratepayers.

The due dates for the quarterly instalments of Council rates for 2010/2011 are:

- 1<sup>st</sup> September, 2010
- 1<sup>st</sup> December, 2010
- 1<sup>st</sup> March, 2011
- 1<sup>st</sup> June, 2011

Council rates may be paid:

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

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.

# corporate services

## 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 as from 1 July 2010. 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. For the 2010/2011 financial year this rate is .% (TBA) per month (for 09/10 the rate is 0.5834%).

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.

# corporate services

## 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, 2009;
- Any such increase in the capital value of the rateable property is a result of improvements made on the property since 1 July, 2009 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.

## REMISSION AND POSTPONEMENT OF RATES

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

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

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

- The property is the principal residence of the ratepayer and is the only property owned by the ratepayer;
- The property has been owned by the ratepayer and has been their principal residence for a minimum of 5 years;
- The ratepayer is able to produce one of the following identification cards;
  - Pensioner Concession Card – Centrelink
  - Pensioner Concession Car – 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.

## DEFERMENT OF RATES – PRIMARY PRODUCERS

Section 182 of the Local Government Act permits the Council to partially or wholly remit or postpone rates on the basis of hardship.

It has been the decision of Council that due to the economic downturn and hardship being faced by the horticulture industry, ratepayers, upon application to the Council, may request to defer payment of Council rates.

Council has an arrangement with the Rural Counselling Service for assessment of rate deferment or postponement of rates for the 2010/2011 year for the horticultural and primary industry sectors. The applications that are made to the Rural Counselling Service are based on hardship grounds and are therefore assessed and forwarded to Council.

The Annual Business Plan reflects a policy position for Council that is where postponement of rate applications are received through the Rural Counselling Service for horticulture and primary industry based ratepayers, the rates will be postponed without the addition of fines and interest. This will be the basis for the assessment of these types of applications.

In addition to other applications to be received on hardship grounds for non-horticulture or industry based ratepayers, organisations such as Families SA with the Financial Counsellors will be utilised to assess these applications and a determination will be made on each application as and when received.

## SALE OF LAND FOR NON-PAYMENT OF RATES

The Local Government Act 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.
- The overall decrease in property valuations throughout the district.
- 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.

# corporate services

## Application of the Policy

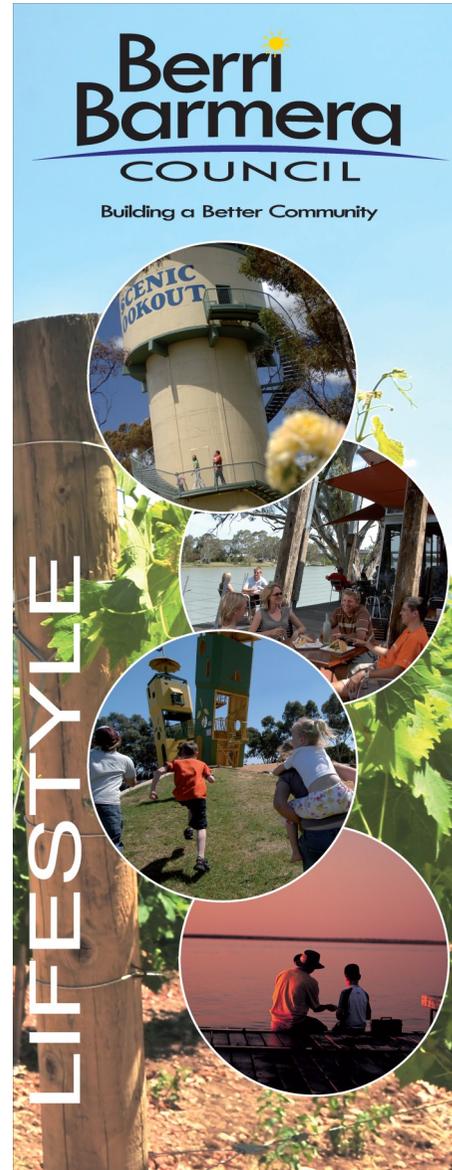
Where a ratepayer believes that the Council has failed to properly apply this policy it should raise the matter with the Council. In the first instance contact should be made with the Deputy Chief Executive Officer on (08) 8582 1922 to discuss the matter. If after the initial contact a ratepayer is still 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 22rd June 2010, being resolution number 2283/10 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 following table, which also advises as to the status of the projects as at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2011.

The status refers to whether the project was completed, deferred for future completion or carried forward for inclusion within the 2010/2011 year.

It is noted from the table aside that there are a number of projects that have been carried forward to the 2011/2012 year, primarily due to the fact that either the projects are very large and planning stages are still proceeding or in fact, the project was being undertaken but had not been finalised by the reporting date. Some projects are shown as 'on-going' as they are programmed projects and are prioritised according to Council's Asset Management Plans.

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

## corporate services

CORPORATE SERVICES	STATUS
Corporate Branding	On-going
Information Technology	On-going
Records Management	Completed
COMMUNITY SERVICES	
Berri Centenary Celebrations	On-going
Hall of Fame Projects	Completed
Libraries Furniture & Fittings, Plant & Equipment	Completed
INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES	
Jarvis Street Open Space Development	Completed
Drought Recovery Parks and Gardens	Completed
Worman Street reserve	On-going
Open Space development	On-going
Berri Beautification Committee Projects	On-going
Water Fountain Barwell Avenue Barmera	Completed
Reseals - Town & District	Completed
Unsealed roads resheeting & rerubbling	Completed
Kerbing, verge & drainage - Anderson Street Barmera	On-going
Kerbing & verge—Trenaman Crescent Berri	On-going
Kerbing & verge—Seekamp Street Berri	On-going
Footpaths townships per program	On-going
Minor drainage works	Completed
Plant & Machinery purchases	Completed
Berri Cemetery Extension	On-going
Landfill rehabilitation	On-going
Landscaping Berri East Approach	On-going
Tree removal Martin Bend	Completed
School safe routes	On-going
Rural Addressing	On-going

Lake Bonney Foreshore Development—Playspace Stage 1	Completed
Cemetery Furniture	Completed
Martin Bend BBQ & Shelters	Completed
Road Construction Gilbert Street Berri	On-going
Kerbing Construction Hughes Street Berri	On-going
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES	
Heritage Survey	On-going
Effluent Plant & Equipment Relacement	On-going
Regional Waste Management Facility	On-going
Council Offices Land & Building	Completed
Carpark rear Council offices	On-going
Bonney Theatre fire safety	Completed
Berri Town Hall trestles	Completed
Buildings upgrades	On-going
Developer Facilitation	On-going
Development Plan Alignment	Completed
Community Land Review	On-going
EXECUTIVE SERVICES	
Future Direction Planning—Town Centre Renewal Project, including future planning for sporting/community facilities	On-going
Riverland Futures	On-going

# corporate services

## FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT STATEMENT

The following financial indicators for 2010/2011 are interpreted as follows:

### Indicator 1—Operating Surplus

A marked improvement to Council's operating result has occurred in 2010/11. Items such as one off provision for the waste landfill rehabilitation was a significant factor contributing to the 2009/10 operating deficit, as well as an increase in depreciation expenditure due to revaluations of various classes of assets.

### Indicator 2—Operating Surplus Ratio

A review of 2 asset categories undertaken throughout the year revisited in a decrease in depreciation expense which has assisted the improvement in the operating surplus ratio.

### Indicator 3—Net Financial Liabilities

Council's target is to be not greater than operating revenue and not less than zero. New loans taken out through the year have contributed to the increase in Net Financial Liabilities.

### Indicator 4—Net Financial Liabilities Ratio

Although net financial liabilities have increased from 09/10 the ratio remains within the adopted target of not greater than operating revenue.

### Indicator 5—Interest Cover Ratio

This very low ratio shows Council's level of debt is quite low in comparison to its operating revenue.

### Indicator 6—Asset Sustainability Ratio

Council's target is to have this ratio between 50% and 100% of depreciation. The current indicator shows Council have made slight improvement of renewing and replacing assets at the same rate they are wearing out.

### Indicator 7—Asset Consumption Ratio

This indicates the proportion of 'as new' condition left in assets. Council's target is between 40% and 80%.

INDICATOR	2011	2010	2009
Operating Surplus	-297,721	-1,769,658	-206,149
Operating Surplus Ratio	-3%	-21%	-3%
Net Financial Liabilities	2,616,509	1,454,873	1,059,237
Net Financial Liabilities Ratio	18%	11%	8%
Interest Cover Ratio	1.1%	0.9%	0.9%
Asset Sustainability Ratio	62%	53%	46%
Asset Consumption Ratio	61%	61%	66%

*corporate services*

*2010-2011 Berri Barrmera Council*

*Financial Statements*

**BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL**

**General Purpose Financial Reports  
for the year ended 30 June 2011**

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**BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL**

**ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 June 2011**

**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 2011 and the results of its operations and cash flows for the financial year.
- > internal controls implemented by the Council provide a reasonable assurance that the Council's financial records are complete, accurate and reliable and were effective throughout the financial year.
- > the financial statements accurately reflect the Council's accounting and other records.

  
.....  
**DAVID BEATON**  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

  
.....  
**PETER HUNT**  
MAYOR

Date:

BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME  
for the year ended 30 June 2011

	Notes	2011 \$	2010 \$
<b>INCOME</b>			
Rates	2	8,760,680	8,418,984
Statutory charges	2	141,942	166,536
User charges	2	547,266	194,267
Grants, subsidies and contributions	2	3,738,968	3,140,121
Investment income	2	72,031	108,972
Reimbursements	2	611,888	608,108
Other income	2	483,939	439,894
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>14,356,714</b>	<b>13,076,882</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Employee costs	3	3,985,747	3,855,948
Materials, contracts & other expenses	3	7,472,737	7,517,047
Depreciation, amortisation & impairment	3	2,958,430	3,251,771
Finance costs	3	237,521	221,774
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>14,654,435</b>	<b>14,846,540</b>
<b>OPERATING SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)</b>		<b>(297,721)</b>	<b>(1,769,658)</b>
Asset disposal & fair value adjustments	4	(36,185)	(97,833)
Amounts received specifically for new or upgraded assets	2	543,281	441,227
Physical resources received free of charge	2	423,573	-
<b>NET SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)</b> transferred to Equity Statement		<b>632,948</b>	<b>(1,426,264)</b>
<b>Other Comprehensive Income</b>			
Changes in revaluation surplus - infrastructure, property, plant & equipment	9	(3,250,113)	12,531,866
Impairment (expense) / recoupments offset to asset revaluation reserve	9	(217,202)	-
<b>Total Other Comprehensive Income</b>		<b>(3,467,315)</b>	<b>12,531,866</b>
<b>TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME</b>		<b>(2,834,367)</b>	<b>11,105,602</b>

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

BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL

BALANCE SHEET  
as at 30 June 2011

	Notes	2011 \$	2010 \$
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	5	2,248,925	2,284,676
Trade & other receivables	5	2,013,967	2,118,364
Inventories	5	126,608	26,369
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>4,389,500</b>	<b>4,429,409</b>
<b>Non-current Assets</b>			
Financial Assets	6	300,368	396,841
Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment	7	113,970,227	116,522,208
Other Non-current Assets	6	1,170,193	391,182
<b>Total Non-current Assets</b>		<b>115,440,788</b>	<b>117,310,231</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>119,830,288</b>	<b>121,739,640</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Trade & Other Payables	8	1,776,433	1,728,381
Borrowings	8	491,421	399,038
Provisions	8	440,573	293,390
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<b>2,708,427</b>	<b>2,420,809</b>
<b>Non-current Liabilities</b>			
Borrowings	8	3,655,867	2,906,183
Provisions	8	815,475	927,762
<b>Total Non-current Liabilities</b>		<b>4,471,342</b>	<b>3,833,945</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<b>7,179,769</b>	<b>6,254,754</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>112,650,519</b>	<b>115,484,886</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Accumulated Surplus		17,688,010	15,859,208
Asset Revaluation Reserves	9	93,735,583	97,202,898
Other Reserves	9	1,226,926	2,422,780
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>		<b>112,650,519</b>	<b>115,484,886</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 2011						
	Notes	Accumulated Surplus	Asset Revaluation Reserve	Available for sale Financial Assets	Other Reserves	TOTAL EQUITY
2011		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Balance at end of previous reporting period		15,859,208	97,202,898	-	2,422,780	115,484,886
Adjustment to give effect to changed accounting policies		-	-	-	-	-
Restated opening balance		15,859,208	97,202,898	-	2,422,780	115,484,886
Net Surplus / (Deficit) for Year		632,948	-	-	-	632,948
Other Comprehensive Income						
Gain on revaluation of infrastructure, property, plant & equipment			(3,250,113)			(3,250,113)
Impairment (expense) / recoupments offset to asset revaluation reserve			(217,202)			(217,202)
Transfers between reserves		1,195,854		(1,195,854)		-
Balance at end of period		17,688,010	93,735,583	-	1,226,926	112,650,519
2010						
Balance at end of previous reporting period		18,137,227	84,671,032		1,571,025	104,379,284
Adjustment to give effect to changed accounting policies		-	-	-	-	-
Restated opening balance		18,137,227	84,671,032	-	1,571,025	104,379,284
Net Surplus / (Deficit) for Year		(1,426,264)				(1,426,264)
Other Comprehensive Income						
Changes in revaluation surplus - infrastructure, property, plant & equipment			12,531,866			12,531,866
Transfers between reserves		(851,755)			851,755	-
Balance at end of period		15,859,208	97,202,898	-	2,422,780	115,484,886

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

BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL			
CASH FLOW STATEMENT			
for the year ended 30 June 2011			
	Notes	2011	2010
		\$	\$
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>			
<u>Receipts</u>			
Operating receipts		15,550,942	13,297,178
Investment receipts		84,487	95,998
<u>Payments</u>			
Operating payments to suppliers & employees		(12,740,631)	(11,317,557)
Finance payments		(223,172)	(216,434)
<b>Net Cash provided by (or used in) Operating Activities</b>		<b>2,671,626</b>	<b>1,859,185</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>			
<u>Receipts</u>			
Amounts specifically for new or upgraded assets		543,281	441,227
Sale of replaced assets		147,788	114,558
Sale of surplus assets		73,207	223,727
Sale of real estate developments		-	45,000
Repayments of loans by community groups		93,031	107,338
<u>Payments</u>			
Expenditure on renewal/replacement of assets		(1,992,324)	(1,805,201)
Expenditure on new/upgraded assets		(2,414,427)	(1,008,656)
Development of real estate for sale		-	(14,229)
<b>Net Cash provided by (or used in) Investing Activities</b>		<b>(3,549,444)</b>	<b>(1,896,236)</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>			
<u>Receipts</u>			
Proceeds from Borrowings		1,253,735	615,000
<u>Payments</u>			
Repayments of Borrowings		(411,668)	(408,815)
<b>Net Cash provided by (or used in) Financing Activities</b>		<b>842,067</b>	<b>206,185</b>
<b>Net Increase (Decrease) in cash held</b>		<b>(35,751)</b>	<b>169,134</b>
Cash & cash equivalents at beginning of period	11	2,284,676	2,115,542
<b>Cash &amp; cash equivalents at end of period</b>	11	<b>2,248,925</b>	<b>2,284,676</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 2011

#### 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.

##### 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. These financial statements include the consolidated fund 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.

Trust monies and property held by Council but subject to the control of other persons have been excluded from these reports. A separate statement of moneys held in the Trust Fund is available for inspection at the Council Office by any person free of charge.

##### 3 Income recognition

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

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

## Berri Barmera Council

### NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2011

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

##### 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.

###### 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.

Certain properties, auctioned for non-payment of rates in accordance with the Local Government Act but which failed to meet the reserve set by Council and are available for sale by private treaty, are recorded at the lower of the unpaid rates and charges at the time of auction or the reserve set by Council. Holding costs in relation to these properties are recognised as an expense when incurred.

##### 6 Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment

###### 6.1 Initial Recognition

All assets are initially recognised at cost.

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.

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

## Berri Barmera Council

### NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2011

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

##### 6.2 Materiality

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

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

##### 6.3 Subsequent Recognition

All material asset classes are revalued on a regular basis such that the carrying values are not materially different from fair value. 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.

##### 6.4 Depreciation of Non-Current Assets

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

Major depreciation periods for each class of asset are shown below. 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.

Plant, Furniture & Equipment	
Electronic Office Equipment	4 years
Office Furniture	10 years
Vehicles and Road-making Equip	10 years
Other Plant & Equipment	3 to 5 years
Building & Other Structures	
Buildings – masonry	50 to 100 years
Buildings – other construction	20 to 40 years
Park Structures – masonry	50 to 100 years
Park Structures – other construction	20 to 40 years
Playground equipment	5 to 20 years
Benches, seats, etc	5 to 25 years
Infrastructure	
Road Surfaces – Sealed and Unsealed	15 to 30 years
Road Pavements – pavements under sealed surfaces	60 to 90 years
Kerb and Gutter	60 to 70 years
Footpaths	15 to 50 years
Drains	80 to 100 years
Culverts	50 to 75 years
Flood Control Structures	80 to 100 years
Reticulation Pipes – PVC	70 to 80 years
Reticulation Pipes – other	25 to 75 years
Pumps & Telemetry	15 to 25 years

## Berri Barmera Council

### NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2011

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

##### 6.5 Impairment

Assets that have an indefinite useful life are not subject to depreciation and are reviewed annually for impairment. 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).

For assets whose future economic benefits are not dependent on the ability to generate cash flows, and where the future economic benefits would be replaced if Council were deprived thereof, the value in use is the depreciated replacement cost. In assessing impairment for these assets, a rebuttable assumption is made that the current replacement cost exceeds the original cost of acquisition.

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

##### 6.6 Borrowing Costs

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

#### 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.

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.

## Berri Barmera Council

### NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2011

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

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 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".

#### 11 Joint Ventures and Associated Entities

Council participates in cooperative arrangements with other Councils for the provision of services and facilities.

#### 12 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.

#### 13 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.

#### 14 Pending Accounting Standards

Certain new accounting standards and UIG interpretations have been published that are not mandatory for the 30 June 2011 reporting period and have not been used in preparing these reports.

- AASB 1 *First-time Adoption of Australian Accounting Standards*
- AASB 3 *Business Combinations*
- AASB 5 *Non-current Assets Held for Sale and Discontinued Operations*
- AASB 7 *Financial Instruments: Disclosures*
- AASB 8 *Operating Segments*
- AASB 9 *Financial Instruments*

## Berri Barmera Council

### NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2011

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

- AASB 101 *Presentation of Financial Statements*
- AASB 107 *Statement of Cash Flows*
- AASB 108 *Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors*
- AASB 110 *Events after the Reporting Period*
- AASB 118 *Revenue*
- AASB 119 *Employee Benefits*
- AASB 132 *Financial Instruments: Presentation*
- AASB 137 *Provisions, Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets*
- AASB 139 *Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement*
- AASB 140 *Investment Property*
- AASB 1031 *Materiality*
- AASB 2009-11 *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 9 [AASB 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 101, 102, 108, 112, 118, 121, 127, 128, 131, 132, 136, 139, 1023 & 1038 and Interpretations 10 & 12]*
- AASB 2009-12 *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards [AASBs 5, 8, 108, 110, 112, 119, 133, 137, 1023 & 1032 and Interpretations 2, 4, 16, 1039 & 1052]*
- AASB 2010-4 *Further Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from the Annual Improvements Project [AASBs 3, 7, 121, 128, 131, 132 & 139]*
- AASB 2010-5 *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards [AASBs 1, 3, 4, 5, 101, 107, 112, 118, 119, 121, 132, 133, 134, 137, 139, 140, 1023 & 1038 and Interpretations 112, 115, 127, 132 & 1042]*
- AASB 2010-6 *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards [AASBs 1 & 7]*
- AASB 2010-7 *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 9 [AASBs 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 101, 102, 108, 112, 118, 120, 121, 127, 128, 131, 132, 136, 137, 139, 1023, & 1038 and Interpretations 2, 5, 10, 12, 19, & 127]*
- Interpretation 14 *AASB 119 – The Limit on a Defined Benefit Asset, Minimum Funding Requirements and their Interaction*  
(Standards not affecting local government have been excluded from the above list.)

Council is of the view that 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.

The Australian Accounting Standards Board is currently reviewing AASB 1004 *Contributions*. It is anticipated that the changes resulting from this review may have a material effect on the timing of the recognition of grants and contributions, but the financial consequences cannot be estimated until a revised accounting standard is issued.

**BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL**

**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
for the year ended 30 June 2011

**Note 2 - INCOME**

	2011	2010
Notes	\$	\$
<b>RATES REVENUES</b>		
<u>General Rates</u>	6,417,594	6,249,944
Less: Mandatory and discretionary rebates, remissions and write offs	(153,611)	(145,200)
	<u>6,263,983</u>	<u>6,104,744</u>
<u>Other Rates</u> (including service charges)		
Natural Resource Management levy	94,168	72,784
Community wastewater management systems	2,321,316	2,188,460
	<u>2,415,484</u>	<u>2,261,244</u>
<u>Other Charges</u>		
Penalties for late payment	81,213	52,996
	<u>81,213</u>	<u>52,996</u>
	<u>8,760,680</u>	<u>8,418,984</u>
<b>STATUTORY CHARGES</b>		
Development Act fees	52,755	54,004
Town planning fees	18,730	19,619
Animal registration fees & fines	57,167	63,907
Section 51 Open Space Contribution	-	17,731
Sundry	13,290	11,275
	<u>141,942</u>	<u>166,536</u>
<b>USER CHARGES</b>		
Cemetery/crematoria fees	50,957	50,171
Septic Tank Fees	13,246	21,857
Commercial activity revenue	351,243	-
Hall & equipment hire	8,898	11,145
Parking fees	14,144	18,683
Sales - general	28,780	33,983
Subsidies received on behalf of users	15,390	18,938
Sundry	64,608	39,490
	<u>547,266</u>	<u>194,267</u>
<b>INVESTMENT INCOME</b>		
Interest on investments		
Local Government Finance Authority	48,173	70,785
Banks & other	8,569	13,201
Loans to community groups	15,289	24,986
	<u>72,031</u>	<u>108,972</u>

**BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL**

**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
for the year ended 30 June 2011

**NOTE 2 - INCOME (continued)**

	2011	2010
Notes	\$	\$
<b>REIMBURSEMENTS</b>		
- for private works	158,664	152,023
- wastewater reuse scheme	204,469	220,569
- by joint undertakings	240,004	225,831
- other	8,751	9,685
	<u>611,888</u>	<u>608,108</u>
<b>OTHER INCOME</b>		
Insurance & other recoupments - infrastructure, property, plant & equipment	28,475	24,350
Rebates received	81,296	74,177
Sundry	374,168	341,367
	<u>483,939</u>	<u>439,894</u>
<b>GRANTS, SUBSIDIES, CONTRIBUTIONS</b>		
Amounts received specifically for new or upgraded assets	543,281	441,227
Other grants, subsidies and contributions	3,682,422	3,085,788
Individually significant item - additional Grants Commission payment	see below 56,546	54,333
	<u>4,282,249</u>	<u>3,581,348</u>
<i>The functions to which these grants relate are shown in Note 2.</i>		
<b>Sources of grants</b>		
Commonwealth government	1,236,474	670,622
State government	2,898,449	2,761,235
Other	147,326	149,491
	<u>4,282,249</u>	<u>3,581,348</u>
<b>Individually Significant Item</b>		
On 28 June 2010, Council received payment of the first instalment of the 2010/11 Grant Commission (FAG) grant. Similarly, on 28 June 2011 Council received payment of the first instalment of the 2011/12 grant. It is not known when the timing of these grant payments will be restored to normal schedule, but this will materially adversely affect Council's operating results as these additional amounts are recognised as income upon receipt.	56,546	54,333

## BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL

### NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2011

#### NOTE 2 - INCOME (continued)

	Notes	2011 \$	2010 \$
<b>Conditions over grants &amp; contributions</b>			
<i>Grants and contributions which were obtained on the condition that they be expended for specified purposes or in a future period, but which are not yet expended in accordance with those conditions, are as follows:</i>			
<i>Unexpended at the close of the previous reporting period</i>		379,000	371,000
<i>Less: expended during the current period from revenues recognised in previous reporting periods</i>			
<i>Roads Infrastructure</i>			
<i>Heritage &amp; Cultural Services</i>		(379,000)	(371,000)
<i>Subtotal</i>		<u>(379,000)</u>	<u>(371,000)</u>
<i>Plus: amounts recognised as revenues in this reporting period but not yet expended in accordance with the conditions</i>			
<i>Roads Infrastructure</i>			
<i>Heritage &amp; Cultural Services</i>		168,165	379,000
<i>Subtotal</i>		<u>168,165</u>	<u>379,000</u>
<i>Unexpended at the close of this reporting period</i>		<u>168,165</u>	<u>379,000</u>
<i>Net increase (decrease) in assets subject to conditions in the current reporting period</i>		<u>(210,835)</u>	<u>8,000</u>

#### PHYSICAL RESOURCES RECEIVED FREE OF CHARGE

Land & Buildings	360,000	-
Trading Stock	60,573	-
Plant & Equipment	3,000	-
<b>TOTAL PHYSICAL RESOURCES RECEIVED</b>	<b>423,573</b>	

## BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL

### NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2011

#### Note 3 - EXPENSES

	Notes	2011 \$	2010 \$
<b>EMPLOYEE COSTS</b>			
Salaries and Wages		3,289,928	3,226,223
Employee leave expense		445,477	345,394
Superannuation - defined contribution plan contributions	18	214,781	201,101
Superannuation - defined benefit plan contributions	18	131,945	119,352
Workers' Compensation Insurance		192,704	192,938
Less: Capitalised and distributed costs		(289,088)	(229,060)
<b>Total Operating Employee Costs</b>		<u>3,985,747</u>	<u>3,855,948</u>

<b>Total Number of Employees</b>		68	71
		<i>(Full time equivalent at end of reporting period)</i>	

#### MATERIALS, CONTRACTS & OTHER EXPENSES

<b>Prescribed Expenses</b>			
Auditor's Remuneration			
- Auditing the financial reports		11,810	11,470
Elected members' expenses		174,271	159,141
Election expenses		33,458	-
Operating Lease Rentals - non-cancellable leases	18		
- minimum lease payments		11,808	11,808
<b>Subtotal - Prescribed Expenses</b>		<u>231,347</u>	<u>182,419</u>

#### Other Materials, Contracts & Expenses

Contractors		2,316,441	1,951,458
Individually Significant Items		-	774,320
United Utilities, Wastewater Re-Use Scheme availability and volumetric charges		2,221,684	2,181,830
Legal Expenses		25,243	14,721
Levies paid to government - NRM levy		91,402	73,476
Parts, accessories & consumables		1,565,514	1,319,544
Sundry		1,021,106	1,019,279
<b>Subtotal - Other Materials, Contracts &amp; Expenses</b>		<u>7,241,390</u>	<u>7,334,628</u>
		<u>7,472,737</u>	<u>7,517,047</u>

#### INDIVIDUALLY SIGNIFICANT ITEMS

Council recognises and has provided for estimated costs incurred relating to the closure and rehabilitation of its landfill site at Monash. This amount may change in the future as Council work towards completion of a Landfill Environment Management Plan (LEMP) approved by the Environment Protection Authority.		-	774,320
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**BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL**

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
for the year ended 30 June 2011

Note 3 - EXPENSES (cont)

	Notes	2011 \$	2010 \$
<b>DEPRECIATION, AMORTISATION &amp; IMPAIRMENT</b>			
<b>Depreciation</b>			
Buildings & Other Structures		756,697	734,653
Infrastructure			
- Roads		1,020,758	1,162,140
- Footpaths		255,234	276,457
- Stormwater Drainage		120,955	143,305
- Effluent		260,789	309,508
- Kerbing		142,332	197,956
Other Assets		503,525	466,791
<b>Impairment</b>			
Roads		213,720	
Footpaths		3,482	
		<u>3,277,492</u>	<u>3,290,810</u>
Less: Capitalised and distributed costs		(101,860)	(39,039)
Less: Impairment expense offset to asset revaluation reserve	9	(217,202)	
		<u>2,958,430</u>	<u>3,251,771</u>
<b>FINANCE COSTS</b>			
Interest on overdraft and short-term drawdown			
Interest on Loans		224,116	221,774
Unwinding of present value discounts		13,405	-
		<u>237,521</u>	<u>221,774</u>

**BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL**

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
for the year ended 30 June 2011

Note 4 - ASSET DISPOSAL & FAIR VALUE ADJUSTMENTS

	Notes	2011 \$	2010 \$
<b>INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT &amp; EQUIPMENT</b>			
<i>Assets renewed or directly replaced</i>			
Proceeds from disposal		147,788	114,559
Less: Carrying amount of assets sold		187,610	91,590
<b>Gain (Loss) on disposal</b>		<u>(39,822)</u>	<u>22,969</u>
<i>Assets surplus to requirements</i>			
Proceeds from disposal		73,207	223,727
Less: Carrying amount of assets sold		69,570	302,713
<b>Gain (Loss) on disposal</b>		<u>3,637</u>	<u>(78,986)</u>
<b>REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT ASSETS</b>			
Proceeds from disposal		-	45,000
Less: Carrying amount of assets sold		-	86,816
<b>Gain (Loss) on disposal</b>		<u>-</u>	<u>(41,816)</u>
<b>NET GAIN (LOSS) ON DISPOSAL OR REVALUATION OF ASSETS</b>			
		<u>(36,185)</u>	<u>(97,833)</u>

**BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL**

**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
for the year ended 30 June 2011**

**Note 5 - CURRENT ASSETS**

	Notes	2011 \$	2010 \$
<b>CASH &amp; EQUIVALENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash on Hand and at Bank		238,758	62,398
Deposits at Call		2,010,167	2,222,278
		<u>2,248,925</u>	<u>2,284,676</u>
<b>TRADE &amp; OTHER RECEIVABLES</b>			
Rates - General & Other		892,960	725,811
Debtors - general		877,618	1,151,579
GST Recoupment		127,125	147,842
Prepayments		59,568	39,878
Loans to community organisations		56,696	53,254
Total		2,013,967	2,118,364
<b>INVENTORIES</b>			
Stores & Materials		62,518	26,369
Trading Stock		64,090	-
		<u>126,608</u>	<u>26,369</u>

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

**BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL**

**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
for the year ended 30 June 2011**

**Note 6 - NON-CURRENT ASSETS**

	Notes	2011 \$	2010 \$
<b>FINANCIAL ASSETS</b>			
<b>Receivables</b>			
Loans to community organisations		300,368	396,841
<b>TOTAL FINANCIAL ASSETS</b>		<u>300,368</u>	<u>396,841</u>
<b>OTHER NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Capital Works-in-Progress		1,170,193	391,182
		<u>1,170,193</u>	<u>391,182</u>

**BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL**

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
for the year ended 30 June 2011

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

	2010				2011			
	\$				\$			
	AT FAIR VALUE	AT COST	ACCUM DEP'N	CARRYING AMOUNT	AT FAIR VALUE	AT COST	ACCUM DEP'N	CARRYING AMOUNT
Land	20,781,123	-	-	20,781,123	20,796,553	-	-	20,796,553
Buildings	25,277,703	594,636	(12,675,533)	13,196,806	25,277,703	1,195,839	(13,173,196)	13,300,346
Structures	6,416,119	590,925	(2,798,119)	4,208,925	6,416,119	1,149,778	(3,057,153)	4,508,744
Infrastructure	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
- Roads	66,907,790	-	(19,105,954)	47,801,836	67,843,712	-	(19,245,125)	48,598,587
- Footpaths	6,603,858	-	(3,558,264)	3,045,594	6,659,116	-	(3,797,044)	2,862,072
- Stormwater Drainage	13,113,740	-	(4,488,534)	8,625,206	10,990,402	30,759	(3,897,687)	7,123,474
- Effluent	20,487,341	-	(10,015,446)	10,471,895	16,967,142	48,901	(8,594,613)	8,421,430
- Kerbing	10,159,333	-	(4,184,884)	5,974,449	10,159,333	17,582	(4,327,216)	5,849,699
Plant & Machinery	-	4,159,364	(2,004,334)	2,155,030	-	4,215,495	(2,061,203)	2,154,292
Minor Plant	-	693,805	(610,496)	83,309	-	544,872	(425,517)	119,355
Office Equipment	-	905,741	(727,706)	178,035	-	1,055,006	(819,331)	235,675
<b>TOTAL PROPERTY, PLANT &amp; EQUIPMENT</b>	<b>169,747,007</b>	<b>6,944,471</b>	<b>(60,169,270)</b>	<b>116,522,208</b>	<b>165,110,080</b>	<b>8,258,232</b>	<b>(59,398,085)</b>	<b>113,970,227</b>
<i>Comparatives</i>					<b>169,747,007</b>	<b>6,944,471</b>	<b>(60,169,270)</b>	<b>116,522,208</b>

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 2011

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

	2010	CARRYING AMOUNT MOVEMENTS DURING YEAR						2011	
	\$	\$						\$	
	CARRYING AMOUNT	Additions		Disposals	Depreciation	Impairment	Transfers	Net Revaluation	CARRYING AMOUNT
		New/Upgrade	Renewals						
Land	20,781,123	85,000	-	(69,570)	-	-	-	-	20,796,553
Land Improvements	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Buildings	13,196,806	275,000	326,203	-	(497,663)	-	-	-	13,300,346
Structures	4,208,925	558,853	-	-	(259,034)	-	-	-	4,508,744
Infrastructure	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
- Roads	47,801,836	1,566,565	464,664	-	(1,020,758)	(213,720)	-	-	48,598,587
-Footpaths	3,045,594	-	75,194	-	(255,234)	(3,462)	-	-	2,862,072
-Stormwater Drainage	8,625,206	-	30,759	-	(120,955)	-	-	(1,411,536)	7,123,474
-Effluent	10,471,895	-	48,901	-	(260,789)	-	-	(1,838,577)	8,421,430
-Kerbing	5,974,449	-	17,582	-	(142,332)	-	-	-	5,849,699
Plant and Machinery	2,155,030	-	569,613	(181,513)	(388,838)	-	-	-	2,154,292
Minor Plant	83,309	40,500	23,655	(6,097)	(22,012)	-	-	-	119,355
Office Equipment	178,035	-	150,315	-	(92,675)	-	-	-	235,675
<b>TOTAL INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT &amp; EQUIPMENT</b>	<b>116,522,208</b>	<b>2,525,918</b>	<b>1,706,886</b>	<b>(257,180)</b>	<b>(3,060,290)</b>	<b>(217,202)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(3,250,113)</b>	<b>113,970,227</b>
<i>Comparatives</i>	<b>105,341,375</b>	<b>820,391</b>	<b>1,513,692</b>	<b>(394,306)</b>	<b>(3,290,810)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>12,531,866</b>	<b>116,522,208</b>

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 2011

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

**Valuation of Assets**

At 1 July 2004 upon the transition to AIFRS, Council elected pursuant to AASB 1.19 to retain a previously established deemed cost under GAAP as its deemed cost. With subsequent additions at cost, this remains as the basis of recognition of non-material asset classes.

**Land & Land Improvements**

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

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

Land improvements, including bulk earthworks with an assessed unlimited useful life, are recognised at fair value, originally deriving from a valuation at 30 June 2008 at current replacement cost. Additions are recognised at cost. The revaluation was undertaken by Maloney Field Services (Australia) Pty. Ltd..

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 are recognised at fair value deriving from a valuation at 30 June 2008 at written down current replacement cost. Additions are recognised at cost. The revaluation was undertaken by Maloney Field Services (Australia) Pty. Ltd.

**Infrastructure**

Roads, Kerbing and Footpaths infrastructure are recognised at fair value, deriving from a valuation at 30 June 2009 at written down current replacement cost. Additions are recognised at cost. The revaluation was undertaken by Tonkin Consulting.

Stormwater drainage infrastructure is recognised at fair value, deriving from a valuation at 30 June 2010 at written down current replacement cost. The revaluation was undertaken by Tonkin Consulting. Subsequent adjustments to unit rates were applied at 30 June 2011.

Community wastewater management scheme infrastructure are recognised at fair value, deriving from a valuation at 30 June 2010 at written down current replacement cost. The revaluation was undertaken by Tonkin Consulting. Subsequent adjustment to unit rates were applied at 30 June 2011.

**Plant, Furniture & Equipment**

These assets are recognised on the cost basis.

**All other assets**

Pursuant to Council's election, these assets are recognised on the cost basis.

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**BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL**

**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
for the year ended 30 June 2011

**Note 8 - LIABILITIES**

	2011		2010	
	Current	Non-current	Current	Non-current
<b>TRADE &amp; OTHER PAYABLES</b>				
Goods & Services	1,174,386		1,060,867	
Payments received in advance	10,875		47,638	
Accrued expenses - employee entitlements	386,667		423,258	
Accrued expenses - other	204,505		196,618	
	<u>1,776,433</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,728,381</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>BORROWINGS</b>				
Loans	491,421	3,655,867	399,038	2,906,183
	<u>491,421</u>	<u>3,655,867</u>	<u>399,038</u>	<u>2,906,183</u>

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

**PROVISIONS**

Employee entitlements (including oncosts)	440,573	41,155	293,390	153,442
Future reinstatement / restoration, etc		774,320		774,320
	<u>440,573</u>	<u>815,475</u>	<u>293,390</u>	<u>927,762</u>

**Movements in Provisions - 2011 year only**  
(current & non-current)

	Insurance Losses	Future Reinstatement	Other Provision
Opening Balance		774,320	
Add Unwinding of present value discounts			
Additional amounts recognised			
(Less) Payments			
Unused amounts reversed			
Add (Less) Remeasurement Adjustments			
Closing Balance		<u>774,320</u>	

**BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL**

**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
for the year ended 30 June 2011**

**Note 9 - RESERVES**

ASSET REVALUATION RESERVE	1/7/2010	Net Increments (Decrements)	Transfers, Impairments	30/6/2011
Notes	\$	\$	\$	\$
Land	8,611,676			8,611,676
Buildings	3,830,174			3,830,174
Infrastructure	84,761,048	(3,250,113 )	(217,202 )	81,293,733
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>97,202,898</b>	<b>(3,250,113 )</b>	<b>(217,202 )</b>	<b>93,735,583</b>
<i>Comparatives</i>	<i>84,671,032</i>	<i>12,531,866</i>		<i>97,202,898</i>

OTHER RESERVES	1/7/2010	Transfers to Reserve	Transfers from Reserve	30/6/2011
Land Development	964,468	4,619	(18,373 )	950,714
District CWMS	(377,421 )	2,527,029	(2,623,729 )	(474,121 )
Work In Progress	1,815,592	735,415	(1,815,592 )	735,415
Open Space	20,141		(5,223 )	14,918
<b>TOTAL OTHER RESERVES</b>	<b>2,422,780</b>	<b>3,267,063</b>	<b>(4,462,917 )</b>	<b>1,226,926</b>
<i>Comparatives</i>	<i>1,571,025</i>	<i>2,219,124</i>	<i>(1,367,369 )</i>	<i>2,422,780</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 for 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 in 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 2011**

**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	2011 \$	2010 \$
Unexpended amounts received from Federal Government			
Regional and Local Community Infrastructure Programme 2008/2009		150,000	142,000
<b>TOTAL ASSETS SUBJECT TO EXTERNALLY IMPOSED RESTRICTIONS</b>		<b>150,000</b>	<b>142,000</b>

The Regional and Local Community Infrastructure Programme 2008/2009 - 3rd Round were restricted whereby Council was to expend the funding on NEW capital works.

**BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL**

**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
for the year ended 30 June 2011**

**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	2011 \$	2010 \$
Total cash & equivalent assets	5	2,248,925	2,284,676
Less: Short-term borrowings	8	-	-
Balances per Cash Flow Statement		<u>2,248,925</u>	<u>2,284,676</u>

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

Net Surplus (Deficit)		632,948	(1,426,264)
Non-cash items in Income Statement			
Depreciation, amortisation & impairment		2,958,430	3,251,771
Fair value adjustments		-	-
Equity movements in equity accounted investments		-	-
(increase) decrease		-	-
Net increase (decrease) in unpaid employee benefits		(15,100)	(77,699)
Premiums & discounts recognised & unwound		13,405	-
Change in allowances for under-recovery		-	-
Non-cash asset acquisitions		(423,573)	-
Grants for capital acquisitions treated as Investing Activity		(543,281)	(441,227)
Net (Gain) Loss on Disposals		36,185	97,833
		<u>2,659,014</u>	<u>1,404,414</u>
Add (Less): Changes in Net Current Assets			
Net (increase) decrease in receivables		107,839	(740,654)
Net (increase) decrease in inventories		(100,239)	(1,810)
Net (increase) decrease in other current assets		-	-
Net increase (decrease) in trade & other payables		5,012	422,915
Net increase (decrease) in other provisions		-	774,320
Net increase (decrease) in other liabilities		-	-
<b>Net Cash provided by (or used in) operations</b>		<u>2,671,626</u>	<u>1,859,185</u>

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

Acquisition of assets by means of:			
- Physical resources received free of charge	3	423,573	-
- Non-cash grants & contributions		-	-
Amounts recognised in Income Statement		<u>423,573</u>	<u>-</u>
- Finance Leases		-	-
- Estimated future reinstatement etc. costs		-	-
- Land taken over for non-payment of Rates		-	-
		<u>423,573</u>	<u>-</u>

**(d) Financing Arrangements**

Unrestricted access was available at balance date to the following lines of credit:			
Bank Overdrafts		140,000	45,000
Corporate Credit Cards		26,000	26,000

The bank overdraft facilities may be drawn at any time and may be terminated by the bank without notice. Council also has immediate access to a short-term draw-down facility, and variable interest rate borrowings under a cash advance facility, both from the Local Government Finance Authority of SA.

**BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL**

**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
for the year ended 30 June 2011**

**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	2011	2010	2011	2010
	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Public Order and Safety	75,379	64,505	203,088	273,488	(127,709)	(208,983)	-	-	298,250	307,235
Health	37,859	41,734	253,308	176,231	(215,449)	(134,497)	-	-	8,632	-
Social Security	12,629	8,418	116,557	146,992	(103,928)	(138,574)	-	-	700,524	725,995
Housing & Community Amenities	2,653,336	2,552,172	4,956,452	5,364,321	(2,303,116)	(2,812,149)	45,000	-	9,873,176	12,192,079
Protection of the Environment	603,904	5,952	622,074	82,694	(18,170)	(76,742)	705,400	247,159	4,000	313,632
Sport and Recreation	429,921	482,273	3,131,330	2,935,314	(2,701,409)	(2,453,041)	443,325	362,768	11,269,634	9,578,051
Mining, Manufacturing & Construction	57,941	26,676	247,511	278,546	(189,570)	(251,870)	37,100	-	13,069	-
Transport & Communication	770,947	936,984	3,096,260	3,034,547	(2,325,313)	(2,097,563)	745,159	881,465	64,954,466	65,708,934
Economic Affairs NEC	498,789	180,700	842,738	386,498	(343,949)	(205,798)	-	6,000	1,578,515	1,401,923
Other Purposes	418,917	349,817	1,030,793	1,544,571	(611,876)	(1,194,754)	90,364	-	2,655,407	2,880,010
Administration	8,797,092	8,427,651	154,324	623,338	8,642,768	7,804,313	2,215,901	2,083,956	28,474,615	28,631,781
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>14,356,714</b>	<b>13,076,882</b>	<b>14,654,435</b>	<b>14,846,540</b>	<b>(297,721)</b>	<b>(1,769,658)</b>	<b>4,282,249</b>	<b>3,581,348</b>	<b>119,830,288</b>	<b>121,739,640</b>

Excludes 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 2011

#### 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 2011

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

##### Liquidity Analysis

2011	Due < 1 year	Due > 1 year; ≤ 5 years	Due > 5 years	Total Contractual Cash Flows	Carrying Values
<b>Financial Assets</b>	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Cash & Equivalents	2,248,925			2,248,925	2,248,925
Receivables	1,121,007	251,838	48,530	1,421,375	1,421,375
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,369,932</b>	<b>251,838</b>	<b>48,530</b>	<b>3,670,300</b>	<b>3,670,300</b>
<b>Financial Liabilities</b>					
Payables	1,185,261			1,185,261	1,185,261
Current Borrowings	491,421			491,421	491,421
Non-Current Borrowings		1,604,516	2,051,351	3,655,867	3,655,867
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,676,682</b>	<b>1,604,516</b>	<b>2,051,351</b>	<b>5,332,549</b>	<b>5,332,549</b>

2010	Due < 1 year	Due > 1 year; ≤ 5 years	Due > 5 years	Total Contractual Cash Flows	Carrying Values
<b>Financial Assets</b>	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Cash & Equivalents	2,284,676			2,284,676	2,284,676
Receivables	1,789,394			1,789,394	1,789,394
Other Financial Assets					398,941
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,074,070</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,074,070</b>	<b>4,470,911</b>
<b>Financial Liabilities</b>					
Payables	1,108,505			1,108,505	1,108,505
Current Borrowings					399,038
Non-Current Borrowings	399,038	1,881,085	1,025,098	3,305,221	2,908,183
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,507,543</b>	<b>1,881,085</b>	<b>1,025,098</b>	<b>4,413,726</b>	<b>4,413,726</b>

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

	30 June 2011		30 June 2010	
	Weighted Average Interest Rate	Carrying Value	Weighted Average Interest Rate	Carrying Value
Overdraft	10.45	\$ -	10.2	\$ -
Other Variable Rates	6.25	1,185,261	5.8	1,108,505
Fixed Interest Rates	6.8	4,147,288	6.7	3,305,221
		<b>5,332,549</b>		<b>4,413,726</b>

##### Net Fair Value

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

##### Risk Exposures

**Credit Risk** represents the loss that would be recognised if counterparties fail to perform as contracted. The maximum credit risk on financial assets of the Council is the carrying amount, net of any 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 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 2011

#### Note 14 - COMMITMENTS FOR EXPENDITURE

	Notes	2011 \$	2010 \$
<b>Capital Commitments</b>			
Capital expenditure committed for at the reporting date but not recognised in the financial statements as liabilities:			
Land			
Buildings			
Plant & Equipment		-	-
These expenditures are payable:			
Not later than one year			
Later than one year and not later than 5 years			
Later than 5 years		-	-
<b>Other Expenditure Commitments</b>			
Other expenditure committed for (excluding inventories) at the reporting date but not recognised in the financial statements as liabilities:			
Audit Services		48,000	-
Waste Management Services			
- Domestic Collection		242,500	345,138
- Street Collection		15,200	22,268
- Parks and Foreshore Collection		25,200	40,251
- Dump Maintenance		91,200	158,498
Weed Spray Contract		-	112,000
Household Desludging Contract		700,000	140,000
Wastewater Re-Use Scheme - Operating			
Availability Charge		1,800,000	1,728,625
Volumetric Charge (variable)		67,000	108,631
Cleaning Service Contract		108,000	108,000
Public Conveniences Maintenance		39,350	-
IT Support Contract		46,200	43,152
		3,182,650	2,806,563
These expenditures are payable:			
Not later than one year		2,586,650	2,617,844
Later than one year and not later than 5 years		596,000	188,719
Later than 5 years		3,182,650	2,806,563

## BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL

### NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2011

#### Note 15 - FINANCIAL INDICATORS

	2011	2010	2009
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.			
<b>Operating Surplus</b>	\$ (297,721)	(1,769,658)	(206,149)
<i>Being the operating surplus (deficit) before capital amounts .</i>			
<b>Adjusted Operating Surplus</b>	(243,388)	(1,823,991)	(724,970)
<i>In each of June 2009, 2010 and 2010 the Commonwealth Government made an advance payment of one quarterly payment of the Financial Assistance Grant (see Note 2). Accordingly there were five "quarterly" payments in 2009, and four payments in each of 2010 and 2011. The Adjusted Operating Surplus and Adjusted Operating Surplus Ratio adjust for this distortion.</i>			
<b>Operating Surplus Ratio</b>			
Operating Surplus	(3%)	(21%)	(3%)
Rates - general & other less NRM levy			
<b>Adjusted Operating Surplus Ratio</b>	(3%)	(22%)	(9%)
<i>This ratio expresses the operating surplus as a percentage of general and other rates, net of NRM levy.</i>			
<b>Net Financial Liabilities</b>	\$ 2,616,509	1,454,873	1,059,237
<i>Net Financial Liabilities are defined as total liabilities less financial assets (excluding equity accounted investments in Council businesses).</i>			
<b>Net Financial Liabilities Ratio</b>			
Net Financial Liabilities	18%	11%	8%
Total Operating Revenue less NRM levy			
<b>Interest Cover Ratio</b>			
Net Interest Expense	1.1%	0.9%	0.9%
Total Operating Revenue less NRM levy less Investment Income			
<b>Asset Sustainability Ratio</b>			
Net Asset Renewals	62%	52%	46%
Depreciation Expense			
<i>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.</i>			
<b>Asset Consumption Ratio</b>			
Carrying value of depreciable assets	61%	61%	66%
Gross value of depreciable assets			
<i>Total carrying value of depreciable assets divided by total reported value of depreciable assets before accumulated depreciation.</i>			

**BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL**

**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
for the year ended 30 June 2011**

**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

	2011 \$	2010 \$
Income	14,356,714	13,076,882
less Expenses	<u>14,654,435</u>	<u>14,846,540</u>
<b>Operating Surplus / (Deficit)</b>	<b>(297,721)</b>	<b>(1,769,658)</b>
<i>less Net Outlays on Existing Assets</i>		
Capital Expenditure on renewal and replacement of Existing Assets	1,992,324	1,805,201
less Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	2,958,430	3,251,771
less Proceeds from Sale of Replaced Assets	<u>147,788</u>	<u>114,558</u>
	<b>(1,113,894)</b>	<b>(1,561,128)</b>
<i>less Net Outlays on New and Upgraded Assets</i>		
Capital Expenditure on New and Upgraded Assets (including investment property & real estate developments)	2,414,427	1,022,885
less Amounts received specifically for New and Upgraded Assets	543,281	441,227
less Proceeds from Sale of Surplus Assets (including investment property and real estate developments)	<u>73,207</u>	<u>268,727</u>
	<u><b>1,797,939</b></u>	<u><b>312,931</b></u>
<b>Net Lending / (Borrowing) for Financial Year</b>	<b>(981,766)</b>	<b>(521,461)</b>

**BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL**

**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
for the year ended 30 June 2011**

**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:

	2011 \$	2010 \$
Not later than one year	<b>8,897</b>	16,937
Later than one year and not later than 5 years	<b>35,922</b>	43,181
Later than 5 years	<u><b>614</b></u>	<u>513</u>
	<u><b>45,433</b></u>	<u>60,631</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:

	2011 \$	2010 \$
Not later than one year	<b>17,386</b>	15,841
Later than one year and not later than 5 years	<b>18,686</b>	18,615
Later than 5 years	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u><b>36,072</b></u>	<u>34,456</u>

## BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL

### NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2011

#### Note 18 – 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. Permanent and contract employees of the South Australian Local Government sector have the option to contribute to Marketlink and/or Salarylink. All other employees (including casuals) have all contributions allocated to Marketlink.

##### Marketlink (Accumulation Fund) Members

Marketlink receives both employer and employee contributions on a progressive basis. Employer contributions are based on a fixed percentage of employee earnings in accordance with superannuation guarantee legislation (9% in 2010/11 for Marketlink members and 3% for Salarylink members; 9% and 3% respectively in 2009/10). No further liability accrues to the employer as the superannuation benefits accruing to employees are represented by their share of the net assets of the Fund.

##### Salarylink (Defined Benefit) 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 of contribution and final average salary. Council makes employer contributions to Salarylink as determined by the Scheme's Trustee based on advice from the Scheme's Actuary. The rate is currently 6.3% (6% in 2009/10) of "superannuation" salary. Given that Employer contributions are based on a fixed percentage of employee earnings in accordance with superannuation guarantee legislation, the remaining 3% for Salarylink members is allocated to their Marketlink account. Employees also make member contributions to the Fund. As such, assets accumulate in the Fund to meet the member's benefits, as defined in the Trust Deed, as they accrue.

The Salarylink Plan is a multi-employer sponsored plan. As the Fund's assets and liabilities are pooled and are not allocated by employer, 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 full actuarial investigation conducted by the Scheme's actuary, L C Brett, BSc., FIA, FIAA, of Brett and Watson Pty Ltd as at 30 June 2008, the Trustee has determined that the current funding arrangements are adequate for the expected Defined Benefit Plan liabilities. However, future financial and economic circumstances may require changes to Council's contribution rates at some future time.

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## BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL

### NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2011

#### Note 19 - JOINT VENTURES & ASSOCIATED ENTITIES

##### Regional Subsidiary

Council is a member of the Murray Mallee Local Government Association (MMLGA) which was established pursuant to Section 43 of the Local Government Act, 1999.

Contribution paid to the Association were (ex GST)

2011 - \$15,377      2010 - \$11,741

##### Joint Use Library

Council is party to an agreement between the Murray Institute of TAFE, 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

Staff and students of the Murray Institute of TAFE Berri Campus

Community of the Berri Barmera Council

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

Minister for Education and Children's Services - 5/19

Murray Institute of TAFE - 5/19

Berri Barmera Council - 9/19

##### Wastewater Re-Use Scheme

A joint venture has been entered into between Council and United Utilities Australia Pty Ltd 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 2010/2011 are:

Availability Charge - Annual Charge \$1,761,600

Volumetric Charge - Average annual charge \$167,353

**BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL**

**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
for the year ended 30 June 2011**

**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.

**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.

**BANK GUARANTEES**

Council has guaranteed certain loans and other banking facilities advanced to community organisations and sporting bodies, amounting to **\$347,320** (2010: \$377,853) at reporting date.

Details being:-

Berri War Memorial Community Centre  
Total Borrowed \$500,000  
Broken into 2 loans - \$300,000 Fixed Term Loan, \$200,000 Variable Rate Loan

Council does not expect to incur any loss arising from these guarantees.

**PROVISION FOR FUTURE WASTE MANAGEMENT**

Council is part of both the Murray Mallee Local Government Association Regional Waste Management Strategy and the Sub Regional Plan for the Riverland Councils to establish a blueprint for waste management within the region and at a Council level for the future.

Although not yet quantified in dollar terms, the implementation of the aforesaid strategy will necessitate Council incurring significant financial liabilities associated with introducing the following:

- Waste transfer station and development of waste transfer and recycle separation centre.
- Introduction of kerbside recycling.
- Waste disposal schemes for green waste and other recyclable materials that can be utilised for other purposes.

**IAN G McDONALD FCA**  
ABN: 13 550 494 869



**INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL**

I have audited the accompanying financial report of the Berri Barmera Council which comprises the balance sheet as at 30 June 2011 and the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity, cash flow statement, summary of significant accounting policies, other explanatory notes and the certification of financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2011.

**Chief Executive Officer's Responsibility for the Financial Report**

The Chief Executive Officer is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations) and the Local Government Act 1999 together with the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1999. This responsibility includes establishing and maintaining internal controls relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

**Auditor's Responsibility**

My responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on my audit. I have conducted my audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These Auditing Standards require that I comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the Board of Management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

**Independence**

In conducting my audit I followed applicable independence requirements of Australian professional and ethical pronouncements and the Local Government Act 1999.

**Auditor's Opinion**

In my opinion, the financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Berri Barmera Council as of 30 June 2011, and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations) and the Local Government Act 1999 together with the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1999.

**IAN G MC DONALD FCA**  
**CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT**  
**REGISTERED COMPANY AUDITOR**

Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation

Signed day of 2011, at Eastwood, South Australia

1st Floor,  
206 Greenhill Road,  
Eastwood, SA, 5063

PO Box 75  
Henley Beach  
SA 5022

Mobile: 0419 620 906  
Residence: 8356 0825  
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**BERRI BARMERA COUNCIL**

**ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 June 2011**

**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 2011, the Council's Auditor, Ian McDonald, has maintained independence in accordance with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 1999* and the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011* made under that Act.

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

  
.....  
**DAVID BEATON**  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

  
.....  
**JOHN COMRIE**  
PRESIDING MEMBER  
AUDIT COMMITTEE

Date:

**BERRI BAMERA COUNCIL**

**ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 June 2011**

**STATEMENT BY AUDITOR**

I confirm that, for the audit of the financial statements of the Berri Barmera Council for the year ended 30 June 2011, 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*.

  
**Ian G McDonald FCA**

Dated this 5th day of October 2011

# *environmental services*

**DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS AND STRUCTURE OUTLINE**

**DEVELOPMENT ASSESSMENT**

**ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH**

**DOG AND CAT MANAGEMENT**

**PARKING CONTROL**

**BUSHFIRE PREVENTION**

**ANIMAL AND PLANT CONTROL**

**EFFLUENT DRAINAGE /MANAGEMENT/PLANNING/MAINTENANCE**

**MAJOR PROJECTS**



# environmental services

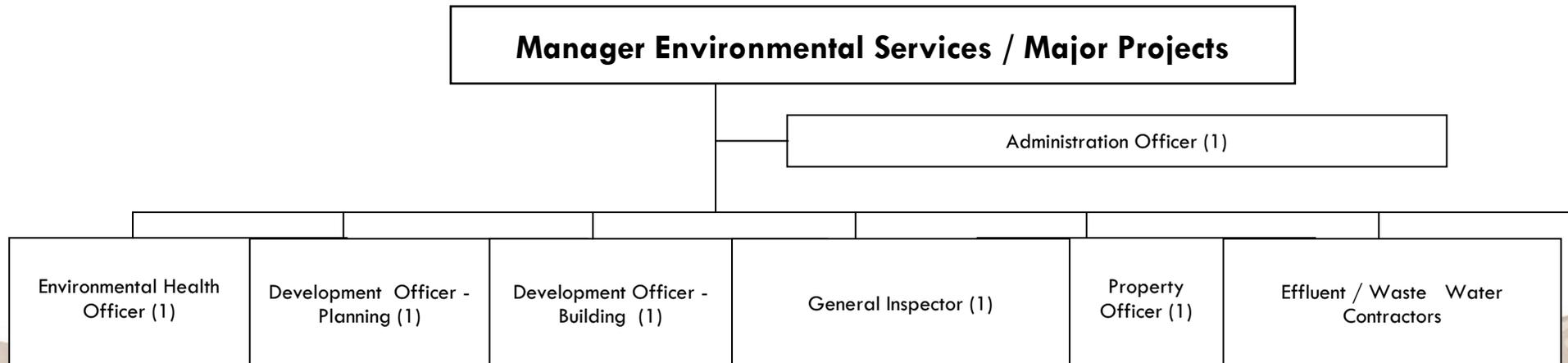


**Mr Gary Brinkworth**  
**Manager Environmental Services**

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

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

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



# 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 control provisions entailed within Council's 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 'consent' applications which do not involve public notification and are dealt with by Council staff using extensive delegated authority granted to them by Council.

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

In the past 12 months, Council received 220 applications, primarily comprising domestic uses, and also including 20 land divisions. Many of these land division applications sought to excise dwellings from horticultural allotments.

The Development Assessment Commission also issued a number of consents for Crown development, and comment was sought from Council in relation to the upgrade to the Berri General Hospital.

### 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.

One appeal was lodged against a decision of Council in the 2010-11 financial year. This appeal is a third party appeal against a decision of the RRDAP to grant approval to a residential land division. The appeal is on-going.

## Policy planning

### Development Plan Review

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

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

During 2010-11 Council continued and completed a review of its Development Plan, and undertook a Better Development Plan Conversion and region wide alignment project, in association with the Renmark Paringa and Loxton Waikerie Councils. The proposed document has been forwarded to the Department for Planning and Local Government and the Minister for final approval.

# environmental services

## Development Act 101A Committee

Council is required to form a strategic planning and development policy committee pursuant to section 101A of the *Development Act 1993*. The functions of the committee are to advise and assist Council in undertaking strategic planning and monitoring, and to ensure that Council's strategic planning and development policies accord with the Regional Planning Strategy.

The committee comprises all elected members and the Mayor, and is advised by staff members.

### Compliance / Illegal development

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

### Building Fire Safety Committee

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

During the 2010/11 reporting period the following inspections were undertaken;

Type of Inspection	Quantity
Hotels and Gaming venues	Nil
Motels	2
Caravan Parks	1
Golf clubs	1
Packing sheds	1
Commercial/industrial complexes	8
Council buildings	5

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

## ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

### Food

Council continues to undertake its legal responsibilities under the provisions of the Food Act 2001. During the 12 month period to 30 June 2011 99 routine inspections were undertaken and 57 follow up inspections were also undertaken to ensure compliance with outstanding issues. Letters are now sent to all food businesses after any inspection where non-conformances are found. Seven inspections were undertaken as a result of complaints.

Food business proprietors are provided information when appropriate, for example, the circulars from the Department of Health regarding the storage of cream and custard products and food poisoning linked to these products. During the reporting period seven food complaints were received involving food safety. The child care centre and aged care facility that provide food for vulnerable persons are audited by Council's Environmental Health Officer who is a Department of Health approved auditor. The aged care facility has been audited once during the reporting period. The Child Care Centre was not audited as they have not closed off the non-conformances from the previous audit. The two local hospitals and associated aged care facilities are audited by the Department of Health. Council remains the enforcement agency and attends these audits.

### Public and Environmental Health

The Public and Environmental Health Act 1987, requires Council to promote proper standards of public and environmental health in its area, for example, sanitation, control of vectors, the prevention and control of diseases.

### Immunisation

The School Based Immunisation Program was provided for year 8 and 9 students at the Riverland Special School and Glossop High School. Follow up clinics are provided approximately one week after each school clinic to ensure that all students are provided with adequate opportunities to attend. All year 8 students are offered the Hepatitis B and Varicella (Chicken Pox) vaccines. Year 8 girls are offered the Gardasil (human papillomavirus) Vaccine. All year 9 students are offered the Boostrix (Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis) Vaccine.

# environmental services

## Legionella

The Public and Environmental Health (Legionella) Regulations 2010 require all business with High Risk Manufactured Water Systems (HRMWS), i.e. warm water systems and cooling water systems, to be inspected annually. For the second year, Council has appointed a contract Environmental Health Officer to undertake these inspections on behalf of Council.

There are eight warm water systems over 4 sites and 11 operational cooling water systems within the district. Four warm water systems and all operational cooling towers were inspected. Five warm water systems were registered towards the end of the reporting period, therefore not all were inspected. A number of cooling towers are no longer in operation due to the closure of a number of local manufacturing businesses.

Two Notices were issued to owners of HRMWS requiring specified information to be provided demonstrating that drift eliminators fitted to the cooling towers are compliant with the regulations.

Operators of HRMWS are provided with copies of information, as it becomes available, such as new fact sheets as issued by the Department of Health.

## European Wasps

Council is a contributor to the European Wasp Equalisation Fund. During the reporting period there were no European Wasp Nests either identified or destroyed. When a nest is located, arrangements can be made to have the nest destroyed by a licensed pest controller at no cost to the ratepayer. Information about European Wasps is available from Council. A number of wasp nests located on public land were destroyed by licensed pest controllers.

## Mosquito Surveillance and Control Activities

The mosquito and Public Health Research Group at the University of South Australia provided mosquito surveillance and spot control services to six local government areas along the River Murray from September 2010 to April 2011. This was the twelfth consecutive year of this service.

Eleven sampling trips were performed by the field officer (Stephen Fricker). Regular reports are provided to Council along with regular newsletters and updates.

The dramatic change in conditions such as the highest river levels seen in many years coinciding with significant rainfall resulted in many sites containing larvae and requiring treatment being identified throughout the season. While many larva sites identified in previous years were submerged by floodwater, a number of new sites were identified and monitored. Larva sites were treated around Berri Barmera Council from the third trip of the season. Treatment continued over the entire season. Due to the heavy rain event in early December an additional unscheduled trip was conducted to investigate and treat possible larva sites.

Council's contractor, Rashlee Pty Ltd, pre-treated known breeding sites prior to predicted summer rain events and routinely monitored and treated known and newly identified breeding sites during the season. A number of new sites were identified after heavy summer rains and high river levels.

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

"Fight the Bite" pamphlets are distributed within the community. Thousands of additional pamphlets were distributed with third quarter rates notices and first quarter notices. Distributing them with first quarter notices ensures that the maximum number of rate-payers receive information about

The Riverland Arbovirus Prevention Working Group (RAPWG) had previously developed resources, including a bookmark and A4 size checklist, aimed at reminding tourists to take personal protection measures against mosquito bites. The checklist continues to be distributed during routine swimming pool inspections so that accommodation providers can include them in compendiums for guests. The checklist has been displayed in many public facilities in the Council area.



The three Riverland Councils, with the assistance of WIN TV, developed a TV advert which was aimed at promoting the personal protection measures to guard against mosquito borne disease to locals and tourists. The advert is a resource that will be available for use year after year as the need arises, particularly during years where there are high numbers of arbovirus cases reported or cases of Murray Valley Encephalitis.

# environmental services

Acknowledgement has been received from Stephen Christley, Chief Public Health Officer, Department of Health, for the collaborative and innovative approach taken by partnering Councils in developing the advertisement and the important role of the Environmental Health Officer in implementing and overseeing mosquito management activities.

A winter mosquito larvae surveillance program began in June 2011. This was a result of the higher than average rainfalls and increased river levels contributing to mosquito borne disease rates reaching unprecedented levels within South Australia during the 2010-11 mosquito season. The winter surveillance program is aimed at minimizing the risk of Murray Valley Encephalitis transmission to humans. The larval surveillance will be used to guide on-going larvicidal work with a view to reducing mosquito numbers through winter to minimize the biting threat in the following spring and summer.



## Swimming Pools

There are 13 public swimming pools and 1 public spa pools within the district. All swimming pools and spas were inspected at least once with a total of seventeen routine inspections, one requested inspection and four follow up inspections undertaken. Letters are sent to swimming pool operators where non-compliance with the standards are observed. One complaint was received regarding large numbers of insects in a public swimming pool.

## Waste Control Systems

During the 2010/2011 year, 67 applications to install new, or alter existing, waste control systems were received. 64 approvals were issued.

Council engages a contractor to undertake a desludging program of the septic tanks connected to the Community Wastewater Management System (CWMS). On a rotational basis each septic tank is pumped about every four years. In reporting on the operations the contractor includes details such as the location and condition of the septic tanks. 621 septic tanks were desludged. Where septic tanks are not exposed for desludging or defects were found with the septic tanks, letters are sent to property owners advising them of the action required to expose or maintain the septic tank. A number of septic tanks have been repaired or replaced as a result of these letters.

## DOG AND CAT MANAGEMENT

Council has responsibility for dog and cat management in accordance with the *Cat and Dog 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 2010/11 period there were 2228 dogs registered within the council area.

Council's Animal Management Plan is due for review in 2012. 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 148 dogs were impounded, and Council's General Inspector undertook the following duties;

Complaint	2010/2011
Dog wandering at large	374
Dog impounded	148
Dog returned to owner	140
Dog attack	16
Dog harass	35
Noise complaint	81

# environmental services

At the July 2011 Council meeting it was resolved to form a working group to look at off leash dog parks for the Berri and Barmera Township. There are several suggested sites that will be investigated during the 2011-12 year.

## PARKING CONTROL

The General Inspector continues to enforce parking regulations in the towns of Berri and Barmera. In total, 139 parking expiation notices were issued. The two permit only car parks in the Berri Business District have continued to be well supported.

## BUSHFIRE PREVENTION

The Berri Barmera Council District Bushfire Prevention Committee was replaced in 2009/2010 following a change to regulations 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 role of the Fire Prevention Officer includes 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.

Last years drought had a significant impact on the horticultural blocks with the supply of water being restricted and in some cases stopped. This created a significant fire hazard for the 2010/11 summer season. The General Inspector continues to monitor these land holdings and issued clean up notices where required.

Section 105F Statistics	2010/2011
Section 105F notices issued	158
Council action required	4
Expiations issued	Nil

In total the Council issued 52 permits under the Fire and Emergency Services Act to burn during the fire danger season. The type of activities that were allowed by these permits included burning off stubble, burning old plantings and rubbish, lighting BBQs, training exercises, burning general garden waste and the disposal of drug crops. An additional 2 permits were issued to burn on a total fire ban day.

## ANIMAL AND PLANT CONTROL

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

## EFFLUENT DRAINAGE/MANAGEMENT/PLANNING/ MAINTENANCE

Council has entered into an agreement with United Utilities Australia to build, operate and maintain infrastructure for waste water in the Berri Barmera Council Area. This is predicted to produce 200-220 megalitres per year of water that will be available for use on public spaces in the towns of Berri and Barmera.

Regular meetings between United Utilities Australia and representatives of Council occur to ensure effective communication between the parties.

## MAJOR PROJECTS

### Bonney Theatre

From inception Berri Barmera Council has been in contact with key stakeholders of the Bonney Theatre.

For the proposed upgrading the Bonney Theatre in Barmera, this project is to provide new toilet facilities ambulant and disabled persons, building fire safety upgrade of all of the buildings right up to the Barmera Library.

This project will provide new heating and cooling throughout of the buildings and a new entrance to the Library is to be provided by having the floor raised to match the existing floor level of the Bonney Theatre.

Once this project is completed it will provide Barmera Community with a number of buildings which can be used/ leased.

Berri Barmera Council has been successful in obtaining grants from the Federal and State Governments because the buildings are of State Heritage significance.

# *environmental services*

## **Common Effluent Line Extension**

Berri Barmera Council in 2011 will complete a project of extending the Common Effluent Line from the Berri Caravan Park through to Martin Bend Camping Ground and to the Ski Club. The proposed location of this proposal is to follow the existing walking track with minimal disturbance of Native Vegetation the length of the trenching is 2.5 kilometers long..

At present Council is waiting on approval from Crown Lands Department and Tenders will be called for the installation of the drains. Berri Barmera Council envisages that this project will be completed before the summer of 2011.



## **Barmera Playspace**

In 2009 an Open Space Grant was applied for and granted to create an innovative and interactive playground situated Sedunary Park, Barmera.

In October 2010, saw the Berri Barmera Council and the Barmera Playspace committee commence ground work for the playground. Works progressed steadily throughout the warmer months, with the playground being completed and open for the Easter Break, 2011. This play ground was constructed with co-operation of Council Staff and Volunteers from Barmera. The play ground consists of climbing devices, swings, slippery dips and onsite Barbeque and is constructed in accordance with the Australian Standards.

# *infrastructure services*

**DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS AND STRUCTURE OUTLINE**

**ROAD CONSTRUCTION**

**FOOTPATH CONSTRUCTION**

**WASTE MANAGEMENT**

**PARKS AND RESERVES**

**STORMWATER REUSE**



# infrastructure services

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

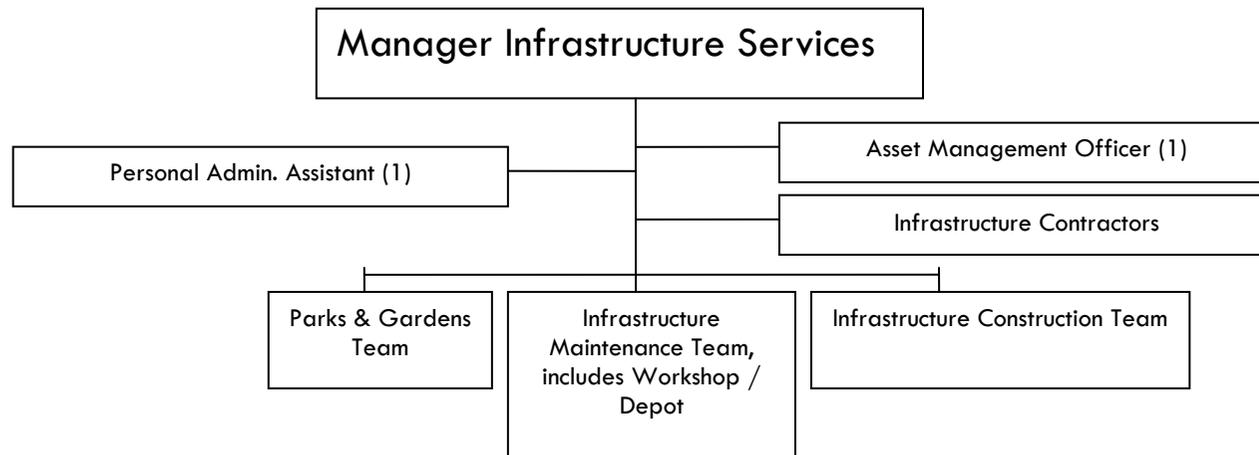


Mr Greg Perry

Manager of Infrastructure Services

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

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



# infrastructure services

## ROAD CONSTRUCTION

### McKay Road / Jury Road Realignment

The construction and realignment of McKay Road is finally complete, with Council undertaking the majority of civil works. The reconstruction of McKay Road saw the original alignment retained but received new base level designs. The McKay Road / Jury Road intersection received the majority of works by realigning the sharp corner and taking out the existing dip before the intersection including the installation of guard rails.



### Hoskin Road / Old Sturt Highway

State Black Spot Funding received in 2008/2009 was used in the construction of a right turn lane and associated works. The project was completed by Scherer Contractors.

### Gilbert Street

The reconstruction and drainage works for Gilbert Street have commenced with Council contracting out the major part of stormwater drainage works. Council have realigned and replaced the concrete kerbing with retention of the existing trees. The road pavement has also been replaced and it is anticipated that it will be sealed in line with Councils resealing program in late 2011.



# infrastructure services

## Road Maintenance Works

Roads are the most expensive asset Council maintains and the most used asset by the community. Council's road maintenance was higher for 2010/2011 largely due to the weather conditions experienced late in 2010 and early 2011, this period saw significant rain events within or Council area. Council's road maintenance (which includes patching, signage, slashing/spraying and patrol grading) was in the vicinity of \$586 311.

The Reseal Program (bitumen roads) is undertaken at intervention points to prolong the life of assets determined by physical condition ratings, and with costs totaling \$277 000 for 2010/2011, this high cost was due to no reseals taking place in 2009/2010 and so effectively resealing two years worth of roads in the one financial year.

The Resheeting Program (unsealed roads) undertook approximately 3867 kms of road works in the 2010/2011 year at a cost of \$135 500. This cost per km varies greatly due to the amount of work needed ie. existing shape of the road, trees, services located under the road and distance the road is away from our quarry.

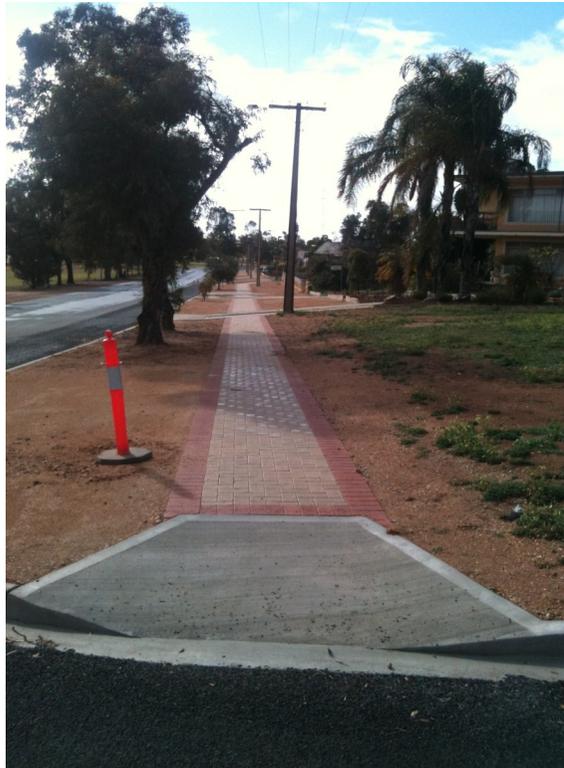
## FOOTPATH CONSTRUCTION

### Gopher Routes

Is a footpath replacement / upgrade program developed for, and endorsed, by Council to provide a more user friendly footpath in higher use areas.

## Barmera

Nookamka Terrace – Macgillivray Street to Laffer Street which is brick paved. (with kerb replacement)



## Berri

Zante Road – Coombe Street to Wilkinson Street



# infrastructure services

Gilbert Street - McGilton Road to Ahern Street



These areas have been earmarked for hotmix but due to the amount of roadworks undertaken by Council this year they were not completed. It is envisaged that the hotmix will take place at the same time as the scheduled 2011/2012 Gopher Routes.

## General Maintenance

Council undertakes maintenance to its footpaths as part of its service to the community on an ongoing basis as needed. 2010/2011 proved to be a very busy year with the extreme rain events causing considerable damage to footpaths, the footpath maintenance cost was \$160 380.



## WASTE MANAGEMENT

Regional Waste Management Strategy and Future Planning Berri Barmera Council along with our two neighbouring Councils are committed to ongoing negotiations in facilitating opportunity to assess options for a regional approach to waste collection and disposal. The formation of the Riverland Regional Waste Management Facility (RRWMF) has been developed to look at collection and disposal of waste as a region including the options of introducing kerbside and green waste recycling. Closure and post closure works have been undertaken at the Winkie landfill site with only tree planting remaining.

Council is working closely with the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) for closure and post closure plans for the Monash landfill site. It is hoped that this will enable Council to continue disposing of waste at this site until the end of 2012. There will be a considerable cost associated with the closure and post closure of the Monash landfill site, but until the final landform profile and treatment is agreed upon a final dollar figure cannot be presumed. It is anticipated that rehabilitation works will be carried out over a several years.

# *infrastructure services*

## **PARKS AND RESERVES**

Council received a grant through Strengthening Basin Communities (SBC) : Towns and Cities.

It has provided Council the opportunity to upgrade irrigation infrastructure including pumps, soil moisture monitoring and sub surface irrigation.

This grant will see Waste Water Reuse area's extended and Council using less potable water.

To date the Cobdogla and Barmera Memorial Ovals have been completed.

## **STORM WATER REUSE**

Council is in the planning stages of upgrading stormwater infrastructure through a grant received from Strengthening Basin Communities : Water Saving Initiatives - Round 2.

This project will upgrade some stromwater drains and make it possible to reuse harvested stormwater.

Three of Councils stormwater retention ponds are also being enlarged under this grant funding.



# *regional subsidiary reports*

## The Murray and Mallee Local Government Association ANNUAL REPORT 2009/2010



### **Comprising:**

Berri Barmera Council: (BBC)

Coorong District Council: (CDC)

District Council of Karoonda East Murray: (DCKEM)

District Council of Loxton Waikerie: (DCLW)

Mid Murray Council: (MMC)

The Rural City of Murray Bridge: (RCMB)

Renmark Paringa Council: (RPC), and the

Southern Mallee District Council: (SMDC)

# regional subsidiary reports

## PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT



**President, Mayor Leon Stasinowsky.**

Now in my fourth term as President of the Association, I have the greatest of pleasure in providing the following President's Annual Report for the period 2010 to 2011.

As has been historically evidenced, the activities of the Association have been many and varied, but underpinned by the general relevance to both the Association's Strategic and Annual Business Plans.

Increased impost on local government by State Government regulations and provisions, with associated cost shifts has again been experienced by Member Councils, ultimately affecting ratepayers in the region.

The Association has a continuing desire to ensure activities undertaken result in ultimate benefits to the community.

A snapshot of matters and issues addressed over the past year are summarized as follows: (legend: Strategic - General Environmental Economic Social Governance)

### Projects and activities completed:

Complete and wide ranging review of the Association's current Strategic Plan culminating in the newly adopted M&MLGA Strategic Plan 2011-2014.

Facilitation of the Zero Waste SA Regional Implementation Assessment Panel Meeting for Councils' funding applications for the 2010-2011 funding round.

In partnership with the LGA SA, successful submission to the SA State Government for removal of the Narrung Bund.

Completion of the 2011-2012 SLRP Road Funding applications and provision of advices and recommendations to the Local Government Transport Advisory Panel.

Arrangements made for Council financial contributions to the Southern Mallee Broadband Project.

Completed the review of the Murray and Mallee Regional Transport Strategy Plan.

Finalisation of the SA State Government's BDF financial contribution to the Southern Mallee Broadband Project with subsequent program completion and official opening.

Provision of submission and subsequent support for a Regional Digital TV Community Liaison Manager for a short term contract.

Change of General Meeting Agenda format to include I Pad version availability.

### Projects and activities forwarded:

Support provided to the RDA for the Carbon Forum.

Facilitation of the Dept. of Premier and Cabinet's regional briefing on the Climate Change Adaptation Framework.

Submission made to the State Government for continuation and commitment to the Branched Broomrape Eradication Program.

Successful submission made to PIRSA for continuation of sub-regional Drought Support Offices.

The forwarding of the Ensuring Local Government Services Provision Project.

Facilitation of Riverland Council's support for the NexGen Regional Broadband Blackspots Program.

With the support of the LGA, pursuing the State Government to provide primary producers with water pricing subsidy arrangements.

Provision of continued representation on the Regional Coordination Network and the Murray and Mallee Zone Emergency Management Committees.

Continuation of Member Council support and implementation of the Rural Property Addressing Standard.

Liaison with Member Councils and the Local Government Mutual Liability Scheme in reference to rising River Murray water levels.

# regional subsidiary reports

## New Projects and activities:

- ▶ Arrangements made and representation provided for the SA State Government's review of the Murray and Mallee Chapter of the State's Regional Infrastructure Plan Forums.
- ▶ Participation in the "Strategy for Regional SA" Forum and provision of impetus and comment through the SAROC and LGA State Executive Committee.
- ▶ Provision of representation on the Zero Waste SA Regional Implementation Program Review Panel and provision of comment.
- ▶ Association provision of representation of riverine Councils on the DENR River Murray Review Response Team.
- ▶ Successful supportive submissions to the Federal Government for E Waste Disposal Program.
- ▶ African Boxthorn infestation addressed with provision of \$90k gained to assist the SA MDB NRM Board's eradication program.
- ▶ Raising of concerns with the integration of DENR and NRM Boards' operations.
- ▶ Facilitation of affected Council Locust control measures.
- ▶ Consideration and provision of comment on the SA State Government's proposed Water Bill.
- ▶ Submission made to the State Government for reinstatement of the Tourism Road Funding Grants Program.

▶ Provision of representation on the Dept. of Planning and Local Government's Regional Implementation Program addressing population, housing and employment targets.

▶ Liaison with the Dept. of Health to ensure adequate protection and funding of Council activities in reducing the mosquito population.

▶ Consideration of potential changes to the Association's Charter for a Regional Subsidiary.

▶ Provision of information and facilitation of Councils' consents to undertake the Council Performance Improvement Program and initial consideration of the draft regional report.

▶ Research undertaken on the State Government's budget cut impacts on Councils and the region.

I take this opportunity to sincerely thank the previous Vice President Mayor Ian Mann OAM (retired November 2010) and now Vice President Mayor David Burgess, Member Council Mayors, Delegates, both past and present and Member Council CEO's, all of whom have provided local government representation to the Association, internal and external committees and working parties.

I am grateful for their involvement in the Association's affairs and urge them to continue into the future.

Timely information has again been provided to the Association from the Local Government Association of SA. I especially recognize the efforts of Wendy Campana, LGA SA Executive Director, Chris Russell, Strategic Advisor, Policy & Communications and more recently David Hitchcock, Director, Environment and Infrastructure.

I recognise their support, advice and well researched recommendations provided.

I would again thank our CEO Peter Campbell for his continued commitment and support provided to me and the Association over the past year. Peter has sought continuation of his existing contract to provide executive services to the Association for a further two years, which will be granted subject to satisfactory performance reviews.

The Local Government Periodical Elections were conducted in November, 2010, following which, in accordance with the provisions of the Association's Charter for a Regional Subsidiary, I remained as President of the Association up until the June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2011 Annual General Meeting.

This position, along with the position of Vice President, underwent the election process at that Meeting and I am pleased to say that the current office holders have been returned for the next annual term.

Over the past years I look back with satisfaction and pride on the achievements of the Association and thank all Delegates for the opportunity afforded to me by being your President.



Mayor Leon Stasinowsky.  
President, 2010 – 2011.  
Murray and Mallee Local Government Association.

# regional subsidiary reports

## OVERVIEW OF THE REGION.



The Region is located in the Murraylands Statistical Region in eastern South Australia and is dissected by the River Murray. It covers a large area in excess of 50,000 km<sup>2</sup> taking in the areas from the Riverland in the north, agriculture areas in the central, west, south and east along the Victorian border, coast and lakes. Rural based communities throughout the area share a common interest in agriculture/horticulture, with towns primarily servicing the farming and horticultural communities and supporting a growing tourism sector. The Region has a population base of approximately 68,000 (approx. 4.6% of the State population).

The Murray River, and its associated wetlands and wildlife, Lake Bonney and a number of National/Conservation Parks, support a range of rare and endangered plant and animal species, and are major tourist attractions throughout parts of the Riverland and Mallee. Towards the coast, the Coorong National Park, Lake Alexandrina and the shores of Lake Albert are all well known tourist attractions, particularly for recreational boating and fishing.

Murray Bridge provides regional services to the lower parts of the Region and supports both an industrial and commercial base.

The Murray River travels from the north, and passing through seven of the member Councils, flows into Lake Alexandrina in the south. It supports a number of tourist and recreation activities, with a number of tourism vessels operating from centres along the river.

The Region is serviced by the South Eastern Freeway, Princes, Dukes, Sturt and Mallee Highways, with the Berri (Loxton) to Murray Bridge Road providing a direct link diagonally across the Region.

The Association works closely with its major regional partners - the Murray and Mallee Regional Coordination Network, and the Regional Development Australia (RDA) Murraylands and Riverland Board.

## ASSOCIATION PRESIDENCY

Cr. Leon Stasinowsky, now Mayor of the District Council of Loxton Waikerie was re-elected President at the Annual General Meeting held at Murray Bridge on the 4<sup>th</sup> June, 2010 and Mayor Ian Mann OAM, Mid Murray Council was re-elected Vice President. The term of these positions, as per the provisions of the Association's Charter for a Regional Subsidiary, was for the ensuing 6 months being to the first General Meeting following the Local Government periodical elections ie: 3<sup>rd</sup> December, 2010.

At the 3<sup>rd</sup> December, 2010 General Meeting, Mayor Leon Stasinowsky was re-elected President and Mayor David Burgess, Mid Murray Council, was elected Vice President for the term of office until the Association's Annual General Meeting held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> June, 2011.

Both office holders were re-elected to their respective positions at the 3<sup>rd</sup> June, 2011 Annual General Meeting for a full annual term of office.

## REPRESENTATION: LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA (LGA SA)

Mayor Leon Stasinowsky, Mayor Ian Mann OAM (until December, 2011) and Mayor David Burgess continued to serve on the State Executive of the Local Government Association of South Australia, with Mayor Allan Arbon, Rural City of Murray Bridge, as proxy.

## ASSOCIATION: CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER SERVICES

The Chief Executive Officer services for the Association for the year were again provided by Peter Campbell.

In accordance with a resolution of Member Council Delegates, the Chief Executive Officer underwent performance review process in June, 2011, coinciding with the production of the Association's draft 2011-2012 Annual Business Plan and draft 2011-2012 Budget.

The Review Panel consists of the President and Vice-President of the Association and Dean Gollan, CEO Mid Murray Council and Peter Ackland, CEO of the Loxton Waikerie District Council. The Association has noted that satisfactory Chief Executive Officer service has been provided.

# regional subsidiary reports

## CONSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURE OF THE ASSOCIATION

The Association operated as a Regional Subsidiary under the transitional provisions of the Local Government Act 1999 until December, 2001 with a formal Charter, agreed to by Member Councils, becoming effective on the 13th December, 2001. To ensure legal compliance with the Local Government Act 1999, a review of the Charter took place during the year, the outcome being that it was considered by Delegates that no changes were deemed necessary at that point in time. The current Charter can be viewed on the Association's website at [www.mmlga.sa.gov.au](http://www.mmlga.sa.gov.au)

## THE PURPOSE OF THE ASSOCIATION

As a Regional Subsidiary of the Member Councils, the Association has as its governing document, the Charter gazetted on the 8<sup>th</sup> February, 2007 (reviewed 2011) as provided for under the Local Government Act 1999. The purpose for which the Association has been established is to:

- Undertake coordinating, advocacy and representational roles for its constituent Councils at a regional level.
- Facilitate and coordinate activities of local government at a regional level related to environment, economic and social development with the object of achieving continual improvement for the benefit of the communities of its constituent Councils.
- Develop, encourage, promote, foster and maintain consultation and cooperation and to strengthen the representation and status of local government when dealing with other levels of government, private enterprise and the community.
- Develop further cooperation between its constituent Councils for the benefit of the communities

in the region.

- Develop and manage policies which guide the conduct of programs and projects in the region with the objective of securing the best outcomes for the communities in the region.
- Undertake projects that benefit the region and its communities.

## ASSOCIATION MEETINGS

During 2010 – 2011, the Association has met bi-monthly for General Meetings.

Meetings of the Association were convened on:

4th June, 2010 - Annual General Meeting - at the Rural City of Murray Bridge Council Chamber, 2 Seventh Street, Murray Bridge - the Rural City of Murray Bridge as host.

6th August, 2010 - General Meeting - at the Pinnaroo Football Club Facility, Cnr. Homburg Terrace and Gilbert Avenue, Pinnaroo - the Southern Mallee District Council as host.

1st October, 2010 - General Meeting - at the Berri Barmera Council Chamber, 19 Wilson Street, Berri - the Berri Barmera Council as host.

3rd December, 2010 - General Meeting - at the Tailem Bend Town Hall, 95 Railway Terrace, Tailem Bend - The Coorong District Council as host.

4th February, 2011 - General Meeting - at the Karoonda Football Clubrooms, Adelaide Road, Karoonda - The District Council of Karoonda East Murray as host.

1st April, 2011 - General Meeting - at the District Council of Loxton Waikerie Council Chamber, East Terrace, Loxton - the District Council of Loxton Waikerie as host.

3rd June, 2011 - Annual General Meeting - at the Mid Murray Council Offices, 49 Adelaide Road, Mannum - the Mid Murray Council as host.

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:

Mayor James Maitland, Acting President LGA SA.

Tony Piccolo MP, Member for Light.

Adrian Pederick MP, Member for Hammond.

John Dawkins, MLC.

Brenton Lewis, RDA (Murraylands and Riverland) Board.

Terry Banks, SA MDB NRM Board.

Nick Petrovski, Director, DPLG.

Mark Bolton, General Manager Telstra SA South.

Emily White, Regional Development Officer, LGA SA.

John Berger – Primary Producer Broomrape Eradication campaigner.

Patrick Secker, MP, Member for Barker.

Hugh Longbottom, PIRSA.

Matthew Miles, Australia Day Council.

Bill Paterson, Presiding Member, SA MDB NRM Board.

Representatives of both the LGA and the Office of Local Government 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 Wendy Campana, Executive Director, LGA SA who has been ready to assist the Region and ensure that the LGA SA has had a presence at our meetings. The Association has also enjoyed a close working relationship with its State and Federal Members of Parliament, a number of whom have been regular attendees at our meetings. The President has continued the practice of giving each of our guests the opportunity to address our meetings briefly about matters and issues before them that may be of interest to the Association and Member Councils. The contribution from all of the speakers, presenters and guests has kept the Association and the Delegates abreast of a wide ranging number of issues that impact on Local Government and the communities in the Region.

# regional subsidiary reports

## MEMBER COUNCIL DELEGATES TO THE ASSOCIATION

The following are the current Delegates representing Member Councils as at the AGM of the 3<sup>rd</sup> June, 2011;  
**Berri Barmera Council (BBC):** Mayor Peter Hunt, Deputy Mayor Rhonda Centofanti and David Beaton, CEO (proxy).

**Coorong District Council (CDC):** Mayor Roger Strother, Michael Boyd, CEO, Cr. Sharon Bland (proxy), Cr. Neville Jeansch (proxy) and Tim Tol, Deputy CEO (proxy).

**District Council of Karoonda East Murray (DCKEM):** Mayor Kevin Burdett, Peter Smithson, CEO and Deputy Mayor Colin Zadow (proxy).

**District Council of Loxton Waikerie (DCLW):** Mayor Leon Stasinowsky, (President), Peter Ackland, CEO and Deputy Mayor Mark Ward (proxy).

**Mid Murray Council (MMC):** Mayor David Burgess, Deputy Mayor Kevin Myers, Cr. Inez Bormann (proxy) and Dean Gollan, CEO (proxy).

**The Rural City of Murray Bridge (RCMB):** Mayor Allan Arbon, OAM, Deputy Mayor Barry Laubsch, Cr. Jerry Wilson, (proxy) and Damien Moloney, CEO (proxy).

**District Council of Renmark Paringa (RPC):** Mayor Neil Martinson, Deputy Mayor Maria Spano, Tony Siviour, CEO (proxy) and the Director Corporate and Community Services (proxy).

**Southern Mallee District Council (SMDC):** Mayor Gordon Hancock, Deputy Mayor Robert Sexton and Rod Ralph, CEO (proxy).

## ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS

The following are the current Association Committee Members as at the AGM of the 3<sup>rd</sup> June, 2011.

### Murray and Mallee Local Government Association Regional Waste Management Strategy Committee:

This Committee is currently in recess, to be recalled if required.

### Murray and Mallee Local Government Association Regional Transport Strategy Committee:

Mayor Roger Strother, Coorong District Council, Chair  
Peter Campbell, CEO, M&MLGA

Mayor David Burgess, Mid Murray Council

Paul Day - Renmark Paringa Council

Barry Fletcher (external appointment) - Berri Barmera Council

Chris Fels - District Council of Loxton Waikerie

Peter Smithson - District Council of Karoonda East Murray

Peter Bond, Executive Manager, Sustainable Development, Rural City of Murray Bridge (David Allen - proxy)

Peter Broughill - Southern Mallee District Council  
David Mosel, Coorong District Council

Kate Daniels - Regional Development Australia (Murraylands and Riverland) Board

DTEI (Transport SA) - 2 nominees (external appointment)

### Murray and Mallee Local Government Association Broadband Steering Committee:

This Committee is currently in recess, to be recalled if required.

### M&MLGA Transport Reference Group. - Community Transport:

Peter Smithson, CEO, District Council of Karoonda East Murray. (by virtue of position held)

Cr. Mike Fuller, Berri Barmera Council.

### M&MLGA "Ensuring Local Government Services Provision" Working Group:

Anthony McCabe - Southern Mallee District Council.

Damien Moloney, CEO - Rural City of Murray Bridge.

David Beaton, CEO - Berri Barmera Council.

John Claydon - District Council of Karoonda East Murray.

Peter Ackland, CEO - District Council of Loxton Waikerie.

Director Corporate and Community Services - Renmark Paringa Council.

Robin Bourne - Mid Murray Council.

Michael Boyd - Coorong District Council.

David Hitchcock - LGA (external appointment).

Jane Gascoigne - PIRSA - OS/LGR (external appointment).

Trevor Bennett - DTED (external appointment).

## ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATION – OTHER BODIES

During the year the Association has made and or continued the following appointments to other bodies, as at the AGM of the 3<sup>rd</sup> June, 2011.

### LGA State Executive Committee:

The President, (by virtue of position held).

The Vice President, (by virtue of position held).

Proxy for President or Vice President, Mayor Allan Arbon, Rural City of Murray Bridge.

### South Australian Regional Organisation of Councils (SAROC):

The President, (by virtue of position held).

The Vice President, (by virtue of position held).

Proxy for President and or Vice President, Mayor Allan Arbon, Rural City of Murray Bridge.

CEO M&MLGA - Peter Campbell (by virtue of position held).

### Murray and Mallee Zone Emergency Management Committee:

Mayor Neil Martinson, Renmark Paringa Council - Chair.

Mayor Peter Hunt - Berri Barmera Council.

Damian Moloney, CEO, Rural City of Murray Bridge.

Director, Infrastructure Services, District Council of Loxton Waikerie.

David Mosel, Asset Manager, Coorong District Council.

Harc Wordsworth, Manager, Environment and Planning, Southern Mallee District Council.

Peter Broughill, Works Manager, Southern Mallee District Council.

# regional subsidiary reports

## **Regional Development Australia (Murraylands and Riverland) Board.**

Mayor Allan Arbon - Rural City of Murray Bridge.

Mayor David Burgess - Mid Murray Council.

Mayor Neil Martinson - Renmark Paringa Council.

David Beaton - CEO, Berri Barmera Council.

## **SA MDB NRM Board.**

Rod Ralph, CEO, Southern Mallee District Council.

## **Murraylands and Riverland Regional Coordination Network:**

Peter Smithson, CEO, District Council of Karoonda East Murray.

## **State Strategic Plan Regionalisation Working Groups.**

### **Murraylands sub-group:**

Deputy Mayor Barry Laubsch and Mayor Allan Arbon (proxy), Rural City of Murray Bridge.

### **Riverland sub-group:**

Mayor Peter Hunt, Berri Barmera Council.

### **LGA Land Access Working Group:**

Peter Smithson, CEO, District Council of Karoonda East Murray.

## **EXECUTIVE MEETINGS**

There were no Executive Meetings held during the year.

## **GENERAL ACTIVITIES**

The Association undertakes a coordinating role, in conjunction with Member Councils, on their issues and those raised by the Local Government Association of South Australia, the community, and other relevant parties' concerns and interests.

State and Federal Members of Parliament representing our Region have been briefed and support has been sought for issues raised.

Submissions and briefings undertaken include:

- Submission for Special Local Roads applications for 2011-2012 funding round.
- Submissions to the SAROC Committee, including,
  - Community Passenger Network Transport.
  - Ensuring Local Government Services Provision Project.
  - Digital TV switchover.
  - Impounding Act Review.
  - Regional Tourism Road Funding.
  - External Audit Committees for Regional Subsidiaries.
  - Locust Infestation.
  - Relevance of LGA Research Projects to Rural Councils.
  - Ramifications of increased cost of water for primary producers.
  - Eradication of pest weeds on unallocated/alienated lands.
  - Native Vegetation Regulations.
  - Adelaide Rail Freight Bypass.
- Submission to the SA MDB NRM Board on Planning matters.
- Ministerial submission made in respect to the requirement for Audit Committees resulting from Amendment to clause 13(2) of Schedule 2 – Exemption of a regional subsidiary from the requirement to establish an audit committee.
- Submission to Zero Waste SA for Regional Implementation funding applications for the 2010-2011 funding round.
- In partnership with the LGA SA, successful submission to the SA State Government for removal of the Narrung Bund.
- Submission and subsequent support for a Regional Digital TV Community Liaison Manager for a short

term contract.

- Submission made to the State Government for continuation and commitment to the Branched Broomrape Eradication Program.
- Successful submission made to PIRSA for continuation of sub-regional Drought Support Offices.
- Successful supportive submissions to the Federal Government for E Waste Disposal Program.
- Submission to DENR in reference to African Boxthorn infestation resulting in provision of \$90k to assist the SA MDB NRM Board's eradication program.
- Submission made to the State Government for reinstatement of the Tourism Road Funding Grants Program.

The CEO has also attended several Forums, Workshops and Briefings throughout the year regarding evolving issues and to make contribution on behalf of the Association. These have included:

- Regional Development Australia Forum.
- SA MDB NRM Board's Mayoral and CEO Forum.
- SA MDB NRM Board "Strengthening Basin Communities" Planning Workshop.
- LGA State Election Platform Forum.
- Murray Darling Basin Authority Consultation Forum.
- Locust Infestation Forum.
- Telstra Regional Stakeholder Forum.
- Strategy for Regional SA Forum.

# regional subsidiary reports

## **SOUTH AUSTRALIAN REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS (SAROC)**

The President, Mayor Leon Stasinowsky, Vice President Mayor Ian Mann, OAM (now retired), Mayor David Burgess, (Mayor Allan Arbon as proxy on occasions) and the Chief Executive Officer have attended SAROC meetings during the year.

The meetings are usually held bi-monthly on the day preceding the meeting of the LGA State Executive.

SAROC has a Memorandum of Understanding between Regional Local Government Associations and the Local Government Association of South Australia, which was completed in August, 2003.

The Association has provided our regional input into many topics that are relevant to all communities across the State, some of which include:

- Community Passenger Network Transport.
- NRM/LG Relationships.
- Ensuring Local Government Services Provision Project.
- Digital TV switchover.
- Impounding Act Review.
- Strategy for Regional SA.
- Regional Tourism Road Funding.
- External Audit Committees for Regional Subsidiaries.
- Locust Infestation.
- Relevance of LGA Research Projects to Rural Councils.
- Ramifications of increased cost of water for primary producers.
- Eradication of pest weeds on unallocated/alienated lands.
- Native Vegetation Regulations.
- Adelaide Rail Freight Bypass.

## **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO 30<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 2011**

The audited Financial Statements are included at the rear of this report. Surplus cash flow funds have been deposited with the Local Government Finance Authority and drawn on when and as required.

## **REGIONAL ENHANCEMENT AND CAPACITY BUILDING**

The Association acknowledges and thanks the Local Government Research and Development Fund Scheme for their annual 2010-2011 grant of \$34,537 to the Association. This grant has ensured that the Association has been able to undertake regional enhancement and capacity building projects throughout the year.

## **INFORMING COUNCILS AND OTHER PARTIES**

The Association recognises the importance of providing both topical and detailed information on its activities to Member Councils, the LGA SA, the Dept. of Planning and Local Government, Politicians, other key stakeholders and the general public within and outside the Region. The changed format Newsletter, the "Murray Mallee Briefs" has been prepared after each General Meeting and is electronically widely distributed. Numerous media interviews have been undertaken as a result of the Newsletter's circulation.

The Association's website [www.mmlga.sa.gov.au](http://www.mmlga.sa.gov.au) contains a wealth of information on the Association's activities, including all Agendas, Appendices, Minutes for General and Committee Meetings and Newsletters.

## **PARTNERSHIP/STRATEGIC ACTIVITIES 2010 – 2011**

The Association has continued to pursue a number of strategic issues with the support of partners and other key stakeholders in the Region. Without these partners and stakeholders, the Association would not have been able to singularly progress these initiatives.

## **Strategic Focus – Telecommunications.**

The project partners are:

- The Regional Development Australia (RDA) Murraylands and Riverland Board,
- Dept. of Further Education, Employment, Science and Technology (DFEEST),
- Dept. of Broadband Communications and the Digital Economy (DBCDE),
- Dept. Transport, Energy and Infrastructure (DTEI), and
- Agile Communications.

The Broadband Development Project, which commenced in January 2008 with funding secured through the Australian Government as part of the Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy's (DBCDE) Clever Networks Broadband Development Network Program, is now completed. This project covers both the Murraylands and Riverland sub-regions, concentrating more on the western portions of the region.

This year, the lower Loxton Waikerie and Southern Mallee council districts project has completed. The project was subsidized by contributions of \$310,000 from the State Government's Broadband Development (BDF) Fund, \$20,000 by the Association and \$15,000 by the District Council of Loxton Waikerie and a further \$15,000 from the Southern Mallee District Council of which \$10,000 was underwritten by the former Murraylands Regional Development Board. The Project was officially opened at Lameroo on the 25<sup>th</sup> February, 2011.

Further to this project, as part of the National Broadband Network, Regional Blackspots Program, a new backbone fibre optic connection between Gawler and Mildura through the Riverland is virtually completed.

## regional subsidiary reports

The Mildura connection route takes in Renmark, Berri, Waikerie, Kapunda, Nuriootpa, Tanunda, and Angaston terminating in Gawler.

Competitive DSLAM's are being installed in exchanges in Waikerie, Barmera, Berri and Renmark providing users more choice and potential more competitive pricing.

Project completion is scheduled for August, 2011.

### **Strategic Focus – Transport Infrastructure.**

Our Project Partners are:

- Dept. Transport, Energy and Infrastructure (DTEI),
- The Local Government Transport Advisory Panel (LGTAP),
- The Regional Development Australia (RDA) Murraylands and Riverland Board, and
- Parsons Brinkerhoff Australia Pty. Ltd.

For the period 2010-2011, Member Councils resolved to review the Murray and Mallee Regional Transport Strategy Plan.

This complete review, along with extensive community consultation, was undertaken by Parsons Brinkerhoff Australia Pty. Ltd. And the resultant Murray and Mallee Regional Transport Strategy Plan can be accessed from the Association's website at [www.mmlga.sa.gov.au](http://www.mmlga.sa.gov.au) under the "Reports" tab.

The Plan provides the basis to enable the Association and its Member Councils, to determine and support applications for Special Local Roads and Auslink funding (when available) applications.

Applications for funding in the 2010-2011 funding round were lodged with the Local Government Transport Advisory Panel at the end of April, 2010 resulting in \$1.56m funding availability for identified road construction in the region.

Applications for funding in 2011-2012 were lodged with the Local Government Transport Advisory Panel

on the 29<sup>th</sup> April, 2011, and the Association awaits the results of the Panel's recommendation for the Special Local Roads component to the Local Government Grants Commission.

### **Strategic Focus – Community Transport. – Riverland Community Passenger Network and the Murray Mallee Community Passenger Network Schemes.**

Our partners are:

- The South Australian Regional Organisation of Councils (SAROC),
- The Local Government Association of SA,
- The Riverland and Murray Mallee Community Passenger Transport Networks and Advisory Committees, and
- The Murray and Mallee Regional Coordination Network,
- Dept. of Transport, Energy and Infrastructure (DTEI), and
- Office of the Ageing.

As has been continually pursued over past years, The Association continues to forward the issue of the integration of Community Passenger Network (CPN) Schemes throughout the region. Again, this proposed integration would allow for the use of agency managed government vehicles for the purposes of providing transport solutions to the disadvantaged.

This matter has been more recently addressed by the Regional Coordination Network, Murraylands and Riverland with the Dept. of Education and Children's Services (DECS) regional representative actively pursuing the issue with the Agency's head office.

However, more recently it would appear that State Government support for the RCN concept is waning and it could be considered that apparent gains made could well be lost.

It is clear that the general community continue to highly value the transport services currently provided within budgetary constraints. Despite being financially handicapped, the Transport Committees are constantly

endeavouring to continually improve upon the current transport network.

The majority of services provided are highly patronized, especially the medical bus services, available to provide regionally or city based medical assistance to those who are geographically and socially disadvantaged.

The Association will continue to work towards equitable State Government funding for transport services for regional areas.

### **Strategic Focus – Natural Resource Management and Environmental Initiatives.**

Our partners are:

- The Regional Development Australia (RDA) Murraylands and Riverland Board,
- Primary Industries and Resources SA,
- Riverland Futures Project,
- Murray and Mallee Regional Coordination Network,
- Riverland Drought Taskforce,
- Lower Murray Drought Collaboration Group,
- Irrigation Authorities and Associations,
- The SAROC Committee, and  
The SA MDB NRM Board.

Agreement has been reached on the respective roles of the Association and the SA MDB NRM Board in relation to the Regional NRM/Local Government Protocol Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) document.

The Document was publically signed by the then SA MDB NRM Board Presiding Member, Bill Paterson and the Association's President, Mayor Leon Stasinowsky at the Association's 6<sup>th</sup> August, 2011 General Meeting.

# regional subsidiary reports

It could be considered that the effects of the drought have passed. However, changed climatic and economic conditions over the past season have resulted in gluts of primary produce, resulting in similar affects as experienced through drought periods.

In order to quantify and plan for these effects, the Association again continues to pursue and utilize the \$70,000 grant from the LGR&DF in an attempt to provide a “plug-in type tool” that will allow Councils to determine the effect on Council and the Community, given these economic impacts.

It is expected that this project will be completed early in the ensuing financial year.

With results to be incorporated into the Federal Government funded “Sustaining Basin Communities – Planning Element” Program.

On other environmental matters, the Association and Member Councils have:

- Provided a Local Government non-voting Member to the SA MDB NRM Board.
- Provided information to Member Councils regarding Adaptation Actions for Local Government on Climate Change issues and promotion of Climate Change Forums.
- Lobbied State Government for extensions of the Drought Program funding into the year 2011-2012.
- In partnership with the LGA SA, successful submission to the SA State Government for removal of the Nar-rung Bund.
- Support provided to the RDA for the Carbon Forum.
- Facilitation of the Dept. of Premier and Cabinet’s regional briefing on the Climate Change Adaptation Framework.
- Submission made to the State Government for continuation and commitment to the Branched Broomrape Eradication Program.

- Provision of representation on the Zero Waste SA Regional Implementation Program Review Panel and provision of comment.
- Association provision of representation of riverine Councils on the DENR River Murray Review Response Team.
- Successful supportive submissions to the Federal Government for E Waste Disposal Program.
- African Boxthorn infestation addressed with provision of \$90k gained to assist the SA MDB NRM Board’s eradication program.
- Raising of concerns with the integration of DENR and NRM Boards’ operations.

## BEYOND 2011

General Meetings of the Association will continue to be held during 2011-2012 on the first Friday in the months of August, December, February, April with the Annual General Meeting to be held in June. They will be held throughout the Region, hosted alphabetically by the Member Councils.

At the General Meeting held on the 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2011, the Association endorsed the completely revised Strategic Plan, 2011-2014. The Annual Business Plan 2011-2012, extracted from the Strategic Plan 2011-2014 and associated Annual Budget were adopted at the Association’s Annual General Meeting held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> June, 2011. These documents are available to be viewed and downloaded from the Association’s website at [www.mmlga.sa.gov.au](http://www.mmlga.sa.gov.au)

The status of the objectives and actions in the Association’s Annual Business Plan 2011-2012 will be reviewed half yearly at the December General Meeting and the June Annual General Meeting as per the provisions of the Association’s Charter.

## Contact details:

### President:

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PO Box 409,  
Loxton. SA 5333  
Tel: 8589 7028

### Chief Executive Officer:

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The Murray and Mallee  
Local Government Association

**Murray & Mallee Local Government  
Association Incorporated**

**Financial Statements**

For the Year Ended 30 June 2011

# *regional subsidiary reports*

## **Murray & Mallee Local Government Association Incorporated**

For the Year Ended 30 June 2011

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## Murray & Mallee Local Government Association Incorporated

Statement of Comprehensive Income  
For the Year Ended 30 June 2011

	2011	2010	
Note	\$	\$	
Regional Enhancement Fund Grant	2	34,537	33,661
Interest received	2	8,135	6,693
MBM LGA contributions	2	99,849	76,240
		<u>142,521</u>	<u>116,594</u>
Other operating expenses	3	(115,432)	(109,309)
Profit attributable to members		27,089	7,285
Other comprehensive income			
Total comprehensive income		<u>27,089</u>	<u>7,285</u>

## Murray & Mallee Local Government Association Incorporated

Statement of Financial Position  
As At 30 June 2011

	2011	2010	
Note	\$	\$	
<b>ASSETS</b>			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	4	81,655	136,932
Trade and other receivables	5	4,608	4,272
Total current assets		<u>86,263</u>	<u>141,204</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>86,263</u>	<u>141,204</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	6	1,800	1,530
Unexpended Project Funds	7	42,946	97,946
Total current liabilities		<u>44,746</u>	<u>99,476</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES		<u>44,746</u>	<u>99,476</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>41,517</u>	<u>41,728</u>
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Retained earnings		41,517	41,728
TOTAL EQUITY		<u>41,517</u>	<u>41,728</u>

# regional subsidiary reports

## Murray & Mallee Local Government Association Incorporated

### Statement of Recognised Income and Expense

For the Year Ended 30 June 2011

		2011	
	Note	Retained Earnings \$	Total \$
Balance at 1 July 2010		41,728	41,728
Profit attributable to members		27,089	27,089
Transfers from retained earnings	7	(27,300)	(27,300)
<b>Sub-total</b>		<b>(211)</b>	<b>(211)</b>
<b>Balance at 30 June 2011</b>		<b>41,517</b>	<b>41,517</b>

		2010	
	Note	Retained Earnings \$	Total \$
Balance at 1 July 2009		36,193	36,193
Profit attributable to members		7,285	7,285
Transfer from retained earnings	7	(1,750)	(1,750)
<b>Sub-total</b>		<b>5,535</b>	<b>5,535</b>
<b>Balance at 30 June 2010</b>		<b>41,728</b>	<b>41,728</b>

## Murray & Mallee Local Government Association Incorporated

### Cash Flow Statement

For the Year Ended 30 June 2011

	Note	2011 \$	2010 \$
Cash from operating activities:			
Receipts from members		99,849	76,240
Receipts from Grants		34,537	33,661
Interest received		8,648	6,693
Payments to suppliers		(116,011)	(107,104)
Project payments		(82,300)	
<b>Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities</b>	8	<b>(55,277)</b>	9,490
Net increase (decreases) in cash held		(55,277)	9,490
Cash at beginning of financial year		136,932	127,442
<b>Cash at end of financial year</b>	4	<b>81,655</b>	136,932

## Murray & Mallee Local Government Association Incorporated

Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended 30 June 2011

### 1 Accounting policies

#### (a) General information

The financial report is a general purpose financial report that has been prepared in accordance with Accounting Standards, Australian Accounting Interpretations, other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board and the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act (SA) 1985.

The financial report covers Murray & Mallee Local Government Association Incorporated as an individual entity. Murray & Mallee Local Government Association Incorporated is an association incorporated in South Australia under the Associations Incorporations Act (SA) 1985.

The financial report of Murray & Mallee Local Government Association Incorporated as an individual entity complies with all Australian equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards (AIFRS) in their entirety.

The following is a summary of the material accounting policies adopted by the association in the preparation of the financial report. The accounting policies have been consistently applied, unless otherwise stated.

#### (b) Basis of preparation

##### Reporting Basis and Conventions

The financial report has been prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historical costs modified by the revaluation of selected non-current assets, financial assets and financial liabilities for which the fair value basis of accounting has been applied.

#### (c) Comparatives

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

#### (d) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand and deposits held at call with banks.

#### (e) Income taxes

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

#### (f) 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 & Mallee Local Government Association Incorporated

Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended 30 June 2011

### 1 Accounting policies continued

#### (g) Financial Instruments

##### Recognition and Initial Measurement

Financial instruments are initially measured at cost on trade date, which includes transaction costs, when the related contractual rights or obligations exist. Subsequent to initial recognition these instruments are measured as set out below.

##### Financial liabilities

Non-derivative financial liabilities are recognised at amortised cost, comprising original debt less principal payments and amortisation.

##### Impairment

At each reporting date, the association assess whether there is objective evidence that a financial instrument has been impaired. In the case of available-for-sale financial instruments, a prolonged decline in the value of the instrument is considered to determine whether an impairment has arisen. Impairment losses are recognised in the statement of comprehensive income.

#### (h) Impairment of assets

At each reporting date, the association reviews the carrying values of its tangible and intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have been impaired. If such an indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use, is compared to the asset's carrying value. Any excess of the asset's carrying value over its recoverable amount is expensed to the statement of comprehensive income.

#### Critical accounting estimates and judgments

##### Key estimates - Impairment

The association assesses impairment at each reporting date by evaluating conditions specific to the association that may lead to impairment of assets. Where an impairment trigger exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is determined. Value-in-use calculations performed in assessing recoverable amounts incorporate a number of key estimates.

# regional subsidiary reports

## Murray & Mallee Local Government Association Incorporated

Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended 30 June 2011

2 Revenue	2011	2010
	\$	\$
Interest received	8,135	6,693
<b>M&amp;MLGA contributions</b>		
- Berri Barmera Council	15,377	11,741
- Coorong District Council	10,184	7,776
- DC of Karoonda East Murray	5,392	4,117
- DC of Loxton Waikerie	16,275	12,427
- Mid Murray Council	12,182	9,301
- The Rural City of Murray Bridge	20,370	15,553
- DC of Renmark Paringa	13,679	10,445
- Southern Mallee DC	6,390	4,880
<b>Total M&amp;MLGA contributions</b>	<b>99,849</b>	<b>76,240</b>
Regional Enhancement Fund Grant	34,537	33,661
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>142,521</b>	<b>116,594</b>
3 Other Operating Expenses		
<b>Expenses</b>	2011	2010
	\$	\$
Audit fees	2,190	1,395
Bank charges	85	136
Executive Officer Contract Services	96,966	94,410
Insurance	3,994	3,566
Meeting Expenses	1,528	1,851
Postage	94	53
President's Travelling Allowance	2,500	2,500
Printing and stationery	846	807
Record sentencing/Archiving	2,590	30
SAROC Regional Meeting costs	1,108	1,064
Sundry expenses	281	191
Telephone, fax and broadband	3,200	3,200
Website maintenance	50	106
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>115,432</b>	<b>109,309</b>

## Murray & Mallee Local Government Association Incorporated

Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended 30 June 2011

4 Cash and cash equivalents	2011	2010
	\$	\$
Cash on hand	100	100
Cash at bank	2,398	1,204
LGFA Investment	79,157	135,628
	<b>81,655</b>	<b>136,932</b>
5 Trade and other receivables		
	2011	2010
	\$	\$
CURRENT		
Accrued Interest	1,234	1,747
GST Refund	3,374	2,525
	<b>4,608</b>	<b>4,272</b>
6 Trade and other payables		
	2011	2010
	\$	\$
CURRENT		
Trade payables	1,800	1,530
7 Grant Funds Unexpended		
Grant Funds Unexpended may be refundable and are reflected as liabilities at balance date. It is anticipated that the balance of funds unexpended will be fully utilised on the nominated project.		
	2011	2010
	\$	\$
<b>Water Management Project</b>		
<b>Income</b>		
Balance brought forward	4,373	4,373
Total Income	<b>4,373</b>	<b>4,373</b>
Project Funds not expended at 30 June 2011	<b>4,373</b>	<b>4,373</b>

# regional subsidiary reports

## Murray & Mallee Local Government Association Incorporated

Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended 30 June 2011

7 Grant Funds Unexpended (continued)	2011	-2010
	\$	\$
<b>Regional Broadband Project</b>		
<b>Income</b>		
Balance brought forward		1,361
Transfer from Retained Earnings		1,750
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>3,111</b>
<b>Less Expenses</b>		
Transfer to Discretionary Projects		3,111
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>3,111</b>
Project Funds not expended at 30 June 2011		
<b>Discretionary Projects</b>		
<b>Income</b>		
Balance brought forward	21,073	15,000
Transfer from Regional Broadband Project		3,111
Transfer from Native Title Claim monies		2,962
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>21,073</b>	<b>21,073</b>
<b>Less Expenses</b>		
Contribution to Broadband Extension	20,000	
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>20,000</b>	
Project funds not expended at 30 June 2011	1,073	21,073
<b>Provision LG Services Project</b>		
<b>Income</b>		
Balance brought forward	72,500	72,500
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>72,500</b>	<b>72,500</b>
<b>Less Expenses</b>		
Consultancy	40,000	
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>40,000</b>	
Project funds not expended at 30 June 2011	32,500	72,500

## Murray & Mallee Local Government Association Incorporated

Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended 30 June 2011

7 Grant Funds Unexpended (continued)	2011	2010
	\$	\$
<b>Legal Charter Review</b>		
<b>Income</b>		
Transfer from Retained Earnings	5,000	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>5,000</b>	
<b>Less Expenses</b>		
Project Funds not expended at 30 June 2011	5,000	
<b>Transport Strategy Stage 2</b>		
<b>Income</b>		
Transfer from Retained Earnings	22,300	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>22,300</b>	
<b>Less Expenses</b>		
Consultancy	22,300	
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>22,300</b>	
Project Funds not expended at 30 June 2011		
<b>Total</b>	<b>42,946</b>	<b>97,946</b>
<b>8 Cash Flow Information</b>		
<b>(a) Reconciliation of Cash Flow from Operations with Profit after Income Tax</b>		
	2011	2010
	\$	\$
Net income/loss for the period	27,089	7,285
Cash flows excluded from profit attributable to operating activities		
Non-cash flows in profit		
changes in assets and liabilities,		
(Increase)/decrease in trade receivables	(336)	2,407
Increase/(decrease) in trade and other payables	270	1,548
Increase/(decrease) in unexpended project funds	(55,000)	
Increase/(decrease) in retained earnings from transfers	(27,300)	(1,750)
	<b>(55,277)</b>	<b>9,490</b>

# regional subsidiary reports

## Murray & Mallee Local Government Association Incorporated

Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended 30 June 2011

### 9 Financial instruments

#### Credit risk

The maximum exposure to credit risk, excluding the value of any collateral or other security, at balance date to recognised financial assets, is the carrying amount, net of any provisions for impairment of those assets, as disclosed in the balance sheet and notes to the financial statements.

The association does not have any material credit risk exposure to any single receivable or group of receivables under financial instruments entered into by the association.

#### (i) Financial instrument composition and maturity analysis

The association's exposure to interest rate risk, which is the risk that a financial instruments value will fluctuate as a result of changes in market interest rates and the effective weighted average interest rates on classes of financial assets and financial liabilities, is as follows:

	Average Effective Interest Rate		Floating Interest Rate		Non-interest Bearing		Total	
	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010
	%	%	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Financial Assets:								
LGFA Investment	4.75	4.50	79,157	135,628			79,157	135,628
Cash at bank	0.01	0.01	2,398	1,204			2,398	1,204
Cash					100	100	100	100
Trade and other receivables					4,608	4,272	4,608	4,272
<b>Total Financial Assets</b>			<b>81,555</b>	<b>136,832</b>	<b>4,708</b>	<b>4,372</b>	<b>86,263</b>	<b>141,204</b>
Financial Liabilities:								
Trade and other payables					1,800	1,530	1,800	1,530
Grant funds unexpended					42,946	97,946	42,946	97,946
<b>Total Financial Liabilities</b>					<b>44,746</b>	<b>99,476</b>	<b>44,746</b>	<b>99,476</b>

All financial assets and liabilities disclosed mature within 12 months.

## Murray & Mallee Local Government Association Incorporated

Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended 30 June 2011

### 9 Financial instruments (continued)

#### (ii) Net fair values

The net fair values for other assets and other liabilities approximate their carrying values. No financial assets or financial liabilities are readily traded on organised markets in standardised form other than listed investments. Financial assets where the carrying amount exceeds net fair values have not been written down as the association intends to hold these assets to maturity.

The aggregate net fair values and carrying amounts of financial assets and financial liabilities are disclosed in the balance sheet and in the notes to the financial statements.

#### Interest Rate Risk Sensitivity Analysis

At 30 June 2011, the committee considers that the only material risk arises in relation to interest rates. Should interest rates have increased / decreased by 2%, the associations profit would have increased / decreased by approximately \$1,583 (2010: \$2,738).

### 10 Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets

At 30 June 2011, the Committee is unaware of any liability, contingent or otherwise, which has not already been recorded elsewhere in this financial report.

### 11 Capital Commitments

At 30 June 2011, the Committee is unaware of any capital or leasing commitments which have not already been recorded elsewhere in this financial report.

### 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.

### 13 Economic Dependence

Murray & Mallee Local Government Association Incorporated 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.

### 14 Segment Reporting

The association operates predominantly in one business and two geographical segments, being in the local government sector, providing services to local councils in the Murray and Mallee districts of South Australia.

## Murray & Mallee Local Government Association Incorporated

Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended 30 June 2011

### 15 Key Management Personnel Compensation

#### (a) Key Management Personnel Compensation

	Short term Benefits	Total
<b>2011</b>		
Total compensation	96,966	96,966
<b>2010</b>		
Total compensation	94,410	94,410

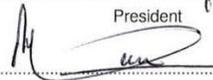
## Murray & Mallee Local Government Association Incorporated

### Statement by the Committee

In the opinion of the members of the committee:

1. (a) the accompanying Statement of Comprehensive Income is drawn up so as to present fairly the profit of Murray and Mallee Local Government Association for the financial year;  
(b) the accompanying Statement of Financial Position is drawn up so as to present fairly the state of affairs of Murray and Mallee Local Government Association as at the end of the financial year;  
(c) the accounts of the association have been made out in accordance with Accounting Standards
2. The committee has reasonable grounds to believe that the association will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.
3. No officer of the association, or a firm of which the officer is a member, or corporate in which the officer has a substantial financial interest, has received or become entitled to receive a benefit as a result of a contract between the officer, firm of which the officer is a member or a corporate in which the officer has a substantial financial interest and the association.
4. No officer of the association has received directly or indirectly from the association any payment or other benefit of a pecuniary value, except for chairman allowances paid.

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

  
 .....  
 President  
  
 .....  
 CEO

Dated 5th August, 2011

# regional subsidiary reports



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WHK Audit Services  
ABN 27101274861

## Murray & Mallee Local Government Association Incorporated

### Independent Audit Report to the members of Murray & Mallee Local Government Association Incorporated

#### Report on the Financial Report

We have audited the accompanying financial report of Murray & Mallee Local Government Association Incorporated, which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2011, and the statement of comprehensive income, statement of recognised income and expenditure and cash flow statement for the year ended that date a summary of significant accounting policies, other explanatory notes and the statement by the committee.

#### Committee Responsibility for the Financial Report

The committee of the association are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations) and the Associations Incorporations Act (SA) 1985. This responsibility includes: designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

#### Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These Auditing Standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the association's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the directors, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

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

## Murray & Mallee Local Government Association Incorporated

### Independent Audit Report to the members of Murray & Mallee Local Government Association Incorporated

#### Independence

In conducting our audit, we have complied with the independence requirements of Australian professional ethical pronouncements.

#### Auditor's Opinion

In our opinion the financial report of Murray & Mallee Local Government Association Incorporated is in accordance with the Associations Incorporations Act(SA) 1985, including:

(a) giving a true and fair view of the association's financial position as at 30 June 2011 and of its performance for the year ended on that date; and

(b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations) and the Associations Incorporations Act(SA) 1985.

#### WHK AUDIT SERVICES

Grant Martinella CA RCA

Signed at Berri SA 5 August 2011

16

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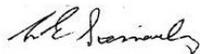
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# regional subsidiary reports

## M&MLGA PRESIDENT'S CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE-

### AUDITOR INDEPENDENCE

I, Leon Evan Stasinowsky, the person for the time being occupying the position of President of the Murray and Mallee Local Government Association, do hereby certify (for the purposes of Regulation Division 3 – 22 clause (3) (b) of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011) that the Auditor, WHK Thomsons, of the subsidiary has not been engaged by the subsidiary to provide services to the subsidiary outside the scope of the audit functions under the Local Government Act 1999 and Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011.



30<sup>th</sup> June, 2011

## CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE-

### AUDITOR INDEPENDENCE

I, DAVID BEATON, the person for the time being occupying the position of chief executive of the BERRI BARMERA Council, being a constituent council of the Murray and Mallee Local Government Association subsidiary do hereby certify (for the purposes of Regulation Division 3 – 22 clause (3) (b) of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011) that the Auditor, WHK Thomsons, of the subsidiary has not been engaged by the subsidiary to provide services to the subsidiary outside the scope of the audit functions under the Local Government Act 1999 and Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011.



(Signed)

30/6/2011  
(Dated)

## CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE-

### AUDITOR INDEPENDENCE

I, MICHAEL BURN, the person for the time being occupying the position of chief executive of the COOLANGA DISTRICT Council, being a constituent council of the Murray and Mallee Local Government Association subsidiary do hereby certify (for the purposes of Regulation Division 3 – 22 clause (3) (b) of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011) that the Auditor, WHK Thomsons, of the subsidiary has not been engaged by the subsidiary to provide services to the subsidiary outside the scope of the audit functions under the Local Government Act 1999 and Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011.



(Signed)

24/06/2011  
(Dated)

## CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE-

### AUDITOR INDEPENDENCE

I, Peter Smithson, the person for the time being occupying the position of Chief Executive Officer of the District Council of Karoonda East Murray, being a constituent council of the Murray and Mallee Local Government Association subsidiary do hereby certify (for the purposes of Regulation Division 3 – 22 clause (3) (b) of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011) that the Auditor, WHK Thomsons, of the subsidiary has not been engaged by the subsidiary to provide services to the subsidiary outside the scope of the audit functions under the Local Government Act 1999 and Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011.



(Signed)

28 June 2011  
(Dated)

# regional subsidiary reports

## CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE- AUDITOR INDEPENDENCE

I, Phil Ackland, the person for the time being occupying the position of chief executive of the Loxton Makoolo Council, being a constituent council of the Murray and Mallee Local Government Association subsidiary do hereby certify (for the purposes of Regulation Division 3 – 22 clause (3) (b) of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011) that the Auditor, WHK Thomsons, of the subsidiary has not been engaged by the subsidiary to provide services to the subsidiary outside the scope of the audit functions under the Local Government Act 1999 and Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011.

  
.....  
(Signed)

28 JUNE 2011  
.....  
(Dated)

## CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE- AUDITOR INDEPENDENCE

I, Dean Hillary Gollan, the person for the time being occupying the position of Chief Executive of the Mid Murray Council, being a constituent council of the Murray and Mallee Local Government Association subsidiary do hereby certify (for the purposes of Regulation Division 3 – 22 clause (3) (b) of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011) that the Auditor, WHK Thomsons, of the subsidiary has not been engaged by the subsidiary to provide services to the subsidiary outside the scope of the audit functions under the Local Government Act 1999 and Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011.

  
.....  
(Signed)

26/6/11  
.....  
(Dated)

## CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE- AUDITOR INDEPENDENCE

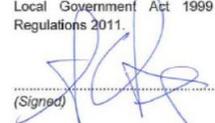
I, Anthony Andrew McCabe, the person for the time being occupying the position of acting chief executive of the Southern Mallee District Council, being a constituent council of the Murray and Mallee Local Government Association subsidiary do hereby certify (for the purposes of Regulation Division 3 – 22 clause (3) (b) of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011) that the Auditor, WHK Thomsons, of the subsidiary has not been engaged by the subsidiary to provide services to the subsidiary outside the scope of the audit functions under the Local Government Act 1999 and Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011.

  
.....  
(Signed)

28<sup>th</sup> June 2011  
(Dated)

## CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE- AUDITOR INDEPENDENCE

I, TONY SINIAR, the person for the time being occupying the position of chief executive of the BENMURRA PARISH COUNCIL Council, being a constituent council of the Murray and Mallee Local Government Association subsidiary do hereby certify (for the purposes of Regulation Division 3 – 22 clause (3) (b) of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011) that the Auditor, WHK Thomsons, of the subsidiary has not been engaged by the subsidiary to provide services to the subsidiary outside the scope of the audit functions under the Local Government Act 1999 and Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011.

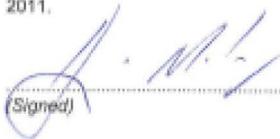
  
.....  
(Signed)

6/7/11  
.....  
(Dated)

# regional subsidiary reports

## CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE- AUDITOR INDEPENDENCE

I, **DAMIEN MOLONEY**, the person for the time being occupying the position of chief executive of the **RURAL CITY OF MURRAY BRIDGE** Council, being a constituent council of the Murray and Mallee Local Government Association subsidiary do hereby certify (for the purposes of Regulation Division 3 – 22 clause (3) (b) of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011) that the Auditor, WHK Thomsons, of the subsidiary has not been engaged by the subsidiary to provide services to the subsidiary outside the scope of the audit functions under the Local Government Act 1999 and Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011.

  
.....  
(Signed)

  
.....  
(Dated)