

# AGENDA

## Ordinary Council Meeting

Tuesday 19 November 2024

I hereby give notice that an Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held on:

**Time:** 6:00 pm  
**Date:** Tuesday 19 November 2024  
**Location:** Council Chamber - Civic Centre  
10 Watson Terrace, Mount Gambier



Sarah Philpott  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**  
15 November 2024

## Order of Business

<b>1 Acknowledgement of Country</b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b>2 Apologies</b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b>3 Leave of Absence</b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b>4 Confirmation of Council Minutes</b> .....	<b>4</b>
4.1 Confirmation of Council Minutes .....	4
<b>5 Mayoral Report</b> .....	<b>4</b>
5.1 Mayoral Report - November 2024 .....	4
<b>6 Reports from Councillors</b> .....	<b>6</b>
6.1 Reports from Councillors.....	6
<b>7 Questions with Notice</b> .....	<b>6</b>
<b>8 Questions without Notice</b> .....	<b>6</b>
<b>9 Petitions</b> .....	<b>7</b>
<b>10 Deputations</b> .....	<b>7</b>
10.1 Deputation - Mount Gambier Swimming Club .....	7
10.2 Deputation - Fringe Mount Gambier.....	7
<b>11 Notice of Motion to Revoke or Amend</b> .....	<b>7</b>
11.1 Notice of Motion to Revoke or Amend - Beacon Art Project .....	7
<b>12 Elected Members Information Briefing Sessions</b> .....	<b>11</b>
<b>13 Elected Members Training and Development</b> .....	<b>19</b>
<b>14 Audit and Risk Committee</b> .....	<b>19</b>
14.1 Minutes of Audit and Risk Committee held on 28 October 2024 .....	19
14.2 Draft 2023/2024 Financial Statements .....	19
14.3 Comparison of Actual to Budget for the year ended 30 June 2024 .....	19
14.4 Audit and Risk Committee Annual Report.....	20
14.5 Audit and Risk Committee Self-Assessment Review 2023/2024 .....	20
14.6 Audit and Risk Committee Meeting Report .....	20
<b>15 Chief Executive Officer Performance Review Committee</b> .....	<b>21</b>
<b>16 Junior Sports Assistance Fund Committee</b> .....	<b>21</b>





---

<b>17 Building Fire Safety Committee .....</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>18 Council Reports .....</b>	<b>21</b>
18.1 Grants and Sponsorship Program Round One - New Year's Eve and Fringe Mount Gambier .....	21
18.2 Beacon Art Project .....	50
18.3 City of Mount Gambier Strategic Plan 2024 - 2028.....	70
18.4 2023/2024 City of Mount Gambier Annual Report .....	106
18.5 Railway Lands Playspace - Concept Design .....	313
18.6 Community Land Revocation Proposal - Jubilee Highway West, Suttontown .....	345
18.7 Proposed Upgrade - Bay Road / Lake Terrace Intersection - Department for Infrastructure and Transport (DIT) .....	367
18.8 Budget Review 1 2024/2025 .....	375
18.9 First Quarter Report on Annual Business Plan 2024-2025 Annual Objectives .....	387
18.10 Statutory Financial Statements for the Year Ending 30 June 2024 .....	408
18.11 Code of Practice for Meeting Procedures .....	455
18.12 Appointment of Deputy Mayor.....	490
<b>19 Motions with Notice.....</b>	<b>494</b>
19.1 Motion with Notice - Community Art.....	494
<b>20 Urgent Motions without Notice.....</b>	<b>495</b>
<b>21 Confidential Items of Committees.....</b>	<b>495</b>
<b>22 New Confidential Items .....</b>	<b>495</b>
22.1 Crater Lakes Unsolicited Proposal.....	495
22.2 AF24/218 Tender - Procurement - Supply and Delivery of Landfill Compactor (Unit 41) .....	497
22.3 Wulanda Recreation and Convention Centre - Project Update.....	498
<b>23 Meeting Close .....</b>	<b>500</b>
<b>24 Attachment - Previous Council Minutes.....</b>	<b>500</b>



**1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

**WE ACKNOWLEDGE THE BOANDIK PEOPLES AS THE TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS OF THE LAND WHERE WE MEET TODAY. WE RESPECT THEIR SPIRITUAL RELATIONSHIP WITH THE LAND AND RECOGNISE THE DEEP FEELINGS OF ATTACHMENT OUR FIRST NATIONS PEOPLES HAVE WITH THE LAND.**

**2 APOLOGIES**

Nil

**3 LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

Nil

**4 CONFIRMATION OF COUNCIL MINUTES**

**4.1 CONFIRMATION OF COUNCIL MINUTES**

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 15 October 2024 be confirmed as an accurate record of the proceedings of the meeting.

**5 MAYORAL REPORT**

**5.1 MAYORAL REPORT - NOVEMBER 2024**

- ABC radio interview – Beacon Art Project
- Southern Cross Austereo interview – Council meeting outcomes
- Meeting with David Coltman, Tafe SA – follow up to Mount Gambier 2035 engagement
- Meeting with Yerkalalpata Community Reference Group
- The Border Watch – photo – Beacon Art Project
- RFDS AGM and lunch
- Meeting with Mayor’s Christmas Appeal Committee
- Meeting with Aaron Davis, Jens Hotel Manager
- Meeting with internal Council staff – finalise Christmas Parade Program
- Meeting with Erica Vickery
- Elected Member Briefing – Railway Lands Play Space
- Confidential Elected Member Briefing – Basketball Mount Gambier
- The Border Watch – interview and photo – LCLGA Local Roads Funding announcement
- Meeting with internal Council staff and CEO Sarah Philpott – Elected Member Mandatory Training



- LCLGA Mayors Catch Up (virtual)
- Triple M radio interview
- Regional Libraries Board Tour
- RDALC Office Opening
- Learn to Ride Playspace Launch
- Blue Lake Golf Club 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Cocktail Party
- 5GTR-FM radio interview (Llew Jones)
- Audit and Risk Committee Workshop
- Audit and Risk Committee Meeting
- Elected Member Briefing – Investment / Attraction Strategic Approach
- Meeting with Pauline Kenny, Sunset Kitchen
- Department of Infrastructure and Transport (DIT) Transport Strategy Briefing – to LCLGA Mayors and CEOs (Naracoorte)
- Volunteering at Mount Gambier Red Cross Blood Collection Centre –
- The Mount Gambier Mens Shed – photo with Christmas Appeal toy makers
- Hour of Power Business Lunch – Chamber of Commerce (the Barn)
- Meeting with the Hon. Ben Hood MP and the Hon. Vincent Tarzia MP
- Elected Member Mandatory Training – Mid Tern Refresher
- Opening of “Enjoy This Trip” – the Art of Music Posters
- Meeting with internal Council staff – Mayor’s Christmas Appeal
- Catch up with Manager Governance & Property
- Confidential Elected Member Briefing – Library – Leasing Arrangements
- Confidential Elected Member Briefing – Strategic Land Use Discussion
- Substance Misuse Limestone Coast – Results from AOD Service Model Feasibility Study
- Introductory Meeting – Limestone Coast Sustainable Futures Association
- Screening of Dr Richard Harris documentary
- LCLGA Mayors Catch Up (virtual)
- Stand Like Stone Foundation 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Luncheon
- Michelle McCranor – meet and greet – charity runner running from Adelaide to Mount Gambier
- Legend of the Lakes Hillclimb event
- Remembrance Day 2024 Service and wreath laying
- Catch-up meeting with Colin Byles, Executive Officer – LCLGA
- Kmart Wishing Tree Appeal Launch





- Uni SA Annual Leaders in Industry Luncheon
- Elected Member Mandatory Training – Mid Term Refresher
- Radiotherapy Working Group Meeting
- Meeting with Jeanette Elliot – St Vincent de Paul
- Introductory Meeting with CEO Sarah Philpott and Kelly-Anne Saffin, new South Australian Cross Border Commissioner
- VAILO Adelaide 500 SA Suite
- Mount Gambier Christmas Parade
- Farewell Service for Fr Neil Fernando
- Official opening of St Vincent de Paul Mount Gambier new Admin building
- Tenison Woods College Senior School Awards Ceremony

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Mayoral Report be received.

**6 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS**

**6.1 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS**

- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
| Cr Josh Lynagh | South East Primary Schools Music Festival, Regional Health Advisory Council Conference   |
| Cr Jason Virgo | Welcomed Libraries Board to Mount Gambier Library  |
| Cr Paul Jenner | EPA Waste to Resources Policy Review, EPA Water Quality 2015 Policy Review, Regional Libraries Board Tour of the Mount Gambier Public Library, Chamber of Commerce Business Luncheon (GTE) with Commonwealth Bank Chief Economist, Opening of the Riddoch Art Gallery Exhibitions, Melaleuca Reserve Library Exhibition, Thungi Summer Market at Cave Gardens, Trident Tyre Centre Legend of the Lakes Hill Climb, Remembrance Day Ceremony at Vansittart Park, Mount Gambier Re-use Market. |

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the reports made by Councillors be received.

**7 QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE**

Nil

**8 QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE**



## 9 PETITIONS

Nil

## 10 DEPUTATIONS

### 10.1 DEPUTATION - MOUNT GAMBIER SWIMMING CLUB

#### RECOMMENDATION

1. That the Deputation from Mount Gambier Swimming Club be noted.

The Mayor, Mrs Lynette Martin OAM, has granted a deputation request from the President of the Mount Gambier Swimming Club, who would like the opportunity to present to Council to share the club's experience, growth and ongoing needs as a singular swim club in Mount Gambier.

### 10.2 DEPUTATION - FRINGE MOUNT GAMBIER

#### RECOMMENDATION

1. That the Deputation from Fringe Mount Gambier be noted.

The Mayor, Mrs Lynette Martin OAM, has granted a deputation request from Fringe Mount Gambier, who would like the opportunity to present to Council regarding their amended proposal for sponsorship.

## 11 NOTICE OF MOTION TO REVOKE OR AMEND

I, Councillor Paul Jenner, give notice that at the next Ordinary Meeting of Council to be held on Tuesday 19 November 2024, I intend to move the following motion:

#### MOTION

1. That the motion from Cr Paul Jenner as presented on Tuesday 19 November 2024 be noted.
2. That having further considered Item 18.5 Beacon Art Project tabled at the ordinary meeting of 15 October 2024, the Council hereby revoke the Resolution OCM 2024/155 as follows:
  2. *That shortlisted applicant Huna Studio be endorsed to receive \$120,179 ex GST for the Beacon Art Project, noting that these funds will be conditional to a commission contract with the City of Mount Gambier and be dispensed in installations according to project milestones.*



3. *That \$17,271 ex GST be allocated to site preparation, communications strategy and development approval costs.*
  4. *That Council is not in favour of the artwork being situated in front of the old town hall (as was outlined in the Huna Studios proposal), given the historical significance of the facade of this building, and that a further report be brought back to Council proposing alternate sites for the artwork within the CBD and outcomes of the feedback from the Community Reference Group.*
3. That, in the alternative, Council hereby resolves:
1. The Beacon Art Project is to stay on Council's agenda as a project for the Arts.
  2. The Allocated money in the Budget currently of \$116,497 stays in the Beacon Art Budget fund, including being carried forward for the 25/26 budget.
  3. Council notes however that some expenditure has already occurred on this project in line with Councils resolution in marketing and other costs which is to be reflected in Budget Review 2.
  4. The Administration be authorised to negotiate an appropriate settlement with Huna Studio's from the budgeted funds for costs of works already done in good faith (such as additional design and location options) in response to Councils resolution for their proposal for the Beacon Art Project which will be reflected in Budget Review 2.
  5. Appropriate additional funding is to be considered for the 2025 / 2026 Annual Budget towards future Beacon Art Projects given Council's commitment to the Arts and projects of this nature.
  6. A workshop of Council be convened before the end of March 2025 to work through the way forward with the Beacon Art Project, including consideration of community engagement in future projects.
  7. Huna Studio and Council staff are to be thanked for the work they have done so far on this project, notwithstanding the decision not to proceed at this time.
  8. The alternative Beacon Art Project to be finalised by June 2026.
  9. That Council continue to support public artworks and artists in a variety of forms, both large and small-scale and continue to work on fostering a vibrant arts and cultural scene in the City of Mount Gambier.

**RATIONALE**

I commend this Notice of Motion to Council.

**ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENT**

The following considerations are highlighted for Council's attention.

Implications	Recission motion carried	Recission motion lost/ lapsed





<p><b>Financial</b></p>	<p>There is currently no Commission Agreement in place with the Artists, however as articulated within the recission motion Council will seek to reimburse the Artist for costs of works already done for their proposal and in consideration of reputational implications.</p> <p>A contract is in place with a marketing consultant which will require payment of hourly rate for work already undertaken.</p> <p>The estimated total cost will be approximately \$9,500 to \$17,700.</p> <p>There have also been costs and considerable staff time already invested in administering the Expression of Interest and selection process.</p>	<p>Artists must sign a Commission Agreement with the City of Mount Gambier with terms set out by Council, prior to commencing the project. Work on this agreement is substantially progressed and is ready for signature.</p> <p>50% paid upfront and remaining amount paid upon delivery of artwork.</p>
<p><b>Reputation</b></p>	<p>There is a reputational risk with external stakeholders should the motion be carried with the media and arts industry, community supporters of the project, the assessment panel and major partners such as the Art Gallery of South Australia.</p> <p>It may also cause a reluctance in other artists and partners to engage with future Council opportunities.</p>	<p>There is a reputational risk with community members who do not support the project and who will be critical of Council upholding the decision. Upon endorsing the original motion Council (via the Mayor, CEO, City Emails or to all Councillors) received 51 pieces of correspondence (at the time of writing this report) from the community, either requesting further information, for the motion to be rescinded or objecting to the project. Two of these were in support of the concept and investment in arts. There was significant negativity in community sentiment on social media channels, with some support for project also expressed.</p>
<p><b>Legal / Regulatory / Policy</b></p>	<p>Contract in place with marketing consultant which will need to be paid out and ended.</p>	<p>A development application will need to be submitted once a location is determined and will need to meet the relevant planning and heritage guidelines.</p> <p>Artists must sign a Commission Agreement with the City of Mount Gambier with terms set out by Council, prior to commencing the project.</p>
<p><b>People</b></p>	<p>Staff and Councillors have invested significant effort in line with Council's resolutions to bring this project to fruition.</p> <p>Elected Members and council staff may experience</p>	<p>Elected Members and council staff may continue to experience community behaviour that has had an impact on individual safety and wellbeing. Some of these behaviours are not just in person but have also via phone or online.</p>



	community behaviour that impacts on individual safety and wellbeing in similar projects in the future.	Council welcomes feedback, but Council is committed to the health, safety and wellbeing of its people and asks that the community and act respectfully in their interactions and when providing their feedback.
<b>Infrastructure</b>	Nil	Road and footpath access will be interrupted for the period of installation.  A Department of Infrastructure and Transport permit has been obtained for installation. Installation plan will be detailed to ensure minimal vehicle and foot traffic interruption.

**ATTACHMENTS**

Nil



## 12 ELECTED MEMBERS INFORMATION BRIEFING SESSIONS

### RECOMMENDATION

That Council Report titled Elected Member Information Briefing Sessions held since the previous Council Meeting be noted.

### ATTACHMENTS

1. Information Briefing Session - Elected Members - Record of Proceedings - 22/10/2024 - Railway Lands Play Space Community Consultation and Confidential Briefing Basketball Mount Gambier [**12.1.1** - 2 pages]
2. Information Briefing Session - Elected Members - Record of Proceedings - 29/10/2024 - Investment/Attraction Strategic Approach [**12.1.2** - 1 page]
3. Information Briefing Session - Elected Members - Record of Proceedings - 05/11/2024 - Confidential Library Leasing Arrangements - Confidential Strategic Land Use Discussion [**12.1.3** - 2 pages]
4. Information Briefing Session - Elected Members - Record of Proceedings - 12/11/2024 - Elected Member Mandatory Training Finance - Budget Review 1 - Elected Member Mandatory Training Team Building [**12.1.4** - 2 pages]





**INFORMATION / BRIEFING SESSION  
5:00 PM, TUESDAY, 22 OCTOBER 2024**

Ref: AF22/549

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS  
**5:00 PM, TUESDAY, 22 OCTOBER 2024**  
Council Chamber, Civic Centre  
10 Watson Terrace, Mount Gambier

**WE ACKNOWLEDGE THE BOANDIK PEOPLES AS THE TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS OF THE LAND WHERE WE MEET TODAY. WE RESPECT THEIR SPIRITUAL RELATIONSHIP WITH THE LAND AND RECOGNISE THE DEEP FEELINGS OF ATTACHMENT OUR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES HAVE WITH THIS LAND.**

**1. Briefing cancelled due to illness (as advised at 4:15pm on 22 October 2024)**

**Elected Member Briefing with Hon Ben Hood MLC, Shadow Assistant Minister for Regional South Australia**

*The session described at Item 2 was open to the public.*

**2. Railway Lands Play Precinct**

MEMBERS PRESENT:-

STAFF PRESENT:-

Mayor Lynette Martin  
Cr Max Bruins  
Cr Sonya Meziniec  
Cr Paul Jenner  
Cr Josh Lynagh  
Cr Kate Amoroso (virtual)  
Cr Jason Virgo

Chief Executive Officer  
General Manager City Infrastructure  
General Manager Corporate and Regulatory Services (virtual)  
Manager Economy, Strategy and Engagement  
Strategic Development and Recreation Coordinator  
Manager Governance and Property

MEMBERS APOLOGIES:-

LEAVE OF ABSENCE:-

Cr Frank Morello  
Cr Mark Lovett

Nil

DISCUSSION:

Community feedback on play space designs.

*The session described at Item 3 was not open to the public as the matter to be discussed is of a confidential nature within the ambit of Section 90(3) of the Local Government Act 1999 being:*

(d) *commercial information of a confidential nature (not being a trade secret) the disclosure of which:*

(i) *could reasonably be expected to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied the information, or to confer a commercial advantage on a third party.*

**3. Basketball Mount Gambier**

GUESTS:-

Matthew Ray, President, Basketball Mount Gambier  
Kate Pohlner, Basketball Mount Gambier  
Jonathon Lillicrap, Basketball Mount Gambier

MEMBERS PRESENT:-

STAFF PRESENT:-

Mayor Lynette Martin	Chief Executive Officer
Cr Max Bruins	General Manager City Infrastructure
Cr Sonya Mezinac	General Manager Corporate and Regulatory Services (virtual)
Cr Paul Jenner	Manager Economy, Strategy and Engagement
Cr Josh Lynagh	Strategic Development and Recreation Coordinator
Cr Kate Amoroso (virtual)	Manager Governance and Property
Cr Jason Virgo	

MEMBERS APOLOGIES:-

LEAVE OF ABSENCE:-

Cr Frank Morello	Nil
Cr Mark Lovett	

DISCUSSION:

Discussion on Basketball Mount Gambier operations.

Discussion closed at 7.27 p.m.

**INFORMATION / BRIEFING SESSION  
5:00 PM, TUESDAY, 29 OCTOBER 2024**

Ref: AF22/549

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS  
5:00 PM, TUESDAY, 29 OCTOBER 2024  
Council Chamber, Civic Centre  
10 Watson Terrace, Mount Gambier**

**WE ACKNOWLEDGE THE BOANDIK PEOPLES AS THE TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS OF THE LAND WHERE WE MEET TODAY. WE RESPECT THEIR SPIRITUAL RELATIONSHIP WITH THE LAND AND RECOGNISE THE DEEP FEELINGS OF ATTACHMENT OUR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES HAVE WITH THIS LAND.**

*The sessions described at Item 1 will be open to the public.*

**1. Investment/Attraction Strategic Approach**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:-**

**STAFF PRESENT:-**

Mayor Lynette Martin  
Cr Max Bruins  
Cr Sonya Meziniec  
Cr Paul Jenner (virtual)  
Cr Jason Virgo  
Cr Josh Lynagh

Chief Executive Officer  
General Manager Corporate and Regulatory Services (virtual)  
General Manager City Infrastructure  
Manager Economy, Strategy and Engagement  
Strategic Development & Visitor Economy Co-ordinator  
Economy, Strategy & Engagement Project Officer

**MEMBERS APOLOGIES:-**

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE:-**

Cr Frank Morello  
Cr Kate Amoroso  
Cr Mark Lovett

Nil

**DISCUSSION:**

Discussion on Investment Web Platform and Tourism Web Platform.

Discussion closed at 6.35 p.m.

**INFORMATION / BRIEFING SESSION  
LIBRARY – LEASING ARRANGEMENTS  
5:00 PM, TUESDAY, 5 NOVEMBER 2024**

Ref: AF22/549

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS  
5:00 PM, TUESDAY, 5 NOVEMBER 2024  
Council Chamber, Civic Centre  
10 Watson Terrace, Mount Gambier**

**WE ACKNOWLEDGE THE BOANDIK PEOPLES AS THE TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS OF THE LAND WHERE WE MEET TODAY. WE RESPECT THEIR SPIRITUAL RELATIONSHIP WITH THE LAND AND RECOGNISE THE DEEP FEELINGS OF ATTACHMENT OUR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES HAVE WITH THIS LAND.**

*The session described at Item 1. will not be open to the public as the matter to be discussed is of a confidential nature within the ambit of Section 90(3) of the Local Government Act 1999 being:*

- (a) *information the disclosure of which would involve the unreasonable disclosure of information concerning the personal affairs of any person (living or dead);*
- (d) *commercial information of a confidential nature (not being a trade secret) the disclosure of which—*
  - (i) *could reasonably be expected to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied the information, or to confer a commercial advantage on a third party.*

**1. Confidential – Library – Leasing Arrangements**

**GUESTS:-**

---

Shuj Esufali, Kefi Supports  
Toby Harrap, Kefi Supports

**MEMBERS PRESENT:-**

Mayor Lynette Martin  
Cr Sonya Mezinac  
Cr Max Bruins  
Cr Jason Virgo  
Cr Paul Jenner  
Cr Josh Lynagh

**STAFF PRESENT:-**

---

Acting Chief Executive Officer  
General Manager Corporate and Regulatory Services  
Manager Governance and Property  
Manager Library and Community Development

**MEMBERS APOLOGIES:-**

Cr Frank Morello  
Cr Kate Amoroso  
Cr Mark Lovett

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE:-**

---

-

**DISCUSSION:**

---

Discussion on Library Leasing Arrangements

*The session described at Item 2. will not be open to the public as the matter to be discussed is of a confidential nature within the ambit of Section 90(3) of the Local Government Act 1999 being:*

- (a) information the disclosure of which would involve the unreasonable disclosure of information concerning the personal affairs of any person (living or dead);*
- (b) information the disclosure of which:
  - (i) could reasonably be expected to confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting, or proposing to conduct business or to prejudice the commercial position of the Council; and**
- (d) commercial information of a confidential nature (not being a trade secret) the disclosure of which—
  - (i) could reasonably be expected to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied the information, or to confer a commercial advantage on a third party.**

**2. Confidential – Strategic Land Use Discussion**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:-**

Mayor Lynette Martin  
Cr Sonya Meziniec  
Cr Max Bruins  
Cr Jason Virgo  
Cr Paul Jenner  
Cr Josh Lynagh

**STAFF PRESENT:-**

Acting Chief Executive Officer  
General Manager Corporate and Regulatory Services  
Manager Governance and Property

**MEMBERS APOLOGIES:-**

Cr Frank Morello  
Cr Kate Amoroso  
Cr Mark Lovett

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE:-**

-

**DISCUSSION:-**

Strategic Land Use Discussion.

Discussion closed at 6.43 p.m.

**INFORMATION / BRIEFING SESSION  
MANDATORY ELECTED MEMBER TRAINING  
5:00 PM, TUESDAY, 12 NOVEMBER 2024**

Ref: AF22/549

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS  
5:00 PM, TUESDAY, 12 NOVEMBER 2024  
INSERT MEETING ROOM, Civic Centre  
10 Watson Terrace, Mount Gambier**

**WE ACKNOWLEDGE THE BOANDIK PEOPLES AS THE TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS OF THE LAND WHERE WE MEET TODAY. WE RESPECT THEIR SPIRITUAL RELATIONSHIP WITH THE LAND AND RECOGNISE THE DEEP FEELINGS OF ATTACHMENT OUR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES HAVE WITH THIS LAND.**

*The session described at Item 1 will not be open to the public as the matter to be discussed is not a matter to be on the formal agenda of a Council or Committee Meeting.*

**1. ELECTED MEMBER MANDATORY TRAINING – FINANCE**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:-**

**STAFF PRESENT:-**

Mayor Lynette Martin  
Cr Sonya Mezinac  
Cr Frank Morello  
Cr Max Bruins  
Cr Mark Lovett  
Cr Paul Jenner  
Cr Jason Virgo  
Cr Josh Lynagh

Chief Executive Officer  
Manager Governance and Property  
Manager Financial Services  
Manager Performance and Capability

**MEMBERS APOLOGIES:-**

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE:-**

Cr Kate Amoroso

Nil

**DISCUSSION:**

Elected Member Mandatory Training Session - Finance.

*The session described at Item 2 will be open to the public.*

**2. BUDGET REVIEW 1**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:-**

**STAFF PRESENT:-**

Mayor Lynette Martin  
Cr Sonya Mezinac  
Cr Frank Morello  
Cr Max Bruins  
Cr Mark Lovett  
Cr Paul Jenner  
Cr Jason Virgo  
Cr Josh Lynagh

Chief Executive Officer  
General Manager City Infrastructure  
Manager Financial Services  
Manager Performance and Capability  
Manager Governance and Property

MEMBERS APOLOGIES:-

LEAVE OF ABSENCE:-

Cr Kate Amoroso

Nil

DISCUSSION:

Budget Review 1

- Council will receive the Budget Review 1 at the upcoming November Council meeting for consideration and endorsement in further detail
- Review of financial statements from 2023/2024
- Financial ratios
- Risks and opportunities
- Proposed \$3.551m improvement at BR1, additional \$180k required for capital works program

*The session described at Item 3 will not be open to the public as the matter to be discussed is not a matter to be on the formal agenda of a Council or Committee Meeting.*

**3. ELECTED MEMBER MANDATORY TRAINING – TEAM BUILDING**

MEMBERS PRESENT:-

STAFF PRESENT:-

Mayor Lynette Martin  
Cr Sonya Mezinac  
Cr Frank Morello  
Cr Max Bruins  
Cr Mark Lovett  
Cr Paul Jenner  
Cr Jason Virgo  
Cr Josh Lynagh

Chief Executive Officer  
Manager Governance and Property  
Manager Financial Services  
Manager Performance and Capability

MEMBERS APOLOGIES:-

LEAVE OF ABSENCE:-

Cr Kate Amoroso

Nil

DISCUSSION:

Elected Member Mandatory Training Session - Team Building.

Discussion closed at 7.45pm.



**13 ELECTED MEMBERS TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT**

Nil

**14 AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE**

**14.1 MINUTES OF AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE HELD ON 28 OCTOBER 2024**

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the minutes of the Audit and Risk Committee meeting held on 28 October 2024 as attached be noted.

[Audit and Risk Committee Minutes](#)

**14.2 DRAFT 2023/2024 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION ARC 2024/5**

Moved: Alexander Brown

Seconded: Belinda Johnson

1. That Council report titled 'Draft 2023/2024 Financial Statements' as presented on Monday 28 October 2024 be noted.
2. That the Audit and Risk Committee advises Council that in accordance with Section 126(4(a)) of the Local Government Act 1999, it has reviewed the draft annual financial statements of Council for the financial year 2024 and 'they present fairly the state of affairs of the council'.
3. That having been reviewed by the Audit and Risk Committee on 28 October 2024, the Audit Completion Report and Management Representations Letter as attached to this report be noted.
4. That having reviewed the audit completion report, management representations letter and met with the external auditors, the Committee agree Dean Newbery and Partners have been effective in their appointment.
5. Acknowledges progress towards matters raised by Auditors, Dean Newbery to be addressed in future years as detailed in the Audit Completion report will be reported on at future Audit and Risk Committee meetings.

**CARRIED**

**14.3 COMPARISON OF ACTUAL TO BUDGET FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024**

**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION ARC 2024/6**

Moved: Cr Paul Jenner



Seconded: Alexander Brown

1. That Council report titled 'Comparison of Actual to Budget for the year ended 30 June 2024' as presented on Monday 28 October 2024 be noted.

**CARRIED**

#### **14.4 AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT**

##### **COMMITTEE RESOLUTION ARC 2024/7**

Moved: Paul Duka

Seconded: Mayor Lynette Martin

1. That Council report titled 'Audit and Risk Committee Annual Report' as presented on Monday 28 October 2024 be noted.

**CARRIED**

#### **14.5 AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE SELF-ASSESSMENT REVIEW 2023/2024**

##### **COMMITTEE RESOLUTION ARC 2024/8**

Moved: Mayor Lynette Martin

Seconded: Belinda Johnson

1. That Council report titled 'Audit and Risk Committee Self-Assessment Review 2023/2024' as presented on Monday 28 October 2024 be noted.

**CARRIED**

#### **14.6 AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT**

##### **COMMITTEE RESOLUTION ARC 2024/9**

Moved: Alexander Brown

Seconded: Belinda Johnson

1. That Council report titled 'Audit and Risk Committee Meeting Report' as presented on Monday 28 October 2024 be noted.

**CARRIED**



**15 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER PERFORMANCE REVIEW COMMITTEE**

Nil

**16 JUNIOR SPORTS ASSISTANCE FUND COMMITTEE**

Nil

**17 BUILDING FIRE SAFETY COMMITTEE**

Nil

**18 COUNCIL REPORTS**

**18.1 GRANTS AND SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM ROUND ONE - NEW YEAR'S EVE AND FRINGE MOUNT GAMBIER**

Author: Biddie Shearing, Manager Economy, Strategy and Engagement

Authoriser: Barbara Cernovskis, General Manager City Infrastructure

**RECOMMENDATION**

1. That Council report titled 'Grants and Sponsorship Program Round One - New Year's Eve and Fringe Mount Gambier' as presented on Tuesday 19 November 2024 be noted.
2. That \$22,600 cash and \$1,287 in-kind be endorsed for distribution as part of Round One of the 2024/2025 Grants and Sponsorships program specifically for:
  - (a) Mount Gambier Community Events Inc – \$17,600 cash and \$1,287 in-kind to support 2024 New Years Eve Event only, noting the requirement for a CBD location for future events
  - (b) Fringe Mount Gambier - \$5,000 cash to support 'Fringe Mount Gambier Outreach in 2025.

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is recommending an allocation of funding via the Grants and Sponsorships Program Round One to Mount Gambier Community Management Inc. for a New Year's Eve event and Fringe Mount Gambier Outreach 2025.

**SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS AND BENEFITS**

**Implications**

- Over subscription exceeding annual budget allocation, limiting Round Two funding allocation.
- Out of session allocation sets precedence for future allocations, therefore impacting the Grants and Sponsorships Program ethos.

**Benefits**

- Fair and equitable funding allocations are in place to all groups and individuals in the community.
- The program assists eligible groups or individuals with funds and in-kind support to host community events and projects, upgrade infrastructure or facilitate art projects all of which strive to improve quality of life and meet community needs.
- Provides a strategic and holistic approach to allocating funding.



- Provides accountability and transparency should council be required to audit funding allocations and the process to do so.

## BACKGROUND / OPTIONS

Round One of the Grants and Sponsorship Process opened on Friday 5 July 2024, closing on Friday 2 August 2024. The Grants and Sponsorship assessment panel met on 19 August, 27 August and 30 August 2024 to assess the applications.

Council received 40 applications for events and/or projects across nine streams of available funding. All applications were assessed across three assessment panel meetings using an Evaluation Matrix and based on the selection criteria provided in the Grants and Sponsorships Program Guidelines. 28 applications were determined to be successful. Four applications resulted in an undetermined outcome – two of which have since been resolved - Generations in Jazz and Mount Gambier Swimming Club.

This report provides an update in the two remaining - Fringe Mount Gambier and Mount Gambier Community Management.

Council considered the updated information relating to the Mount Gambier Community Management Inc. at the October Council meeting with the following resolution:

*That Council give 'in-principle' support to supporting the Mount Gambier Community Management Inc with \$17,600 cash and \$1,287 in-kind support, pending a further report to be brought back to the November 2024 Council Meeting detailing the following:*

- *Further information on the event's financial position and how any shortfall associated with running the event will be funded.*
- *Whether or not council's contribution can be paid directly to the pyrotechnics vendor for the fireworks display can proceed should events transpire which cause the community event to not proceed.*
- *The viability of the moving the event to a CBD location.*
- *Any further information staff deem relevant after further analysis of the original application.*

Council administration has communicated the above resolution outcome to the proponents, resulting in the following:

Mount Gambier Community Management Inc. has willingly provided updated documentation that included:

- Documentation and advice from pyrotechnics company as to the suitability of certain sites and noting a payment plan commencing 8 August 2024 by Mount Gambier Community Management Inc. to secure pyrotechnics. **Attachment 1.**
- Rationale and updated budget indicating a small profit, providing event remains at the Showgrounds (eg. to attract gate takings & vendor fees). **Attachment 2.**
- Analysis for alternative locations being - Showgrounds, Vansittart Park or Cave Gardens/Thugi. **Attachment 3.**

The remaining undetermined application from Round One of the Grants and Sponsorships Program is Fringe Mount Gambier. Council administration has received updated information from the proponent requesting an outcome of their application at the November 2024 meeting, however, noting the standing commitment to brief Council with a 3-5year business plan and event sustainability, scheduled for 3 December 2024. The initial additional information requested was received on the evening of 30 October.



A further revised application (**Attachment 4**) and budget (**Attachment 5**) have now been submitted (on Monday 11 November) that outlines a reduced format of Fringe Mount Gambier for 2025 as the committee develops the 2026 program. The budget provided does differ substantially in terms of overall sponsorship from all funding sources and notes the other unconfirmed funding sources.

In accordance with Councils resolutions, both applications are being presented direct to council for consideration.

**Mount Gambier Community Management Inc.**

Allocate \$17,600 cash and \$1,287 in kind for the 2024 New Years Eve event and insist on a CBD location for future events.

**Fringe Mount Gambier.**

Allocate \$5,000 cash for Fringe Mount Gambier Outreach 2025.

**DETAILED IMPLICATIONS**

<b>Legal</b>	Successful applicants are required to obtain all necessary land use, landholder and development approvals and complete works in accordance with relevant legislative and compliance standards. Applicants must sign an Acceptance of Grant Conditions agreement, with terms set out by Council, prior to commencing project/event.																		
<b>Financial and Budget</b>	<p>The table below outlines the current amounts allocated and the recommended amounts for allocation associated with this report. The balance remaining takes into consideration previous allocations from Round One and the ongoing streams of funding for Venue Sponsorship and Quick Response.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Total Budget 2024/2025</th> <th>Allocated to date</th> <th>Recommended Allocation - Mount Gambier Community Management Inc.</th> <th>Recommended Allocation – Fringe Mount Gambier</th> <th>Remaining 2024/2025</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><b>Cash</b></td> <td>\$509,427</td> <td>\$357,889</td> <td>\$17,600</td> <td>\$5,000</td> <td>\$128,938</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>In-kind</b></td> <td>\$139,997</td> <td>\$49,849</td> <td>\$1,287</td> <td>nil</td> <td>\$89,861</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Total Budget 2024/2025	Allocated to date	Recommended Allocation - Mount Gambier Community Management Inc.	Recommended Allocation – Fringe Mount Gambier	Remaining 2024/2025	<b>Cash</b>	\$509,427	\$357,889	\$17,600	\$5,000	\$128,938	<b>In-kind</b>	\$139,997	\$49,849	\$1,287	nil	\$89,861
	Total Budget 2024/2025	Allocated to date	Recommended Allocation - Mount Gambier Community Management Inc.	Recommended Allocation – Fringe Mount Gambier	Remaining 2024/2025														
<b>Cash</b>	\$509,427	\$357,889	\$17,600	\$5,000	\$128,938														
<b>In-kind</b>	\$139,997	\$49,849	\$1,287	nil	\$89,861														
<b>Other Resources</b>	No additional financial impact as the Council allocated Grants and Sponsorship Program is part of ongoing service delivery and within allocated budget annually.																		

**RISK ANALYSIS**

Consequence	Consequence Rating:	Risk Likelihood Rating:	Risk Rating	Risk Controls and effectiveness	Risk Mitigation Plan
<b>Finance</b>	Minor (2)	Possible (3)	Moderate	Applicants must sign an Acceptance of Grant Conditions agreement, with terms set out by Council, prior to commencing project/event.	50% paid up front and remaining amount paid on acquittal.



<b>Reputation</b>	Moderate (3)	Possible (3)	Moderate	Applications assessed against predetermined criteria.	Assessment panel and evaluation matrix.
<b>Legal / Regulatory / Policy</b>	Minor (2)	Possible (3)	Moderate	Applications assessed against predetermined criteria.	Assessment panel and evaluation matrix.
<b>Service Delivery</b>	Minor (2)	Possible (3)	Moderate	Applicants must sign an Acceptance of Grant Conditions agreement, with terms set out by Council, prior to commencing project/event.	50% paid up front and remaining amount paid on acquittal.
<b>People</b>	Insignificant (1)	Unlikely (2)	Low	Ongoing and regular contact between applicants and key council personnel.	Feedback collated to review process and refine
<b>Infrastructure</b>	Insignificant (1)	Unlikely (2)	Low	Ongoing and regular contact between applicants and key council personnel.	Feedback collated to review process and refine.
<b>Environmental</b>	Insignificant (1)	Unlikely (2)	Low	Ongoing and regular contact between applicants and key council personnel.	Feedback collated to review process and refine.

## APPLICATION OF MOUNT GAMBIER 2035

### Economic and Business Growth

- Our local businesses are thriving due to a strong local economy and tourism.
- We enable our creative industry to contribute to employment opportunities and the social fabric of the city.

### A Vibrant Community

- Our arts and cultural events are accessible across an annual calendar and through all seasons.
- Our events, activities, sport and recreation provide opportunities for connecting and engaging within the community.
- We have social networks and opportunities for all age groups.
- We have events, activities, sport and recreation opportunities that are inclusive and accessible to everyone.

## APPLICATION OF STRATEGIC PLAN

### Goal 1 Our People

1.1 Community based organisations and networks - Our community groups and network develop and grow to achieve their aspirations.

1.1.1 Fostering and supporting community-based organisations [Service Provider (Part Funder)].



- 1.2 Community growth - We foster a sense of community by encouraging and supporting participation in community life.
- 1.2.2 Helping community groups to help themselves by providing support for effective networks to develop and grow [Partnership].
- 1.3 Sense of community - The community grows in real terms at a rate that helps sustain and grow the services available within the City and for the region.
- 1.3.1 Supporting community events and programs that bring people together, encourage interaction and promote a sense of community [Service Provider (Part Funder)].
- 1.3.2 Providing opportunities to enable our community to be supported and involved [Owner / Custodian and Service Provider (Part Funder)].
- 1.4.2 Providing integrated services and facilities that encourage active living to improve health and wellbeing [Service Provider (Direct) and (Indirect)].
- 1.4.5 Ensuring support services and recreational activities are accessible [Advocate, Initiator / Facilitator].
- 1.4.6 Providing grant programs that assist the community in delivering services and projects that align with its aspirations [Service Provider (Indirect)].

## **Goal 2 Our Location**

- 2.1.4 Regularly reviewing and updating Council's Asset Management Plans for each asset category [Owner / Custodian].
- 2.4.1 Seeking to hold at least six regional standard community or sporting events in the new Community and Recreation Hub annually [Service Provider (Part Funder), Partnership].
- 2.4.2 Continuing to hold six regional standard sporting events (or higher) at our outdoor facilities [Service Provider (Part Funder), Partnership].
- 2.4.3 Seeking to market our region even better for year-round adventurous activities [Advocate, Initiator / Facilitator].
- 2.4.4 Work in partnership with our sporting clubs to improve their sporting and clubhouse facilities and to help them take advantage of accommodation opportunities for groups [Partnership, Advocate, Owner / Custodian].

## **Goal 4 Our Climate, Natural Resources, Arts, Culture and Heritage**

- 4.4.4 Providing services, programs and facilities for the community to participate in a broad range of arts and cultural activities [Service Provider (Direct) and (Indirect) and Partnership].
- 4.5 A City brought to life with public art - We will ensure that opportunities for public art are created within our city, this means not just spaces for the artwork, but also spaces where creative industries can connect and flourish.
- 4.5.4 Work with the owners of prominent buildings and structures across the City to increase the visibility of public art [Owner / Custodian, Service Provider (Part Funder)].
- 4.5.5 Establish an annual public arts fund and street art event [Initiator / Facilitator, Service Provider (Part Funder), Partnership].

## **RELEVANT COUNCIL POLICY**

[Grants and Sponsorship](#)

[Privacy - P155](#)

[Request for Service and Complaint - C200](#)

## **IMPLEMENTATION, COMMUNICATION AND ENGAGEMENT**





Further to the Council resolutions on 17 September 2024 and 15 October 2024, Council administration have communicated with the proponents (Mount Gambier Community Management Inc. and Fringe Mount Gambier) to obtain further information regarding their applications.

Pending the Council resolution on 19 November 2024, Council administration will follow the notification process to advise the proponent.

## CONCLUSION

This report recommends that an allocation from the Grants and Sponsorships Program Round One of \$22,600 cash and \$1,287 in-kind be endorsed to support the following:

**Mount Gambier Community Management Inc.** - \$17,600 cash and \$1,287 in kind to support the 2024 New Years Eve event only, noting the requirement for a CBD location for future events.

**Fringe Mount Gambier** – \$5,000 cash to support 'Unleashing the Underground' event in 2025.

## ATTACHMENTS

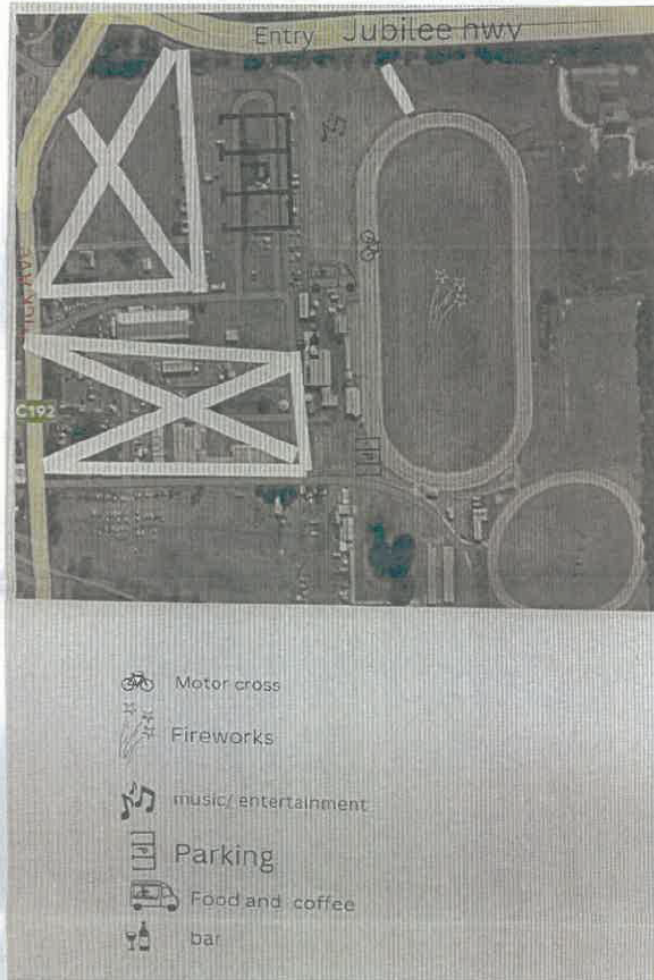
1. Pyrotechnics - New Years Eve Festival 2024 [**18.1.1** - 8 pages]
2. Event Financial Position and Shortfall - New Years Eve Festival 2024 [**18.1.2** - 6 pages]
3. Event Location - New Years Eve Festival 2024 [**18.1.3** - 3 pages]
4. Fringe Amended Proposal - Outreach 2025 [**18.1.4** - 5 pages]
5. Fringe Outreach 2025 Budget [**18.1.5** - 1 page]



*Fireworks Payments*

Statement Account	Statement Account	Statement Account
AUGUST 18, 2024 [REDACTED] -\$230.00	JULY 14, 2024 [REDACTED] -\$230.00	JUNE 9, 2024 [REDACTED] -\$230.00
AUGUST 11, 2024 [REDACTED] -\$230.00	JULY 7, 2024 [REDACTED] -\$230.00	JUNE 2, 2024 [REDACTED] -\$230.00
AUGUST 4, 2024 [REDACTED] -\$230.00	JUNE 30, 2024 [REDACTED] -\$230.00	MAY 26, 2024 [REDACTED] -\$230.00
JULY 28, 2024 [REDACTED] -\$230.00	JUNE 23, 2024 [REDACTED] -\$230.00	MAY 15, 2024 [REDACTED] -\$230.00
JULY 21, 2024 [REDACTED] -\$230.00	JUNE 16, 2024 [REDACTED] -\$230.00	MAY 12, 2024 [REDACTED] -\$230.00
MAY 10, 2024 [REDACTED] -\$230.00	OCTOBER 27, 2024 [REDACTED] -\$230.00	SEPTEMBER 22, 2024 [REDACTED] -\$230.00
No more activity	OCTOBER 20, 2024 [REDACTED] -\$230.00	SEPTEMBER 15, 2024 [REDACTED] -\$230.00
	OCTOBER 13, 2024 [REDACTED] -\$230.00	SEPTEMBER 8, 2024 [REDACTED] -\$230.00
	OCTOBER 6, 2024 [REDACTED] -\$230.00	SEPTEMBER 1, 2024 [REDACTED] -\$230.00
	SEPTEMBER 29, 2024 [REDACTED] -\$230.00	AUGUST 25, 2024 [REDACTED] -\$230.00

*26 payments . \$5,980. to date .  
 28<sup>th</sup> october 2024 .*



10/25/24, 12:15 PM

Email Trail <sup>Gmail - Fwd: Mt Gambier Fireworks Location</sup> Ballistic Fireworks



[Redacted] <communityeventsmg@gmail.com>

**Fwd: Mt Gambier Fireworks Location**

2 messages

[Redacted]  
To: communityeventsmg@gmail.com

Fri, Oct 25, 2024 at 7:49 AM

Regards,

[Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted]

----- Forwarded message -----

From: [Redacted]  
Date: Fri, 25 Oct 2024 at 7:46 AM  
Subject: Mt Gambier Fireworks Location  
To: [Redacted]

Hi [Redacted]

I am writing in regards to the alternative site (Van Stittart Park) that has been proposed by the Mt Gambier NYE celebrations for fireworks.

The site plan provided from previous years, now reflects the absolute bare minimum standard for a fireworks display of this calibre. There is no tolerance for any adverse weather or prevailing breeze. This is a high risk solution for the event, as any factors that are outside of the head pyro's control could cause the display to be cancelled.

The showground site previously provided by the committee was far more suitable. Its allows for a more diverse range of fireworks and increased value for money product. We also have enough space to allow for any unknown weather conditions on the night and adjust fall out zones to ensure safety and broaden the range in which it would be safe to conduct a display.

Security of the site is also more secure and easier to patrol from an operators perspective. The lower number of trees and adjacent obstructions will also assist the pyro team in presenting a more diverse and spectacular display.

Kind Regards,

[Redacted]

Manager

M - [Redacted]

E - [Redacted]

10/25/24, 12:15 PM

Gmail - Fwd: Mt Gambier Fireworks Location

W – [Ballisticfireworks.com.au](http://Ballisticfireworks.com.au)

*"We implement a flexible working environment. Whilst you may have received this email out of your standard working hours, we do not expect you to read or reply outside of your standard working hours."*



Fri, Oct 25, 2024 at 7:49 AM

[Redacted]  
To: [communityeventsmg@gmail.com](mailto:communityeventsmg@gmail.com)

Thanks so much for that

Regards,

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Quoted text hidden]

10/25/24, 12:24 PM

Gmail - Fwd: NYE Mt Gambier Event Location

*Email trail - Howards Fireworks*



[Redacted] <communityeventsmg@gmail.com>

**Fwd: NYE Mt Gambier Event Location**

1 message

[Redacted]  
To: communityeventsmg@gmail.com

Fri, Apr 12, 2024 at 4:40 PM

Regards,

[Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted]

----- Forwarded message -----

From: [Redacted]  
Date: Fri, 12 Apr 2024 at 16:39  
Subject: Fwd: NYE Mt Gambier Event Location  
To: [Redacted]

Regards,

[Redacted]  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted]

----- Forwarded message -----

From: [Redacted]  
Date: Thu, Feb 22, 2024 at 2:32 PM  
Subject: RE: NYE Mt Gambier Event Location  
To: [Redacted]  
Cc: [Redacted]

[Redacted] & [Redacted]

Further to our telephone conversation on Thursday 22.2.2024.

Attached location of the minimum fireworks safety radius overlayed on the aerial site map from the 2022 event.

Fireworks exdusion zone must be clear of all spectators, tents and combustibile materials during the time of the fireworks display.

10/25/24, 12:24 PM

Gmail - Fwd: NYE Mt Gambier Event Location

Howard & Sons Pyrotechnics would suggest a budget allocation of \$22,000 inc GST to provide a 9.15pm & 12Midnight Fireworks Display at Mt Gambier on 31.12.2024.

The area available at the Vansittart Park location is on the absolute minimum safety distance required from fireworks firing locations to spectators, roads and houses. So we would recommend expanding the fireworks exclusion zone by an additional 10-15m on the site or moving the event to a larger venue where the fireworks display is not limited to the minimum fireworks safety exclusion zone.

Let me know if you require any further information at this point in your event planning.

Regards,

[Redacted]

Director

M [Redacted]

P [Redacted]

E [Redacted]

W [www.howardsfireworks.com.au](http://www.howardsfireworks.com.au)



**From:** [Redacted]

**Sent:** Friday, February 16, 2024 9:26 PM

**To:** [Redacted]

**Subject:** Re: NYE Mt Gambier Event Location

Hi [Redacted]

Can we please get both 9:30 and midnight looking at Vansittart park for location I believe

Regards,



10/25/24, 12:24 PM

Gmail - Fwd: NYE Mt Gambier Event Location

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

On Fri, 16 Feb 2024 at 6:16 pm, [REDACTED] wrote:

[REDACTED]

What event location would you like a quote for and would you like a quote for a 9.30pm Fireworks & Midnight Fireworks or only one fireworks display on the night?

Regards,

[REDACTED]

Director

M [REDACTED]

P [REDACTED]

E [REDACTED]

W [www.howardsfireworks.com.au](http://www.howardsfireworks.com.au)

**HOWARD  
& SONS**

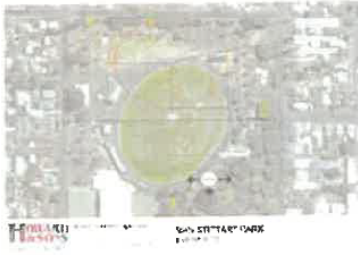
**PYROTECHNICS**

innovative | imaginative | impressive



10/25/24, 12:24 PM

Gmail - Fwd: NYE Mt Gambier Event Location



**Mount Gambier NYE 2022 VWX OVERLAY\_Page\_1.jpg**  
942K



10/27/24, 12:39 AM

Untitled document - Google Docs

Accommodation for away Artist- south gate hotel	\$826,00
<b>Facepaint / Ballons</b>	
Candy Smith - Balloon Art	\$420
Joy Irland - facepainter	\$345
Rosie Bosco - Facepainter	\$240
Danielle Malseed - Facepainter	\$360
Catering	\$500 EST
Audit after the 2024 Event	\$500 EST
Audit for 2022 to 2023 not completed by passed committee	\$500 EST
Portable Toilet 3 to 4 extra toilets	\$700 EST
Temporary Fencing	\$2,000 EST
Light Towers	\$1,472 EST
Free Tickets	\$400 EST
Sundries	\$1,500 EST
Equipment , water barriers - leads plugs generator	\$1,000 EST
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$57,409.95</b>



10/27/24, 12:39 AM

Untitled document - Google Docs

**Mount Gambier Community Event Management inc / New Year's Eve Festival 2024**

**DRAFT EVENT BUDGET**

**INCOME**

Description	Date	Amount
Opening balance in bank	IN BANK	\$947,97
Premier peter Malinauskas Donation	PAID	\$6,000
Bendigo Bank	PAID	\$1,000
District Grant Council - In there budget	NOT PAID	\$4,000
Mount Gambier Council	?	\$17,600
Kimberly Clark	PAID	\$500 + 6 toilet Towels
Tony Pasin	PAID	\$150
Equipt Mobility	PAID	\$1400
Group Training Employment	PAID	\$1000
Axis Employment	PAID	\$500
Bucik Tyrepower	PAID	\$200
Stepland homes	PAID	\$2,000
The Federal Hotel	Not Paid	\$1,000
Intersport	Not paid	\$500
Trident	Not paid	\$1000 -confirmed 20/10/24
Nexus gaming	Not Paid	\$500
Gate takings	ESTIMATE	\$10,000
Vendor payments 11 vendors atm	ESTIMATE	\$1,300
	Section Total	\$48,597.97
<b>Fundraisers</b>		
South Eastern schnitzel Night	PAID	\$720
Harness Racing Cup BBQ	PAID	\$150

10/27/24, 12:39 AM

Untitled document - Google Docs

Bunnings BBQ	PAID	\$1050,25
Metro Karaoke Christmas in July	PAID	\$815,62
Bingo Night	PAID	\$832,77
2 bunning bbq	PAID	\$1940,55
CMC Catering	PIAD	\$4490,93
Blue lake bar and bistro night		\$
2 paraded BBQ 16/11/24		\$
Singles night 02/22/24		\$
Bingo RSL 15/11/24		\$
Karaoke at the Pantry 24/11/24		\$
BBQ bunnings xmas week 20/12/24		\$
NYE Event Raffle 31/11/24		\$
Zombie walk 03/11/24		\$
	Section total	\$10,000.12
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$58,598.09</b> + \$1000

EXPENSES	\$57,409.95
INCOMING	\$58,598.09 + \$1000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>+\$1,189.00</b> + \$1000

**If we Take Mt Gambier Council Grant plus Gate Takings out**

Expenses	\$57,409.95
INCOMING without MGC Grant and Gate Takings	\$30,998.09
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>-\$26,411.89</b>

10/27/24, 12:39 AM

Untitled document - Google Docs

**GATE TAKINGS**

So if we get 1000 people through the gate at the min \$10 per ticket that is \$10,000 in Gate Takings in the pass they have said the numbers have been in between 4500 to 5500 people who Attend the Event.

I have include a \$10,000 as Gatekeeping on the lower expectation,

We do realize by changing the Venue that these Numbers Are not guaranteed hence why we have gone to the lower side of expectations

We will be Keeping Entry Tickets at the same price of \$10 for pensioners/kid / students. – \$16 for single Adult Ticket and \$35 for a family pass



Mount Gambier  
**Community Events** Incorporated  
**Management**



In response about what will happen if there is a shortfall associated with running the event and how it would be funded

- We plan to stay within our means we will cut back on certain activities artist so pretty much down size the Event we have revisited the draft budget and from this update with councils help we do expect to be in profit for next year event we as a committee have been working hard to fundraise and still hoping to add more funds to the account we have pretty much started from scratch this year and have raised over 10,000 since feb just in fundraising, not including sponsorships and grants,

We also need to get council permission or thoughts we have to have all detail in to win tv by the end of the month (next week)for our main tv advertisement and we would like to say that the mount gambier council are on board as a sponsor and to acknowledge sponsorship. we understand that there is a process with accepting our application, but once this ad has been put together it can not be changed, this put us in a hard spot as i think it's important that funding at this amount needs promoting, is there any way we can get something verbal by next week if you want to be acknowledged on our ad.

Mount Gambier  
**Community Events** Incorporated  
**Management**



In response about what will happen if there is a shortfall associated with running the event and how it would be funded

- We plan to stay within our means we will cut back on certain activities artist so pretty much down size the Event we have revisited the draft budget and from this update with councils help we do expect to be in profit for next year event we as a committee have been working hard to fundraise and still hoping to add more funds to the account we have pretty much started from scratch this year and have raised over 10,000 since feb just in fundraising, not including sponsorships and grants,

We also need to get council permission or thoughts we have to have all detail in to win tv by the end of the month (next week)for our main tv advertisement and we would like to say that the mount gambier council are on board as a sponsor and to acknowledge sponsorship. we understand that there is a process with accepting our application, but once this ad has been put together it can not be changed, this put us in a hard spot as i think it's important that funding at this amount needs promoting, is there any way we can get something verbal by next week if you want to be acknowledged on our ad.

Mount Gambier  
**Community Events** Incorporated  
**Management**



In response about what will happen if there is a shortfall associated with running the event and how it would be funded

- We plan to stay within our means we will cut back on certain activities artist so pretty much down size the Event we have revisited the draft budget and from this update with councils help we do expect to be in profit for next year event we as a committee have been working hard to fundraise and still hoping to add more funds to the account we have pretty much started from scratch this year and have raised over 10,000 since feb just in fundraising, not including sponsorships and grants,

We also need to get council permission or thoughts we have to have all detail in to win tv by the end of the month (next week)for our main tv advertisement and we would like to say that the mount gambier council are on board as a sponsor and to acknowledge sponsorship. we understand that there is a process with accepting our application, but once this ad has been put together it can not be changed, this put us in a hard spot as i think it's important that funding at this amount needs promoting, is there any way we can get something verbal by next week if you want to be acknowledged on our ad.



Mount Gambier  
**Community Events** Incorporated  
**Management**



In response about what will happen if there is a shortfall associated with running the event and how it would be funded

- We plan to stay within our means we will cut back on certain activities artist so pretty much down size the Event we have revisited the draft budget and from this update with councils help we do expect to be in profit for next year event we as a committee have been working hard to fundraise and still hoping to add more funds to the account we have pretty much started from scratch this year and have raised over 10,000 since feb just in fundraising, not including sponsorships and grants,

We also need to get council permission or thoughts we have to have all detail in to win tv by the end of the month (next week)for our main tv advertisement and we would like to say that the mount gambier council are on board as a sponsor and to acknowledge sponsorship. we understand that there is a process with accepting our application, but once this ad has been put together it can not be changed, this put us in a hard spot as i think it's important that funding at this amount needs promoting, is there any way we can get something verbal by next week if you want to be acknowledged on our ad.



## AMENDED PROPOSAL TO CITY MOUNT GAMBIER

### FESTIVAL BACKGROUND

**Fringe Berrin Inc.** is the not-for-profit incorporated association behind **Fringe Mount Gambier** – SA's largest regional open access arts festival. Our mission is to create opportunities and provide support for artists and our regional community to engage together in diverse and accessible artistic experiences.

The Fringe Mount Gambier festival has experienced considerable growth and success towards its goals of increasing arts participation, and building arts and cultural capacity in the community.

Since its launch in 2017, the festival has:

- engaged large audiences, totalling over 12,000 in 2023 (when FRiNGELAND was last held) and almost 8,000 in 2024 (with the FRiNGE Laneways series)
- worked with more than 1,500 artists (from emerging to professional, and those regionally-based or touring)
- involved 241 events in 46 distinct venues, and activated public spaces and facilities across the city
- engaged 125 local businesses, and over 60 community groups and organisations
- established its governing committee with a broad range of voices from the community including artists, business, events and production
- and been honoured as one of 3 nominees for '**Outstanding Regional Event or Project**' at SA's *2023 Ruby Awards*.

The Fringe Mount Gambier festival is unique in its 4 elements:

**FRiNGELAND** (or Fringe Laneways in 2024) - a major community event FREE and accessible to the public in the CBD, featuring a diverse program of regional, interstate and international artists and performances.

**OPEN ACCESS Program** – 16 days of OPEN ACCESS Fringe events across Mount Gambier / Berrin and the surrounding region. Open Access encourages emerging and established artists, venues, and producers to register and present their work as part of the festival.

**FRiNGE UP!** – a chance for local businesses, schools and organisations to “Fringe Up” their premises, in line with the annual theme and festival colour blue.

**Fringe OUTREACH** – where we take Fringe artists and activation to vulnerable community members, including positive-aged, those living with disability, those experiencing homelessness, foster families, and some of our smallest regional schools in the area.

### **REDUCED PROGRAM FOR 2025**

Unfortunately, the changed timeline for its key sponsorship outcome and uncertainty over critical funding has forced the Fringe Berrin Committee to postpone Fringe Mount Gambier 2025, in its **full format**, until 2026.

While FRiNGELAND, Fringe UP and the OPEN ACCESS program are no longer possible, it is hoped that Fringe OUTREACH can proceed in 2025 to:

- provide meaningful opportunities to engage in the arts for vulnerable or disadvantaged members of the community;
- create paid opportunities for locally based and visiting artists;
- and maintain a presence in the community for the Fringe Berrin organisation in the lead up to 2026.

It is proposed that the Fringe OUTREACH program be delivered in 2025 as per Fringe Berrin's original City Mount Gambier sponsorship application, with the following changes:

- 1) Funding request to City Mount Gambier is reduced to \$5000, and spent entirely on the OUTREACH program. This represents roughly one quarter of the total OUTREACH budget, shared with Stand Like Stone (unconfirmed grant) and Fringe Berrin in-kind services and support.
- 2) The sponsorship funds will be used towards local and visiting artists fees, to perform at events targeted to specific community organisation audiences.
- 3) Without the significant number of visiting artists for the Fringe Mount Gambier festival, the OUTREACH program will have greater reliance on artists living regionally. A contingency for developing artists for this type of work is needed, for those who may not hold the necessary clearances and insurance (i.e. Working with Children Checks, Vulnerable person related checks, Performance / public liability insurance).
- 4) Opportunities to engage artists visiting or travelling through Mount Gambier for other events will be explored, and the Fringe OUTREACH dates may be extended by 1-2 weeks to accommodate these additional opportunities.

Further details of the proposed OUTREACH program are provided below.

## **PROJECT OUTLINE**

### **Project Title and Dates**

Fringe OUTREACH 2025

Proposed dates – dependent on artist availability, 17 Feb to 4 April 2025

### **Project Background**

Fringe Berrin acknowledges that arts participation and attending public events like Fringe can be challenging for some people in our community, particularly so in a regional and rural setting. Significant barriers can include:

- financial costs of tickets
- lack of and affordability of transport
- reduced mobility and poor health
- suitability of venues and access issues
- social barriers and stigma
- unavailability of family/carers to accompany individuals to events
- large crowds, noise and overstimulation which can cause stress and anxiety, particularly for those who have experienced trauma

The key aim of Fringe OUTREACH is to deliver Fringe arts experiences directly to vulnerable community groups; in environments and venues they can access, feel safe and supported within. The program coordinates and supports artists to visit and perform in these settings, increasing community engagement and value-adding to artists' professional opportunities.

Fringe OUTREACH was introduced in 2021 and has grown significantly each year, as community awareness and demand increase. Consultation with local organisations and services have identified areas of greatest need in the community. Target groups include those in aged care, disability support, those experiencing or at risk of homelessness, children and families in foster care or residential care, and students in special education, regional primary schools, and alternative education programs.

Fringe OUTREACH has previously received funding support through Festivals Australia and the Stand Like Stone Foundation, which was pivotal in establishing and expanding the program through the community. Funding for Fringe OUTREACH 2025 has not yet been confirmed; with funding applications currently being considered by Stand Like Stone and City Mount Gambier. Community needs for the program remain high, with community organisations and services supportive and hopeful of the program's continuation.

In 2023, the first evaluation of the Fringe OUTREACH program was conducted, which aimed to measure short-term outcomes of the program and explore potential areas of longer-term impact (see **2023 Outcomes Report - Fringe OUTREACH**). The evaluation documented examples of barriers experienced by participants in accessing arts and cultural events. There was widespread agreement that during the program's delivery, Fringe OUTREACH was effective in reducing these barriers temporarily and increasing engagement in the arts

for these community members. For many participants, the OUTREACH events were the only arts participation they had experienced in the previous 12-months, and for some it was their first time engaging in an arts event.

Initial findings show outcomes which strongly align with the City Mount Gambier Strategic Plan.

#### Our People

- Community-led program, consulting participants, artists and partner organisations
- Fringe OUTREACH is committed to social inclusion and accessibility to arts
- Increased arts participation among vulnerable groups in the community
- Increased social interaction and sense of connection
- Increased self-confidence and engagement among participants
- Increased work satisfaction and rewarding experiences for artists
- Building relationships between participating organisations, artists and Fringe

#### Our Location

- Diverse art experiences across the city, where community members live, work and study
- Promotes civic pride amongst the community

#### Our Diverse Economy

- Positive attitudes to the arts across the community, encouraging further activity
- Paid work opportunities for regional and visiting artists and arts workers
- Career pathways to continued engagement in the arts and arts education

#### Our Climate, Natural Resources, Arts, Culture and Heritage

- Fringe OUTREACH is a key program by Fringe Berrin contributing to the delivery of high quality arts and cultural activity in the region
- OUTREACH Events such as Fringe for Foster Families, held in Thugi / Cave Garden, builds connection and enjoyment of our natural landscape and city.
- Fringe Berrin's environmental statement outlines our commitment to environmentally responsible practices and leading by example in the region's arts and events industry.

#### **Project Objectives**

1. Increase arts participation among vulnerable and disadvantaged groups within the Mount Gambier community, through delivery of Fringe OUTREACH events.
2. Strengthen partnerships with local community organisations.
3. Foster enjoyment and positive attitudes towards arts experiences among participants.
4. Increase other indicators of mental health benefits among participants.
5. Provide additional paid work opportunities for artists and arts workers.
6. Provide diverse and rewarding performance opportunities for artists.



7. Develop relationships between participating organisations and regional artists.
8. Increase awareness of the Fringe Outreach program and its outcomes among community services and the broader community.

### **Participants and Key Stakeholders**

Local community organisations: In 2025, Fringe OUTREACH plans to continue working with the following organisations to deliver arts workshops and performances (the final selection being dependent on funding):

- AC Care Homelessness Centre - Adults (and families) experiencing or at risk of homelessness
- Connecting Foster & Kinship Carers SA; AC Care - Foster families in the Southeast, children of various ages and their parents
- Serene Country Living; Miroma; Dream to Create - Assisted living for ages 18-65
- Tenison Poplars; Gordon Education - School aged children with special needs
- Oaks Aged Care; Boandik; Resthaven Mount Gambier - Aged care residential
- Independent Learning Centre - Youth aged 16-21 in alternative education
- Small regional primary schools outside the CBD (e.g. Yahl, Moorak, Kalangadoo)

Anticipated total attendees: 1000 across 23 performances / workshops. Some events will include multiple performances, such as the Foster Families event. Please note that attendances are difficult to estimate for some of our partner organisations.

OUTREACH Artists: Fringe will engage regionally-based and visiting artists across a range of art forms (such as visual arts, comedy, physical theatre, circus, cabaret and music).

Building on from workshops delivered in 2024, the OUTREACH program will also include at least 1 professional development workshop for regional and emerging artists. The workshop will cover a range of topics including strategies for overcoming barriers for regionally-based artists, growing your audience, effective use of social media and other marketing strategies.

### **Project Evaluation**

Outcomes will be measured in 2025 through attendance registers, observations, and a brief survey of key partner organisation staff. In-depth interviews with artists will be conducted for the first time in 2025. Where appropriate access and support is possible, interviews or focus groups will also be carried out with a sample of participants.

Fringe Outreach 2025 Budget				
Organisation Name*	Fringe Berrin Incorporated			
Project Name*	Fringe OUTREACH 2025			
	Cash	In kind	Total	Additional Notes
<b>INCOME</b>				
Amount requested (City Mount Gambier)	\$5,000		\$5,000	
<b>In Kind Contributions</b>				
Project Curation, Coordination, Admin		\$3,000	\$3,000	\$50/hr x 60hrs
Fringe Mount Gambier - Artist Accommodation		\$1,800	\$1,800	
Bakers Delight - Food		\$150	\$150	
Coles - Food and Beverages		\$100	\$100	
Grant and Evaluations		\$3,000	\$3,000	\$50/hrr x 60hrs
Marketing and Media		\$500	\$500	\$40/hrr x 10 hrs
Production and PA equipment		\$400	\$400	
Venue		\$400	\$400	Foster Families Event
Other Volunteer hrs		\$288	\$288	\$32 /hr - 9hrs
<b>Unconfirmed Funding Sources</b>				
Stand Like Stone	\$6,000		\$6,000	
Other Sponsorship	\$560		\$560	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$11,560</b>	<b>\$9,138</b>	<b>\$20,698</b>	
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>				
	Cash	In kind	Total	Additional Notes
<b>Media/ Grant documentation, photography</b>	\$1,100		\$1,100	
PA Hire	\$400		\$400	
Travel	\$1,000		\$1,000	
<b>Artist Wages <i>**Artists to be confirmed</i></b>				
Artist TBC - Comedy, Cabaret and Vaudeville	\$800		\$800	2 x 30 mins @ \$400 per performance
Artist TBC - Cabaret and Music	\$800		\$800	2 x 30 min @ \$400 per performance
Hayley Hoopla - performance and workshop	\$900		\$900	3 x 20 min @ \$300 per performance/ workshops
Artist TBC - Visual Art workshops	\$1,000		\$1,000	2 x sessions @ \$500 per workshop (min. 10 participants)
Mt G Dance group - Dance & Movement performance / workshops	\$400		\$400	2 x 30-40 min @ \$200 per performance / workshop
Kyra Sykes (unconfirmed)- Cabaret, Dance & Producer	\$600		\$600	3 x sessions (workshops) @ \$200
Artist TBC - performance workshops (ILC)	\$600		\$600	2 x performances @ \$300 per workshop
Artist TBC - kids, comedy and physical theatre	\$600		\$600	3 x performances @ \$300 per performance
Artist TBC - singer songwriter, performance	\$700		\$700	2 x 30 min @ \$350 per performance
Artist TBC – singer songwriter	\$400		\$400	2 x 30 min @ \$200 per performance
<b>In Kind Contribution</b>				
Project Curation and Coordination		\$3,000	\$3,000	\$50/hr x 60hrs
Artist Accommodation		\$1,800	\$1,800	
Bakers Delight - Food		\$150	\$150	
Coles - Food and Beverages		\$100	\$100	
Admin, Grant and Evaluation		\$3,000	\$3,000	\$50/hr x 60hrs
Marketing and Media		\$500	\$500	\$50/hr x 10 hrs
Production & PA equipment		\$400	\$400	
stage and venue hire		\$400	\$400	foster family event
other Volunteer hrs		\$288	\$288	\$32/hr - 9hrs
<b>Other</b>				
Workshop materials	\$200			
Working With Children Checks & Vulnerable person checks	\$1,060			\$117 per WWCC check + \$95 per VP check (estimate 5 artists)
Public Liability Insurance support for emerging artists	\$1,000			@ Approx. \$200 average per artist
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$11,560</b>	<b>\$9,138</b>	<b>\$20,698</b>	

## 18.2 BEACON ART PROJECT

Author: Ashleigh Whatling, Director Riddoch Arts & Cultural Centre and Cultural Development

Authoriser: Jane Fetherstonhaugh, General Manager Corporate and Regulatory Services

### RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council report titled 'Beacon Art Project' as presented on Tuesday 19 November 2024 be noted.
2. That Council considers the location of the Beacon Art Project and selects an option.

### PURPOSE

To decide on a location *Cast in Blue* by Huna Studio for the Beacon Art Project.

#### Option 1 – Bay Road

This option provides a high-profile location that will be close to the Riddoch and Visitor Information Centre, encouraging tourists to engage with the work. This location will require some preparation due to existing seating.

#### Option 2 – corner of Bay Road and Commercial Street

There is ample room for *Cast in Blue* in this location and it is high-profile. A risk for this placement is traffic accidents at the intersection causing potential damage to the work. A similar accident in 2023 resulted in considerable damage to the facade of Bank SA.

Attached are the two rendered images of the proposed locations.

#### Other sites reviewed but not included for Council consideration

Several other locations were considered for *Cast in Blue*, however several factors led to their exclusion for Council consideration. These sites are: Bay Road to Watson Terrace, Commerce Arcade entrance, Ripley Laneway entrance, Railway Lands and Gray Street.

### SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS AND BENEFITS

#### Implications

- Option 1 – some minor preparation work to move the existing bench is required. Council staff are confident this can be done with relative ease.
- Option 2 - A risk for this placement is traffic accidents at the intersection causing potential damage to the work. A similar accident in 2023 resulted in considerable damage to the facade of Bank SA.
- Options 1 and 2 - Bay Road is maintained by Department of Infrastructure and Transport. No direct permission for installing the work is required for either of the proposed sites, however permission will be required for traffic management during the installation and construction work.
- Options 1 and 2 – CCTV cameras are in the vicinity of both locations. Council staff will confirm that the selected site has ample coverage to deter vandalism.



- Bay Road (Commercial Street to Watson Terrace) - the path becomes narrow and installing a sculpture would impede foot traffic access. The corner of Watson Terrace and Bay Road was investigated, however there are two 'socks' underground that capture rubbish from the Cave Gardens/Thugi that require easy access by a crane.
- Commerce Arcade and Ripley Laneway entrances and Gray Street – narrow pathways would have been impeded foot traffic. Also, sites are not as high-profile as other viable options.
- The Rail Lands were considered as a potential location but are not recommended as they do not provide the nearby sink hole context for the work that Options 1 and 2 provide. Attachment A of the Expression of Interest document (page 11) suggests high profile locations within the CBD that include Options 1 and 2.

### Benefits

- Option 1 - provides a high-profile location that will be close to the Riddoch and Visitor Information Centre, encouraging tourists to engage with the work. While not as visually striking as the original proposal it will still meet the criteria of the Beacon Art Project as the Main Corner building also contains limestone connecting to the work's narrative
- Option 2 - There is ample room for *Cast in Blue* in this location and it is high-profile.

### BACKGROUND / OPTIONS

On 17 October 2024 Council resolved to endorse Huna Studio's application *Cast in Blue* as the successful applicant for the Beacon Art Project. The concept and project budget were approved. Further location options were requested for the consideration of this meeting.

The criteria for the Beacon Art Project:

1. **Enhance Vibrancy:** To breathe further life into the CBD and create a vibrant atmosphere that encourages community engagement, visitation and fosters a sense of pride in the cultural, geographical and historical identity of Mount Gambier.
2. **Promote Cultural Identity:** To celebrate Mount Gambier's rich cultural and geographic identity.
3. **Provide a unique attraction:** To serve as a landmark and attract both local and regional visitors to the CBD.
4. **Iconic Representation:** The chosen concept should become an iconic symbol of Mount Gambier, embodying the city's unique character.

Regarding the location, the expression of interest stated:

#### Location

Artists are invited to propose a suitable location within the CBD for their installation(s).

Consideration should be given to the potential impact on foot traffic, visibility and architectural and geographical context of the proposed location. Several areas of the city have been highlighted by the project team for their potential to align to the broad objectives of the project which can be found in Attachment A.

It should be noted that these locations are provided for consideration only and artists are invited to propose any location within the CBD which may align to their vision for the Beacon Art Project. Definition of the borders of the CBD of Mount Gambier can be found in Attachment B.

Recommended locations from this report (as outlined above) are Option 1 Bay Road and Option 2 corner of Bay Road and Commercial Street. For the reasons outlined above, the



Administration is of the view that Option 1 is the preferred location, but have provided both Option 1 and Option 2 for the consideration of Council

**Community response**

Since Council's resolution, there has been significant interest in the work, the Beacon Art Project and it's potential location. Social media has seen substantial commentary primarily in opposition to the project, but with some support. Council (via the Mayor, Councillors, CEO or City Emails) has received in the order of 51 official pieces of correspondence (at the time of finalising this report). The key themes were about the cost of the work, the merits of the design and relevance to the City, use of a local artist, and the timing of an art project in the face of cost of living pressures. A substantial number of these letters/emails called for Council to reconsider the decision. Two of the correspondents expressed support for the arts and the intention behind the work. All correspondence received has or will be provided to all Councillors.

**First Nations consultation**

Further to Council's October resolution to endorse the Beacon Art Project was a request for a report on Council's consultation with the First Nations community.

Burrandies were contacted on several occasions by Council staff but were unavailable for comment.

Yerkalalpata Community Reference Group met on 16 October and consulted with Council staff regarding Huna Studio's proposed sculpture. Feedback from the group was positive in that the group advised that this work did not contravene cultural boundaries. They further recommended that no reference to Aboriginal or Boandik stories are made in the interpretive material associated with *Cast in Blue*.

One local cultural leader has expressed his individual opinion that the work displaces historic accounts of Boandik stories of 'pulan' a bunyip creature.

**DETAILED IMPLICATIONS**

<b>Legal</b>	<p>Huna Studio must sign a commission agreement detailing schedule and scope of works, copyright, licencing and maintenance requirements. Huna Studio are required to hold Public Liability Insurance of up to \$20 million. The contract negotiations and documents are well progressed and shortly to be executed.</p> <p>The project will also require planning approval. If planning approval for the proposed location is not forthcoming, an alternative location will be sought that still has context for the work.</p>
<b>Financial and Budget</b>	<p>Council has allocated a budget for this project, including additional funds as resolved at the October meeting. Some funds have already been expended related to marketing and preparation.</p>
<b>Other Resources</b>	<p>Ongoing maintenance costs will be minimal, the expected lifetime of the work is 20 years, with a potential for a longer life span with a rigorous maintenance schedule. Maintenance will be required if the work is vandalised, which will require either cleaning or the services of a panel beater to respray paint.</p>

**RISK ANALYSIS**

Consequence	Consequence Rating:	Risk Likelihood Rating:	Risk Rating	Risk Controls and effectiveness	Risk Mitigation Plan
-------------	---------------------	-------------------------	-------------	---------------------------------	----------------------



<b>Finance</b>	Moderate (3)	Unlikely (2)	Low	Artists must sign a Commission Agreement with the City of Mount Gambier with terms set out by Council, prior to commencing the project.	50% paid upfront and remaining amount paid upon delivery of artwork.
<b>Reputation</b>	Moderate (3)	Possible (3)	Moderate	Applications assessed against predetermined criteria through transparent and fair process. Engage arts marketing specialist.	Assessment panel and matrix. Communications strategy to raise the profile of the work and the region.
<b>Legal / Regulatory / Policy</b>	Minor (2)	Possible (3)	Moderate	Documentation through develop application and heritage processes.	Commission agreement.
<b>Service Delivery</b>	Minor (2)	Possible (3)	Moderate	Artists must sign a Commission Agreement with the City of Mount Gambier with terms set out by Council, prior to commencing the project.	50% paid upfront and remaining amount paid upon delivery of artwork.
<b>People</b>	Insignificant (1)	Unlikely (2)	Low	Ongoing and regular contact between artists and key council personnel.	Feedback collated to review process and refine for future activities.
<b>Infrastructure</b>	Insignificant (1)	Unlikely (2)	Low	Ongoing and regular contact between artists and key council personnel.	Feedback collated to review process and refine for future activities.
<b>Environmental</b>	Insignificant (1)	Unlikely (2)	Low	Ongoing and regular contact between artists and key council personnel.	Feedback collated to review process and refine for future activities.

## APPLICATION OF MOUNT GAMBIER 2035

### Environment and Liveability

- We enhance the connection of our city to nature and green spaces to make a liveable city that helps to attract and retain people.

### Learning and Innovation

- We share and connect community elder knowledge to younger people.

### A Vibrant Community



- Our arts and cultural events are accessible across an annual calendar and through all seasons.
- Our public spaces and activities create opportunities to connect and engage, day and night.
- Our events, activities, sport and recreation provide opportunities for connecting and engaging within the community.

## APPLICATION OF STRATEGIC PLAN

### Goal 2 Our Location

- 2.1.1 Working with the community to ensure our CBD, health and education precincts, our streets and our public spaces are safe, inviting and support a positive image of the City of Mount Gambier [Owner / Custodian, Information Provider / Promoter and Partnership].
- 2.2.2 Taking an active role in regional working groups to realise major regional initiatives such as the delivery of a recycling facility, improved regional procurement and cohesive infrastructure planning including regional rail trails [Partnership].
- 2.3.4 Seeking to understand and build upon our unique opportunities, including our little known, but world-class rock carvings [Service Provider (Indirect), Partnership, Information Provider / Promoter].
- 2.5 Focusing on activation, revitalisation and placemaking in our CBD - We will look to create opportunity in our CBD for all year-round activation through effective placemaking and place shaping, making it a vibrant, cohesive and safe place.

### Goal 3 Our Diverse Economy

- 3.1.2 Generating positive messages about Mount Gambier that are heard and recognised across our region and in Adelaide, together with wider domestic and international targeting [Advocate, Information Provider / Promoter].

### Goal 4 Our Climate, Natural Resources, Arts, Culture and Heritage

- 4.2.3 Enhancing and promoting environmental experiences to encourage the involvement of our residents and attract visitors [Owner / Custodian, Service Provider (Indirect)].
- 4.4.4 Providing services, programs and facilities for the community to participate in a broad range of arts and cultural activities [Service Provider (Direct) and (Indirect) and Partnership].
- 4.5 A City brought to life with public art - We will ensure that opportunities for public art are created within our city, this means not just spaces for the artwork, but also spaces where creative industries can connect and flourish.

## RELEVANT COUNCIL POLICY

N/A

## IMPLEMENTATION, COMMUNICATION AND ENGAGEMENT

A motion with notice was moved by Councillor Morello and seconded by Christian Greco titled 'Notice of Motion – Strategy and Implementation Plan to Support the Promotion of Street Art' as presented on 16 February 2021 be noted.

1 March 2022, Riddoch Manager Diana Warnes presented to Council regarding public art and the options available to City of Mount Gambier. This generated a conversation about how visitors and residents can engage with public art, as well as provided an indication that





there was a preference for public art that is immersive, site-specific, and had a level of spectacle.

13 March 2023 CEO Sarah Philpott arranged an information/briefing session of the Council, during which Diana Warnes presented to Council regarding the Beacon Art Project and received feedback for the direction of the Project.

Acting Manager Riddoch Ben Kilsby shared a draft EOI document for Council's feedback and Expressions of Interest were open to 2 – 30 April 2024.

City of Mount Gambier published a media release detailing the EOI process and information was shared via social media, websites and radio interviews.

The assessment panel met 23rd May 2024 and applicants were notified of the outcome the following week. Intervening work included early questions around heritage and development processes.

The shortlisted applicant Huna Studio was presented by Director Riddoch Arts and Cultural Centre Ashleigh Whatling at a Council workshop 16 September 2024.

Council resolved to proceed with the Huna Studio work by way of resolution at the October 2024 meeting.

Once Council determines a location the work will be installed accordingly, subject to any regulatory requirements. A commission agreement is prepared and will be executed.

## **CONCLUSION**

Two potential locations are provided for Council's consideration. While the Administration considers that Option One is the preferred location for the Beacon Art Project, these options are provided to Council for decision.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

1. Beacon Art Project - Public Art Expression of Interest [**18.2.1** - 12 pages]
2. Option 1 [**18.2.2** - 1 page]
3. Option 2 [**18.2.3** - 1 page]








# Beacon Art Project

Public Art Expression  
of Interest

## Introduction

City of Mount Gambier has a rare and exciting opportunity for Australian artists to submit expressions of interest for the Mount Gambier Beacon Art Project. Emerging, mid-career and established artists are invited to propose 2D or 3D designs for an iconic work of public art for a negotiable location in Mount Gambier CBD. Submissions are encouraged to creatively engage with the diverse cultural and geographic identity of the Limestone Coast to deliver a significant landmark for the region. The successful applicant will understand the power of public art to contribute to the aesthetic improvement and interpretation of the built and natural environment as well as its ability to reflect and build community identity and pride.

The successful proposal will receive a budget of up to \$110,000, with the possibility of scaling up to \$180,000, subject to additional funding being achieved. City of Mount Gambier will work closely with the artist to complete the production and installation of the work within budget.



'Tracks' by Karl Meyer, Exhibition Studios, Mount Gambier Railway Lands

## Project context

Located on Boandik country in the heart of South Australia's Limestone Coast, Mount Gambier/Berrin is nestled alongside a dormant volcano, the crater of which forms the Blue Lake/Warwar. Volcanic eruptions have carved a dramatic landscape throughout the Limestone Coast region featuring caves, crater lakes, sinkholes and subterranean aquifer systems. Volcanic soil provides fertile land for agriculture and viticulture – the nearby Coonawarra is globally renowned for high quality wine and beef production.



Industries such as timber, agriculture, viticulture, service, mining and fisheries have flourished in the period following colonisation and Mount Gambier services a growing regional population of 70,000 people.

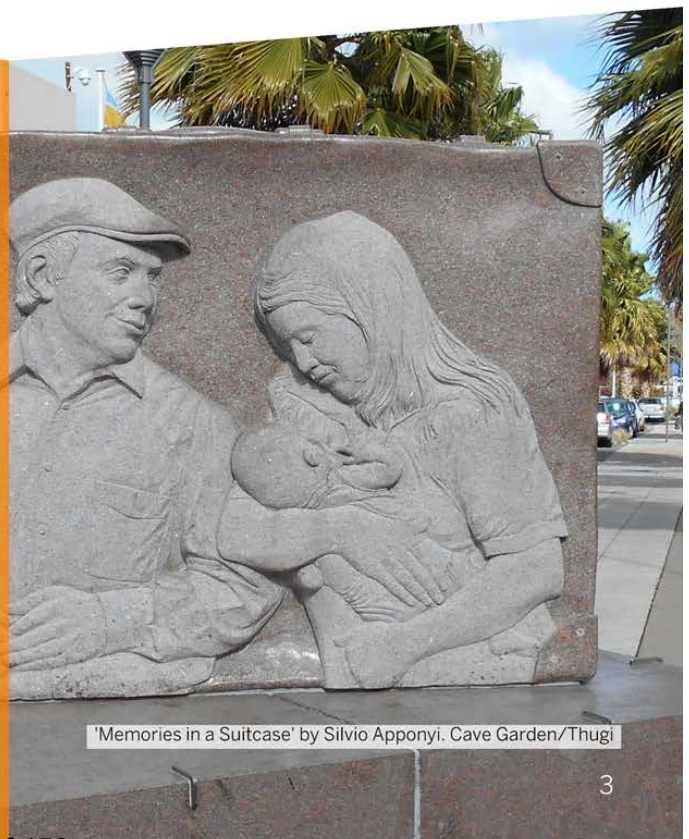
A recent investment in the development of a \$60 million centre, Wulanda Recreation and Convention Centre, is indicative of the community's keen interest in sport and wellbeing. Football, netball, cricket, athletics and tennis are popular pastimes amongst locals. Some of Australia's most celebrated athletes including Gavin Wanganeen, Kai Allen and John Tremmeling hail from Mount Gambier. The name Wulanda is derived from the term for 'enjoy or cherish' in Bunganditj language.

Mount Gambier has a rich and thriving cultural and heritage offering, which features The Riddoch Arts and Cultural Centre and the Sir Robert Helpmann Theatre, both of which deliver annual programs of nationally significant exhibitions and performances. Over the years, the City of Mount Gambier has invested in a range of public art. Areas such as the Cave Garden/Thugi and Mount Gambier Railway Lands are home to several large installations and targeted community project funding has assisted in the achievement of an ever-growing collection of murals and other ephemeral artwork throughout the city.

The Beacon Art Project seeks to capture the unique combination of landscape, people and history that forms Mount Gambier's identity and resonates with locals and visitors alike.

Council has committed to a Beacon Art Project as a strategic objective towards placemaking, featuring in the Mount Gambier Public Arts Strategy which incorporates the mission:

*'...for public art in Mount Gambier is to facilitate the provision of a rich range of public arts installations and events that bring pleasure, excitement and a proud sense of identity to the citizens of Mount Gambier whilst also bringing curious and appreciative visitors to the city and the environs'.*



'Accident with the ute' by Alex Seton 2005

## Vision

Whilst considering the background context detailed above, the primary objectives of the Mount Gambier Beacon Art Project are as follows:

1. **Enhance Vibrancy:** To breathe further life into the CBD and create a vibrant atmosphere that encourages community engagement, visitation and fosters a sense of pride in the cultural, geographical and historical identity of Mount Gambier.
2. **Promote Cultural Identity:** To celebrate Mount Gambier's rich cultural and geographic identity.
3. **Provide a unique attraction:** To serve as a landmark and attract both local and regional visitors to the CBD.
4. **Iconic Representation:** The chosen concept should become an iconic symbol of Mount Gambier, embodying the city's unique character.

## Budget

The project has an initial budget of \$110,000 with the possibility of scaling up to \$180,000 subject to additional funding being achieved.

The budget should cover all costs, including:

- Design,
- Engineering,
- Site and footing preparations,
- Artist fees, travel, etc,
- Materials, equipment hire and fabrication,
- Transportation/delivery of items to site,
- Public liability insurance (minimum \$20 million), and;
- Installation.

## Location

Artists are invited to propose a suitable location within the CBD for their installation(s). Consideration should be given to the potential impact on foot traffic, visibility and the architectural and geographical context of the proposed location. Several areas of the city have been highlighted by the project team for their potential to align to the broad objectives of the project which can be found in **Attachment A**.

It should be noted that these locations are provided for consideration only and artists are invited to propose any location within the CBD that may align to their vision for the Beacon Art Project. Definition of the borders of the CBD of Mount Gambier can be found in **Attachment B**.



## Materials, Standards and Maintenance

Materials and medium are unrestricted for this project and artists are encouraged to consider local industry, history and geography when proposing materials. As a public artwork, consideration of material choices should be made to ensure the artwork is both robust and fit for purpose.

It is anticipated that the artwork would have a life span of up to 30 years and consideration should be made to ensure materials utilised will serve this period and are of low ongoing maintenance.

The following considerations should guide the selection of materials and their designed use:

1. **Durability:** Materials should be chosen for their ability to withstand the local climate, including exposure to rain, wind, and varying temperatures. They should remain visually striking and structurally sound throughout their intended lifespan. The artwork should be positioned in a way that it cannot be removed by force or will not dislodge over time.
2. **Low Maintenance:** The chosen materials should require minimal upkeep over the years, reducing the impact of maintenance and ensuring the artwork continues to fulfil its objectives without interruption.
3. **Sustainability:** Artists are encouraged to explore sustainable materials and practices that align with Council's commitment to environmental responsibility. Sustainable choices can contribute to the longevity of the artwork while reflecting the community's values.
4. **Safety:** Materials must meet Australian safety standards and building codes to ensure the wellbeing of both visitors and the artwork itself. Anti-graffiti coatings and other protective measures may be considered to preserve the artwork's appearance. Protrusions, entrapment points and sharp edges must be avoided and the artwork must be considered safe at all times of day or night.
5. **Accessibility:** The design should consider access for maintenance purposes, ensuring that necessary repairs or cleaning can be conducted safely and efficiently.



## Development Approval and Heritage or Cultural Considerations

Applicants are reminded of the importance of considering necessary Development Approvals (DAs) and heritage implications when proposing their artwork. This ensures that the proposed artwork complies with local regulations and respects the cultural heritage of the area.

Applicants are encouraged to consider our Traditional Owners and proud Boandik Cultural Heritage within the concept design. Should this be an aspect of a proposal, consultation should be undertaken with Burrendies Aboriginal Corporation in the development of the Expression of Interest and documented in the proposal.

## Selection Process

The Mount Gambier Beacon Art Project will be executed in two stages:

### Stage 1 - Expression of Interest (EOI):

Interested artists or artist teams are invited to submit an Expression of Interest submission detailing their concept and providing broad detail required to assist in the shortlisting of applications. Further information on the detail required in the EOI is detailed in the 'submission content' section below.

Assessment: Each Expression of Interest is then reviewed by an assessment panel, with the intention of shortlisting at least one proposal to continue to the next stage.

### Stage 2 - Detailed Proposal (only required if shortlisted):

Shortlisted artists will be invited to develop a more detailed proposal, including:

- Comprehensive concept drawings, engineering and designs.
- A detailed budget and timeline for project execution.
- Plans for any additional community engagement and involvement.
- An explanation of the materials and techniques to be used.
- Considerations for installation and maintenance.

Shortlisted artists will receive a \$500 fee for their detailed proposal.

Final Artist Selection: The selection panel will evaluate the detailed proposals and select the artist(s) whose proposal best meets the project objectives. The selected artist(s) will then work closely with the City of Mount Gambier to finalise plans and execute the Beacon Art Project.

## Artists Responsibility

City of Mount Gambier requires the successful artist to:

1. Manage and deliver the project within the agreed production schedule and budget.
2. Respond to the selected location and how it will be accessed by the public.
3. Work in accordance with best practice community cultural development principles and practices in the consultation, research, creative development, and design.
4. Deliver the project in accordance with an agreed set of project delivery milestones.
5. Hold a public liability insurance policy with a minimum \$20,000,000.
6. Engage a structural engineer to certify the design's material and structural strength. The City of Mount Gambier can provide engineering input via in-house staff if required. Should any additional assistance of Council be required in achieving the project outcome, this should be included in the EOI, detailed proposal and project budget.



## Selection Panel and Council Endorsement

An assessment panel comprising of representatives from the City of Mount Gambier and community members will review the EOIs. The panel will evaluate submissions based on the selection criteria detailed within this document.

A shortlist of artists will be presented to Council for endorsement. Once this has been completed, they will proceed to Stage 2.

## Key considerations

The EOI should include the following components:

- **Artist's Statement:** A concise statement introducing the artist or team, their background and their artistic philosophy limited to 250 words.
- **Concept Overview:** A brief description of the proposed art installation(s), highlighting how it aligns with the project objectives (vibrancy enhancement, cultural identity promotion, visitor attraction and city icon status) limited to 250 words.
- **Visual Representation:** Preliminary sketches, visualisations or images that illustrate the concept.
- **Location Proposal:** A description of the preferred location within the CBD and an explanation of why this location is suitable for the proposed art installation(s).
- **Budget Estimate:** A considered budget estimate for the proposed project, including anticipated costs for materials, labour, and any other relevant expenses.
- **Curriculum Vitae:** Detailing previous experience and education.
- **Contact Information:** Full contact details of the artist or team lead, including email address and phone number.





## Selection Criteria

The assessment panel will evaluate EOIs based on the following criteria to determine which artists will proceed to the second stage of the selection process:

- 1. Artistic Excellence (30%):** The quality and innovation of the proposed concept, as evidenced by the artist's portfolio and the visual representation provided in the EOI.
- 2. Alignment with Project Objectives (40%):** The extent to which the proposed installation(s) aligns with the project's vision and brief of responding to the unique geographic and cultural heritage of Mount Gambier, while enhancing vibrancy, promoting local identity, attracting visitors and becoming iconic to the city.
- 3. Feasibility (20%):** The feasibility of the proposed concept in terms of budget, materials, and technical requirements, as well as the suitability of the proposed location.
- 4. Experience (10%):** The artist's or team's experience and track record in successfully completing public art projects of a similar scale and nature.

## Reference Documents

The following documents will assist in providing further context to the Beacon Art Project and can be sourced at Council's website - [www.mountgambier.sa.gov.au](http://www.mountgambier.sa.gov.au)

- CBD Guiding Principles 2022
- Mount Gambier Public Arts Strategy
- Culture and Heritage Plan
- Reconciliation Action Plan

## Expression of Interest

EOIs, including all required content detailed above, are to be submitted by no later than 5pm on 30th April 2024.

EOI's can be:

- Received electronically via [city@mountgambier.sa.gov.au](mailto:city@mountgambier.sa.gov.au), or
- Delivered to City of Mount Gambier, 10 Watson Terrace, Mount Gambier, SA 5290.

### Timeline schedule

<b>Stage 1:</b> Expression of Interest (EOI)	Artists invited to submit EOI in the project	30th April 2024
Assessment of EOI's	EOI's assessed by the Assessment Panel and at least one applicant is shortlisted.	10th May 2024
Approval/Endorsement	EOI documents provided to Council for consideration and endorsement.	21st May 2024
<b>Stage 2:</b> Detailed Proposal (only required if shortlisted):	The selected artist(s) progress with detailed proposal work.	30th May 2024
Approval/Endorsement	Final concepts presented to Council for consideration and endorsement.	18th June 2024
Potential pause to clarify and consolidate funding*		
<b>Fabrication/Creation</b>	Artwork is created/fabricated.	17th June onwards
<b>Installation</b>	Installation is undertaken.	To be negotiated with successful applicant.
<b>Completion</b>	Artwork is complete and launched.	To be negotiated with successful applicant.

*\*Applicants should consider the value of a negotiated pause after the concept endorsement for the City of Mount Gambier to explore funding opportunities that maximise the work's potential.*

Please note that the proposed timeline may require flexibility based on the unique circumstances of the project, including the complexity of the artwork, any necessary approvals, and the availability of materials and resources.

Regular communication between the selected artist(s), the City of Mount Gambier and relevant stakeholders will be crucial to the successful execution of this public art project.





**Project contacts:**

All project enquiries should be made by contacting:

**Ashleigh Whatling**

**Director - Riddoch Arts and Cultural Centre and Cultural Development**

Phone: 08 8721 2555

Email: [awhatling@mountgambier.sa.gov.au](mailto:awhatling@mountgambier.sa.gov.au)





**ATTACHMENT A**

Potential sites for consideration.

It should be noted that these locations are provided for consideration only and artists are welcome to suggest any location within the CBD which may align to their vision for the Beacon Art Project.



1 Commercial Street  
West Civic Precinct



1 Inc. The Riddoch Arts  
and Cultural Centre /  
Institute / Town Hall.



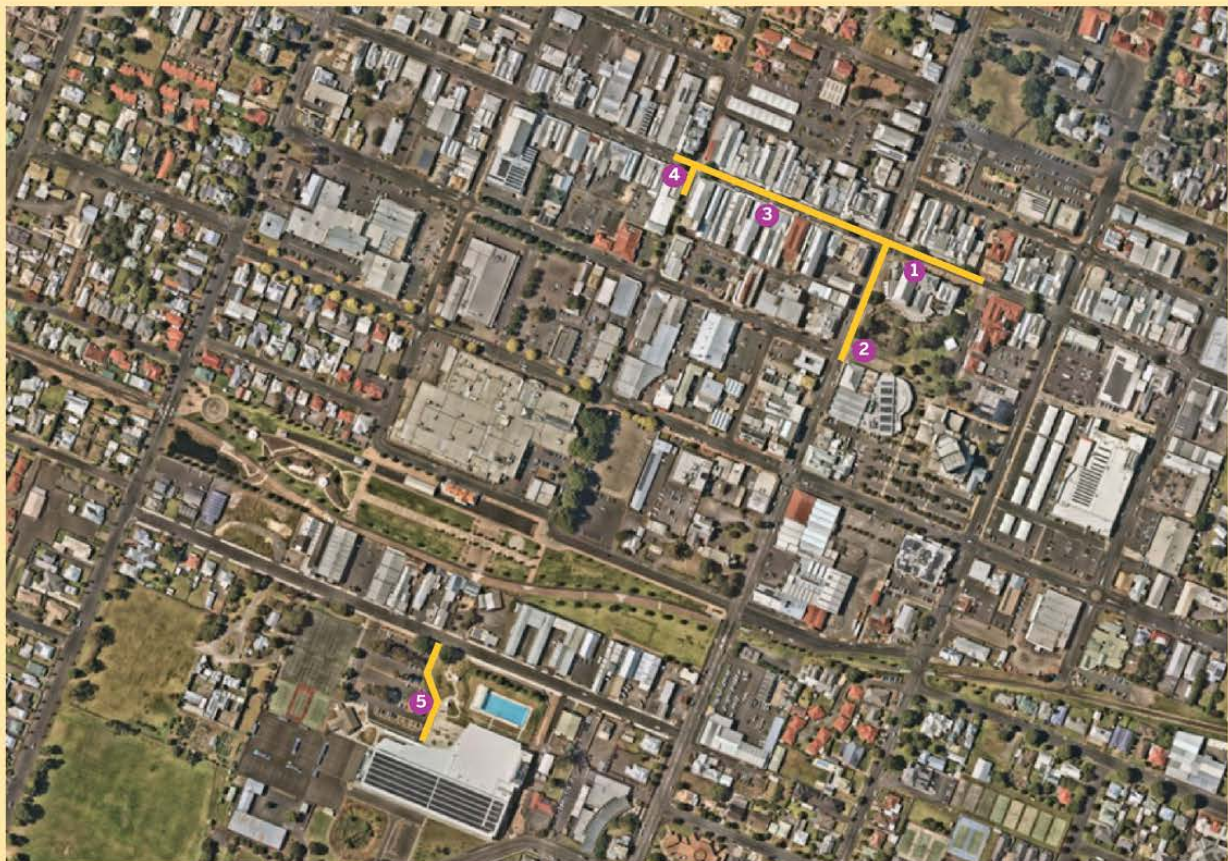
2 Bay Road adjacent  
Cave Garden/Thugi



2 Bay Road adjacent  
Cave Garden/Thugi



3 Commerce Arcade and  
Ripley Arcade laneway  
entrances



3 Commerce Arcade and  
Ripley Arcade laneway  
entrances



4 Gray Street - Pedestrian  
linkage to Wulanda Recreation  
and Convention Centre



4 Gray Street - Pedestrian  
linkage to Wulanda Recreation  
and Convention Centre



5 Wulanda Recreation  
and Convention Centre



5 Wulanda Recreation  
and Convention Centre



### ATTACHMENT B: CBD MAP

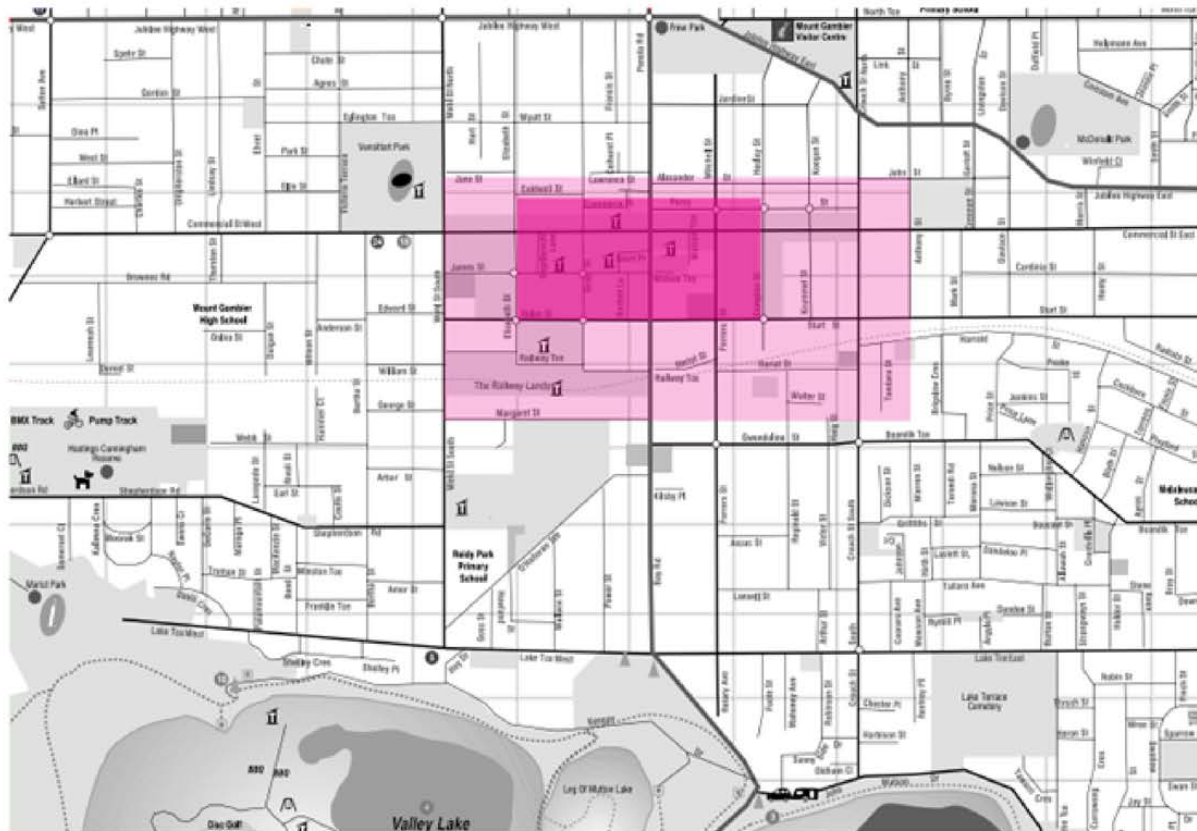
Excerpt from the Mount Gambier CBD Guiding Principles: 'The map below represents the CBD in its darker overlay, taking in to account the planning zone and representing the 'centre' CBD as a conceptual space not strictly aligned to activities or zones but as a target reference to guide principles from a physical space which corresponds to a common perception of the 'CBD'.

It draws on the nature of the long traditional retail strip of Commercial Street and the historical intersection of Commercial Street East and West with Bay Road and Penola Road but also encompasses the City of Mount Gambier cultural and civic precinct including The Riddoch Arts and Cultural Centre and Mount Gambier Library, City Hall and Institute Buildings as well as the Cave Garden/Thugi and Civic Centre, including the Sir Robert Helpmann Theatre.

This space as represented is from Compton Street to the east and Elizabeth Street in the west and from the line equivalent of Percy Street to the north and Helen/Sturt Streets to the south.

The lighter highlight is the widened block outward from Wehl Street in the west to Anthony Street in the east and from Alexander Street in the north to the line equivalent of Margaret Street in the south.

This space draws on the reference considerations of Vansittart Park in the west and the Wulanda Recreation and Convention Centre in the south, to Frew Park in the north. Again, this is a conceptual idea based on concentrating a perception of the CBD to guide activation strategy and guiding principles to assist in consideration for decision making for the City of Mount Gambier'.













### 18.3 CITY OF MOUNT GAMBIER STRATEGIC PLAN 2024 - 2028

Author: Tegan McPherson, Manager of Performance and Capability

Authoriser: Sarah Philpott, Chief Executive Officer

#### RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council report titled 'City of Mount Gambier Strategic Plan 2024 - 2028' as presented on Tuesday 19 November 2024 be noted.
2. That Council endorse the City of Mount Gambier Strategic Plan 2024 – 2028 as attached to this report.
3. The Council authorises the Chief Executive Officer, or their delegate, to make necessary changes or amendments, including editorial adjustments and final formatting and graphic design, provided these do not materially affect the document's integrity.

#### PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to summarise feedback received during community consultation and subsequent internal review, and to outline the resulting amendments for Council's consideration in endorsing the Strategic Plan 2024–2028 (Strategic Plan).

#### SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS AND BENEFITS

##### Implications

- The draft Strategic Plan was open for community engagement from 16 October to 7 November 2024. In addition to community consultation, further internal reviews, edits, and graphic design work have been undertaken to refine the document.
- The Strategic Plan is a requirement under the *Local Government Act 1999* and has been developed in accordance with the requirements of the Act.
- The Strategic Plan has been developed with consideration of Council's Long-Term Financial Plan to ensure there is capacity to deliver on the outcomes and objectives included.

##### Benefits

- The Strategic Plan has been informed by the aspirations, priorities and values articulated in the Community Vision – Mount Gambier 2035.
- The Strategic Plan will inform Council's work over the next four years to deliver on its Vision and Purpose, which are:
  - Vision:
    - Erupting with Potential: Embracing Our Past, Enhancing our Strengths and Shaping an Exciting Future.
  - Purpose:
    - We courageously pursue the community's vision.
    - We unashamedly advocate for our people and our place.
    - We are the best organisation we can be so that we can have the most impact.



## **BACKGROUND / OPTIONS**

In accordance with the Local Government Act 1999, Council is required to develop and adopt plans for the management of its area, collectively referred to as strategic management plans, over a period of at least 4 years. A comprehensive review of its strategic plans must be undertaken within 2 years after the general election of the council.

- On 13 December 2022, Council resolved that the following plans be declared as constituting the Strategic Management Plans of the Council:
  - Strategic Plan i.e. 2020-2024 Strategic Plan
  - Long Term Financial Plan i.e. 2023-2032 Long Term Financial Plan
  - Infrastructure & Asset Management Plans
- The Long-Term Financial Plan and Infrastructure and Asset Management Plans have been reviewed and updated within the prescribed period. With the current strategic plan expiring this year, Council has subsequently undertaken a comprehensive review to develop its new Strategic Plan.

### **To inform the review of its Strategic Plan, Council facilitated the development of a new Community Vision named Mount Gambier 2035.**

- Mount Gambier 2035 is a vision for the future of our city, developed by our community between November 2023 and June 2024.
- While City of Mount Gambier facilitated the process, many people beyond those living within Council's boundaries participate in and have a stake in the life of the city. Residents, workers, students, visitors, business owners, and anyone connected to Mount Gambier were invited to contribute to this vision.
- Community members and key stakeholders contributed their stories, ideas and perspectives throughout two consultation phases. This input was then used by a Community Panel to inform their thinking and discussions to shape the vision for Mount Gambier's future.
- This Strategic Plan is Council's articulation of its role in contributing the community vision over the next four years.

**The Strategic Priorities outlined in the Strategic Plan include those directly derived from Mount Gambier 2035, along with the addition of a sixth priority that highlights Council's strong commitment to accountable leadership and governance.**





**The structure of the Strategic Plan is designed to meet the requirements of the Local Government Act 1999, while ensuring it remains a clear and practical document to guide Council’s work over the next four years.**

- It presents Council’s vision and purpose statements and summary of the organisational values that guide the way we do our work. It then presents Council’s key priorities and actions under six strategic priorities.
- Council held a workshop on 1 October 2024 to consider the draft Strategic Plan.
- At Council’s October Council meeting it approved the release of the draft Strategic Plan for community engagement and feedback.

**A community consultation and engagement process for the draft Strategic Plan was undertaken between 16 October 2024 and 7 November 2024.**

- The details associated with this community consultation and engagement process are covered later in this report.
- A summary of the feedback and amendments made are as follows:
  - Editorial revisions and improvements made for clarity and interpretation.
  - Inclusion of commentary relating to our visitor economy under the ‘Our Economy’ section of the introductory pages.
  - Inclusion of our work that supports local habitats under the ‘Environment and Liveability’ strategic priority.
  - Inclusion of our work with Traditional Owners in the development of cultural heritage management plans and application of cultural land management practices under the ‘Environment and Liveability’ strategic priority.
  - Removed the objective to ‘Provide opportunities for start ups to develop and grow’ under the ‘Learning and Innovation’ strategic priority as it was a duplication of objective 4.2 under ‘Economic and Business Growth’.
  - Consolidated objectives 3.12. and 3.13 to one objective under the ‘Infrastructure and Services’ strategic priority to reduce duplication.
  - Updated the wording associated with the asset management planning framework under the ‘Key Projects’ section of ‘Infrastructure and Services’ to

reflect that the key outcome for this work is to ensure that work programs and projects are well planned and budgeted for delivery.

- Updated the wording to improve the clarity of objective 4.3 under the 'Economic and Business Growth' strategic priority and the corresponding reference under 'Key Projects'.
- Updated the wording to improve the clarity of objective 4.6 under the 'Economic and Business Growth' strategic priority.
- Moved objective and key project associated with reconciliation and recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples from the 'A Vibrant Community' strategic priority to 'Excellence in Leadership and Governance' strategic priority to improve alignment.
- Updated the wording to improve the clarity of objective 5.8 (now 5.7) under the 'A Vibrant Community' strategic priority.
- Updated the wording to improve the clarity of objective 5.9 (now 5.8) under the 'A Vibrant Community' strategic priority.
- Removed the objective to 'Celebrate and elevate the cultural profiles of our multicultural communities and support inclusive programs that and services that welcome and integrate diverse groups' under 'A Vibrant Community' strategic priority as it was a duplication of objective 5.8 (now 5.7) under the same strategic priority.
- Updated the wording to improve the clarity of objective 5.15 (now 5.13) under the 'A Vibrant Community' strategic priority.
- Updated wording associated with the beacon art initiative under the 'Key Projects' section of 'A Vibrant Community' as the project will engage with an artist selected through our expression of interest process.
- A placeholder strategic measure and indicator have been added in response to feedback identifying a gap in the existing measures, given the significance of the Environment and Liveability strategic priority. This approach ensures that as Council enhances its capacity to track and measure the city's environmental impact, a comprehensive measure can be introduced at a later stage.

#### DETAILED IMPLICATIONS

<b>Legal</b>	<p>Council must ensure that its Strategic Management Plans meet the requirements of the <i>Local Government Act 1999</i>.</p> <p>The community engagement process for the Strategic Plan must be undertaken in accordance with 122(6) of the Local Government Act 1999 to ensure members of the public are given a reasonable opportunity to be involved in the development and review of the Strategic Plan.</p>
<b>Financial and Budget</b>	The Strategic Plan has been developed with consideration of Council's Long Term Financial Plan.
<b>Other Resources</b>	The Strategic Plan has been developed with consideration of Council's suite of Asset Management Plans.

#### RISK ANALYSIS

Consequence	Consequence Rating:	Risk Likelihood Rating:	Risk Rating	Risk Controls and effectiveness	Risk Mitigation Plan
-------------	---------------------	-------------------------	-------------	---------------------------------	----------------------



<b>Finance</b>	Minor (2)	Unlikely (2)	Low	Council regularly reviews its Long Term Financial Plan to ensure capacity to deliver against its Strategic Plan. Consideration of the current Long Term Financial Plan has been given in developing the new Strategic Plan.	Regular review of the Long Term Financial Plan and annual phasing of work in accordance with Annual Business Plans and Budgets.
<b>Reputation</b>	Minor (2)	Unlikely (2)	Moderate	Council's planning has been informed by the Community Vision – Mount Gambier 2035 – to ensure our work is aligned to community aspirations, priorities and values.	Community engagement and consultation has been undertaken. Regular reporting will be provided to the community on progress against the Strategic Plan in Council's annual report.
<b>Legal / Regulatory / Policy</b>	Minor (2)	Unlikely (2)	Low	Review of Strategic Plan against requirements of the <i>Local Government Act 1999</i> .	Review of Strategic Plan against requirements of the <i>Local Government Act 1999</i> .
<b>Service Delivery</b>	Minor (2)	Unlikely (2)	Low	The Strategic Plan guides the work of Council for the next four years with continuation of existing services and programs.	Annual Business Planning and Budgeting will phase strategic work to ensure no impact to regular service delivery.
<b>People</b>	Minor (2)	Unlikely (2)	Low	Workforce initiatives are contained within the Strategic Plan.	Development of a workforce planning framework.





<b>Infrastructure</b>	Moderate (3)	Unlikely (2)	Moderate	Infrastructure initiatives are contained within the Strategic Plan.	Review and regular updates to Infrastructure and Asset Management Plans.
<b>Environmental</b>	Minor (2)	Unlikely (2)	Low	Environmental initiatives and commitments are contained within the Strategic Plan.	Delivery of environmental and sustainability initiatives.

**APPLICATION OF MOUNT GAMBIER 2035**

**Environment and Liveability**

Council has incorporated outcomes and actions that contribute to the Environment and Liveability Strategic Priority.

**Learning and Innovation**

Council has incorporated outcomes and actions that contribute to the Learning and Innovation Strategic Priority.

**Infrastructure and Services**

Council has incorporated outcomes and actions that contribute to the Infrastructure and Services Strategic Priority.

**Economic and Business Growth**

Council has incorporated outcomes and actions that contribute to the Economic and Business Growth Strategic Priority.

**A Vibrant Community**

Council has incorporated outcomes and actions that contribute to A Vibrant Community Strategic Priority.

**APPLICATION OF STRATEGIC PLAN**

N/A

**RELEVANT COUNCIL POLICY**

[Community Consultation and Engagement - P195](#)

**IMPLEMENTATION, COMMUNICATION AND ENGAGEMENT**

**A community consultation and engagement process for the draft Strategic Plan, compliant with the requirements of section 122(6) of the Local Government Act 1999 and Council’s Community Consultation and Engagement Policy P195, was undertaken between 16 October 2024 and 7 November 2024.**

The community consultation and engagement strategy included the following elements:

- Information available and submissions able to be made via a dedicated page on Have Your Say Mount Gambier,



- Media release which resulted in an article in SE Voice on 22 October 2024 and in the Border Watch on 1 November 2024. Radio interview with the CEO on Triple M on 18 October 2024.
- Social media posts/ campaign,
- Direct correspondence with key stakeholders inviting feedback,
- Promotion internally with Council staff to provide input and feedback,
- Documents available for review at the Civic Centre,
- Consultation open for a minimum of 21 days,
- Feedback to be considered by Council as part of endorsing the final Strategic Plan.

**During the community consultation period a range of feedback was captured internally from staff, and 4 feedback submissions were received. While this was a low engagement consultation, there is no indication that the community were unaware of the, or the opportunity to provide feedback. There are a few reasons that have been considered for the low engagement:**

- The Strategic Plan concludes an extensive engagement program that began with the Mount Gambier 2035 initiative in November 2023. Informed by the Mount Gambier 2035 community vision and community consultations from November 2023 to June 2024, the Strategic Plan reflects this comprehensive input. As a result, some community members may have had no further input or may have experienced engagement fatigue due to the sustained focus on long-term planning.
- The dedicated page on Have Your Say Mount Gambier for the Strategic Plan required individuals to registered if they wanted to make a submission. In some instances this can be a barrier to people providing their feedback.

**Some statistics indicating awareness/ engagement in the consultation include:**

- 225 visitors to the dedicated Have Your Say Mount Gambier page.
- 136 downloads of the draft Strategic Plan by 109 of the visitors to the dedicated Have Your Say Mount Gambier page.
- 1,760 people reached with the Facebook post on 17 October (Mayor's Council meeting outcomes video),
- 1,343 people reached with the Facebook post on 21 October,
- 171 people reached with the Facebook story on 24 October,
- 387 people reached with the Instagram story on 24 October,
- 331 people reached with the Facebook story on 1 November,
- 433 people reached with the Facebook post on 4 November,
- 251 people reached with the Facebook story on 5 November, and
- 121 people reached with the Instagram story on 5 November.

**Summary of changes resulting from the feedback received are covered in the Background section of this report.**

**Once the final Strategic Plan is endorsed, it will become the overarching strategic document that informs Council's ongoing planning and reporting, in particular, the development of our next Annual Business Plan and Budget.**

- Reporting against the Strategic Plan will be conducted annually and published within Council's Annual Report.

## **CONCLUSION**

It is proposed that Council review and note and endorse the City of Mount Gambier Strategic Plan 2024 – 2028.



**ATTACHMENTS**

- 1. City of Mount Gambier - Strategic Plan 2024-2028 [18.3.1 - 28 pages]





Strategic Plan 2024 – 2028



## A volcanic past with a crystal clear future

**A land of volcanoes, sinkholes, caves and crater lakes.  
A place to find a deep sense of belonging amidst  
captivating landscapes and a vibrant community.**

Being from Mount Gambier is about belonging.  
A connection to place.

The Mount Gambier community has developed a vision  
- Mount Gambier 2035 - to inform what we want the  
community and city to look like in 2035, informed by the  
city's inherent strengths and shared values.

*In 2035, Mount Gambier is a connected hub nestled  
on the slopes of an ancient volcano; a haven of natural  
beauty. It is a place of stories, where our community  
is family, nurtured through growth, opportunity and  
connection.*

The vision identifies five Strategic Priorities to ensure the  
achievement of this vision:

**1. Environmental and Liveability**

We are custodians of the landscape, committed to  
protecting and preserving our natural environments,  
creating a liveable city.

**2. Learning and Innovation**

A regional learning hub that fosters innovation and  
local industries.

**3. Infrastructure and Services**

A high quality, affordable lifestyle where people are  
happy, healthy and housed and able to access all  
available resources.

**4. Economic and Business Growth**

A creative, entrepreneurial mindset that creates a  
thriving, resilient community.

**5. A Vibrant Community**

Events, activities, sport and recreation all contributing  
to a vibrant city during the day, at night and across all  
seasons.

These priorities are grounded in three key principles that  
inform everything we do: Connected, Accessible and  
Sustainable.



## Council's Vision

### **Erupting with Potential: Embracing Our Past, Enhancing our Strengths and Shaping an Exciting Future**

Embracing our volcanic past, the City of Mount Gambier partners with our communities to build on the strength of our landscape and our connections to shape a sustainable future. Together, we elevate the city's prominence, ignite new opportunities and ensure a thriving, liveable environment for everyone.

## Council's Purpose

We courageously pursue the community's vision.

We unashamedly advocate for our people and our place.

We are the best organisation we can be so that we can have the most impact.

## Council's Values

With the community and safety at the forefront of everything we do, our values are:

**Lead**

**Connect**

**Deliver**



**Acknowledgement  
of Country**

Mount Gambier/Berrin sits upon the land of the Boandik Peoples. We acknowledge the Boandik Peoples as the traditional custodians of the land. We respect their spiritual relationship with the land and recognise the deep feelings of attachment our First Nations peoples have with the land.



## Contents

Council's Vision, Purpose and Values	1
Acknowledgement of Country	2
Mayor's Introduction	4
Our Council	5
Our City	6
Our Environment	7
Our Economy	
<b>Strategic Priorities</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Priority 1:</b> Environment and Liveability	10
<b>Priority 2:</b> Learning and Innovation	12
<b>Priority 3:</b> Infrastructure and Services	14
<b>Priority 4:</b> Economic and Business Growth	16
<b>Priority 5:</b> A Vibrant Community	18
<b>Priority 6:</b> Excellence in Leadership and Governance	20
Our Strategic Measures and Indicators	22
How to read this plan	23
Our Role	24



## Mayor's Introduction

**Shaping the future of Mount Gambier requires both vision and commitment to long-term planning. As South Australia's regional capital, our city plays a pivotal role in driving development and prosperity for the Limestone Coast region.**

This Strategic Plan charts a path to achieve our long-term goals, focusing on the environment and liveability, fostering learning and innovation, enhancing infrastructure and services, stimulating economic and business growth and building a vibrant community—all guided by responsible leadership and governance.

Our Plan aspires to protect and enhance Mount Gambier's unique natural environments, which are central to our identity and character. It seeks to create an environment for learning and innovation that supports our community and local businesses, while ensuring that our city remains a great place to live, with accessible, high-quality infrastructure and services. We aim to drive a resilient local economy, foster a vibrant visitor experience, and nurture a lively, inclusive community through strategic placemaking, social cohesion efforts and cultural initiatives that honour the unique character of our city and its people.

Our community is an integral part of our Strategic Plan. We have worked hard to ensure the aspirations and values expressed in our community vision, Mount Gambier 2035, are reflected in what Council commits to over the next four years.

This Strategic Plan is more than a roadmap; it is our commitment to Mount Gambier's future through bold decision-making and thoughtful choices that align with our community's vision—ultimately enhancing the lives of all who call our city home.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lynette Martin'.

**Lynette Martin OAM**  
Mount Gambier Mayor



## Our Council

Our Council Members for the 2022 - 2026 term of Council:



Lynette Martin OAM  
Her Worship the Mayor



Cr Max Bruins



Cr Sonya Meziniec



Cr Josh Lynagh



Cr Paul Jenner



Cr Frank Morello



Cr Kate Amoroso



Cr Mark Lovett



Cr Jason Virgo



## Our City

Mount Gambier is South Australia's regional capital, home to 28,000 people but central to the lives of 135,000 people who access the city for services, employment, education, entertainment, sport and recreation.

We strive to create vibrancy, promote our identity and build on our reputation as a place to live, work, visit and invest. A focus on delivering outstanding urban design and place making will enhance liveability and attract investment.

With the Riddoch Arts and Cultural Centre, the nationally recognised Mount Gambier Library and the construction of Council's largest ever infrastructure project, Wulanda Recreation and Convention Centre, these projects demonstrate Council's commitment to outstanding infrastructure and services for its community.

In line with this commitment, this Strategic Plan outlines a range of projects and initiatives that will provide direction for the future development and management of Council's spaces.

POPULATION

**27,771**  
residents

*6.2% growth  
over 10 years*

LAND AREA

**33.88**  
square km

*in City of  
Mount Gambier*

MEDIAN HOUSE PRICE

**\$421,350**

*median house price 65.2%  
increase over 5 years*

MEDIAN AGE

**41**

*years old is the median  
age for people residing in  
Mount Gambier*



## Our Environment

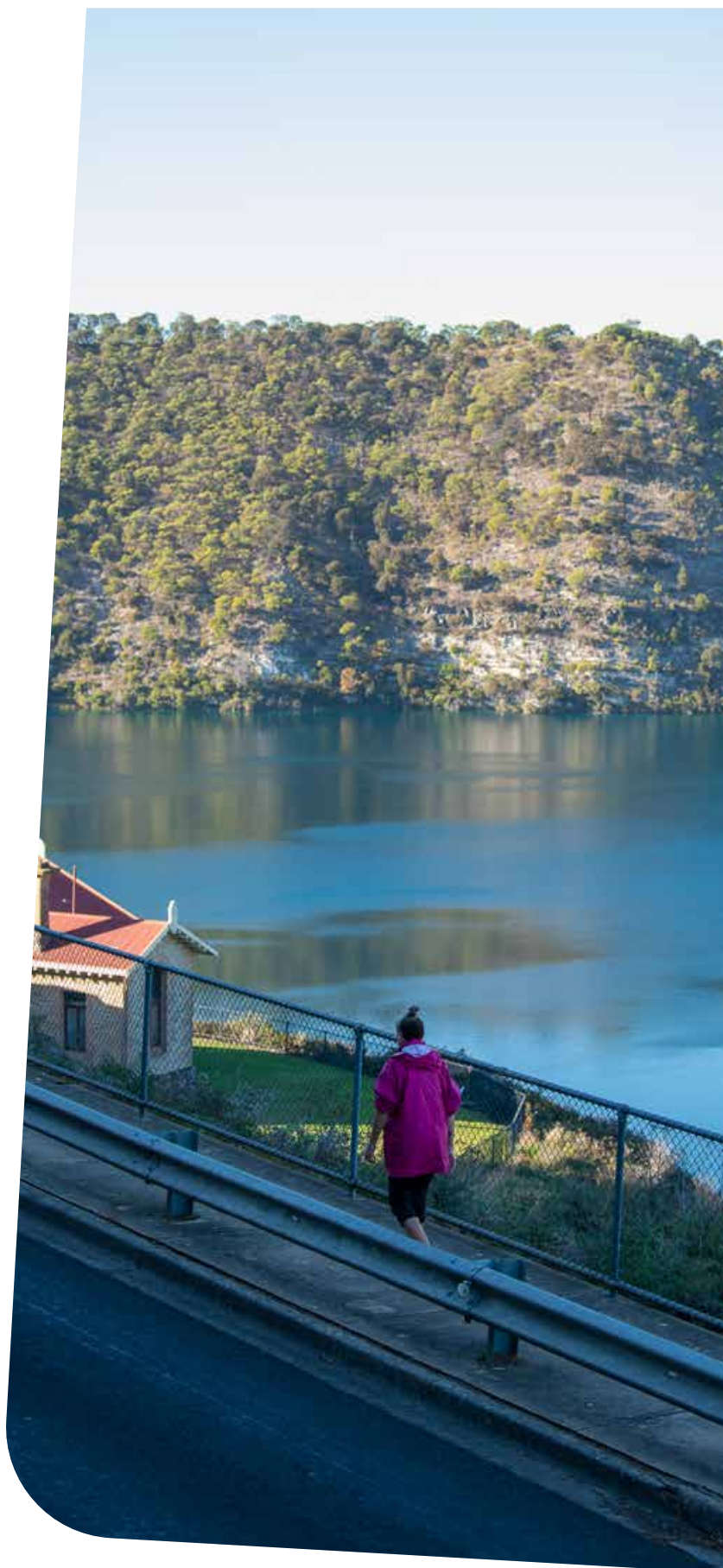
**With a moody and overcast landscape in which to pursue your sense of curiosity and wonder, our unique landscape and story positions us nationally and globally with a strong authentic offering.**

Mount Gambier is home to some of Australia's most spectacular natural wonders. Prehistoric caves and sinkholes include Umpherston Sinkhole/Balumbul, Cave Garden/Thugi, Crater Lakes and Blue Lake/Warwar. All of these sites are an integral part of Mount Gambier. They contribute to the liveability of our city and are an important connection to culture and the natural environment.

Our location along the Melbourne to Adelaide travel corridor provides excellent connectivity. Mount Gambier is a key hub between major cities and national landmarks.

Our community thrives on its deep connection to its natural surroundings. We value sustainability and environmental stewardship. We enjoy the benefits of city amenities within a regional setting. The focus on sustainable growth, alongside innovation and accessibility, highlights the city's dedication to fostering a vibrant, supportive community that values both its people and its environment.

The provision of dual naming at significant sites across our city is important in acknowledging the Boandik Peoples as the Traditional Owners and custodians of the land.





## Our Economy

**Mount Gambier is the economic hub for the Limestone Coast region.**

As the regional centre of the Limestone Coast and Western Victoria, we have a role and responsibility to drive the development agenda in this corner of Australia.

The city's economic heartbeat is reflected in its steady growth, driven by a diverse range of industries including health, forestry and agriculture, construction, retail trade and education. Strong local industry creates a compelling environment for economic opportunity and growth.

Our visitor economy thrives on the unique natural assets that establish us as a sought-after destination for travellers both near and far. Our visitor experience continues to evolve as we shape immersive experiences and storytelling that resonate with individuals and fosters a deep connection to this place.

Council is committed to driving sustainable growth, aligning with the values of our community.

GROSS REGIONAL  
PRODUCT

**\$1.75B**  
in 2023

*1.5% growth since 2022*

BUSINESS

**2,078**  
local businesses

*increase of 95 businesses  
over two years*

VISITOR ECONOMY

**\$215M**

*total visitor  
economy value*

EMPLOYMENT

**13,449**  
employed  
residents

**14,532**  
jobs in  
Mount Gambier

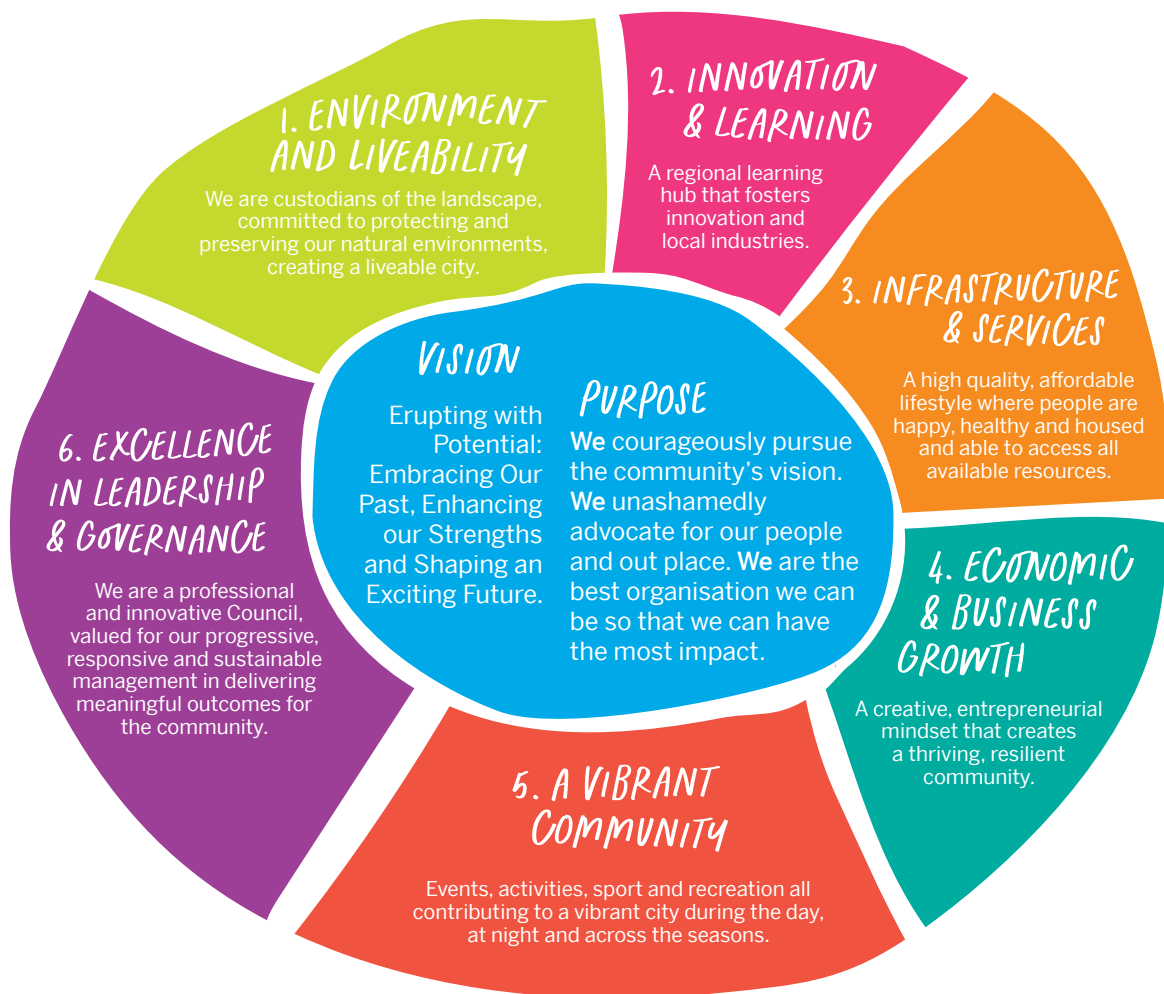


## Strategic Priorities

**Council's Strategic Plan 2024–2028 outlines the overarching goals for the next four years, guiding resource allocation and establishing a framework for measuring and reporting progress.**

The Plan responds directly to the community's vision, addressing the needs and aspirations of those who live, work, study, or visit Mount Gambier. It reflects the core principles of connection, accessibility and sustainability, which the community has identified as essential to everything we do.

The plan sets out the outcomes the community can expect from Council's actions over the next four years, organised under six strategic priorities. These priorities include the five from the Community Vision – Mount Gambier 2035, along with a sixth priority highlighting Council's commitment to strong, accountable leadership and governance.





## Priority 1: Environment and Liveability

*'We are custodians of the landscape, committed to protecting and preserving our natural environments, creating a liveable city.'*

### What success looks like...

Council will prioritise actions to protect and enhance our natural environments that support the liveability of Mount Gambier. Key outcomes include:

- Our environment is protected and restored, with the volcanic landscape, unique aquifer, volcanic soils and ancient heritage preserved as key natural areas of our identity and character.
- Our city is a leader in resource sustainability.
- Our city's green corridors and urban biodiversity are enhanced through sustainable land management and the seamless integration of path networks.

### Over the next four years Council will:

- 1.1. Position the region's unique natural features, green corridors and biodiversity at the core of our storytelling to connect the community and travellers to Mount Gambier's natural identity.
- 1.2. Effectively manage recreational activities to prevent environmental impacts to our key natural areas.
- 1.3. Promote community involvement in contributing as custodians of our natural and green spaces.
- 1.4. Protect and preserve the Crater Lakes Precinct through various initiatives, including effective weed management and a thoughtfully connected design for a sustainable track and trail network.
- 1.5. Invest in technology and effective data management that enhances understanding of the city's environmental impact, informs sustainable practices and provides a reporting framework to track progress.
- 1.6. Collaborate with the community to reduce waste by boosting awareness and participation in resource recovery and promoting best practices in recycling and waste management.
- 1.7. Demonstrate leadership in sustainability through resource efficiency, adapting to climate change and supporting the community in these efforts.
- 1.8. Strengthen the city's connection to nature by enhancing green corridors with native vegetation and creating pathway linkages that connect urban areas to key natural assets, acknowledging the critical role these assets play in our visitor economy and the city's vibrancy.
- 1.9. Implement comprehensive land restoration and management by regenerating native flora, managing weeds effectively and designing spaces that improve biodiversity, integrate endemic species and support local habitats.
- 1.10. Establish clear roles and classifications for all green spaces to ensure best-practice land management and regeneration.
- 1.11. In consultation with Traditional Owners, pursue the development of cultural heritage management plans for sites of cultural significance such as the Crater Lakes Precinct. Explore the suitability and application of cultural land management practices, such as cool burning, as part of the ongoing management of these areas.

The key projects we will undertake include:

Project	Council's Role
Work with key stakeholders to progress the Vision and Guiding Principles of the Crater Lakes Activation Plan and Crater Lakes Trails Plan to ensure the area fulfils its critical role in enabling cultural connection, improves liveability in our community and enhances the visitor experience.	DELIVER PARTNER ADVOCATE
Implementation of agreed actions under our Waste Management Strategy.	DELIVER
Master planning for our resource recovery and waste management services to ensure best practice for the future.	DELIVER
Collaboration with key stakeholders to protect and enhance the health and sustainability of the city's aquifer system, water resources and productive volcanic soils, ensuring both quality and quantity are preserved.	PARTNER ADVOCATE
Advocacy to minimise the impacts of urban sprawl and ensure that new developments provide access to high-quality, multi-use green spaces, along with adequate water and sewer infrastructure.	PARTNER ADVOCATE
Review and update Community Land Management Plans.	DELIVER PARTNER

Supporting strategies and plans:

- Community Land Management Plans,
- Crater Lakes Trails Plan,
- Crater Lakes Trails Plan, and
- Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy 2023 - 2030.



## Priority 2: Learning and Innovation

*'A regional learning hub that fosters innovation and local industries.'*

### What success looks like...

Council is dedicated to creating a supportive environment for learning and innovation that helps our community and local businesses thrive. Key outcomes include:

- Local businesses and entrepreneurial activities flourish through opportunities for collaboration and development.
- Our city attracts and retains a skilled workforce for regional growth, development and succession planning.
- Our community members are inspired to learn at any age, achieving a holistic and comprehensive approach to personal growth and development.

### Over the next four years Council will:

- 2.1. Strengthen sector relationships to identify gaps and opportunities for representation and the potential benefits of new technology, to support a diverse and sustainable economy in Mount Gambier.
- 2.2. Provide resources and programs that foster creativity and curiosity within businesses and the broader community.
- 2.3. Partner with key organisations to enhance the value of the knowledge economy, driving innovation and growth while leveraging our new education and training precinct.
- 2.4. Address the diverse needs of our community with accessible and inclusive spaces that promote creativity, learning, build connections and ensure a welcoming and safe environment.
- 2.5. Foster partnerships with universities, business groups and government entities to better understand and address the future skills needs of local businesses.
- 2.6. Support the improvement of social inclusion opportunities for new residents in order to retain skills.
- 2.7. Deliver programs and services that enhance engagement across all age groups including creating better community connection and skill sharing.

The key projects we will undertake include:

Project	Council's Role
Advocate for the integration of local industry needs into training programs - including those at the Mount Gambier Education and Training Precinct - to provide students with direct access to regional employment opportunities.	PARTNER ADVOCATE
Contribution to regional workforce planning and development activities in partnership with Regional Development Australia Limestone Coast.	PARTNER ADVOCATE
Implementation of the Mount Gambier Library Strategy 2023 -2027 so that our library fosters curiosity and builds connections that deliver life shaping experiences for all	DELIVER
Advocacy for attraction of skilled migration aligned to sector gaps and opportunities.	PARTNER ADVOCATE

Supporting strategies and plans:

- Mount Gambier Library Strategy 2023 – 2027,
- Mount Gambier Children's Charter, and
- Youth Engagement Strategy.





## Priority 3: Infrastructure and Services

*'A high quality, affordable lifestyle where people are happy, healthy and housed and able to access all available resources.'*

### What success looks like...

Council will work to enhance the enviable living environment in our city through accessible and quality infrastructure and services. Key outcomes include:

- Our city is connected through a safe, inclusive and seamless integrated transport network.
- Our quality infrastructure provides equitable access to information, services, activities and facilities.
- Our urban environment is thoughtfully designed to adapt to our diverse and growing city, ensuring access to affordable and varied housing options that meet community needs.
- Our community spaces are inclusive, safe and accessible, promoting active, healthy and connected lifestyles through enhanced open spaces, quality recreation areas and supportive infrastructure.

### Over the next four years Council will:

- 3.1. Work with partners to increase active and diverse transport measures so drivers, cyclists and pedestrians can safely and easily move within the city.
- 3.2. Increase the use of green modes of transport and encourage an active lifestyle by developing accessible and well-planned path networks.
- 3.3. We will advocate with key stakeholders to attract investment in the development of a safe, inclusive and integrated transport network that enhances connectivity within and beyond our city, ensuring it is equivalent to the infrastructure provided in the State's metropolitan areas.
- 3.4. Conduct a review of Council's asset management planning approach to implement asset improvements that ensure assets are fit for purpose and adaptable to changing community needs, while managing maintenance service levels and asset lifecycles to optimise longevity and achieve service efficiency.
- 3.5. Support the maintenance, development and operation of bold and interesting community, cultural and civic places and infrastructure, including the Wulanda Recreation and Convention Centre.
- 3.6. Continue to support and advocate for the health services and facilities that our community needs and attract funding and investment that is equivalent to that provided to our State's metropolitan areas.
- 3.7. Ensure that all community members have equitable access to the resources, services, programs, information and social infrastructure, enabling meaningful participation in the community.
- 3.8. Promote bold, diverse and purposeful development that meets the evolving needs of our community and city; enhancing our city's character and liveability through master planning, policy and development assessment.
- 3.9. Protect, share and elevate our heritage and significant places, maintaining their character while encouraging adaptive reuse, repurposing and upgrading of buildings.
- 3.10. Support increased residential growth, diversity of housing options and affordability through partnerships and advocacy.
- 3.11. Work with partners to support services available for community rough sleeping and homelessness.
- 3.12. Effectively and efficiently manage Council owned and controlled land holdings to meet the needs of the community and advance our strategic objectives.
- 3.13. Improve the quality and safety of, and access to, our active open space facilities, including our sporting and recreation reserves.
- 3.14. Provide play experiences that are attractive to a range of ages.
- 3.15. Improve community safety and wellbeing through proactive information and regulatory services.

The key projects we will undertake include:

Project	Council's Role
Continued advocacy to enhance connectivity within and beyond our city through investment and infrastructure that supports accessible public bus services, reliable air travel and rail networks for both freight and passenger transport.	PARTNER ADVOCATE
Continued advocacy for the primary health care and preventative health services that service our region across the Limestone Coast and Western Victoria.	PARTNER ADVOCATE
Progression of the goals and priorities of our Affordable Housing Plan for Mount Gambier.	PARTNER ADVOCATE
Support the Regional Plan for Limestone Coast by guiding city growth, development and amenity needs, while promoting diverse housing options.	PARTNER ADVOCATE
Continued implementation of the goals and priorities outlined in our Sport, Recreation and Open Space Strategy.	DELIVER PARTNER ADVOCATE
Shape the urban form of our city through that application of strategic urban design and place making principles.	DELIVER ADVOCATE
Work with key stakeholders to create a master plan for Hastings Cunningham Reserve ensuring it is developed in alignment with community needs and aspirations. We will also advocate for the required funding to redevelop this site in accordance with the master plan.	DELIVER PARTNER ADVOCATE
Work with key stakeholders to create a master plan for Olympic Park ensuring this precinct is developed in alignment with community needs and aspirations. We will also advocate for the required funding to redevelop this site in accordance with the master plan.	DELIVER PARTNER ADVOCATE
Continue to work with key stakeholders and advocate for funding support for the detailed design and implementation of the Blue Lake Sports Park Master Plan.	DELIVER PARTNER ADVOCATE
Review and update our asset management planning framework to enhance our Infrastructure and Asset Management Plans ensuring that work programs are well planned and budgeted for delivery.	DELIVER
Delivery of a refreshed Disability Access and Inclusion Plan underpinning our approach to disability access and inclusion.	DELIVER PARTNER
Delivery of a refreshed Regional Public Health Plan underpinning our approach to the health and wellbeing of our community.	DELIVER PARTNER
Review and implement renewed by-laws which respond to community needs by 2025.	DELIVER
Develop and deliver a Property Management Strategy that informs Council's management, acquisition and disposal of community land and property.	DELIVER
Progression and the implementation of the priorities and actions in the Shared Path Master Plan.	DELIVER PARTNER ADVOCATE
Development of a play strategy that informs the provision of play experiences that are attractive to a range of ages.	DELIVER PARTNER
Implementation of strategies and actions outlined in our Dog and Cat Management Plan.	DELIVER PARTNER ADVOCATE

Supporting strategies and plans:

- Dog and Cat Management Plan 2024 – 2028,
- City of Mount Gambier Affordable Housing Plan,
- Asset Management Plans,
- Disability Access and Inclusion Plan,
- Location master plans,
- Regional Public Health Plan,
- Sport Recreation and Open Space Strategy, and
- Shared Path Master Plan.



## Priority 4: Economic and Business Growth

*'A creative, entrepreneurial mindset that creates a thriving, resilient community.'*

### What success looks like...

Council is committed to achieving strategic outcomes that drive a resilient local economy and a thriving visitor economy. Key outcomes include:

- Our resilient local economy is supported by diverse industries and employment opportunities, enhanced by connectivity through modern freight networks and efficient transportation.
- Our visitor economy thrives through collaboration in sharing our story via immersive experiences with our unique natural and cultural assets.

### Over the next four years Council will:

- 4.1. Implement process efficiencies that support small, medium and large-scale businesses to open and thrive in our city.
- 4.2. Collaborate with local businesses, ensuring their sustainability and contribution to Mount Gambier's communities and brand.
- 4.3. Advocate for and support modern, efficient freight networks to improve supply chain connections and the movement of goods in and out of Mount Gambier.
- 4.4. Collaborate with partners to enhance the maturity of local businesses, supporting innovation and product development while effectively promoting new offerings to drive sustainable economic growth and market competitiveness.
- 4.5. Foster partnerships with universities, business groups and government entities to attract and retain talent and advocate for identified skill gaps.
- 4.6. Strengthen the collective offering of Mount Gambier to enhance the visitor economy by collaborating with local businesses to improve services and experiences, extend opening hours and ensure relevance to travellers, fostering greater prosperity.
- 4.7. Continue to provide best practice traveller-centric information and storytelling through multiple formats.
- 4.8. Explore opportunities for travellers to contribute to the preservation and enhancement of places and spaces valued by our community.
- 4.9. Create a strong Mount Gambier brand that fosters community pride, offers authenticity to travellers and generates shared and earned media.
- 4.10. Enhance Mount Gambier's appeal as a year-round destination through marketing, events and infrastructure.

The key projects we will undertake include:

Project	Council's Role
Work with key stakeholders to create a master plan for Umpherston Sinkhole/Balumbul that ensures the area fulfils its critical role in enabling cultural connection, enhances the visitor experience and regenerates the natural area. We will also advocate for the required funding to redevelop this site in accordance with the master plan.	PARTNER DELIVER ADVOCATE
Work with key stakeholders to create a master plan for Vansittart Park ensuring it can host finals and exhibition games that contribute to the local economy. We will also advocate for the required funding to redevelop this site in accordance with the master plan.	PARTNER DELIVER ADVOCATE
Implementation of a hub and spoke visitor servicing model where the hub attracts visitors to our CBD and spoke sites enhance the visitor experience and promotes sustainable engagement with the city's diverse offerings.	DELIVER
Implementation of signage and wayfinding that improves ease of navigation throughout the city, ensuring that both residents and visitors can effortlessly access key destinations and attractions.	DELIVER
Advocacy for and support of the development of modern, efficient intermodal freight networks and transport systems to improve supply chain connections and the movement of goods in and out of Mount Gambier	ADVOCATE
Establish and evolve a Retention, Attraction and Investment Framework and platform that promotes Mount Gambier as a key location to live, work, visit and invest.	PARTNER DELIVER ADVOCATE

Supporting strategies and plans:

- Location master plans.





## Priority 5: A Vibrant Community

*'Events, activities, sport and recreation all contributing to a vibrant city during the day, at night and across the seasons.'*

### What success looks like...

Council aims to cultivate a vibrant community through strategic place making, enhancing social cohesion and providing arts and culture initiatives that celebrate the unique character of our city and its people.

Key outcomes include:

- Our CBD and key inner-city spaces are thriving, welcoming, functional and sustainable, fostering a sense of belonging while celebrating our diversity, culture and history.
- We are a city renowned for our social and cultural diversity, creativity and heritage, supporting diverse events and experiences that bring people together and enhance social connection.
- Our city is known as a regional destination for arts and cultural experiences with a community enriched by arts, culture and live entertainment initiatives.

### Over the next four years Council will:

- 5.1. Define a clear vision and action plan for the CBD which guides decision making and supports its ongoing growth as a vital economic, social and cultural hub for our community.
- 5.2. Provide well-considered public realm improvements which echo our local identity, enhance access and walkability and foster greater community connection.
- 5.3. Encourage innovation by actively supporting the test and trial of new ideas that enhance the vibrancy and appeal of our CBD.
- 5.4. Support the strategic growth of an inner-city population through focussed residential and overnight stay growth initiatives.
- 5.5. Foster a collaborative and 'open for business' environment amongst CBD traders, embracing times of peak visitation, improving our early evening economy and ensuring a destination experience throughout the calendar year.
- 5.6. Promote sustainable activation through well-considered public infrastructure, tailored regulations and efficient systems and procedures that actively support city vibrancy.
- 5.7. Support and foster a program of festivals, events and arts initiatives that celebrate and promote diversity, accessibility and inclusivity, ensuring that everyone can fully participate in the cultural and social life of the city.
- 5.8. Cultivate community-led festivals, events and collaboration.
- 5.9. Deliver arts programming through the Riddoch Arts and Cultural Centre as a flagship regional gallery that is recognised nationally and contributes creatively, culturally, socially and economically to Mount Gambier.
- 5.10. Drive social change and strengthen communities through locally-led arts, cultural and recreational activities.
- 5.11. Position Mount Gambier as a regional centre for live performance.
- 5.12. Recognise, encourage and support artists, emerging artists, writers and performers through promotion of the arts and supporting opportunities to exhibit and perform.
- 5.13. Foster creative expression and enhance public spaces by supporting artists to produce public art that engages the community and travellers in meaningful artistic experiences.

**The key projects we will undertake include:**

Project	Council's Role
Delivery of a CBD activation and master plan that transforms our CBD into a vibrant hub, connecting locals and visitors, promoting inner-city living and boosting economic and social activity by creating a dynamic, culturally enriched environment for all ages.	DELIVER PARTNER
Development and implementation of a Riddoch Arts and Cultural Centre Strategy.	DELIVER
Delivery of a beacon art initiative in collaboration with an artist that engages travellers and residents in our local story.	DELIVER PARTNER
Pursue programs and opportunities that enhance the live entertainment in our city.	DELIVER PARTNER
Advocacy for the modernisation of the Sir Robert Helpmann Theatre and Civic Centre to complement the Library and The Riddoch Arts and Cultural Centre offering within the civic and cultural precinct of Mount Gambier.	PARTNER ADVOCATE
Continue to pursue opportunities to reactivate the Mount Gambier Railway Station and enhance the role of the Railway Lands precinct as a premier destination in Mount Gambier.	DELIVER PARTNER
Pursue community activation of the Lady Nelson site to accommodate the city's creative industries and/or historic collections management.	DELIVER PARTNER
Develop and implement a place making strategy.	DELIVER PARTNER ADVOCATE

**Supporting strategies and plans:**

- CBD Guiding Principles,
- Culture and Heritage Plan, and
- Location master plans.



## Priority 6: Excellence in Leadership and Governance

*'We are a professional and innovative Council, valued for our progressive, responsive and sustainable management in delivering meaningful outcomes for the community.'*

### What success looks like...

Council commits to strong, accountable leadership and governance. Key outcomes include:

- We are a transparent and accountable organisation that makes informed decisions and demonstrates integrity through effective governance.
- We are a financially responsible organisation delivering sustainable, value-for-money services that meet community needs and uphold the principle of intergenerational equity.
- We care about our people ensuring we support, develop and motivate our workforce to meet community needs with capability and confidence.
- We are easy to do business with, committing to a customer-centric approach that delivers positive experiences and builds trust.

### Over the next four years Council will:

- 6.1. Ensure Elected Council Members are meeting their civic obligations and making informed, strategic decisions in the best interests of the community.
- 6.2. Ensure compliance with legislative obligations and apply best-practice governance to strengthen risk management, accountability and transparency, fostering trust within the community.
- 6.3. Ensure decisions and activities of Council are communicated in a timely, clear and proactive manner.
- 6.4. Review and continually update the Long -Term Financial Plan to ensure ongoing financial sustainability to community expectations and legislative requirements.
- 6.5. Achieve value-for-money procurement and contract management that consistently aligns with Council's policies and delivers economic, social and environmental outcomes.
- 6.6. Implement systems and frameworks that foster effective planning and continuous improvement, ensuring customer-centric service delivery and effective, transparent reporting.
- 6.7. Champion reconciliation and the recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.
- 6.8. Cultivate an organisational culture that attracts and retains talent and empowers a high-performing organisation through strategic workforce planning and organisational development initiatives.
- 6.9. Ensure that our workforce is equipped with the necessary systems, training, tools, plant and equipment to perform their roles safely and effectively while enhancing organisational systems to provide better support and efficiency.
- 6.10. Continue to enhance our safety systems to provide our workforce with a safe and healthy work environment.
- 6.10. Ensure a positive and engaging experience for our volunteer workforce and expand opportunities for people to engage in volunteering activities with the organisation.
- 6.12. Proactively advocate for community priorities.
- 6.13. Foster meaningful community engagement in Council's planning, projects and key decision-making processes by actively listening to and incorporating community perspectives, ensuring their voice is integral to our operations and outcomes.

**The key projects we will undertake include:**

Project	Council's Role
Deliver business systems and infrastructure improvements that support us to deliver our services more efficiently and effectively to the community.	DELIVER
Develop and implement a workforce planning framework that informs the skill and capability requirements council needs to deliver its services and programs.	DELIVER
Develop and deliver our next Reconciliation Action Plan in partnership with the Yerkaalpa Community Reference Group that supports our organisation's commitment to reconciliation.	DELIVER PARTNER
Undertake a rating review that guides Council's approach to rates to ensure our financial sustainability.	DELIVER
Continue to deliver improvements that enhance a 'Safety First' culture in accordance with our Work, Health Safety and Wellbeing Strategy.	DELIVER
Update Council's Community Consultation and Engagement Policy to align with Local Government Association South Australia and Local Government Act Reforms.	DELIVER PARTNER
Continue to develop the leadership capability of our workforce in accordance with the Leadership Capability Framework.	DELIVER
Develop and implement policies and procedures that support the organisation to attract grant funding and ensure appropriate accountability in acquitting those funds.	DELIVER ADVOCATE
Develop and implement commercialisation principles and practices that guide the organisation's decision making to diversify revenue streams.	DELIVER
Continue the implementation of Council's Volunteer Management Plan to support and expand our volunteer workforce.	DELIVER
Continue the implementation of Council's Media and Communications Strategy.	DELIVER
Develop and implement a community feedback mechanism to inform Council's service delivery with results regularly reported back to the community.	DELIVER

**Supporting strategies and plans:**

- Advocacy and Partnership Priorities,
- Annual Business Plans and Budgets,
- Long Term Financial Plan,
- Media and Communications Strategy, and
- Volunteer Management Plan.





## Our Strategic Measures and Indicators

In addition to reporting against our key strategic projects, we will monitor our progress utilising the following series of indicators and measures:

1. Increase in the tourism revenue from our operations that is reinvested to the preservation and regeneration of natural assets.
2. Progress towards 65% reduction of kerbside general waste to Caroline Landfill by 2030.
3. Reduction in resource use (e.g. energy, water) across Council operations.
4. Increase the proportion of parks, reserves and natural areas that utilise recycled water systems.
5. Establish partnerships that support understanding and improvements to Mount Gambier's skilled workforce.
6. Increase the provision of and engagement with online collections and resources provided by the Library.
7. Increase the number of people accessing Council's services and programs that support innovation and learning annually.
8. Completion of annually agreed capital works programs.
9. The Asset Renewal Ratio is 100% over the 10 years of the Long Term Financial Plan.
10. Assess development applications within legislative timeframes.
11. Annual value of Mount Gambier's economy.
12. Annual value of the visitor economy to Mount Gambier.
13. Number of tours and immersive experiences at our key sites.
14. Direct economic benefit as a return on Council's investment in grants and sponsorship to support events or activation.
15. Increased foot traffic and engagement across the CBD/ key precincts.
16. Increase in the number of people accessing Council's services and programs that support arts and creative pursuits annually.
17. Internal and external audit outcomes are reported to the community.
18. Financial indicators are in line with annual targets (as outlined in the Long Term Financial Plan).
19. Number of community engagements and the level of participation.
20. Increase in the number of volunteer programs offered by the Council and enhanced volunteer participation in those programs.
21. To be determined – comprehensive strategic measure to track progress of environment initiatives.



## How to read this plan

The Strategic Plan is the overarching document of the City of Mount Gambier's Strategic Planning and Reporting Framework. This framework describes how strategic planning and reporting is developed and managed by Council to ensure the work we do contributes to the goals and aspirations of the Mount Gambier community as outlined in Mount Gambier 2035.

This plan forms part of the City of Mount Gambier suite of Strategic Management Plans.

<b>Strategic Plan</b> Community	Four year delivery focus. Planning for the vision and aspirations of the Mount Gambier community.
<b>Long Term Financial Plan</b> Financial	Ten year plan, revised annually to ensure ten year view is maintained. Planning for the long term financial sustainability of the City of Mount Gambier.
<b>Asset Management Plans</b> Infrastructure	Suite of ten year plans. Planning for the sustainable renewal and maintenance of Council assets.

### Structure of the Strategic Plan 2024 – 2028:

<b>Strategic Priorities</b>	The long-term goals, as outlined in the Community Vision - Mount Gambier 2035, with the addition of a sixth priority demonstrating our commitment to strong, accountable leadership and governance.
<b>What Success Looks Like</b>	The medium-term outcomes Council seeks to achieve, progress or contribute to over the next four years.
<b>What Will Council Do</b>	The specific actions Council will prioritise to support the achievement of the medium-term outcomes over the next four years.
<b>Key Projects</b>	These are the larger-scale initiatives and projects that will significantly contribute to achieving success. They represent areas of substantial investment or resource allocation. Council's role in delivering these initiatives may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Delivery: Direct responsibility for the full implementation of the project.</li> <li>• Partnership: Collaborating with other groups or agencies to deliver an initiative.</li> <li>• Advocacy: Influencing others to take action or deliver a project.</li> </ul>
<b>Supporting Strategies and Plans</b>	Lists the key strategies or plans which support the strategic outcomes under each strategic priority. The listed strategies and plans will be changed and refined over time to reflect the key outcomes, actions and measures of success outlined in this Strategic Plan. They are aligned to the Strategic Priority where they have a primary relationship, noting that some of these have multiple relationships to the priorities. For a complete list of strategies and plans, please visit the City of Mount Gambier website <a href="http://mountgambier.sa.gov.au">mountgambier.sa.gov.au</a> .

### Measuring our Success – Our Strategic Measures and Indicators

We will regularly review our progress to ensure we are effectively contributing to the medium and long-term outcomes. Each year, informed by this strategic plan, we will develop an annual business plan that outlines detailed measures for our annual deliverables, which we will report on quarterly.

Through our annual report, we will provide updates on this strategic plan by including:

- Progress reports on key projects outlined under each strategic priority, and
- Tracking and assessment against our strategic measures and indicators.

## Our Role

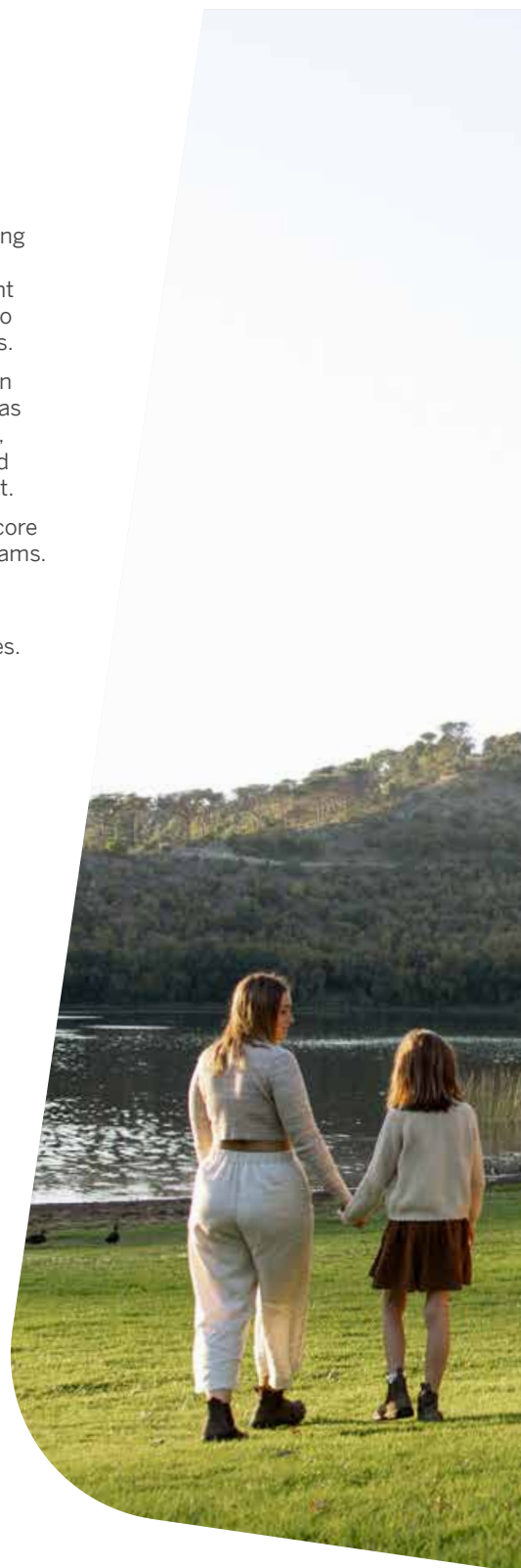
Our Strategic Plan outlines how City of Mount Gambier, as an organisation, will courageously pursue the Community Vision. Guided by the aspirations and priorities articulated in this vision, this plan details where Council will focus its efforts in the medium term to contribute to the city's long-term vision.

Achieving the priorities of the Community Vision requires a collaborative approach, involving our community, stakeholders and all levels of government. This plan reflects our commitment to working with others to shape the future of our city. We will continue to build strong partnerships to advocate and leverage our relationships to seek co-investment, grants and contributions for the benefit of our community. Key partnerships include those within the federal, state and local government sectors and strategic non-government (private sector, community groups and not-for-profit) organisations.

In developing this plan, we have considered our diverse and complex roles and the tools we can use to drive and influence change. The City of Mount Gambier acts as a:

- **Leader:** Developing strategies, policies, programs and services that chart a clear course for Mount Gambier.
- **Owner/custodian:** Managing community assets entrusted to Council.
- **Regulator:** Enforcing state legislation and local laws to ensure the city remains safe, clean and orderly.
- **Information provider:** Sharing information about Council and the city with the broader community and stakeholders.
- **Advocate:** Representing our community's interests to influence issues and opportunities affecting the city.

- **Facilitator/initiator:** Engaging with individuals, community groups, industry, government agencies and stakeholders to address city-wide challenges.
- **Agent:** Delivering services on behalf of third parties, such as state or federal government, where there is demonstrated need and community benefit.
- **Direct provider:** Delivering core services, projects and programs.
- **Partner:** Collaborating with others to achieve service, program or project outcomes.











## 18.4 2023/2024 CITY OF MOUNT GAMBIER ANNUAL REPORT

Author: Ashlea Watson, Communications Officer

Authoriser: Sarah Philpott, Chief Executive Officer

### RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council report titled '2023/2024 City of Mount Gambier Annual Report' as presented on Tuesday 19 November 2024 be noted.
2. The City of Mount Gambier 2023/2024 Annual Report as tabled be adopted.
3. The Chief Executive Officer be authorised to make any non-material amendments as considered necessary prior to publication.
4. Copies of the City of Mount Gambier Annual Report be distributed to the bodies/persons referred to in Section 131 of the *Local Government Act 1999*.
5. The LCLGA Annual Report be added to the electronic file prior to distribution to the required bodies/persons.

### PURPOSE

Section 131 of the *Local Government Act 1999* requires Council to prepare and adopt on or before 30 November of each year an Annual Report containing the prescribed information and documents relating to the operations of Council for that financial year.

### SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS AND BENEFITS

#### Implications

- Failure to adopt an Annual Report by 30 November would be a breach of the *Local Government Act 1999*.

#### Benefits

- While meeting legislative requirements outlined in the *Local Government Act 1999*, the Annual Report also seeks to provide an informative and accurate reflection of Council's activities and achievements for the previous financial year.

### BACKGROUND / OPTIONS

The final draft proof of Council's Annual Report in respect of the 2023/2024 financial year has been circulated to Members and is now recommended for adoption.

The Annual Report includes the material and specific reports on the matters specified by the *Local Government Act 1999* and Regulations.

Should Council seek any further amendments or time, the Annual Report may be deferred to a special meeting, noting the publication deadlines as set out in the Act.

The Financial Statements as presented within the tabled document have been included following adoption by the Audit and Risk Committee on 28 October 2024 and in preparation for noting by Council as per the council report contained within this Council Agenda.





**DETAILED IMPLICATIONS**

<b>Legal</b>	The Annual Report has been prepared as per Section 131 of the <i>Local Government Act 1999</i> .
<b>Financial and Budget</b>	The cost of design and printing of the report will be delivered within the allocated budget for 2024/2025.
<b>Other Resources</b>	Existing internal resources are used to enable the coordination and delivery of the Annual Report.

**RISK ANALYSIS**

<b>Consequence</b>	<b>Consequence Rating:</b>	<b>Risk Likelihood Rating:</b>	<b>Risk Rating</b>	<b>Risk Controls and effectiveness</b>	<b>Risk Mitigation Plan</b>
<b>Finance</b>	Insignificant (1)	Rare (1)	Low	Quotes obtained with project to be delivered within the approved budget allocation.	Contractor paid in instalments upon delivery of agreed content.
<b>Reputation</b>	Insignificant (1)	Rare (1)	Low	Ensure project timeframes are adhered to, content is as accurate as possible and appropriate approvals in place for all content.	Adhere with internal project timeframes, multiple rounds of proofing.
<b>Legal / Regulatory / Policy</b>	Minor (2)	Unlikely (2)	Moderate	Follow LGA Annual Report Guidelines to ensure all required content is included and adopted on time.	Multiple staff checks to ensure compliance with act/legislation.
<b>Service Delivery</b>	Insignificant (1)	Rare (1)	Low	Ensure content highlights Council's service delivery throughout 2023/2024.	Input from relevant staff.
<b>People</b>	Insignificant (1)	Rare (1)	Low	Ensure community members, Elected Members and staff are accurate portrayed.	Multiple staff checks and sufficient rounds of proofing.
<b>Infrastructure</b>	Insignificant (1)	Rare (1)	Low	N/A	N/A



<b>Environmental</b>	Insignificant (1)	Rare (1)	Low	Number of printed copies kept to a minimum to reduce environmental impact.	N/A
----------------------	-------------------	----------	-----	--	-----

**APPLICATION OF MOUNT GAMBIER 2035**

**Environment and Liveability**

The Annual Report contains information pertaining to Council’s environmental initiatives and showcases the liveability of our city.

**Learning and Innovation**

The Annual Report highlights Council’s learning and innovation initiatives.

**Infrastructure and Services**

The Annual Report showcases Council’s infrastructure works and service delivery.

**Economic and Business Growth**

The Annual Report highlights Council’s tourism, economic and advocacy work.

**A Vibrant Community**

The Annual Reports aims to showcase Mount Gambier’s vibrant community.

**APPLICATION OF STRATEGIC PLAN**

**Goal 5 Our Commitment**

5 Our Commitment

The Annual Report delivers on Council’s commitment to be sustainable, transparent, responsive, involving, values based and effective through the provision of relevant, accurate and legislatively required information for the community to peruse while meeting the obligations set out in the *Local Government Act 1999*.

**RELEVANT COUNCIL POLICY**

N/A

**IMPLEMENTATION, COMMUNICATION AND ENGAGEMENT**

The Annual Report will be printed and distributed to all relevant parties and bodies as outlined in the Act and will be available on Council’s website and in hard copy format from the customer service counter once printed.

As required under Schedule 2, Clause 28 (3) of the Act, a regional subsidiary must furnish to constituent councils a report on the work and operations of the subsidiary for the preceding financial year, therefore, the Limestone Coast Local Government Association (LCLGA) 2023/2024 Annual Report will be added to the electronic version of the City of Mount Gambier Annual Report that will be published on Council’s website upon finalisation and has been referenced within the City of Mount Gambier Annual Report.

**CONCLUSION**

This report recommends that the City of Mount Gambier 2023/2024 Annual Report as tabled be adopted to ensure Council meets the required deadlines as set out in the *Local Government Act 1999*.





---

**ATTACHMENTS**

1. Draft 2023/2024 Annual Report [18.4.1 - 160 pages]





City of  
Mount Gambier

ANNUAL REPORT  
2023/2024

DRAFT



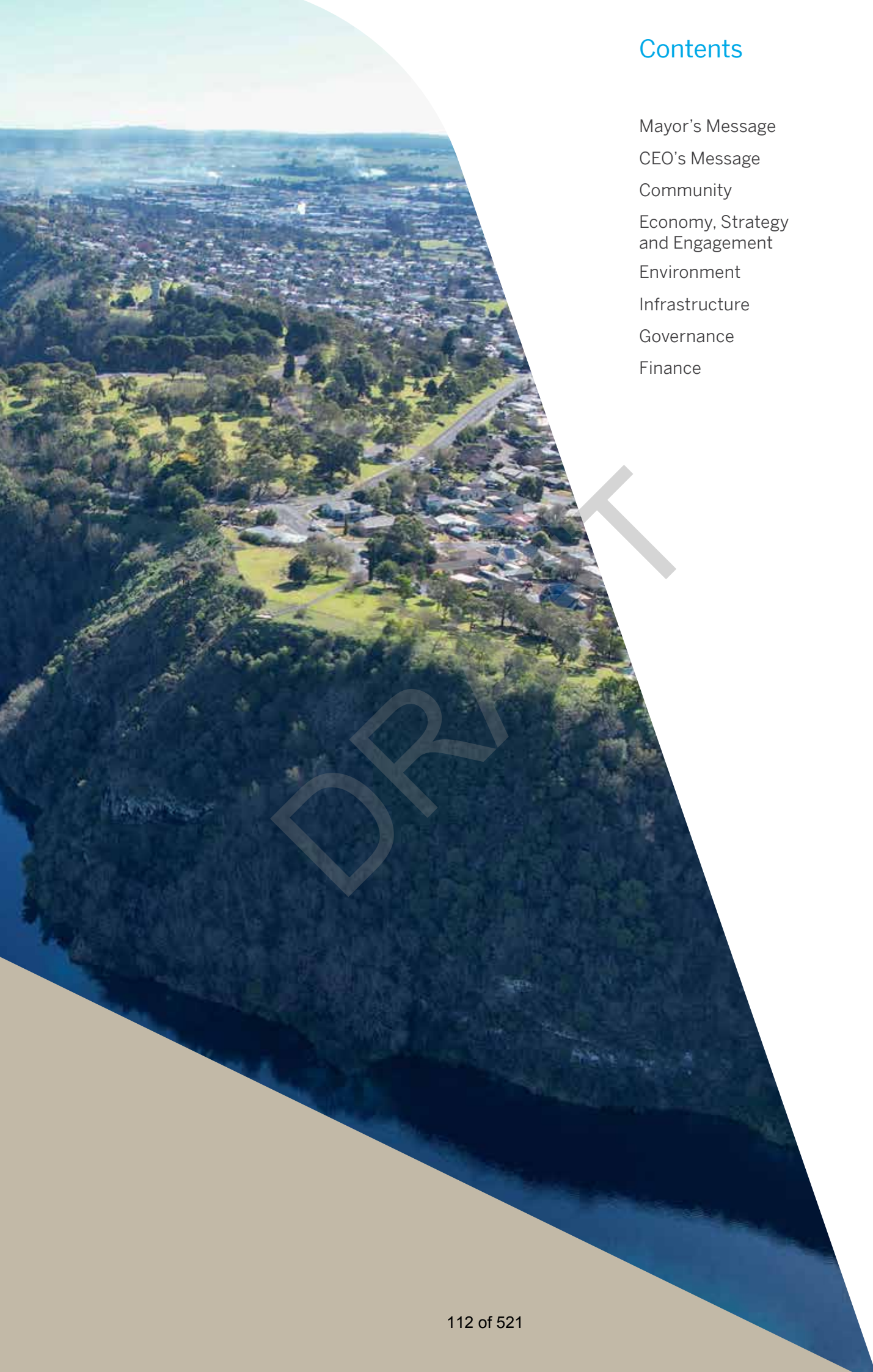


The City of Mount Gambier acknowledges the Boandik Peoples as the traditional custodians of the land Mount Gambier (Berrin) sits upon today.

We respect their spiritual relationship with the land and the feelings of attachment our First Nations Peoples have with the land.

We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.





## Contents

Mayor's Message	2
CEO's Message	3
Community	21
Economy, Strategy and Engagement	63
Environment	
Infrastructure	79
Governance	87
Finance	101



**I am pleased to present the City of Mount Gambier 2023/2024 Annual Report. In the second year of this Council term, we continued our focus on strategic planning to ensure our community is set up for success in the long term.**

Developing and maintaining partnerships and advocating for important issues on behalf of our community is a major part of our role as Elected Members. Throughout the past year, this included the revision of the Partnership Priorities and Advocacy strategic working document which outlines initiatives to help to facilitate growth and prosperity within our community and more widely across the region and the state. This document guided many meetings and conversations with State and Federal Government representatives on various issues of importance to our community, including homelessness and housing, public transport, tourism, radiation therapy and cancer treatment, the Mount Gambier Urgent Care Clinic, and opportunities to encourage skilled migration to the region.

Council undertook many other key partnership and advocacy activities and initiatives in the 2023/2024 financial year, including Before the Bounce activities in the lead up to AFL Gather Round in Adelaide, contribution to the Limestone Coast Local Government Association's Regional Growth Strategy and a submission to the national inquiry into Local Government sustainability.

An important highlight I wish to mention is the work of the Mount Gambier 2035 community panel. A diverse group of 28 local people came together in three separate sessions to create a

draft vision for the city's future. Elected Members asked the panel to consider key elements drawn from the community consultation phase in late 2023 to inform a community vision, including future strategic priorities and how we might describe our cultural identity. Panel representatives presented their thoughts and ideas to Council, and we were in awe of their inspiring work. It was very powerful and energising to hear from panel members as they envisaged how our future could look, and they should be proud of their work and what they have achieved to help shape and guide Mount Gambier 2035: A Community Vision for our Regional Capital. Council's role was to provide strategic leadership to the panel and bring it all together. This vision captures the most powerful themes that emerged from community feedback, and I thank the panel members who committed themselves to the task of creating a vision for our city that embodies who we are and what we aspire to be.

Council undertook months of intensive discussions to balance Council's priorities in what is a difficult financial climate. Elected Members engaged in the most robust budget discussions I have been part of in my six years as Mayor, and I can assure you that no stone was left unturned to balance Council's short and long term financial obligations for creating capacity to deliver what the community expects in the years ahead. Like everyone in the community, Council is feeling the pressure of cost escalations and has attempted to minimise the impact of increasing costs for our ratepayers for several years now. We have previously absorbed the impact of growth



and rated below CPI and we are now unable to continue to absorb the true additional service and waste costs and therefore rates increased by 10.13 per cent in general rate revenue (excluding growth of 1.11 per cent).

I wish to thank my fellow Elected Members, Council staff and the Executive Leadership Team. Council is a very dynamic organisation and I am incredibly appreciative of the work of our CEO and General Managers. Our leaders are positioning Council for ongoing success. They empower staff to do the very best they can for the community, and ensure we have the right people where we need them to meet the growing level of demand within local government.

It has been a challenging year and there is always more to achieve, as the work is never done, however we remain focussed on making the best possible decisions for the benefit of our community.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lynette Martin'. The signature is fluid and cursive.

**Lynette Martin OAM  
MAYOR**

**As we round out the 2023/2024 financial year, I reflect on the work of Council as an organisation, delivering many projects and outcomes in the final year of the 2020-2024 Strategic Plan.**

We saw some big achievements this year, the Dog and Cat Management Plan, Volunteer Management Plan, Blue Lake Sports Park Master Plan, Library Strategy and an updated version of our Partnerships and Advocacy document were all endorsed by Council. We also took the next steps in the Crater Lakes activation planning. Council adopted a vision and a set of principles to balance the environmental, social and cultural aspects of this important place for our community.

The Mount Gambier 2035 project team sought feedback from the community about what we want our future to look like. This has resulted in a bold and impressive vision which will require all in our community to play a role. From Council's perspective, the vision will directly influence our next strategic plan, to be developed and adopted in late 2024.

From late November 2023 until the end of January 2024, an activation program 'Summer on Watson' ran in the Cave Garden/ Thugi and Watson Terrace on weekends as a trial. The program brought together existing and supported events and activities which included markets, live music, food and wine and yoga in the park. As the season changed, we celebrated all things footy in the lead up to the AFL Gather Round with more than 40,000 people travelling through Mount Gambier on the way to Adelaide. 'Before the Bounce' provided a program of footy based community activities and events

designed to capitalise on the influx of visitors.

Mount Gambier is well known as a land of volcanoes, crater lakes and sinkholes. Following heavy rain in winter 2023, a mysterious sinkhole opened up in the Margaret Street walkway. The sinkhole created a lot of interest, and our infrastructure team and local geoscientist Ian Lewis did a great job to carefully and safely explore the extent of the collapse. Council engineers fitted a remote-control rover with a GoPro camera on top, which went down into the sinkhole to take measurements and provide detailed footage of the volcanic ash and soil profile to enable the investigation to go ahead safely. The 'risk reducing rover' was subsequently recognised with the Local Government Risk Services Work Health Safety Best Practice Regional Merit Award as an innovative approach to a novel problem. I congratulate our team for their initiative and creativity to tackle the issue with the rover, which enabled them to come up with a plan for dealing with the hole, which was subsequently filled in early 2024.

I also congratulate the Library for recognition at the Excellence in Public Health Awards for The Haven. The Haven operates from the site and provides critical information and support to women including those experiencing family violence. This important partnership was highly commended at the awards presented at the Local Government Association AGM in November 2023.



Elected Members and the Executive Leadership Team took time throughout the year to think about the strategic direction of the organisation and the future. We worked through a very challenging budget process, exploring 30 different financial models in seven workshops to establish a budget that ensures that Council provides the services and facilities required to meet community expectations and our key financial targets to ensure long term financial sustainability for our community.

I thank our staff and Elected Members for their work to serve our community. I believe we are truly lucky to live in a city with such an engaged community, working in partnership to ensure we all enjoy the best quality of life. There is a bright future ahead.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sarah Philpott'.

**Sarah Philpott**  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**



## Council and Committees (as at June 2024)

**MRS LYNETTE MARTIN OAM**  
HER WORSHIP THE MAYOR



### COUNCIL COMMITTEE POSITIONS

- CEO Performance Review Committee (Presiding Member)

### EX OFFICIO

- Audit and Risk Committee
- Junior Sports Assistance Fund

### OTHER POSITIONS

- Limestone Coast Local Government Association (LCLGA) (President)
- Local Government Association
- Australia Day Awards Selection Panel Advisory Group
- Community Mayor's Christmas Appeal Advisory Group
- South Australian Region of Councils (SAROC) (Limestone Coast Representative)

**CR MAX BRUINS**  
DEPUTY MAYOR



### COUNCIL COMMITTEE POSITIONS

- CEO Performance Review Committee

### OTHER POSITIONS

- Limestone Coast Local Government Association (proxy)
- Local Government Association (proxy)

**CR SONYA MEZINEC**



### COUNCIL COMMITTEE POSITIONS

- CEO Performance Review Committee
- Riddoch Arts and Cultural Trust

### OTHER POSITIONS

- Mount Gambier Christmas Parade Advisory Group

### LIMESTONE COAST LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION ANNUAL REPORT

The Limestone Coast Local Government Association (LCLGA) is a regional subsidiary body established by the seven constituent councils in the Limestone Coast, including City of Mount Gambier.

As required under Schedule 2, Clause 28 (3) of the *Local Government Act 1999*, a regional subsidiary must furnish to the constituent councils a report on the work and operations of the subsidiary for the preceding financial year.

The LCLGA 2023/2024 Annual Report can be found at [www.lclga.sa.gov.au](http://www.lclga.sa.gov.au) and is incorporated into the electronic version of this annual report available on Council's website.

**CR KATE AMOROSO**



**CR JOSH LYNAGH**



**CR MARK LOVETT**



**COUNCIL COMMITTEE POSITIONS**

- Junior Sports Assistance Fund (Presiding Member)
- CEO Performance Review Committee

**CR PAUL JENNER**



**CR FRANK MORELLO**



**CR JASON VIRGO**



**COUNCIL COMMITTEE POSITIONS**

- Building Fire Safety Committee (Presiding Member)
- Audit and Risk Committee

**OTHER POSITIONS**

- Group Training Employment Board
- SAPN/LGA Public Lighting Working Group

**COUNCIL COMMITTEE POSITIONS**

- CEO Performance Review Committee



# Elected Member Meeting Attendance

The following is the recorded attendance (or apologies) of Elected Members at Ordinary and Special Council and Committee meetings and information briefing sessions for the period of 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024.

		Meetings held	Mayor Martin	Cr Meziniec	Cr Bruins	Cr Lovett	Cr Jenner	Cr Morello	Cr Amoroso	Cr Virgo	Cr Lynagh	
Council	Meetings attended	12	12 <sup>P</sup>	10	12	7	12	12	9	11	9	
	Apologies		-	2	-	5	-	-	3	1	3	
	Absent (no apology)		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	Leave of absence		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Special Council	Meetings attended	2	2 <sup>P</sup>	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	2	
	Apologies		-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	
	Absent (no apology)		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	Leave of absence		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Audit and Risk Committee	Meetings attended	8	6*				7					
	Apologies		2				1					
	Absent (no apology)		-				-					
	Leave of absence		-				-					
Audit and Risk Committee Information/Briefing Sessions	Meetings attended	6	5				6			1		
	Apologies		1				-					
	Absent (no apology)		-				-					
	Leave of absence		-				-					
Junior Sports Assistance Fund Committee	Meetings attended	4	3*								4 <sup>P</sup>	
	Apologies		1								-	
	Absent (no apology)		-									-
	Leave of absence		-									-
CEO Performance Review	Meetings attended	3	3 <sup>P</sup>	3	3			3			2	
	Apologies		-	-	-			-			1	
	Absent (no apology)							-			-	
	Leave of absence							-			-	
Information/Briefing Sessions	Meetings attended	85	74	69	82	50	82	73	24	65	71	
	Apologies		11	16	3	29	3	12	58	16	14	
	Absent (no apology)		-	-	-	6	-	-	3	4	-	
	Leave of absence		-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	

\* Ex Officio  
<sup>P</sup> Presiding Member  
 □ Member not appointed to committee

## Elected Member Allowances and Reimbursements

Since the 2010 Local Government Elections, Elected Member allowances have been determined by the independent Remuneration Tribunal in accordance with Section 76 of the *Local Government Act 1999*.

In making its determination, the Tribunal must have regard to:

- The role of members of Council as members of the council's governing body and as representatives of the area,
- The size, population and revenue of the council and any relevant economic, social, demographic and regional factors in the council area,
- The ratio of members to ratepayers,
- That an allowance is not intended to amount to a salary for a member,
- That an allowance should reflect the nature of a member's office, and
- That provisions of the *Local Government Act* provide for reimbursement of members expenses.

Council has also approved Policy M405 Members Allowances and Benefits providing reimbursement of member expenses in accordance with Section 77 of the Act for travel and child/dependent care expenses incurred in relation to prescribed meetings and council business.

Allowance type	Amount
Mayoral allowance	4 x \$20,237 or \$80,948
Deputy Mayor/Presiding Member allowance (prescribed committee)	1.25 x \$20,237 or \$25,296
Councillor allowance	\$20,237
Presiding Member sitting fee (non-prescribed committee)	\$199 per meeting limited to an aggregate \$1,196 per annum

Council has determined reimbursement limits for telecommunications of up to \$1,500 per member for the council term for devices, accessories, software and IT support, and up to \$600 per annum for mobile data/plans.

Members have access to specified support and services on the basis that they are necessary or expedient to performing or discharging their official functions and duties. The Mayor is provided with additional support and services including office space, administrative support, and a motor vehicle for civic activities.

All member base and prescribed committee allowances are paid monthly and non-prescribed committee allowances are paid quarterly in arrears.

The allowances set out in the Remuneration Tribunal Determination will be adjusted annually on the first, second and third anniversaries of the 2022 Local Government Elections to reflect changes in the Consumer Price Index as defined in Section 76 (15) of the Act.

A sitting fee is payable to a member (other than the Principal Member, Deputy Principal Member or a Presiding Member of a prescribed committee) who is the Presiding Member of a council committee that is not a prescribed committee.

Sitting fees for independent members of the Audit and Risk Committee are:

- \$200 per meeting or \$100 for any special meeting, and
- \$300 per meeting or \$200 for any special meeting for an independent Presiding Member of the Audit and Risk Committee.

An Elected Member on the Audit and Risk Committee receives no sitting fee, except as Presiding Member.

During 2023/2024 the Audit and Risk Committee had an independent Presiding Member.

## Elected Member Training and Development

### **The Local Government Act 1999 and Regulations require mandatory training for Elected Members in accordance with the Local Government Association Training Standards under the following headings:**

- Introduction to Local Government,
- Strategy/Finance Module,
- Council Leadership Workshop,
- Legal Module,
- Risk Module,
- Behaviour (Technical)/Legal Modules,
- Civic Module, and
- Principal Member Module.

The 2023/2024 budget allocation for Elected Member training and development was \$4,500 and an amount of \$7,435.47 was expended.

During 2023/2024, Elected Members were provided opportunities to participate in a varied range of training programs and briefings, including 91 information briefing sessions on matters relating to:

- Stand Like Stone Foundation - Introductory meeting with CEO Roger Babolka
- Draft Blue Lake Sports Park Master Plan
- Mount Gambier Chamber of Commerce – Update/general business
- Offshore Wind Zone in the Southern Ocean - Presentation by South Eastern Professional Fishermen's Association and Southern Coast Ocean Care Committee
- Strategic project updates
- Wulanda contractual matters
- Crater Lakes Activation Plan

- Crater Lakes Trails Draft Plan
- Valley Lakes fishing stock proposal - Presentation by RecFish SA
- Unsolicited proposal
- Discussion on government relationships/Political Neutrality Policy
- Cost benefit analysis/business case - PLEC and LED lighting
- Operational update
- Contractual matters
- Personal information disclosure for the information of Councillors
- Member behavioral standards/support policy
- Local Affordable Housing Plan toolkit and Affordable Housing Strategy
- Update on third party confidential housing initiative
- Landscape SA – Karst Springs
- South Australian Council of Social Service (SACOSS) presentation
- Operational matters - Australia Day Breakfast and Awards Ceremony and contractual matters
- Operational update – Discussion on two legal contractual matters
- Presentation by Nathan Paine, CEO of South Australian Forest Products Association
- RDALC presentations
- Strategic plan update
- ac.care briefing - New strategic direction
- Draft Signage and Wayfinding Strategy
- Operational update - Crater Lakes fire prevention
- Operational update - Trees
- Operational update - Regulatory matter
- Audit and Risk Committee
- Dog and Cat Management Plan
- Cyber security
- Finance process and budget review 1 update
- District Council of Grant Land Use Planning Study consultation
- Introduction of Services: Focus One Health Limestone Coast
- Regional plan - Land use planning
- Audit and Risk Committee updates
- Audit and Risk Committee – Cyber security
- Audit and Risk Committee – LGRS update
- Conduct of Meetings Policy
- Confidential Items process
- Partnership Priorities and Advocacy document 2024 – 2025
- Council Elections and Reform Paper
- CBD activation
- Operational update – Tourism and civic assets
- Shared Path Master Plan and CBD audit
- Wulanda operational update
- Governance Policy matters
- Finance update - Budget review 2, Long Term Financial Plan and Asset Management plans
- Updates from meetings with Mount Gambier and District Resident and Ratepayers
- Mount Gambier 2035 Strategic Planning session

## Member Contraventions

- Audit Committee workshop
- Strategic workplan, business systems and infrastructure
- Criteria for 2024/2025 Sport and Recreation Capital Works Program
- LCLGA presentation - Connected and active communities and tourism
- Public bus service update
- Visitor servicing update
- Contractual update
- Belgravia 2024/2025 Wulanda Annual Business Plan and Budget
- Budget, contractual matters and three year work plan update
- Annual Business Plan and Budget workshops
- Recent meetings and media update
- Mount Gambier 2035 update
- Long Term Financial Plan and Infrastructure Asset Management plans
- Elector Representation Review
- SA Water update
- Legal advice
- Native Title update
- Presentation from Mount Gambier 2035 Community Panel
- Strategic planning session
- Update on legal matter
- Planet Youth – Presentation by Substance Misuse Limestone Coast
- Debrief - CBD Activation and Summer on Watson
- Railway Lands Play Space
- Special Council meeting process/location
- Budget consultation and update.

### MEMBER HEALTH AND SAFETY DUTIES

**Council is required to report on Elected Member health and safety duties under section 75G of the *Local Government Act 1999*.**

There were no member contraventions of section 75G during the 2023/2024 financial year.

*Elected Members and staff consider public feedback on the 2023/2024 Annual Business Plan and Budget at a Special Council meeting.*





# Decision Making Structure of Council

## Council has adopted a structure of committees to facilitate good governance and informed decision making processes.

Council’s committee structure as at 30 June 2024 is outlined below.

Council meetings are held at the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, 10 Watson Terrace Mount Gambier on the third Tuesday of each month at 6:00pm.

Meetings of other Council committees are held as and when required.

Council and committee meetings are open to the public and Council encourages attendance.

While members of the public are not normally permitted to speak at meetings, individuals or groups may submit a request to make a deputation at a Council or committee meeting.

Any person wishing to have a matter considered by Council should make a request in writing to the CEO for presentation to the Presiding Member of the relevant Council or committee meeting.

Agenda closing dates apply.

Please check with Council for timeframes and the date/times of relevant meetings. Agendas of all meetings are published not less than three clear days prior to the meeting. Minutes of meetings are published within five days of a meeting. Meeting agendas and minutes are accessible on Council’s website.

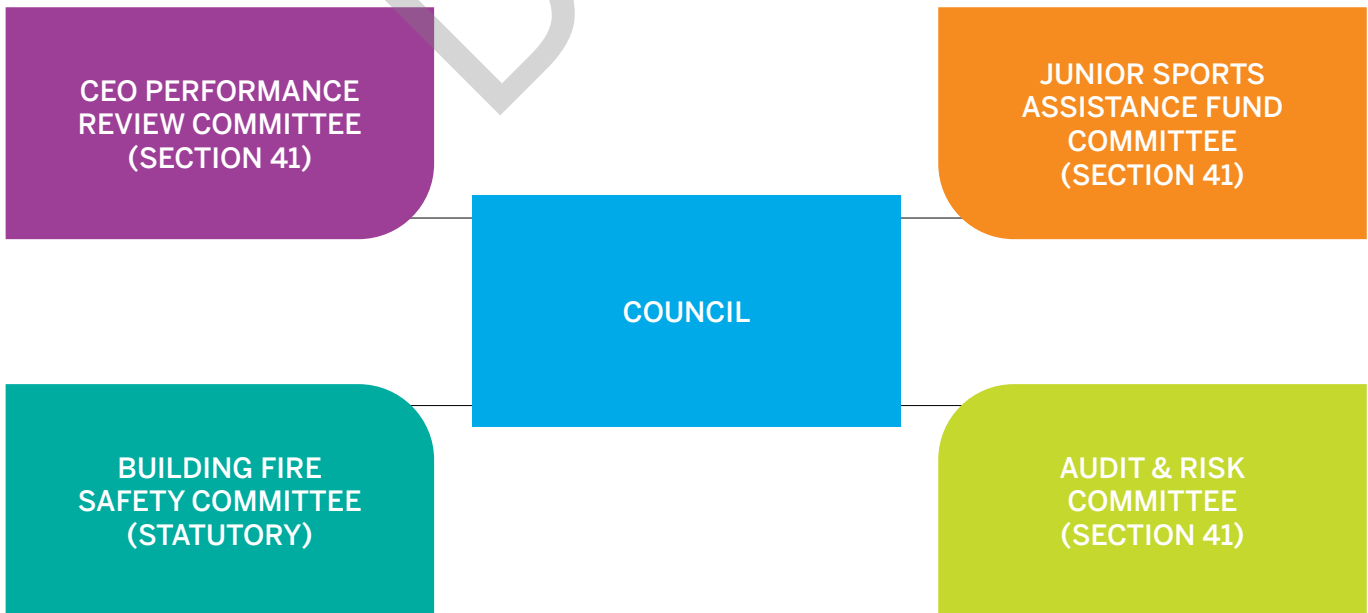
## DELEGATIONS

To ensure the efficient performance of operations and activities, Council delegates certain powers and functions to the Chief Executive Officer. These delegations are periodically reviewed by Council.

The Chief Executive Officer further sub-delegates certain powers and functions to specified officer positions.

Delegation instruments reference which legislative powers are delegated/sub-delegated and any limitations or conditions that are applicable.

Delegations and sub-delegations are published on Council’s website.



## OUR VISION

An inclusive city, where people lead fulfilling lives.

## OUR GOALS

Mount Gambier is a thriving and successful place that people are proud to call home. This is attributed to the richness and diversity of:

- Our People,
- Our Location,
- Our Economy, and
- Our Climate, Natural Resources, Art, Culture and Heritage.

These elements contribute to the future growth and development of the city and form the goals included within Council's Strategic Plan 2020 - 2024. The plan is based on aspirations identified in the Futures Paper, Council's long term visionary plan.

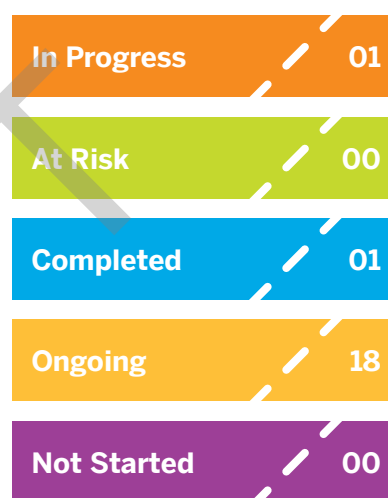
This is the final year of Council's Strategic Plan, which was endorsed in February 2020. The process to develop a new strategic plan for the next four years is scheduled for completion by November 2024.

Overall, most strategic priorities contained within the plan are in progress and ongoing.

## GOAL 1: OUR PEOPLE

This goal brings together five key themes that affect our people – whether they live, work, study or visit Mount Gambier. We seek to grow the city and the communities from which it is comprised.

Under each theme, Council made a strategic commitment and defined success. The graphics below outline how we are tracking against these commitments.



## STRATEGIC INITIATIVES UPDATE

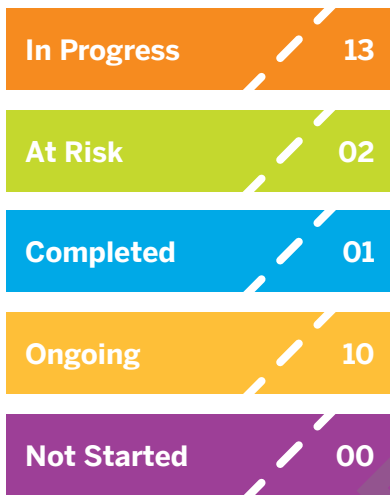
- A Volunteer Management Plan and Volunteer Management Policy was endorsed by Council in October 2023 and its implementation has commenced.
- A new Grants and Sponsorship Policy was endorsed by Council in May 2024 and implementation has commenced. Two community forums were hosted ahead of the first round being open to submissions which were both well attended.



- Final concept plan for a Learn to Ride space at the Railway Lands was adopted by Council in June 2024.

## GOAL 2: OUR LOCATION

This goal brings together five key themes to attract people, business and industry to our location – including our geography, our role as a regional centre and our natural and manmade assets. We want to continue to tell our story to a wider audience – whether it is those who want to visit, or relocate their business or family.



### STRATEGIC INITIATIVES UPDATE

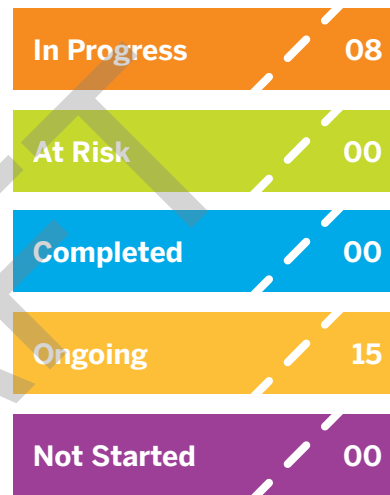
- A Shared Path Master Plan, featuring identified priorities, was endorsed by Council in April 2024. Implementation will occur as funding is identified.



- A Wayfinding Strategy was endorsed by Council in November 2023.
- A new visitor servicing model was developed which includes digital and printed assets and placement of visitor servicing expertise where we can curate the storytelling of our unique landscape.
- A digital platform to house attraction and investment content is in development.

## GOAL 3: OUR DIVERSE ECONOMY

This goal brings together five key themes that strengthen our economy and provide the right landscape for industry and business to thrive in our community. A diverse economy provides a greater range of opportunities and helps provide a degree of resilience during economic downturns.



### STRATEGIC INITIATIVES UPDATE

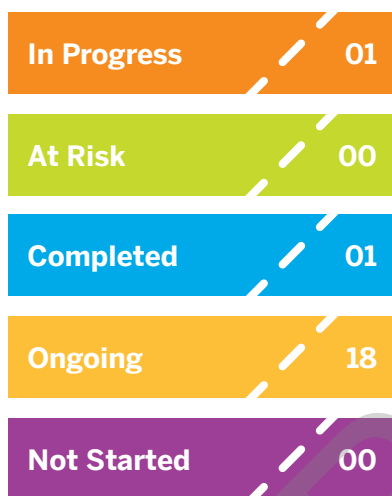
- Continued advocacy for equity of investment regarding public bus services.
- An Affordable Housing Plan for Mount Gambier was circulated for community consultation and was endorsed by Council in July 2024.
- A Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy was endorsed by Council in November 2023. Waste management master planning is underway.



- Continued to see a reduction in domestic waste to landfill. A 1.6 per cent reduction resulted in a 53 per cent diversion of recyclable materials from landfill.

**GOAL 4:**  
**OUR CLIMATE, NATURAL RESOURCES, ART, CULTURE AND HERITAGE**

This goal brings together five key themes that help tell the story of our community and improve quality of life by giving us a sense of place and a clean, green, creative environment. Ensuring we look after our environment and celebrate the achievements of our community assists our capacity to thrive.



**STRATEGIC INITIATIVES UPDATE**

- The Blue Lake Sports Park Master Plan was endorsed by Council in July 2023.



- Four master plans have been prioritised and endorsed by Council for delivery over the next three years for Umpherston Sinkhole/ Balumbul, Vansittart Park, Olympic Park and Hastings Cunningham Reserve.
- The Crater Lakes Trails Plan was endorsed by Council November 2023.
- The Beacon Art Project process has begun and an assessment panel convened. Marketing strategy and implementation planning is ongoing.

**GOAL 5:**  
**OUR COMMITMENT**

Council has determined the following principles to ensure delivery against the Strategic Plan 2020 – 2024. These principles underpin all decisions made by Council. They guide strategic planning, processes, service delivery and the management of assets.

Our commitment – the City of Mount Gambier will be:

- Sustainable
- Transparent
- Responsive
- Involving
- Values-based
- Effective

**STRATEGIC INITIATIVES UPDATE**

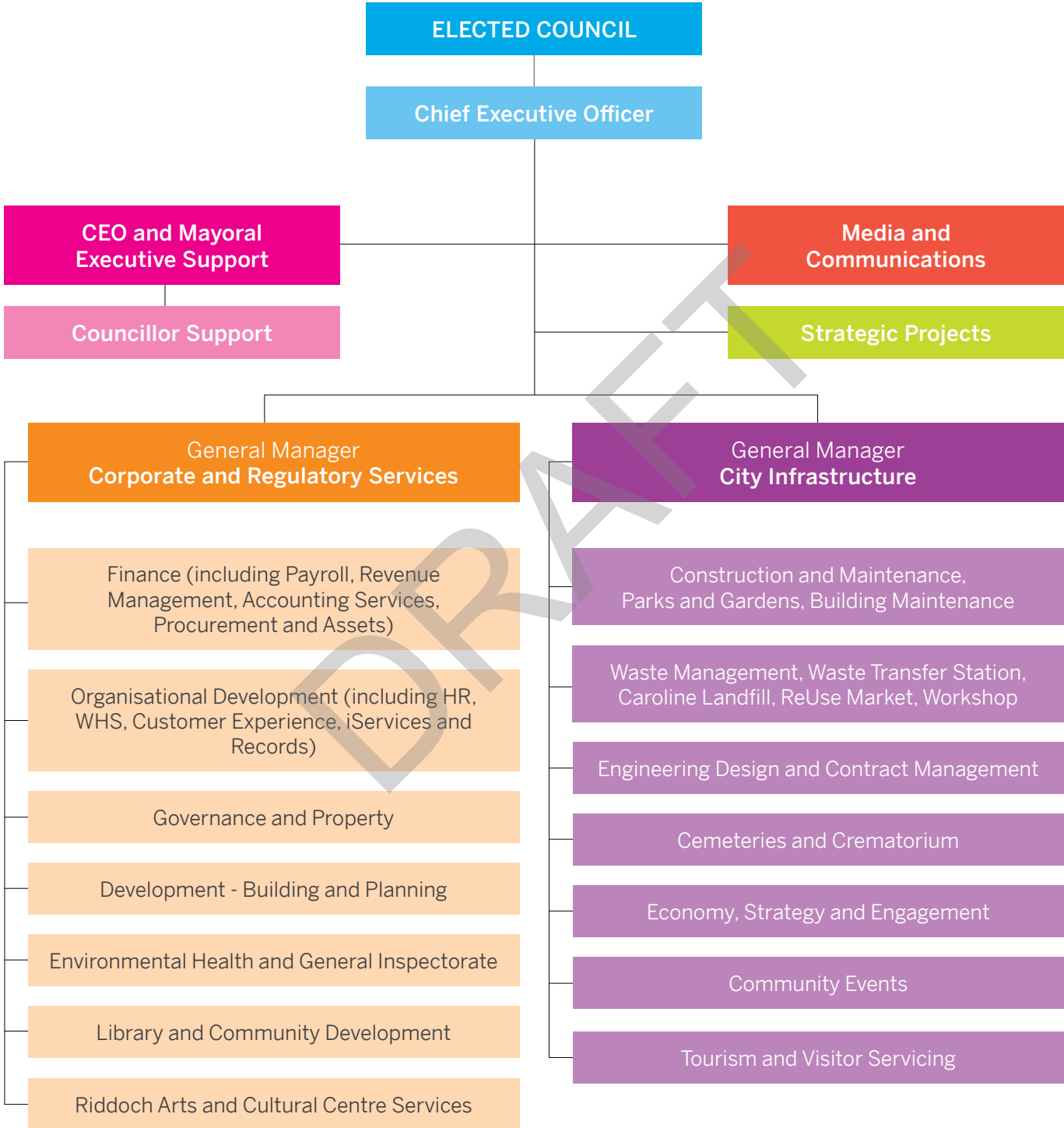
- Ongoing review and continuous improvement of Council policies, principles and procedures.
- Review of Asset Management plans.
- Continued implementation of relevant changes in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1999* reforms.
- Ongoing implementation and refinement of the Strategic Planning and Reporting Framework and appropriate governance.
- Worked in collaboration with the community to develop Mount Gambier 2035 – A community vision for our regional capital.



- Commenced implementation of the Volunteer Management Plan, making improvements to onboarding and safety for volunteers.
- Continued focus and development of a strategic risk register and broader risk management framework.



ORGANISATIONAL CHART



## SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

For the purposes of the relevant provisions of the *Local Government Act 1999*, the Senior Executive Officers (Executive Leadership Team) of Council are defined as:

- Chief Executive Officer, and
- Three\* General Managers.

The remuneration and benefits of the Executive Leadership Team are detailed in Council's Salary Register and an extract is below. Each Senior Executive Officer is employed on a five-year fixed term contract of employment.

Position	Salary	Other allowances/benefits
Chief Executive Officer	\$269,066	Full private use of vehicle
General Managers	\$179,000-\$197,470	

\* One General Manager position vacant throughout 2023/2024.

*General Manager City Infrastructure Barbara Cernovskis (left), Chief Executive Officer Sarah Philpott and General Manager Corporate and Regulatory Services Jane Fetherstonhaugh.*



**INTERSTATE AND INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL SUMMARY**

During the 2023/2024 financial year, the following interstate travel was undertaken. No international travel was undertaken by Elected Members or employees.

Date	Attendee	Reason for Travel	Cost of Travel
20/06/2024 – 21/06/2024	Riddoch Arts and Cultural Centre Customer Service and Retail Officer	Regional gallery site visits - Horsham, Hamilton and Warrnambool, Victoria.	\$200
22/05/2024 – 24/05/2024	Manager Development Services	Planning Institute of Australia Planning Congress 2024 – Melbourne, Victoria.	\$3,440
09/11/2023	General Manager Corporate and Regulatory Services	Local Government IT Summit – Melbourne, Victoria.	\$800
26/10/2023	Workshop Team Leader	Quality Control Inspection of Garbage Compactor, Bucher Municipal – Melbourne, Victoria.	\$600
13/09/2023 – 14/09/2023	Manager Economy, Strategy and Engagement	National Regions Rising Summit, Regional Australia Institute - Canberra, ACT.	\$2,200

**GIFTS AND BENEFITS SUMMARY**

- **10 x tickets - Mount Gambier Chamber of Commerce and Women in Business and Regional Development 2023 Business Awards**

Provided to Council as an event sponsor.

Distributed to 3 x Elected Members and 7 x employees.

Total value \$1,250 (\$125.00 each).

- **3 x VIP tickets - Borderline Speedway 30th Kings Challenge**

Provided to Council as an event sponsor.

Distributed to Elected Members.

Total value \$240 (\$80.00 each).

- **9 x tickets - 2024 Women in Business and Regional Development International Women's Day Breakfast**

Purchased by Council in support of Women in Business and Regional Development.

Distributed to 1 x Elected Member and 8 x employees.

Total value \$340 (\$35.00 each plus booking fee).

- **10 x tickets - Limestone Coast Support Homeless People Luncheon**

Purchased by Council in support of ac.care.

Distributed to 2 x Elected Members and 8 x employees.

Total value \$1,000 (\$100.00 each).

- **8 x tickets - 2024 Fantasy Medieval Fair**

Provided to Council as an event sponsor.

Distributed to Elected Members and employees.

Total value \$460 (\$57.50 each).

- **8 x corporate box season tickets - Pioneers Basketball home games**

Provided to Council as a community partner sponsor.

15 home games were played and the eight tickets were offered to Elected Members and employees throughout the season.

Total value \$7,920 (\$66.00 each).

- **30 x standard tickets – Pioneers Basketball home final**

Provided to Council as a community partner sponsor.

Distributed to employees.

Total value - \$720 (\$24 each).

## EMPLOYEES BY PORTFOLIO

Portfolio	Male	Female	Non-binary	Total
Office of the CEO	0	7	0	7
Corporate and Regulatory Services	6	27	0	33
City and Community Growth	10	41	1	52
City Infrastructure	65	10	0	75
Totals	81	85	1	167

Total number of employees: 167

Full time equivalents: 144

### VOLUNTEERS

City of Mount Gambier is fortunate to have volunteers offering support across multiple areas within the organisation, enhancing our capacity to deliver services.

Volunteers can often be found at the Mount Gambier Library, The Riddoch Arts and Cultural Centre, ReUse Market, Valley Lake/Ketla Malpi Conservation Park and providing assistance to community events.

Some of our valued volunteers are featured on pages 44 and 45.

### WORKPLACE SAFETY AND WELLBEING PROGRAM

Work Health Safety (WHS) principles and procedures are in place to ensure the City of Mount Gambier continues to provide a safe workplace for all.

The 'Safety Always' culture is promoted throughout the organisation. To support our workforce additional providers have been added to the Employee Assistance Program including the first national crisis support provider for First Nations people.

The organisation continues to ensure it maintains a safe and healthy workplace for staff, volunteers, contractors and visitors by eliminating or minimising hazards and risk, providing a safe and supportive work environment.

### DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

At the City of Mount Gambier, maintaining a diverse and inclusive culture that allows us to understand and meet our community needs and facilitate services is important to us.

Through our Reconciliation Action Plan, Disability Access and Inclusion Plan (DAIP) and Equal Opportunity and Discrimination Administrative Procedure, the organisation remains committed to achieving fair and equitable employment practices, workplace diversity and facilitating a culture of inclusiveness.

### TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

Employees at the City of Mount Gambier can access various training and development opportunities.

In addition to occupation-specific training, staff must undertake mental health first aid training, MAYBO conflict training, and disability inclusion training.



**ORGANISATIONAL VALUES**

City of Mount Gambier staff have identified core values to influence how the organisation works together to establish and maintain a positive culture and ensure the delivery of actions outlined within the 2020 - 2024 Strategic Plan.

▶▶▶ <b>LEAD</b>	<b>CONNECT</b>	<b>DELIVER</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We embrace continuous learning and strive to innovate and implement best practices within local government.</li> <li>• We feel safe to challenge the status quo and take healthy risks.</li> <li>• We consider different points of view, and we use these points of difference to inform our decisions.</li> <li>• We use our expertise to inspire and lead by example, with a focus on flexibility.</li> <li>• We welcome opportunities for personal and community growth.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We respect and take the time to understand the people we work and live with, including their diverse backgrounds and experiences.</li> <li>• We are united in being responsive to the needs of our community.</li> <li>• We are informed by all levels of community, with a local, regional, national and global outlook.</li> <li>• We communicate openly and honestly with each other and our community.</li> <li>• We listen and seek input and feedback to ensure inclusivity and build trust.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We work together to follow through on our commitments.</li> <li>• We value and acknowledge contributions from our people, our stakeholders and our community and take pride in the services we deliver.</li> <li>• We plan to ensure resources are used effectively to deliver sustainable outcomes.</li> <li>• We are accountable and ensure quality outcomes by taking the time to reflect, learn and celebrate success.</li> </ul>
		

## RISK REDUCING ROVER

City of Mount Gambier was recently awarded the regional Local Government Association Workers Compensation Scheme Work Health Safety Best Practice Merit award for a local initiative known as the 'risk reducing rover'.

This innovative but simple solution consisted of purchasing a remote-controlled buggy, equipping it with a GoPro camera and LED torch, and securely connecting it to a rope line enabling the Margaret Street sinkhole base, which opened spontaneously in June 2023, to be explored safely.

Thank you to Local Government Risk Services and Local Government Association of South Australia for recognising this innovative and low-cost approach to a novel problem.

*Risk reducing rover.*



**VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT PLAN**

**City of Mount Gambier endorsed a Volunteer Management Plan and policy in October 2023 to maximise the benefit of volunteering for more than 100 people who actively donate their time to Council, and future volunteers.**

Volunteers are identified as workers under the *South Australian Work Health & Safety Act (2012)* and have the same rights and responsibilities as paid workers.

Council volunteers work at the Library, ReUse Market and Waste Transfer Station, the Riddoch, the Valley Lakes/Ketla Malpi Conservation Park and also support the community events team.

“Volunteers provide such a valuable contribution to Council and we know that the services and programs they support wouldn’t be able to operate at their current capacity without them,” CEO Sarah Philpott said.

“We know that volunteering plays a key role in sustaining healthy, resilient communities and contributes significantly to the quality and vibrancy of our community.”

In the development of the Volunteer Management Plan, the project team undertook a benchmarking exercise against the National Standards for Volunteer Involvement. A volunteer experience survey was also conducted.



*Library volunteers Erin McIntyre and Helen Stratford.*

“As a result of this work, the plan addresses any gaps and inconsistencies and aims to improve the experience for our volunteers in addition to supporting our community to reach a higher volunteer participation rate.”

Local women Helen Stratford and Erin McIntyre have volunteered their time at the Mount Gambier Library for nine and 10 years respectively and both say it provides them with a strong sense of personal satisfaction.

“I currently volunteer on Thursdays each week for a few hours and I just love it. I love reading and it’s such a friendly place, the staff are terrific and I’ve made some great friends,” Mrs Stratford said.

“I was retired and looking to do something and my time at the Library has been very rewarding. The people are so nice and I enjoy going down there for the company. I have become quite good friends with some of the other ladies who volunteer,” Mrs McIntyre said.

Richard Radley has been volunteering at the Mount Gambier ReUse Market for the past two years after seeing firsthand how busy the team looked on a market day, so he thought he’d put up his hand to help.

“I’m usually out at the ReUse Market three or four days a week, any maintenance donations might need, I fix them up and get them ready to sell. All they need is a bit of love and care,” Mr Radley said.

“We know that people who volunteer are more likely to take part in other aspects of community life and that communities that harness volunteers are more resilient. We thank our volunteers for all their support and are pleased to have formalised the Volunteer Management Plan and policy for their benefit,” Ms Philpott said.



# COMMUNITY



Mount Gambier 2035	22
Mount Gambier and District Tertiary Health Education Grants	27
Financial Support for Community Groups, Services and Initiatives	28
Sport and Recreation Capital Works Program	29
Junior Sports Assistance Fund	30
Australian Citizenship Ceremonies	31
Mount Gambier Community Mayor's Christmas Appeal	32
Mount Gambier Library	35
The Riddoch Arts and Cultural Centre	38
Youth Activation Group Relaunch	42
Community and Environmental Health	43
National Volunteer Week	44
Citizen of the Year Awards	46
Community Events	53
Reconciliation	56
Wulanda Recreation and Convention Centre	58
General Inspector Statistics	60
Dog and Cat Management Plan	61



# Mount Gambier 2035: A community vision for our regional capital

As South Australia’s regional capital, Mount Gambier serves as a central point to access essential infrastructure, services, business, employment and education not only for local residents, but also for those in surrounding areas.

A lot has changed in Mount Gambier since the previous vision was outlined in 2011 – The Futures Paper. This is why, hand in hand with the community, Council facilitated the development of a new community vision - Mount Gambier 2035.

## DEVELOPING THE COMMUNITY VISION

Mount Gambier 2035 was developed by the local community between November 2023 and June 2024. Council encouraged residents, workers, students, visitors, business owners, and those connected to the city to contribute to the vision.

Mount Gambier 2035 was developed across five phases.

Community members and key stakeholders contributed stories, ideas and perspectives throughout the first two consultation phases.

### Phase 1: Exploration of community vision

NOV-DEC 2023

We spoke with the community about what we collectively value, what we want to be known for, and what we can do together as we approach 2035.

### Phase 2: Exploration of the key themes

JAN-MAR 2024

We analysed the community feedback and facilitated a series of targeted conversations and interviews to explore key themes.

### Phase 3: Shaping Mount Gambier 2035

APR-MAY 2024

We developed the draft Community Vision based on the recommendations provided by a community panel.

### Phase 4: Sought final community feedback

JUN 2024

The final draft was presented to the community for feedback.

### Phase 5: Council endorsement

JUL 2024

Mount Gambier 2035 was presented to Council for final endorsement.

*Councillors Frank Morello (left), Sonya Meziniec, Max Bruins, Jason Virgo and Paul Jenner with Mayor Martin and the Mount Gambier 2035 promotional banner.*



PHASE 1:

**440**

submissions responding to questions on the Have Your Say Mount Gambier website.

**2,000+**

postcards distributed throughout the community with post boxes located at Council sites for the 165 responses received.

**4**

drop-in sessions set up at key community events where members of the community could come for a conversation and provide their feedback.

**40+**

submissions to the Young Thinkers competition where people under the age of 18 provided their feedback and input.

This feedback assisted Council to identify important key themes to consider while shaping the vision for the future of Mount Gambier.

In approaching 2035, Mount Gambier, as South Australia's regional capital is:

1. A city with considered population targets achieving sustainable, high-quality services, opportunity and activity.
2. A city committed to preserving and enhancing our environment through sustainability and custodianship.
3. A proud, inclusive and welcoming city with known values and community connection.
4. A safe and supportive city with a focus on the health and wellbeing of its people.
5. A vibrant and creative city with a living narrative, that owns and celebrates its rich cultural identity.
6. A thriving and resilient city which elevates its profile, based on its unique environmental and economic landscape.
7. A well-planned and interconnected city with robust infrastructure supporting sustainable growth.

# Mount Gambier 2035: A community vision for our regional capital

The themes informed targeted engagement activities undertaken with key stakeholders and community members in the second phase of the project.

## PHASE 2:

9

roundtable forums with more than 100 key stakeholders and subject-matter experts.

16

focus group discussions and interviews with key stakeholders and subject matter experts.

1,900

visitors to the Mount Gambier 2035 Have Your Say page, including 587 informed and 177 engaged participants.

A series of strategic workshops with Elected Members and Council staff to explore the community feedback.

In phase three of the process, the Mount Gambier 2035 community panel used the community feedback to inform their thinking and discussions to shape the city's draft vision for the future.

Forty-four community members were independently selected for the Mount Gambier 2035 community panel and made up a representative sample of our community. Of the 44, 28 community members attended three sessions. These individuals brought their diverse expertise, ideas and life experience to the table to review and reflect on the feedback from our community in responding to the following task set by Council:

- What are the key elements that will inform the vision for Mount Gambier 2035?
- What should the strategic priorities for our community as we approach 2035?
- How might we describe our cultural identity as a city?



*City of Mount Gambier Mayor Lynette Martin addresses the Mount Gambier 2035 community panel members at their first session at City Hall.*

*Mount Gambier 2035 community panel members and Council facilitators present at the third session held at Wulanda Recreation and Convention Centre on 26 May 2024.*





Participants were split into three groups to explore and address the individual topics: the overarching vision, strategic priorities, and cultural identity.

The vision group focussed on developing a statement that captures the city's inherent strengths and shared values of family, connection, growth and nature. They created a statement to serve as an overarching message for approaching the city's future: 'A volcanic past with a crystal-clear future'.

The group envisions that by 2035, Mount Gambier will be 'A connected hub nestled on the slopes of an ancient volcano; a haven of natural beauty. It will be a place of stories, where our community is family, nurtured through growth, opportunity and connection'.

The strategic priorities group identified five priorities to represent the key focus areas that will contribute to achieving the vision for the future:

- Environment and liveability: We are custodians of the landscape, committed to protecting and preserving our natural environment, creating a liveable city.
- Learning and innovation: A regional learning hub that fosters innovation and local industries.
- Infrastructure and services: A high quality, affordable lifestyle where people are happy, healthy and housed and able to access all available resources.
- Economic and business growth: A creative, entrepreneurial mindset that creates a thriving, resilient community.
- A vibrant community: Events, activities, sport and recreation all contributing to a vibrant city during the day, at night and across all seasons.



Members of the vision team present at the third panel session: Caroline Bradshaw (left), Alison Whibley, Belinda Cook, Matthew Crowden, Ruth Mott and Shayne Haggis.



Members of the strategic priorities team present at the third panel session: Lynette Corletto (left), Michael Collins, Ancy Joseph, Johnathan Pople and Mike Stevens. Tessa Deak attended virtually.



## Mount Gambier 2035: A community vision for our regional capital

The cultural identity group considered what it means to be from 'the Mount' and what it looks and feels like when Mount Gambier is at its best.

*'A volcanic past with a crystal clear future.'*

The community panel presented their recommendations to Council on 28 May 2024 to ultimately inform the final draft of Mount Gambier 2035.

The community vision was endorsed by Council in July 2024.

Achieving the vision will require a collaborative approach involving the entire community. The vision will directly influence Council's next strategic plan, which will be developed and adopted by November 2024.



Community panel members Alison Whibley and Matthew Crowden present the vision group's ideas to Elected Members.

Members of the cultural identity team present at the third panel session: Alexandra Nicholson (left), Monica Hart, Shaun Dunford, Joti Prasad, Aunty Michelle Jacquelin-Furr, Aden Clarke, Ally Finnis and Le-Anne Thomson.



# Mount Gambier and District Tertiary Health Education Grants

## The Mount Gambier and District Tertiary Health Education Grants program provided 15 financial grants to local health students in 2024.

The program provides local students with a \$2,000 grant to help them complete their tertiary studies within the health field.

Chairperson Rodney Summers said the program delivers a unique community-led response to local essential skill shortages within the health sector.

“The program supports locals who need to leave the region to undertake university studies within the health sector, with the hope they return to the region as skilled health professionals,” Mr Summers said.

In 2024, 15 grants were provided to students who studied in different health areas, including medicine, prosthetics and orthotics, physiotherapy, psychology, occupational therapy, and paramedic science.

Occupational therapist Alycia Pitson received the Tertiary Health Education Grant in 2016 while she was completing a Bachelor of Applied Science (Occupational Therapy) through the University of Adelaide.

“Receiving the grant allowed me to complete the first year of my degree without having to work a part time job in Adelaide so I could focus on my studies.”

Alycia has since returned to Mount Gambier and is currently working as an occupational therapist at Country Health Connect at the Mount Gambier Hospital.

“Job opportunities working in health in regional areas are very broad compared to the city and provide great experience,” Mrs Pitson said.

“I work with paediatric clients and their families to achieve their goals and support their development. I get to meet so many beautiful children in my role and work within a multi-disciplinary team to support their families.”

The Mount Gambier and District Tertiary Health Education Grants program is supported by City of Mount Gambier, District Council of Grant, UFS Chemist, Flinders Rural Health SA, Mount Gambier and District Community Bank, Rotary Club of Mount Gambier Lakes, John and Helen Kentish and Ken and Carol Stafford.

In 2024 the program provided 15 financial grants to the following health students:

Abby Budarick	Bachelor of Oral Health (Therapy and Hygiene)
Alyssa Duncan	Bachelor of Occupational Therapy
Brianna Bates	Bachelor of Health Science/Master of Speech and Language Therapy
Claire Ferguson	Bachelor of Paramedic Practice (Honours)
Jack Lockwood	Bachelor of Physiotherapy
Jack O'Connor	Bachelor of Psychology (Honours)
Jemima Puust	Bachelor Medical Studies
Jordan Stephens	Bachelor of Physiotherapy
Lara Willoughby	Bachelor of Prosthetics and Orthotics (Honours)
Maddelyn Stevens	Bachelor of Paramedicine
Olivia Patzel	Bachelor of Health Science/Master of Occupational Therapy
Sophie Ellis	Bachelor of Speech Pathology
Tess Kenseley	Bachelor of Chiropractic
Tyne Bosko	Bachelor of Midwifery
Zarly Jones	Bachelor of Physiotherapy (Honours)



For more information visit [mountgambier.sa.gov.au/THEG](http://mountgambier.sa.gov.au/THEG)

*Previous Tertiary Health Education Grant recipient Alycia Pitson is now working as an Occupational Therapist in Mount Gambier.*

## Financial Support for Community Groups, Services and Initiatives

Council provides direct and indirect services and support to the community to improve the health, welfare, lifestyle and wellbeing of residents.

In addition to other contributions that may be referenced in this Annual Report, direct financial support was provided by Council in 2023/2024 to:

The Riddoch/City Hall hire subsidies	\$17,840
Wehl Street Theatre	\$9,500
Pioneers Basketball	\$40,000
Mount Gambier City Band	\$7,000
Mount Gambier Toy Library	\$2,000
Stand Like Stone Foundation	\$8,000





## Sport and Recreation Capital Works Program

City of Mount Gambier allocated \$100,000 to four local sporting clubs following applications for the 2023/2024 Sport and Recreation Capital Works Program for projects totalling more than \$555,000.

Club	Project	Grant amount
North Gambier Football and Netball Club	Replacement of existing Vansittart Park football goal posts	\$14,500
Mount Gambier & District RSL Bowling Club	Resurfacing of Bowling Club entry road and car park	\$25,000
South Gambier Football and Netball Club	Replace clubroom carpet	\$12,500
Apollo Football Club	Female changerooms*	\$48,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$100,000</b>

\*Did not proceed

North Gambier Football and Netball Club received a grant of \$14,500 from the program to support the replacement of the football goal posts at Vansittart Park.

The \$23,000 project enabled the removal and replacement of the goal posts that had been in place for more than 40 years and ensure underground footings were appropriately engineered in accordance with current standards.

While Apollo Football Club were allocated \$48,000 to construct new changerooms at their Webb Street premises, the project is yet to proceed due to a lack of funding from additional sources.

“We have had female teams playing at Apollo for two years now and the numbers are growing each year so investing in well-designed female change rooms isn't just about meeting a basic need; it's a step toward creating a more inclusive, empowered, and healthier community for everyone,” Apollo Football Club President Jerome England said.

The club is hoping to commence the works when further grant funding is secured.

North Gambier Football and Netball Club received a grant to support the replacement of the football goal posts at Vansittart Park.





## Junior Sports Assistance Fund

**Membership of the Junior Sports Assistance Fund is comprised of the City of Mount Gambier, the District Council of Grant and 17 sporting organisations who are financial members of the fund.**

The fund provides financial support for junior sportspeople who have achieved state selection or higher in a specific sport.

The Junior Sports Assistance Fund has generous partners who provide funds to enable additional programs. These include:

- A donation of \$3,000 from the Commercial Club Inc. with \$1,500 from this donation supporting the Exceptional Junior Program.
- The Rotary Club of Mount Gambier Lakes provides generous support to fund the Youth Empowerment Sports Program which assists juniors who may find it difficult to pursue sport without some form of assistance. The funding provided is up to \$3,000 and is part of the surplus raised through the Blue Lake Fun Run.

The financial transactions and financial position of the fund in 2023/2024 is as follows:

2023/2024 financial position	\$
Assistance to juniors	13,300
Support for special coaching clinics	-
Youth Empowerment Sports Program	3,300
Exceptional Junior funding	-
Member contributions (waived for 2023/2024)	-
Council contributions	16,000
Bank Interest earned	1,330
Donations received	1,500
Sponsorship of programs received	4,500
Cash at bank - 30 June 2024	135,187

For the 37 years of the fund's operations, the consolidated transactions to 30 June 2024 are as follows:

Fund history*	\$
Assistance to juniors	518,345
Support for special coaching clinics	113,413
Youth Empowerment Sports Program	24,100
Exceptional Junior Program	13,500
Member contributions	188,520
Council contributions	420,500
Bank Interest earned	73,701
Donations received	47,586
Sponsorship of programs received	56,150
Other expenses	300
Government and bank charges	2,508

*\*Note that payments from the fund for assistance to juniors did not commence until July 1988, and funding for coaching clinics did not commence until July 1991, funding for the Exceptional Junior program did not commence until 2010 and funding for disadvantaged juniors did not commence until July 2012.*

## Australian Citizenship Ceremonies

**Four citizenship ceremonies were conducted by Council during 2023/2024, with a total of 91 people receiving Australian Citizenship.**

Mayor Martin welcomed new residents to the city from Kuwait, Myanmar, China, Thailand, United Kingdom, South Africa, Qatar, United States, Egypt, Pakistan, Colombia, Congo, Dem Republic, Scotland, Philippines, Iran, Bangladesh, Italy, Romania, Nepal, Vietnam, Iraq, Sudan, New Zealand, Taiwan, India, Rwanda, Brazil, Venezuela and Malawi.

Originally from the United States, new Australian citizen Jeffrey Stricklin has called Australia home since 2008.

"I moved to Australia in 2008 while still deployed in Iraq. What I love most about Mount Gambier is its wonderful people and strong sense of community. It reminds me of the places I've lived in the USA, with similar weather and a welcoming atmosphere," Mr Stricklin said.

Canadian Canh Ly moved to Mount Gambier in 2021 around the beginning of Covid to help service regional South Australia as a Chiropractor. He said he was very excited to become an Australian after living in the country for 11 years.

"As a Canadian with Vietnamese heritage, I believe becoming an Australian citizen is a privilege. I have the opportunity to help my community and now my country. Canada is part of the Commonwealth and I have always felt Australian, but now citizenship feels like the common bond uniting us all," Mr Ly said.

Council invited local singers Alison Newman, Danni Reade and Zoe Aberle to attend and lead in the singing of the National Anthem at ceremonies held during 2023/2024.



*Canh Thanh Duong Ly from Canada proudly shows off his Australian Citizenship certificate.*



*Jeffrey Stricklin receives his Australian Citizenship certificate from Mayor Martin at the Citizenship Ceremony held on 20 June 2024.*

## Mount Gambier Community Mayor's Christmas Appeal

### The local community donated more than \$40,000 to the 2023 Mount Gambier Community Mayor's Christmas Appeal.

Mayor Lynette Martin is appreciative of the generosity shown by the community during challenging economic times.

"I am so grateful for the support we received for the appeal in 2023 and I thank each and every individual, group and business who chose to donate," Mayor Martin said.

"Considering the increasing cost of living, it was amazing to see that our wonderful, supportive and caring community continued to think about others and what they may need to enjoy the festive season."

All funds raised as part of the appeal are distributed to local support agencies including Uniting Care, ac.care, St Vincent de Paul and The Salvation Army to provide food hampers, vouchers and gifts through the Christmas Cheer program.

"I would also like to thank the local agencies who distribute food, vouchers and gifts on behalf of the Christmas Cheer program. The level of need within the community was the greatest we've ever seen this past year and the funds helped them meet that demand."

"The four support agencies used the funds they received to support 816 families, including 826 adults and 626 children and teenagers over the festive season."

Young helpers assisted St Vincent de Paul volunteers to pack the toys and hampers ready for delivery to local families with children who had registered for assistance.

"Our team of volunteers assembled 33 toy boxes, each valued at up to \$120, benefiting around 97 children collectively. In addition to these generous contributions, we also prepared 112 food hampers for distribution," St Vincent de Paul representative John D'Souza said.

Six Mount Gambier Men's Shed members spent hundreds of hours crafting 130 handmade wooden toys to donate to the 2023 appeal.

"Over the past seven years the volunteers at the Men's Shed have made 1000 toys for children in our community. We love doing this to make sure that our local kids receive gifts at Christmas," Men's Shed volunteer Peter Heness said.

The Mount Gambier Library coordinated a Christmas Book Drive as part of the appeal, with 246 books generously donated by the community and distributed by the agencies involved.

The Mount Gambier Community Mayor's Christmas Appeal is open all year round. Donations can be made through the following channels:

- Call Council on (08) 8721 2555 with your credit card details on hand. Council staff will email you a tax invoice.
- In person at the City of Mount Gambier customer service counter - Civic Centre, 10 Watson Terrace.
- Send a cheque made out to 'City of Mount Gambier' PO Box 56 Mount Gambier SA 5290 with advice that the cheque is a donation to the Mayor's Christmas Appeal.



Salvation Army representative John Douglas (left), Mayor Martin and St Vincent de Paul representative John D'Souza with a cheque for the total donation amount of more than \$40,000 to the Mount Gambier Community Mayor's Christmas Appeal.

Mayor Martin with Uniting Care representative Laura Kilsby (left), Mount Gambier Community Mayor's Christmas Appeal Committee representative Suzanne Roberts, ac.care representatives Trish Spark and Deanne Swift, Salvation Army representative John Douglas and St Vincent de Paul representative John D'Souza (right).



# The Mount Gambier Community Mayor's Christmas APPEAL

**City of Mount Gambier Mayor Lynette Martin OAM wishes to thank and acknowledge the community groups, businesses and individuals who supported the 2023 Mount Gambier Community Mayor's Christmas Appeal. Thanks to this generous support, the appeal raised \$40,128.64 in 2023.**

Mayor Martin also acknowledges the important work of a.c care, Salvation Army, St Vincent de Paul and Uniting Care who ensure food hampers, gifts and vouchers are distributed to those who are most in need in our community each Christmas.

<p>Andrew and Angela Turner Anglican Church Bank SA Barney McCusker Bio Gro Blue Lake Carols Bucik Tyrepower Carleen Laslett Carlin and Gazzard Chamber of Commerce Chapmans Newsagency employees Christmas Parade attendees Claire Staskevicius Colin Wilson City of Mount Gambier employees Community Bank Mount Gambier David and Trudi Herbert David and Kay Turnbull Dennis Crowe Eddies Furniture G and S Morris</p>	<p>Gambier City Ladies Probus Club Gary Vandepuer Gebhardt's Real Estate Golden Oldies Green Triangle Forest Products Group Training Employment Heritage and People's Choice Limited Janelle Birks Joseph Lapatha John Williamson Julian Mattay Julienne Feast OAM K&amp;S Freighters Lakes Rotary Club of Mount Gambier Leone McDonough Les Clode Lester and Julia Masters Liz Moriarty and Associates MJ and EJ Donovan Margaret Kaethner Maria Georgiou</p>	<p>Maureen J Childs MM Riquier Mount Gambier Central Mount Gambier Ladies Probus Club Mount Gambier Men's Shed Mount Gambier Scout Group Mount Glass and Glazing Neil Richardson Noel and Marg Doody Olivia Slattery Owen Schulz Penelope Fisher Peter Hoggood Peter Roberts Ray Scott Group Rosemary Bankes Rotary Club of Mount Gambier Rotary Club of Mount Gambier West Sandy O'Donnell Sarah Philpott Sheila Roach</p>	<p>Simon South East Dart Association Spencer and Sharon Buck St Martins Lutheran College Stuckey Electrical Sue Roberts Susan Briffa The Border Watch The Distributors Timberlink Tonkin Consulting Tony Pasin MP - Barker Electoral Office UFS Chemist UniSA Vicki Jackson Vicki Osbourne Mount Gambier Visitor Centre We Care Lawn Spraying Wendy Carne</p>
--	--	---	---




Mayor Martin with Anglican Church representative Rick Fisher.



Eddie from Eddie's Furniture presented Mayor Martin with a donation of \$500 for the 2023 Mount Gambier Community Mayor's Christmas Appeal.



The Mount Gambier Chamber of Commerce donated \$600 from its 'Christmas Wrap Up' after hours shopping event held on Wednesday 6 December 2023 in the CBD.



Mayor Martin and Team Leader Library Programs Kristi Brooks with books donated to the appeal.



# Mount Gambier Community Mayor's Christmas Appeal



Julian Mattay made a generous donation to the 2023 appeal.

Mayor Martin accepted a generous donation from students at St Martins Lutheran College. The college raised funds for the appeal through various initiatives, including a Christmas market.



Mayor Martin with Mount Gambier Catholic Parish Youth Group and St Vincent de Paul volunteers.

Thank you to Timberlink for the generous \$2,000 donation to the 2023 Mount Gambier Community Mayor's Christmas Appeal.



# Mount Gambier Library

## The Mount Gambier Library continues to evolve with our community.

This year has seen the opening of the new social enterprise café – operated by Kefi Supports, providing employment and upskilling opportunities to members of the community. We also launched our new collection – Library of Things. This initiative provides access to a range of items and activities for people to borrow. This not only saves on waste but encourages people to try new things and access items they may not be able to afford.

This year also saw the Library pilot the Words Grow Minds campaign, which has now been rolled out across South Australia enabling its continuation in Mount Gambier. Our under five programs support this campaign leading to increased school readiness for our future leaders.

The first year of the implementation of the library strategy is complete with many commitments achieved, as detailed throughout this report. We look forward to continuing this commitment throughout the second year of the strategy.

Our regular programs are evolving as our community needs change. You'll still see Baby Bounce, Move and Groove, Storytime and STEAM, while Lego has made a return alongside some additional after school programs. We always aim to provide something for everyone and are open to suggestions and feedback.





# Mount Gambier Library

## INTRODUCTION OF 'LIBRARY OF THINGS'

**Mount Gambier Library customers now have access to more than just books, with the introduction of Library of Things – an array of items that can be borrowed to create memories, enhance skills or try something new at home.**

From pasta machines and board games such as Twister to Google Chromecast and Bocce sets, Mount Gambier Library of Things, launched in July 2023, allows customers to borrow items they might not otherwise have access to.

“Sometimes people don’t just need a book on cooking; they need the equipment too,” Manager Library and Community Development Georgina Davison said.

“Items such as the karaoke machine, the popcorn maker and the slushie machine are super popular for hosting children’s parties.”

The introduction of the Library of Things not only saves Library members money by not having to purchase their own, but it also aims to reduce waste.

“We all have those gimmick items that we purchase, and they only see the light of day once; they are either pushed to the back of the cupboard or end up in landfill. Now customers can borrow from the Library of Things guilt free, and it’s passed on to the next person,” Ms Davison said.

With new items being added to the collection regularly, members are encouraged to visit the Library and view the display of items available for borrowing.

“It’s a great reminder that Library membership is free and gives you access to information, services, materials and now a whole lot more.”

*Manager Library and Community Development Georgina Davison (left) and Team Leader Library Operations Sally Mann with items available to borrow through the Library of Things.*



## BOOKMARKED BY KEFI'

**A social enterprise training café opened at the Mount Gambier Library in July 2023. 'Bookmarked By Kefi' is a new concept delivered by local service Kefi Supports to help local people into work.**

"Our motto for the café is that everyone is capable to contribute to society in a positive manner," Kefi Supports CEO Toby Harrap said.

Staff have been employed to work in the café with assistance from an individual support worker when required.

"All of the support staff we have hired are all neurodivergent, so they have autism, extreme anxiety or ADHD," Mr Harrap said.

"We have got a group of people who are on supported wages, so they have the capability to work, but they may not be able to work in the pressure of a standard work environment. They may just need that extra help, so that's why we have our support workers on, just to back them up."

Mr Harrap said that the café provides opportunities for people who may feel overwhelmed by a full time job, but still want to contribute to the community.

Kefi Supports hopes to work with local educational providers and cafes to upskill staff.

"Libraries are all about lifelong learning, so this partnership with Bookmarked by Kefi really makes sense," Manager Library and Community Development Georgina Davison said.

"The café provides a point of difference in supporting local people to develop their skill set and confidence through Kefi, and I know our community enjoy their hospitality."



Manager Library and Community Development Georgina Davison (left) with Kefi Supports CEO Toby Harrap and Bookmarked by Kefi staff member Laura Hinge.

## EXCELLENCE IN PUBLIC HEALTH AWARDS 2023 – THE HAVEN

**In October 2023 City of Mount Gambier was awarded highly commended regional council at the Minister for Health and Wellbeing - Excellence in Public Health Awards 2023 for community domestic violence initiative The Haven.**

The award recognises the outstanding contribution of this initiative in promoting and protecting health and wellbeing within the local community and region through public health action. The Haven operates from the Mount Gambier Library and provides critical information and support to women including those experiencing family violence.

Mayor Lynette Martin was proud to accept the award on behalf of the initiative from South Australia Chief Public Health Officer Professor Nicola Spurrier at the Local Government Association Annual General Meeting in Adelaide.





## The Riddoch Arts and Cultural Centre

**The Riddoch Arts and Cultural Centre’s vision is to be the flagship regional gallery in the Limestone Coast, featuring original and touring exhibitions that reflect our rich cultural identity.**

Maintaining a collection valued at more than \$4 million, including 1,500 unique works and artefacts, many of noteworthy cultural value to Australia, The Riddoch plays a significant role in conserving, nurturing and showcasing visual art for current and future generations.

Fostering a vibrant and diverse cultural offering in Mount Gambier, the centre delivers a range of public programs that cater to diverse audiences, complementing or interpreting gallery exhibitions or connecting with emerging creative interests on a local, regional or national level.

Regular programs and services include:

- Visual art exhibitions and workshops,
- Creative media technology workshops,
- Junior creative workshops during school holidays,
- Jewellery making, print making and textiles,
- Film screenings including regular screenings of Craitbul and Volcano,
- Educator exhibition tours, general public tours and school tours,
- Artists in residence, and
- Life drawing, illustration, watercolour and ceramics workshops by established artists.



## RIDDOCH WELCOMES NEW DIRECTOR

**City of Mount Gambier welcomed Ashleigh Whatling as the new Riddoch Arts and Cultural Centre Director in November 2023.**

The Adelaide born curator has experience working in the arts and cultural sectors in South Australia, Tasmania and Queensland and is settling into her new role in Mount Gambier, a position she had her eye on for a while.

"I am happy to be here and be closer to my family and friends. I really want to understand what this community is interested in and how we can elevate that into art exhibitions that draw people in and tell stories about who we are," Ashleigh said.

"The Riddoch has an excellent reputation for programming within the regional arts network and I would like to continue to develop that reputation of national significance in terms of cultural conversation."

"The Riddoch is strongly positioned to become a destination gallery as we are within driving distance of Adelaide and Melbourne. I'd like to continue to focus on developing our original programming because there is a lot of talent in the region. We can encourage people from further afield to come and spend time in Mount Gambier and one of the ways we can do that is by having a flagship gallery."

Ashleigh studied a double masters degree in Art History and Museum and Curatorial Studies at the University of South Australia. Following an internship, she was employed as a full time Curatorial Assistant at Samstag Museum of Art in 2011.

"It was a wonderful place to work, and I learned the ropes of collection management, artist liaison, publication research and development, arts administration and marketing and front of house presentation. I got to cut my teeth in a prestigious environment - a purpose-built gallery with a high functioning team."

In 2017 Ashleigh was appointed as Curator of Visual Arts and Design at QVMAG in Launceston, Tasmania, the largest regional gallery in Australia. Here she managed a small curatorial team responsible for a large collection of furniture, works on paper, paintings, sculpture, textiles, ceramics and photography spanning 250 years of practice.

"I was also responsible for delivering a schedule of changing and permanent exhibitions across 11 galleries. As part of that, we closed the permanent Colonial and Federation galleries and we reopened them with much more contemporary and inclusive permanent displays of the collection that told multiple stories and also included 13 new commissions."

In 2019 Ashleigh was promoted to Senior Curator of Visual Arts and Design within QVMAG which involved strategic planning for the gallery.

"We managed to pull off major change in the gallery and draw national attention during that time, which I am very proud of."

In 2021 Ashleigh made the move to regional Queensland after she was appointed Director of the Hervey Bay Regional Gallery.

"This position gave me the opportunity to re-open the gallery after a two-year closure due to COVID and develop and launch a strategic plan."

Ashleigh plans to build on her previous success at Hervey Bay and Launceston with a focus on hyper local content - stories that can't be told anywhere else.

"Hyper local content is really what will draw people from other places and Mount Gambier is really rich in stories that only we can tell, the volcanic landscape is rich with stories."

"Artists are always drawn to these dramatic landscapes, so I'm keen for the Riddoch to become a place for original content you can't find anywhere else," Ashleigh said.

"I think storytelling is at the core of what regional galleries can do. There is an opportunity to further build connections with our Boandik community and understand our stories and how they relate to the deep history of this place."

*Riddoch Art Gallery Director Ashleigh Whatling.*



# The Riddoch Arts and Cultural Centre

## CREATIVE ARTS FUND

**City of Mount Gambier endorsed two projects, including an interactive mural and community weaving project, as part of the 2023/2024 Creative Arts Fund.**

The program supports artists, community groups and not-for-profit organisations to deliver projects that contribute to a connected, vibrant, culturally diverse community.

“The Creative Arts Fund selection panel were very pleased to be recommending the two successful applications for funding,” Acting Manager Riddoch Arts and Cultural Centre Ben Kilsby said.

“Each year the Creative Arts Fund attracts a diverse range of applications, representing the broad interests and creative capacity of our arts community. The successful proposals this year reflect this and will provide high-quality public art or extensive cultural development outcomes through their delivery.”

The successful applications include:

Project	Artist	Approved funds
Coming Home	Lucy Bonnin	\$18,893
Sea Weave: A community weaving project	Tabitha Williams	\$13,610



Mayor Lynette Martin is pictured at the 'Coming Home' mural at the Railway Lands which was painted by artist Lucy Bonnin.



## COMING HOME – LUCY BONNIN

Artist Lucy Bonnin delivered a burst of colour to the Mount Gambier Railway Lands. The large interactive mural features colourful balloons and is located on the vacant wall in the central plaza of the Railway Lands.

Completed in April 2024, the mural complements the existing railway theme of the 'Signalling Change' artwork and adds a playful touch to appeal to the families and children attracted to the adjacent play space.

"I moved to Mount Gambier with my family at the start of 2023 and appreciate the opportunity to contribute to the community and the region's public art realm," artist Lucy Bonnin said.

"The mural is colourful, bold, and interactive. The design includes a collection of balloons symbolising joy, freedom, creativity, and hope."

"The interactive element adds to this sense of depth and allows viewers to stand at the bottom-centre of the mural and 'hold' the bunch of balloons by the string. This will create an excellent opportunity for people to take photos of themselves with the mural."

"I certainly hope this public art would help to bring life to the city for all those who live here or pass through."

## SEA WEAVE – TABITHA WILLIAMS

Artist Tabitha Williams brought community members of all ages together through a series of workshops.

Participants crafted individual woven rounds that were combined to form a magnificent sculpture of algae, promoting

both the resilience and fragility of our oceans on the Limestone Coast.

"The weaving project is a collaborative endeavour that seeks to celebrate the region's coastal beauty while fostering a sense of community and raising awareness about environmental fragility," artist Tabitha Williams said.

"This project invited community members to participate in a series of weaving workshops. Guided by experienced weaving instructors, participants will learn traditional weaving techniques and contribute to the creation of a significant communal artwork that will tour the Limestone Coast."

The finished artwork is proposed to be displayed within public buildings throughout the city.

"SeaWeave supported the goal of building a socially connected and healthy community by inviting members from all sections of our community to partake in free weaving sessions. This created an avenue for people from various backgrounds to converge, interact, and collectively contribute to a shared artwork."

## WINTER WONDER ROOM

The Wonder Room returned to the Riddoch Arts and Cultural Centre in time for winter 2023, offering a creative space for children aged four to 12, focusing on shape, colour, movement and creation.

The inaugural Wonder Room was trialled over summer in 2022/2023 and saw more than 3,000 visitors engage with the space, demonstrating the importance of providing a free and



Artist Tabitha Williams.

accessible place for local families and visitors to explore their creativity.

The Riddoch Arts and Cultural Centre team created a space full of interesting and colourful activities to celebrate what makes winter in Mount Gambier special, encouraging children to roleplay, imagine and explore a range of hands-on or sensory-based activities.





## Youth Activation Group Relaunch

**City of Mount Gambier launched a new Youth Activation Group (YAG) to brainstorm and deliver ideas, events and activities to make Mount Gambier a great place for young people.**

Council began the search for local young people between the ages of 15 to 25 years old keen to act on the things that matter to them and help boost the vibrancy of the city.

“We’re looking for young people who live, work, study, or play in the City of Mount Gambier area to actively participate in the YAG through regular meetings and support the delivery of activities and events that the YAG wants to deliver,” Strategic Recreation Coordinator Hayley Rowe said.

“It is well documented that meaningful youth participation helps to build self-confidence, self-esteem and leadership skills, leading to more effective decision making.”

Council received a \$5,000 Children and Youth Engagement Grant from the Commissioner for Children and Young People in 2023. The YAG’s first project will be to activate the youth space at the Wulanda Recreation and Convention Centre with the funds.

We need ideas of what to do in this space, which is pretty much a blank canvas. It could be painting a mural on the walls, delivering workshops/events/activities during the summer holiday break, or buying consoles/equipment to use in the room for drop in sessions – it’s totally up to the YAG,” Ms Rowe said.

Council reviewed the applications received and assessed them to form a diverse YAG that represents the community and has the skills and ambition to get things happening.

“Once the Wulanda activation project is complete, the group will continue to work with Council to activate other spaces such as the Library and a youth hub at the Railway Lands.”



*YAG members Zoey, Jannika and Annapurna present their brainstormed ideas for activation of the youth space at Wulanda Recreation and Convention Centre at the May 2024 meeting.*

## Community and Environmental Health

Food Safety	
Total food businesses currently registered	509
Facilities which require food safety audits	12
P1 (highest) risk classified food businesses	145
P2 (high) risk classified food businesses	178
P3 (medium) risk classified food businesses	106
P4 (low) risk classified food businesses	81
Complaints received by Council	
Alleged food poisoning	4
Pests in food premises	2
Poor personal hygiene or poor food handling practices	2
Unsuitable food	0
Unclean premises	3
Food recall notifications received	66
Food safety education	
New business fit-out advice and consultations	6
'I'm Alert' online non-accredited food safety training users	2,713
Food business food safety newsletters	0

Communicable Disease Control Branch mandatory notifications	
Influenza notifications	185
Food borne related illnesses – eg. Campylobacter, Salmonella	136
Varicella Virus (Chicken Pox)	28

Public Health	
Registered high risk manufactured water systems	62
Publicly accessible swimming pool and spa inspections	17
Registered hair, beauty and skin penetration businesses	92
Onsite waste water treatment system applications	4
Complaints received by Council	
Accommodation standards	2
Air pollution/odour	N/A
Waste control/yard conditions	N/A
General health complaint or enquiry/other	N/A
Hoarding and squalor	N/A
Infectious disease/notifiable disease	0
Litter control/unsightly properties	2
Sewer and on-site wastewater systems	N/A
Hairdressing/beauty salons	1
Supported residential facilities	2
Vermin (including birds, rats and mice)	3
Water quality (other than public swimming pools and spa pools)	0

Community Health	
Hazardous waste (sharps) collected at Civic Centre	N/A



# 509

Food businesses registered



# 92

Registered hair, beauty and skin penetration businesses



# 2,713

Online non-accredited food safety training users

## National Volunteer Week

**To celebrate National Volunteer Week, City of Mount Gambier hosted a morning tea to acknowledge the contribution of volunteers across the organisation.**

The theme for National Volunteer Week 2024 was 'Something for Everyone'. The City of Mount Gambier has volunteer opportunities to suit people from different walks of life and we appreciate that each individual has something to offer.

At Council, volunteers work hard to enhance our capacity to deliver services in many areas including the Library, Riddoch Arts and Cultural Centre, ReUse Market, Valley Lake/Ketla Malpi Conservation Park and assist with various community events throughout the year.



*Cr Paul Jenner (left), Mayor Martin and Riddoch Arts and Cultural Centre volunteer Phil Richards.*



*ReUse Market volunteers Marianne Bowd (left), Raelene Justice, Shirley Chuck and Raylene Anderson.*



*Library volunteers Louise Wheller (left), Helen Stratford, Marian Thompson and Cheryl Tilley.*



Volunteers Phil Richards (left) and Sandy O'Donnell.



Community Events Officer Liana Golubic (second to left) with Events volunteers John Cruise and Helen and Tom Telford.



Library volunteers Marian Thompson (left), Helen Stratford and Beryl Mahoney.



## Citizen of the Year Awards

**The Citizen of the Year Awards acknowledge the unsung heroes of our community who make our city a better place. These individuals and organisations offer outstanding service and build strength within our community as a result of their tireless efforts.**

In 2024, Citizen of the Year was awarded to Richard Harry, Senior Citizen of the Year was awarded to Kevin Douglas, Young Citizen of the Year was awarded to Luke Thomson, the Community Event of the Year was awarded to the Mount Gambier Community Christmas Lunch and the Active Citizenship Award was presented to Julian Mattay.

### **CITY OF MOUNT GAMBIER CITIZEN OF THE YEAR – RICHARD HARRY**

Mount Gambier man Richard Harry was a founder of the Limestone Coast Prostate Cancer Support Group (LCPCSG) after his own prostate cancer diagnosis in 2010.

“When your treating specialist tells you you’ve got the big ‘c’ it frightens the living daylights out of you,” Richard, a husband and father of two said.

“I ended up having a radical prostatectomy after my diagnosis, but during that time I was trying to find out more information and wanted to talk with other men about why they had chosen particular types of treatment. However, the closest support group was at Murray Bridge.”

After his surgery, the retired dairy farmer and business owner joined with the Rotary Club of Mount Gambier West to facilitate a public meeting to discuss the viability of establishing a local support group.

“We had urologist Professor Villis Marshall come down from Adelaide to speak to us and we also had members of an Adelaide based support group address a crowd of about 150 people,” Richard explained.

Following the meeting, LCPCSG was formed in October 2010 with Richard appointed at the helm as chair.

“At the inaugural meeting we decided it wasn’t just to be a men’s group, because any cancer impacts the whole family and we wanted to include the women as well. I think we had 20 odd families at that point in time.”

The group provides support, compassion and understanding to men and their families following a prostate cancer diagnosis.

“Over the years it has been interesting to see that we have a transient membership, some people need information and assistance early in the piece, they have their treatment, they find out it’s not always a life sentence and they get on with their life and they walk away from the group. Others have stayed on; they enjoy the camaraderie of a group of guys that have been through the same sort of thing.”

The LCPCSG’s functions evolved to include fundraising and lobbying government for equipment and resources.

“We joined with WIN Television to be part of their annual golf charity event which raised funds for us to be able to provide \$15,000 to upgrade the chemo chairs at the Mount Gambier Hospital.”

*The 2024 City of Mount Gambier Citizen of the Year Award was presented to Richard Harry.*



“People are there in those chairs for a number of hours when they receive chemo and we thought that it wasn’t just men with prostate cancer that were benefiting from this, it was women with breast cancer, it was kids with childhood cancers such as leukemia, it had a whole community benefit.”

Richard says community groups and organisations from throughout the region got behind the group to support its endeavours to provide support to men diagnosed with prostate cancer.

“We worked with the Male Bag Foundation, WIN TV, Bendigo Bank, Limestone Coast Councils, Naracoorte Area Health Advisory Council and local individuals and businesses to raise \$198,000 to purchase a portable Transperineal Biopsy machine in 2019. The machine is used by visiting urologists in Mount Gambier and Naracoorte and reduces the need for men to travel to Adelaide or Melbourne for the procedure,” Richard said.

Alongside Federal Member for Barker Tony Pasin, Richard was one of the driving forces behind the appointment of a part time specialist prostate cancer nurse in the Limestone Coast in 2020.

“We were trying to get a nurse for the Limestone Coast nurse as the only prostate nurses at that time were based in Adelaide. We were happy when Tracy Bryant was appointed by the Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia. She has more than 100 clients across the region and provides information and support to help men come to terms with living with prostate cancer.”

The 79-year-old is also an active member of the Limestone Coast Radiation Treatment Working Group, established in 2022. The group circulated a petition which garnered 16,000 signatures and an additional 4,000 digital signatures in support of establishing a radiation treatment centre in the region.

“We are the only state in the country that doesn’t have a radiation centre outside of a capital city. Why should Mount Gambier, the largest city outside of Adelaide, not have something like this?” Richard questioned.

Members of the working group presented the petition to state parliament in May 2023 and Richard, Lachie Haynes and Dee Carmody fronted the independent review parliamentary committee that followed in June 2023. As a result, the State Government is currently undertaking a feasibility study to assess the need for a radiation treatment facility for the region. This work is expected to be completed by mid-June 2024.

“I am hoping like crazy that we can get a treatment facility here. If successful, it will reduce the anxiety around travel costs and family commitments for up to two months at a time while in Adelaide or Warrnambool, Victoria for the radiation treatment for standard cancers.”

Richard was formally recognised for his advocacy work when he was presented with the Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia’s Max Gardner Award for Distinguished Service in 2021.

Beyond his dedication to raising cancer awareness, Richard has had a long term involvement with the local CFS; he received a Paul Harris Fellow for his involvement with the Gambier Lakes Rotary

***“I think we have got an absolutely magic community, we work together, it’s not just our community in Mount Gambier, it’s the whole of the Limestone Coast and I feel so privileged that we live in such a caring area.”***

**Citizen of the Year  
Richard Harry**

Club between 1992 to 1997; and was involved in Scouts from 1976 until 1992, serving as a leader for Port MacDonnell and then a district leader.

Richard was humble when told he had been awarded the City of Mount Gambier 2024 Citizen of the Year Award.

“I feel very honoured, but I still feel there are a lot of people out there that do a lot more than me,” he said.

“I am just a cog in the groups that I’ve been involved with, I am just part of it. It takes a lot of people to bring these things together.”

Prostate cancer is the most common cancer in Australian men and Richard has some advice to all men over 50 - get a PSA test.

“Fellas, get yourself tested. I’ve seen some good men die with it, and it’s not pretty. We don’t want that happening, and why should it? If we can do something about it, let’s do it, it’s a simple blood test at the doctor these days.”





## Citizen of the Year Awards

### CITY OF MOUNT GAMBIER SENIOR CITIZEN OF THE YEAR – KEVIN DOUGLAS

**Kevin Douglas has been a well-known personality in the Mount Gambier community for more than 50 years.**

Affectionately known as KD to many, the 72-year-old once fronted local classrooms as a teacher, coached local football teams and has been behind the microphone as master of ceremonies at many sporting events and presentations in addition to volunteering his time extensively throughout the community.

Born in the Riverland and raised in Adelaide, Kevin moved to Mount Gambier in 1974 for his first teaching post at Grant High School. His career in education spanned 45 years as a Physical Education (PE), Mathematics and Geography teacher throughout the region, including Allendale East Area School, Millicent High School, Mount Gambier High School and the district office before he retired in 2016.

“It’s not a job that can be taken lightly, because you really are putting down a foundation for a lot of kids,” Kevin said.

Grant High School Deputy Principal David Thomson attributed the introduction of the Vocational Education and Training (VET) program at the school to Kevin.

“His teaching methods were innovative and engaging, designing and delivering the work related studies program which gave young people disengaged from traditional education a pathway to work,” Mr Thomson said.

Kevin is proud of his legacy within the local education sector and was honoured in 2007 when Grant High School dedicated an area of the school as the Carol Lock/Kevin Douglas quadrangle in recognition of his service.

“That was huge to me,” he said.

“Even just recently I went to get the bus from the school for the Mount Gambier Community Christmas Lunch and they said, ‘yeah, it’s down by KD’s shed’. I said, ‘you still call it that?’ I haven’t been there for 20 something years, but they still call it that. That hits home a bit that you’ve made an impact at the school.”

Sport has played a huge role in Kevin’s life, whether it be playing a game of footy for South, West Gambier, Kongorong or Western Border Interleague, or coaching.

“Right from being a youth, my Mum Thelma ensured my brother and I played a lot of sport, and I believe it is so important. It has so much more to offer than potentially getting a kick on Adelaide oval - the responsibility, the organisation, the punctuality, all those social skills that are

so important, the teamwork, the friendship, they are all the benefits of playing sport,” he said.

Over several decades, Kevin also volunteered his time to chair panels for local tribunal boards, including soccer, basketball, baseball, softball and football.

After hosting a sports show on local radio 5SE for the best part of a decade in the 90s, Kevin was in demand as a master of ceremonies around the region for various events. That included presentations and special events on race days at the Mount Gambier Harness Club, trotting evenings at the Mount Gambier Greyhound Club, sports nights and charity fundraisers.

“I loved every minute of it. Out at the trots if they had a presentation, I’d grab the microphone and do it right. I am not a professional at it, but I am someone who took some pride in doing things right,” he said.

*The City of Mount Gambier Senior Citizen of the Year 2024 was awarded to Kevin Douglas.*



In 2021, Kevin was presented with an Outstanding Service to Industry Award at the Greyhound Racing SA annual awards for his fundraising work and the assistance he provided to the local Quaran Care group.

"I really enjoyed working with the group to make them feel comfortable enough to come and visit the club, join in, and enjoy watching the races on a weekly basis. I assisted one young lad to become a licensed handler and it was a real joy to do so."

Kevin enjoys using his skills to guide local volunteer organisations to success, including the Mount Gambier Community Christmas Lunch event. From 2020 to 2023 Kevin led the event, which grew to 170 attendees under his guidance and passion for the cause to ensure that everyone involved enjoyed Christmas lunch together, no matter their circumstances.

"Kevin engaged with the whole community to gain support for the event. He has put a structure in place to ensure that it can now continue to run for many years," Mount Gambier Community Christmas Lunch event organiser Vicki Clark said.

Kevin discovered Sunset Kitchen as a result of his work with the Community Christmas Lunch.

"I would go along and ask people if they would like to attend the Christmas lunch, and then I realised what they did at Sunset Kitchen. I thought that it was fantastic, not making judgements, just providing underprivileged people of all ages with a meal on a Monday and Wednesday night."

He now volunteers at the kitchen regularly and is grateful for the contribution and support of generous local businesses throughout Mount Gambier.

Kevin has been forced to reduce some of his volunteer work and activities in recent years due to ongoing health issues. He has been battling prostate cancer for the past five years and travels to Adelaide every three weeks for treatment.

"I stay with my son Bradley and my daughter Carmen and my three grandkids Noah, Eli and Xavier. It's having those people at the end of your bed that is most important," he said.

When asked why he is so community minded, Kevin is solemn. In 2010, at almost 60, he decided to research his father Les' untimely death. He died in 1956 at the age of 29 in a car accident in the Riverland where the family lived. Kevin was just four years old at the time, and his older brother Gary was six.

"I looked up all the old microfilms, all the old newspapers in Waikerie and Blanchetown at the Adelaide Library because Mum never talked about it (the accident), she was traumatised," Kevin said.

"I found out that my Dad was secretary of the Waikerie Football Club. Not a good footballer, but a great social person, so one out of two. It also had written in there what the Waikerie community did to fundraise and support Mum, Gary and myself when he died and it has never, ever left me."

"The Waikerie community held a fundraiser and raised an unbelievable amount of money for the family between 1956 to 1960 which greatly assisted us," he said.

***"If there is a genuine need, I haven't found a business, corporation, or individual in Mount Gambier who will say no, they will do what they can."***

**Senior Citizen of the Year  
Kevin Douglas**

Kevin said the goodwill displayed during that difficult time for his family astounded him and he wanted to continue to give back to others where he could, both locally and in the Riverland.

"My brother and I went back to the Waikerie Football Club and gave a donation to their junior program," he said.

"That's my why, you've got to do what you can to help other people in need."





## Citizen of the Year Awards

### YOUNG CITIZEN OF THE YEAR – LUKE THOMSON

**Mount Gambier man Luke Thomson had been silently struggling with his mental health for a couple years before he decided to speak to a doctor about it in 2022.**

The former Nangwarry football coach was subsequently diagnosed with anxiety and depression and plucked up the courage to talk to some friends about it as a guest on 'The Richo & Toddy Poddy' podcast which usually focused on sport.

"I guess people were noticing when I was a bit down and my behaviour was all over the place, and they wanted to know why. To be upfront and honest I told a couple of mates about my diagnosis on the podcast, and they were taken aback, and everything really took off from there," Luke said.

"That little chat between us led to some pretty good opportunities to help raise awareness about mental health and help break the stigma."

The young father of two started the 'Let's Talk' podcast in 2023 and quickly created a safe space for local people to discuss mental health issues.

"In sharing my story, I have found that more people have opened up. People have come to me and spoken about their own experiences, I have had people that you wouldn't expect get in touch and it's really opened up the conversation," he said.

Luke was part of a local committee that raised more than \$50,000 for headspace Mount Gambier through the twilight charity football match 'switch the headspace' held at East Gambier Football Club in February 2023 for mental health awareness.

He was also a Swinging with the Stars participant in 2023, raising about \$10,000 in funds for the Stand Like Stone Foundation.

In his working life, Luke works at a hotel and supports and mentors youth in his role as a School Services Officer (SSO) at Mount Gambier High School.

***"I think Mount Gambier as a whole is a good community, people really come together especially when it is for the mental health side of things."***

**Young Citizen of the Year  
Luke Thomson**

"You're shaping these kids and you get the opportunity to guide them and help them on their way and to move out into the community to find casual jobs, to find an apprenticeship or whatever future they want to explore."

The 29-year-old was surprised when told that he had been awarded the Young Citizen of the Year award.

"I was in a bit of shock, obviously you don't set out to get these things, but I'm very happy and excited about it."

"This all wouldn't be possible with the support of my partner Chanelle, and my boys Louie and Zeb," he said.



*The 2024 City of Mount Gambier Young Citizen of the Year Award was presented to Luke Thomson.*

## COMMUNITY EVENT OF THE YEAR – MOUNT GAMBIER COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS LUNCH

In 2009 local man Leigh Marcus hosted the first Mount Gambier Community Christmas Lunch at St Martin's Lutheran Church Hall with 75 people in attendance.

In the years since, several volunteers including Heidi Bates, Liz Rymill, Kevin Douglas and current organiser Vicki Clark have led and facilitated the Mount Gambier Community Christmas Lunch.

"We have a wonderful group of volunteers who give up their own Christmas celebrations to support those less fortunate each year," Vicki said.

The lunch is held annually on Christmas Day at City Hall. Attendees are provided with a free, three course Christmas lunch along with entertainment and a gift bag of items donated by local community members and businesses.

"The lunch is provided in an inclusive, safe environment to ensure everyone in our community gets the chance to enjoy a Christmas lunch which they may not have otherwise been able to do. We all know everyone needs a helping hand now and then, and that's why we do what we do," Vicki said.

A bus is provided for those who don't have transport, and taxis for those with disabilities to ensure no-one misses out on attending.

In 2023, the lunch was attended by 170 guests, with approximately 30 takeaway meals provided for those who were not comfortable in a group environment.



Vicki says attendees at the lunch come from all walks of life and from all parts of the community.

"They include people who are vulnerable, lonely or homeless, as well as refugee families who have relocated, or just people who want to share Christmas with others."

Vicki attributes the generosity of the local community to the success of the event.

"This event couldn't go ahead without the generous donations provided by the business community."

The committee of eight also purchases about 30 toys each year to ensure each child in attendance receives a gift appropriate for their age.

Vicki says the many personal stories attendees share makes the community effort worthwhile.

"Late last year we received a message from a lady who asked how she could donate to the lunch. I called her back and she said she had attended the previous year's lunch as a guest with her three children after fleeing to Mount Gambier as a result of domestic violence."

"She said she walked in with her children, all a little scared because they knew no-one, but they were welcomed with open arms by the volunteers. It was a wonderful day for her and her children, and one they had never expected to have."

*The 2024 Community Event of the Year Award was presented to the Mount Gambier Community Christmas Lunch. Event volunteers are pictured at the Cave Garden/Thugi.*

"She also said her life had since turned around and she wanted to donate some money to help others and that she would never forget that day. When I checked our bank account, she had deposited \$200, it brought tears to my eyes," Vicki said.

***"It's a very humbling event to be involved with and we are very grateful to have the opportunity to support our community in this way. Christmas is a very hard time for a lot of vulnerable people and if we can take their mind off their woes for a few hours, our job is done."***

**Mount Gambier Community Christmas Lunch Organiser  
Vicki Clark**



## Citizen of the Year Awards

### ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP AWARD – JULIAN MATTAY

**As a child Julian Mattay and his family moved to Australia as refugees from war torn Hungary, Europe and decided to settle in Tasmania. He says Australia offered him many opportunities and now, he pays it forward by volunteering his time to local charities and organisations and donates generously to local causes to return the favour to others. For this, Julian is the recipient of the City of Mount Gambier Active Citizenship Award.**

Julian studied mathematics and physics at university and began his working life with the CSIRO in Hobart in 1966 at the age of 21. Throughout his career he focused on tree growth biometrics, modelling, computer programming and data analysis. Outside of work he would often take on double shifts as an Ambulance Service volunteer on weekends and had also joined the local bushfire brigade before moving to Mount Gambier in 1984 as part of a job transfer.

Mount Gambier has since been Julian's home for the past 40 years. His position at CSIRO was made redundant in 2006 and he

subsequently decided to use his free time to help others.

"I work with the Rotary Club, Sunset Community Kitchen, the Flying Doctor Service Support Group, the Ryder Cheshire Foundation and with the Books in Homes program," Julian said.

Books in Homes is a charitable foundation that provides books to children living in remote, disadvantaged and low socio-economic circumstances, ensuring crucial early literacy engagement and the development of reading skills required for lifelong achievement.

As a member of the Rotary Club of Mount Gambier, Julian played a crucial role in establishing the Books in Homes program in Mount Gambier in 2015. From June 2019, Rotary decided to stop sponsoring the program and since then, Julian has personally donated more than \$16,000 to keep the program running locally in conjunction with the Mount Gambier Library, providing 2,504 books to 678 families.

"I have been passionate about books since I was a child. In the words of Billy Connolly, 'Books are your ticket to the whole world,'" Julian said.

***"I got my phone out and looked at the calendar, it wasn't the first of April. Quite frankly I was stunned and shocked to hear that I had received this award."***

### Active Citizenship Award recipient Julian Mattay

As part of the initiative, each child selects nine new books they would like to have at home, creating a personalised library of their own.

"Reading books takes children away from screens and playing games. They can read the books to their parents and their parents can read books to them, it's a bit of a bonding exercise as well."

Julian is involved in the program in a variety of ways, in addition to his financial contribution.

"Julian has attended school and kindergarten sites to meet with and read to the children. When the books are ordered and dispatched, Julian is first to put his hand up to offer to help pack the books into backpacks, ready to be given to the children," Library Children and Youth Services Officer Bec Coates said.

Julian is driven by a strong desire to help those in the community who need both moral and material support, whether it be young children, the aged, or those who are economically and socially disadvantaged. The 78-year-old provides about \$26,000 in donations to the local causes he supports each year.

When told that he was to be awarded the Active Citizenship Award for his ongoing community contributions, Julian was surprised and delighted.



*The 2024 City of Mount Gambier Active Citizenship Award was presented to Julian Mattay.*

## Community Events

**In 2023/2024 Council sponsored and supported more than 60 community events.**

The aim of the City of Mount Gambier's event sponsorship program is to:

- Support the development of vibrant, creative, and innovative events that enhance the economic, social, and cultural life of Mount Gambier,
- Increase tourist visitation and deliver measurable economic benefits to the city,
- Facilitate community involvement in events and activities,
- Attract new and diverse events to the city, and
- Support events that build and reinforce the unique and positive attributes of Mount Gambier.

*Blue Lake Carols.*





**AAM TIMBER MOUNT GAMBIER CHRISTMAS PARADE**

The AAM Timber Mount Gambier Christmas Parade kicked off the festive season in Mount Gambier on Saturday 18 November 2023, with thousands of people lining Commercial Street for the event.

“We would like to thank the schools, businesses, community and sporting groups and the many volunteers who helped bring this magical event to life this year,” Community Events Officer Liana Golubic said.

“It was incredible to see the spirit and creativity of our community, sparking smiles and laughter from all watching along Commercial Street.”

Entries competed for prizes judged on energy and engagement, creativity, and effort. Judges scored the floats in the various categories, with the following floats receiving awards. All prize money is donated by AAM Timber.

**2023 CATEGORY WINNERS**

**MOST OUTSTANDING ENTRY - \$750**

Building our Lives on Jesus by St Martins Lutheran College

**BEST CHRISTMAS THEME - \$500**

The Joy of Christmas by Tenison Woods College

**BEST SCHOOL ENTRY - \$500**

An Aussie Christmas by Compton Primary School

**BEST CLUB OR COMMUNITY ORGANISATION ENTRY - \$250**

Winter Wonderland by Tonique Studio

**OPEN CATEGORY - \$250**

An Aussie Truckin’ Christmas by the Mt Gambier Truck Show

**BEST THEMED BAND - \$250**

Creswick Brass Band

**ENCOURAGEMENT AWARD - \$250**

A French Christmas by Mulga Street Primary School

**BEST NON-CITY ENTRY - \$250**

The Mil-Lel Christmas Minions by Mil Lel Primary School

**BEST RECYCLED RESOURCES ENTRY - \$250**

What did you spy at the beach today? by Ocean Drifters Family Day Care











**Working together with our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, the City of Mount Gambier has the following vision for reconciliation:**

- A society free of racism and prejudice where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples feel a strong sense of belonging and are able to participate fully in the life of our community.
- A city which supports expressions of cultural identity, where cultural practices, traditional sites and significant places are acknowledged, celebrated and preserved.
- A community characterised by social justice which advocates for enriching the lives of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

### **RECONCILIATION ACTION PLAN**

**The City of Mount Gambier's inaugural Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) focuses on strengthening positive relationships, acknowledging and respecting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, and providing opportunities to ensure that our First Nations peoples have the same life opportunities as other Australians.**

The RAP is titled Yerkalalpata which means 'Leading the Way' in Bunganditj (the reclaimed language of the Boandik people). It incorporates more than 70 direct actions that strengthen our capacity as an organisation to deliver our vision for reconciliation.

A key focus was to put the foundations in place to support cultural safety and engagement for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in our workplace.

*Uncle Doug Nicholls conducted a Smoking Ceremony at the Cave Garden/Thugi for NAIDOC Week 2023.*

### **NAIDOC WEEK**

**City of Mount Gambier acknowledged and celebrated the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community during NAIDOC Week from 2 to 9 July 2023.**

The NAIDOC Week 2023 theme was 'For Our Elders' acknowledging the significant role that our Elders have played, and continue to play, in our community.

"Our Elders are the holders of wisdom and knowledge, the custodians of an ancient culture, and their leadership in our community in both direct and indirect ways, is truly significant," Mayor Martin said.

"Through my role as Mayor, I have been privileged to meet, learn from and work alongside many of our Elders. I've admired their influence, their knowledge and passion, their long-held connection to this country and their strong, unwavering commitment to our community."

Council collaborated with Pangula Mannamurna Aboriginal Corporation, Burrandies Aboriginal Corporation and Aboriginal Family Services to host a Mayoral Reception and deliver cultural activities such as a Welcome to Country, Smoking Ceremony and a flag raising ceremony. This event was followed by the return of the community march down Commercial Street West to Pangula Mannamurna for the

annual NAIDOC Awards and community barbecue.

"It was wonderful to see the return of these important cultural activities after a hiatus in recent years due to COVID," the Mayor said.

"It was made even more special to hold the activities at Cave Garden/Thugi, one of six sites of cultural significance here in Mount Gambier/Berrin that have been officially reunited with their Bunganditj names."

NAIDOC week programs were also held at the Riddoch Arts and Cultural Centre and the Mount Gambier Library.

Community members and schools were invited to watch the first live performance of 'Craitbul' performed by Reidy Park Primary School Year 3 and 4 students. Playwright by Boandik Elder Aunty Michelle, co-directed by Reidy Park Primary School teacher Brooke Winterfield.

Council also provided in-kind support for a special luncheon for Elders, hosted by local agencies held at Wulanda Recreation and Convention Centre on Friday 7 July 2023.



## NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK

In acknowledgement of National Reconciliation Week, City of Mount Gambier hosted a program of events from Monday 27 May to Monday 3 June 2024.

Events were held at the Mount Gambier Library and The Riddoch Arts and Cultural Centre under the 2024 theme of 'Now More Than Ever'.

Local artist Belinda Bonney was joined by her sister Anne Bonney for live painting in the foyer of the Riddoch on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. Visitors were encouraged to interact with the artists and participate in the creation of the artwork, which was later displayed in various community spaces.

The Mount Gambier Library hosted a themed Storytime featuring the book 'Finding our Heart' by Thomas Mayo on Tuesday 28 May followed by a collaborative art activity.

The Last Daughter was screened at The Riddoch Arts and Cultural Centre on Monday 3 June. This event was in partnership with ac.care and the Limestone Coast Local Health Network .



Mayor Martin and Aunty Val Brennan participate in the community march down Commercial Street.



Aunty Val Brennan (centre) and Uncle Jack Sailor (right) raised the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags alongside the Australian flag with Mayor Martin.

Belinda and Anne Bonney.



# Wulanda Recreation and Convention Centre

**Wulanda Recreation and Convention Centre is a state-of-the-art multi-purpose sport, aquatic and conference facility in Mount Gambier.**

Wulanda, meaning 'enjoy or cherish' in Bunganditj language, is a gathering place for all to participate in sports, recreation, community activities and events.

Opened in December 2022, the facility boasts a 25-metre lap pool, learn-to-swim pool, warm water program pool, and children's splash pad and an updated outdoor 50-metre pool. In addition, six multi-purpose courts, change rooms and amenities, a gym and allied services provide ample opportunity to participate in sports and recreation.

Whether it is basketball, netball, futsal, volleyball, tennis, roller skating, badminton, or dance, Wulanda is the place to be. The health club provides opportunities for all ages to maintain fitness, create social connections, and increase general wellness.

More than 1,000 people can attend conferences, events, and performances making Wulanda Recreation and Convention Centre the hub of community leisure activities in Mount Gambier.

**Key events hosted at Wulanda include:**

- Adelaide 36ers Basketball game - 1,700 spectators,
- Basketball Mount Gambier Junior Basketball Tournament – 2,000+ attendees,
- Blue Lake City Custom Classic Bike and Car Show – 1,000+ attendees,
- Team Nilsson Fitness and Boxing Fight Night,
- Riot City Wrestling,
- Limestone Coast Jobs and Skills Showcase,
- Rotary District 9780 Conference, and
- Men's Shed Cluster Gathering.

**Key user groups include:**

- Mount Gambier Swimming Club,
- Blue Lake Amateur Swim Club,
- Mount Gambier Pioneers,
- Football Association of SA,
- Mount Gambier Netball Association,
- Blue Lake Aero Modellers,
- Kyokushin Karate,
- Walking Netball,
- Special Olympics,
- School Sport South Australia South East Zone (Secondary School Competitions),
- Community Living Australia, and
- Four allied health professionals utilising consulting suites and associated equipment.



**167,991**

Attendees in 2023/2024

**597**

Health and wellness members\*

**869**

GOSwim participants\*

**\$13,730**

Total venue sponsorship

**478**

Aquatic members\*

\*As at 30 June 2024.



## WULANDA WINS AWARD FOR PUBLIC ARCHITECTURE

Wulanda Recreation and Convention Centre was recognised at the 2023 Australian Institute of Architecture SA Awards for public architecture and sustainability.

DesignInc, architect for Wulanda Recreation and Convention Centre received the Public Architecture Award at the ceremony held on 7 July 2023 at the Adelaide Convention Centre.

“We are particularly proud to have the design recognised for its focused response to the community needs and providing inclusive design throughout the centre, as well as the integrated technical responses to environmental and social sustainability,” DesignInc Associate Director Ben Luppino said.

“Spatial and sensory considerations are seamlessly incorporated, enabling dignified participation for all levels of physical ability and health, and enhancing the overall user experience.” - Jury citation.

Wulanda Recreation and Convention Centre also received a commendation for sustainable architecture, recognising the environmentally sustainable design using exposed structural timber and a 720 kilowatt solar system.

“Wulanda exemplifies the positive impact of architecture on community, while balancing environmental essentials.” – Jury citation.

“This is the second award win for Wulanda, and we could not be more thrilled to see DesignInc receive recognition for the design of our wonderful community centre,” Mayor Martin said.

“We are pleased that the recognition showcases the region, and thank the City of Mount Gambier for the opportunity to be able to contribute on such a significant project,” Mr Luppino said.

*“Wulanda exemplifies the positive impact of architecture on community, while balancing environmental essentials.”*

**Jury citation**





## General Inspector Statistics

Dog expiations	194
Dog complaints	249
Dog impoundments	31
Dogs returned to owners	146
Dog attack reports	18
Parking offences	427
Fire permits	95
Cattle impoundments (sheep and cows)	0
Vehicle impoundments	0
Dog registrations	5,806
Cat registrations	2,019
Dog registration fees	\$184,257



# Dog and Cat Management Plan

**In January 2024 Council endorsed a new Dog and Cat Management Plan as required under legislation. The Dog and Cat Management Plan 2024-2028 incorporates extensive feedback provided during two rounds of community consultation and encourages responsible dog and cat ownership throughout the city.**

“The plan addresses challenges identified during the consultation process including dog faeces management, cat management, dogs being off leash when they shouldn’t be and dog behaviour,” General Manager Corporate and Regulatory Services Jane Fetherstonhaugh said.

In conjunction with their endorsement of the plan, Council has determined that the provisions in By-Law - No.5 Dogs 2018 regarding dog prohibited areas now apply to all sporting fields and ovals at Blue Lake Sports Park. This follows feedback from the sporting and recreation clubs that use the facilities at this location.

“Unfortunately, we had reports of ongoing issues with people not picking up after their dogs on the sporting fields within Blue Lake Sports Park, so dogs are no longer permitted in those areas. Dog owners can still walk their dogs in the park surrounding the playing fields.”

“This is in addition to the continuing by-law requirement for dogs to be on leash at any park or reserve during times when sport is being played and prohibited from all playgrounds.”

“Dog owners are reminded that it is an offence to not carry waste bags when walking their dog, and to not pick up after them.”

Dogs under effective control may be exercised off leash in other areas throughout the city including:

- Marist Park,
- Botanic Park,
- Hastings Cunningham Reserve,
- Northumberland Reserve,
- Frew Park,
- Blue Lake Sports Park (excluding sporting fields and ovals),
- Don McDonnell Reserve, and
- Corriedale Park.

“Under the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995* and Council By-Law, dogs must be under effective control in all public places throughout the city. Either through physical restraint (on-leash up to two metres long) or by command, in proximity, and able to be seen by the controller.”

The plan emphasises the importance of responsible pet ownership.

“Dogs and cats must be microchipped and desexed in accordance with the regulations under the *Dog and Cat Management Act 1995*. In addition, every dog over three months of age must be registered. We will focus on community education as part of implementation of the plan.”

**REHOMING PARTNERSHIPS**

**In March 2024, City of Mount Gambier and South East Animal Welfare League (SEAWL) signed a rehoming partnership agreement for Council to transfer unclaimed impounded dogs after the mandatory 72-hour holding period to SEAWL for rehoming.**

Council has four rehoming partnerships currently in place, including Wet Noses Animal Rescue, Dusty Paws Dog Rescue, Southern Grampians Shire Council and SEAWL.

“Council approached SEAWL to provide rehoming services for unclaimed dogs after the holding period,” General Manager Corporate and Regulatory Services Jane Fetherstonhaugh said.

“Council’s priority is the welfare of the dogs in our care and we are pleased to work in collaboration with SEAWL as one of our rehoming partners to help abandoned dogs find a new home.”

“We are united in looking after the health and wellbeing of the city’s dogs and rehoming the unwanted, forgotten and neglected animals in our community,” South East Animal Welfare League President Trevor Twilley said.

All dogs receive a veterinary check, microchip and vaccination prior to transfer, in accordance with Council’s Unclaimed Dog Policy.

In addition to providing our own short-stay holding facilities, Council’s preferred operating model for pound and rehoming services is to work in partnership with volunteer-run animal rescue organisations that utilise foster carers to care for the animals

until they are ready for adoption, private pet boarding operators and other local councils that have established rehoming programs.

*Wet Noses Animal Rescue Directors Maxine Spence (left) and Marie Dukalskis with stray puppy ‘Hector’ who was transferred to foster care prior to adoption.*





# ECONOMY, STRATEGY AND ENGAGEMENT



Tourism and Visitor Servicing Snapshot	64
Summer on Watson	65
Before the Bounce	66
Community Consultation	68
Partnership Priorities and Advocacy	69

## VISITOR SERVICING



### IN PERSON

- Mount Gambier Visitor Centre
- Blue Lake Welcome Centre



### PRINT

- Mount Gambier map
- Mount Gambier Regional Guide
- In-centre experience guides



### ONLINE

- discovermountgambier.com.au
- Social media - Facebook and Instagram

## IN-PERSON

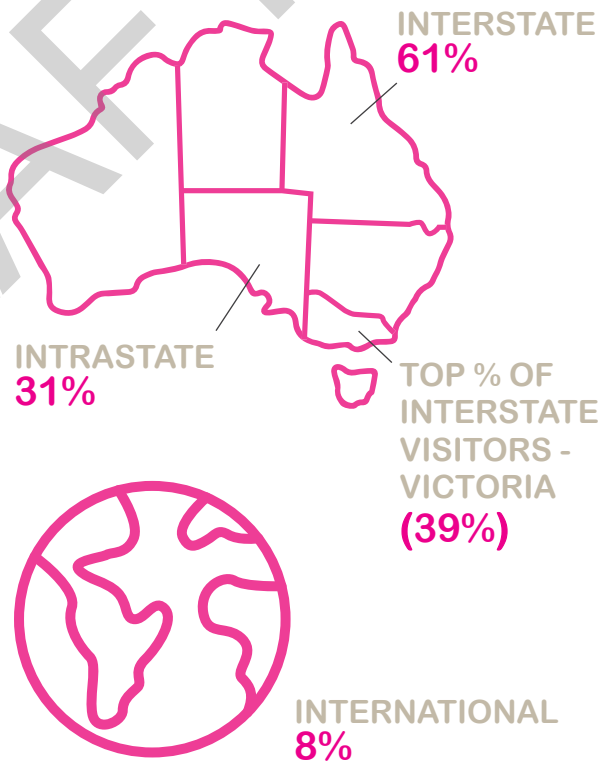
TOTAL VISITORS  
TO SITES

**42,194**



Mount Gambier Visitor Centre **30,245**  
Blue Lake Welcome Centre **11,949**

## OUR VISITORS WERE FROM



## WEBSITE

UNIQUE WEBSITE  
USERS

**49,413**



discovermountgambier.com.au

TOP PERFORMING PAGE  
**GEOLOGICAL WONDERS**

## SOCIAL MEDIA

@mountgambiervisitorcentre

FACEBOOK

**5,710**

INSTAGRAM

**1,384**

@visitmountgambier

FACEBOOK

**9,260**

INSTAGRAM

**7,908**

## Summer on Watson

**‘Summer on Watson’ is a program of events developed in consultation with Council, local businesses and community interest groups to activate the CBD on weekends from Sunday 26 November until 28 January 2024 on a trial basis.**

“We want to encourage collaboration and partnerships and the CBD activation will bring together existing and supported events and activities over a 10-week period, including markets, live music, food and wine and yoga in the park,” Mayor Martin said.

Council aimed to generate energy and vibrancy within the CBD as a place for people to gather.

“We want people to move around and encourage street life including indoor/outdoor dining and lively civic spaces. Fairy lights were hung in the Cave Garden/Thugi to create atmosphere with Council providing a stage, marquee and power to host entertainment.”

The activation program is in accordance with Council’s CBD Guiding principles and follows a Motion of Notice proposed by Councillor Max Bruins at the August 2023 Council meeting.

The program included a Family Friendly New Year’s Eve Celebration following a last minute cancellation of the tradition New Year’s Eve Festival organised by Mount Gambier Community Events Management Inc.

Hundreds of families gathered to celebrate the new year with live entertainment, food stalls, jumping castles, face painting, balloon sculptures and giant games.

Approximately 7,500 people attended events in the CBD throughout the 10 week period with 15 events delivered by community groups, individuals, businesses and Council.

*2023 New Year’s Eve Celebrations in the Cave Garden/Thugi formed part of Summer on Watson.*





## Before the Bounce

**Mount Gambier had footy fever leading into AFL Gather Round with 'Before the Bounce' community activities held from Saturday 23 March 2024 to Sunday 7 April 2024.**

Approximately 40,000 people are said to have travelled through Mount Gambier on the way to the Gather Round in Adelaide. Before the Bounce encompassed a program of footy based events and activities held throughout the city designed to capitalise on the influx of visitors.

"We are a proud sporting city with a particular love for Australian Rules Football. We are a destination in our own right and we welcome visitors who are making the pilgrimage to Adelaide for the Gather Round to kick start their footy weekend, play and stay in our city," Mayor Martin said.

"Before the Bounce leverages the timing of school holidays and coinciding events such as Fringe Mount Gambier. We aim to maximise visitor participation and boost the local economy

while celebrating our city's vibrant sporting culture and the essence of Australian Rules Football," Manager Economy, Strategy and Engagement Biddie Shearing said.

Visitors and locals flocked to The Riddoch Arts and Cultural Centre who lead the charge with a creative space called *'Straight to the Pool Room!'*

The exhibition paid homage to collections and stories and offered activities for all ages, including a sample of football guernseys from local Andy Munro's 500+ personal collection, a design your own guernsey competition for kids, a scrapbook of local news articles about regional football behind the scenes legends, a display of local trophies, footy cards, and VHS match tapes, a commentary booth to practice your favourite calls from and a digital footy card that put you as the football star for team Berrin.

"This immersive experience focused on the fans and families of regional football and featured Naracoorte resident Andy Munro's extensive football guernsey collection and activities tailored for every age group," Riddoch Arts and Culture Centre Director Ashleigh Whatling said.

The Riddoch also hosted a film screening of the beloved 1980s football classic, 'The Club' presented by Mount Gambier's own Drag King Loveit Murray on Wednesday 27 March 2024.

Visitors to the exhibition were impressed with plenty of positive feedback left in the visitor book at The Riddoch.

"I would like for there to be another footy room, I loved it," an attendee wrote.

The Mount Gambier Library leant into the footy flashback theme, reflecting on some of the local legends within our community and stories from days gone by.



SANFL and 2024 AFL Premiership cups on display in Mount Gambier.



*The Riddoch hosted a film screening of the beloved 1980s football classic, 'The Club' presented by Mount Gambier's own Drag King Loveit Murray as part of the Straight to the Pool Room! exhibition.*



*Mayor Martin with local footy fans Harry (left), Ted, Demi, Bo, Eden and Piper in readiness for Before the Bounce activities.*

"We also hosted a pom pom craft activity and find the football competition with an AFL football signed by former local and Geelong Cats player Brad Close which was well received by the community," Manager Library and Community Development Georgina Davison said.

SANFL hosted a free junior footy clinic facilitated by SANFL game development staff and former AFLW champion Erin Phillips at Frew Park on Thursday 28 March 2024 including a special display featuring the SANFL and 2024 AFL Premiership cups.

Erin also joined an intimate audience at the Riddoch Arts and Cultural Centre for a Q&A session about her decorated career.

Businesses and the community were encouraged to 'wear your colours' on the Friday of the Gather Round - Friday 5 April 2024.

Council worked closely with South Australian Tourism Commission (SATC), AFL and SANFL to bring Before the Bounce activities to the community.

"Council staff have done a fabulous job to pull together this event program for our residents and visitors to enjoy," Mayor Martin said.



*AFLW Premiership player Erin Phillips hosted a free junior footy clinic at Frew Park as part of the Before the Bounce program.*



## Partnership Priorities and Advocacy

**Council endorsed the Partnership Priorities and Advocacy 2024 – 2025 strategic working document in February 2024, outlining initiatives to help to facilitate the growth and prosperity of the local community, the Limestone Coast and South Australia.**

The document is an important tool for keeping our stakeholders informed of our community's challenges, concerns and strategic direction. This is the second Partnership Priorities and Advocacy document for Council. The first edition, from November/December 2021, guided many conversations and promoted issues of importance with our partners. The second edition builds on what has been achieved for our community because of partnership and investment by all levels of government.

Other key partnership and advocacy activities and initiatives, which Council have undertaken in the 2023-2024 financial year, include:

- Before the Bounce activation in the lead up to AFL Gather Round,
- Mount Gambier 2035,
- Limestone Coast Local Government Association's Regional Growth Strategy,
- Mount Gambier's public bus service and Regional Public Transport Review,
- Inquiry into Local Government Sustainability,

• Continuing to advocate with State and Federal Government on various issues of importance to our community, including:

- Homelessness and housing,
- Public transport,
- Tourism,
- Radiation therapy and cancer treatment,
- Mount Gambier Urgent Care Clinic, and
- Opportunities to encourage skilled migration to the region.

The Partnership Priorities and Advocacy document can be viewed on Council's website.



*Mayor Lynette Martin and CEO Sarah Philpott met with SA Minister for Infrastructure and Transport Tom Koutsantonis in Adelaide in March 2024 to discuss Mount Gambier's public bus service.*





*Mayor Lynette Martin and Council CEO Sarah Philpott met with SA Minister for Primary Industries, Regional Development and Forestry Clare Scriven in April 2024 to provide an update on the Mount Gambier 2035 strategic planning project, the Limestone Coast Local Government Association's Regional Growth Strategy and Before the Bounce activities.*



*Wulanda Recreation and Convention Centre provided the perfect backdrop for Mayor Lynette Martin to discuss opportunities for sport and recreation with SA Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing Katrine Hildyard MP in November 2023.*



*Mayor Lynette Martin and CEO Sarah Philpott met with SA Deputy Premier Susan Close in October 2023 to discuss Crater Lakes activation, trails and Mount Gambier's unique natural environment.*



*Mayor Lynette Martin met with SA Minister for Tourism and Multicultural Affairs Zoe Bettison in September 2023 to discuss events, attraction, tourism and the Wulanda Recreation and Convention Centre.*

*SA Premier Peter Malinauskas looked through the Wulanda Recreation and Convention Centre with CEO Sarah Philpott and Deputy Mayor Max Bruins in July 2023.*



**Council is proactive in seeking the views of our community. This includes considering the specific needs of different sections of the community, and ensuring appropriate strategies are developed to maximise opportunities for all to participate.**

Throughout 2023/2024 Council consulted with the community and sought feedback on the following matters:

- Dog and Cat Management Plan 2024-2028,
- Local Affordable Housing Plan,
- Use of St Martins Drive Reserve,
- Crater Lakes Trails Plan,
- Mount Gambier Library Strategic Plan,
- Volunteer Management Plan,
- Communications Survey,
- Shared Path Master Plan,
- Mount Gambier 2035 – a Community Vision for our Regional Capital,

- Annual Business Plan and Budget 2024-2025,
- Long Term Financial Plan 2025-2034,
- Draft Asset Management Plans 2025-2034, and
- Section 92 Code of Practice for Access to Meetings and Documents.

Council also maintained a series of community reference groups including:

- Mount Gambier 2035 Community Panel,
- Mount Gambier Youth Activation Group,
- Yerkalalpata Reconciliation Action Plan Community Reference Group,
- Mount Gambier Housing Alliance,
- Mount Gambier Community Mayor's Christmas Appeal Committee, and
- Blue Lake Sports Park User Group.

The Community Consultation and Engagement Policy outlines Council's commitment to effective, ongoing and timely community engagement as an integral part of local governance and decision making. The policy can be found on Council's website.

*Manager Library and Community Development Georgina Davison (back left), General Manager City Infrastructure Barbara Cernovskis, Manager Economy, Strategy and Engagement Biddie Shearing and Councillors Frank Morello, Sonya Meziniec and Paul Jenner at Party in the Park at the Cave Garden/Thugi in 2023 to discuss Mount Gambier 2035 with the community.*





# ENVIRONMENT



Crater Lakes Mountain Trail Reopened	72
Waste Snapshot	73
Mount Gambier ReUse Market	74
Waste Transfer Station	75
Margaret Street Sinkhole	76
Limestone Coast Bushfire Management Plan	77
Local Nuisance and Litter Control Act	78



## Crater Lakes Mountain Trail Reopened

### **Felling of large burnt pine trees along the Crater Lakes rim was completed in December 2023 following a fire that ravaged the area in January 2022.**

The stairs and crater rim path to Centenary Tower were reopened to the public following the work, enabling walkers and runners to complete a full loop of the Mountain Trail once again.

“We hope that our active community members will enjoy climbing the stairs and the beautiful scenic walk along the crater to Centenary Tower once again,” General Manager City Infrastructure Barbara Cernovskis said.

“It has been a long process to fell the first three tiers of trees as the Crater Lakes precinct is a State Heritage area which requires Development Application approval to undertake work of this type.”

Approximately 11.3 hectares of pine trees were destroyed in the area during the fires and 960 trees require removal. Landscape architects Oxigen prepared a bushfire rehabilitation plan to assist with the restoration of the fire affected area on the south western slopes of the Crater Lakes.

“The report was developed in collaboration with a governance steering committee to investigate the history of the area, its cultural significance, the local ecology, revegetation plant selections, methodology on the removal of the trees and an overall implementation strategy,” Ms Cernovskis said.

Council and Oxigen will consult with surrounding landowners, residents and property owners, the First Nations community, key users and staff involved in the management of the site to seek feedback on the rehabilitation plan.

A final report will be presented to Council to consider the feedback received from the key stakeholders throughout the engagement process. The report will also include reforestation and replanting considerations regarding the fire affected Bluegum trees and will also outline a rehabilitation timeframe as part of the second stage of the project.

*The stairs and crater rim path to Centenary Tower were reopened to the public in December 2023 following the Crater Lakes fire in January 2022.*







## Mount Gambier ReUse Market

**The Mount Gambier ReUse Market, located at 3 Eucalypt Drive, aims to reduce landfill by reusing and upcycling useful items salvaged or donated via the Waste Transfer Station. It is a place where you can get anything and everything second hand from building materials, bikes, sports gear, garden equipment, tools, bric-a-brac and furniture.**

Along with the Waste Transfer Station, the ReUse Market plays a pivotal role in assisting to deliver waste education to community groups, schools, and the broader community by saving useful second-hand items from the waste stream.

Since opening in 2018, the ReUse Market has built several partnerships within the community, including volunteers, who play an active role assisting the operation of the market by sorting, recovering, upcycling, cleaning, and presenting items for sale.

Opening twice per month, the ReUse Market is a popular destination for those seeking secondhand items in good condition that would otherwise end up in landfill. For information about upcoming open days visit [www.mountgambier.sa.gov.au/reusemarket](http://www.mountgambier.sa.gov.au/reusemarket)

**8,000**

VISITORS TO THE REUSE MARKET

**161** TONNES

MATERIAL DIVERTED FROM LANDFILL

**6,500**

APPROX. TRANSACTIONS

**\$117,000**

TOTAL SALES

*Raylene Anderson volunteers her time at the Mount Gambier ReUse Market helping to prepare donated items for sale.*





## Waste Transfer Station

The Waste Transfer Station located at 5 Eucalypt Drive, is an important link in our community's total waste management system that aims to reduce landfill by understanding the challenges, opportunities, and unique issues of managing waste.

The facility plays a vital administrative role in the collection, treatment and disposal of waste streams received including commercial contractors, residents, and community members.

Material taken through the Waste Transfer Station from domestic customers is separated prior to going to landfill to ensure maximum resource recovery.

The Waste Transfer Station is where all items are salvaged or donated for the ReUse Market.

The Waste Transfer Station also assists to deliver waste education to community groups and schools through regular site tours where participants see the process of recovery, recycle and reuse, and promotion of Council's 'sort and save' initiative.

The Waste Transfer Station is open seven days a week and is a popular destination for those that are enthusiastic about reducing waste to landfill.

For more information visit [mountgambier.sa.gov.au/WTS](http://mountgambier.sa.gov.au/WTS)

**11** TONNES  
EXPANDED  
POLYSTYRENE  
PROCESSED FOR  
RECYCLING ON SITE

**128** TONNES  
METAL RECYCLING

**23** TONNES  
MATTRESS RECYCLING

**5,500**  
APPROX.  
TRANSACTIONS

**161** TONNES  
DIVERTED TO  
REUSE MARKET

### OTHER RECYCLING MATERIAL

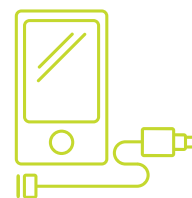
Cardboard, engine oil, cooking oil, globes, paint, batteries, x-rays, cables, lids, dental hygiene, masonry, tyres, fridges, bread tags, gas bottles, and couches.

CONTRACTOR'S  
WASTE  
**13,484**  
TONNES

TOTAL TO  
LANDFILL  
**27,579**  
TONNES



**627**  
TONNES  
WASTE  
BINS



**52**  
TONNES  
E-WASTE



**422**  
TONNES  
GREEN WASTE  
/ FOGO



## Margaret Street Sinkhole

### A portion of bitumen collapsed in the walkway between Margaret Street and the Railway Lands on 25 June 2023 following heavy rain.

Initially, an excavator was used to remove the rubble in the sinkhole that measured seven metres deep, 12 metres in length and four metres in width.

Council then partnered with local geoscientist Ian Lewis to investigate the sinkhole.

“It appears to be a naturally occurring cave that has collapsed,” Mr Lewis said.

“A drone was used to provide a closer look at what we are dealing with. I could see from the footage that there was at least 10.5 metres of volcanic soil and ash in the hole, not rock or limestone, all the way down into the bottom of the hole and out of sight. This could have been an indication that the hole was not stable,

therefore we didn’t want to take any risks and put a person in the hole if there was any risk of a soil collapse.”

Council’s engineers fitted a remote-control rover with a GoPro camera on top, to go down into the sinkhole to take measurements and provide detailed footage of the volcanic ash and soil profile to enable the investigation to go ahead safely. This investigation indicated that no limestone is visible in the walls of the sinkhole.

“It is most likely that an old cave has collapsed in the limestone deep down and all the heavy soil on top that has been piled up in that old sinkhole has sunk down about seven metres after it became wet following the heavy rain. It’s all ash - a soil type ash. Over thousands of years, that ash develops into soil. And that’s what we are seeing here,” Mr Lewis said.

An independent geotechnical investigation was then undertaken by engineering consultants which provided recommendations to fill the void that had a footprint of about 30 square metres.

“Following independent advice, we filled the cavity with stabilised sand, a mixture of soil and four to six per cent concrete,” City Infrastructure General Manager Barbara Cernovskis said.

The thoroughfare was reopened in February 2024 following monitoring for movement at the site. Remediation work costs for the project totalled approximately \$160,000.

*Council engaged a local concreter to fill the sinkhole.*



## Limestone Coast Bushfire Management Plan

## Local Nuisance and Litter Control Act

**The Fire and Emergency Services Act 2005 requires each of the nine South Australian Bushfire Management Committees to prepare and maintain a Bushfire Management Area Plan.**

Each Bushfire Management Committee will adopt a Bushfire Management Area Plan that will:

- Identify existing or potential risks to valuables from bushfire within the bushfire management area,
- Outline coordinated and cooperative bushfire prevention and mitigation strategies to achieve appropriate hazard reduction associated with bushfire management within its area,
- Identify asset or land custodians responsible for the implementation of the bushfire risk mitigation treatments, and
- Use or establish principles and standards to guide or measure the success of the bushfire management strategies and initiatives.

The Limestone Coast Bushfire Management Area Plan is available to view on the State Bushfire Coordination Committee website - [sbcc.sa.gov.au](http://sbcc.sa.gov.au)

**Council is responsible for managing local nuisance and litter control matters within the Council boundary.**

Allowing or contributing to local nuisance or litter is a crime and can result in costly penalties being applied. Some common complaints of nuisance Council becomes involved in include noise, smoke, unsightly properties and littering.

Council officers have investigated a number of enquiries and customer requests in relation to matters which can be addressed by the *Local Nuisance and Litter Control Act* and at 30 June 2024 Council had not made any prosecutions under this Act.

In 2023/2024 Council issued one Nuisance Abatement Notice in respect to a local nuisance matter.



## New Rubbish Truck to Hit City Streets

**A new rubbish truck hit the road in August 2023, helping to alleviate bin collection service setbacks after ongoing fleet maintenance requirements.**

After an extensive wait, a new Isuzu FVY 240–300, ordered in December 2021, finally arrived to join the fleet on the streets in August 2023.

“There have been challenges regarding the global availability of this specialist technology within the transport industry since before COVID, which only made the wait longer,” Manager Waste, ReUse and Environment Jeremy Martin said.

Council encourages residents to download the ‘My Local Services’ phone application to receive reminders about which bin to put out each week.

*Manager Waste, ReUse and Environment Jeremy Martin with Council's new refuse compactor.*





# INFRASTRUCTURE



New Amenities at Valley Lake/Ketla Malpi	80
Blue Lake Sports Park Master Plan	81
Road Construction and Maintenance	82
Building Fire Safety Committee	83
Crime Prevention Strategies	83
Development Services - Building and Planning	84
Regional Assessment Panel	85
Carinya Gardens Chapel and Cemetery	85
Shared Path Master Plan	86



## New Amenities at Valley Lake/Ketla Malpi

### New public amenities at the Valley Lake/Ketla Malpi opened in November 2023.

The design incorporates timber and limestone look tiles in keeping with the state heritage area and facilities include hot running water, six cubicles, an access toilet, parents room and a urinal room.

The project was designed by Troppo Architects and constructed by building contractors Kennett.

“The new building includes much improved facilities for families and individuals who visit the beautiful Valley Lake/Ketla Malpi area,” Mayor Martin said.

The \$750,000 project was funded by the Federal Government Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program.

Member for Barker Tony Pasin MP said the program was unique in

that it responded to expressed local needs via local government.

“I’m incredibly proud of the support provided to communities through the LRCI Program because it’s projects like this that ensure our vibrant region remains strong, resilient and prosperous in the long term,” Mr Pasin said.

“Valley Lakes precinct is a much-loved recreation area for local residents and visitors. Ensuring facilities are updated and up to modern standards is ensuring the precinct remains attractive for events, tourism and local residents. It’s just another example of how the former Coalition Government invested in the future of our region, in partnership with the City of Mount Gambier, ensuring it remains a great place to live, work and raise a family,” he said.

City of Mount Gambier Project Engineer Andrew Thompson oversaw the development and said that the location of the new facilities directly adjacent to the playground, provides safer access for families.

“The old toilets are located across from the roadway and car park, which posed a traffic risk to pedestrians, particularly children,” Mr Thompson said.

“A path now leads from the playground gate to the amenities with wheelchair access to the facilities via a ramp.”

The two old toilet blocks across from the playground car park and Freemans Landing were demolished in December 2023.

*Kennett representatives Caolan Buckley (left) and Bryce Allen (right) with Mayor Martin and Council Project Engineer Andrew Thompson at the newly opened Valley Lake/Ketla Malpi public toilets.*





## Blue Lake Sports Park Master Plan

Council endorsed the Blue Lake Sports Park Master Plan in July 2023. The high level document provides a road map for future development at the site, informed by the Sport, Recreation and Open Spaces Strategy (SROSS), current and future participation trends, sporting compliance and feedback from the community and key stakeholders.

Blue Lake Sports Park is a significant multipurpose site for sport and recreation in Mount Gambier. Council worked with Outerspace Landscape Architects and InsideEDGE Sport and Leisure Planning to develop a master plan for the area in consultation with site users and the community.

“Mount Gambier has a strong sport and recreation culture, and this plan aims to future proof the facilities, deliver environmentally sustainable outcomes and develop the park as a destination that the wider community can engage with,” General Manager City Infrastructure Barbara Cernovskis said.

“We received 65 submissions as part of the community consultation process for the plan and the overwhelming majority indicated a preference for option 2, a ‘community precinct’ which considers the park’s holistic role in the provision of open space and sporting infrastructure in the city and its important role for our community.”

The plan incorporates and balances the recommendations of SROSS with the needs and desires of existing tenants and key users, while addressing the current constraints and shortfalls identified at the site.



*The strategic direction for the Blue Lake Sports Park has been set following the endorsement of the Blue Lake Sports Park Master Plan. Mount Gambier Cycling Club’s Damien Buckley, West Gambier Hockey Club’s Brayden Burston and Dana Jones, Mount Gambier Softball League’s Di Humphries and South Gambier Football Club’s Darren Sims are pictured at the park.*

“We want to make sure our spaces are fit for purpose and flexible in their use. We need better connections between sporting activities and off field activities in the park and would like to encourage wider engagement in the area.”

An implementation planning process is in progress which will include the development of a shared funding plan so that grant funding opportunities for the development of the Blue Lake Sports Park can be pursued in the future.

“Having this master plan prepared for the area means that we are ready to progress when a funding opportunity presents itself,” Ms Cernovskis said.

## Road Construction and Maintenance

**Council is committed to maintaining its road network to a high standard. In 2023/2024 Council invested \$3,876,788 as part of the Capital Works Program.**

The following works were undertaken as part of this spend.

### ROAD RECONSTRUCTION PROGRAM

**Council contribution - \$1,349,768.**

**Roads to Recovery funding - \$430,396.**

- Grevillea Street (entire length),
- Hammer Court (entire length),
- Walter Street (entire length),
- Crouch Street South (John Watson Drive to Lake Terrace East), and
- Wehl Street South (James Street to Commercial Street West).
- Roads to Recovery projects:
  - Strangways Street (entire length),
  - Stone Avenue (entire length), and

- Wireless Road East (Kennedy Avenue to Attamurra Road) - shoulder reconstruction and partial kerbing.

Other projects:

- Retaining wall renewal - Lake Terrace West (Hay Drive to Wallace Street), and
- Guard rail renewals on Harrald Street and Kennedy Avenue.

### RESEAL PROGRAM

**Road reseal program - \$516,953.**

**Intersection asphalt overlays - \$71,777.**

**Roundabout renewal program - \$31,036.**

- Helen Street/Gray Street roundabout.

### TRAFFIC LIGHT RENEWAL - \$80,545

- Commercial Street East/ Ferrers Street/Mitchell Street intersection,
- Commercial Street West/Wehl Street intersection, and
- O'Halloran Terrace school crossing.

### CARPARK RESURFACING - \$48,955

- Council Works Depot, and
- Pick Avenue information bay.

### FOOTPATH CONSTRUCTION

In 2023/2024 Council invested \$159,074 in its footpath program.

The projects that were included in the program were:

- Ferrers Street car park footpath renewal,
- O'Halloran Terrace/Bay Road PLEC remediation, and
- Construction of a new concrete footpath on O'Leary Road from Jubilee Highway to Calula Drive.



## Building Fire Safety Committee

## Crime Prevention Strategies

### FOOTPATH ASPHALT OVERLAY PROGRAM - \$74,260

- Davison Street (Commercial Street to John Street) – both sides,
- Sturt Street (Compton Street to Crouch Street South) – south side,
- North Terrace (Crouch Street to Livingston Street) – north side, and
- Compton Street (Sturt Street to Commercial Street) – east side.

### STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

Council's 2023/2024 capital drainage works comprised of the installation of a new system on Dohle Road to the total value of \$49,408.

The works included the construction of the following new infrastructure:

- Bore,
- Silt pit,
- Headwalls, and
- Grates and associated pipe network.

### BOUNDARY ROADS - \$1,064,615

Works on the O'Leary Road and Pinehall Avenue intersection have been completed delivering a major upgrade to a heavy vehicle traffic route.

Upgrades between the road segment between this intersection and Sunnybrae Road have commenced and will be partially carried over to 2024/2025.

Both projects are funded by Special Local Roads Program (SLRP) and equal contribution from City of Mount Gambier and District Council of Grant.

### The primary function of the Building Fire Safety Committee (BFSC) is to:

- Achieve a reasonable standard of fire safety for the occupiers of a building,
- Ensure minimal spread of fire and smoke, and
- Ensure an acceptable firefighting environment.

The BFSC is made up of one Elected Member, Cr Paul Jenner, who is the chairperson, a member of both the Metropolitan Fire Service and Country Fire Service, a Level 1 accredited Building Surveyor, a person with expertise in the area of fire safety and Council's Senior Building Officer.

For 2023/2024 the Building Fire Safety Committee met once to discuss an item of concern.

A focused program of compliance for buildings over 500m<sup>2</sup> has been ongoing to ensure building owners maintain their buildings in respect to building fire safety matters.

Several development applications for larger buildings have been addressed through development applications for building fire safety upgrades.

These applications are assessed against the National Construction Code and brings these buildings into alignment with current standards.

### Council supports crime prevention and anti-social mitigation measures including:

#### MOUNT GAMBIER LICENSING ACCORD

A regular forum coordinated by Council involving the Liquor and Gaming Commissioner, SAPOL, hotel and club licensees and other key stakeholders.

#### MOUNT GAMBIER DRY AREAS

Council maintains five State Government approved dry areas within the City of Mount Gambier.

The proclaimed dry areas are:

- Mount Gambier city centre (Area 1),
- Vansittart Park garden (Area 2),
- Vansittart Park oval (Area 3),
- Dimjalla Park (Area 4), and
- AF Sutton Memorial Park (Area 5).

#### CCTV SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS

There are more than 30 surveillance cameras at various locations within the city centre.

CCTV is a useful tool to decrease anti-social behaviour and increase public safety. Council continues to work with SAPOL to determine areas that require the presence of increased surveillance and will continue to expand on the number of cameras installed to improve public safety. The cameras are monitored by the Mount Gambier Police Station and this has proven to be an effective initiative.



## Development Services - Building and Planning

**Throughout 2023/2024 Council’s building division continued to support local builders and professionals to deliver a core range of services. These included:**

- Assessment of proposed development,
- On-site audit-based inspection of construction activities,
- Approval for occupation of commercial premises,
- Maintenance of Essential Safety Provisions registers, and
- Administration of Council’s Building Fire Safety Committee.

These duties are carried out under a series of regulations and statutory instruments adopted under the *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016*, the planning and Design Code and the National Construction Code.

Statistics for development within the city are now provided through the online ePlanning platform, PlanSA.

Council’s building division records statistics regarding activities within the local construction industry for Development Approvals granted. These are shown in the table below.

	2023/2024	2022/2023	2021/2022	2020/2021	2019/2020
Dwellings	80	206	149	210	72
Dwelling additions	12	76	19	17	22
Outbuildings	61	279	208	263	148
Commercial	13	42	33	31	28
Industrial	5	10	2	15	8
Signage	14	17	3	12	5
Wastewater	N/A	N/A	0	0	0
Other	199	229	27	86	80
Total number of development applications	384	859	441	634	363
Estimated total development expenditure	\$78,340,029	\$177,079,518	\$68,495,083	\$162,682,216	\$70,013,622



**The Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016 requires all councils in South Australia to establish a Council Assessment Panel (CAP) to make decisions in respect to the assessment of development applications.**

Together with the District Council of Grant, District Council of Robe and the Wattle Range Council, the City of Mount Gambier have formed the Limestone Coast Southern Regional Assessment Panel (RAP) which commenced operation on 1 July 2022.

In the assessment process the RAP has regard to the Planning and Design Code, third party representations and any advice from a referral body to determine the merits of each application.

The RAP is the decision making authority for development applications that are required to be publicly notified.

The membership of the RAP must be no more than five members. All members of the RAP are appointed by the councils and must have experience and/or qualifications in town planning or a similar field of expertise.

The members of the RAP were:

- Mr Mark Teakle (Presiding Member),
- Ms Lamorna Alexander,
- Ms Meg Redman,
- Mr Ian Von Stanke, and
- Ms Cheryle Pedler.

Mr Carlin McNeil was also appointed as a Deputy Member of the RAP and attended meetings when other members were unable to attend,

During 2023/2024 the RAP considered 27 development applications.

RAP meetings were held on the third Thursday of each month commencing at 5:00pm.

**The gardens, chapel and surrounds of Carinya Gardens provide a peaceful ambience for bereavement services.**

Great pride is taken in the quality of services offered to the community at Carinya Gardens, particularly to families in a time of need.

There were 499 services conducted at the cemetery during the 2023/2024 year, compared with 516 in the previous year.

The cemetery undertook 112 burials compared with 108 the previous year, and a total of 387 cremations were performed compared to 408 in 2022/2023.





**Council endorsed the Shared Path Master Plan, a framework highlighting future improvements to the quality, connectivity and safety of shared paths throughout the city at its April 2024 meeting.**

The master plan provides a roadmap for the development of shared paths and outlines prioritised actions to create a safer, more connected and inclusive community for all residents.

“The master plan will be used to guide the roll out of active transport infrastructure across Mount Gambier,” General Manager City Infrastructure Barbara Cernovskis said.

“It not only considers shared paths, but also footpaths and dedicated cycling paths for use by a variety of active transport users such as pedestrians, cyclists, people with mobility restrictions and scooters.”

To identify the community’s current and future needs, Council sought input from residents, stakeholder groups and visitors to inform the Shared Path Master Plan.

More than 95 per cent of the people who provided feedback on the draft masterplan were in support of the document.

“We have considered all the feedback provided and incorporated the suggestions into the final version,” Ms Cernovskis said.

The action plan within the master plan outlines a phased priority list for implementation during the short term (the next three years), medium term (three to five years) and long term (five to 10 years and beyond).

“Some of the short term priorities identified include implementing a learn to ride facility, the consideration of speed reductions, identifying

and adopting a functional cycling and walking hierarchy, the prioritisation of identified primary and secondary intersections with a focus on cycling safety improvements and investigation of pedestrian improvements at high demand and high traffic volume locations.”

The Shared Path Master Plan was developed in conjunction with Tonkin Engineering and will inform the infrastructure design methodology within Council’s Asset Management Plans.

“These plans sequence the delivery of the initiatives through forward works programs that can be delivered within Council’s resourcing capacity.”

*Council endorsed a framework highlighting future improvements to the quality, connectivity and safety of shared paths throughout the city.*





# GOVERNANCE

Internal Review of Council Decisions	88
Community Land	88
Council Policies, Registers and Codes	89
By-Laws	90
Elector Representation Review	91
Freedom of Information	91
Confidentiality Provisions	92

**Council has adopted a formal policy and procedure, C290 – Internal Review of Council's Decisions, in accordance with the requirements of Section 270 of the *Local Government Act 1999*.**

This policy and procedure is one aspect of Council's customer-focused approach to service delivery. It provides the opportunity for any person to seek a review of a council decision, the manner in which Council provides services to the community and to identify areas for improvement.

The Internal Review of Council's Decisions procedure applies to all formal requests for review of decisions of Council, its employees or other persons acting on behalf of Council, except in instances where specific procedures are prescribed in the *Local Government Act 1999* or other relevant legislation where these alternative review processes will be followed.

Section 270 of the *Local Government Act 1999* (the Act) relates to the internal review of council actions or decisions.

Council is required by Section 270(8) of the Act to initiate and consider a report on an annual basis that relates to the:

- Number of applications received under the provisions of Section 270,
- Kinds of matters to which the applications relate, and
- Outcome of applications.

The Local Government (General) Regulations further prescribes that the report required under section 270(8) is material that is to be included in the annual report of the council.

There were no applications for a Section 270 Internal Review of a Council Decision received in 2023/2024.

**Council is required under the *Local Government Act 1999* to adopt a Community Land Management Plan for any land classified as community land that has been specifically modified or adapted for the benefit or enjoyment of the community, or that is, or is to be, occupied under a lease or licence.**

Community Land Management Plans are periodically prepared and/or reviewed and re-adopted for new and existing community land parcels.

New community land parcels arise when Council purchases land (that is not excluded prior to acquisition) or receives land from subdivisions (usually in the form of reserves and roads).

Roads are specifically excluded from the definition of community land.

When Council prepares a new, or reviews an existing Community Land Management Plan, it undertakes public consultation in accordance with the *Local Government Act* prior to its adoption.

A Community Land Register and Community Land Management Plan extracts are published on Council's website.



## Council Policies, Registers and Codes

### Council has adopted a wide range of policies, registers and codes to assist in its administrative and decision-making processes.

Council policies, registers and codes are periodically reviewed to ensure they remain up to date with legislative requirements, Council and community expectations and emerging practices in local government.

Current council policies, registers and codes and a range of other documents required by legislation are available at the Council office and on Council's website.

The following policy index lists all current Council policies at 30 June 2024.

A515	Animal Control Dogs
A520	Animal Control
	Animal Management - Unclaimed Dogs
A240	Assemblies and Events on Streets and other Council Land
	Asset Accounting
A900	Asset Management
	Behavioural Management
D150	Building and Swimming Pool Inspections
B150	Building - Sewer Connections, Waste Management Control and the Provision of Toilet Facilities
B300	Budget Framework
C120	Cemeteries - Carinya Gardens and Lake Terrace Cemetery

	Citizen of the Year Awards ( <i>formerly A270 Australia Day Awards</i> )
F125	City Burning
P195	Community Consultation and Engagement
R200	Community Land (Reserves) Lease/Licence/Rental Arrangements
C700	Corporate Branding and Identity
C320	Council Chamber and Reception Area - Use of
	Council Determined Meeting Procedures
	Council Election Caretaker Policy
C355	Council Land - Irrigation
	Disposal of Land and Assets
	Dual Naming
E115	Elections - Council Entitlement to Vote
	Emergency Management
E200	Employees Service Awards Gifts at Resignation or Retirement - E200 ( <i>Temporarily suspended - Council Resolution 2023/253 - 12/12/2023</i> )
E135	Encroachments - Protection of Public during Building and Maintenance Works
	External Grant Funding
F110	Fencing Costs - Contributions by Council
S115	Fencing and Stormwater Retention Basins

F140	Flag Protocol
F135	Flammable Undergrowth
F510	Footways and Council Land - Fundraising and Promotion
F500	Footways and Council Land - Removal of Objects
F505	Footways and Council Land - Sales of Commodities
F175	Footways and Crossovers
F190	Footways - Paving in City Centre Zone
F225	Fraud Corruption Misconduct and Maladministration Prevention
	Grants and Sponsorship
	Illumination of Assets
	Information Security
	Internal Audit
	Internal Controls
C290	Internal Review of Council's Decisions
L130	Land Divisions
	Library Collection Development
L230	Licensed Premises
M130	Media - Statements on behalf of Council
M405	Members - Allowances and Benefits
M205	Members - Mayor - Anniversary Messages
M270	Members - Mayor Seeking Legal Advice
M500	Members - Training and Development
	Memorials
O110	Order Making





P135	Planning - Entertainment Venues
	Political Neutrality and Government Relations
P155	Privacy
	Procurement
P415	Prudential Management
P910	Provision of Loans or Guarantees to Community Groups <i>(Temporarily suspended - Council Resolution 2023/253 12/12/2023)</i>
P900	Public Interest Disclosure
R105	Rates - Rating
R155	Rates - Rate Rebate
R105	Rates - Rating
R180	Records Management
C200	Request for Service and Complaint
	Riddoch Arts and Cultural Centre - Hire
	Risk Management
R270	Road - Pavement Excavation and Reinstatement of
S92	Code of Practice for Access to Meetings and Documents
S135	Streets - Naming of
S140	Street Numbering
S120	Street Signs - Directional, Tourist and other Scenic Facility Signs
S400	Supplementary Elections
T150	Treasury Management
T120	Tree Policy

	Unreasonable Conduct
U900	Unsolicited Proposals
V140	Volunteer Management
W125	Waste Management - Kerbside Refuse Collection
W115	Waste Management - Reveal of Waste - Caroline Landfill

**The following codes and registers are required in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1999* and the *Local Government (Elections) Act 1999*.**

S44	Record of Delegations
S68	Register of Interests (Members)
S72A	Gifts and Benefits Register (Members)
S79	Register of Allowances and Benefits (Members)
S80A	Training and Development Register (Members)
S92	Code of Practice for Access to Meetings and Documents
S105	Register of Employees Remuneration, Salaries and Benefits
S116	Register of Interests (Officers)
S119A	Gifts and Benefits (Employees)
S207	Community Land Register
S231	Public Road Register
S252	By-Law Register
Sch 1B	Register of Building Upgrade Agreements

**Council had the following by-laws in operation during the 2023/2024 year:**

By-law No. 1	Permits and Penalties
By-law No. 2	Local Government Land
By-law No. 3	Roads
By-law No. 4	Moveable Signs
By-law No. 5	Dogs

By-laws 1 to 5 will expire on 1 January 2026 after the seventh anniversary of their adoption, unless revoked or replaced prior to this date.

By-laws can be viewed on Council's website.

## Elector Representation Review

## Freedom of Information

Schedule 4 of the *Local Government Act 1999* requires Council to publish in its Annual Report a statement of:

- The council's representation quota,
- The average representation quota for councils of a similar size and type, and
- When the council next intends to conduct a review under Chapter 3 Part 1 Division 2.

The following provides the required statements.

Council	Members	Electors	Elector Ratio
Port Pirie	10	13,092	1:1309
Victor Harbor	10	13,639	1:1,363
Whyalla	10	15,947	1:1,594
Murray Bridge	10	16,015	1:1,601
State average			1:1912
Mount Gambier	9	20,420	1:2,268
Alexandrina	10	23,134	1:2,313
Adelaide Hills	12	30,881	1:2,375
Mount Barker	11	29,999	1:2,727

Section 12(4) of the Act outlines that a council must ensure that all aspects of the composition of the council are comprehensively reviewed at least once every eight years.

Council last conducted an Elector Representation Review during 2016/2017 with an amended composition applying from the November 2018 Local Government Elections.

The following composition applied to the City of Mount Gambier from the November 2018 Local Government Elections:

- The principal member of Council be a Mayor elected by the community,
- The council area not be divided into wards, and
- The elected body of Council comprise eight Area Councillors and the Mayor.

The next representation review for the City of Mount Gambier will take place from April 2024 to April 2025. Chapter 3 of the *Local Government Act 1999* prescribes the procedures that are available for electors to make submissions on representation under this Act.

The City of Mount Gambier received and determined applications under the *Freedom of Information Act 1991* during the 2023/2024 year as follows:

Number of applications	9
Number of applications carried over from 2022/2023	0
Full access granted	2
Partial access granted	4
Access refused	2
Withdrawn	0
Fees not paid	1
Documents otherwise available	4
Incomplete (at 30 June 2024)	1
Applications for internal review	2
Decision confirmed	0

Enquiries or requests for information under the *Freedom of Information Act 1991* should be forwarded to:

Manager Governance and Property

City of Mount Gambier  
PO Box 56  
Mount Gambier SA 5290  
city@mountgambier.sa.gov.au

An information statement in accordance with the requirements of the *Freedom of Information Act 1991* is published by the City of Mount Gambier and is available to view on Council's website.

## Confidentiality Provisions

Council is required to report on the use of confidentiality provisions under subsections 90(2) and 91(7) of the *Local Government Act 1999*.

The following tables provide the information required to be published for the 2023/2024 financial year:

### Use of Section 90(2) Orders to Exclude Public and Section 90(3) Grounds

Grounds Section 90(3)															
	No. of S90(2) Orders made	(a) Personal Affairs of Person	(b) Commercial Advantage	(c) Trade Secret	(d) Prejudice Commercial Position	(e) Security of Council Members Employees	(f) Maintenance of Law	(g) Does not Breach any Law or Court	(h) Legal Advice	(i) Litigation may take place	(j) Info provided by Crown or Minister	(k) Tenders	(m) DPA's	(n) FOI	(o) Award Recipients
Totals	37 <sup>#</sup>	13	17	-	15	1	2	12	1	3	2	6	-	-	-

### Use of Section 91(7) orders to keep documents confidential

No. of S91(7) Orders made during the 2023/2024 year	No. of S91(7) Orders that expired, ceased to apply or were revoked during the 2023/2024 year	No. of S91(7) Orders remaining operative at 30 June 2024
37	26 <sup>*</sup>	145 <sup>^</sup>

<sup>#</sup> Some Orders were made under more than one S90(3) ground, making the total number of Orders less than the aggregate for all grounds.

<sup>\*</sup> Includes expired, ceased and revoked Orders from previous financial years.

<sup>^</sup> Includes Orders that remain operative from previous financial years.

### Council meeting date, subject, S90(3) grounds and status of S91(7) orders made in the 2023/2024 year, and that remained operative at 30 June 2024.

Date of Meeting	Subject of S90(2) Order	S90(3) Grounds	S91(7) Order Status (as at 30 June 2024)
18/06/2024	Item 23.3 Late Item - Update on Legal Matter – Report No. AR24/42920	(f) (g) and (i)	Current
20/06/2023	Unsolicited Proposal - Tenison Woods College – Report No. AR23/32053	(b)	Current
18/06/2024	Item 23.2 Visitor Servicing Model - Update – Report No. AR24/31997	(b) and (d)	Current



Date of Meeting	Subject of S90(2) Order	S90(3) Grounds	S91(7) Order Status (as at 30 June 2024)
18/06/2024	Item 23.1 AF24/171 Tender - Procurement - Supply and Delivery of Premixed Concrete – Report No. AR24/40482	(k)	Current
21/05/2024	Item 23.3 - AF24/8 Tender - Procurement - Annual Maintenance of Air Conditioning Plant and Equipment – Report No. AR24/32482	(k)	Partially Released
21/05/2024	Item 23.2 - AF24/16 Tender - Procurement - Supply, Delivery and Placement of Asphalt – Report No. AR24/31855	(k)	Partially Released
21/05/2024	Item 23.1 - AF24/15 Tender - Procurement - Supply and Placement of Bitumen – Report No. AR24/31841	(a) and (k)	Partially Released
21/05/2024	Item 22.2 - Independent Specialist Support Selection – Report No. AR24/24508	(b) and (d)	Partially Released
16/04/2024	Item 23.2 - Question with Notice - Regional Waste – Report No. AR24/24863	(b) (d) and (g)	Current
16/04/2024	Item 23.1 - Visitor Servicing Model - Update – Report No. AR24/23696	(b) and (d)	Current
19/03/2024	Item 23.7 - Status Report - Wulanda Recreation and Convention Centre – Report No. AR24/16660	(b)(d) and (g)	Current
19/03/2024	Item 23.6 - Strategic Property Management – Report No. AR24/15120	(b) and (d)	Partially Released
19/03/2024	Items 23.5 - Sale of Land for Non-Payment of Rates – Report No. AR24/17620	(a)	Current
19/03/2024	Item 23.4 - Sale of Land for Non-Payment of Rates – Report No. AR24/17614	(a)	Current
19/03/2024	Item 23.3 - Sale of Land for Non-Payment of Rates – Report No. AR24/17606	(a)	Current
19/03/2024	Item 23.2 - Crater Lakes Unsolicited Proposal Report No. AR24/19114	(b) (d) and (g)	Current
19/03/2024	Item 23.1 - Visitor Servicing Model – Report No. AR24/18981	(b) and (d)	Current
20/02/2024	Item 23.2 - Question with Notice - Unsolicited Proposal - Property Third Party Proposal – Report No. AR24/6186	(a), (b) and (d)	Current
20/02/2024	Item 23.1 - Question with Notice - Crater Lakes Unsolicited Proposal – Report No. AR24/6182	(b), (d) and (g)	Current
23/01/2024	Item 23.2 Audit and Risk Committee - Independent Member Appointment - Report No. AR24/1084	(a)	Partially Released
23/01/2024	Item 23.1 RAA EV Charging Station Project - Report No. AR24/26360	(b), (d) and (g)	Partially Released
12/12/2023	Item 23.2 AF23/431 Tender - Procurement - Reconstruction of Four Road Segments - Report No. AR23/84680	(k)	Current

## Confidentiality Provisions

Date of Meeting	Subject of S90(2) Order	S90(3) Grounds	S91(7) Order Status (as at 30 June 2024)
12/12/2023	Item 23.1 Riddoch Arts and Cultural Trust - Board Member Appointment - Report No. AR23/83171	(a)	Partially Released
21/11/2023	Item 23.7 Question with Notice - Wulanda Recreation and Convention Centre - Strategic Status Update – Report No. AR23/78853	(b)	Current
21/11/2023	Item 23.6 Af23/254 Tender - Procurement - Tender for Civic Centre Lift Upgrade – Report No. AR23/79137	(k)	Partially Released
21/11/2023	Item 23.5 Crater Lakes Unsolicited Proposal – Report No. AR23/78247	(b), (d) and (g)	Current
21/11/2023	Item 23.4 Update on Telstra Co-Investment Proposal for Mobile Blackspots – Report No. AR23/76480	(b), (d), (g) and (j)	Current
21/11/2023	Item 23.3 Sale of Land For Non-Payment of Rates – Report No. AR23/74290	(a)	Current
21/11/2023	Item 23.2 Sale of Land For Non-Payment of Rates – Report No. AR23/74289	(a)	Current
21/11/2023	Item 23.1 Sale of Land for Non-Payment of Rates – Report No. AR23/74286	(a)	Current
17/10/2023	Item 23.2 Unsolicited Proposal - Property Third Party Proposal - Report No. AR23/68865	(a), (b) and (d)	Partially Released to Proponent only
17/10/2023	Item 23.1 Update on Legal Matter - Report No. AR23/68588	(f), (g), (h) and (i)	Current
19/09/2023	Item 23.2 Contracted Cleaning Services – Report No. AR23/63952	(b) and (i)	Current
19/09/2023	Item 23.1 Crater Lakes Unsolicited Proposal – Report No. AR23/61873	(b), (d) and (g)	Current
15/08/2023	Item 23.1 Event Sponsorship Request – Report No. AR23/54583	(g) and (j)	Partially Released
15/08/2023	Item 22.2 Phriendly Phishing Report – Report No. AR23/36674	(e)	Current
18/07/2023	Item 22.2 Independent Review of Chief Executive Officer and Remuneration Review - Report No. AR23/34047	(a) and (g)	Partially Released
20/06/2023	Item 23.3 Notice of Motion - Strategic Property Management – Report No. AR23/32078	(b) and (d)	Partially Released
20/06/2023	Item 23.2 Unsolicited Proposal - Tenison Woods College – Report No. AR23/32053	(b)	Current
20/06/2023	Item 23.1 RAA EV Charging Station Project – Report No. AR23/30191	(b), (d) and (g)	Partially Released

Date of Meeting	Subject of S90(2) Order	S90(3) Grounds	S91(7) Order Status (as at 30 June 2024)
20/06/2023	Item 22.2 Chief Executive Officer - 12 Month Performance Update – Report No. AR23/31872	(a)	Current
16/05/2023	Item 23.2 AF23/54 Tender - Procurement - Tender for Construction of Caroline Cell 4A – Report No. AR23/27593	(k)	Partially Released
16/05/2023	Item - 23.1 Telstra Co-Investment Proposal for Mobile Blackspots – Report No. AR23/28946	(b), (d), (g) and (j)	Partially Released
16/05/2023	Item 22.2 Request for Quotes - Independent Specialist Support - Report No. AR23/22334	(a), (b), (d) and (k)	Partially Released
18/04/2023	Item 23.5 Mitchell Street Trees - Estimated Costs for Stem Injections/Removal – Report No. AR23/15854	(b), (d), (g), (h) and (i)	Partially Released
18/04/2023	Item 23.3 Update on Legal Matter – Report No. AR23/21104	(g), (h), (i) and (j)	Current
21/03/2023	Item - 23.1 Library Cafe - Expressions of Interest – Report No. AR23/15719	(b)	Current
21/02/2023	Item 23.2 Project Control Group (PCG) Progress Report #25 - As at 07/02/2023 – Report No. AR23/9397	(b), (d), (g) and (h)	Current
21/02/2023	Item 23.1 Section 270 Internal Review - Mitchell Street Trees - Legal Advice – Report No. AR23/10258	(g) and (h)	Partially Released
13/12/2022	Item 23.3 Section 270 - Internal Review – Report No. AR22/77592	(g) and (h)	Partially Released
13/12/2022	Item 23.2 AF22/295 Tender - Procurement - Tender for Valley Lakes Amenities Upgrade – Report No. AR22/83421	(k)	Partially Released
13/12/2022	Item 23.1 Project Control Group (PCG) Progress Report #23 and #24 - As at 06/12/2022 – Report No. AR22/83941	(b), (d), (g) and (h)	Current
18/10/2022	Item 25.1 Project Control Group (PCG) Progress Report #22 - As at 04/10/2022 – Report No. AR22/68454	(b), (d), (g) and (h)	Current
20/09/2022	Item 25.1 Project Control Group (PCG) Progress Report #21 - As at 06/09/2022 – Report No. AR22/61993	(b), (d), (g) and (h)	Current
23/08/2022	Item 4.2 Wulanda Recreation and Convention Centre - Contractual and Financial Matters – Report No. AR22/56817	(b) and (d)	Partially Released
23/08/2022	Item 4.1 Wulanda Recreation and Convention Centre - Operational Matters – Report No. AR22/56796	(b), (d) and (g)	Partially Released
16/08/2022	Item 25.5 Project Control Group (PCG) Progress Report #20 - As at 02/08/2022 – Report No. AR22/52001	(b), (d), (g) and (h)	Current
19/07/2022	Item 26.3 Tender - Supply Contracts for City Infrastructure Works – Report No. AR22/46711	(b), (d) and (k)	Partially Released
19/07/2022	Item 26.2 Tender AF21/283 - Design, Supply and Installation of Solar Lighting on Rail Trail – Report No. AR22/45083	(b), (d) and (k)	Partially Released



## Confidentiality Provisions

Date of Meeting	Subject of S90(2) Order	S90(3) Grounds	S91(7) Order Status (as at 30 June 2024)
19/07/2022	Item 26.1 Project Control Group (PCG) Progress Report #19 - As at 05/07/2022 – Report No. AR22/46752	(b), (d), (g) and (h)	Current
19/07/2022	Item 25.2 Independent Review of Chief Executive Officer and Remuneration Review – Report No. AR22/43771	(a) and (g)	Partially Released
21/06/2022	Item 26.3 Project Control Group (PCG) Progress Report #18 - As at 07/06/2022 – Report No. AR22/38086	(b), (d) and (g)	Current
21/06/2022	Item 26.1 Execution of Deed - First Right of Refusal – Report No. AR22/38437	(a), (b) and (d)	Current
17/05/2022	Item 26.1 - Project Control Group (PCG) Progress Report #17 - As at 10/05/2022 – Report No. AR22/30401	(b), (d) and (g)	Current
17/05/2022	Item 25.3 - Performance Review Documentation Presentation - Report No. AR22/30546	(a)	Current
17/05/2022	Item 25.2 - Chief Executive Officer - 12 Month Performance Update - Report No. AR22/28319	(a)	Current
19/04/2022	Item 26.4 AF20/530 Tender - Procurement - Tender for Railway Station Building Toilets Refurbishment – Report No. AR22/24421	(k)	Partially Released
19/04/2022	Item 26.3 Property Management - Leasing - Report No. AR22/24354	(a), (b) and (d)	Current
19/04/2022	Item 26.2 Project Control Group (PCG) Progress Report #16 - As at 05/04/2022 – Report No. AR22/24271	(b), (d) and (g)	Current
19/04/2022	Item 26.1 Request for Internal Review of Council Decision – Report No. AR22/21802	(h)	Partially Released
15/03/2022	Item 26.1 Project Control Group (PCG) Progress Report #15 - As at 07/03/2022 – Report No. AR22/16061	(b), (d) and (g)	Current
15/02/2022	Item 26.4 Audit and Risk Committee Appointment of Independent Members – Report No. AR22/8463	(a)	Partially Released
15/02/2022	Item 26.3 Crater Lakes Project Proposal – Report No. AR22/8597	(b), (d) and (g)	Current
15/02/2022	Item 26.2 Project Control Group (PCG) Progress Report #14 - As At 01/02/2022 – Report No. AR22/7779	(b), (d) and (g)	Current
18/01/2022	Item 26.4 Queen Elizabeth Park Trust (QEPT) Update – Report No. AR21/83935	(a), (b) and (d)	Current
14/12/2021	Item 26.4 Micromobility Device Proposal – Report No. AR21/73765	(b), (d) and (g)	Current
14/12/2021	Item 26.3 Project Control Group (PCG) Progress Report #13 - As at 07/12/2021 – Report No. AR21/79587	(b), (d) and (g)	Current
16/11/2021	Item 26.3 Project Control Group (PCG) Progress Report #12 - As at 02/11/2021 – Report No. AR21/71837	(b), (d) and (g)	Current

Date of Meeting	Subject of S90(2) Order	S90(3) Grounds	S91(7) Order Status (as at 30 June 2024)
16/11/2021	Item 25.5 City of Mount Gambier - IT Entity Controls Review 2020/21 - Report No. AR21/71285	(b), (e) and (g)	Current
16/11/2021	Item 25.3 Chief Executive Officer Probationary Period - Report No. AR21/70965	(a)	Partially Released
16/11/2021	Item 25.2 Chief Executive Officer - Performance Update - Report No. AR21/71607	(a)	Current
19/10/2021	Item 26.1 Project Control Group (PCG) Progress Report #11 - As at 05/10/2021 – Report No. AR21/64848	(b), (d) and (g)	Current
19/10/2021	Item 25.4 Chief Executive Officer KPIs – Report No. AR21/59974	(a)	Current
19/10/2021	Item 25.2 Mount Gambier Health Presentation – Report No. AR21/62736	(g) and (j)	Current
21/09/2021	Item 27.7 Chief Executive Officer Employment Agreement Variation (Superannuation) – Report No. AR21/57924	(a)	Partially Released
21/09/2021	Item 27.6 Waste and Materials Recycling Options – Report No. AR21/59399	(a), (b), (d) and (g)	Current
21/09/2021	Item 27.5 Valley Lake Algal Control – Report No. AR21/47621	(k)	Current
21/09/2021	Item 27.4 Site Strategic Land Use Assessment – Report No. AR21/52780	(b), (d), (g) and (j)	Current
21/09/2021	Item 27.1 Legal Advice – Report No. AR21/58597	(g), (h), (i) and (j)	Current
21/09/2021	Item 26.7 Wulanda Recreation and Convention Centre - Management and Operation of Mount Gambier Community and Recreation Hub Update - Report No. AR21/57503	(b), (d) and (g)	Current
21/09/2021	Item 26.6 Project Control Group (PCG) Progress Report #10 - As at 07/09/2021 - Report No. AR21/57494	(b), (d) and (g)	Current
21/09/2021	Item 26.2 Community Health Information - Report No. AR21/51525	(b), (d) and (g)	Current
17/08/2021	Item 26.2 Project Control Group (PCG) Progress Report #9 - As at 03/08/2021	(b), (d) and (g)	Current
20/07/2021	Item 27.3 Design Services - Construction and Defects Liability Period	(b), (d), (g) and (h)	Partially Released
20/07/2021	Item 27.2 Project Control Group (PCG) Progress Report #8 - As At 06/07/2021	(b) and (d)	Current
20/07/2021	Item 28.4 Tender AF21/209 Supply and Delivery of Premixed Concrete – Report No. AR21/43214	(k)	Partially Released
20/07/2021	Item 28.3 COVID-19 Tourism Tenancies – Report No. AR21/41157	(a), (b) and (d)	Current

## Confidentiality Provisions

Date of Meeting	Subject of S90(2) Order	S90(3) Grounds	S91(7) Order Status (as at 30 June 2024)
20/07/2021	Item 28.2 Strategic Property Management - Land Valuations – Report No. AR21/38766	(b) and (d)	Current
20/07/2021	Item 28.1 Legal Advice - Report No. AR21/39325	(g), (h), (i) and (j)	Current
15/06/2021	Item 27.4 Project Control Group (PCG) Progress Report - As at 01/06/2021 – Report No. AR21/32471	(b) and (d)	Current
15/06/2021	Item 27.5 Request for Expressions of Interest - AF20/515 Management and Operation of Mount Gambier Community and Recreation Hub – Report No. AR21/34712	(b) and (k)	Partially Released
15/06/2021	Item 28.1 Notice of Motion - Surplus Land Declaration – Report No. AR21/34745	(b)	Current
18/05/2021	Item 27.5 Project Control Group (PCG) Progress Report - As at 02/05/2021 – Report No. AR21/26211	(b) and (d)	Current
20/04/2021	Item 28.1 Country Arts SA - Sir Robert Helpmann Theatre Master Plan – Report No. AR21/21895	(b), (d), (g) and (j)	Current
20/04/2021	Item 27.8 Wulanda Recreation and Convention Centre - Stage 3 Community Reference Group - Membership Recommendations – Report No. AR21/16985	(a)	Partially Released
20/04/2021	Item 27.7 Project Control Group (PCG) Progress Report - As at 05/04/2021 – Report No. AR21/20559	(b) and (d)	Current
23/03/2021	Item 4.1 Wulanda Recreation and Convention Centre Funding – Report No. AR21/17395	(b), (d) and (k)	Partially Released
16/03/2021	Item 28.2 Wulanda Recreation and Convention Centre - Stage 3 - Community Reference Group - Member Selection - Report No. AR21/14861	(a)	Current
16/03/2021	Item 27.2 Project Control Group (PCG) Progress Report - As at 01/03/2021 - Report No. AR21/11450	(b), (d) and (k)	Current
11/03/2021	Item 4.1 Chief Executive Officer - Contract of Employment – Report No. AR21/15086	(a) and (g)	Partially Released
3/03/2021	Item 5.2 Chief Executive Officer Recruitment - Report No. AR21/11473	(a), (b), (d) and (g)	Partially Released
3/03/2021	Item 5.1 Update on Chief Executive Officer Selection Process – Report No. AR21/12144	(a), (b), (d) and (g)	Current
16/02/2021	Item 27.2 Project Control Group (PCG) Progress Report - As at 01/02/2021 – Report No. AR21/6521	(b), (d) and (k)	Current
20/01/2021	Item 5.1 Chief Executive Officer Recruitment – Report No. AR21/3669	(a), (b), (d) and (g)	Current
19/01/2021	Item 28.2 Notice of Motion - Independent Consultant Member of Chief Executive Officer Selection Panel – Report No. AR21/1800	(a), (b) and (d)	Partially Released



Date of Meeting	Subject of S90(2) Order	S90(3) Grounds	S91(7) Order Status (as at 30 June 2024)
19/01/2021	Item 28.1 Mount Gambier Private Hospital - Feasibility Study Stages 4-6 – Report No. AR21/1334	(d) and (g)	Current
22/12/2020	Item 4.1 Review of Information Provided by Recruitment Consultants, Morton Philips – Report No. AR20/85494	(a), (b), (d) and (g)	Current
15/12/2020	Item 28.1 Notice of Motion - Request for Information - Community and Recreation Hub – Report No. AR20/82569	(h)	Current
15/12/2020	Item 27.2 Project Control Group (PCG) Progress Report - As at 29/11/2020 – Report No. AR20/80910	(b), (d), (k)	Current
17/11/2020	Item 27.4 Mount Gambier Community and Recreation Hub Project Budget – Report No. AR20/73063	(b) and (d)	Partially Released
17/11/2020	Item 27.5 Project Control Group (PCG) Progress Report - As at 02/11/2020 – Report No. AR20/73679	(b) and (d)	Current
15/09/2020	Item 26.3 Viability of Establishing Material Recovery Facilities in the Limestone Coast Region – Report No. AR20/57874	(a), (b), (d), (g) and (j)	Current
15/09/2020	Item 26.2 Mount Gambier Private Hospital Feasibility Study – Report No. AR20/56996	(b), (d) and (g)	Current
21/07/2020	Item 27.1 Property Management - Expiry of Agreement – Report No. AR20/44292	(a), (b), (d) and (i)	Partially Released
21/07/2020	Item 26.2 Commercial Lease - Request for Extended Lease – Report No. AR20/38059	(a), (b) and (d)	Current
1/07/2020	Item 4.1 Community and Recreation Hub Procurement – Report No. AR20/39192	(b) and (k)	Partially Released
19/05/2020	Item 27.1 Proposal from Mount Gambier Private Hospital – Report No. AR20/30776	(d)	Current
5/05/2020	Our City. Our Economy - Business Survey – Report No. AR20/26987	(d) and (g)	Partially Released
17/03/2020	Item 26.2 Presentation by Beach Energy – Report No. AR20/8188	(d)	Current
18/02/2020	Item 26.2 Riddoch Art Gallery Crate Loader - Report No. AR19/62327	(b), (k), (d) and (g)	Partially Released
18/02/2020	Item 26.1 Bookmark Café - Expression of Interest - Report No. AR20/3205	(a), (b), (d) and (g)	Partially Released
15/10/2019	Item 25.2 Property - 9 Penola Road, 1-3 Lawrence Street – Report No. AR19/48305	(b)	Current
07/03/2019	Discussion with QEPT on the Wellplayed Report, the QEPT's response to the report and their proposed sub-leasing arrangement	(b), (c) and (g)	Partially Released
07/03/2019	Item 2.2 'QEPT Wellplayed Report And Documentation' - Report No. AR19/10346	(b), (c) and (g)	Partially Released
07/03/2019	Item 2.3 Documents Relating to the Management of the Crater Lakes Area - Report No. AR19/10304	(b), (c) and (g)	Partially Released

## Confidentiality Provisions

Date of Meeting	Subject of S90(2) Order	S90(3) Grounds	S91(7) Order Status (as at 30 June 2024)
21/08/2018	Item 17.2 Mount Gambier Aquatic Centre 2018-19 Business Plan - Report No. AR18/30233	(g)	Current
17/04/2018	Item 17.2 Surplus Government Property Notice - Report No. AR18/12667	(j)	Current
21/11/2017	Item 17.5 Report No. AR17/47214 – Surplus Government Property Notice	(b)	Current
18/04/2017	Item 1 - CEO Report on Confidential Matters - Ref. AF11/1894	(g)	Current
31/01/2017	Allegations regarding Mayor Andrew Lee to be referred to ICAC – Ref. AF13/275	(g)	Current
18/08/2015	Property Management - Railway Lands - Expression of Interest - Management of Community Markets	(b)	Current
18/08/2015	Property Management - Railway Lands - Expression of Interest - Occupation and Use of Old Railway Station Building	(b)	Current
15/04/2014	Governance – Committees – City of Mount Gambier Junior Sports Assistance Fund (Section 41) - Minutes of meeting held 02/04/2014 – Ref. AF11/725	(a)	Current
17/12/2013	Commercial Club Inc. - Donation to Exceptional Junior Sportsperson	(a)	Current
17/12/2013	Rotary Club of Mount Gambier Lakes - Donations to Financially Disadvantaged Junior Sportspersons	(a)	Current
18/06/2013	Social, Cultural and Community Services - Committees - City of Mount Gambier Junior Sports Assistance Fund (Section 41) Committee - Minutes of meeting held 22/05/2013 – Ref. AF11/725	(a)	Current

# FINANCE



Strategic Financial Management and Sustainability	102
Procurement and Competitive Tendering	103
Credit Card Expenditure Summary	103
Auditors	103
Fixed Asset Snapshot	104
Rates	105
Audit and Risk Committee	106
Projections and Target for 2024/2025	111
Annual Financial Statements	112



**Council's 2023/2024 adjusted operating surplus ratio of (1.8%) is outside the local government target range of 0 - 10%, however, it is below the adopted budget of (6.7%). The unadjusted operating surplus ratio of (12.3%) is predominantly due to the timing of receipt of financial assistance grants.**

Net financial liabilities (non-adjusted) have increased in 2023/2024 driven by a decrease in debtors due to corrections for accounting for open space development applications and also driven by an increase in borrowings post completion of construction of Wulanda and the first full financial year of operations. The current long term financial plan models debt to peak in 2024/2025 financial year. The ratio is lower than the adopted budget of 117% due to treasury management practices and timing of capital expenditure resulting in lower than budgeted borrowings.

The asset renewal funding ratio is lower than the local government target due to supply and manufacturing of large plant items and contractor ability to deliver outsourced works. This has impacted on the timing of the delivery of planned capital renewal expenditure beyond 30 June 2024. Of these projects, 63% are on track for completion by the first quarter of 2024/2025, with the remainder due to be completed by the end of the financial year.

Financial ratios	Local Government target	2023/2024 actual	2022/2023 actual
Operating surplus ratio	0% - 10%	(12.3%)	(4.1%)
Adjusted		(1.8%)	(7.5%)
Net financial liabilities ratio	0% - 100%	106%	95%
Adjusted		96%	109%
Asset renewal funding ratio	90% - 110%	61%	88%

## Procurement and Competitive Tendering

## Credit Card Expenditure Summary

## Auditors

### **City of Mount Gambier Procurement Policy complies with Section 49 of the *Local Government Act 1999*.**

Council is committed to achieving value for money in procuring goods and services that benefit the community and supporting the city's economic, environmental, cultural, and social values.

Council's Procurement Policy was reviewed, updated, and endorsed in December 2023.

The Procurement Policy drives consistent, transparent processes and cultivates a competitive environment. The strategies for tenders, formal quotes and expressions of interest are built to deliver value, achieve high quality and manage attendant risks, including sustaining appropriate standards of workplace health and safety.

The policy also seeks to advance good ethical practice and ensure an open, fair and competitive process that provides equal opportunities to participants. Consideration will vary with each procurement to determine local and regional opportunities. Tenders incorporate a local weighting as part of the procurement evaluation process.

The expenditure levels established within the Procurement Policy determine the appropriate purchase method.

Council undertook 21 formal requests for tender/quote processes during 2023/2024.

### **City of Mount Gambier has a corporate card facility provided by Westpac with an overall purchasing limit approved of \$30,000.**

No cards are issued to Elected Members and there are 10 employees currently allocated limits within the corporate facility. For the financial period 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024 the total amount expended via credit cards totalled \$18,119.

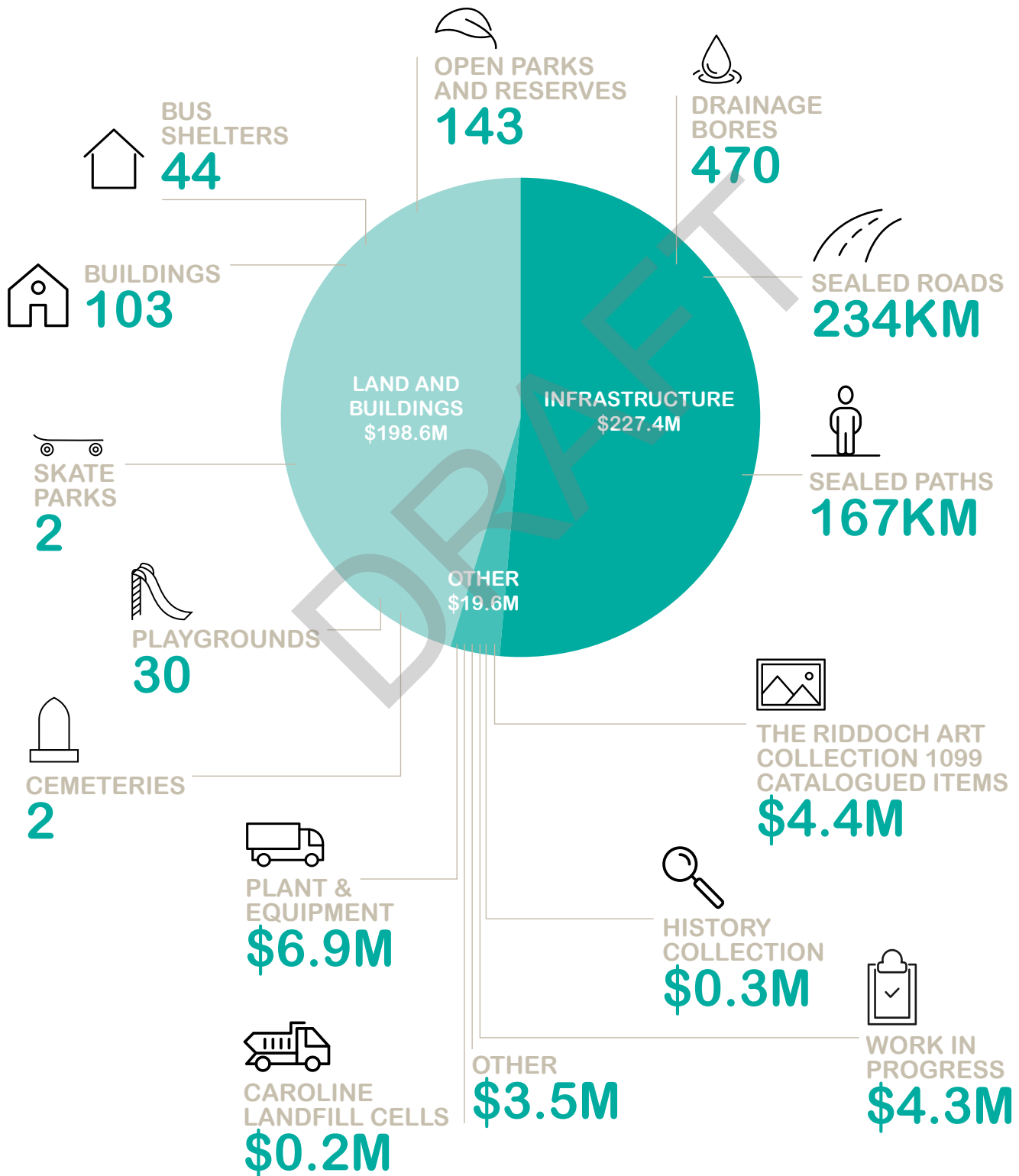
### **The City of Mount Gambier Annual Financial Statements for 2023/2024 were audited by Dean Newbery and Partners who were appointed as external auditors in May 2021 for a five year term pursuant to Section 128 of the *Local Government Act 1999*.**

Remuneration paid or payable during 2023/2024 to the auditors for work performed for the annual audit of Council's financial statements pursuant to Section 128 of the Act was \$28,029.

An unmodified audit report was issued for the 2023/2024 financial year.



# TOTAL ASSET VALUE \$445.6M





# Rates

Rates are Council's main source of revenue. Council has determined to raise differential rates based on the use of the land. Land use is recognised by state taxing agencies and is easily identified and understood by communities. It is therefore considered the most appropriate method to apply different rates by the majority of councils.

## GENERAL RATES

For the 2023/2024 financial year Council adopted an increase in general rate revenue of 6.2% i.e. 5.53% plus assessment growth of 0.67%. In terms of residential rates, the average residential ratepayer paid \$1,441 (including the Waste Service Charge), an increase of \$67 compared with the 2022/2023 average.

## WASTE SERVICE CHARGE

To highlight the cost of waste management Council adjusted its rating structure in 2021/2022 to remove the waste component from the general rates and introduce it as a separate fixed Waste Service Charge (WSC). The service charge of \$217.70 is intended to cover costs from kerbside bin collections through to treatment and disposal including maintaining, improving and replacing the services.

Council hopes the WSC will encourage ratepayers to consider their personal environmental impact and the costs associated with waste management.

## VALUATIONS

City of Mount Gambier adopts valuations as supplied by The Office of the Valuer-General.

## HOW RATES ARE DETERMINED

Council's rating strategy uses a combination of a fixed charge on every rateable property and a differential or variable rating system, based on land use, when calculating general rates.

The fixed charge component was \$566.60 in 2023/2024 (\$532.60 in 2022/2023), applicable to every rateable property, raising approximately (37%) of Council's gross general rate revenue.

The variable rating component that raises the remaining 63% is determined by multiplying the individual property value by the differential rate in the dollar adopted for each separate land use category, i.e. residential, commercial, industrial, primary production, vacant land or other land use.

As part of Council's rating strategy, a range of rate relief measures are available upon application.



Rates

+



Fixed charge

=



Variable charge

(Property value x differential rate)



Waste Service Charge

+



Regional Landscape Levy  
(Collected on behalf of Limestone Coast Landscape Board)

=



Total rates payable

The Audit and Risk Committee reviewed and monitored numerous functions adding value to Council’s strategic planning, annual financial statements, risk management and internal controls. Highlights for the year included the introduction of an internal audit program, policy review and governance, and review of asset management plans, long term financial plan and annual budget.

### MEETING ATTENDANCE AND MEMBERSHIP

Seven ordinary meetings and one special meeting were held over the course of the 2023/2024 financial year. The special meeting was held on 11 September 2023 to review the infrastructure valuations and provide an update on the review of Council policies. The seven ordinary meetings were held across the year in July 2023, October 2023, November 2023, January 2024, February 2024, April 2024 and June 2024.

Audit and Risk Committee attendance was as follows:

Committee member	Meetings attended
Mr Paul Duka (Presiding Member)	8/8
Mayor Martin (Ex-officio)	6/8
Cr Paul Jenner (Council member)	7/8
Mr Alexander Brown	8/8
Ms Belinda Johnson	7/8

### INFORMAL PRE MEETINGS AND WORKSHOPS

Prior to each formal meeting of the Audit and Risk Committee staff hold pre meeting briefings separately with the Presiding Member and Council member at their request.

Four workshops were held:

- 30 October 2023 - Audit and Risk Committee Update and Budget Review 1,
- 27 November 2023 - Audit and Risk Committee Update, Cyber Security and LGRS update,
- 26 February 2024 - Audit and Risk Committee update, and
- 8 April 2024 - Audit and Risk Committee update.

### SELF ASSESSMENT EVALUATION

Self-assessment is completed annually by the committee which covers 10 broad areas for performance review. The last review was completed 27 November 2023 including the following areas:

- Role and Terms of Reference,
- Independence,
- Committee skills/training,
- Work program,
- Council structure and decision making,
- Meeting operation and frequency,
- Resources available to the committee,
- Working relationship with Council and senior management,
- Access to appropriate council information, and
- The extent to which the committee’s advice is contributing to the effective operation of Council.

## REVISED ANNUAL WORK PROGRAM

	Jan	Feb	Apr	Jun	Jul	Oct	Nov
<b>Meeting date</b>	29/1	26/2	8/4	3/6	29/7	28/10	25/11
Recommendations to Council	Feb	Mar	Apr	Jun	Aug	Nov	Dec
<b>Financial Reporting &amp; Management</b>							
Review statutory financial statements							
Comparison of actual performance to budget as at year-end							
Review performance of investments and borrowings							
Audit & Risk Committee self-assessment and annual report							
<b>Internal Controls and Risk Management Systems</b>							
Internal Financial Controls self-assessment update							
Strategic Risk Register							
Review of insurances							
Work Health Safety update							
<b>Internal Audit</b>							
Internal audit - quarterly reports							
Progress on internal audits							
Annual review of Internal Audit Program							
Internal Audit – CEO Annual Report							
<b>External Audit</b>							
Review annual audit plan							
Meeting with auditors to review audit findings							
Review audit management report and management's response							
Review any management representation letter before sign off							
<b>Review of Strategic Management and Business Plans</b>							
Review Asset Management Plans (Forward Works Program)							
Review Long Term Financial Plan							
Review Annual Business Plan							
Budget reviews (BR1, BR2, BR3) – Included in ABP and LTFP							





## REVISED ANNUAL WORK PROGRAM

	Jan	Feb	Apr	Jun	Jul	Oct	Nov
<b>Meeting date</b>	29/1	26/2	8/4	3/6	29/7	28/10	25/11
<b>Policy Reviews</b>							
Asset Accounting Policy (annual review)							
Half yearly report – Council policy update							
Any other policies as required							
<b>Other</b>							
Review annual work program							
Review Terms of Reference							
Half Yearly Report – Leases and Licences update							

DRAFT

## COMMITTEE DECISION MAKING

Date	Report	Work Program Category
31/07/2023	Work Health Safety and Wellbeing Management	Internal Controls and Risk Management Systems
	Risk Management Report June 2023	Internal Controls and Risk Management Systems
	Review of Council Policies - Update	Policy Reviews
	Confidential Item	Internal Controls and Risk Management Systems
11/09/2023	Review of Council Policies - Update	Policy Reviews
	Infrastructure Valuation	Financial Reporting and Management
30/10/2023	Draft 2022/2023 Financial Statements	Financial Reporting and Management
	Comparison of Actual to Budget for the year ending 30 June 2023	Financial Reporting and Management
27/11/2023	External Audit Management Report	External Audit
	Review of Council Policies and Leases/ Licenses update	Policy Reviews/Other
	Policy Review - F225 Fraud, Corruption, Misconduct and Maladministration Prevention Policy and Internal Audit Policy	Policy Reviews
	Policy Review - Procurement and Disposal of Land and Assets Policies	Policy Reviews
	Council Investments and Borrowings	Financial Reporting and Management
	Self-assessment of Performance Audit and Risk Committee	Financial Reporting and Management
	Audit and Risk Committee Work Program and Meeting Schedule 2024	Other
	Internal Audit Program	Internal Audit
	Risk Management Report September 2023	Internal Controls and Risk Management Systems
	Work Health Safety and Wellbeing Management	Internal Controls and Risk Management Systems
29/01/2024	Audit and Risk Committee Meeting Report	Other
	Correspondence Received	Other
	Quarterly Internal Audit Update Report	Internal Audit
	Unaudited Buildings and Structures Valuation - As at 1 July 2023	Financial Reporting and Management
	Audit and Risk Committee Meeting Report	Other



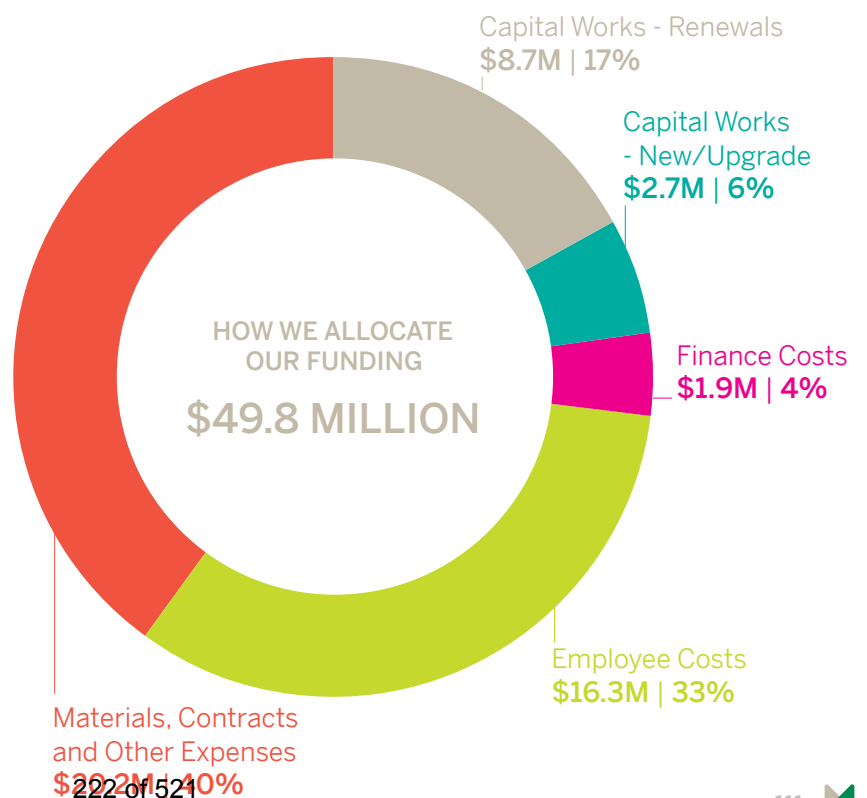
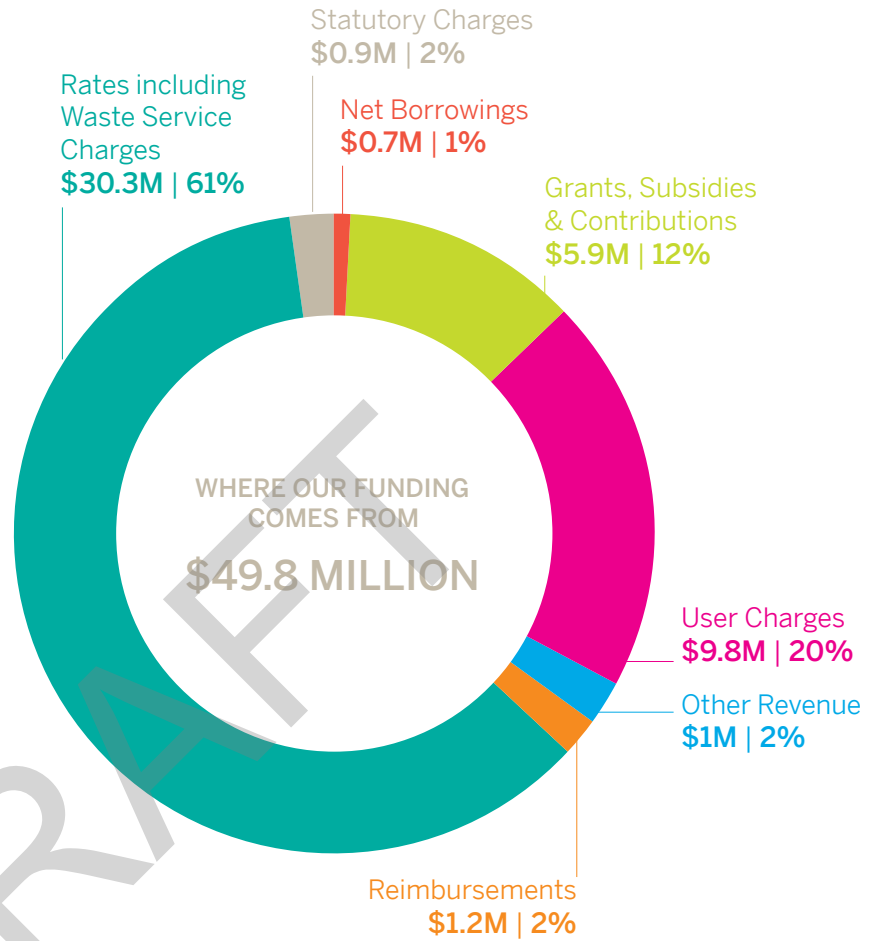
# Audit and Risk Committee Annual Report

Date	Report	Work Program Category
26/02/2024	<i>Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016</i> Post Implementation Internal Audit	Internal Audit
	Payroll and Remuneration Internal Audit	Internal Audit
	External Audit Management Report	External Audit
	Risk Management Report October - December 2023	Internal Controls and Risk Management Systems
	Work Health Safety (WHS) and Wellbeing Quarterly Report - October - December 2023	Internal Controls and Risk Management Systems
	Presiding Member Nomination	Other
	Audit and Risk Committee Meeting Report	Other
8/04/2024	Lease and Licence Update	Other
	Council Policy Update	Policy Reviews
	Financing Arrangements	Financial Reporting and Management
	Review of Audit and Risk Committee Terms of Reference	Other
	Audit and Risk Committee Meeting Report	Other
3/06/2024	2024/2025 Draft Annual Business Plan and Budget	Review of Strategic Management and Business Plans
	Draft Long Term Financial Plan 2025-2034	Review of Strategic Management and Business Plans
	Draft Asset Management Plans (AMPs) 2025-2034	Review of Strategic Management and Business Plans
	Unaudited Infrastructure Valuation as at 1 July 2023	Financial Reporting and Management
	Policy Review - Asset Accounting	Policy Reviews
	Policy Review - Risk Management	Policy Reviews
	Risk Management Report January - March 2024	Internal Controls and Risk Management Systems
	Work Health Safety (WHS) and Wellbeing Quarterly Report - January - March 2024	Internal Controls and Risk Management Systems
	Quarterly Internal Audit Update Report	Internal Audit
	Draft Revised Internal Audit Program	Internal Audit
	External Audit Management Report	External Audit
	Review of 2024 Audit and Risk Program	Other
	Audit and Risk Committee Meeting Report	Other



# Projections and Target for 2024/2025 Financial Year

The City of Mount Gambier 2024/2025 Annual Business Plan and Budget outlines the services, programs and activities Council plans to deliver over the next 12 months. The objectives and key initiatives outlined in the plan are guided by the vision and goals set out in the 2020-2024 Strategic Plan, Long Term Financial Plan and Asset Management Plans. These documents can be viewed on Council's website.



DRAFT

# City of Mount Gambier

## General Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

---

Contents	Page
<b>Council certificate</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Principal Financial Statements</b>	
Statement of Comprehensive Income	3
Statement of Financial Position	4
Statement of Changes in Equity	5
Statement of Cash Flows	6
<b>Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Independent Auditor's Report – Financial Statements</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>Independent Auditor's Report – Internal Controls</b>	<b>42</b>
<b>Certificates of Audit Independence</b>	
Council Certificate of Audit Independence	44
Audit Certificate of Audit Independence	45

DRAFT

# City of Mount Gambier

## General Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

---

### 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 2024 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.

---

Sarah Philpott  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

Lynette Martin  
**MAYOR**

Date:

Date:





# City of Mount Gambier

## Statement of Comprehensive Income

for the year ended 30 June 2024

\$ '000	Notes	2024	Restated 2023
<b>Income</b>			
Rates	2a	26,488	24,893
Statutory charges	2b	781	731
User charges	2c	9,179	6,947
Grants, subsidies and contributions - capital	2g	559	1,071
Grants, subsidies and contributions - operating	2g	1,102	6,402
Investment income	2d	54	49
Reimbursements	2e	1,230	755
Other income	2f	2,668	551
<b>Total income</b>		<u>42,061</u>	<u>41,399</u>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Employee costs	3a	15,292	14,365
Materials, contracts and other expenses	3b	19,320	17,460
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment	3c	10,795	10,176
Finance costs	3d	1,822	1,094
<b>Total expenses</b>		<u>47,229</u>	<u>43,095</u>
Operating surplus / (deficit)		<u>(5,168)</u>	<u>(1,696)</u>
Physical resources received free of charge	2i	2,053	1,054
Asset disposal and fair value adjustments	4	(1,475)	(364)
Amounts received specifically for new or upgraded assets	2g	216	5,808
Net surplus / (deficit)		<u>(4,374)</u>	<u>4,802</u>
<b>Other comprehensive income</b>			
<b>Amounts which will not be reclassified subsequently to operating result</b>			
Changes in revaluation surplus - I,PP&E	8a	45,425	90,897
Impairment (expense) / recoupments offset to asset revaluation reserve	8a	(177)	(575)
<b>Total amounts which will not be reclassified subsequently to operating result</b>		<u>45,248</u>	<u>90,322</u>
<b>Total other comprehensive income</b>		<u>45,248</u>	<u>90,322</u>
<b>Total comprehensive income</b>		<u>40,874</u>	<u>95,124</u>

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

# City of Mount Gambier

## Statement of Financial Position

as at 30 June 2024

\$ '000	Notes	2024	Restated 2023
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>Current assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalent assets	5a	270	76
Trade and other receivables	5b	2,531	3,443
Inventories	5c	76	67
Subtotal		<u>2,877</u>	<u>3,586</u>
Non-current assets held for sale	17	335	–
<b>Total current assets</b>		<u>3,212</u>	<u>3,586</u>
<b>Non-current assets</b>			
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	6	445,641	399,756
<b>Total non-current assets</b>		<u>445,641</u>	<u>399,756</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<u>448,853</u>	<u>403,342</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Trade and other payables	7a	5,317	4,801
Borrowings	7b	9,986	7,088
Provisions	7c	3,561	3,011
<b>Total current liabilities</b>		<u>18,864</u>	<u>14,900</u>
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>			
Borrowings	7b	27,079	24,519
Provisions	7c	1,608	3,495
<b>Total non-current liabilities</b>		<u>28,687</u>	<u>28,014</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<u>47,551</u>	<u>42,914</u>
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>401,302</u>	<u>360,428</u>
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Accumulated surplus		87,287	87,644
Asset revaluation reserves	8a	312,693	271,174
Other reserves	8b	1,322	1,610
<b>Total equity</b>		<u>401,302</u>	<u>360,428</u>

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



# City of Mount Gambier

## Statement of Changes in Equity

for the year ended 30 June 2024

\$ '000	Notes	Accumulated surplus	Asset revaluation reserve	Other reserves	Total equity
<b>2024</b>					
Balance as at 1 July		87,644	271,174	1,610	360,428
Net surplus / (deficit) for year		(4,374)	–	–	(4,374)
<b>Other comprehensive income</b>					
Gain (loss) on revaluation of IPP&E	6a	–	45,425	–	45,425
IPP&E impairment (expense) / recoupments offset to ARR	6a	–	(177)	–	(177)
<b>Other comprehensive income</b>		–	45,248	–	45,248
<b>Total comprehensive income</b>		(4,374)	45,248	–	40,874
Transfers between reserves	8b	288	–	(288)	–
Transfer between ARR and Accumulated surplus		3,729	(3,729)	–	–
<b>Balance at the end of period</b>		87,287	312,693	1,322	401,302

\$ '000	Notes	Accumulated surplus Restated	Asset revaluation reserve	Other reserves Restated	Total equity Restated
<b>2023</b>					
Balance as at 1 July		83,080	180,852	1,372	265,304
Net surplus / (deficit) for year		4,802	–	–	4,802
<b>Other comprehensive income</b>					
Gain (loss) on revaluation of IPP&E	6a	–	90,897	–	90,897
IPP&E impairment (expense) / recoupments offset to ARR	6a	–	(575)	–	(575)
<b>Other comprehensive income</b>		–	90,322	–	90,322
<b>Total comprehensive income</b>		4,802	90,322	–	95,124
Transfers between reserves	8b	(238)	–	238	–
Transfer between ARR and Accumulated surplus		–	–	–	–
<b>Balance at the end of period</b>		87,644	271,174	1,610	360,428

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



# City of Mount Gambier

## Statement of Cash Flows

for the year ended 30 June 2024

\$ '000	Notes	2024	2023
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
<u>Receipts</u>			
Rates receipts		26,501	24,803
Statutory charges		781	731
User charges		9,179	6,947
Grants, subsidies and contributions		1,102	6,419
Investment receipts		54	49
Reimbursements		1,230	755
Other receipts		1,349	50
<u>Payments</u>			
Payments to employees		(14,663)	(14,081)
Payments for materials, contracts and other expenses		(19,843)	(15,666)
Finance payments		(1,719)	(720)
<b>Net cash provided by (or used in) operating activities</b>	9b	<b>3,971</b>	<b>9,287</b>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>			
<u>Receipts</u>			
Grants utilised for capital purposes		307	1,071
Amounts received specifically for new or upgraded assets		216	5,142
Sale of replaced assets		110	40
Sale of surplus assets		-	20
<u>Payments</u>			
Expenditure on renewal/replacement of assets		(3,528)	(5,370)
Expenditure on new/upgraded assets		(6,188)	(18,216)
<b>Net cash provided (or used in) investing activities</b>		<b>(9,083)</b>	<b>(17,313)</b>
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>			
<u>Receipts</u>			
Proceeds from loans		8,374	10,000
Proceeds from bonds and deposits		64	22
<u>Payments</u>			
Repayments of loans		(2,930)	(1,905)
Repayment of lease liabilities		(202)	(265)
<b>Net cash provided by (or used in) financing activities</b>		<b>5,306</b>	<b>7,852</b>
<b>Net increase (decrease) in cash held</b>		<b>194</b>	<b>(174)</b>
plus: cash & cash equivalents at beginning of period		76	250
<b>Cash and cash equivalents held at end of period</b>	9a	<b>270</b>	<b>76</b>

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



# City of Mount Gambier

## Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

### Contents of the Notes accompanying the General Purpose Financial Statements

---

Note	Details	Page
1	Summary of Material Accounting Policies	8
2	Income	13
3	Expenses	16
4	Asset disposal and fair value adjustments	17
5	Current assets	18
6	Infrastructure, property, plant & equipment and investment property	19
7	Liabilities	23
8	Reserves	24
9	Reconciliation to Statement of Cash Flows	25
10(a)	Functions	27
10(b)	Components of functions	28
11	Financial instruments	29
12	Capital expenditure and investment property commitments	32
13	Financial indicators	33
14	Uniform presentation of finances	34
15	Leases	35
16	Superannuation	36
17	Non-current assets held for sale and discontinued operations	37
18	Contingencies and assets/liabilities not recognised in the balance sheet	37
19	Related party transactions	38
20	Equity – retained earnings and revaluation reserves adjustments	38

# City of Mount Gambier

## Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

### Note 1. Summary of Material Accounting Policies

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

These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated. 100

#### (1) Basis of preparation 105

##### 1.1 Compliance with Australian Accounting Standards 108

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. 109

The financial report was authorised for issue by certificate under regulation 14 of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011. 110

##### 1.2 Historical cost convention 115

Except as stated below, these financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the historical cost convention. 116

##### 1.2 Critical accounting estimates 119

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. 120

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. 121

##### 1.3 Rounding 122

All amounts in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest thousand dollars (\$'000). 123

#### (2) The local government reporting entity 124

City of Mount Gambier is incorporated under the SA Local Government Act 1999 and has its principal place of business at 10 Watson Terrace, Mount Gambier. These consolidated financial statements include the Council's direct operations and all entities through which Council controls resources to carry on its functions. In the process of reporting on the Council as a single unit, all transactions and balances between activity areas and controlled entities have been eliminated. 125

#### (3) Income recognition 126

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. 127

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. 128

In other cases, AASB 1058 applies when a not-for-profit (NFP) entity enters into transactions where the consideration to acquire an asset is significantly less than the fair value of the asset principally to enable the entity to further its objectives. The excess of the asset recognised (at fair value) over any 'related amounts' is recognised as income immediately, except in the case where a financial asset has been received to enable the council to acquire or construct a recognisable non-financial asset that is to be controlled by the council. In this case, the council recognises the excess as a liability that is recognised over time in profit and loss when (or as) the entity satisfies its obligations under the transfer. 129

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: 130





# City of Mount Gambier

## Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

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

	Cash Payment Received	Annual Allocation	Difference
2021/22	\$5,134,125	\$3,891,585	+ \$1,242,540
2022/23	\$5,541,926	\$4,227,169	+ \$1,314,757
2023/24	\$263,252	\$4,618,149	-\$4,354,897

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.

#### Construction contracts

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

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

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

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

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

All financial instruments are recognised at fair value at the date of recognition. A detailed statement of the accounting policies applied to financial instruments also form part of Note 11.

#### (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.

Note 1. Summary of Material Accounting Policies (continued)

---

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

**6.1 Initial recognition**

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

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

**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 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 6. No capitalisation threshold is applied to the acquisition of land or interests in land or the Riddoch Art Collection.

**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 6.

**6.4 Depreciation of non-current assets**

Other than land, footpath nature strips, the Les Hill Collection and the Riddoch art Collection, 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. Waste management assets are depreciated on an asset capacity in use basis.

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 6. 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.

**(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.



Note 1. Summary of Material Accounting Policies (continued)

---

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

Beginning 2024 financial year, cash advance debentures that are used in lieu of an overdraft facility for working capital have been reclassified to current liabilities. \$3.92M has been reclassified to current from non-current liabilities.

**(9) Employee benefits**

**9.1 Salaries, Wages & Compensated Absences**

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

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

Weighted avg. discount rate 4.00% (2023, 3.85%)  
Weighted avg. settlement period 1 year (2023, 1 year)

**9.2 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 16.

**(10) Provisions for reinstatement, restoration and rehabilitation**

Council operates the Caroline landfill site, incorporating cells which require capping upon complete fill. Capping and restoration costs can 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. Council's strategic planning aims to reduce waste to landfill and is extending the operational life of this facility. Due to this and the changing legislative environment it operates, uncertainty exists in the estimation of the future closure date. Engineering review by external consultants, Tonkins Engineering was completed 5 August 2024 to provide independent assessment of the future restoration provision as at 30 June 2024 and estimated future closure dates. Independent consultants, BRM Advisory were also engaged to complete financial modelling which has adjusted the methodology in calculating the net present value of future restoration costs over the life of the landfill site. This has resulted in an impact to other income of \$2,155,237 and subsequent reduction to the future restoration provision, liability recorded.

As at the time of preparing these financial statements, the Council is undertaking a strategic review of its waste management and disposal activities which may impact on the projected remaining filling life of the landfill activities and the landfill capping and post closure strategies. The Council has developed a waste management strategic plan which will be used as the basis for the waste master plan and may impact on the scope and timing of future works connected with the closure and rehabilitation of the landfill site. Consequently, the value of the landfill liability provisions may be subject to material changes once the review of the landfill capping and closure estimates is completed in line with the adoption of the waste master plan. Users of the financial statements should be aware of this potential material change in the future and in context of the key assumptions and estimates relating to the landfill liabilities recorded on the Balance Sheet.



Note 1. Summary of Material Accounting Policies (continued)

---

**(11) Leases**

The Council assesses at contract inception whether a contract is, or contains, a lease. That is, if the contract conveys the right to control the use of an identified asset for a period of time in exchange for consideration.

Council as a lessee

The Council recognises lease liabilities to make lease payments and right-of-use assets representing the right to use the underlying assets.

i) Right-of-Use-Assets

The Council recognises right-of-use assets at the commencement date of the lease. Right-of-use assets are measured at cost, less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses, and adjusted for any remeasurement of lease liabilities. The cost of right-of-use assets includes the amount of lease liabilities recognised, initial direct costs incurred, lease payments made at or before the commencement date less any lease incentives received and the estimate of costs to be incurred to restore the leased asset.

Right of use assets are depreciated on a straight-line basis over the shorter of the lease term and the estimated useful lives of the assets, as follows:

Office equipment	2 to 5 years
Land Improvements	1 year

The right-of-use assets are also subject to impairment. Refer to the accounting policies in section 6.5 - Impairment of non-financial assets above.

ii) Lease Liabilities

At the commencement date of the lease, the Council recognises lease liabilities measured at the present value of lease payments to be made over the lease term. In calculating the present value of lease payments, the Council uses its incremental borrowing rate or the interest rate implicit in the lease.

**(12) New accounting standards and UIG interpretations**

Council has assessed all the standards / interpretations which are yet effective and have determined that there is no expected material impact on the reported financial position or performance.

# City of Mount Gambier

## Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

### Note 2. Income

\$ '000	2024	2023
<b>(a) Rates</b>		
<b>General rates</b>		
General rates	22,164	20,874
Less: mandatory rebates	(269)	(240)
Less: discretionary rebates, remissions and write-offs	(17)	(18)
<b>Total general rates</b>	<b>21,878</b>	<b>20,616</b>
<b>Other rates (including service charges)</b>		
Landscape levy	1,352	1,240
Waste collection	3,097	2,916
<b>Total other rates (including service charges)</b>	<b>4,449</b>	<b>4,156</b>
<b>Other charges</b>		
Penalties for late payment	122	93
Legal and other costs recovered	39	28
<b>Total other charges</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>121</b>
<b>Total rates</b>	<b>26,488</b>	<b>24,893</b>
<b>(b) Statutory charges</b>		
Development fees	189	200
Town planning fees	250	171
Animal registration fees and fines	223	245
Parking fines / expiation fees	42	44
Other licences, fees and fines	77	71
<b>Total statutory charges</b>	<b>781</b>	<b>731</b>
<b>(c) User charges</b>		
Cemetery/crematoria fees	911	834
Hall and equipment hire	14	19
Property lease	298	256
Sales - general	76	164
Sundry	36	49
Wulanda	2,726	1,310
Green Waste Collection	35	35
Landfill Charges	4,711	3,930
Sales - Waste Transfer Station	372	350
<b>Total user charges</b>	<b>9,179</b>	<b>6,947</b>
<b>(d) Investment income</b>		
Local Government Finance Authority	53	48
- Banks and other	1	1
<b>Total investment income</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>49</b>

# City of Mount Gambier

## Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

### Note 2. Income (continued)

\$ '000	2024	2023
<b>(e) Reimbursements</b>		
Private works	19	9
Wulanda	975	649
Other	236	97
<b><u>Total reimbursements</u></b>	<b><u>1,230</u></b>	<b><u>755</u></b>

\$ '000	2024	2023 Restated
<b>(f) Other income</b>		
Insurance and other recoupments - infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	80	95
Sundry	361	285
Donations	72	64
Open Space Contributions	–	107
Caroline Landfill	2,155	–
<b><u>Total other income</u></b>	<b><u>2,668</u></b>	<b><u>551</u></b>

\$ '000	2024	2023
<b>(g) Grants, subsidies and contributions</b>		
<b>Capital grants, subsidies and contributions</b>		
Amounts received specifically for new or upgraded assets	216	5,808
<b>Total amounts received for new or upgraded assets</b>	<b><u>216</u></b>	<b><u>5,808</u></b>
<b>Other grants, subsidies and contributions - capital</b>		
Untied - Local Roads and Community Infrastructure	509	904
Boundary Roads Contributions	50	167
<b>Total Other grants, subsidies and contributions - capital</b>	<b><u>559</u></b>	<b><u>1,071</u></b>
<b>Operating grants, subsidies and contributions</b>		
Regional Transport Subsidy Program	134	159
Untied - Financial Assistance Grant	263	5,542
Roads to Recovery	430	421
Library and communications	165	165
Sundry	110	115
<b>Total other grants, subsidies and contributions - operating</b>	<b><u>1,102</u></b>	<b><u>6,402</u></b>
<b><u>Total grants, subsidies and contributions</u></b>	<b><u>1,877</u></b>	<b><u>13,281</u></b>





# City of Mount Gambier

## Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

### Note 2. Income (continued)

\$ '000	2024	2023
<b>(i) Sources of grants</b>		
Commonwealth Government	950	6,267
State Government	793	6,771
Other	134	243
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,877</b>	<b>13,281</b>

### (h) Conditions over grants and contributions

Grants and contributions which were obtained on the condition that they be expended for specified purposes or in a future period, but which are not yet expended in accordance with those conditions, and are required to be repaid to the funding body if not expended, are as follows:

<b>Unexpended at the close of the previous reporting period</b>	294	435
<b>Less:</b>		
<i>Expended during the current period from revenues recognised in previous reporting periods</i>		
Pine Hall / O'Leary Road	(12)	(363)
Tertiary Education	(30)	(16)
State Bicycle	(7)	(19)
Pinehall Avenue (O'Leary Road to Sunnybrae Road)	(208)	–
Margaret Worth Exhibition	(25)	–
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>(282)</b>	<b>(398)</b>
<b>Plus:</b>		
<i>Amounts recognised as revenues in this reporting period but not yet expended in accordance with the conditions</i>		
Tertiary Education	22	24
Pinehall Avenue (O'Leary Road to Sunnybrae Road)	–	208
Margaret Worth Exhibition	–	25
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>257</b>
<b>Unexpended at the close of this reporting period</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>294</b>
<b>Net increase (decrease) in assets subject to conditions in the current reporting period</b>	<b>(260)</b>	<b>(141)</b>

### (i) Physical resources received free of charge

Land and improvements	23	60
Roads	1,231	707
Stormwater drainage	508	–
Footpaths & Kerbing	291	287
<b>Total physical resources received free of charge</b>	<b>2,053</b>	<b>1,054</b>

# City of Mount Gambier

## Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

### Note 3. Expenses

\$ '000	Notes	2024	2023
<b>(a) Employee costs</b>			
Salaries and wages		12,429	11,755
Employee leave expense		1,617	1,405
Superannuation	16	1,512	1,352
Workers' compensation insurance		590	313
Other employee related costs		56	40
Less: capitalised and distributed costs		(912)	(500)
<b><u>Total operating employee costs</u></b>		<b><u>15,292</u></b>	<b><u>14,365</u></b>
Total number of employees (full time equivalent at end of reporting period)		143	135
<b>(b) Materials, contracts and other expenses</b>			
<b>(i) Prescribed expenses</b>			
Auditor's remuneration			
- Auditing the financial reports		28	27
Elected members' expenses		243	218
Election expenses		10	166
<b>Subtotal - prescribed expenses</b>		<b><u>281</u></b>	<b><u>411</u></b>
<b>(ii) Other materials, contracts and expenses</b>			
Contractors		8,100	6,487
Energy		1,827	1,716
Legal expenses		219	193
Levies Paid to Government - Regional Landscape levy recovered		1,351	1,241
Sundry		189	806
Contributions/Donations		547	460
Insurance		635	378
Levies Paid to Government - EPA, ESL & Dog Levies		1,925	1,985
Materials		1,564	1,413
Training		133	178
Water		257	158
Communication		238	274
Consultants		722	519
Licences and Subscriptions		1,332	1,241
<b>Subtotal - Other material, contracts and expenses</b>		<b><u>19,039</u></b>	<b><u>17,049</u></b>
<b><u>Total materials, contracts and other expenses</u></b>		<b><u>19,320</u></b>	<b><u>17,460</u></b>



# City of Mount Gambier

## Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

### Note 3. Expenses (continued)

\$ '000	2024	2023
<b>(c) Depreciation, amortisation and impairment</b>		
<b>(i) Depreciation and amortisation</b>		
Buildings and other structures	4,560	3,525
Infrastructure		
Stormwater Drainage	319	125
Kerbing and Footpaths	1,603	1,238
Roads	2,400	2,020
Carparks	240	256
Right-of-use assets	217	196
Plant and equipment	775	692
Waste Management	345	1,754
Office Equipment	281	208
Other assets	49	47
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>10,789</b>	<b>10,061</b>
<b>(ii) Impairment</b>		
Capital Work In Progress	6	58
Other Assets	–	57
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>115</b>
<b>Total depreciation, amortisation and impairment</b>	<b>10,795</b>	<b>10,176</b>
<b>(d) Finance costs</b>		
Interest on loans	1,706	1,079
Interest on leases	32	15
Unwinding of present value discounts	84	–
<b>Total finance costs</b>	<b>1,822</b>	<b>1,094</b>

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

\$ '000	2024	2023
<b>Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment</b>		
<b>(i) Assets renewed or directly replaced</b>		
Proceeds from disposal	110	40
Less: carrying amount of assets sold	(1,469)	(404)
<b>Gain (loss) on disposal</b>	<b>(1,359)</b>	<b>(364)</b>
<b>(ii) Assets surplus to requirements</b>		
Proceeds from disposal	–	20
Less: carrying amount of assets sold	(116)	(20)
<b>Gain (loss) on disposal</b>	<b>(116)</b>	<b>–</b>
<b>Net gain (loss) on disposal or revaluation of assets</b>	<b>(1,475)</b>	<b>(364)</b>



# City of Mount Gambier

## Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

### Note 5. Current assets

<u>\$ '000</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
<b>(a) Cash and cash equivalent assets</b>		
Cash on hand and at bank	270	76
<u>Total cash and cash equivalent assets</u>	<u>270</u>	<u>76</u>

<u>\$ '000</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u> <b>Restated</b>
<b>(b) Trade and other receivables</b>		
Rates - general and other	873	886
Accrued revenues	–	500
Debtors - general	1,333	1,891
GST recoupment	323	70
Prepayments	2	96
<b>Subtotal</b>	<u>2,531</u>	<u>3,443</u>
<u>Total trade and other receivables</u>	<u>2,531</u>	<u>3,443</u>

<u>\$ '000</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
<b>(c) Inventories</b>		
Stores and materials	22	37
Trading stock	54	30
<u>Total inventories</u>	<u>76</u>	<u>67</u>



# City of Mount Gambier

## Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2024

### Note 6. Infrastructure, property, plant & equipment and investment property

#### Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment

Fair Value Level	as at 30/06/23										as at 30/06/24									
	At Fair Value	At Cost	Accumulated Depreciation	Carrying amount	Asset Additions New/Upgrade	Asset Additions Renewals	WDV of Asset Disposals	Depreciation Expense (Note 3)	Impairment Loss (recognised in P/L) (Note 3)	Impairment Loss (recognised in Equity) (Note 9)	WIP Transfers	Adjustments Transfers	The benefit(s) "held for sale" category (Note 9)	Revaluation Increase/Decrease in Equity (ASB) (Note 9)	At Fair Value	At Cost	Accumulated Depreciation	Carrying amount		
3	10,231	-	(9,841)	390	344	-	(345)	-	-	-	-	(232)	-	-	-	9,783	(9,826)	157		
2	18,039	2,362	-	2,362	3,612	678	-	(6)	(2,307)	-	-	-	-	-	4,339	-	4,339	-		
3	44,727	-	-	44,727	23	-	-	-	(25)	(18,039)	18,039	(335)	7,157	-	-	-	-	69,586		
3	4,356	4,206	(1,818)	2,388	-	29	(281)	-	-	59	-	-	-	-	4,110	(1,919)	2,191			
3	3,987	33	(2,232)	1,788	-	-	-	-	-	-	(1,788)	-	-	-	-	-	4,356			
3	101,198	64,300	(53,206)	112,292	1,515	203	(4,560)	(140)	1,609	2,646	-	-	15,625	193,052	852	(64,830)	129,074			
3	8,022	1,831	(2,596)	7,257	557	-	(319)	(12)	-	-	-	-	18,646	36,080	62	(10,022)	26,130			
3	95,653	-	(21,373)	74,280	340	524	(1,603)	-	-	-	-	-	-	95,545	675	(22,834)	73,286			
3	149,113	-	(34,156)	114,957	2,290	1,320	(2,300)	-	637	-	(858)	-	-	148,594	3,537	(36,283)	115,848			
	-	1,573	(24)	1,549	-	-	(35)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	712	(56)	656			
	-	412	(15)	397	217	-	(65)	-	-	-	-	-	3,932	5,471	358	(1,394)	4,435			
	10,451	162	(3,378)	7,235	-	72	(4)	-	1	-	-	-	65	10,497	168	(3,636)	7,129			
	-	614	(337)	277	14	14	(217)	-	-	-	182	-	-	-	625	(359)	266			
	-	10,151	(3,966)	6,185	317	1,299	(775)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11,272	(4,393)	6,879			
	-	1,590	(313)	1,277	81	-	(49)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,672	(363)	1,309			
<b>Total infrastructure, property, plant and equipment</b>	<b>445,777</b>	<b>87,234</b>	<b>(133,255)</b>	<b>399,756</b>	<b>9,296</b>	<b>4,139</b>	<b>(10,788)</b>	<b>(6)</b>	<b>(177)</b>	<b>(40)</b>	<b>(335)</b>	<b>45,425</b>	<b>563,191</b>	<b>38,165</b>	<b>(155,715)</b>	<b>445,641</b>				
Comparatives	323,939	94,416	(117,184)	301,171	13,965	4,898	(10,061)	(115)	(575)	-	-	90,897	445,777	87,234	(133,255)	399,756				

continued on next page ...

# City of Mount Gambier

## Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

### Note 6. Infrastructure, property, plant & equipment and investment property (continued)

---

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

##### Valuation of assets

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

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

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

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

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

Refer to Note 6a for the disclosure of the Fair Value Levels of Infrastructure, Property, Plant and Equipment Assets.

##### Information on valuations

Fair value hierarchy level 2 valuations - External valuation completed as at 1 July 2024 on buildings and structures used the current gross replacement cost with fair value level 3 inputs. Due to this certain buildings and structures and land thereon that were previously recorded as fair value level 2 have been transferred to fair value level 3.

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

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

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

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

##### Other information

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

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

##### Highest and best use

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

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





# City of Mount Gambier

## Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

### Note 6. Infrastructure, property, plant & equipment and investment property (continued)

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

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

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

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

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

#### Capitalisation Thresholds

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

	\$
Office Furniture & Equipment	5,000
Other Plant & Equipment	5,000
Buildings - new construction/extensions	5,000
Park & Playground Furniture & Equipment	5,000
Road construction & reconstruction	5,000
Paving & Footpaths, Kerb & Gutter	5,000
Stormwater Drainage	5,000
Waste Management	5,000

#### Estimated Useful Lives

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

##### *Plant, Furniture & Equipment*

Office Equipment	3 to 10 years
Vehicles and Road-making Equipment	3 to 25 years
Other Plant & Equipment	3 to 30 years

##### *Building & Other Structures*

Buildings	15 to 250 years
Park Structures	20 to 30 years
Playground Equipment	20 to 40 years
Benches, Seats, etc	10 to 30 years

##### *Waste Management*

Landfill assets	capacity in use
-----------------	-----------------

##### *Infrastructure*

Sealed Roads - Surface	15 to 40 years
Sealed Roads - Structure	40 to 240 years
Unsealed Roads	12 to 75 years
Paving and Footpaths, Kerb and Gutter	10 to 80 years
Carparks	15 - 80 years
Public Lighting	20 years
Stormwater Drainage	50 to 125 years

Note 6. Infrastructure, property, plant & equipment and investment property (continued)

<i>Other Assets</i>	10 to 15 years
Artworks and Historical Collections	indefinite
Right-of-Use Assets (refer to Note 15)	life of lease

**Waste Management - Landfill**

Landfill remediation and cell development assets are amortised on a consumption basis over the individual landfill cell's capacity to receive waste and estimated life of the whole site. At the time of construction of a cell, Council includes the present value of estimated costs to cap the cell. This estimate is offset by the recognition of a provision. This recognition of the capping costs is amortised in line with the consumption of the landfill cell's capacity used in any one year.

**Land & Land Improvements**

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

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

Land was revalued as at 30 June 2024 based on Valuer General valuations provided to Council.

- Basis of valuation: Fair Value/Site value, Land Valuation Act 1971
- Date of valuation: 30 June 2024
- Valuer: Valuer General

**Artworks and Historical Collections**

The Riddoch Art Collection was last revalued as at 30 June 2023 by Simon Storey Art and Cultural Collection valuers. These assets and other historical collections are not depreciated.

- Basis of valuation: Fair Value
- Date of valuation: 30 June 2023
- Valuer: Simon Storey Valuers

**Buildings & Other Structures**

Buildings and other structures were revalued as at 1 July 2023 by Brooke Smith of AssetVal/Marsh. Revaluations occur every four years. All additions are initially recorded at cost. There has been a 13% average increase in depreciation for buildings and structures as a result of the revaluation undertaken.

- Basis of valuation: Fair Value/Market Value/Current Gross Replacement Cost
- Date of valuation: 1 July 2023
- Valuer: AssetVal

**Infrastructure - Stormwater, Retaining Walls and Carparks**

The valuation of Other Infrastructure including stormwater drainage, retaining walls and carpark assets were undertaken by independent valuer, Antonio Blefari MIE(Aust) NER from iinSights Pty Ltd as at 1 July 2023. There has been a 59% average increase in depreciation for Other Infrastructure as a result of the revaluation undertaken.

- Basis of valuation: Fair Value/Current Gross Replacement Cost
- Date of valuation: 1 July 2023
- Valuer: iinSights Pty Ltd

**Infrastructure - Kerbing and Footpaths, Roads, Public Lighting**

Infrastructure assets including footpaths, kerbs and guttering, and road assets were last revalued as at 30 June 2023 by independent valuer, Antonio Blefari MIE(Aust) NER from iinSights Pty Ltd.

- Basis of valuation: Fair Value/Current Gross Replacement Cost
- Date of valuation: 30 June 2023
- Valuer: iinSights Pty Ltd

**Infrastructure - Public Lighting**

These assets are recognised on the cost basis.

**Plant, Furniture & Equipment**

These assets are recognised on the cost basis.

**All other Assets**

These assets are recognised on the cost basis in the case of signage and IT assets and depreciated over their useful lives.



# City of Mount Gambier

## Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

### Note 7. Liabilities

\$ '000	2024 Current	2024 Non Current	2023 Current	2023 Non Current
<b>(a) Trade and other payables</b>				
Goods and services	3,804	–	2,477	–
Payments received in advance	472	–	435	–
- Grants and contributions - capital	–	–	252	–
- Other	37	–	43	–
Accrued expenses - employee entitlements	407	–	400	–
Accrued expenses - other	412	–	1,068	–
Deposits, retentions and bonds	172	–	108	–
Other	13	–	18	–
<b><u>Total trade and other payables</u></b>	<b><u>5,317</u></b>	<b><u>–</u></b>	<b><u>4,801</u></b>	<b><u>–</u></b>
<b>(b) Borrowings</b>				
Loans	9,884	26,957	6,930	24,467
Lease liabilities	102	122	158	52
<b><u>Total Borrowings</u></b>	<b><u>9,986</u></b>	<b><u>27,079</u></b>	<b><u>7,088</u></b>	<b><u>24,519</u></b>
All interest bearing liabilities are secured over the future revenues of the Council				
<b>(c) Provisions</b>				
Employee entitlements (including oncosts)	3,561	239	3,011	167
Cell capping	–	1,200	–	783
Future restoration	–	169	–	2,545
<b><u>Total provisions</u></b>	<b><u>3,561</u></b>	<b><u>1,608</u></b>	<b><u>3,011</u></b>	<b><u>3,495</u></b>



# City of Mount Gambier

## Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

### Note 8. Reserves

\$ '000	as at 30/06/23		Transfers	Impairments	as at 30/06/24	
	Opening Balance	Increments (Decrements)			Closing Balance	
<b>(a) Asset revaluation reserve</b>						
Land	52,123	7,156	–	(25)	59,254	
Buildings and other structures	53,310	15,625	1,994	(140)	70,789	
Infrastructure	156,771	22,644	827	(12)	180,230	
Plant and equipment	770	–	(770)	–	–	
Minor Plant	34	–	(34)	–	–	
Waste Management	2,925	–	(2,925)	–	–	
Other assets	5,241	–	(2,821)	–	2,420	
<b>Total asset revaluation reserve</b>	<b>271,174</b>	<b>45,425</b>	<b>(3,729)</b>	<b>(177)</b>	<b>312,693</b>	
Comparatives	180,852	90,897	–	(575)	271,174	

\$ '000	as at 30/06/23		Tfrs to Reserve	Tfrs from Reserve	Other Movements	as at 30/06/24	
	Opening Balance Restated					Closing Balance	
<b>(b) Other reserves</b>							
Mount Gambier Cemetery	711	–	–	–	–	711	
Mayor Christmas Appeal	97	40	(65)	–	–	72	
Junior Sports Assistance Fund	128	24	(17)	–	–	135	
Waste Service Charge	270	–	(270)	–	–	–	
Open Space	404	–	–	–	–	404	
<b>Total other reserves</b>	<b>1,610</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>(352)</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>1,322</b>	
Comparatives	1,372	238	–	–	–	1,610	

#### Purposes of reserves

##### Asset revaluation reserves

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

##### Other reserves

Other Reserves are used when reserves are maintained for the purpose of specific Council committees or for committed funds of Council.

##### Mount Gambier Cemetery

The Mount Gambier Cemetery reserve represents funds that have been separated for any development works or projects that may be required at the Carinya Gardens Cemetery and crematorium.

##### Mayor Christmas Appeal

The Mayor Christmas Appeal represents bank funds and payables of the City of Mount Gambier related to the Mayor Christmas Appeal and to be used for that purpose.



# City of Mount Gambier

## Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

### Note 8. Reserves (continued)

#### Junior Sports Assistance Fund

The Junior Sports Assistance Fund reserve represents bank funds and payables of the City of Mount Gambier related to the Junior Sporting Assistance Fund and to be used for that purpose.

#### Waste Management

Residual monies (income less expenses) from activities relating to waste collection.

#### Open Space

Monies held from creation of sub-divisions to be used for future open space projects.

### Note 9. Reconciliation to Statement of Cash Flows

\$ '000	Notes	2024	2023
<b>(a) Reconciliation of cash</b>			
Cash assets comprise highly liquid investments with short periods to maturity subject to insignificant risk of changes of value. Cash at the end of the reporting period as shown in the Statement of Cash Flows is reconciled to the related items in the Statement of Financial Position as follows:			
Total cash and equivalent assets	5	270	76
<b>Balances per Statement of Cash Flows</b>		<b>270</b>	<b>76</b>

\$ '000	2024	2023 Restated
<b>(b) Reconciliation of change in net assets to cash from operating activities</b>		
<b>Net surplus/(deficit)</b>	(4,374)	4,802
<b>Non-cash items in income statements</b>		
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment	10,795	10,176
Non-cash asset acquisitions	(2,053)	(1,054)
Grants for capital acquisitions treated as investing activity	(775)	(6,213)
Net (gain)/loss on disposals	1,475	364
Adjustment Caroline	(2,155)	–
	<b>2,913</b>	<b>8,075</b>
<b>Add (less): changes in net current assets</b>		
Net (increase)/decrease in receivables	912	(467)
Change in allowances for under-recovery of receivables	–	2
Net (increase)/decrease in inventories	(9)	(3)
Net (increase)/decrease in other assets	–	(4)
Net increase/(decrease) in trade and other payables	(467)	1,469
Net increase/(decrease) in unpaid employee benefits	622	215
<b>Net cash provided by (or used in) operations</b>	<b>3,971</b>	<b>9,287</b>

# City of Mount Gambier

## Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

### Note 9. Reconciliation to Statement of Cash Flows (continued)

#### (c) Non-cash financing and investing activities

##### Acquisition of assets by means of:

Physical resources received free of charge	21	2,053	1,054
Amounts recognised in income statement		2,053	1,054

##### Non-cash financing (other)

Leases		14	229
--------	--	----	-----

##### Total non-cash financing and investing activities

		2,067	1,283
--	--	-------	-------

#### (d) Financing arrangements

##### Unrestricted access was available at balance date to the following lines of credit (\$ '000):

Bank overdrafts		250	250
Corporate credit cards		30	30
LGFA cash advance debenture facility		21,500	21,500

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

DRAFT





# City of Mount Gambier

## Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2024

### Note 10(a). Functions

	Income, Expenses and Assets have been directly attributed to the following Functions / Activities. Details of these Functions/Activities are provided in Note 10(b).						TOTAL ASSETS HELD (CURRENT AND NON-CURRENT)			
	OPERATING INCOME 2024	OPERATING INCOME 2023 Restated	OPERATING EXPENSES 2024	OPERATING EXPENSES 2023	OPERATING SURPLUS (DEFICIT) 2024	OPERATING SURPLUS (DEFICIT) 2023 Restated	GRANTS INCLUDED IN OPERATING INCOME 2024	GRANTS INCLUDED IN OPERATING INCOME 2023	2024	2023
<b>\$ '000</b>										
<b>Functions/Activities</b>										
Administration / Support Services	26,025	29,541	464	8,634	25,561	20,907	263	5,542	9,933	9,675
Community Support	960	858	1,766	1,257	(806)	(399)	-	-	14,374	14,432
Culture	428	401	7,167	4,702	(6,739)	(4,301)	226	207	41,076	34,782
Economic Development	132	150	3,472	2,218	(3,340)	(2,068)	14	-	5,335	4,116
Environment	9,323	6,158	13,976	10,904	(4,653)	(4,746)	134	178	33,469	8,865
Recreation	4,480	3,128	12,941	7,950	(8,461)	(4,822)	544	957	137,374	130,286
Regulatory Services	790	827	2,004	1,253	(1,214)	(426)	-	-	8	13
Transport	515	624	4,869	3,809	(4,354)	(3,185)	480	589	192,607	189,666
Engineering / Indirect	(611)	(295)	541	2,351	(1,152)	(2,646)	-	-	9,696	7,999
Unclassified Activities	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other	19	7	29	17	(10)	(10)	-	-	4,981	3,508
<b>Total Functions/Activities</b>	<b>42,061</b>	<b>41,399</b>	<b>47,229</b>	<b>43,095</b>	<b>(5,168)</b>	<b>(1,696)</b>	<b>1,661</b>	<b>7,473</b>	<b>448,853</b>	<b>403,342</b>

Revenues and expenses exclude net gain (loss) on disposal or revaluation of assets, amounts received specifically for new or upgraded assets and physical resources received free of charge. The allocation methodology has changed with 2022 restated.

# City of Mount Gambier

## Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

### Note 10(b). Components of functions

---

**The activities relating to Council functions are as follows:**

**Administration / Support Services**

Governance, elected members, organisational, support services, accounting/finance, payroll, human resources, information technology, communication, rates administration, records, occupancy, customer service, other support services, revenues, separate and special rates.

**Community Support**

Public order and safety, crime prevention, emergency services, other fire protection, other public order and safety, health services, pest control – health, immunisation, preventive health services, other health services, community support, senior citizens facilities, children and youth services, community assistance, other community support, community amenities, bus shelters, cemeteries / crematoria, public conveniences, car parking – non-fee-paying and other community amenities.

**Culture**

Library services, other library services, cultural services, cultural venues, heritage, museums and art galleries and other cultural services.

**Economic development**

Regional development, tourism, visitor information and other economic development.

**Environment**

Animal/plant boards, waste management, domestic waste, green waste, recycling, transfer station, other waste management, other environment, stormwater and drainage, street cleaning, street lighting, street-scaping, Natural Resource Management levy, and other environment.

**Recreation**

Parks and gardens, sports facilities – indoor, sports facilities – outdoor, swimming centres – Outdoor, and other recreation.

**Regulatory services**

Dog and cat control, building control, town planning, clean air/pollution control, litter control, health inspection, parking control, and other regulatory services.

**Transport**

Footpaths and kerbing, roads – sealed, roads – formed, roads – natural formed, roads – unformed, traffic management and other transport.

**Engineering / Indirect**

Depot management, indirect and general plant cost not included in other functions.

**Governance**

Audit & Assurance, Planning and Performance, Legal Services and Major Projects.

**Equity accounted Council businesses**

Net Gain equity accounting Council businesses

Net Loss equity accounting Council businesses



# City of Mount Gambier

## Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

### Note 11. Financial instruments

---

#### 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 between 4.30% and 4.55% (2023: 1.05% and 4.30%).

**Carrying Amount:**

Approximates fair value due to the short term to maturity.

##### Receivables - rates and associated charges

**Accounting Policy:**

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

**Terms & Conditions:**

Secured over the subject land, arrears attract interest of 0.75% (2023: 0.48%). Council is not materially exposed to any individual debtor, credit risk exposure is concentrated within the Council's boundaries in the State.

**Carrying Amount:**

Approximates fair value (after deduction of any allowance).

##### Receivables - fees and other charges

**Accounting Policy:**

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

**Terms & Conditions:**

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

**Carrying Amount:**

Approximates fair value (after deduction of any allowance).

##### Receivables - other levels of government

**Accounting Policy:**

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

**Terms & 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.

##### 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.



# City of Mount Gambier

## Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

### Note 11. Financial instruments (continued)

---

**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 using the effective interest rate.

**Terms & Conditions:**

Secured over future revenues, borrowings are repayable (describe basis); interest is charged at fixed (or variable - describe) rates between 4.75% and 6.15% (2023: 1.55% and 6.05%).

**Carrying Amount:**

Approximates fair value.

**Liabilities - leases**

**Accounting Policy:**

Accounted for in accordance with AASB 16 as stated in Note 15.

DRAFT



# City of Mount Gambier

## Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

### Note 11. Financial instruments (continued)

\$ '000	Due < 1 year	Due > 1 year and ≤ 5 years	Due > 5 years	Total Contractual Cash Flows	Carrying Values
<b>Financial assets and liabilities</b>					
<b>2024</b>					
<b>Financial assets</b>					
Cash and cash equivalents	270	–	–	270	270
Receivables	2,528	–	–	2,528	2,529
<b>Total financial assets</b>	<b>2,798</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>2,798</b>	<b>2,799</b>
<b>Financial liabilities</b>					
Non-current borrowings	–	22,396	9,470	31,866	26,958
Payables	5,302	–	–	5,302	4,461
Current borrowings	11,249	–	–	11,249	9,883
Lease liabilities	102	122	–	224	224
<b>Total financial liabilities</b>	<b>16,653</b>	<b>22,518</b>	<b>9,470</b>	<b>48,641</b>	<b>41,526</b>
<b>Total financial assets and liabilities</b>	<b>19,451</b>	<b>22,518</b>	<b>9,470</b>	<b>51,439</b>	<b>44,325</b>
<b>2023</b>					
<b>Financial assets</b>					
Cash and cash equivalents	76	–	–	76	76
Receivables	2,766	–	–	2,766	3,347
<b>Total financial assets</b>	<b>2,842</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>2,842</b>	<b>3,423</b>
<b>Financial liabilities</b>					
Non-current borrowings	–	23,080	11,050	34,130	24,467
Payables	4,071	–	–	4,071	3,038
Current borrowings	12,409	–	–	12,409	6,930
Lease liabilities	158	52	–	210	210
<b>Total financial liabilities</b>	<b>16,638</b>	<b>23,132</b>	<b>11,050</b>	<b>50,820</b>	<b>34,645</b>
<b>Total financial assets and liabilities</b>	<b>19,480</b>	<b>23,132</b>	<b>11,050</b>	<b>53,662</b>	<b>38,068</b>

# City of Mount Gambier

## Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

### Note 11. Financial instruments (continued)

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

\$ '000	2024		2023	
	Weighted Avg Interest Rate	Carrying Value	Weighted Avg Interest Rate	Carrying Value
Other variable rates	6.15%	13,920	5.51%	5,545
Fixed interest rates	4.91%	23,145	5.12%	26,062
		<u>37,065</u>		<u>31,607</u>

#### Net fair value

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

#### Risk exposures

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

### Note 12. Capital expenditure and investment property commitments

\$ '000	2024	2023
<b>Capital commitments</b>		
<b>Capital expenditure committed for at the reporting date but not recognised in the financial statements as liabilities:</b>		
Buildings & Other Structures	247	1,135
- Footpaths and Kerbing	51	-
- Roads	384	10
Plant and equipment	1,036	965
Waste	44	3,203
Other	69	-
	<u>1,831</u>	<u>5,313</u>
<b>These expenditures are payable:</b>		
Not later than one year	1,831	5,313
	<u>1,831</u>	<u>5,313</u>



# City of Mount Gambier

## Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

### Note 13. Financial indicators

\$ '000	Amounts	Indicator	Indicators	
	2024	2024	Restated 2023	2022

#### Financial Indicators overview

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.

#### 1. Operating Surplus Ratio

Operating surplus	(5,168)	(12.3)%	(4.1)%	5.4%
Total operating income	42,061			

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

#### 2. Net Financial Liabilities Ratio

Net financial liabilities	44,750	106%	95%	97%
Total operating income	42,061			

Net Financial Liabilities are defined as total liabilities less financial assets (excluding equity accounted investments in Council businesses). These are expressed as a percentage of total operating revenue.

#### 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.

#### Adjusted Operating Surplus Ratio

Operating surplus	(813)	(1.8)%	(7.5)%	2.1%
Total operating income	46,416			

#### Adjusted Net Financial Liabilities Ratio

Net financial liabilities	44,750	96%	109%	108%
Total operating income	46,416			

#### 3. Asset Renewal Funding Ratio

Asset renewals	3,528			
Infrastructure and Asset Management Plan required expenditure	5,762	61%	88%	79%

Asset renewals expenditure is defined as capital expenditure on the renewal and replacement of existing assets relative to the optimal level planned, and excludes new capital expenditure on the acquisition of additional assets.

It should be noted that the Infrastructure and Asset Management Plan required expenditure has been restated in 2023 for the change in accounting policy where library books are no longer treated as capital expenditure.



# City of Mount Gambier

## Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

### Note 14. Uniform presentation of finances

\$ '000	2024	2023 Restated
The following is a high level summary of both operating and capital investment activities of the Council prepared on a simplified Uniform Presentation Framework basis.		
All Councils in South Australia have agreed to summarise annual budgets and long-term financial plans on the same basis.		
The arrangements ensure that all Councils provide a common 'core' of financial information, which enables meaningful comparisons of each Council's finances.		
<u>Income</u>		
Rates	26,488	24,893
Statutory charges	781	731
User charges	9,179	6,947
Grants, subsidies and contributions - capital	559	1,071
Grants, subsidies and contributions - operating	1,102	6,402
Investment income	54	49
Reimbursements	1,230	755
Other income	2,668	551
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>42,061</b>	<b>41,399</b>
<u>Expenses</u>		
Employee costs	15,292	14,365
Materials, contracts and other expenses	19,320	17,460
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment	10,795	10,176
Finance costs	1,822	1,094
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>47,229</b>	<b>43,095</b>
<b>Operating surplus / (deficit)</b>	<b>(5,168)</b>	<b>(1,696)</b>
Net timing adjustment for general purpose grant funding	(4,355)	1,315
Less: grants, subsidies and contributions - capital	(559)	(1,071)
<b>Adjusted Operating surplus / (deficit)</b>	<b>(10,082)</b>	<b>(1,452)</b>
<b>Net outlays on existing assets</b>		
Capital expenditure on renewal and replacement of existing assets	(3,528)	(5,370)
Add back depreciation, amortisation and impairment	10,795	10,176
Add back proceeds from sale of replaced assets	110	40
	<b>7,377</b>	<b>4,846</b>
<b>Net outlays on new and upgraded assets</b>		
Capital expenditure on new and upgraded assets (including investment property and real estate developments)	(6,188)	(18,216)
Add back grants, subsidies and contributions - capital new/upgraded	559	1,071
Add back amounts received specifically for new and upgraded assets	216	5,142
Add back proceeds from sale of surplus assets (including investment property, real estate developments and non-current assets held for resale)	-	20
	<b>(5,413)</b>	<b>(11,983)</b>
<b>Annual net impact to financing activities (surplus/(deficit))</b>	<b>(8,118)</b>	<b>(8,589)</b>



# City of Mount Gambier

## Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

### Note 15. Leases

#### (i) Council as a lessee

##### Terms and conditions of leases

Council entered contracts as a lessee for various IT equipment.

Set out below are the carrying amounts (written down value) of right of use assets recognised within Infrastructure Property, Plant & Equipment.

#### (a) Right of use assets

\$ '000	Office	Other	Total
<b>2024</b>			
Opening balance	278	–	278
LTD Opening balance adjustments	164	27	191
Additions to right-of-use assets	–	14	14
Depreciation charge	(183)	(34)	(217)
<b>Balance at 30 June</b>	<b>259</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>266</b>
<b>2023</b>			
Opening balance	244	–	244
Additions to right-of-use assets	229	–	229
Depreciation charge	(195)	–	(195)
<b>Balance at 30 June</b>	<b>278</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>278</b>

#### (b) Lease liabilities

Set out below are the carrying amounts of lease liabilities (included under interest-bearing loans and borrowings) and the movements during the period:

\$ '000	2024	2023
Balance at 1 July	210	231
LTD Opening balance adjustments	193	–
Additions	14	229
Accretion of interest	32	15
Payments	(225)	(265)
<b>Balance at 30 June</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>210</b>
<b>Classified as:</b>		
Current	102	158
Non-current	122	52

The maturity analysis of lease liabilities is included in Note 13.

The Group had total cash outflows for leases of \$210,000.

The following are the amounts recognised in profit or loss:

Depreciation expense of right-of-use assets	217	195
Interest expense on lease liabilities	32	15
<b>Total amount recognised in profit or loss</b>	<b>249</b>	<b>210</b>

### Note 15. Leases (continued)

---

#### (ii) Council as a lessor

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

### Note 16. Superannuation

---

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

#### **Accumulation only members**

Accumulation only members receive both employer and employee contributions on a progressive basis. Employer contributions are based on a fixed percentage of ordinary time earnings in accordance with superannuation guarantee legislation (11.00% in 2023/24; 10.50% in 2022/23) and enterprise bargaining agreement (1% in 2024 and 2024). 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 generally based on a formula determined by the member's contribution rate, number of years and complete days 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 2022/23) 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 2023. 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.



Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

Note 17. Non-current assets held for sale and discontinued operations

**Non-current assets held for sale**

Council has decided to sell two vacant parcels of land as surplus to requirements. These parcels of land are not being actively used by Council and have not been identified as required for any strategic purposes in the future. Real estate sales agency agreements have been entered. Council's intention is to sell the properties within 12 months and remains committed to it's plan. Following the end of the reporting period but before the authorisation of these financial statements, new sales agreements have been entered to continue sales progression. The properties are recognised at the lesser of the carrying value and fair value less costs to sell. An impairment loss of \$25,177 has been recognised for one vacant land parcel.

\$ '000	2024	2023
<b>(ii). Carrying amounts of assets and liabilities</b>		
<b>Assets</b>		
Land	335	-
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>335</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net assets</b>	<b>335</b>	<b>-</b>

Note 18. Contingencies and assets/liabilities not recognised in the balance sheet

The following assets and liabilities do not qualify for recognition in the Statement of Financial Position, but knowledge is considered relevant to the users of the financial report in making and evaluating decisions about the allocation of scarce resources.

**1. Land under roads**

As reported in the Financial 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 the 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 233.7 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 deductable "insurance excesses", 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 has not received notice of any 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.



# City of Mount Gambier

## Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

### Note 18. Contingencies and assets/liabilities not recognised in the balance sheet

#### 4. Landfill

Cells incorporated at the Caroline Landfill site are depreciated based on capacity in use until the cell reaches conceptual height and is considered full. During 2024 an open cell reached conceptual height and continued to receive waste as agreed by the Environmental Protection Authority until a new cell was constructed. Construction of the new cell was completed on 29 August 2024.

At the time of preparing these statements, it is unknown what course of action is required for all or part of the waste that is considered overfilled. Due to this, no liability can reliably be estimated for the quantity or amount of waste that may need to be reallocated to the newly built cell, including amortisation and costs to physically move the waste.

### Note 19. Related party transactions

#### Key management personnel

##### Transactions with key management personnel

The Key Management Personnel of the Council include the Mayor, Councillors, CEO and certain prescribed officers under section 112 of the Local Government Act 1999. In all, 13 persons were paid the following total compensation:

\$ '000	2024	2023
<b>The compensation paid to key management personnel comprises:</b>		
Salaries, allowances & other short term benefits	917	1,327
Post-employment benefits	88	119
Long-term benefits	-	41
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,005</b>	<b>1,487</b>

Key management personnel and/or relatives of key management personnel own retail businesses from which various supplies were purchased as required either for cash or on 30 day account. These purchases were made on normal commercial terms on an arm's length basis. No individual purchases from these businesses exceeded \$275.00 with the total cumulative spend for 2023/24 being \$2,586.67.

One key management personnel and/or relatives of key management personnel are members in a community based not-for-profit organisation that Council engage for contractual labour hire services including apprentices and trainees.

One key management personnel and/or relatives of key management personnel are advisory members in a community based not-for-profit organisation that supports charitable projects, organisations and educational scholarships.

### Note 20. Equity - retained earnings and revaluation reserves adjustments

#### Correction of errors relating to a previous reporting period

Council have restated the Open Space contributions income previously recognised in 2022/2023. Open Space contributions were incorrectly recognised when a development application was received. Open Space contributions are not due and payable until request for land clearance is sought by the developer and relevant conditions met. Open Space contributions totalling \$819,197 was recognised as income, however only \$106,887 was current for that year. A restatement of \$712,310 was required reducing other income, debtors general and equity other reserves.

Adjustments are detailed below and all impacted areas have been identified through the reports with the header of "restated", including relevant notes and updated calculations for financial indicators. Prior to the restatements, operating surplus was reported at (\$984,000) and after the restatement is (\$1,696,000).



# City of Mount Gambier

## Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

### Note 20. Equity - retained earnings and revaluation reserves adjustments (continued)

#### Adjustments to the comparative figures for the year ended 30 June 2023

##### Statement of Financial Position

\$ '000	Original Balance 30 June, 2023	Impact Increase/ (decrease)	Restated Balance 30 June, 2023
Other Reserves	2,322	(712)	1,610
<b>Change to equity</b>	<b>2,322</b>	<b>(712)</b>	<b>1,610</b>

##### Statement of Comprehensive Income

\$ '000	Original Balance 30 June, 2023	Impact Increase/ (decrease)	Restated Balance 30 June, 2023
Other Income	1,263	(712)	551
<b>Change to Other comprehensive income</b>	<b>1,263</b>	<b>(712)</b>	<b>551</b>

DRAFT

Dean Newbery – Independent auditors report place holder

1 of 2 pages required

DRAFT

**Dean Newbery – Independent auditors report place holder**

2 of 2 pages required

DRAFT



1 of 2 pages required

DRAFT

**Dean Newbery – Independent auditors report place holder**

2 of 2 pages required

DRAFT

# City of Mount Gambier

## General Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

---

### Certification of Auditor Independence

To the best of our knowledge and belief, we confirm that, for the purpose of the audit of City of Mount Gambier Council for the year ended 30 June 2023 the Council's Auditor, Dean Newbery and 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*.

Sarah Philpott  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Paul Duka  
PRESIDING MEMBER, AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE

**Date:**

DRAFT



City of Mount Gambier

General Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

Statement by Auditor

I confirm that, for the audit of the financial statements of City of Mount Gambier for the year ended 30 June 2023, I have maintained my independence in accordance with the requirements of APES 110 – Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants, 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*.

Samatha Creten

**Dean Newbery**

**Date:**

DRAFT







City of  
Mount Gambier



10 Watson Terrace  
(PO Box 56)  
Mount Gambier  
South Australia  
5290

[mountgambier.sa.gov.au](http://mountgambier.sa.gov.au)



# LIMESTONE COAST LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION



## ANNUAL REPORT 2023-24

*The Obelisk, Robe Benjamin Goode*





The past year has been marked by both progress and change for the Limestone Coast Local Government Association (LCLGA).

Our Board, currently comprising Mayors Liz Goosens (Vice President), Kylie Boston, Jeff Pope, Patrick Ross, Lisa Ruffell and myself, has continued to work to address the region's key challenges and opportunities.

Mayor Des Noll resigned from the Board in May 2024, at which time Wattle Range Council did not appoint another representative to the Board.

Our strategic priorities have included waste management, housing and infrastructure needs, coastal management through the development of a regional coastal plan and enhancing regional connectivity, including work on the Green Triangle Freight Action Plan and continuing work through the Limestone Coast Destination Development Strategy.

We have also partnered with Regional Development Australia Limestone Coast in resetting the Regional Economic Growth Strategy.

The Connected and Active Communities Project, developed with the Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing, remains a significant achievement, fostering increased community engagement and participation.

The support provided to our young athletes in the region through the Limestone Coast Regional Sporting Academy continues to play an important role in our communities.

This year saw the historic investment for mobile phone coverage in the Limestone Coast with the Federal Government providing \$15 million, the SA State Government \$5.5 million, along with funding from the South Australian Forest Products Association and member Councils of the Limestone Coast to provide 27 new mobile base stations across the Limestone Coast, which will make us the most connected region in South Australia. This project is an outstanding example of collaboration between the three levels of Government and stakeholders.

During this past year, we experienced several changes within our leadership. Following the departure of Interim Executive Officer, Colin Byles, Adrian Maywald was appointed as Executive Officer but stepped down in June. Deb Brokenshire then stepped in as Interim

Executive Officer while the Board reviews its future strategic direction. I am grateful to all those who have supported the Association during this transition period.

Our collaboration with a variety of stakeholders, including the Local Government Association of South Australia, the South Australian Tourism Commission, Government Ministers and Departments and our member Councils, continues to be the cornerstone of our efforts to build stronger communities across the Limestone Coast.

We also acknowledge the strong working relationship we enjoy with Federal Member for Barker Mr Tony Pasin MP, Member for Mount Gambier Mr Troy Bell MP and Member for McKillop Mr Nick McBride MP.

As mentioned previously, the LCLGA has been through significant change this year and I acknowledge and thank the staff for their support and commitment throughout this time.

I also extend sincere thanks to my fellow Mayors, Elected Members and Chief Executive Officers for their ongoing support and commitment to make the 'Limestone Coast Better Together' and to enhance the liveability and economic sustainability of our region.

On behalf of the Limestone Coast Local Government Association, I am pleased to present the 2023/24 Annual Report which highlights our achievements, and the value delivered to our members and communities throughout the year.

## Mayor Lynette Martin (OAM)

President LCLGA





This document is the Annual Report of the Limestone Coast Local Government Association (LCLGA) Inc. for the period 1st July 2023 to 30th June 2024 and was prepared pursuant to the Local Government Act 1999 to report to Constituent Councils on the work and operation of the Association for the preceding financial year.

This report details the activities of the Association to represent and serve the seven Constituent Councils and to advance the Limestone Coast communities through effective advocacy, facilitation, project delivery and innovation.

## Our Association

LCLGA was established as a regional body on 6th October 1885. LCLGA is a regional subsidiary representing its Constituent Councils and is established pursuant to Section 43 of the Local Government Act 1999 by the Constituent Councils.

The Association is comprised of the following Constituent Councils:

1. City of Mount Gambier
2. District Council of Grant
3. Kingston District Council
4. Naracoorte Lucindale Council
5. District Council of Robe
6. Tatiara District Council
7. Wattle Range Council

### Under its Charter, LCLGA's objectives are to:

- > Work in Association with both the Local Government Association of South Australia (LGASA) and the Australian Local Government Association.
- > Undertake co-coordinating, advocacy and representational roles on behalf of its Constituent Councils at a regional level.
- > Facilitate and coordinate activities of local government at a regional level related to social, environmental and community development with the object of achieving improvement for the benefit of the communities of its Constituent Councils.
- > Develop, encourage, promote, foster and maintain consultation and co-operation and to strengthen the representation and status of local government when dealing with other governments, private enterprise and the community.
- > Develop further co-operation between its Constituent Councils for the benefit of the communities of its region.
- > Develop and manage policies which guide the conduct of programs and projects in its region with the objective of securing the best outcomes for the communities of the region.
- > Undertake projects and activities that benefit its region and its communities.
- > Associate, collaborate and work in conjunction with other regional local government bodies for the advancement of matters of common interest.
- > Implement programs that seek to deliver local government services on a regional basis; and
- > To effectively liaise and work with the State and Commonwealth Government and instrumentalities on a regional basis for the general enhancement of the region.



# THE LCLGA BOARD





## The LCLGA Board

The LCLGA Board comprises nominated representatives from each of the Constituent Councils and is chaired by the LCLGA President. Each Constituent Council can nominate up to two Deputy Board Members.

## LCLGA Board Members

Council	Delegate	Deputy Board Member/s
City of Mount Gambier	President Mayor Lynette Martin (OAM)	Deputy Mayor Max Bruins
Tatiara District Council	Vice President Mayor Liz Goossens	Deputy Mayor Lynton MacKenzie
District Council of Grant	Mayor Kylie Boston	Cr Bruce Bain
Kingston District Council	Mayor Jeff Pope	Deputy Mayor Jamie Parkins
Naracoorte Lucindale Council	Mayor Partick Ross	Deputy Mayor Monique Crossling
District Council of Robe	Mayor Lisa Ruffell	Deputy Mayor Nick Brown
Wattle Range Council	Mayor Des Noll	Deputy Mayor Peter Dunnicliff

The Board held six ordinary bi-monthly General Meetings, and The Annual General Meeting during 2023-2024. Meetings are hosted by Constituent Councils on a rotational basis.



**Bool Lagoon** Mish and Kirk

## Office Bearers 2022-2023

In accordance with the LCLGA Charter, the positions of LCLGA President and Vice President are appointed at the Annual General Meeting, held in February.

At the Annual General Meeting in February 2024, Mayor Lynette Martin was elected as LCLGA President, to serve in the position for a period of 12 months. Mayor Liz Goossens was elected as LCLGA Vice President.

During 2023-2024, Colin Byles was appointed interim Executive Officer from 1st July 2023 to 1st December 2023. Adrian Maywald was appointed Executive Officer from 4th December 2023 to 5th June 2024. Deb Brokenshire was appointed interim Executive Officer from 18th June 2024 onwards.

Dean Newbery and Partners are the appointed Auditor.

## LCLGA Staff

During 2023-2024, LCLGA engaged the following staff to deliver regional programs:

Position	Staff Member	Period
Interim Executive Officer	Colin Byles	1st July 2023 – 1 December 2023
Executive Officer	Adrian Maywald	4 December 2023 – 5th June 2024
Interim Executive Officer	Deb Brokenshire	18th June 2024 – Onwards
Limestone Coast Regional Sporting Academy Co-ordinator	Adrian Maywald	1st July 2023 – 1 December 2023
Connected & Active Communities Officer	Tony Elletson	Ongoing
Destination Development Manager	Kate Napper	Ongoing
Destination Development Co-ordinator	Emma Herring	Ongoing
Limestone Coast Regional Sporting Academy Administrator	Rhiannon Zammit	27 November 2023 - Ongoing
Corporate Services Officer	Paul Manfrin	Ongoing



## Delegates to the Local Government Association of South Australia

Under the Constitution of the LGASA, regions are represented via appointed members to serve on the LGA Board and the South Australian Regional Organisation of Councils (SAROC).

### Representatives

	LCLGA Representative
SAROC	Mayor Lynette Martin OAM Mayor Liz Goossens (proxy)

SAROC is an important LGA committee for non-metropolitan Councils.

Membership is drawn from each of the six non-metropolitan Regional Local Government Associations with members meeting bi-monthly to discuss the key issues affecting non-metropolitan Councils.



*Bordertown Recreation Lake Seanna Ward*

## Association Committees and Working Parties

To undertake specific projects or fulfil areas of operational responsibility, LCLGA convenes a number of committees and working parties. LCLGA acknowledges the work of all who have contributed to the following committees and working parties throughout 2023-2024.

*Representatives as of 30th June 2024*

## LCLGA Roads and Transport Management Group

Current Appointment	Council
Mr Abdulah Muhmud Ms Barbara Cernovskis	City of Mount Gambier
Mr Adrian Schutz	District Council of Grant
Mr Brett Holmes Mr Colin Barnett	Kingston District Council
Mr Daniel Willsmore	Naracoorte Lucindale Council
Mr Dave Worthley	District Council of Robe
Mr Aaron Hillier Mr Rob Farrah	Tatiara District Council
Mr Peter Halton	Wattle Range Council
Ms Deb Brokenshire (Interim CEO)	LCLGA

## LCLGA Regional Waste Management Steering Committee

Current Appointment	Council
Ms Barbara Cernovskis	City of Mount Gambier
Mr Aaron Price	District Council of Grant
Mr Brett Holmes	Kingston District Council
Mr Daniel Willsmore	Naracoorte Lucindale Council
Mr Dave Worthley	District Council of Robe
Mr Aaron Hillier	Tatiara District Council
Mr Peter Halton - Chair	Wattle Range Council
Ms Deb Brokenshire (Interim CEO)	LCLGA

## Tourism Management Group

Current Appointment	Council
Ms Biddie Shearing Ms Amanda Stevens	City of Mount Gambier
Ms Rebecca Perkin	District Council of Grant
Ms Tess Armfield	Kingston District Council
Ms Josie Collins	Naracoorte Lucindale Council
Ms Camille Lehmann	District Council of Robe
Ms Kelly Hutchinson	Tatiara District Council
Ms Caroline Hill Ms Emma Clay	Wattle Range Council
Ms Kate Napper Ms Emma Herring	LCLGA

## LCLGA Executive Officer Remuneration Committee

Current Appointment	Council
Mayor Lynette Martin	City of Mount Gambier
Ms Sarah Philpott	City of Mount Gambier

## LCLGA Audit & Risk Committee

Current Appointment	Council
Mayor Lynette Martin (Chair)	City of Mount Gambier
Ms Sarah Philpott (CEO)	City of Mount Gambier
Mr Paul Duka	Wattle Range Council
Ms Deb Brokenshire (Interim CEO)	LCLGA

## Limestone Coast Economic Development Group (LCEDG)

Current Appointment	Council
Cr Frank Morello	City of Mount Gambier
Ms Rebecca Perkin Mr Darryl Whicker (CEO) - Proxy	District Council of Grant
Mr Ian Hart (CEO)	Kingston District Council
Mr Trevor Smart (CEO)	Naracoorte Lucindale Council
Ms Nat Traeger (CEO)	District Council of Robe
Mayor Liz Goossens Ms Anne Champness (CEO)	Tatiara District Council
Ms Emma Clay	Wattle Range Council
Mayor Lynette Martin OAM (President) Ms Deb Brokenshire (Interim EO)	LCLGA



## Association Representation – Outside Organisations

LCLGA has numerous representatives on working parties, boards and committees including State Government boards, cross border bodies and regional boards and committees. This representation allows LCLGA to keep in touch with communities and contribute to new and existing initiatives.

During 2023-2024, LCLGA made or continued the following appointments to other organisations.

### Limestone Coast Zone Emergency Management Committee (ZEMC)

Current Appointment	Council
Ms Barbara Cernovskis	City of Mount Gambier
Mr Darryl Whicker (CEO) - Chair	District Council of Grant

### Limestone Coast Bushfire Management Committee (LCBMC)

Current Appointment	Council
Mr Tim Wilson	Wattle Range Council

### South Australian Coastal Councils Alliance (SACCA)

Current Appointment	Council
Mayor Kylie Boston	District Council of Grant

## LCLGA Charter

The LCLGA Charter was reviewed, amended in 2023 with the Board adopting the updated document at its December 2023 meeting. The review process led to minor amendments to ensure the Charter remains up-to-date, relevant and reflective of the LCLGA's current operational environment and strategic direction.

The review process involved consulting with member Councils, stakeholders and legal advisors to assess the Charter's alignment with current legislative requirements and governance practices. An evaluation of the Charter was conducted to identify areas needing refinement, focusing on clarifying language and updating provisions to better reflect the current practices of the Association. Following this evaluation minor changes were made that enhance the document's clarity and usability without altering the fundamental governance or strategic intent of the Charter.

The Charter is to be furnished to the Minister and notice of the amendments published in the Gazette. Additionally, all CEOs of the constituent Council's have determined that the Charter is to be published on the LCLGA website.

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



*The Granites, Kingston SE Lachlan Swan Photography*

# DESTINATION DEVELOPMENT





Destination Development is an important Limestone Coast Local Government (LCLGA) function that focuses on growing a sustainable tourism ecosystem for the Limestone Coast region.

As the Limestone Coasts appointed Regional Tourism Organisation, the LCLGA is responsible for coordinating, advocating, and representing regional tourism on behalf of its Constituent Councils and the South Australian Tourism Commission (SATC).

The full-time Destination Development Manager and part-time Destination Development Coordinator are dedicated to delivering the Destination Development activities outlined in the successful Destination Development Strategy 2025. Despite the limitations posed by available funding, we continue to make significant progress in marketing, strengthening industry collaboration, and supporting industry capability. Our regular engagement with member Councils, including bi-monthly Tourism Management Group meetings, is a testament to our commitment to driving outcomes.

The value of the Limestone Coast visitor economy is performing well against the key performance indicators in the Strategy. As of December 2023, visitor expenditure in the Region had grown to \$520 million (up from \$337M in Dec 2018), which is well ahead of the 2025 goal of \$479 million\* and positions Limestone Coast as the fourth-strongest visitor economy in the state while reinforcing the value of tourism and the importance of the Constituent councils working together in this way.

Destination Development's investment in a digital marketing strategy focused on regional storytelling has sought to enhance the appeal of the Limestone Coast to high-yield visitor personas and niche interest travellers throughout their whole travel purchase journey focused on driving demand, increasing regional visitor dispersal and length of stay. The strategic management of the destination website [visitlimestonecoast.com.au](http://visitlimestonecoast.com.au) and [@limestonecoast](https://www.instagram.com/limestonecoast) social media accounts has been instrumental in this success. The website serves as a central information hub and shares regional event, operator, and experience listings from the Australian Tourism Data Warehouse, all in line with the marketing initiatives outlined in the Destination Development Strategy.

This continued marketing effort again proved to be highly effective, with strong social media engagement across Instagram and Facebook with an organic reach of 1.4 million, with many of the Limestone Coast social media posts reshared by amplifier accounts, including SATC and other South Australian media channels seen by a massive potential audience of over 19 million†. Limestone Coast was also highlighted as a top-performing destination on SATC's social media channels in 2023. This enormous shift in SATC's positive promotion for the Region directly correlates to the consistent, ongoing investment in digital storytelling via LCLGA at a regional level with significant share of the best-performing Limestone Coast and general South Australia content on SATC's Instagram and Facebook channels being directly attributed to the high-quality activity on the Limestone Coast's social media platforms.

\* SATC RVS Progress Snapshot 1 January - December 31 2023

† Visit Limestone Coast Digital Marketing Reports  
1 July 2023 - 30 June 2024 by The Tourism Collective





The Limestone Coast destination website [visitlimestonecoast.com.au](https://visitlimestonecoast.com.au) has seen continued audience growth, with over 131,000 page views and over 62,000 unique visitors<sup>‡</sup>. This website continues to serve as a central information hub, sharing regional event, operator, and experience listings from the Australian Tourism Data Warehouse. Its ongoing management per the marketing priorities outlined in the Destination Development Strategy makes it an essential asset in the Limestone Coast’s marketing toolkit.

A focus on local industry collaboration saw the delivery of a key industry gathering held in Penola hosted by LCLGA in cooperation with the Tourism Industry Council SA, the South Australian Tourism Commission and the Australian Tourism Export Council, allowing operators to refamiliarise themselves with the tourism ecosystem and industry stakeholders. Destination Development also supported and facilitated the delivery of a Cruise Information Session in Robe, industry roundtable events with The Hon. Zoe Bettison, MP Minister for Tourism, operator engagement within SATC’s Experience Development Program, leveraging the Gather Round regional engagement program, a content overhaul of the official Limestone Coast Visitor Guide and more. The Destination Development Manager also represented the Limestone Coast at various state and national tourism gatherings including Destination Australia hosted by Tourism Australia and the Australian Regional Tourism Conference.

Communication with industry was strengthened by introducing a bi-monthly tourism industry updates e-newsletter while the Limestone Coast closed group tourism industry Facebook platform continues to grow in members and remains a vital tool for communicating updates and industry news. Investment in regional data access also permitted the supply of a tourism snapshot report prepared by Localis analytics company. The monthly report delivers a ‘state of play’ for tourism and visitation to the Region. It conveys key metrics, including the number of overnight visitors, occupancy, length of stay and average daily rate, with comparisons against neighbouring regions for context on Limestone Coast performance. Reports have been made available for download on the LCLGA website.

While Destination Development activities continued, it is necessary to acknowledge the operating environment throughout this financial year, which sometimes impacted project momentum. The Destination Development Manager facilitated a comprehensive funding review at the request of the LCLGA Board throughout April-June 2024; however, a longer-term funding commitment to the project continues to be considered. The South Australian Tourism Commission delivered its Regional Tourism Review Recommendations Report, and the LCLGA is navigating the proposed phased approach to the rollout of Regional Tourism Review outcomes.

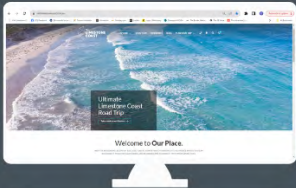
<sup>‡</sup> [Visitlimestonecoast.com.au](https://visitlimestonecoast.com.au) Google Analytics Insights Dashboard



LCLGA co-hosts a Limestone Coast Tourism Industry Networking Event in Penola with Tourism Industry Council SA and representatives from the South Australian Tourism Commission and Australian Tourism Export Council alongside local businesses.

## Program Engagement

### Destination Website



visitlimestonecoast.com.au


**131,000+** Page views

**62,328** Unique visitors

**4 CONSUMER DIRECT E-NEWSLETTERS** to potential visitors

**3,800 LEADS** to Limestone Coast businesses via Australian Tourism Data Warehouse

### Social Media




@limestonecoast


**505 posts shared**

**1.4 MILLION+ SOCIAL MEDIA REACH** ORGANIC

**AMPLIFIED TO A FURTHER 19.5 MILLION+**

**#visitlimestonecoast 2,245 X** Local hashtag engagement



 Limestone Coast highlighted as top performing destination on SATC's social media channels in 2023.  
\*SATC RVS Progress Snapshot Jan 1 - Dec 31 2023 | Limestone Coast

LITTLE BLUE LAKE LIMESTONE COAST

# RVS PROGRESS SNAPSHOT

JAN 1 - DEC 31 2023 | LIMESTONE COAST

#### LIMESTONE COAST PRIORITY

The priority for the Limestone Coast is to increase overnight visitor volumes from international and domestic markets and convert some existing day-trippers to linger longer and stay overnight. Being a predominantly self-drive visitor market, leveraging existing touring routes and promoting and developing hero tourism experiences and events that reflect the region's uniqueness is the key to success. For more details refer to the Regional Visitor Strategy (RVS) 2025 at [tourism.sa.gov.au](http://tourism.sa.gov.au).

<b>DAY TRIPS</b>	<b>OVERNIGHT VISITORS</b>	<b>NIGHTS</b>
<b>800K</b>	<b>763K</b>	<b>2.1M</b>

<b>NEW PRODUCTS / EXPERIENCES</b>	<b>ATDW LEADS TO BUSINESSES</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>98,555</b>
VIA SOUTH AUSTRALIA.COM	

<b>EMPLOYMENT</b>			
<b>2,000</b>	<b>900</b>	<b>1 IN 14*</b>	<b>800</b>
DIRECT JOBS	INDIRECT JOBS	DIRECT JOBS SUPPORTED BY TOURISM	TOURISM BUSINESSES

#### 2023 ACTUAL

\$520M\*

<b>2025 TARGET</b>	<b>PERCENTAGE OF 2025 TARGET MET</b>
<b>\$479M</b>	<b>108%</b>

<b>SATC EXPERIENCE NATURE TOURISM FUND</b>		
<b>2*</b>	<b>\$70,000</b>	<b>\$105,086</b>
SUCCESSFUL PROJECTS	FUNDING AMOUNT	TOTAL PROJECT VALUE

<b>REGIONAL EVENTS</b>	
<b>261*</b>	<b>3</b>
NUMBER OF EVENTS	SATC FUNDED EVENTS

<b>ACCOMMODATION</b>	
<b>2,645</b>	<b>71%</b>
TOTAL ROOMS ATDW LISTED	OCCUPANCY STR DATA

**REGIONAL HIGHLIGHT**

Limestone Coast was a top performing destination via SATC's social media channels in 2023. Regional content reached 7.9 million people, with 2 million video post plays on Instagram, and a Facebook post reach of 4.4 million people.

SOURCES: INTERNATIONAL AND NATIONAL VISITOR SURVEY, TOURISM RESEARCH AUSTRALIA YEAR END DECEMBER 2023, STP GLOBAL YEAR END DECEMBER 2023, AUSTRALIAN TOURISM DATA WAREHOUSE YEAR END DECEMBER 2023, AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS, \*DATA CAPTURED FOR KPIs, NIGHTS AND EXPENDITURE IS YTD DEC 2023. \*INCLUDES PROJECTS WHICH ENTER MULTIPLE REGIONS. \*EVENTS ON AVERAGE OVER 12 MONTH PERIOD \*ON AVERAGE.

285 of 521

## Program Engagement

### Industry Collaboration

 Tourism Industry Facebook Group

**647+ MEMBERS**

Representing approx. 80% operators in region




LCLGA sharing weekly updates

**QUARTERLY WORKING GROUP MEETINGS with Councils**



Launch of Limestone Coast Tourism Industry Updates E-News

Facilitated 5 Limestone Coast Industry Gatherings

 Robe, Penola, Mount Gambier, Port MacDonnell

**130+ TOURISM OPERATORS & STAKEHOLDERS ENGAGED**



In partnership with SATC, TiCSA and the Minister for Tourism

**4** Limestone Coast Visitor Servicing Network Gatherings



**31% ATDW PROFILE GROWTH**

in Limestone Coast listings on Australian Tourism Data Warehouse between July 2023-June 2024





Supporting Limestone Coast Experience Development Program participants (L-R) Dylan Beach, SATC Business Manager-Experience Development; Jamie Gilmour and Lola Makar, Stillwater Paddle and Drive Adventures; Natasha Dawson, Walk the Limestone Coast; Kirby Shearing, Elementary by Soul Co.; Matt Baldock, SATC Business Manager-Inbound & Experience Development; Alex Kemplay-Hill, Elementary by Soul Co.; Kate Napper, Limestone Coast Destination Development Manager.



Destination Development Manager facilitated a visit to Limestone Coast with The Hon. Zoe Bettison, MP Minister for Tourism, in June 2024 pictured here with Naracoorte Caves team and Nick McBride MP.



Destination Development Manager represents Limestone Coast at Destination Australia and Regional Tourism Organisation Forum hosted by Tourism Australia pictured with fellow regional tourism managers from Barossa, Adelaide, Fleurieu Peninsula, Yorke Peninsula, Eyre Peninsula and Kangaroo Island regions.



LCLGA Tourism Management Group Meeting in Millicent with representatives from Wattle Range, Naracoorte Lucindale, City of Mount Gambier and Tatiara Councils pictured.



# CONNECTED AND ACTIVE COMMUNITIES



Valley Lake / Kettle Malpi City of Mount Gambier / Czech Aus Out

The Connected and Active Communities (CAC) Project is a place-based approach that aims to address poor levels of physical activity participation at a local level by investing in the strengths of our communities through a partnership approach.

Limestone Coast Local Government Association (LCLGA) and The Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing (ORSR) recognises that those living within our regional communities are the experts in their own lives, and through proactive engagement aim to work with and harness this expertise to inform, co-design and implement initiatives that have lasting impact.

By partnering with local communities, the CAC Project identifies opportunities to elevate the capacity of volunteers, decision makers and local leaders to create and deliver innovative and effective sport and recreation initiatives.

Harnessing diversity as a key strength of our region, the CAC Project connects and leverages traditional and non-traditional networks to bring communities together and positively impact physical activity participation rates through locally tailored solutions.

The CAC Project has delivered the following in the reporting period;

- › Finalised an Inclusive Uniform Policy with Mid-South East Netball Association that we will hopefully use in other competition, allowing more participation and a welcoming environment for all participants. The ABC did a story on the Uniform Policy which was heard nation-wide, collecting more than 500,000 interactions on Social Media and radio.
- › The CAC Program delivered Grant Writing, Grant Readiness, Cultural Inclusivity and Food Safety Supervisor workshops across the region in the reporting period.
- › Supported the delivery of a Club Governance Workshop Day with the District Council of Grant.
- › The CAC Officer has worked with multiple clubs on a range of Funding Programs.
- › Developed a project based around soccer and migrants. CAC are supporting soccer in the Tatiara, with a focus on the migrant community's needs, by exploring ways in which the strengths of the community can be leveraged to create positive physical activity outcomes to establish active lives and connected communities. There are currently multiple forms of informal soccer participation occurring in the community. CAC have supported Senior Soccer with equipment.
- › Partnered with Department of Child Protection and are in the early phase of running a project that will provide children at risk with opportunities to participate and benefit from a sport they choose to be involved in. Children and Sports have been selected; we are now just awaiting the go ahead from Department of Child Protection.
- › Worked with City of Mount Gambier on the Before the Bounce initiative, as part of the AFL's Gather Round roadshow. The CAC Officer was the host of a Question and Answer session with AFLW superstar Erin Phillips.
- › Worked with a young community member and council on a bike track in the District Council of Grant area. This is hoping to be continued with more funding opportunities and upgrades.
- › Delivered a Facility Analysis report which will provide valuable data in partnership with Naracoorte Lucindale Council about the viability and future of facilities in their council area.
- › The CAC Officer also continued to provide many clubs across the region with Governance and off field support, including, Constitution, Strategic Planning and Grant/Funding support.



# LIMESTONE COAST REGIONAL SPORTING ACADEMY



## Limestone Coast Regional Sporting Academy (LCRSA)

In partnership with the Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing (ORSR) and the Limestone Coast Local Government Association (LCLGA), the Limestone Coast Regional Sporting Academy (LCRSA) inducted its first Inductees in October 2017 and commenced working with these Athletes in November, as part of a Pilot Program.

Since then, the LCLGA have been successful in meeting certain requirements from the ORSR and have continued to obtain funding to run the program ongoing. Once again, the LCLGA partnered with the ORSR and the Academy is now in its seventh year. The Academy still has great partnerships with Hockey SA, Tennis SA, South Australian Sports Institute (SASI) Cycling, Swimming SA, Country Basketball SA and Athletics SA. This year has seen a new partnership with the Glenelg Football Club and this has allowed the Academy to start an AFLW program. Due to these partnerships with these sporting bodies, the Academy has been able to offer skill-based sessions for athletes in these sports and coaching development for local coaches as well. We also continued to offer a Lonestar program for athletes from any sporting background.

In February 2024, the Academy held our Induction evening at Wulanda and inducted 94 athletes. To date, the Academy has 73 athletes still participating in their scholarship.

These athletes are provided with a 12-month Gym membership, a 12-month Elite Athlete Strength and Conditioning Program (2 sessions a week at the gym and an at home program), Coaching, Educational

Sessions (Sports Psychology, Media Training, Coping with Pressure, Sporting Routines and Sports Nutrition). This year saw the Academy in partnership with our Sports Nutritionist, hold a practical nutrition session in a kitchen setting. Athletes were provided ingredients to make snacks and meals beneficial to their sports nutrition. This session was highly enjoyed by all athletes that attended. We are also able to live stream our education sessions to athletes across the region who are unable to attend due to travel.

The program has given the athletes the chance to understand the training and preparation requirements to become an elite athlete, as well as improve their performances at school as well as on the field or track.

We also continued our partnership with Uni SA, who provide us with the venue for our Education sessions. The LCRSA is extremely pleased to also be supported by the M & G Hotel Group, who have provided us with 30 nights of free accommodation for athletes and families, as well as a reduced rate for athletes and families on an ongoing basis.

### The LCRSA has four main objectives



To identify regional sporting talent



To educate and develop youth in the region



To provide pathways to State and national representation



To develop the skills of regional coaches



## Outside of these four main sporting objectives, our key goal is to help young people become leaders in our communities.

The LCRSA athletes have done the Academy and our region extremely proud, competing at State and National levels in the past year. Our AFLW Program Coach Fiona Young was awarded the SANFL Community Coach of the Year.

Three of our Hockey athletes were selected in the State Team to represent SA at National Championships. Our Academy swimmers had the opportunity to have two coaching sessions with National Swimming Coach, Grant Muller.

An Academy basketballer was offered and accepted a scholarship at the Black Hill State University in America.

Former Athlete of the Year Leila Croker won Silver at the National Athletic Championships in April.

Olympic Gold Medallist Natalie Cook OAM, presented to our athletes about her journey and provided wonderful insights on what it takes to make it at the elite level.

Our cycling program athletes continue to shine with two winning Gold at the National Championships and another winning Bronze.

There are plenty more success stories that can be seen on our Facebook page; [www.facebook.com/LCRSA](http://www.facebook.com/LCRSA)

All of our athletes have been great ambassadors for the program. We look forward to continue supporting our current and future LCRSA athletes in the coming years.





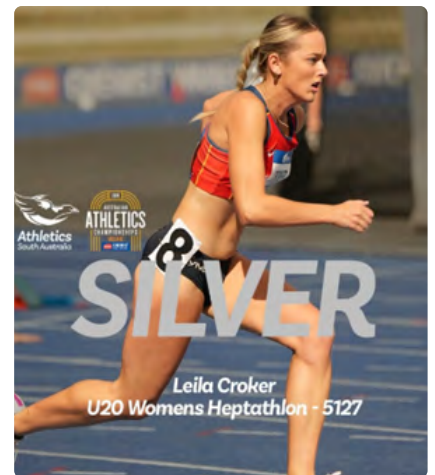
Olympic Gold Medallist Natalie Cook OAM with Academy athletes



Academy athletes attending a practical Sports Nutrition session.



Three of our Swimming program athletes, with National Swimming Coach Grant Muller, at a training session held in August 2024.



Former Academy athlete, Leila Croker, at the Australian Athletics Championships in April 2024.



# LIMESTONE COAST LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

# FINANCIAL REPORTS

30 JUNE 2024





**Annual Financial Statements  
for the year ended 30 June 2024**

**CERTIFICATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

We have been authorised by the Association 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 Association's financial position at 30 June 2024 and the results of its operations and cash flows for the financial year.
- internal controls implemented by the Association provide a reasonable assurance that the Association's financial records are complete, accurate and reliable and were effective throughout the financial year.
- the financial statements accurately reflect the Association's accounting and other records.



Debra Brokenshire  
**ACTING EXECUTIVE OFFICER**



Mayor Lynette Martin  
**President**

Date: 9 Aug 2024

**LIMESTONE COAST LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION**

**STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME**  
for the year ended 30 June 2024

	Notes	2024 \$	2023 \$
<b>INCOME</b>			
Local Government Council Contributions	2	874,335	872,812
Other Contributions	2	40,000	40,000
Other Income	2	114,681	70,477
Project Income	2	378,368	378,478
<b>Total Income</b>		<u>1,407,384</u>	<u>1,361,767</u>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Operating Expenses	3	201,624	222,086
Employee Costs	3	638,542	504,459
Project Expenditure	3	625,676	698,544
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<u>1,465,842</u>	<u>1,425,088</u>
<b>NET SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)</b>		<b>(58,458)</b>	<b>(63,321)</b>
<b>Other Comprehensive Income</b>		<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
<b>Total Other Comprehensive Income</b>		<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
<b>TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME</b>		<u><b>(58,458)</b></u>	<u><b>(63,321)</b></u>

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

## LIMESTONE COAST LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION as at 30 June 2024

	Notes	2024 \$	2023 \$
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	4	636,311	779,029
Trade and Other Receivables	4	<u>9,201</u>	<u>11,329</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b><u>645,512</u></b>	<b><u>790,358</u></b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Trade & other payables	5	70,923	42,461
Provisions	5	69,040	44,775
Other Liabilities	5	<u>252,405</u>	<u>392,569</u>
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<b><u>392,368</u></b>	<b><u>479,805</u></b>
<b>Non-current Liabilities</b>			
Provisions	5	<u>1,707</u>	<u>658</u>
<b>Total Non-current Liabilities</b>		<b><u>1,707</u></b>	<b><u>658</u></b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<b><u>394,075</u></b>	<b><u>480,463</u></b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b><u>251,437</u></b>	<b><u>309,895</u></b>
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Accumulated Surplus		<u>251,437</u>	<u>309,895</u>
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>		<b><u>251,437</u></b>	<b><u>309,895</u></b>

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



**LIMESTONE COAST LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION**

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY  
for the year ended 30 June 2024**

	Notes	Accumulated Surplus \$	TOTAL EQUITY \$
<b>2024</b>			
Balance at end of previous reporting period		<u>309,895</u>	<u>309,895</u>
<b>Net Surplus / (Deficit) for Year</b>		<b>(58,458)</b>	<b>(58,458)</b>
<b>Other Comprehensive Income</b>		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Balance at end of period</b>		<b>251,437</b>	<b>251,437</b>
 <b>2023</b>			
Balance at end of previous reporting period		373,217	373,217
<b>Net Surplus / (Deficit) for Year</b>		(63,321)	(63,321)
<b>Other Comprehensive Income</b>		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Balance at end of period</b>		<u>309,895</u>	<u>309,895</u>

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

## LIMESTONE COAST LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

### STATEMENT OF CASHFLOWS for the year ended 30 June 2024

		2024	2023
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>		<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
Receipts from Members	Notes	874,335	872,812
Other Receipts		395,012	523,958
Payments to Suppliers & Employees		<u>(1,412,066)</u>	<u>(1,266,101)</u>
<b>Net Cash provided by (or used in) Operating Activities</b>	6	<b>(142,718)</b>	130,669
 <b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>		 <u>                    </u>	 <u>                    </u>
<b>Net Cash provided by (or used in) Investing Activities</b>		-	-
 <b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>		 <u>                    </u>	 <u>                    </u>
<b>Net Cash provided by (or used in) Financing Activities</b>		-	-
 <b>Net Increase (Decrease) in cash held</b>		 <u>(142,718)</u>	 <u>130,669</u>
 Cash & cash equivalents at beginning of period		 <u>779,029</u>	 <u>648,360</u>
<b>Cash &amp; cash equivalents at end of period</b>	4	<b><u>636,311</u></b>	<b><u>779,029</u></b>

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

# Limestone Coast Local Government Association

## Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

### Note 1 - SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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

#### 1 Basis of Preparation

##### 1.1 Compliance with Australian Accounting Standards

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

##### 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 Limestone Coast LGA's accounting policies. The areas involving a higher degree of judgement or complexity, or areas where assumptions and estimates are significant to the financial statements are specifically referred to in the relevant sections of this Note.

##### 1.4 Rounding

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

#### 2 The Local Government Reporting Entity

Limestone Coast Local Government Association (Association) is incorporated under the SA Local Government Act 1999 and has its principal place of business at Level 1, 9 Bay Road, Mount Gambier, SA, 5290. These financial statements include Limestone Coast Local Government Association's direct operations and all entities through which Limestone Coast Local Government Association controls resources to carry on its functions. In the process of reporting on Limestone Coast Local Government Association as a single unit, all transactions and balances between activity areas and controlled entities have been eliminated.

#### 3 Income recognition

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

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

Income from Local Government Council Contributions includes income for "pass-through" expenditure for Regional Development Australia Limestone Coast (RDALC), SA Coastal Councils Alliance (SACCA) and the provision of heritage services.

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

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

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.



# Limestone Coast Local Government Association

## Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

### Note 1 - SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (con't)

#### 5 Payables

##### 5.1 Goods & Services

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

##### 5.2 Payments Received in Advance & Deposits

Amounts 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.

#### 6 Employee Benefits

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

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

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

Weighted average discount rate	3.929% (2023 4.05%)
Weighted average settlement period	1 year (2023, 1 year)

No accrual is made for sick leave as Limestone Coast Local Government Associations 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 Association does not make payment for untaken sick leave.

#### 7 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.

#### 8 Leases

At the inception of a contract, the Association assesses if the contract is a lease. If there is a lease present, a right of use assets and a corresponding lease liability is recognised by the Association where the Association is a lessee. However, all contracts that are classified as short-term leases (lease with remaining lease term of 12 months or less) and leases of low value assets are recognised as an operating expense on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease.

#### 9 New Accounting Standards and UIG interpretations

The Association has assessed all the standards / interpretations which are not yet effective and have determined that there is no expected material impact on the reported financial position or performance.

## LIMESTONE COAST LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

### Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2024

	Notes	2024 \$	2023 \$
<b>NOTE 2: INCOME</b>			
<b>Local Government Council Contributions</b>			
City of Mount Gambier		241,162	236,678
District Council of Grant		107,456	108,865
Wattle Range Council		183,140	180,995
Naracoorte Lucindale Council		123,628	124,312
District Council of Robe		58,140	62,370
Tatiara District Council		104,890	99,635
Kingston District Council		55,919	59,957
<b>Total</b>		<u>874,335</u>	<u>872,812</u>
<b>Other Contributions</b>			
LGA SA		40,000	40,000
<b>Total</b>		<u>40,000</u>	<u>40,000</u>
<b>Other Income</b>			
Investment Income		42,894	24,094
Participant Contribution		26,027	25,019
Other		45,760	21,364
<b>Total</b>		<u>114,681</u>	<u>70,477</u>
<b>Project Income</b>			
Tourism (Includes SA Tourism Commission payments)		52,198	95,925
Connective Active Communities (Office of Sport and Rec payments)		155,000	-
Sports Academy & Connective Active Communities (Office of Sport and Rec payments)		100,000	128,000
SA Coastal Councils Alliance		71,170	88,546
Substance Misuse LC		-	66,006
<b>Total</b>		<u>378,368</u>	<u>378,478</u>

## LIMESTONE COAST LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

### Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2024

	Notes	2024 \$	2023 \$
<b>NOTE 3: Expenditure</b>			
<b>Operating Expenses</b>			
Audit Fees		4,018	3,763
Accounting Fees		25,350	25,500
Computing and IT		27,108	28,759
Rent		20,824	21,224
Insurance		18,247	18,663
Vehicles		30,048	52,737
Chairperson Allowance		9,160	6,860
Travel, Accommodation and Meals		13,455	13,371
Other		53,415	51,209
<b>Total</b>		<b>201,624</b>	<b>222,086</b>
<b>Employee Costs</b>			
Salaries and Wages		540,561	450,543
Workcover		6,241	4,034
Superannuation		57,530	44,332
Leave Provision Movement		27,262	52
FBT		6,949	5,498
<b>Total</b>		<b>638,542</b>	<b>504,459</b>
<b>Project Expenditure</b>			
Tourism		102,126	207,854
Connective Active Communities		51,047	-
Sports Academy		158,063	151,064
SA Coastal Councils Alliance		79,577	91,879
Substance Misuse LC		-	29,752
Other		234,862	217,995
<b>Total</b>		<b>625,676</b>	<b>698,544</b>



**LIMESTONE COAST LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION**

**Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements  
for the year ended 30 June 2024**

	Notes	2024 \$	2023 \$
<b>NOTE 4: Assets</b>			
<b>Cash and Cash Equivalents</b>			
Cash at Bank		<u>636,311</u>	<u>779,029</u>
<b>Total</b>		<b>636,311</b>	<b>779,029</b>
<b>Trade and Other Receivables</b>			
Trade Debtors		10,220	8,463
Provision for Doubtful Debts		(2,980)	-
Accrued Interest		<u>1,961</u>	<u>2,866</u>
<b>Total</b>		<b>9,201</b>	<b>11,329</b>
<b>NOTE 5: Liabilities</b>			
<b>Trade and Other Payables</b>			
Goods and Services		42,287	25,842
Accrued Expenses		26,159	14,906
Other		<u>2,476</u>	<u>1,713</u>
<b>Total</b>		<b>70,923</b>	<b>42,461</b>
<b>Provisions - Current</b>			
Employee Entitlements including On-Costs		<u>69,040</u>	<u>44,775</u>
<b>Total</b>		<b>69,040</b>	<b>44,775</b>
<b>Provisions - Non-Current</b>			
Employee Entitlements including On-Costs		<u>1,707</u>	<u>658</u>
<b>Total</b>		<b>1,707</b>	<b>658</b>
<b>Other Liabilities</b>			
LC Regional Sport Academy		100,000	200,000
Connected and Active Communities (CAC)		135,600	155,000
Substance Misuse LC		-	-
SA Coastal Councils Alliance		<u>16,805</u>	<u>37,569</u>
<b>Total</b>		<b>252,405</b>	<b>392,569</b>

**LIMESTONE COAST LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION**

**Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements  
for the year ended 30 June 2024**

	Notes	2024 \$	2023 \$
<b>NOTE 6: Reconciliation of Cash Flow Statement</b>			
<b>(a) Reconciliation of Cash</b>			
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:			
Total cash & equivalent assets	4	<u>636,311</u>	779,029
Balances per Cash Flow Statement		<u>636,311</u>	<u>779,029</u>
<b>(b) Reconciliation of Change in Net Assets to Cash from Operating Activities</b>			
Net Surplus (Deficit)		<b>(58,458)</b>	<b>(63,322)</b>
Non-cash items in Income Statement			
Net increase (decrease) in unpaid employee benefits		<u>25,314</u>	<u>(47,276)</u>
		<b>(33,144)</b>	<b>(110,598)</b>
Add (Less): Changes in Net Current Assets			
Net (increase) decrease in receivables		<u>2,128</u>	54,819
Net increase (decrease) in trade & other payables		<u>28,462</u>	<b>(45,262)</b>
Net increase (decrease) in other liabilities		<u>(140,164)</u>	231,710
<b>Net Cash provided by (or used in) operations</b>		<u><b>(142,718)</b></u>	<u>130,669</u>
<b>(c) Financing Arrangements</b>			
Unrestricted access was available at balance date to the following lines of credit:			
Corporate Credit Cards		<b>11,024</b>	11,024

## LIMESTONE COAST LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

### Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2024

#### NOTE 7: Financial Instruments

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

#### Accounting Policies - Recognised Financial Instruments

<b>Bank, Deposits at Call, Short Term Deposits</b>	<p><b>Accounting Policy:</b> initially recognised at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost, interest is recognised when earned</p> <p><b>Terms &amp; conditions:</b> Deposits are returning interest rates between 4.3% and 4.55% (2023: 0.10% and 4.3%).</p> <p><b>Carrying amount:</b> approximates fair value due to the short term to maturity.</p>
<b>Receivables - Fees &amp; other charges</b>	<p><b>Accounting Policy:</b> initially recognised at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost. An impairment provision is recognised using the expected credit loss method</p> <p><b>Terms &amp; conditions:</b> Unsecured, and do not bear interest. Although the association is not materially exposed to any individual debtor, credit risk exposure</p> <p><b>Carrying amount:</b> approximates fair value (after deduction of any allowance).</p>
<b>Receivables - other levels of government</b>	<p><b>Accounting Policy:</b> initially recognised at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost. An impairment provision is recognised using the expected credit loss method.</p> <p><b>Terms &amp; conditions:</b> Amounts due have been calculated in accordance with the terms and conditions of the respective programs following advice of approvals, and do not bear interest. All amounts are due by Departments and Agencies of State and Federal Governments.</p> <p><b>Carrying amount:</b> approximates fair value.</p>
<b>Liabilities - Creditors and Accruals</b>	<p><b>Accounting Policy:</b> Liabilities are recognised for amounts to be paid in the future for goods and services received, whether or not billed to the Association.</p> <p><b>Terms &amp; conditions:</b> Liabilities are normally settled on 30 day terms.</p> <p><b>Carrying amount:</b> approximates fair value.</p>



## LIMESTONE COAST LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

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

for the year ended 30 June 2024

#### Note 7: Financial Instruments (Cont.)

##### Liquidity Analysis

2024	Due < 1 year	Due > 1 year ≤ 5 years	Due > 5 years	Total Contractual Cash Flows	Carrying Values
<b>Financial Assets</b>	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Cash & Equivalents	636,311	-	-	636,311	636,311
Receivables	9,201	-	-	9,201	9,201
<b>Total</b>	<b>645,512</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>645,512</b>	<b>645,512</b>
<b>Financial Liabilities</b>					
Payables	54,525	-	-	54,525	54,525
<b>Total</b>	<b>54,525</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>54,525</b>	<b>54,525</b>

2023	Due < 1 year	Due > 1 year < 5 years	Due > 5 years	Total Contractual Cash Flows	Carrying Values
<b>Financial Assets</b>	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Cash & Equivalents	779,029	-	-	779,029	779,029
Receivables	11,329	-	-	11,329	11,329
<b>Total</b>	<b>790,358</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>790,358</b>	<b>790,358</b>
<b>Financial Liabilities</b>					
Payables	41,583	-	-	41,583	41,583
<b>Total</b>	<b>41,583</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>41,583</b>	<b>41,583</b>

The following interest rates were applicable to Limestone Coast LGA at balance date:

	30 June 2024		30 June 2023	
	Weighted Average Interest Rate	Carrying Value	Weighted Average Interest Rate	Carrying Value
At Call	4.55	636,311	4.3	779,029
Term Deposits		-		-
		<b>636,311</b>		<b>779,029</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 Limestone Coast Local Government Association.

##### Risk Exposures:

Credit Risk represents the loss that would be recognised if counterparties fail to perform as contracted. The maximum credit risk on financial assets of the Association is the carrying amount, net of any impairment. Except as detailed in relation to individual classes of receivables, exposure is concentrated within the Limestone Coast LGA 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 Associations 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 Association will encounter difficulty in meeting obligations with financial liabilities. In accordance with the model Treasury Management Policy (LGA Information Paper 15), liabilities have a range of maturity dates.

Interest Rate Risk is the risk that future cash flows will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates. The Association has a balance of both fixed and variable interest rate investments.

## LIMESTONE COAST LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

### Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2024

#### NOTE 8: Uniform Presentation of Financial Statements

		2024	2023
	Notes	\$	\$
Operating Revenues		1,407,384	1,361,767
Operating Expenses		<u>(1,465,842)</u>	<u>(1,425,088)</u>
<b>Operating Surplus / (Deficit)</b>		<b>(58,458)</b>	<b>(63,321)</b>
<b>Less Net Outlays in Existing Assets</b>			
Capital Expenditure on renewal and replacement of Existing Assets		-	-
Add Back Depreciation Amortisation and Impairment		-	-
Proceeds from Sale of Replaced Assets		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
		-	-
<b>Less Net Outlays on New and Upgraded Assets</b>			
Capital Expenditure on New and Upgraded Assets		-	-
Amounts received specifically for New and Upgraded Assets		-	-
Proceeds from Sale of Surplus Assets		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
		-	-
<b>Annual net impact to financing activities (surplus / (deficit))</b>		<b><u>(58,458)</u></b>	<b><u>(63,321)</u></b>

# Limestone Coast Local Government Association

## Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2024

### Note 9 – Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets

At 30 June 2024, the Association is unaware of any liability, contingent or otherwise, which has not already been recorded elsewhere in the this financial report.

### Note 10 – Capital Commitments

At 30 June 2024, the Association is unaware of any capital or leasing commitments which have not already been recorded elsewhere in the this financial report.

### Note 11 – Events after the end of the reporting period

There were no events subsequent to 30 June 2024 that need to be disclosed in the financial statements.

### Note 12 – Economic Dependence

Limestone Coast Local Government Association is dependent on the Local Councils within its jurisdiction and other funding bodies for the majority of its revenue used to operate the business. At the date of this report, the Board believe that the Local Councils and other bodies will continue to fund the Association.

### Note 13 – Capital Management

The Board controls the capital of the entity to ensure that adequate cash flows are generated to fund its programs and that returns from investments are maximised within tolerable risk parameters. The Board ensure that the overall risk management strategy is in line with this objective. The Board operates under policies approved by the board. Risk management policies are approved and reviewed by the Board on a regular basis. These include credit risk policies and future cash flow requirements. The entity's capital consists of financial liabilities supported by financial assets. There has been no changes to the strategy adopted by the Board to control the capital of the entity since the previous financial year.

### Note 14 – Related Party Disclosure

The total remuneration paid to key management personnel of Limestone Coast Local Government Association Incorporated during the year was as follows;

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Short Term employee benefits inc allowances	169,689	186,771
Post Employment Benefits	15,875	9,007

Key management personnel above includes the executive and Board of Management.

The specific banding of key management personnel and Board of management from the Limestone Coast Local Government Association Incorporated during the year was as follows;

\$	2024	2023
Under \$50,000	1	1
\$50,000 to \$100,000	2	0
\$100,001 to \$150,000	0	0
\$150,001 to \$200,000	0	1

Other related parties includes close family members of key management personnel and entities that are controlled or jointly controlled by those key management personnel individually or collectively with their close family members.

# Limestone Coast Local Government Association

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements  
for the year ended 30 June 2024

## Note 14 – Related Party Disclosure (Cont.)

There were no transactions with other related parties apart from;

- A relative of a KMP is a participant in the Sports Academy.
- A relative of a KMP is employed by Naracoorte Lucindale Council.

Related Party Entity	Amounts received from Related Party during the Financial Year
	2024
	\$
City of Mount Gambier	265,278
District Council of Grant	124,371
Wattle Range Council	205,751
Naracoorte Lucindale Council	146,991
District Council of Robe	68,575
Tatiara District Council	115,379
Kingston District Council	61,511
TOTAL	987,856



**Limestone Coast Local Government Association  
Annual Financial Statements  
for the year ended 30 June 2024**

**CERTIFICATION OF AUDITOR INDEPENDENCE**

To the best of our knowledge and belief, we confirm that, for the purpose of the audit of Limestone Coast Local Government Association for the year ended 30 June 2024, the Association's Auditor, Dean Newbery, 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*.

*Deb Brokenshire*

.....  
Acting Executive Officer  
LC Local Government Association

*Lynette Martin*

.....  
Audit Committee Chairperson  
LC Local Government Association

*Lynette Martin*

.....  
President  
LC Local Government Association

*Darryl Whicker*

.....  
Chief Executive Officer  
District Council of Grant

*Sarah Philpott*

.....  
Chief Executive Officer  
City of Mount Gambier

*Ian Hart*

.....  
Chief Executive Officer  
Kingston District Council

*[Signature]*

.....  
Chief Executive Officer  
Naracoorte Lucindale Council

*Nat Traeger*

.....  
Chief Executive Officer  
District Council of Robe

*[Signature]*

.....  
Chief Executive Officer  
Tatiara District Council

*Ben Gower*

.....  
Chief Executive Officer  
Wattle Range Council

Date:  
14/9/24

The Limestone Coast Local Government Association (LCLGA) extends its sincere appreciation to its Constituent Councils, including the City of Mount Gambier, District Council of Grant, Kingston District Council, Naracoorte Lucindale Council, District Council of Robe, Tatiara District Council and Wattle Range Council, for their support and collaboration throughout the 2023-2024 period.

We also acknowledge the valuable contributions of the Board Members: President Mayor Lynette Martin (OAM) - City of Mount Gambier, Vice President Mayor Liz Goossens - Tatiara District Council, Mayor Kylie Boston - District Council of Grant, Mayor Jeff Pope - Kingston District Council, Mayor Patrick Ross - Naracoorte Lucindale Council, Mayor Lisa Ruffell - District Council of Robe and Mayor Des Noll - Wattle Range Council.

During the year, we saw significant changes, including the resignation of Mayor Des Noll from the Board in May 2024 and the subsequent withdrawal of Wattle Range Council's membership from LCLGA. Although their future absence is felt, we remain committed to our regional objectives and the continued collaboration with our remaining councils.

LCLGA also saw significant changes within its leadership throughout 2023- 2024 with Colin Byles servicing as Interim Executive Officer from July 2023 to December 2023, Adrian Maywald, appointed as Executive Officer from December 2023 to June 2024, and Deb Brokenshire, serving as Interim Executive Officer from June 2024 for a three-month term whilst the strategic direction of the LCLGA is reestablished.

Our appreciation is extended to the LCLGA staff members Tony Elletson, Connected & Active Communities Officer; Kate Napper, Destination Development Manager; Emma Herring, Destination Development Coordinator; Rhiannon Zammit, Limestone Coast Regional Sporting Academy Administrator (from November 2023); and Paul Manfrin, Corporate Services Officer who have shown resilience, ensuring stability and continuity of our operations during the leadership changes. Their efforts have been invaluable throughout this period of transition.

The LGA of SA and the Australian Local Government Association continue to provide support to LCLGA and its members, along with the contributions of SAROC members and LGA SA staff. Our strong working relationship with RDA board members and staff also remains a critical component in advancing the region's interests.

As we move forward, the LCLGA remains dedicated in its commitment to facilitating and coordinating regional initiatives, advocating on behalf of our member Councils, and driving the social, environmental and community development goals that may benefit our region. With a renewed focus on the strategic direction, the LCLGA is exploring new opportunities to enhance collaboration and deliver greater value to our Councils. This direction will bring new opportunities for growth, resilience and stronger community ties within the region, ensuring that the LCLGA continues to play a vital role in shaping and supporting the future of our region.

#### **Deb Brokenshire**

Interim Executive Officer

## 18.5 RAILWAY LANDS PLAYSPACE - CONCEPT DESIGN

Author: Hayley Rowe, Strategic Development and Recreation Coordinator

Authoriser: Barbara Cernovskis, General Manager City Infrastructure

### RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council report titled 'Railway Lands Playspace - Concept Design' as presented on Tuesday 19 November 2024 be noted.
2. That Council endorse the final concept design for the Railway Lands nature playspace and the second draft concept design for the youth activity hub.
3. That Council acknowledge progress will be dependent on attracting matched funding.

### PURPOSE

The final design for the Nature Playspace is presented for endorsement along with the second draft of the Youth Activity Hub. Further work is anticipated to be undertaken to finalise the Youth Activity Hub and skate park designs dependant on funding.

### SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS AND BENEFITS

#### Implications

- There is a community expectation for the timely delivery of this project. Once the concept plans are endorsed Council can continue to actively seek funding.
- Council has allocated funds in the existing budget for this project, however further funds will be required for the final design and delivery of the youth activity hub and skate park.

#### Benefits

- There is both significant community and tourism benefits associated with the delivery of the Railway Land Play Precinct including:
  - Increasing physical activity and social connection.
  - Regional standard play provision to attract visitors to the CBD.
  - Nature play to stimulate development and connection with the environment.
- The provision of playspaces across the city are aging and lack character/uniqueness. The Railway Lands nature playspace will be the first major custom playspace in the City and pave the way for a new era of play.

### BACKGROUND / OPTIONS

In 2022, Council undertook community consultation to gather ideas for a redevelopment of the nature play area at the site. More than 70 ideas were submitted, including comments and images of other examples of much-loved play spaces. These ideas played an important role in informing the tender scope for the development of the Play Precinct concept designs along with the actual concept designs.

#### Council Reporting

Council accepted an offer from the Mount Gambier Out of School Hours Care (OSHC) of approximately \$150,000 towards a play structure to be delivered in the Railway Lands at the Council meeting on 17 December 2019.

At its meeting held on 21 May 2024, Council resolved the following:

- “1. That Council Report No. AR24/30771 titled ‘Railway Lands Play Space - Learn to Ride Space’ as presented on 21 May 2024 be noted
2. That the concept plan of the Learn to Ride space as attached to this report AR24/30771 be referred to a council briefing before the June council meeting
3. That the Youth Space concept plan and Nature Play concept plan be referred to a future Council Meeting
4. That Council appropriately commemorates the contribution made by Mount Gambier Out of School Hours Care to the project.”

Subsequently, an Elected Member Information Briefing Session was held on Tuesday, 11 June 2024 to further discuss the next steps.

At the Council meeting held on 18 June 2024 the following recommendations were endorsed:

- That Council Report No. AR24/32732 titled Railway Lands – Learn to Ride, Nature Play and Youth Space – Community Consultation as presented on 18 June 2024 be noted
- That Council endorses the final concept plan of the Learn to Ride space as attached to this report AR24/30771 for delivery on the western railway platform at the Railway Lands
- That Council appropriately commemorates the contribution made by Mount Gambier Out of School Hours Care to the Learn to Ride project
- That community consultation commence on the draft concept plans for the Railway Lands - Nature Play and Youth Space, with community feedback being presented to a future Council meeting for final endorsement.

#### **Draft Concept Design Consultation**

The draft Play Precinct concept designs went out for community consultation from August to September 2024 using the following methods:

- Have Your Say Mt Gambier - online survey
- Email to key stakeholders (First Nations, SAPOL etc)
- Email to previous engagement participants
- Workshops with the Youth Advisory Group
- Workshops with students from local kindergartens and secondary schools
- Meeting with accessibility advocate.

#### **Nature Playspace - Consultation Outcomes**

Council received over 230 survey responses and over 930 visits to the Have Your Say page. The feedback analysis indicated that 82% of respondents agreed that the concept design for the nature playspace meet community needs. The key concerns highlighted included:

- Accessibility
- Water play
- Shade
- Lack of amenities (eg seating)
- Funding
- Lack of play options.

Following this the consultation feedback was provided to JPE Designs to review and provide suggestions to improve the areas of concern. Council Officers met with JPE Designs to discuss options and the following amendments were incorporated to improve the playspace.

<b>Feedback</b>	<b>Outcome</b>
-----------------	----------------





First Nations Wurla's	Incorporate wurla structures along the creek for storytelling and imaginative play.
Accessibility concerns	Increased number and revised seating design to include backs and arms, added roller slide and removed soft fall around seats.
Lack of fencing	Add planting and seating to create buffer between playspace and rail trail.
Lack of waterplay	Waterplay not added to the design due to significant engineering costs, look to schedule times to fill the creek and advertise to community.
Lack of shade	Shade sail added to design.

### Youth Activity Hub - Consultation Outcomes

There were 19 surveys completed on Have Your Say and four workshops held with young people, the provided valuable insights in regard to what our youth would like in their space. The key concerns highlighted through the feedback were:

- There being too many younger children in the space.
- The skate park not being included in the current stage of design.
- Funding.
- Lack of options for ball sports e.g. futsal and soccer.
- Vandalism.
- Lack of equipment for games.
- Lack of seating and shade.

In response to the above, the following items were incorporated into the second draft design:

Feedback	Outcome
Remove ping pong tables	Add multi-sport interactive wall/panels.
Remove hop scotch and painted board games	Add interactive light play equipment.
Lack of netball ring	Incorporate netball ring.
Lack of futsal/soccer space	Add multi-sport interactive wall/panels which include goals.

### Elected Member Feedback

At the Elected Member briefing held on 22 October 2024, the following items were raised and have been addressed in the following ways:

Feedback	Outcome
Example playspaces to follow up as inspiration	Details provided to consultants and relevant staff for information.
Installation of AFL goals	Determined that Railway Lands Play Precinct is not a suitable location for AFL goals. Play Strategy will reflect the need for certain equipment in playspaces across the City to ensure varied provision and accessibility.
Graffiti Wall concerns	Through youth engagement the intention is that the walls will be designed and delivered to promote ownership and pride from young people, and therefore prevent tagging and provide a dynamic space. The walls face north/south and will not block visibility from Bay Road. A process will also be developed for requests to paint the walls/when walls can be painted and communicated with users.



Funding attraction	Follow up the funding source of the new Onkaparinga Playground.
--------------------	---

### Costings and Funding approach

JPE Designs total estimated cost for the Railway Lands Play Precinct is \$3,899,000. The breakdown of costs are:

- Nature Playspace: total estimated cost of \$1,376,000.
- Youth Activity Hub: total estimated cost of \$2,523,000 (skate park not included in this estimation).

The 2024/2025 Council Budget outlines an allocation of \$500,000, which assumes \$250,000 in grant funding and includes the \$150,000 OSHC contribution. Part of these funds have been allocated to the design and delivery of the Railway Lands Learn to Ride Space which was opened on Friday 25 October 2024. The remaining funds will be used as a co-contribution for attracting further funding.

Council is actively seeking funds for the Railway Lands Play Precinct and will liaise with Regional Development Limestone Coast to determine the most appropriate funding strategy and whether funding can be sought for both the Nature Playspace and the Youth Activity Hub, or if there will need to be a staged approach to implementation.

### DETAILED IMPLICATIONS

<b>Legal</b>	There are no legal implications for this project
<b>Financial and Budget</b>	Funds have been allocated in the 2024/2025 Council budget, however significant external funds need to be sought to deliver the project. Additional Council funds may also be required for the final design and delivery of the youth activity hub and skate park in the future.
<b>Other Resources</b>	Council staff resource is required to write and submit funding applications for the project.

### RISK ANALYSIS

Consequence	Consequence Rating:	Risk Likelihood Rating:	Risk Rating	Risk Controls and effectiveness	Risk Mitigation Plan
<b>Finance</b>	Major (4)	Possible (3)	Moderate	Actively seek funding in collaboration with key stakeholders.	Develop and implement funding plan.
<b>Reputation</b>	Moderate (3)	Possible (3)	Moderate	Ongoing communication for progress updates.	Work with Media and Comms Team.
<b>Legal / Regulatory / Policy</b>	Minor (2)	Rare (1)	Low	N/A	N/A
<b>Service Delivery</b>	Minor (2)	Unlikely (2)	Low	N/A	N/A
<b>People</b>	Insignificant (1)	Rare (1)	Low	N/A	N/A
<b>Infrastructure</b>	Moderate (3)	Possible (3)	Low	Maintain current infrastructure.	Asset Management Plan.
<b>Environmental</b>	Minor (2)	Unlikely (2)	Low	N/A	N/A



### **APPLICATION OF MOUNT GAMBIER 2035**

The Railway Lands Play Precinct directly contributes to achieving our vision as outlined in Mount Gambier 2035 by supporting delivery across all five of strategic priority areas:

- Environment and Liveability
- Learning and Innovation
- Infrastructure and Services
- Economic and Business Growth
- A Vibrant Community.

### **APPLICATION OF STRATEGIC PLAN**

The project directly supports multiple goals outlined in the Strategic Plan 2020-2024. Specifically, it contributes to infrastructure development while managing current assets, enhances public spaces, safety and appeal, fosters year-round activation and placemaking in the CBD and enhances and promotes environmental experiences without compromising environmental values.

### **RELEVANT COUNCIL POLICY**

This project is in alignment with the Sport, Recreation and Open Space Strategy (SROSS) by ensuring accessible, safe, and inclusive open spaces throughout the community, incorporating universal design principles for all abilities and genders, and by considering local stories and culture through design and pride of place, and offering diverse play experiences for all ages. It also emphasises responsive and sustainable management practices for open spaces citywide.

The project also aligns with, and will actively contribute to achieving actions outlined in, Council's CBD Guiding Principles 2022, Disability Access and Inclusion Plan 2020-2024, Youth Engagement Strategy, Charter for Children and Reconciliation Action Plan.

### **IMPLEMENTATION, COMMUNICATION AND ENGAGEMENT**

Extensive community engagement has been undertaken for this project over the past two years, with over 1000 community members providing feedback over the course of the project. The designs for the Play Precinct directly reflect what has been requested from the community and will meet the current and future needs of children, youth and adults alike.

### **CONCLUSION**

The final design for the Nature Playspace is presented for endorsement along with the second draft of the Youth Activity Hub. Further work is anticipated to be undertaken to finalise the Youth Activity Hub and skate park designs dependant on funding.

Council is actively seeking external funding for the Play Precinct and will liaise with relevant stakeholders to ensure the best possible funding outcomes.

### **ATTACHMENTS**





# Railway Lands Play Precinct

Second Draft

Prepared by  
JPE Design Studio  
23125  
18.10.2024  
Revision - F



# Issue for Approval

**JPE Design Studio Pty Ltd**  
Architecture  
Interior Design  
Landscape Architecture  
Urban Design

Level 4, 19 Gilles Street  
Adelaide SA 5000

Tel 08 8406 4000  
Fax 08 8406 4007  
design@jpe.com.au  
www.jpe.com.au

ABN 97 007 776 249

Revision	Issue Date	Issued By
A_Draft	06.03.2024	LM
B_Draft	28.03.2024	LM
C_For Approval	13.05.2024	LM
D_For Approval	05.08.2024	LM
E_Second Draft	18.09.2024	LM
F_Second Draft Final	18.10.2024	LM

Issue for Approval 

## Contents

Section	Page
01 Precinct Analysis	04
02 Design Precedents	10
03 Concept Design	13
04 Materials	23

# 01

## Precinct Analysis

**Project Site Location**

Issue for Approval 



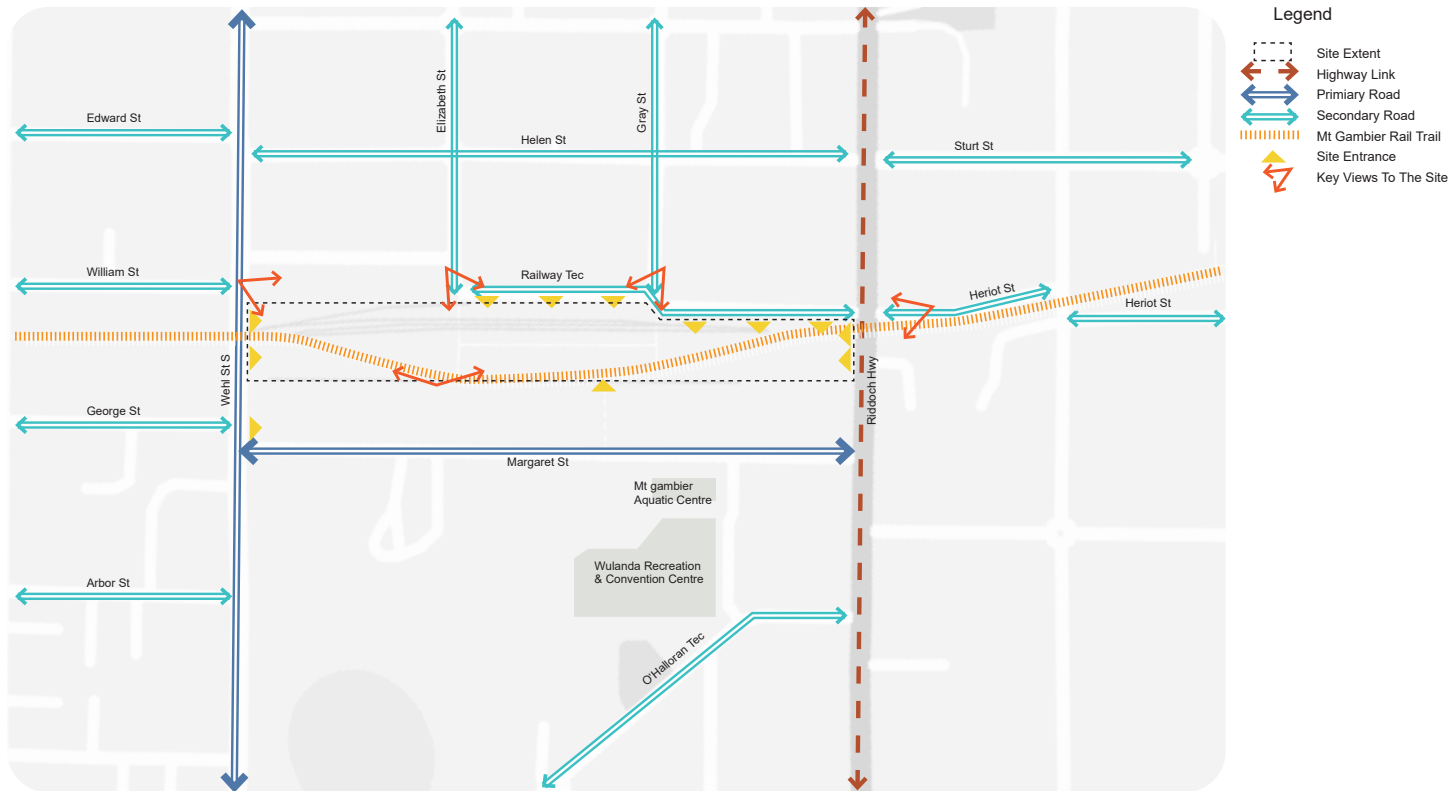
Design of Railway Lands Play Precinct | JPE Design Studio | 5.





**Project Site Analysis**

Issue for Approval 



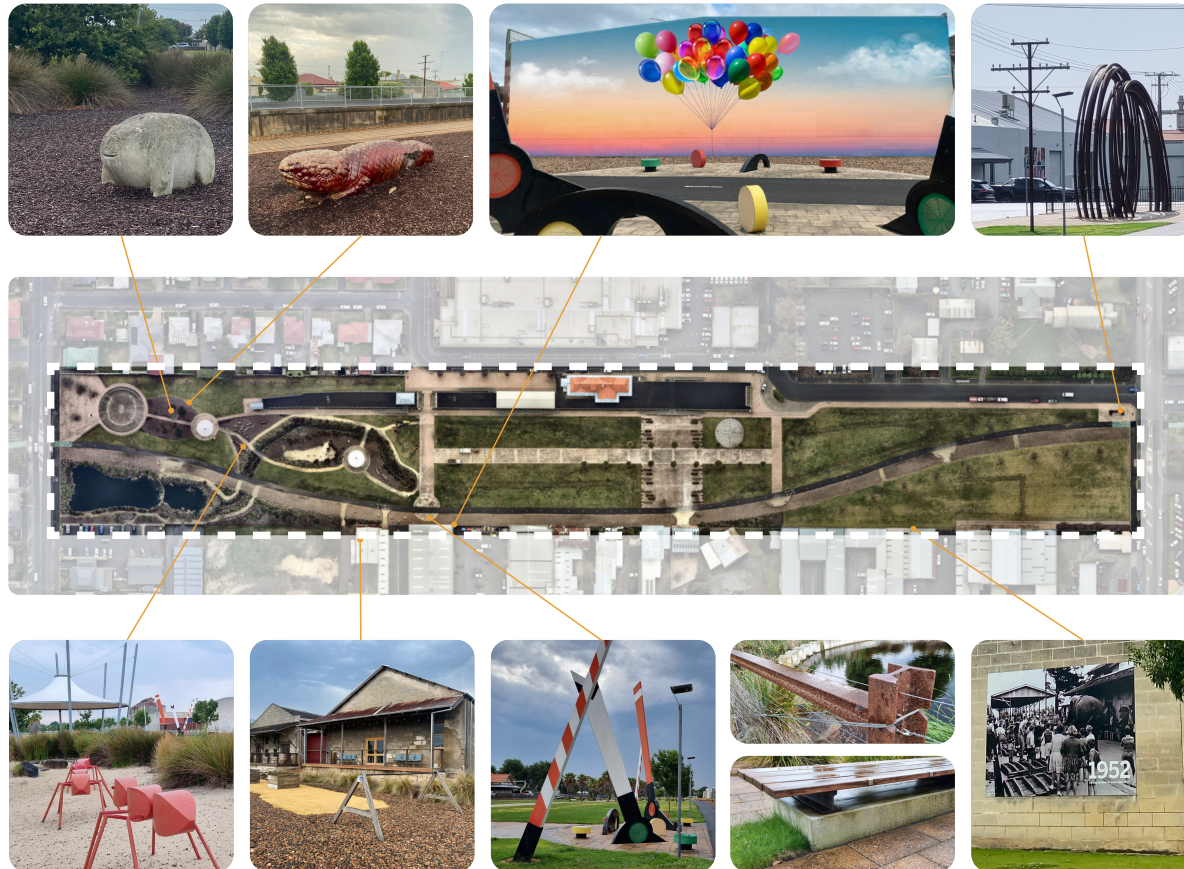
**Existing Condition - Landscape Character**

Issue for Approval 



**Existing Condition - Key Features and Artworks**

Issue for Approval 



Design of Railway Lands Play Precinct | JPE Design Studio | 8.



**Potential Play Features and Activity Hub Locations**

Issue for Approval 





# 02

## Precedents

**Nature Play and All-inclusive Play**

Issue for Approval 



Steel frame tower with recycled timber cladding



Suspended crossing over path



Teepee play



All inclusive percussion play



All inclusive percussion play



Steel frame flying fox



Rubber stepping logs



All inclusive seesaw



# Issue for Approval



Pump track



Hammock to provide resting moments



Parkour



Skating units



Paddle & charge bike



Basketball court



Gym trampoline



Graffiti / mural walls



Digital interactive sports, programmed to facilitate multiple sports. It is also friendly to wheelchair users



Digital interactive games

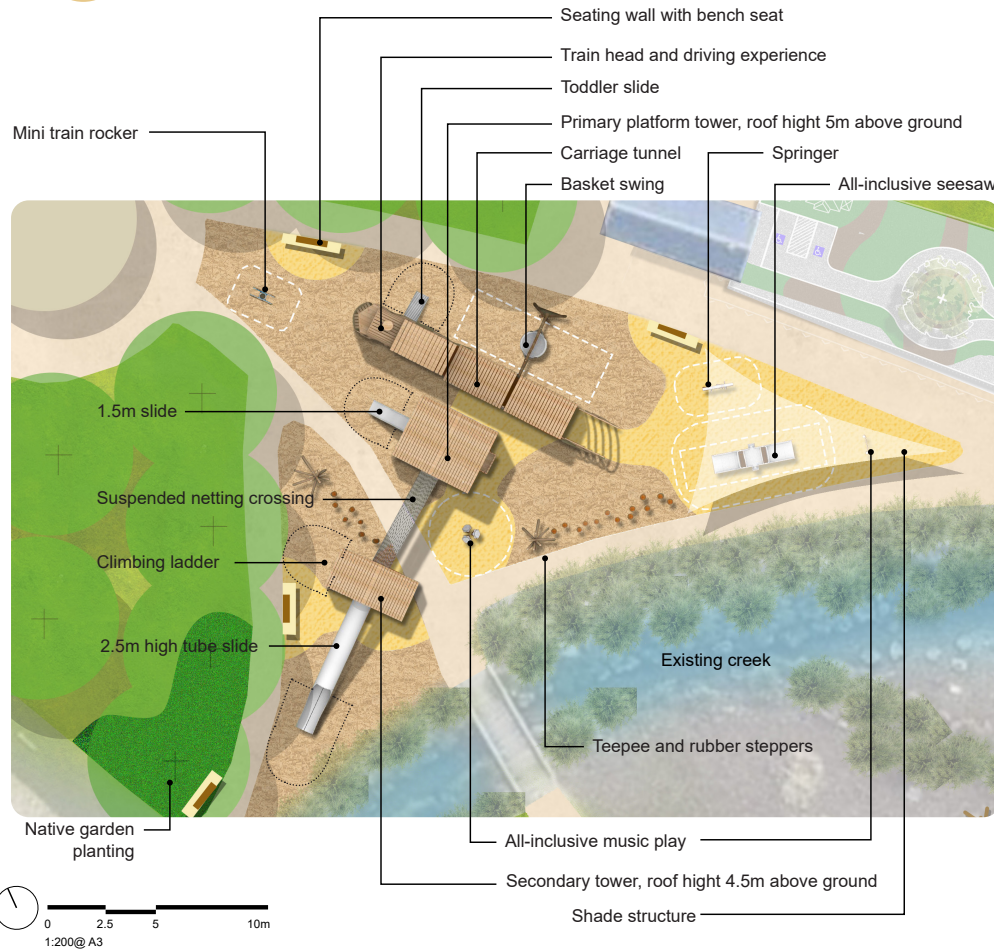
# 03

## Concept Design



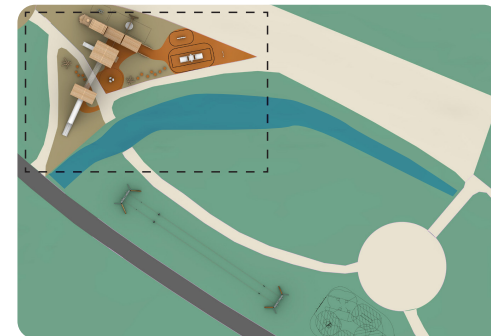


## Choo Choo Train - Nature Playground



## Issue for Approval

- Train and railway as the 'Hero' play elements
- Secondary elements include Mt Gambier's main industry (timber, dairy, beef, lamb, wool and rock lobster etc)
- Upper levels for adults and kids with brave souls.
- Ground level for younger kids and DDA accessible play



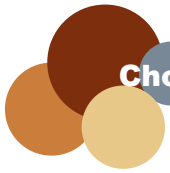
Key Plan | NTS

### Legend

 Rubber softfall /DDA compliant

 Clearance zone

Note:  
Existing lizard sculpture to be relocated to accommodate the proposed nature play structure



# Choo Choo Train - Nature Playground

Issue for Approval 



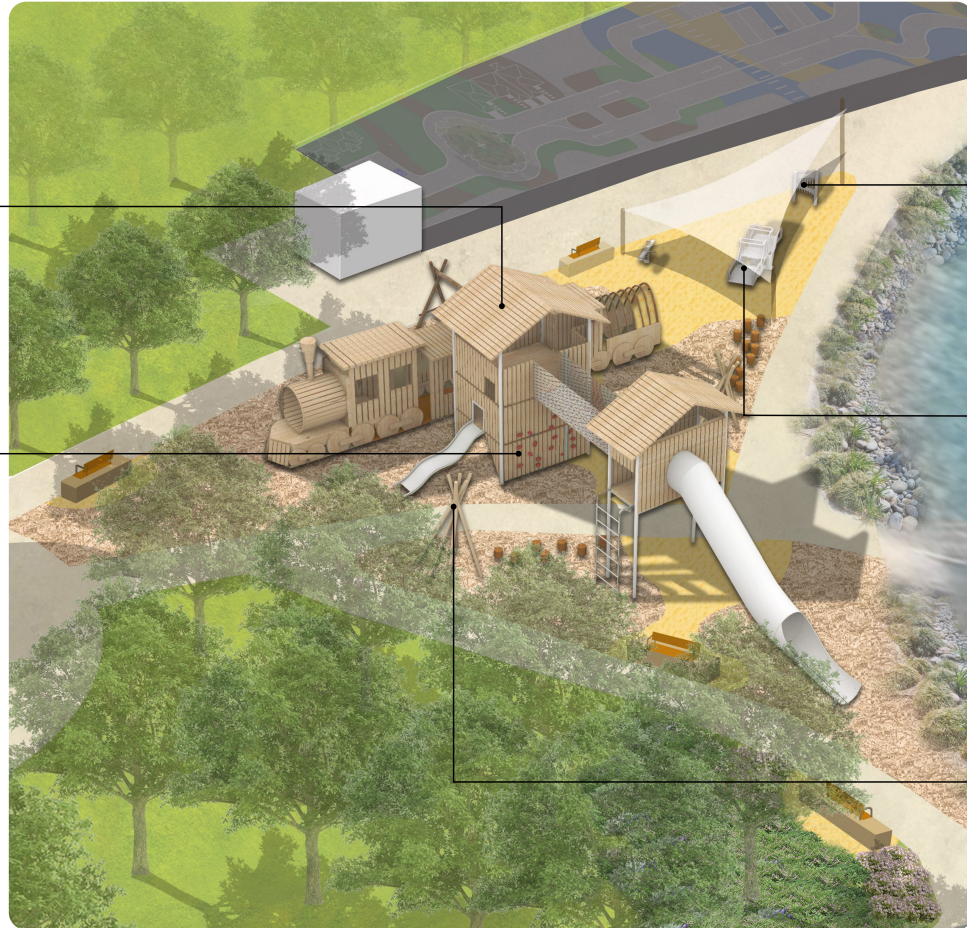
Platform climbing tower



Climbing wall



Key Plan | NTS



All-inclusive music play



All-inclusive sensory



Tepee structure

Design of Railway Lands Play Precinct | JPE Design Studio | 15.



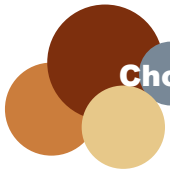
# Choo Choo Train - Nature Playground

Issue for Approval 



Design of Railway Lands Play Precinct | JPE Design Studio | 16.





## Choo Choo Train - Nature Playground

Issue for Approval 



Key Plan | NTS

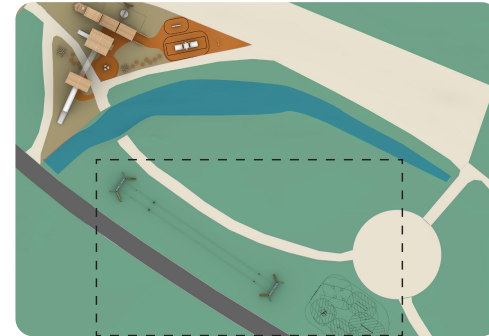


Design of Railway Lands Play Precinct | JPE Design Studio | 17.



# Flying Fox and Nijia Course

Issue for Approval 



Key Plan | NTS

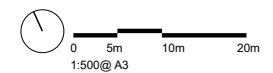
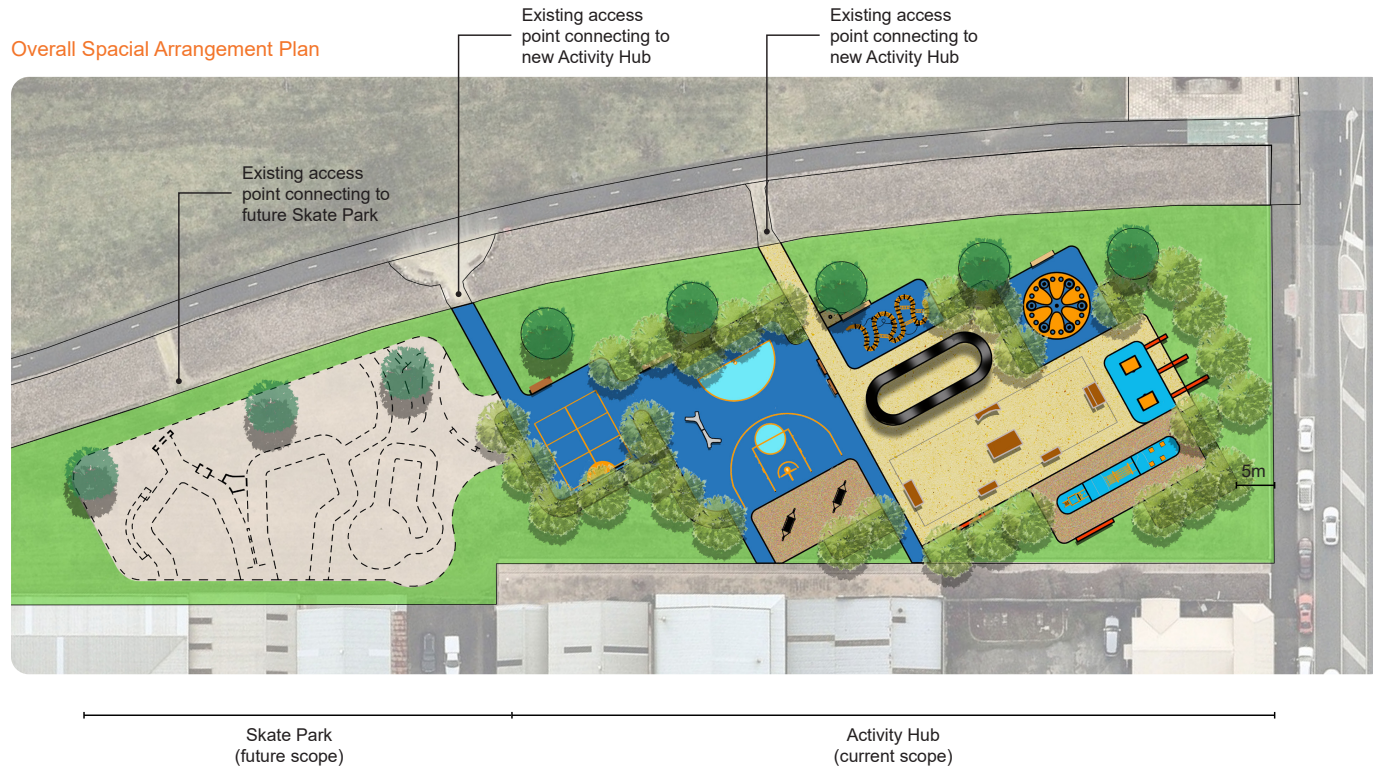
### Legend

..... Clearance zone

Note:  
Existing tree clashes with flying fox  
clearance zone, potentially to be re-  
located or removed



Issue for Approval 

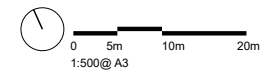
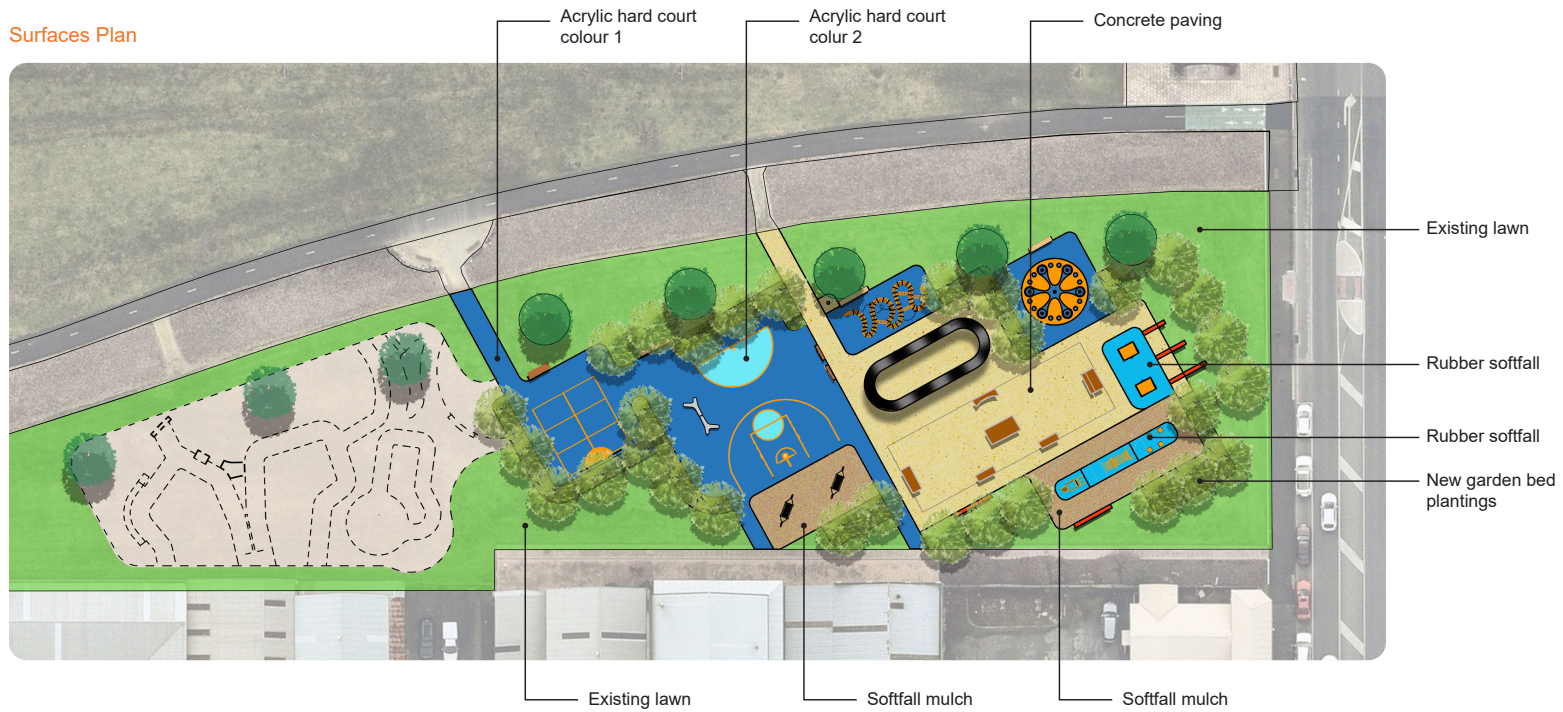






Issue for Approval 

Surfaces Plan



Design of Railway Lands Play Precinct | JPE Design Studio | 20.



# Issue for Approval

Play Equipment Arrangement Plan



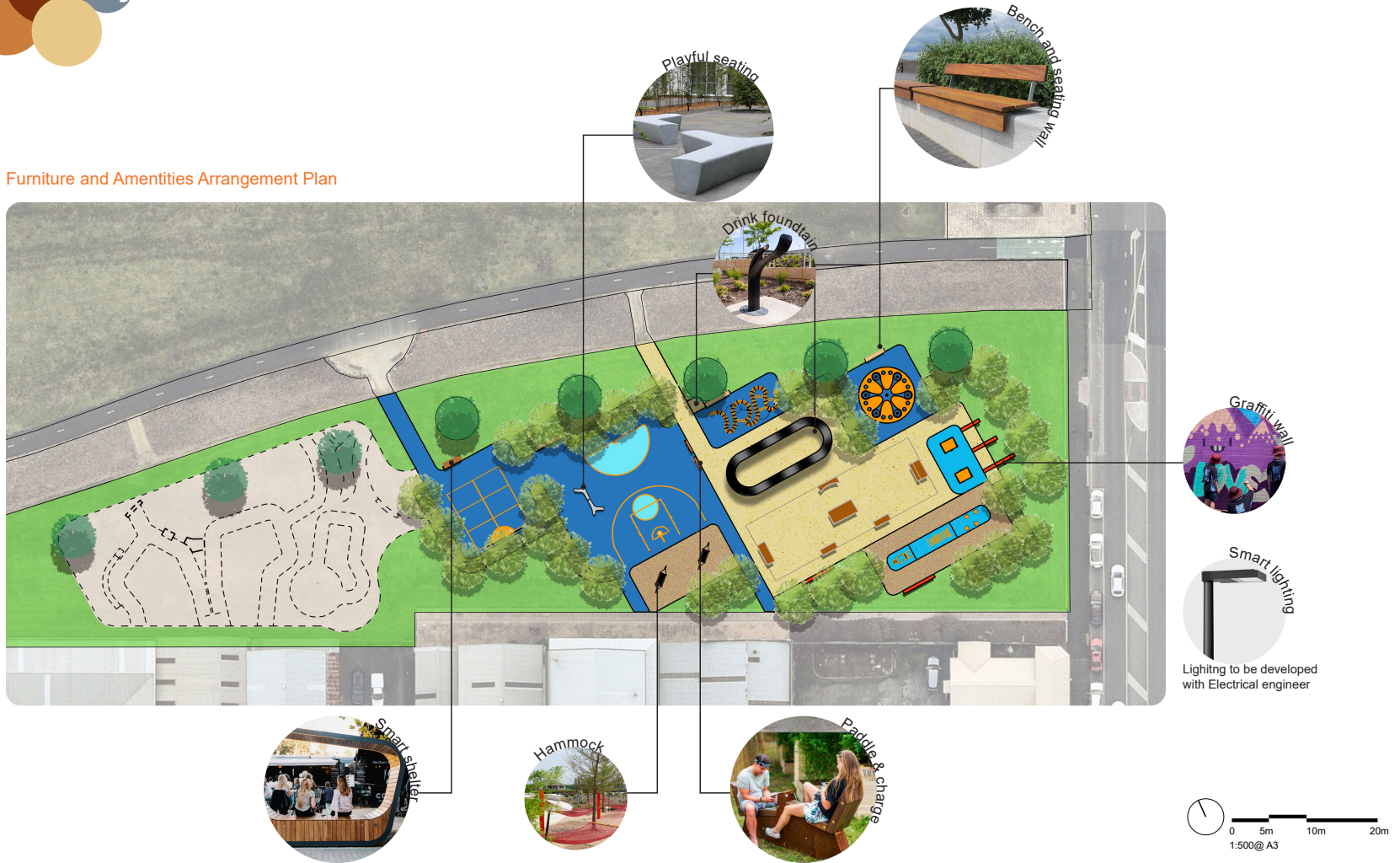
Design of Railway Lands Play Precinct | JPE Design Studio | 21.





# Issue for Approval

Furniture and Amenities Arrangement Plan



Design of Railway Lands Play Precinct | JPE Design Studio | 22.

# 04

## Materials & Selections

# Issue for Approval

## Proposed Materials

Surface



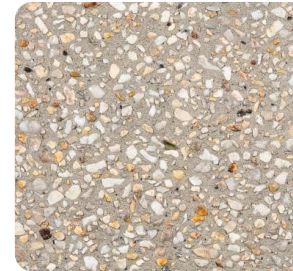
Rubber softfall with designed patterns



hard court acrylic surfaces with markings



Mulch softfall (existing and potential top up)



Semi honed concrete surface (activity hub area)

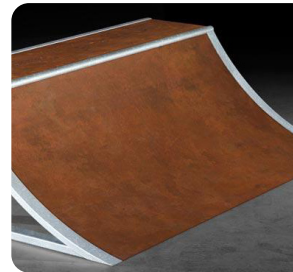
Play elements



Steel framing with recycled timber cladding



Steel framing with play ropes and nets



Corten steel and galvanised steel edge

Soft landscape



Additional planting where possible



Additional planting where possible

### Proposed Tree Planting

The palette references existing tree species on site. To enhance the sense of the four seasons. All species are hardy with low maintenance requirements.



*Quercus Robur*  
(English Oak)



*Zelkova serrata* 'Green vase'  
(Japanese Zelkova)



*Fraxinus angustifolia* 'Raywood'  
(Claret ash)



*Washingtonia* 'Robusta'  
(Cotton palm)



*Pyrus calleryana* 'Chanticleer'  
(Callery pear)



### Proposed Planting

The tree palette references 'Mount Gambier Rail Trail Native Plant List'. Highlighted species are important to the site as they have indigenous uses.



*Acacia myrtilifolia*



*Acacia pycnantha*



*Apium prostratum*



*Arthropodium strictum*



*Banksia marginata*



*Burchardia umbellata*



*Carpobrotus rossii*



*Gahnia trifida*



*Indigofera australis*



*Kennedia prostrata*



*Kunzea pomifera*



*Leptospermum continentale*



*Leptospermum myrsinoides*



*Lomandra longifolia*



*Melaleuca squarrosa*



*Microseris lanceolata*



*Olearia pannosa*



*Olearia ramulosa*



*Ptilotus macrocephalus*



*Xanthorrhoea australis*



*Xanthorrhoea minor*



**JPE Design Studio**

Architecture | Interior Design | Landscape Architecture | Urban Design

[www.jpe.com.au](http://www.jpe.com.au)

(08) 8406 4000

Level 4/19 Gilles Street,  
Adelaide SA 5000

## 18.6 COMMUNITY LAND REVOCATION PROPOSAL - JUBILEE HIGHWAY WEST, SUTTONTOWN

Author: Brittany Shelton, Manager Governance and Property  
Authoriser: Jane Fetherstonhaugh, General Manager Corporate and Regulatory Services

### RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council report titled 'Community Land Revocation Proposal - Jubilee Highway West, Suttontown' as presented on Tuesday 19 November 2024 be noted.
2. That Council hereby endorses community consultation on the Community Land Revocation Proposal Report for the parcel of land identified as Allotment 212 in Deposited Plan 125742, Jubilee Highway West, Suttontown in accordance with section 194 of the Local Government Act 1999.

### PURPOSE

To seek Council's endorsement to proceed with the Community Land revocation proposal outlined in the attached report, following relevant public consultation and requirements in accordance with section 194 of the Local Government Act 1999 (the LG Act).

### SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS AND BENEFITS

#### Implications

- In the event the process / form requirements prescribed under section 194 of the Act are not met, the revocation of community land classification may be invalid.
- Adequate community engagement in the revocation process is critical to ensure that service / communication level expectations are met.

#### Benefits

- Cost efficiency gains (and resource efficiency) as a result of structured approach to land management with respect to fees, maintenance and capital renewals.
- Consistent and transparent approach, improving the trust and accountability of Council in the community (fairness and parity, stakeholder relationships).
- Robust governance framework around community land, ensuring all legislative obligations are consistently met.
- Strategic approach taken to maximise use / investment in community facilities, as a result of resourcing gains acquired and clear 'vision'.

### BACKGROUND / OPTIONS

Council has received the **attached** request from Frank Brennan Consulting Services on behalf of Steeline Mount Gambier to revoke the community land classification over a parcel located at Allotment 212, Deposited Plan 125742, Jubilee Highway West, Suttontown in accordance with section 194 of the LG Act.

Steeline are the owners of the adjoining parcels located at Lots 209-211 Fraser Court, Suttontown. The community land (screening reserve) was originally put in place to prevent access to these parcels directly onto Jubilee Highway West, on the recommendation of the Department for Infrastructure and Transport (DIT).

Since that time, Steeline has sought approval from DIT for an exit-only driveway, requiring a right of access over the subject land, as part of a Development Application (DA 24020843).



DIT have provided the **attached** 'in-principle' support for the proposal. In order to facilitate such development, the community land classification over the adjoining screening reserve would need to be revoked.

Due to the nature of the block (unusual shape and location) it is not a site which is utilised by the community (as is typically the case for community land) and therefore the impact to the community of revoking such classification is considered to be negligible. The **attached** Community Land Revocation Proposal Report detailing the proposal, along with a recommendation to proceed to the requisite community consultation in accordance with section 194 of the Act, is presented for Council's consideration. It is noted that this report deals with the community land revocation proposal only, and does not deal with matters relating to planning, business operations of Steeline at the site, or traffic impact of the development.

### Community Land

Community Land as a concept was introduced with the LG Act "to create a system which protects the interests of the community in the land, for which the Councils are custodians, for current and future generations and builds community consensus about the future management and use of such land". Community land is land to be "retained and managed for the benefit of the community".

### Council Land & Crown Land

Councils own land and are also the custodians of land. Councils as the owners and custodians of land may use that land consistently with the rights that attach to owning or being a custodian of land. The LG Act and the Crown Land Management Act 2009 (CLM Act) then place parameters or restrictions on those rights. Pursuant to section 193 of the LG Act any land which is owned by a Council or under a Council's care, control and management is taken to be classified as Community Land unless the Council resolved to exclude it within three (3) years after the commencement date of the Act.

The Community Land Revocation Proposal Report outlines the relevant considerations, process and any impediments to revoking the Community Land status of the identified parcel. The process is highly prescriptive and set out under section 194 of the LG Act, refer extract below.

#### *194—Revocation of classification of land as community land*

##### *2. Before a council revokes the classification of land as community land—*

- a. the council must prepare and make publicly available a report on the proposal containing—*
  - i. a summary of the reasons for the proposal; and*
  - ii. a statement of any dedication, reservation or trust to which the land is subject;*  
*and*
  - iii. a statement of whether revocation of the classification is proposed with a view to sale or disposal of the land and, if so, details of any Government assistance given to acquire the land and a statement of how the council proposes to use the proceeds; and*
  - iv. an assessment of how implementation of the proposal would affect the area and the local community; and*
  - v. if the council is not the owner of the land—a statement of any requirements made by the owner of the land as a condition of approving the proposed revocation of the classification; and*
- b. the council must follow the relevant steps set out in its public consultation policy.*

##### *3. After complying with the requirements of subsection (2), the council—*

- a. must submit the proposal with a report on all submissions made on it as part of the public consultation process to the Minister; and*





*b. if the Minister approves the proposal—  
may make a resolution revoking the classification of the land as community land.*

### DETAILED IMPLICATIONS

<b>Legal</b>	ss 193 – 207 of the Local Government Act 1999 (the Act) deal with the establishment, management and revocation of Community Land. Due to the nature of the interest Councils held in community land (somewhat fiduciary in nature, being held specifically for the benefit of the community) there are stringent requirements around how councils must manage such interests. The process to revoke a community land classification is prescriptive and robust, reflecting the nature of Council's responsibility.
<b>Financial and Budget</b>	N/A
<b>Other Resources</b>	The ad-hoc revocation of community land to facilitate / accommodate unsolicited proposal from the community does have a minor impact to regular resourcing, including the need for additional staff time and community consultation, however such 'peaks' in resource demand are unavoidable to deal with such issues in a timely manner.

### RISK ANALYSIS

Consequence	Consequence Rating:	Risk Likelihood Rating:	Risk Rating	Risk Controls and effectiveness	Risk Mitigation Plan
<b>Finance</b>	Insignificant (1)	Rare (1)	Low	Strategic Property Management Project will consider Council's land holdings holistically, to maximise resource efficiency / deal with surplus land, budget allocation for this process to account for external consultants / engagement requirements	Residual risk within tolerance, no additional treatments recommended
<b>Reputation</b>	Moderate (3)	Unlikely (2)	Moderate	Robust and considered community engagement strategy, with key stakeholders, broader community and internally	Input from key subject-matter experts as required
<b>Legal / Regulatory / Policy</b>	Major (4)	Unlikely (2)	Moderate	Strategic Property Management	Allocation of appropriate amount of



				Project Plan with oversight from project team / lead, engagement of subject matter experts as right (e.g. legal, Crown land, SANTS etc)	internal resourcing to reflect complexity of project / interconnected workstreams
<b>Service Delivery</b>	Insignificant (1)	Rare (1)	Low	Robust and considered community engagement strategy, with key stakeholders, broader community and internally	Allocation of appropriate amount of internal resourcing to reflect complexity of project / interconnected workstreams
<b>People</b>	Insignificant (1)	Unlikely (2)	Low	Allocation of appropriate amount of internal resourcing to reflect complexity of project / interconnected workstreams, engagement of subject matter experts as right (e.g. legal, Crown land, SANTS etc)	Residual risk within tolerance, no additional treatments recommended
<b>Infrastructure</b>	Insignificant (1)	Rare (1)	Low	Allocation of appropriate amount of internal resourcing to reflect complexity of project / interconnected workstreams, engagement of subject matter experts as right (e.g. legal, Crown land, SANTS etc), budget allocation for this process to	Residual risk within tolerance, no additional treatments recommended



				account for external consultants / engagement requirements	
<b>Environmental</b>	Minor (2)	Rare (1)	Low	Engagement of subject matter experts as right (e.g. legal, Crown land, SANTS etc), strategic / master planning to inform desired objectives / targets for community land	Residual risk within risk tolerance, no additional treatments recommended

**APPLICATION OF MOUNT GAMBIER 2035**

N/A

**APPLICATION OF STRATEGIC PLAN**

**Goal 5 Our Commitment**

5 Our Commitment

**RELEVANT COUNCIL POLICY**

N/A

**IMPLEMENTATION, COMMUNICATION AND ENGAGEMENT**

The Community Land Revocation Proposal Report will form the basis for the community consultation. The below consultation strategy is recommended, which meets both legislated and policy requirements:

- Information & receipt of submissions on website – public notice and feedback via YourSay
- Notice in local paper – Media Release
- Social media campaign
- Letters to identified stakeholders
- Notice in the Government Gazette
- Documents available at Principal Office (Civic Centre)
- Minimum 21 days’ notice to receive submissions – consultation will be open from 20 November 2024 until 11 December 2024

Following consideration of submissions, the Council can either discontinue the revocation process or proceed to make an application to the Minister for Local Government for approval to revoke the community land classification applying to the land. If the Council elects to proceed with the revocation, all public submissions received by Council will be forwarded to the Minister for consideration as part of the formal application.

**CONCLUSION**



Council is now presented with a Community Land Revocation Proposal Report which shall form the basis of the requisite community consultation. The Council will then be required to consider any feedback received and determine whether to proceed with making application to the Minister for Local Government, or abandon the revocation process.

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

1. Community Land Revocation Proposal Report - Jubilee Hwy W, Suttontown [**18.6.1** - 13 pages]
2. FBCS Steeline Community Land Revocation Proposal 231024 [**18.6.2** - 2 pages]
3. FBCS DIT in-principle support for Jubilee Highway egress 301024 [**18.6.3** - 1 page]







# **PROPOSAL FOR THE REVOCATION OF COMMUNITY LAND CLASSIFICATION**

**Community Land – Screening Reserve  
(Allotment 212 in Deposited Plan 125742, Jubilee Highway West,  
Suttontown)**

# **CONSULTATION REPORT**

## 1. Introduction

This consultation report has been prepared to provide information to the public in relation to the City of Mount Gambier's (**Council**) proposal to revoke the community land classification that presently applies to the Council land described as Allotment 212 in Deposited Plan 125742, Jubilee Highway West, Suttontown (the **subject land**). The subject land is located immediately adjacent to Allotment 211 in Deposited Plan 128081 which is owned freehold by Steeline Mount Gambier (the Applicant), please refer to plan delineating the location of the subject land on page 4 of this report.

The *Local Government Act 1999* (SA)(**LG Act**) came into effect on 1 January 2000 and at that time all land, other than roads, owned or held under the care, control and management of the Council was classified as community land. This classification affects the way in which the Council can manage, use and deal with the land. The classification does not affect the ownership, tenure, development or zoning of the land. However, as long as the land is classified as community land, it cannot be sold or disposed of without meeting certain requirements, and following the process prescribed in the LG Act.

Should the Council resolve to dispose of a parcel of community land, ordinarily it must first revoke the community land classification applying to the land. Section 194 of the LG Act outlines the process that the Council must undertake to revoke the community land classification, including community consultation requirements. It is this report which forms the basis of the Council's consultation with the community and ensures that the community has an opportunity to consider and comment on the proposed revocation.

Council has identified the subject land to be surplus to its requirements and seeks to dispose of the land accordingly. The Council is seeking to facilitate a private sale of the subject land. To enable Council to progress this proposal, it has been determined to commence the community land revocation process and to seek community feedback on the within proposal.

## 2. Section 194(2) of the *Local Government Act 1999*

In accordance with Section 194(2) of the LG Act (extract below), Council must prepare and make publicly available a report on any proposal to revoke a community land classification applying to land, which must include:

- i. a summary of the reasons for the proposal;
- ii. a statement of any dedication, reservation or trust to which the land is subject;
- iii. a statement of whether revocation of the classification is proposed with a view to sale or disposal of the land;
- iv. an assessment of how implementation of the proposal would affect the area and the local community; and
- v. if the council is not the owner of the land—a statement of any requirements made by the owner of the land as a condition of approving the proposed revocation of the classification.

The Council must then follow the relevant steps set out in its public consultation policy in relation to the proposal.

After complying with the requirements of the LG Act, Council:

- (a) must submit the proposal with a report on all submissions made on it as part of the public consultation process to the Minister responsible for the administration of the LG Act; and
- (b) if the Minister approves the proposal, Council may make a resolution revoking the classification of the land as community land.

Following the public consultation process, all written submissions received during the consultation timeframe will form part of a report to the Council and subsequently the Minister for Local Government (**Minister**), applying for ministerial approval to revoke the classification of community land, as part of the legislative requirement.

In the event approval is granted by the Minister, Council may then resolve to revoke the classification of community land over the subject land.

### ***Local Government Act 1999***

194—Revocation of classification of land as community land

2. Before a council revokes the classification of land as community land—
  - a. the council must prepare and make publicly available a report on the proposal containing—
    - i. a summary of the reasons for the proposal; and
    - ii. a statement of any dedication, reservation or trust to which the land is subject; and
    - iii. a statement of whether revocation of the classification is proposed with a view to sale or disposal of the land and, if so, details of any Government assistance given to acquire the land and a statement of how the council proposes to use the proceeds; and
    - iv. an assessment of how implementation of the proposal would affect the area and the local community; and
    - v. if the council is not the owner of the land—a statement of any requirements made by the owner of the land as a condition of approving the proposed revocation of the classification; and
  - b. the council must follow the relevant steps set out in its public consultation policy.
3. After complying with the requirements of subsection (2), the council—
  - a. must submit the proposal with a report on all submissions made on it as part of the public consultation process to the Minister; and
  - b. if the Minister approves the proposal—may make a resolution revoking the classification of the land as community land.

### 3. Subject Land

The subject land incorporates one parcel of screening reserve and is described as Allotment 212 in Deposited Plan 125742, Jubilee Highway West, Suttontown, contained in Certificate of Title Volume 6250 Folio 283.

Council is the owner of the land, freehold. There are no known trusts, dedications or restrictions over the land. The subject land has a total area of approximately 12 square meters.

The following maps delineate the location of the subject land (area outlined in orange) and following the map is a copy of the Certificate of Title and Deposited Plan.

#### ***Maps showing the location of the Subject Land***


The subject land is delineated in orange on the below map, with the Applicant's adjoining land parcels indicated in green.






**Certificates of Title**

Certificate of Title Volume 6250 Folio 283




REAL PROPERTY ACT, 1986



Perth, Australia

The Registrar-General certifies that this Title Register Search displays the records maintained in the Register Book and other notations at the time of searching.



Product Register Search (CT 6250283)  
Date/Time 05/11/2024 03:06PM  
Customer Reference  
Order ID 20241105007514

---

**Certificate of Title - Volume 6250 Folio 283**

Parent Title(s) CT 6020/758  
Creating Dealing(s) RTC 13434522  
Title issued 05/02/2021 Edition 1 Edition issued 05/02/2021

**Estate Type**  
FEE SIMPLE (RESERVE)

**Registered Proprietor**  
CITY OF MOUNT GAMBIER  
OF PO BOX 56 MOUNT GAMBIER SA 5290

**Description of Land**  
ALLOTMENT (RESERVE) 212 DEPOSITED PLAN 125742  
IN THE AREA NAMED SUTTONTOWN  
HUNDRED OF BLANCHE

**Easements**  
SUBJECT TO SERVICE EASEMENT(S) OVER THE LAND MARKED A ON D125742 FOR SEWERAGE PURPOSES TO SOUTH AUSTRALIAN WATER CORPORATION (223LG RPA)

**Schedule of Dealings**  
NIL

**Notations**

Dealings Affecting Title	NIL
Priority Notices	NIL
Registrar-General's Notes	NIL
Administrative Interests	NIL

---

Land Services SA Page 1 of 1  
Copyright: www.landservices.com.au/copyright | Privacy: www.landservices.com.au/privacy | Terms of Use: www.landservices.com.au/alle/terms-of-use



Product  
Date/Time  
Customer Reference  
Order ID

Historical Search  
05/11/2024 03:08PM  
20241105007514

---


### Certificate of Title

Title Reference: CT 6250/283  
Status: CURRENT  
Parent Title(s): CT 6020/758  
Dealing(s) Creating Title: RTC 13434522  
Title Issued: 05/02/2021  
Edition: 1

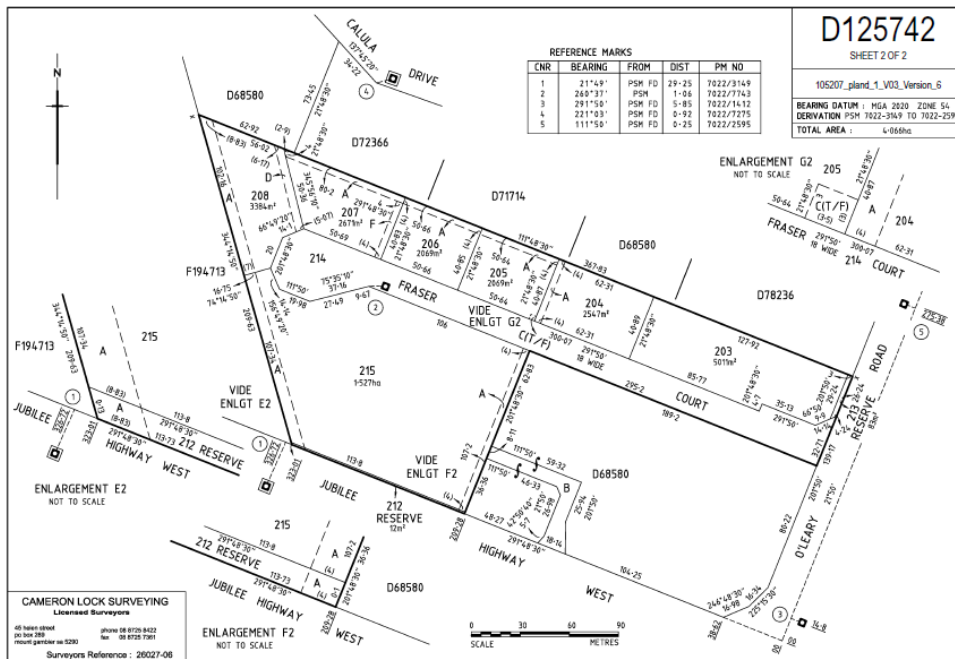
### Dealings

No lodged Dealings found.

Allotment 212, Deposited Plan 125742

PURPOSE:	DIVISION	AREA NAME:	SUTTONTOWN	RE-APPROVED:	06/01/2021				
MAP REF:	7022/33F, 7022/33G, 7022/33B, 7022/33C	COUNCIL:	CITY OF MOUNT GAMBIER	DEPOSITED:	27/01/2021				
LAST PLAN:	D68580	DEVELOPMENT NO:	381D006/1700181081	 <b>D125742</b> SHEET 1 OF 2 <small>105207_bnd_01_v06_Version_6</small>					
AGENT DETAILS:	CAMERON LOCK UNIT TRUST 45 HELEN ST MOUNT GAMBIER SA 5290 PH: 87258422 FAX: 87257361		SURVEYORS CERTIFICATION:	I CRAIG JAMES LOCK, a licensed surveyor do hereby certify - 1) That this plan has been made from surveys carried out by another licensed surveyor under my personal supervision and correctly prepared in accordance with the Survey Act 1992. 2) That the field work was completed on the 10th day of October 2020 (excepting for the final placement of survey marks on the day of January 2021) Craig James Lock Licensed Surveyor					
AGENT CODE:	CLUT	REFERENCE:	26027-06						
SUBJECT TITLE DETAILS:									
PREFIX	VOLUME	FOLIO	OTHER	PARCEL	NUMBER	PLAN	NUMBER HUNDRED / IA / DIVISION	TOWN	REFERENCE NUMBER
CT	6020	758		ALLOTMENT(S)	3	D	6850	BLANCHE	SECTION 309
OTHER TITLES AFFECTED: CT 6020/757									
EASEMENT DETAILS:									
STATUS	LAND BURDENED	FORM	CATEGORY	IDENTIFIER	PURPOSE	IN FAVOUR OF	CREATION		
EXTINGUISH	CT 6020/758	LONG	EASEMENT(S)	E IN F50294		CT 6020/757	TG 10923407		
EXTINGUISH	CT 6122/678	LONG	RIGHT(S) OF WAY	B		203-206			
EXTINGUISH	214(FRASER COURT)	SERVICE	EASEMENT(S)	A	FOR SEWERAGE PURPOSES	SOUTH AUSTRALIAN WATER CORPORATION	223LG RPA		
EXISTING	204-206, 212(RESERVE), 215	SERVICE	EASEMENT(S)	A	FOR SEWERAGE PURPOSES	SOUTH AUSTRALIAN WATER CORPORATION	223LG RPA		
EXISTING		LONG	RIGHT(S) OF WAY	B		215	TG 10910944		
NEW	205	SERVICE	EASEMENT(S)	CT(F)	FOR ELECTRICITY SUPPLY PURPOSES	DISTRIBUTION LESSOR CORPORATION (SUBJECT TO LEASE 8890000)	223LG RPA		
NEW	206	SERVICE	EASEMENT(S)	D	FOR DRAINAGE PURPOSES	THE COUNCIL FOR THE AREA	223LG RPA		
NEW	207	SERVICE	EASEMENT(S)	F	FOR SEWERAGE PURPOSES	SOUTH AUSTRALIAN WATER CORPORATION	223LG RPA		
ANNOTATIONS:									

1 of 2



#### 4. The Proposal

The Council proposes to revoke the community land classification applicable to the subject land which consists of screening reserve. In summary, the Council's reasons for this proposal are:

- The subject land is surplus to the Council's requirements.
- The subject land is currently used as screening reserve, to prevent access or egress to the adjoining parcels via Jubilee Highway West, in accordance with Department for Infrastructure and Transport (DIT) traffic management requirements. The Applicant has sought the approval of DIT to allow access or egress from the adjoining parcels onto Jubilee Highway (exit only) as part a development application (DA 24020843). Extensive assessment and negotiations were undertaken between the Applicant, DIT and traffic engineers regarding the design proposal for an exit only driveway from the site onto Jubilee Highway West. The Applicant intends to utilise the adjoining site for business enterprise and specifically the fabrication of metal products, storage, sales and associated product display area, advertising signage, carparking, landscaping and mesh security fencing. The intended use requires one-way access or egress for large vehicles, which could not be supported by the current access arrangements for the site. The Development Application is a separate matter, which is current under assessment and will require separate and distinct stages, including public notification and referral to the Commissioner of Highways\*. Council are supportive of granting the right of way requested, which requires the within revocation process to be formalised.
- The nature of the subject land, being a narrow strip of land bordered by private land and Jubilee Highway West, is such that it is difficult for use by the community. It appears as though the classification of Community Land has been used a toll by which to prevent access or egress to the adjoining private land parcels, which is not a use which is envisaged by the LG Act, and also no longer relevant given the 'in-principle' support of DIT to establish an exit-only driveway over the subject land. For this reason Council consider the impact to the community of disposing of the subject land would be negligible, from a Community Land perspective.
- The current access or egress to the Applicant's land parcels is unsustainable for the proposed use under the DA, potentially causing a risk for staff, users of the site and other road-users broadly in the area. This proposal would improve visibility, access or egress to the site and safety of staff and other road users by establishing a properly developed traffic flow for heavy vehicles. If the Relevant Authority imposes any condition relating to improved access or egress on any development approval, it would be non-sensical for Council to effectively prevent compliance with such a condition.
- Council has received an Expression of Interest (EOI) from Steeline Mount Gambier for a right of access over the subject land, in order to facilitate the exit only driveway, to support their intended business operation development. Council considers there is strategic value in supporting the expansion of key industry in our area.

The proposal as outlined above, if successful, would provide allow the opportunity for Steeline Mount Gambier to utilise the land for access or egress, and remove the need for Council to expend resources on its maintenance.

*\*NB: the Development Application, planning implications, traffic impact, assessment, consultation / public notice and other such considerations are not contemplated in this report.*



**5. Dedications, reservations or trusts affecting the Subject Land**

Council is the owner of the subject land, free hold. There are no known trusts, dedications or restrictions over the land.

The subject land is classified as Community Land under the provisions of the *Local Government Act, 1999* and in particular Section 193(4a).

**6. Is the revocation of the community land classification proposed with a view to sale or disposal of the Subject Land?**

If the community land classification applying to the subject land is revoked, the Council proposes to:

- Retain the parcel of land, free hold, as excluded community land.
- Advise the Minister that the revocation was undertaken to support and facilitate the subject land being utilised by Steeline Mount Gambier create a right of access to facilitate an exit-only driveway onto Jubilee Highway West from the adjoining parcels, to support their business operation development, subject to any necessary development approval.

The Council would not receive any proceeds from such a transaction. Steeline Mount Gambier would be required to bear any costs incidental to the transaction.

No Government assistance was given to the Council to acquire the subject land.

## 7. What impact would the proposal have on the local community?

The subject land is currently used as a screening reserve to prevent access or egress onto Jubilee Highway West by privately held adjoining parcels. Generally, whilst not prevented from doing so, the subject land is not used by the public, given its size and location (narrow strip bordered by the adjoining private land parcels and Jubilee Highway West). This would not be impacted by the proposal.

In developing Mount Gambier 2035 and City of Mount Gambier's Strategic Plan 2024-2028, Council identified the following strategic priorities.

### PRIORITY 4 - ECONOMIC AND BUSINESS GROWTH

*We have diversity in our local industry creating employment opportunities and contributing to our local economy and resilience.*

Mount Gambier 2035:

- A creative, entrepreneurial mindset that creates a thriving, resilient community.
- Our local businesses and industries are supported by modern and efficient freight networks that enhance our connectivity to regional and international markets.

City of Mount Gambier's Strategic Plan 2024-2028:

- Implement process efficiencies that support small, medium and large-scale businesses to open and thrive in our city.
- Advocate for and support the development of modern, efficient intermodal freight networks and transport systems to enhance supply chain connectivity in and out of Mount Gambier, ensuring streamlined movement of goods and services.
- Collaborate with partners to enhance the maturity of local businesses, supporting innovation and product development while effectively promoting new offerings to drive sustainable economic growth and market competitiveness.

It is considered the proposal is in line with this strategy. It is also considered given the particular size, shape and location of the land, and historic use(or non-use), that there would be relatively low impact on community which would eventuate from changing the status of the subject land.

Further, when considering Council's current Community Land parcels (including Crown Land under its care and control) it is noted that there is currently land surplus to Council's needs. This is because:

- Council are required to maintain all land under its care and control; and
- There are currently several parcels of land which Council maintains, without deriving return, and which would not impact the community's use (and possibly would be managed to a degree more aligned to the community's expectations) if managed by third parties, such as the Crown, via Lease or Licence arrangements, developed or sold to adjoining landowners.

Council's suite of strategic documents can be accessed via the website at: [Strategic Documents | City of Mount Gambier](#)

### **8. Requirements of the owner of the Subject Land**

Pursuant to section 194(1)(d)(ii) of the LG Act, the owner of the land must approve the revocation of the classification. As Council is the legal owner of the subject land, there is no requirement for the Crown (in the right of the State of South Australia), in this case the delegate of the Minister for Environment and Water, to approve the revocation.

If endorsed, Council will write to the Minister for Local Government requesting approval to revoke the classification of the subject land as community land, providing this report and the results of community consultation accordingly.

The holder of Native Title rights is also the owner of land for the purposes of the LG Act. The Council has undertaken investigations into whether any Native Title Rights continue to exist over the Subject Land and is of the view that all Native Title Rights in the Subject Land have been extinguished. As such, the Council does not consider that any person currently holds Native Title Rights in the Subject Land.



## 9. Public Consultation

The revocation of community land requires a public consultation process that complies with the *Local Government Act 1999* requirements and Council's Community Consultation and Engagement Policy P195.

Council recognises that public consultation enables the Council to best meet the needs of the community by ensuring that planning and decision making is based upon an understanding of the needs, aspirations and expectations of the community. Council's community consultation process includes the following elements:

- Information & receipt of submissions on website – public notice and feedback via Your Say
- Notice in local paper – Media Release
- Social media campaign
- Letters to identified stakeholders
- Notice in the Government Gazette
- Documents available at Principal Office (Civic Centre)
- Minimum 21 days notice to receive submissions – consultation will be open from 20 November 2024 until 11 December 2024

Throughout the consultation period Council will receive written submissions from the public on the land proposal via the dedicated Your Say page or in writing up until **5.00pm on 11 December 2024**. Written submissions should be addressed to the Chief Executive Officer (Community Land Consultation) and sent via the following methods.

E-mail: [city@mountgambier.sa.gov.au](mailto:city@mountgambier.sa.gov.au)

Post: City of Mount Gambier, PO Box 56, Mount Gambier SA 5290

In Person:

Principal Office – Civic Centre, 10 Watson Terrace, Mount Gambier SA 5290

For further information contact:

Ms Brittany Shelton

Manager Governance and Property

Phone: (08) 8721 2555

Each person making a submission should indicate the reasons why they support the revocation proposal or why Council should retain the land as Community Land or for Community purposes. Please note that all comments, including the names of those responding will be tabled at a public meeting of Council. If you wish your details not to be tabled, you must inform Council at the time of making your submission providing reasons why your details should be excluded.

The Council is keen to understand the issues of its local community and will consider all submissions at the next available Ordinary Meeting following closing of the consultation. After consideration of submissions, the Council shall either discontinue the revocation process or proceed to make an application to the Minister for Local Government for approval to revoke the community land classification applying to the subject land. If the Council elects to proceed with the revocation, all public submissions received by Council will be forwarded to the Minister for consideration as part of the formal application.



ABN 91 376 720 132

PO Box 96  
BEACHPORT SA 5280

M: 0418 838 152  
E: frank@fbcs.com.au  
W: www.fbcs.com.au

23 October 2024

Ms Sarah Philpott  
Chief Executive Officer  
City of Mount Gambier  
PO Box 56  
MOUNT GAMBIER SA 5290

Dear Sarah

**Buffer Reserve Access  
Allotment 212 in DP 125742, Jubilee Highway West, Suttontown**

I am acting for Steeline Mount Gambier in relation to their proposed development at allotments 209-211, Fraser Court, Suttontown of a shed for Steeline to be used for the fabrication of metal products, storage & sales and associated product display area, advertising signage, carparking, landscaping & mesh security fencing.

A formal Development Application (ID 24020843) has been lodged for Steeline's proposed development and is currently under assessment and public notification and referral to the Commissioner of Highways.

A copy of the site plan & elevations of the proposed development are attached.

In developing the project, extensive negotiations were held with the Department for Infrastructure & Transport (DIT) with the assistance of our traffic engineers, MFY regarding the design of an exit only driveway from the site onto Jubilee Highway West.

As a result of these negotiations, DIT have confirmed they are supportive of facilitating an exit only driveway from the Steeline site onto Jubilee Highway West – please refer to the attached email trail between MFY & DIT.

On behalf of Steeline I formally request Council approval for the granting of a formal right of way over the buffer reserve (allotment 212) in favour of Steeline's property, being allotment 211 in Deposited Plan 128081 as contained in certificate of title volume 6261 folio 879 for the purpose of facilitating the construction of an exit only driveway onto Jubilee Highway West.

We are aware Council holds the buffer reserve at Allotment 212 in DP 125742, Jubilee Highway West, Suttontown (as contained in certificate of title volume 6250, folio 283) as community land and that there is no Community Land Management Plan in place for the property.

Accordingly, if Council are supportive of granting the right of way we have requested, then Council would need to undertake the Community Land Revocation process required under section 194 of the *Local Government Act 1999*.

A copy of section 194 is attached for your reference.

In this regard, Steeline would be responsible to reimburse Council for its reasonable costs incurred with the revocation of the Community Land Classification and the cost of the formal registration of the right of way over the buffer reserve (allotment 212).

... /2



Ms Sarah Philpott  
Chief Executive Officer  
City of Mount Gambier  
23 October 2024  
Page | 2

We look forward to Council's favourable consideration of our request / that will assist in facilitating the investment of \$5 million for the Steeline project and the creation of further employment opportunities in the Mount Gambier community.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require further information in support of our application or wish to discuss this matter further.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Frank Brennan', written over a white background.

F.N. (Frank) Brennan PSM MPIA  
Accredited Planning Professional APP20190029  
Principal Consultant

**FRANK BRENNAN CONSULTING SERVICES**



*Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016*

Att: Steeline Site Plan & Elevations  
Email Trail DIT & MFY  
Section 194 *Local Government Act 1999*

Cc: Mrs Tracy Tzioutziouklaris (Manager Development Services)  
Ms Brittany Shelton (City of Mount Gambier)

**Frank Brennan**

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 30 October 2024 3:49 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Frank Brennan  
**Subject:** RE: 13-27 Fraser Court, Suttontown - Jubilee Highway access

**Categories:** FBCS

**OFFICIAL**

Hi [REDACTED],

I can confirm that the Department provides in-principle support for an egress onto Jubilee Highway to cater for the heavy vehicle movements of the proposed development. The Department will provide further advice/conditions to Council on this matter as part its referral response.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]  
Manager  
Transport Assessment  
Transport Strategy and Planning  
Department for Infrastructure and Transport  
T [REDACTED] • E [REDACTED] – Please note new number  
PO Box 1533 Adelaide SA 5001 • DX 171 • [www.dit.sa.gov.au](http://www.dit.sa.gov.au)



collaboration . honesty . excellence . enjoyment . respect  
*Information contained in this email message may be confidential and may also be the subject of legal professional privilege or public interest immunity. Access to this e-mail by anyone else is unauthorised. If you are not the intended recipient, any use, disclosure or copying of this document is unauthorised and may be unlawful.*

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, 24 October 2024 1:34 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Frank Brennan <[frank@fbcs.com.au](mailto:frank@fbcs.com.au)>  
**Subject:** 13-27 Fraser Court, Suttontown - Jubilee Highway access

Hi [REDACTED]

As discussed, the attached plans and report have been referred to you for assessment, but a concurrent process is underway to permit the construction of the proposed egress to Jubilee Highway over the reserve.

To assist in progressing this, could you please confirm your in-principle support for an egress from the site to the arterial road?

Thanks

[REDACTED] | Senior Associate | MFY Pty Ltd



Unit 6/224 Glen Osmond Road, Fullarton SA 5063

t: [REDACTED] | m: [REDACTED] | e: [REDACTED]

Disclaimer: This email may contain information which is confidential and/or copyright, intended for the addressee only. If you are not the intended recipient of this email, you must not use, copy, distribute or utilise this information in any way, for any purpose. Please notify the sender immediately and delete this email if you received it in error. The receiver of this email is responsible for their own virus protection and is urged to scan any transmissions and attachments for viruses. MFY Pty Ltd disclaims all responsibility or liability of any actions, claims, costs and damages whatsoever resulting from or following upon any reproduction or modifications of these documents, drawings or data contained therein by any other party or application of the said documents or data to other than their original purpose.



## 18.7 PROPOSED UPGRADE - BAY ROAD / LAKE TERRACE INTERSECTION - DEPARTMENT FOR INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORT (DIT)

Author: Abdullah Mahmud, Manager Engineering, Design & Assets  
Authoriser: Barbara Cernovskis, General Manager City Infrastructure

### RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council report titled 'Proposed Upgrade - Bay Road / Lake Terrace Intersection - Department for Infrastructure and Transport (DIT)' as presented on Tuesday 19 November 2024 be noted.
2. That Council provide the following feedback to the Department for Infrastructure and Transport (DIT) on the proposed minor upgrade works at the intersection of Bay Road/Lake Terrace, Mount Gambier:
  - (a) Implement the recommended changes as a short-term measure to address immediate safety concerns, with ongoing monitoring to assess the effectiveness.  
OR
  - (b) Explore further discussions with DIT on the feasibility of a long-term solution, such as a roundabout or other substantial infrastructure improvement, to meet community expectations.  
OR
  - (c) Proceed with DIT's minor modifications as an interim solution while conducting a more in-depth assessment to determine the potential for future, more comprehensive upgrades

### PURPOSE

To inform Council of the Department for Infrastructure and Transport (DIT) proposed modifications for the Bay Road and Lake Terrace intersection. While these treatments meet current standards and improve sight distance and safety at the intersection to some extent, they do not fully address the local expectations and heightened safety concerns of residents. The community has indicated a preference for a more comprehensive solution, such as a roundabout, to better enhance safety and traffic flow at this critical junction. Although DIT's proposal is compliant with existing regulations, it may not fully align with community expectations for a long-term solution and more substantial upgrades may be necessary to meet local needs and ensure sustained safety.

### SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS AND BENEFITS

#### Implications

- **Compliance with Standards:** DIT's proposed modifications, which include adjustments to the median and enhanced line marking, are compliant with current standards to improve sight distance and reduce conflict points at the intersection.
- **Limitations in Addressing Community Concerns:** Despite meeting regulatory requirements, the proposed changes may not meet community expectations for a more comprehensive safety solution. Residents have expressed a desire for a roundabout or other substantial upgrade to provide improved traffic management and safety.

- **Interim Solution:** The scope of these modifications is limited, providing only partial mitigation of sight distance issues and collision risks at the intersection. A more permanent solution may be necessary to fully address the concerns of local road users.

### Benefits

- **Immediate Safety Improvements:** The proposed adjustments offer a cost effective and short-term solution that can improve safety by enhancing sight distance and visibility at the intersection.
- **Lower Cost and Quicker Implementation:** Compared to a full intersection redesign or roundabout installation, the minor modifications are achievable within a shorter timeframe and with lower financial impact, allowing for prompt action on immediate safety needs.
- **Foundation for Monitoring:** Implementing these initial changes allows for an assessment of their impact, providing a basis for future discussions on potential upgrades if further issues persist at this intersection.

### BACKGROUND / OPTIONS

The Bay Road and Lake Terrace intersection has long been identified as a safety concern due to limited sight distance, complex traffic flow and a pattern of minor incidents. Feedback from the community has highlighted a strong preference for a more extensive upgrade, such as a roundabout, to fully address the safety and operational issues. However, DIT has assessed that, based on current traffic volumes and Austroads Guidelines, neither a roundabout nor traffic signals are justified for this location.

DIT's proposal includes minor modifications, primarily focused on:

- Adjusting the median island to improve sight distance for turning vehicles.
- Enhancing line markings to increase visibility and guide traffic flow more effectively.

The modifications align with technical standards for sight distance improvements but may fall short of community expectations for a more comprehensive solution. Given the topographical constraints at this intersection (steep grades and close proximity to adjacent properties) a full roundabout installation would involve significant costs, potential land acquisitions and structural adjustments, all of which pose feasibility challenges.

### Options Considered:

1. **Accept DIT's Proposed Minor Modifications:** Implement the recommended changes as a short-term measure to address immediate safety concerns, with ongoing monitoring to assess their effectiveness.
2. **Advocate for a Comprehensive Upgrade:** Explore further discussions with DIT on the feasibility of a long-term solution, such as a roundabout or other substantial infrastructure improvement, to meet community expectations.
3. **Hybrid Approach:** Proceed with DIT's minor modifications as an interim solution while conducting a more in-depth assessment to determine the potential for future, more comprehensive upgrades.

The initial modifications provide a practical, lower cost option to improve safety in the near term. However, further evaluation may be necessary to ensure the long-term needs and expectations of the community are fully addressed.

### DETAILED IMPLICATIONS

<b>Legal</b>	The proposed modifications will be carried out in compliance with Australian Standards for road safety and traffic control, ensuring adherence to all relevant regulations.
<b>Financial and Budget</b>	The minor modifications suggested by DIT present a lower-cost solution compared to a full-scale upgrade, such as a roundabout. DIT has committed to providing funding for these modifications, with Council overseeing the implementation.
<b>Other Resources</b>	Additional budget planning and resource allocation by Council will be necessary to support the delivery and management of the project effectively.

### RISK ANALYSIS

Consequence	Consequence Rating:	Risk Likelihood Rating:	Risk Rating	Risk Controls and effectiveness	Risk Mitigation Plan
<b>Finance</b>	Insignificant (1)	Unlikely (2)	Low	Council does not have any direct financial implication as this is a DIT owned road, and upgrades should form part of DIT's works program.	Continue to advocate for adequate investments in this upgrade project to meet community concerns.
<b>Reputation</b>	Moderate (3)	Possible (3)	Moderate	The minor upgrade will not address the greater community expectation from DIT, where inadequate funding into local DIT roads and their deteriorating conditions are already highlighted in many locations.	Advocate for further investment from DIT to address the community concerns.
<b>Legal / Regulatory / Policy</b>	Insignificant (1)	Unlikely (2)	Low	N/A	N/A
<b>Service Delivery</b>	Minor (2)	Possible (3)	Moderate	Work with DIT to deliver the minor upgrade works that will improve sight distances for the road user.	The inherent risk of a collision will still remain due to the geographical alignment of this intersection.



<b>People</b>	Moderate (3)	Likely (4)	High	The minor upgrade will improve driving safety and will require overseeing of the delivery as per DIT's proposal.	Allocation of resources to oversee delivery of the proposed minor upgrade will be required and proposed for this to be included in the project costs to DIT.
<b>Infrastructure</b>	Insignificant (1)	Unlikely (2)	Low	Council do not have direct implications on its own infrastructure.	N/A
<b>Environmental</b>	Insignificant (1)	Unlikely (2)	Low	Minimum or no implications on the environment for any upgrade works on the infrastructure.	N/A

## APPLICATION OF MOUNT GAMBIER 2035

### Infrastructure and Services

- We feel safe in our community and out in public, both day and night.
- We have the infrastructure that supports active transport and a sustainable lifestyle.

## APPLICATION OF STRATEGIC PLAN

### Goal 2 Our Location

- 2.1 Infrastructure development and managing our current assets - We will commence work on meeting the community's aspirations for future infrastructure development, whilst managing our existing infrastructure and assets in a manner that demonstrates the pride we take in our environment.

## RELEVANT COUNCIL POLICY

[Asset Accounting](#)  
[Land Divisions - L130](#)

## IMPLEMENTATION, COMMUNICATION AND ENGAGEMENT

The implementation of the minor upgrade works is proposed to be led by a Council project manager in coordination with DIT for effective delivery. However, no details have been provided by DIT regarding additional community consultation efforts.

It should be noted that this modification is minor and this needs to be clearly communicated to residents, along with information on how Council will assess whether the proposed action is sufficient or if further work at this intersection is warranted.

Alternatively, a community engagement initiative could be organised through "Have Your Say" to gather additional feedback from the community on the proposed solution.



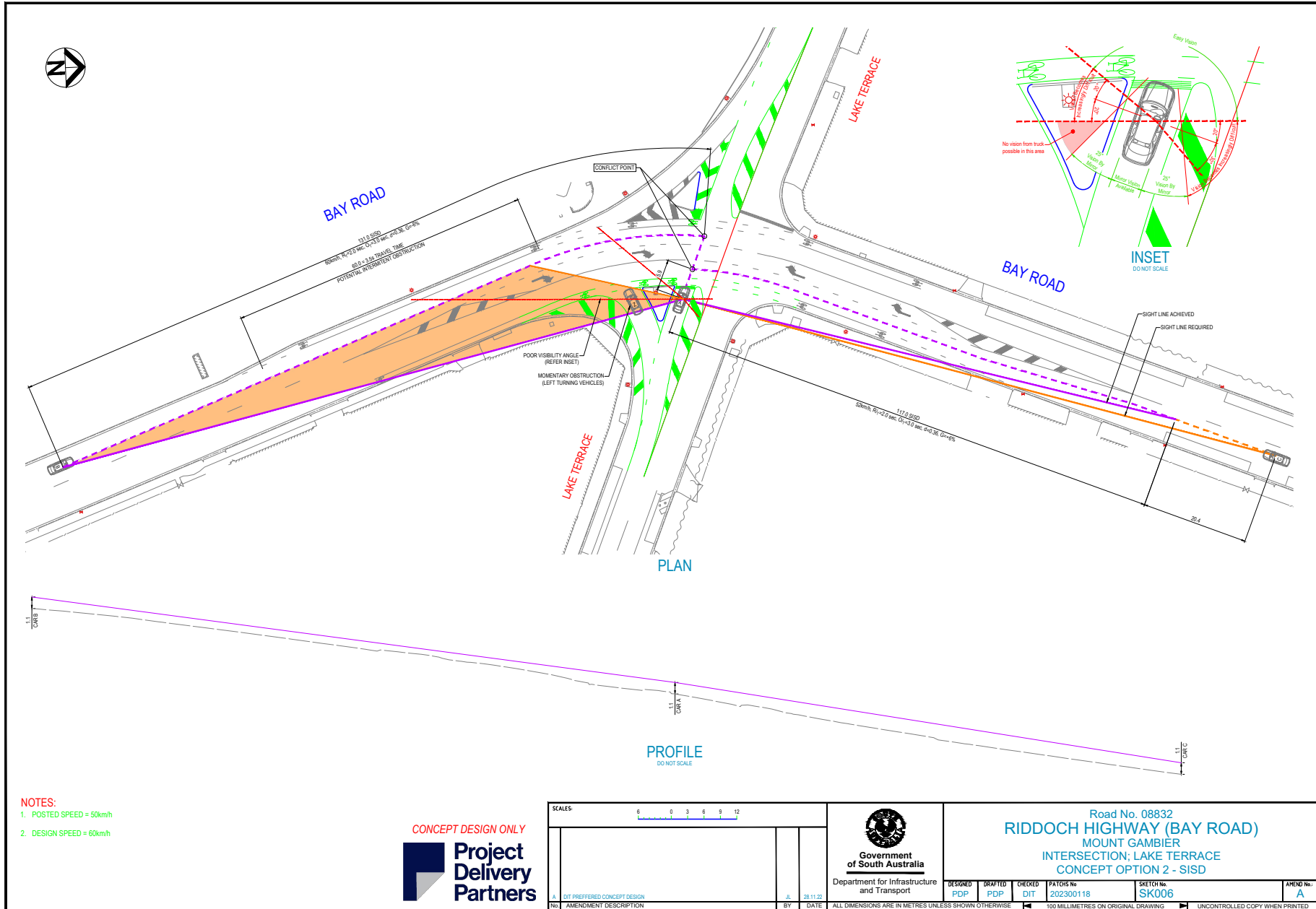
## **CONCLUSION**

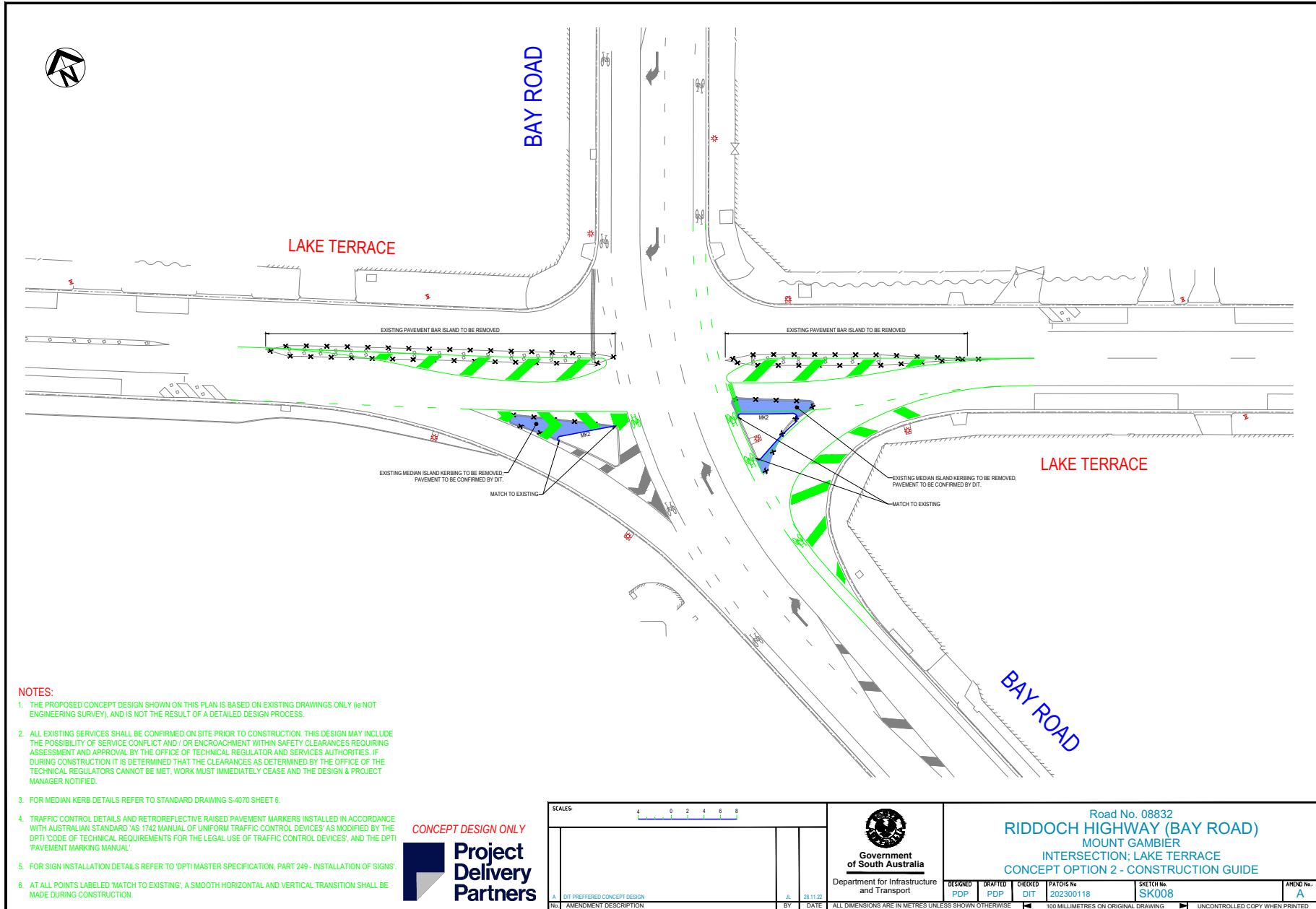
If Council accepts DIT's proposed modifications this will address immediate safety needs at this intersection. However, it does not fully meet community expectations for a permanent solution and continued monitoring will be essential to evaluate effectiveness. Council will likely need to advocate further with DIT for a more robust upgrade that genuinely addresses the safety and traffic flow concerns at this intersection. This approach reflects Council's commitment to road safety and responsiveness to resident concerns in Mount Gambier.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

1. Concept Plans [**18.7.1** - 2 pages]
2. Vehicle Turning Movement Survey [**18.7.2** - 1 page]







**NOTES:**

1. THE PROPOSED CONCEPT DESIGN SHOWN ON THIS PLAN IS BASED ON EXISTING DRAWINGS ONLY (i.e. NOT ENGINEERING SURVEY), AND IS NOT THE RESULT OF A DETAILED DESIGN PROCESS.
2. ALL EXISTING SERVICES SHALL BE CONFIRMED ON SITE PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION. THIS DESIGN MAY INCLUDE THE POSSIBILITY OF SERVICE CONFLICT AND / OR ENCROACHMENT WITHIN SAFETY CLEARANCES REQUIRING ASSESSMENT AND APPROVAL BY THE OFFICE OF TECHNICAL REGULATOR AND SERVICES AUTHORITIES. IF DURING CONSTRUCTION IT IS DETERMINED THAT THE CLEARANCES AS DETERMINED BY THE OFFICE OF THE TECHNICAL REGULATORS CANNOT BE MET, WORK MUST IMMEDIATELY CEASE AND THE DESIGN & PROJECT MANAGER NOTIFIED.
3. FOR MEDIAN KERB DETAILS REFER TO STANDARD DRAWING S-4070 SHEET 6.
4. TRAFFIC CONTROL DETAILS AND RETROREFLECTIVE RAISED PAVEMENT MARKERS INSTALLED IN ACCORDANCE WITH AUSTRALIAN STANDARD 'AS 1742 MANUAL OF UNIFORM TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES' AS MODIFIED BY THE DPTI 'CODE OF TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS FOR THE LEGAL USE OF TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES', AND THE DPTI 'PAVEMENT MARKING MANUAL'.
5. FOR SIGN INSTALLATION DETAILS REFER TO 'DPTI MASTER SPECIFICATION, PART 249 - INSTALLATION OF SIGNS'.
6. AT ALL POINTS LABELED 'MATCH TO EXISTING', A SMOOTH HORIZONTAL AND VERTICAL TRANSITION SHALL BE MADE DURING CONSTRUCTION.

**CONCEPT DESIGN ONLY**  
**Project Delivery Partners**

<p>SCALES: 0 2 4 6 8</p>		<p><b>Government of South Australia</b> Department for Infrastructure and Transport</p>	<p>Road No. 08832 <b>RIDDOCH HIGHWAY (BAY ROAD)</b> MOUNT GAMBIER INTERSECTION: LAKE TERRACE CONCEPT OPTION 2 - CONSTRUCTION GUIDE</p>			
<p>DESIGNED PDP</p>	<p>DRAFTED PDP</p>		<p>CHECKED DIT</p>	<p>PATCHES No 202300118</p>	<p>SKETCH No SK008</p>	<p>AMEND No A</p>
<p>NO. AMENDMENT DESCRIPTION</p>		<p>BY</p>	<p>DATE</p>	<p>ALL DIMENSIONS ARE IN METRES UNLESS SHOWN OTHERWISE 100 MILLIMETRES ON ORIGINAL DRAWING UNCONTROLLED COPY WHEN PRINTED</p>		

MICHELMO  
TV0670 - v10.05

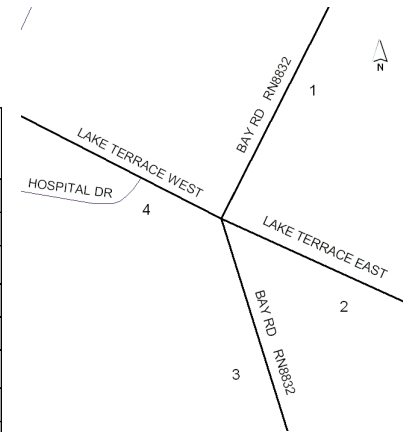
Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure  
**Vehicle Turning Movement Survey**

Page 1 of 1  
17/03/2020 09:47

Intersection of: BAY ROAD / LAKE TERRACE EAST / LAKE  
TERRACE WEST  
Locality: MOUNT GAMBIER  
AMG Reference: VD801119  
Date of Count: 03/03/2020 Day: Tuesday  
Weather: Dry Control:  
Survey Status:

Arm	Road Number - Name
1	8832 - BAY ROAD
2	88236 - LAKE TERRACE WEST
3	8832 - BAY ROAD
4	88236 - LAKE TERRACE EAST

	Arm Exit Arm	1			2			3			4		
		2 (L)	3	4 (R)	3 (L)	4	1 (R)	4 (L)	1	2 (R)	1 (L)	2	3 (R)
11 hour totals	Cars	561	1233	161	116	680	318	295	1307	105	167	710	335
	CV	12	29	7	4	16	5	12	30	3	4	23	4
	Total	573	1262	168	120	696	323	307	1337	108	171	733	339
AM Peak hour (08:15)	Cars	39	72	19	9	127	42	41	142	9	30	90	35
	CV	1	2	0	0	4	1	0	3	0	0	6	0
	Total	40	74	19	9	131	43	41	145	9	30	96	35
PM Peak hour (15:00)	Cars	84	163	19	8	93	32	44	118	11	26	123	34
	CV	2	4	0	0	2	0	1	2	0	0	5	1
	Total	86	167	19	8	95	32	45	120	11	26	128	35



		1		2		3		4	
One-way Flows	11 Hour Totals	(IN) 2003	(OUT) 1831	(IN) 1139	(OUT) 1414	(IN) 1752	(OUT) 1721	(IN) 1243	(OUT) 1171
	AM Peak Hour	11:45 199	08:00 224	08:00 188	08:15 145	08:00 203	11:45 164	08:15 161	08:00 193
	PM Peak Hour	16:45 283	15:15 186	14:45 137	15:00 225	15:15 183	16:45 266	15:15 189	14:45 161
Two-way Flows	AM Peak Hour	09:45 361	08:15 328	09:45 331	08:15 352				
	PM Peak Hour	15:00 450	15:00 360	16:45 422	15:00 348				
All Vehicles	11 Hour Totals	3834	2.3% CV	2553	2.5% CV	3473	2.4% CV	2414	2.7% CV
	Estimated AADT	5100 SF( 1.00) ZF( 1.34)	3400 SF( 1.00) ZF( 1.34)	4700 SF( 1.00) ZF( 1.34)	3200 SF( 1.00) ZF( 1.34)				

AADT - Annual Average Daily Traffic



## 18.8 BUDGET REVIEW 1 2024/2025

Author: Kahli Rolton, Manager Financial Services

Authoriser: Jane Fetherstonhaugh, General Manager Corporate and Regulatory Services

### RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council report titled 'Budget Review 1 2024/2025' as presented on Tuesday 19 November 2024 be noted.
2. That Council adopts the budget review 1, being prepared as at 30 September 2024 for the year ending 30 June 2025.

### PURPOSE

The purpose of the budget review as at 30 September 2024 is to provide Council, the community and other interested parties, a record of the budgeted financial activities and the financial position of the Council, compared to the original budget for the year ending 30 June 2025.

Budget Review 1 is the first reforecast for 2024/2025, following the adoption of the Annual Business Plan and Budget in June 2024 and the approved budget including carry forwards in September 2024. The full year forecast has been developed in consultation with staff across the organisation for known material changes to operating revenue, expenditure, capital revenue and capital expenditure.

### SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS AND BENEFITS

#### Implications

- **Unknown timing issues** regarding brought forward payment for FY24/25 financial assistance grants. This is out of Council control and will remain uncertain until closer to the end of the financial year, likely, June 2025.
- **Asset Sustainability Ratio** is estimated at 109% including carry forwards for BR1. This is above the adopted budget target of 100% and below the adjusted ratio of 110% which factors in the renewal carry forwards.
- **Caroline Landfill Master Plan** is currently in progress. Until this is completed, financial and budget implications relating to the longevity of the site and subsequent future restoration provisions remain unchanged. Further modelling may be required once the master plan is finalised which could affect fixed assets, provisions and expense allocations.
- **Caroline Landfill capping of Cell 3C** preliminary scoping is currently underway. Once finalised, this will provide clarity regarding Council's requirement to shift waste from the overfilled Cell 3C to the newly constructed Cell 4A. The impact on Council's depreciation will depend on the requirement to shift waste. As this is currently unknown nothing has been revised as part of BR1. To date only 1,000 tonnes has required shifting between the Cells.

#### Benefits

- **Net improvement to original budget** position of \$3.551m, mainly due to the timing of Financial Assistance Grants received at the start of this financial year. It should be noted that this cash is not available for additional expenditure as it was incorporated as part of the prior year budget. FY23/24 actual figures reflect the loss of not receiving this amount within the usual timing.

- **Sales of properties** currently held for sale will have a positive impact on cashflow if/when sales are completed. Current properties held for sale include x2 parcels of land on Lawrence Street and a property at 46 James Street. Revisions will be brought in following sales being completed.
- **Additional \$130k Roads to Recovery funding**, to be allocated against existing capital works projects with no additional works added to the program at BR1 for this purpose.
- **Bequest of \$25k**, conditional on acquiring art piece for the Collection. Positive initial impact on the income statement. Net nil impact to cash as monies received will be expended. Positive impact to assets without adding to overall depreciation.
- **Saleyards Contribution:** At the original budget an inclusion was made for \$38.5k contribution to DC Grant Saleyard, pending their granting of other funding. At the August meeting, Council resolved that the allocation of funding of \$38,500 for 2024/25 will not be required, and will be removed at Budget Review 1, resulting in a net positive impact to Council's operating surplus (deficit).
- **Sustainability:** All changes made at BR1 have been reforecast to ensure that conditional borrowing requirements remain within target and that overall Council's LTFP remains on track.

## BACKGROUND / OPTIONS

### Financial Reporting and Analysis

Table 1 below provides an extract from the attached forecast financial statements showing key variances. The draft budget review (BR1) has resulted in a net improvement to budget of \$3.551m.

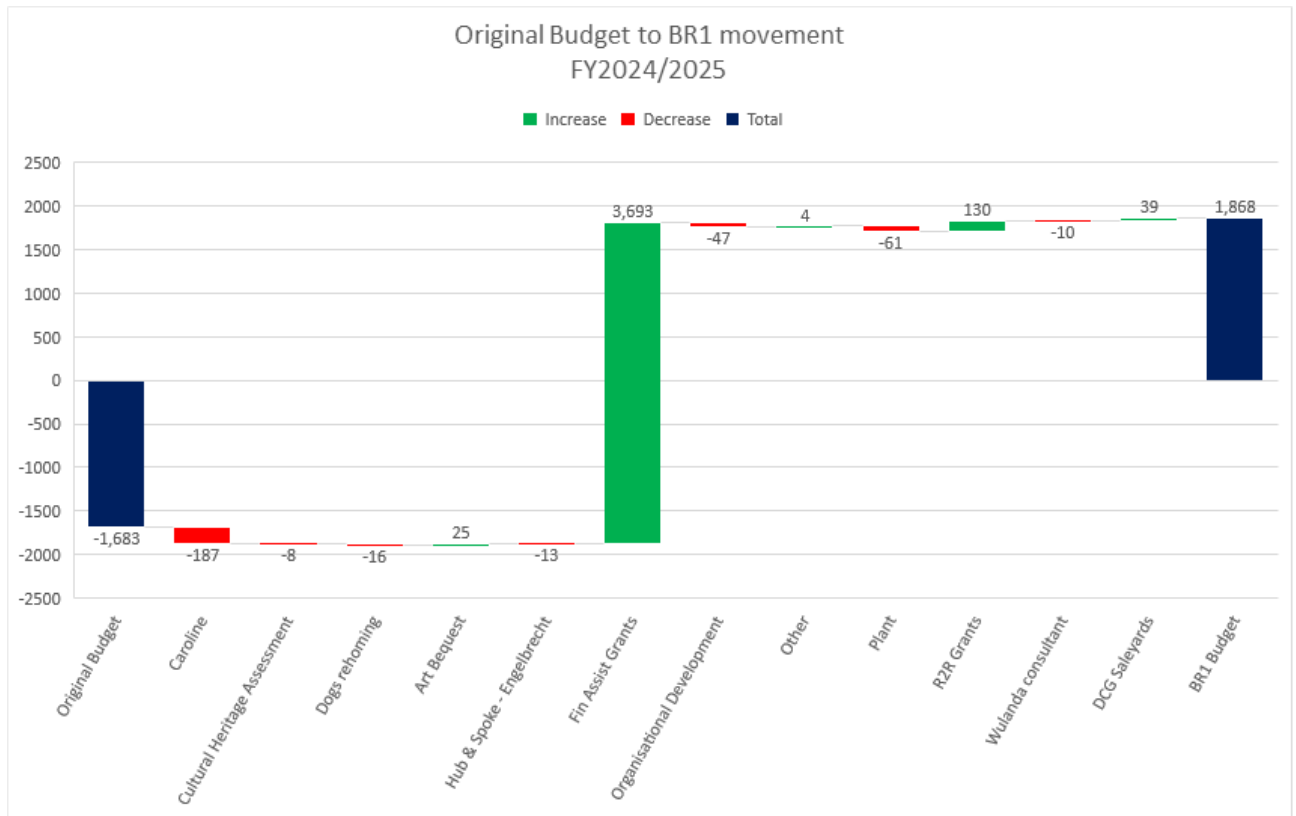
**Table 1: Summary of Comprehensive Income totals and variance \$'000**

2024 Actual	Comprehensive Income	2025 ABP	2025 BR1	Variance
	<b>Income</b>			
42,061	Total Income	48,574	52,593	4,019
	<b>Expenses</b>			
47,229	Total Expenses	50,257	50,664	407
(5,168)	Operating Surplus / (Deficit)	(1,683)	1,929	3,612
(4,374)	Net Surplus / (Deficit)	(433)	3,118	3,551
40,874	Total Comprehensive Income	(433)	3,118	3,551

### Details of revised amounts/variances from original budget to BR1:

The following graphic provides a summary of movement based on functional/significant categorisation. For noting when interpreting the graph, the adopted budget for 2024/2025 started with an operating deficit of (\$1,683k), movements of \$3,551k bring the total to a surplus of \$1,868k. The graph includes movement of \$61k for recognition of losses on sale of plant and machinery items (\$1,868k + \$61k = \$1,929k net operating surplus as shown in table above).





**Operating Income is \$4.019m or 8.3% higher than 2024/2025 original budget.**

- **Grants, Subsidies and Contributions favourable variance of \$3.84m** accounts for majority of the increase in operating income:
  - \$3.69m timing issue with Financial Assistance Grants received after the end of the 2023/2024 financial year
  - \$130k increase to Roads to Recovery funding
  - \$25k conditional bequest.
- **User Charges favourable variance of \$157k** majority is derived from bringing in estimates for revenue from tours and merchandise sales \$227k at Engelbrecht Cave following Council taking over operations during July 2024. Other movements relate to improvement following work surrounding the remodelling of Caroline Landfill and internal charge out rates decreasing, plus a minor decrease to forecast waste tonnes.
- **Other Income favourable variance \$11k** is the result of minor insurance claims, trainee incentives and impound fees.

**Operating Expenditure is \$407k or 0.81% higher than 2024/2025 original budget.**

- **Employment Costs unfavourable variance \$218k** is due to bringing in forecasts for operating Engelbrecht Cave. This is materially funded from forecast revenue as listed above.
- **Materials, Contracts & Other Expenses unfavourable variance \$21k** made up of:
  - Removal of DC Grant Saleyards contribution (\$38.5k)
  - Organisational Development training \$33k. This was an operational timing issue from the previous financial year
  - Engelbrecht Cave general operational expenses \$21k
  - Cultural heritage assessment \$22.5. This is partially offset by \$15k contribution from SA Water
  - Emergency Management \$15k
  - Dog rehoming \$15k increase required due to an increase in the forecast number of dogs to be rehomed



- Caroline Landfill \$8.8k, independent expert engineering consultant verification for modelling work completed for post closure future rehabilitation provision
- LCLGA subscription increase on original budget of \$3.4k
- Offset by forecast reduction to solid waste levy.
- **Depreciation, Amortisation & Impairment unfavourable variance \$72k**, per modelling work completed for Caroline Landfill and presented to Council in August 2024.
- **Finance Costs unfavourable variance \$96k**, per modelling work completed for Caroline Landfill and presented to Council in August 2024. This relates to net present value unwinding of liability provisions primarily for cell capping.

**Asset Disposal & Fair Value Adjustments unfavourable variance \$61k** bring in estimates based on known information following sales of plant and machinery items year to date. This represents the difference between cash received for sales and the items current written down value.

**Capital Expenditure is \$180k or 1.4% higher than 2024/2025 carry forward budget.**

Table 2 below summarises movements to capital expenditure from original budget to BR1, noting carry forwards previously presented and approved by Council. This table is followed by graphical representation of movements for BR1 grouped by materiality.

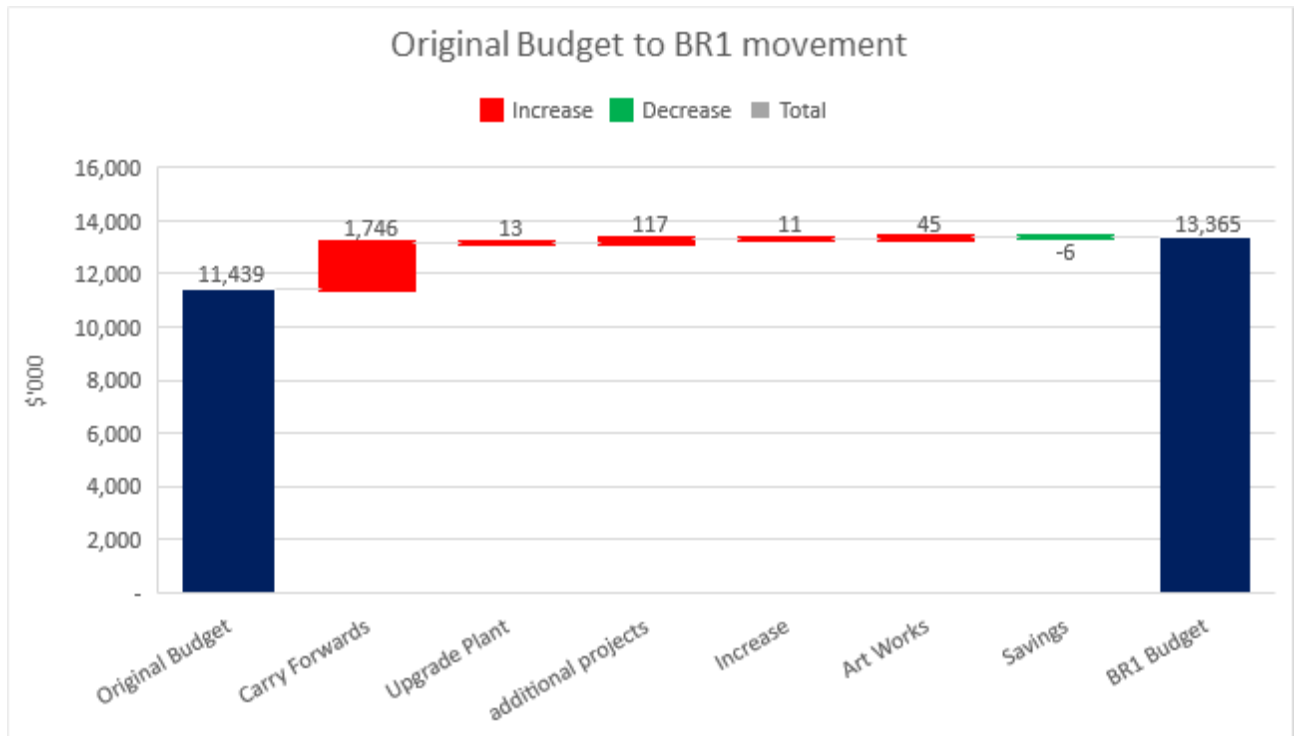
- **Capital increases of \$191k relate to:**
  - **Artworks \$45k** – Beacon Art \$19k (previously approved by Council) and a commissioned art piece funded by conditional bequest
  - **Plant \$13k** – upgrade vehicle from SUV to dual cab
  - **Carinya \$11k** – increase to mowing strips
  - **New infrastructure projects \$117k** including Bertha Street, Elder Street drainage and other corrective action drainage works.
- **Capital savings of \$6k** relate to microfilm reader and roofing at the Waste Transfer Centre.

**Table 2: Summary of Capital Expenditure movements**

<b>Capital Expenditure 2024/2025</b>	<b>Adopted Budget</b>	<b>Carry forward</b>	<b>BR1</b>	<b>Variance</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
Buildings & Structures	2,786	3,497	3,479	(18)
Caroline Landfill	-	200	200	-
Infrastructure	4,034	4,583	4,750	167
IT	163	193	191	(2)
Other	386	497	542	45
Plant and Equipment	4,069	4,215	4,203	(12)
	<b>11,438</b>	<b>13,184</b>	<b>13,365</b>	<b>180</b>







**Financial Indicators:**

Compared to the original budget, the key financial indicators which measure the financial sustainability and performance of Council are tabled below. For noting that the increase in the asset sustainability ratio is mainly due to carry forward renewals. This should be compared against an adjusted ratio target of c110%.

Financial Indicators	Target	Adopted Budget	BR1
Operating Surplus Ratio	above 0	-3.5%	3.6%
Net Financial Liabilities Ratio	100%	100%	86%
Asset renewal funding ratio	90-110%	100%	109%

Changes incorporated as part of BR1 remain within all conditions of borrowings and forecasts for FY2026/2027.

**DETAILED IMPLICATIONS**

<b>Legal</b>	The Local Government Financial Regulations 2011 Part 2 Section 9 requires Council to reconsider its budget at least three times between 30 September and the 31 May.
<b>Financial and Budget</b>	<p>Due to the nature of this report the detailed implications have been included in the body of the report. Other risk items identified but not included in the actual revised figures include:</p> <p><b>Hub and Spoke Model:</b> The rollout of the Hub and Spoke tourism visitor services is still in progress with Engelbrecht coming onboard in July, Umpherston/Balumbul in October and dates for the Main Corner forecast for early in 2025. Initial review of the financial impact of the model is not cost neutral for FY2025 with work continuing in relation to revenue opportunities and operating models. Where facilities were previously run by external parties to Council, there is an element of unknown and trial at the outset.</p> <p><b>Cleaners in house:</b> Due to changes in operations, it is estimated that the initial estimate for bringing cleaning services inhouse will be exceeded. Contributors to this include expansion of operating sites to</p>



	<p>Engelbrecht, Umpherston/Balumbul and the Old Town Hall. This is being monitored and will be brought back at a future budget revision.</p> <p><b>Wulanda ongoing maintenance:</b> The planned and routine maintenance budget included estimates for labour for contracts known at the time of preparation of the original budget. Work continues to be undertaken to proactively align routine maintenance contracts across all relevant Council sites to gain economies of scale. The current budget of \$150k will be exceeded in FY2025 with revised forecasts to be made at future budget revisions.</p> <p><b>Extreme weather event:</b> Just prior to the writing of this report an extreme weather event occurred affecting some assets (buildings) Council controls and operates. Council has notified Local Government Risk Services (LGRS) and an Assessor has been appointed. Further updates will be provided once the impact of the weather event is understood. It is flagged as risk for consideration at future budget revisions.</p> <p><b>Depreciation:</b> A high level review of depreciation at BR1, however due to the minimal changes and unknown risks regarding Caroline Landfill, no changes were made. Depreciation will be reviewed again at BR2. It should also be noted that depreciation was not adjusted for carryforwards. This is because forecast depreciation for FY24/25 already included assets assumed to be capitalised in FY23/24.</p>
<b>Other Resources</b>	N/A

**RISK ANALYSIS**

Consequence	Consequence Rating:	Risk Likelihood Rating:	Risk Rating	Risk Controls and effectiveness	Risk Mitigation Plan
<b>Finance</b>	Minor (2)	Possible (3)	Moderate	Budget Revision is unrealistic, inaccurately recorded, does not reflect strategic objectives and is not compliant with legislation.	Ensure new or revised budgets of Council include reference to strategic objectives and legislative requirements. Ensure independent review of figures loaded to the finance system.
<b>Reputation</b>	Insignificant (1)	Possible (3)	Low	Users of the report are not fully informed or make inaccurate assumptions regarding the report contents.	Hold workshops with Elected Members prior. Ensure accurate representation in social media from Council.
<b>Legal / Regulatory / Policy</b>	Insignificant (1)	Unlikely (2)	Low		
<b>Service Delivery</b>	Minor (2)	Possible (3)	Choose an item.	Service delivery is	Continue to review ability



				compromised due to lack of resources, changing priorities, decision making, inadequate planning or events outside of Council Control.	to deliver services at each budget revision with relevant managers. Ensure services remain pertinent to the strategic plan.
<b>People</b>	Minor (2)	Unlikely (2)	Low		
<b>Infrastructure</b>	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	That the capital works program is not completed by 30 June 2025. Factors outside the control of Council eg weather, supply issues.	Quarterly reviews and updates. Review for internal versus external supply options. Tender for large plant items early in the year.
<b>Environmental</b>	Insignificant (1)	Possible (3)	Low	Waste and emergency management matters as flagged in this report are being worked on	Progressing the outlined work will further inform Council for future reports/risk mitigation

### APPLICATION OF MOUNT GAMBIER 2035

#### Infrastructure and Services

A review of the capital expenditure budget and operating budgets relevant to infrastructure and services has been undertaken with no major changes flagged at this early stage in the financial year.

### APPLICATION OF STRATEGIC PLAN

#### Goal 5 Our Commitment

5 Our Commitment

### RELEVANT COUNCIL POLICY

[Budget Framework - B300](#)

### IMPLEMENTATION, COMMUNICATION AND ENGAGEMENT

#### Administration Process

Meetings were held with managers and key staff in October to review year to date actual results versus original budget estimates as at 30 September 2024. As part of these meetings risks and opportunities were highlighted where relevant and material items are detailed below.

#### Elected Member Informal Briefing



A draft Budget Review 1 operating result and capital expenditure position was presented to the Elected Members at an informal briefing on 12 November 2024.

### **CONCLUSION**

It is a legislative requirement that Council reconsiders its budget at regular intervals during the year. The budget assesses the financial requirements of Council as best estimated as at 30 September 2024 for the 2024/2025 financial year. Budget reviews provide forecasts of financial outcomes and ensure continuation of delivery of community services and strategic work outcomes. This revision resulted in favourable movement of \$3.551m, noting that the main influence of this movement was the timing of financial assistance grants.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

1. Forecast Financial Statements 2024/2025 BR1 Review [**18.8.1** - 4 pages]





City of Mount Gambier - Forecast Uniform Presentation of Finances				
2024 Actual	\$'000s	2025 ABP	2025 BR1	variance
<b>Income</b>				
26,488	Rates	30,314	30,317	3
781	Statutory Charges	896	896	0
9,179	User Charges	9,812	9,969	157
559	Grants, Subsidies and Contributions - Capital	388	388	(0)
1,102	Grants, Subsidies and Contributions - Operating	5,250	9,094	3,844
54	Investment Income	57	57	0
1,230	Reimbursements	1,192	1,196	4
2,668	Other Income	665	676	11
<b>42,061</b>	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>48,574</b>	<b>52,594</b>	<b>4,019</b>
<b>Expenses</b>				
15,292	Employee Costs	16,324	16,542	218
19,320	Materials, Contracts & Other Expenses	20,148	20,169	21
10,795	Depreciation, Amortisation & Impairment	11,857	11,929	72
1,822	Finance Costs	1,928	2,024	96
<b>47,229</b>	<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>50,257</b>	<b>50,663</b>	<b>407</b>
<b>(5,168)</b>	<b>Operating surplus / (deficit)</b>	<b>(1,683)</b>	<b>1,931</b>	<b>3,612</b>
-4914	Timing Adjustment for grant revenue			
<b>(10,082)</b>	<b>Adjusted Operating Surplus (Deficit)</b>	<b>(1,683)</b>	<b>1,931</b>	<b>3,612</b>
<b>Net outlays on existing assets</b>				
(3,528)	Capital expenditure on renewal and replacement of existing assets	(8,696)	(9,514)	(818)
10,795	Depreciation, amortisation and impairment	11,857	11,929	72
110	Proceeds from sale of replaced assets	332	454	122
<b>7,377</b>	<b>Net outlays on existing assets</b>	<b>3,493</b>	<b>2,869</b>	<b>(624)</b>
<b>Net outlays on new and upgraded assets</b>				
(6,188)	Capital expenditure on new and upgraded assets <i>(including investments property &amp; real estate developments)</i>	(2,743)	(3,850)	(1,107)
775	Amounts received specifically for new and upgraded assets Proceeds from sale of surplus assets <i>(including investment property and real estate developments and non-current assets held for resale)</i>	250	250	0
<b>(5,413)</b>	<b>Net outlays on new and upgraded assets</b>	<b>(2,493)</b>	<b>(3,600)</b>	<b>(1,107)</b>
<b>(8,118)</b>	<b>Annual net impact to financing activities (surplus (deficit))</b>	<b>(683)</b>	<b>1,199</b>	<b>1,880</b>

**City of Mount Gambier - Forecast Statement of Comprehensive Income**

2024 Actual	Comprehensive Income	2025 ABP	2025 BR1	Variance
<b>Income</b>				
26,488	Rates	30,314	30,317	3
781	Statutory Charges	896	896	0
9,179	User Charges	9,812	9,969	157
559	Grants, Subsidies and Contributions - Capital	388	388	(0)
1,102	Grants, Subsidies and Contributions - Operating	5,250	9,094	3,844
54	Investment Income	57	57	0
1,230	Reimbursements	1,192	1,196	4
2,668	Other Income	665	676	11
<b>42,061</b>	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>48,574</b>	<b>52,593</b>	<b>4,019</b>
<b>Expenses</b>				
15,292	Employee Costs	16,324	16,542	218
19,320	Materials, Contracts & Other Expenses	20,148	20,169	21
10,795	Depreciation, Amortisation & Impairment	11,857	11,929	72
1,822	Finance Costs	1,928	2,024	96
<b>47,229</b>	<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>50,257</b>	<b>50,664</b>	<b>407</b>
<b>(5,168)</b>	<b>Operating Surplus / (Deficit)</b>	<b>(1,683)</b>	<b>1,929</b>	<b>3,612</b>
2,053	Physical Resources Received Free of Charge	1,000	1,000	0
216	Amounts Received Specifically for New or Upgraded Assets	250	250	0
(1,475)	Asset Disposal & Fair Value Adjustments	0	(61)	(61)
<b>(4,374)</b>	<b>Net Surplus / (Deficit)</b>	<b>(433)</b>	<b>3,118</b>	<b>3,551</b>
<b>40,874</b>	<b>Total Comprehensive Income</b>	<b>(433)</b>	<b>3,118</b>	<b>3,551</b>

City of Mount Gambier - Forecast Statement of Financial Position					
2024 Actual	\$'000s	2025 ABP	2025 BR1	Variance	
<b>ASSETS</b>					
<b>Current Assets</b>					
270	Cash & Cash Equivalents	507	485	(22)	
2,531	Trade & Other Receivables	2,056	2,774	718	
76	Inventories	71	78	7	
335	Assets held for sale	0	335	335	
<b>3,212</b>	<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>2,634</b>	<b>3,673</b>	<b>704</b>	
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>					
445,641	Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment	448,700	450,466	1,766	
0	Other Non-Current Assets	0	0	0	
<b>445,641</b>	<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>	<b>448,700</b>	<b>450,466</b>	<b>1,766</b>	
<b>448,853</b>	<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>451,334</b>	<b>454,139</b>	<b>2,470</b>	
<b>LIABILITIES</b>					
<b>Current Liabilities</b>					
5,317	Trade & Other Payables	5,705	5,350	(355)	
9,986	Borrowings	1,337	1,337	(0)	
3,561	Provisions	3,176	3,664	488	
<b>18,864</b>	<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>10,218</b>	<b>10,351</b>	<b>133</b>	
<b>Non-Current Liabilities</b>					
27,079	Borrowings	35,266	36,220	954	
1,608	Provisions	5,486	3,148	(2,338)	
<b>28,687</b>	<b>Total Non-Current Liabilities</b>	<b>40,752</b>	<b>39,368</b>	<b>-1,384</b>	
<b>47,551</b>	<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>50,970</b>	<b>49,720</b>	<b>-1,250</b>	
<b>401,302</b>	<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>400,364</b>	<b>404,420</b>	<b>3,721</b>	
<b>EQUITY</b>					
87,287	Accumulated Surplus	84,173	90,405	6,232	
312,693	Asset Revaluation Reserves	313,869	312,693	(1,176)	
1,322	Other Reserves	2,322	1,322	(1,000)	
<b>401,302</b>	<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>400,364</b>	<b>404,420</b>	<b>4,056</b>	

City of Mount Gambier - Forecast Cash Flow				
2024 Actual		2025 ABP	2025 BR1	Variance
<b>Cash Flows from Operating Activities</b>				
<b>Receipts:</b>				
26,501	Rates Receipts	30,314	30,317	3
781	Statutory Charges	896	896	0
9,179	User Charges	9,812	9,969	157
1,102	Grants, Subsidies and Contributions (operating purpose)	5,250	9,094	3,844
54	Investment Receipts	57	57	0
1,230	Reimbursements	1,192	1,196	4
1,349	Other Revenue	422	433	11
<b>Payments:</b>				
(14,663)	Payments to Employees	(16,324)	(16,542)	(218)
(19,843)	Payments for Materials, Contracts & Other Expenses	(21,167)	(21,188)	(21)
(1,719)	Finance Payments	(1,928)	(2,055)	(127)
<b>3,971</b>	<b>Net Cash provided (or used in) Operating Activities</b>	<b>8,524</b>	<b>12,177</b>	<b>3,653</b>
<b>Cash Flows from Investing Activities</b>				
<b>Receipts:</b>				
307	Grants Utilised For Capital Purposes	388	388	(0)
216	Amounts Received Specifically for New/Upgraded Assets	250	250	0
110	Sale of Replaced Assets	332	454	122
0	Sale of Surplus Assets	0	0	0
<b>Payments:</b>				
(3,528)	Expenditure on Renewal/Replacement of Assets	(8,696)	(9,514)	(818)
(6,188)	Expenditure on New/Upgraded Assets	(2,743)	(3,850)	(1,107)
<b>(9,083)</b>	<b>Net Cash provided (or used in) Investing Activities</b>	<b>(10,469)</b>	<b>(12,273)</b>	<b>(1,804)</b>
<b>Cash Flows from Financing Activities</b>				
<b>Receipts:</b>				
8,374	Proceeds from Loans	3,402	1,762	(1,640)
64	Proceeds from Bonds and Deposits			
<b>Payments:</b>				
(2,930)	Repayments of Loans	(1,269)	(1,269)	(0)
(202)	Repayment of Lease Liabilities	(181)	(181)	0
0	Repayment of Bonds and Deposits			
<b>5,306</b>	<b>Net Cash Flow provided (used in) Financing Activities</b>	<b>1,952</b>	<b>311</b>	<b>(1,641)</b>
<b>194</b>	<b>Net Increase/(Decrease) in Cash &amp; Cash Equivalents</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>208</b>
<b>76</b>	<b>plus: Cash &amp; Cash Equivalents - beginning of year</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>(7,974)</b>
<b>270</b>	<b>Cash &amp; Cash Equivalents - end of the year</b>	<b>507</b>	<b>485</b>	<b>(7,766)</b>



## **18.9 FIRST QUARTER REPORT ON ANNUAL BUSINESS PLAN 2024-2025 ANNUAL OBJECTIVES**

Author: Tegan McPherson, Manager of Performance and Capability  
Authoriser: Jane Fetherstonhaugh, General Manager Corporate and Regulatory Services

### **RECOMMENDATION**

1. That Council report titled 'First Quarter Report on Annual Business Plan 2024-2025 Annual Objectives' as presented on Tuesday 19 November 2024 be noted.

### **PURPOSE**

The Annual Business Plan and Budget for 2024-2025 was adopted on 25 June 2024. This report provides an update on progress made against the annual objectives for the first quarter of the financial year ending 30 June 2025.

### **SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS AND BENEFITS**

#### **Implications**

- Twenty-two (22) annual objectives were included in the Annual Business Plan and Budget for 2024 – 2025.
- Quarterly reporting will be provided to Council to monitor progress against the annual objectives.

#### **Benefits**

- Overall, a majority of the objectives are 'In Progress' having commenced work in the first quarter of the financial year.
- Delivery of the annual objectives has been incorporated in the budget for 2024 –2025.

### **BACKGROUND / OPTIONS**

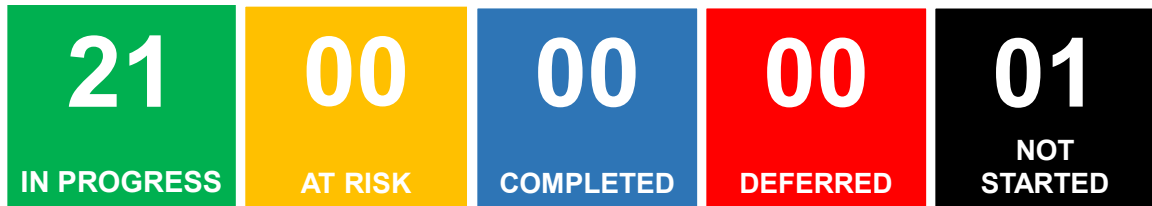
**Twenty-two (22) annual objectives were included in the Annual Business Plan and Budget for 2024 – 2025 aligned with the five strategic goals in Council's Strategic Plan 2020 – 2024:**

1. Our People
2. Our Location
3. Our Diverse Economy
4. Our Climate, Natural Resources, Arts, Culture and Heritage
5. Our Commitment






This is the last annual business plan that will be structured around the long term goals of the Strategic Plan 2020 – 2024, with next year's annual business plan to be informed by Council's new Strategic Plan 2024 -2028.

**Overall, a majority of the objectives are 'In Progress' having commenced work in the first quarter of the financial year. Full details of progress are included in the attached report.**





**Each annual objective has been allocated a status in accordance with the following key:**

	In Progress	Work is underway and on track to be delivered in accordance with the Annual Business Plan.
	At Risk	Work is underway but may not be delivered in accordance with the Annual Business Plan.
	Completed	The annual objective has been delivered/ completed.
	Deferred	Work has been deferred to the following/ future year.
	Not Started	Work has not commenced.

**There were a series of annual objectives from the Annual Business Plan and Budget 2023 – 2024 that were not completed. Some are captured under annual objectives that have been set under the 2024 – 2025 Annual Business Plan or are otherwise reported on below:**

2023 – 2024 Annual Objective	2024 – 2025 Annual Objective	Comments
1.2. Development of the Disability Access and Inclusion Plan 2024 - 2028 and supporting implementation plan.	1.2. Ensure equity of access and an inclusive environment for all people living within our community.	Project was deferred from 2023/2024 financial year. Progress is reported in the attached report. Reporting will continue in accordance with the 2024 – 2025 Annual Objective.
1.5. Progressing development of new Reconciliation Action Plan and deliver the initial stage of actions.	1.4. Progress towards the development of a new Reconciliation Action Plan.	Progress is reported in the attached report. Reporting will continue in accordance with the 2024 – 2025 Annual Objective.
1.6. Development of Affordable Housing Strategy in line with other levels of Government.	3.2. Improve housing affordability and accessibility in Mount Gambier.	The Affordable Housing Strategy for Mount Gambier was endorsed by Council at its July 2024 Council Meeting. This objective is now delivered and will transition to monitoring in accordance with the 2024 – 2025 Annual Objective.
2.4. Undertake a review of Council's property and land assets to understand risks and opportunities to Council's financial sustainability.	2.3. Ensure strategic management of Council property assets and supporting policy framework to guide decision making in relation to Council's property needs and Council owned land.	Progress is reported in the attached report. Reporting will continue in accordance with the 2024 – 2025 Annual Objective.

2.7. Finalise Blue Lake Sports Park Masterplan and seek opportunities for grant funding or other options to progress master plan outcomes.	4.1. Undertake masterplans for Council's Open Space assets and seek opportunities for grant funding or other options to progress the masterplan outcomes.	Blue Lake Sports Park Masterplan was endorsed by Council in the 2023/2024 financial year. Continued work to seek opportunities for grant funding or other options to progress master plan outcomes will be reported against the 2024 – 2025 Annual Objective.
3.1. Create a seamless, soft landing website/ webpage for investment/ attraction (and retention) in Mount Gambier.	N/A	This initiative is due for completion in November 2024.
3.2. Create a seamless, soft landing website/ webpage for Tourism in Mount Gambier.	N/A	New Visit Mount Gambier website went live in October 2024. <a href="http://visitmountgambier.sa.gov.au">visitmountgambier.sa.gov.au</a>
3.3. Activate and operate the Wulanda Recreation and Convention Centre.	1.5. Monitor the activation and management of the Wulanda Recreation and Convention Centre.	This work is ongoing and will continue to be monitored in accordance with the 2024 – 2025 Annual Objective.
3.9. Development of Waste Management Masterplan.	3.4. Deliver Waste Management Strategy and Masterplanning.	Progress is reported in the attached report. Reporting will continue in accordance with the 2024 – 2025 Annual Objective.
3.10. Undertake a review of the delivery and location of visitor information services.	3.3. Enhance the visitor experience for tourists coming to Mount Gambier.	New visitor servicing model was endorsed in 2023/2024 financial year. Implementation underway with a progress update in the attached report. Reporting will continue in accordance with the 2024 – 2025 Annual Objective.
4.1. Deliver a beacon art project and agree the approach for future similar projects.	4.2. Enhance vibrancy, promote cultural identity and provide a unique attraction in Mount Gambier through an iconic work of art.	Progress is reported in the attached report. Reporting will continue in accordance with the 2024 – 2025 Annual Objective.
4.2. Completion of holistic document to guide the activation of the Crater Lakes Precinct and delivery of supporting implementation plan.	2.5. Enhancement and protection of our unique natural resources.	Progress is reported in the attached report. Reporting will continue in accordance with the 2024 – 2025 Annual Objective.
4.6. Develop and adopt a prioritised implementation plan for SROSS to inform Council's actions to deliver, including required masterplans for Council's Open Space assets.	4.1. Undertake masterplans for Council's Open Space assets and seek opportunities for grant funding or other options to progress the masterplan outcomes.	Council have endorsed initial stages of implementation, for the next four years, in the 2023/2024 financial year. Progress is reported in the attached report. Reporting will continue in accordance with the 2024 – 2025 Annual Objective.

## DETAILED IMPLICATIONS

<b>Legal</b>	Section 123 of the <i>Local Government Act 1999</i> states the following: (2) Each annual business plan of a council must - (a) include a summary of the council's long-term objectives (as set out in its strategic management plans); and
--------------	---



	<p>(b) include an outline of -</p> <p>(i) the council’s objectives for the financial year; and</p> <p>(ii) the activities that council intends to undertake to achieve those objectives; and</p> <p>(iii) the measures (financial and non-financial) that council intends to use to assess the performance of the council against its objectives over the financial year;</p> <p>(11) However, in any event, the summary of the annual business plan must include an assessment of the extent to which the council's objectives for the previous financial year have been attained (taking into account the provisions of the annual business plan for that financial year).</p>
<b>Financial and Budget</b>	Delivery of the annual objectives has been incorporated in the budget for 2024 –2025.
<b>Other Resources</b>	N/A

**RISK ANALYSIS**

<b>Consequence</b>	<b>Consequence Rating:</b>	<b>Risk Likelihood Rating:</b>	<b>Risk Rating</b>	<b>Risk Controls and effectiveness</b>	<b>Risk Mitigation Plan</b>
<b>Finance</b>	Minor (2)	Unlikely (2)	Low	Delivery of the annual objectives has been incorporated in the budget for 2024 – 2025.	Quarterly reporting to monitor progress.
<b>Reputation</b>	Minor (2)	Unlikely (2)	Low	The Annual Business Plan including the annual objectives was provided to the community for consultation before approval.	Quarterly reporting to monitor progress.
<b>Legal / Regulatory / Policy</b>	Minor (2)	Rare (1)	Low	Annual objectives have been incorporated in the Annual Business Plan in accordance with the legislation requirement.	N/A
<b>Service Delivery</b>	Minor (2)	Unlikely (2)	Low	Delivery of the annual objectives have been identified and incorporated in the Annual	Quarterly reporting to monitor progress.





				Business Plan giving consideration to ongoing service delivery.	
<b>People</b>	Minor (2)	Unlikely (2)	Low	As above.	Quarterly reporting to monitor progress.
<b>Infrastructure</b>	Insignificant (1)	Rare (1)	Low	N/A	N/A
<b>Environmental</b>	Insignificant (1)	Rare (1)	Low	N/A	N/A

### APPLICATION OF MOUNT GAMBIER 2035

#### Environment and Liveability

As included in the annual objectives that relate to environment and liveability.

#### Learning and Innovation

As included in the annual objectives that relate to learning and innovation.

#### Infrastructure and Services

As included in the annual objectives that relate to infrastructure and services.

#### Economic and Business Growth

As included in the annual objectives that relate to economic and business growth.

#### A Vibrant Community

As included in the annual objectives that relate to a vibrant community.

### APPLICATION OF STRATEGIC PLAN

#### Goal 1 Our People

- 1.1 Community based organisations and networks - Our community groups and network develop and grow to achieve their aspirations.
- 1.2 Community growth - We foster a sense of community by encouraging and supporting participation in community life.
- 1.3 Sense of community - The community grows in real terms at a rate that helps sustain and grow the services available within the City and for the region.
- 1.4 Care for the community - We will develop our service offering to the community to ensure all members have access to required levels of support.

#### Goal 2 Our Location

- 2.1 Infrastructure development and managing our current assets - We will commence work on meeting the community's aspirations for future infrastructure development, whilst managing our existing infrastructure and assets in a manner that demonstrates the pride we take in our environment.
- 2.2 Regional collaboration - Significant planning work has been done by the City of Mount Gambier, Limestone Coast Councils and Regional Development Australia (Limestone Coast). Councils within the region are keen to collaborate on a number of initiatives including land use planning, infrastructure, waste management, recycling and tourism.



- 2.3 The Crater Lakes Precinct and other areas of tourism potential - We will work with the community to investigate options that enable the Council to capitalise on the Crater Lakes Precinct and other areas of tourism potential.
- 2.4 Recognition of our indoor and outdoor sporting assets and our adventurous opportunities - We will work on capitalising on the delivery of the Community and Recreation Hub to highlight the opportunities for sporting and other community events in Mount Gambier and we will seek to leverage the adventure sports market through support to potential providers to develop activities, effective marketing and working with our partners to raise the profile of our City and region.
- 2.5 Focusing on activation, revitalisation and placemaking in our CBD - We will look to create opportunity in our CBD for all year-round activation through effective placemaking and place shaping, making it a vibrant, cohesive and safe place.

### **Goal 3 Our Diverse Economy**

- 3.1 Identity, gateways and support for our businesses - Establish a strong, positive, aspirational identity that includes the message that the City of Mount Gambier is 'Open for Business'.
- 3.2 Land use planning settings - Planning that provides for future economic and lifestyle changes and continued growth whilst protecting the natural environment.
- 3.3 Appealing and affordable housing for growth - We have appealing and affordable housing appropriate to incomes, aspirations and cultures to attract and retain new residents.
- 3.4 Tourism is contributing to a diverse economy and creating opportunity - Mount Gambier, its surrounding townships and the tourism region are positioned as an unique and desirable activity-based destination for travellers from Adelaide and Melbourne.
- 3.5 Reusing, recycling and waste management - We will work with the community to ensure there is better understanding of the impacts and responsible options available for reuse, recycling and waste management, including investigations as to how the city and region can be more self-sufficient.

### **Goal 4 Our Climate, Natural Resources, Arts, Culture and Heritage**

- 4.1 Natural assets - We are effective at protecting and conserving the high-quality values of our natural environment.
- 4.2 Open Space - We will ensure that future growth is planned in a manner that provides access to, and does not detract from, the community's environmental values.
- 4.4 Recreational and cultural pursuits - We will ensure that community members are provided with opportunities for cultural growth and development through provision of innovative services and programs.
- 4.5 A City brought to life with public art - We will ensure that opportunities for public art are created within our city, this means not just spaces for the artwork, but also spaces where creative industries can connect and flourish.

### **Goal 5 Our Commitment**

- 5 Our Commitment

## **RELEVANT COUNCIL POLICY**

N/A



---

## **IMPLEMENTATION, COMMUNICATION AND ENGAGEMENT**

N/A

## **CONCLUSION**

That Council note the progress as at Quarter 1 of FY2024/2025 as provided in this report and the attachment.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

1. City of Mount Gambier Annual Objectives Progress Q1 2024 Report [**18.9.1** - 14 pages]



# Annual Business Plan 2024 - 2025

## Quarter 1 Progress Against Annual Objectives

November 2024

City of  
Mount Gambier





# ORGANISATIONAL OVERVIEW






## Annual Objectives Dashboard




# GOAL 1 – Our People

## Annual Objectives Dashboard



	Annual Objective	KPI	Responsibility	Status	Comments/ Highlights
1.1.	Enhance the experience and quality of City of Mount Gambier's volunteer program.	Deliver Year 1 of the Volunteer Management Plan and report progress towards measures of success.	Corporate & Regulatory Services		Recruitment for a Volunteer Coordinator is underway and volunteer recognition program being administered by the People and Culture team.
1.2	Ensure equity of access and an inclusive environment for all people living within our community.	Development of the Disability Access and Inclusion Plan 2024-2028 and supporting implementation plan.	City and Community Growth		The State Government is currently reviewing the State Disability Access and Inclusion Plan (DAIP) and all Local Governments will be required to align their DAIP with the new State version. The due date for Council's DAIP has been extended to six months following the gazetting of the updated State DAIP.
1.3.	Administer a Grants and Sponsorship Program that supports initiatives and projects, in partnership with our community, that strengthen and respond to Council's Strategic Plan.	Administer two rounds for the allocation of grant and sponsorship funds in accordance with the Policy and review for economic impact.	City and Community Growth		Round one has been completed, with a revision currently underway for process improvement. Two events from the first round are still pending outcomes: Fringe Mount Gambier and New Year's Eve.
1.4	Progress towards the development of a new Reconciliation Action Plan.		City and Community Growth		Yerkalapata Community Reference Group met in October 2024 to progress reconciliation agenda.
1.5	Monitor the activation and management of the Wulanda Recreation and Convention Centre.		City and Community Growth		Reporting and operational meetings occurring as per schedule. Review of reporting to streamline and create efficiencies has been undertaken.

	Annual Objective	KPI	Responsibility	Status	Comments/ Highlights
1.6.	Deliver effective dog and cat management initiatives and services.	Deliver Year 1 of the Dog and Cat Management Plan 2024 - 2028 and report on progress.	Corporate & Regulatory Services		Council's website has been updated and content will continue to be reviewed as required. Signage for on-leash/ off-leash areas audited and updated. Continue to promote responsible pet ownership. Council's Impounded Dogs Facebook page has been successful in helping to reunite dogs with their owners and will continue to be reviewed for improvement. Good working relationships with rehoming partners for those dogs unable to be reunited with their owners and require rehoming.




# GOAL 2 – Our Location

## Annual Objectives Dashboard







	Annual Objective	KPI	Responsibility	Status	Comments/ Highlights
2.1.	Deliver the adopted capital works program.	Regular reporting to Council on progress.	City Infrastructure	●	Quarter 1 report provided at the October Council Meeting.
2.2.	Deliver asset management program for 2024/ 2025 and new asset management planning approach for implement in 2025/2026.	Delivery of new Asset Classes and supporting Asset Management Plans to inform 2025/2026 budget.	City Infrastructure	●	Work is underway to ensure effective asset management and finance system integration which will support management and statutory reporting. Work will feed into FY26 budget process.
2.3.	Ensure strategic management of Council property assets and supporting policy framework to guide decision making in relation to Council's property needs and Council owned land.	City of Mount Gambier Property Management Strategy and supporting implementation framework endorsed by Council.	Corporate and Regulatory Services	●	Project Plan in development with an overarching framework and objectives, workstreams / sub-projects, timelines and resourcing / budget implications in order to commence implementation. Likely to be finalised November 2024.
2.4	Shaping the urban design of our City.	Participate in the Regional Planning process and develop an Urban Planning and Design Framework.	City and Community Growth	●	Meeting scheduled with the Housing Infrastructure Planning and Development Unit to discuss urban design approach. Meet with PLUS on the Regional Plan with a first draft expected in the first quarter of 2025.
2.5	Enhancement and protection of our unique natural resources.	Utilise the endorsed vision and guiding principles to progress the Crater Lakes Activation Plan and delivery of supporting implementation plan.	City and Community Growth	●	Progressing the Cultural Heritage Assessment and Cultural Heritage Management Plan. Reviewed and updated induction process for events within the Crater Lakes Precinct.

	Annual Objective	KPI	Responsibility	Status	Comments/ Highlights
2.6.	Implement initiatives and activities that support the vibrancy and resilience of Mount Gambier's CBD.	Develop CBD Activation Action Plan.	City and Community Growth		Engaged with Place Score to assist in identifying the most important aspects of the city centre to the community and reveal how the CBD is performing. Next information briefing session with Elected Members to take place in December 2024.

# GOAL 3 – Our Diverse Economy Annual Objectives Dashboard








	Annual Objective	KPI	Responsibility	Status	Comments/ Highlights
3.1.	Continue to strengthen partnerships and advocate for community opportunities and challenges in accordance with the City of Mount Gambier Partnership Priorities and Advocacy 2024 - 2025.		City and Community Growth		Developed a suite of one-page summaries that capture the most critical priorities listed in the Partnership Priorities and Advocacy 2024 - 2025 to feed into the advocacy strategy for the election cycles for the State and Federal Governments.
3.2.	Improve housing affordability and accessibility in Mount Gambier.	Affordable Housing Strategy for Mount Gambier adopted by Council and monitor its implementation.	City and Community Growth		Regular meetings are taking place with a range of stakeholders across the housing sector. Aligning this work activity with the CBD Activation Action Plan.
3.3.	Enhance the visitor experience for tourists coming to Mount Gambier.	Implementation of new visitor servicing model for Mount Gambier.	City and Community Growth		First new spoke from the Hub & Spoke visitor servicing model is now open at Englebrecht Cave. Currently planning for opening of second spoke site.
3.4	Deliver Waste Management Strategy and Masterplanning.	Finalise a Waste Management Masterplan and implementation strategy.	City Infrastructure		Masterplan is in its final stages of the draft being completed. Have now received a summary of a weekly FOGO proposal for consideration. Likely to be finalised by the end of the calendar year.

# GOAL 4 – Our Climate, Natural Resources, Arts, Culture and Heritage

## Annual Objectives Dashboard






	Annual Objective	KPI	Responsibility	Status	Comments/ Highlights
4.1.	Undertake masterplans for Council's Open Space assets and seek opportunities for grant funding or other options to progress the masterplan outcomes.	Complete a masterplan for Umpherston Sinkhole/ Balumbul and commence masterplan for Vansittart Park. Seek opportunities for grant funding or other options to progress the Blue Lake Sports Park Masterplan.	City and Community Growth		Scope for Umpherstone Sinkhole/ Balumbul is drafted and preliminary work commenced for Vansittart Park. A holistic governance model has been presented to tenants at Blue Lakes Sports Park and awaiting feedback.
4.2.	Enhance vibrancy, promote cultural identity and provide a unique attraction in Mount Gambier through an iconic work of art.	Deliver a beacon art project and agree the approach for future similar projects.	City and Community Growth		The shortlisted work by Huna Studio was approved by Council at the October Council Meeting and we are progressing with the contract with the artists. Council will be provided with options for the location of the art work at the November Council Meeting.
4.3.	Shape an arts and culture strategy for Mount Gambier.	Deliver a City of Mount Gambier Arts Strategy providing strategic direction for the Riddoch Arts and Cultural Centre.	City and Community Growth		The Riddoch Arts and Cultural Centre Strategic Plan is currently being drafted with a view to workshop with Council in January. Community consultation will follow in February 2025.

# GOAL 5 – Our Commitment Annual Objectives Dashboard





	Annual Objective	KPI	Responsibility	Status	Comments/ Highlights
5.1.	Enhance Council's Business Systems and Infrastructure to support service delivery and performance.	Undertake business process review and alignment and data management strategy.	Corporate and Regulatory Services		Business Process Reviews undertaken for payroll and accounts payable. Currently coordinating quote and contract with the vendor to determine final project timelines.
5.2.	Develop and deliver a Workforce Planning Framework to ensure effective resourcing to support service delivery.	Develop a service register, service review framework and commence workforce analysis.	Corporate and Regulatory Services		Draft service register has been developed pending internal consultation and Continuous Improvement Adviser role currently out for recruitment to support the development and implementation of service review framework and workforce planning.
5.3.	Shape a community vision to 2035 and a strategic plan that outlines Council's contribution to achieving this vision.	Mount Gambier 2035 and City of Mount Gambier Strategic Plan adopted by Council.	CEO's Office		Mount Gambier 2035 adopted by Council in July 2024. Council's Strategic Plan 2024 - 2025 due for completion November 2024.

## 18.10 STATUTORY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2024

Author: Kahli Rolton, Manager Financial Services

Authoriser: Jane Fetherstonhaugh, General Manager Corporate and Regulatory Services

### RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council report titled 'Statutory Financial Statements for the Year Ending 30 June 2024' as presented on Tuesday 19 November 2024 be noted.
2. That the audited Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2024, as attached, be adopted.
3. That the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer be authorised to certify the financial statements in their final form.

### PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to present Council with formal recommendations to administer all things necessary to adopt and finalise the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2024 following presentation via the Audit and Risk Committee.

### BACKGROUND / OPTIONS

#### Audit and Risk Committee - Recommendation

At the Audit and Risk Committee (the Committee) meeting held on 28 October 2024, the Draft 2023/2024 Financial Statements were presented and the Committee resolved: *"That the Audit and Risk Committee advises Council that in accordance with Section 126(4(a)) of the Local Government Act 1999, it has reviewed the draft annual financial statements of Council for the financial year 2024 and 'they present fairly the state of affairs of the council'."*

#### Audit and Risk Committee - Report

Full details of the Financial Statements and associated external audit completion report are detailed in the Audit and Risk Committee reports and attachments as presented at the meeting held on 28 October 2024. The Minutes and full details are linked to this Council Agenda (November 2024). Attachment 1 to this report contains an unsigned version of the General Purpose Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2024.

#### External Audit

External Auditors, Dean Newbery have provided an unmodified audit completion report subject to the successful completion of outstanding matters noted.

### CONCLUSION

The financial statements are general purpose statements representing the financial performance of the Council for the 2023/2024 financial year and the financial position as at 30 June 2024. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards, Local Government Act 1999 and Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011.

### ATTACHMENTS

1. Annual Financial Statements- GPF S-2024 [18.10.1 - 46 pages]

# City of Mount Gambier

## GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 30 June 2024

---

City of Mount Gambier

General Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

---

Contents	Page
<b>Council certificate</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Principal Financial Statements</b>	
Statement of Comprehensive Income	3
Statement of Financial Position	4
Statement of Changes in Equity	5
Statement of Cash Flows	6
<b>Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Independent Auditor's Report – Financial Statements</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>Independent Auditor's Report – Internal Controls</b>	<b>42</b>
<b>Certificates of Audit Independence</b>	
Council Certificate of Audit Independence	44
Audit Certificate of Audit Independence	45



## City of Mount Gambier

### General Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

---

#### 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 2024 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.

---

Sarah Philpott  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

Date:

---

Lynette Martin  
**MAYOR**

Date:

City of Mount Gambier

Statement of Comprehensive Income

for the year ended 30 June 2024

\$ '000	Notes	2024	Restated 2023
<b>Income</b>			
Rates	2a	26,488	24,893
Statutory charges	2b	781	731
User charges	2c	9,179	6,947
Grants, subsidies and contributions - capital	2g	559	1,071
Grants, subsidies and contributions - operating	2g	1,102	6,402
Investment income	2d	54	49
Reimbursements	2e	1,230	755
Other income	2f	2,668	551
<b>Total income</b>		<u>42,061</u>	<u>41,399</u>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Employee costs	3a	15,292	14,365
Materials, contracts and other expenses	3b	19,320	17,460
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment	3c	10,795	10,176
Finance costs	3d	1,822	1,094
<b>Total expenses</b>		<u>47,229</u>	<u>43,095</u>
Operating surplus / (deficit)		<u>(5,168)</u>	<u>(1,696)</u>
Physical resources received free of charge	2i	2,053	1,054
Asset disposal and fair value adjustments	4	(1,475)	(364)
Amounts received specifically for new or upgraded assets	2g	216	5,808
Net surplus / (deficit)		<u>(4,374)</u>	<u>4,802</u>
<b>Other comprehensive income</b>			
<b>Amounts which will not be reclassified subsequently to operating result</b>			
Changes in revaluation surplus - I,PP&E	8a	45,425	90,897
Impairment (expense) / recoupments offset to asset revaluation reserve	8a	(177)	(575)
<b>Total amounts which will not be reclassified subsequently to operating result</b>		<u>45,248</u>	<u>90,322</u>
<b>Total other comprehensive income</b>		<u>45,248</u>	<u>90,322</u>
<b>Total comprehensive income</b>		<u>40,874</u>	<u>95,124</u>

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

City of Mount Gambier

Statement of Financial Position

as at 30 June 2024

\$ '000	Notes	2024	Restated 2023
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>Current assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalent assets	5a	270	76
Trade and other receivables	5b	2,531	3,443
Inventories	5c	76	67
<b>Subtotal</b>		<u>2,877</u>	<u>3,586</u>
Non-current assets held for sale	17	335	–
<b>Total current assets</b>		<u>3,212</u>	<u>3,586</u>
<b>Non-current assets</b>			
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	6	445,641	399,756
<b>Total non-current assets</b>		<u>445,641</u>	<u>399,756</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<u>448,853</u>	<u>403,342</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Trade and other payables	7a	5,317	4,801
Borrowings	7b	9,986	7,088
Provisions	7c	3,561	3,011
<b>Total current liabilities</b>		<u>18,864</u>	<u>14,900</u>
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>			
Borrowings	7b	27,079	24,519
Provisions	7c	1,608	3,495
<b>Total non-current liabilities</b>		<u>28,687</u>	<u>28,014</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<u>47,551</u>	<u>42,914</u>
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>401,302</u>	<u>360,428</u>
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Accumulated surplus		87,287	87,644
Asset revaluation reserves	8a	312,693	271,174
Other reserves	8b	1,322	1,610
<b>Total equity</b>		<u>401,302</u>	<u>360,428</u>

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

City of Mount Gambier

Statement of Changes in Equity

for the year ended 30 June 2024

\$ '000	Notes	Accumulated surplus	Asset revaluation reserve	Other reserves	Total equity
<b>2024</b>					
Balance as at 1 July		87,644	271,174	1,610	360,428
Net surplus / (deficit) for year		(4,374)	–	–	(4,374)
<b>Other comprehensive income</b>					
Gain (loss) on revaluation of IPP&E	6a	–	45,425	–	45,425
IPP&E impairment (expense) / recoupments offset to ARR	6a	–	(177)	–	(177)
<b>Other comprehensive income</b>		–	45,248	–	45,248
<b>Total comprehensive income</b>		(4,374)	45,248	–	40,874
Transfers between reserves	8b	288	–	(288)	–
Transfer between ARR and Accumulated surplus		3,729	(3,729)	–	–
<b>Balance at the end of period</b>		87,287	312,693	1,322	401,302

\$ '000	Notes	Accumulated surplus Restated	Asset revaluation reserve	Other reserves Restated	Total equity Restated
<b>2023</b>					
Balance as at 1 July		83,080	180,852	1,372	265,304
Net surplus / (deficit) for year		4,802	–	–	4,802
<b>Other comprehensive income</b>					
Gain (loss) on revaluation of IPP&E	6a	–	90,897	–	90,897
IPP&E impairment (expense) / recoupments offset to ARR	6a	–	(575)	–	(575)
<b>Other comprehensive income</b>		–	90,322	–	90,322
<b>Total comprehensive income</b>		4,802	90,322	–	95,124
Transfers between reserves	8b	(238)	–	238	–
Transfer between ARR and Accumulated surplus		–	–	–	–
<b>Balance at the end of period</b>		87,644	271,174	1,610	360,428

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



City of Mount Gambier

Statement of Cash Flows

for the year ended 30 June 2024

\$ '000	Notes	2024	2023
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
<u>Receipts</u>			
Rates receipts		26,501	24,803
Statutory charges		781	731
User charges		9,179	6,947
Grants, subsidies and contributions		1,102	6,419
Investment receipts		54	49
Reimbursements		1,230	755
Other receipts		1,349	50
<u>Payments</u>			
Payments to employees		(14,663)	(14,081)
Payments for materials, contracts and other expenses		(19,843)	(15,666)
Finance payments		(1,719)	(720)
<b>Net cash provided by (or used in) operating activities</b>	9b	3,971	9,287
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>			
<u>Receipts</u>			
Grants utilised for capital purposes		307	1,071
Amounts received specifically for new or upgraded assets		216	5,142
Sale of replaced assets		110	40
Sale of surplus assets		-	20
<u>Payments</u>			
Expenditure on renewal/replacement of assets		(3,528)	(5,370)
Expenditure on new/upgraded assets		(6,188)	(18,216)
<b>Net cash provided (or used in) investing activities</b>		(9,083)	(17,313)
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>			
<u>Receipts</u>			
Proceeds from loans		8,374	10,000
Proceeds from bonds and deposits		64	22
<u>Payments</u>			
Repayments of loans		(2,930)	(1,905)
Repayment of lease liabilities		(202)	(265)
<b>Net cash provided by (or used in) financing activities</b>		5,306	7,852
<b>Net increase (decrease) in cash held</b>		194	(174)
plus: cash & cash equivalents at beginning of period		76	250
<b>Cash and cash equivalents held at end of period</b>	9a	270	76

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

## City of Mount Gambier

### Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2024

#### Contents of the Notes accompanying the General Purpose Financial Statements

---

Note	Details	Page
1	Summary of Material Accounting Policies	8
2	Income	13
3	Expenses	16
4	Asset disposal and fair value adjustments	17
5	Current assets	18
6	Infrastructure, property, plant & equipment and investment property	19
7	Liabilities	23
8	Reserves	24
9	Reconciliation to Statement of Cash Flows	25
10(a)	Functions	27
10(b)	Components of functions	28
11	Financial instruments	29
12	Capital expenditure and investment property commitments	32
13	Financial indicators	33
14	Uniform presentation of finances	34
15	Leases	35
16	Superannuation	36
17	Non-current assets held for sale and discontinued operations	37
18	Contingencies and assets/liabilities not recognised in the balance sheet	37
19	Related party transactions	38
20	Equity – retained earnings and revaluation reserves adjustments	38

## City of Mount Gambier

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

for the year ended 30 June 2024

#### Note 1. Summary of Material Accounting Policies

---

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

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

##### **(1) Basis of preparation**

###### **1.1 Compliance with Australian Accounting Standards**

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

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

###### **1.2 Historical cost convention**

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

###### **1.2 Critical accounting estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Australian Accounting Standards requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates and requires management to exercise its judgement in applying Council's accounting policies.

The areas involving a higher degree of judgement or complexity, or areas where assumptions and estimates are significant to the financial statements are specifically referred to in the relevant sections of this Note.

###### **1.3 Rounding**

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

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

City of Mount Gambier is incorporated under the SA Local Government Act 1999 and has its principal place of business at 10 Watson Terrace, Mount Gambier. These consolidated financial statements include the Council's direct operations and all entities through which Council controls resources to carry on its functions. In the process of reporting on the Council as a single unit, all transactions and balances between activity areas and controlled entities have been eliminated.

##### **(3) Income recognition**

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

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

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

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:

City of Mount Gambier

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements  
 for the year ended 30 June 2024

Note 1. Summary of Material Accounting Policies (continued)

	Cash Payment Received	Annual Allocation	Difference
2021/22	\$5,134,125	\$3,891,585	+ \$1,242,540
2022/23	\$5,541,926	\$4,227,169	+ \$1,314,757
2023/24	\$263,252	\$4,618,149	-\$4,354,897

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.

**Construction contracts**

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

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

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

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

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

All financial instruments are recognised at fair value at the date of recognition. A detailed statement of the accounting policies applied to financial instruments also form part of Note 11.

**(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.



## City of Mount Gambier

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

for the year ended 30 June 2024

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

---

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

###### **6.1 Initial recognition**

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

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

###### **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 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 6. No capitalisation threshold is applied to the acquisition of land or interests in land or the Riddoch Art Collection.

###### **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 6.

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

Other than land, footpath nature strips, the Les Hill Collection and the Riddoch art Collection, 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. Waste management assets are depreciated on an asset capacity in use basis.

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 6. 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.

##### **(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.

continued on next page ...

Page 10 of 45

## City of Mount Gambier

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

for the year ended 30 June 2024

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

---

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

Beginning 2024 financial year, cash advance debentures that are used in lieu of an overdraft facility for working capital have been reclassified to current liabilities. \$3.92M has been reclassified to current from non-current liabilities.

##### **(9) Employee benefits**

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

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

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

Weighted avg. discount rate 4.00% (2023, 3.85%)

Weighted avg. settlement period 1 year (2023, 1 year)

###### **9.2 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 16.

##### **(10) Provisions for reinstatement, restoration and rehabilitation**

Council operates the Caroline landfill site, incorporating cells which require capping upon complete fill. Capping and restoration costs can 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. Council's strategic planning aims to reduce waste to landfill and is extending the operational life of this facility. Due to this and the changing legislative environment it operates, uncertainty exists in the estimation of the future closure date. Engineering review by external consultants, Tonkins Engineering was completed 5 August 2024 to provide independent assessment of the future restoration provision as at 30 June 2024 and estimated future closure dates. Independent consultants, BRM Advisory were also engaged to complete financial modelling which has adjusted the methodology in calculating the net present value of future restoration costs over the life of the landfill site. This has resulted in an impact to other income of \$2,155,237 and subsequent reduction to the future restoration provision, liability recorded.

As at the time of preparing these financial statements, the Council is undertaking a strategic review of its waste management and disposal activities which may impact on the projected remaining filling life of the landfill activities and the landfill capping and post closure strategies. The Council has developed a waste management strategic plan which will be used as the basis for the waste master plan and may impact on the scope and timing of future works connected with the closure and rehabilitation of the landfill site. Consequently, the value of the landfill liability provisions may be subject to material changes once the review of the landfill capping and closure estimates is completed in line with the adoption of the waste master plan. Users of the financial statements should be aware of this potential material change in the future and in context of the key assumptions and estimates relating to the landfill liabilities recorded on the Balance Sheet.

## City of Mount Gambier

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

for the year ended 30 June 2024

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

---

##### **(11) Leases**

The Council assesses at contract inception whether a contract is, or contains, a lease. That is, if the contract conveys the right to control the use of an identified asset for a period of time in exchange for consideration.

Council as a lessee

The Council recognises lease liabilities to make lease payments and right-of-use assets representing the right to use the underlying assets.

##### i) Right-of-Use-Assets

The Council recognises right-of-use assets at the commencement date of the lease. Right-of-use assets are measured at cost, less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses, and adjusted for any remeasurement of lease liabilities. The cost of right-of-use assets includes the amount of lease liabilities recognised, initial direct costs incurred, lease payments made at or before the commencement date less any lease incentives received and the estimate of costs to be incurred to restore the leased asset.

Right of use assets are depreciated on a straight-line basis over the shorter of the lease term and the estimated useful lives of the assets, as follows:

Office equipment	2 to 5 years
Land Improvements	1 year

The right-of-use assets are also subject to impairment. Refer to the accounting policies in section 6.5 - Impairment of non-financial assets above.

##### ii) Lease Liabilities

At the commencement date of the lease, the Council recognises lease liabilities measured at the present value of lease payments to be made over the lease term. In calculating the present value of lease payments, the Council uses its incremental borrowing rate or the interest rate implicit in the lease.

##### **(12) New accounting standards and UIG interpretations**

Council has assessed all the standards / interpretations which are yet effective and have determined that there is no expected material impact on the reported financial position or performance.

City of Mount Gambier

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements  
for the year ended 30 June 2024

Note 2. Income

\$ '000	2024	2023
<b>(a) Rates</b>		
<b>General rates</b>		
General rates	22,164	20,874
Less: mandatory rebates	(269)	(240)
Less: discretionary rebates, remissions and write-offs	(17)	(18)
<b>Total general rates</b>	<u>21,878</u>	<u>20,616</u>
<b>Other rates (including service charges)</b>		
Landscape levy	1,352	1,240
Waste collection	3,097	2,916
<b>Total other rates (including service charges)</b>	<u>4,449</u>	<u>4,156</u>
<b>Other charges</b>		
Penalties for late payment	122	93
Legal and other costs recovered	39	28
<b>Total other charges</b>	<u>161</u>	<u>121</u>
<b>Total rates</b>	<u>26,488</u>	<u>24,893</u>
<b>(b) Statutory charges</b>		
Development fees	189	200
Town planning fees	250	171
Animal registration fees and fines	223	245
Parking fines / expiation fees	42	44
Other licences, fees and fines	77	71
<b>Total statutory charges</b>	<u>781</u>	<u>731</u>
<b>(c) User charges</b>		
Cemetery/crematoria fees	911	834
Hall and equipment hire	14	19
Property lease	298	256
Sales - general	76	164
Sundry	36	49
Wulanda	2,726	1,310
Green Waste Collection	35	35
Landfill Charges	4,711	3,930
Sales - Waste Transfer Station	372	350
<b>Total user charges</b>	<u>9,179</u>	<u>6,947</u>
<b>(d) Investment income</b>		
Local Government Finance Authority	53	48
- Banks and other	1	1
<b>Total investment income</b>	<u>54</u>	<u>49</u>

continued on next page ...

Page 13 of 45



City of Mount Gambier

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements  
for the year ended 30 June 2024

Note 2. Income (continued)

\$ '000	2024	2023
<b>(e) Reimbursements</b>		
Private works	19	9
Wulanda	975	649
Other	236	97
<b>Total reimbursements</b>	<b>1,230</b>	<b>755</b>

\$ '000	2024	2023 Restated
<b>(f) Other income</b>		
Insurance and other recoupments - infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	80	95
Sundry	361	285
Donations	72	64
Open Space Contributions	-	107
Caroline Landfill	2,155	-
<b>Total other income</b>	<b>2,668</b>	<b>551</b>

\$ '000	2024	2023
<b>(g) Grants, subsidies and contributions</b>		
<b>Capital grants, subsidies and contributions</b>		
Amounts received specifically for new or upgraded assets	216	5,808
<b>Total amounts received for new or upgraded assets</b>	<b>216</b>	<b>5,808</b>
<b>Other grants, subsidies and contributions - capital</b>		
Untied - Local Roads and Community Infrastructure	509	904
Boundary Roads Contributions	50	167
<b>Total Other grants, subsidies and contributions - capital</b>	<b>559</b>	<b>1,071</b>
<b>Operating grants, subsidies and contributions</b>		
Regional Transport Subsidy Program	134	159
Untied - Financial Assistance Grant	263	5,542
Roads to Recovery	430	421
Library and communications	165	165
Sundry	110	115
<b>Total other grants, subsidies and contributions - operating</b>	<b>1,102</b>	<b>6,402</b>
<b>Total grants, subsidies and contributions</b>	<b>1,877</b>	<b>13,281</b>

continued on next page ...

Page 14 of 45

City of Mount Gambier

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

Note 2. Income (continued)

\$ '000	2024	2023
<b>(i) Sources of grants</b>		
Commonwealth Government	950	6,267
State Government	793	6,771
Other	134	243
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,877</b>	<b>13,281</b>

(h) Conditions over grants and contributions

Grants and contributions which were obtained on the condition that they be expended for specified purposes or in a future period, but which are not yet expended in accordance with those conditions, and are required to be repaid to the funding body if not expended, are as follows:

<b>Unexpended at the close of the previous reporting period</b>	<b>294</b>	<b>435</b>
<b>Less:</b>		
<i>Expended during the current period from revenues recognised in previous reporting periods</i>		
Pine Hall / O'Leary Road	(12)	(363)
Tertiary Education	(30)	(16)
State Bicycle	(7)	(19)
Pinehall Avenue (O'Leary Road to Sunnybrae Road)	(208)	-
Margaret Worth Exhibition	(25)	-
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>(282)</b>	<b>(398)</b>
<b>Plus:</b>		
<i>Amounts recognised as revenues in this reporting period but not yet expended in accordance with the conditions</i>		
Tertiary Education	22	24
Pinehall Avenue (O'Leary Road to Sunnybrae Road)	-	208
Margaret Worth Exhibition	-	25
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>257</b>
<b>Unexpended at the close of this reporting period</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>294</b>
<b>Net increase (decrease) in assets subject to conditions in the current reporting period</b>	<b>(260)</b>	<b>(141)</b>

(i) Physical resources received free of charge

Land and improvements	23	60
Roads	1,231	707
Stormwater drainage	508	-
Footpaths & Kerbing	291	287
<b>Total physical resources received free of charge</b>	<b>2,053</b>	<b>1,054</b>

City of Mount Gambier

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements  
for the year ended 30 June 2024

Note 3. Expenses

\$ '000	Notes	2024	2023
<b>(a) Employee costs</b>			
Salaries and wages		12,429	11,755
Employee leave expense		1,617	1,405
Superannuation	16	1,512	1,352
Workers' compensation insurance		590	313
Other employee related costs		56	40
Less: capitalised and distributed costs		(912)	(500)
<b>Total operating employee costs</b>		<b>15,292</b>	<b>14,365</b>
Total number of employees (full time equivalent at end of reporting period)		143	135
 <b>(b) Materials, contracts and other expenses</b>			
<b>(i) Prescribed expenses</b>			
Auditor's remuneration			
- Auditing the financial reports		28	27
Elected members' expenses		243	218
Election expenses		10	166
<b>Subtotal - prescribed expenses</b>		<b>281</b>	<b>411</b>
<b>(ii) Other materials, contracts and expenses</b>			
Contractors		8,100	6,487
Energy		1,827	1,716
Legal expenses		219	193
Levies Paid to Government - Regional Landscape levy recovered		1,351	1,241
Sundry		189	806
Contributions/Donations		547	460
Insurance		635	378
Levies Paid to Government - EPA, ESL & Dog Levies		1,925	1,985
Materials		1,564	1,413
Training		133	178
Water		257	158
Communication		238	274
Consultants		722	519
Licences and Subscriptions		1,332	1,241
<b>Subtotal - Other material, contracts and expenses</b>		<b>19,039</b>	<b>17,049</b>
<b>Total materials, contracts and other expenses</b>		<b>19,320</b>	<b>17,460</b>

City of Mount Gambier

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements  
for the year ended 30 June 2024

Note 3. Expenses (continued)

\$ '000	2024	2023
<b>(c) Depreciation, amortisation and impairment</b>		
<b>(i) Depreciation and amortisation</b>		
Buildings and other structures	4,560	3,525
Infrastructure		
Stormwater Drainage	319	125
Kerbing and Footpaths	1,603	1,238
Roads	2,400	2,020
Carparks	240	256
Right-of-use assets	217	196
Plant and equipment	775	692
Waste Management	345	1,754
Office Equipment	281	208
Other assets	49	47
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>10,789</b>	<b>10,061</b>
<b>(ii) Impairment</b>		
Capital Work In Progress	6	58
Other Assets	-	57
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>115</b>
<b>Total depreciation, amortisation and impairment</b>	<b>10,795</b>	<b>10,176</b>
<b>(d) Finance costs</b>		
Interest on loans	1,706	1,079
Interest on leases	32	15
Unwinding of present value discounts	84	-
<b>Total finance costs</b>	<b>1,822</b>	<b>1,094</b>

Note 4. Asset disposal and fair value adjustments

\$ '000	2024	2023
<b>Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment</b>		
<b>(i) Assets renewed or directly replaced</b>		
Proceeds from disposal	110	40
Less: carrying amount of assets sold	(1,469)	(404)
<b>Gain (loss) on disposal</b>	<b>(1,359)</b>	<b>(364)</b>
<b>(ii) Assets surplus to requirements</b>		
Proceeds from disposal	-	20
Less: carrying amount of assets sold	(116)	(20)
<b>Gain (loss) on disposal</b>	<b>(116)</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net gain (loss) on disposal or revaluation of assets</b>	<b>(1,475)</b>	<b>(364)</b>



City of Mount Gambier

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements  
 for the year ended 30 June 2024

Note 5. Current assets

\$ '000	2024	2023
<b>(a) Cash and cash equivalent assets</b>		
Cash on hand and at bank	270	76
<b>Total cash and cash equivalent assets</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>76</b>

\$ '000	2024	2023 Restated
<b>(b) Trade and other receivables</b>		
Rates - general and other	873	886
Accrued revenues	-	500
Debtors - general	1,333	1,891
GST recoupment	323	70
Prepayments	2	96
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>2,531</b>	<b>3,443</b>
<b>Total trade and other receivables</b>	<b>2,531</b>	<b>3,443</b>

\$ '000	2024	2023
<b>(c) Inventories</b>		
Stores and materials	22	37
Trading stock	54	30
<b>Total inventories</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>67</b>

City of Mount Gambier

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements  
for the year ended 30 June 2024

Note 6. Infrastructure, property, plant & equipment and investment property

Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment

	Fair Value Level	as at 30/06/23				Asset movements during the reporting period										as at 30/06/24				
		At Fair Value	At Cost	Accumulated Depreciation	Carrying amount	Asset Additions New / Upgrade	Asset Additions Renewals	WDV of Asset Disposals	Depreciation Expense (Note 3c)	Impairment Loss (recognised in P/L) (Note 3c)	Impairment Loss (recognised in Equity) (Note 5)	WIP Transfers	Adjustments & Transfers	Adjustments	Trs from/to "held for sale" category	Revaluation Increments to Equity (ARR) (Note 5)	At Fair Value	At Cost	Accumulated Depreciation	Carrying amount
Waste Management	3	10,231	-	(9,841)	390	344	-	-	(345)	-	-	-	-	(232)	-	-	-	9,783	(9,626)	157
Capital work in progress		-	2,362	-	2,362	3,612	678	-	-	(6)	-	(2,307)	-	-	-	-	-	4,339	-	4,339
Land	2	18,039	-	-	18,039	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(18,039)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Land	3	44,727	-	-	44,727	23	-	-	-	-	(25)	-	18,039	-	(335)	7,157	69,586	-	-	69,586
Office Equipment		-	4,206	(1,818)	2,388	-	29	(4)	(281)	-	-	59	-	-	-	-	-	4,110	(1,919)	2,191
Riddoch Collection	3	4,356	-	-	4,356	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,356	-	4,356
Buildings and other structures	2	3,987	33	(2,232)	1,788	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(1,788)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Buildings and other structures	3	101,198	64,300	(53,206)	112,292	1,515	203	(116)	(4,560)	-	(140)	1,609	2,646	-	-	15,625	193,052	852	(64,830)	129,074
Stormwater Drainage	3	8,022	1,831	(2,596)	7,257	557	-	-	(319)	-	(12)	1	-	-	-	18,646	36,090	62	(10,022)	26,130
Kerbing and Footpaths	3	95,653	-	(21,373)	74,280	340	524	(255)	(1,603)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	95,545	675	(22,934)	73,286
Roads (sub-base, pavement, seal, traffic lights)	3	149,113	-	(34,156)	114,957	2,290	1,320	(1,056)	(2,300)	-	-	637	-	-	-	-	148,594	3,537	(36,283)	115,848
Public Lighting		-	1,573	(24)	1,549	-	-	-	(35)	-	-	-	(858)	-	-	-	-	712	(56)	656
Infrastructure - Other (Retaining walls, safety barriers)		-	412	(15)	397	217	-	(46)	(65)	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,932	5,471	358	(1,394)	4,435
Carparks	3	10,451	162	(3,378)	7,235	-	72	(4)	(240)	-	-	1	-	-	-	65	10,497	168	(3,536)	7,129
Right-of-use assets		-	614	(337)	277	-	14	-	(217)	-	-	-	-	192	-	-	-	625	(359)	266
Plant and equipment		-	10,151	(3,966)	6,185	317	1,299	(147)	(775)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11,272	(4,393)	6,879	
Other assets		-	1,590	(313)	1,277	81	-	-	(49)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,672	(363)	1,309
<b>Total infrastructure, property, plant and equipment</b>		<b>445,777</b>	<b>87,234</b>	<b>(133,255)</b>	<b>399,756</b>	<b>9,296</b>	<b>4,139</b>	<b>(1,628)</b>	<b>(10,789)</b>	<b>(6)</b>	<b>(177)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(40)</b>	<b>(335)</b>	<b>45,425</b>	<b>563,191</b>	<b>38,165</b>	<b>(155,715)</b>	<b>445,641</b>
Comparatives		323,939	94,416	(117,184)	301,171	13,965	4,898	(424)	(10,061)	(115)	(575)	-	-	-	-	90,897	445,777	87,234	(133,255)	399,756

continued on next page ...

## City of Mount Gambier

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

for the year ended 30 June 2024

#### Note 6. Infrastructure, property, plant & equipment and investment property (continued)

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

###### Valuation of assets

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

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

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

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

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

Refer to Note 6a for the disclosure of the Fair Value Levels of Infrastructure, Property, Plant and Equipment Assets.

###### Information on valuations

Fair value hierarchy level 2 valuations - External valuation completed as at 1 July 2024 on buildings and structures used the current gross replacement cost with fair value level 3 inputs. Due to this certain buildings and structures and land thereon that were previously recorded as fair value level 2 have been transferred to fair value level 3.

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

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

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

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

###### Other information

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

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

###### Highest and best use

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

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

continued on next page ...

Page 20 of 45

## City of Mount Gambier

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

for the year ended 30 June 2024

#### Note 6. Infrastructure, property, plant & equipment and investment property (continued)

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

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

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

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

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

#### Capitalisation Thresholds

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

	\$
Office Furniture & Equipment	5,000
Other Plant & Equipment	5,000
Buildings - new construction/extensions	5,000
Park & Playground Furniture & Equipment	5,000
Road construction & reconstruction	5,000
Paving & Footpaths, Kerb & Gutter	5,000
Stormwater Drainage	5,000
Waste Management	5,000

#### Estimated Useful Lives

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

##### *Plant, Furniture & Equipment*

Office Equipment	3 to 10 years
Vehicles and Road-making Equipment	3 to 25 years
Other Plant & Equipment	3 to 30 years

##### *Building & Other Structures*

Buildings	15 to 250 years
Park Structures	20 to 30 years
Playground Equipment	20 to 40 years
Benches, Seats, etc	10 to 30 years

##### *Waste Management*

Landfill assets	capacity in use
-----------------	-----------------

##### *Infrastructure*

Sealed Roads - Surface	15 to 40 years
Sealed Roads - Structure	40 to 240 years
Unsealed Roads	12 to 75 years
Paving and Footpaths, Kerb and Gutter	10 to 80 years
Carparks	15 - 80 years
Public Lighting	20 years
Stormwater Drainage	50 to 125 years

continued on next page ...

Page 21 of 45



## City of Mount Gambier

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

for the year ended 30 June 2024

#### Note 6. Infrastructure, property, plant & equipment and investment property (continued)

<i>Other Assets</i>	10 to 15 years
Artworks and Historical Collections	indefinite
Right-of-Use Assets (refer to Note 15)	life of lease

#### **Waste Management - Landfill**

Landfill remediation and cell development assets are amortised on a consumption basis over the individual landfill cell's capacity to receive waste and estimated life of the whole site. At the time of construction of a cell, Council includes the present value of estimated costs to cap the cell. This estimate is offset by the recognition of a provision. This recognition of the capping costs is amortised in line with the consumption of the landfill cell's capacity used in any one year.

#### **Land & Land Improvements**

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

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

Land was revalued as at 30 June 2024 based on Valuer General valuations provided to Council.

- Basis of valuation: Fair Value/Site value, Land Valuation Act 1971
- Date of valuation: 30 June 2024
- Valuer: Valuer General

#### **Artworks and Historical Collections**

The Riddoch Art Collection was last revalued as at 30 June 2023 by Simon Storey Art and Cultural Collection valuers. These assets and other historical collections are not depreciated.

- Basis of valuation: Fair Value
- Date of valuation: 30 June 2023
- Valuer: Simon Storey Valuers

#### **Buildings & Other Structures**

Buildings and other structures were revalued as at 1 July 2023 by Brooke Smith of AssetVal/Marsh. Revaluations occur every four years. All additions are initially recorded at cost. There has been a 13% average increase in depreciation for buildings and structures as a result of the revaluation undertaken.

- Basis of valuation: Fair Value/Market Value/Current Gross Replacement Cost
- Date of valuation: 1 July 2023
- Valuer: AssetVal

#### **Infrastructure - Stormwater, Retaining Walls and Carparks**

The valuation of Other Infrastructure including stormwater drainage, retaining walls and carpark assets were undertaken by independent valuer, Antonio Blefari MIE(Aust) NER from iinSights Pty Ltd as at 1 July 2023. There has been a 59% average increase in depreciation for Other Infrastructure as a result of the revaluation undertaken.

- Basis of valuation: Fair Value/Current Gross Replacement Cost
- Date of valuation: 1 July 2023
- Valuer: iinSights Pty Ltd

#### **Infrastructure - Kerbing and Footpaths, Roads, Public Lighting**

Infrastructure assets including footpaths, kerbs and guttering, and road assets were last revalued as at 30 June 2023 by independent valuer, Antonio Blefari MIE(Aust) NER from iinSights Pty Ltd.

- Basis of valuation: Fair Value/Current Gross Replacement Cost
- Date of valuation: 30 June 2023
- Valuer: iinSights Pty Ltd

#### **Infrastructure - Public Lighting**

These assets are recognised on the cost basis.

#### **Plant, Furniture & Equipment**

These assets are recognised on the cost basis.

#### **All other Assets**

These assets are recognised on the cost basis in the case of signage and IT assets and depreciated over their useful lives.

City of Mount Gambier

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements  
for the year ended 30 June 2024

Note 7. Liabilities

\$ '000	2024 Current	2024 Non Current	2023 Current	2023 Non Current
<b>(a) Trade and other payables</b>				
Goods and services	3,804	–	2,477	–
Payments received in advance	472	–	435	–
- Grants and contributions - capital	–	–	252	–
- Other	37	–	43	–
Accrued expenses - employee entitlements	407	–	400	–
Accrued expenses - other	412	–	1,068	–
Deposits, retentions and bonds	172	–	108	–
Other	13	–	18	–
<b>Total trade and other payables</b>	<b>5,317</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>4,801</b>	<b>–</b>

**(b) Borrowings**

Loans	9,884	26,957	6,930	24,467
Lease liabilities	102	122	158	52
<b>Total Borrowings</b>	<b>9,986</b>	<b>27,079</b>	<b>7,088</b>	<b>24,519</b>

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

**(c) Provisions**

Employee entitlements (including oncosts)	3,561	239	3,011	167
Cell capping	–	1,200	–	783
Future restoration	–	169	–	2,545
<b>Total provisions</b>	<b>3,561</b>	<b>1,608</b>	<b>3,011</b>	<b>3,495</b>

City of Mount Gambier

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

Note 8. Reserves

\$ '000	as at 30/06/23				as at 30/06/24
	Opening Balance	Increments (Decrements)	Transfers	Impairments	Closing Balance
<b>(a) Asset revaluation reserve</b>					
Land	52,123	7,156	-	(25)	59,254
Buildings and other structures	53,310	15,625	1,994	(140)	70,789
Infrastructure	156,771	22,644	827	(12)	180,230
Plant and equipment	770	-	(770)	-	-
Minor Plant	34	-	(34)	-	-
Waste Management	2,925	-	(2,925)	-	-
Other assets	5,241	-	(2,821)	-	2,420
<b>Total asset revaluation reserve</b>	<b>271,174</b>	<b>45,425</b>	<b>(3,729)</b>	<b>(177)</b>	<b>312,693</b>
Comparatives	180,852	90,897	-	(575)	271,174

\$ '000	as at 30/06/23				as at 30/06/24
	Opening Balance Restated	Tfrs to Reserve	Tfrs from Reserve	Other Movements	Closing Balance
<b>(b) Other reserves</b>					
Mount Gambier Cemetery	711	-	-	-	711
Mayor Christmas Appeal	97	40	(65)	-	72
Junior Sports Assistance Fund	128	24	(17)	-	135
Waste Service Charge	270	-	(270)	-	-
Open Space	404	-	-	-	404
<b>Total other reserves</b>	<b>1,610</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>(352)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,322</b>
Comparatives	1,372	238	-	-	1,610

**Purposes of reserves**

**Asset revaluation reserves**

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

**Other reserves**

Other Reserves are used when reserves are maintained for the purpose of specific Council committees or for committed funds of Council.

**Mount Gambier Cemetery**

The Mount Gambier Cemetery reserve represents funds that have been separated for any development works or projects that may be required at the Carinya Gardens Cemetery and crematorium.

**Mayor Christmas Appeal**

The Mayor Christmas Appeal represents bank funds and payables of the City of Mount Gambier related to the Mayor Christmas Appeal and to be used for that purpose.

City of Mount Gambier

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements  
for the year ended 30 June 2024

Note 8. Reserves (continued)

**Junior Sports Assistance Fund**

The Junior Sports Assistance Fund reserve represents bank funds and payables of the City of Mount Gambier related to the Junior Sporting Assistance Fund and to be used for that purpose.

**Waste Management**

Residual monies (income less expenses) from activities relating to waste collection.

**Open Space**

Monies held from creation of sub-divisions to be used for future open space projects.

Note 9. Reconciliation to Statement of Cash Flows

\$ '000	Notes	2024	2023
<b>(a) Reconciliation of cash</b>			
Cash assets comprise highly liquid investments with short periods to maturity subject to insignificant risk of changes of value. Cash at the end of the reporting period as shown in the Statement of Cash Flows is reconciled to the related items in the Statement of Financial Position as follows:			
Total cash and equivalent assets	5	270	76
<b>Balances per Statement of Cash Flows</b>		<b>270</b>	<b>76</b>

\$ '000	2024	2023 Restated
<b>(b) Reconciliation of Operating Result</b>		
<b>Net surplus/(deficit)</b>	(4,374)	4,802
<b>Non-cash items in income statements</b>		
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment	10,795	10,176
Non-cash asset acquisitions	(2,053)	(1,054)
Grants for capital acquisitions treated as investing activity	(775)	(6,213)
Net (gain)/loss on disposals	1,475	364
Adjustment Caroline	(2,155)	-
	<b>2,913</b>	<b>8,075</b>
<b>Add (less): changes in net current assets</b>		
Net (increase)/decrease in receivables	912	(467)
Change in allowances for under-recovery of receivables	-	2
Net (increase)/decrease in inventories	(9)	(3)
Net (increase)/decrease in other assets	-	(4)
Net increase/(decrease) in trade and other payables	(467)	1,469
Net increase/(decrease) in unpaid employee benefits	622	215
<b>Net cash provided by (or used in) operations</b>	<b>3,971</b>	<b>9,287</b>

continued on next page ...

Page 25 of 45



City of Mount Gambier

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements  
 for the year ended 30 June 2024

Note 9. Reconciliation to Statement of Cash Flows (continued)

(c) Non-cash financing and investing activities

**Acquisition of assets by means of:**

Physical resources received free of charge	2i	2,053	1,054
Amounts recognised in income statement		2,053	1,054

**Non-cash financing (other)**

Leases		14	229
<b>Total non-cash financing and investing activities</b>		<b>2,067</b>	<b>1,283</b>

(d) Financing arrangements

**Unrestricted access was available at balance date to the following lines of credit (\$ '000):**

Bank overdrafts	250	250
Corporate credit cards	30	30
LGFA cash advance debenture facility	21,500	21,500

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

City of Mount Gambier

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

Note 10(a). Functions

Income, Expenses and Assets have been directly attributed to the following Functions / Activities.  
Details of these Functions/Activities are provided in Note 10(b).

	OPERATING INCOME		OPERATING EXPENSES		OPERATING SURPLUS (DEFICIT)		GRANTS INCLUDED IN OPERATING INCOME		TOTAL ASSETS HELD (CURRENT AND NON-CURRENT)	
	2024	2023 Restated	2024	2023	2024	2023 Restated	2024	2023	2024	2023
<b>Functions/Activities</b>										
Administration / Support Services	26,025	29,541	464	8,634	25,561	20,907	263	5,542	9,933	9,675
Community Support	960	858	1,766	1,257	(806)	(399)	-	-	14,374	14,432
Culture	428	401	7,167	4,702	(6,739)	(4,301)	226	207	41,076	34,782
Economic Development	132	150	3,472	2,218	(3,340)	(2,068)	14	-	5,335	4,116
Environment	9,323	6,158	13,976	10,904	(4,653)	(4,746)	134	178	33,469	8,865
Recreation	4,480	3,128	12,941	7,950	(8,461)	(4,822)	544	957	137,374	130,286
Regulatory Services	790	827	2,004	1,253	(1,214)	(426)	-	-	8	13
Transport	515	624	4,869	3,809	(4,354)	(3,185)	480	589	192,607	189,666
Engineering / Indirect	(611)	(295)	541	2,351	(1,152)	(2,646)	-	-	9,696	7,999
Unclassified Activities	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other	19	7	29	17	(10)	(10)	-	-	4,981	3,508
<b>Total Functions/Activities</b>	<b>42,061</b>	<b>41,399</b>	<b>47,229</b>	<b>43,095</b>	<b>(5,168)</b>	<b>(1,696)</b>	<b>1,661</b>	<b>7,473</b>	<b>448,853</b>	<b>403,342</b>

Revenues and expenses exclude net gain (loss) on disposal or revaluation of assets, amounts received specifically for new or upgraded assets and physical resources received free of charge. The allocation methodology has changed with 2022 restated.

## City of Mount Gambier

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

for the year ended 30 June 2024

#### Note 10(b). Components of functions

---

**The activities relating to Council functions are as follows:**

**Administration / Support Services**

Governance, elected members, organisational, support services, accounting/finance, payroll, human resources, information technology, communication, rates administration, records, occupancy, customer service, other support services, revenues, separate and special rates.

**Community Support**

Public order and safety, crime prevention, emergency services, other fire protection, other public order and safety, health services, pest control – health, immunisation, preventive health services, other health services, community support, senior citizens facilities, children and youth services, community assistance, other community support, community amenities, bus shelters, cemeteries / crematoria, public conveniences, car parking – non-fee-paying and other community amenities.

**Culture**

Library services, other library services, cultural services, cultural venues, heritage, museums and art galleries and other cultural services.

**Economic development**

Regional development, tourism, visitor information and other economic development.

**Environment**

Animal/plant boards, waste management, domestic waste, green waste, recycling, transfer station, other waste management, other environment, stormwater and drainage, street cleaning, street lighting, street-scaping, Natural Resource Management levy, and other environment.

**Recreation**

Parks and gardens, sports facilities – indoor, sports facilities – outdoor, swimming centres – Outdoor, and other recreation.

**Regulatory services**

Dog and cat control, building control, town planning, clean air/pollution control, litter control, health inspection, parking control, and other regulatory services.

**Transport**

Footpaths and kerbing, roads – sealed, roads – formed, roads – natural formed, roads – unformed, traffic management and other transport.

**Engineering / Indirect**

Depot management, indirect and general plant cost not included in other functions.

**Governance**

Audit & Assurance, Planning and Performance, Legal Services and Major Projects.

**Equity accounted Council businesses**

Net Gain equity accounting Council businesses

Net Loss equity accounting Council businesses

## City of Mount Gambier

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

for the year ended 30 June 2024

#### Note 11. Financial instruments

---

##### **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 between 4.30% and 4.55% (2023: 1.05% and 4.30%).

###### **Carrying Amount:**

Approximates fair value due to the short term to maturity.

##### **Receivables - rates and associated charges**

###### **Accounting Policy:**

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

###### **Terms & Conditions:**

Secured over the subject land, arrears attract interest of 0.75% (2023: 0.48%). Council is not materially exposed to any individual debtor, credit risk exposure is concentrated within the Council's boundaries in the State.

###### **Carrying Amount:**

Approximates fair value (after deduction of any allowance).

##### **Receivables - fees and other charges**

###### **Accounting Policy:**

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

###### **Terms & Conditions:**

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

###### **Carrying Amount:**

Approximates fair value (after deduction of any allowance).

##### **Receivables - other levels of government**

###### **Accounting Policy:**

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

###### **Terms & 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.

##### **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.



## City of Mount Gambier

### Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2024

#### Note 11. Financial instruments (continued)

---

**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 using the effective interest rate.

**Terms & Conditions:**

Secured over future revenues, borrowings are repayable; variable interest is charged between 4.75% and 5.07%, with fixed interest charged at 6.15%.

**Carrying Amount:**

Approximates fair value.

#### **Liabilities - leases**

**Accounting Policy:**

Accounted for in accordance with AASB 16 as stated in Note 15.

City of Mount Gambier

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements  
for the year ended 30 June 2024

Note 11. Financial instruments (continued)

\$ '000	Due < 1 year	Due > 1 year and ≤ 5 years	Due > 5 years	Total Contractual Cash Flows	Carrying Values
<b>Financial assets and liabilities</b>					
<b>2024</b>					
<b>Financial assets</b>					
Cash and cash equivalents	270	–	–	270	270
Receivables	2,528	–	–	2,528	2,529
<b>Total financial assets</b>	<b>2,798</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>2,798</b>	<b>2,799</b>
<b>Financial liabilities</b>					
Non-current borrowings	–	22,396	9,470	31,866	26,958
Payables	5,302	–	–	5,302	4,461
Current borrowings	11,249	–	–	11,249	9,883
Lease liabilities	102	122	–	224	224
<b>Total financial liabilities</b>	<b>16,653</b>	<b>22,518</b>	<b>9,470</b>	<b>48,641</b>	<b>41,526</b>
<b><u>Total financial assets and liabilities</u></b>	<b><u>19,451</u></b>	<b><u>22,518</u></b>	<b><u>9,470</u></b>	<b><u>51,439</u></b>	<b><u>44,325</u></b>
<b>2023</b>					
<b>Financial assets</b>					
Cash and cash equivalents	76	–	–	76	76
Receivables	2,766	–	–	2,766	3,347
<b>Total financial assets</b>	<b>2,842</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>2,842</b>	<b>3,423</b>
<b>Financial liabilities</b>					
Non-current borrowings	–	23,080	11,050	34,130	24,467
Payables	4,071	–	–	4,071	3,038
Current borrowings	12,409	–	–	12,409	6,930
Lease liabilities	158	52	–	210	210
<b>Total financial liabilities</b>	<b>16,638</b>	<b>23,132</b>	<b>11,050</b>	<b>50,820</b>	<b>34,645</b>
<b><u>Total financial assets and liabilities</u></b>	<b><u>19,480</u></b>	<b><u>23,132</u></b>	<b><u>11,050</u></b>	<b><u>53,662</u></b>	<b><u>38,068</u></b>

City of Mount Gambier

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements  
for the year ended 30 June 2024

Note 11. Financial instruments (continued)

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

\$ '000	2024		2023	
	Weighted Avg Interest Rate	Carrying Value	Weighted Avg Interest Rate	Carrying Value
Other variable rates	6.15%	13,920	5.51%	5,545
Fixed interest rates	4.91%	23,145	5.12%	26,062
		<u>37,065</u>		<u>31,607</u>

**Net fair value**

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

**Risk exposures**

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

Note 12. Capital expenditure and investment property commitments

\$ '000	2024	2023
<b>Capital commitments</b>		
<b>Capital expenditure committed for at the reporting date but not recognised in the financial statements as liabilities:</b>		
Buildings & Other Structures	247	1,135
- Footpaths and Kerbing	51	-
- Roads	384	10
Plant and equipment	1,036	965
Waste	44	3,203
Other	69	-
	<u>1,831</u>	<u>5,313</u>
<b>These expenditures are payable:</b>		
Not later than one year	<u>1,831</u>	<u>5,313</u>
	<u>1,831</u>	<u>5,313</u>

City of Mount Gambier

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

Note 13. Financial indicators

\$ '000	Amounts	Indicator	Indicators	
	2024	2024	Restated 2023	2022
Financial Indicators overview				
<i>These Financial Indicators have been calculated in accordance with Information paper 9 - Local Government Financial Indicators prepared as part of the LGA Financial Sustainability Program for the Local Government Association of South Australia.</i>				
<b>1. Operating Surplus Ratio</b>				
Operating surplus	<b>(5,168)</b>	<b>(12.3)%</b>	(4.1)%	5.4%
Total operating income	<b>42,061</b>			
<i>This ratio expresses the operating surplus as a percentage of total operating revenue.</i>				
<b>2. Net Financial Liabilities Ratio</b>				
Net financial liabilities	<b>44,750</b>	<b>106%</b>	95%	97%
Total operating income	<b>42,061</b>			
<i>Net Financial Liabilities are defined as total liabilities less financial assets (excluding equity accounted investments in Council businesses). These are expressed as a percentage of total operating revenue.</i>				
<b>Adjustments to Ratios</b>				
<i>In recent years the Federal Government has made advance payments prior to 30th June from future year allocations of financial assistance grants, as explained in Note 1. These Adjusted Ratios correct for the resulting distortion in key ratios for each year and provide a more accurate basis for comparison.</i>				
<b>Adjusted Operating Surplus Ratio</b>				
Operating surplus	<b>(813)</b>	<b>(1.8)%</b>	(7.5)%	2.1%
Total operating income	<b>46,416</b>			
<b>Adjusted Net Financial Liabilities Ratio</b>				
Net financial liabilities	<b>44,750</b>	<b>96%</b>	109%	108%
Total operating income	<b>46,416</b>			
<b>3. Asset Renewal Funding Ratio</b>				
Asset renewals	<b>3,528</b>	<b>61%</b>	88%	79%
Infrastructure and Asset Management Plan required expenditure	<b>5,762</b>			
<i>Asset renewals expenditure is defined as capital expenditure on the renewal and replacement of existing assets relative to the optimal level planned, and excludes new capital expenditure on the acquisition of additional assets.</i>				



City of Mount Gambier

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements  
for the year ended 30 June 2024

Note 14. Uniform presentation of finances

\$ '000	2024	2023 Restated
The following is a high level summary of both operating and capital investment activities of the Council prepared on a simplified Uniform Presentation Framework basis.		
All Councils in South Australia have agreed to summarise annual budgets and long-term financial plans on the same basis.		
The arrangements ensure that all Councils provide a common 'core' of financial information, which enables meaningful comparisons of each Council's finances.		
<u>Income</u>		
Rates	26,488	24,893
Statutory charges	781	731
User charges	9,179	6,947
Grants, subsidies and contributions - capital	559	1,071
Grants, subsidies and contributions - operating	1,102	6,402
Investment income	54	49
Reimbursements	1,230	755
Other income	2,668	551
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>42,061</b>	<b>41,399</b>
<u>Expenses</u>		
Employee costs	15,292	14,365
Materials, contracts and other expenses	19,320	17,460
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment	10,795	10,176
Finance costs	1,822	1,094
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>47,229</b>	<b>43,095</b>
<b>Operating surplus / (deficit)</b>	<b>(5,168)</b>	<b>(1,696)</b>
Net timing adjustment for general purpose grant funding	(4,355)	1,315
Less: grants, subsidies and contributions - capital	(559)	(1,071)
<b>Adjusted Operating surplus / (deficit)</b>	<b>(10,082)</b>	<b>(1,452)</b>
<b>Net outlays on existing assets</b>		
Capital expenditure on renewal and replacement of existing assets	(3,528)	(5,370)
Add back depreciation, amortisation and impairment	10,795	10,176
Add back proceeds from sale of replaced assets	110	40
	<b>7,377</b>	<b>4,846</b>
<b>Net outlays on new and upgraded assets</b>		
Capital expenditure on new and upgraded assets (including investment property and real estate developments)	(6,188)	(18,216)
Add back grants, subsidies and contributions - capital new/upgraded	559	1,071
Add back amounts received specifically for new and upgraded assets	216	5,142
Add back proceeds from sale of surplus assets (including investment property, real estate developments and non-current assets held for resale)	-	20
	<b>(5,413)</b>	<b>(11,983)</b>
<b>Annual net impact to financing activities (surplus/(deficit))</b>	<b>(8,118)</b>	<b>(8,589)</b>

City of Mount Gambier

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements  
for the year ended 30 June 2024

Note 15. Leases

(i) Council as a lessee

Terms and conditions of leases

Council entered contracts as a lessee for various IT equipment.

Set out below are the carrying amounts (written down value) of right of use assets recognised within Infrastructure Property, Plant & Equipment.

(a) Right of use assets

\$ '000	Office	Other	Total
<b>2024</b>			
Opening balance	278	–	278
LTD Opening balance adjustments	164	27	191
Additions to right-of-use assets	–	14	14
Depreciation charge	(183)	(34)	(217)
<b>Balance at 30 June</b>	<b>259</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>266</b>
<b>2023</b>			
Opening balance	244	–	244
Additions to right-of-use assets	229	–	229
Depreciation charge	(195)	–	(195)
<b>Balance at 30 June</b>	<b>278</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>278</b>

(b) Lease liabilities

Set out below are the carrying amounts of lease liabilities (included under interest-bearing loans and borrowings) and the movements during the period:

\$ '000	2024	2023
Balance at 1 July	210	231
LTD Opening balance adjustments	193	–
Additions	14	229
Accretion of interest	32	15
Payments	(225)	(265)
<b>Balance at 30 June</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>210</b>
<b>Classified as:</b>		
Current	102	158
Non-current	122	52

The maturity analysis of lease liabilities is included in Note 13.

The Group had total cash outflows for leases of \$210,000.  
The following are the amounts recognised in profit or loss:

Depreciation expense of right-of-use assets	217	195
Interest expense on lease liabilities	32	15
<b>Total amount recognised in profit or loss</b>	<b>249</b>	<b>210</b>

continued on next page ...

Page 35 of 45

## City of Mount Gambier

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

for the year ended 30 June 2024

#### Note 15. Leases (continued)

---

##### (ii) Council as a lessor

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

#### Note 16. Superannuation

---

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

##### **Accumulation only members**

Accumulation only members receive both employer and employee contributions on a progressive basis. Employer contributions are based on a fixed percentage of ordinary time earnings in accordance with superannuation guarantee legislation (11.00% in 2023/24; 10.50% in 2022/23) and enterprise bargaining agreement (1% in 2024 and 2023). 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 generally based on a formula determined by the member's contribution rate, number of years and complete days 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 2022/23) 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 2023. 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.

## City of Mount Gambier

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

for the year ended 30 June 2024

#### Note 17. Non-current assets held for sale and discontinued operations

##### Non-current assets held for sale

Council has decided to sell two vacant parcels of land as surplus to requirements. These parcels of land are not being actively used by Council and have not been identified as required for any strategic purposes in the future. Real estate sales agency agreements have been entered. Council's intention is to sell the properties within 12 months and remains committed to it's plan. Following the end of the reporting period but before the authorisation of these financial statements, new sales agreements have been entered to continue sales progression. The properties are recognised at the lesser of the carrying value and fair value less costs to sell. An impairment loss of \$25,177 has been recognised for one vacant land parcel.

\$ '000	2024	2023
<b>(ii). Carrying amounts of assets and liabilities</b>		
<b>Assets</b>		
Land	335	-
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>335</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net assets</b>	<b>335</b>	<b>-</b>

#### Note 18. Contingencies and assets/liabilities not recognised in the balance sheet

The following assets and liabilities do not qualify for recognition in the Statement of Financial Position, but knowledge is considered relevant to the users of the financial report in making and evaluating decisions about the allocation of scarce resources.

##### 1. Land under roads

As reported in the Financial 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 the 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 233.7 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 deductible "insurance excesses", 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 has not received notice of any 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.



## City of Mount Gambier

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

for the year ended 30 June 2024

#### Note 18. Contingencies and assets/liabilities not recognised in the balance sheet

##### 4. Landfill

Cells incorporated at the Caroline Landfill site are depreciated based on capacity in use until the cell reaches conceptual height and is considered full. During 2024 an open cell reached conceptual height and continued to receive waste as agreed by the Environmental Protection Authority until a new cell was constructed. Construction of the new cell was completed on 29 August 2024.

At the time of preparing these statements, it is unknown what course of action is required for all or part of the waste that is considered overfilled. Due to this, no liability can reliably be estimated for the quantity or amount of waste that may need to be reallocated to the newly built cell, including amortisation and costs to physically move the waste.

#### Note 19. Related party transactions

##### Key management personnel

##### Transactions with key management personnel

The Key Management Personnel of the Council include the Mayor, Councillors, CEO and certain prescribed officers under section 112 of the Local Government Act 1999. In all, 13 persons were paid the following total compensation:

\$ '000	2024	2023
<b>The compensation paid to key management personnel comprises:</b>		
Salaries, allowances & other short term benefits	917	1,327
Post-employment benefits	88	119
Long-term benefits	–	41
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,005</b>	<b>1,487</b>

Key management personnel and/or relatives of key management personnel own retail businesses from which various supplies were purchased as required either for cash or on 30 day account. These purchases were made on normal commercial terms on an arm's length basis. No individual purchases from these businesses exceeded \$275.00 with the total cumulative spend for 2023/24 being \$2,586.67.

One key management personnel and/or relatives of key management personnel are members in a community based not-for-profit organisation that Council engage for contractual labour hire services including apprentices and trainees.

One key management personnel and/or relatives of key management personnel are advisory members in a community based not-for-profit organisation that supports charitable projects, organisations and educational scholarships.

#### Note 20. Equity - retained earnings and revaluation reserves adjustments

##### Correction of errors relating to a previous reporting period

Council have restated the Open Space contributions income previously recognised in 2022/2023. Open Space contributions were incorrectly recognised when a development application was received. Open Space contributions are not due and payable until request for land clearance is sought by the developer and relevant conditions met. Open Space contributions totalling \$819,197 was recognised as income, however only \$106,887 was current for that year. A restatement of \$712,310 was required reducing other income, debtors general and equity other reserves.

Adjustments are detailed below and all impacted areas have been identified through the reports with the header of "restated", including relevant notes and updated calculations for financial indicators. Prior to the restatements, operating surplus was reported at (\$984,000) and after the restatement is (\$1,696,000).

City of Mount Gambier

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements  
 for the year ended 30 June 2024

Note 20. Equity - retained earnings and revaluation reserves adjustments (continued)

Adjustments to the comparative figures for the year ended 30 June 2023

Statement of Financial Position

\$ '000	Original Balance 30 June, 2023	Impact Increase/ (decrease)	Restated Balance 30 June, 2023
Other Reserves	2,322	(712)	1,610
<b>Change to equity</b>	<b>2,322</b>	<b>(712)</b>	<b>1,610</b>

Statement of Comprehensive Income

\$ '000	Original Balance 30 June, 2023	Impact Increase/ (decrease)	Restated Balance 30 June, 2023
Other Income	1,263	(712)	551
<b>Change to Other comprehensive income</b>	<b>1,263</b>	<b>(712)</b>	<b>551</b>

**Dean Newbery – Independent auditors report place holder**

1 of 2 pages required

**Dean Newbery – Independent auditors report place holder**

2 of 2 pages required



**Dean Newbery – Independent auditors report – internal controls place holder**

1 of 2 pages required

**Dean Newbery – Independent auditors report place holder**

2 of 2 pages required

City of Mount Gambier  
General Purpose Financial Statements  
for the year ended 30 June 2024

Certification of Auditor Independence

To the best of our knowledge and belief, we confirm that, for the purpose of the audit of City of Mount Gambier Council for the year ended 30 June 2023 the Council's Auditor, Dean Newbery and 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*.



Sarah Philpott  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



Paul Duka  
PRESIDING MEMBER, AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE

Date: 13/11/2024

## City of Mount Gambier

### General Purpose Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2024

---

#### Statement by Auditor

I confirm that, for the audit of the financial statements of City of Mount Gambier for the year ended 30 June 2024, I have maintained my independence in accordance with the requirements of APES 110 – Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants, Section 290, published by the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board, in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1999* and the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011* made under that Act.

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

Samatha Creten

**Dean Newbery**

**Date:**



## 18.11 CODE OF PRACTICE FOR MEETING PROCEDURES

Author: Brittany Shelton, Manager Governance and Property

Authoriser: Jane Fetherstonhaugh, General Manager Corporate and Regulatory Services

### RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council report titled 'Code of Practice for Meeting Procedures' as presented on Tuesday 19 November 2024 be noted.
2. That Council hereby:
  - (a) Endorse and adopt the Code of Practice for Meeting Procedures as presented by two thirds majority vote in accordance with section 89 of the Local Government Act 1999 and Regulation 6 of the Local Government (Procedures at Meetings) Regulations 2023; and
  - (b) Revoke the Council Determined Meeting Procedures Policy.

### PURPOSE

To present the draft Code of Practice for Meeting Procedures to Council for endorsement and adoption in accordance with section 86 and 89 of the Local Government Act 1999 and Regulation 6 of the Local Government (Procedures for Meetings) Regulations 2013.

### SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS AND BENEFITS

#### Implications

- There is a risk that Council determined or varied meeting procedures could be inconsistent or non-compliant with legislative/regulatory provisions and other determined procedures unless close attention is given to the implications of any alternate proposed procedures. This risk can be mitigated through careful review, including legal review if/as necessary, prior to adoption.
- There is a risk that the required review timeline (annually) or method for adoption (by two thirds majority of members entitled to vote) are not consistently adhered to, voiding the validity of the Code of Practice for Meeting Procedures.

#### Benefits

- The establishment of a Code of Practice for Meeting Procedures allows a degree of flexibility and individually / customisation for Councils to conduct meetings in a manner most beneficial for them, within the ambit of what is permissible under the legislation.

### BACKGROUND / OPTIONS

At the meeting of 23 January 2024, Council resolved:

2. *That, having considered the results of public consultation and to ensure continuity of existing meeting procedures whilst more comprehensive Council determined meeting procedures are being considered, Council hereby adopts the following policies:*

(a) *(Substitute) 'Section 92 Code of Practice for Access to Meetings and Documents' (Attachment 1)*

(b) *(Interim) 'Council Determined Meeting Procedures Policy' (Attachment 2) as attached to Council Report No. AR24/2726.*

Background:



In 2023 Council explored / considered its existing arrangements for the Code of Practice (Policy) required under section 92 of the *Local Government Act 1999* (the Act) for public access to Council and Committee meetings and documents, the operation of which is required to be reviewed within 12 months after the conclusion of a periodic election. Council's then Code of Practice contained in Council Policy C410 included other Council determined procedures to be observed at meetings in accordance with sections 86(8) and 89(1) of the Act.

The code of practice provisions in Council Policy C410 had remained substantially unchanged over the course of the 2014-2018 and 2018-2022 Council terms, with the exception of temporary changes to accommodate the COVID19 health emergency in accordance with legislation enacted and Ministers Notices operational between April 2020 until mid-2022. Other changes during this period related to the Council determined procedures specifically.

Following consideration of that (combined) policy, it was determined to separate out the Code of Access to Council Meetings under section 92 of the Act, undertake community consultation and adopt a standalone policy. This body of work was largely undertaken during late 2023 – early 2024. In anticipation of future consideration of the council determined meeting procedures element of the policy, an interim policy was adopted to preserve the existing practices.

Additionally, noting Council's discretion to vary certain specified (but not all) prescribed meeting procedures in accordance with Regulation 6 of the Local Government (Procedures at Meetings) Regulations 2013 (the Regulations), this was further determined that Council would give consideration to whether it wished to pursue establishing its own varied procedures and the preparation of a draft Reg 6 Code of Practice, concurrently with the discretionary meeting procedures under section 86 and 89 of the Act.

#### Council Determined Meeting Procedures – s86 / s89:

Sections 86 and 89 of the Act provide that the procedures to be observed at Council and Committee meeting will be:

- a) as prescribed by regulation;
- b) insofar as the procedure is not prescribed by regulation – as determined by the Council;
- c) insofar as the procedure is not prescribed by regulation or determined by the Council – as determined by the Council Committee itself (s89 only applicable to Committees)

The Regulations prescribe various meeting procedures that are not able to be determined by Council (or a Committee) under sections 86 or 89.

Council determines some Committee procedural matters by adopting Committee Terms of Reference, published under 'Governing Documents' for each committee on the Council website.

Several other Council determined procedures and matters with broader application are currently contained in the Council Determined Meeting Procedures Policy, as follows:

- Filming and Audio Recording Devices
- Presentation of Committee Recommendations to Council
- Voting en-Bloc
- Appointment and Role of Deputy Mayor
- Appointment to Committees & Other Bodies/Organisations
- Electronic Attendance at Committee & Information Briefing Sessions



As part of the consideration of these options, Council administration specifically tested the relevant technology to ensure that, in particular the electronic participation provisions, could be supported. It is noted for Members information that the requirement to be seen and heard when participating electronically can be supported via Microsoft Teams, however where presentation mode is engaged (i.e. PowerPoint) the Member participating electronically will only be seen on the host computer (and not on the larger monitor screens) for the duration of the presentation. This is not necessarily an impediment to the successful operation of this provision, however it is relevant to bear in mind.

As part of this second body of work, Council also gave further consideration to the (current) proposed policy provisions as contained in clause 12 of the Council Determined Meeting Procedures Policy, including other potential inclusions such as:

- Agenda Structure
- Variation of Order of Items at a meeting
- Emergency during meetings

Varied Meeting Procedures – Regulation 6 Procedures at Meetings Regulations:

Regulation 6 of the Regulations provides that provisions in Part 2 of the Regulations that are expressed as being capable of being varied at the discretion of the Council, may be varied in accordance with Regulation 6.

The procedures in Part 2 that are capable of being varied are:

Petitions:- Regulation 10(2)	that a petition be placed on the agenda for the next ordinary meeting of Council. or if so provided by a policy of the Council, a committee of the Council.
Motions:- Reg 12(9)	a member moving or seconding a motion will speak to the motion at the time of moving or seconding the motion.
Motions:- Reg 12(10)	a member may only speak once to a motion except: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To provide an explanation in regard to a material part of his or her speech, but not so as to introduce any new matter</li> <li>• With leave of the meeting</li> <li>• As the mover in reply</li> </ul>
Motion:- Reg 12(11)	a member who has spoken to a motion may not at a later stage of the debate move or second an amendment to the motion.
Amendments to Motions:- Reg 13(1)	A member who has not spoken to a motion at an earlier stage of the debate may move or second an amendment to the motion.
Amendments to Motions:- Reg 13(3)	A person who moves or seconds an amendment (and, if he or she chooses to do so, speaks to the amendment) will, in doing so, be taken to have spoken to the motion to which the amendment relates.
Amendments to Motions:- Reg 13(4)	If an amendment is lost, only 1 further amendment may be moved to the original motion.
Amendments to Motions:- Reg 13(5)	if an amendment is carried, only 1 further amendment may be moved to the original motion.
Addresses by Members:- Reg 15(1)	A member must not speak for longer than 5 minutes at any one time without leave of the meeting.



Addresses by Members:- Reg 15(2)	A member may, with leave of the meeting, raise a matter of urgency.
Voting:- Reg 16(3)	A person who is not in their seat is not permitted to vote.
Divisions:- Reg 17(3)	A division will be taken as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The members voting in the affirmative will, until the vote is recorded, stand in their places.</li> <li>• The members voting in the negative will, until the vote is recorded, sit in their places</li> <li>• The presiding member will count the number of votes and then declare the outcome</li> </ul>
Adjourned Business:- Reg 19	If a formal motion for a substantive motion to be adjourned is carried— <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the adjournment may either be to a later hour of the same day, to another day, or to another place; and</li> <li>• the debate will, on resumption, continue from the point at which it was adjourned.</li> </ul> <p>If debate is interrupted for want of a quorum and the meeting is then adjourned, the debate will, on resumption, continue from the point at which it was interrupted. Business adjourned from a previous meeting must be dealt with before any new business at a subsequent meeting.</p>
CEO Report:- Reg 21	The chief executive officer may submit a report to the council recommending the revocation or amendment of a resolution passed since the last general election of the council and must ensure that the report is placed on the agenda for the meeting at which the report is to be considered.

The mechanism to vary such Regulations is for the Council, by resolution supported by at least two-thirds of the Members entitled to vote, to determine that a Regulation 6 Code of Practice be prepared or adopted that establishes Council's own procedures to substitute one or more of the (sub)regulations that are expressed as being capable of being varied.

The development of a Reg 6 Code of Practice for Council Varied Procedures is recommended to be a full replication of the *Local Government (Procedures at Meetings) Regulations 2013*, as varied, to be used in substitution for the prescribed regulations at Council and Committee meetings.

If / when Council adopts such varied procedures in a Code of Practice, then:

- The effect is that such procedures will have effect according to their terms, in substitution for the relevant provision in the regulations
- The Council should, at least once in every financial year, review the operation of the Code of Practice.

Draft Code of Practice for Meeting Procedures:

Council undertook multiple information or briefing sessions (workshops) where they considered both discretionary meeting procedures, as well as supported variation to the Regulations, which they would like to adopt. Examples were considered from other councils, drawn from previous experience in the Chamber, and ultimately formed the basis for a draft combined Code of Practice for Meeting Procedures, containing both respective elements.





Legal Advice was further sought in support of this draft, which has been circulated to Members. Members were given the opportunity to provide feedback on the draft Code of Practice for Meeting Procedures prior to COB Thursday 7 November 2024, by way of Friday Edition Memo. That feedback has been reviewed, considered and where possible / appropriate implemented.

### DETAILED IMPLICATIONS

<b>Legal</b>	<p>Council has an obligation to comply with, the provisions of the Local Government Act 1999 and relevant Regulations, including prescribed and Council determined meeting procedures.</p> <p>In relation to the three interrelated meeting matters contained in this report, that includes the conduct of public consultation on any alteration or substitution of a s92 Code of Practice, and the valid adoption of a r6 Code of Practice for the variation of prescribed procedures.</p> <p>A Code/Policy that not adopted in accordance with the requirements of the Act might be invalidated.</p>
<b>Financial and Budget</b>	N/A
<b>Other Resources</b>	<p>Resource implications are limited to those necessary to conduct public consultation on Council's s92 Code of Practice, if substitution of the policy is proposed, and to research and obtain any necessary advice on meeting procedure options, including for discussion at an information/briefing session.</p>

### RISK ANALYSIS

Consequence	Consequence Rating:	Risk Likelihood Rating:	Risk Rating	Risk Controls and effectiveness	Risk Mitigation Plan
<b>Finance</b>	Insignificant (1)	Rare (1)	Low	<p>Review schedule in accordance with legislated requirements and industry 'best-practice' standards, Council oversight of policies / procedures, legal advice available on retainer as required</p>	Residual risk rating within tolerance, no additional treatments recommended
<b>Reputation</b>	Minor (2)	Unlikely (2)	Low	<p>Proactive approach to policy review and transparency for the community, regular reports to Council on outstanding policies maintaining</p>	Regular reporting to Audit & Risk Committee on progress of overdue review schedule



				accountability, legal advice obtained in varied / discretionary meeting procedures to ensure without councils power / appropriate	
<b>Legal / Regulatory / Policy</b>	Major (4)	Rare (1)	Moderate	Review policies against relevant legislation and regulations, legal advice obtained in varied / discretionary meeting procedures to ensure without councils power / appropriate	Residual risk rating within tolerance, no additional treatments recommended
<b>Service Delivery</b>	Minor (2)	Unlikely (2)	Low	Review schedule in accordance with legislated requirements and industry 'best-practice' standards	Residual risk rating within tolerance, no additional treatments recommended
<b>People</b>	Insignificant (1)	Rare (1)	Low	Ensure correct policy training / induction for staff	Residual risk rating within tolerance, no additional treatments recommended
<b>Infrastructure</b>	Insignificant (1)	Rare (1)	Low	N/A	N/A
<b>Environmental</b>	Insignificant (1)	Rare (1)	Low	N/A	N/A

**APPLICATION OF MOUNT GAMBIER 2035**

N/A

**APPLICATION OF STRATEGIC PLAN**

**Goal 5 Our Commitment**

5 Our Commitment

**RELEVANT COUNCIL POLICY**

[Council Determined Meeting Procedures](#)



## **IMPLEMENTATION, COMMUNICATION AND ENGAGEMENT**

Any policy or procedural amendments that arise from any policy adoption subsequent to the report would be implemented as resolved, and are recommended to take effect from the same date, to ensure continuity of such required policy provisions and to avoid having any concurrent policies being operable with inconsistent provisions.

## **CONCLUSION**

Council is now presented with a draft Code of Practice for Meeting Procedures for endorsement and adoption.\*

\*A resolution to adopt a Regulation 6 Code of Practice will be of no effect unless supported by two-thirds of the Members entitled to vote.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

1. DRAFT A R 246538[v 2] - Code of Practice for Meeting Procedures [18.11.1 - 29 pages]



 <p>City of Mount Gambier</p>	<p><b>COUNCIL POLICY</b></p> <p><b>Code of Practice for Meeting Procedures</b></p>	Version No:	1
		Issued:	19 November 2024
		Next Review:	November 2025

## 1. Introduction

The City of Mount Gambier is committed to the principles of honest, open and accountable government and encourages community participation in the business of Council.

Council is required under Section 92 of the Local Government Act 1999 (the Act) to adopt a Code of Practice for Access to Meetings and Documents (i.e. a code for the use of confidentiality provisions in sections 90, 90A and 91 of the Act). The section 92 code is contained in a separate Council policy.

The Local Government (Procedures at Meetings) Regulations 2013 (the Regulations) stipulate the statutory procedures to be undertaken during the operation of Council and Committee meetings. Under the Regulations, Council may adopt a Code of Practice for its own meetings, which varies the provisions that are capable of variation under the Regulations. Any such varied meeting procedure regulations will be contained in a separate Council code / policy which (if adopted) must be reviewed at least once in every financial year and altered, substituted or revoked by resolution supported by at least two-thirds of members entitled to vote.

Sections 86(8) and 89(1) of the Act provides that where a procedure is not prescribed by regulation, Council (or a Council Committee, when Council does not determine the procedures for the Committee) can determine its own procedures, provided it is not inconsistent with the Act or Regulations (including any varied regulations).

## 2. Statement of Principle

This Policy contains Council determined meeting procedures under sections 86(8) and 89(1) of the Act, and supported variations to meeting procedures in accordance with Regulation 6(1) of the Regulations at **Appendix 1**.

This Policy should be read in conjunction with the Act and Regulations, in particular the *Guiding Principles* set out in Regulation 4. The Guiding Principles should be applied with respect to the procedures to be observed at a meeting of a Council or a Council committee:

- a) procedures should be fair and contribute to open, transparent and informed decision-making;
- b) procedures should encourage appropriate community participation in the affairs of the Council;
- c) procedures should reflect levels of formality appropriate to the nature and scope of responsibilities exercised at the meeting;
- d) procedures should be sufficiently certain to give the community and decision-makers confidence in the deliberations undertaken at the meeting.

## 3. Definitions

**Act** means the *Local Government Act 1999*.

<p><i>Electronic version on TRIM is the controlled version. Printed copies are considered uncontrolled. Before using a printed copy, verify that it is the current version.</i></p>	<p>Page 1 of 29</p>
---	---------------------



 <p>City of Mount Gambier</p>	<p><b>COUNCIL POLICY</b></p> <p><b>Code of Practice for Meeting Procedures</b></p>	Version No:	1
		Issued:	19 November 2024
		Next Review:	November 2025

**Clear days** means days, inclusive of Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays, which do not include:

- the day on which the notice is given
- the day on which the meeting occurs.

If a notice is given after 5pm on a day, the notice will be taken to have been given on the next day.

**Deputation** means 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 (as the case may be) on a particular matter.

**Member** means a member of the council or council committee (as the case may be).

Point of order means a point raised to draw attention to an alleged breach of the Act, Regulations or this Code of Practice in relation to the proceedings of a meeting;

**Presiding Member** means the person who is the presiding member of a council or council committee (as the case may be) meeting.

**Regulations** means the *Local Government (Procedures at Meetings) Regulations 2013*.

## 4. Council Determined / Discretionary Meeting Procedures

### 4.1 Filming and Audio Recording Devices

Council maintains its current minute taking practice that involves the agenda item and recommendation / resolution being projected on screen at the Council and Standing Committee meetings with the minutes being typed at the meeting.

Any person may record audio of Council, committee and sub-committee meetings provided that such recording does not interfere with the orderly conduct of such a meeting.

Audio devices used for such purposes are to be held by the operator of such a device and are not to be placed on the meeting table used by the members of that Council, committee or sub-committee meeting unless otherwise resolved by the members at that particular meeting.

The Presiding Member may at any time during the course of any meeting direct the audio recording of such meeting to cease, should the Presiding Members be of the view that the audio recording of the meeting is interfering with the orderly conduct of the meeting for the purposes of Regulation 29(1) and 30.

Audio recording of items considered 'In-Confidence' under the provisions of the Act is prohibited.

Any person wishing to take photographs or video recordings of any Council, committee or sub-committee meeting must request the permission of the Presiding Member prior.

Such request must be made in writing and be received by the Presiding Member at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting. In considering such a request the Presiding Member shall not unreasonably refuse permission, however they may place restrictions and conditions on such recording and photography as they see fit, so as to ensure such photography or video recording does not interfere with the orderly conduct of the meeting.

<p><i>Electronic version on TRIM is the controlled version. Printed copies are considered uncontrolled. Before using a printed copy, verify that it is the current version.</i></p>	<p>Page 2 of 29</p>
---	---------------------

 City of Mount Gambier	<b>COUNCIL POLICY</b>		Version No:	1
	<b>Code of Practice for Meeting Procedures</b>		Issued:	19 November 2024
			Next Review:	November 2025

Where such permission has been granted, should at any time during the course of the meeting the Presiding Member be of the view that the video recording or photography of the meeting is interfering with the orderly conduct of the meeting for the purposes of Regulation 30, the Presiding Member may direct the video recording or photography of the meeting to cease.

Video recording and photography of items considered 'In-confidence' under the provisions of the Act is prohibited.

#### 4.2 **Presentation of Committee Recommendations to Council**

It is the policy of this Council that the Presiding Member or nominee of any Council Committee will present the Committee Minutes and Recommendations to Council.

Should a Presiding Member of any Committee not be able to attend a Council Meeting, then they may nominate in advance any other Member of such Committee to present the Committee Minutes and Recommendations to Council.

Should a Presiding Member of any Committee not be in attendance at a Committee Meeting, but is in attendance at the Council meeting at which the Committee Minutes and Recommendations are to be presented, then the Presiding Member of the Committee shall present the Committee Minutes, but may elect to refer any item of business to the Member that presided over the Committee Meeting, or to another Member who attended the Committee meeting, for presentation of the item to Council.

#### 4.3 **Voting 'En-Bloc'**

Council does not support the use of 'en-bloc' voting during Council and Committee meetings to adopt a number of items, motions or recommendations by way of single resolution, absent discussion and debate.

En-bloc decision-making is not lawful in relation to items for decision, is not considered good practice for other agenda items, and is in conflict with the Guiding Principles of the Regulations.

#### 4.4 **Appointment and Role of Deputy Mayor**

This policy provision shall only apply where the Council resolves to appoint a Deputy Mayor in accordance with Section 51(3) of the Act.

Section 51(4) provides that a Deputy Mayor will be chosen by the members of a Council from amongst their own number and will hold office for a term of two (2) years, or otherwise determined by the Council, that must not exceed four (4) years. At the expiration of the term a Deputy Mayor is eligible for a further term.

Where Council has resolved to have a Deputy Mayor the Mayor shall call for nominations and acceptances from Members present at the Council Meeting immediately following the relevant periodic elections (or, otherwise where there is a vacancy in the position).

If only one nomination is received then that Member is to be declared Deputy Mayor, evidenced by resolution of the Council.

Electronic version on TRIM is the controlled version. Printed copies are considered uncontrolled. Before using a printed copy, verify that it is the current version.	Page 3 of 29
--	--------------

 City of Mount Gambier	<b>COUNCIL POLICY</b>  <b>Code of Practice for Meeting Procedures</b>	Version No:	1
		Issued:	19 November 2024
		Next Review:	November 2025

Where more than one nomination is received, the Council will hold a secret ballot, or otherwise determine the voting process to be followed, consistent with section 51(8) of the Act and the Chief Executive Officer (or any other Senior Officer present at the meeting) will be appointed as Returning Officer to declare the result and draw lots (if / as necessary).

The following shall apply to the determination of Deputy Mayor:

- Any Member present at the meeting may be nominated.
- A secret ballot shall be conducted.
- The Mayor does not vote in the secret ballot on the question of the appointment of Deputy Mayor.
- The candidate with the highest number of votes (or where two or more candidates receive the equal highest number of votes the last name drawn in a lot) shall be declared the Deputy Mayor.
- A division cannot be called when a resolution appointing the successful candidate as Deputy Mayor is taken.

In the absence of the Mayor, the Deputy Mayor shall act in the office of the Mayor.

In the Council Chamber, the Deputy Mayor shall assume no additional authority, save for in the absence of the Mayor, when the Deputy Mayor shall act in the office of Mayor. Outside the Council Chamber, the Deputy Mayor shall be given precedence, immediately following the Mayor.

#### 4.5 Appointment to Committees and other Bodies and Organisations

This policy provision applies when Council has been requested, or is required to nominate or appoint, a Member or any other person to fill a vacant position on any Committee or as delegate / representative on an outside body or organisation.

Where these policy provisions are inconsistent with any legislative or statutory provisions or the Terms of Reference or other governing instrument of any Committee or other body or organisation, then those other provisions shall apply to the extent of the inconsistency (with the exception that Council may, subject to any statutory prohibitions, override the Terms of Reference of its own Committees).

The Chief Executive Officer shall notify Members of the request and / or requirements associated with the vacancy, including details of the Committee / Body / Organisation Terms of Reference and other relevant information, and will seek a written nomination of any Elected Member, Council Officer or other person with appropriate qualifications and / or experience.

Where Council is required under a legislative or other requirement, such as the Terms of Reference to seek community or independent nominees to Committee positions, then a public notice shall be published in a newspaper circulating in the area seeking interested persons to nominate within 21 days (or such other period as may be required). Such nominees may also be sought through a targeted process to identify suitable nominees.

The Chief Executive Officer shall present details of all nominees for vacant positions to the next available Council meeting, together with a recommendation and draft resolutions that Council

<i>Electronic version on TRIM is the controlled version. Printed copies are considered uncontrolled. Before using a printed copy, verify that it is the current version.</i>	Page 4 of 29
--	--------------

 City of Mount Gambier	<b>COUNCIL POLICY</b>	Version No:	1
	<b>Code of Practice for Meeting Procedures</b>	Issued:	19 November 2024
		Next Review:	November 2025

may endorse a secret ballot voting process. The Chief Executive Officer (or any other Senior Officer present at the meeting) will be appointed as Returning Officer to declare the result and draw lots (if / as necessary).

The following shall apply to the appointment of Committee Members and delegates/representatives on other bodies and organisations:

- A nominee need not be present at the meeting, but must provide a written acceptance to the Chief Executive Officer prior to consideration.
- Candidate nominees should display the qualities sought to fill the vacant position including relevant skills, experience and interests.
- Prior to commencing the secret ballot process, by resolution, Council:
  - i. may determine not to nominate or appoint any person to fill a vacancy.
  - ii. should determine the term to apply to the nomination / appointment, that may survive the next general (periodic) election.
- The Mayor may vote on the question of position appointments to Committee's and other bodies and organisations.
- Any Member not in his or her seat at the meeting is not entitled vote, unless they have prior permission from the Presiding Member.
- The candidate with the highest number of votes (or where two or more candidates receive the equal highest number of votes the last name drawn in the lot) shall be declared as being nominated / appointed to the vacant position.
- A division cannot be called when a resolution on the question of appointing a person to fill a vacant position is taken.
- Council may determine to appoint proxies / deputies to certain positions to ensure representation in the absence of selected members/delegates / representatives

#### Limestone Coast Local Government Association Positions

Whilst it is a discretionary matter for the Council, the Mayor shall be the preferred candidate for any Board Member positions (and the Deputy Mayor the preferred candidate for any proxy/deputy position) on a section 42 subsidiary (i.e. Limestone Coast Local Government Association).

Nominations shall only be sought for the position of Board Member and / or proxy / deputy where the Mayor or Deputy Mayor are unable to fill the positions, or to act when both the Mayor and Deputy Mayor may be unavailable, in which case the nomination/appointment procedure shall be as described in this Policy, or otherwise where the Council has resolved to the contrary.

#### Payment of Allowances/Sitting Fees

Council will have a consistent and accountable approach to payment of allowances / sitting fees for Members and other community and independent persons appointed to positions on Committees. These matters will be set out in the Terms of Reference.

Appointment of Independent Members of a Council Committee will be for a term determined by the Council, and may survive the next general (periodic) election unless Council specifically resolves otherwise at the time of the appointment (noting that Council may have the right to



 <p>City of Mount Gambier</p>	<p><b>COUNCIL POLICY</b></p> <p><b>Code of Practice for Meeting Procedures</b></p>	Version No:	1
		Issued:	19 November 2024
		Next Review:	November 2025

terminate any appointment at any time, or that the term of appointment may be determined by some other statutory means).

Roles of Nominees/Appointees

Upon nomination / appointment to a position, Council's duly declared nominee / appointee shall be authorised to fill that position, including the exercise of any voting rights.

Where more than one person has been nominated / appointed to fill a position or as deputy / proxy, precedence shall apply based upon the persons position (i.e. Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Member, Chief Executive Officer etc).

Attendance by Non-Appointed Persons

Subject to any valid provision to the contrary, any non-appointed Elected Member or Council Officer may attend meetings of any Committee or other body or organisation to whom Council has nominated / appointed a Member or delegate / representative, but may not speak or be heard or vote at the meeting unless invited by the meeting organiser and in accordance with a direction of the Council or the Chief Executive Officer.

Independence of Bodies/Organisations

Other bodies and organisations to which Council nominates / appoints Elected Members, Council Officers or other suitably persons as delegates / representatives do not operate under the provisions of the Act or other legislation that prescribe meeting procedures and Member obligations.

Any person appointed to a position on a body or organisation (whether a Council Member, Council Officer or some other person) is bound by the governing arrangements applicable to that other body or organisation. In that capacity that person does not represent the interests of Council, but will be required to act in the interests of that body or organisation, which at times may be inconsistent with the interests or a formal position of the Council.

Council may influence but is not to instruct any Elected Member, Council Officer or other person whom it has nominated / appointed as a delegate / representative on another body or organisation as to the manner in which they act in fulfilling their non-Council duties. It is for the delegate / representative to determine how they fulfil their duties on a body or organisation and deal with any conflict that may arise between their competing interests / roles.

**4.6 Electronic Attendance at Committee Meetings or Information and Briefing Sessions**

Members must attend all Council Meetings in person, but may attend Committee meetings or Information and Briefing Sessions (workshops) electronically.

Members of Council and Council Committees acknowledge that attending meetings and Information and Briefing Sessions (workshops) electronically is a privilege, and that the opportunity to attend by electronic means does not replace in person attendance as Council's preference for meeting arrangements.

Whenever possible, Council expects all Members of Committees to attend formal meetings and Information and Briefing Sessions (workshops) in person.

An Elected Member or Member of a Council Committee may, by exception, participate in a Committee meeting or Information and Briefing Session by electronic means for extenuating reasons, provided that:

<p><i>Electronic version on TRIM is the controlled version. Printed copies are considered uncontrolled. Before using a printed copy, verify that it is the current version.</i></p>	<p>Page 6 of 29</p>
---	---------------------

 <p>City of Mount Gambier</p>	<p><b>COUNCIL POLICY</b></p> <p><b>Code of Practice for Meeting Procedures</b></p>	Version No:	1
		Issued:	19 November 2024
		Next Review:	November 2025

- a) On each separate occasion written approval to participate in the meeting or session by electronic means has been sought from the relevant Presiding Member and confirmed to the Chief Executive Officer at least 4 hours prior to the scheduled commencement time of the meeting; and
- b) the Chief Executive Officer has confirmed prior to the scheduled commencement time of the meeting or session that necessary technologies are available to accommodate the participation in the meeting and compliance with the Act; and
- c) the Member participating in a meeting or workshop by electronic means is taken to be present at the meeting/workshop provided that the Member:
  - i. can hear all other members present at the meeting;
  - ii. can be seen and heard by all other members present at the meeting;
  - iii. can be seen and heard by the person recording the minutes of the meeting; and
  - iv. can express their vote on each and every question in a manner that can be identified by all other persons present at the meeting (whether all other persons at the meeting are physically present or present by electronic means).

Non-Council Members (e.g. Independent/Community Committee Members, Council Officers, Contractors, Presenters etc) may attend Committee Meetings and Information or Briefing Sessions (workshops) by electronic means where such provision is able to be accommodated with the prior approval of the relevant Presiding Member.

Any Member or Non-Council Member participating by electronic means in a Committee meeting or Information or Briefing Session which is conducted in-confidence in accordance with the provisions under section 90 of the Act is responsible to ensure that they take necessary precautions to the same degree of stringency as if they were attending the meeting in-person to preserve the confidentiality of the subject discussions, material and documents.

The following requirements apply to attendance by Members by electronic means:

- Members must attend at least 50% of meetings of any Committee or information and briefing sessions in person during any 12 month period;
- Members must not attend three (3) or more consecutive meetings of the same Committee or information and briefing sessions (being three consecutive dates on which information and briefings are held, not three individual information and briefing sessions) by electronic means.

Where an Elected Member fails to meet the above electronic participation requirements, the Presiding Member may determine that the Elected Member's position on that Committee shall be vacated, after affording that Member procedural fairness (being an opportunity to explain why they may not have been able to attend in person) which response will be considered by the Presiding Member, prior to making any final determination as to that Member's position on the Committee will be vacated.

An Elected Member of a Committee whose position has become vacant as a result of failure to meet the electronic participation requirements may only be re-appointed to the Committee by Council after it has considered nominations for the vacancy, and in accordance with any relevant Committee Terms of Reference.

<p><i>Electronic version on TRIM is the controlled version. Printed copies are considered uncontrolled. Before using a printed copy, verify that it is the current version.</i></p>	<p>Page 7 of 29</p>
---	---------------------

 City of Mount Gambier	<b>COUNCIL POLICY</b>  <b>Code of Practice for Meeting Procedures</b>	Version No:	1
		Issued:	19 November 2024
		Next Review:	November 2025

Members and Non-Members of the Audit and Risk Committee are granted an exemption to the requirement to attend at least 50% of Committee meetings in person during a 12 month period for their attendance at Audit and Risk Committee meetings only, with such attendance simply being removed from any overall calculation of attendance by electronic means.

## 5. Review of Policy

Council will review this Code of Practice at least once in each financial year in accordance with Regulation 6(2) of the Regulations. The Council may, at any time, by resolution supported by at least two-thirds of the members of Council as a whole, alter this Code of Practice, or substitute, or revoke the Code of Practice.

 City of Mount Gambier	<b>COUNCIL POLICY</b>  <b>Code of Practice for Meeting Procedures</b>	Version No:	1
		Issued:	19 November 2024
		Next Review:	November 2025

File Reference:	AF18/51
Applicable Legislation:	Local Government Act 1999 Local Government (Procedures at Meetings) Regulations 2013
Strategic Reference:	
Related Policies:	s92 Code of Practice for access to meetings and documents
Related Procedures:	
Related Documents:	Council Meeting Procedures Handbook (2019) Minute Takers Handbook for Local Government (2014)

**DOCUMENT DETAILS**

Responsibility:	General Manager Corporate and Regulatory Services
Version:	1.0
Last revised date:	19 November 2024
Effective date:	19 November 2024
Minute reference:	Council Meeting 19 November 2024 - Item X - Resolution 2024/X
Next review date:	November 2025
<u>Document History</u>	
First Adopted By Council:	19 November 2024
Reviewed/Amended:	

<i>Electronic version on TRIM is the controlled version.          Printed copies are considered uncontrolled. Before using a printed copy, verify that it is the current version.</i>	Page 9 of 29
---	--------------



Version: November 2024

## Appendix 1

# City of Mount Gambier (Procedures at Meetings) Regulations 2024

under the *Local Government Act 1999*

---

## Contents

### Part 1—Preliminary

- 1 Short title
- 3 Interpretation
- 4 Guiding Principles

### Part 2—Meetings of councils and key committees

#### Division 1—Preliminary

- 5 Application of Part
- 6 Discretionary procedures

#### Division 2—Prescribed procedures

- 7 Commencement of meetings and quorums
- 8 Minutes
- 9 Questions
- 10 Petitions
- 11 Deputations
- 12 Motions
- 13 Amendments to motions
- 14 Variations etc
- 15 Addresses by members etc
- 16 Voting
- 17 Divisions
- 18 Tabling of information
- 19 Adjourned business
- 20 Short-term suspension of proceedings
- 21 Chief executive officer may submit report recommending revocation or amendment of council decision

### Part 3—Meetings of other committees

- 22 Application of Part
- 23 Notice of meetings for members
- 24 Public notice of committee meetings
- 25 Minutes

### Part 4—Miscellaneous

- 26 Quorum for committees
- 27 Voting at committee meetings
- 28 Points of order
- 28A Exclusion of member from meeting by presiding member
- 29 Interruption of meetings by members

[17.11.2022] This version is not published under the *Legislation Revision and Publication Act 2002*

Local Government (Procedures at Meetings) Regulations 2024  
Preliminary—Part 1

30 Interruption of meetings by others

## Part 1—Preliminary

### 1—Short title

These regulations may be cited as the *Local Government (Procedures at Meetings) Regulations 2013*.

### 3—Interpretation

- (1) In these regulations, unless the contrary intention appears—

*Act* means the *Local Government Act 1999*;

*clear days*—see subregulations (2) and (3);

*deputation* means 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 (as the case may be) on a particular matter;

*formal motion* means a motion—

- (a) that the meeting proceed to the next business; or
- (b) that the question be put; or
- (c) that the question lie on the table; or
- (d) that the question be adjourned; or
- (e) that the meeting be adjourned<sup>1</sup>;

*Guiding Principles*—see regulation 4;

*member* means a member of the council or council committee (as the case may be);

*point of order* means a point raised to draw attention to an alleged breach of the Act or these regulations in relation to the proceedings of a meeting;

*presiding member* means the person who is the presiding member of a council or council committee (as the case may be) and includes any person who is presiding at a particular meeting;

*written notice* includes a notice given in a manner or form determined by the council.

#### COMG 3.1 Notice Requirements

Written notice must be legibly handwritten or typed, in hardcopy or electronic form, and complete at the time it is provided to the Chief Executive Officer. For clarity, a draft or incomplete notice will not meet the written notice requirements.

- (2) In the calculation of *clear days* in relation to the giving of notice before a meeting—
- (a) the day on which the notice is given, and the day on which the meeting occurs, will not be taken into account; and
  - (b) Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays will be taken into account.
- (3) For the purposes of the calculation of *clear days* under subregulation (2), if a notice is given after 5 p.m. on a day, the notice will be taken to have been given on the next day.

**Local Government (Procedures at Meetings) Regulations 2024**  
Preliminary—Part 1

- (4) For the purposes of these regulations, a vote on whether *leave of the meeting* is granted may be conducted by a show of hands (but nothing in this subregulation prevents a division from being called in relation to the vote).

**Note—**

- 1 See regulation 12 for specific provisions about formal motions.

#### **4—Guiding Principles**

The following principles (the *Guiding Principles*) should be applied with respect to the procedures to be observed at a meeting of a council or a council committee:

- (a) procedures should be fair and contribute to open, transparent and informed decision-making;
- (b) procedures should encourage appropriate community participation in the affairs of the council;
- (c) procedures should reflect levels of formality appropriate to the nature and scope of responsibilities exercised at the meeting;
- (d) procedures should be sufficiently certain to give the community and decision-makers confidence in the deliberations undertaken at the meeting.

### **Part 2—Meetings of councils and key committees**

#### **Division 1—Preliminary**

##### **5—Application of Part**

The provisions of this Part apply to or in relation to—

- (a) the meetings of a council; and
- (b) the meetings of a council committee performing regulatory activities; and
- (c) the meetings of any other council committee if the council has, by resolution, determined that this Part should apply to that committee.

##### **COMG 5.1 Application to Council Committees**

Part 2 of the Local Government (Procedures at Meetings) Regulations (including any varied or Council determined procedures) shall apply to all Council Committees established under the Local Government Act 1999, and Part 3 shall not apply to any Committees unless the Council specifically resolves they will do so under the Terms of Reference for that Committee.

##### **6—Discretionary procedures**

- (1) Subject to the requirements of the Act, if a provision of this Part is expressed to be capable of being varied at the discretion of the council pursuant to this regulation, then a council may, by a resolution supported by at least two-thirds of the members of the council entitled to vote on the resolution, determine that a code of practice prepared or adopted by the council that establishes its own procedures for the relevant matter or matters will apply in substitution for the relevant provision (and such a determination will have effect according to its terms).
- (2) A council should, at least once in every financial year, review the operation of a code of practice under this regulation.

**17.11.2022—Local Government (Procedures at Meetings) Regulations 2024**  
Meetings of councils and key committees—Part 2  
Preliminary—Division 1

- (3) A council may at any time, by resolution supported by at least two-thirds of the members of the council entitled to vote on the resolution, alter a code of practice, or substitute or revoke a code of practice.
- (4) A council must, in considering the exercise of a power under this regulation, take into account the Guiding Principles.
- (7) Regulation 12(4) does not apply to a motion under subregulation (3).
- (8) This regulation does not limit or derogate from the operation of regulation 20<sup>1</sup>.

**Note—**

1 Furthermore, if a matter is not dealt with by the Act or these regulations (including under a code of practice under this regulation), then the relevant procedure will be—

- (a) as determined by the council; or
- (b) in the case of a council committee where a determination has not been made by the council—as determined by the committee.

(See sections 86(8) and 89(1) of the Act.)

## **Division 2—Prescribed procedures**

### **7—Commencement of meetings and quorums**

- (1) A meeting will commence as soon after the time specified in the notice of meeting as a quorum is present.
- (2) If the number of apologies received by the chief executive officer indicates that a quorum will not be present at a meeting, the chief executive officer may adjourn the meeting to a specified day and time.
- (3) If at the expiration of 30 minutes from the time specified in the notice of meeting as the time of commencement a quorum is not present, the presiding member or, in the absence of a presiding member, the chief executive officer, will adjourn the meeting to a specified day and time.
- (4) If a meeting is adjourned for want of a quorum, the chief executive officer will record in the minute book the reason for the adjournment, the names of any members present, and the date and time to which the meeting is adjourned.
- (5) If a meeting is adjourned to another day, the chief executive officer must—
  - (a) give notice of the adjourned meeting to each member setting out the date, time and place of the meeting; and
  - (b) give notice of the adjourned meeting to the public by causing a notice setting out the date, time and place of the meeting to be placed on display at the principal office of the council.

#### **COMG 7.1 Order of Agenda**

The Presiding Member may seek leave of the meeting to vary the order of the Agenda. Reasons for such variation may include bringing forward items associated with a deputation or petition presented at the meeting, or a matter for which significant community interest has been shown by public attendance in the gallery, or where the Council may have invited consultants or other guests to provide advice on items.



**17.11.2022—Local Government (Procedures at Meetings) Regulations 2024**  
Meetings of councils and key committees—Part 2  
Prescribed procedures—Division 2

In determining whether to grant leave, the meeting is to take into account the Guiding Principles in Regulation 4 and that interested persons may arrive at the meeting later to observe an item based on its position in the published Agenda.

## 8—Minutes

- (1) The minutes of the proceedings at a meeting must be submitted for confirmation at the next meeting or, if that is omitted, at a subsequent meeting.
- (2) No discussion on the minutes may occur before confirmation, except as to the accuracy of the minutes as a record of proceedings.
- (3) On the confirmation of the minutes, the presiding member will—
  - (a) initial each page of the minutes, which pages are to be consecutively numbered; and
  - (b) place his or her signature and the date of confirmation at the foot of the last page of the minutes.
- (4) The minutes of the proceedings of a meeting must include—
  - (a) the names of the members present at the meeting; and
  - (ab) the name of any member who is not present because the member is suspended or taken to have been granted leave of absence from the office of member of the council; and
  - (b) in relation to each member present—
    - (i) the time at which the person entered or left the meeting; and
    - (ii) unless the person is present for the whole meeting, the point in the proceedings at which the person entered or left the meeting; and
    - (iii) if, during the meeting, the member is excluded under section 86(6b) of the Act, a statement that the member was excluded and the period for which the member was excluded; and
  - (c) each motion or amendment, and the names of the mover and seconder; and
  - (d) any variation, alteration or withdrawal of a motion or amendment; and
  - (e) whether a motion or amendment is carried or lost; and
  - (f) any disclosure of interest made by a member; and
  - (g) an account of any personal explanation given by a member; and
  - (h) details of the making of an order under subsection (2) of section 90 of the Act (see subsection (7) of that section); and
  - (i) a note of the making of an order under subsection (7) of section 91 of the Act in accordance with the requirements of subsection (9) of that section; and
  - (j) details of any adjournment of business; and
  - (k) a record of any request for documents to be tabled at the meeting; and
  - (l) a record of any documents tabled at the meeting; and
  - (m) a description of any oral briefing given to the meeting on a matter of council business; and

17.11.2022—Local Government (Procedures at Meetings) Regulations 2024  
Meetings of councils and key committees—Part 2  
Prescribed procedures—Division 2

- (n) any other matter required to be included in the minutes by or under the Act or any regulation.

**COMG 8.1 Attendance Record**

A mandatory sign-in sheet shall be made available at the Council Chamber (or Civic Reception Area) to record public attendance in the building for Work Health and Safety (emergency evacuation) purposes.

**9—Questions**

- (1) A member may ask a question on notice by giving the chief executive officer written notice of the question at least 7 clear days before the date of the meeting at which the question is to be asked.

**COMG 9.1 Question (on Notice) Requirements**

A Question on Notice must be legibly handwritten or typed, in hardcopy or electronic form, and complete at the time that it is given to the Chief Executive Officer. A Question on Notice must not be vague, irrelevant, insulting or improper.

A proposed Question on Notice that does not meet the definition of ‘written notice’ in Regulation 3 and COMG 3.1 shall not be accepted, unless resubmitted in the time and manner required to be compliant with Regulation 3, COMG 3.1 and Regulation 9(1).

If a Question on Notice does not meet the requirements then the Question will not be included in the Agenda. For clarity, a draft or incomplete Question will not meet the ‘written notice’ requirements. To be a complete Question on Notice the Member must have strictly complied with all components of Regulation 9(1), the definition of ‘written notice’ in Regulation 3, COMG 3.1 and this Council determined procedure.

Any ‘preamble’ included with a Question on Notice will be disregarded and not included in the Agenda, or Minutes. If the question is incapable of being answered absent the preamble, it will be returned to the Member for re-submission, taking into account the timing requirements under Regulation 9(1).

- (2) If notice of a question is given under subregulation (1)—
- (a) the chief executive officer must ensure that the question is placed on the agenda for the meeting at which the question is to be asked; and
  - (b) the question and the reply must be entered in the minutes of the relevant meeting.
- (3) A member may ask a question without notice at a meeting.

**COMG 9.2 Question (without Notice) Requirements**

A Question without notice should be presented in legible handwritten or typed, in hardcopy or electronic form, to the Presiding Member as soon as practicable at the meeting at which it is asked, to enable consideration to be given to the reply, including any enquiries or additional information that may be necessary to inform the same.

- (4) The presiding member may allow the reply to a question without notice to be given at the next meeting.

**17.11.2022—Local Government (Procedures at Meetings) Regulations 2024**  
Meetings of councils and key committees—Part 2  
Prescribed procedures—Division 2

---

- (5) A question without notice and the reply will not be entered in the minutes of the relevant meeting unless the members present at the meeting resolve that an entry should be made.
- (6) The presiding member may rule that a question with or without notice not be answered if the presiding member considers that the question is vague, irrelevant, insulting or improper.

### **10—Petitions**

- (1) A petition to the council must—
  - (a) be legibly written or typed or printed; and
  - (b) clearly set out the request or submission of the petitioners; and
  - (c) include the name and address of each person who signed or endorsed the petition; and
  - (d) be addressed to the council and delivered to the principal office of the Council.
- (2) If a petition is received under subregulation (1), the chief executive officer must ensure that the petition or, if the council has so determined as a policy of the council, a statement as to the nature of the request or submission and the number of signatures or the number of persons endorsing the petition, is placed on the agenda for the next ordinary meeting of the council or, if so provided by a policy of the council, a committee of the council.

**COMG 10.1 Statement of Nature (Petitions)**

Petitions received by Council shall be included in the relevant Agenda as a ‘statement of the nature’ of the request and total number of signatures, rather than the Petition in its entirety.

- (3) Subregulation (2) may be varied at the discretion of the council pursuant to regulation 6.

### **11—Deputations**

- (1) A person or persons wishing to appear as a deputation at a meeting must deliver (to the principal office of the council) a written request to the council.
- (2) The chief executive officer must transmit a request received under subregulation (1) to the presiding member.
- (3) The presiding member may refuse to allow the deputation to appear at a meeting.
- (4) The chief executive officer must take reasonable steps to ensure that the person or persons who requested a deputation are informed of the outcome of the request.
- (5) If the presiding member refuses to allow a deputation to appear at a meeting, the presiding member must report the decision to the next meeting of the council or council committee (as the case may be).
- (6) The council or council committee may resolve to allow a deputation to appear despite a contrary ruling by the presiding member.
- (7) A council may refer the hearing of a deputation to a council committee.

**17.11.2022—Local Government (Procedures at Meetings) Regulations 2024**  
Meetings of councils and key committees—Part 2  
Prescribed procedures—Division 2

**COMG 11.1 Deputation Requirements**

A deputation must not exceed five (5) minutes duration without prior consent of the Presiding Member, having sought and been granted leave of the meeting.

Any materials or presentations to be used in support of a deputation must be provided at the time the request is made. Any materials or presentations may, at the absolute discretion of the Presiding Member, be redacted or disallowed if inappropriate, offensive or otherwise gives rise to a risk for the Council. No materials may be distributed on the night of the deputation, without prior approval from the Chief Executive Officer.

A request for deputation does not need to relate to an item contained on the Council or Committee Agenda for the meeting at which it is to be received, but must relate to subject matter within the decision making or influence remit of the Council or Committee.

**12—Motions**

- (1) A member may bring forward any business in the form of a written notice of motion.
- (2) The notice of motion must be given to the chief executive officer at least 7 clear days before the date of the meeting at which the motion is to be moved.

**COMG 12.1 Notice of Motion Requirements**

A Notice of Motion must be legibly handwritten or typed, in hardcopy or electronic form, and complete at the time that it is given to the Chief Executive Officer.

If a Notice of Motion does not meet the requirements then the Motion will not be included in the Agenda. For clarity, a draft or incomplete Motion will not meet the 'written notice' requirements. To be a complete Notice of Motion the Member must have strictly complied with all components of Regulation 12(2), the definition of 'written notice' in Regulation 3, COMG 3.1 and this Council determined procedure.

If the Motion does not meet the requirements, it will be returned to the Member for further consideration and re-submission, taking into account the timing requirements under Regulation 12(2). If the re-submitted Motion fails to meeting the timing requirements, it will be received an included on the Agenda for the next available meeting of the Council or Committee.

- (3) A motion the effect of which, if carried, would be to revoke or amend a resolution passed since the last general election of the council must be brought by written notice of motion.

**COMG 12.2 Notice of Motion Procedure**

A Member may, having sought permission from the Presiding Member in their absolute discretion, nominate another Member to move a Motion on Notice in their absence.

A Motion on Notice given by a Member who is not in their seat at the relevant point of the Agenda, and who has not nominated another Member to move the Motion or otherwise, will be included on the Agenda for the next meeting of the Council or Committee and the meeting shall immediately proceed to the next item of business.



**17.11.2022—Local Government (Procedures at Meetings) Regulations 2024**  
Meetings of councils and key committees—Part 2  
Prescribed procedures—Division 2

---

- (4) If a motion under subregulation (3) is lost, a motion to the same effect cannot be brought—
- (a) until after the expiration of 12 months; or
  - (b) until after the next general election,
- whichever is the sooner.
- (5) Subject to the Act and these regulations, a member may also bring forward any business by way of a motion without notice.
- (6) The presiding member may refuse to accept a motion without notice if, after taking into account the Guiding Principles, he or she considers that the motion should be dealt with by way of a written notice of motion.

**COMG 12.3 Refusal of Motion Without Notice**

Where a Motion without notice has been refused by the Presiding Member in accordance with Regulation 12(6), no further action will be taken in regard to the proposed Motion until and unless a formal Notice of Motion is given in accordance with Regulation 12(2).

- (7) The presiding member may refuse to accept a motion if the subject matter is, in his or her opinion, beyond the power of the council or council committee (as the case may be).
- (8) A motion will lapse if it is not seconded at the appropriate time.
- (9) A member moving or seconding a motion will speak to the motion at the time of moving or seconding the motion.
- (10) A member may only speak once to a motion except—
- (a) to provide an explanation in regard to a material part of his or her speech, but not so as to introduce any new matter; or
  - (b) with leave of the meeting; or
  - (c) as the mover in reply.
- (11) A member who has spoken to a motion may not at a later stage of the debate move or second an amendment to the motion.

**COMG 12.4 Questions to a Motion**

Any Member may direct a question relating to a Motion that has been moved and seconded to the Presiding Member.

In responding to the question the Presiding Member may seek information from the Chief Executive Officer, or another Member with respect any explanation that may be sought under Regulation 12(10).

Only the Chief Executive Officer and Presiding Member may seek responses to questions directly from staff in attendance at the meeting.

17.11.2022—Local Government (Procedures at Meetings) Regulations 2024  
Meetings of councils and key committees—Part 2  
Prescribed procedures—Division 2

Members are encouraged to seek answers to questions relating to Agenda items prior to the commencement of a Council or Committee meeting, through the formal lines of communication established by the Chief Executive Officer.

- (12) A member who has not spoken in the debate on a question may move a formal motion.
- (13) A formal motion must be in the form of a motion set out in subregulation (14) (and no other formal motion to a different effect will be recognised).
- (14) If the formal motion is—
  - (a) that *the meeting proceed to the next business*, then the effect of the motion, if successful, is, in the case of an amendment, that the amendment lapses and the meeting proceeds with the consideration of the motion before the meeting without further reference to the amendment and, in the case of a motion, that the motion lapses and the meeting proceeds to the next item of business; or
  - (b) that *the question be put*, then the effect of the motion, if successful, is that debate is terminated and the question put to the vote by the presiding member without further debate; or
  - (c) that *the question lie on the table*, then the effect of the motion, if successful, is that the meeting immediately moves to the next item of business and the question can then only be retrieved at a later time by resolution (and, if so retrieved, debate is then resumed at the point of interruption); or
  - (d) that *the question be adjourned*, then the effect of the motion, if successful, is that the question is disposed of for the time being but debate can be resumed at the later time (at the point of interruption); or
  - (e) that *the meeting be adjourned*, then the effect of the motion, if successful, is that the meeting is brought to an end immediately without the consideration of further business.
- (15) If seconded, a formal motion takes precedence and will be put by the presiding member without discussion unless the motion is for an adjournment (in which case discussion may occur (but only occur) on the details for resumption).
- (16) A formal motion does not constitute an amendment to a substantive motion.
- (17) If a formal motion is lost—
  - (a) the meeting will be resumed at the point at which it was interrupted; and
  - (b) if the formal motion was put during debate (and not at the end of debate) on a question, then a similar formal motion (ie a motion to the same effect) cannot be put until at least 1 member has spoken on the question.
- (18) A formal motion for adjournment must include the reason for the adjournment and the details for resumption.
- (19) Any question that lies on the table as a result of a successful formal motion under subregulation (14)(c) lapses at the next general election.
- (20) The chief executive officer must report on each question that lapses under subregulation (19) to the council at the first ordinary meeting of the council after the general election.

**17.11.2022—Local Government (Procedures at Meetings) Regulations 2024**  
Meetings of councils and key committees—Part 2  
Prescribed procedures—Division 2

---

- (21) Subregulations (9), (10) and (11) may be varied at the discretion of the council pursuant to regulation 6.

**13—Amendments to motions**

- (1) A member who has not spoken to a motion at an earlier stage of the debate may move or second an amendment to the motion.
- (2) An amendment will lapse if it is not seconded at the appropriate time.
- (3) A person who moves or seconds an amendment (and, if he or she chooses to do so, speaks to the amendment) will, in so doing, be taken to have spoken to the motion to which the amendment relates.
- (4) If an amendment is lost, only 1 further amendment may be moved to the original motion.
- (5) If an amendment is carried, only 1 further amendment may be moved to the original motion.
- (6) Subregulations (1), (3), (4) and (5) may be varied at the discretion of the council pursuant to regulation 6.

**14—Variations etc**

- (1) The mover of a motion or amendment may, with the consent of the seconder, request leave of the meeting to vary, alter or withdraw the motion or amendment.
- (2) The presiding member must immediately put the question for leave to be granted and no debate will be allowed on that question.

**15—Addresses by members etc**

- (1) A member must not speak for longer than 5 minutes at any 1 time without leave of the meeting.
- (2) A member may, with leave of the meeting, raise a matter of urgency.
- (3) A member may, with leave of the meeting, make a personal explanation.
- (4) The subject matter of a personal explanation may not be debated.
- (5) The contribution of a member must be relevant to the subject matter of the debate.
- (6) Subregulations (1) and (2) may be varied at the discretion of the council pursuant to regulation 6.

**16—Voting**

- (1) The presiding member, or any other member, may ask the chief executive officer to read out a motion before a vote is taken.
- (2) The presiding member will, in taking a vote, ask for the votes of those members in favour of the question and then for the votes of those members against the question (and may do so as often as is necessary to enable him or her to determine the result of the voting), and will then declare the outcome.
- (3) A person who is not in his or her seat is not permitted to vote.

**17.11.2022—Local Government (Procedures at Meetings) Regulations 2024**  
Meetings of councils and key committees—Part 2  
Prescribed procedures—Division 2

**COMG 16.1 Leave to Vote – Not Seated**

A Member may seek leave from the Presiding Member to vote whilst not seated in their chair in exceptional circumstances.

- (4) Subregulation (3)—
- (a) may be varied at the discretion of the council pursuant to regulation 6; and
  - (b) does not apply in relation to a member participating in a council committee meeting by telephone or electronic means approved in accordance with procedures determined by the council or council committee for the purposes of section 89 of the Act.

**17—Divisions**

- (1) A division will be taken at the request of a member.
- (2) If a division is called for, it must be taken immediately and the previous decision of the presiding member as to whether the motion was carried or lost is set aside.
- (3) The division will be taken as follows:
  - (a) the members voting in the affirmative will, until the vote is recorded, stand in their places;
  - (b) the members voting in the negative will, until the vote is recorded, sit in their seats;
  - (c) the presiding member will count the number of votes and then declare the outcome.
- (4) The chief executive officer will record in the minutes the names of members who voted in the affirmative and the names of the members who voted in the negative (in addition to the result of the vote).
- (5) Subregulation (3) may be varied at the discretion of the council pursuant to regulation 6.

**18—Tabling of information**

- (1) A member may require the chief executive officer to table any documents of the council relating to a motion that is before a meeting (and the chief executive officer must then table the documents within a reasonable time, or at a time determined by the presiding member after taking into account the wishes of the meeting, and if the member who has required the tabling indicates that he or she is unwilling to vote on the motion until the documents are tabled, then the matter must not be put to the vote until the documents are tabled).
- (2) The chief executive officer may, in tabling a document, indicate that in his or her opinion consideration should be given to dealing with the document on a confidential basis under section 90 or 91 of the Act.

**19—Adjourned business**

- (1) If a formal motion for a substantive motion to be adjourned is carried—
  - (a) the adjournment may either be to a later hour of the same day, to another day, or to another place; and

**17.11.2022—Local Government (Procedures at Meetings) Regulations 2024**  
Meetings of councils and key committees—Part 2  
Prescribed procedures—Division 2

- (b) the debate will, on resumption, continue from the point at which it was adjourned.
- (2) If debate is interrupted for want of a quorum and the meeting is then adjourned, the debate will, on resumption, continue from the point at which it was interrupted.
- (3) Business adjourned from a previous meeting must be dealt with before any new business at a subsequent meeting.
- (4) The provisions of this regulation may be varied at the discretion of the council pursuant to regulation 6.

**COMG 19.1 Adjournment - Late Meetings**

Where a meeting continues until 9pm, the meeting (and hence, all remaining business) will be adjourned to a date and time specified by the Presiding Member, unless the Presiding Member seeks, and is granted, leave by a simple majority of Members present to extend the meeting by a period of up to 30 minutes.

The Presiding Member must first confer with the Chief Executive Officer/Senior Officer present with respect to excusing staff (save for essential staff as determined by the Chief Executive Officer, which will include the minute taker) from the meeting prior to seeking leave for an extension.

On the expiration of any initial period of 1 hour, the Presiding Member may seek leave by a simple majority of Members present to extend the meeting by periods in increments of 30 minutes.

Any items of business outstanding at the adjournment of a meeting will be dealt with first at the next meeting of Council.

**COMG 19.2 Adjournment - Emergency**

The circumstances of an emergency may take precedence over the formalities of meeting procedures.

Where the circumstances of an emergency permit, the Presiding Member may do one of the following:

- call for a formal motion to adjourn under regulation 12(14)(e) and 12(18),
- close the meeting for want / loss of a quorum,
- comply with any reasonable work, health and safety obligation under the Work, Health and Safety Act in response to the relevant circumstances.

At all times the safety of persons present at the meeting must be the paramount concern.

Any administrative anomaly that arises in giving effect to the Council's obligations to deal with an actual or perceived emergency will not be considered fatal to any decisions made with respect to the adjournment of the meeting, or resumption, nor to the validity of any decisions arising from the same.

The minutes of a meeting adjourned in the case of an emergency need not specify full details of the emergency. The Minutes need only record that an emergency situation arose.



17.11.2022—Local Government (Procedures at Meetings) Regulations 2024  
Meetings of councils and key committees—Part 2  
Prescribed procedures—Division 2

---

**20—Short-term suspension of proceedings**

- (1) If the presiding member considers that the conduct of a meeting would benefit from suspending the operation of all or some of the provisions of this Division for a period of time in order to allow or facilitate informal discussions, the presiding member may, with the approval of at least two-thirds of the members present at the meeting, suspend the operation of this Division (or any part of this Division) for a period determined by the presiding member.
- (2) The Guiding Principles must be taken into account when considering whether to act under subregulation (1).
- (3) If a suspension occurs under subregulation (1)—
  - (a) a note of the suspension, including the reasons for and period of suspension, must be entered in the minutes; and
  - (b) the meeting may proceed provided that a quorum is maintained but, during the period of suspension—
    - (i) the provisions of the Act must continue to be observed<sup>1</sup>; and
    - (ii) no act or discussion will have any status or significance under the provisions which have been suspended; and
    - (iii) no motion may be moved, seconded, amended or voted on, other than a motion that the period of suspension should be brought to an end; and
  - (c) the period of suspension should be limited to achieving the purpose for which it was declared; and
  - (d) the period of suspension will come to an end if—
    - (i) the presiding member determines that the period should be brought to an end; or
    - (ii) at least two-thirds of the members present at the meeting resolve that the period should be brought to an end.

**Note—**

- 1 See particularly Part 4 of Chapter 5, and Chapter 6, of the Act.

**21—Chief executive officer may submit report recommending revocation or amendment of council decision**

- (1) The chief executive officer may submit a report to the council recommending the revocation or amendment of a resolution passed since the last general election of the council.
- (2) The chief executive officer must ensure that the report is placed on the agenda for the meeting at which the report is to be considered.
- (3) The provisions of this regulation may be varied at the discretion of the council pursuant to regulation 6.

17.11.2022—Local Government (Procedures at Meetings) Regulations 2024  
Meetings of other committees—Part 3

---

### **Part 3—Meetings of other committees**

#### **22—Application of Part**

The provisions of this Part apply to or in relation to the meetings of any council committee that is not subject to the operation of Part 2.

#### **23—Notice of meetings for members**

Pursuant to section 87(15) of the Act, section 87 is modified in its application in relation to the meetings of a committee to which this Part applies as if subsections (4) and (7) to (10) of that section provided as follows:

- ~~—(a) that notice of a meeting of the committee may be given in a form determined by the committee after taking into account the nature and purpose of the committee;~~
- ~~—(b) that notice need not be given for each meeting separately;~~
- ~~—(c) that if ordinary meetings of the committee have a set agenda then notice of such a meeting need not contain, or be accompanied by, the agenda for the meeting;~~
- ~~—(d) that it is not necessary for the chief executive officer to ensure that each member of the committee at the time that notice of a meeting is given is supplied with a copy of any documents or reports that are to be considered at the meeting.~~

#### **24—Public notice of committee meetings**

Pursuant to section 88(7) of the Act, section 88 is modified in its application in relation to the meetings of a committee to which this Part applies as if subsections (2) and (3) provided as follows:

- ~~—(a) that public notice need not be given for each meeting separately; and~~
- ~~—(b) that public notice may be given by displaying a notice and agenda in a place or places determined by the chief executive officer after taking into account the nature and purpose of the committee.~~

#### **25—Minutes**

- ~~—(1) The minutes of the proceedings of a meeting must include —
  - ~~—(a) the names of the members present at the meeting; and~~
  - ~~—(b) each motion carried at the meeting; and~~
  - ~~—(c) any disclosure of interest made by a member; and~~
  - ~~—(d) details of the making of an order under subsection (2) of section 90 of the Act (see subsection (7) of that section); and~~
  - ~~—(e) a note of the making of an order under subsection (7) of section 91 of the Act in accordance with the requirements of subsection (9) of that section.~~~~
- ~~—(2) The minutes of the proceedings at a meeting must be submitted for confirmation at the next meeting or, if that is omitted, at a subsequent meeting.~~

17.11.2022—Local Government (Procedures at Meetings) Regulations 2024  
Miscellaneous—Part 4

---

## Part 4—Miscellaneous

### 26—Quorum for committees

- (1) The prescribed number of members of a council committee constitutes a quorum of the committee and no business can be transacted at a meeting unless a quorum is present.
- (2) For the purposes of this regulation, the *prescribed number* of members of a council committee is—
  - (a) unless paragraph (b) applies—a number ascertained by dividing the total number of members of the committee by 2, ignoring any fraction resulting from the division, and adding 1; or
  - (b) a number determined by the council.

**Note—**

See also section 41(6) of the Act.

### 27—Voting at committee meetings

- (1) Subject to the Act and these regulations, a question arising for decision at a meeting of a council committee will be decided by a majority of the votes cast by the members present at the meeting and entitled to vote on the question.
- (2) Each member of a council who is a member of a council committee and who is present at a meeting of the committee must, subject to a provision of the Act to the contrary, vote on a question arising for decision at that meeting.
- (3) The presiding member of a council committee has a deliberative vote on a question arising for decision at the meeting but does not, in the event of an equality of votes, have a casting vote.

### 28—Points of order

- (1) The presiding member may call to order a member who is in breach of the Act or these regulations.
- (2) A member may draw to the attention of the presiding member a breach of the Act or these regulations, and must state briefly the nature of the alleged breach.
- (3) A point of order takes precedence over all other business until determined.
- (4) The presiding member will rule on a point of order.
- (5) If an objection is taken to the ruling of the presiding member, a motion that the ruling not be agreed with must be moved immediately.
- (6) The presiding member is entitled to make a statement in support of the ruling before a motion under subregulation (5) is put.
- (7) A resolution under subregulation (5) binds the meeting and, if a ruling is not agreed with—
  - (a) the ruling has no effect; and
  - (b) the point of order is annulled.

17.11.2022—Local Government (Procedures at Meetings) Regulations 2024  
Miscellaneous—Part 4

---

**28A—Exclusion of member from meeting by presiding member**

- (1) For the purposes of section 86(6b) of the Act, before giving a direction under that subsection, the presiding member must allow the member to make a personal explanation.
- (2) If a member is excluded from a meeting for a contravention of section 86(6a) of the Act, action cannot be taken under regulation 29 in respect of the contravention.
- (3) A member will not be taken to contravene section 86(6a) of the Act merely because the member is—
  - (a) objecting to words used by a member who is speaking; or
  - (b) calling attention to a point of order; or
  - (c) calling attention to want of a quorum.
- (4) For the purposes of section 86(6e) of the Act, if a member the subject of a direction excluding them from a meeting under section 86(6b) of the Act refuses to comply with the direction or enters the meeting in contravention of the direction, the remaining members at the meeting may, by resolution—
  - (a) censure the member; or
  - (b) suspend the member for a part, or for the remainder, of the meeting.

**29—Interruption of meetings by members**

- (1) A member of a council or council committee must not, while at a meeting—
  - (a) behave in an improper or disorderly manner; or
  - (b) cause an interruption or interrupt another member who is speaking.
- (2) Subregulation (1)(b) does not apply to a member who is—
  - (a) objecting to words used by a member who is speaking; or
  - (b) calling attention to a point of order; or
  - (c) calling attention to want of a quorum.
- (3) If the presiding member considers that a member may have acted in contravention of subregulation (1), the member must be allowed to make a personal explanation.
- (4) Subject to complying with subregulation (3), the relevant member must leave the meeting while the matter is considered by the meeting.
- (5) If the remaining members resolve that a contravention of subregulation (1) has occurred, those members may, by resolution—
  - (a) censure the member; or
  - (b) suspend the member for a part, or for the remainder, of the meeting.
- (6) A member who—
  - (a) refuses to leave a meeting in contravention of subregulation (4); or
  - (b) enters a meeting in contravention of a suspension under subregulation (5),is guilty of an offence.  
Maximum penalty: \$1 250.

17.11.2022—Local Government (Procedures at Meetings) Regulations 2024  
Miscellaneous—Part 4

---

**COMG 29.1 Mobile Electronic Devices**

To prevent any interruptions for the purposes of Regulation 29(1) all Council and Committee Members must ensure electronic communication devices (e.g. mobile telephones, smart devices or similar), including any being used by the Member to attend the meeting or session, are placed on silent mode during the meeting.

Except for the express limited purpose of facilitating electronic attendance at a Committee Meeting or at an Information or Briefing Session, Council and Committee Members are not to use electronic communication devices to communicate with any other Council or Committee Member or any other person (whether present or absent from the meeting) about an Agenda item or any other matter while present during the course of a meeting.

Nothing in this item is intended to prevent a Member from:

- leaving the meeting or session to communicate with another person, or
- seeking leave of the meeting or session to contact another Member for an appropriate purpose, such as to enquire about the Members absence, wellbeing, or safety.

**30—Interruption of meetings by others**

A member of the public who is present at a meeting of a council or council committee must not—

- (a) behave in a disorderly manner; or
- (b) cause an interruption.

Maximum penalty: \$500.



## Legislative history

### Notes

- Please note—References in the legislation to other legislation or instruments or to titles of bodies or offices are not automatically updated as part of the program for the revision and publication of legislation and therefore may be obsolete.
- Earlier versions of these regulations (historical versions) are listed at the end of the legislative history.
- For further information relating to the Act and subordinate legislation made under the Act see the Index of South Australian Statutes or [www.legislation.sa.gov.au](http://www.legislation.sa.gov.au).

### Legislation revoked by principal regulations

The *Local Government (Procedures at Meetings) Regulations 2013* revoked the following:

*Local Government (Procedures at Meetings) Regulations 2000*

### Principal regulations and variations

New entries appear in bold.

Year	No	Reference	Commencement
2013	278	<i>Gazette 12.12.2013 p4642</i>	1.1.2014: r 2
2021	141	<i>Gazette 16.9.2021 p3565</i>	10.11.2021: r 2
<b>2022</b>	<b>97</b>	<b><i>Gazette 17.11.2022 p6647</i></b>	<b>17.11.2022: r 2</b>

### Provisions varied

New entries appear in bold.

Entries that relate to provisions that have been deleted appear in italics.

Provision	How varied	Commencement
Pt 1		
r 2	<i>omitted under Legislation Revision and Publication Act 2002</i>	<i>10.11.2021</i>
Pt 2		
r 6		
r 6(5) and (6)	<i>deleted by 141/2021 r 4</i>	<i>10.11.2021</i>
<b>r 8</b>		
<b>r 8(4)</b>	<b>amended by 97/2022 r 3(1), (2)</b>	<b>17.11.2022</b>
r 9		
r 9(1)	varied by 141/2021 r 5	10.11.2021
r 12		
r 12(2)	varied by 141/2021 r 6	10.11.2021
Pt 3		
r 24	varied by 141/2021 r 7	10.11.2021
<b>Pt 4</b>		
<b>r 28A</b>	<b>inserted by 97/2022 r 4</b>	<b>17.11.2022</b>
<i>Sch 1</i>	<i>omitted under Legislation Revision and Publication Act 2002</i>	<i>10.11.2021</i>

### Historical versions

10.11.2021

## 18.12 APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY MAYOR

Author: Melissa Telford, Councillor Support Officer

Authoriser: Jane Fetherstonhaugh, General Manager Corporate and Regulatory Services

### RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council report titled 'Appointment of Deputy Mayor' as presented on Tuesday 19 November 2024 be noted.
2. That Council appoints Cr \_\_\_\_\_ to the position of Deputy Mayor for a term of 2 years in accordance with section 51 of the Local Government Act 1999.

### PURPOSE

To duly appoint a Member of the Council to the position of Deputy Mayor for the term of 2 years in accordance with section 51 of the Local Government Act 1999 (the Act).

### SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS AND BENEFITS

#### Implications

- If the appointment of Deputy Mayor is not conducted in accordance with section 51 of the Act, the appointment is invalid.
- In the event no Deputy Mayor is appointed to the role and the Mayor is absent, there is no automatic acting mechanism, and gives rise to uncertainty when appointing an interim presiding member.

#### Benefits

- Appointing a Deputy Mayor establishes a clear and democratically determined succession plan in the event of absence of the Mayor.
- The Deputy Mayor role provides respite to the Mayor in sharing of certain civic responsibilities and provides leadership development opportunities for Members.

### BACKGROUND / OPTIONS

Council may determine to appoint a Deputy Mayor in accordance with section 51(3) and (4) of the Act, to act in the office of Mayor during any period of absence.

In contemplation of the position of Deputy Mayor, at the Council meeting held on 29 November 2022, the Council resolved:

2. *That pursuant to the powers contained in Section 51 (3) and (4) of the Local Government Act 1999 Council hereby resolves to have a Deputy Mayor.*
3. *That an appointment for the position of Deputy Mayor be for a term of 2 year/s.*
4. *That nominations for the position of Deputy Mayor be submitted to the Chief Executive Officer by close of business on Friday 2 December 2022, for a selection (and if necessary, a voting) process to be presented to the Council meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> December 2022.*

At the meeting held on 14 December 2022 Cr Ben Hood was appointed as Deputy Mayor for a term of 2 years. Following the casual vacancy in the office of area councillor formerly



occupied by Cr Ben Hood, Council appointed Cr Max Bruins to the position of Deputy Mayor for the remaining period of 20 months at the Council meeting of 21 March 2023.

This term has now concluded, and a report will be presented to the November Council meeting to facilitate the selection of Deputy Mayor for the upcoming term.

By way of Memo in the Friday Edition on 8 November 2024 the Chief Executive Officer sought nominations from Councillors for the vacant position of Deputy Mayor to be submitted by close of business on Tuesday 12 November 2024.

This report presents the nominations received, and a selection/appointment process.

At close of business on 12 November 2024, nominations for the vacant position of Deputy Mayor had been received from:

- Cr Sonya Mezinec
- Cr Josh Lynagh

Council's Code of Practice for Meeting Procedures and section 51 of the *Local Government Act 1999* guide the relevant selection process for a Deputy Mayor. Where more than one nomination is received a secret ballot shall be conducted. The Chief Executive Officer (or any other Senior Officer present at the meeting) shall be appointed as Returning Officer to declare the result and draw lots (if / as necessary). A resolution shall be passed to endorse the appointment of the successful candidate.

The following shall apply to the determination of Deputy Mayor:

- Any Member present at the meeting may be nominated.
- A secret ballot shall be conducted.
- The Mayor does not vote in the secret ballot on the question of the appointment of Deputy Mayor.
- The candidate with the highest number of votes (or where two or more candidates receive the equal highest number of votes the last name drawn in a lot) shall be declared the Deputy Mayor.
- A division cannot be called when a resolution appointing the successful candidate as Deputy Mayor is taken.

Section 51(8) of the Act provides that where the votes for two candidates for Deputy Mayor are equal, lots must be drawn to determine which candidate or candidates will be excluded, with the last lot remaining being the successful candidate.

The final point reflects the application of sub-regulation 12(3) of the *Local Government (Procedures at Meetings) Regulations 2013* (the Regulations) that a motion the effect of which, if carried, would be to revoke or amend a resolution passed since the last general election of the council, must be brought by written notice of motion.

#### DETAILED IMPLICATIONS

<b>Legal</b>	Section 51 of the Act sets out the requirements and prescribed process for appointing a Deputy Mayor. Failure to adhere to the requisite process / requirements may lead to an invalid appointment.
--------------	---



<b>Financial and Budget</b>	The Deputy Mayor receives 1.25 times the allowance of Members, in accordance with Council's M405 Council Members Allowances and Benefits Policy.
<b>Other Resources</b>	N/A

### RISK ANALYSIS

Consequence	Consequence Rating:	Risk Likelihood Rating:	Risk Rating	Risk Controls and effectiveness	Risk Mitigation Plan
<b>Finance</b>	Insignificant (1)	Rare (1)	Low	N/A	N/A
<b>Reputation</b>	Minor (2)	Unlikely (2)	Low	The successful candidate is appointed by the Members ensuring a level of confidence in the individual's ability to fulfil the demands of the role, LGA Mandatory Training in leadership for presiding members (including Deputy Mayors) prepares incumbents for the requirements of such a role	The residual risk rating does not fall outside of the acceptable tolerance, no additional treatments are recommended
<b>Legal / Regulatory / Policy</b>	Moderate (3)	Rare (1)	Low	The appointment of Deputy Mayor is done in accordance with section 51 of the Act and Council's Code of Practice for Meeting Procedures	The residual risk rating does not fall outside of the acceptable tolerance, no additional treatments are recommended
<b>Service Delivery</b>	Insignificant (1)	Rare (1)	Low	N/A	N/A
<b>People</b>	Insignificant (1)	Rare (1)	Low	N/A	N/A
<b>Infrastructure</b>	Insignificant (1)	Rare (1)	Low	N/A	N/A
<b>Environmental</b>	Insignificant (1)	Rare (1)	Low	N/A	N/A

### APPLICATION OF MOUNT GAMBIER 2035

N/A

### APPLICATION OF STRATEGIC PLAN



## **Goal 5 Our Commitment**

### 5 Our Commitment

#### **RELEVANT COUNCIL POLICY**

[Council Determined Meeting Procedures](#)

#### **IMPLEMENTATION, COMMUNICATION AND ENGAGEMENT**

The successful candidate will be appointed to the role of Deputy Mayor in accordance with section 51 of the Act, effective immediately.

#### **CONCLUSION**

Nominations and the relevant process are presented for Council to undertake voting and endorse an appointment to fill the vacant position of Deputy Mayor.

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

Nil





## 19 MOTIONS WITH NOTICE

### 19.1 MOTION WITH NOTICE - COMMUNITY ART

I, Councillor Kate Amoroso, give notice that at the next Ordinary Meeting of Council to be held on Tuesday 19 November 2024, I intend to move the following motion:

#### MOTION

1. That the motion from Cr Kate Amoroso as presented on Tuesday 19 November 2024 be noted.
2. That Council undertake to review the City of Mount Gambier policy and practise regarding community art projects.

#### RATIONALE

Nil

I commend this Notice of Motion to Council.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENT

For the information of Councillors, there will be opportunities for a discussion about arts policies and approach in the new year, including a workshop currently planned for 28 January on the Riddoch Arts and Cultural Centre Strategy.

Further, Policy P195 - Community Consultation and Engagement Policy is pending an updated LGA Template/Model Policy following LG Reform Bill, which in turn is pending State Government finalisation of Statewide LG Community Engagement Charter (CEC).

#### ATTACHMENTS

Nil



**20 URGENT MOTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE**

**21 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS OF COMMITTEES**

Nil

**22 NEW CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS**

**22.1 CRATER LAKES UNSOLICITED PROPOSAL**

**CONSIDERATION FOR EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

Pursuant to section 90(2) of the Local Government Act 1999 the Council orders that all members of the public, except the Mayor, Councillors and (Council Officers) be excluded from attendance at the meeting for the receipt and consideration in confidence of Crater Lakes Unsolicited Proposal.

The Council is satisfied that, pursuant to section 90(3) of the Act, the information to be received, discussed or considered in relation to the Agenda Item is:

- (b) information the disclosure of which -
  - (i) could reasonably be expected to confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting, or proposing to conduct, business, or to prejudice the commercial position of the council; and
  - (ii) would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest.
- (d) commercial information of a confidential nature (not being a trade secret) the disclosure of which -
  - (i) could reasonably be expected to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied the information, or to confer a commercial advantage on a third party; and
  - (ii) would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest.
- (g) matters that must be considered in confidence in order to ensure that the council does not breach any law, order or direction of a court or tribunal constituted by law, any duty of confidence, or other legal obligation or duty.

The Council is satisfied that the principle that the meeting be conducted in a place open to the public has been outweighed in the circumstances because the information to be considered is in regards to the Crater Lakes Project Proposal, including the report and attachment, contains commercial information of a confidential nature provided to Council in-confidence creating a duty of confidence, the consideration of which if conducted in open would prejudice the position of Council, the party that provided the information, and potentially confer commercial advantage on a third party.

The public interest in the matter being considered in open is considered to be outweighed by the public interest in ensuring the best possible outcome for the community, which may be prejudiced if the matter were considered in open.

**CONSIDERATION FOR KEEPING ITEMS CONFIDENTIAL**

1. In accordance with Sections 91(7) and 91(9) of the Local Government Act 1999 the Council orders that the report Crater Lakes Unsolicited Proposal and its attachments, resolution/s and minutes arising from the report, having been considered by the Council in confidence under:
  - (b) information the disclosure of which -
    - (i) could reasonably be expected to confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting, or proposing to



- conduct, business, or to prejudice the commercial position of the council; and
- (ii) would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest.
  - (d) commercial information of a confidential nature (not being a trade secret) the disclosure of which -
    - (i) could reasonably be expected to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied the information, or to confer a commercial advantage on a third party; and
    - (ii) would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest.
  - (g) matters that must be considered in confidence in order to ensure that the council does not breach any law, order or direction of a court or tribunal constituted by law, any duty of confidence, or other legal obligation or duty.
- be kept confidential and not available for public inspection until the latter of: two years after the expiry of an agreement entered into in relation to the matter, or two years after the proposal has been abandoned, and Council has been released from its duty of confidence.
2. Further that Council delegates the power to review, revoke, but not extend the confidential order to the Chief Executive Officer in accordance with the provisions of Section 91(9)(c) of the Local Government Act 1999.



**22.2 AF24/218 TENDER - PROCUREMENT - SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF LANDFILL COMPACTOR (UNIT 41)**

**CONSIDERATION FOR EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

Pursuant to section 90(2) of the Local Government Act 1999 the Council orders that all members of the public, except the Mayor, Councillors and (Council Officers) be excluded from attendance at the meeting for the receipt and consideration in confidence of AF24/218 Tender - Procurement - Supply and Delivery of Landfill Compactor (Unit 41).

The Council is satisfied that, pursuant to section 90(3) of the Act, the information to be received, discussed or considered in relation to the Agenda Item is:

- (k) tenders for the supply of goods, the provision of services or the carrying out of works

The Council is satisfied that the principle that the meeting be conducted in a place open to the public has been outweighed in the circumstances because the information to be discussed in this item relates to a contract between Council and the successful tenderer.

The disclosure of information in association with this item could reasonably be expected to prejudice the commercial position of Council or confer advantage on third parties and is considered on balance to be contrary to the public interest as it could prejudice the Councils position in obtaining best value on behalf of the community.

**CONSIDERATION FOR KEEPING ITEMS CONFIDENTIAL**

1. In accordance with Sections 91(7) and 91(9) of the Local Government Act 1999 the Council orders that the report AF24/218 Tender - Procurement - Supply and Delivery of Landfill Compactor (Unit 41) and its attachments, resolution/s and minutes arising from the report, having been considered by the Council in confidence under:

- (k) tenders for the supply of goods, the provision of services or the carrying out of works

be kept confidential and not available for public inspection until 12 months after the execution of a contract, with the name of the successful tenderer and the tender contract value to be disclosed upon execution.

2. Further that Council delegates the power to review, revoke, but not extend the confidential order to the Chief Executive Officer in accordance with the provisions of Section 91(9)(c) of the Local Government Act 1999.



## **22.3 WULANDA RECREATION AND CONVENTION CENTRE - PROJECT UPDATE**

### **CONSIDERATION FOR EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

Pursuant to section 90(2) of the Local Government Act 1999 the Council orders that all members of the public, except the Mayor, Councillors and (Council Officers) be excluded from attendance at the meeting for the receipt and consideration in confidence of Wulanda Recreation and Convention Centre - Project Update.

The Council is satisfied that, pursuant to section 90(3) of the Act, the information to be received, discussed or considered in relation to the Agenda Item is:

- (b) information the disclosure of which -
  - (i) could reasonably be expected to confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting, or proposing to conduct, business, or to prejudice the commercial position of the council; and
  - (ii) would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest.
- (d) commercial information of a confidential nature (not being a trade secret) the disclosure of which -
  - (i) could reasonably be expected to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied the information, or to confer a commercial advantage on a third party; and
  - (ii) would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest.
- (g) matters that must be considered in confidence in order to ensure that the council does not breach any law, order or direction of a court or tribunal constituted by law, any duty of confidence, or other legal obligation or duty.
- (h) legal advice.

The Council is satisfied that the principle that the meeting be conducted in a place open to the public has been outweighed in the circumstances because the information contained within the report and attachments presents matters relating to contracts between Council and contractors associated with the construction and operation of the Wulanda Recreation and Convention Centre. The disclosure of information contained in this report and attachments could reasonably be expected to prejudice the commercial position of Council or the third parties and is considered on balance to be contrary to the public interest as it could prejudice the Councils position in obtaining best value project delivery on behalf of the community.

### **CONSIDERATION FOR KEEPING ITEMS CONFIDENTIAL**

1. In accordance with Sections 91(7) and 91(9) of the Local Government Act 1999 the Council orders that the report Wulanda Recreation and Convention Centre - Project Update and its attachments, resolution/s and minutes arising from the report, having been considered by the Council in confidence under:

- (b) information the disclosure of which -
  - (i) could reasonably be expected to confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting, or proposing to conduct, business, or to prejudice the commercial position of the council; and
  - (ii) would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest.
- (d) commercial information of a confidential nature (not being a trade secret) the disclosure of which -
  - (i) could reasonably be expected to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied the information, or to confer a commercial advantage on a third party; and
  - (ii) would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest.



- (g) matters that must be considered in confidence in order to ensure that the council does not breach any law, order or direction of a court or tribunal constituted by law, any duty of confidence, or other legal obligation or duty.
- (h) legal advice.

be kept confidential and not available for public inspection until 2 years after the resolution of the commercial, contractual and legal matters outlined within this report

2. Further that Council delegates the power to review, revoke, but not extend the confidential order to the Chief Executive Officer in accordance with the provisions of Section 91(9)(c) of the Local Government Act 1999.



- 23 MEETING CLOSE**
- 24 ATTACHMENT - PREVIOUS COUNCIL MINUTES**



# MINUTES

## Ordinary Council Meeting Tuesday 15 October 2024



**Minutes of City of Mount Gambier Ordinary Council Meeting held at:**

**Time:** 6:00 pm  
**Date:** Tuesday 15 October 2024  
**Location:** Council Chamber - Civic Centre  
10 Watson Terrace, Mount Gambier

**PRESENT:** Mayor Lynette Martin (OAM)  
Cr Kate Amoroso  
Cr Max Bruins  
Cr Paul Jenner  
Cr Mark Lovett (left the meeting at 7:22 pm)  
Cr Josh Lynagh  
Cr Sonya Meziniec  
Cr Jason Virgo

<b>OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:</b>	Chief Executive Officer	- Mrs S Philpott
	General Manager City Infrastructure	- Ms B Cernovskis
	General Manager Corporate and Regulatory Services	- Mrs J Fetherstonhaugh
	Manager Governance and Property	- Ms B Shelton
	Manager Strategic Projects	- Ms T McPherson
	Manager Development Services	- Mrs T Tzioutziouklaris
	Manager Riddoch Arts and Cultural Centre	- Ms A Whatling
	Manager Operations Infrastructure	- Mr K Manarangi
	Manager Economy, Strategy and Engagement	- Mrs B Shearing
	Strategic Development and Visitor Economy Coordinator	- Ms A Stevens
	Communications Officer	- Mrs A Watson
	Executive Administrator	- Ms S Wilson
	Executive Administrator	- Mrs A Pasquazzi

**1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

**WE ACKNOWLEDGE THE BOANDIK PEOPLES AS THE TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS OF THE LAND WHERE WE MEET TODAY. WE RESPECT THEIR SPIRITUAL RELATIONSHIP WITH THE LAND AND RECOGNISE THE DEEP FEELINGS OF ATTACHMENT OUR FIRST NATIONS PEOPLES HAVE WITH THE LAND.**

**2 APOLOGIES**

**RESOLUTION OCM 2024/170**

Moved: Cr Kate Amoroso  
Seconded: Cr Paul Jenner

That the apology from Cr Frank Morello be received.

**CARRIED**

**3 LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

Nil



## 4 CONFIRMATION OF COUNCIL MINUTES

### 4.1 CONFIRMATION OF COUNCIL MINUTES

#### **RESOLUTION OCM 2024/147**

Moved: Cr Sonya Mezinec

Seconded: Cr Max Bruins

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 17 September 2024 and the Special Council Meeting held on 25 September 2024 be confirmed as an accurate record of the proceedings of the meetings.

**CARRIED**

## 5 MAYORAL REPORT

### 5.1 MAYORAL REPORT - OCTOBER 2024

- Regional Radiation Therapy Group Meeting: Tour of cancer care services with LCLHN
- Friendship Force Ceremony – Delegation from Tarapoto Peru
- Visit by the Her Excellency the Honourable Sam Mostyn AC, Governor-General of Australia
  - Mount Gambier Farmers Market
  - Riddoch Art Gallery
  - Luncheon with community representatives
  - Ryder-Cheshire Home Foundation
- Interfaith Service – Global Peace Day 2024
- CMCA National Rally Official Opening Reception and Ceremony
- Radio Interview with Llew Jones – 5GTR-FM
- Interview (Governor-General visit) – ABC SE
- Meeting with Colin Byles, LCLGA Interim Executive Officer
- Confidential Elected Member Briefing – Waste Services Update
- Elected Member Briefing – Community Renewables Program
- Elected Member Briefing – Beacon Arts Project
- Meeting with CEO's and Mayors of District Council of Grant and Kingston District Council and Sarah Philpott, CEO – preparation for Public Hearing to Standing Committee of Inquiry into Local Government sustainability on 27/9/2024
- Elected Member Briefing – Consideration for Grant Funding Request for Generations in Jazz Event
- Special Council Meeting – Generations in Jazz Grant Funding
- LCLGA Mayors Catch Up (virtual)





- Public Hearing to Standing Committee of Inquiry into Local Government sustainability (teleconference)
- Radio interview – Citizen of the Year Awards – Southern Cross Austereo
- Citizenship Ceremony
- Tour of Mount Gambier Library with Minister for Human Services and Minister for Seniors and Ageing Well, the Hon. Nat Cook MP
- Elected Member Briefing – Presentation of Council’s Draft Strategic Plan 2024-2028
- Elected Member Briefing – Mount Gambier and District Tennis Association
- Meeting with Manager Governance and Property – Mayor’s Christmas Appeal
- Regional SAROC Meeting (DC Grant)
- OneFortyOne official announcement of Renewable Power Generation at Jubilee Sawmill with Premier Malinauskas
- Official launch of the Forestry Centre of Excellence with Premier Malinauskas
- Regional SAROC Dinner
- SAROC Tour of DC Grant Council area
- BrickGambier 2024 VIP Night
- Inside Line Mountain Bike Event – Closing Ceremony
- Probus Club of Mount Gambier annual celebration event – meeting and morning tea
- Elected Member Briefing – Review of Pioneers Sponsorship and Access to Wulanda Recreation and Convention Centre
- Yerkalalpata Community Reference Group agenda run through with CEO, Sarah Philpott and internal Council staff
- LCLGA Mayors Catch Up (virtual)
- Meeting with Colin Byles, LCLGA Interim Executive Officer
- LCLGA Special Board Meeting (Naracoorte)
- LCLGA Workshop (Naracoorte)
- Yuldea – performance by Bangarra Dance Theatre

**RESOLUTION OCM 2024/148**

Moved: Mayor Lynette Martin

Seconded: Cr Max Bruins

That the Mayoral Report be received.

**CARRIED**



## 6 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS

### 6.1 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS

Cr Josh Lynagh	Meeting with Gareth Lewis and Chelsea Sinnott from Music SA, Citizenship Ceremony, Battle of the Bands, LCLHN Health Advisory Council Presiding Member Forum.
Cr Jason Virgo	Opening of the Mount Gambier Gem Club exhibit, site visit at the Mount Gambier History Group.
Cr Sonya Mezinec	Riddoch Arts and Cultural Trust informal meeting, Bangara Dance Theatre - Yuldea, Christmas Parade Advisory Committee.

#### RESOLUTION OCM 2024/149

Moved: Cr Jason Virgo

Seconded: Cr Sonya Mezinec

That the reports from Councillors be received.

**CARRIED**

## 7 QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

The following questions with notice were received from Cr Kate Amoroso:

### 7.1 Question - Hard Waste Collection

Could we please be provided with an update and the community be advised on where we are regarding hard waste collection services.

*Rationale: As we are heading into better weather, people are spring cleaning and I have been receiving a steady flow of messages enquiring about Council's hard waste collection service.*

#### Response - General Manager City Infrastructure

The Waste Masterplan that is in development will consolidate and prioritise Councils focus areas in the management of Waste services and Caroline Landfill. This plan will include a review of kerbside collections and consideration of a hardwaste service. In the interim administration are collating data on the increase of unauthorised dumping (that includes hardwaste), and collaborating with organisations that have a shared and vested interest to develop and trial some programs to help manage hardwaste.

### 7.2 Question - Status of Mountain Bike Trail

Can Council please be provided a status update on reopening of the (currently) closed mountain bike trails?

#### Response - General Manager City Infrastructure

The currently closed mountain bike trails will remain closed due to public safety. Reinstatement of these trails will be guided by the Crater Lakes Bushfire Rehabilitation plan that is well underway, and its subsequent implementation along with the Crater Lakes Trails plan.



### 7.3 Question - Signage - Mountain Bike Trail

I am aware signage is a costly exercise and best done once the mountain bike trail network upgrade has been completed but can temporary signage be organized in the meantime so that local and visiting riders are aware of the trails and aware of the gradient of the trail so that all riders are informed and safe and not riding trails beyond their ability?

#### Response - General Manager City Infrastructure

Where possible, staff have used temporary signage that has been either removed or relocated which presents a further public risk. Therefore, any signage upgrade will be included with the implementation of the Crater Lakes Trails plan.

The following question with notice was received from Cr Paul Jenner:

### 7.4 Question - LCLGA

Can Council please have an explanation of the current status of the waste project with the LCLGA, the budget expended in undertaking the initial stage, any further budget allocations and what were the barriers to this project proceeding?

#### Response - Chief Executive Officer

The consideration of a regional MRF was scoped in two stages (noting other investigation work had been previously undertaken)

The first stage was to consider governance models for the operations of a regional MRF. While that scope was delivered, it was determined that stage 2 information was also needed to fully test the viability and appropriate options for a regional MRF. The return brief was requested from the consultants to perform the second stage and circulated to CEOs. The matter was discussed with Mayors and CEOs at a strategic planning session and decided to defer further action pending further engagement with Green Industries SA and consideration of options for subregional collaboration. The budget for stage was in the order of \$80,000.

During the life of the investigation, the waste and circular economy continued to evolve. For instance, initial thinking had explored western Victoria as a potential partner – in the meantime, Victoria introduced a fourth bin for glass recycling, changing the environment for that market. Each Council had different services and was initiating services relevant to their local environment.

- For the City of Mount Gambier our work in waste is also somewhat different from other regional partners. We will continue to have a kerbside to landfill service and will keep investigating circular economy opportunities that target (in particular) organics in the first instance
- CMG continue to carry the risk associated with a landfill that provides other partners with waste disposal
- CMG Waste masterplanning is underway, we have committed to include DCG and WRC as stakeholders in our engagement
- Education regarding sorting, organics etc needs to be a commitment for anything at a regional level is to progress
- it is more than just the costs of transport that is a consideration in the development of a regional service, but also what and where the markets are for recyclables and organics - this impacts any possible regional location

Rather than progressing to stage two of the project, we will continue to consider subregional opportunities and explore options with Green Industries SA individually and collectively.



**8 QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE**

Nil resolved.

**9 PETITIONS**

Nil

**10 DEPUTATIONS**

Nil

**11 NOTICE OF MOTION TO REVOKE OR AMEND**

Nil

**12 ELECTED MEMBERS INFORMATION BRIEFING SESSIONS**

**RESOLUTION OCM 2024/150**

Moved: Cr Max Bruins

Seconded: Cr Jason Virgo

That Council Report titled Elected Member Information Briefing Sessions held since the previous Council Meeting be noted.

**CARRIED**

**13 ELECTED MEMBERS TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT**

Nil

**14 AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE**

Nil

**15 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER PERFORMANCE REVIEW COMMITTEE**

Nil

**16 JUNIOR SPORTS ASSISTANCE FUND COMMITTEE**

Nil

**17 BUILDING FIRE SAFETY COMMITTEE**

Nil



## 18 COUNCIL REPORTS

### 18.1 DRAFT CITY OF MOUNT GAMBIER STRATEGIC PLAN 2024 - 2028

#### RESOLUTION OCM 2024/151

Moved: Cr Sonya Mezinec

Seconded: Cr Max Bruins

1. That Council report titled 'Draft City of Mount Gambier Strategic Plan 2024 - 2028' as presented on Tuesday 15 October 2024 be noted.
2. That Council endorse the draft City of Mount Gambier Strategic Plan 2024 - 2028 for community engagement.

**CARRIED**

### 18.2 ELECTOR REPRESENTATION REVIEW - REPRESENTATION REPORT

#### RESOLUTION OCM 2024/152

Moved: Cr Max Bruins

Seconded: Cr Jason Virgo

1. That Council report titled 'Elector Representation Review - Representation Report' as presented on Tuesday 15 October 2024 be noted.
2. That all submissions received during the public consultation on the Elector Representation Review - Representation Report be received and noted in accordance with section 12(7) of the Local Government Act 1999 (the Act).
3. That having given due consideration to the submissions received, the Council hereby determines its future composition and structure to be:
  - (a) The principal member of Council continue to be a Mayor elected by the community;
  - (b) The Council area not be divided into wards (i.e. retain the existing "no wards" structure);
  - (c) The future elected body of Council comprise eight (8) Area Councillors and the Mayor.
4. The Chief Executive Officer or delegate be authorised to prepare and forward the necessary report and consultation documents to the Electoral Commissioner, pursuant to sections 12(11) and 12(12) of the Act.

**CARRIED**





**18.3 GRANTS AND SPONSORSHIPS PROGRAM ROUND ONE - NEW YEAR'S EVE AND SOUTH AUSTRALIAN COUNTRY SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS**

**RESOLUTION OCM 2024/153**

Moved: Cr Max Bruins

Seconded: Cr Josh Lynagh

1. That Council report titled 'Grants and Sponsorships Program Round One - New Year's Eve and South Australian Country Swimming Championships' as presented on Tuesday 15 October 2024 be noted.
2. That \$15,000 cash and \$3,000 in-kind be endorsed for distribution as part of Round One of the 2024/2025 Grants and Sponsorships program specifically for the Mount Gambier Swimming Club Inc. to host the 2025 South Australian Country Swimming Championships.
3. That Council give 'in-principle' support to supporting Mount Gambier Community Management Inc with \$17,600 cash and \$1,287 in-kind support, pending a further report to be brought back to the November 2024 Council Meeting detailing the following:
  - Further information on the event's financial position and how any shortfall associated with running the event will be funded
  - Whether or not council's contribution can be paid directly to the pyrotechnics vendor so the fireworks display can proceed should events transpire which cause the community event not to proceed
  - The viability of moving the event to a CBD location
  - Any further information staff deem relevant after further analysis of the original application.

**CARRIED**

Cr Kate Amoroso called a division.

The declaration was set aside.

Voting by division being:

In Favour: Cr Max Bruins, Cr Paul Jenner, Cr Josh Lynagh, Cr Sonya Meziniec and Cr Jason Virgo

Against: Cr Kate Amoroso and Cr Mark Lovett

The Mayor declared the motion

**CARRIED 5/2**



#### 18.4 EVENT SPONSORSHIP 2026 AUSTRALIAN SPRINTCAR CHAMPIONSHIP

##### **RESOLUTION OCM 2024/154**

Moved: Cr Paul Jenner

Seconded: Cr Jason Virgo

1. That Council report titled 'Event Sponsorship 2026 Australian Sprintcar Championship' as presented on Tuesday 15 October 2024 be noted.
2. That a pre-allocation of \$35,000 cash from the 2025/2026 financial year Grants and Sponsorships program be endorsed to secure the January 2026 Australian Sprintcar Championship to be held at the Borderline Speedway on Friday 30 January 2026 and Saturday 31 January 2026.

**CARRIED**

#### 18.5 BEACON ART PROJECT

##### **RESOLUTION OCM 2024/155**

Moved: Cr Max Bruins

Seconded: Cr Sonya Meziniec

1. That Council report titled 'Beacon Art Project' as presented on Tuesday 15 October 2024 be noted.
2. That shortlisted applicant Huna Studio be endorsed to receive \$120,179 ex GST for the Beacon Art Project, noting that these funds will be conditional to a commission contract with the City of Mount Gambier and be dispensed in installations according to project milestones.
3. That \$17,271 ex GST be allocated to site preparation, communications strategy and development approval costs.
4. That Council is not in favour of the artwork being situated in front of the old town hall (as was outlined in the Huna Studios proposal), given the historical significance of the facade of this building, and that a further report be brought back to Council proposing alternate sites for the artwork within the CBD and outcomes of the feedback from the Community Reference Group.

**CARRIED**



Cr Kate Amoroso called a division.

The declaration was set aside.  
Voting by division being:

In Favour: Cr Max Bruins, Cr Paul Jenner, Cr Josh Lynagh, Cr Sonya Meziniec and Cr Jason Virgo

Against: Cr Kate Amoroso and Cr Mark Lovett

The Mayor declared the motion

**CARRIED 5/2**

## **18.6 CITY INFRASTRUCTURE - WORKS IN PROGRESS**

### **RESOLUTION OCM 2024/156**

Moved: Cr Josh Lynagh  
Seconded: Cr Sonya Meziniec

1. That Council report titled 'City Infrastructure - Works in Progress' as presented on Tuesday 15 October 2024 be noted.

**CARRIED**

## **18.7 COMMUNITY RENEWABLES PROGRAM**

### **RESOLUTION OCM 2024/157**

Moved: Cr Max Bruins  
Seconded: Cr Josh Lynagh

1. That Council report titled 'Community Renewables Program' as presented on Tuesday 15 October 2024 be noted.
2. That Council staff make initial contact with ShineHub, to ascertain how such a program may work in Mount Gambier.

**CARRIED**



### 18.8 2024 MOUNT GAMBIER CHRISTMAS PARADE TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURES

#### RESOLUTION OCM 2024/158

Moved: Cr Sonya Meziniec

Seconded: Cr Jason Virgo

1. That Council report titled '2024 Mount Gambier Christmas Parade Temporary Road Closures' as presented on Tuesday 15 October 2024 be noted.
2. That Council be notified that, pursuant to Section 33 of the Road Traffic Act 1961 and instrument of Delegation, the Minister of Transport has made the order to close the following roads on Saturday 16 November 2024. (refer attachment).
3. That Council be notified that, SAPOL has granted exemption for persons taking part in the parade from the following Australian Road Rules and Conditions (refer attachment).

**CARRIED**

### 18.9 RIDDOCH ARTS AND CULTURAL TRUST - ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND MEMBERSHIP

Pursuant to Section 74 of the Local Government Act 1999, Cr Sonya Meziniec disclosed a general conflict of interest in item 18.9.

In accordance with Section 75B Cr Sonya Meziniec informed the meeting:

Nature of Interest:

I am the Council representative on the RACT Board.

Intention to Participate:

I intend to stay in the meeting and vote on the matter. I will not move or second the motion, nor will I be engaging in discussion or debate on the matter.

Reason for Participating:

The action I am taking is sufficient to address and deal with my conflict adequately by not moving or seconding the motion or speaking to the motion. I intend to vote and represent the community with my vote as I feel that is important.

In accordance with Section 75B of the Local Government Act 1999 Cr Sonya Meziniec remained in the meeting for Item 18.9.



**RESOLUTION OCM 2024/159**

Moved: Cr Jason Virgo

Seconded: Cr Paul Jenner

1. That Council report titled 'Riddoch Arts and Cultural Trust - Annual General Meeting and Membership' as presented on Tuesday 15 October 2024 be noted.
2. That Cr Sonya Meziniec be endorsed as the Council Member on the Riddoch Arts and Cultural Trust Board for a further term of appointment for continuity purposes.

**CARRIED**

Having participated in the meeting for item 18.9 Cr Sonya Meziniec voted in favour of the motion.

**18.10 ELECTION OF LGA PRESIDENT**

The Mayor sought nominations for the Local Government Association President.

Having receiving more than one nomination a secret ballot was conducted.

The Chief Executive Officer, Sarah Philpott conducted a ballot process in accordance with Item 18.1 resolution 2.

Nominations were sought from Members in attendance.

A secret ballot was conducted for the position of Local Government Association President.

The Chief Executive Officer declared the result on the secret ballot to be that Lord Mayor Jane Lomax-Smith - City of Adelaide was selected for the position of Local Government Association President.

**RESOLUTION OCM 2024/160**

Moved: Cr Paul Jenner

Seconded: Cr Max Bruins

1. That Council report titled 'Election of LGA President' as presented on Tuesday 15 October 2024 be noted.
2. That Council endorse the following candidate for the 2024 election for Local Government Association President:
  - (a) Lord Mayor Jane Lomax-Smith - City of Adelaide
3. The ballot paper be marked, sealed and returned to the Returning Officer accordingly.

**CARRIED**





### 18.11 POLICY REVIEWS

#### RESOLUTION OCM 2024/161

Moved: Cr Jason Virgo

Seconded: Cr Sonya Mezinec

1. That Council report titled 'Policy Reviews' as presented on Tuesday 15 October 2024 be noted.
2. That the following reviewed and amended policies be hereby endorsed and adopted:
  - (a) Members - Allowances, Reimbursements, Benefits and Facilities - M405
  - (b) Members - Mayor Seeking Legal Advice - M270

**CARRIED**

### 18.12 PERIODIC REVIEW OF CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS OCTOBER 2024

#### RESOLUTION OCM 2024/162

Moved: Cr Jason Virgo

Seconded: Cr Sonya Mezinec

1. That Council report titled 'Periodic Review of Confidential Items October 2024' as presented on Tuesday 15 October 2024 be noted.
2. That the following Confidential Orders as specified in Attachment 1, having been reviewed by Council, be amended to alter their duration and release conditions:

Date	Item	Current	Amendment to Release Trigger
21/11/2023	QUESTION WITH NOTICE – WULANDA RECREATION AND CONVENTION CENTRE – STRATEGIC STATUS UPDATE	“until November 2024”	“until 12 months after completion of the project”

3. That the following Confidential Orders as specified in Attachment 1, having been reviewed by Council, be released as soon as practicable following the Council meeting on 15 October 2024:

Nil



4. That all Confidential Orders as specified in Attachment 1, excluding those amended or released in resolutions (2) or (3) above, having been reviewed by Council, remain in operation on the grounds and durations/release conditions as specified.

**CARRIED**

#### 18.13 DELEGATIONS UPDATE - OCTOBER 2024

##### **RESOLUTION OCM 2024/163**

Moved: Cr Max Bruins

Seconded: Cr Josh Lynagh

1. That Council report titled 'Delegations Update - October 2024' as presented on Tuesday 15 October 2024 be noted.
2. That Council grants the delegation of powers and functions of the Council as provided for in the tables at **Attachment 1**, to the person occupying or acting in the office of Chief Executive Officer of the Council pursuant to section 44 of the *Local Government Act 1999*.
3. The delegations granted in resolution (2) above pursuant to the *Local Government Act 1999* to the Council's Chief Executive Officer, in accordance with sections 44(4)(b) and 101 of the Local Government Act, but subject to section 44(3a) of the Local Government Act may, unless indicated by resolution or in the tables accompanying the within council report, be further sub-delegated by the Chief Executive Officer or delegate.
4. Noting: no sub-delegation is permitted under the *Environment Protection Act 1993*.
5. *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016* Delegations:
  - (a) In exercise of the power contained in Section 100 of the *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016* the powers and functions under the *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016* and statutory instruments made thereunder contained in the Instrument of Delegation (**Attachment 1** accompanying report titled 'Delegations update October 2024') are hereby delegated to the person occupying or acting in the office of Chief Executive Officer of the Council subject to the conditions and/or limitations, if any, specified herein or in the Schedule of Conditions in the proposed Instrument of Delegation.
  - (b) Such powers and functions delegated in resolution 4 (a) may be further sub-delegated by the Chief Executive Officer in accordance with Sections 44 and 101 of the *Local Government Act 1999* and Section 100(2)(c) of the *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016* as the Chief Executive Officer sees fit, unless otherwise indicated herein or in the Schedule of Conditions contained in the relevant Instrument of Delegation.
3. General:



The delegations granted in resolution 2 above are subject to the following conditions and limitations:

- (a) If two or more delegates are nominated in respect of a power or function, then each nominated person or position is granted a delegation and may exercise the power or function independently of any other delegate.
- (b) the delegate must exercise a delegated function or power in accordance with and due regard to:
  - (i) applicable legislative and other legal requirements; and
  - (ii) relevant policies and guidelines adopted by the Council.
- (c) Each delegation of a power or function is granted independent of, and severable from, every other delegation granted under this or any other resolution or instrument.
- (d) A delegation of a power or function determined to be invalid or unlawful will be deemed to be severed from the delegations granted under this or any other resolution or instrument and remaining delegations will continue to operate according to their terms.
- (e) These delegations will come into operation on Wednesday 16 October 2024 and remain in force until varied or revoked by resolution of the Council.
- (f) Previous delegations granted by the Council of the powers and functions delegated under these resolutions are revoked with effect from Wednesday 16 October 2024.

**CARRIED**

#### **18.14 CHRISTMAS / NEW YEAR PERIOD AND PRINCIPAL OFFICE CLOSURE 2024**

##### **RESOLUTION OCM 2024/164**

Moved: Cr Max Bruins

Seconded: Cr Jason Virgo

1. That Council report titled 'Christmas / New Year Period and Principal Office Closure 2024' as presented on Tuesday 15 October 2024 be noted.
2. That Council's Principal Office be closed from 12:00pm on Tuesday 24 December 2024 until 9:00am on Thursday 2 January 2025.
3. That notice be given of the periodic Christmas closure period for 2024/2025 to inform the community in accordance with P195 Community Consultation and Engagement Policy.

**CARRIED**



**19 MOTIONS WITH NOTICE**

**19.1 MOTION WITH NOTICE - JOINT MEETING WITH DISTRICT COUNCIL OF GRANT**

**RESOLUTION OCM 2024/165**

Moved: Cr Paul Jenner

Seconded: Cr Josh Lynagh

1. That the motion from Cr Paul Jenner as presented on 15 October be noted.
2. That Council requests an annual joint gathering between the District Council of Grant and the City of Mount Gambier Mayors, Councillors and Senior Executives.

**CARRIED**

**20 URGENT MOTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE**

Nil

**21 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS OF COMMITTEES**

Nil

**22 NEW CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS**

**22.1 CRATER LAKES UNSOLICITED PROPOSAL**

**RESOLUTION OCM 2024/166**

Moved: Cr Max Bruins

Seconded: Cr Sonya Meziniec

**CONSIDERATION FOR EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

Pursuant to section 90(2) of the Local Government Act 1999 the Council orders that all members of the public, except the Mayor, Councillors and Council Officers, S Philpott, B Cernovskis, J Fetherstonhaugh, B Shelton, T Tzioutziouklaris, B Shearing, A Watson and A Pasquazzi be excluded from attendance at the meeting for the receipt and consideration in confidence of Crater Lakes Unsolicited Proposal.

The Council is satisfied that, pursuant to section 90(3) of the Act, the information to be received, discussed or considered in relation to the Agenda Item is:

- (b) information the disclosure of which -
  - (i) could reasonably be expected to confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting, or proposing to conduct, business, or to prejudice the commercial position of the council; and



- (ii) would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest.
- (d) commercial information of a confidential nature (not being a trade secret) the disclosure of which -
  - (i) could reasonably be expected to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied the information, or to confer a commercial advantage on a third party; and
  - (ii) would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest.
- (g) matters that must be considered in confidence in order to ensure that the council does not breach any law, order or direction of a court or tribunal constituted by law, any duty of confidence, or other legal obligation or duty.

The Council is satisfied that the principle that the meeting be conducted in a place open to the public has been outweighed in the circumstances because the information to be considered regarding the Crater Lakes Project Proposal, including the report and attachment, contains commercial information of a confidential nature provided to Council in-confidence creating a duty of confidence, the consideration of which if conducted in open would prejudice the position of Council, the party that provided the information, and potentially confer commercial advantage on a third party.

The public interest in the matter being considered in open is considered to be outweighed by the public interest in ensuring the best possible outcome for the community, which may be prejudiced if the matter were considered in open.

**CARRIED**

Cr Mark Lovett left the meeting and did not return at 7:22 pm.

The Mayor sought the approval of at least two-thirds of the members present at the meeting to suspend meeting procedures for 20 minutes:

Purpose of the Suspension: To discuss the unsolicited proposal.

Carried by more than two-thirds of the members present at the meeting.

Meeting Procedures were suspended at 7:23 pm.

The Mayor determined that the period of suspension should be brought to an end;

Carried by more than two-thirds of the members present at the meeting.

The Period of Suspension came to an end and Meeting Procedures resumed at 7:38 pm.





**RESOLUTION OCM 2024/167**

Moved: Cr Max Bruins

Seconded: Cr Sonya Meziniec

**CONSIDERATION FOR KEEPING ITEMS CONFIDENTIAL**

1. In accordance with Sections 91(7) and 91(9) of the Local Government Act 1999 the Council orders that the report Crater Lakes Unsolicited Proposal and its attachments, resolution/s and minutes arising from the report, having been considered by the Council in confidence under:
  - (b) information the disclosure of which -
    - (i) could reasonably be expected to confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting, or proposing to conduct, business, or to prejudice the commercial position of the council; and
    - (ii) would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest.
  - (d) commercial information of a confidential nature (not being a trade secret) the disclosure of which -
    - (i) could reasonably be expected to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied the information, or to confer a commercial advantage on a third party; and
    - (ii) would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest.
  - (g) matters that must be considered in confidence in order to ensure that the council does not breach any law, order or direction of a court or tribunal constituted by law, any duty of confidence, or other legal obligation or duty.

be kept confidential and not available for public inspection until the latter of: two years after the expiry of an agreement entered into in relation to the matter, or two years after the proposal has been abandoned, and Council has been released from its duty of confidence.
2. Further that Council delegates the power to review, revoke, but not extend the confidential order to the Chief Executive Officer in accordance with the provisions of Section 91(9)(c) of the Local Government Act 1999.

**CARRIED**



## 22.2 WULANDA RECREATION AND CONVENTION CENTRE - PROJECT UPDATE

### **RESOLUTION OCM 2024/168**

Moved: Cr Max Bruins

Seconded: Cr Sonya Mezinec

### **CONSIDERATION FOR EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

Pursuant to section 90(2) of the Local Government Act 1999 the Council orders that all members of the public, except the Mayor, Councillors and Council Officers, S Philpott, B Cernovskis, J Fetherstonhaugh, B Shelton, T Tzioutziouklaris, B Shearing, A Watson and A Pasquazzi be excluded from attendance at the meeting for the receipt and consideration in confidence of Wulanda Recreation and Convention Centre - Project Update.

The Council is satisfied that, pursuant to section 90(3) of the Act, the information to be received, discussed or considered in relation to the Agenda Item is:

- (b) information the disclosure of which -
  - (i) could reasonably be expected to confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting, or proposing to conduct, business, or to prejudice the commercial position of the council; and
  - (ii) would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest.
- (d) commercial information of a confidential nature (not being a trade secret) the disclosure of which -
  - (i) could reasonably be expected to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied the information, or to confer a commercial advantage on a third party; and
  - (ii) would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest.
- (g) matters that must be considered in confidence in order to ensure that the council does not breach any law, order or direction of a court or tribunal constituted by law, any duty of confidence, or other legal obligation or duty.
- (h) legal advice.

The Council is satisfied that the principle that the meeting be conducted in a place open to the public has been outweighed in the circumstances because the information contained within the report and attachments presents matters relating to contracts between Council and contractors associated with the construction and operation of the Wulanda Recreation and Convention Centre. The disclosure of information contained in this report and attachments could reasonably be expected to prejudice the commercial position of Council or the third parties and is considered on balance to be contrary to the public interest as it could prejudice the Council's position in obtaining best value project delivery on behalf of the community.

**CARRIED**

The Mayor sought the approval of at least two-thirds of the members present at the meeting to suspend meeting procedures for 15 minutes:

Purpose of the Suspension: To discuss the project update for Wulanda Recreation and Convention Centre.

Carried by more than two-thirds of the members present at the meeting.



Meeting Procedures were suspended at 7:39 pm.  
The Mayor determined that the period of suspension should be brought to an end;

Carried by more than two-thirds of the members present at the meeting.

The Period of Suspension came to an end and Meeting Procedures resumed at 7:49 pm.

**RESOLUTION OCM 2024/169**

Moved: Cr Max Bruins  
Seconded: Cr Jason Virgo

**CONSIDERATION FOR KEEPING ITEMS CONFIDENTIAL**

1. In accordance with Sections 91(7) and 91(9) of the Local Government Act 1999 the Council orders that the report Wulanda Recreation and Convention Centre - Project Update and its attachments, resolution/s and minutes arising from the report, having been considered by the Council in confidence under:
  - (b) information the disclosure of which -
    - (i) could reasonably be expected to confer a commercial advantage on a person whom the council is conducting, or proposing to conduct, business, or to prejudice commercial position of the council; and
    - (ii) would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest.
  - (d) commercial information of a confidential nature (not being a trade secret) disclosure of which -
    - (i) could reasonably be expected to prejudice the commercial position of the person supplied the information, or to confer a commercial advantage on a third party; and
    - (ii) would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest.
  - (g) matters that must be considered in confidence in order to ensure that the council not breach any law, order or direction of a court or tribunal constituted by law, any of confidence, or other legal obligation or duty.
  - (h) legal advice.

be kept confidential and not available for public inspection until 12 months after completion of the project.
2. Further that Council delegates the power to review, revoke, but not extend the confidential order to the Chief Executive Officer in accordance with the provisions of Section 91(9)(c) of the Local Government Act 1999.

**CARRIED**

**23 MEETING CLOSE**

**The meeting closed at 7:51 pm.**

**The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 19 November 2024**

.....  
**MAYOR**

