

# ANNUAL REPORT 2022 / 2023



District Council of  
**Mount Remarkable**



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

## 2 SECTION 1 – ANNUAL REPORT OVERVIEW

Introduction  
Our Mission  
Our Vision  
Our Values  
Acknowledgement of Country  
Reconciliation Mission Statement and Action Plan  
Our Communities  
Council Boundaries

## 9 SECTION 2 – EXECUTIVE OVERVIEW

From the Mayor  
From the Chief Executive Officer

## 12 SECTION 3 – THE COUNCIL

Elected Member Information 2022/2023  
Roles and Objectives  
Council and Committee Structure  
Section 41 and Other Advisory Committees

- » Governance Advisory Panel
- » Audit & Risk Committee
- » Chief Executive Review Committee
- » Chief Executive Review Panel
- » Building Fire Safety Committee
- » Airstrip Committee
- » Workplace Health and Safety Committee
- » Work, Health and Safety Focus Group
- » Flinders Regional Assessment Panel

Council & Section 41 Committees Attendance Record  
Regional Subsidiary (Section 43 Committee – LEGATUS Group)  
Other Outside Bodies

- » Mount Remarkable CFS Group
- » Local Government Association of SA
- » Local Government Finance Authority of SA
- » Flinders Mobile Library  
(Section 41 Committee Northern Areas Council)
- » Zone Emergency Management Committee
- » Flinders Mid North Yorke (FMNY)  
Regional Bushfire Management Committee

Elector Representation Review & Quota  
Elected Members' Allowance and Benefits  
Elected Members' Travel, Accommodation, Gifts and Hospitality  
Elected Members' Training and Development  
Elected Members' Contraventions of Behavioural Standards  
Elected Members' Health and Safety Responsibilities  
Management including Organisational Structure  
Senior Officer Remuneration  
Corporate Credit Card Usage  
Equal Employment Opportunity and Human Resource Management  
Employees Travel, Accommodation, Gifts and Hospitality

## 35 SECTION 4 – STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT PLAN OUTCOMES

Goal 1 – A Remarkable Community To Be A Part Of  
Goal 2 – A Remarkable Place To Live  
Goal 3 – A Remarkable Place To Work Or Be In Business  
Goal 4 – A Remarkable Place To Visit  
Goal 5 – What We Do, We Do Strive To Do Remarkably Well  
Goal 6 – A 'Can Do' Council  
'At a glance' overview of achievements made against 2022/2023 Strategic Plan Goal Areas  
Target Measures for 2023/2024

## 65 SECTION 5 – COMPLIANCE REPORT

Council Auditor  
Legal Costs Incurred by Council  
Community Land Management Plans  
Internal Review of Council Decisions  
Local Nuisance and Litter Control  
Competitive Tendering Statement  
National Competition Principles

## 71 SECTION 6 – INFORMATION STATEMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION 9 OF THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 1991

Principal Roles and Functions of a Council  
Decision Making Structure  
Agendas and Minutes  
Delegations  
Council Services  
Public Participation  
Public Access to Council Documents  
Other Information Requests  
Confidentiality Provisions

## 85 SECTION 7 – COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS

Community Champions - Australia Day Awards  
Community Volunteer Recognition  
Australia's Biggest Morning Tea

## 88 APPENDIX ONE – LEGATUS ANNUAL REPORT

## 126 APPENDIX TWO – AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

# SECTION 1 ANNUAL REPORT OVERVIEW

INTRODUCTION

OUR MISSION

OUR VISION

OUR VALUES

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

RECONCILIATION MISSION STATEMENT AND ACTION PLAN

OUR COMMUNITIES

COUNCIL BOUNDARIES



# INTRODUCTION

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Pursuant to Section 131 of the Local Government Act 1999, the Council is required to prepare and adopt an Annual Report relating to the operations of the Council for the financial year ending on the preceding 30 June. Schedule 4 of the Local Government Act 1999 specifically outlines information that must be included within the Council's Annual Report. Further, there are other prescribed requirements for annual reports located elsewhere in the Local Government Act and in other pieces of legislation.

In addition, Council must also publish an information statement, at intervals of not more than 12 months, pursuant to Section 9(1a) of the Freedom of Information Act 1991.

The preparation and adoption of the 2022/2023 Annual Report ensures compliance with the above legislative provisions. A hardcopy of the Annual Report is available, free of charge, from the Council Office, 3 Stuart Street, Melrose or alternatively can be viewed on Council's Website [www.mtr.sa.gov.au](http://www.mtr.sa.gov.au).

The Annual Report comprises the following:

- Section 1 – Annual Report Overview
- Section 2 – Executive Overview
- Section 3 – The Council
- Section 4 – Strategic Management Plan Outcomes
- Section 5 – Compliance Report
- Section 6 – Information Statement (pursuant to Section 9 of the Freedom of Information Act 1991)
- Section 7 – Community Champions/Staff Acknowledgements
- Appendix One – Legatus Annual Report
- Appendix Two – Audited Financial Statements

*A Remarkable Experience...*

# OUR MISSION

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Under the Local Government Act 1999 and other relevant legislation, Council has a number of defined roles and responsibilities in areas such as roads and infrastructure, community safety, planning and development, environmental health, animal management and much more, including a wide range of administrative functions.

Along with this, Council chooses to perform a range of functions and services in the pursuit of delivering the best outcomes for the community.

## In this pursuit, Council's mission is:

- » To *enhance* a sense of community;
- » To *develop* vibrant, sustainable townships that our people feel proud of and connected to and that visitors want to explore;
- » To *provide* quality services across all of our community;
- » To *advocate* for the protection of our environment and heritage;
- » To *facilitate* opportunities for the economic, social and cultural benefit of our community;
- » To *perform* regulatory functions with diligence, care and consideration;
- » To *demonstrate* sound leadership and work with our community to meet their expectations whilst operating in a financially responsible manner.

# OUR VISION

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This is a remarkable community to be a part of, a remarkable place to live, and a remarkable place to work or be in business.

We're a 'can do' Council and what we do, we strive to do remarkably well.

# OUR VALUES

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## **BE REMARKABLE**

Unique doesn't cut it.  
Remarkable is in our name, in our hearts and in our destiny.

## **TAKE OTHERS ON THE JOURNEY**

It takes a collective effort; we know we can't do it alone.  
We work with our Stakeholders to build prosperity.

## **ENGAGE, LISTEN, ACT**

Within the boundaries of good public governance we 'have a go'.

## **INNOVATE**

Forward-thinking, we balance aspiration with responsibility  
in our considerations, priorities and decision making.

## **ADAPT**

Change is behind us, upon us and ahead of us.  
We are receptive and adaptable.

## **BE OPEN AND TRANSPARENT**

Through good governance and transparency,  
we hold the trust of the community.

## **TAKE PRIDE AND BE PROUD**

We take pride in what we do.  
We are proud of our past and optimistic about our future.

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

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The District Council of Mount Remarkable acknowledges the traditional lands of the Nukunu people, and we respect their spiritual relationship with their country. The District Council of Mount Remarkable also acknowledges the Nukunu people as the traditional custodians of the Nukunu region and that their cultural and heritage beliefs are still as important to the living Nukunu people today.

# RECONCILIATION MISSION STATEMENT AND ACTION PLAN

Ms Dianah Walter of *Regions Matter* has been engaged to assist Council in preparing a draft Reconciliation Action Plan for consideration by Council. Although this body of work has commenced it has not yet been finalised. Council acknowledges the importance of finalising and implementing the action plan as part of its commitment to reconciliation planning for the future and provides the following statement in regard to the planning process:

## Background

At its heart, reconciliation is about strengthening relationships between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and non-Indigenous peoples, for the benefit of all Australians. For Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, Australia's colonial history is characterised by devastating land dispossession, violence, and racism. Over the last half-century, however, many significant steps towards reconciliation have been taken.

Reconciliation is an ongoing journey that reminds us that while generations of Australians have fought hard for meaningful change, future gains are likely to take just as much, if not more, effort. In a just, equitable and reconciled Australia, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children will have the same life chances and choices as non-Indigenous children, and the length and quality of a person's life will not be determined by their racial background.

The five dimensions of reconciliation:

- » Race Relations
- » Equality and Equity
- » Institutional Integrity
- » Unity
- » Historical Acceptance

Since 2006, Reconciliation Action Plans (RAP's) have enabled organisations to sustainably and strategically take meaningful action to advance reconciliation. The four RAP types – **Reflect, Innovate, Stretch and Elevate** – allow organisations to continuously develop their reconciliation commitments. Reconciliation Australia's RAP Framework provides organisations with a structured approach to advance reconciliation. Each type of RAP is designed to suit an organisation at different stages of their reconciliation journey.

Unfortunately, during the reporting period no further action was undertaken on Council's Reconciliation Action Plans.



*Photo by: Dianah Walter*



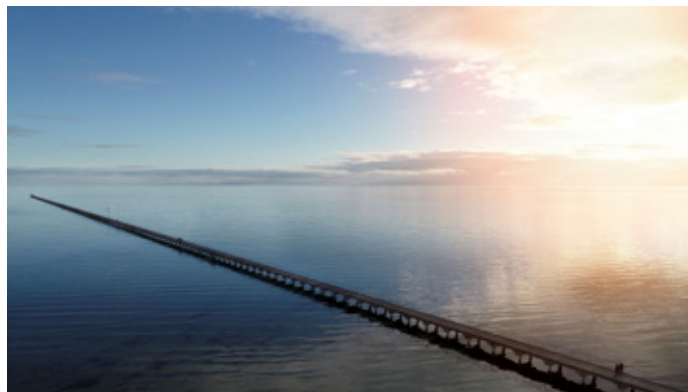
# OUR COMMUNITIES

The major townships within the Council area are Booleroo Centre, Melrose, Port Germein, Weeroona Island, Wilmington and Wirrabara. There are also many smaller townships and settlements located throughout the Council area including Amyton, Appila, Bangor, Baroota, Bruce, Hammond, Mambray Creek, Mookkra, Murray Town, Nectar Brook, Telowie, Terka, Willowie, Winninowie, Wongyarra and Yandiah.

Much of the area north and east of Wilmington consists of large pastoral holdings. There are also small pockets of apiarists, orchards, market gardens and wineries in the southern portion of the Council district around Wirrabara. The broader Council district is home to a long rich history in agriculture. From grazing to crop production, the Mount Remarkable District is proud of its long association with diverse agriculture.

Captured within the area are the Mount Remarkable National Park (16,149ha) and the Wapma Thura Southern Flinders Ranges National Park (9,500ha). The natural beauty of nature spanning our great district is an asset to our communities. Whilst these natural beauties have been known and enjoyed by locals for generations, it is now that these National Parks and natural landscapes are beginning to be explored by those from far and wide.

The Port Germein Jetty is also a significant item of State history and heritage. It is one of our oldest and longest (in length) assets. Deeply entrenched in rich history, the Port Germein Jetty along with the community spanning the Port Germein coastline is a story of resilience, and coastal beauty. With modern day recreational facilities for recreational fishing located on Weeroona Island, it illustrates the great diversity of our broader district. The District consists of the long flat plains to agricultural production, natural beauty in National Parks and rolling mountains, and pristine un-spoilt coastline.



Port Germein Jetty





# SECTION 2 EXECUTIVE OVERVIEW

FROM THE MAYOR

FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



# FROM THE MAYOR

## Greetings to our Remarkable Community.

It is with great pleasure that I present this Mayor's Report for the District Council of Mount Remarkable's 2022/2023 Annual Report. Since taking office in December 2022, I have been inspired by the energy and engagement of our vibrant community. Our commitment to progress, collaboration, and a remarkable future is truly evident.

In the last year, our district witnessed both a General Election and a Supplementary Election. I extend my gratitude to all candidates who put their names forward, demonstrating their ambition to serve our community.

The heart of our district lies in its people, and I have been deeply moved by the positive interactions I've experienced since taking office. I have had the privilege of attending numerous community events and meeting with Progress Groups and community organisations. Your warmth and openness have been both encouraging and inspiring. Our elected team is committed to remaining engaged, ensuring your voices are heard, and driving positive change together.

With a full complement of elected representatives and an engaged administration, we are driven by a steadfast commitment to sustainability. Our approach to asset management reflects our dedication to meeting current needs while safeguarding the future. We have undertaken a comprehensive review of our infrastructure assets, revealing a combined value of over \$100 million, which reinforces the need for meticulous planning and allocation of resources.

The past year has not been without its challenges, from global shocks to evolving community needs. We have risen to the occasion by adopting a strategic approach to financial sustainability. The decision to implement a gradual increase in General Rates over the next three years reflects our responsibility to ensure the long-term vitality of our district. We understand the importance of balancing essential services with prudent financial management, and we remain committed to this principle.



Your insights matter, and the 2023 Community Survey has provided us with valuable feedback. While we have received positive recognition for aspects of our performance, we also acknowledge areas where improvement is needed. We are actively addressing concerns related to road maintenance, tidiness, and communication. Your feedback drives our actions, and I assure you that we are dedicated to making positive changes based on your input.

As we move forward, our commitment to you remains steadfast. We will continue to engage, evolve, and innovate, ensuring that our district remains remarkable in every sense. Our strategic approach to asset management, community engagement, and financial sustainability will guide us toward a vibrant and prosperous future.

I extend my deepest appreciation to the entire community, our dedicated council members, staff, and all those who contribute to making Mount Remarkable truly exceptional. Together, we will continue to shape our remarkable district into a place where all residents can flourish, achieve their potential, and enjoy a high quality of life.

Thank you for your continued support.

**Mayor Stephen McCarthy**

# FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

The 2022/2023 year has been filled with achievements, change, and the formulation of a solid foundation for long term sustainability.

Council has invested heavily in the development of its Asset Management Plans, which are essential for an organisation that relies on large asset bases to deliver integral community services. With over \$100m in assets, Council needs to ensure that it is adequately managing them by way of renewal and replacement, and in a way that demonstrates financial sustainability. We are pleased that we now have updated and adopted Asset Management Plans and are working to complete a more comprehensive Building Asset Management Plan.

We have seen some significant service delivery changes following Council decisions that have had a focus on providing greater community outcomes. The transition of the Northern Passenger Transport Network to Care in Motion is one example. Council's transition away from operating the service to an alternate service provider which has demonstrated quality service outcomes over many years will ensure ongoing benefits to our community in the longer term. Whilst the change was challenging, it ultimately delivers positive benefits to the community and Council.

Several smaller projects have been delivered in the past 12 months, from road grading and road re-sheeting, road resealing, painting of public buildings, Rail Trail network completion and the completion of the Willowie Waste Transfer Station, all of which have kept Team Remarkable busy. These are the things that make the job rewarding, seeing the direct positive impacts that are delivered each and every day for community benefit.

As an organisation we continue to grow, with our annual culture survey again delivering favourable results about Team Remarkable. Assisting our people to grow is important, and seeing our people engage in the work they do with pride and passion is equally rewarding.

2022/2023 year has been big, and I commend Team Remarkable for their efforts. I also acknowledge and thank the many volunteers that undertake a range of tasks on behalf of not just Council, but the community. Without these volunteers, it would place enormous pressure on Council and/or mean some things would not happen, so from all of us at Team Remarkable – thank you!

**Sam Johnson OAM**  
*Chief Executive Officer*



# SECTION 3 THE COUNCIL

ELECTED MEMBER INFORMATION 2022/2023

ROLES AND OBJECTIVES

COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE STRUCTURE

SECTION 41 AND OTHER ADVISORY COMMITTEES

COUNCIL & SECTION 41 COMMITTEES ATTENDANCE RECORD

REGIONAL SUBSIDIARY (SECTION 43 COMMITTEE – LEGATUS GROUP)

OTHER OUTSIDE BODIES

ELECTOR REPRESENTATION REVIEW AND QUOTA

ELECTED MEMBERS' ALLOWANCE AND BENEFITS

ELECTED MEMBERS' TRAVEL, ACCOMMODATION, GIFTS AND HOSPITALITY

ELECTED MEMBERS' TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

ELECTED MEMBERS' CONTRAVENTIONS OF BEHAVIOURAL STANDARDS

ELECTED MEMBERS' HEALTH AND SAFETY RESPONSIBILITIES

MANAGEMENT INCLUDING ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

SENIOR OFFICER REMUNERATION

CORPORATE CREDIT CARD USAGE

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY AND HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

EMPLOYEES TRAVEL, ACCOMMODATION, GIFTS AND HOSPITALITY

# ELECTED MEMBER INFORMATION 2022-2023

The District Council of Mount Remarkable is divided into two (2) wards. The Council currently comprises seven (7) Council Members or Councillors elected by the electors of the respective Wards. Willochra Ward has four (4) Councillors and Telowie Ward has three (3) Councillors. The members of the Council from amongst their own number choose the Principal Member of Chairperson and the Council has resolved that the position of Chairperson will have the title of Mayor.

Councillors are part of the incorporated body handling the responsibility for carrying out the duties and exercising the powers conferred on the Council by the Local Government Act 1999 (the 'Act') and other relevant state legislation.

The Act specifies that Council Members:

- » Represent the interests of ratepayers and residents;
- » Provide community leadership and guidance; and
- » Facilitate communication between the community and the Council.

The role of a Council member involves:

- » Participating in the deliberations and civic activities of the Council;
- » Keeping the Council's objectives and policies under review to ensure that they are appropriate and effective; and
- » Keeping the Council's resource allocation, expenditure and activities, and the effectiveness and efficiency of its service delivery, under review.

## General Election November 2022

In November 2022, a Local Government General Election was undertaken to determine the new Council for the next four (4) year period – November 2022 to November 2026.

Nominations opened on Tuesday 23 August 2022 and closed at 12 noon on Tuesday 6 September 2022. Upon close of nominations for the 7 elected member positions for the District Council of Mount Remarkable, three (3) nominations were received for the Telowie Ward and three (3) for the Willochra Ward.

As there were the required number of nominations received for Telowie Ward and three out of the four required nominations for the Willochra Ward, those nominations received for each Ward were subsequently appointed by the SA Electoral Commissioner and were therefore elected unopposed to Council.

The following candidates were sworn in as Elected Members of the District Council of Mount Remarkable on 14 November 2022. The new Council comprised of the following Members:

WILLOCHRA WARD	TELOWIE WARD
Cr Lesley Till	Cr Stephen McCarthy
Cr Ian (Danny) Keller	Cr Phillip Heaslip
Cr Colin Nottle	Cr Sheriden Tate
Vacancy	

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Due to the ongoing vacancy within the Willochra Ward at the conclusion of the 2022 Local Government General Election, nominations were sought to fill this vacancy on 13 January 2023 and closed on 27 January 2023. As six (6) nominations were received at the close of nominations for the one (1) vacant position within the Willochra Ward, a postal voting election was undertaken closing at 12 noon on Tuesday 14 March 2023. The Hon Dan van Holst Pellekaan was the successful candidate and was duly sworn in as an Elected Member of the District Council of Mount Remarkable on 21 March 2023.

Council at its meeting held on 29 November 2022 resolved to elect Cr Stephen McCarthy as the Chairperson and to be known as Mayor and Cr Lesley Till as Deputy Chairperson to be known as Deputy Mayor. The Elected Members of the District Council of Mount Remarkable as elected in November 2022 and March 2023 comprise the following:



**MAYOR STEPHEN MCCARTHY**

Appointed as Mayor in November 2022 for a two-year term.

**Contact Details:**

Mobile: 0407 900 556  
Email: srmccarthy@mtr.sa.gov.au

**Terms of Office:**

July 2020 – 2022  
2022 - current

**Representation:**

Telowie Ward  
Ex-Officio Member of every Council Committee  
Audit & Risk Committee



**CR LESLEY TILL**

Appointed as Deputy Mayor in November 2022 for a two-year term.

**Contact Details:**

Mobile: 0466 066 571  
Email: ltill@mtr.sa.gov.au

**Terms of Office:**

2022 – current

**Representation:**

Willochra Ward  
Audit & Risk Committee



**CR PHILLIP HEASLIP**

**Contact Details:**

Mobile: 0436 462 148  
Email: pmheaslip@mtr.sa.gov.au

**Terms of Office:**

2018 – 2022  
2022 – current

**Representation:**

Telowie Ward





**CR IAN (DANNY) KELLER**

**Contact Details:**

Mobile: 0428 305 987  
Email: igkeller@mtr.sa.gov.au

**Terms of Office:**

2018 – 2022  
2022 – current

**Representation:**

Willochra Ward  
Chief Executive Officer Performance Review Panel  
Booleroo Centre Airstrip Committee  
Flinders Mobile Library Management Committee (Deputy)



**CR COLIN NOTTLE**

**Contact Details:**

Mobile: 0427 672 180  
Email: cenottle@mtr.sa.gov.au

**Terms of Office:**

2006 – 2010  
2010 – 2014  
2014 – 2022  
2022 - current

**Representation:**

Willochra Ward  
Flinders Mobile Library Management Committee  
(Representative)



**CR SHERIDEN TATE**

**Contact Details:**

Mobile: 0422 330 639  
Email: state@mtr.sa.gov.au

**Terms of Office:**

2022 – current

**Representation:**

Telowie Ward  
Flinders Mobile Library Management Committee  
(Representative)  
Chief Executive Officer Performance Review Panel



**CR THE HON DAN VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN**

**Contact Details:**

Mobile: 0422 330 639  
Email: dcvanholstpellekaan@mtr.sa.gov.au

**Terms of Office:**

March 2023 – current

**Representation:**

Willochra Ward

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### Council Members - 1 July 2022 to 10 November 2022

Council consisted of the following Elected Members for the period 1 July 2022 to close of voting on Thursday 10 November 2022, noting that 2 vacancies existed during this period due to the resignations of Cr Barry Richards on 28 February 2022 and Cr Greg Prestridge on 27 June 2022.

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#### MAYOR PHILLIP HEASLIP

##### Contact Details:

Mobile: 0436 462 148  
Email: pmheaslip@mtr.sa.gov.au

##### Terms of Office:

2018 - current

##### Representation:

Telowie Ward  
Ex-Officio Member of every Council  
Committee  
Audit & Risk Committee  
Chief Executive Review Committee

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#### DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON CR DON NORTON

##### Contact Details:

Mobile: 0418 855 513  
Email: dpnorton@mtr.sa.gov.au

##### Term of Office:

2018 -2022

##### Representation:

Willochra Ward

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#### CR IAN (DANNY) KELLER

##### Contact Details:

Mobile: 0428 305 987  
Email: igkeller@mtr.sa.gov.au

##### Term of Office:

2018 - current

##### Representation:

Willochra Ward  
Airstrip Committee

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#### CR STEPHEN McCARTHY

##### Contact Details:

Mobile: 0407 900 556  
Email: srmccarthy@mtr.sa.gov.au

##### Term of Office:

July 2020 - current

##### Representation:

Telowie Ward  
Governance Advisory Panel  
Audit & Risk Committee  
(commenced May 2022)

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#### CR COLIN NOTTLE

##### Contact Details:

Mobile: 0427 672 180  
Email: cenottle@mtr.sa.gov.au

##### Term of Office:

2006 - 2010  
2010 - 2014  
2014 - current

##### Representation:

Willochra Ward

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# ROLES AND OBJECTIVES

The *Local Government Act 1999* specifies the roles and objectives of Council.

'Our Mission' generated through Council's Community Plan 2021-2031 substantially mirrors these.

ADVOCATE	ASSIST	ADVANCE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Awareness</li> <li>» Planning</li> <li>» Media advertising</li> <li>» Stakeholder engagement</li> <li>» As representative, informed and responsible decision maker</li> <li>» Planning at the local and regional level for the future</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Engaging effective resources</li> <li>» Developing initiatives within the Community</li> <li>» Managing, developing and protecting the environment</li> <li>» Providing and coordinating services, facilities and programs that are adequate, appropriate and equitably accessed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Development of new business, commerce, industry and tourism</li> <li>» Ensuring a proper balance between economic, social, environmental and cultural considerations within the Community</li> <li>» Enhanced capacity and professionalism</li> <li>» Growth of leadership, advocacy and service delivery challenges</li> <li>» Exercising, performing and discharging the power, functions and duties of the Local Government and other Acts</li> </ul>

The roles and functions of Council are outlined further within Section 6 of this report.

# COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE STRUCTURE

## **Council Meetings -**

held on the third Tuesday of every month at 6.00pm, except in December which was held on the second Tuesday. The schedule meeting place for each month's Council Meeting during the reporting period was as follows:

- Tuesday 19 July 2022 – Council Chambers, 3 Stuart Street, Melrose
- Tuesday 16 August 2022 – Council Chambers, 3 Stuart Street, Melrose
- Tuesday 20 September 2022 – Booleroo Centre Bowling Club, 10 Stephens Street, Booleroo Centre
- Tuesday 18 October 2022 – Council Chambers, 3 Stuart Street, Melrose
- Tuesday 29 November 2022 – Council Chambers, 3 Stuart Street, Melrose
- Tuesday 13 December 2022 – Community Hub, Corner Karpfanger and Pedersen Street, Port Germein
- Tuesday 17 January 2023 - Council Chambers, 3 Stuart Street, Melrose
- Tuesday 21 February 2023 - Council Chambers, 3 Stuart Street, Melrose
- Tuesday 21 March 2023 - Wirrabara Institute, 35 High Street, Wirrabara
- Tuesday 18 April 2023 - Council Chambers, 3 Stuart Street, Melrose
- Tuesday 16 May 2023 - Council Chambers, 3 Stuart Street, Melrose
- Tuesday 20 June 2023 - Wilmington Bowling Club, 49 Horrocks Highway, Wilmington

Council further resolved that the Chief Executive Officer be delegated authority to amend the date, time and location of Council meetings should the need arise, with advice provided to Elected Members as soon as practicable when a need for change is identified, and formal notification provided in accordance with the requirements of section 83(1) of the Local Government Act 1999.

Agendas for Council Meetings are available on Council's Website on the Friday prior to the Tuesday Meeting, (being 3 clear days prior). A hardcopy is also placed on public display at the Council Office, 3 Stuart Street, Melrose. Minutes are placed on Council's Website within 5 days following the meeting. Social media is also utilised to provide advice to the community in relation to Council Meeting timeframes and locations including agendas and minutes.

## **Special Council Committee Meetings –**

are held at the request of the presiding member or at least two members of a Council Committee. The Chief Executive Officer must ensure that each member of a Council Committee is given notice of a special meeting of the Committee at least four hours before the commencement of the meeting.

## **Information or Briefing Sessions -**

held on an as needs basis. Section 90A of the Local Government Act 1999 provides that Council, or the Chief Executive Officer of a Council, may hold or arrange for the holding of a session (not being a formal meeting of a council or council committee to which more than 1 member of the council or a council committee is invited to attend or be involved in for the purposes of providing information or a briefing at attendees. Information or briefing sessions provide a valuable opportunity to enhance the decision-making processes by providing opportunities for Council Members to become better informed on issues and seek further clarification or to participate in training and development opportunities. A matter at an Information or Briefing Session must not be dealt with in such a way as to obtain, or effectively obtain, a decision on the matter outside a formal meeting of the Council.

Pursuant to Section 90A(7)(b) of the Local Government Act 1999 and Regulation 8AB of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2013, the following information must be published on Council's website as soon as practicable after the holding of an Information or Briefing Session:

- (a) the place, date and time of the session;
- (b) the matter discussed at the session;
- (c) whether or not the session was open to the public.

During the reporting period Council held (10) ten briefing sessions which related to the following topics:

MONTH	TOPICS
12 September 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Strategic Tourism Plan 2022-2027</li> </ul>
16 November 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Northern Passenger Transport Network – Future Directions</li> <li>» Melrose Caravan Park – Sale Update</li> </ul>
17 February 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Strategic Decisions</li> <li>» Financial Strategy – Budget Overview, Rates Overview and Annual Financial Statements Overview</li> </ul>
18 April 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Mock Council Meeting</li> <li>» Budget 2023-2024</li> <li>» Draft Economic Development Plan</li> <li>» Legatus Group</li> </ul>
1 May 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Melrose Australia Post Office</li> </ul>
3 May 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Melrose Australia Post Office</li> </ul>
16 May 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» 2023 Community Survey – Results</li> <li>» Community Halls</li> <li>» Council Assets (Land) Strategy</li> <li>» Remarkable Southern Flinders Project (Overview and Update)</li> <li>» Legatus</li> </ul>
6 June 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Draft 2023-2024 Annual Business Plans &amp; Budget</li> <li>» Long Term Financial Plan</li> <li>» Infrastructure &amp; Asset Management Plans</li> </ul>
16 June 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Draft for public consultation 2023-2024 Annual Business Plan and Budget</li> <li>» Revoked Community Loans Policy</li> <li>» Community Assistance Grants, In Kind Support, Annual Contributions to Progress Groups, Community Insurance Program, Requests for Materials</li> <li>» Operations Plan 2023/2024</li> <li>» Growing Regions Program (Grant) Regional Playground Strategy</li> </ul>
20 June 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Employee Engagement Survey</li> </ul>

# SECTION 41 AND OTHER ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Council has several committees that meet on an 'as needs' basis to make recommendations to Council or the Leadership Team on issues in their respective policy areas.

## **Governance Advisory Panel**

*(Section 41 – Local Government Act 1999)*

The Governance Advisory Panel functions include:

- a) review, monitor and provide advice to the Council in relation to the Council's governance and legislative framework, policies and processes;
- b) consider alleged breaches of the Code of Conduct for Council Members in accordance with the Procedure established by Council;
- c) recommend training to Council Members, Council Committees and senior staff with an emphasis on good governance practices, procedures and processes;
- d) ensure a system of annual performance reviews of Council's Section 41 Committees is developed and implemented;
- e) recommend to Council the adoption of specific policies and procedures to ensure compliance with the Council's legislative obligations; investigate; and
- f) provide advice to the Council on alleged breaches of Council's governance policies in accordance with the relevant governance policy and to consider and provide advice on any other matter that goes towards Council's systems of governance including reports from regulatory authorities such as the Auditor General, Independent Commission Against Corruption, SA Ombudsman and requests for review of Council decisions under section 270 of the Local Government Act 1999.

The Governance Advisory Panel did not meet during the 2022/2023 financial year and Council at its meeting held on the 27 February 2023 resolved to discontinue this Panel.

## **Audit & Risk Committee**

*(Section 41 – Local Government Act 1999)*

The Audit & Risk Committee is established pursuant to Section 41 and 126 of the Local Government Act 1999. The functions of an audit committee include reviewing annual financial statements to ensure that they present fairly the state of affairs of the Council; proposing, and providing information relevant to, a review of the Council's strategic management plans or annual business plans; proposing and reviewing, the exercise of powers under Section 130A; 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.

Independent Members of the Committee are paid a sitting fee of \$800 per meeting attended, and the Independent Chair is paid a sitting fee of \$1,000 per meeting attended.

Audit & Risk Committee met on the 11 July 2022, 8 August 2022, 17 January 2023, 10 February 2023, 3 March 2023, and 29 May 2023.

## **Chief Executive Review Committee**

*(Section 41 – Local Government Act 1999)*

The purpose of the Chief Executive Review Committee is to facilitate a fair and equitable CEO performance review process on an annual basis inclusive of establishing a Council Committee to be known as the Chief Executive Review Committee and requiring the engagement of a qualified independent advisor with skills and experience in human resource management to assist in the conduct of the annual performance review process.

The Chief Executive Review Committee met on 12 July 2022 and 10 August 2022.

Council at its meeting held on 21 March 2023 resolved to discontinue the Chief Executive Review Committee and to be replaced by a Chief Executive Review Panel pursuant to Section 102A of the Local Government Act 1999.

### **Chief Executive Review Panel**

*[Section 102A – Local Government Act 1999]*

The Panel is established for the purpose of:

- a) Conducting the Chief Executive Officer's performance review at least once in each year that the Chief Executive Officer holds office as the Chief Executive Officer within the parameters of the Local Government Act 1999, the Chief Executive Officer's Employment Agreement and the Terms of Reference.
- b) Reviewing the Chief Executive Officer's performance criteria within one (1) month after each annual performance review.
- c) Reviewing the Chief Executive Officers' remuneration package within one (1) month after each annual performance review.
- d) Reviewing any aspect of the Chief Executive Officer's Employment Agreement.
- e) Recommending the Council appoint a qualified independent person who has appropriate qualifications or experience in human resource management to provide advice during the conduct of the Chief Executive Officer's annual performance, remuneration and performance criteria reviews, or to any review of the Chief Executive Officer's Employment Agreement

The Chief Executive Review Panel met on 1 June 2023. It is noted that the new Panel is not a Section 41 Committee.

### **Building Fire Safety Committee**

*[Section 157(16) – Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016]*

The Building Fire Safety Committee is established pursuant to Section 157(16) of the Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016 and is responsible for ensuring the on-going safety of building occupiers and users, by investigating whether buildings are being maintained within appropriate levels of fire safety by building owners.

The Building Fire Safety Committee met on 8 November 2022 and 16 May 2023.

### **Airstrip Committee**

*[Section 41 – Local Government Act 1999]*

The purpose of the Committee is to manage the operations and facilities of the Booleroo Centre Airstrip which align with the Trust Deed between the Booleroo Centre and District Ambulance Services Incorporated and the District Council of Mount Remarkable dated 23 June 2009.

The Airstrip Committee met once during the reporting period on 25 May 2023.

### **Workplace Health & Safety Committee**

*[Section 75 – Work Health & Safety Act 2012]*

The Workplace Health & Safety Committee is established pursuant to Section 75 of the Work Health and Safety Act 2012. The functions of a health and safety committee are to facilitate co-operation between the person conducting a business or undertaking and workers in instigating, developing and carrying out measures designed to ensure the workers' health and safety at work; to assist in developing standards, rules and procedures relating to health and safety that are to be followed or complied with at the workplace; and any of functions prescribed by the regulations or agreed between the person conducting the business or undertaking and the committee.

The WHS Committee met on the 21 July 2022, 18 August 2022, 19 September 2022 and 1 December 2022 and was replaced in January 2023 by the Work, Health & Safety Focus Group as reported below.

### **Work, Health & Safety Focus Group – Small Workplace Arrangements**

*[Section 75 - Work, Health & Safety Act 2012]*

The WHS Focus Group works under small workplace arrangements and is primarily involved in matters that affect the way the District Council of Mount Remarkable manages work, health and safety. It is the principal means for management and workers to meet regularly to discuss, improve and find solutions to WHS matters.

The WHS Focus Group meetings monthly as part of the monthly staff meetings.

### **Flinders Regional Assessment Panel**

*[Section 84(1)(a) and Schedule 8, Clause 13(1)(b) – Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016]*

The Panel is responsible for assessing and determining all applications for planning consent which are the subject of a delegation from the constituent councils and in line with the legislative provisions prescribed in the Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016. The Panel Members must be accredited professionals and act in the best interest of the Council area.

The Panel met once during the 2022/2023 financial year.

# COUNCIL AND SECTION 41 COMMITTEES ATTENDANCE RECORD

The following tables provides a summary of the attendances of Council Members at various Council and Committee Meetings during the financial year ending 30 June 2023:

Elected Members	Ordinary Meetings	Special Meetings	Audit & Risk Committee (Section 41)	Chief Executive Review Committee (Section 41)	Airstrip Committee	Total Meetings Attended
	Number of Meetings Held Per Committee					
	12	5	6	2	1	
<i>Representative Period July 2022 – November 2022</i>						
Mayor P Heaslip	4	3	-	2	-	9
Cr S McCarthy	4	3	2	-	-	9
Cr D Norton	4	2	-	-	-	6
Cr I Keller	4	3	-	-	-	7
Cr C Nottle	4	2	-	-	-	6
<i>Representative Period November 2022 – June 2023</i>						
Mayor S McCarthy	8	2	4	-	-	14
Cr L Till	7	-	2	-	-	9
Cr I Keller	8	2	-	-	1	11
Cr S Tate	8	2	-	-	-	10
Cr C Nottle	7	2	-	-	-	9
Cr P Heaslip*	7	1	-	-	-	8
Cr the Hon D van Holst Pellekaan	4	1	-	-	-	5

\*Cr P Heaslip's position on Council was declared vacant as a result of the provisions within Section 54(1)(h) of the Local Government Act 1999 being enforced. Following the Governor's assent of new legislation within the Local Government (Casual Vacancies) Amendment Act 2023, Members of Council whose positions had become vacant had their position restored. As a result of Cr Heaslip's position being declared vacant he was unable to attend Council Meetings held in January and February 2023. Cr Heaslip's position on Council was reinstated in March 2023.



# REGIONAL SUBSIDIARY (SECTION 43 COMMITTEE – LEGATUS GROUP)

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As at 30 June 2023, Council had one regional subsidiary that falls within the provisions of Section 43 of the Local Government Act 1999. The Regional Subsidiary is LEGATUS, and past Mayor Heaslip was elected as LEGATUS Group Chairperson until September 2022.

The regional subsidiary is required to produce its own Annual Reports and the Local Government Act 1999 provides that each constituent Council must incorporate the annual report of each regional subsidiary into its own annual report. The LEGATUS Annual Report is attached as Appendix One.

## OTHER OUTSIDE BODIES

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There are several committees and outside bodies which the Council was actively involved with throughout the 2022/2023 financial year, including:

- » Mount Remarkable Country Fire Service Group
- » Local Government Association of SA
- » Local Government Finance Authority of SA
- » Flinders Mobile Library  
(Section 41 Committee Northern Areas Council)
- » Zone Emergency Management Committee
- » Flinders Mid-North Yorke (FMNY)  
Regional Bushfire Management Committee

# ELECTOR REPRESENTATION REVIEW AND QUOTA

Pursuant to Section 12(4) of the Local Government Act 1999 Council must ensure that all aspects of the composition of the council, and the issue of the division, or potential division, of the area of the council into wards, are comprehensively reviewed at least once in each relevant period that is prescribed by the regulations.

Council commenced its prescribed representation review in March 2021 and after complying with the provision outlined within Section 12 of the Local Government Act 1999 received certification from the Electoral Commissioner on 18 October 2021 of successfully completing the review process.

The Minister for Local Government, by notice in the Gazette, determines the relevant period and schedule for Councils' representation reviews. Councils may also choose to undertake a review into aspects of its composition or ward structure at any time or they may be requested to undertake a review within a specified period by the Electoral Commissioner.

Due to recent local government legislative reform to the Local Government Act 1999 all principal members of council must be an elected mayor. Therefore, any council with a chairperson as principal member must alter their composition to ensure that the change will take effect from polling day of the next periodic election (November 2026). As the District Council of Mount Remarkable has a chairperson a modified representation review, referred to as a 'Principal Member Report' must be completed in line with the Local Government (Transitional Provisions) Regulations 2021 by December 2025.

## Council's Representation Quota

The representation quota is the number of electors for the Council area divided by the number of Elected Members (including the Mayor). The District Council of Mount Remarkable representation consists of seven Elected Members including the Mayor and six Ward Councillors. The following table provides a comparison between other similar size and type Councils' representation.

COUNCIL	NUMBER OF ELECTORS	NUMBER OF COUNCIL MEMBERS	HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY ELECTORS PER MEMBER
<b>MOUNT REMARKABLE</b>	<b>2137</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>305</b>
Flinders Ranges	1176	9	130
Northern Areas	3484	9	387
Peterborough	1235	9	137
Tumby Bay	2099	7	299

*The above data is provided by the Electoral Commission of South Australia, through the Local Government Association (LGA) for access by individual Councils when preparing their respective Annual Reports.*

# ELECTED MEMBERS' ALLOWANCE AND BENEFITS

## Elected Members' Allowances

Allowances are determined pursuant to Section 76 of the Local Government Act 1999 and the Local Government (Members Allowances and Benefits) Regulations 2010. The level of allowance (minimum and maximum amounts) is determined by the Remuneration Tribunal which is appointed by the State Government and outside the control of Council.

The Remuneration Tribunal SA determines council member allowances on a four yearly basis, with an adjustment occurring on the first, second and third anniversaries (November each) to reflect changes in the CPI. Allowances for the current Council are as follows:

GROUP 5 COUNCIL	NOV 2019 – NOV 2020	NOV 2020 – NOV 2021	NOV 2021 – NOV 2022	NOV 2022 – NOV 2023
<b>Mayor</b>	\$26,968	\$27,252	\$27,932	\$28,768
<b>Deputy Mayor</b>	\$8,427	\$8,516	\$8,728.75	\$8,990
<b>Council Member</b>	\$6,742	\$6,813	\$6,983	\$7,192

An additional allowance in the form of a sitting fee is payable to a councillor (other than the principal member, deputy mayor, deputy chairperson or a presiding member of a prescribed committee) who is the presiding member of a committee that is not a prescribed committee as follows:

Where the councillor is a member of a council in Group 4 or Group 5; an allowance of \$123 per meeting limited to an aggregate amount of allowance of \$731 per annum.

A prescribed committee includes a committee in any of the following areas or any combination thereof: Audit, CEO Performance Review, Corporate Services, Finance, Governance, Infrastructure and Works, Risk Management and Strategic Planning and Development.

Further, a Travel Time Allowance is payable to Council Members, excluding the Principal Member, if specific criteria are met in relation to the Council's principal office from their usual place of residence, via the most direct route. These allowances are also indexed annually.

Cr Keller's and Cr Tate's usual place of residence is at least 30kms but less than 50kms from the Council's principal office and receive an additional allowance of \$454 per annum.

Mayor McCarthy's usual place of residence is at least 50kms but less than 75kms from the Council's principal office and receives an additional allowance of \$775 per annum.

### Members' Reimbursement of Expenses

Elected Members are entitled to receive reimbursement of expenses incurred while performing and discharging the functions and duties of their office as a Member of the Elected Body of the Council. The Council Members Allowances and Benefits Policy provides specific guidelines for those expenses that will be reimbursed to assist Members in fulfilling their role.

### Allowances and Benefits Register

Pursuant to Section 79 of the Local Government Act 1999 Council maintains a register which details the annual allowance payable to the member; details of any expenses reimbursed by the council under section 77(1)(b); and details of other benefits paid or payable to, or provided for the benefit of, the member of the council.

The following benefits are issued to Elected Members to assist them in undertaking their roles and responsibilities:

MEMBER	BENEFITS
Mayor	Laptop computer and internet connection and data plan up to a value of \$50 per month, mobile phone with a plan enabling both calls and data up to a value of \$120 per month, stationary such as business cards, reams of paper to undertake roles and responsibilities, administrative support, access to Council motor vehicle, meals and refreshments while at council meetings and access to a wellbeing support program
Councillors	Laptop computer and internet connection and data plan up to a value of \$50 per month, stationary such as Business Cards and reams of paper to undertake roles and responsibilities, access to Council motor vehicle, access to Council meeting rooms, meals and refreshments while at council meetings and access to a wellbeing support program

### Register of Interest

Elected Members are required to complete annually and update when changes occur, a Register of Interest. Pursuant to Section 70 of the Local Government Act 1999 the Elected Members Register of Interest must be published on Councils website. The Register including the Member's income sources or employer, the name of any political party, body or association formed for political purposes or any trade or professional organisation of which the member is a member, and certain gifts received by the member.

# ELECTED MEMBERS' TRAVEL, ACCOMMODATION AND GIFTS (INCLUDING HOSPITALITY)

Pursuant to Regulation 35(2) provides that Council must ensure a summary of the details (including the cost) of any interstate and international travel (excluding prescribed interstate travel), including cost of travel, and gifts or hospitality above the value of \$50 either individually or cumulatively are published in its Annual Report. The following information ensures compliance with these requirements:

## Interstate and International Travel and Accommodation

During the reporting period, there was no interstate or international travel and accommodation costs incurred by Elected Members.

## Gifts and Hospitality

Gifts and benefits received by Elected Members above the value of \$50 during the reporting period are as follows:

NAME OF EMPLOYEE	DATE RECEIVED	NAME OF DONOR	DESCRIPTION OF ITEM	VALUE OF GIFT OR BENEFIT	REASON FOR OFFER AND ACCEPTANCE	RECIPIENT'S DECISION TO ACCEPT OR DECLINE GIFT
Mayor Heaslip	19 October 2022		Dinner	\$100	Attended Port Pirie Business Dinner	Accepted
Cr Norton	19 October 2022		Dinner	\$100	Attended Port Pirie Business Dinner	Accepted
Mayor Heaslip	27 October 2022	McArthurs	Dinner	\$50		Accepted
Cr Nottle	26 February 2023	Port Germein Markets	Raffle – weed sprayer	\$400	Won in a community raffle	Accepted

# ELECTED MEMBERS' TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 80A of the Local Government Act 1999, Council has in place an Elected Members Training and Development Policy which is available for inspection or purchase by the public from the Council Office or alternatively on Council's Website.

Following a Local Government Election in November every four years, mandatory training is required to be undertaken by Elected Members to assist them in undertaking their roles and responsibilities. The following table outlines the various training and development activities provided for Elected Members during the reporting period.

**TABLE:**      ✓ *Attended*      A *Apology*      NA *Not applicable to Elected Member*

Date	Training/ Development	Mayor McCarthy	Cr Heaslip	Cr Nottle	Cr Keller	Cr Tate	Cr Till	Cr the Hon van Holst Pellekaan
14 November 2022	Induction & Overview Inhouse Training	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	NA
23 November 2022	Induction Module 2 - Civic Module 3 - Legal	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	NA
30 November 2022	Introduction to the Mutual Liabilities Schemes, including Roles, Responsibilities and Protections - Overview	✓	A	✓	A	✓	✓	NA
13 December 2022	Module 1 - Behavioural Module 4 - Finance and Strategy	✓	A	✓	A	✓	✓	NA
16 March 2023	Module 1 - Behavioural Zoom Catch Up	NA	NA	NA	✓	NA	NA	NA
23 March 2023	Module 2 - Civic Zoom Catch Up	NA	NA	NA	✓	NA	NA	NA
30 March 2023	Module 3 - Legal Zoom Catch Up	NA	NA	NA	✓	NA	NA	NA
20 March 2023	Induction & Overview Inhouse Training	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	✓
3 May 2023	CEO Recruitment & Performance Review	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	A	✓
11 May 2023	Module 1 - Behavioural Zoom Catch up	NA	✓	NA	NA	NA	NA	✓
18 May 2023	Module 2 - Civic Zoom Catch up	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	✓
24 May 2023	CEO Recruitment & Performance Review Zoom Catch up	NA	NA	NA	✓	NA	NA	NA
25 May 2023	Module 4 - Finance and Strategy Zoom Catch up	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	✓
1 June 2023	Module 3 - Legal Zoom Catch up	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	✓

# ELECTED MEMBERS' CONTRAVENTION OF BEHAVIOURAL STANDARDS

Pursuant to Regulation 35(a1) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2013, Council must publish in its Annual Report the following information:

- a) The total number of contraventions of Chapter 5 (Members of Council), Part 4 (Members Integrity and Behaviour), Divisions 2 (Members Behaviour) during the financial year; and
- b) The total costs incurred by the Council in relation to dealing with complaints alleging contravention of Chapter 5 Part 4 Division 2 and any referrals of such complaints to the Behavioural Standards Panel during the relevant financial year.

During the reporting period, there were no complaints made against Members of Council relating to a contravention of Chapter 5, Part 4, Division 2 of the Local Government Act 1999.

# ELECTED MEMBERS' HEALTH AND SAFETY RESPONSIBILITIES

Pursuant to Section 75G(a) and (b) of the Local Government Act 1999, a member of council must take reasonable care to ensure that the member's acts or omissions do not adversely affect the health and safety of other members of council or employees of the council. Further, that the member complies with any reasonable direction that is given by a responsible person to ensure that the member's acts or omissions do not adversely affect the health and safety of other members of council or employees of the council. During the reporting period, no members contravened the provisions of Section 75G of the Act.



# MANAGEMENT

## (INCLUDING ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE)

The table below provides an overview of the areas of responsibilities pertaining to each senior management role.



Chief Executive Officer Sam Johnson	Director Community & Corporate Jacqui Kelleher	Director Infrastructure & Regulatory Brenton Daw
Culture	Culture	Culture
Economic Development	Customer Service	Infrastructure (roads & buildings)
Tourism	Administration	Environmental
Strategic Plan	Governance	Building & Planning
External Relations	Leases, Licenses & Contractor Management	Customer Service Requests (back-end action)
Elected Members	Community Services	Maintenance
Strategic Projects (sale of assets, etc.)	Community Groups	Waste
Key Committees	External Communications	Booleroo Airstrip
	Records Management	Community Waste Management Systems
	Human Resources	Asset Management
	Finance	Fleet
	Procurement	Dog & Cat Management
	Information Technology	Cemeteries
	Rates	
	Work Health Safety & Risk	
	Executive Assistant	



District Council of Mount Remarkable Organisational Structure



Community

Council

Chief Executive Officer

Director Community & Corporate

Director Infrastructure & Regulatory

Corporate Services Manager (x 1) (1.0)

Finance Officer (x 1) (1.0)  
Vacant

Corporate Services Officer (x 1) (0.8)

Rates & Debtors Officer (x 1) (1.0)  
Vacant

Regulatory/Admin Officer (x 1) (1.0)

EA/Records Officer (x 1) (1.0)

Admin Support Officer (x 1) (1.0)

Admin Assistant—Governance (x 1)  
(0.2)

Strategic Financial Management  
Contractor (IgiQ)

WHS Risk Officers (x 2)

Cleaners (x 5)

Pool Attendants (x 5)  
(seasonal recruitment)

Operations Manager (x 1) (1.0)

Multi-Skilled Municipal Employees (x 14)  
(1.0)

CWMS—MSME (x 1) (0.2)

Environmental Health Officers  
(x 2)

Building Development &  
Planning Officer  
(x 1)

Permanent

Casual

Fixed Contract

Shared Service

Organisation Structure Updated 19 June 2023

# SENIOR OFFICER REMUNERATION

During the reporting period, the senior officers received the following allowances, bonuses and benefits as part of their salary package:

Position	Annual Contract Salary	Nominated Super Scheme 15.4% of salary	Nominated Super Scheme 10% of salary	Full private use of Council Vehicle	Commuter Use Only	Income Protection	Provision of Uniform
Chief Executive Officer Sam Johnson	\$183,430	✓	N/A	✓	N/A	N/A	\$500 pa
Director Infrastructure & Regulatory Brenton Daw	\$133,364	N/A	Defined benefits super	✓	N/A	✓	\$400 pa
Director Community & Corporate Jacqui Kelleher	\$133,364	N/A	Defined benefits super	✓	N/A	✓	\$400 pa

# CORPORATE CREDIT CARD USAGE

During the reporting period the following officers were provided with a Council's corporate credit card and the total amounts expended during the period is as follows:

OFFICER NAME	TOTAL AMOUNT
Sam Johnson (CEO)	\$5,213.36
Brenton Daw (Director)	\$10,419.94
Jacqui Kelleher (Director)	\$2,877.77
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$18,510.77</b>

# EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY AND HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

The District Council of Mount Remarkable is committed to the principles outlined in Section 107 of the Local Government Act 1999 (SA).

We ensure that these principles are effectively communicated and understood by all our employees. We are committed to sound human resource management practices.

In recruitment and promotion, we adhere rigorously to merit-based criteria, guaranteeing fairness and equity for all members of our workforce.

Equal opportunity is a cornerstone of our employment practices. We provide all our employees with equal access to training, development, and advancement opportunities, irrespective of their backgrounds or characteristics. Discrimination in any form is strictly prohibited within our organisation.

Fair and consistent treatment is a fundamental tenet at Council. Every employee is assured of equitable and consistent treatment, and we have established robust grievance procedures to address any concerns related to working conditions or decisions made by supervisors.

Transparency and accountability are paramount. We provide annual performance reports to our employees, fostering an environment of openness and continuous improvement.

The safety and wellbeing of our employees are non-negotiable. We are committed to providing a safe and healthy working environment. We take harassment seriously. Our organisation is dedicated to safeguarding our employees from sexual harassment. We have effective procedures in place to address and resolve any harassment complaints.

We are committed to establishing a diverse workforce. We implement and periodically review an equal employment opportunity program to ensure that our workforce is characterised by fairness and diversity.

Discrimination has no place in our organisation. We staunchly oppose discrimination based on sex, sexuality, marital status, pregnancy, race, physical or intellectual impairment, age, or any other unjustifiable basis in our employment practices.

In summary, our dedication to these principles exemplifies our unwavering commitment to fostering a respectful, inclusive, and equitable work environment within Council. We provide equal opportunities to all our employees while maintaining the highest standards of safety, fairness, and transparency.

## Staffing Details

As at the 30 June 2023, Council employed 49 staff (including seasonal staff) across the organization. Thirty-one (31) staff are employed on a full time basis, three (3) on a part-time basis, fifteen (5) on a casual basis and seven (7) under a contract arrangement. The gender profile of employees is 57% female employees and 43% male employees. To the best of the employer's knowledge, no employees identified as any gender other than male and female.

# EMPLOYEE TRAVEL, ACCOMMODATION AND GIFT (INCLUDING HOSPITALITY)

During the reporting period no employees travelled interstate or internationally on official Council business.

The table below provides details of any gifts including hospitality over the value of \$50 received by Council employees during 2022/2023:

NAME OF EMPLOYEE	DATE RECEIVED	NAME OF DONOR	DESCRIPTION OF ITEM	VALUE OF GIFT OR BENEFIT	REASON FOR OFFER AND ACCEPTANCE	TO COUNCIL PROPERTY <i>(NAME OF RECIPIENT OF GIFT)</i>
Craig Mudge	30 September 2022	Kelly Motors	Gift Basket – wine, choc/nuts, stubby holder	\$60	Came with new vehicle	Donated to social committee to raffle
Sam Johnson	6-7 October 2022	LFGA McArthurs Norman Waterhouse LGRS	Dinner Drinks Lunchbox Puffer Vest	\$30 \$20 \$10 \$30	Attended CEO Regional Forum	
Sam Johnson & Jacqui Kelleher	27 October 2022	McArthurs	Dinner	\$50 each	Attended Dinner	
Sam Johnson		Local Government Risk Services	Dinner	\$60	Attended Dinner	
Sam Johnson	29 March 2023	FYFE	Dinner	\$100	SACOME	
Sam Johnson	27-28 April 2023	Kelley Jones Regional CEO Forum	Meals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>McArthurs \$50 (pre-dinner drinks)</li> <li>Roadside Services \$100 (dinner)</li> <li>Origin Energy \$20 (breakfast)</li> <li>Optus \$20 (lunch)</li> <li>North East Isuzu \$25 (lunch and coffee)</li> <li>Kelley Jones Lawyers \$30 (promotional items)</li> </ul>	Attended CEO Forum	

# SECTION 4 STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT PLAN OUTCOMES

GOAL 1: A REMARKABLE COMMUNITY TO BE A PART OF

GOAL 2: A REMARKABLE PLACE TO LIVE

GOAL 3: A REMARKABLE PLACE TO WORK OR BE IN BUSINESS

GOAL 4: A REMARKABLE PLACE TO VISIT

GOAL 5: WHAT WE DO, WE STRIVE TO DO REMARKABLY WELL

GOAL 6: A 'CAN DO' COUNCIL

'AT A GLANCE' OVERVIEW OF ACHIEVEMENTS MADE AGAINST THE  
2022/2023 STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL AREAS

TARGET MEASURES FOR 2023/2024 STRATEGIC PLAN



# GOAL 1: A REMARKABLE COMMUNITY TO BE A PART OF

STRATEGY & ACTIONS	ACHIEVEMENTS
<p><b>1.1 Foster a sense of pride, community participation and civic contribution</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Encourage and support a high level of community participation and volunteering</li> <li>» Support and engage with Community Groups, attending where possible and necessary</li> <li>» Support community events</li> <li>» Develop a unique identity for living in the District to promote pride</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Support for the Fat Tyre Festival (Community Event) for Road Closure</li> </ul>



*Fat Tyre Festival*

## 2022/2023 HIGHLIGHTS:

### Fat Tyre Festival

The Fat Tyre Festival took place on the long weekend in June 2023 and included a street party vibe with a safe environment for children.

Council arranges the necessary road closures for the event. The event attracts hundreds of locals and visitors to the District

STRATEGY & ACTIONS	ACHIEVEMENTS
<p><b>1.2 Promote Inclusiveness</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Implement a Disability and Inclusion Action Plan</li> <li>» Development and implement a Reconciliation Action Plan</li> <li>» Explore ways to meaningfully engage with youth</li> <li>» Support Ageing population Strategies</li> <li>» Pursue opportunities to enhance community wellbeing and social inclusion</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Completed new concrete footpaths in Booleroo Centre and the inclusion of 20 new disability compliant ramps</li> </ul>



*CEO Sam Johnson inspecting works*

## 2022/2023 HIGHLIGHTS:

### Disability Compliant Ramps

As part of the upgrade of concrete footpaths in Booleroo Centre, 20 new concrete disability compliant ramps were constructed.

## STRATEGY & ACTIONS

## ACHIEVEMENTS

### 1.3 Support Community Wellbeing

- » Enhance recreational activities and facilities
- » Work with community Groups
- » Maintain and enhance walking, running and cycling trails

- » Implemented access to annual insurance coverage for community and sporting groups through Council's insurer
- » Rail Trail works have continued with the extension of the trail from Booleroo Centre to Stone Hut including the placement of two (2) major bridges at Wongabirrie Park (Wirrabara) and Rocky River (Stone Hut)
- » Maintenance to existing trails including weed control



### 2022/2023 HIGHLIGHTS:

#### Community Group Insurance Program

At its August 2022 Ordinary Meeting, Council approved the facilitation through its insurer (Local Government Community Insurance Services - JLT Risk Solutions Pty Ltd) for annual insurance coverage of nominated community and sporting groups, based within the Council area (general public and products liability; personal accident-voluntary workers; Association Liability).

The annual insurance coverage has been secured for the nominated community groups and is valued at approximately \$1,200 for each of the groups which responded to Council's call for registrations of interest to partner with Council to secure a better deal for their communities through associated cost savings.

Council is pleased to partner with community groups and offer this cost effective insurance option at no direct cost to the nominated groups with the associated expenses being absorbed within Council's existing budget allocation for Council related insurances.

#### Rail Trail – Booleroo Centre to Stone Hut (Bridges)

The trail has been completed between Booleroo Centre and Stone Hut. This trail included the placement of two (2) major bridges at Wirrabara (Wongabirrie Park) and Stone Hut (Rocky River), fencing, gate placement and ride-over ramps.

#### PHOTOS FROM THE TOP:

*Ride-Over Ramp Mahood Road*

*New 14 metre Bridge Wongabirrie Park, Wirrabara*

*Rail Trail Surface*

*New 24 metre bridge Rocky River, Stone Hut*

## STRATEGY & ACTIONS

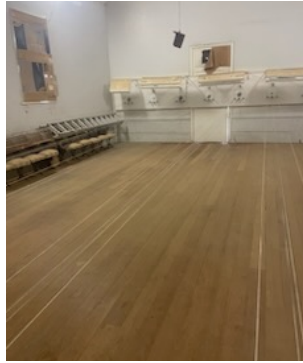
- 1.4 Provide, maintain & enhance Community Facilities**
- » Invest in, and advocate for, community facilities that support cultural and community participation
  - » Maintain and improve the standard of Council cemeteries in accordance with the Cemetery Management Plan

## ACHIEVEMENTS

- » Council support to community facilities (halls, community buildings, supporting Wilmington Progress with new community gym
- » Cemeteries have been maintained to a standard suitable for community use and in accordance with the Cemetery Management Plan



*Booleroo Centre Hall*



*Wongyarra Hall*



*Melrose Hall*



*Wirrabara Institute and Town Hall*



## 2022/2023 HIGHLIGHTS:

### Community Open Space & Public Buildings Upgrades

Booleroo Centre Hall - New stormwater guttering was installed.

Port Germein Hall – Salt damp treatment.

Port Germein Toilet Block – Internal painting of Toilets and External Painting.

Port Germein Foreshore – Painting of shelters, painting and repairs to lighthouse and the tide clock.

Melrose Hall – External window repairs and painting.

Melrose Paradise Square – Painting toilet block and repairs to roof.

Melrose Memorial Park – Painting of gazebo.

Wilmington Centenary Park – Painting toilet block internal and external and laying of grass near shelter.

Wirrabara Institute and Town Hall – Repair library floor and replace section of ceiling, patch walls and replace gutters.

Wongyarra Hall – Repairs to floor.



*Weeroona Island Shelters at Boat Ramp*



*Port Germein Hall*



*Port Germein Hall*





Port Germein Toilet Block



Port Germein Toilet Block



Port Germein Foreshore



Port Germein Foreshore



Melrose Paradise Square



Melrose Memorial Park



Wilmington Centenary Park



Wilmington Centenary Park

## STRATEGY & ACTIONS

## ACHIEVEMENTS

### 1.5 Foster Civic Leadership

- » Foster civic awareness and the development of future community leaders, volunteers and advocates by working with schools and youth groups

- » CEO meetings with various School Principals within the District
- » Attended School Student Achievement Award Ceremonies at Melrose (Director Community & Corporate), Wilmington (Cr Till) and Booleroo Centre (Mayor McCarthy)
- » Presented Australia Day Awards
- » Father Christmas Tour held in December 2022.
- » Mayor's Business Luncheon



*(L-R): Cr Colin Nottle, Deputy Mayor Cr Lesley Till, staff member Tammy Bastian, Father Christmas and staff member Penny Archer*

### 2022/2023 HIGHLIGHTS:

#### Father Christmas Tour

Father Christmas toured the District in December 2022 with the assistance of Council staff and Elected Members.

#### Mayor's Business Luncheon

Mayor Cr Stephen McCarthy hosted an inaugural Mayor's Business Luncheon in Melrose. The luncheon was attended by local and regional business owners and leaders, who discussed various issues and explored solutions and opportunities for collaboration and support. The initiative was well-received by the attendees, who appreciated the opportunity to get together informally.

The luncheon was an opportunity to establish meaningful connections with the business community and to demonstrate the Council's commitment to its strategic objectives of economic development and growth in the district. Council will continue to develop its offerings in the business and economic development space by enhancing and continually building on the information about the District that specifically aligns with existing and future business opportunities.



*Attendees at the Inaugural Mayor's Business Luncheon*

# GOAL 2: A REMARKABLE PLACE TO LIVE

STRATEGY & ACTIONS	ACHIEVEMENTS
<p><b>2.1 Advocate for Essential Services</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Advocate for retention and improvements to essential services such as medical and health services, Police, SES, CFS, Ambulance and Schools</li> <li>» Advocate for improved telecommunications connectivity across the District</li> <li>» Lobby SA Water and advocating to State Government for improved water quality</li> <li>» Support measures to harvest stormwater</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Mayor and CEO attended Inquiry into improving Regional Mobile Phone Infrastructure</li> <li>» Facilitated new Pharmacy Collection Point in Melrose</li> <li>» CEO Meeting with local SAPOL Officers</li> <li>» CEO Meeting with Booleroo Hospital Directors &amp; Doctors regarding Mental Health Services</li> </ul>

## 2022/2023 HIGHLIGHTS:

### Council Representative attendance at Standing Committee on Communications and the Arts

Mayor Stephen McCarthy and CEO Sam Johnson attended the Federal Government's Communications & the Arts Standing Committee hearing which included co-investment in mobile infrastructure. Attending the Standing Committee provided an opportunity for concerns to be raised in relation to how mobile coverage in the District and surrounds could be improved. There are many locations within the District where coverage is simply not there, or is very patchy and this is a real concern particularly when it comes to natural disasters and other emergency events and resultant impacts on personal safety. Connectivity and infrastructure are critical drivers of regional development and Council considered it was important that rural, regional and remote communities were represented at the Hearing to ensure their views on connecting and staying connected to telecommunications infrastructure were heard.

### Booleroo Centre Pharmacy Prescription Medication Collection Point in Melrose

Council has provided a service of being a collection point for prescription medications from the Booleroo Pharmacy within Melrose for some time, however due to advice from Council's insurers, Council deemed the service to be unacceptable to continue. As a result, investigations into opportunities for another provider to offer this service were made, and as from 16 May 2023 Nutrien Ag Solutions at Melrose stepped forward to continue this much needed service within the community.

STRATEGY & ACTIONS	ACHIEVEMENTS
<p><b>2.2 Develop &amp; promote a District Community identity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Develop a unique identity for liveability in the District</li> <li>» Promote the liveability of the District as an attractive resettlement or retirement proposition for people in surrounding Districts and beyond in support of encouraging population growth and maintenance of a sustainable population</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Information on Council Website for new residents</li> </ul>

## 2022/2023 HIGHLIGHTS:

### New Residents - Welcome to the District

The District Council of Mount Remarkable encompasses a spectacular and diverse piece of the Southern Flinders Ranges; from Port Germein which hosts the historic Port Germein Jetty, to Melrose, the oldest town in the Flinders Ranges, situated at the foothills of the impressive Mount Remarkable.

The scenic Wirrabara Forest, the Bluff Lookout, the historic town of Wilmington with Alligator Gorge only a short drive away and Booleroo Centre, our service hub, all make for a truly remarkable experience.

Council's website provides information for new residents to assist them to get to know their Council and the District, i.e.:

- » Epic Bike Trails
- » Rail Trails
- » How to lodge a customer service request
- » Waste Management (including bin collection information)
- » Contact details for local businesses, community groups, Elected Members
- » Copies of Council newsletters, the District Map and Facebook address and My Local Services App

## STRATEGY & ACTIONS

### 2.3 Maintain & Enhance Town Presentation & Amenity

- » Work with community groups to upgrade and maintain presentation of towns
- » Maintain and upgrade identified Council reserves
- » Support a streetscape program to create inviting public places

## ACHIEVEMENTS

- » Work with Progress Groups to enhance and support community amenities
- » Attendance at various Progress Association Meetings
- » Reserves maintained to a high standard and improvements to the infrastructure within reserves continues to meet community expectations



### 2022/2023 HIGHLIGHTS:

#### Council staff out and about

Council's parks and gardens team undertake many tasks on a daily basis. These range from regular programmed maintenance of existing gardens and lawned areas, to responding to customer requests for service.

#### Port Germein Seawall

Maintenance of the seawall at Port Germein provides additional integrity of the coastal area and improved safety and amenity of the foreshore.

*LEFT: Council staff member pictured attended to some programmed tree maintenance*

*BELOW: Works undertaken on the Port Germein Seawall*



## STRATEGY & ACTIONS

### 2.4 Support Public Safety & Health Outcomes

- » Pursue public health outcomes in alignment with Regional Public Health Plans and the South Australian Public Health Act
- » Perform a range of regulatory and compliance public safety and environmental health functions
- » Support community safety initiatives
- » Work with stakeholders on local bushfire management area planning
- » Maintain and enhance lighting in public places including street lighting and reserve lighting
- » Maintain Council's Disaster Recovery Plan
- » Enact measures and advocate for improved public fire safety including effective planning such as reduction of fuel load and provision for effective access and egress

## ACHIEVEMENTS

- » Through the Fire Prevention Officer Program, Council works with community and the CFS to provide townships and rural areas with guidance to meet relevant legislative requirements regarding fire management
- » Council is a member of the Local Zone Emergency Support Team (ZEST)
- » Council is a member of the Regional Zone Emergency Management Committee (ZEMC)
- » Council always on standby for disaster events
- » Undertook cross-collaboration on Emergency Disaster Support at Berri
- » Assisted the District Council of Karoonda East Murray in road construction trials as part of a cross-council collaboration project



### 2022/2023 HIGHLIGHTS:

#### Fire Prevention

Council's Fire Prevention Officers work tirelessly throughout the fire season to ensure that fire fuel loads across the District are maintained at an appropriate level to reduce the risk of fire wherever possible. The issue of permits which range from hot work permits, burning of land, permits for slashing of properties, and comfort fires were issued to ensure activities are carried out safely and with minimal risk to the community.

#### Public and Environmental Health

The District Council of Mount Remarkable employs an Environmental Health Officer through a Shared Service arrangement with the Port Pirie Regional Council.

The Environmental Health Officer is responsible for ensuring compliance with legislative provisions captured within the South Australian Public Health Act in 2011, Safe Drinking Water Act 2011, Food Act 2001, Local Nuisance and Litter Control Act 2016 and the Environment Protection (Air Quality) Policy 2016. Inspections of food handling and preparation premises are undertaken with the overall aim to ensure that all such premises are operating to the required standards, along with water, legionella, other testing regimes, as well as handling complaints received under the various Acts.

#### Zone Emergency Management Committee

Each Zone has a Zone Emergency Management Committee (ZEMC) made up of Local and State Government and Emergency Management Staff. These committees have a risk assurance role and provide regional leadership in emergency management in their Zones. Council forms part of the Northern and Yorke Region.

The Yorke and Mid North ZEMC was established with the guidelines from the State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC) in accordance with Section 9(1)(e) of the Emergency Management Act 2004 (the Act).

The role of a ZEMC includes:

- » Working within the Zone Emergency Risk Management Framework to identify, analyse and evaluate emergency risks that could impact the Zone; and
- » Identifying and evaluating treatment options and developing a Zone Emergency Management Plan (ZEMP) to address residual risk; and
- » Providing assurance that arrangements are in place to prevent and/or mitigate, prepare for, respond to and recover from emergencies.

The ZEMC is a strategic planning committee and has no operational role. The Zone Emergency Support Team (ZEST) is the operational support group within a Zone. It is acknowledged that some members of ZEMC may separately undertake an operational role during an emergency, outside of their ZEMC role, as a result of legislative, Control/Support Agency or Functional Support Group responsibilities.

The committee meets quarterly and is made up of representatives from Local Government, Health, Country Fire Service, Metropolitan Fire Service, Department of Primary Industries and Regions, South Australia (PIRSA), Department for Environment and Water (DEW), SAPOL, Housing SA, Local Government Association, Department for Education (DECD), Department for Infrastructure and Transport (DIT), and Joint Operating Support Services (Australian Defence Force).

A Recovery Exercise was held in Clare on 11 May 2023.

## STRATEGY & ACTIONS

### 2.5 Provide Planning and Development Services

- » Provide an effective and efficient planning and development function that supports appropriate community and industry outcomes encouraging where appropriate development that is sympathetic to the character of the District

## ACHIEVEMENTS

- » Provided Planning Services via planning contract consultant.
- » Provided Building Inspection services as required
- » Building Fire Safety Inspections

PERIOD	APPLICATIONS	VALUE
2022/2023	70	\$6,009,078
2021/2022	86	\$6,580,000
2020/2021	81	\$7,970,000
2019/2020	72	\$4,743,269

### 2022/2023 HIGHLIGHTS:

#### Planning and Building Services

The following table illustrates the number and value of development applications submitted in the 2022/2023 financial year, compared to the 2019/2020, 2020/2021 and 2021/2022 financial years.

Further information regarding development applications can be viewed on the Plan SA website:

[https://plan.sa.gov.au/development\\_application\\_register](https://plan.sa.gov.au/development_application_register)

#### Building Fire Safety Committee

The Building Fire Safety Committee were active throughout the reporting period and undertook inspections of 12 properties for building fire safety compliance.

As a result of these inspections, 2 property owners have completed their compliance responsibilities and a further 10 property owners are in the process of undertaking compliance works. The Committee will continue to monitor and reinspect works once completed to ensure compliance.

#### Swimming Pool Inspections

During the reporting period the District Council of Mount Remarkable had 2 swimming pools lodged via the portal.

The criteria for Council to inspect swimming pools is outlined in Practice Direction 8. Practice directions are issued by the State Planning Commission under Section 42 of the Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016 (Act), for the purposes of Section 156(5) of the Act to ensure that swimming pools and designated safety features for swimming pools are inspected.

A council must comply with the requirements of the practice direction as it relates to the Council.

Councils must inspect 100% of swimming pools and swimming pool safety features constructed over the course of the relevant reporting year within 10 business days of the Council being notified.

# GOAL 3: A REMARKABLE PLACE TO WORK OR BE IN BUSINESS

STRATEGY & ACTIONS	ACHIEVEMENTS
<p><b>3.1 Partner with Stakeholders on Economic Development &amp; Employment Opportunities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Work with a range of stakeholders to encourage and facilitate and support economic development</li> <li>» Work with Regional Development Australia (RDA) to foster economic development opportunities</li> <li>» Develop and foster relationships to support, strengthen and grow our agricultural and primary production industries</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Attendance at State Local Government Economic Forum.</li> <li>» Attendance at quarterly Regional Development Australia (Mid North) Meetings</li> </ul>
<p><b>3.2 Foster Economic Development</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Create an Economic Development Framework</li> <li>» Encourage development of new industries and/as well as industries that value add to our existing industries</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Attended Economic Development Plan session facilitated by Regional Development Australia (Mid North)</li> <li>» New operator of Community Postal Agency – Melrose</li> </ul>



*Mayor McCarthy congratulating Mr Benson on commencing operation of the Community Postal Agency in Melrose*

## 2022/2023 HIGHLIGHTS:

### Community Postal Agency – Melrose.

The Post Office Boxes (PO Boxes) located at the Civic Centre at 3 Stuart Street Melrose are owned by Council. The PO Boxes were obtained in 2005 at the time of Council establishing a licensed post office. These arrangements came about after the previous local postal agency operator had surrendered its licence and to ensure that the service was not lost to the community.

At its Special Meeting held on 11 May 2023, Council resolved to exit providing and operating commercial functions and as such, it was decided to transition from a Council run Australia Post operation to a private commercial operator.

The new operator, Mr Robbie Benson commenced operating the Australia Postal Service on 5 June 2023, and is now known as the Community Postal Agency – Melrose. The service will continue to be operated from the existing site and the new operator has entered into a three-year licence agreement to occupy the portion of the Administration Centre at the Council Offices, 3 Stuart Street, Melrose.

Council welcomes the opportunity for Mr Benson to broaden his business model whereby he will create economic and employment benefits in the District. Council also resolved that proceeds gained from the sale of the postal agency infrastructure to Mr Benson would be donated to the Melrose Community Development Association.

## STRATEGY & ACTIONS

## ACHIEVEMENTS

### 3.3 Support Local Business & Industry

- » Support local businesses to work together
- » Develop district identity to promote the attractiveness of the District for new and further investment in local industries and businesses
- » Engage with local industry and business to encourage and support economic development and job

- » Continued engagement with local businesses and suppliers
- » Participation with local groups to support and encourage existing operators
- » Use of Council procurement to enable local purchasing



*Wilmington Transport constructing Rail Trail into Rocky River at Stone Hut*

### 2022/2023 HIGHLIGHTS:

#### Local and Regional Contractors contractual works

Council has wherever possible, engaged both local and regional contractors to undertake tasks. This includes works such as rock crushing, road construction, material cartage, placement of stormwater infrastructure, general supply of materials, vehicle maintenance, vehicle purchases, Rail Trail construction, tree trimming, grave digging, and sealed road patching.



# GOAL 4: A REMARKABLE PLACE TO VISIT

STRATEGY & ACTIONS	ACHIEVEMENTS
<p><b>4.1 Partner with Tourism Stakeholders</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Work with a range of tourism stakeholders in developing and executing effective and efficient tourism strategies including eco-tourism</li> <li>» Partner with SA Tourism and other State and Regional agencies to promote tourism across the District</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Acknowledge SA Tourism Awards night to celebrate local tourism business successes</li> </ul>



## 2022/2023 HIGHLIGHTS:

### SA Tourism Awards

SA Tourism acknowledges that great work by SA business who work tirelessly to promote their respective areas and as part of their Annual Awards. **'Under the Mount'** won the gold for Best 3-3.5 Star Accommodation in Category 21 of the Awards in November 2022.

Congratulations go to owners and operators Don and Kristen Norton for their passion and support of tourism within the District. **'Under the Mount'** offers visitors quality accommodation within the beautiful and picturesque township of Melrose, while visiting the area to experience the great bike and walking trails, as well as other tourism activities offered within Melrose and around the District.

TOP: Receiving the Award (L-R) Alicia, Kristen and Don Norton  
 BOTTOM: Under the Mount's Outdoor Area

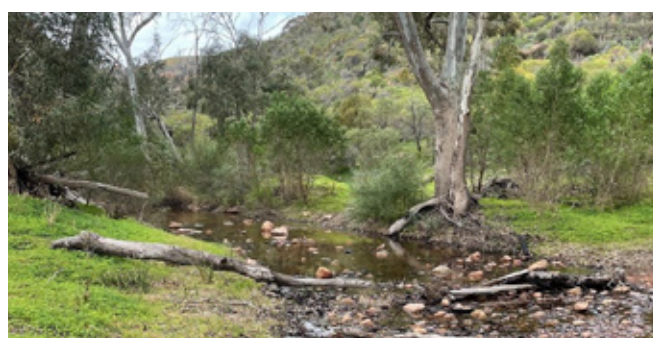


STRATEGY & ACTIONS	ACHIEVEMENTS
<p><b>4.2 Develop our District Tourism Proposition</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Define our District Tourism brand and proposition</li> <li>» Development and implement a District tourism plan</li> <li>» Encourage events that present a genuine tourism or economic development opportunity</li> <li>» Support the appropriate use of National Parks in providing recreational opportunities including eco-tourism</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Adopted Bridle Track Strategic Plan 2022-2027</li> <li>» Adopted Strategic Tourism Plan 2022-2027</li> <li>» Commencement of the Remarkable Southern Flinders Project</li> </ul>

## 2022/2023 HIGHLIGHTS:

### Remarkable Southern Flinders Project

The Remarkable Southern Flinders Project is the State Government's \$10m investment into the Southern Flinders which includes mountain bike trails, National Park gorge walks and Mambrey Creek redevelopment. A Governance Group has been established which includes key stakeholders in the various projects who have project management oversight to assist the Department for Environment and Water in delivering the project.



Telowie Gorge

## STRATEGY & ACTIONS

## ACHIEVEMENTS

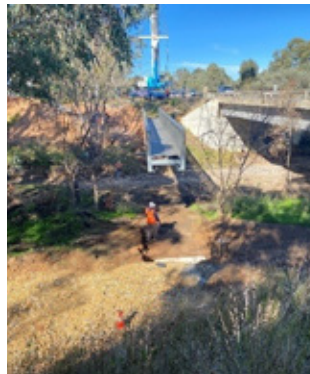
### 4.3 Develop our Tourism Infrastructure

- » Maintain and improve Council's tourism infrastructure
- » Make improvements to directional signage for visitors to the District
- » Improve town entrances

- » Increased tourism signage for Port Germein.
- » Investment in tourism assets (Rail Trails)



Port Germein Signage



Max Cranes placing bridge at Wongabirrie Park in Wirrabara and Rocky River at Stone Hut.



Port Germein Jetty

### 2022/2023 HIGHLIGHTS:

#### Port Germein Highway Signage

The construction of new town signage for Port Germein has been well received by community members and tourists visiting Port Germein.

The signage has been placed at locations prior to the entry point to Port Germein primarily to alert tourists that the township of Port Germein is approaching. They are strategically placed a few kilometres either side of the highway turnoff.

#### Rail Trail

Council's investment in Rail Trails increased in 2022/2023 with the placement of two (2) new Rail Trail bridges. These bridges allow for creek crossing when water is running. A (14m) fourteen metre bridge has been placed over the Rocky River in Wirrabara (Wongabirrie Park) and the second bridge, with a total length of (24m) twenty four metres has been placed over the Rocky River at Stone Hut. This has increased the total distance of trails to 77km.

#### Port Germein Jetty

Council has had several meetings with the Department for Infrastructure & Transport (DIT) concerning the long term future and current repairs to the Port Germein Jetty.

Council, in partnership with DIT, is preparing a business case for the upgrade of the jetty and envisages that the business case will be completed by the end of 2023.

## STRATEGY & ACTIONS

### 4.4 Support Heritage and History

- » Provide support for promotion of local heritage and history
- » Protect local heritage through the Planning and Design Code
- » Improve heritage signage across the District

## ACHIEVEMENTS

- » Back to Appila – 150th Year Celebration
- » Upgrade to Port Germein Tide Clock and Lighthouse



*Appila Improvement Association Secretary Don Bottrall (left) and Chairman Paul Wurst (right)*



*Port Germein Lighthouse (left) and Tidal Clock (right)*

### 2022/2023 HIGHLIGHTS:

#### Appila 150th Anniversary

Over 200 people attended an event to celebrate the 150th Anniversary of Appila. Community members present witnessed the unveiling of a commemorative plaque to mark the occasion and enjoyed viewing the memorabilia and audio visual displays at Stacey Park. Appila Centenary, other past functions and Jack Babbage Photographs of past people and events featured in these displays.

Mrs Jenny Heaslip cut an anniversary cake to mark the occasion.

Locals and visitors alike enjoyed the opportunity to meet and catch up with each other.

#### Port Germein Tide Clock and Lighthouse Upgrade and Restoration

Local community group, Port Germein Heritage, Arts & Tourism (HATs) initiated this project and Council approved funding through Budget Review No2 to ensure that these iconic heritage pieces were restored. The restoration works to the lighthouse and clocktower involved blasting and applying marine coatings such as high build epoxy and polyurethane topcoat. The work was undertaken by Quill Falcon Australia Pty Ltd – Australian Environmental Blasting Pty Ltd at a cost of approximately \$25,000.

These iconic pieces of heritage are landmarks from a bygone era and always attract visitors which result in benefits to the local economy. Port Germein continues to be a place for locals and visitors to spend time taking in the beautiful views of the water, jetty, local heritage buildings and the iconic tidal clock and lighthouse.

STRATEGY & ACTIONS	ACHIEVEMENTS
<p><b>4.5 Support Protection of the Natural Environment while retaining access</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Work with stakeholders in supporting measures to protect and preserve the natural environment while ensuring we reasonably and appropriately access natural resources</li> <li>» Explore initiatives to raise awareness of environmental impacts within community</li> <li>» Support initiatives to raise awareness and develop resilience to a changing climate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Provide details for Emergency Animal Disease Courses.</li> <li>» Promotion of South Australian Drought Resilience Adoption &amp; Innovation Hub</li> </ul>

**2022/2023 HIGHLIGHTS:**

**Emergency Animal Disease (EAD) Courses**

Council published details within its October Newsletter alerting members of the community to opportunities to access a number of courses that had been created by Animal Health Australia and looks at Emergency Animal Diseases (EAD) preparedness, response arrangements and biosecurity in general; primarily in response to Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) and Lumpy Skin Disease. The EAD Foundation course provides a good baseline for anyone who has an interest or has the potential to be asked to provide support to PIRSA and provides information about the risk, how to help prevent it, and what would happen if an FMD outbreak occurs. Other courses include FMD Awareness – Protecting your livelihood and community and Public Information in a Biosecurity Response.

**South Australian Drought Resilience Adoption & Innovation Hub**

The SA Drought Hub is an exciting initiative which brings together a dynamic network of primary producers, industry groups, researchers, government agencies, universities, agribusinesses, traditional owners, and others to work towards a common vision to strengthen the drought resilience and preparedness of our farms and regional communities in South Australia.

The SA Drought Hub is one of eight established across the nation through the Australian Government’s Future Drought Fund. Led by the University of Adelaide in partnership with the Department of Primary Industries and Regions (PIRSA), the SA Drought Hub comprises the Hub headquarters at Roseworthy and five regional nodes at Minnipa on Eyre Peninsula, Port Augusta in the Far North, Orroroo in the Upper North, Loxton in the Riverland, and Struan in the South-East.

The location of the nodes ensures state-wide coverage of all pastoral, low, medium and high rainfall agricultural production zones.

**The steps to increased drought resilience:**

**Collaboration** - With input from the relevant partners and other local community members, regional drought resilience priorities will be identified.

**Regional action** - Activities will be co-designed at a regional level and driven from the ground-up.

**Creating change** - Bespoke extension programs will be implemented to facilitate adoption of drought resilience practices and strategies in our farming systems and regional communities.

**Free Waste Disposal Day in March in Support of Clean-up Australia Day**

Council opened the Willowie Waste Transfer Station on Saturday 11 March 2023 from 9am until 12noon for free waste disposal in support of Clean up Australia Day.

Feedback from the 2022 Free Dump Day from residents has meant a change of day and away from the dedicated “Clean-up Australia Day” to be held on Sunday 5 March 2023 to allow for community groups to participate.

Council wants to show support and provide encouragement to our communities to get involved and play an active role in Clean-up Australia Day.

Council see this as a great opportunity for the community to participate in Clean-up Australia Day, as well as being provided an opportunity to dispose of waste at no cost.

STRATEGY & ACTIONS	ACHIEVEMENTS
<p><b>4.6 Support Management of Native Flora and Fauna</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Encourage initiatives to control weed species in conjunction with other agencies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Council is required to collect levies on behalf of the Northern &amp; Yorke Landscape Board.</li> </ul>

**2022/2023 HIGHLIGHTS:**

**Regional Landscape Levy**

In South Australia there are eight regional landscape boards who work with partners to deliver practical, on-ground programs to manage landscape. The partnership investment assists in also leveraging Australian Government funding towards managing and protecting our productive and natural landscapes. In 2022/2023, Council contributed \$136,927 to the Northern & Yorke Landscape Board through the collection of the Regional Landscape Levy. The Northern & Yorke Landscape Board delivers a diverse range of programs and projects for the region.

For further information on the work being undertaken by the Board, within the Northern & Yorke District visit the Board’s website on <https://www.landscape.sa.gov.au/ny/home>

# GOAL 5: WHAT WE DO, WE STRIVE TO DO REMARKABLY WELL

STRATEGY & ACTIONS	ACHIEVEMENTS
<p><b>5.1 Maintain &amp; Enhance roads, stormwater, footpaths &amp; associated infrastructure</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Advocate to State and Federal Governments for increased funding to maintain and enhance the District's road network</li> <li>» Advocate for financial support to ensure the infrastructure and services needs of the community are met</li> <li>» Maintain and improve the standard of Council owned roads</li> <li>» Plan for the effectiveness and inclusiveness of infrastructure and services to cater to the needs of community, visitors and local business and industry</li> <li>» Pursue partnerships and opportunities to support infrastructure development</li> <li>» Develop service level standards for asset and infrastructure</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Grant applications through supplementary road funding</li> <li>» Federal road funding program</li> <li>» Develop Infrastructure and Asset Management Plan</li> <li>» Road to Recovery funding</li> <li>» Continuing applications for funding of road and bridge infrastructure</li> <li>» Completed the Transport Asset Management Plan</li> </ul>



Construction of new concrete path on Stephens Street in-front of school

## 2022/2023 HIGHLIGHTS:

### Booleroo Centre Concrete Footpaths and Improved Disability Access

Council as part of its 2022/2023 budget, approved funding to replace concrete and sealed footpaths in Booleroo Centre. The new footpaths will replace sections that are currently old and failing and will incorporate sections on Stephens Street, Arthur Street and Saunders Street.

As part of these works and in accordance with the Council's Disability Action Plan, several intersections will have disability access crossings placed in accordance with Australian Standards



*Spring Creek Bridge Upgrade*



*Little Spring Creek Upgrade*

### South Australian Regional Bridge Upgrades

The Department for Infrastructure and Transport (the Department) is upgrading a series of bridges and culverts across South Australia to improve safety for road users and increase productivity and efficiency for the freight industry.

They are being delivered as part of the following funding packages:

- » South Australian Rural Roads Package, jointly funded by the Australian and South Australian governments.
- » Bridges Renewal Program, jointly funded by the Australian and South Australian governments.
- » Bridge Stimulus Package, funded by the South Australian Government.

These works are being undertaken across multiple locations in South Australia. Works will vary depending on the need at each location, including design and survey investigations, bridge or culvert upgrade or replacement, bridge widening and/or strengthening and safety barrier upgrades.

- » Wilmington - Little Spring Creek culvert located on the Horrocks Highway, approximately 4.7 kilometres south of Wilmington. Works has replaced the existing culvert.
- » Wilmington - Spring Creek bridge located on the Horrocks Highway, approximately 8 kilometres south of Wilmington. Works will replace the existing bridge. These works are continuing and expected to be completed by September 2023.

### Asset Management Plan (AMP)

During the reporting period, Council continued with the important work in developing and approving the Asset Management Plan (AMP) and has determined the risk analysis criteria that will be used in assessing transport assets. This valuable information allows Councils to compare condition assessment scoring against the risk rating to enable informed decision making in relation to determining future budget allocations. Works will continue and the AMP further developed over the next 12 months.

## STRATEGY & ACTIONS

### 5.2 Conduct sound Asset Management

- » Implement, maintain and review Council's asset management plans and programs to ensure effective management of assets and infrastructure in a financially-sustainable manner
- » Development and implement preventative maintenance programs for assets and infrastructure
- » Advocate at all levels of Government for financial support to ensure the infrastructure and services needs of the community are met

## ACHIEVEMENTS

- » Achieved grant funding of \$50,000 for Booleroo Airstrip Fencing Upgrade
- » Achieved grant funding of \$183,154 for Willowie Transfer Station Project
- » Review of Community Assistance Grants Program
- » Asset Management Plan identifies a large backlog of items that require urgent attention and the development of the Budget and Business Plans for 2023/2024 have taken this information into account
- » Planning for Operational (maintenance) Budgets address Asset Management Plan identified works
- » Completed 3.4km re-sheeting of category 1 roads
- » Completed 18.4km re-sheeting of category 2 roads



### 2022/2023 HIGHLIGHTS:

#### Booleroo Centre Airstrip Fencing Upgrade

The Booleroo Centre Airstrip received \$50,000 in funding to replace fencing at the site. The funding has been received as part of the "Support Regional Aviation Program Round 7" from the Department for Infrastructure & Transport (DIT).

The grant covers 43% of the total cost (estimated at \$116,000 ex GST).

The Booleroo Centre aerodrome is a significant and vital council and community asset and the only aerodrome in the District. This Safety Project will increase aviation safety and accessibility of the Airstrip by the Royal Flying Doctor Service, emergency services and comply with the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) regulatory requirements.

Airstrips are essential infrastructure assets to regional Australia. They provide connectivity, social equity and contribute to their surrounding economy. The Booleroo Centre Airstrip is vital transport infrastructure for the Mid North Region and is used by the Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS) on a monthly basis, as well as emergency services for firefighting/water bombing activities, aerial spraying, air freight, business visitors including agribusiness, tourists and other recreational flying and general aviation users.

Booleroo Centre Airstrip consists of a single runway layout of 18m in length and is constructed from a course natural gravel. The boundary fencing upgrade will ensure kangaroos, wallabies, wombats and other large animals cannot access the runway area which ensures the safety of the operators, aircraft owners, passengers and reduce risk of damage to infrastructure.



Booleroo Centre Airstrip Fencing





*Willowie Transfer Station*



*Collins Road Rubble*



*Collins Road completed*



*Patching Dunston Road, Booleroo Centre*

### **Willowie Transfer Station Project**

Willowie is the current site for Council's only waste facility, servicing nine townships and a population of 3000 people over an area of 3400 sq kms. It is a landfill site without capacity for separating waste and removing recyclable items such as plastics, glass, timber, cardboards and paper. The Mount Remarkable Waste Management Project will construct a Waste Transfer Station at Willowie that will meet current EPA guidelines and enable 98% of all material being deposited at the site to be recycled including 100% of general waste, recyclables, and green waste.

The grant funding of \$183,154 received from the State Government through the Minister for Climate, Environment & Water enables for the construction of a Waste Transfer Station at Willowie with a 12m x 30m building comprising steel columns, concrete walls and solid roof to meet current EPA guidelines. Once completed and operational it will enable 98% of all material being deposited at the site to be recycled including 100% of general waste, recyclables, and green waste.

Council is committed to reducing waste to landfill, increasing resource recovery, and improving community knowledge of responsible waste management practices.

The new facility opened in February 2023. Refer to Strategic Goal 5.3 below for additional information.

### **Road Re-Sheeting Activities:**

Road Re-sheeting is an important task undertaken by Council. In 22/23 it was decided to crush material to a nominal size of 50mm. This work has been undertaken by a local contractor and proved to be a great success in both ease of placement and the final product.

The following roads were completed during the reporting period: Forrest Road, Mahood Road, Collins Road and Wilmington Road.

### **Sealed Road Patching**

In 2022/2023, Council engaged the services of DM Roads to support its maintenance of sealed roads throughout the district. This work included:

- » Monthly patching of town roads
- » Logging of defects into maintenance mapping system
- » Defect inspections

It has been identified by Council that there is an opportunity to improve sealed pavement maintenance and asset management practices which will have the potential to provide significant long-term benefits.

DM Roads' local presence in the area on a consistent basis allows services to be tailored to the needs and budgets of Council.

Depending upon the type of works issued by Council, resources including plant and equipment and personnel will be provided to suit the works.

STRATEGY & ACTIONS	ACHIEVEMENTS
<p><b>5.3 Provide Quality Services</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Provide a high standard of customer experience and service</li> <li>» Leverage opportunities for greater efficiency in service delivery through further opportunities for volunteering, employment programs and schools as well as shared service arrangements with other Councils</li> <li>» Foster improved relationships with neighbouring Councils in sharing of resources to enable more efficient and cost-effective delivery of services</li> <li>» Encourage and support volunteering and community participation against Council's strategic outcomes</li> <li>» Increase adoption of digital services including online and social media to support improved service delivery and accessibility.</li> <li>» Provide sustainable waste management services</li> <li>» Develop and implement a strategy for CWMS renewals</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Improved customer service experience</li> <li>» Completion of Council's Waste Transfer Station at Willowie</li> <li>» Attendance at regular Flinders Alliance Meetings</li> <li>» Attendance at LEGATUS Meetings</li> <li>» Mayor hosted volunteer morning tea</li> </ul>

**2022/2023 HIGHLIGHTS:**

**Waste Management**

The completion of the Waste Transfer Station at Willowie has seen 100% of waste removed from the site and transferred by a contractor to Brinkworth in South Australia.

The Waste Transfer Station has meant that Council is no longer reliant on placing waste into expensive cells. The Transfer Station started operation in February of 2023 and is being managed by Clare Valley Waste.



*Waste Transfer Station at Willowie Waste Reserve*

**Customer Services Experience**

Council has carried out a great deal of work in improving the customer experience in relation to Customer Service Requests (CSR's). The new system will involve in an inspection within 5 working days, and a response email to the complainant describing what and when the request will be completed. The works will be programmed with a completion date, and the CSR will be completed with a reply email sent to the complainant.

**Flinders Alliance Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)**

The Flinders Alliance Memorandum of Understanding with the Port Pirie Regional Council, District Council of Orreroo/Carrieton, District Council of Peterborough and the Northern Areas Council was established and named the Flinders Alliance. It continues to work successfully to:

- » enhance the local economy of the member councils;
- » improve individual internal processes for compliance, probity and deliver efficiencies;
- » promote opportunities for skills development and collaboration of staff;
- » standardise documents utilised by the group for the benefit of local suppliers;
- » provide cost savings and efficiencies with operational expenditure;
- » provide cost savings, efficiencies, and improved delivery of capital expenditure;
- » protect the employment in the towns and districts of the participating councils; and
- » improve Asset Management and the similarities between all Councils.

**Community Volunteers**

Volunteering is a tower of strength in the Australian community with 31% of the Australian population volunteering, making an estimated annual contribution of \$290 billion to our economic and social good.

Volunteers are the lifeblood of any community. Showcasing compassion, empathy, and civic responsibility, their selfless acts serve as a source of inspiration and unity. Through their time and energy, they demonstrate how small acts can lead to significant positive change.

Mayor Stephen McCarthy held a morning tea reception in May 2023 to acknowledge, thank and celebrate the great work undertaken by volunteers within the District Council of Mount Remarkable.

## STRATEGY & ACTIONS

### 5.4 Improve the efficiency and effectiveness of Council Services

- » Measures to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of Council services
- » Pursue resource sharing with other Councils

## ACHIEVEMENTS

- » Shared services – Work, Health & Safety, Risk Management, Environmental Health Services, Building & Planning, Infrastructure support

### 2022/2023 HIGHLIGHTS:

#### New addition to the fleet

As part of the 2022/2023 Council committed to purchasing a new grader to replace one of the existing four graders within Councils plant & equipment fleet.

Council presently has three patrol graders and one construction grader. With a continued focus on road maintenance, Council hopes to replace its plant and equipment, as required, in the coming years to ensure the fleet remains modern, safe, reliable and efficient to undertake the tasks as required.

Council has almost 2,000kms of unsealed road all requiring grading to keep them maintained at a suitable standard.

Council also purchased a Kubota All-terrain vehicle (ATV) which primarily will be used to assist with town weed spraying.



### Work, Health and Safety Activities

The District Council of Mount Remarkable continues to maintain a high standard of Work Health and Safety (WHS) Management. The Management Plan for WHS developed pursuant to the Return to Work SA Performance Standards for Self-Insurers, requires Council as an exempt employer, to set its own WHS objectives based on the organisation's requirements and then integrate WHS into the organisation's Strategic Management Plan. The development of the management plan is a systematic process which covers the review of WHS data to identify realistic and achievable actions, objectives and target dates for key priority areas and is supported by commitment from the Leadership Team with regard to accountability and responsibility.

Biennial KPI Audits are undertaken by Local Government Association Workers Compensation Scheme to evaluate our level of compliance against Return-to-Work SA's Performance Standards for Self-Insurers (PSSI). The most recent audit was conducted in November 2022 where the auditor assessed 11 of the 55 elements outlined in the PSSI. 83% of the actions set for the 2021/2022 WHS Action Plan were completed prior to the risk evaluation. The areas for improvement that were identified during the 2022 risk evaluation have been utilised to develop the focus areas for the WHS Action Plan 2023/2024, in order to further advance our WHS Management System.

Council continues to participate in the Local Government Association Workers Compensation Scheme's Healthy Lifestyle projects and provides annual health screenings for its employees. Work Health and Safety training information sessions are made available to employees on a continuing basis in accordance with our Training and Program Development Procedure. Another focus for WHS has been the initiation of Council's Health and Wellbeing Program. The overall goal was to provide health and wellness initiatives that improve both the physical and mental health of our workers and help support corporate strategies for improving workplace culture where employees feel supported and valued.

Some of our activities include:

- » 10,000 Steps challenge which saw teams participate as part of the Flinders Alliance Group across three Councils
- » Face to face nutrition sessions
- » Promoting healthy eating for physical and mental health
- » Australia's Biggest Morning Tea Event
- » Financial Wellbeing
- » Diversity and Inclusion
- » Being involved with the Community/Giving back
- » RU Ok? Day
- » Breast Cancer awareness
- » Men's Health awareness
- » Hydration and the importance of being sun smart

# GOAL 6: A 'CAN DO' COUNCIL

STRATEGY & ACTIONS	ACHIEVEMENTS
<p><b>6.1 Demonstrate Community Leadership</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Adopt effective community engagement processes to inform Council decisions, pursue opportunities and deliver better community outcomes</li> <li>» Explore measures to facilitate greater visibility of Council's active engagement with the community by the Mayor, Elected Members and Council staff.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Opportunities for community to attend Community Question Time</li> <li>» Attendance by Council Members at community events</li> </ul>



## 2022/2023 HIGHLIGHTS:

### Anzac Day Activities

Every year, on 25 April, our district holds various dawn services to honour the memory of our ANZAC soldiers. This year our Elected Members represented the District Council of Mount Remarkable by laying wreaths in Appila, Booleroo Centre, Wilmington, Wirrabara and Port Germein.



*Booleroo Centre Dawn Service*



*Appila Dawn Service attended by Colin Becker, Cr Danny Keller, Paul Wurst and Rev. Ted White*



*Wilmington Dawn Service attended by Cr the Hon Dan van Holst Pellekaan*



*Port Germein Dawn Service*



*Port Germein Dawn Service attended by Mayor Stephen McCarthy and Cr Sheriden Tate*

STRATEGY & ACTIONS	ACHIEVEMENTS
<p><b>6.2 Seek Community Feedback</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Pursue a range of mechanisms for collecting customer feedback about Council services</li> <li>» As required, adopt mechanisms for engaging with youth</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Completed its first community survey</li> <li>» Held intergenerational connections meeting with Occupational Therapy students</li> </ul>

**2022/2023 HIGHLIGHTS:**

**Community Survey**

Council initiated its first ever Community Survey on 28 March 2023 aimed at gathering feedback about what Council is doing well and where it can improve. The survey provided an opportunity for the community to share their thoughts and give feedback on what matters most to them, as well how they perceive that Council's services and programs can be improved. The survey closed on 14 April 2023 and resulted in 181 responses being received. The survey results demonstrates that community members value and rate Council services differently based on their own circumstances, experiences, and expectations. The feedback from the survey will assist Council in making more informed decisions and to ensure the focus of efforts and communications are meeting community expectations. The findings of the survey, as reported by BRM Advisory, are available on Council's Website in the May 2023 Agenda.



STRATEGY & ACTIONS	ACHIEVEMENTS
<p><b>6.3 Enact Strong Governance</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Ensure Council has effective mechanisms for good governance, policy control and legislative compliance</li> <li>» In accordance with Council policy, ensure transparency in Council's decision making</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Completed review of all Council Policies</li> <li>» Undertook Annual Review of Delegations</li> <li>» Undertook Annual Report of Confidential Provisions</li> <li>» Minutes and Agendas available on Council's Website</li> <li>» Public encouraged to attend Council Meetings</li> </ul>

**2022/2023 HIGHLIGHTS:**

**Council Review of Policies**

Council is required to complete a review of its Policies within 12 months of a General Election. Council completed a review of all policies in June 2023, and the policies are available on the Council Website for easy access by the community.

STRATEGY & ACTIONS	ACHIEVEMENTS
<p><b>6.4 Provide Financial Sustainability</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Maintain and regularly review Council's Long Term Financial Plan</li> <li>» Conduct Annual Business Planning</li> <li>» Explore measures to improve productivity and reduce costs across Council operations</li> <li>» Maintain and review procurement policies and procedures that ensure financial transparency</li> <li>» Prepare and maintain a prioritised list of shovel ready projects</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Undertook several Group Tendering processes (several Councils involved)</li> <li>» Undertook training on Asset Management &amp; Long Term Financial Plan with consultant John Comrie</li> </ul>

**2022/2023 HIGHLIGHTS:**

**Financial Statements Summary**

The District Council of Mount Remarkable (the Council) had another positive year, again indicating its commitment to improving financial sustainability.

Pursuant to the provisions of Schedule 4 of the Local Government Act 1999, a full copy of Council's Audited Financial Statements for the year ending 30 June 2023 form part of this Annual Report and are included in Appendix Two.

The Council is committed to ensuring its long-term financial sustainability. This sustainability is dependent on ensuring that, on average over time, its expenses are at least matched by its revenue. In addition, capital expenditure on existing infrastructure and other assets should be optimised, to minimise the whole-of-life cycle costs of assets in accordance with Council's Asset Management Plans.

Detailed below are result for the Key Financial Indicators of sustainability.

**Adjusted Operating Surplus Ratio**

The Operating Surplus Ratio expresses the operating surplus/(deficit) as a percentage of the total operating income. Council experienced a deficit of -10% for the financial year ending 30 June 2023.

**Adjusted Net Financial Liabilities Ratio**

The Net Financial Liabilities Ratio measures the level of debt and other financial liabilities minus financial assets that the Council has, and takes into account items such as employee leave entitlements and other amounts payable, as well as the level of the Council's available cash and investments. The negative result of -35% for the financial year ending 30 June 2023 indicates the Council is a net financial assets position.

The Operating Surplus Ratio and Net Financial Liabilities Ratio listed above are present as 'adjusted' to remove the timing differences caused in the ratio outcomes by the pre-payment of Financial Assistance Grants in June 2023.

**Asset Renewal Funding Ratio**

The Asset Renewal Funding Ratio indicates whether the Council is renewing or replacing existing non-financial assets at the same rate as its asset management plans indicate is warranted. The ratio is calculated by measuring capital expenditure on renewal and replacement of assets relative to its Asset Management Plans. The result for the financial year ending 30 June 2023 is 46%.

**Rates, Rate Rebate and Remissions**

**Rates**

In the 2022/2023 financial year, Council adopted a 5.4% increase in general rate revenue, fixed charge and service charges. Council's Rates Policy (04.78) is available on Council's Website for easy access by the community, or alternatively a copy can be obtained from the Council Office, 3 Stuart Street, Melrose at a charge as determined by Council within the Fees and Charges Register.

**Rate Rebates and Remissions**

The Local Government Act 1999 provides for two categories of rate rebates – mandatory and discretionary.

**Mandatory Rebate** provisions require that Council must provide a rate rebate on land that is used for specific purposes and these provisions also specify the rebate percentage. Where a mandatory rebate is set at 75%, Council also has the discretion to set a higher rebate rate.

**Discretionary Rebates** may be granted by a Council for purposes that are specified within Section 166 of the Local Government Act 1999, with the percentage of the rebate being at the discretion of the Council.

During the reporting period, Council applied a total of \$55,821.50 in rate rebates to the following entities:

- » Melrose Community Development Association
- » Murray Town Progress Association Inc
- » Wilmington Tennis Club Inc
- » Port Germein Progress Association
- » Appila Improvement Association
- » Wilmington Progress Association
- » Wirrabara Progress Association
- » Booleroo Centre & Districts Lions Club Inc
- » Melrose Districts History Society Inc
- » Mt View Homes Inc
- » Uniting Housing Co Ltd
- » Booleroo Centre & District Kindy Inc
- » Mid North Health Advisory Council Inc
- » Catholic Diocese of Port Pirie
- » Booleroo Centre Evangelical Lutheran Parish Inc
- » Booleroo Ministry Centre Inc
- » Evangelical Lutheran Zion Church
- » National Office of the Lutheran Church of Australia
- » Lutheran Church of Australia Inc
- » Uniting Church in Australia Property Trust (SA)
- » Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
- » The Synod of the Anglican Church of Australia in the Diocese of Willochra Inc
- » Port Germein Village Project Association Inc
- » NBN Co Ltd
- » Mount Remarkable Agricultural Society Inc

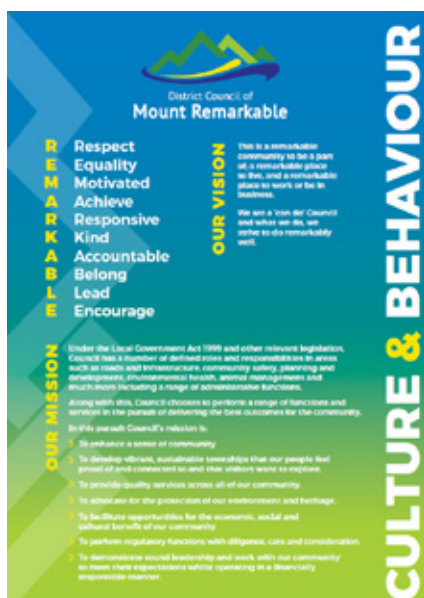
### Successful Grant Funding

It is essential that on an annual basis Council takes every opportunity to apply for various grants that are available through both the State and Federal Government. Being successful in gaining grants assists Council in being able to continue the important work of upgrading and maintaining various infrastructure assets throughout the District.

During the reporting period, Council was successful in receiving a grant of \$453,865 as part of Round 4 the Federal Government's 'Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program'. This funding will be available from July 2023 for projects to be completed up until 2025.

It is acknowledged that over the past 3 three years, Council has been successful in achieving grant funding totalling some \$4m. This funding has contributed to projects such as the Willowie Transfer Station, the Bluff Lookout, numerous community facility upgrades, roads, and airport upgrades.

STRATEGY & ACTIONS	ACHIEVEMENTS
<p><b>6.5 Develop Organisational Capability</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Develop the Council Administration's people, financial, and resourcing capability to enact the Community Plan, provide a high standard of services, projects and infrastructure maintenance and enhancement and meet Council's responsibilities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Undertook an Organisational Culture Survey</li> </ul>



### 2022/2023 HIGHLIGHTS:

#### Organisational Culture

Council conducts an annual staff culture survey each year, to be consistent with the developed organisational values and behaviours. The results of staff surveys continue to be a focus, in celebrating the wins, and developing focus areas for all staff in areas that were identified as needing further attention.

Staff have participated in the 2022/2023 annual staff culture survey, through the assistance of Perks People Solutions. The report has been completed summarising the results, and staff workshops were held in April to review.

Organisational culture remains a key area for the Leadership Team and is continually used as a key focus area amongst all the staff.

A Briefing Session was held with Elected Members on Tuesday 20 June 2023, with respect to providing further advice of the 2022/2023 results, and for Elected Members to workshop the results relating specifically to Elected Members.

# AT A GLANCE

## 'At a glance' Overview of achievements made against 2022/2023 Strategic Plan Goal Areas

STRATEGIC PLAN	PLANNED ACTIONS FOR 2022/2023	ACHIEVEMENTS
<b>Goal 1</b>	Attendance of CEO at quarterly Progress Meetings.	Continuing.
	Continue construction of Disability Access Ramps at Booleroo Centre.	Constructed approx. 20 new ramps as part of the Footpath replacement program.
	Continue maintenance program for the existing Rail Trails.	Rail Trail maintenance has been undertaken including weed control.
	Continued support for community events.	Provided road closure signage and bins including approval with SAPOL and Department for Infrastructure and Transport.
	Complete Rail Trail construction between Booleroo Centre and Stone Hut.	Completed.
	Upgrades to various Cemeteries.	No works undertaken.
	Building and Hall upgrades at Booleroo Centre, Wirrabara, Weeroona Island, Melrose, Port Germein including Disability Access.	Hall upgrades completed as proposed.
	General upgrades to Booleroo Centre Swimming Pool.	Re-fibre glassing of both pools has been completed.
	Investigation into Port Germein Boat Access increased boat launching capability (subject to accessing external funding).	Had engineering advice in relation to construction of a groin.
	Undertake feasibility into proposed Community Centre at Weeroona Island.	Awaiting information from Weeroona Island Progress Association.
	Finalise Bridle Track Strategic Plan.	Completed.
	Port Germein Jetty	Continued collaboration with the State Government in finalising a business case for consideration and potential future investment – Ongoing
<b>Goal 2</b>	Continue working with Emergency Services and Community Safety Programs in relation to Fire Prevention.	Fire Prevention Officer attending CFS meetings.
	Preparation of Weeroona Island Water Supply system assessment.	Not completed as SA Water quotes to undertake are excessive.
	Improve Parks and Playgrounds Designs and costing on all playgrounds in the district has been undertaken.	More regular maintenance programs have been developed and being undertaken.
	Repainting of Public Conveniences at Wilmington, Melrose, Port Germein and Booleroo Centre.	Completed.
<b>Goal 3</b>	Continued partnership with RDA Yorke & Mid North.	Continuing.
	Promotion of business opportunities within the District.	No details to provide.



STRATEGIC PLAN	PLANNED ACTIONS FOR 2022/2023	ACHIEVEMENTS	
Goal 4	Upgrade lighting at Booleroo Centre Airstrip (subject to accessing external funding).	50% project completed and remainder in 2023/2024.	
	Directional signage replacement and upgrades.	Port Germein signage has been completed.	
	New Horse Trough sign at Booleroo Centre.	Completed.	
	Finalise Strategic Tourism Plan.	Completed.	
Goal 5	Replace bridge with floodway Appila-Tarcowie Road.	Change in designs and engineering and design works completed ready for Tender in 2023/2024.	
	Undertake Road Resheeting: » Wilmington Road 3.35km (DCMR Boundary to Moochra Road). » Collins Road 1.75km (Pinda Road towards Greig Road) and 3.10km (Whim Road to Reichstein Road). » Forrest Road 6.00km (Marner Road to DEW Headquarters). » Mahood Road 7.5km (Pine Creek Road to Appila Wirrabara Road). » Appila Wirrabara Road 2.20km (Greyhound Track to Almondale Road).	» Completed. » Completed. » Completed. » Completed. » Not completed and being undertaken in 2023/2024	
	Wirrabara CWMS upgrade	West Terrace pump station in Wirrabara. This has enable remote connectivity to the pump station with SMS fault alerts and the same visibility and control via D-TEKT that is currently available with the WWTP at Wirrabara.	
	Complete Willowie Waste Transfer Station.	Completed and operating.	
	Refurbishment of existing Port Germein bridge.	Change in designs and engineering and design works completed ready for Tender in 2023/2024.	
	General bridge repairs including rail replacement, structure repairs and replacement.	Tender much higher than expected so budget in 2023/2024 for 50% of project.	
	Replacement of plant and equipment.	Completed.	
	Stormwater upgrade Whitby Street and cross drain replacement (under floodway).	Preliminary design completed and works deferred to 2024/2025.	
	Goal 6	Ongoing audits of financial performance.	Ongoing and completed.
		Continued community participation in Council activities.	Continuing.

# TARGET MEASURES

## Target Measures for 2023/2024:

The following provides an overview of planned works to be undertaken during the 2023/2024 financial year and have been captured within the Annual Budget and Business Plans.

STRATEGIC PLAN	PLANNED ACTIONS FOR 2023/2024
Goal 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Buildings &amp; Halls – painting halls and other minor building improvements.</li> <li>» Booleroo Centre Swimming Pool – replacement of pumps and chlorination system.</li> </ul>
Goal 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Port Germein Foreshore Playground.</li> </ul>
Goal 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Continued partnership with RDA Yorke &amp; Mid North.</li> <li>» Promotion of business opportunities within the District.</li> </ul>
Goal 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Complete LED Lighting upgrade at Booleroo Centre Airstrip.</li> </ul>
Goal 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Replace bridge with floodway Appila-Tarcowie Road.</li> <li>» Booleroo Centre Footpaths (complete final components of Stephens Street, Arthur Street and Sanders Street).</li> <li>» Major Bridge Upgrades – Stage 1               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Upgrade Port Germein Bridge.</li> </ul> </li> <li>» Bridge Renewal – Stage 1               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Renewal of 13 bridges around the district.</li> </ul> </li> <li>» Unsealed Road Re-sheeting               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Wilmington Road</b> (4.3km west of Coolangatta Road, 2.1km between Well Road and Hammond Road, 4.6km Mookra Road towards Bellaratta Road).</li> <li>- <b>Gladstone Road</b> (1.6km between Appila Road and Gloria Dei Road).</li> <li>- <b>Wirrabara-Appila Road</b> (2.2km between Greyhound Track and Almondale Road, 2.9km between Gladstone Road and Wurst Road).</li> <li>- <b>Collins Road</b> (4.8km between McCallum Road and Greig Road).</li> <li>- <b>Girdham Road</b> (3.3km between Collins Road and Willochra Road).</li> <li>- <b>Pine Creek Road</b> (2.4km between Borgas Road and Greyhound Track).</li> </ul> </li> <li>» Plant &amp; Equipment               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 2 x Fleet Vehicles (admin).</li> <li>- 1 x Fleet Vehicle (Depot).</li> <li>- 2 x Water Trucks.</li> </ul> </li> <li>» CWMS and Pump Stations – Minor replacement to upgrade notifications of faults to mobile phones.</li> <li>» Floodways               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Replacement of 6 existing concrete floodways (Cockburn Road, Voigt Road, Avonmore Road, Wirrabara-Appila Road, Collins Road and Willochra Road).</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Goal 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Upgrade to IT equipment in Council Chambers.</li> </ul>

# SECTION 5 COMPLIANCE REPORT

COUNCIL AUDITOR

LEGAL COSTS INCURRED BY COUNCIL

COMMUNITY LAND MANAGEMENT PLANS

INTERNAL REVIEW OF COUNCIL DECISIONS

LOCAL NUISANCE AND LITTER CONTROL

COMPETITIVE TENDERING STATEMENT

NATIONAL COMPETITION PRINCIPLES



# COUNCIL AUDITOR

Section 128(9) of the Local Government Act 1999 requires Council to disclose, as part of its Annual Report, the remuneration payable for the annual financial audit.

Ian G McDonald FCA was appointed as Council's Auditor in November 2020 for a five (5) year term.

A payment of \$14,300 (GST inclusive) was made to Creative Auditing for the completion of the 2022-2023 financial year audit and interim audit.

The Audited Financial Statement for 2022/2023, as adopted by Council, is attached as Appendix Two to this report.

## LEGAL COSTS INCURRED BY COUNCIL

During the reporting period Council incurred the following legal costs across the organisation:

COUNCIL OPERATION	LEGAL COSTS INCURRED
<b>Business Undertakings</b> (Post Office)	\$3,200
<b>Community Services</b> (Community Transport Program and Cemeteries)	\$7,920
<b>Regulatory Services</b> (Building & Planning Services)	\$12,466
<b>Infrastructure</b> (Capital Works Projects, Human Resources, Industrial Relations)	\$29,939
<b>Governance &amp; Administration</b> (Human Resources, Industrial Relations, Bylaw Review, Lease Review, General Advice)	\$91,008
<b>Rates and Service Charges*</b> (Fees relating to the collection of overdue Rates and Service Charges, and Section 184 process)	\$35,194
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 179,727</b>

\*recoverable legal fees

# COMMUNITY LAND MANAGEMENT PLAN

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Pursuant to Section 196 of the Local Government Act 1999, Council must prepare and adopt a Management Plan or Management Plans for its Community Land. Council adopted its current Community Land Management Plan on 19 February 2019 and has scheduled to commence a review of the Plan in February 2024.

The purpose of the Community Land Management Plan is to clarify direction, both to Council staff and the general public regarding the approved use, resource management and maintenance of community land.

Copies of Council's Community Land Management Plans are available for viewing free of charge on the Council's website [www.mtr.sa.gov.au](http://www.mtr.sa.gov.au) or for purchase, as per Council's Fees and Charges Register, at the Council Office, 3 Stuart Street, Melrose during normal business hours.

Council did not undertake any revocation of community land classification proposals during the 2022/2023 financial year.

## INTERNAL REVIEW OF COUNCIL DECISIONS

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Section 270 of the Local Government Act 1999 requires that Council must establish grievance procedures for the review of decisions of the Council, employees of the Council and other persons acting on behalf of the Council. Council has a formal Policy Document in this respect entitled "Internal Review of a Council Decision" which is available for inspection on Council's website [www.mtr.sa.gov.au](http://www.mtr.sa.gov.au) free of charge or purchase from the Council Office, 3 Stuart Street, Melrose, as per the Council's Fees and Charges Register, during normal business hours.

Council received no requests for Internal Review of a Council Decision in the 2022/2023 financial year.

# LOCAL NUISANCE AND LITTER CONTROL

Pursuant to Section 8 of the Local Nuisance and Litter Control Act 2016, the following information outlines the details of Council performance in enforcing the provisions of the Act:

A total of eleven (11) complaints of local nuisance or littering were received by Council during the reporting period.

No. of Offences	Nature of Offences	Expiated	Prosecuted	Notices Issued	Civil Penalties	Court Orders
3	Air Pollution/ Odours/Air Quality/Dust	0	0	0	0	0
5	Discharge of Wastes/Waste Control/ Refuse Storage and/ or Disposal	0	0	0	0	0
1	Hoarding and Squalor	0	0	0	0	0
2	Noise	0	0	0	0	0

# COMPETITIVE TENDERING STATEMENT

Council has prepared and adopted a 'Procurement Policy and Preferred Suppliers Procedure' in accordance with Section 49 of the Local Government Act 1999. Copies of the Policy are available for inspection free of charge on Council's Website [www.mtr.sa.gov.au](http://www.mtr.sa.gov.au) or purchase at the Council Office, 3 Stuart Street, Melrose, as per Council's Fees and Charges Register, during normal business hours.

During the 2022/2023 financial year Council undertook the following competitive tendering or other measures to ensure services are delivered cost-effectively:

Council's Procurement Policy 04.25 aims to achieve advantageous procurement outcomes by:

- » enhancing value for money through fair, competitive, non-discriminatory procurement.
- » promoting the use of resources in an efficient, effective and ethical manner.
- » making decisions with probity, accountability and transparency.
- » advancing and/or working within Council's economic, social and environmental policies.
- » providing reasonable opportunity for competitive local businesses to supply to Council.
- » appropriately managing risk; and
- » ensuring compliance with all relevant legislation.

Public or Selective Tender	Tender Details	Value (ex. GST)	Comments
<b>Public</b>	Banking Services (Group Purchase)	Schedule of Rates (13 Councils participating)	Commences in 2023/2024
	Replacement 2 fleet vehicles	\$144,079	Completed
	Bridge Maintenance	Year 1 - \$500,000 Year 2 - \$281,227	Completed Subject to budget approval
	Concrete Floodway Replacement	\$451,735	Completed
	Plant & Machinery (Group Purchase) 3 year supply arrangement	Schedule of Rates (6 Council participating)	Ongoing
	Road Reseal - Bitumen	\$480,000	Works to be undertaken in 2023/2024
<b>Selective</b>	Booleroo Centre Swimming Pool - Refibreglassing	\$122,528	Completed
	Provision of Crushing Rubble 3 year contract	\$605,760	Year 1 to commence in 2023/2024
	Financial Management Services (Group Purchase) 3 year contract	Schedule of Rates (2 Councils participating)	Commenced
	Booleroo Centre Airstrip Fencing	\$50,000	Completed
<b>Single Offer (subject to CEO approval)</b>	Booleroo Centre Airstrip Lighting Upgrade Stage 1 & 2	\$325,677	Stage 1 Completed Stage 2 to be undertaken 2023/2024
	Maintenance of Sealed Roads	General Road Maintenance \$60,000 Construction of a Maintenance Management System \$9,720 Defect Inspections \$12,540	Single source contract based on the State Government Tender for State Roads and only contractor within our region can undertake the works required. Completed

# NATIONAL COMPETITION PRINCIPLES

Competitive neutrality policy is based on the principle that significant government businesses should not enjoy any net competitive advantages over private businesses operating in the same market simply as a result of their public sector ownership.

The objective of competitive neutrality is the removal of net competitive advantages for significant government business activities, arising simply from the fact that they are government owned.

Further, complaints regarding any breach of competitive neutrality in regard to a business activity of Council must be received in writing, detailing the nature of the complaint and how they believe such activity by the Council is disadvantaging the complainant. The complaint will be processed in accordance with Council's Complaint Handling Policy. Copies of this document are available for inspection, free of charge on Council's website [www.mtr.sa.gov.au](http://www.mtr.sa.gov.au) or purchase at the Council Office, 3 Stuart Street, Melrose, as per Council's Fees and Charges Register, during normal business hours.

Council is required to include in its Annual Report, specific information related to significant business activities, competitive neutrality, by-laws and complaints.

## BUSINESS ACTIVITIES:

Council operated three significant business activities during the reporting period that fall within the ambit of the National Competition Policy, and these include:

- » Melrose Caravan and Tourist Park
- » Melrose Post Office
- » Weeroona Island Water Supply

During the reporting period Council ceased to operate the Melrose Caravan and Tourist Park and Melrose Post Office.

**Melrose Post Office** was operated by Council up until Friday 2 June 2023. A three-year licence agreement was entered into with Mr Robbie Benson to occupy a portion of the Council's Administration Centre at Melrose for the purposes of commencing to operate the postal agency as from 5 June 2023, securing an Australia Post service in Melrose.



**Melrose Caravan and Tourist Park** was operated by Council up until 28 February 2023 at which time Council sold the business to Mr Mark Fillery. Mr Fillery and his partner Julieanne Ramsey (pictured above) commenced operating the Melrose Caravan and Tourist Park from 1 March 2023. The purchase price for the business was \$1.2m, with a lease term of 35 years and rights of renewal initially for five years and then 6 x five-year terms. Council will remain the custodian of the land through the current care and control arrangement and freehold owner of a small portion of the park, while receiving an annual lease income that is commensurate with a fair market return for the asset.

**Weeroona Island Water Supply** are operated by Council as there is no other operator willing to take on this venture. To ensure the community and visitors have access to this service, Council has resolved to continue to operate and manage this function.

## BY-LAWS

Further, Council following a review of its By-Laws, resolved on 19 April 2022 to adopt the following By-Laws:

- » Cats
- » Dogs
- » Local Government Land
- » Moveable Signs
- » Permits and Penalties
- » Roads

The purpose of each by-law is as outlined below:

**Permits & Penalties** - provides a legal framework for council by-laws including a permit system, sets penalties for breaches of by-laws and matters of liability, evidence and related matters.

Extract from Neutrality Report as part of Permits and Penalties By-Law Review:

*There is no potential to restrict competition within the provisions of the Permits and Penalties By-law 2022, taking into account any likely benefit or detriment to the community.*



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**Moveable Signs** - sets standards for movable signs, including regulating their placement to protect the visual amenity and provide for public safety on roads and footpaths. This by-law is used to regulate the use of movable signage including A-frames.

Extract from Neutrality Report as part of Moveable Signs By-Law Review:

*The restrictions in the by-law have the potential to restrict competition by placing controls over the positioning of and number of moveable signs that may be displayed. The requirement to obtain a permit in circumstances outside of those contemplated by this by-law also has the potential to restrict competition. Additionally, it contains an administrative discretion in favour of the Council which can be used selectively without any objective criteria.*

*The potential restrictions on competition within the provisions of Moveable Signs By-law 2022 favour the community by proper control of the design, construction, appearance and placement of moveable signs on roads which the Council has a responsibility to manage properly in the interests of the community at large. The costs to the person requiring a permit and the community are outweighed by the benefits to the community to be achieved from the by-law.*

**Roads** - used to manage certain activities on public roads which are not captured in other legislation including camping, use of motor vehicles, animals on roads and advertising.

Extract from Neutrality Report as part of Roads By-Law Review:

*This by-law has been identified as one in which parts of the by-law have the potential to restrict competition.*

*The requirement to obtain a permit has the potential to restrict competition by limiting the number of providers of goods and services and/or by restricting the space or area the permit holder may occupy. Additionally, it contains an administrative discretion in favour of the Council that can be used selectively without any objective criteria.*

**Local Government Land** - used to manage certain activities on Local Government land including parks and reserves; to assist in preserving the appeal and amenity of these areas.

Extract from Neutrality Report as part of Local Government Land By-Law Review:

*The requirement to obtain a permit has the potential to restrict competition by limiting the number of providers of goods or services and by restricting the space or area the permit holder may occupy. Additionally, it contains an administrative discretion in favour of the Council that can be used selectively without any objective criteria.*

*The potential restrictions on competition within the provisions of Local Government Land By-law 2022 favour the community by proper control of activities on local government land over which the Council has a responsibility to manage properly as trustees for the community at large and which the Council holds for the benefit of its communities. The costs to the person requiring the permit and the community (if any) are outweighed by the benefits for the community to be achieved from the by-law. It should also be noted that in any event very few of the costs and benefits are likely to be measurable in financial terms.*

**Dogs** - used to manage dog related matters including dog exercise areas, dog on leash areas, dog free areas and also provides limits on dog numbers on premises.

Extract from Neutrality Report as part of Dogs By-Law Review:

*This by-law has been identified as one which will not have the potential to restrict competition.*

**Cats** - used to limit the number of cats that can be kept on a premises in certain circumstances. The Dog & Cat Management Act 1995 defines the responsibilities on owners to desex, microchip and register via Dogs and Cats Online at no cost.

Extract from Neutrality Report as part of Cats By-Law Review:

*This by-law has been identified as one in which will not have the potential to restrict competition.*

A by-law comes into operation four months after the day on which it is published in the Gazette and therefore the above by-laws will come into operation as from 5 September 2022, which is in-line with the Government Gazette publication dated 5 May 2022.

## **COMPETITIVE NEUTRALITY COMPLAINTS**

There were no complaints received by Council during the reporting period relating to competitive neutrality.

# SECTION 6 INFORMATION STATEMENT

*(Pursuant to Section 9(1a) - Freedom of Information Act 1991)*

PRINCIPAL ROLE AND FUNCTIONS OF A COUNCIL

DECISION MAKING STRUCTURE

AGENDAS AND MINUTES

DELEGATIONS

COUNCIL SERVICES

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

PUBLIC ACCESS TO COUNCIL DOCUMENTS

OTHER INFORMATION REQUESTS

CONFIDENTIALITY PROVISIONS



# INFORMATION STATEMENT

Published pursuant to Section 9 of the Freedom of Information Act 1991

Council must, at intervals of not more than 12 months, cause an up-to-date information statement to be published. The Council ensures its compliance with Section 9(1a) of the Freedom of Information Act 1991 with the publication of the following information.

Under the system of local government established under the Local Government Act 1999, a council is established to provide for the government and management of its area at the local level and, in particular.

## Principal Role of a Council:

To act as a representative, informed and responsible decision-maker in the interests of its community by:

- » Providing and co-ordinating various public services and facilities and developing its community and resources in a socially just and ecologically sustainable manner
- » Encouraging and developing initiatives within its community for improving the quality of life of the community
- » Representing the interests of its community to the wider community
- » Exercising, performing and discharging the powers, functions and duties of local government under this and other Acts in relation to the area for which it is constituted.

## Functions of a Council:

- » Plan at the local and regional level for the development and future requirements of its area
- » Provide services and facilities that benefit its area, its ratepayers and residents, and visitors to its area
- » Determine the appropriate financial contribution to be made by ratepayers to the resources of the Council
- » Provide for the welfare, well-being and interests of individuals and groups within its community
- » Take measure to protect its area from natural and other hazards and to mitigate the effects of such hazards
- » Manage, develop, protect, restore, enhance and conserve the environment in an ecologically sustainable manner, and to improve amenity
- » Provide infrastructure for its community and for development within its area (including infrastructure that helps to protect any part of the local or broader community from any hazard or other event, or that assists in the management of any area)
- » Promote its area and to provide an attractive climate and locations for the development of business, commerce, industry and tourism.
- » Establish or support organisation or programs that benefit people in its area or local government generally

- » Manager and, if appropriate, develop public areas vested in, or occupied by the council
- » Manage, improve and develop resources available to the council
- » Undertake other functions and activities conferred by or under an Act.

## Principles to be observed by Council (Section 8 Local Government Act 1999):

In upholding and promoting observance of the following principles in the performance of its roles and functions the Council will:

- » provide open, responsive and accountable government.
- » be responsive to the needs, interests and aspirations of individuals and groups within the community.
- » participate with other councils, and with State and national governments, in setting public policy and achieving regional, State and national objectives.
- » give due weight, in all its plans, policies and activities, to regional, State and national objectives and strategies concerning the economic, social, physical and environmental development and management of the community.
- » seek to co-ordinate with State and national government in the planning and delivery of services in which those governments have an interest.
- » seek to collaborate, form partnerships and share resources with other councils and regional bodies for the purposes of delivering cost-effective services (while avoiding cost-shifting among councils), integrated planning, maintaining local representation of communities and facilitating community benefit.
- » seek to facilitate sustainable development and the protection of the environment and to ensure a proper balance within its community between economic, social, environmental and cultural considerations.
- » manage its operations and affairs in a manner that emphasises the importance of service to the community.
- » seek to ensure that council resources are used fairly, effectively and efficiently and council services, facilities and programs are provided effectively and efficiently.
- » seek to provide services, facilities and programs that are adequate and appropriate and seek to ensure equitable access to its services, facilities and programs.
- » seek to balance the provision of services, facilities and programs with the financial impact of the provision of those services, facilities and programs on ratepayers.
- » achieve and maintaining standards of good public administration; and
- » ensuring the sustainability of the Council's long-term financial performance and position.

# DECISION MAKING STRUCTURE

## Council

Council consists of seven (7) Ward Councillors including the Mayor and is the decision-making body on all policy matters.

Ordinary meetings of the full Council are held on the third Tuesday of every month, commencing at 6.00pm. Meetings are generally held at the Council Chambers, 3 Stuart Street, Melrose however meetings are also scheduled to be held once a year at each of the following townships: Wirrabara (Institute) 35 High Street, Wirrabara, Wilmington (Bowling Club) 49 Horrocks Highway, Wilmington, Booleroo Centre (Bowling Club), 10 Stephens Street, Booleroo Centre and Port Germein (The Hub), Corner Karpfanger & Pedersen Street, Port Germein.

All meetings are open to the public with the exception of any matter that is subject to an order of confidentiality (Section 90 Local Government Act 1999).

## Committees & Advisory Groups

Committees and Advisory Groups have been established by Council to discuss/administer Council and Community business. These groups meet as required, and members of the public are welcome to attend. These Committees and Advisory Groups include:

- » Audit & Risk Committee (Section 41 Local Government Act 1999)
- » Airstrip Committee (Section 41 Local Government Act 1999)
- » Building Fire Safety Committee (Pursuant to Section 157(17) of the Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016)
- » Workplace Health & Safety Committee (Pursuant to Section 75 of the Work Health and Safety Act 2012)
- » Flinders Regional Assessment Panel (Pursuant to Section 81(1)(a) and Schedule 8, Clause 13(1)(a) of the Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016)
- » LEGATUS (Regional Subsidiary)

## Information or Briefing Sessions

### (Section 90A Local Government Act 1999)

Information or Briefing Sessions - held on an as needs basis. Section 90A of the Local Government Act 1999 provides that Council can call an information or briefing session. Information or briefing sessions provide a valuable opportunity to enhance the decision-making processes by providing opportunities for Council Members to become better informed on issues and seek further clarification or to participate in training and development opportunities. A matter at an information or briefing session must not be dealt with in such a way as to obtain, or effectively obtain, a decision on the matter outside a formal meeting of the council.

# AGENDAS AND MINUTES

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Agendas of all Ordinary Council and Committee meetings are placed on display no less than three days prior to those meetings. Minutes of the meetings are placed on display within five days of the meeting. Agendas and Minutes are also available for viewing on Council's website [www.mtr.sa.gov.au](http://www.mtr.sa.gov.au).

## DELEGATIONS

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Councils have certain functions and duties which they must perform, and certain powers which they may exercise, pursuant to the Local Government Act 1999 (the Act) as well as a range of other Acts. In most cases the relevant Acts grant these obligations and powers directly to the Council.

As it is not practical nor efficient for the Council as a body of Elected Members to perform the many operational activities that are required in the day-to-day administration of the Council's roles and functions, Section 44 of the Act allows a Council to formally delegate many of its powers and functions (within certain stated conditions and exemptions) to the Chief Executive Officer and in some circumstances direct to Officers, such as Fire Prevention Officers. The Chief Executive Officer, if approved by Council, may then sub-delegate these powers and functions to other responsible staff.

All delegations made by the Council can be revoked at any time and do not, except in limited circumstances, prevent Council from acting in a matter itself. In addition, an officer to whom a delegation has been made may choose not to exercise that delegation and bring a matter direct to Council for direction.

Delegations are reviewed on a regular basis to ensure that they are accurate and reflect current legislative provisions. Staff also receive training on delegations to ensure they are aware of their powers and functions including any conditions or limitations, when undertaking their duties on a day-to-day basis.

The Sub-delegations Register is available free of charge on Council's website [www.mtr.sa.gov.au](http://www.mtr.sa.gov.au).

# COUNCIL SERVICES

The Local Government Act 1999 (the Act) prescribes a system of local government to enable councils to govern and manage areas at a local level.

All councils have specific responsibilities under the Act and other relevant legislation, and these include (but are not limited to):

- » Regulatory activities including voters' roll maintenance and Elected Member support.
- » Determining longer term strategic management plans, including a strategic plan, long term financial plan, infrastructure and asset management plans and policies and procedures.
- » setting rates, preparing an annual business plan and budget.
- » management and maintenance of basic infrastructure including roads, footpaths, parks, public open spaces, playgrounds, street lighting and stormwater drainage.

- » street cleaning, rubbish collection, recycling and waste management.
- » developing planning and controls, including building fire safety assessment.
- » provision of various environmental and public health services.
- » management and maintenance of Council's streets and parks.
- » management and maintenance of Council-owned buildings

The District Council of Mount Remarkable provides the following additional services and programs for the benefit of its community and visitors, which include (but are not limited to):

Mobile Library Service	Safe Food Handling Training	Medical Facility
Cemeteries	Drum Muster	Recreation and Sporting Facilities
Booleroo Centre Airstrip	Desludging Programs	Road Construction and Maintenance
Community Wastewater Management Systems x 4	Environmental Health	Leases, Licences and Permits
Community Bus	Local Nuisance and Litter Control	Rural Road Signs
Community Development	Building Approvals	Tourist and Historical Sites
Community Grants	Planning Approvals	Tourism Information and Promotion
Community Engagement and Information	Boat Launching Facility	Traffic Control
Community halls and public venues	Tidy Towns	Waste Management
Abandoned Vehicles	Immunisation	Waste Transfer Station
Council Newsletters	Asset Management	Jetty Management
Customer Service	Animal and Plant Control	Recycling Collection
Dog and Cat Management	Walking and riding trails and rail trails	Waste Collection
Economic Development	Parking	Council Website
Fire Prevention	Kerbing, Watertable, Footpaths and Floodways	Regional Development
Food Act Administration	Playgrounds	Coastal Protection
Health Act Administration	Property Searches	Citizenship Ceremonies
Safe Drinking Water Act Administration	Public Toilets	MyLocal Services App

# PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Council is required to make numerous decisions in relation to a vast array of matters for the benefit of the community. Any such decision may or may not have a positive impact or adversely affect a particular member or group of members of the community. Council at all times endeavours to act in an open and transparent manner in its decision-making processes and Council encourages members of the community to be involved in its decision-making processes.

Council Agendas and associated reports are placed on public display no less than three days prior to meetings and are also available for easy access via Council's Website. Council also utilises social media to inform members of its community of upcoming meetings.

Community members are encouraged to attend Council Meetings, to enable them to keep abreast of Council activities that interest them or have an impact on them in any way.

Council also makes available to the public a live stream of Council Meeting held in the Council Chambers in Melrose wherever possible. In addition, a recording of Council Meetings is available as soon as practicable after the meeting and is placed on the Council website.

## Opportunities for Public Participation in formulation of Council Policy and Exercise of Functions:

- 1. Elected Members** – members of the public are able to contact Elected Members within their respective Wards to discuss any issues relevant to them.
- 2. Written Submissions** – member of the public can make a written submission to Council on any Council practice, procedure, activity or service. All Written submissions should be forwarded to the Chief Executive Officer, District Council of Mount Remarkable, 3 Stuart Street, Melrose SA 5483 or by email to [postmaster@mtr.sa.gov.au](mailto:postmaster@mtr.sa.gov.au).
- 3. Petitions** – written petitions can be addressed to the Council on any issue within the Council's jurisdiction. A petition must be legibly written or typed or printed, clearly set out the request or submission of the petitioners, include the name and address of each person who signed or endorse the petition and addressed to the Council and delivered to the principal office of the Council. Refer Council's Code of Practice - Procedures at Council Meetings.
- 4. Deputations to Council** – A person or group of persons who wish to appear personally before a Council or Council Committee in order to address the Council or Committee. A deputation allows individuals or groups in the community to personally address the Council and present their opinions to the meeting which must for. Refer Council's Code of Practice – Procedures at Council Meetings.

**5. Community Engagement** – Council is committed to open, accountable and responsive decision making, which is informed by effective communication and consultation between the Council and the community. The Council's 'Public Consultation Policy' outlines the steps that Council follow in cases where the Local Government Act requires consultation on a matter and other cases involving the Councils decision making.

**6. Council Website** – The Council Website is utilised to provide up to date information to the community in relation to the activities of the Council, whether it is advice on upcoming meeting, monthly Newsletters, general Council information and access to public documents, services and facilities including a vast array of general information.

**7. Community Question Time** – prior to each ordinary council meeting the Mayor, Elected Members and the Chief Executive Officer are available to receive and answer as appropriate questions from members of the community.

## Public Consultation & Engagement Activities undertaken during 2022/2023:

Month	Consultation/Engagement relating to:
July 2022	Draft Strategic Tourism Plan
	Draft Bridle Track Strategic Plan
	Draft Memorial Policy
August 2022	Draft Long Term Financial Plan
November 2022	Administration Centre – Proposed Change of Opening and Closing Time
December 2022	Melrose Caravan Park – Proposed Lease of Local Government Land
March 2023	2023 Community Survey
	Draft Infrastructure & Asset Management Plan 2023-2032
	Draft Long Term Financial Plan 2023-2032
	Port Germein Country Fire Service – Extension of Lease Local Government Land
June 2023	Draft Annual Business Plan and Budget
	Proposed Road Closure – Southern Flinders Ranges

# PUBLIC ACCESS TO COUNCIL DOCUMENTS

Council has legislative responsibilities under the State Records Act 1997 in maintaining the management of official records. A records management system provides a planned, co-ordinated set of policies, procedures, systems and activities to ensure the ongoing management of records. Council operates SynergySoft records management system and adopted its Records Management Policy (Policy 04.43) on 17 March 2015 and regularly reviews and updates the policy to ensure its compliance.

There are a range of documents mandated to be available for public inspection at the Council Offices free of charge or alternatively on Council's Website [www.mtr.sa.gov.au](http://www.mtr.sa.gov.au)

Following is a list of Council documents that are available for inspection free of charge or via Council's Website:

## Registers

- » Elected Members Register of Interest
- » Elected Members Expenses & Reimbursements
- » Elected Members Gifts and Benefits
- » Register of Salaries
- » Council Employees Gifts and Benefits
- » Fees and Charges Register
- » Confidential Items Register
- » Public Roads Register
- » By-Laws
- » Leases Register

## Codes

- » 04.02 – Code of Practice – Meeting Procedures at Council & Committee Meetings
- » 04.05 – Code of Practice – Access Council Meetings and Documents
- » 04.32 – Code of Conduct – Volunteers

## Policies/Procedures

- » 04.00 – Policy Framework Policy
- » 04.01 – Council Members Allowances and Benefits Policy
- » 04.03 – Behavioural Management Policy
- » 04.06 – Internal Review of a Council Decision
- » 04.07 – Entertainment and Hospitality Policy
- » 04.13 – Council Members Training and Development Policy
- » 04.14 – Use of Council Resources and Electronic Communications Policy
- » 04.15 – Fraud, Corruption, Misconduct and Maladministration Prevention Policy
- » 04.18 – Caretaker Policy
- » 04.19 – Road Name and Numbering and Public Place Names Policy
- » 04.20 – Complaints Handling Policy
- » 04.21 – Public Consultation Policy
- » 04.23 – Request for Service Policy
- » 04.24 – Customer First Policy
- » 04.25 – Procurement Policy
- » 04.26 – Credit Card Policy
- » 04.28 – Internal Financial Control Policy
- » 04.29 – Risk Management Policy
- » 04.30 – Enforcement Policy
- » 04.31 – Building and Swimming Pool Inspection Policy
- » 04.33 – Community Wastewater Management Scheme (CWMS) Policy
- » 04.35 – Prudential Management Policy
- » 04.39 – Rate Remission and Hardship Policy
- » 04.40 – Cemeteries and Natural Burial Grounds Policy
- » 04.41 – Order Making Policy
- » 04.43 – Records Management Policy
- » 04.44 – CWMS and Water Supply Hardship Policy
- » 04.45 – Social Media Policy
- » 04.48 – Debt Recovery Policy
- » 04.52 – Entry and Occupy Land Policy
- » 04.56 – Safe Environment for Children, Young People and Vulnerable Persons Policy
- » 04.58 – Disposal of Land and Other Assets Policy
- » 04.62 – Asset Accounting Policy
- » 04.63 – Volunteer Management Policy
- » 04.64 – Trees Policy
- » 04.70 – Public Interest Disclosure Policy
- » 04.71 – Emergency Management Policy
- » 04.77 – Rate Rebate Policy
- » 04.78 – Rates Policy
- » 04.79 – Treasury Management Policy
- » 04.80 – Memorials Policy
- » 04.81 – Supplementary Election Policy
- » 04.82 – Recording of Council Meetings Policy



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### Other Documents

- » Freedom of Information Statement (Included in Section Six of the Annual Report)
- » Assessment Records
- » Voters Roll
- » Long Term Financial Plan
- » Community Plan 2021-2031 (also known as Strategic Plan)
- » Strategic Tourism Plan 2022-2027
- » Asset Management Plans
- » Annual Business Plan and Budget
- » Annual Reports
- » Disability Access and Inclusion Plan 2020-2024
- » Dog and Cat Management Plan
- » Regional Public Health Plan
- » Better Development Plan
- » Roadside Vegetation Management
- » Road RACK Plans (Rural and Urban)
- » Minutes and Agendas
- » Community Land

Members of the public may obtain copies or extracts of documents listed above at a charge as outlined within Council's Fees and Charges Register.

Enquiries concerning the procedures for inspecting and purchasing Council's policy document should be made during normal business hours (9am-5pm - Monday to Friday) to:

Ms Jacqui Kelleher  
Director – Community & Corporate  
District Council of Mount Remarkable  
3 Stuart Street  
MELROSE SA 5483

# OTHER INFORMATION REQUESTS

Members of the public have an opportunity to access other information and documentation held by Council via legislative provisions captured within the Freedom of Information Act 1991 and Freedom of Information (General) Regulations 2017. Council invites the public to discuss their information needs with the Council's Freedom of Information Officer.

## Freedom of Information (Fol) Requests

An application must be in writing, specify that it is made under the Freedom of Information Act, include the relevant fee as may be prescribed, contain such information as is reasonably necessary to enable the document to be identified, and must specify an address in Australia to which notices should be sent. Forms of access may include inspection or copies (subject to copyright laws) of documents, hearing and/or viewing of audio and/or video tapes, transcripts of recorded documents, transcripts of words recorded in shorthand or encoded form, or the reproduction of documents from digitised information.

Applications will be responded to as soon as possible within the statutory thirty (30) days of Council receiving the properly completed Freedom of Information Request Form, together with the application and search fees. An extension of time may be granted by the Chief Executive Officer of the Council if the application is for access to a large number of documents or necessitates a search through a large quantity of information and dealing with the application within 30 days would unreasonably divert the Council's resources or documents to which consultation is required and therefore will not be reasonably practicable to comply with the 30 day timeframe.

## Personal Affairs

Pursuant to Section 26 of the Freedom of Information Act 1991, if the documents relate to the applicant's personal affairs or are being sought on behalf of another person relating to their personal affairs, Council will take such steps as are reasonably practicable to obtain the views of the person concerned, as to whether or not the document is an exempt document.

## Amendment to Council Records

A member of the public may gain access to Council documents, pursuant to Section 31 of the Freedom of Information Act 1991 to make amendments concerning their personal affairs. A member of the public may then request a correction to any information about themselves that is incomplete, incorrect, misleading or out of date.

## Freedom of Information (Fol) Requests

Applications forms for access to Council documents and/or information should be forwarded to:

Freedom of Information Officer  
District Council of Mount Remarkable  
PO Box 94  
MELROSE SA 5483  
Phone: (08) 8666 2014

## Freedom of Information Activities for 2022/2023:

The District Council of Mount Remarkable received one (1) FOI application during the reporting period. The application was completed within the required timelines and access was granted to the required documents.

# CONFIDENTIALITY PROVISIONS

Pursuant to Section 90 of the Local Government Act 1999, Council may order that the public be excluded from attendance at a meeting for a variety of reasons. Where an order is made to exclude the public, a note must be made in the minutes of the making of the order, outlining the grounds on which it is made, as well as the duration of the order.

The table below provides details of the confidentiality orders made and the number of occasions each of these provisions were enforced during the 2022/2023 financial year:

<b>TOTAL ORDERS MADE DURING 2022/2023</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Section Used</b>	<b>Number of Times Used</b>
Section 90(3)(a) – Personal Affairs of a Person (living or dead)	3
Section 90(3)(b) – Commercial Advantage	4
Section 90(3)(c) – Trade Secret	-
Section 90(3)(d) – Prejudice the Commercial Position	-
Section 90(3)(e) – Security of Council, Members or Employees	-
Section 90(3)(f) – Prejudice the Maintenance of Law	-
Section 90(3)(g) – Does not breach any Law or Court	-
Section 90(3)(h) – Legal Advice	1
Section 90(3)(i) – Litigation will take place	-
Section 90(3)(j) – Information provided by Minister or another agency	1
Section 90(3)(k) – Tenders	-
Section 90(3)(m) – Draft Instrument or Amendment under the DPI Act	-
Section 90(3)(n) – Review of Determination under the FOI Act	-
Section 90(3)(o) – Proposed Award	-

The following table provides an overview of the topics, provisions, when the order was made, period of confidentiality and date documents have been released, ceased to apply or revoked during the reporting period:

No.	Topic & Provisions	Order Made	Period	Documents Released
1	Wirrabara Community Wastewater Management Scheme 90(3)(h)	19/7/2022	Conclusion of legal proceedings	20/2/2023
2	Chief Executive Officer Annual Review 90(3)(a)	19/7/2022	While CEO gainfully employed by Council	24/5/2023 Part Release of Remuneration and Conditions of Employment Only
3	Melrose Caravan & Tourist Park – Future Operations 90(3)(b)	29/11/2022	Until further order of Council	6/3/2023
4	2023 Australian Day Citizen of the Year Awards – Consideration of Nominations 90(3)(a)	13/12/2022	Until recipients notified	26/1/2023
5	Melrose Caravan & Tourist Park – Future Operations 90(3)(b)	17/1/2023	Until conclusion of matter	6/3/2023
6	Asset Disposal – Expression of Interest to buy Council owned land – Offer from Beach Drilling Pty Ltd 90(3)(b)	27/2/2023	Until further order of Council	24/5/2023
7	Asset Disposal – Expression of Interest to buy Council owned land – Offer from Beach Drilling Pty Ltd 90(3)(b)	18/4/2023	Until further order of Council	24/5/2023
8	CEO Performance Review Process & CEO Contract of Employment 90(3)(a)	18/4/2023	While CEO gainfully employed by Council	24/5/2023 Part Release of Remuneration and Conditions of Employment Only
9	CEO Review Panel – Appointment of Panel Members 90(3)(k)	16/5/2023	Until conclusion of dealing with matter	17/5/2023

During the 2022/2023 financial year Council resolved 255 issues, of which 9 were subject to confidentiality. This equates to 3.5% of all issues considered by Council being treated under confidentiality and this is outside of the Ombudsman's recommendation of 3%. The Ombudsman's recommendation was based on the findings of a review undertaken some years ago on a selected number of Councils use of confidential orders.

Of those 9 confidential orders utilized by Council during the 2022/2023 financial year, 7 orders expired, ceased to apply or were revoked and 2 were released in part only.

As outlined in the table below, in addition to the previous orders made in 2022/2023, Council as part of the annual review of confidential orders (pursuant to Section 91(9) of the Local Government Act 1999), that have been operational for a period longer than 12 months, resolved to retain 8 ongoing matters under confidential provisions plus a further 12 items with redacted information. During the reporting period 10 items that had been under a confidential order for a period greater than 12 months were released.

No.	Topic	Order Made	Date Expired or Released During the Reporting Period	Last Review Date
1	Wirrabara Community Wastewater Management Scheme 90(3)(h)	21/6/2022	20/2/2023	16/8/2022
2	Feedback on Essential Services Commission of SA (ESCOSA) proposed Framework and Approach 90(3)(j)	17/5/2022	16/8/2023	16/8/2022
3	Melrose Caravan & Tourist Park – Future Operations 90(3)(b)	24/3/2022	6/3/2023	16/8/2022
4	Melrose Caravan & Tourist Park – Future Operations 90(3)(b)	18/1/2022	6/3/2023	16/8/2022
5	Sale for Non-Payment of Rates (2 Properties Section 90(3)(a)	16/2/2021		16/8/2022
6	Sale for Non-Payment of Rates (2 properties) Section 90(3)(a)	16/2/2021		16/8/2022
7	Sale for Non-Payment of Rates (2 properties) Section 90(3)(a)	15/6/2021		16/8/2022
8	Discretionary Rebate Section 90(3)(d)	6/7/2021		16/8/2022
9	Legal Advice Wirrabara CWMS Section 90(3)(h)	29/7/2021	20/2/2023	16/8/2022
10	Legal Matter via LGA – Pre-Action Response & Dispute Management Agreement Section 90(3)(h)	29/7/2021		16/8/2022
11	Melrose Caravan & Tourist Park – Future Operations Section 90(3)(b)	29/7/2021	6/3/2023	16/8/2022
12	CEO – Annual Review 2020/2021 Section 90(3)(a)	17/8/2021	Part Release 16/8/2022	16/8/2022
13	Legal Matter via LGA – Pre-Action Response & Dispute Management Agreement Section 90(3)(h)	19/10/2021		16/8/2022
14	Sale for Non-Payment of Rates (2 properties) Section 90(3)(b)	17/11/2020		16/8/2022

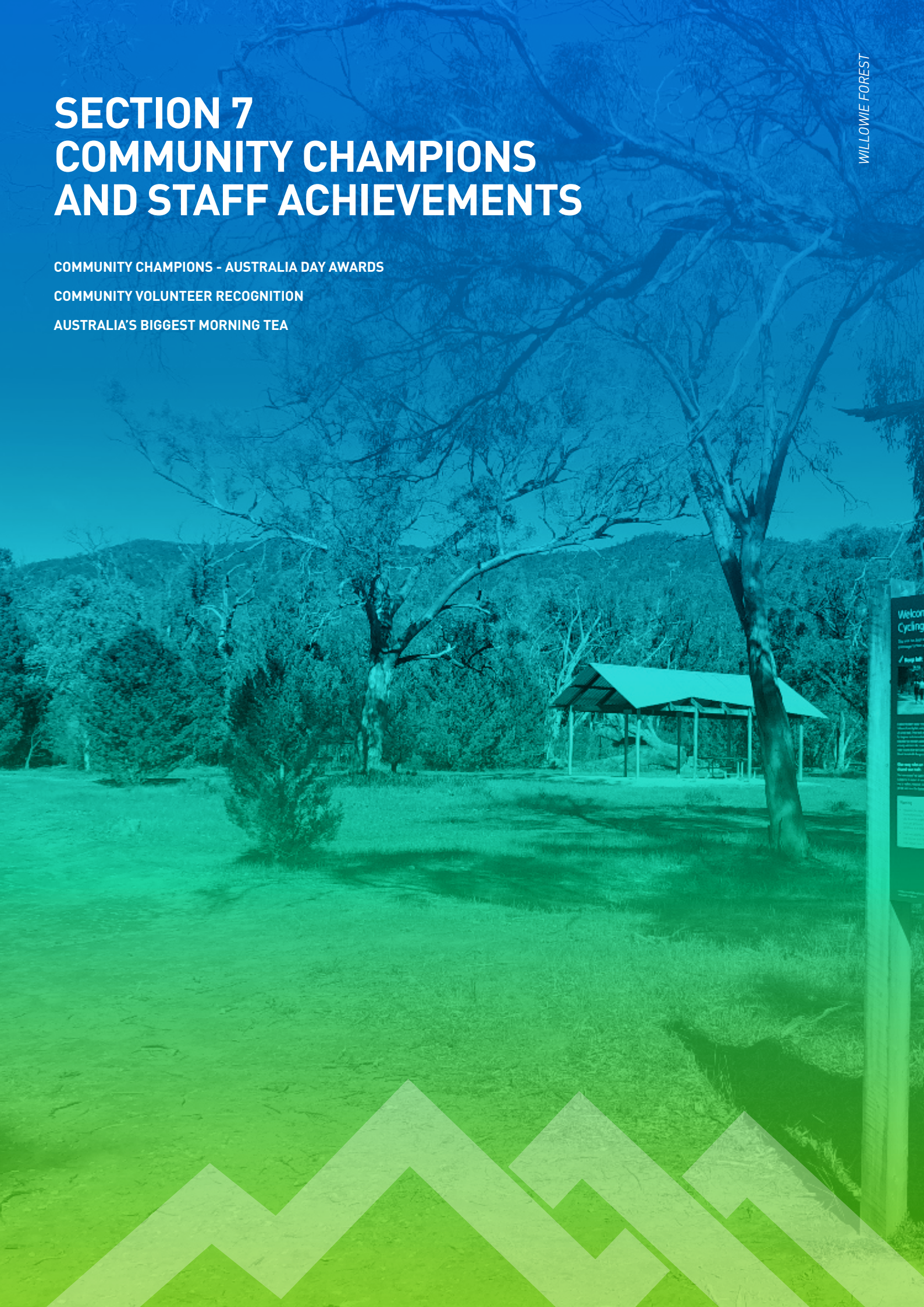
No.	Topic	Order Made	Date Expired or Released During the Reporting Period	Last Review Date
15	Deed of Settlement & Discharge between Mr W Hart & Council Section 90(3)(a)	20/10/2020		16/8/2022
16	Legal Advice staffing matter Section 90(3)(h)	27/5/2020	Part Release 15/12/2020	16/8/2022
17	Legal Advice staffing matter Section 90(3)(h)	5/5/2020	Part Release 15/12/2020	16/8/2022
18	Report on staffing matter Section 90(3)(h)	3/4/2020	Part Release 15/12/2020	16/8/2022
19	Legal Advice staffing matter Section 90(3)(h)	23/3/2020	Part Release 15/12/2020	16/8/2022
20	CEO Employment Contract Section 90(3)(a)	17/3/2020	16/8/2022	16/8/2022
21	Report from Consultant R Wallace – staffing matter Section 90(3)(b)	6/3/2020	Part Release 15/12/2020	16/8/2022
22	Road Reserve – Request to Purchase Section 90(3)(b)	18/2/2020	16/8/2022	16/8/2022
23	Request for a License for Underground Infrastructure Section 90(3)(b)	21/1/2020	Part Release 15/12/2020	16/8/2022
24	Rate Rebate (Property A43482) Section 90(3)(a)	17/9/2019	Part Release 15/12/2020	16/8/2022
25	CEO – Annual Review Section 90(3)(b)	29/8/2019	16/8/2022	16/8/2022
26	Confidential Report Section 90(3)(g)	20/8/2019	Part Release 15/12/2020	16/8/2022
27	CEO – Annual Review Section 90(3)(b)	20/3/2018	16/8/2022	16/8/2022
28	Legal Advice – Review Report Section 90(3)(h)	15/11/2016	Part Release 15/12/2020	16/8/2022
29	Legal Advice – staffing matter Section 90(3)	14/6/2016	Part Release 15/12/2020	16/8/2022
30	Legal Advice – LGA Workers Compensation Scheme Section 90(3)(h)	17/3/2015	Part Release 15/12/2020	16/8/2022

# SECTION 7 COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS AND STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS - AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS

COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION

AUSTRALIA'S BIGGEST MORNING TEA



# COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS

## AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS

### Citizen of the Year Australia Day Awards

Award ceremonies and celebrations were held on 26 January throughout the District.

### Citizen of the Year

Congratulations to Melrose local Mr Ken Walter who was awarded the 2023 Citizen of the Year award at the Australia Day celebrations coordinated by the Melrose Hospital Auxiliary and held at Paradise Square, Melrose.

Ken's extensive volunteer work in the Melrose and district community over a period of more than 50 years was acknowledged by Cr Colin Nottle at the event.



*Ken Walter and Cr Colin Nottle*

### Junior Citizen of the Year

Congratulations to Miss Sienna Lines, who was awarded the 2023 Junior Citizen of the Year award at the Australia Day celebrations coordinated by the Wilmington Show Society held at the Wilmington Show Grounds.

Sienna's leadership and community commitment was acknowledged by Deputy Mayor Cr Lesley Till at the event.



*Deputy Mayor Cr Lesley Till and Sienna Lines*



# COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION

## Community Volunteers

On 17 May 2023 the District Council of Mount Remarkable celebrated our districts outstanding volunteers and the invaluable contribution they make to our community with a morning tea reception. Their countless hours of hard work and dedication strengthens our communities, and they are sincerely thanked and acknowledged for everything they've done and continue to do.



# AUSTRALIA'S BIGGEST MORNING TEA

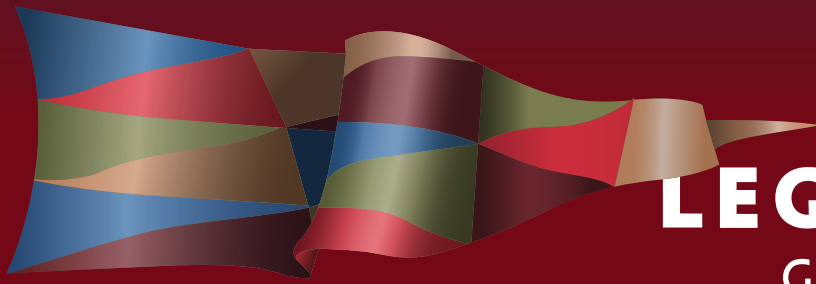
## Australia's Biggest Morning Tea

Staff again donated food and helped raise \$175 as part of the Australia's Biggest Morning Tea fundraising event.

A Staff Meeting was held in the afternoon and was completed with a scrumptious 'afternoon' tea for all in attendance. All staff enjoyed the great food and time to catch up and participate in this much worthy fundraising event.



# APPENDIX ONE



**LEGATUS**  
GROUP

## ANNUAL REPORT

2022 / 2023



*Legatus Group:  
Regional Local Government  
ambassador and advocate*

The Central Local Government Region was established in 1998 under Section 200 of the Local Government Act 1934 as a controlling authority and continues as a regional subsidiary of its establishing councils under Part 2 of Schedule 2 of the Local Government Act 1999 ("the Act") by virtue of the provisions of Section 43 of the Local Government (Implementation) Act 1999.

In 2016 the Central Local Government Region of South Australia adopted the name of the Legatus Group to which it is now referred.

# ANNUAL REPORT

LEGATUS GROUP - 2022 / 2023

## THE LEGATUS GROUP CHARTER CLAUSE 6.3 ANNUAL REPORT

- 6.3.1 *The Legatus Group must each year, produce an Annual Report summarising the activities, achievements and financial performance of the Legatus Group for the preceding Financial Year.*
- 6.3.2 *The Annual Report must incorporate the audited financial statements of the Legatus Group for the relevant Financial Year.*
- 6.3.3 *The Annual Report must be provided to the Constituent Councils by 30 September each year.*

The Central Local Government Region was established in 1998 under Section 200 of the Local Government Act 1934 as a controlling authority. It now continues in existence as a regional subsidiary of its member Councils under Part 2 of Schedule 2 of the Local Government Act 1999 by the provisions of Section 25 of the Local Government (Implementation) Act 1999.

In 2016 the Central Local Government Region of South Australia adopted the trading name of Legatus Group to which it is now referred.

The Legatus Group is a body corporate and is governed by a Board of Management which has the responsibility to manage all activities of the group and ensure that they act in accordance with its Charter.

## CONTACT DETAILS

Address: 20 King Street Mintaro SA 5415 PO Box 1 Mintaro SA 5415

Telephone: 0407819000

Email: [ceo@legatus.sa.gov.au](mailto:ceo@legatus.sa.gov.au)

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

## LEGATUS GROUP BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

The Board consists of all principal members (Mayors) of the Constituent Councils which for 2022/2023 saw changes following the November 2022 elections.

COUNCIL	DELEGATE
Adelaide Plains Council	Mayor Mark Wasley
Barunga West Council	Mayor Leonie Kerley
Clare & Gilbert Valleys Council	Mayor Wayne Thomas - Mayor Allan Aughey OAM
Copper Coast Council	Mayor Roslyn Talbot
District Council of Mount Remarkable	Mayor Phillip Heaslip - Mayor Stephen McCarthy
District Council of Orroroo Carrieton	Mayor Kathie Bowman
District Council of Peterborough	Mayor Ruth Whittle OAM
Light Regional Council	Mayor Bill O'Brien
Northern Areas Council	Mayor Ben Browne - Mayor Sue Scarman
Port Pirie Regional Council	Mayor Leon Stephens
Regional Council of Goyder	Mayor Peter Matthey OAM - Mayor Bill Gebhardt
The Barossa Council	Mayor Bim Lange OAM
The Flinders Ranges Council	Mayor Greg Flint - Mayor Ken Anderson
Wakefield Regional Council	Mayor Rodney Reid
Yorke Peninsula Council	Mayor Darren Braund

# ANNUAL REPORT

LEGATUS GROUP - 2022 / 2023

## OFFICE BEARERS FOR 2022/23

POSITION	DELEGATE
Chairman	Mayor Phillip Heaslip until 9 September 2022 then Mayor Rodney Reid
Deputy Chairs	Mayor Bill O'Brien Mayor Rodney Reid until 9 September 2022 Mayor Ken Anderson from 19 May 2023
South Australian Regional Organisation of Councils	Mayor Bill O'Brien Mayor Peter Matthey OAM until 18 August 2023 then Mayor Rodney Reid
Chief Executive Officer	Mr Simon Millcock
Auditor	Dean Newbery and Partners

The following meetings of the Board of Management were held during the 2022/23 year:

- 18 August 2022 Special Meeting online
- 9 September 2022 Annual General Meeting - Burra
- 9 September 2022 Ordinary General Meeting - Burra
- 16 December 2022 Ordinary General Meeting - Kadina
- 10 February 2023 Ordinary General Meeting - Port Pirie
- 19 May 2023 Ordinary General Meeting - Bundaleer North
- 2 June 2022 Special Meeting online

There were five advisory committees in 2022/2023:

- Audit and Risk Management Committee
- Regional Management Group
- Road Transport and Infrastructure Advisory Committee
- Waste Management Advisory Committee
- Community Wastewater Management Advisory Committee

All agendas and minutes from the Board meetings and these committees are published on the Legatus Group Website.

All advisory committee minutes were provided with the agendas to the Legatus Group meetings.

The Constituent Councils are provided during the year with Board Agendas, Minutes, Annual Report, Business Plan, Budget and Financial Reports.



# ANNUAL REPORT

LEGATUS GROUP - 2022 / 2023

## COMMITTEE MEMBERS

AUDIT COMMITTEE	MEMBERS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mayor Kathie Bowman (Orroroo Carrieton)</li><li>• Mayor Rodney Reid (Wakefield)</li><li>• Mr Peter Ackland (Port Pirie)</li><li>• Mr Stephen Rufus (Chair) (Peterborough)</li><li>• Mr Ian McDonald (Independent)</li></ul>

MANAGEMENT GROUP (COUNCIL CEOS)	MEMBERS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mr Sam Johnson OAM (Mt Remarkable)</li><li>• Mr James Miller (Adelaide Plains)</li><li>• Mr Martin McCarthy (Barossa)</li><li>• Ms Maree Wauchope (Barunga West)</li><li>• Dr Helen Macdonald (Clare &amp; Gilbert Valleys)</li><li>• Mr Russell Peate (Copper Coast)</li><li>• Mr Eric Brown (Flinders Ranges)</li><li>• Mr David Stevenson (Goyder)</li><li>• Mr Richard Dodson (Light)</li><li>• Ms Kelly Westell (Northern Areas)</li><li>• Mr Paul Simpson (Orroroo Carrieton)</li><li>• Mr Stephen Rufus (Peterborough)</li><li>• Mr Peter Ackland (Pirie Regional)</li><li>• Mr Andrew MacDonald (Wakefield) (Chair)</li><li>• Mr Andrew Cameron (Yorke Peninsula)</li></ul>



# ANNUAL REPORT

LEGATUS GROUP - 2022 / 2023

## COMMITTEE MEMBERS

ROAD TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE ADVISORY COMMITTEE	MEMBERS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dr Helen Macdonald (Clare &amp; Gilbert Valleys) (Chair)</li><li>• Mayor Leon Stephens (Port Pirie)</li><li>• Lee Wallis (Goyder)</li><li>• Steve Kaesler (Barossa)</li><li>• Tim Neumann (Copper Coast)</li><li>• Andre Kompler (Yorke Peninsula)</li><li>• Karen Lee-Jones (Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure)</li><li>• Daniel Willson (CEO RDA YMN)</li><li>• Stuart Roberts (Wakefield)</li><li>• Mitchell Foote (Flinders Ranges)</li></ul>

WASTE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE	MEMBERS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mayor Mark Wasley (Adelaide Plains) (Chair)</li><li>• Ivan Nolte (Copper Coast)</li><li>• Tom Jones (Adelaide Plains)</li><li>• Aaron Curtis (Barossa)</li><li>• Glen Growden (Wakefield Regional)</li><li>• Andre Kompler (Yorke Peninsula)</li><li>• Lynette Seccafien (Adelaide Plains)</li><li>• Stephen Rufus CEO (Peterborough)</li></ul>

COMMUNITY WASTE MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE	MEMBERS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mayor Leon Stephens (Port Pirie) (Chair)</li><li>• Gary Easthope (Clare and Gilbert Valleys)</li><li>• Grant Smith (Yorke Peninsula)</li><li>• Nathan Berry (Light)</li><li>• Kirsty Morgan (Wakefield)</li></ul>

# ANNUAL REPORT

LEGATUS GROUP - 2022 / 2023

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT MAYOR RODNEY REID

“ *It has been an honour to have been elected as Chairman of the Legatus Group at the September 2022 AGM and to move from previous role as Deputy.* ”

Firstly, I wish to acknowledge that there has been 5 new members to the board with 4 new Mayors and 1 returning Mayor which has provided some level of continuity. The Local Government elections in late 2022 did cause some level of complexity around appointments and decision making. With this in mind we held an induction session and following the board's approval we distributed a draft strategic plan and I took the opportunity to visit all member councils along with our CEO.

It was a pleasure to have Mayor Bill O'Brien as a Deputy Chairman and fellow member of the South Australian Regional Organisation of Councils (SAROC) and to welcome Mayor Ken Anderson in May 2023 as a joint Deputy Chairman.

At the May 2023 meeting Mayor Bowman announced her intention to resign and the Legatus Group thanked her for her long service to her community and the Legatus Group including as inaugural member of the Legatus Group Audit and Risk Management Committee.

There had been a decline in the attendance at board meetings prior to my appointment plus a break down in the connections between the Management Group (CEOs) and their involvement with the board.

I am of the opinion that this has since turned the corner following a workshop I attended with the Management Group and a new approach to the board meetings agendas which includes relevant examples of projects and programs from member councils.

The Legatus Group at the 19 May 2023 meeting committed to having an independent review of the charter and the strategic plan which is designed to assist in clarifying our direction. This will allow both Board Members and the CEOs to be further engaged on the future of the Legatus Group and allow them to provide input to their member councils.

It should be noted that the Barunga West Council has provided the 18 months' notice required of their withdrawal of membership according to our charter and CEO Simon Millcock acknowledged this through a return email to Barunga West Council.

The board has taken an approach over the past five years to not significantly increase members fees whilst using the reserves to undertake both administration and project work including the appointment of an Administration Officer. The board last year noted this needed reviewing in 2022/2023, which occurred through our Annual Business Plan and Budget for 2023/2024, whilst the plan to meet the targets for our reserves as previously agreed to by June 2023 occurred.

For the second year in a row the Legatus Group has paid for the membership of member councils to the SA Coastal Council Alliance. With a desire from the members seeking more user pay for the various projects taken on by Legatus, the funding for the SA Coastal Council Alliance memberships has not been included in the adopted Legatus 2023/2024 budget.

The board has continued to focus on the key areas of:

- Roads and Transport Infrastructure
- Waste Management – including Wastewater
- Community Capacity Wellbeing
- Environmental Stainability



# ANNUAL REPORT

LEGATUS GROUP - 2022 / 2023

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

### MAYOR RODNEY REID (CONTINUED)

The Legatus Group provides a pivotal role to member councils in advocating on regional and state-wide issues and this has included:

- Rating equity associated with major energy producers continues through the recommendations and reports by the Legatus Group to the LGA.
- Wellbeing and Mental Health with a delegation of local MPs' Lifeline and the Legatus Group meeting with Minister for Health to gain support for retaining and expanding the Community Connect Centre model delivered by Lifeline. This included attendance by Dr John Brayley Chief Psychiatrist to the December 2022 Legatus Group meeting.
- Assisted with matters relating to Community Wastewater Management Schemes which saw a review and CWMS reform program.
- Delivery of the Northern and Yorke Drought Resilience Plan in partnership with Regional Development Australia Organisations and the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board.
- Review of the methodology used in assessing applications for the Special Local Roads Program.
- The role of Regional LGAs and SAROC to reduce any ambiguity associated with the Regional LGAs being able to provide reports to SAROC so that they can provide both a filtering mechanism for members and submit appropriate reports to SAROC.
- Support to the Flinders Ranges Council in their approach to have a review of appointments to LGA Board and SAROC and timing of the AGM.
- Support to the Goyder Council in their advocacy on the lack of backup power to telecommunications towers.
- Recommendations that the LGA consider creating a new committee for areas of support sought by member councils associated with CWMS.
- Support to the Flinders Ranges Council in their advocacy for the reintroduction of electronic attendance by Councillors at Council meetings.
- Approach by the Legatus Group to lobby for increased funding for the SLRP Program.
- Support to the Orroroo Carrieton Council opposition to the model Fee Structure being set by ESCOSA.





# ANNUAL REPORT

LEGATUS GROUP - 2022 / 2023

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

### MAYOR RODNEY REID (CONTINUED)

The Legatus Group provided support at a regional and state level with forums, workshops and webinars which attracted over 400 people throughout the year and they included:

- SA CWMS Conference (partnership with LGA) - Adelaide
- Legatus Group Waste Forum (partnership with KESAB) – Peterborough
- Prosper! Interdisciplinary solutions for Prosperous Regions Forum (partnership UniSA) - Nuriootpa
- Yorke Mid North Alliance Regional Planning Forum (partnership Northern and Yorke Alliance) - Tanunda
- Legatus Group Regional Roads Forum – Maitland
- Accessible Tourism Forum (partnership Catalyst Foundation) – Kadina
- Ageing and Disability Lifestyle Expo – Kadina
- Community Development Forum – Burra
- Native Foods Cultural Awareness Forum – Quorn
- Urban Sustainability Forum – Freeling

Key reports and projects supported this year by the Legatus Group were:

- Updated Report - Wellbeing Gap Analysis Legatus Group Northern Councils released.
- Attracting, Developing and Retaining Regional Local Government Workforce Report released.
- Career Pathways & Workforce Toolkit for Regional SA Councils commenced.
- MoU established with Lions International to support Waste reduction.
- Northern and Yorke Community Continuity Planning for Disasters.
- Stormwater Harvesting.
- Legatus Group Regional Local Roads Plan database updates and Expansion of Regional Road Transport GIS and including Bridge and Culverts.
- NHVR Strategic Local Government Asset Assessment Project with National Heavy Vehicle Regulator.
- CWMS on-line training project.
- Assessment of Bridge and Culverts report
- Legatus Group Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy and Action Plan 2021-2026.
- Northern and Yorke Climate Change Sector Agreement.
- Northern and Yorke Drought Resilience Plan.

# ANNUAL REPORT

LEGATUS GROUP - 2022 / 2023

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

### MAYOR RODNEY REID (CONTINUED)

Direct support has been provided to grant applications for the region which have resulted in close to \$4.5m of value to the region. They include:

- 2022 SLRP grants resulting in \$4.056m across 4 councils from a total \$13.356m allocated to regional councils in 2022 or approx. 30% of the funding.
- Preparing your community for disasters and emergencies – Northern and Yorke Region of SA secured \$92,000 funding from SAFECOM.
- Pilot Organics Processing Plant at Peterborough (successful).
- Carbon Offsetting for Local Government – being led by City of Adelaide (successful).
- Climate Resilient Asset Capacity Augmentation for Community Wastewater Management with Constructed Floating Wetland Systems – being led by UniSA (successful).
- Caravan / RV Dump Point Project – being led by Flinders University (successful).
- LG Career Pathways & Workforce Toolkit for Regional SA Councils – being led by Torrens University (successful).
- Landscape Board Future Drought Fund: Extension and Adoption of Drought Resilience Farming Practices Grants Program application.
- Adelaide Plains Council Heavy Vehicle Safety Initiative.
- Uni SA Solar PV Recycling.

The Legatus Group continued to support the South Australia Drought Resilience Adoption and Innovation Hub as a Local Government project partner.

There has been significant support for equity associated with the Special Local Roads Program funding and we were pleased to see the positive outcomes especially for the Yorke Peninsula Council application.

We continue to encourage and foster closer working relationships with the three Regional Development Australia (RDA) organisations and the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board.

The Legatus Group have supported and are an active partner in the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board Aboriginal Engagement Committee.

The board has made a concerted effort to reduce the amount of project work being undertaken and progress more on advocacy and providing a partnership approach with others on projects.

The Legatus Group CEO and staff committed large amounts of time to the development of many Conferences and Forums which have all been highly regarded and of great value to those attending and especially member councils. I also note with positivity the CEO efforts to support regional councils across the State.

# ANNUAL REPORT

LEGATUS GROUP - 2022 / 2023

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

**MAYOR RODNEY REID (CONTINUED)**

The Audit and Risk Management Group Committee have ensured that the work plan has assisted us in improving our governance and recommendations around variations to our policies. The other advisory committees have played a key role in supporting and recommending actions to the board. It is pleasing to see more board members and council staff being active on these committees. I would like to acknowledge all the Board members and council CEOs and staff who have committed time to the Advisory Committees.

I thank CEO Simon Millcock for the reports prepared and the introduction of the bi-monthly newsletter which is distributed to stakeholders and partners in all spheres of government. I wish to thank him for his commitment and passion for the local government sector and his willingness to work with all members and to accept and progress the ongoing changes within the Legatus Group.

2022/2023 has been a year of listening to each other, learning from each other and redirecting our focus as we work together to support and strengthen our region.



Mayor Rodney Reid

Chairman Legatus Group

# ANNUAL REPORT

LEGATUS GROUP - 2022 / 2023

## CEO REPORT MR SIMON MILLCOCK

“ Firstly, I would like to acknowledge the support provided to me by Chairman Mayor Rodney Reid and Deputy Chairman Mayor Bill O’Brien, Board Members, CEOs, Committees, Regional Partners and the Legatus Group staff over the past year.

This year saw the focus on a more consolidated approach to advocacy and increased partnerships.

There were three grants secured in 2023/2024 which were:

1. **Regional Capacity Building Allocations – LGA**
2. **Joint Services Arrangements CWMS – LGA CWMS**
3. **Preparing your community for disasters and emergencies – SAFECOM**

Items 2 and 3 allowed for the employment of part time Project Officers Dr Paul Chapman and Robert Bunch. All contracts for grants and projects have been reported on according to the agreements with a delay experienced in securing the first payment of the SAFECOM funds due to the reference group meeting late in June 2023 to approval a draft document required by SAFECOM.

This year 54% of the Legatus Group’s income came from its membership fees. The 15-member council contributions during the previous six years had been on average around 30% of the Legatus Group income.

Due to a reduction in project work, there were less grants obtained although they did make up around 33% of the Legatus Group income. Interest rates increased, which resulted in a better than predicted return on investment income.

This reduction in grant funding was also reflected in a major reduction in contractor and consultant costs compared to the previous 4-5 years.

Areas with increases in expenses to those budgeted were due to motor vehicle costs as the change over to a new vehicle was not able to occur due to supply delays. The meeting and conference costs were substantially higher than the previous year but this was budgeted for as the Legatus Group had responsibility to manage the Annual Forum for the Northern and Yorke Alliance. Telephone, Internet and Websites were around half of the costs from 2022 and this was due to working from home and the website being updating in 2022.

The financial result is that the Legatus Group continues to be in a sound financial position to cover its forthcoming liabilities and within the targets set by the board for its reserves. Previous decisions by the Legatus Group were to have around 18 months of operational costs / commitments available with some funds as a contingency for any possible immediate project. The amount that has been identified previously was \$450,000 and this year the amount in the accumulated surplus and other reserves is just slightly under \$500,000.

The Legatus Group budget for 2022/2023 had shown an operating deficit of \$172,800 and the actual deficit was \$119,340. Noting that the instalments from SAFECOM of \$42,000 and \$3,000 from the LGA for projects whilst invoiced were not received by 30 June 2023.

The closure of the Legatus Group office has continued to assist with reduced administration costs with all staff working from their home offices. Plus, there was a reduction in travel required by the CEO although this was countered by the inability to secure a new vehicle so vehicle maintenance costs were higher.

# ANNUAL REPORT

LEGATUS GROUP - 2022 / 2023

## CEO REPORT

**MR SIMON MILLCOCK (CONTINUED)**

The board has noted that the current use of reserves to fund administration costs is not sustainable and following support from 11 of the member councils for the 2023/2024 Legatus Group Business Plan and Budget there will be an increase in membership fees. This will be further addressed in the coming year with a review of the Charter and Strategic Plan.

This year saw my attendance and delivery of agendas, minutes and reports to over 40 Legatus Group Board, Advisory Committees, Yorke Mid North Alliance and SAROC meetings whilst managing the delivery of state and regional forums, workshops and webinars.

The board continued to support having a part time administration officer and the contract with Tracey Rains was extended and this has provided beneficial outcomes.

The 2 reviews of the Legatus Group Strategic Plan during the year were not able to reach a conclusion with the first version being approved by 14 of the 15 constituent councils and following the Local Government election the second version approved by 11 of the 15 constituent councils. As the charter requires all 15 member councils to approve this was not achieved.

I am a member of the Yorke Mid North Alliance, Regional LGA CEOs Forum and the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board Aboriginal Engagement Committee (proxy for Mayor O'Brien). Whilst I provided a regional voice to help support the local government sector in several areas including:

- EPA and the State of the Environment Report Assurance Group
- Orroroo and Roseworthy Drought Hub Nodes
- Local Govt Regional Climate Partnerships Network
- UniSA C-Edge Advisory Board
- Volunteer SA NT – Volunteer Strategy

The Legatus Group Website updates include increased information from all forums undertaken as a resource plus the bi-monthly CEO Newsletter gains positive feedback. The social media presence has continued to grow with increased followers on both Facebook and LinkedIn.



# ANNUAL REPORT

LEGATUS GROUP - 2022 / 2023

## CEO REPORT

MR SIMON MILLCOCK (CONTINUED)

### Reports distributed and or published include:

- Legatus Group Road Transport Plan Expansion to now include QGIS and Roads Data Base Update.
- Wellbeing Gap Analysis from the Northern Councils Update.
- Attracting, Developing and Retaining Regional Local Government Workforce Report.
- Northern and Yorke Drought Resilience Plan.

### Projects which have commenced and that are being supported are:

- Preparing your community for disasters and emergencies – Northern and Yorke Region of SA (Legatus Group).
- Extending the capacity of regional Community Wastewater Management Systems (UniSA).
- Local Government Career Pathways & Workforce Toolkit for Regional South Australia (Torrens University).
- Stormwater Harvesting (Space Down Under).
- Carbon Offsetting for Local Government (consortium of councils via City of Adelaide).
- Caravan / RV Dump Point Project (Flinders Uni).
- Prosperous Regions Conference (UniSA).
- Native Foods Supply Chain (UniSA).
- Drought Future Fund - Community Impact project (Northern and Yorke Alliance via RDA BGLAP).
- Northern and Yorke Landscape Board Resilient Coastal Ecosystems on YP and Gulf and Ranger Project.
- NHVR / Legatus Group Heavy Vehicle Priority Route Collaboration.
- District Council of Peterborough Pilot Organics Processing Plant.

### Whilst support was provided to:

- Adelaide Plains Councils application for Heavy Vehicle Safety Initiative.
- UniSA Solar PV Recycling.
- LGA application to the Coastal and Estuarine Risk Mitigation Program.
- LGA Building Sector Capability Project.
- UniSA Support for uaDA Grant - Digital Data Connectivity and Sharing Platform for Climate Resilience and Adaptation Planning in Regional SA.

# ANNUAL REPORT

LEGATUS GROUP - 2022 / 2023

## CEO REPORT MR SIMON MILLCOCK

### Advocacy support continues to be a priority and this has included.

- Legatus Group request for changes to SLRP applications.
- Legatus Group support for an LGA CWMS Advisory Committee.
- Yorke Peninsula Council with the North Coast Road Point Turton SLRP application.
- The Flinders Ranges Council re Councillor participation at council meetings through electronic means.
- District Council of Orroroo Carrieton re Equity in cost by ESCOSA.
- Lifeline Community Connect – Centralised model for the delivery of Mental Health.
- Rating Equity for Councils from Power Generators.

The second half of the year has seen the LGA advise that Regional LGAs previous approach for engagement as both a filtering mechanism and being able to provide direct reports on matters to SAROC is not supported. This has caused a level of concern in the Legatus Group and this is being addressed by the LGA and Regional LGAs.

I sincerely thank the support I received from Paul Chapman, Tracey Rains, Robert Bunch and Colin Davies. Working in isolation across a broad region has its challenges but the resulting work from all reflected well for the Legatus Group.



Simon Millcock

CEO Legatus Group

# ANNUAL REPORT

LEGATUS GROUP - 2022 / 2023

## CHAIRMAN LEGATUS GROUP AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE – STEPHEN RUFUS

This is a summary of activities undertaken, and recommendations made during 2022-2023.

The committee met on 4 occasions.

DATE	NO OF MEMBERS ATTENDING
25 August 2022	5
8 December 2022	3
31 January 2023	4
5 May 2023	5

COMMITTEE MEMBER	NO OF MEETINGS ATTENDING
Mayor Kathie Bowman	3
Mayor Rodney Reid	4
Peter Ackland	2
Stephen Rufus	4
Ian McDonald	4





# ANNUAL REPORT

LEGATUS GROUP - 2022 / 2023

The following table sets out the principal issues addressed by the Committee for 2022-2023.

PRINCIPAL ISSUES EXAMINED	COMMENT
Audit Committee Chair	That there is an Independent Member of the Audit Committee to Chair approved and Stephen Rufus appointed.
Annual Financial Report	No issues, unqualified audit, adopted for the 21/22 financial year.
Review of Budget Against Actuals	Noted no issues and supported the allocation of the expenditure identified of carry over reserves and accumulated surplus for business plan and budgets.
Review of Work Plan, Internal Controls	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Work planned maintained and adoption of recommendations by Auditor re policies.</li><li>2. Recommended and supported workshop on strategic plans and long term financial plan with appropriate recommendations to the board.</li></ol>
Charter	Recommended the Legatus Group adopt a variation to the Legatus Group Charter regrading adoption of Annual Business Plan and Budget.
Business, Budget and Strategic Plan	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Monitored the 2022-2023 business plan and budget and its quarterly updates.</li><li>2. Noted, supported and provided input to Legatus Group Strategic Plan reviews.</li><li>3. Reported on a need to align the Business Plan and Budget to Strategic Plan.</li><li>4. Recommended a procedure be developed for preparing the annual business plan and budget.</li><li>5. Recommended a review be undertaken of the formatting for the Long Term Financial Plan.</li></ol>
Policies	Recommendations to the board for adoption of 3 new policies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Board Induction</li><li>• Records and Information Management</li><li>• Risk Management</li></ul>
Membership	The final meeting noted the contribution Mayor Kathie Bowman had provided to the committee.
Equity / Reserves	Recommendations to Board on the levels to be held.

# ANNUAL REPORT

LEGATUS GROUP - 2022 / 2023

## FINANCIALS

### CENTRAL LOCAL GOVERNMENT REGION OF SA

TRADING AS



### ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR

1 JULY 2022 - 30 JUNE 2023

# ANNUAL REPORT

LEGATUS GROUP - 2022 / 2023

## FINANCIALS

### LEGATUS GROUP

#### General Purpose Financial Reports for the year ended 30 June 2023

##### TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
<b>Certification of Financial Statements</b>	3
<b>Principal Financial Statements</b>	
Statement of Comprehensive Income	4
Statement of Financial Position	5
Statement of Changes in Equity	6
Statement of Cash Flows	7
<b>Notes to, and forming part of, the Principal Financial Statements</b>	
Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies	8
Note 2 - Income	11
Note 3 - Expenses	12
Note 4 - Current Assets	13
Note 5 - Plant & Equipment	14
Note 6 - Liabilities	15
Note 7 - Reserves	15
Note 8 - Reconciliation of Cash Flow Statement	16
Note 9 - Functions	16
Note 10 - Financial Instruments	17
Note 11 - Financial Indicators	18
Note 12 - Uniform Presentation of Finances	19
Note 13 - Related Party Disclosures	20
Note 14 - Contingencies & Assets & Liabilities Not Recognised	21
Note 15 - Events Occurring After Reporting Date	21
<b>Audit Report - Financial Statements</b>	
<b>Audit Report - Internal Controls</b>	
<b>Group Certificate of Audit Independence</b>	
<b>Audit Certificate of Audit Independence</b>	

# ANNUAL REPORT

LEGATUS GROUP - 2022 / 2023

## FINANCIALS


### LEGATUS GROUP


#### ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 June 2023

#### CERTIFICATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

We have been authorised by the Legatus Group 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 Legatus Group's financial position at 30 June 2023 and the results of its operations and cash flows for the financial year.
- internal controls implemented by the Legatus Group provide a reasonable assurance that the Group's financial records are complete, accurate and reliable and were effective throughout the financial year.
- the financial statements accurately reflect the Legatus Group's accounting and other records.

  
.....  
Simon MILLCOCK  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

  
.....  
Mayor Rodney REID  
CHAIR

Date: 25 August 2023.

# ANNUAL REPORT

LEGATUS GROUP - 2022 / 2023

## FINANCIALS

### STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME for the year ended 30 June 2023

	Notes	2023 \$	2022 \$
<b>INCOME</b>			
Council Contributions	2	173,850	170,400
Grants, subsidies and contributions	2	107,600	93,783
Investment income	2	22,035	7,032
Other income	2	18,329	3,108
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>321,814</b>	<b>274,323</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Employee costs	3	272,632	263,171
Materials, contracts & other expenses	3	167,150	305,395
Depreciation, amortisation & impairment	3	1,372	7,209
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>441,154</b>	<b>575,775</b>
<b>OPERATING SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)</b>		<b>(119,340)</b>	<b>(301,453)</b>
Other Comprehensive Income		-	-
<b>NET SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)</b>		<b>(119,340)</b>	<b>(301,453)</b>
<b>TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME</b>		<b>(119,340)</b>	<b>(301,453)</b>

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

# ANNUAL REPORT

LEGATUS GROUP - 2022 / 2023

## FINANCIALS

### LEGATUS GROUP

#### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION as at 30 June 2022

		2023	2022
	Notes	\$	\$
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	4	504,240	657,733
Trade & other receivables	4	91,100	2,152
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>595,340</b>	<b>659,885</b>
<b>Non-current Assets</b>			
Infrastructure, property, plant & equipment	5	13,409	13,872
<b>Total Non-current Assets</b>		<b>13,409</b>	<b>13,872</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>608,749</b>	<b>673,757</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Trade & other payables	6	74,037	15,037
Provisions	6	13,457	23,881
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<b>87,494</b>	<b>38,918</b>
<b>Non-current Liabilities</b>			
Provisions	6	21,423	15,667
<b>Total Non-current Liabilities</b>		<b>21,423</b>	<b>15,667</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<b>108,917</b>	<b>54,585</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>499,832</b>	<b>619,172</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Accumulated Surplus		230,062	349,402
Other Reserves	7	269,770	269,770
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>		<b>499,832</b>	<b>619,172</b>

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

# ANNUAL REPORT

LEGATUS GROUP - 2022 / 2023

## FINANCIALS

### LEGATUS GROUP

#### STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY for the year ended 30 June 2023

		Accumulated Surplus	Other Reserves	TOTAL EQUITY
	Notes	\$	\$	\$
<b>2023</b>				
Balance at end of previous reporting period		349,402	269,770	619,172
<b>Net Surplus / (Deficit) for Year</b>		(119,340)	-	(119,340)
<b>Other Comprehensive Income</b>				
Transfers between reserves	7	-	-	-
<b>Balance at end of period</b>		<b>230,062</b>	<b>269,770</b>	<b>499,832</b>
<b>2022</b>				
Balance at end of previous reporting period		650,854	269,770	920,624
<b>Net Surplus / (Deficit) for Year</b>		(301,453)	-	(301,453)
<b>Other Comprehensive Income</b>				
Transfers between reserves	7	-	-	-
<b>Balance at end of period</b>		<b>349,402</b>	<b>269,770</b>	<b>619,172</b>

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

# ANNUAL REPORT

LEGATUS GROUP - 2022 / 2023

## FINANCIALS

### LEGATUS GROUP

#### STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

for the year ended 30 June 2023

		2023	2022
		\$	\$
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>			
<u>Receipts</u>			
Council Contributions		173,850	170,400
Investment receipts		22,035	7,032
Grants utilised for operating purposes		18,652	131,599
Reimbursements		-	-
Other revenues		18,329	3,108
<u>Payments</u>			
Employee costs		(277,300)	(255,086)
Materials, contracts & other expenses		(108,150)	(327,520)
<b>Net Cash provided by (or used in) Operating Activities</b>	8	<b>(152,584)</b>	<b>(270,467)</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>			
<u>Receipts</u>			
Sale of replaced assets		-	-
<u>Payments</u>			
Expenditure on renewal/replacement of assets		-	-
Expenditure on new/upgraded assets		(909)	(1,720)
Purchase of investment property		-	-
Net purchase of investment securities		-	-
Development of real estate for sale		-	-
Loans made to community groups		-	-
Capital contributed to equity accounted Council businesses		-	-
<b>Net Cash provided by (or used in) Investing Activities</b>		<b>(909)</b>	<b>(1,720)</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>			
<u>Receipts</u>			
Proceeds from borrowings		-	-
Proceeds from aged care facility deposits		-	-
<u>Payments</u>			
Repayments of borrowings		-	-
Repayment of finance lease liabilities		-	-
Repayment of aged care facility deposits		-	-
<b>Net Cash provided by (or used in) Financing Activities</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net Increase (Decrease) in cash held</b>		<b>(153,493)</b>	<b>(272,187)</b>
Cash & cash equivalents at beginning of period	8	657,733	929,919
<b>Cash &amp; cash equivalents at end of period</b>	8	<b>504,240</b>	<b>657,733</b>

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



# ANNUAL REPORT

LEGATUS GROUP - 2022 / 2023

## FINANCIALS

### LEGATUS GROUP

#### NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2023

##### Note 1 - SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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

##### 1. Basis of Preparation

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*.

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 the Group'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.

All amounts in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest dollar (\$).

##### 1.1 Historical Cost Convention

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

##### 1.2 The Local Government Reporting Entity

The Legatus Group ("the Group") is a regional subsidiary under Section 43 and Schedule 2 of the *Local Government Act 1999*.

The Constituent Councils are:

- |                                      |  |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| 1. The Barossa Council               | 2. District Council of Mount Remarkable  |
| 3. Barunga West Council              | 4. Northern Areas Council                |
| 5. Clare and Gilbert Valleys Council | 6. District Council of Orroroo/Carrieton |
| 7. Copper Coast Council              | 8. District Council of Peterborough      |
| 9. The Flinders Ranges Council       | 10. Port Pirie Regional Council          |
| 11. Regional Council of Goyder       | 12. Wakefield Regional Council           |
| 13. Light Regional Council           | 14. Yorke Peninsula Council, and         |
| 15. Adelaide Plains Council.         |  |

All funds received and expended by the Group have been included in the Financial Statements forming part of this Financial Report.

##### 1.3 Income recognition

Income is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable. Income is recognised when the Group 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 Group's operations for the current reporting period.

# ANNUAL REPORT

LEGATUS GROUP - 2022 / 2023

## FINANCIALS

### LEGATUS GROUP

#### NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2023

##### Note 1 - SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

###### 1.4 Cash, Cash Equivalents and other Financial Instruments

Cash Assets include all amounts readily convertible to cash on hand at the Group'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 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 10.

###### 1.5 Vehicles & Contents

All non-current assets purchased are capitalised as the expenditure is incurred and depreciated as soon as the asset is held "ready for use". All assets are recognised at cost. Cost is determined as the fair value of the assets given as consideration plus costs incidental to the acquisition.

Assets with an economic life in excess of one year are only capitalised where the cost of acquisition exceeds materiality thresholds established by the Group 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:

Contents	\$2,000
Motor Vehicles	\$5,000

All material asset classes are revalued on a regular basis such that the carrying values are not materially different from fair value. Plant and equipment assets recognised are systematically depreciated over their useful lives on a straight-line basis which, in the opinion of the Group, best reflects the consumption of the service potential embodied in those assets.

Depreciation methods, useful lives and residual values of classes of assets are reviewed annually. Major depreciation periods for each class of asset are shown below.

Contents	1 to 5 years
Motor Vehicles	3 to 5 years

###### 1.6 Payables

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.

Amounts received from external parties in advance of service delivery are recognised as liabilities until the service is delivered or damage reinstated, or the amount is refunded as the case may be.

###### 1.7 Employee Benefits

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

The Group has 2 FTE employees as at the 30 June 2023, a Chief Executive Officer, a part-time Project Officer and a part-time Admin Officer. 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 10 year bond rates.

## FINANCIALS

### LEGATUS GROUP

#### NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2023

##### Note 1 - SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

No accrual is made for sick leave as the Group's 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. The Group does not make payment for untaken sick leave.

##### 1.8 Superannuation

The Group contributes the statutory 10.5% SGC superannuation to the nominated superannuation funds for all staff. This will increase to 11.0% for the 2023-24 financial year.

##### 1.9 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.

##### 1.10 Leases

In the previous year, the Group performed an assessment of the potential impact of AASB 16 *Leases*. The Group was only engaged in a short-term lease as per Section 5 of AASB 16 and therefore the lease was recognised as an operating expense on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease. There were no leases for the year 22-23.

##### 1.11 New Accounting Standards

In the current year, the Group adopted all of the new and revised Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) that are relevant to its operations and effective for the current reporting period. The adoption of the new and revised Standards and Interpretations has not resulted in any material changes to the Group's accounting policies.

The Group has not applied any Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations that have been issued but are not yet effective. Certain new accounting standards and UIG interpretations have been published that are not mandatory for the 30 June 2023 reporting period and have not been used in preparing these reports.

- AASB 2020-1 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Classification of Liabilities as Current or Non-current
- AASB 2020-3 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Annual Improvement 2018-2020 and Other Amendments
- AASB 2020-6 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Classification of Liabilities as Current or Non-current
- AASB 17 Insurance Contracts

The Group 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.

##### 1.12 Economic Dependencies

The Group is aware of its current dependence on Grants Revenue received from the Commonwealth Government, State Government and the Local Government Association for the ongoing operations of the Group. Should the Group not secure funding or a significantly reduced level of funding in future years, it may impact on the ability of the Group to continue operating as a going concern.

##### 1.13 Disclaimer

Nothing contained within these statements may be taken to be an admission of any liability to any person under any circumstance.

##### 1.14 Comparative Information

During the financial year, the Group has reviewed the allocation and classification of some transactions which have been updated in the comparative information presented. Changes in classification has resulted in no change to the previously reported financial performance and position of the Group.

# ANNUAL REPORT

LEGATUS GROUP - 2022 / 2023

## FINANCIALS

### LEGATUS GROUP

#### NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 30 June 2023

#### Note 2 - INCOME

	2023 \$	2022 \$
<b>COUNCIL CONTRIBUTIONS</b>		
<u>General Contribution</u>	<u>173,850</u>	<u>170,400</u>
	<u>173,850</u>	<u>170,400</u>
<b>INVESTMENT INCOME</b>		
Interest on investments		
Local Government Finance Authority	22,035	7,032
Banks	-	-
	<u>22,035</u>	<u>7,032</u>
<b>OTHER INCOME</b>		
Conference Registrations & Sponsorship	13,211	3,108
Sundry	5,118	-
	<u>18,329</u>	<u>3,108</u>
<b>GRANTS, SUBSIDIES, CONTRIBUTIONS</b>		
CWMS	31,000	28,000
Disaster Recovery	29,100	-
Volunteering	7,500	-
Regional Capacity	40,000	42,783
SA Road Funding	-	15,000
NRM - - Landscape Priority	-	8,000
	<u>107,600</u>	<u>93,783</u>
<i>The functions to which these grants relate are shown in Note 10.</i>		
<b>Sources of grants</b>		
Commonwealth government	-	-
State government	29,100	8,000
LGA	71,000	85,783
Other	7,500	-
	<u>107,600</u>	<u>93,783</u>

# ANNUAL REPORT

LEGATUS GROUP - 2022 / 2023

## FINANCIALS

### LEGATUS GROUP

#### NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2023

##### Note 3 - EXPENSES

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
<b>EMPLOYEE COSTS</b>		
Salaries and Wages	200,665	198,882
Employee leave expense	37,008	31,768
Superannuation	25,358	22,064
Workers' Compensation Insurance	2,920	4,232
Professional Development	461	127
FBT	6,220	6,098
<b>Total Operating Employee Costs</b>	<b>272,632</b>	<b>263,171</b>
<b>Total Number of Employees</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>2.0</b>
<i>(Full time equivalent at end of reporting period)</i>		
<b>MATERIALS, CONTRACTS &amp; OTHER EXPENSES</b>		
<u>Prescribed Expenses</u>		
Auditor's Remuneration	2,441	2,338
Subtotal - Prescribed Expenses	2,441	2,338
<u>Other Materials, Contracts &amp; Expenses</u>		
Contractors & Consultants	107,179	241,380
Legal Expenses	-	80
Unleaded Fuel	3,939	4,075
Other Motor Vehicle Costs	3,538	2,752
Members Allowances & Support	4,500	4,125
Meetings & Conferences	13,381	4,807
Insurance	10,537	8,921
Rental - Premises	-	9,603
Advertising	1,268	704
Accommodation	1,230	1,932
Airfares, Taxi Fares & Parking	223	263
Travel - Reimbursement	2,079	1,124
Catering & Meals	7,507	7,372
Telephone & Internet	2,981	3,871
IT & Web	5,354	10,963
Postage/Stationery	644	784
Sundry	349	300
Subtotal - Other Materials, Contracts & Expenses	164,709	303,057
	167,150	305,395
<b>DEPRECIATION, AMORTISATION &amp; IMPAIRMENT</b>		
<b>Depreciation</b>		
Motor Vehicle	1,372	5,489
Contents	-	1,720
	1,372	7,209

# ANNUAL REPORT

LEGATUS GROUP - 2022 / 2023

## FINANCIALS

### LEGATUS GROUP

#### NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2023

##### Note 4 - CURRENT ASSETS

###### CASH & EQUIVALENT ASSETS

Cash at Bank	38,081	12,324
Deposits at Call	466,159	645,409
	<u>504,240</u>	<u>657,733</u>

###### TRADE & OTHER RECEIVABLES

Accrued Revenues	1,780	495
Other levels of Government	89,320	-
GST / FBT Recoupment	-	1,657
	<u>91,100</u>	<u>2,152</u>

# ANNUAL REPORT

LEGATUS GROUP - 2022 / 2023

## FINANCIALS

### LEGATUS GROUP

#### NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2023

##### Note 5 - NON-CURRENT ASSETS - VEHICLES & CONTENTS

	2022				2023			
	AT FAIR VALUE	AT COST	ACCUM DEP'N	CARRYING AMOUNT	AT FAIR VALUE	AT COST	ACCUM DEP'N	CARRYING AMOUNT
Motor Vehicles	-	28,967	(15,095)	13,872	-	29,876	(16,467)	13,409
Contents	-	3,678	(3,678)	-	-	3,678	(3,678)	-
<b>TOTAL PLANT &amp; EQUIPMENT</b>	-	32,645	(18,773)	13,872	-	33,554	(20,145)	13,409
<i>Comparatives</i>	-	32,915	(13,554)	19,361	-	32,645	(18,773)	13,872

	2022	CARRYING AMOUNT MOVEMENTS DURING YEAR							2023	
	\$	\$							\$	
	CARRYING AMOUNT	Additions		Disposals	Depreciation	Impairment	Transfers		Net Revaluation	CARRYING AMOUNT
	New/Upgrade	Renewals	In				Out			
Motor Vehicles	13,872	909	-	-	(1,372)	-	-	-	-	13,409
Contents	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL PLANT &amp; EQUIPMENT</b>	<b>13,872</b>	<b>909</b>	-	-	<b>(1,372)</b>	-	-	-	-	<b>13,409</b>
<i>Comparatives</i>	<i>19,361</i>	<i>1,720</i>	-	-	<i>(7,209)</i>	-	-	-	-	<i>13,872</i>

# ANNUAL REPORT

LEGATUS GROUP - 2022 / 2023

## FINANCIALS

### LEGATUS GROUP

#### NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2023

##### Note 6 - LIABILITIES

	2023		2022	
	\$		\$	
	Current	Non-current	Current	Non-current
<b>TRADE &amp; OTHER PAYABLES</b>				
Goods & Services	-	-	2,205	-
Payments received in advance	49,100	-	7,500	-
Accrued expenses - employee entitlements	4,919	-	4,082	-
Accrued expenses - other	2,250	-	1,250	-
GST & PAYG	17,768	-	-	-
	<u>74,037</u>	-	<u>15,037</u>	-
<b>PROVISIONS</b>				
Employee entitlements - Annual Leave	13,457	-	23,881	-
Employee entitlements - Long Service Leave	-	21,423	-	15,667
	<u>13,457</u>	<u>21,423</u>	<u>23,881</u>	<u>15,667</u>

##### Note 7 - RESERVES

<b>OTHER RESERVES</b>	1/7/2022	Transfers to Reserve	Transfers from Reserve	30/6/2023
General Reserve	269,770	-	-	269,770
<b>TOTAL OTHER RESERVES</b>	<u>269,770</u>	-	-	<u>269,770</u>
<i>Comparatives</i>	<u>269,770</u>			<u>269,770</u>

##### PURPOSES OF RESERVES

###### Other Reserves

This reserve was established to provide for one year of basic operation (employee costs, vehicle costs, insurance, materials), should no revenue be received.



# ANNUAL REPORT

LEGATUS GROUP - 2022 / 2023

## FINANCIALS

### LEGATUS GROUP

#### NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2023

##### Note 8 - 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	2023 \$	2022 \$
Total cash & equivalent assets	4	504,240	657,733
Less: Short-term borrowings	8	-	-
Balances per Cash Flow Statement		<u>504,240</u>	<u>657,733</u>

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

Net Surplus (Deficit)	(119,340)	(301,453)
Non-cash items in Income Statement		
Depreciation, amortisation & impairment	1,372	7,209
Net increase (decrease) in unpaid employee benefits	(4,668)	8,085
	(122,636)	(286,159)
Add (Less): Changes in Net Current Assets		
Net (increase) decrease in receivables	(88,948)	37,818
Net (increase) decrease in other current assets	(909)	-
Net increase (decrease) in trade & other payables	59,000	(22,125)
<b>Net Cash provided by (or used in) operations</b>	<u>(153,493)</u>	<u>(270,466)</u>

##### Note 9 - FUNCTIONS

The activities of the Region are categorised into the following programs, projects & activities:

- 1 A - Corporate Function
- 2 P001 - Regional & Community Sustainability
- 3 P006 - Disaster & Emergency Management
- 4 P009 - CWMS & Climate Change Co-ordinator
- 5 P017 - Waste Management Composting
- 6 P022 - Roads & Transport
- 7 P027 - Community Capacity Building
- 8 P028 - Regional Capacity Building
- 9 P034 - N&Y Coastal Management Action Plan
- 10 P038 - Regional Waste Strategy
- 11 P040 - Disability Inclusion Action Plan
- 12 P045 - Aboriginal Engagement Committee
- 13 P046 - DCP Pilot Organics Plant

Income and expenses have been attributed to the functions/activities throughout the financial year.

# ANNUAL REPORT

LEGATUS GROUP - 2022 / 2023

## FINANCIALS

### LEGATUS GROUP

#### NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2023

##### Note 10 - FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

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

##### Accounting Policies - Recognised Financial Instruments

**Bank, Deposits at Call, Short Term Deposits** **Accounting Policy:** Carried at lower of cost and net realisable value; Interest is recognised when earned.

**Terms & conditions:** Short term deposits are available on 24 hour call with the LGFA and have an interest rate of 4.30% as at 30 June 2023

**Carrying amount:** approximates fair value due to the short term to maturity.

**Receivables - Trade & other debtors**

**Accounting Policy:** Carried at nominal value.

**Terms & conditions:** Amounts due have been calculated in accordance with the terms and conditions of the respective programs following advice of approvals, and do not bear interest.

**Carrying amount:** approximates fair value.

**Liabilities - Creditors and Accruals**

**Accounting Policy:** Liabilities are recognised for amounts to be paid in the future for goods and services received, whether or not billed to the Group.

**Terms & conditions:** Liabilities are normally settled on 30 day terms.

**Carrying amount:** approximates fair value.

##### Liquidity Analysis

	2023	Due < 1 year	Due > 1 year; ≤ 5 years	Due > 5 years	Total Contractual Cash Flows	Carrying Values
		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>Financial Assets</b>						
Cash & Equivalents		504,240	-	-	504,240	504,240
Receivables		91,100	-	-	91,100	91,100
Other Financial Assets		-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>		<b>595,340</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>595,340</b>	<b>595,340</b>
<b>Financial Liabilities</b>						
Payables		2,250	-	-	2,250	2,250
Current Borrowings		-	-	-	-	-
Non-Current Borrowings		-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>		<b>2,250</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,250</b>	<b>2,250</b>
	2022	Due < 1 year	Due > 1 year; ≤ 5 years	Due > 5 years	Total Contractual Cash Flows	Carrying Values
		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>Financial Assets</b>						
Cash & Equivalents		657,733	-	-	657,733	657,733
Receivables		2,152	-	-	2,152	2,152
Other Financial Assets		-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>		<b>659,885</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>659,885</b>	<b>659,885</b>
<b>Financial Liabilities</b>						
Payables		1,250	-	-	1,250	1,250
Current Borrowings		-	-	-	-	-
Non-Current Borrowings		-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>		<b>1,250</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,250</b>	<b>1,250</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 Group.

##### 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 Group is the carrying amount, net of any allowance for doubtful debts. All Group 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 Group'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 the Group'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 the Group will encounter difficulty in meeting obligations with financial liabilities. In accordance with the model Treasury Management Policy (LGA Information Paper 15), liabilities have a range of maturity dates.

**Interest Rate Risk** is the risk that future cash flows will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates. Cash flow fluctuations are managed holistically in seeking to minimise interest costs over the longer term in a risk averse manner.

# ANNUAL REPORT

LEGATUS GROUP - 2022 / 2023

## FINANCIALS

### LEGATUS GROUP

#### NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2023

##### Note 11 - FINANCIAL INDICATORS

2023                      2022                      2021

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

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

##### **Operating Surplus Ratio**

<u>Operating Surplus</u>	(37.1%)	(109.9%)	(49.8%)
Total Operating Income			

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

##### **Net Financial Liabilities Ratio**

<u>Net Financial Liabilities</u>	(151%)	(221%)	(148%)
Total Operating Income			

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

##### **Asset Renewal Funding Ratio**

<u>Net Asset Renewals</u>	0%	0%	0%
Depreciation Expenditure			

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

# ANNUAL REPORT

LEGATUS GROUP - 2022 / 2023

## FINANCIALS

### LEGATUS GROUP

#### NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2023

##### Note 12 - UNIFORM PRESENTATION OF FINANCES

The following is a high level summary of both operating and capital investment activities of the Group 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

	2023 \$	2022 \$
Income	321,814	274,323
Expenses	<u>(441,154)</u>	<u>(575,775)</u>
<b>Operating Surplus / (Deficit)</b>	<b>(119,340)</b>	<b>(301,453)</b>
<b>Net Outlays on Existing Assets</b>		
Capital Expenditure on renewal and replacement of Existing Assets	-	-
Add back Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	1,372	7,209
Proceeds from Sale of Replaced Assets	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	<b>1,372</b>	<b>7,209</b>
<b>Net Outlays on New and Upgraded Assets</b>		
Capital Expenditure on New and Upgraded Assets <i>(including investment property &amp; real estate developments)</i>	(909)	(1,720)
Amounts received spec. for New and Upgraded Assets	-	-
Proceeds from Sale of Surplus Assets <i>(including investment property and real estate developments)</i>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	<b>(909)</b>	<b>(1,720)</b>
<b>Net Lending / (Borrowing) for Financial Year</b>	<b><u>(118,877)</u></b>	<b><u>(295,964)</u></b>

# ANNUAL REPORT

LEGATUS GROUP - 2022 / 2023

## FINANCIALS

### LEGATUS GROUP

#### NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2023

##### Note 13 - RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

###### KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL

The Key Management Personnel of the Group include the 15 Mayors/Chairpersons of the constituent Councils and the CEO. In all, 1 person was paid the following total compensation:

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Salaries, allowances & other short term benefits	163,432	158,801
Member Allowance	4,500	4,125
Post-employment benefits	17,160	15,880
Long term benefits	-	-
FBT	6,220	6,098
Termination benefits	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>191,312</b>	<b>184,904</b>

The Group received the following amounts in total:

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Contributions for fringe benefits tax purposes	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

###### PARTIES RELATED TO KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL

During the reporting period, no Key Management Personnel or parties related to them had any transactions on more favourable terms than those available to the general public.

###### OTHER RELATED PARTIES

Amounts received from Related Parties during the financial year and owed by Related Parties at the end of the financial year (inclusive of GST).	Received 2023	Outstanding 2023
	\$	\$
The Barossa Council	12,749	-
Barunga West Council	12,749	-
Clare and Gilbert Valleys Council	12,749	-
Copper Coast Council	12,749	-
The Flinders Ranges Council	12,749	-
Regional Council of Goyder	12,749	-
Light Regional Council	12,749	-
Adelaide Plains Council	12,749	-
District Council of Mount Remarkable	12,749	-
Northern Areas Council	12,749	-
District Council of Orroroo / Carrieton	12,749	-
District Council of Peterborough	12,749	-
Port Pirie Regional Council	12,749	-
Wakefield Regional Council	12,749	-
Yorke Peninsula Council	12,749	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>191,235</b>	<b>-</b>

###### Description of Services provided to all Related Parties above:

The Legatus Group is the peak regional local government organisation that is focused on the interests of its communities. The Legatus Group's primary purpose focuses on the wealth, wellbeing and social cohesion of these communities via a sustainable approach of productive landscapes and natural environment. Its focus is on the key roles of local government.

The Group has Five Primary Goals and numerous strategies to achieve these are outlined in the Group's Strategic Plan 2018-2028 which is available on the Group's website.

## FINANCIALS

### LEGATUS GROUP

#### NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2023

#### **Note 14 - CONTINGENCIES & ASSETS & LIABILITIES NOT RECOGNISED IN THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**

There are no contingencies, assets or liabilities not recognised in the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2023.

#### **Note 15 - EVENTS OCURRING AFTER REPORTING DATE**

There were no events subsequent to 30 June 2023 that need to be disclosed in the financial statements.

# ANNUAL REPORT

LEGATUS GROUP - 2022 / 2023

## FINANCIALS

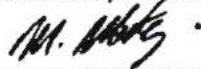
### LEGATUS GROUP

#### ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 June 2023

#### CERTIFICATION OF AUDITOR INDEPENDENCE

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

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



CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
The Barossa Council



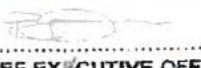
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
Clare & Gilbert Valleys Council



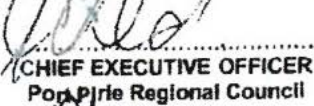
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
The Flinders Ranges Council



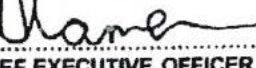
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
Light Regional Council



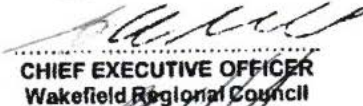
Acting CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
District Council of Mount Remarkable



CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
Port Pirie Regional Council



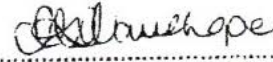
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
York Peninsula Council



CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
Wakefield Regional Council



CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
Legatus Group



CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
Barunga West Council



CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
Copper Coast Council



CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
Regional Council of Goyder



CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
Adelaide Plains Council



CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
Northern Areas Council



CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
District Council of Orroroo Carleton



CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
District Council of Peterborough



CHAIR, Legatus Group  
Audit & Risk Management Committee



CHAIR  
Legatus Group

Date: 25 August 2023

# APPENDIX TWO

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## AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2022/2023



**District Council of Mount Remarkable  
Annual Financial Statements  
for the year ended 30 June 2023**

**CERTIFICATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

We have been authorised by the Council to certify the financial statements in their final form. In our opinion:

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



.....  
**Sam Johnson**  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**



.....  
**Stephen McCarthy**  
**MAYOR**

Date: 10/11/2023

**District Council of Mount Remarkable**  
**Statement of Comprehensive Income**  
**for the year ended 30 June 2023**

	Notes	2023 \$	2022 \$
<b>INCOME</b>			
Rates	2	4,578,290	4,278,404
Statutory charges	2	75,892	93,507
User charges	2	679,124	888,641
Grants, subsidies and contributions - Operating	2	3,757,927	3,521,349
Investment income	2	161,857	34,672
Reimbursements	2	334,342	89,132
Other income	2	203,255	435,335
<b>Total Income</b>		<b><u>9,790,686</u></b>	<b><u>9,341,040</u></b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Employee costs	3	2,413,336	2,312,019
Materials, contracts & other expenses	3	4,973,755	4,097,786
Depreciation, amortisation & impairment	3	2,495,619	2,445,898
Finance costs	3	37,778	57,495
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b><u>9,920,489</u></b>	<b><u>8,913,197</u></b>
<b>OPERATING SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)</b>		<b><u>(129,803)</u></b>	<b><u>427,843</u></b>
Asset disposal & fair value adjustments	4	527,453	162,245
Amounts received specifically for new or upgraded assets	2	1,217,752	635,411
<b>NET SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)</b>		<b><u>1,615,402</u></b>	<b><u>1,225,499</u></b>
transferred to Equity Statement		-	-
<b>Total Other Comprehensive Income</b>		<b><u>-</u></b>	<b><u>-</u></b>
<b>TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME</b>		<b><u>1,615,402</u></b>	<b><u>1,225,499</u></b>

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

**District Council of Mount Remarkable**  
**Statement of Financial Position**  
**as at 30 June 2023**

<b>ASSETS</b>	<b>Notes</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
		<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	5	7,101,808	4,830,264
Trade & other receivables	5	1,629,694	874,888
Inventories	5	19,850	11,000
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>8,751,352</b>	<b>5,716,152</b>
<b>Non-current Assets</b>			
Financial assets	6	57,994	81,734
Infrastructure, property, plant & equipment	7	63,313,045	63,911,064
Other non-current assets	6	724,615	-
<b>Total Non-current Assets</b>		<b>64,095,654</b>	<b>63,992,798</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>72,847,006</b>	<b>69,708,950</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Trade & other payables	8	2,198,220	603,760
Borrowings	8	82,486	78,936
Provisions	8	290,302	286,928
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<b>2,571,008</b>	<b>969,624</b>
<b>Non-current Liabilities</b>			
Borrowings	8	554,784	637,270
Provisions	8	51,047	47,290
<b>Total Non-current Liabilities</b>		<b>605,831</b>	<b>684,560</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<b>3,176,839</b>	<b>1,654,184</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>69,670,167</b>	<b>68,054,766</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Accumulated surplus		40,306,028	38,690,626
Asset revaluation reserves	9	27,857,330	27,857,330
Other reserves	9	1,506,809	1,506,809
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>		<b>69,670,167</b>	<b>68,054,765</b>

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

**District Council of Mount Remarkable**  
**Statement of Changes in Equity**  
**for the year ended 30 June 2023**

		Acc'd Surplus	Asset Rev'n Reserve	Other Reserves	TOTAL EQUITY
2023	Notes	\$	\$	\$	\$
Balance at end of previous reporting period		38,690,626	27,857,330	1,506,809	<b>68,054,765</b>
<b>Net Surplus / (Deficit) for Year</b>		1,615,402	-	-	<b>1,615,402</b>
<b>Balance at end of period</b>	9	<b>40,306,028</b>	<b>27,857,330</b>	<b>1,506,809</b>	<b>69,670,167</b>

		\$	\$	\$	\$
2022	Notes	\$	\$	\$	\$
Balance at end of previous reporting period		37,465,127	27,857,330	1,506,809	<b>66,829,266</b>
<b>Net Surplus / (Deficit) for Year</b>		1,225,499	-	-	<b>1,225,499</b>
<b>Balance at end of period</b>	9	<b>38,690,626</b>	<b>27,857,330</b>	<b>1,506,809</b>	<b>68,054,765</b>

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

**District Council of Mount Remarkable**  
**Statement of Cash Flows**  
**for the year ended 30 June 2023**

<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>Notes</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
		<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>Receipts:</b>			
Rates - general & other		4,522,824	4,245,921
Fees & other charges		83,481	102,858
User charges		682,944	1,096,213
Investment receipts		167,734	27,073
Grants utilised for operating purposes		4,133,720	3,873,484
Reimbursements		367,776	98,045
Other revenues		179,068	391,777
<b>Payments:</b>			
Employee costs		(2,432,648)	(2,359,504)
Materials, contracts & other expenses		(5,288,098)	(5,387,099)
Finance payments		(37,778)	(57,495)
<b>Net Cash provided by (or used in) Operating Activities</b>		<b><u>2,379,022</u></b>	<b><u>2,031,274</u></b>

**CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES**

<b>Receipts:</b>			
Amounts specifically for new or upgraded assets		604,788	635,411
Sale of replaced assets		277,270	313,864
Sale of surplus assets		1,200,000	-
Repayments of loans by community groups		25,925	102,138
<b>Payments:</b>			
Expenditure on renewal/replacement of assets		(1,436,290)	(1,541,483)
Expenditure on new/upgraded assets		(700,234)	(682,408)
<b>Net Cash provided by (or used in) Investing Activities</b>		<b><u>(28,541)</u></b>	<b><u>(1,172,478)</u></b>

**District Council of Mount Remarkable**  
**Statement of Cash Flows**  
**for the year ended 30 June 2023**

**CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES**

<b>Payments:</b>			
Repayments of borrowings		(78,936)	(635,540)
<b>Net Cash provided by (or used in) Financing Activities</b>		<b><u>(78,936)</u></b>	<b><u>(635,540)</u></b>
<b>Net Increase (Decrease) in cash held</b>		<b><u>2,271,545</u></b>	<b><u>223,255</u></b>
Cash & cash equivalents at beginning of period	10	4,830,264	4,607,008
<b>Cash &amp; cash equivalents at end of period</b>	<b>10</b>	<b><u>7,101,808</u></b>	<b><u>4,830,264</u></b>

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

# District Council of Mount Remarkable

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

### Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies

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

#### 1 Basis of Preparation

##### 1.1 Compliance with Australian Accounting Standards

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

The financial report was authorised for issue by certificate under regulation 14 of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011 dated 10 November 2023.

##### 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 these Notes.

##### 1.4 Rounding

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

#### 2 The Local Government Reporting Entity

The District Council of Mt Remarkable is incorporated under the SA Local Government Act 1999 and has its principal place of business at 3 Stuart Street, Melrose SA 5483.

#### 3 Income recognition

##### 3.1 Revenue

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

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

In other cases, AASB 1058 applies when Council enters into transactions where the consideration to acquire an asset is significantly less than the fair value of the asset principally to enable the entity to further its objectives. The excess of the asset recognised (at fair value) over any 'related amounts' is recognised as income immediately, except in the case where a financial asset has been received to enable the council to acquire or construct a recognisable non-financial asset that is to be controlled by the council. In this case, the council recognises the excess as a liability that is recognised over time in profit and loss when (or as) the entity satisfies its obligations under the transfer.

# District Council of Mount Remarkable

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

### Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies

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

	Cash Payment Received	Annual Allocation		Difference
2016-17	3,037,238	2,005,111	+	1,032,127
2017-18	2,010,993	1,989,496	+	21,497
2018-19	2,506,403	2,674,000	-	167,597
2019-20	2,056,844	2,001,362	+	55,482
2020-21	1,986,465	2,010,327	-	23,862
2021-22	2,667,883	2,065,975	+	599,392
2022-23	3,203,309	2,433,079	+	770,230

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

The Operating Surplus Ratio disclosed in Note 13 has also been calculated after adjusting for the distortions resulting from the differences between the actual grants received and the grants entitlements allocated.

### 3.2 Construction Contract Revenue

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

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

## 4 Cash, Cash Equivalents and Other Financial Instruments

### 4.1 Cash, Cash Equivalent Assets

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.

### 4.2 Other Financial Instruments

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

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

All financial instruments are recognised at fair value at the date of recognition, except for trade receivables from a contract with a customer, which are measured at the transaction price. A detailed statement of the accounting policies applied to financial instruments also form part of Note 12.

## 5 Inventories

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

# District Council of Mount Remarkable

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

### Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies

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

##### 6.1 Initial Recognition

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

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

##### 6.2 Materiality

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

##### 6.3 Subsequent Recognition

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

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

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

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

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

##### 6.5 Impairment

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

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

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



# District Council of Mount Remarkable

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

### Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies

#### 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 (other than grants) 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

Borrowings are initially recognised at fair value net of transaction costs incurred and are subsequently measured at amortised cost. Any difference between the proceeds (net of transaction costs) and the redemption amount is recognised in the income statement over the period of the borrowings using the effective interest method.

Borrowings 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 initially recognised at fair value with any difference between fair value and proceeds recognised in the profit and loss. The loan is subsequently measured at amortised cost with interest being recognised using the effective interest rate method.

#### 9 Provisions

##### 9.1 Employee Benefits

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

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

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

Superannuation:

The Council makes employer superannuation contributions in respect of its employees to the Hostplus Superannuation Scheme. The Scheme has two types of membership, each of which is funded differently. Details of the accounting policies applied and Council's involvement with the schemes are reported in Note 15.

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**District Council of Mount Remarkable**  
**Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements**  
**for the year ended 30 June 2023**  
**Note 1 - Significant Accounting Policies**

**9.2 Provisions for reinstatement, restoration, rehabilitation.**

Close down and restoration costs include the dismantling and demolition of infrastructure and the removal of residual materials and remediation and rehabilitation of disturbed areas. Estimated close down and restoration costs are provided for in the accounting period when the obligation arising from the related disturbance occurs and are carried at the net present value of estimated future costs.

Although estimated future costs are based on a closure plan, such plans are based on current environmental requirements which may change. Council's policy to maximise recycling is extending the operational life of these facilities, and significant uncertainty exists in the estimation of the future closure date.

**10 GST Implications**

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

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

**District Council of Mount Remarkable**  
**Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements**  
**for the year ended 30 June 2023**

**Note 2 - INCOME**

	Notes	2023 \$	2022 \$
<b>RATES REVENUES</b>			
<u>General Rates</u>		3,340,984	3,192,108
Less: Mandatory rebates		(40,997)	(34,131)
Less: Discretionary rebates, remissions & write offs		(14,846)	(50,745)
		<b>3,285,141</b>	<b>3,107,232</b>
<u>Other Rates</u> (including service charges)			
Landscape levy		136,412	136,960
Waste collection		496,804	503,542
Water supply		52,200	56,385
Community wastewater management systems		542,147	432,850
		<b>1,227,562</b>	<b>1,129,737</b>
<u>Other Charges</u>			
Penalties for late payment		49,686	35,200
Legal & other costs recovered		15,901	6,236
		<b>65,587</b>	<b>41,435</b>
		<b>4,578,290</b>	<b>4,278,404</b>
<b>STATUTORY CHARGES</b>			
Development Act fees		42,120	48,707
Health & Septic Tank Inspection fees		761	8,754
Animal registration fees & fines		24,259	23,401
Fire Prevention fees & fines		-	807
Rates & Property Searches fees		8,753	11,838
		<b>75,892</b>	<b>93,507</b>
<b>USER CHARGES</b>			
Cemetery/crematoria fees		15,355	18,270
Waste Management fees		151,118	136,023
Melrose Caravan & Tourist Park fees		452,395	676,976
Community Bus fees		5,494	5,411
Weeroona Island Water Supply fees		14,143	13,657
Melrose Post Office fees		37,108	35,719
Other User Charges		3,511	2,585
		<b>679,124</b>	<b>888,641</b>

**District Council of Mount Remarkable**  
**Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements**  
**for the year ended 30 June 2023**

**Note 2 - INCOME (con't)**

<b>INVESTMENT INCOME</b>	<b>Notes</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
		<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
Interest on investments:			
Local Government Finance Authority		71,793	21,881
Banks & other		89,328	2,651
Loans to community groups		735	10,140
		<b>161,857</b>	<b>34,672</b>
<b>REIMBURSEMENTS</b>			
Private works		7,287	841
Environmental Health Officer		-	3,592
Insurance Claim Reimbursements		17,313	30,828
Booleroo Centre Swimming Pool Reimbursements		28,774	27,041
LGA Workers Compensation Scheme Reimbursements		23,764	-
LG Income Protection Fund Reimbursement		8,819	-
Other		248,383	26,830
		<b>334,342</b>	<b>89,132</b>
<b>OTHER INCOME</b>			
Northern Passenger Transport Network		-	44,165
Fuel Tax Credits		4,017	32,521
Economic Development Income		-	101,607
Sporting Facilities		12,744	33,516
Road Reserves & Rental		24,831	27,500
Sundry		161,663	196,026
		<b>203,255</b>	<b>435,335</b>
<b>GRANTS, SUBSIDIES, CONTRIBUTIONS</b>			
<i>Amounts received specifically for new or upgraded assets</i>		1,217,752	635,411
<i>Other grants, subsidies and contributions - Operating</i>			
Financial Assistance Grant		3,203,309	2,667,883
Roads to Recovery		218,000	612,000
Northern Passenger Transport Network Grant		236,618	228,259
Other Grants		100,000	13,207
		<b>3,757,927</b>	<b>3,521,349</b>
		<b>4,975,679</b>	<b>4,156,760</b>

*The functions to which these grants relate are shown in Note 11.*

**District Council of Mount Remarkable**  
**Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements**  
**for the year ended 30 June 2023**

**Note 2 - INCOME (con't)**

	Notes	2023 \$	2022 \$
<b>Sources of grants</b>			
<i>Commonwealth government</i>		972,909	1,247,411
<i>State government</i>		4,002,770	2,909,349
		<u>4,975,679</u>	<u>4,156,760</u>
<b>Individually Significant Item</b>			
Financial Assistance Grant Paid in Advance		2,430,552	1,660,322

**District Council of Mount Remarkable**  
**Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements**  
**for the year ended 30 June 2023**

**Note 3 - EXPENSE**

	Notes	2023 \$	2022 \$
<b>EMPLOYEE COSTS</b>			
Salaries and Wages		1,977,868	1,998,939
Employee leave expense		259,193	237,883
Superannuation - defined contribution plan contributions	15	204,304	198,464
Superannuation - defined benefit plan contributions	15	22,273	23,621
Workers' Compensation Insurance		85,472	82,893
Less: Capitalised and distributed costs		(135,774)	(229,781)
<b>Total Operating Employee Costs</b>		<b>2,413,336</b>	<b>2,312,019</b>
<b>Total Number of Employees</b>		25	29
<i>(Full time equivalent at end of reporting period)</i>			
<b>MATERIALS, CONTRACTS &amp; OTHER EXPENSES</b>			
<u>Prescribed Expenses</u>			
Auditor's Remuneration			
- Auditing the financial reports		13,000	13,000
Elected members' expenses		102,698	81,966
Election expenses		33,480	-
Subtotal - Prescribed Expenses		<b>149,179</b>	<b>94,966</b>
<u>Other Materials, Contracts &amp; Expenses</u>			
Electricity		62,769	50,505
Gas		1,209	1,185
Water		113,308	118,847
Telephone & Internet		24,496	47,798
Fuels		317,405	299,970
Levies paid to government - Landscape levy		136,927	133,588
- Other Levies		104,966	103,643
Road & General Maintenance Materials		224,346	173,275
Office Consumables		5,604	3,776
Information Technology		113,676	203,019
Melrose Caravan & Tourist Park		356,779	270,272
Other Materials		107,728	234,148
Cleaning		111,212	90,943
Consultancy & Professional Services		457,877	221,656
Waste Management Services		417,290	246,070
Vehicle Maintenance & Repairs		368,758	272,141

**District Council of Mount Remarkable**  
**Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements**  
**for the year ended 30 June 2023**

**Note 3 - EXPENSE con't**

	Notes	2023 \$	2022 \$
Capital Expenditure		3,436,259	1,994,110
Freight		33,641	7,293
Other Contractual Services		719,463	465,438
Legal Expenses		179,727	177,468
Fringe Benefits Tax		38,752	45,122
Travel & Accommodation		24,384	22,105
Conferences & Seminars		27,506	68,431
Memberships & Subscriptions		47,695	32,472
Printing & Postage		24,708	29,874
Publishing & Advertising		29,085	43,073
Contributions - Flinders Mobile Library		95,913	90,451
Contributions - Northern Passenger Transport Network		236,618	-
Contributions - Other		6,725	26,736
Vehicle Registrations		67,010	69,567
Grants to External Bodies		35,000	67,277
Insurances		280,358	268,032
Other Expenses		162,625	93,597
Melrose Post Office - Stock Purchases		4,601	10,533
Bank Fees		12,226	14,515
Internal Plant Hire		(125,809)	-
Less: Capitalised and Distributed Costs		(3,436,259)	(1,994,110)
Subtotal - Other Materials, Contracts & Expenses		<b>4,824,577</b>	<b>4,002,820</b>
		<b>4,973,755</b>	<b>4,097,786</b>

**DEPRECIATION, AMORTISATION & IMPAIRMENT**

**Depreciation**

Plant & Equipment		317,651	351,468
Roads, Bridges & Footpaths		1,357,596	1,317,015
CWMS		174,348	174,424
Other Assets		222,788	143,094
Buildings		410,531	430,966
Office Furniture & Equipment		12,705	28,931
		<b>2,495,619</b>	<b>2,445,898</b>

**FINANCE COSTS**

Interest on Loans		37,778	57,495
		<b>37,778</b>	<b>57,495</b>

**District Council of Mount Remarkable**  
**Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements**  
**for the year ended 30 June 2023**

**Note 4 - ASSET DISPOSALS AND FAIR VALUE ADJUSTMENTS**

	Notes	2023 \$	2022 \$
<b>INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT &amp; EQUIPMENT</b>			
<i><b>Assets renewed or directly replaced</b></i>			
Proceeds from disposal		277,270	313,864
Less: Carrying amount of assets sold		97,438	151,619
<b>Gain (Loss) on disposal</b>		<b>179,832</b>	<b>162,245</b>
 <i><b>Assets surplus to requirements</b></i>			
Proceeds from disposal		1,200,000	-
Less: Carrying amount of assets sold		852,379	-
<b>Gain (Loss) on disposal</b>		<b>347,621</b>	<b>-</b>
 <b>NET GAIN (LOSS) ON DISPOSAL OR REVALUATION OF ASSETS</b>		 <b>527,453</b>	 <b>162,245</b>



**District Council of Mount Remarkable**  
**Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements**  
**for the year ended 30 June 2023**

**Note 5 - CURRENT ASSETS**

	Notes	2023 \$	2022 \$
<b>CASH &amp; EQUIVALENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash on Hand and at Bank		461,317	1,334,084
Deposits at Call		6,640,491	3,496,180
		<b><u>7,101,808</u></b>	<b><u>4,830,264</u></b>
<b>TRADE &amp; OTHER RECEIVABLES</b>			
Rates - General & Other		609,222	553,756
Accrued Revenues		741,011	8,176
Debtors - general		42,353	87,375
GST Recoupment		213,369	113,827
Prepayments		-	85,830
Loans to community organisations		23,740	25,924
Total		<b><u>1,629,694</u></b>	<b><u>874,888</u></b>
<i>Amounts included in receivables that are not expected to be received within 12 months of reporting date.</i>		-	-
<b>INVENTORIES</b>			
Stores & Materials		19,850	11,000
		<b><u>19,850</u></b>	<b><u>11,000</u></b>

**District Council of Mount Remarkable**  
**Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements**  
**for the year ended 30 June 2023**

**Note 6 - NON-CURRENT ASSETS**

<b>FINANCIAL ASSETS</b>	<b>Notes</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
		<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>Receivables</b>			
Loans to community organisations		57,994	81,734
<b>TOTAL FINANCIAL ASSETS</b>		<b>57,994</b>	<b>81,734</b>
 <b>OTHER NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Capital Works-in-Progress		724,615	-
		<b>724,615</b>	<b>-</b>

**District Council of Mount Remarkable**  
**Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements**  
**for the year ended 30 June 2023**

**Note 7 - INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT (IPP&E)**

	Fair Value Level	2022 \$				2023 \$			
		Fair Value	Cost	Acc' Dep'n	Carrying Amount	Fair Value	Cost	Acc' Dep'n	Carrying Amount
Land	2	4,562,778	-	-	4,562,778	-	-	4,562,778	
Plant & Equipment		-	6,815,729	(3,364,734)	3,450,995	-	(3,081,732)	3,754,930	
Roads, Bridges & Footpaths	3	46,997,725	4,749,388	(18,170,701)	33,576,412	46,997,725	(19,528,297)	33,182,706	
CWMS	3	12,781,592	-	(3,764,543)	9,017,049	12,781,592	(3,938,891)	8,842,701	
Other Assets	3	3,028,638	948,754	(931,596)	3,045,796	3,013,204	(1,147,179)	3,414,069	
Buildings	3	24,800,538	642,342	(15,274,509)	10,168,371	23,231,221	(14,957,397)	9,318,589	
Office Furniture & Equipment		-	204,147	(114,484)	89,663	-	(124,769)	237,272	
<b>Total IPP&amp;E</b>		<b>92,171,271</b>	<b>13,360,360</b>	<b>(41,620,567)</b>	<b>63,911,064</b>	<b>90,586,520</b>	<b>(42,778,265)</b>	<b>63,313,045</b>	
		91,488,863	12,339,596	(39,543,768)	64,284,691	92,171,271	(41,620,567)	63,911,064	

**Comparatives**

	2022 \$	Carrying Amounts Movement During the Year \$										2023 \$
		Carrying Amount	Additions		Disposals	Dep'n	Impair't	Transfers		Net Reval'h	Carrying Amount	
			New / Upgrade	Renewals				In	Out			
Land	4,562,778	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,562,778
Plant & Equipment	3,450,995	-	719,024	(97,438)	(317,651)	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,754,930
Roads, Bridges & Footpaths	33,576,412	273,576	690,314	-	(1,357,596)	-	-	-	-	-	-	33,182,706
CWMS	9,017,049	-	-	-	(174,348)	-	-	-	-	-	-	8,842,701
Other Assets	3,045,796	529,279	70,011	(8,229)	(222,788)	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,414,069
Buildings	10,168,371	163,535	238,888	(841,674)	(410,531)	-	-	-	-	-	-	9,318,589
Office Furniture & Equipment	89,663	-	162,790	(2,476)	(12,705)	-	-	-	-	-	-	237,272
<b>Total IPP&amp;E</b>	<b>63,911,064</b>	<b>966,390</b>	<b>1,881,027</b>	<b>(949,817)</b>	<b>(2,495,619)</b>	<b>(949,817)</b>	<b>(2,495,619)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>63,313,045</b>
	64,284,691	682,408	1,541,483	(151,619)	(2,445,898)	-	-	-	-	-	-	63,911,064

This note continues on the following pages.

This Note continues on the following pages.

**District Council of Mount Remarkable**  
**Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements**  
**for the year ended 30 June 2023**

**Note 7 (con't) – INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT**

**Valuation of Assets**

**General Valuation Principles**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**District Council of Mount Remarkable**  
**Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements**  
**for the year ended 30 June 2023**

**Note 7 (con't) – INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT**

<b>Asset Category</b>	<b>Asset Recognition Threshold</b>	<b>Useful life for Depreciations</b>
Land	N/A	N/A
Buildings	\$10,000	7 to 100 years
Roads, Bridges & Footpaths	\$5,000	20-80 years
Plant and Equipment	\$5,000	4-20 years
CWMS	\$5,000	10-70 years
Office Equipment Furniture & Fixtures	\$1,000	3 to 100 years
Other Assets	\$1,000	7 to 100 years

**Land & Land Improvements**

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

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

**Buildings & Other Structures**

Buildings and other structures were revalued as at 1 July 2019 by Gayler Professional Services.

**Infrastructure**

Transportation assets were valued by Gayler Professional Services at depreciated current replacement cost during the reporting period ended 30 June 2020, based on actual costs incurred during the reporting periods ended 30 June 2019. All acquisitions made after the respective dates of valuation are recorded at cost.

Stormwater drainage infrastructure was valued by Gayler Professional Services as at 1 July 2019 at depreciated current replacement cost, based on actual costs incurred during the reporting period ended 30 June 2019. All acquisitions made after the respective dates of valuation are recorded at cost.

Community wastewater management system infrastructure was valued at depreciated current replacement cost during the reporting period ended 30 June 2020 by Gayler Professional Services. All acquisitions made after the respective dates of valuation are recorded at cost.

**Plant, Furniture & Equipment**

These assets are recognised on the cost basis.

**All other assets**

These assets are recognised on the cost basis.

**District Council of Mount Remarkable**  
**Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements**  
**for the year ended 30 June 2023**

**Note 8 - LIABILITIES**

	Notes	2023		2022	
		Current	Non-current	Current	Non-current
<b>TRADE &amp; OTHER PAYABLES</b>					
Goods & Services		2,002,629	-	438,061	-
Accrued expenses - employee entitlements		37,549	-	63,990	-
Accrued expenses - other		104,603	-	-	-
GST Payable		-	-	22,084	-
Other Payables		53,439	-	79,625	-
		<b>2,198,220</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>603,760</b>	<b>-</b>

*Amounts included in trade & other payables that are not expected to be settled within 12 months of reporting date.*

**BORROWINGS**

Loans	82,486	554,784	78,936	637,270
	<b>82,486</b>	<b>554,784</b>	<b>78,936</b>	<b>637,270</b>

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

**PROVISIONS**

LSL Employee entitlements (including oncosts)	158,856	51,047	152,717	47,290
AL Employee entitlements (including oncosts)	131,446	-	134,211	-
	<b>290,302</b>	<b>51,047</b>	<b>286,928</b>	<b>47,290</b>

*Amounts included in provisions that are not expected to be settled within 12 months of reporting date.*

**Movements in Provisions - 2023 year only**  
*(current & non-current)*

	Insurance Losses	Future Reinstatement	Leave & Other Provision
Opening Balance	-	-	334,219
Additional amounts recognised	-	-	7,130
Closing Balance	-	-	<b>341,349</b>

**District Council of Mount Remarkable**  
**Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements**  
**for the year ended 30 June 2023**

**Note 9 - RESERVES**

<b>ASSET REVALUATION RESERVE</b>	<b>1/7/2022</b>	<b>Net Increments/ (Decrements)</b>	<b>Transfers, Impairments</b>	<b>30/6/2023</b>
<b>Notes</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
Buildings	6,972,883	-	-	6,972,883
Plant & Equipment	5,042,017	-	-	5,042,017
Roads, Bridges & Footpaths	12,156,675	-	-	12,156,675
CWMS	3,374,763	-	-	3,374,763
Water Supply & Other Infrastructure	310,988	-	-	310,988
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>27,857,326</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>27,857,326</b>
<b>Comparatives</b>	<b>27,857,326</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>27,857,326</b>

<b>OTHER RESERVES</b>	<b>1/7/2022</b>	<b>Transfers to Reserve</b>	<b>Transfers from Reserve</b>	<b>30/6/2023</b>
NPTN	224,494	-	-	224,494
Wirrabara CWMS	210,209	-	-	210,209
Weeroona Island Water Supply	247,646	-	-	247,646
Community Bus	27,139	-	-	27,139
Wilmington CWMS	268,867	-	-	268,867
Melrose CWMS	238,228	-	-	238,228
Booleroo Centre CWMS	188,491	-	-	188,491
Willowie Landfill	101,735	-	-	101,735
<b>TOTAL OTHER RESERVES</b>	<b>1,506,809</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,506,809</b>
<b>Comparatives</b>	<b>1,506,809</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,506,809</b>

**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).

**Other Reserves**

Other reserves are intended to identify excesses of amounts collected over expenses incurred for each of the items included above. A comprehensive review is required, and it is likely that these reserves will no longer be maintained as part of the AFS.

**District Council of Mount Remarkable**  
**Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements**  
**for the year ended 30 June 2023**

**Note 10 - RECONCILIATION TO CASH FLOW STATEMENT**

**(a) Reconciliation of Cash**

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

	Notes	2023 \$	2022 \$
Total cash & equivalent assets	5	7,101,808	4,830,264
Balances per Cash Flow Statement		<u>7,101,808</u>	<u>4,830,264</u>

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

Net Surplus (Deficit)		1,615,402	1,225,499
Non-cash items in Income Statement			
Depreciation, amortisation & impairment		2,495,619	2,445,898
Net increase (decrease) in unpaid employee benefits		(19,311)	(47,485)
Grants for capital acquisitions treated as Investing Activity		(604,788)	(635,411)
Net (Gain) Loss on Disposals		(527,453)	(162,245)
		<u>2,959,469</u>	<u>2,826,257</u>
Add (Less): Changes in Net Current Assets			
Net (increase) decrease in receivables		(779,075)	(98,947)
Net (increase) decrease in inventories		(8,850)	(2,218)
Net increase (decrease) in trade & other payables		207,477	(693,817)
<b>Net Cash provided by (or used in) operations</b>		<u>2,379,022</u>	<u>2,031,274</u>

**(c) Financing Arrangements**

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

Bank Overdrafts	15,000	15,000
Corporate Credit Cards	30,000	30,000
LGFA Cash Advance Debenture facility	580,000	580,000

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



**District Council of Mount Remarkable**  
Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements  
for the year ended 30 June 2023

Note 11 - FUNCTIONS

**INCOMES, EXPENSES AND ASSETS HAVE BEEN DIRECTLY ATTRIBUTED TO THE FOLLOWING FUNCTIONS & ACTIVITIES**

	INCOME		EXPENSES		OPERATING SURPLUS (DEFICIT)		GRANTS INCLUDED IN INCOME		TOTAL ASSETS HELD (CURRENT & NON-CURRENT)	
	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	2023	2022	2023	2022
	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	\$	\$	\$	\$
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$				
Business Undertakings	1,348,354	1,217,301	1,027,853	843,783	320,501	373,518	-	-	8,842,701	9,017,049
Community Services	268,725	298,933	567,190	449,741	(298,466)	(150,808)	236,618	241,624	16,375,458	17,018,092
Culture	908	343	192,732	156,797	(191,824)	(156,454)	-	4,775	-	-
Economic Development	712,932	111,177	42,161	62,664	670,771	48,514	1,317,752	1,073,249	510,713	699,167
Environment	784,313	780,162	1,066,520	953,529	(282,207)	(173,367)	-	8,404	163,535	65,955
Recreation	80,719	59,927	525,531	518,188	(444,812)	(458,261)	-	-	219,795	101,392
Regulatory Services	68,757	81,292	241,911	197,437	(173,153)	(116,145)	-	-	-	-
Transport	402,165	993,941	2,375,087	2,286,659	(1,972,922)	(1,292,717)	401,983	929,965	33,973,397	33,576,412
Plant & Depot	31,236	13,609	1,575,746	1,171,063	(1,544,510)	(1,157,454)	-	-	3,774,780	3,461,995
Council Administration	6,705,544	5,784,356	2,305,759	2,273,338	4,399,785	3,511,018	3,019,326	1,898,743	8,371,363	5,768,887
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>10,403,651</b>	<b>9,341,041</b>	<b>9,920,489</b>	<b>8,913,197</b>	<b>483,162</b>	<b>427,844</b>	<b>4,975,679</b>	<b>4,156,760</b>	<b>72,231,741</b>	<b>69,708,949</b>

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**District Council of Mount Remarkable**  
**Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements**  
**for the year ended 30 June 2023**

**Note 11 (con't) - COMPONENTS OF FUNCTIONS**

The activities relating to Council functions are as follows:

**Business Undertakings**

Community wastewater management systems, Melrose Caravan & Tourist Park, Private Works, Weerona Island Water Supply

**Community Services**

Cemeteries, Public Conveniences, Northern Passenger Transport Network, Community Bus, Public Order & Safety

**Culture**

Community Halls, Other Culture

**Economic Development**

Tourism, and Other Economic Development

**Environment**

Agricultural Services, Waste Management and Recycling, Regional Landscape Levy, Street Cleaning, Street Lighting

**Recreation**

Jetties, Parks and Gardens, Playgrounds, Sporting Reserves and Facilities, Swimming Pool

**Regulatory Services**

Dog and Cat Control, Building Control, Town Planning, Fire Prevention, Health Inspection, Other Regulatory Services

**Transport**

Airstrip, Footpaths & Kerbing, Road Maintenance, Traffic Management

**Plant Hire & Depot**

**Unclassified Activities**

**Council Administration**

Accounting/Finance, Administration, Asset Management, Human Resources, Work Health Safety, Information Technology, Governance, Elected Members, Rates Administration, Financial Assistance Grants

**District Council of Mount Remarkable**  
**Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements**  
**for the year ended 30 June 2023**

**Note 12 - FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS**

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

**Accounting Policies - Recognised Financial Instruments**

**Bank, Deposits at Call, Short Term Deposits**

**Accounting Policy:** initially recognised at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost, interest is recognised when earned

**Terms & conditions:** Deposits are returning fixed interest rates of 4.3% (2022: 1% and 3%).

**Carrying amount:** approximates fair value due to the short term to maturity.

**Receivables - Rates & Associated**

**Accounting Policy:** initially recognised at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost. An impairment provision is recognised using the expected credit loss method

**Terms & conditions:** Secured over the subject land, arrears attract interest of 5.76% (2022: 5.05%) Although Council is not materially exposed to any individual debtor, credit risk exposure is concentrated within the Council's boundaries in the State.

**Carrying amount:** approximates fair value (after deduction of any allowance).

**Receivables - Fees & other charges**

**Accounting Policy:** initially recognised at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost. An impairment provision is recognised using the expected credit loss method

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

**Carrying amount:** approximates fair value (after deduction of any allowance).

**Receivables - other levels of government**

**Accounting Policy:** initially recognised at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost. An impairment provision is recognised using the expected credit loss method.

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

**Carrying amount:** approximates fair value.

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**District Council of Mount Remarkable**  
**Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements**

**Note 12 - FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (con't)**

**Liabilities - Creditors and Accruals** **Accounting Policy:** Liabilities are recognised for amounts to be paid in the future for goods and services received, whether or not billed to the Council.

**Terms & conditions:** Liabilities are normally settled on 30 day terms.

**Carrying amount:** approximates fair value.

**Liabilities - Interest Bearing Borrowings**

**Accounting Policy:** initially recognised at fair value and subsequently at amortised cost, interest is charged as an expense using the effective interest rate

**Terms & conditions:** secured over future revenues, borrowings are repayable; interest is charged at fixed rates between 3.95% and 4.8% (2022: 3.95% and 4.8%)

**Carrying amount:** approximates fair value.

**District Council of Mount Remarkable**  
**Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements**  
**for the year ended 30 June 2023**

**Note 12 - FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (con't)**

**Liquidity Analysis**

<b>2023</b>	Due < 1 year	Due > 1 year ≤ 5 years	Due > 5 years	Total Contractual Cash Flows	Carrying Values
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b><u>Financial Assets</u></b>					
Cash & Equivalents	7,101,808	-	-	7,101,808	7,101,808
Receivables	1,632,615	63,266	-	1,695,881	1,687,688
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,734,422</b>	<b>63,266</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>8,797,688</b>	<b>8,789,496</b>
<b><u>Financial Liabilities</u></b>					
Payables	2,056,068	-	-	2,056,068	2,056,068
Current Borrowings	110,478	-	-	110,478	82,486
Non-Current Borrowings	-	441,912	204,502	646,413	554,784
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,166,546</b>	<b>441,912</b>	<b>204,502</b>	<b>2,812,959</b>	<b>2,693,338</b>

<b>2022</b>	Due < 1 year	Due > 1 year; ≤ 5 years	Due > 5 years	Total Contractual Cash Flows	Carrying Values
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b><u>Financial Assets</u></b>					
Cash & Equivalents	4,830,264	-	-	4,830,264	4,830,264
Receivables	870,790	-	-	870,790	870,790
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,701,054</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5,701,054</b>	<b>5,701,054</b>
<b><u>Financial Liabilities</u></b>					
Payables	603,760	-	-	603,760	539,770
Current Borrowings	107,623	-	-	107,623	78,936
Non-Current Borrowings	-	560,605	175,744	736,349	637,270
<b>Total</b>	<b>711,383</b>	<b>560,605</b>	<b>175,744</b>	<b>1,447,732</b>	<b>1,255,975</b>

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

	<b>30 June 2023</b>		<b>30 June 2022</b>	
	Weighted Average Interest Rate	Carrying Value	Weighted Average Interest Rate	Carrying Value
	%	\$	%	\$
Other Variable Rates	4.53	637,270	4.00	716,206
		<b>637,270</b>		<b>716,206</b>

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**District Council of Mount Remarkable**  
**Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements**  
**for the year ended 30 June 2023**

**Note 12 - FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (con't)**

**Net Fair Value**

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

**Risk Exposures:**

Credit Risk represents the loss that would be recognised if counterparties fail to perform as contracted. The maximum credit risk on financial assets of the Council is the carrying amount, net of any impairment. All Council investments are made with the SA Local Government Finance Authority and are guaranteed by the SA Government. Except as detailed in Notes 5 & 6 in relation to individual classes of receivables, exposure is concentrated within the Council's boundaries, and there is no material exposure to any individual debtor.

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

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

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

**District Council of Mount Remarkable**  
**Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements**  
**for the year ended 30 June 2023**

**Note 13 - FINANCIAL INDICATORS**

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

	2023	2022	2021
<b>Operating Surplus Ratio</b>			
<u>Operating Surplus</u>	-1.3%	4.6%	3.6%
Total Operating Income			

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

**Net Financial Liabilities Ratio**

<u>Net Financial Liabilities</u>	-57%	-44%	-28%
Total Operating Income			

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

**Adjustments to Ratios**

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

<b>Adjusted Operating Surplus Ratio</b>	-10.0%	-2.0%	3.9%
<b>Adjusted Net Financial Liabilities Ratio</b>	-35%	-28%	-16%

**Asset Renewal Funding Ratio**

<u>Outlays on Existing Assets</u>	46%	79%	132%
Asset Renewals - IAMP			

*Net asset renewals expenditure is defined as net capital expenditure on the renewal and replacement of existing assets relative to the optimal level planned, and excludes new capital expenditure on the acquisition of additional assets.*

**District Council of Mount Remarkable**  
**Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements**  
**for the year ended 30 June 2023**

**Note 14 - 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, adjusted for timing differences associated with prepaid Federal assistance Grants required to be recognised as revenue on receipt in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards.

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.

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>Income</b>		
<i>Rates</i>	4,578,290	4,278,404
<i>Statutory charges</i>	75,892	93,507
<i>User charges</i>	679,124	888,641
<i>Grants, subsidies and contributions` - Operating</i>	3,757,927	3,521,349
<i>Investment income</i>	161,857	34,672
<i>Reimbursements</i>	334,342	89,132
<i>Other income</i>	203,255	435,335
	<b>9,790,686</b>	<b>9,341,040</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
<i>Employee costs</i>	(2,413,336)	(2,312,019)
<i>Materials, contracts and other expenses</i>	(4,973,755)	(4,097,786)
<i>Depreciation, amortisation and impairment</i>	(2,495,619)	(2,445,898)
<i>Finance costs</i>	(37,778)	(57,495)
	<b>(9,920,489)</b>	<b>(8,913,197)</b>
<b>Operating Surplus / (Deficit)</b>	(129,803)	427,843
<i>Timing adjustment for grant revenue</i>	<b>(770,230)</b>	(599,392)
<b>Adjusted Operating Surplus / (Deficit)</b>	<b>(900,033)</b>	<b>(171,549)</b>
<b>Net Outlays on Existing Assets</b>		
Capital Expenditure on renewal and replacement of Existing Assets	(1,436,290)	(1,541,483)
Add back Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	2,495,619	2,445,898
Proceeds from Sale of Replaced Assets	277,270	313,864
	<b>1,336,599</b>	<b>1,218,279</b>
<b>Net Outlays on New and Upgraded Assets</b>		
Capital Expenditure on New and Upgraded Assets <i>(including investment property &amp; real estate developments)</i>	(700,234)	(682,408)
Amounts received specifically for New and Upgraded Assets	604,788	635,411
Proceeds from Sale of Surplus Assets <i>(including investment property and real estate developments)</i>	1,200,000	-
	<b>1,104,554</b>	<b>(46,997)</b>
<b>Annual Net Impact to Financing Activities</b>	<b>1,541,120</b>	<b>999,733</b>



**District Council of Mount Remarkable**  
**Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements**  
**for the year ended 30 June 2023**

**Note 15 – SUPERANNUATION**

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

**Accumulation only Members**

Accumulation only members receive both employer and employee contributions on a progressive basis. Employer contributions are based on a fixed percentage of ordinary time earnings in accordance with superannuation guarantee legislation (10.5% in 2022-23; 10% in 2021-22). No further liability accrues to the Council as the superannuation benefits accruing to employees are represented by their share of the net assets of the Fund.

**Salarylink (Defined Benefit Fund) Members**

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

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

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

The most recent actuarial investigation was conducted by the Fund's actuary, Louise Campbell, FIAA, of Willis Towers Watson as at 30 June 2022. The Trustee has determined that the current funding arrangements are adequate for the expected Salarylink liabilities. However, future financial and economic circumstances may require changes to Council's contribution rates at some future time.

**Contributions to Other Superannuation Schemes**

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

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**District Council of Mount Remarkable**  
**Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements**  
**for the year ended 30 June 2023**

**Note 16 - CONTINGENT ASSETS AND CONTINGENT LIABILITIES**

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

**1. LAND UNDER ROADS**

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

At reporting date, Council controlled 1606 km of road reserves of average width 20 metres.

**2. POTENTIAL INSURANCE LOSSES**

Council is a multi-purpose organisation providing a large range of building, parks infrastructure, playgrounds and other facilities accessible to the public. At any time, it is likely that claims will have been made against Council that remain unsettled.

Council insures against all known insurable risks using a range of insurance policies, each of which is subject to a deductible "insurance excess", the amount of which varies according to the class of insurance.

Council has recognised the potential losses arising from claims known at reporting date based on average historical net cost (including insurance excess) of similar types of claims. Other potential claims not reported to Council may have existed at reporting date.

**3. LEGAL EXPENSES**

Council is the planning consent authority for its area under the Development Act 1993 (as amended). Pursuant to that Act, certain persons aggrieved by a planning decision of the Council may appeal. It is normal practice that parties bear their own legal costs. At the date of these reports, Council had notice of nil appeals against planning decisions made prior to reporting date. All known costs have been recognised, but the amount of further costs cannot be known until the appeals are determined.

**District Council of Mount Remarkable**  
**Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements**  
**for the year ended 30 June 2023**

**Note 17 - RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES**

**KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL**

The Key Management Personnel of the Council include the Mayor, Councillors, CEO and certain prescribed officers under section 112 of the Local Government Act 1999. In all, 3 staff members and 7 elected members were paid the following total compensation:

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
Salaries, allowances & other short term benefits	595,723	559,650
Termination benefits	-	39,927
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>595,723</b>	<b>599,577</b>

Allowances / benefits incurred in the ordinary course of performing the KMPs role, and amounts paid as direct reimbursement of expenses incurred on behalf of Council have not been included above.

**PARTIES RELATED TO KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL**

No key management personnel or parties related to them had any transactions during the year on terms more favourable than those available to the general public.

## District Council of Mount Remarkable Independent Auditor's Report

We have audited the attached financial statements, being a general purpose financial report, of the District Council of Mount Remarkable (Council) for the year ended 30 June 2023.

### Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements of the Council are properly drawn up:

- a) to present fairly the financial position of the Council as at the 30 June 2023 and the results of its operations for the period then ended, and;
- b) according to Australian Accounting Standards.

### Basis for Opinion

For the audit of the Council we have maintained our independence in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements of APES 110 Section 290. We believe that the audit evidence that we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

### Other Information – Basis of Accounting and Restriction on Distribution

Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report is prepared to assist the council to meet the requirements of the Local Government Act 1999 together with the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our report is intended solely for the members.

### Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Report

The Board of Management is responsible for the preparation of the financial report in accordance with the Local Government Act 1999 together with the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011 and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

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. Those standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the schedule 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 judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement in 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 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 association's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, 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.



Ian G McDonald FCA  
Registered Company Auditor 16458

Signed at Grange this 15 November 2023

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## Independent Assurance Report on the Internal Controls of the District Council of Mount Remarkable

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

### Qualified Opinion

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

### Basis for Opinion

For the audit of the Council we have maintained our independence in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements of APES 110 Section 290. We believe that the audit evidence that we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Appropriate monthly reports from the subsidiary ledgers, with evidence of independent review, to support the balances in the Statement of Financial Position was not complete.

### Limitation on Use

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

### Inherent Limitations

Due to the inherent limitations of any compliance procedure, it is possible that fraud, error or non-compliance may occur and not be detected. A reasonable assurance engagement is not designed to detect all instances of non-compliance with *Section 125* of the *Local Government Act 1999* in relation to the Internal Controls specified above, as the engagement is not performed continuously throughout the period and the procedures performed in respect of compliance with *Section 125* of the *Local Government Act 1999* in relation to the Internal Controls specified above are undertaken on a test basis.

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

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

### Our Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Council's compliance with *Section 125* of the *Local Government Act 1999* in relation only to the Internal Controls established by the Council to ensure that financial transactions relating to the receipt, expenditure and investment of money, acquisition and disposal of property and incurring of liabilities, based on our procedures. Our engagement has been conducted in accordance with applicable *Australian Standards on Assurance Engagements ASAE 3100 Compliance Engagements*, issued by the *Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards Board*, in order to state whether, in all material respects, the Council has complied with *Section 125* of the *Local Government Act 1999* in relation only to the Internal Controls specified above for the period 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023. *ASAE 3100* also requires us to comply with the relevant ethical requirements of the Australian professional accounting bodies.

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

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

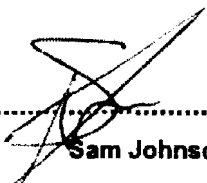


**Ian G McDonald FCA**  
Chartered Accountant  
Registered Company Auditor 16458  
Signed at Grange, 15 November 2023

**District Council of Mount Remarkable**  
**Annual Financial Statements**  
**for the year ended 30 June 2023**  
**CERTIFICATION OF AUDITOR INDEPENDENCE**

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

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

  
.....  
**Sam Johnson**  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

  
.....  
**John Comrie**  
**PRESIDING MEMBER AUDIT COMMITTEE**

Date: 10/11/2023

Ian G McDonald FCA



## District Council of Mount Remarkable

### Annual Financial Statement

For the year ended 30 June 2023

### Audit Certificate of Audit Independence

We confirm that, for the audit of the financial statements of the District Council of Mount Remarkable for the year ended 30 June 2023, we have maintained our 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*.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Ian G McDonald'.

**Ian G McDonald FCA**

Date: 16 October 2023

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Wirrabara

Appila

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