

CITY OF MOUNT GAMBIER **ANNUAL REPORT 2012/13**



Introduction

Welcome to the City of Mount Gambier 2012/2013 Annual Report.

The Annual Report fulfils Council's legislative requirements, but more importantly allows the opportunity for Council to inform the community of its operations, activities and achievements for the year under review.

Communicating Council's activities in an open and transparent way is one of our highest priorities. We ensure that the information access and distribution is timely, relevant, respectful and acknowledges the diversity of the community.

This Annual Report details the performance and achievements for the 2012/2013 year and is intended as a point of reference to inform the reader as to Council's desire to be accountable for its outcomes.

In addition, this Annual Report is a historical record for future reference.

The Annual Report offers the reader the opportunity to step back and see a 'big picture' view of how Council is responding to the challenges of a growing and evolving Provincial City.

It also reflects our strong commitment to maintain the highest standards of good governance and to participate in all available reviews and benchmark projects for the purposes of the continual monitoring of Council's own financial and structural performance.

The format of this Annual Report is presented with each key reporting statement for the year being placed under one of the following broad functional headings:

1. Governance
2. Corporate
3. Compliance
4. Community
5. Infrastructure
6. Economic and Regional
7. Environment

Each year, Council undertakes many initiatives to help improve the quality of life for its 25,911 residents. Much of our effort is focused on the immediate needs of our community.

This Annual Report is made available to keep you better informed and we hope you find it useful, informative and reflective of the dynamic structure of our beautiful City.

Contents

Introduction	1
Our Goals and Values	2
Mayor's Report	4
Member Information	5
Council and Committees	7
Chief Executive Officer's Report	10
1. Governance Statement	12
2. Compliance Statement	30
3. Corporate Statement	50
4. Infrastructure Statement	64
5. Environment Statement	72
6. Community Statement	90
7. Economic and Regional Statement	108
8. Financial Statement	120

Vision Statement

Our Goals and Values

OUR GOALS

Building Communities

To maintain and improve the quality of life of our people by fostering an appropriate range of infrastructure, services and activities.

Securing Economic Prosperity

To support our economic generators in meeting opportunities in the local, national and international business environment, to ensure that the city has a viable, sustainable and diverse economic base and continues to be a thriving provincial city.

Diversity

To provide opportunities for the needs of our diverse community groups to fully participate in our community, and to ensure a continuing sense of their engagement, belonging and recognition.

Environment

To incorporate into Council business and the development of our community a commitment to secure the long term integrity of the environmental systems, landscapes and services which support them.

Governance

To conduct Council business with probity, transparency, and accountability, to meet in a timely way all legislative and regulatory requirements; to implement prudent and professional financial and operational management; and to seek active and ongoing engagement in decision making with all stakeholders.

Community Well-Being

To advance the holistic health and well being of all age groups in our community by creating healthy environments, strengthening community relationships, developing health and wellbeing programs and supporting excellence in the delivery of health services.

Learning

To be recognised as a life-long learning community.

OUR VALUES

The Values statement presents our commitment to the way in which we will accomplish the Mission and work towards the Vision. It is a commitment to uphold, in all our work, values and qualities that are regarded as central in our society and community.

The Values of Council are:

Respect

In working with each person in our diverse communities, we act with respect for our people and ourselves.

Service

Our core commitment is to serve our people, and support welcoming and personal relationships. We are genuine in our desire to meet and exceed the expectations of the community.

Decision Making

Our decision making is participative and exhibits courage, determination and integrity. We are accountable to the community and to ourselves for the outcomes of our decisions and actions.

Future Orientation

We are forward looking and positive, and creative and innovative in developing new initiatives to meet new challenges.

Leadership

We are committed to fulfilling our responsibilities to other Councils within the region, and to being a role model to our community in the quality of our actions.

Teamwork

We are committed to the shared goals and strategies of this Strategic Plan. We take collective responsibility for the outcomes of our decisions and actions including the health and safety of our community and our employees.

Equity

We recognise the cultural, economic and social differences in our community and ensure we are inclusive, fair and socially just.

Collaboration

We will collaborate with other bodies to achieve the aspirations of our community and of our people.

Continuous Improvement

We will strive for continuous improvement in all that we do.



Vision Statement

Beyond 2015 Vision and Mission Statement

Our Plan for the Community

VISION

In developing its Strategic Plan - Beyond 2015, Council describes its vision as:

"Mount Gambier is the most liveable City in Australia, where the people in the community are secure, prosperous, healthy and valued".

The vision governing the Strategic Plan is an expression of the Mount Gambier community's shared vision for the future. It informs and guides all aspects of the Council's work, through its goals, strategic objectives, operational planning and implementation, with a horizon Beyond 2015.

The Vision has been developed in consultation with residents, businesses and community groups. It is informed by the following key aspirations for the Mount Gambier community:

1. A healthy, safe, engaged and connected community;
2. Sustainable natural and built environments;
3. A prosperous and vibrant economy;
4. Well managed and maintained community infrastructure; and
5. Open, effective and efficient governance.

The Strategic Plan focuses on those areas that will be crucial to the achievement of this Vision through maintaining high quality services and facilities.

MISSION

"To serve the people who live and visit our City by working with our community's to ensure safety, access, equity and continuous improvement in infrastructure, planning, services and governance."

The Mission is a broad but focused statement, which describes how Council intends to achieve the Vision. It is Council's core operational response to the expectations of its stakeholders.



Mayor's Report

It gives Council great pleasure to present the City of Mount Gambier Annual Report for 2012/13.

Elected members and staff have strived throughout the year to provide a range of services, facilities and advocacy aimed at improving the quality of life for residents and visitors of our City and environs. We value the productive local partnerships we share which assist to achieve our community's shared aims and the contributions of educational institutions, community and sporting groups, service clubs, businesses big and small, Regional Development Australia, locally based staff of government departments and many others.

Elected Members have worked closely with the community on a range of projects and initiatives in pursuit of Council's mission 'to serve the people who live in and visit our City by working with our communities to ensure safety, access, equity and continuous improvement in infrastructure, planning, services and governance'.

This year we have placed an emphasis on better, more effective communication with the various sectors of our community including: a series of consultation meetings on the draft budget; appointing community members to a range of Council sub-committees and working groups; greater use of the internet and social media and including a 'Have Your Say' page on the Council's website.

A great deal of planning work has been undertaken both financially and procedurally during the past year in order to prepare for the demolition of the former Hospital Building and the redevelopment of the former Railway Lands. The upgrade of the CBD has been substantially progressed, adding to the Library & Community Centre and Main Corner facilities. These capital projects are aimed at keeping our City vibrant and active for the benefit of local residents, traders and visitors.



Council continues to advance it's Strategic Plan goals of Learning, Building Communities, Securing Economic Prosperity, Diversity, Environment, Governance, and Community Well-being and is proud to present this annual report as a record of the diverse interests, activity and achievement of a community which is taking a proactive approach to our many challenges and playing a role in shaping the positive future for all of us to share.

Steve PERRYMAN
MAYOR
City of Mount Gambier

Member Information

Attendance at Meetings

The following is the recorded attendance (or apologies) of Elected Members at the twelve (12) Ordinary Council Meetings, the four (4) Special Council meetings held during the 2012/13 year.

Elected Member	Council Meetings held	Meetings Attended	Apologies	Not in Attendance
Mayor Perryman	16	13	3	0
Cr Harfield	16	13	3	0
Cr Lee	16	16	0	0
Cr Maher	16	12	4	0
Cr Mutton	16	13	3	0
Cr Persello	16	12	4	0
Cr Richardson	16	13	3	0
Cr Smith	16	15	1	0
Cr Shearing	16	12	4	0
Cr Von Stanke	16	15	1	0
Cr White	16	16	0	0



Member Information



The Council comprises a Mayor and ten Councillors, elected at large.

The next four year term Local Government elections will be held in November 2014.

Council 2010 - 2014 (L-R)

Cr Biddie Shearing

Cr Des Mutton

Cr Andrew Lee

Cr Jim Maher

Cr Hanna Persello

Cr Allen Smith

Mayor Steve Perryman

Cr Byron Harfield (Deputy Mayor)

Cr Ian Von Stanke

Cr Penny Richardson

Cr Merv White

Council and Committees

2010-2014 (from November 2010)



HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR MR STEVE PERRYMAN

Email:
mayor@mountgambier.sa.gov.au

- Ex-officio member of every Committee of Council
- Australia Day Awards Selection Panel Advisory Group
- CEO Performance Review and Development Committee
- Mayor's Christmas Appeal Advisory Group
- Provincial Cities Association
- South East Local Government Association

Member Portfolio

Civic Services and Strategic Relationships: civic, ceremonial, media management and public relations, peak Local Government Associations (e.g. SELGA, PCA, LGA, SAROC etc), relationships and advocacy with other Governments (State and Federal), across border and regional relationships, Elected Members (orientation, training and development).



CR BYRON HARFIELD DEPUTY MAYOR

Email:
crharfield@mountgambier.sa.gov.au

- Operational Services Committee
- Strategic Planning and Policy Development Committee
- City of Mount Gambier Junior Sports Assistance Fund
- Environmental Sustainability Sub Committee
- Mount Gambier Lifelong Learning Sub Committee
- Mount Gambier Aquatic Centre - Innovative Leisure Management
- Mount Gambier Cemetery Trust
- Mount Gambier and Districts Airport Committee
- Blue Lake Management Committee
- CEO Performance Development and Review Committee

Member Portfolio

Recreation and Sport: parks, gardens, reserves and ovals – use of, alternative transport, airport, playgrounds, junior sports fund, aquatic centre liaison, liaising with clubs/representative bodies, Council sporting grants



CR ANDREW LEE

Email:
crlee@mountgambier.sa.gov.au

- Corporate and Community Services Committee
- Audit Committee
- Library Committee (with District Council of Grant) – Financial
- Railway Lands Sub Committee

Member Portfolio

Council Finance, Financial Sustainability and Governance: financial management, treasury management, shared services and resource sharing, alternative revenue sources and funding programs, long term financial and asset plans, Council policies and procedures, technology development, business continuity, risk management, audit, Council efficiency and effectiveness.

Council and Committees

2010-2014 (from November 2010)



CR JIM MAHER

Email:
crmaher@mountgambier.sa.gov.au

- Corporate & Community Services Committee (Presiding Member)
- CEO Performance Review and Development Committee
- Former Hospital Redevelopment Sub Committee
- Joint Boundary Roads with District Council of Grant (as Presiding Member of CCS)
- Mount Gambier Lifelong Learning Sub Committee
- Railway Lands Sub Committee

SELGA

- Greater Green Triangle University Department of Rural Health (GGTUDRH)

Member Portfolio

Lifelong Learning: education (all sectors), Universities, TAFE and vocational education, apprenticeships and traineeships, placement services, community learning, learning community initiatives, learning technologies.



CR DES MUTTON

Email:
crmutton@mountgambier.sa.gov.au

- Operational Services Committee
- Strategic Planning and Policy Development Committee
- Council Development Assessment Panel (CDAP)
- Environmental Sustainability Sub Committee
- Former Hospital Redevelopment Sub Committee
- Queen Elizabeth Park Trust
- Railway Lands Sub Committee
- South East Local Government Association Waste Management Sub Committee

Member Portfolio

Waste Management: waste collections, recycling and waste minimisation, landfill (local and regional), waste transfer centre, policies and planning, EPA liaison and related relationships.



CR HANNA PERSELLO

Email:
crpersello@mountgambier.sa.gov.au

- Corporate and Community Services Committee
- Community Engagement and Social Inclusion Sub Committee
- Health Advisory Committee (currently with District Council of Grant)
- Mayoress Family Fun Day Advisory Group
- Mount Gambier Christmas Parade Advisory Group
- Mount Gambier Youth Advisory Group
- Seniors Month Advisory Group
- Community Mental Health Network

Member Portfolio

Community Well-Being: community safety and order, youth services, aged care services, emergency services, volunteers, community events/celebrations, community centres, advocacy and awareness for community and preventative health, immunisations, culture and arts, galleries and theatres.

Council and Committees

2010-2014 (from November 2010)



CR PENNY RICHARDSON

Email: crrichardson@mountgambier.sa.gov.au

- Corporate & Community Services Committee
- Community Engagement and Social Inclusion Sub Committee
- Library Committee (with District Council of Grant) – Operations
- Mayoral Gala Performance Advisory Group (Attending as Proxy)
- Railway Lands Sub Committee

Member Portfolio

Community Engagement and Social Inclusion: building community profiles and specific sector needs and goals, identifying special needs sectors, community engagement – awareness, understanding and programs, long-term community planning, library, advocacy and awareness for social inclusion and disadvantaged, multicultural and diversity matters, e.g. reconciliation, NAIDOC commemorations.



CR ALLEN SMITH

Email: crsmith@mountgambier.sa.gov.au

- Corporate & Community Services Committee
- AWU Consultative Group
- City of Mount Gambier WH&S Committee
- Former Hospital Redevelopment Sub Committee
- Indoor Employees Consultative Committee
- Queen Elizabeth Park Trust
- Environmental Sustainability Sub Committee

Member Portfolio

Economic Development and Human Resources: local economy, sustainable business and economic development, infrastructure, workforce – IR, workforce planning and development, EB, Employer of Choice, retail, tourism promotion and information, visitor services, major events, Council HR Policies and Programs, OHS&W / EEO.



CR BIDDIE SHEARING

Email: crshearing@mountgambier.sa.gov.au

- Operational Services Committee
- Strategic Planning and Policy Development Committee
- Community Engagement and Social Inclusion Sub Committee
- Environmental Sustainability Sub Committee
- Mount Gambier Heritage Advisory Group
- Riddoch Art Gallery (By Agreement)
- Mount Gambier Lifelong Learning Sub Committee

Member Portfolio

Environmental Sustainability: natural resource management, relationships with relevant bodies, stormwater and drainage, water quality and management, lakes environs and management, The Natural Step Framework, heritage, community awareness and education about environmental sustainability.

Council and Committees 2010-2014 (from November 2010)



CR IAN VON STANKE

Email: crvonstanke@
mountgambier.sa.gov.au

- Operational Services Committee
- Strategic Planning and Policy Development Committee
- Australia Day Celebrations Advisory Group (By Agreement)
- Council Development Assessment Panel (CDAP)
- Dry Areas Working Party / Licensed Premises Accord Group
- Garden Square Advisory Group
- Mount Gambier Cemetery Trust
- Riddoch Art Gallery (Proxy) (By Agreement)
- South East Local Government Association (Second Deputy)
- Railway Lands Sub Committee

Member Portfolio

Regulatory and Compliance: planning, building assessment, environmental health, food premises, liquor licensing, general inspectorial and animal control, cemeteries.



CR MERV WHITE

Email: crwhite@mountgambier.sa.gov.au

- Operational Services Committee (Presiding Member)
- Strategic Planning and Policy Development Committee (Presiding Member)
- Building Fire Safety Committee
- CEO Performance Review and Development Committee
- Council Development Assessment Panel (CDAP)
- Former Hospital Redevelopment Sub Committee
- Joint Boundary Roads with District Council of Grant (as Presiding Member of OPS)
- Mount Gambier & District Road Safety Committee
- Queen Elizabeth Park Trust
- South East Local Government Association (First Deputy)
- South East Local Government Association Road & Transport Working Group

SELGA

- Green Triangle Freight Action Plan (Proxy)

Member Portfolio

Infrastructure and Public Services: roads, parking, footways, traffic management, street trees, Council built assets, parks gardens, ovals, reserves, (asset maintenance) road safety, transport, taxis.

CEO Report

Councils are often tagged with the traditional notion of “roads, rates and rubbish” and while these activities remain part of our role, the function of this Council has expanded enormously to meet the changing and increasing needs of the community. Discussing the activities of Council with many people in Mount Gambier I often get the response of “I didn’t know you did that” and therefore what follows explores some of the lesser-known activities of Council.

Through various funds Council supports and provides financial assistance to numerous individuals and groups in the City.

Since its establishment a little over 20 years ago and with membership and financial contribution from the City, District Council of Grant, private groups and sporting organisations, a total of over \$400,000 has been provided as financial assistance to up and coming juniors to enable their attendance at State and National competitions in a wide variety of sports including athletics, softball, BMX, karate, hockey and netball. Further, the fund is also used to support specialised coaching clinics to improve skill levels within junior sports. This fund also provides support to financially disadvantaged juniors who without financial assistance would not be able to compete.

The City provides a variety of scholarships that encourage learning and opportunities that would otherwise be difficult to access or simply not possible for many in our community. Scholarships include Tertiary Health Education Grants to students who undertake study in medical and allied health professions and several Uni SA programs to assist students with the cost of tertiary study.

Many associations and not for profit groups seek financial support from Council and in some instances they are also provided Council buildings at nil or little cost. Examples include The Red Cross, Western Border

Soccer Association, University of the 3rd Age, Skilled Migrant Friendship Group, Meals on Wheels, numerous groups using the “Reidy Park Centre” and of course many sporting groups that occupy Council facilities. In many instances Council waives fees for the hire of Council facilities for community groups with the Main Corner and City Hall being particularly well used.

Mount Gambier is noted for its very active events calendar that sees very significant involvement of our community and a large number of support groups, agencies and volunteers. While many of the events are large and draw visitors locally and from a distance, other events are very community oriented and include Australia Day Breakfast, Carols by Candlelight, Disability and Aging Expo, Rotary Club Career Expo, Celebrate Seniors, NAIDOC Week, St Vincent DePaul Community Sleep Out and ANZAC Day.

The community also celebrates more broadly during major events such as AutoFest, Timber Conferences, Generations in Jazz, Show Jumping, BMX State Titles and in particular the annual Christmas Parade that draws huge crowds and marks the start of the festive season in our City. Again, Council resources and private company sponsorship supported by a host of volunteers and community groups ensure the success of this annual event.

Many community support agencies, organisations and groups operate on a “shoe string” and on the good will and support from the community, volunteers and office bearers. Without these organisations many in our community would be worse off and Council’s financial and in-kind support assists the running of these groups such as The Junction Community Centre, Stand Like Stone Foundation, Special Olympics, Lifeline South East, Life Education and Migrant Resource Centre.

The City’s reserves, parks and gardens are a significant attraction for locals and visitors and on a weekend the Valley Lake, Cave Garden, Umpherston Sink Hole, Vansittart Park and many other parks and playgrounds provide a no cost healthy recreational activity. Our parks are second to none with excellent and well-maintained facilities including great playgrounds, walking tracks and a host of barbecues and are kept that way by a team of dedicated Council Staff. Many of our sporting grounds are also maintained including the expansive Blue Lake Sports Park that incorporates many sports including hockey, football, netball, cycling, soccer and softball.

Council cannot claim to provide all services to the community but we have a major role in supporting and partnering, financially and otherwise, many other groups that provide direct and much needed support to the community and their continued delivery of services are acknowledged and appreciated. Council also has a major advocacy role with State and Federal Governments to ensure appropriate and improved services are provided.

As community needs change, the Council will respond accordingly either directly or indirectly in attempting to deliver required services. Of course, our roads, rates and rubbish role will continue, blended with the other activities to assist in providing an active and healthy and well connected community.

I wish to acknowledge and thank the enormous contribution made by Council Staff and the ongoing involvement and commitment of the Elected Members in continuously improving our City.



Mark McSHANE
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



Mark McSHANE
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Governance Statement



2012/13 Budget Analysis	13
Council Policies, Registers and Codes	15
Policy Manual Index	16
Decision Making Structure of Council	20
Internal Review of Council Actions	22
Comparative Performance Measurement Project 2012	23
Performance Measures	26
Members Allowances and Reimbursements	27
Members Training and Development	28

Rebates on Council Rates	29
Freedom of Information Applications & Statement	29

Financial Statement

2012/13 Budget Analysis

Council's Annual Business Plan is a statement of the City's intended program and outcomes for the financial year and has been developed with reference to our Strategic Plan, Long Term Financial and Asset Management Frameworks.

The development of our Business Plan is an important part of our planning. It links our Strategic Goals with our budget planning process to ensure that we secure the best possible mix of services, infrastructure and facilities.

The Business Plan defines our objectives for the year, the activities required to deliver the objectives along with the methods used to monitor and measure our performance. In addition, it contains a summary of revenue and expenditure required to deliver our program, developed within the context of our commitment to financial sustainability and longer term financial planning. Importantly, it also describes the impact on rates and implications for our ratepayers.

Key influences on the 2012/2013 Business Plan and Budget included:

- continued focus on achieving the vision expressed in Council's adopted Strategic Plan;

- continued investment to promote Mount Gambier as a visitor destination, a regional retail and commercial hub as well as a quality destination for the hosting of major events and conferences;
- continuing the development of Council's infrastructure and asset management framework;
- capital infrastructure program of approximately \$5.8m (new and renewal)
- maintaining our extensive public realm assets and infrastructure;
- maintaining the wide range of community support programs and initiatives
- retaining and developing Council's workforce to ensure capacity in service delivery

Budget

2012/2013 Budgeted Expenditure consisted of:

- Operating Expenditure \$21,308,000
- Non-Operating Expenditure \$1,080,000
- Capital Expenditure \$5,832,000

That total expenditure of \$28,220,000 provides for the delivery of all Council services and programs, maintenance of assets and the development of new or upgraded assets.

2012/2013 Budgeted Revenue, to fund Council's Budgeted Expenditure, consisted of:

- Operating Revenue \$21,468,000
- Non-Operating Revenue \$6,618,000
- Capital Revenue \$134,000

Operating Result

The 2012/2013 Budget proposed to spend a total of \$27.14 million on the delivery of services and programs, maintenance of assets and development of new or upgraded assets (operating/capital expenditure).

Budgeted Operating Expenditure in 2012/2013 increased by approximately \$1.02 million above the 2011/2012 figure. In comparison, Operating Revenue increased by approximately 1.15 million, resulting in an Operating surplus of \$160,000.

When factoring in non-operating and capital revenues and expenditures, Council proposed to record an overall balanced cash position.



Financial Statement

2012/13 Budget Analysis

2012/2013 Capital Expenditure includes:

	\$
Community Services	
Bus shelter program	16,000
Carpark resurfacing program	40,000
Cultural Services	
Heritage Walk - Stage 3	15,000
Crater Lakes Conservation Park	20,000
Economic Development	
Passenger Bus facility (\$100,000 provided in 2011/2012)	159,000
The Lady Nelson Brig Renewal (\$250,000 provided in 2011/2012)	-
Environment	
Street trees/guards	40,000
Gateways project (\$50,000 provided in 2011/2012)	100,000
Recreation	
Resurface footways - Vansittart Park	20,000
Ramsay Avenue playground upgrade	35,000
Valley Lake Conservation Park Upgrade	50,000
Outdoor Adult Fitness Equipment	20,000
Sports Facilities	
Blue Lake Sports Park - Irrigation System	35,000
Vansittart Park Netball Courts	22,000
Aquatic Centre Heating System	300,000
Transport	
Plant and machinery purchases	553,000
Minor plant purchases	17,000
Engineering/Infrastructure	
Stormwater drainage program (various)	118,000
Footpath/kerb/access ramps programs (various)	307,000
Road construction program (various)	1,142,000
Roads to recovery program	274,000
Boundary roads program	250,000
Reseal program (roads/intersections/medians)	465,000
Traffic control program	190,000
PLEC Scheme (Penola Road)	350,000
Unallocated Major Capital Works	
To be determined in the forthcoming review of Council's Long Term Financial Plan (as discussed on Page 9 of this Plan)	1,000,000

Financial Statement

2012/13 Budget Analysis

Implications for Rates

In order to deliver Council's services and programs in 2012/2013, Council determined that it required an increase in the overall general gross rate revenue equivalent to 6.9% over the general gross rate revenue raised last financial year.

This overall percentage increase is offset by the effect of "growth" i.e. new developments, new assessments that have occurred during the past year. This "growth" is estimated to be equivalent to a 2.3% benefit in general rate revenue which will provide a "cushion" to the full extent of the 6.9% rate rise.

For the average residential ratepayer this equated to an estimated 2.5% (\$23 per annum or .44c per week) increase in Council rates bringing the average annual residential rates to \$927.00 to assist in funding the 2012/2013 Budget.

Council Policies, Registers and Codes

COUNCIL POLICIES

Council has adopted a wide range of Policies to assist in its decision making and administrative processes.

Council has a practice of periodically reviewing all of its Policies during the term of each Council. During the 2012/13 year the following Policies were reviewed and adopted by Council:

- B300
Budget Reporting and Amendment Policy
- C140
Main Corner Complex – Hire
- C375
Provision and Replacement of Council light and heavy vehicle fleet and large equipment
- E125
Employees - Annual Leave
- E185
Employees - Long Service Leave
- F225
Fraud and Corruption Prevention Policy
- I105
Internal Controls
- R105
Rates - Rating Policy

- R210
Reserves, Grounds, Parklands
- Lease Term and Lease Fee
(Declared Figure)
- R250
Reserves - Sponsorship and Advertising Signage
- R270
Road Pavement - Excavation and Reinstatement Of
- T150
Treasury Management
- W150
Whistleblower's Protection Policy

All remaining Policies are to be reviewed on a progressive basis over the remaining term of the current Council.

("^") in the following Policy Index denotes those Policies that are required by legislation.

All current policies are available from Council's website.

Council is also required by the Local Government Act 1999 to keep and make available the following:

REGISTERS

- Member Register of Interests
- Member Register of Allowances and Benefits
- Officers Register of Remuneration, Salaries and Benefits
- Officers Register of Interests
- Register of Community Land
- Register of Public Roads
- Register of By-Laws

CODES OF CONDUCT AND PRACTICE

- Member Code of Conduct
- Access to meetings and Documents – Code of Practice
- Employee Code of Conduct

These Registers and Codes are available for viewing at the principle office of the Council, unless otherwise provided by the Local Government Act 1999 which contains specific requirements for the keeping, inspection, obtaining of copies, and publication of information contained within these documents.

Governance Statement

Policy Manual Index

CORPORATE SERVICES	
1. ADMINISTRATION	
B110	Building - Construction Industry Training Fund
C200	Complaint/Compliment Policy
C210	Contracts (Licenses, Leases etc.)
C230	Correspondence - Outwards
C250	Consultants - Engagement of
C350	Council Land - Special Events Permit
E105	Elections - Supplementary Elections
E115	Elections - Council Entitlement to Vote
F140	Flags - Flying of
F230	Frew Park - Trust Deed
L140	Legislation - Procedure for Breach of
P150	Policy Manual - Distribution
P160	Privacy
P170	Property - Sales, Purchases or Development of Land and Buildings
P185	Property - Provision of Related Information
P190	Pro-formas and Handouts
Q110	Quotations and Tenders
R175	Records Management - Policy and Procedure Statement
R210	Reserves - Lease Term and Lease Fee (Declared Figure)
R240	Reserves - Rental where Council Maintains Land

R260	Reserves - Work Undertaken by Community Organisations
R300	Risk Management Policy
S140	Street Numbering
2. COMMUNITY	
A225	Arts and Cultural Policy
A230	Art Works - Council Assistance
A240	Assemblies and Events on Council Land
A270	Australia Day Awards
C140	City Hall - Hire
C180	Community Organisations
H120	Historical Matters- Collection of
H125	Historical Matters - Copyright - 'The Les Hill Photographic Collection'
L110	Lady Nelson - Christmas and New Year Period
L120	Lady Nelson Entrance Fees
L150	Library - Censorship
L160	Library - Loans/Borrowers
L170	Library - Unattended Children
L190	Library - Opening Hours
T130	Tourism - Miscellaneous Matters
T140	Tourism - Objectives of Council
V130	Volunteers



Governance Statement

Policy Manual Index

CORPORATE SERVICES CONT.	
3. COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES	
C130	Citizenship Ceremonies
C160	Coat of Arms
C190	Community Identity
C260	Council and Committees - Agenda Deadlines
C270	Council and Committees - Agenda Inquiries
C275	Council and Committees - Access to Council Meetings
C280	Council and Committees - Appointment to Committees
C285	Council Committees - Appointment of Independent Members
C290	Council and Committees - Internal Review of Council's Decisions
C295	Council and Committees - Conduct - Filming and Audio Recording Devices
C300	Council and Committees - Protocol for common items
C305	Council and Committees - Caretaker Policy
C310	Council and Committees - Presentation of Recommendations
C315	Council and Committees - Voting En-Bloc
C320	Council Chamber and Reception Area - Use of
C360	Council - Personal Immunity for Individuals
F130	Flag - Mount Gambier
F225	Fraud and Corruption Prevention Policy
M120	Media - Access and Availability of Documents
M130	Media - Statements on behalf of Council
M155	Members - Allowances - Payments When Acting in a Higher Office
M160	Members - Certificate of Service
M165	Members - Allowances and Benefits Policy
M170	Members - Conferences, Courses and Seminars
M180	Members - Copies of Legislation
M190	Members - Deputy Mayor
M200	Members - Meetings of Electors

M205	Members - Mayor - Anniversary Messages
M210	Members - Newly Elected Members
M215	Members - Code of Conduct and Complaint Handling Policy
M220	Members - Photographs
M230	Members - Recognition of Service
M240	Members - Access to Information
M250	Members - Training and Development
M255	Members - Council Induction Policy
M260	Members - Use of Council Letterhead
M270	Members - Mayor Seeking Legal Advice
P195	Public Consultation Policy
Q115	Competitive Tendering, Contracting, Purchasing, and Disposal of Land and Other Assets Policy
R190	Refreshments
S110	South East Local Government Association - Delegates
S130	South East Local Government Association - Guiding Principle for Appointments
V140	Council and Committees - Visits by Parliamentary/Governmental Representatives
4. FINANCE	
A130	Accounts - Investment Policy
B300	Budget Reporting and Amendment Policy
C240	Controlling Authorities
D230	Donations - Authority to Approve Requests
I105	Internal Controls
R105	Rates - Rating Policy/Statement
R110	Rates - Appeals Against Assessments
R120	Rates - Fines on Unpaid Rates
R150	Rates - Rebate Register
R155	Rates - Rebate Policy Statement and Application Process
R160	Rates - Outstanding
R170	Receipts
S170	Sponsorship
T150	Treasury Management

Governance Statement

Policy Manual Index

CORPORATE SERVICES CONT.	
5 PERSONNEL	
A160	Addresses
C375	Council Vehicles - Provision and Replacement of
C380	Council Vehicles - Involved in Accidents
E120	Employees - Advance on Salaries and Wages
E125	Employees - Annual Leave Policy
E130	Employees - Attendance at Council and Committee Meetings
E140	Employees - Authority for Overtime
E150	Employees - Christmas Leave
E160	Employees - Credit Cards
E165	Employees - Defence Reserves Forces Leave
E170	Employees - Driver's Licence
E175	Employees - Jury Service/Witness Service
E180	Employees - Industrial Representation - Engagement of Experts
E185	Employees - Long Service Leave
E190	Employees - Meetings and Seminars
E200	Employees - Service Awards and Resignation Gifts
E215	Employees - Social Club Council Contribution
E220	Employees - Superannuation
E230	Employees - Telephone
E235	Employees - Voluntary Emergency Service
E245	Employees - Code of Conduct
S175	Safe Environment Policy
W150	Whistleblower's Protection Policy
OPERATIONAL SERVICES	
6. ENGINEERING/WORKS	
C120	Cemeteries - Carinya Gardens and Lake Terrace Cemetery
F160	Footways - Crossing Places
F165	Footways - Maintenance of Flexible Seal Vehicle Crossovers
F170	Footways - Landscaping by Residents

F190	Footways - Paving in City Centre Zone
F210	Footways - Protection of Public – Maintenance Work
P110	Parking - Private Parking Areas Act 1986
P120	Parking - Vehicles on Council Land for Promotion
P140	Plant and Equipment - Obsolete, Surplus and Emergency Use
R270	Road Openings and Reinstatements
S115	Fencing of Stormwater Retention Basins
S120	Street Signs - Directional, Scenic and Tourist
S125	Street Lighting - Public
S150	Streets - Procedures for New Inverts and Crossovers
W130	Works - Council Program
W140	Works and Services - General
7. HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL	
F150	Food Safety Management Policy
H130	Housing - Sub Standard
I110	Immunisations
R185	Recycling/Reuse of Building Materials
S160	Supported Residential Facilities - Enquiries and Disputes
S165	Supported Residential Facilities - Notification of Certain Events
W110	Waste Management - Litter Bins
W115	Waste Management - Reveal of Waste - Caroline Landfill
W125	Waste Management - Refuse Collection
8. INSPECTORIAL	
A200	Animals - Keeping of Birds, Livestock
A210	Animals - Noise Nuisance
B120	Building - Encroachments over Public Places
B125	Building - Mandatory Notifications
B135	Buildings - Rainwater Tanks
B150	Building - Sewer Connections, Waste Management Control and the Provision of
B160	Building - Verandah Posts
C110	Caravans

Governance Statement

Policy Manual Index

CORPORATE SERVICES CONT.	
7. HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONT.	
C340	Council Land - Sale of Commodities from Vehicles
D200	Dog Control - House Inspections
D210	Dog Control - Problem Dogs
D220	Dog Control - Seizure of Dogs
E240	Expiation Notices - Cancellation or Waiver
F110	Fencing Costs - Contributions by Council
F120	Fires - Clean Air, Burning in Open
F125	Fireworks - Schedule 9 Permits
F135	Flammable Undergrowth
F180	Footways - 'Sale' and 'Special' Banners
F200	Footways - Protection of Public – Building Work
F220	Footways - Sale of Commodities from
O110	Order Making
T110	Taxis - Taxi Regulation
V120	Vehicles - Removal from Public Places
V120	Vehicles - Removal from Public Places
9. PLANNING	
A170	Advertising - All Business Premises/ Property
A180	Advertising - Home Activity Signs
A190	Advertising - Revolving Wind Powered Signs
D110	Development Act - Amended Applications
D115	Development Act - DAP Code of Conduct
D120	Development Act - Application Fees
D125	Development Act - Bed and Breakfast Establishments
D130	Development Act - Certificate of Occupancy
D135	Development Act - Garages
D140	Development Act - Delegations
D150	Development Act - Inspection of Building Work
D160	Development Act - Inspection and Copying of Documents
D170	Development Act - Payment of Fees

D180	Development Act - Public Inspection of Applications
D195	Development Register - Provision of Information - Monthly Development Approvals
L135	Land Division - Provision of Power to New Allotments
L230	Licensed Premises - Trading Hours
P130	Planning - Isolation Water Valves, Residential Units
P135	Planning - Entertainment Venues
S135	Roads - Naming of
10. RECREATIONAL	
C325	Council Land - Advertising Signage
C355	Council Land - Irrigation Policy
H110	Hastings Cunningham Reserve - Memorial Trees
H115	Hastings Cunningham Reserve - Establishment and Occupation of Sheds
R220	Reserves - Minor
R230	Reserves - Miscellaneous Matters
R235	Reserves - Recreation and Sport - Partnerships with Council
R250	Reserves - Sponsorship and Advertising Signs
T120	Tree Policy

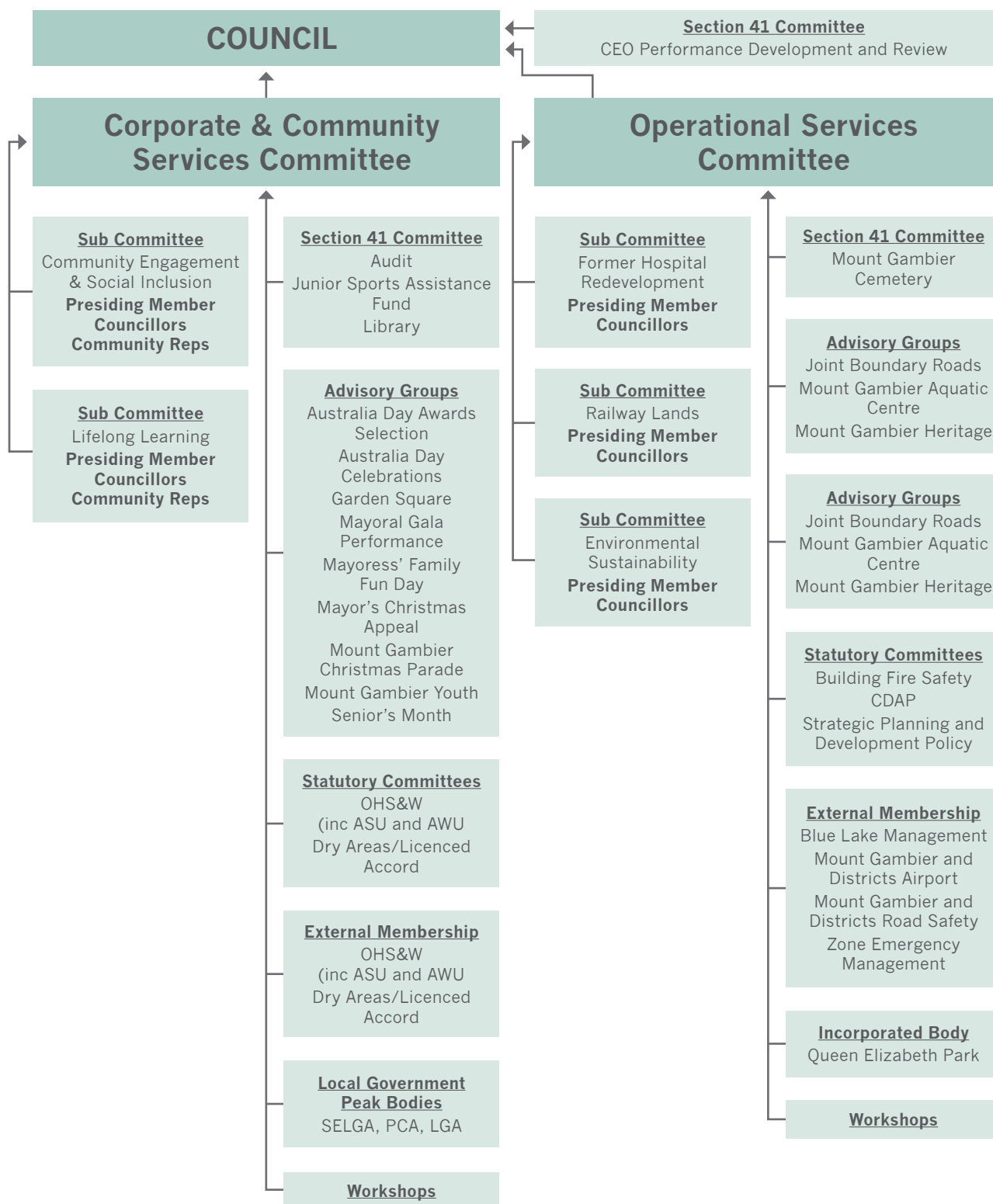
Governance Statement

Decision Making Structure of Council

The Council has adopted the following decision making structure to facilitate good governance and expedite decision making processes:

COMMITTEE STRUCTURE

Council's Committee structure is set out below (to 30th June 2013).



Governance Statement

Decision Making Structure of Council

Council meetings are held at the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, 10 Watson Terrace, Mount Gambier, on the third Tuesday of each month at 6.00 p.m.

Standing Committee Meetings are held on the Tuesday of the week preceding Council Meetings as follows:-

- Operational Services Committee - 7.30 a.m.
- Corporate and Community Services Committee - 6.00 p.m.

unless otherwise amended or altered by Council or the relevant Standing Committee.

Whilst members of the public are not normally permitted to speak at Council meetings, individuals may be invited to address the relevant Committee meetings.

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

Any person wishing a matter to be considered by Council should communicate in writing to the Chief Executive Officer. These matters are firstly considered by the relevant Council Committee.

Closing dates for agendas for matters to be considered by a Council Committee apply. Please check with Council for these timeframes and the date/times of Committee meetings.

Agendas of all meetings are placed on public display not less than three clear days prior to meetings. Minutes of Council meetings are placed on display within five days after a meeting. Agendas and Minutes are also published on the Council's website.

In addition to the above Standing Committees, Council has also appointed a range of other Sub-Committees and Advisory Groups which meet as and when required. These Sub-Committees and Advisory Groups are detailed in the diagram on the preceeding page.

DELEGATIONS

In order to expedite decision making, Council delegates powers and functions to appropriate Committees and the Chief Executive Officer. These delegations are reviewed annually by Council.

The current schedule of delegations were reviewed and adopted by Council on 18th December 2012 and are available for public inspection free of charge and for purchase.

The Chief Executive Officer sub-delegates certain powers and functions to employees as necessary to ensure the efficient performance of Council operations and activities.

The annual review and delegation adoption process and report references which power under legislation is being delegated, summarises details of the specific delegation and the limitations and/or conditions that are applicable to the specific delegation.



Governance Statement

Internal Review of Council Actions

Council has adopted a formal policy and procedure 'C290 Council & Committees – Internal Review of Council's Decisions' in accordance with the requirements of Section 270 of the Local Government Act.

The procedure is reviewed during the term of each Council with the last review being conducted on 16th August, 2011.

The procedure is one aspect of Council's customer focused approach to service delivery. It provides the opportunity for any person who is aggrieved by any Council decision to seek a review of that decision, the manner in which Council provides services to the community and to identify areas for improvement.

The Internal Review of Council 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(8) of the Act requires Council to initiate and consider on an annual basis and to include in the annual report a report that relates to:

- the number of applications received under the provisions of Section 270; and
- the kinds of matters to which the applications relate; and
- the outcome of applications.

On 17 September 2013 Corporate and Community Services Report 55/2013 reported that during the 2012/13 Financial Year no applications were received in relation to Section 270 of the Act or Council's Internal Review of Council's Decisions Policy.



Governance Statement

Comparative Performance Measurement Project 2012

The Comparative Performance Measurement Project was suspended for 2013 to enable review of all areas of the project to be conducted and a future direction determined. Council participated in the eleventh Comparative Performance Measurement Project to gather information annually on the performance of participating Councils across the State in calendar year 2012.

A number of results from the community survey have been processed along with a range of other measures developed for the project and paint a picture of a Council's overall performance. Each participating Council received their unique results compared against the regional and State average for each performance measure. The ability to compare performance results across Councils is a key feature of this project.

The Local Government Act 1999 requires Council to identify 'the measures (financial and non-financial) that are to be used to monitor and assess the performance of the Council over the relevant period' in relation to the objectives and goals set by Council.

Council is also required to report on its performance in the Annual Report

The following is a summary of the high level outcomes for Council from the project for 2012.

Please note the following terms that are used to compare this Council's results against other State benchmarks noting that not all Councils may have participated in the project:

Council City of Mount Gambier.

ACLG Urban Regional e.g. Mount Barker, Port Augusta, Port Lincoln, Whyalla, Coober Pedy, Roxby Downs, Mount Gambier (as defined by the Grants Commission).

SELGA Seven South East Councils.

SWA Statewide average.



Governance Statement

Comparative Performance Measurement Project 2012

LGA COMPARATIVE PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM - MOUNT GAMBIER RESULTS 2011-12

#	KEY PERFORMANCE AREAS	MEASURES	MOUNT GAMBIER	ACLG	SELGA	SWA
1	Finance & Asset Management	Operating Surplus Ratio (%)	-8	-8	-3	0
2	Finance & Asset Management	Net Financial Liabilities Ratio (%)	27	11	21	27
3	Finance & Asset Management	Asset Sustainability Ratio (%)	52	51	52	68
4	Quality Of Life	Capital Valuations - Total Growth (%) (2012/13)	1.19%	1.36%	0.62%	1.04%
5	Community & Social Well-Being	Community Services Expenditure (\$000's)	\$726.45	\$848.46	\$742.46	\$684.27
6	Community & Social Well-Being	Recreation & Leisure expenditure (\$000's)	\$155.88	\$169.87	\$162.87	\$149.51
7	Environment & Health	Environmental Management Expenditure (\$000's)	\$63.22	\$86.24	\$60.80	\$108.65
8	Environment & Health	Health Services Expenditure (\$000's)	\$10.50	\$94.03	\$8.30	\$26.47
9	Environment & Health	Waste Management Expenditure (\$000's)	\$110.03	\$134.48	\$146.01	\$94.31
10	Quality Service Delivery	Library Expenditure (\$000's)	\$110.49	\$62.58	\$74.42	\$61.50

- Operating result expressed as a percentage of general and other rates
- Equals net financial liabilities divided by Total operating revenues
- Capital expenditure on renewal or replacement of existing depreciable assets divided by depreciation expenses
- Percentage growth in capital valuations within Council area across the nine land-use categories. Growth is defined as increases in number of properties (creation of new land divisions), and capital improvements to existing properties. Data Source: Valuer-General
- Expenditure by Council on community related services per 1000 population. Includes expenditure on libraries, recreation, cultural services, public safety, health, environment, and economic development. Data source - the Council's audited financial statements, as reported to the SA Local Government Grants Commission (SALGC)
- Expenditure by Council on Recreation & Leisure (Parks and Gardens, Sports Facilities, Swimming Centres, Jetties, Marine Facilities, Other Recreation) per 1000 population. Data source - the Council's audited financial statements, as reported to the SA Local Government Grants Commission (SALGC)
- Expenditure by Council on environmental management per 1000 population. Includes expenditure on Coastal Protection, Stormwater & Drainage, Street Cleaning, Street Lighting, Streetscaping, Other Environment, Agricultural Water, etc. Data source - the Council's audited financial statements, as reported to the SA Local Government Grants Commission (SALGC)
- Expenditure by Council on health services per 1000 population. Includes expenditure on immunisation, nursing homes, preventative health, pest/vermin control and other health services. Data source - the Council's audited financial statements, as reported to the SA Local Government Grants Commission (SALGC)

Governance Statement

Comparative Performance Measurement Project 2012

- 9 Expenditure by Council on waste management expressed per 1000 population. Includes expenditure on Domestic Waste, Green Waste, Recycling, Transfer Stations, Waste Disposal Facilities and Other Waste Management. Data source - the Council's audited financial statements, as reported to the SA Local Government Grants Commission (SALGC)
- 10 Expenditure on libraries (static, mobile, shared and housebound services) expressed per 1000 population. Data source - the Council's audited financial statements, as reported to the SA Local Government Grants Commission (SALGC)

#	KEY PERFORMANCE AREAS	MEASURES	MOUNT GAMBIER	ACLG	SELGA	SWA
1	Good Governance	Achievement of Plan Objectives (%)			not available	
2	Good Governance	FOI Requests				
3	Community Satisfaction	Review of Council Decisions				
1	The percentage of objectives achieved from within the Council's Annual/Business Plan for the period. Data source - the Council's annual information return to the SA Local Government Grants Commission.					
2	The number of formal Freedom of Information (FOI) requests per 1000 population processed by Council for the 12 month period. Data source - the Council's annual information return to the SA Local Government Grants Commission.					
3	Number of complaints per 1000 population dealt with by Council under the 'Internal Review of Council Decisions Policy' required by the Local Government Act. Data source - Council's annual information return to SA Local Government Grants Commission.					



Governance Statement Performance Measures

Monitoring and measuring performance is important to ensure our objectives are achieved and to ensure delivery of services to our community.

Council monitors financial performance through a range of financial reports including monthly financial statements, regular comprehensive budget reviews and the presentation of audited financial statements each year as required under the Local Government Act.

These financial reports also take account of the principles of financial sustainability adopted by Council along with the three (3) key financial sustainability indicators. To provide advice and recommendations on financial and governance matters, Council has appointed an Audit Committee that includes two independent members with qualifications and experience in related disciplines and an Elected Member experienced in Council's operations.

The City of Mount Gambier participates in an annual Comparative Performance Measurement Project conducted on a statewide basis by the SA Local Government Association and also utilises data provided by independent sources such as the SA Local Government Grants Commission to provide comparative reports on a regular basis.



Governance Statement

Members Allowances and Reimbursements

Elected Members allowances, since the 2010 local government general elections, have been determined by an Independent Remuneration Tribunal in accordance with Section 76 of the Local Government Act.

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 council's area;
- The size, population and revenue of the Council and any relevant economic, social, demographic and regional factors in the Council area;
- Such an allowance is not intended to amount to a salary for a Member;
- Such an allowance should reflect the nature of a Member's office; and
- The Act's provisions to provide for reimbursement of Member's expenses.

Section 76 further provides for allowances to be adjusted annually to reflect changes in the consumer price index. Elected members allowances determinations for the City of Mount Gambier from 12th November, 2012 are as follows:

COUNCIL	Group 2 classification (out of 5 Groups)
GROUP 2	Base is \$16,212
Mayoral Allowance	4 times the \$16,212 = \$64,843
Deputy Mayoral Allowance	1.25 times the \$16,212 = \$20,265
Presiding Member	as for Deputy Mayoral Allowance
Members	\$16,212

Council has resolved that all Members Allowances are to be paid monthly in arrears.

NOTE: Council Member is entitled to decline payment of the allowance (see Section 76 (7) of the Act). If a Council Member does decline payment of the allowance it still must be recorded in the Register of Allowances and Benefits.

ADDITIONAL REIMBURSEMENTS & SUPPORT

Council has also approved various other reimbursements of expenses and support to Members in accordance with Section 77 of the Act which include:-

- Travelling Expense reimbursement (outside of Council area only);
- Child/Dependent Care Expense reimbursement;
- Mobile Telephone Expense reimbursement (Mayor only);
- Computing Facilities Expense reimbursement;
- Seminar/Training Expense reimbursement.

Full details (including limitations and conditions associated with the Council approved expense reimbursements) are included in Council Policy M165 – Members – Allowances and Support Policy, available from Council's website.



Governance Statement

Members Training and Development

Council has a formal Members Training Policy M250 and has developed and adopted a Members Training Program.

The purpose of the Policy and Program is to maintain competency standards, build on Members' skills base and address Members' training needs identified in any annual analysis. In addition Council seeks to maintain a competent, skilled and safe group of elected decision makers which will enable it to be one of the more progressive Councils in our region and beyond.

Council has annually allocated resources for structured Members training and development and unstructured continuous learning for Elected Members.

During 2012/13 Elected Members participated in a varied program of Workshops and Briefings including:

- Members Workshops for all Members covering:
 - Long Term Financial Plan
 - Long Term Financial Plan – Major Projects
 - Digital Online Strategies
 - NBN - Teleworking
 - Organisation and Functional Review
 - Submission to the Expert Panel
 - SA Suicide Prevention Strategy
 - SE Railway
 - Mount Gambier Hospital Redevelopment
 - State Health Plan
 - Bus Shelter – Lady Nelson
 - BioEnergy
 - Indoor Aquatic Centre
 - 2013 Environmental Sustainability Program and Overview of CHAT Tool
 - Library Committee
 - Budget
 - Draft Business Plan
 - ICAC
- Various LGA General Meetings and associated sessions/ conferences (four Members)
- Australian Council of Social Services National Conference (ACOSS) (one Member)
- Professor Carla Rinaldi Lecture in Adelaide (one Member)
- Dr George Otero – Sidney Myer Rural Lecture and Seminar
- Professor Carla Rinaldi Lecture
- Members Workshops with Chamber of Commerce, SAPOL, SENRM, RDA and Department of Natural Resources

Members have also attended a range of activities that build their respective skills and knowledge that have as their foundation the desire to enhance Members' capabilities to respond to the varied challenges as Elected Members.



Governance Statement

Rebates on Council Rates

Council is required by Sections 159 to 166 of the Local Government Act 1999 to grant certain statutory or discretionary rebates on rates.

A total of \$153,406 was provided by Council for statutory or discretionary rebates on Council rates as follows:

▪ Statutory	\$124,782
▪ Discretionary	\$12,548
▪ Boundary Adjustment	\$16,076

A complete schedule of all rateable properties receiving either the statutory or discretionary rebate on rates is contained in Council's Budget papers and detailed in Council Policy R150 - Rate Rebate Register is available from the Council's website.

State Government legislation has increased significantly the amount of rate rebates Council is now required to provide to the Community Housing sector.

This legislation, introduced in 2010, is being phased in and is anticipated to impact on Council's rate income.

Freedom of Information Applications and Statement

The City of Mount Gambier received four Freedom of Information applications during the 2012/13 financial year.

Number of applications	4
Full access granted	2
Partial access granted	1
Exempt and not released	0
No Documents found	1
Application transferred	0
Access refused	0
Withdrawn/did not proceed	0
Incomplete (as at 30 June 2013)	2

Inquiries or requests for information under the Act, should be forwarded to:

Governance Officer
City of Mount Gambier
PO Box 56
Mount Gambier SA 5290

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION STATEMENT

An information statement in accordance with the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act 1991 is published by the City of Mount Gambier annually and is available from Council's website.



Compliance Statement



Business Services Charter	31
Long Term Financial Plan	32
Confidentiality Provisions	33
Subsidiaries	35
Elector Representation Review	36
Audit Committee	37
External Auditors	38
Cost Effective Delivery of Services	38
Competitive Tendering Statement	39
Council Development Assessment Panel	40

Community Lands	41
Building Fire Safety Committee	42
Organisational Chart	43
Senior Executive Officers	44
The Management Team	45
Human Resources	46
Equal Employment Opportunity	49

Compliance Statement

Business Services Charter

Council conducted its last review of its Business Services Charter and adopted a slightly varied Charter in June 2007 and it remains relevant and current.

The Business Services Charter is intended to improve Council/ Business communication by clearly outlining Council services provided to business and seeking business feedback on the services and service standards.

The Business Services Charter sets out Council's commitment to provide a timely and efficient service to local businesses where this is necessary but more importantly the Charter is designed to assist with improving Council responsiveness to business.

The level and efficiency with which our services are delivered to businesses in our community is of importance to their sustainability.

A Business Charter is a high quality process centered around a commitment to a minimum level standard of service delivery to business clients and will assist in the attainment of the Council vision.

The Business Charter has two major components:-

- A list of the various services that Council provides to local businesses; and
- A commitment to a certain minimum standard in the delivery of those services.

It is envisaged that the Business Charter will provide a variety of benefits to both local business and to Council. The benefits to the local business community are:-

- Easily available information about the services offered by Council;
- More relevant and appropriate services;
- Recognition that the success of business is of major importance to our local economy;
- Transparency and accountability in service delivery; and
- Increased awareness of the needs of business, particularly the various needs of business in different industry sectors.

Some of the benefits to Council are:-

- Matching Council services with the needs and expectations of business;
- Enhancing the area as a place to do business;
- Promotion of the various services that Council provides;
- Ensuring continual management and operational improvement; and
- Ensuring that business operators do not have unreasonable expectations about Council's ability to deliver service.

As part of the development of a Business Charter by Council, it is considered appropriate that the local business community be progressively consulted for feedback and comment, which may result in amendments to the Business Charter from time to time.

The use of a Business Services Charter provides an opportunity for Council to ensure that the services offered to or needed by a business are appropriate and provided in a timely and efficient manner.

Council will ensure that its performance in fulfilling its obligations under this Charter is regularly monitored.



Compliance Statement

Long Term Financial Plan

The purpose of a Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP) is to guide the future direction of Council in a sustainable manner.

The LTFP is designed as a 'high-level' summarised document focusing on the future planning of Council's financial operations - particularly in relation to key components such as rate increases, service levels to our community, major infrastructure asset replacement/renewal, loan indebtedness and internal cash reserves.

It is driven by Council's Strategic Management Plan which sets out Council's objectives, goals and desired outcome. It is a guideline for future action in financial terms and encourages Council to think about the future impact decisions made today have on Council's long-term sustainability.

The Local Government Act 1999 ("the Act") requires that Councils must develop and adopt Strategic Management Plans including the LTFP which is a moving document updated on a rolling basis over a ten year term.

Due to a number of impending major capital works projects Council has been reviewing the LTFP particularly in regards to current levels of debt, ongoing service levels and operating costs, affordability and scheduling of borrowings for future major projects and the revenue required to fund Council's ongoing operations.

The LTFP was adopted in December 2012 following an extensive community consultation process and will be updated annually. The LTFP includes capital projects that Council proposes to undertake over the next 10 years. As these projects progress and are considered further by Council, the Plan will be updated to incorporate any future Council decisions on policy, priorities, new initiatives or strategic direction.

Council's LTFP is available from Council's website.



Compliance Statement

Confidentiality Provisions

Council is required to report on the number of in-confidence orders made during the financial year under subsection 90(2) of the Local Government Act, the basis of each (subsection 90(3) paragraphs (a) to (n)), and the number of confidentiality orders made under subsection 91(7) and the number remaining operative at the end of the financial year.

The following tables provide the required information for the Council meetings held in the 2012/13 financial year.

SECTION 90(2) ORDERS TO EXCLUDE PUBLIC AND SECTION 90(3) GROUNDS

		GROUNDS SECTION 90(3)												WAS ITEM KEPT CONFIDENTIAL	
COUNCIL MEETING DATE	S90(2) ORDER NUMBER OF ITEMS	(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	S91(7) ORDERS
17/7/12	3		1		1				1	1					2
21/8/12	1	1	1									1			1
18/9/12	Nil														Nil
16/10/12	Nil														Nil
20/11/12	2		1					1	1						1
18/12/12	3	1	1					1	1						3
22/1/13	1	1													Nil
19/2/13	1							1	1						1
19/3/13	1				1										1
16/4/13	2	1	1												1
21/5/13	Nil														Nil
18/6/13	3	1	1									1			2
TOTALS	38	5	6		2			3	4	1		2			12

Compliance Statement

Confidentiality Provisions

SECTION 91(7) ORDERS TO KEEP CONFIDENTIAL

COUNCIL MEETING DATE	S91(7) ORDERS NUMBER OF ITEMS	PERIOD AND/OR CONDITIONS	EXPIRY DATE OR REVOCATION OF ORDERS	AS AT 30TH JUNE 2013 IS ORDER STILL IN PLACE?
17/7/12	1	6 months – All Details	17/01/2013	-
	1	12 months or until resolution of matter – All Details	17/07/2013	1 in place
21/8/12	1	12 months – All Details	21/08/2013	1 in place
18/9/12	Nil			-
16/10/12	Nil			-
20/11/12	1	12 months – All Details	20/11/2013	1 in place
18/12/12	1	6 months – All Details	2 - 17/07/2012	-
	2	12 months – All Details	18/12/2013	2 in place
22/1/13	Nil			-
19/2/13	1	12 months – All Details	2 - 17/04/2013	2 in place
19/3/13	1	6 months – All Details	19/09/2013	1 in place
16/4/13	1	6 months – All Details	16/10/2013	1 in place
21/5/13	Nil			-
18/6/13	1	6 months – All Details	18/06/2014	1 in place
	1	All Details and	Until all sale conditions have been met and the sale contract has become unconditional, to be reviewed within 12 months.	1 in place
		Financial and Contractual Terms and conditions information	Until settlement of the sale contract has occurred, to be reviewed every 12 months.	
TOTALS	12			10

Compliance Statement

Subsidiaries

Council has not formed any single Council Subsidiary(s) pursuant to Section 42 of the Local Government Act, 1999.

Council is a member, together with the six other Councils in the South East region that constitute the South East Local Government Association (SELGA) which is a regional subsidiary established or existing pursuant to Section 43 of the Act.

The Council Members of SELGA are:

- City of Mount Gambier
- District Council of Grant
- Wattle Range Council
- Naracoorte Lucindale Council
- District Council of Robe
- Kingston District Council
- Tatiara District Council

Council is a member together with five other Provincial Cities in the State that constitute the Provincial Cities Association (PCA) which is a regional subsidiary established pursuant to Section 43 of the Act.

The Council Members of the PCA are:

- City of Mount Gambier
- City of Port Augusta
- City of Port Lincoln
- City of Whyalla
- Port Pirie Regional Council
- Rural City of Murray Bridge

Clause 28 of Schedule 2 of the Act states:

“Reporting

28. (1) A regional subsidiary must, on or before a day determined by the constituent Councils, furnish to the constituent Councils a report on the work and operations of the subsidiary for the preceding financial year.
- (2) A report under sub-clause (1) must:-
- (a) incorporate the audited financial statements of the subsidiary for the relevant year; and

- (b) contain any other information or report required by the Council or prescribed by the regulations.

- (3) A report under sub-clause (1) must be incorporated into the annual report of each constituent Council.”

Council has received from the South East Local Government Association and from the Provincial Cities Association the following reports on the affairs of SELGA and the PCA.

- Independent audit report and the audited statement of income and expenditure for year ended 30th June, 2012;
- Presidents Report detailing the work and operations of the Association for year ended 30th June, 2012;
- Annual Program/Business Plan for the 2012/13 year.



Compliance Statement

Elector Representation Review

Schedule 4 of the Local Government Act requires Council to publish in its Annual Report a statement of:

- i. the Council's representation quota; and
- ii. the average representation quota for Councils of a similar size and type (taking into account various factors prescribed by the regulations); and

iii. when the Council next intends to conduct a review under Chapter 3 Part 1 Division 2; and

iv. the procedures that are available under Chapter 3 for electors to make submissions on representation under this Act.

The following is the required statements.

SELECT OUTER METROPOLITAN & REGIONAL COUNCILS COMPOSITION & ELECTOR RATIO (AS AT JANUARY 2012)

COUNCIL	MEMBERS	ELECTORS	ELECTOR RATIO
Pirie Regional	11	12,199	1:1109
Barossa	12	16,461	1:1371
Victor Harbor	10	11,323	1:1132
Murray Bridge	10	13,018	1:1301
Mount Gambier	11	18,034	1:1639
Whyalla	10	14,509	1:1450
Mount Barker	11	21,048	1:1913
Alexandrina	12	18,786	1:1565
Adelaide Hills	13	28,881	1:2221
Port Augusta	10	9,093	1:909
Port Lincoln	11	9,766	1:887

Section 12(4) of the said Act states inter alia that a Council must ensure that all aspects of the composition of the Council are comprehensively reviewed at least once in every eight years.

Council conducted its Elector Representation Review in the 2008/09 year. Following the statutory public consultation stages on the initial options report and the second formal Council proposal report the State Electoral Office approved the Council proposal including:

- the Mayor continue to be the principal member of Council, elected "at large" by the community

- Wards be abolished, thereby requiring the "area Councillors" to be elected by the community to represent the whole of the City
- the Council constitute ten (10) area Councillors

all to apply as of the November 2010 Local Government elections.

Compliance Statement

Audit Committee

Council's Audit Committee was initially established in November 2006, as required under Section 126 of the Local Government Act.

Council's Audit Committee comprises two persons independent of Council, one Council Member and is supported by Council staff and Council's appointed external Auditor.

Council's Audit Committee meets on a quarterly basis but has the ability to schedule further meeting if required. The Committee met on four (4) occasions during the 2012/2013 financial year.

Matters examined by the Audit Committee included:

External Auditor	2012 Interim Audit
External Auditor	2013 Interim Audit
External Auditor	2012 Statutory Audit
External Auditor	Meeting Attendance
Audit Committee	2012 Annual Report to Council
Policy Reviews	Fraud and Corruption framework Internal Control Policy Monitoring Budget Performance General Ledger policy Annual Leave policy
Long Term Financial Plan	Development / adoption of Long Term Financial Plan
Asset Revaluation	
Risk Management	Policy review Business continuity
Internal Controls	New legislation
Treasury Management	Annual Report Periodic Review
Council Annual Report	
2013/2014 Draft Business Plan and Budget	
Budget Reviews	
Information Reports	Various

The Audit Committee activities follow its adopted Work Program 2007-2014 which incorporates annual reviews of the Committees Terms of Reference and a self assessment of its own performance.

The Committee's Terms of Reference, Annual Report to Council and Work Program are available from Council's website.

Compliance Statement

External Auditors

Council is required under Section 128 of the South Australia Local Government Act 1999 to appoint a suitably qualified person as its external auditor. The external auditor reports to Council on the General Purpose and Special Purpose Financial Reports prepared annually in accordance with the Act.

The external auditor is also required to report to Council on particular matters arising from the audit. The external auditor must specifically identify in the report any irregularity in the

Council's accounting practices or the management of the Council's financial affairs identified by the external auditor during the course of an audit.

Following a competitive tendering process Council appointed the firm Galpins as Council's external Auditors for a five (5) year term from the 2011/2012 financial year to the 2015/2016 financial year.

Pursuant to Section 128(9) of the Local Government Act, 1999, Council must include in its Annual Report details of the remuneration

paid to its external Auditor for work performed during the review year.

In compliance with Section 128(9), Council advises that in relation to the 2011/2012 audit:-

- the sum of \$7,200 was paid for the interim annual audit of the Council's internal controls;
- the sum of \$9,900 was paid for the annual audit of statutory financial records and related specific purpose statements

Cost Effective Delivery of Services

As a means of demonstrating that Council continues to provide "Best Value" to its ratepayers and the wider community, Council is required to use measures to ensure that the services it provides are delivered cost effectively.

Council's "Competitive Tendering, Contracting, Purchasing, Sale and Disposal of Land and Other Assets Policy" makes a number of statements regarding Council's desire to:

- i. have and retain a core group of highly trained, skilled, resourced and motivated employees undertaking key services for the community as direct service providers;

- ii. retain an appropriate (core) level of staffing;
- iii. retain control over the way in which services are provided and its response to emergency situations;
- iv. create or maintain economic development, growth and employment opportunities within the Council area, i.e. within Council and within its external goods and services providers and contractors.

Whilst Council has no formalised system of cost comparison at this time, it is to be noted from the following data that Council has been successful in balancing

the requirement for the retention of an appropriate (core) level of employees and the desire to ensure a competitive approach to service delivery (or components thereof) through tenders and use of contractors.

The way Council embraces this principal of responsive inhouse service delivery and recognising the advantage of buying in competitively priced goods and services to complement Council's employee skills is demonstrated in the following operating expenditures (excluding capital expenditures):

YEAR ENDING	EMPLOYEE COSTS \$'000	OTHER MATERIALS, CONTRACTS, EXPENSES + PRESCRIBED EXPENSES \$'000
2009	6,082	7,005
2010	6,611	6,858
2011	7,286	8,136
2012	7,983	9,004
2012 State Average	9,276	10,917

Source: South Australian Local Government Grants Commission

Compliance Statement

Competitive Tendering Statement

During the 2012/13 year Council advertised and accepted the following competitive tenders for the provision of goods and services (all excluding GST).

ITEM	\$ VALUE
JH Cruze Wagon	\$13,352.30*
Two (2) Kubota Out Front Deck Mowers	\$23,636.36*
Toro Exmark Navigator Mower	\$14,612.73*
Supply of Biomass Boiler for Aquatic Centre	\$358,600
Supply of Biomass Feedstock for Aquatic Centre Boiler	\$25.00 per tonne
Supply of 'Lady Nelson' Bus Terminal Shade Structure	\$149,000
VW Caddy Maxi Van	\$13,514.73*
John Deere 4WD Loader	\$137,574.23*
Mitsubishi Challenger 4WD	\$22,092.45*
Two (2) JH Cruze Sedans	\$10,658.72*
Minor Building Maintenance (Council Structures)	\$47,644.54
Supply of Basaltic Sealing Aggregates (July 2013 to June 2015)	Various prices for different sizes
Supply of Premixed Concrete (July 2013 to June 2015)	Various prices for different applications
Supply of Tyres and Repairs (July 2013 to June 2015)	Various prices
Supply of Graded Limestone Rubble (July 2013 to June 2015)	\$11.70 per cubic metre
Supply of Asphalt (Hotmix) (July 2013 to June 2015)	Various prices for different product mix
Nightly Closing of Council Properties (July 2013 to June 2015)	\$2,252.50 per month
Supply of Crushed Rock (Basalt) (July 2013 to June 2015)	Various process for different products
Maintenance of Automatic Doors (July 2013 to June 2015)	\$1,655 per quarterly service (additional costs for out of hours)
Maintenance of Air Conditioning (July 2013 to June 2015)	\$3,672 per month
Placement of Bitumen Reseals (July 2013 to June 2015)	Various prices for different applications
Supply and Delivery of Fuels	Various prices for each type of fuel
Ramsay Avenue Playground Expansion	\$35,000
Supply of Outdoor Gym Equipment	\$20,000

*Excluding GST and after trade-in

Compliance Statement

Council Development Assessment Panel

The Development Act 1993 requires all Councils in South Australia to establish a Council Development Assessment Panel (CDAP) to act as a delegate of Council in accordance with the Act; to provide advice and reports to Council, as it thinks fit in regard to trends, issues and other matters relating to planning and development that it has become evident as a result of performing its development assessment function; and to perform other functions assigned to the panel by the Council.

The CDAP's role is to make development decisions as a relevant planning authority pursuant to the Development Act 1993, having sole regard to the Council's authorised Development Plan and any referral advice to determine the merits of the proposal.

The Development Act 1993, has determined that all CDAPs must be comprised of one Independent Presiding Member, three Independent Members and three Elected Members. All Members of the CDAP have been appointed by Council. Currently, the CDAP Members are:

- Ms Elizabeth Travers (Presiding Member)
- Ms Emily Finnigan
- Mr Ted Jordan (until January 2013)

- Mr Peter Seebohm
- Cr Des Mutton
- Cr Ian Von Stanke
- Cr Merv White
- Mr Bill Beumer (since February 2013)

Council cannot influence or overturn any decision made by the CDAP. It should be noted that all CDAP Members are to fulfil their duties in accordance with the CDAP Members Code of Conduct, as implemented by the Development Act 1993.

The Council Development Assessment Panel holds its meetings on every third Thursday of the month in the Operational Services Committee Room, Level 1, 10 Watson Terrace, Mount Gambier, commencing at 5:45 p.m. (unless otherwise determined).

The agreed sitting fees are i.e.

(i) Ordinary Meetings:-

- Presiding Member \$250 excluding GST
- Other Independent Members \$200 excluding GST
- Council Member Appointees \$200 excluding GST

(ii) Special Meetings:-

- Presiding Member \$60 excluding GST
- Other Independent Members \$50 excluding GST
- Council Member Appointees \$50 excluding GST

(Mrs Travers is paid a travel allowance to attend meetings).

(iii) Where the meeting does not require the attendance of Members in person and can be undertaken by phone linkup due to a small agenda and the minor nature of items for discussion and no site inspection is necessary the sitting fees be as follows:

- Presiding Member \$60 excluding GST
- Other Independent Members \$50 excluding GST
- Council Member Appointees \$50 excluding GST



Compliance Statement

Community Lands

Council is required to have in place Community Land Management Plans for all of its land that is classified as "Community Land" in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act.

Council receives land from new subdivisions (usually in the form of reserves, screening reserves, drainage reserves and roads). Roads are excluded from the definition of Community Land.

Council periodically prepares and adopts Community Land Management Plans for new community land parcels and reviews its existing Management Plans for community land parcels as the need arises.

Also, any land acquired by Council (e.g. by direct purchase), is classified as community land unless excluded prior to acquisition. Typically, any land purchased or held for operational purposes (e.g. carparking, depots) is excluded from the Community Land classification.

When Council receives new Community Land it undertakes public consultation, in accordance with the Local Government Act, prior to adopting a Management Plan.

The following Community Land Management Plans have been adopted by Council during the review year:

TITLE DESCRIPTION	ADDRESS	RESERVE NO.	ASSET NO.	DESCRIPTION
NEW LAND HOLDINGS				
6053/374	Kennedy Avenue	515	515	Roadside screening reserve
6012/278	Eldridge Drive	522	522	Reserve
6012/279	Attamurra Road	529	529	Roadside screening reserve
6091/473	Sycamore Road	543	543	Roadside screening reserve
6081/957	Penola Road	544	544	Roadside screening reserve
6097/232	Pinehurst Drive	546	546	Reserve
6097/229	Pinehurst Drive	547	547	Drainage reserve
6097/230	Wireless Road East	548	548	Roadside screening reserve
6097/231	Kennedy Avenue	549	549	Roadside screening reserve
AMENDED LAND HOLDINGS				
5463/567	Wireless Road West, King Grove	393	393, 545	Open drainage reserve

Council's Community Land Management Plans are available for inspection at the Council Office.

Compliance Statement

Building Fire Safety Committee

The Building Fire Safety Committee (BFSC) operates pursuant to the provisions of the Development Act 1993 and its primary function is to:

- Achieve a reasonable standard of fire safety for the occupiers of a building
- Minimal spread of fire and smoke
- An acceptable fire fighting environment

The Committee is made up of one Council Member (in 2012/13 this was Councillor Merv White, who is also the Chair of the Committee), a member of the Metropolitan Fire Service, Mr Grant Riches (Private Building Surveyor) and Mr Daryl Sexton (Director - Operational Services, City of Mount Gambier).

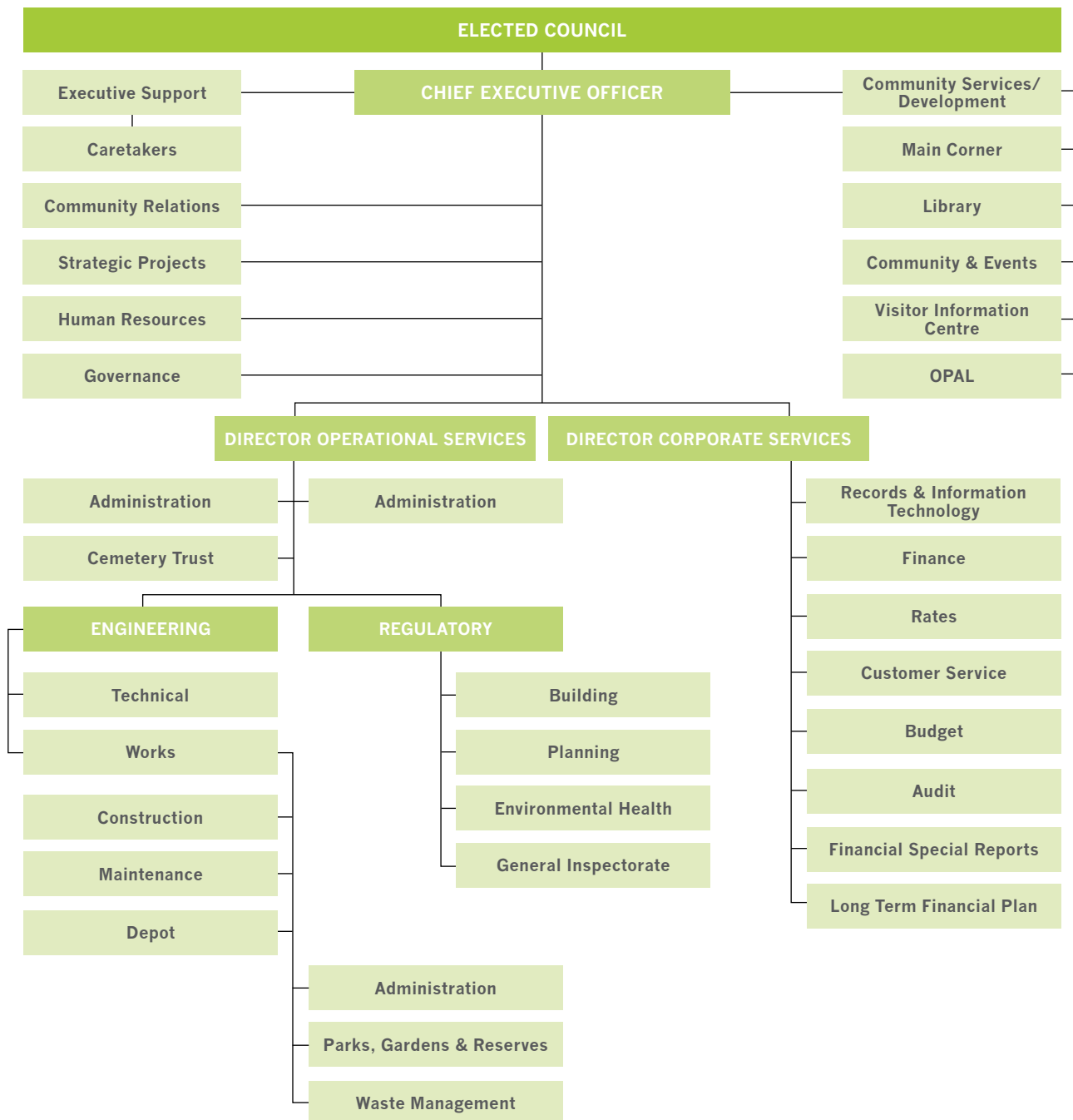
The focus of the Committee over the past twelve months was hotels, motels, gymnasiums and residential complexes.

The BFSC generally meets every three (3) months.



Compliance Statement

Organisational Chart



Compliance Statement

Senior Executive Officers

Council has resolved that for the purposes of the relevant provisions of the Local Government Act 1999, the 'Senior Executive Officers' of Council are defined as including:

- Chief Executive Officer
- Director - Corporate Services
- Director - Operational Services

The remuneration of the Senior Executive Officers, the conditions and contract of employment are detailed in the formal Officers Register and Remunerations - Salaries and Benefits, which is available for public inspection. The summary of the benefits of Senior Executive Officers (SEO's) are as follows (as at June 2012):

- Award Salary - all SEO's
- private use of a Council vehicle (conditions apply) - all SEO's
- annual performance payment (subject to meeting identified annual qualitative and identified quantitative measures) - Director Operational Services
- home telephone allowance (conditions apply) - all SEO's
- fixed term contract of employment (with no automatic right of renewal clauses) - all SEO's
- over Award Salary payment - all SEO's

Each Senior Executive Officer is on a five year fixed term non-renewable Contract of Employment with conclusions as follows:

- Director - Corporate Services - 4th June 2017
- Chief Executive Officer - 30th November 2016
- Director - Operational Services - 11th September 2014



Compliance Statement

The Management Team

As part of our commitment to corporate excellence, the organisational structure of Council has been reviewed and developed to encourage the organisation to better deliver improved efficiencies and to be totally accountable.

The management team comprises the following as at June 2013:



Mark McSHANE
Chief Executive Officer



Grant HUMPHRIES
Director -
Corporate Services



Daryl SEXTON
Director -
Operational Services



Barbara CERNOVSKIS
Manager Community
Services & Development



Tracy TZIOUTZIOUKLARIS
Strategic Project Officer



Stacey HOLDER
Human Resources
Manager



Michael McCARTHY
Governance Officer



Lynne DOWLING
Team Leader
Executive Support

DIVISIONAL MANAGERS



Daryl MORGAN
Engineering Manager



Gary BUTTON
Finance Manager



Vicki HUTCHINSON
Library Manager



Michael SILVY
Manager Regulatory
Services



Chris MUSTART
Works Manager

Compliance Statement

Human Resources

An effective human resource strategy is fundamental to the success of Council's strategic goals. It requires a commitment to aligning human resources and strategic outcome areas so that staff have the knowledge, skills and abilities to effectively achieve results. In 2012/13 Council developed and implemented a HR Strategy defining the key human resource issues associated with this commitment.

Council's Strategic Plan identifies areas of business planning, project delivery, customer service, and service delivery that require the input of human resources to facilitate successful outcomes. The City of Mount Gambier's Human Resources Strategy and Human Resources Plan aim to support Council's strategic objectives by encapsulating the personnel elements of Council's Strategic and Corporate Plan. People ultimately determine the effectiveness of a strategic plan and its implementation. To build the capacity of our people to work within a strategic framework, council needs to go beyond the simple administrative facility of traditional human resources and into a holistically focussed strategic planning and implementation focus. In particular that:

- We have the right people to achieve outcomes (recruitment/retention);
- Our workforce has the skills to achieve these outcomes (training needs analysis/job role audit/appraisals);
- Employees understand and demonstrate positive and appropriate behaviours (code of conduct, recognition/reward, organisation culture), and;
- Personnel are developed appropriately (performance evaluation/training/personal development).

The objective of this strategy is to articulate the human resources requirements of achieving strategic outcomes and to support a high level of employee motivation,

commitment and operational outcomes.

ORGANISATIONAL & FUNCTIONAL REVIEW

Towards the end of 2012 an extensive organisational and functional review was conducted across Council via an external consultant group. The review analysed each of Council's operational areas to assess capacity to deliver on strategic and corporate plan, service delivery levels, staff skills and capacity and the internal organisation structure. Consultants engaged with staff across Council to ensure all views and suggestions were captured either individually or in groups. At the conclusion of the review recommendations to improve functional capacity and organisational performance were adopted by Council and strategies to implement these have been defined within Council's HR Plan to ensure they are effectively implemented.

EMPLOYEE SURVEY

In mid-2012 Council contracted McArthur HR Consultants to conduct an online employee survey and provide division specific reports. Employees were invited to complete a confidential questionnaire designed to provide feedback on a number of issues relating to job satisfaction, motivation, commitment, and engagement. Information from the survey provided Council with an insight into employee views about working for Council and how management can target strategies to build workplace capability and make improvements to workplace culture now and in the future.

Around 100 staff (80%) completed the survey with staff highlighting many areas of strength and some areas requiring further attention and improvement. Directors, Managers and the Chief Executive Officer took the survey results extremely seriously and met with all staff to discuss the results for work groups and to jointly consider

and develop required actions. These actions were defined within Council's HR Plan including performance measures to ensure that employees were able to maintain strengths and achieve improvements in their respective workgroups.

The employee survey will be an annual event with the next survey scheduled for September 2013.

TRAINING

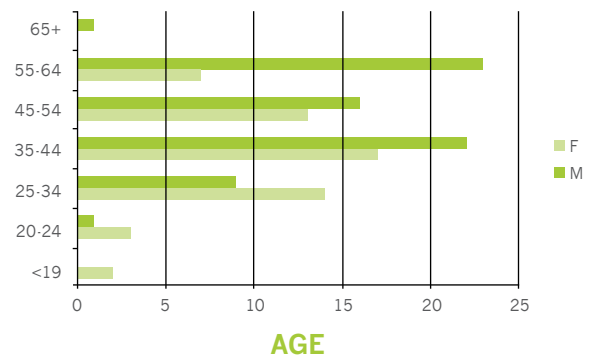
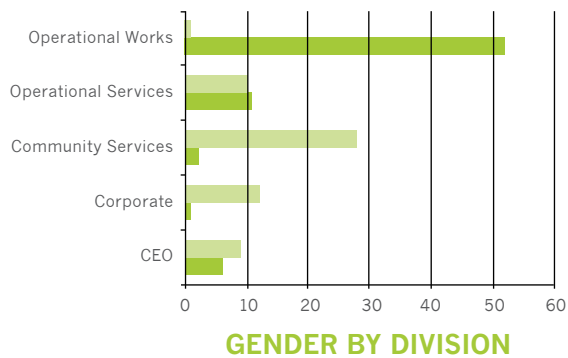
Council understands that for employees to effectively contribute to a safe and efficient work environment they must have the appropriate level of knowledge and skills to do so. To this end our commitment to employee training and development will begin at the induction stage of employment and continue throughout the working life of an employee.

Council's training plan is the foundation of our training management process. It defines objectives, sets priorities, plans resource allocations, ensures training funds are allocated appropriately, and evaluates the effectiveness of training programs. It is the guiding document providing direction for planning training activities and managing training resources. The plan is managed and developed in accordance with our strategic business plans to provide for a skilled and competent workforce tailored to meeting Council's strategic goals. It will provide the primary reference document to define training budgets and project current and future training needs.

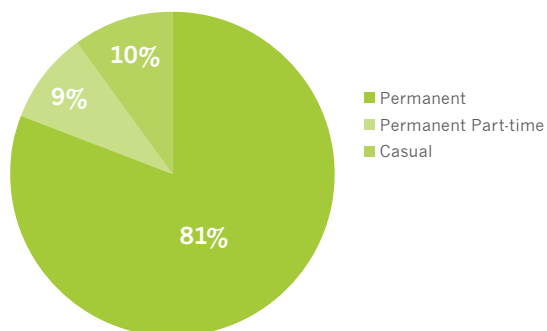
In the 2012/13 period Council completed an extensive Job Role Mapping exercise to define core competencies (legislative, leadership, and safety) and align specific competencies to the appropriate position. With the identification of these competencies a Training Needs Analysis was conducted to define training needs across all workgroups and develop and organisational Training Plan.

Compliance Statement Human Resources

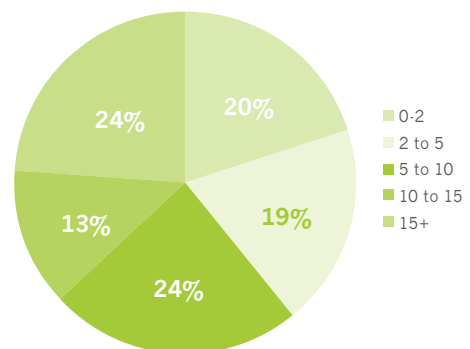
CURRENT EMPLOYEE PROFILE



EMPLOYMENT STATUS



YEARS OF SERVICE



Compliance Statement

Human Resources

WORK HEALTH AND SAFETY

The City of Mount Gambier's Work Health & Safety (WHS) Risk Management Plan aims to align effective risk management practices in the areas of work health and safety across the organisation within a common framework. The plan provides direction for Council to effectively manage WHS risk with the direct benefit of reducing insurance and associated claims costs, meeting legislative requirements and effectively managing the resources of Council.

This plan supports the strategic objectives of Council and the Local Government Association's Workers Compensation Scheme through a calculated approach to WHS risk management in the current organisational context. Council's WHS Risk Management Plan (containing specific WHS programs) allows the City of Mount Gambier to identify key deficiency areas and measure the success of systematic targets designed to improve performance and provide effective solutions, within the scope of what is reasonably practicable.

Council works with the Local Government Association Workers Compensation Scheme to define key work health and safety priority programs based on deficiencies identified in KPI audits and WorkCover evaluation visits/audits. The objectives and measures set for Council's priority programs ensure WorkCover's Performance Standards for Self Insurers and WHS compliance are met.

Council's Work Health and Safety Committee comprises management and employee representatives and monitors performance against the plan. In 2012 Council also implemented a Senior Management Team structure to drive and implement the improved work health and management system across the organisation.

Having participated in the LGAWCS Essential Safety Platform

consultative process the Senior Management Team have identified additional priority areas based on Council's hazard profile and accident/injury statistics. In March 2012 a WorkCover evaluation visit recommended that Council focus upon implementation of an effective WHS system inclusive of key components, plan development and mechanisms, procedures and processes to measure and analyse outcomes to drive system development.

Taking all these factors into consideration, Council's priority programs for 2012-2015 are:

1. Development and Administration of WHS Management Systems;
2. Hazard Identification, Assessment & Control;
3. Document Control and Record Management Systems; and
4. Training Systems.

In January 2013 Council was audited by WorkCover and received extremely positive feedback from the auditor regarding progress made in the implementation of the WHS management system. Eight out of the nine areas of non conformance identified in March 2012 were closed out in January 2013 reflecting the many hours of work committed by Council employees into bringing our systems up to a conforming standard. This was a massive achievement and all staff involved were very deserving of the auditor's commendation.



Compliance Statement

Equal Employment Opportunity

Council is wholly committed to the principles of Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) and the provision of a work environment free of discrimination, bullying, victimisation and harassment.

Council Policy clearly defines discrimination, bullying and harassment and ensures that staff, prospective employees and customers are treated fairly, equitably and consistently.

At the City of Mount Gambier, personal merit is the sole basis for recruitment and selection, promotion, transfer, training and development and other conditions.

Organisation-wide training in Equal Employment Opportunity, Bullying and Harassment is conducted on a biennial basis as part of Employee Code of Conduct training which last took place in late 2011 through to early 2012.

Ongoing training in these important areas will continue:

- Equal Employment Opportunity Contact Officers
- Equal Employment Opportunity
- Employee Code of Conduct
- Workplace bullying

TEAM	MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL
Office of the CEO	6	11	17
Corporate Services	1	12	13
Community Services	2	26	28
Operational Services	11	11	22
Operational Services - Works	52	1	53
Totals	72	61	133
Percentages	54.1%	45.9%	100%
Totals	70	58	128
Percentages	55%	45%	100%

Total Number Employees 134

Full Time Equivalents: 120.99

(all as at 30th June 2013)



Corporate Statement



Council's Financial Performance - Grants Commission Data 2011/12	51
Risk Management Review	54
2012/13 Rating & Valuation Summary	55
Electronic Rate Payments	57
Residential Rates Comparison Report	58
Local Laws	59
Land Acquisitions	59
Enterprise Agreements	59
Employee Entitlements - Provisions	60

Workplace Lost Time Injury	61
Information Technology	62

Corporate Statement

Council's Financial Performance

LOCAL GOVERNMENT GRANTS COMMISSION

The South Australian Local Government Grants Commission is an independent statutory authority established under the South Australian Local Government Grants Commission Act 1992. The three members are appointed on a part-time basis by the Governor.

The South Australian Local Government Grants Commission makes recommendations to the Minister for State/Local Government Relations for the distribution of Commonwealth financial assistance grants.

Grants for local governing authorities in South Australia are distributed in accordance with National Principles set by the Commonwealth Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995.

All funds allocated by the Commonwealth are distributed to Councils. All of the Commission's costs are met by the State Government.

Grants distributed should compensate Councils for differences in the costs of providing services and in differences in their revenue raising capacity.

Equalisation refers to the financial capacity of the Council, it does not mean that the level of service must be equal.

Councils may choose to have higher or lower levels of service according to their own priorities.

The Commission aims to equalise their financial capacity to provide a similar level of service to their communities.

The Grants are untied and may be spent according to community priorities.

Pursuant to the Local Government Act all South Australian Councils are required to submit an annual information return along with their audited annual financial statements to the Commission.

From this information the South Australian Local Government Grants Commission prepares and distributes a range of comparative data on each Council, commonly referred to the Grants Commission "data base" reports. The following tables provide a range of financial comparative information drawn from the "data base" reports (the most recent being for the 2011/2012 financial year).



Corporate Statement

Council's Financial Performance

FINANCIAL COMPARISON – SA Local Government Grants Commission database reports 2011/2012

COUNCIL	TOTAL ASSETS (\$'000)	TOTAL LIABILITIES (\$'000)	TOTAL EQUITY (\$'000)	TOTAL FINANCIAL ASSETS (\$'000)	NET FINANCIAL LIABILITIES (\$'000)	OPERATING SURPLUS RATIO (%)	NET FINANCIAL LIABILITIES RATIO (%)	ASSET SUSTAINABILITY RATIO (%)
Alexandrina	382,233	34,126	348,107	6,803	27,323	(4)	80	42
Barossa	296,807	26,772	270,035	10,778	15,994	2	55	49
Gawler	203,300	18,371	184,929	5,022	13,349	(6)	66	54
Mount Gambier	220,044	8,432	211,612	2,451	5,981	(4)	27	52
Murray Bridge	144,263	16,991	127,272	7,321	9,670	(12)	33	67
Port Augusta	203,050	25,166	177,884	9,673	15,493	(34)	50	(44)
Port Lincoln	152,483	4,783	147,702	5,626	-843	(1)	(6)	82
Victor Harbor	237,811	19,231	218,580	5,384	13,847	0	72	63
Whyalla	229,158	7,871	221,287	5,022	2,849	17	11	55

EXPENDITURE COMPARISON – SA Local Government Grants Commission database reports 2011/2012

COUNCIL	ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION AS AT 30 JUNE 2012	EMPLOYEE COSTS (\$'000)	MATERIALS, CONTRACTS & OTHER EXPENSES (\$'000)	FINANCE COSTS (\$'000)	DEPRECIATION, AMORTISATION & IMPAIRMENT (\$'000)	TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES (\$'000)	OPERATING SURPLUS / (DEFICIT) (\$'000)
Alexandrina	24529	11,332	14,390	1,541	8,585	35,848	(960)
Barossa	22611	9,213	11,959	1,461	6,186	28,934	353
Gawler	21220	7,824	8,311	971	4,106	21,457	(952)
Mount Gambier	25911	7,983	9,004	560	5,491	23,038	(583)
Murray Bridge	20420	12,339	11,994	761	6,561	31,655	(1,894)
Port Augusta	14539	14,518	13,501	1,035	6,452	35,506	(4,509)
Port Lincoln	14629	3,172	7,376	76	4,071	14,695	(91)
Victor Harbor	14291	6,570	7,282	940	4,597	19,389	21
Whyalla	22734	7,584	9,805	200	6,014	23,603	2,234

Corporate Statement

Council's Financial Performance

REVENUE COMPARISON – SA Local Government Grants Commission database reports 2011/2012

COUNCIL	TOTAL RATES (\$000)	STATUTORY CHARGES (\$000)	USER CHARGES (\$000)	GRANTS SUBSIDIES & CONTRIBUTIONS (\$000)	INVESTMENT INCOME (\$000)	REIMBURSEMENTS (\$000)	OTHER REVENUES (\$000)	TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE (\$000)
Alexandrina	26,826	799	2,297	3,229	130	832	691	34,888
Barossa	22,726	488	2,024	2,601	531	347	566	29,287
Gawler	14,952	553	1,555	2,816	140	335	63	20,505
Mount Gambier	14,881	310	3,157	3,101	141	598	267	22,455
Murray Bridge	16,498	502	1,873	9,560	226	426	439	29,761
Port Augusta	13,399	219	4,243	11,015	152	327	1,642	30,997
Port Lincoln	9,729	239	834	2,125	289	515	873	14,604
Victor Harbor	14,943	434	1,687	1,364	271	388	287	19,410
Whyalla	14,114	471	3,252	6,616	214	131	1,039	25,837

RATES COMPARISON – SA Local Government Grants Commission database reports 2011/2012

COUNCIL	ESTIMATED POPULATION 30/6/12	NUMBER OF RATEABLE PROPERTIES	CAPITAL VALUE (\$MIL)	TOTAL RATES (\$000)	NUMBER OF RATEABLE RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES AS AT 1ST JANUARY 2011	TOTAL RESIDENTIAL RATES (\$000)	TOTAL RESIDENTIAL RATES PER RATEABLE RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY (\$)
Alexandrina	24,529	18,030	6,275	26,826	11,359	17,709	1,559
Barossa	22,611	12,222	4,319	22,726	7,886	10,830	1,373
Gawler	21,220	10,100	3,018	14,952	8,423	11,426	1,357
Mount Gambier	25,911	13,937	3,127	14,881	11,276	11,474	1,018
Murray Bridge	20,420	11,419	2,681	16,498	7,365	10,076	1,368
Port Augusta	14,539	7,511	1,625	13,399	6,197	8,565	1,382
Port Lincoln	14,629	8,271	2,336	9,729	6,308	7,292	1,156
Victor Harbor	14,291	10,557	3,675	14,943	7,449	11,404	1,531
Whyalla	22,734	11,984	2,357	14,114	10,496	11,353	1,082

Corporate Statement

Risk Management Review

Council's risk management policies, practices and procedures were reviewed by the Local Government Association Mutual Liability Scheme in 2013 across the following specific categories:

- Risk Management and Business Continuity Plan
- Governance Framework
- Procurement Framework
- Contract Management Systems
- Land Assets/Roads
- Land – Events & Facilities

- Tree Management
- Strategic Frameworks

The comprehensive review analyses Council's risk management compliance in the focus areas and makes high level and low level findings and recommendations on each specific category for Council's formal consideration and action.

The 2013 review averages for Council, Local Government (Statewide), Regional Councils (Statewide) and South East Region are as follows:

SECTION OF THE RISK MANAGEMENT REVIEW	LOCAL GOVERNMENT AVERAGE	REGIONAL AVERAGE (STATEWIDE)	SOUTH EAST REGION AVERAGE	CITY OF MOUNT GAMBIER AVERAGE
Risk Management and BCP	73.7%	68.4%	77.0%	54%
Governance Framework	87.6%	85.2%	92.0%	91%
Procurement Framework	83.9%	80.5%	93.5%	85%
Contract Management Systems	87.8%	86.0%	86.4%	92%
Land Assets/Roads	87.3%	84.7%	87.5%	84%
Land – Events & Facilities	87.6%	85.4%	78.3%	73%
Tree Management	78.9%	74.7%	86.5%	84%
Strategic Frameworks	85.7%	82.9%	85.3%	86%
Average Overall Result	83.9%	80.8%	85.3	80.0%

The review process provides Council with the opportunity to gain a thorough understanding of the level of civil liability, risk management etc. currently being practiced. The data also provides a comparative overview across the whole of the local government sector.

The 2013 review has made a number of recommendations for improvement through an Action Plan. Council will incorporate these improvements into its Risk Management Strategy for action over the next reporting period.

Corporate Statement

2012/13 Rating and Valuation Summary

RATING COMPONENT		2011/12	2012/13
1	FIXED CHARGE	\$480.00	\$516.40
	Amount Total Collection	\$6,408,960	\$6,495,744
	% of Total Rates	45%	45%
2	DIFFERENTIAL RATES		
	1. Residential	.1920	.19945
	2. Commercial - Shop	.5184 (+ 170%)	.5385 (+ 170%)
	3. Commercial - Office	.5184 (+ 170%)	.5385 (+ 170%)
	4. Commercial - Other	.5184 (+ 170%)	.5385 (+ 170%)
	5. Industry - Light	.5184 (+ 170%)	.5385 (+ 170%)
	6. Industry - Other	.5184 (+ 170%)	.5385 (+ 170%)
	7. Primary Production	.1920	.19945
	8. Vacant Land	.5184 (+ 170%)	.5385 (+ 170%)
	9. Other	.1920	.19945
3	VALUATION		
	Rateable Land	\$3,207,941,567	\$3,139,059,180
	Non Rateable Land	\$ 186,932,373	\$177,104,360
	All Land	\$3,394,873,940	\$3,316,162,540
4	SEPARATE RATE		
	Catchment Board Contribution	\$513,444	\$533,000
	Catchment/NRM Levy	\$38.60	\$39.80

5 VALUATION COMPARISON						
LAND USE CATEGORY		2011/2012		2012/2013		% INCREASE
		PROPERTIES	ASSESSED VALUE (\$)	PROPERTIES	ASSESSED VALUE (\$)	
1	Residential	11557	2,562,600,455	11693	2,410,824,455	-5.9%
2	Commercial	984	395,377,484	986	488,945,087	23.66%
3	Industry	220	113,910,322	223	115,988,142	1.82%
4	Primary Production	58	23,987,500	56	23,140,500	-3.53%
5	Vacant Land	518	70,437,996	482	55,776,896	-20.81%
6	Other	58	41,627,840	59	44,383,100	6.62%
	TOTALS	13395	3,207,941,567	13499	3,139,058,180	-2.15%

Corporate Statement

2012/13 Rating and Valuation Summary

6 RATING COMPARISON								
LAND USE CATEGORY		2011/12			2012/13			% INCREASE
		FIXED CHARGE	CAPP-ING OF RATES	TOTAL RATES	FIXED CHARGE	CAPP-ING OF RATES	TOTAL RATES	
1	Residential	5,526,720	4,335	10,442,579	6,035,167	1,030	10,842,537	3.8%
2	Commercial	472,320		2,521,957	498,326		3,131,296	24.1%
3	Industry	105,600		696,111	113,092		737,689	6%
4	Primary Production	27,840		73,896	26,853		73,007	-1.2%
5	Vacant Land	248,640		613,791	246,839		547,199	-10.8%
6	Other	27,840		107,765	30,467		118,989	10.4%
TOTALS		6,408,960	4,335	14,456,099	6,950,744		15,450,717	6.9%



Corporate Statement

Electronic Rate Payments

Legislative amendments to the Local Government Act in 2001 resulted in the introduction of quarterly rate billing as a mandatory requirement for all Councils.

Since that time Council has been tracking statistics in terms of changes in cash flow but also in terms of the use of electronic payment facilities that are established to assist with the quarterly billing process and to provide ratepayers with more flexible payment methods.

CASH FLOW

Council continues to receive the largest proportion of rate revenue at the time of the first instalment (September) - for 2012/13 this was 35% of rate revenue compared to 34% the previous year and 51% prior to the introduction of the quarterly billing regime.

Although this figure has remained reasonably stable over past years, initial predictions were that this figure would decrease more than it currently has, meaning that a large number of ratepayers still prefer to pay their annual rate account up front, rather than by instalments.

PAYMENT STATISTICS

In addition to being able to pay in person or by post, the following revenue collection facilities are available for the convenience of ratepayers;

- interactive voice response (IVR) over telephone
- internet via Council secure site
- BPay (IVR and Internet) via your selected banking institution
- Direct Debit
- Australia Post

Over the past five (5) financial years the number of payments made via these facilities has doubled with BPay being clearly the most utilised or popular payment facility.

Sixty (60) percent of Council's total rate revenue collection is now collected via these facilities compared to thirty eight (38) percent five years ago in the 2008/09 financial year.

STATISTICS - 2012/13

SERVICE	NO. OF PAYMENTS	\$ VALUE
IVR	1,940	588,947
Internet	1,041	480,908
BPay	27,718	6,041,013
Direct Bank Debits	1,953	186,408
Australia Post (from June 2009)	6,879	1,966,498
TOTAL	39,531	9,262,964



Corporate Statement

Residential Rates Comparison Report

The Australian Classification of Local Governments (ACLG) categorises Councils using the population, population density and the proportion of the population that is classified as urban for the Council.

All Local Governments who receive general purpose financial assistance grants via Grants Commission are classified according to ACLG categories.

The above categories are defined as:

- URS: Urban Regional Small
- URM: Urban Regional Medium
- UFS: Urban Fringe Small

The majority of other SA Councils are classified in "Rural" or "Urban" large (metro) categories.

SA Councils categorised as "urban" (regional or fringe) have been used in the table below for comparative purposes:

Council's residential rates per residential property in the previous (2010/2011) financial year were approximately 77% of the State average residential rates per rateable property.

For the 2011/2012 financial year Mount Gambier's average residential rates per rateable property has risen from 77% to 85% of the state average.

COUNCIL	ACLG	POPULATION	TOTAL RATES \$	RATES AS % OF REVENUE	RES RATES/ RES PROP \$
MOUNT GAMBIER	URS	25,911	14,881	66	1,018
Murray Bridge	URS	20,420	16,498	55	1,368
Port Augusta	URS	14,539	13,399	43	1,382
Port Lincoln	URS	14,629	9,729	67	1,156
Victor Harbour	URS	14,291	14,943	77	1,531
Whyalla	URS	22,734	14,114	55	1,082
Mount Barker	URM	31,011	25,912	75	1,692
Alexandrina	UFS	24,539	26,826	77	1,559
Barossa	UFS	22,611	22,726	78	1,373
Gawler	UFS	21,270	14,952	73	1,357
STATE AVERAGE				67	1,200
URS/URM/UFS AVERAGE				67	1,352

*Source: SA Local Government Grants Commission database reports.



Corporate Statement

Local Laws

During 2010 Council conducted a review of all By-laws resulting in the adoption of new By-laws as shown in the table.

The new By-laws came into effect on 6th May 2011, and will expire on 1st January 2019, unless revoked or amended prior to that date.

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

In October 2011, Council adopted a new By-law:

By-law No. 6	Taxi Regulation
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Land Aquisitions

Council did not purchase or acquire, sell or otherwise dispose of any land during the 2012/2013 Financial Year.

Enterprise Agreements

Council's enterprise agreements for AWU and ASU employees commenced in January 2012 (wage increases from 1st December 2011). Negotiations for new enterprise agreements will commence in 2014.

The enterprise agreements seek to achieve fundamental productivity and efficiency improvements. A strong commitment to high standards of customer service provides the foundation from which negotiated terms and conditions of employment for all employees are determined.

Implementation schedules were developed to ensure agreed actions were completed by Council and employees in accordance with specific clauses within the Agreements.

In the 2012-2013 period Council's Chief Executive Officer has met with every employee workgroup to collectively develop practical strategies to address the commitments made in both Agreements. As a result strategies to implement actions from ASU & AWU EBA #8 have been defined within Council's HR Plan

including assigned actions, tasks, responsibilities and performance indicators to ensure that employees, in partnership with management are able to achieve outcomes as specified within the Agreements.

Corporate Statement

Employee Entitlements - Provisions

Council's liability for employee entitlements is as follows:-

YEAR END	CURRENT \$,000			NON CURRENT \$,000		
	ANNUAL LEAVE	LSL	TOTAL	ANNUAL LEAVE	LSL	TOTAL
2008	528	538	1,066	152	71	223
2009	588	639	1,227	220	116	336
2010	634	687	1,321	325	162	487
2011	987	749	1,736	NIL	251	251
2012	979	856	1,835	NIL	235	235
2013	811	911	1,722	NIL	257	257

"Current" is defined as:

LSL: assumes that all LSL falling due after 10 years service will be taken in the following 12 months.
AL: all accrued annual leave is treated as current.

CASH VALUE IN COUNCIL'S LONG SERVICE LEAVE RESERVE

YEAR END	CASH VALUE	% OF CURRENT LSL PROVISION FUNDED
2008	\$445,000	82.7 %
2009	\$545,000	85.2 %
2010	\$615,000	89.5 %
2011	\$676,000	90.2 %
2012	\$724,000	84.6%
2013	\$724,000	79.5%

The average age of all employees is 44.69 years (male 46.86 and female 41.05).

The average years of service for all employees is 9.56 years (male 11.73 and female 6.17).

Corporate Statement

Workplace Lost Time Injury

Council has developed and encouraged a complete Work Health and Safety awareness for the benefit of employees and the organisation.

Council and employees have fully embraced the desire to provide a safe work environment and to meet legislative requirements.

Council achieved an excellent result with Health and Safety in respect of a reduction in time lost from work due to workplace injury.

As the following figures highlight that Council has generally maintained a consistently low incidence of workplace lost time injury (LTI) and lost time injury days (LTI days) with the exception of the period 2010/2011, and on average has a lower rate of injury claims than similar Councils.

In recognition of this and in acknowledgement of our commitment to injury prevention strategies, Council receives significant bonus payments from the LGA Workers Compensation Scheme.

CITY OF MOUNT GAMBIER - COMPARISON WITH GROUP B COUNCILS

YEAR END JUNE	FOR	NUMBER OF LTI'S	NUMBER OF LTI DAYS	NUMBER OF CLAIMS	DURATION RATE	FREQUENCY RATE	INCIDENT RATE	CLAIMS GREATER 5 DAYS
2008/ 09	Council	0	0	8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0
	Groups	5	88	15	16.4	16.9	3.4	3
2009/ 10	Council	2	20	12	10.0	9.9	2.0	2
	Groups	5	42	14	8.1	17.3	3.5	2
2010/ 11	Council	3	118	10	39.3	13.8	2.8	2
	Groups	6	49	13	8.9	18.5	3.7	3
2011/ 12	Council	1	1	14	1.0	4.5	0.9	0
	Groups	4	55	12	12.4	16.4	3.3	2
2012/ 13	Council	2	53	6	26.5	8.3	1.7	2
	Groups	4	52	10	14.2	13.5	2.7	2

Group B Comparison Councils are those Councils with the number of employees (FTE) in the range of 100-199.



Corporate Statement Information Technology

LOCAL GOVERNMENT SOFTWARE

Council operates the 'Authority' enterprise software solution developed and maintained by Local Government Software vendor Civica Pty Ltd on a Managed Service Platform.

Council's relationship with Civica offers many significant benefits and advantages to help address challenges such as:

- significantly mitigating our IT related risk, especially in the case of a disaster;
- increasing our IT infrastructure performance;
- improving our ability to adopt new technology and keep our business applications current with regular updates;
- providing access to an acknowledged team of IT specialists and industry experts within the Local Government Sector;
- empowering staff to focus on our core business objectives
- enabling connectivity to our remote sites and ensuring our remote sites: Depot, Visitor Information Centre, Cemetery and Library are supported through Managed Services provision.

Civica's Managed Services also provides Council with assured application and service delivery and the day-to-day running of supporting processes and systems, to guaranteed levels and predictable costs.

Council has over the past year introduced some significantly improved practices:

- Continued focus on the implementation of mobile "anywhere, anytime, any device" technology.
- Implementation of Authority Performance Manager Software - a strategic planning and reporting tool designed

specifically for the needs of local government. Performance Manager will be used across the organisation integrating Strategic, Corporate and Business Plans and reporting in both financial and non-financial terms.

With the implementation of extensive new Data Centre Infrastructure to be put in place in the latter half of 2013 by Civica, Council will be able to continue its drive for continuous improvement.

Council also retains membership of the SA Civica 'Authority' User Group and actively contributes to a range of special interest groups established to drive the ongoing development of the various applications within the "Authority" software suite.

LIBRARY SOFTWARE

Council also utilises Civica Pty Ltd for its "Spydus" library software solution which also operates on a managed service platform.

As is the case for the Local Government software all services such as licensing, hardware, version upgrades, patch management, disaster recovery etc. etc. are included in the managed services arrangement however, from September 2013 the Mount Gambier Library will be joining the State "One Library Management" System.

The "One Card" Network is connecting more that 130 public libraries across South Australia and will enable Mount Gambier Library Members to borrow and return items across the State with their current library card.

The new service will also give members 24/7 access to a online catalogue where millions of books, DVD's, magazines in libraries across South Australia can be looked up and reserve either from home or at the Library, to be delivered to their Library of choice.

Version upgrades of the Spydus software continue on a regular

basis which enable the following services/facilities to be made available.

- The entire Les Hill Photographic collection which as been fully digitized, is available in a searchable format, on-line, via the Library's Online Catalogue.
- The "Syndetic Enriched Content" feature provides borrowers with book cover images, profiles, summaries and annotations of each book etc. selected.
- The online Library Catalogue continues to be a most popular and increasingly used innovation, particularly for borrowers who have limited time to attend the Library.

To further enhance customer experience Library customers are able to pre-book computers using Pharos Sign-up a computer reservation system that automates the process of booking a library PC. Added to this is the incorporation of Inepro, an print management system which provides customers with and effective and efficient way of tracking and paying for the printing.

Events - Customers have instant, online access to the library's programs and events. More than a Web calendar, Events is a full featured program/event management and planning utility with online registration options & outreach and public relations tools. Events is an entirely Web-based application that is flexible enough to meet the varying needs of the Library service.

Room Reserve is a user-friendly, cost-effective room scheduling software designed to manage meeting and study rooms as well as the equipment in the library. Again a web-based application allowing customers the option of booking rooms from their homes up to 30 days in advance.

Summer Reader provides a new and easy way to manage summer and year-round reading programs and interest groups for

Corporate Statement

Information Technology

patrons of all ages. Not only does Summer Reader help library staff manage in-house registration, it also offers an online registration self-service option for patrons. Other key features include reading and progress logging, prize management and distribution, drawings, and mediated reviews. Summer Reader also allows staff to easily collect and manipulate statistics and produce reports with only a few clicks.

In an endeavour to take the guess work out of choosing a customers next great read the Mount Gambier Library was one of the first libraries in South Australia to install LibraryThing, an online service which connects people, comes up with suggestions for what to read next. LibraryThing is a full-powered cataloguing application, searching the Library of Congress, all five national Amazon sites, and more than 690 world libraries. Customers can search and sort items and “tag” books with their own subject headings. LibraryThing for Libraries has enriched the online catalogue with the power and fun of Library 2.0. In conjunction with LibraryAnywhere a mobile application for iPhone, Blackberry and Android, customers are now able to search, place holds, view opening hours and check out events from any mobile device simply by downloading the free App.

Council also retains membership of the Civica Library User Group which has an Australia wide membership base.

In 2012 the Library also introduced eBooks and Magazines for library

customers. Books and magazines are available instantly via download onto a variety of devices, providing 24/7 access to these collections. Our digital collections continue to grow in popularity with library customers.

MANAGED SERVICES

Council has operated its core Local Government and Library software solutions on a managed services platform for some years.

Council’s library software solution has been delivered from a Melbourne based data centre since 1998 whereas Council’s Local Government software solution has been delivered via internet/citrix from a Sydney based data centre, since 2007.

In late 2010 Council migrated all other corporate software applications including Exponaire (GIS/Mapping), Business Intelligence (Business Reporting) and the MC Office suite of applications into the managed service (data centre) environment.

With the implementation of an electronic document management system (TRIM) in March 2011, Council’s records management processes are now also established in the managed service environment.

Both data centres are operated by Council software provider, Civica Pty Ltd and replicate each other to ensure a total disaster recovery/ business continuity solution.

Council has long recognised information technology is critical to Council’s operations and

therefore managed services presents the best opportunity to ensure business continuity. Council’s corporate systems can now be accessed from a variety of hardware devices from any location provided you have access to the internet.

Benefits in terms of risk management and disaster recovery cannot be matched by any in-house solution.

LOCAL AREA NETWORK

Council’s local area network is maintained by local service provider, Green Triangle Electronics.

Council’s local area network environment is progressively renewed over a three (3) year finance/rental cycle.

The move to managed services has allowed for the retirement of most server hardware and associated software.

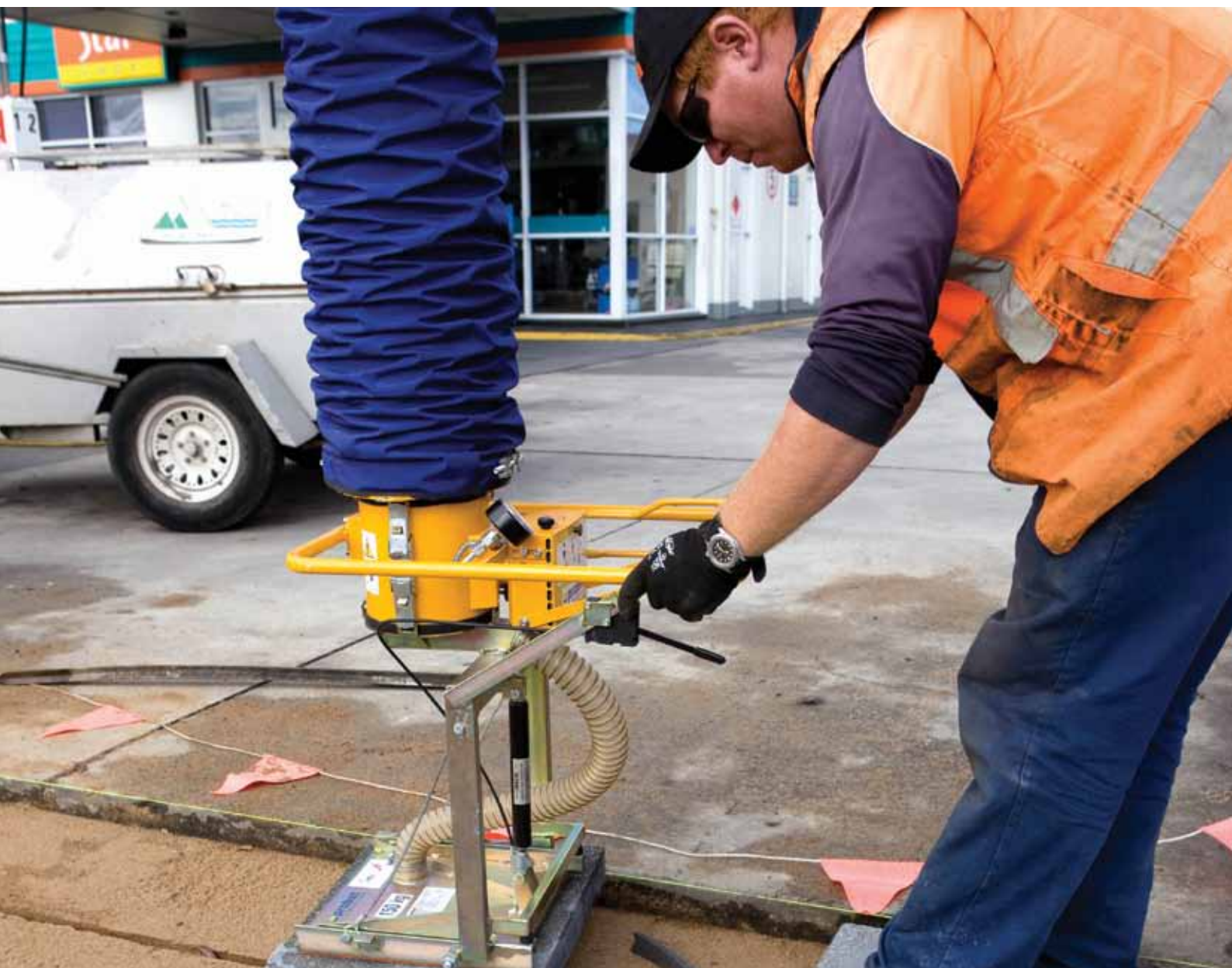
Website:
www.mountgambier.sa.gov.au

The various components to the Council website continue to be developed as a work in progress.

A complete review of the Council component of the website has now been completed and was launched in August 2012.

An extensive review of the Tourism component of the website is now underway and it is anticipated that the new site will go live in January/ February 2014.

Infrastructure Statement



Infrastructure Works	65
Gateway Precincts Urban Design Project	65
Boundary Roads	65
City Centre Urban Design and Traffic Management Plan	66
Railway Lands	66
Old Hospital	67
Bus Facilities at The Lady Nelson	67
Bicycle Paths	67
Street Trees	68

Aquatic Centre	69
Carinya Gardens Cemetery	70
Carinya Gardens Entry	70
Lady Nelson Brig	70
Percy Street Walkway	71

Infrastructure Statement

Infrastructure Works

Council's continued commitment towards maintaining the road network to a high standard saw the reconstruction of various roads throughout the network. Around \$2M was spent on road infrastructure upgrades that involved projects such as:

- Road resealing works
- Road patching works
- Reconstruction of Anthony St
- Reconstruction of Lake Tce West
- Reconstruction of Jardine St
- Reconstruction of Franklin St

Gateway Precincts Urban Design Project

Works on the Gateways Precincts Urban Design Project are underway which includes feature landscaping treatments and stormwater management with solar lighting to be constructed shortly. These works are all associated with making the entrances into Mount Gambier more appealing to both the local community and visitors to the City.

Tree plantings have occurred on the Pick Avenue, Jubilee Highway

corner which will also have feature lighting to some of the trees installed later this year. Further planting will occur adjacent to the traffic lights to the east of Pick Avenue and Jubilee Highway East where the ground has been prepared. Tree plantings have also occurred on Jubilee Highway West together with native grasses in part of the road verge drainage basin. Feature lighting will also be installed lighting up some of the trees later this year. Both tree

and grass plantings have been completed adjacent to the Blue Lake Sports Park main entrance, as well as the Pick Avenue median island.

It is planned that all plantings, lighting and stormwater management for the Gateway Precincts Urban Design Project will be completed by the end of 2013.

Boundary Roads

The City of Mount Gambier and the District Council of Grant have the joint responsibility for the management of the roads that form the boundary between the two Council areas.

In 2012/13 each Council contributed \$125,000 to the Boundary Roads Program. Also, as of 1 July 2010, due to boundary adjustments, substantial changes occurred to the Boundary Roads. A number of new roads (that were formally the sole responsibility of the District Council of Grant) became Boundary Roads.

A combined application by the City of Mount Gambier and the District Council of Grant was made to the Special Local Roads Program for upgrade works on Lake Terrace East (from Eucalypt Drive to Lewis Avenue). The application was successful with a grant of \$207,500, matched on dollar for dollar basis by the District Council of Grant and City Council (i.e. \$103,750 from each Council). The works were completed by contractors in 2012.

The Forward Roads Program for the Boundary Roads is now being based on condition rating and will result in a reduction in overall expenditure for the next five (5) year period.

Infrastructure Statement

City Centre Urban Design and Traffic Management Plan

The City Centre Urban Design & Traffic Management Plan (prepared in 2007) provided a set of guidelines for future development of the urban realm in the CBD. Since 2008 the City of Mount Gambier has embarked on a number of urban upgrade

projects including James Street, Engelbrecht Lane, the New Library plaza and the Main Corner.

In early 2013 Council commenced the urban upgrade of Commercial Street including the protuberances between Wehl Street South and

Crouch Street South. In addition to a \$750,000 grant from the State Government's Places for People program, Council plans to invest more than \$3m into the CBD over the next 5 financial years.

Railway Lands

The Railway Lands redevelopment project has been on Council's agenda for over 10 years and since Council took formal ownership of the land from State Government in May 2005, detail design and analysis has intensified. A number of consultants have been used to develop the Master Plan over the last seven years with the final design being predominantly created internally by the City of Mount Gambier design team.

The Master Plan for the Railway Lands site (4.0 Ha site stretching between Wehl St South to Bay Rd) is based on an open green space and parklands theme and is designed to offset the urban density of the adjacent City Centre, and will assist with balancing the carbon footprint of city development. The Master Plan also

provides the flexibility to allow for the possible future development of other elements within the parcel of land associated with other land uses (if so desired by the community at a later date) and is in line with Council's sustainability principles, being;

- A need to conserve and reduce the quantity of water use and improve the quality of water entering our groundwater and lakes system.
- Protect and where necessary, enhance the natural and built environment.

The major features of the Master Plan focus on open spaced parklands / gardens that are of high quality, ensuring the space becomes attractive and

stimulating and that it adds to the environmental fabric of Mount Gambier. The parklands will add value to Mount Gambier's existing gardens (such as Vansittart Park, Cave Garden and Crater Lakes) and will offer a natural uplifting experience for residents and visitors alike, similar to that offered by Adelaide Botanic Garden, Hyde Park in Sydney and Botanic Park in Melbourne.

In mid 2012 Council was successful in gaining \$1m in State Government funding (of which Council has matched) through the 'Places for People' program allowing Stage One to be achieved commencing in late 2013. Subsequent stages will be subject to future funding from Council and additional grant opportunities will continue to be actively sought.



Infrastructure Statement

Old Hospital

Since its acquisition by Council in 2011 the former Mount Gambier Hospital site has undergone a number of internal feasibility studies to determine the best future development options for Council to consider.

Following an exhaustive process, including intensive community consultation, the Council in mid 2012 resolved to carry out total demolition of all buildings and subsequent site remediation allowing the area to be returned to park lands.

Detail design and further analysis of this option was carried out with demolition set to commence in late 2013.

Bus Facilities at Lady Nelson

The need for more formal and improved passenger bus facilities for Mount Gambier has been a matter before Council and the community for some time.

During 2009/10 Council agreed to investigate the possibility of better facilities being located at "The Lady Nelson" Visitor and Discovery Centre. Council engaged local consultants to undertake an analysis of the site and provide a concept design for such a facility.

In December 2009 that concept (which involved a rearranged car park, slip lane into the Lady Nelson site off Jubilee Highway East, pedestrian walkways and undercover canopies) was presented to Council and left lie on the table pending further consideration as to future affordability of the capital works.

The 2011/12 budget had an allocation set aside to assist Council in achieving the approved

vision over two separate financial years. The project was tendered to suitably qualified construction companies in March 2012 where a contractor was engaged to supply and install a 40m long, 5 bay, conical shaped tensile shade structure on the northern portion of the car park. Construction was completed and the structure operational in mid 2013.

Bicycle Paths

As part of Council's continued commitment towards alternative modes of transport, bicycle paths were installed on the following roads:

- Crouch St North (Boomerang Ave to Wireless Rd)
- Kennedy Ave (North Tce to Wireless Rd)
- Wireless Rd West (Penola Rd to Tafe)
- Pinehall Ave (Penola Rd to Suttontown Rd)

This work is an extension of the established bicycle network previously established throughout the City.



Infrastructure Statement

Street Trees

Council remains committed to its goal of a street tree planting program to populate the City's streets with 10,000 street trees by 2017.

To accomplish this objective, Council has to obtain a net gain on average of 300 new trees each year.

The following table sets out the street tree program achieved for 2012/13:

COMMON NAME	BOTANICAL NAME	STREET NAME	OVERHEAD POWER-LINES	TREES BEING RETAINED	PROPOSED REMOVALS	PROPOSED PLANTINGS	NET GAIN
Blackwood	<i>Acacia melanoxylon</i>	Newton Crescent (North Side)	NO	0	0	24	24
Gawler Hybrid Bottlebrush	<i>Callistemon viminalis 'Harkness'</i>	Lean Street	YES	0	0	16	16
Gawler Hybrid Bottlebrush	<i>Callistemon viminalis 'Harkness'</i>	Newton Crescent (South Side)	YES	1	1	26	25
Purple Leaf Cherry Plum	<i>Prunus cerasifera 'Nigra'</i>	Wehl Street South (Helen St - Lake Terrace)	YES	3	23	108	85
Purple Leaf Cherry Plum	<i>Prunus cerasifera 'Nigra'</i>	Gwendoline Street (South side)	YES	7	1	18	17
Southworth Dancer Pear	<i>Pyrus betulaefolia 'Southworth Dancer'</i>	Bluebell Drive	NO	0	0	31	31
Southworth Dancer Pear	<i>Pyrus betulaefolia 'Southworth Dancer'</i>	Rosemont Place	NO	0	0	15	15
Southworth Dancer Pear	<i>Pyrus betulaefolia 'Southworth Dancer'</i>	Veldarose Lane	NO	0	0	16	16
Callery Pear	<i>Pyrus calleryana 'Glensform' chanticleer</i>	Gwendoline Street (North side)	NO	2	0	18	18
Callery Pear	<i>Pyrus calleryana 'Glensform' chanticleer</i>	Navajo Drive	NO	0	0	36	36
Littleleaf Linden	<i>Tilia cordata'PNI 6025' Greenspire</i>	Genoa Street	NO	0	6	48	42
			TOTAL	13	31	356	325

Infrastructure Statement

Aquatic Centre

The Management of the Centre was undertaken by Innovative Leisure Management (ILM), the third year of a five year contract. The Principal of ILM is Mr Peter Collins, the Centre Manager for the previous two management organisations. The Centre continues to be well maintained and well presented.

The Centre again completed a very intensive learn to swim program and school program, with very

high numbers being achieved in these two key user groups, with programs reaching saturation point with respect to enrolments.

Independent audits at the facility continue to realise very good reports that provide confidence to Council and the community that the Centre is very well maintained and operated.

At the end of the 2012/13 swimming season the existing

saw dust fired boiler was removed to make way for a new state of the art biomass unit. The new boiler is capable of burning a variety of fuels and it is hoped this will improve the efficiency of the centre and also improve the environmental foot print of the facility.

The following statistics are provided for 2012/13:

INDIVIDUAL ADMISSIONS	
Swimming - Adult	4,050
Swimming - Child	7,523
Swimming - Spectator	262
Swimming - Pensioner	317
Swimming - Family	250
Aquavoucher Return - Pensioner	100
Swim School - Preschool	2,321
Swim School - School age	4,474
Swim School - Adult	42
Season Pass – Laps	6,135
Season Pass – Swimming Lessons	3,182
Lap Swimming	2,179
VacSwim	1,656
Carnivals - General	153
Carnivals – School	1,624
Education Department - Primary	12,500
Education Department - Jnr Primary	5,651
Aquavoucher Return - Adult	402
Aquavoucher Return - Child	205
Fitness (aqua aerobics)	498
Swim Club	933
School Groups	1,982
Individual Total	56,439
Comparison 2011/12	53,324

HIRE GROUPS	
Royal Life Saving Society	142
Hire Group Total	142
Comparison 2011/12	226
COMPLIMENTARY ADMISSIONS	
No Charge Spectator	11,900
Education Department - Teachers	883
Complimentary Total	12,783
Comparison 2011/12	12,528
TOTAL ATTENDANCES	69,364
Comparison 2011/12	66,078

Infrastructure Statement

Carinya Gardens Cemetery

There were 394 services conducted at Carinya Gardens Cemetery during the 2012/13 year, compared with 369 for the same period in the previous year.

The Trust conducted 108 burial services at Carinya Gardens Cemetery in 2012/13, compared with 134 for the same period in the previous year.

During 2012/13, the Trust conducted 286 cremations, compared to 235 for the same period in the previous year.

Carinya Gardens Entry

The Mount Gambier Cemetery Trust continues to demonstrate a keen desire to enhance the grounds and facilities at Carinya Gardens Cemetery and during the

2012/13 year the refurbishment of the existing Carinya Gardens Cemetery Entry Gates was completed. This project was undertaken in accordance with

the approved Carinya Gardens Cemetery Master Plan. Key features of the design include a new signage feature, dolomite piers and landscaping.

Lady Nelson Brig

The City of Mount Gambier applied for and was successful in gaining a grant from the Federal Government to assist with the refurbishment of the Lady Nelson Brig. Constructed in 1986 by volunteers and community groups the brig had progressively become water damaged and numerous short term fixes over recent years had become unsustainable to continue with.

An initial project budget of \$385,000 was allocated including the Federal grant to replace the brig with a fibreglass replica and salvage any usable items for re-use in the refurbished icon. In an innovative approach, the City of Mount Gambier teamed with Warrnambool's Flagstaff Hill Maritime Village to supply the replica brig in late 2011. Slow but meaningful progress was made

during 2012 and a ceremonial opening was carried out on 3rd December, 2012 marking the 212th year since Mount Gambier was first sighted and named by Lieutenant James Grant aboard HMAS Lady Nelson.



Infrastructure Statement

Percy Street Walkway

Council has owned the former Mutual Community Building since the early 2000's with a view to eventually demolishing it and constructing a new pedestrian walkway through to Percy Street.

The existing enclosed Percy Street walkway has two tenancies to the north under private ownership and are currently leased by Council.

The new walkway provides a direct link to Commercial Street East and the 'Civic' buildings, Cave Garden and Civic Centre from off street car parks in Percy Street.

In late 2012 the former Mutual Community building was demolished and a new design incorporating high quality paving and landscaping was completed early in 2013.



Environment Statement



Environmental Sustainability	73
Environmental Health Division	78
Community Health Division	80
Planning Division	82
Building Division	83
City of Mount Gambier Heritage Committee	84
Local Heritage Restoration Fund	84
Strategic Bushfire Prevention Plan	85
Blue Lake Management Committee	85
Stormwater Management	85

Waste Management	86
Graffiti Removal	87
Crater Lakes	87
General Inspectorate including Dog Control	88

Environment Statement

Environmental Sustainability

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2012/13

Environment Sustainability Business Award

Zero Waste and the City of Mount Gambier continued with the joint sponsorship of the Environment & Sustainability Award Category at the Chamber of Commerce awards held in September 2012. The award received numerous nominations with Cummins South Pacific the 2012 winner. The Environment & Sustainability award category is a great way of showcasing the sustainability achievements of local leaders and to inspire the broader Mount Gambier business community.

Water Week

During October 2012, the Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources (DEWNR) and SA Water, together with the City of Mount Gambier, hosted a variety of community events to celebrate and highlight Water Week in a local context. There were free water-themed presentations for school children at the Main Corner, these included "Water Cycle, Conservation, Treatment and Reuse" and "Where does Mount Gambier's water come from, and where does it go?". To compliment the talks, one of the gross pollutant traps (GPT) in the Cave Gardens was cleaned out under the watchful eye of eager local school children, this was followed by a tour of the water sensitive urban design (WSUD) features of the Library car park.

The continued support for the free Carpathon Fishing Competition at the Valley Lakes was strong with approximately 70 participants registered. Each registered family was given a show bag which contained donated items and information from City of Mount Gambier, OPAL, SA Water, Water for Good, and Fishcare.

During the week the library story time sessions included a Water Week theme and craft activities. A public session on Cave Diving was also held in the Main Corner. This was an interesting night of

local cave diving information and tales from a local expert and his international adventures. The session was well attended.

Sustainable Communities / Tidy Towns Awards

In 2012 Council participated in the KESAB Sustainable Communities program, and received the Biodiversity Award and Heritage & Culture Award. The Biodiversity Award was given in recognition of the great work that has taken place at the Valley Lake Conservation Park in recent years. The Heritage & Culture Award was given in recognition of the outstanding local cultural and heritage displays in the Main Corner.

National Cycling Award

Council's strong support for cycling was recognised at a national level by the winning of the Local Government Achievement Award, at the 2013 Australian Bicycling Achievement Awards held in Old Parliament House in Canberra, in March 2013.

Council's activities with regards to supporting cycling include:

Supporting cycling events, public bike hire, providing cycling maps to residents and tourists, cycling safe training, Mount Gambier Strategic Bicycle Plan, mountain bike tracks, staff bikes, bike racks throughout the City, and of course, the bicycle lanes and paths that have been installed around Mount Gambier.

Earth Hour

In March 2013 the City of Mount Gambier again joined the fight against climate change by turning off the lights at major attractions around the City for Earth Hour 2013. As an active participant in Earth Hour, Council turned off lighting at Main Corner, City Hall, Vansittart Park, the Library, the Centenary Tower, and the Lady Nelson Brig for one hour. In addition, the library ran an Earth Hour theme for their story time sessions and made 'Earth Hour' candles during craft time.

Talks for Schools & Community Groups

City of Mount Gambier environmental sustainability staff delivered a number of talks and presentations to schools and community groups covering a wide variety of topics relating to environmental sustainability. The purpose of these talks is to encourage the community to live more sustainably and talk about smarter ways to live in the 21st century. Always popular with primary schools was the talk using the model water catchment "Enviroscape".

Valley Lake Conservation Park

A comprehensive program of restoration work at the Valley Lake Conservation Park has improved habitat by establishing endemic flora and native vegetation, for the reintroduction of native fauna that have disappeared from the region. This has been a collaboration between a number of community groups, schools and agencies. Work that has been undertaken in the last twelve (12) months includes:

- In collaboration with DENR the Youth Creating Habitat project commenced involving primary and secondary schools in a range of project work in the Conservation Park.
- A wide range of activities have been completed by a variety of school and community groups including weeding, fencing, mulching, structural repairs, planting, animal shelter building and pathway construction.
- Australian Conservation Volunteers assisted in fox proofing the external fence.
- The timber boardwalk has been removed due to its poor structural condition.
- A new entry to the Conservation Park is under construction.
- Community planting days have been held (Saturday, 27th July 2013 and Sunday, 28th July 2013) to assist with

Environment Statement

Environmental Sustainability

the re-vegetation of the area. Approximately 100 persons were in attendance and planted 2,500 grasses and shrubs. There was strong support at the plantings by local guides groups and scouts.

Natural Step Framework

In early 2013, Council environmental sustainability staff gave a presentation on sustainability and the Natural Step Framework to Depot staff, with breakfast supplied by Rotary.

The session encouraged participants to think about sustainability issues in their daily roles. Attendees were challenged to think about how they can help the organisation to progressively improve its environmental sustainability.

Following on from these and earlier sessions, City of Mount Gambier have developed a holistic decision making tool, which incorporates the Natural Step Framework and quadruple bottom line considerations.

City of Mount Gambier – Natural Step Sustainability Objectives

To reduce and eventually eliminate the City of Mount Gambier's contribution to:

1. Putting substances into the environment that cannot be broken down quicker than they are contributed e.g. fossil fuel derived substances like greenhouse gas emissions and plastics.
2. Damaging the environment - physically or by contributing substances that could damage the environment and/or people e.g. air, water or soil pollution.
3. Undermining the ability of people to meet their fundamental human needs* e.g. provide safe working and living conditions.

*As defined by Manfred Max-Neef (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fundamental_human_needs).

For more information on the Natural Step see: <http://www.naturalstep.org/en/faq>

Council Staff Get On Their Bike

The City of Mount Gambier is once again taking the lead in being a sustainable local government. Two bicycles have been added to the fleet, with Council staff being able to use them for work trips. This is yet another way that Council are trying to reduce their environmental impact whilst encouraging staff to be more active.

The City of Mount Gambier Waste & Recycling Activities

Council has undertaken a number of activities in the past 12 months designed to assist the community to reduce waste and do the right thing:

- What to Recycle Where Guide – An A-Z guide for product recycling or disposal.
- Environmental Month – Variety of environmental themed talks and workshops, including a talk by South Australia's most experienced straw bale builder, and the Recycled Runway Fashion Show.
- Uniquely designed domestic battery and mobile recycling bins in the Library.
- Waste audit of household bins – In order to let the community know what they are doing well and where they can improve.
- E-waste collection at the Waste Transfer Centre – Council has partnered with TechCollect to collect TVs and computers for free.
- Waste and recycling talks at schools – with interactive activities.



Environment Statement

Environmental Sustainability

- Clean outs of Gross Pollutant Traps in front of school groups, highlighting the litter that is caught by the traps.
- Clean up Australia Day.
- National Recycling Week – Including a “Swap Party”, where unwanted items were swapped.
- National Butt Free Day – focusing on reducing cigarette butt litter.

Fruit & Nut Trees

In May 2013 Council put out an Expression of Interest to partner with local residents to plant fruit and nut trees in a local reserve. One of the requirements of the EOI was that local residents agreed to work with their neighbours to help look after the trees, including watering over summer, and make sure that the fruit and nuts get eaten. Residents from Bellshire Place put together a strong submission to have fruit

and nut trees planted in their local reserve. Whilst putting together the submission it was the first time some of the residents had met, and discovered they had things in common.

On the 30th June 2013 twenty local residents braved the inclement weather to participate in planting the fruit and nut trees in the reserve. The selection of trees included Apricot, Avocado, Chestnut, Mandarin, Mulberry and Walnut.

Council hopes the trial project will lead to greater interaction between residents, promotion of fresh and healthy eating, and the benefits of growing food locally.

Smart Living Community Profiles

Sustainable living is smart living. Learn how to save money, improve your health and wellbeing, and tread lighter on our environment by learning from people in our community who are already

doing it. Council environmental sustainability staff have compiled a number of inspiring stories that not only teach you how to live the life you want to, but will demonstrate that local people are already taking action ... and it's not that hard!

Ride 2 Work Day

On Wednesday 17 October 2012 Council hosted a free community breakfast at the Main Corner for Ride 2 Work Day. Over 70 people dropped in throughout the morning to share breakfast and meet other riders. Mount Gambier is a very cycleable city, with almost the entire urban area being within 4-5km of the city centre by road (within 3km as the crow flies).



Environment Statement

Environmental Sustainability

CITY OF MOUNT GAMBIER 2012-2013 CORPORATE GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

The City of Mount Gambier's corporate greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions for the 2012-2013 financial year have been calculated, in equivalent units of carbon dioxide (CO₂-e). Total emissions have been calculated using information supplied by the Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency, including the National Greenhouse Accounts

Factors and the NGERs solid waste calculator. Only Scope 1 & 2 emissions* are included in the totals, with Scope 3 being excluded, as per the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting guidelines.

*Scope 1 & 2 are emissions that an organisation has control over e.g. on-site gas and electricity use. Scope 3 are emissions that an organisation has less control over e.g. street lights and manufacturing of products purchased.

Total Emissions

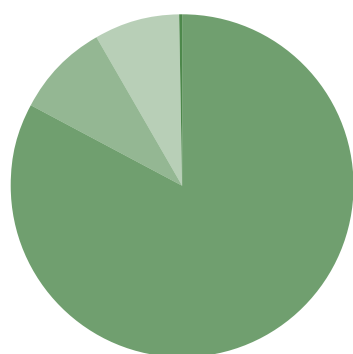
Total emissions for the financial year 2012-2013 were approximately 7,957 tonnes CO₂-e. That figure includes emissions from electricity, gas, fuel and Caroline Landfill. Details are in Table 1 and Figure 1 below:

Table 1: City of Mount Gambier Corporate GHG Emissions 2012-2013.

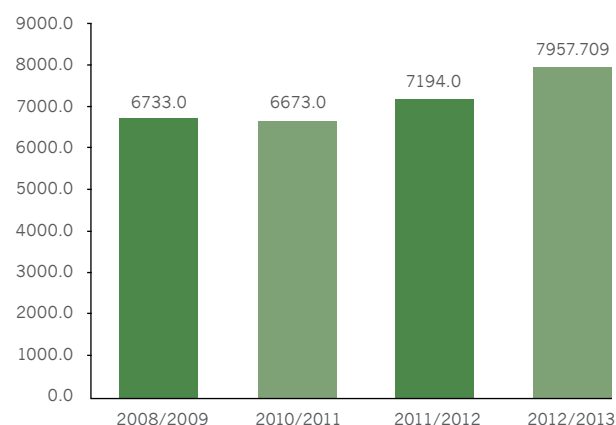
TABLE 1: CITY OF MOUNT GAMBIER CORPORATE GHG EMISSIONS 2012-2013

SOURCE OF GHG EMISSIONS	EMISSIONS TONNES CO ₂ -E	% OF TOTAL EMISSIONS
Landfill gas emissions	6,607	83
Electricity (excluding street lighting)	704	8.9
Fuel (vehicles and plant use)	642	8.1
Gas	4.3	0.1
TOTAL	7,957	100

**FIGURE 1: CITY OF MOUNT GAMBIER
CORPORATE GHG EMISSIONS 2012-2013**



**FIGURE 2: CITY OF MOUNT GAMBIER
CORPORATE GHG EMISSIONS (TONNES
CO₂-E) FOR THE 2008-2009, 2010-2011,
2011-2012, AND 2012-2013 FINANCIAL
YEARS**



Environment Statement

Environmental Sustainability

FIGURE 3: CHANGE IN GREENHOUSE GAS SOURCES OVER THE PAST THREE FINANCIAL YEARS

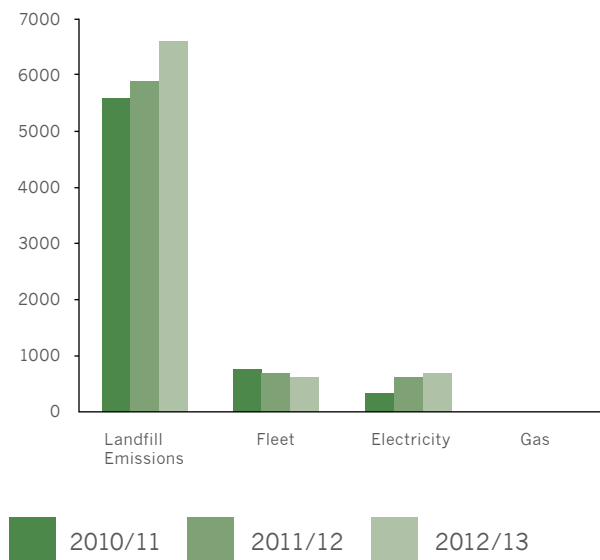
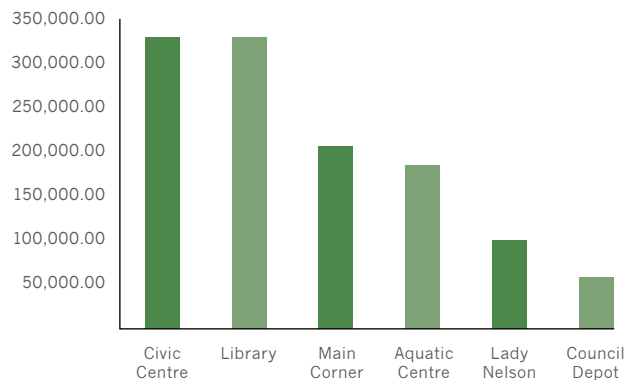


FIGURE 4: BUILDING ELECTRICITY CONSUMPTION IN KWH FOR 2012/2013 – SIX HIGHEST USERS



Emissions from Electricity

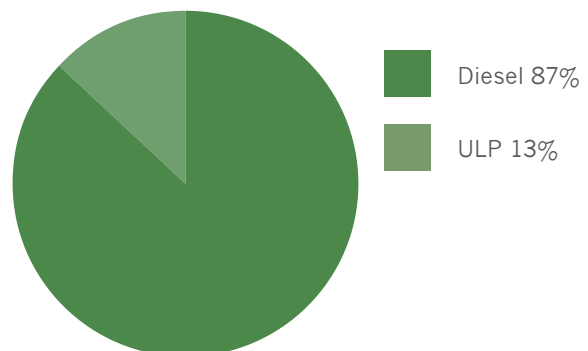
Emissions from electricity were the second largest source of Council's emissions. This is electricity which is used in Council buildings, as well as public lighting, though excludes street lighting as this is a Scope 3 emission. It should be noted that the electricity for the Library is 100% green power, and as such does not create any GHG emissions. All of Council's other electricity accounts are 20% green power, resulting in 20% less GHG emissions from Council's electricity use. Electricity emissions were slightly higher than for 2011-2012 – one reason being the addition of the Main Corner, which was only open for half of the previous financial year.

Figure 4 highlights the six Council buildings which use the most amount of electricity. It should be noted that the Library is 100% green power, and the Aquatic Centre is classified as Scope 3 as Council does not pay the electricity bill for this facility – hence these two facilities do not contribute to Council's GHG emissions total, but are included for comparison purposes.

Emissions from Fleet

Emissions from fleet were the third largest source of Council's emissions at 642 tonnes CO₂-e or 8.1% of total emissions. Diesel was largest component of fuel used (211,149 L), followed by unleaded petrol (31,917 L). Figure 3 below expresses these figures as a percentage of total fleet emissions. For the third year in a row fleet emissions are lower than the previous year.

FIGURE 5: GHG EMISSIONS (TONNES CO₂-E) FROM FLEET



Offsets

Council does not participate in an official carbon offsets scheme, however, it does plant numerous trees in streets and reserves each year. The current tree planting program aims for a net gain of 300 trees per year. That is, 300 extra trees in addition to those trees which are planted to replace an existing tree. The total carbon offsets from these 300 trees equates to approximately 6.6 tonnes CO₂-e per annum – a minor amount when compared to Council's total emissions of 7,957 tonnes CO₂-e.

Environment Statement

Environmental Health Division

FOOD SAFETY

Food Premises Inspections

Council conducts regular inspections of food premises within its jurisdiction. A food business is defined as being any business, enterprise or activity that involves the sale of food or handling

of food intended for sale. In 2012/2013 Council conducted 351 unannounced food premises and stall inspections. The frequency of Council's inspections is based upon the type of business, the businesses client base and the history of compliance. Some foods require particular care to handle them safely; also some groups of

people have greater susceptibility to food poisoning. Where an inspection reveals poor food safety practices, a follow up inspection is carried out to assess compliance. Council can impose penalties for non-compliance, including expiation fees, notices and orders to restrict the operations of a food business.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE FOOD ACT 2001, DURING THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2012/13

Routine inspections undertaken	229
Follow up inspections undertaken	104
Incident triggered inspections	18
Total number of inspections conducted under the Food Act 2001	351
Number of permanently operating premises routinely inspected under the Food Act 2001	304
Inspections conducted of temporary premises operating at local events (markets, festivals etc.)	47
Number of orders/notices issued under Food Act 2001	3
Number of expiation notices issued under Food Act 2001	0
Number of alleged food poisoning complaints received	8
Number of confirmed food poisoning cases received	0



Environment Statement

Environmental Health Division

Food Safety Education

Council takes a pro-active approach to food safety education, providing educational opportunities for local school students, community groups and businesses. Council's successful partnership with TAFE SA has resulted in 76 participants attending the nationally accredited food safety training courses held in Mount Gambier during the year. Council's Environmental Health Officers (EHO's) attend the training sessions to provide advice and to build relationships with food business owners and food handlers. These training sessions have also been taken up by some volunteers of community groups involved in events providing food for the public and by food industry job seekers. Council believes this is important as it positively encourages compliance and breaks down the barriers between the EHO's and food handlers. The ongoing partnership provides consistent training across regional Councils involved and the June 2013 session had the highest number of participants so far for Mount Gambier.

HEALTH PROMOTION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Monitoring of waste control systems

The City of Mount Gambier has a number of existing septic systems in areas not connected to sewer. As the City of Mount Gambier is in the capture zone of the Blue Lake ground water protection is essential. On-site aerobic wastewater treatment systems (AWTS) are approved for new development in areas where sewer is not available. An AWTS treats the water using aeration and chlorination to a standard where it can be re-used for some irrigation applications, i.e. to a mulched garden bed. On 16 June 2013 the new SA Public Health Act 2011 came into effect which included the SA Public Health (Wastewater) Regulations 2013 which has changes which improve the installation and maintenance of AWTS's.

DISEASE PREVENTION

Monitoring and Management of Insanitary Conditions

In 2012/13 Council received 11 complaints in relation to perceived insanitary conditions. The majority of the complaints related to pest/vermin infestation or alleged unsightly properties. All complaints are inspected by Council's Environmental Health Officer to determine if the condition of the premises constitutes an insanitary condition (as defined by the Public and Environmental Health Act, 1987 and from 16 June 2013 the SA Public Health Act 2011). Council provides brochures and advice to both commercial and residential properties affected by rodent infestation.

Public Pools and Spas

Mount Gambier has a number of publicly accessible pools and spas, found in a variety of locations including motels, gyms and caravan parks. Council inspects pools and spas to ensure they are properly disinfected, maintained appropriately and safe for public use.



Environment Statement

Community Health Division

The City of Mount Gambier is committed to encouraging and supporting residents to lead an active and healthy lifestyle and to have local access to high quality health services. The Community Health Division of Council provided accessible, no cost immunisation sessions for childhood vaccination and user pay vaccinations at cost to the consumer up until February 2013. Since then, the service has been provided by Community Health SA with immunisations still being held at the Civic Centre.

Travel vaccinations are also being sought by adults travelling abroad who have identified their vaccinations needs. Council responds and assists where possible to help people determine their own or a child's immunisation status. This is achieved through Council's own vaccination data base and the Australian Commonwealth Immunisation Register.

IMMUNISATIONS

During the 2012/13 financial year, Council continued to offer the Public Immunisation Sessions and the Newly Arrived Refugee Program. The Newly Arrived Refugee Program is a challenging and very important program that provides catch up vaccinations for those who have arrived under the humanitarian resettlement scheme.

Public Immunisation sessions are held twice a day on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month. These sessions provide vaccinations to infants under the Australian Childhood Vaccination Program.

The workplace sessions provide for Influenza, Adult Diphtheria, Tetanus & Pertussis (whooping cough), Hepatitis B and Hepatitis A&B.

Human Papillomavirus vaccine is offered to Year 8 girls, Hepatitis B and Chicken Pox vaccine is offered to all students not already immune and Boostrix (diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough) is offered to Year 9 students. In 2013 the Human Papillomavirus vaccine commenced being offered to Year 8 and Year 9 boys. The School program involves visiting each school for the Year 8 program 3 times in the year and one visit for Year 9 students.

In 2012/13 Council administered 3,173 vaccines (up until February 2013).



Environment Statement

Community Health Division

VACCINES	2011/12	2012/13 (up until February 2013)
Chicken Pox	368	84
Diphtheria & Tetanus - adult	85	49
Diphtheria, Tetanus & Pertussis (Boostrix - adult)	561	150
Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis acellular, Hep B, Hib & Polio (Hexa – childhood)	83	58
Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis and Polio (Infanrix IPV- childhood)	102	38
Haemophilla	63	22
Hepatitis A (Child)	11	1
Hepatitis A (Adult)	24	12
Hepatitis B (Paediatric)	52	15
Hepatitis B (Adult)	978	860
Hepatitis A & B (Child)	0	0
Hepatitis A & B (Adult)	71	20
Human Papilloma Virus (Gardasil)	705	663
Influenza	1375	869
Measles, Mumps & Rubella	241	119
Meningococcal C	86	45
Pneumococcal (Pneumovax)	1	0
Pneumococcal (Prevenar - childhood)	137	51
Poliomyelitis	136	79
Rotavirus	72	38
TOTAL	5,151	3,173

HOME BASED THERAPEUTIC WASTE PROGRAM

The program that was introduced in 2004 provides the community of Mount Gambier with the opportunity to dispose of sharps in a responsible manner. With the ever increasing impact of chronic illness such as diabetes in the community and the home

management of these conditions comes the need for a domestic sharps disposal program. Businesses and individuals are given advice about disposing of sharps responsibly and are able to obtain sharps containers from Council. A fibre board sharps container has been introduced to reduce cost for the user and plastic waste in our environment.

Council arranges for the disposal of the sharps containers, so that they do not end up in general waste. Council has had 349 people register for this program since it began in 2004 and the interest is still strong, with 91 sharps containers purchased over the past twelve months.

Environment Statement

Planning Division

LOCAL HERITAGE DEVELOPMENT PLAN AMENDMENT

Council has completed a review of the 1994 City of Mount Gambier Heritage Survey. Council has now commenced a Local Heritage Development Plan Amendment to incorporate the recommendation of the Heritage Survey into the Development Plan.

Council has appointed Jensen Planning, as the project consultants, who are now preparing the draft DPA on behalf of Council.

URBAN BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT DEVELOPMENT PLAN AMENDMENT

The boundary adjustment process between the District Council of Grant and the City of Mount Gambier was completed by 1st July, 2010. The City of Mount Gambier is currently undertaking a Development Plan Amendment to:

- review the zoning and policies of all of the land to be transferred from the District Council of Grant to the City of Mount Gambier;
- consider and provide policies to implement the vision for the future direction of growth and development of the City of Mount Gambier;

- consider and develop policies to implement the recommendations as contained within the Greater Mount Gambier Master Plan February, 2008;
- adopt 'best planning practice' to promote current trends.
- adopt the format of the modules as contained within the Better Development Plan project; and
- review and update the envisaged forms of development within the Light Industry Zone;

Council is keen to complete this Development Plan Amendment at the earliest opportunity.

GATEWAY PRECINCTS DEVELOPMENT PLAN AMENDMENT

The need for the Gateway Precincts DPA has evolved from the Greater Mount Gambier Master Plan (GMGMP) which was adopted on 28 February 2008. The GMGMP defined three 'gateway precincts' through which the majority of visitors enter Mount Gambier at the northern, western and eastern approaches. Based on the premise that creating a clear sense of 'arrival' strengthens the character of cities, the GMGMP recommended that detailed design frameworks be developed to enhance the visual amenity for visitors entering the City along the gateways.

The City of Mount Gambier is currently undertaking a Development Plan Amendment to:

- introducing new urban design principles relating to the Gateway Precincts in the Council-wide section;
- rezoning sections of the Deferred Urban (Northern Gateway) to the existing Rural Living Zone and to a new Commercial Zone;
- rezoning the primary industry land within the Western Gateway Precinct to a Rural Living Zone;
- amendments to the existing Rural Living Zone to introduce gateway principles;
- introduction of a new Commercial Zone; and
- introduction of a landscaping schedule for the Gateway Precincts.



Environment Statement

Building Division

Within a changing legislative arena Council's Building Division has continued to deliver its core range of services including;

- Building rules certification of proposed development;
- Onsite audit based inspection of construction activities;
- Approval of occupation of commercial premises;
- Project management of Council building construction works;
- Council building asset management activities;
- Maintenance of Asbestos and Essential Safety Provisions registers; and

- Contribution to Council's Building Fire Safety Committee.

These duties are carried out under a series of regulations and statutory instruments adopted under the Development Act 1993 including principally the National Construction Code (previously Building Code of Australia). The 2012/2013 year has seen the adoption of a series of legislative amendments affecting most layers of the Building Division's legislative framework including the implementation of the Development (Roof Truss) Variation Regulations 2012 which has resulted in major changes throughout the industry which the Building Division continues to work with.

A series of additional legislative amendments are forecast for the 2013/2014 year which will again affect the operation of this division including the proposed changes regarding swimming pools, the building surveying accreditation framework and further technical amendments to the National Construction Code.

Council's building division has, throughout 2012/2013 recorded statistics regarding the progression and state of the local construction industry as presented below;

	2010/2011	2011/2012	2012/2013
Estimated Expenditure	\$43,656,453	\$93,180,204	\$31,961,666
Dwellings	104	104	75
Dwelling additions	31	25	29
Outbuildings	209	195	162
Commercial	25	40	46
Industrial	11	11	10
Signage	16	11	12
Wastewater	0	0	0
Other	76	58	43
TOTAL	472	444	377



Environment Statement

Heritage Committee

The City of Mount Gambier Heritage Committee was established in 1991. The City of Mount Gambier Heritage Committee has an important role in advising Council on the development of policies to conserve and promote natural, built, cultural and indigenous heritage within the City of Mount Gambier. The City of Mount Gambier Heritage Committee has played an important role in a number of heritage related projects over the past twelve months.

The following projects are examples of achievements, in which the City of Mount Gambier Heritage Committee has been involved in:

- Heritage education and distribution of information to the public

- Advice to Council regarding appropriate Heritage Bollards/ Walks
- Local Heritage Restoration Fund

The following are examples of projects, in which the City of Mount Gambier Heritage Committee may be involved with in the future:

- Applications for grants for heritage related projects
- Promotion of built and environmental heritage as a tourism asset
- Future stages of the Heritage Bollard/ Walk (significant localities)

The current members of the City of Mount Gambier Heritage Committee are:

- Mr Stephen Dunn
- Mrs Lynn Lowe
- Mr Fred Aslin
- Mr Robert Miles
- Cr Biddie Shearing
- Mr Richard Woods (South East Heritage Advisor)
- Mr Simon Wiseman - Secretary (Senior Planner - City of Mount Gambier)

Council continues to acknowledge the importance of 'heritage' to the City of Mount Gambier.

Local Heritage Restoration Fund

In 2012/13 Council allocated \$13,500 as part of the 2012 Local Heritage Restoration Fund to nine (9) owners of Local Heritage Places within the City on the recommendation of Council's Heritage Committee.

The Local Heritage Restoration Fund was established by the City of Mount Gambier to assist owners of Local Heritage listed places to undertake conservation work such as painting, repairs, extensions, re-roofing of their buildings. The grants offered as part of the Local Heritage Restoration Fund are normally available each financial year, with all owners of Local Heritage buildings being formally advised as to when they can apply for possible funding as part of the program.

The successful applicants are able to seek their approved grant from Council upon completion of the work.

At the previous request of the Heritage Committee, Council increased the value of the grant to a maximum of \$2,000 in certain circumstances to be able to provide better assistance to the owners of Local Heritage listed properties to undertake more urgent and significant maintenance projects on their properties.

2012/13 is the eleventh year that Council has offered grants as part of the Local Heritage Restoration Fund, with the majority of the money available being shared amongst nine (9) applicants. This year Council's Heritage Committee, which considers all of the applications, had a strong field of applicants making for difficult choices. All the applicants that showed a proposed conservation of their Local heritage property were offered funding, which is a reflection of how important the conservation of the City's heritage is considered by Council.

Environment Statement

Strategic Bushfire Prevention Plan

The aim of the Strategic Bushfire Prevention Plan is:

- As far as practical prevent bushfires starting in or entering the City of Mount Gambier
- To protect life and reduce the impact of bushfires on land and properties throughout the City of Mount Gambier

- To provide community protection from bushfire whilst ensuring the proper land management principles are taken into account
- To educate the community in bushfire prevention
- The plan is regularly reviewed and Council consults regularly with the Metropolitan Fire Service on fire related issues

The plan identifies works that Council should undertake to minimise risk of bushfire in the Council area.

Blue Lake Management Committee

Council has continued its long association with the Blue Lake Management Committee. Councillor Byron Harfield, as well as Daryl Sexton, Director - Operational Services, represented Council on the Committee during the past year. This Committee is now a formal Committee of the South East Natural Resource

Management Board and brings together a wide range of agencies that collectively work very hard to offer advice and guidance to the community and regulatory organisations on appropriate measures to protect and enhance the Blue Lake. The new Blue Lake Management Plan is still being prepared.

Stormwater Management

Stormwater management is an area council allocated approximately \$120,000 towards which is primarily aimed at improving stormwater infrastructure to reduce flooding.

The following projects were completed this financial year as part of this project:

- Coolabah St drainage bore and pits
- Penola Rd – Murndal Crt basin fencing and stormwater improvement works
- Newsham Ave – Pearce Cres bore and pits
- Telford St drainage bore re drilling
- Woodlands Dr basin fencing and stormwater improvement works

Environment Statement

Waste Management

KERBSIDE RECYCLING

Kerbside recycling is a well utilised service and the recycling effort by the community has been sustained. Council encourages everyone to use the blue bin to its fullest potential.

Council is currently developing stickers to go on all bin lids to assist residents maximise their recycling effort.

Businesses are encouraged to ensure recycling becomes part of their core business.

ORGANIC RECYCLING

Organic recycling, although a voluntary, user pay service, continues to expand with more residents taking up this service each year. This is an excellent outcome as every kilogram of material in the organic/greenwaste bin is used in the production of gardening supplies (Van Schaiks Bio Gro) and is one less kilogram going to landfill.

Organics in landfills are major producers of greenhouse gases and leachate.

Items that can be put out for organic recycling include:

- Vegetable peelings
- Fruit peelings and stones
- Meat scraps, fat and all bones
- All cooked food leftovers
- Tea bags and coffee grindings
- Solidified cooking oil

Items that cannot be put in the organic/greenwaste bin include:

- Plastic bags
- Cans and metals
- Cardboard packaging
- Foil/biscuit containers etc
- Any inorganic material
- Newspaper (unless used to wrap food scraps)

There is significant potential for the community to increase the usage of the organic recycling service.

EWASTE RECYCLING

Ewaste recycling has been embraced by the community. Any item that has batteries or an electrical cord should now be recycled. Council seeks to raise revenue through the gate fees that equal the cost of transportation and the recycling charges of the recycling company that receives the ewaste.

The introduction of a free dump off service for televisions, computer screens etc. has proven to be extremely successful.

WASTE OIL

Waste oil in the home is also a problem and Council has a free recycling service at the Waste Transfer Centre on Eucalypt Drive. Residents only have to take the waste oil to the Centre and tip it in the recycling container. Plastic oil bottles are also recyclable. Waste oil does NOT include kitchen cooking oils or the like, or petrol products.

Opening hours for the Waste Transfer Centre are as follows:

Mon-Fri - 7.30am to 12 noon
Sat-Sun - 2pm to 5pm



Environment Statement

Graffiti Removal

Timely removal of graffiti is a high priority for Council. Bedford Gambier Contracts provide a rapid response to graffiti removal on Council's behalf and have developed significant expertise in dealing with graffiti found on a variety of surfaces.

Every effort is made to ensure the graffiti is removed in a timely manner.

Crater Lakes

The City of Mount Gambier has the care, control and management role for the Crater Lakes complex (excluding the Blue Lake). This complex is of regional, state and national significance and is a major tourist attraction for the region.

Council continued with its program to remove pest 'woody' plants, namely invasive Pine and Olive trees.

The Blue Lake is an internationally recognised icon and also the water supply for the residents of the City. Council is an active participant in the Blue Lake Management Committee (a formal subcommittee of the South East Natural Resources Management Board). The community needs to be forever vigilant to ensure the Blue Lake water quality is not compromised in any way by human activity.

Work on the redevelopment of the Valley Lake Conservation Park (formerly known as the Wildlife Park) has continued and Council extends its thanks and appreciation to the volunteers that are lending their time and substantial experience to this project, including Rotary Club of Mount Gambier Lakes, Drew Laslett, Peter Feast and Troy Horn of ForestrySA who prepared a very comprehensive Management Plan for the Park. This list does not recognise all the individual and/or corporate inputs but many thanks to all involved.

The construction of the new entry is very visual and complements all the excellent works completed to date.

The Crater Lakes continues to be very well patronised and enjoyed by locals and tourists alike. The expansion of the Valley Lake playground has been very well received.



Environment Statement

Dog and Cat Management Plan 2013-2018

Council is required by law to implement the provisions of the Dog and Cat Management Act. The Act requires Council to regulate dogs (in accordance with the Act) and at present, Council has the option to regulate cats. To date Council has not resolved to regulate cats. The Dog and Cat Management Plan 2013-2018 was adopted by the City of Mount Gambier on the 18th December 2012.

Dog owners are required to ensure that their dogs are registered with Council once they reach the age of three months.

Council's Dog and Cat Management Plan has established a number of areas (known as "off leash" areas) where residents can let their dogs off the leash for healthy exercise.

These 'off leash' areas are:

- Hastings Cunningham Reserve
- Corriedale Park
- Don McDonnell Reserve
- Blue Lake Sports Park
- Northumberland Avenue
- Frew Park

In all other areas of the City, dogs in public places must be on a leash.

Council encourages all dog owners to act responsibly and ensure their pet is not allowed to wander at large or cause a nuisance to neighbours.

Dogs typically get scared during storms and dog owners should make arrangements to secure their pets when storms are predicted.

GENERAL INSPECTORIAL INCLUDING DOG CONTROL

The following statistics are provided in respect of the Division of Inspectorial and Dog Control for the 2012/2013 year.

Dog expiations	110
Dog complaints	825
Dog impoundments	160
Dog attack report	4
Parking offences	544
Pest Plant notices (long grass & noxious)	286
Fire permits	37
Cattle impoundments (sheep and cows)	3
Vehicle impoundments	0
Dog Registrations	4,818
Payment to SEAWL (Council's pound)	\$19,000
Dog expiation income	\$13,389
Dog registration fees	\$107,348





Community Statement



Community, Services, Lifestyle, Welfare and Well Being	91
Call Centre	92
OPAL	93
YPN - Your Professional Network	94
Crime Prevention Strategies	95
Youth Advisory Group	95
Junior Sports Assistance Fund	96
Community Engagement & Social Inclusion	97
Australia Day Awards 2013	98
Australian Citizenship	98
Clean Up Australia Day	99
Family Fun Day 2013	99
The Every Generation Festival - Celebrating Our Seniors	100

Mayor's Christmas Appeal	100
Mount Gambier Christmas Parade 2012	101
The Main Corner	102
Mount Gambier Library	105
Community Profile	107

Community Statement

Community, Services, Lifestyle, Welfare and Well Being

Council provides many direct and indirect services and support to its community and in particular, to the health, welfare, lifestyle and well being of its citizens.

In addition to other contributions that may be referenced in this Annual Report, Council provided the following direct financial support for 2012/13:

Care Ring Telephone Service (Lifeline SE)	\$2,000
Crime Prevention initiatives (Security Foot Patrols, CCTV Cameras, Graffiti Control, Lighting)	\$45,696
General Community Donations	\$18,173
Immunisations (Net Cost)	\$78,809
Lambert Village - supported residential facility (for capital improvements)	\$5,000
Life Education Centre	\$5,000
Senior Citizens' Centre (maintenance to building/other expenses)	\$6,003
Seniors' Month/Seniors Activities	\$492
Syringe Disposal Service	\$1,364
Youth Advisory Committee and projects	\$5,785
Reidy Park Centre	\$8,507
Mount Gambier City Band	\$6,000
Mount Gambier Toy Library	\$2,000
Main Corner Complex (incorporating City Hall and Institute) – subsidised hire charges to community groups (discounted value)	\$88,074
Wehl Street Theatre (Centrestage)	\$22,780
Old Gaol Community Garden	\$1,331
Community Events Support	\$26,473
Naidoc Week	\$1,000
Heritage Restoration Fund	\$13,500
Mount Gambier Christmas Parade	\$35,502
Obesity Prevention and Lifestyle (OPAL)(Net Cost)	\$53,886
Citizenship Ceremonies	\$7,703
Mayoral Gala Performance	\$5,764
Mayoress' Family Fun Day (Net Cost)	\$24,516
Mount Gambier A & H Society	\$6,150
Anzac Remembrance Appeal	\$1,500
Stand Like Stone Foundation	\$8,000
The Junction	\$1,000
Rotary Club of Mount Gambier - Careers Expo	\$1,500
Mount Gambier Chamber of Commerce Business Awards	\$1,000
Migrant Resource Centre - Attendance at Camp Coorong	\$750
Christmas Decorations - Purchase/Display Costs	\$28,735

Community Statement

Community, Services, Lifestyle, Welfare and Well Being

Tertiary Education grants	\$24,000
New Years Eve Celebrations (Mount Gambier Community Events)	\$10,000
Party in the Park (Rotary Mount Gambier West)	\$1,000
Blue Lake Fun Run (Rotary Mount Gambier)	\$5,000
Eisteddfods (Backstage Inc.)	\$5,000
	\$558,990

(Some incomes and/or grants may have been received to offset the costs of some of the above initiatives.)

Call Centre

Council has an out of hours call service to ensure that customers are assured of personal contact on a 24/7 basis. Call centre services are provided by Well Done International and the service provides a wide scope of information to out of hours callers.

Emergencies are referred directly to key personnel. Common out of hours calls include:

- Activated alarms on Council property
- Burning off
- Dog Issues
- Waste Management information

- Rates information

- Flooding

- Traffic/parking issues

The following statistics provide a brief overview of the call centre operation over the past four financial years:

	TOTAL NUMBER OF CALLS 2009/10	TOTAL NUMBER OF CALLS 2010/11	TOTAL NUMBER OF CALLS 2011/12	TOTAL NUMBER OF CALLS 2012/13
July	82	65	67	117
August	101	100	83	78
September	114	131	43	102
October	141	111	no call centre in operation	107
November	170	109	no call centre in operation	123
December	225	262	no call centre in operation	173
January	115	170	no call centre in operation	119
February	128	113	119	106
March	127	77	103	144
April	115	106	101	131
May	85	59	86	118
June	72	116	76	88
Total Calls	1,475	1,419	678	1,406

Community Statement

OPAL

OPAL (Obesity Prevention and Lifestyle) was officially launched by the Minister for Health, John Hill, in September 2009. It is a joint partnership between the Federal, State and Local Government with initial funding for five (5) years.

Mount Gambier is now one of 20 Council sites to be involved in the initiative. The overall aim of OPAL is to improve the eating and activity patterns in children through a whole of community approach. This is achieved by empowering the community to take responsibility for their own health and wellbeing. This may take shape through significant lifestyle change.

OPAL Mount Gambier has now been part of 5 Themes – Water the original cool drink, Give the Screen a rest active Play is best, Make it a fresh snack, Think Feet First and the current theme Healthy Breakfast. The themes help the community to focus on a specific behaviour change with a consistent health message.

This is a significant investment for the City of Mount Gambier who have funded the initiative along with both Federal and State governments. Through OPAL, numerous projects, programs and events have taken place in the community with positive impacts not just for the 0 to 18 year old target group but into the wider community. OPAL works with interested partners who provide strong contributions and support for the wellbeing of the community. Understanding the importance of a vital, socially connected, inclusive and caring community has enabled OPAL and City of Mount Gambier to ensure residents are offered easy choices and opportunities to eat well and be active in a variety of settings.

OPAL's latest Projects, Programmes and events include:

The Launch and implementation of the Healthy breakfast programme. This theme has created awareness and buy in from all Mount Gambier Primary schools and early child education sites. All Kindergarten and early primary students have been able to participate in a 'Healthy Brekky' educational performance supported by OPAL. Ongoing interest from schools has inspired 'Healthy Breakfast' events, presentations and the ongoing support for OPAL to become part of wellbeing practice within education settings.

Successful partnerships within business and community as well as government and non government agencies has led to some exciting short and long term projects. All influenced and supported by OPAL themes and goals.

Plant Your Own Fresh Snack (Working with Housing SA Tenants) continues to grow in participation and outcomes. OPAL and the City of Mount Gambier work with Housing SA and other key agencies to deliver opportunities for families to have success growing their own fruit and vegetables with the assistance of trained volunteer mentors.

Active travel continues to be promoted, encouraging all school age children to walk, cycle or scoot

to school. City of Mount Gambier is a member of the Walk 21 Charter

This means the City of Mount Gambier 'recognise the benefits of walking as a key indicator of healthy, efficient, socially inclusive and sustainable communities and acknowledges the universal rights of people to be able to walk safely and to enjoy high quality public spaces anywhere and at anytime. City of Mount Gambier are committed to reducing the physical, social and institutional barriers that limit walking activity. City of Mount Gambier will work with others to help create a culture where people choose to walk through our commitment to this charter and its strategic principles'.

OPAL and the City of Mount Gambier continue to support the Blue Lake Fun Run. The successful annual event is now organised and run by the Rotary Lakes of Mount Gambier. This sustainable outcome not only benefits the community, providing an event that is recognised for promoting social, emotional and physical wellbeing but also providing an opportunity for one of our valued service clubs to raise much needed funds to promote and assist with wellbeing in the community.

Eating well and being active is well supported within the Mount Gambier community through OPAL and the City of Mount Gambier.



Community Statement

YPN – Your Professional Network

Your Professional Network (YPN) is Mount Gambier's social and professional support network, established to provide a platform for like-minded professionals. YPN facilitates constructive inter-professional networking in both formal and social settings. The network supports new professionals to integrate into our community, particularly those who have either relocated for employment/career purposes, or are returning to the district, and who feel they have few personal or professional connections to tap into.

YPN focuses on a number of areas;

- Supporting new people settling in Mount Gambier;
- Assisting people (new and local) who would like to progress their careers;
- Assisting people who are establishing or looking to grow their business;
- Identifying established professionals or business owners willing to assume a mentor role.
- Linking people through social networking and professional development opportunities.

In 2012/13 YPN co-ordinated a number of social meet and mingle events at The Main Corner, with the Chamber of Commerce and other partners working behind the scenes. Always well attended, these events also showcased the quality of Mount Gambier's local music industry, and provided an informal opportunity for people to step out and get to know other professionals new to town.



Community Statement

Crime Prevention Strategies

Council supports a number of crime prevention/anti-social measures including:

MOUNT GAMBIER LICENSING ACCORD

A regular forum involving SAPOL, Office of Liquor and Gaming, Hotel/Club Licensees, Council, and other key stakeholders.

MOUNT GAMBIER DRY AREAS

Council maintains five (5) Dry Areas within the City of Mount Gambier which are subject to a five year approval period from the State Government.

The proclaimed Dry Areas are:

- Mount Gambier City Centre
- Vansittart Park (Oval and Surrounding Areas)
- AF Sutton Memorial Park
- Dimjalla Park

The current five (5) year approval for each of these existing Dry Areas will expire on 7 November, 2017.

CCTV SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS

Council, in partnership with SAPOL, has installed cameras in various strategic locations within the City Centre.

The cameras, monitored by SAPOL from the Mount Gambier Police Station, have proved to be an effective initiative.

UNDER VERANDAH LIGHTING

With the assistance and co-operation of property owners in the City Centre area, a program of installing additional lighting under verandah's has assisted in the prevention of anti-social behaviour, particularly in Commercial Street area.

SECURITY FOOT PATROLS

Is an initiative of the Licensed Accord Group and operates on Thursday evenings and on each weekend.

The security contractor provides detailed reports on observations and activities within the patrolled area and assist with the policing of the area.

Costs for the service are shared between Council and some Licensed Premises.

Youth Advisory Group

The Mount Gambier City Youth Advisory Group (YAG) is made up of people aged 12 – 25 years, who meet monthly to plan events, discuss and consult on youth needs issues and concerns. The YAG aims to promote a positive image of young people, through interaction with Council as a 'youth voice' and through the design and facilitation of relevant, contemporary and diverse activities, events and forums.

During the year YAG members participated in raising funds for

local service providers for the Mayor's Christmas Appeal at the Mount Gambier Christmas Parade. They also actively volunteered on the Mayoress' Family Fun Day and Clean Up Australia Day and supported fund raising activities that support youth at risk through the Whitelion Bail Out.

Our YAG designed a Youth Week Program full of diverse activities to appeal to young people across the youth age span as well as school holiday programs. They also went all out to rock the library in our

first ever "Loud At The Library" and astounded people in the park with their grooves at their first "silent disco".

Mount Gambier City Youth Advisory Group represented the views and opinions of young people both locally and at a state level this year, speaking publicly at a Multicultural forum locally and at a state level through the Youth Parliament.

Community Statement

Junior Sports Assistance Fund

Membership of the Junior Sports Assistance Fund is comprised of the City of Mount Gambier and the District Council of Grant and a number of specific sporting organisations who have agreed to become financial members.

The Fund provides financial support for those junior sports persons who have achieved State selection or better in a specific sport. The financial transactions and financial position of the Fund for 2012/13 was as follows:-

	\$
Assistance to Juniors	34,150
Support for special Coaching Clinics	6,000
Assistance to Disadvantaged Juniors	1,690
Members' Contributions	9,161
Councils' Contributions	14,000
Bank Interest earned	281
Donations received	3,800
Sponsorship of Programs received	6,690
Other Expenses	-
Government and Bank Charges	46
Cash at Bank, 30th June 2013	43,732

For the Twenty Eight (28) years of the Fund's operations, the consolidated transactions to 30th June 2013 are as follows:-

	\$
Assistance to Juniors	370,100
Support for special Coaching Clinics	60,953
Specific Purpose Programs	1,690
Members' Contributions	122,727
Councils' Contributions	245,500
Bank Interest earned	65,573
Donations received	37,595
Sponsorship of Coaching Clinics	5,000
Other Expenses	300
Government and Bank Charges	1,310
Cash at Bank, 30th June 2013	43,732

It is to be noted that payments from the Fund for assistance to juniors did not commence until July 1988, funding for coaching clinics did not commence until July 1991 and funding for disadvantaged juniors did not commence until July 2012.

The major considerations and/or achievements for the review year included:-

- 22 sporting organisations/clubs are members of the Fund;
- Commercial Club Inc again provided a very generous \$2,500 donation to the Fund (2012);
- A major review of finances (i.e. increase income and reduce expenditure) will again be the focus of the 2013 Annual Meeting.
- New members admitted were:- Mount Gambier Cycling and Triathlon Club and the Mount Gambier Showjumping Club
- Members resigned / suspended were:- Nil
- The new funding formula is based on contributions from the Fund to Member organisations and not on the number of juniors a member organisation has i.e. the more an organisation receives from the Fund the more an organisation will need to contribute.
- The Mount Gambier and District Bendigo Community Bank has generously agreed to sponsor for two years (2013 and 2014) the Funds Annual Coaching Clinic Program to a maximum of \$5,000 per year.
- The Rotary Club of Mount Gambier Lakes approached the Fund to administer a program to support/assist financially disadvantaged juniors of our Member Organisations. The funding is up to \$3,000 and is part of the surplus from the 2012 Blue Lake Fun Run.

Community Statement

Community Engagement & Social Inclusion

The Community Engagement and Social Inclusion Sub-Committee has been established to support Council's current and future community engagement activities and to:

- review Council's current community engagement and social inclusion practices and policies
- investigate relevant practices in other Councils
- develop a community engagement and social inclusion strategy
- reflect community needs, strengths and aspirations
- embed engagement and social inclusion practices in Council's operations

Council has formed a dedicated Community Engagement & Social Inclusion sub committee comprising:

- Cr Penny Richardson
- Cr Hanna Persello
- Cr Biddie Shearing
- Rob Foggo (community)
- John Amoroso (community)
- Callena Rawlings (community)

Engaging effectively with constituents is not a new challenge but it is one that this Council is making efforts to do better. In July, 2012 Council introduced an online engagement platform "Have Your Say" on our website that has enhanced the way it goes about engaging with the community, in an effort to make it easier and more convenient for people to tell Council what their views are on a range of topics.

Communicating effectively with our community is one of the most important tasks of Council and individual Councillors. Often when we ask our community to share their thoughts and provide feedback on issues the level of response is very low. So low in fact

that it makes it very difficult for the council to gauge a broad, collective view on issues that the council needs to make a decision on. When Council goes to the community on an issue and low numbers of people respond it is easy for a small 'interest group' to influence the outcome of a decision in a way that does not reflect the broad public feeling.

Using web-based methods in an effort to get around many barriers that our residents site as preventing them from taking part in traditional consultation processes. By strengthening our online presence we hope to breakdown some of the barriers that presently exist and in doing so hear from a broader range of demographic groups; and hope that this will see larger numbers of people communicating with Council. Online community engagement allows individuals the flexibility of choosing when, where, for how long and how often they would like to engage with Council; overcoming barriers such as lack of time, location, work commitments and a range of other tasks, that get in the way of people physically attending a meeting or information session. It is a method that will continue to grow in use and will be an important tool for Council into the future.

Changes like the examples Council has recently put in place show its commitment to provide information to the community and hear

feedback in ways that are more convenient and accessible in order to better engage. By participating and giving your feedback you will be helping to paint the picture for Council through informed feedback that can be used in our decision making processes.

On 19th March 2013 Council adopted the City of Mount Gambier Social Inclusion Charter developed by the Community Engagement & Social Inclusion sub committee that pledges:

The City of Mount Gambier is committed to social inclusion to building a community that is socially, culturally, politically and economically cohesive; where all citizens feel valued and their differences respected, and where everyone has the opportunity to participate fully in the life of the City.

Council's commitment to listen and respond to the concerns and ideas of the broad spectrum of people in our community is an open invitation to participate in your community's future. Council hopes to see growing numbers of people taking part in these information, consultation and discussion opportunities now and into the future. Through effective communication and engagement with Council, you are demonstrating your community spirit and enabling our City to grow and mature as the most liveable City in Australia 'Beyond 2015'.



Community Statement

Australia Day Awards 2013

Each year the Australia Day awards honour the outstanding achievement of individuals and groups within our community. On 26th January 2013, Council presented its Australia Day Awards to:

- Citizen of the Year – John Sandercock – for services to Mount Gambier Rotary Club Lakes, Royal Flying Doctor Service and Regional Foodbank.
- Michael Armour – initiating and forming a Regional Hockey Academy in partnership with Hockey SA. Also initiating and forming a Junior Hockey Development program.
- Young Citizen – not awarded
- Community Event – 2012 Subaru National BMX Championships

A special thank you to Mount Gambier Rotary Lakes volunteering to cook the breakfast for the public to enjoy.

Also a thank you to those who donated their time entertaining the crowd in the lead up to the Australia Day Ceremony.

Australian Citizenship

During the 2012/13 financial year, seven (7) Citizenship Ceremonies were conducted, at which a total of fifty five (55) people received Australian Citizenship.

We have welcomed new residents to the City from Fiji, India, Myanmar, People's Republic of China, The Phillipines, Republic of Burundi, Republic of South Africa, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom and the United States of America.

Senator Alex Gallacher and Officers from the Department of Immigration and Citizenship were able to attend the ceremony held in December.

At each Public Ceremony, Members of Soroptimist International of Mount Gambier presented a gift to each of our newest citizens.



Community Statement

Clean Up Australia Day

The 2013 Clean Up Australia Day event held on Sunday 3 March involved approximately 500 volunteers and 14 registered community sites collecting approximately 84 bags of rubbish. Volunteers ranged from toddlers to grandparents, families, individuals, community groups and school groups. The marshalling and registration area at the Civic Centre was well attended by 55 volunteers during the morning.

New this year was the students from St Martins Lutheran College collecting rubbish from Frew Park, Lady Nelson and on the roadsides and parklands as they walked back to their school, expanding the School Clean Up Day efforts for the community.

The entire student body from Mil-Lel Primary School again bussed into the City, armed with bags, tongs and gloves and made quick work of tidying up the railway lands for the annual event.

Most schools within the City registered online this year and participated in cleaning up their local environment and surrounding areas. Site supervisors handed out bags for litter collection with recyclables being separated to avoid being put back into landfill.

Key areas targeted during the Sunday morning community clean up were the Valley Lake, Blue Lake, Olympic Park precinct, Lake Terrace East and Eucalypt Drive, Wireless Road East and Gladigau Road, Grant Avenue, Skate Parks, Potters Point, Lady Nelson and Frew Park areas and the CBD, including the Cave Garden.

In addition some individual groups nominated their street and cleaned up their immediate neighbourhoods. Some groups and neighbours nominated the Saturday to clean up as Sunday clashed with prior commitments. Many families participated and used the event to educate their children on the importance of the environment and community responsibility.

The City of Mount Gambier engaged the Rotary Club of Mount Gambier Lakes to provide a sausage sizzle for participating volunteers. It was a great opportunity for volunteers of all ages to be acknowledged by Council for their community and environmental care.

Family Fun Day

The 2013 event on Sunday 7th of April, was the 10th successful Fun Day at held at Frew Park. The weather was superb, which resulted in 2500 children attending, from ages 2 years to 16 years.

The Family Fun Day enables children from all socioeconomic groups to participate in an event that is all inclusive at no cost. Entry fees and ride charges might otherwise deter marginalised groups.

As usual, the Family Fun Day Committee is indebted to the Service Clubs, Church Groups, Sporting and Dance Organisations, local businesses and other organisations, plus numerous individuals. They all give up their valuable time to provide assistance with raising and dismantling tents, putting up banners, supervising long queues of children and providing food for the crowd.

The Craft Station, Girl Guides “decorate a biscuit,” play dough activities, Police Blue Light display, MFS Fire Engines, David Miles Snake Pit, Native Wild Life Display and Early Childhood Development Unit’s “Eat a Rainbow” were provided free by their respective organisations and were all popular with young children.

Community Statement

The Every Generation Festival - Celebrating Our Seniors

In 2012 The City of Mount Gambier hosted the State wide Country launch of the Every Generation Festival. The Launch saw the Mount Gambier City Band play, and incorporated a Senior's Expo at the Main Corner featuring over 20 stalls.

Council assists the Every Generation Festival to celebrate the active contribution people over 50 make in our community. We have an active advisory group made up of representatives from different clubs, agencies and groups whose active seniors

organise events and activities to aid celebrations throughout October each year. Council work alongside this group offering administrative and financial support, to ensure a wide range of community members can take advantage of Every Generation Festival program.

As with many community events, it is through the added support of local businesses, service clubs and organisations that the Every Generation Festival is able to provide such a diverse program of events year after year.

Each year in conjunction with the Lions Club of Gambier City, and the Lions Club of Mount Gambier, the advisory group awards the Senior of the Year and the Recreation Award. Both these awards recognise individuals on their achievements and service to older people within the community. In 2012 Beth Serle was named Senior of the Year, and the Recreation Award went to St Paul's Chat and Craft.

Mayor's Christmas Appeal

Every year Mount Gambier's community generously provide financial donations and gifts for a group of not for profit agencies who support families and individuals in need at Christmas time. The Mayor's Christmas Appeal is a successful collaboration between The City of Mount Gambier and Lifeline SA, AC Care, St Vincent De Paul, Uniting Care, the Salvation Army, Families SA and our wider community.

In 2012 over \$29,000 was distributed to agencies assisting over 1400 individuals, these being;

- 553 children under the age of 13
- 134 young people
- 714 adults.

In total 532 families received direct support to assist them to celebrate Christmas through the direct contributions from the Mayor's Christmas Appeal.

The City of Mount Gambier wish to thank everyone who supported this initiative, through either their volunteer efforts or their financial contributions. The success of this appeal is a direct reflection of the strong community spirit of our City's residents.



Community Statement

Mount Gambier Christmas Parade 2012

The Mount Gambier Christmas Parade has delighted the people of Mount Gambier and District each year, heralding the arrival of Father Christmas and the Festive Season to the City.

The parade involves a wide variety of local participants from service clubs, schools, families and individuals who all work together to bring a unique, and high quality family event to the community.

The Christmas Parade had a new float last year called “The Teddy Bear’s Picnic”, developed by Peter Mounsey, our Christmas Parade Development Advisor. The float delighted young and old alike as it made its way along the Parade route. We also had the honour of hosting the original maker of this, and many other floats from Adelaide’s famous Christmas Pageant .

For the first time we had the Youth Advisory Group join with the Mayor’s Christmas Appeal Star Float, with the YAG clowns encouraging the public to donate towards the Mayor’s Christmas Appeal

Each year the Blue Lake Brass Band Festival combines with the Christmas Parade, with local and visiting marching bands performing much loved Christmas Carols along the length of the Parade route. Through the efforts of the Lions Club, there were 9 brass bands from across Victoria and South Australia competing in a street march before the Parade and afterwards with a concert and competition in the Sir Robert Helpmann Theatre with major prizes on offer.

WIN Television provided the following awards for the 2012 Parade winners:

- Most Outstanding – “Christmas around the World Peace on Earth” by Tenison Woods College Community
- Best Christmas Theme – “Boandik Lodge Christmas” by Boandik Lodge Lake Terrace St
- Best School Entry – “Ocean Blues” by Compton Primary School

- Best Club or Community Organisation – “An Ardlair Celebration” by Adrlair School of Dancing
- Best Out of Town – “Otto the Octopus” by 2013 Bayside Festival Committee
- Best Musical – “Christmas in the Caribbean” by Mount Gambier High School
- Best Brass Band – Maryborough City Brass Band
- Best Individual – “Click Goes the Shears” by David Hill & Maureen Opperman
- Encouragement Award – “Fred Flintstone Car and Friends” by the Bedrock Kids



Community Statement

The Main Corner

In its first complete year of operation The Main Corner has proven itself to be the cultural and conference 'hub' of Mount Gambier, embracing sophisticated technology with a strong sense of history and geology, and providing unique and diverse venues for community organisations, agencies and the general public to meet and share information and celebrations.

VOLCANO & CRAITBUL

In July 2012 the permanent Venue Coordinator, Talie Teakle, was appointed and her first weekend consisted of the grand opening of VOLCANO, the highly anticipated Council funded documentary showcasing the creation of Mount Gambier and the volcanic activity that created our crater city, and utilising the latest in scientific research and computer graphics. The screenings were held for Members, Media and invited VIP guests before opening to the general public, and over 500 people viewed the film on that first weekend.

Since then Volcano continues to be a highlight of visiting The Main Corner, with schools throughout the Limestone Coast embracing the opportunity to teach their students about our volcanic history. Some schools from as far as Mount Burr, have included a visit to The Main Corner as part of school camp itineraries, and will often include a guided tour of the King's Floor displays as well. Even kindergarten classes utilise the Main Corner and will often request a shorter screening of Craitbul, the Dreamtime telling of the how the craters in Mount Gambier were formed.

These free screenings are also popular with tourists and we have a guest book in the Foyer filled with positive feedback from visitors from as far abroad as Denmark and France, all expressing the world-class nature of the film and facilities.

SCIWORLD

Sciworld and Questacon converged on The Main Corner in early August, utilising every single venue in the complex from City Hall, The Institute and The Main Corner. This free family friendly event attracted over 3000 people, with 105 people through the main entrance in the first five minutes of opening. It attracted positive media from WinTV and The Border Watch, running articles and social photos. The response from reader feedback came from as far abroad as Port Noarlunga, who congratulated the Council for having "the vision to bring this fantastic upgrade to one of your favourite places".

Resulting from this event we have analysed our internal signage to accommodate larger capacities, and the alterations greatly improved congestion issues when this event was again run in August 2013.

MEDIA

The positive impact our community events have made on the profile of The Main Corner is evident in the type of publicity we have received from local media, with headlines such as "Focus on Community use", "Development excites", "Documentary delight", "First birthday celebration success" as well as major front cover stories on events and articles on participation in initiatives such as Earth Hour and Harmony Day.

Editorial in response to the success of SciWorld suggested that "the benefits of the community asset, as was shown with Sunday's free entertainment, will be impossible to measure financially. Council representatives criticised over aspects of the project may have to just take heart from the smiles of youngsters".

The Main Corner was also featured on SA Life TV, a postcard style travel show on Channel 7. The production crew visited the complex in October 2012 and filmed families enjoying the interactive displays on offer in The King's Floor, as well as the screening of VOLCANO. The 3 minute segment screened on November 11th and boasted that The Main Corner is now THE place to visit in Mount Gambier.



Community Statement

The Main Corner

ATTENDANCE RATES

Attendance rates by both the general public and hirers of Main Corner venues remains consistent:

MONTH	NO. OF VISITORS	MONTH	NO. OF VISITORS
JULY 2012	7631	JANUARY 2013	4647
AUGUST 2012	8029	FEBRUARY 2013	4248
SEPTEMBER 2012	4773	MARCH 2013	5247
OCTOBER 2012	6529	APRIL 2013	6798
NOVEMBER 2012	5415	MAY 2013	5442
DECEMBER 2012	5414	JUNE 2013	3978

July and August attendance rates were boosted by the launch of VOLCANO and the major event: SciWorld, with April also being a popular time to visit The Main Corner to stock up on Haigh's chocolates for Easter.

From the start of the 2013/14 Financial Year The Main Corner have implemented a new booking system which will provide a breakdown on hire venue categories, such as Community and Charity events, Educational events, Government agencies, private booking and Weddings etc.

Some of the more notable events the Main Corner has hosted include:

- Sidney Myer Rural Lecture Series
- SALA activities
- Economic Diversification Forum
- OPAL Lifestyle skills program
- Photography exhibitions (MGHS, Tanya O'Leary, Myles Pedlar and Jamie McInerney)
- EXPOS (Exchange Printers, B&P Travel, Sexual Health, Weddings)
- Recycled Fashion Show
- Mount Gambier Tourism Association Volcano Screening and AGM
- Girls Night In Cancer Fundraiser
- National Water Week

- Rosa Matto Cooking classes
- Cave Divers National Symposium
- Australian Breast Feeding Association Shopping Spree
- Rotary House Charity Thank you event
- White Ribbon Cocktail event
- Department for Manufacturing, Innovation, Trade, Resources & Energy Seminars
- Community Action for Sustainability Public documentary screenings
- Mount Gambier Garden Club film screening
- City of Mount Gambier citizenship ceremony
- Radio outside broadcasts (ABC, 5SE, StarFM and LimeFM)
- Jodie Swiggs Vocalist concert
- White Lion Bailout launch and meetings
- UniSA public Forums
- Girls Only Gathering
- Timber Industry Association conference, formal dinner and AGM
- Fundraiser comedy night for The Junction
- Youth Week movies and console gaming competitions

- Generations in Jazz Welcome Reception
- Bedford Group Awards
- Pangula Mannamurna concert and linguistic workshops
- Bendigo Bank National conference

Event Evaluations are used to improve hirer experience wherever possible. The evaluation from the Timber Industry Association which included delegates from across the nation and New Zealand referred to The Main Corner as "OUTSTANDING" and said that "The Main Corner was first class, one of the best Convention Venues in Australia for small Conventions. We have drawn attention to Mount Gambier as a business convention hub around the Main Corner".

AWARDS

The Main Corner was recognised as a leading cultural and artistic hub, with a series of awards won during the last quarter of 2012. In October the complex received the Community Engagement Award – Heritage and Culture as part of Mount Gambier's submission to the KESAB Sustainable Communities 2012 Awards, for the showcasing of Mount Gambier's history at The Main Corner.

Two feature films were also presented awards. The short feature 'Deep Time' won a bronze cinematography award at the SA/WA State awards by the Australian

Community Statement

The Main Corner

cinematography Society, and our showcase feature film, VOLCANO, picked up the Gold award in the category of Nature/Wildlife.

GARDEN SQUARE

The Garden Square Advisory Group met several times during the year and implemented a new cross-promotion strategy. The Group also worked together on major events including Picnic in the Park and Karaoke in the Cave.

Picnic in the Park was developed to celebrate The Main Corner's first birthday, and to coincide with the Library's Christmas Markets. The markets were extended to include

City Hall veranda and activities included Christmas Carols in the Library cave for small children; performances by a 30 piece orchestra in the Main Corner Foyer, Christmas Tree crafts, outdoor live music, a scavenger hunt taking children through all Garden Square sites and outdoor games. The Youth Advisory Group provided a giant slide for the day and also a dunking tank, and the evening concluded with our first ever Cinema on the Lawns screening Mickey Mouse's Christmas Story. The library markets had their most successful market to date, and it is estimated that between 8000-9000 people attended the event.

Karaoke in the Cave combined fundraising for the Make A Wish Foundation with the Sir Robert Helpmann's need to find a karaoke champion to compete on stage with a Neil Diamond tribute artist. The event included performances by local 'celebrities' such as MP Don Peglar, and included a 'sing off' between the City of Mount Gambier and the District Council of Grant. The event raised close to \$1800 and attracted a significant amount of media, with headlines "Inaugural karaoke event crowd sings charity fundraiser praise".



Community Statement

Mount Gambier Library

The Mount Gambier Library demonstrates that modern libraries are about engaging the community and creating a sense of excitement and pride through innovative programming and special events that emphasize the value of literacy and learning. The vision behind the development of the Mount Gambier Library has incorporated excellence in library spaces, programs and the use of information technology successfully to provide the community with a contemporary environment to support their learning journey.

PARTNERSHIPS

Collaborative ventures and partnerships have been used to maximise community benefit and participation in the library. Sponsorship from local businesses to support programs such as outreach visits to schools and kindergartens and home delivery services through the provision of a library vehicle, a learning lounge facility and sponsored spaces within the library, and many other contributors providing program assistance or financial support for special events and programs have assisted the library in providing additional services to our community.

Finding My Place

Finding MY Place is an alternative learning program where at-risk youth develop skills needed for both careers and life after school. The program has only been made possible with the support and participation of local business and community organisations who freely give their time to conduct workshops with the students. The program is conducted over a ten week period with a Mayoral graduation ceremony at the end where students are presented with certificates and prizes; all of which have been donated by local businesses.

Environmental Month

Environmental Month delivers a full program of events and is held in collaboration with community groups and Government departments, providing our community with the opportunity to learn more about our environment and related issues. Workshops this year covered topics such as fungi, straw bale construction, making your own cleaning products, bugs and slugs, environmental school performances and our inaugural recycled runway fashion show.

History Month

History Month, held as part of the About Time SA History Festival, celebrates our connection with the past and our collections, places and stories through an amazing range of history-related activities. Over 1,200 people attended activities, ranging from documentary screenings, school visits, the launch of the Library's Destitute Records Database and numerous workshops. In partnership with the Mount Gambier Local History Group, a sold out evening cemetery tour exploring our early pioneers and how their lives shaped Mount Gambier, was a fitting end to the month.

LOUD in the Library

LOUD in the Library transforms the Library into an entertainment and learning arena filled with 300 young people as part of Youth Week activities. Live music and dance performances are combined with key community outreach agencies and activities to provide a place that is safe, socially engaging, entertaining and that could potentially impart life skills to young people in our community. The event is made possible through the generous support of local community agencies and youth that volunteer their time to provide music and dance throughout the evening.

Library Markets

The highly successful Library Markets are another collaborative venture that have been developed through a vision of transforming not only the Library but the Cave Garden Precinct into a thriving and active community space in the heart of the City where the community are able to showcase their talents and exchange their learning experiences. Over 2,000 people regularly attend the Markets and the benefits include increased visitation (from 800 to over 2,000), increases in loans, participation in programs and a greater awareness of the services offered by the Library through creating a people place.

The District Council of Grant continues to provide financial support through a Library Funding Agreement to assist with the provision of administration services for the Port MacDonnell branch and library services to their residents who utilise the Mount Gambier Library.

The Library has generated a vibrancy in the Cave Garden Precinct and contributed to strengthening the community through innovative, creative programs and library services, which have been built on the belief that the future of libraries lies in their ability to engage with the community, building strong social networks as well as meeting the information and recreational needs of the community through exploration of new opportunities.

Community Statement

Mount Gambier Library

ANNUAL REPORT STATISTICS	2012/13			2011/2012
	MOUNT GAMBIER	PORT MACDONNELL	TOTAL	
Loans				
Adult Fiction	87,895	12,080	99,975	109,772
Adult Non-Fiction	34,899	1,865	36,764	40,883
Large Print	27,523	1,215	28,738	31,172
Ebooks	1,813		1,813	
Childrens Fiction	56,508	3,995	60,503	70,450
Childrens Non-Fiction	5,882	216	6,098	6,304
Graphic Novels	4,023	238	4,261	4,239
Jigsaws	1,018		1,018	840
Magazines	14,079	822	14,901	17,430
Emagazines	5,402		5,402	
Music CD	7,349	8	7,357	7,547
CD ROM	764	4	768	1,077
Video			0	108
DVD	110,352	15,630	125,982	123,496
Hear a Books	6,616	35	6,651	6,549
Eaudiobooks	2,540		2,540	2,690
Community Languages	321		321	298
Interlibrary Loans	1,544	36	1,580	2,241
Bikes	39		39	210
Other	86		86	105
TOTAL	368,653	36,144	404,797	425,411

	2012/2013			2011/2012
	MOUNT GAMBIER	PORT MACDONNELL	TOTAL	
Door Count	411,110	37,384	448,494	500,296
Internet (hours)	25,984	7,320	33,304	35,319
Baby bounce, Storytime, Move & Groove	5,432	1,214	6,646	5,251
Holiday Activities	1,665		1,665	1,880
School and Outreach Visits	3,974	195	4,169	1,474
Adult and other programs	3,935		3,935	625
JP Service	695		695	607
Author Events	1,061		1,061	3,854
Visits per head of population	15.86	4.92	20.78	17.76
Number of borrowers	21,031	890	21,921	23,379

Community Statement

City of Mount Gambier Community Profile

ABOUT THE COMMUNITY PROFILE

Demographic change across Australia is recorded by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) in the Census collections every five years. Population experts analyse and convert these raw figures into stories of place to inform council staff, community groups, investors, business, students and the general public.

The City of Mount Gambier Community Profile provides demographic analysis for the City and its suburbs based on results from the 2011, 2006, 2001, 1996 and 1991 Censuses of Population and Housing. The profile is updated with population estimates when the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) releases new figures such as the annual Estimated Resident Population (ERP).

Suburb boundaries and Census questions change over time, but the data is managed to ensure that there is an accurate time series provided for the current geographic boundaries.

Results for the City of Mount Gambier include population, age structure, ethnicity, ancestry, religion, income, qualifications, occupations, employment,

unemployment, disability, disadvantage, volunteering, childcare, family structure, household structure, housing tenure, mortgage and rental payments, and the size and type of the dwellings people live in.

The Community Profile presents this information in clear maps, tables and charts with concise factual commentary to answer three important questions:

1. What are the characteristics of the people who live here?
2. How are they changing?
3. How do they compare to other areas?

This provides the basis for making evidence-based decisions about how to provide services for the community as it changes.

You can be confident about the quality of the information as it is derived from Australian Bureau of Statistics data, analysed and presented by population experts and funded by the City of Mount Gambier.

Council encourages the use of this extensive on-line resource which is available from Council's website.

ABOUT THE ECONOMIC PROFILE

The City of Mount Gambier Economic Profile provides economic analysis for the City of Mount Gambier by combining 11 different datasets to build a cohesive story of a local economy, how it is changing and how it compares to other areas.

It is a public resource designed to be used by council staff, community groups, investors, business people, students and the general public. You can be confident about the quality of the information as it is derived from official sources and the most robust economic modelling, analysed and presented by experts and funded by the City of Mount Gambier. Each data source is maintained with the latest series so you can be sure you are using the most up to date information.

Results for the City of Mount Gambier include Gross Regional Product, local jobs, local businesses, employment, unemployment, population, building approvals, industry structure, journey to work and much more.

Council encourages the use of this extensive on-line resource which is available from Council's website.



Economic and Regional Statement



Regional Funding Support	109
Mount Gambier - A Lifelong Community Learning City	110
Mount Gambier & District Tertiary Health Education Grants	112
Kanawinka Geopark "Land of Tomorrow"	113
The Mount Gambier Visitor Centre and "The Lady Nelson" Discovery Centre	114
Old Mount Gambier Gaol	116
Mount Gambier Community Events	117

Economic and Regional Statement

Regional Funding Support

Throughout this Annual Report Council makes significant references to its genuine willingness to work regionally to further the common good of the South East region or the provincial regions of our State.

A vibrant and successful South East region will provide benefits to Mount Gambier and/or this Council.

The following are the more significant direct Council contributions it has provided to State and/or regional organisations for 2012/13:

Regional Development Australia Limestone Coast	\$21,407
Regional Tourism	\$56,725
Local Government Association of South Australia	\$30,447
Provincial Cities Association	\$10,500
Regional Recreation and Sport position	\$11,975
Riddoch Art Gallery	\$63,470
South East Local Government Association	\$43,614
Volcanoes Discovery Trail Committee	\$5,000
South East Heritage Advisory Service	\$11,665
South East Resource Information Centre (SERIC)	\$11,859
Stand Like Stone Foundation	\$8,000
Lifelong Learning Initiatives/Tertiary & Higher Education Initiatives	\$9,917
Life Education Centre	\$5,000

(Some incomes and/or grants may have been received to offset the costs of some of the above initiatives).



Economic and Regional Statement

Mount Gambier - a Lifelong Learning City

Council has a continuing desire (in collaboration with the community) for Mount Gambier to be a true “Lifelong Community Learning City”.

Initially this desire was driven by Council’s wish to recognise our local educational excellence from early childhood right through to our university and tertiary education presences.

Council has formed a dedicated Lifelong Learning Council Working Party comprising:

- Cr Jim Maher
- Cr Byron Harfield
- Virginia Hill (community)
- David Meziniec (community)
- Sarah Pellen (community)

The City of Mount Gambier continues to adopt Learning as a key theme and strategy and in the review of Council’s current Strategic Plan, Learning remains one of our key strategic goals Beyond 2015.

Our fundamental focus is that learning in all its forms is a lifelong activity and is a core source of individual, social and community strength. This is reflected in the simple statement of our learning vision: “To be recognised as a learning community which celebrates learning for all groups and members of the community”.

It is not the role of Council to take responsibility for, nor to be a provider of education in our City however, Council does facilitate information sharing and broker cooperative opportunities which:

- Dramatically reflect our commitment to the value of learning within our communities of interest
- Reinforce the message that learning and education are fundamental building blocks of a strong community
- Understand the issues and opportunities facing education

and advocate effectively on behalf of the community

- Foster a united and shared understanding of the way forward.

In 2012, the City of Mount Gambier were privileged to partner with Flinders University and host a Sidney Myer Rural Lecture Series ‘Rural Communities ... Education for the 21st Century’ at City Hall in Mount Gambier with Dr George Otero (Director of the Centre for Relational Learning in Santa Fe, New Mexico) in conjunction with Professor John Halsey from Flinders University. Dr Otero’s fundamental philosophy is simple:

“We believe that our relationships hold the keys to educational success”

This lecture was an incredible success and received an overwhelming response from participants wanting to be involved in further workshops to challenge the traditional education paradigm and develop a local whole of community, relationship based approach to education and learning which raised the question, where to from here?

Shortly thereafter, representatives from the then Department of Education and Children’s Services (DECS) presented to the Lifelong Learning sub-committee their learnings from a recent visit to the Reggio Emilia area of Italy. The Reggio Emilia approach is centred on the principles of respect, responsibility and community, together with a recognition of the extraordinary potential young people have for learning and co-constructing their growth and knowledge. The request made by the Department at the conclusion of this presentation was for consideration to be given to developing a Children’s Plan for the City of Mount Gambier. This request received a most enthusiastic response.

It then became evident that quite independently, Tenison Woods College had for some time been moving towards a Reggio Emilia

inspired centre at its Mount Gambier campus.

The City of Mount Gambier embraced the work and wisdom of Departmental and Tenison Woods staff, and has been fortunate to work together with a range of key stakeholders and support the attraction of globally respected educators to deepen our learning and understanding of education and childhood, guide the development of our Children’s Charter, and to strengthen our “community village”.

South Australia’s Thinker-in-Residence Dr Carla Rinaldi, internationally respected for her expertise on early childhood development based around the Reggio approach visited Mount Gambier earlier this year, and worked with a number of local people from the community and practitioners in the early childhood sector.

Dr Rinaldi promoted the concept of early childhood spaces being places of and for learning for children, teachers, parents and the community. As she stated in her “Vision for South Australia’’

“The competent child is amazing if we are able to make them visible. The competent child, the competent teacher and the competent parent can and do exist in South Australia. They are waiting for our pedagogical, cultural, social and political decisions”

Under the auspice of the “Perspectives of Children in the City” project the views and aspirations of a wide range of young people from across Mount Gambier were gathered. These views were delivered in a series of presentations to Dr Carla Rinaldi by early childhood leaders (kindergartens, childcare centres, preschool, children’s centre, OSHC) who had sought the views of young people on a range of questions that included:

- What are the places you like to visit with your friends and family?

Economic and Regional Statement

Mount Gambier - a Lifelong Learning City

- Where do you like to play and why?
- What makes your place special?
- Where don't you like to go and why?
- What do you think would make Mount Gambier even better?

The presentations reflected the thoughts, ideas and understandings of the children in their own words and drawings and a short workshop was held after the presentations.

Outcomes from “Perspectives of Children in the City”:

- Council recognises early childhood learning and development as fundamentally important
- Council acknowledges that the experts on childhood are the children themselves
- Play settings which reconnect children to nature also encourage children to problem solve, think creatively and develop their own growth and knowledge (moved)

As part of the “Perspectives” project we sought to understand the way children view their own city. We asked them to tell us and to show us. By doing this, we've already learned that:

- Not every child in Mount Gambier knows the name of the city they live in
- Mount Gambier children like places that allow them to explore their imagination, seek adventure, nature and height.

These outcomes were particularly illuminating, and will support the future directions of Council.

A seminar held in July coordinated by Fiona Pulford and conducted by Dr Sally Brinkman explained the value (and complexities) of the Australian Early Development Index. This index measures the development of young people by the time they start formal full-time school, and will be fundamentally important in our goal of better understanding and respecting our young people. This seminar presented for the City of Mount Gambier the true purpose and value of a Children's Charter for our community.

The City of Mount Gambier Lifelong Learning sub-committee have identified that the Relational Learning philosophies of Dr George Otero dovetail powerfully with the Reggio Emilia principles, and we are most fortunate to have them supporting our work.

Relational, whole of community based ways of providing education, human and support services will form the pillars of our approach to developing a sustainable community learning model specifically designed to meet the ongoing needs of our community - with our community.

The City of Mount Gambier welcomes the opportunity of working with our “whole village”, as we work towards developing a Children's Charter for this City.



Economic and Regional Statement

Mount Gambier & District Tertiary Health Education Grants

Council continued the Mount Gambier & District Tertiary Health Education Grants program in 2012/13 as a means of recognising local skill shortages and to assist local students who are required to live outside Mount Gambier to pursue their course of study.

The program aims to encourage and foster those persons who normally reside within our City and District and who need to leave our region in order to undertake studies in the identified skill areas required within our community. It is our hope that the students will return to our region after graduation.

Twelve recipients from Mount Gambier and the surrounding districts have been awarded grants from the Mount Gambier and District Tertiary Health Education Grant Program.

The value of the grant is \$2,000 each and a total distribution of \$24,000 was provided to the ten successful applicants.

Twenty four excellent applications to the Tertiary Health Education Grants Program were received and the process of determining which of the applicants were to benefit from the program was extremely difficult.

The focus area for 2013 was medical and allied health studies/ vocations who were required to leave our community to study degree programs.

Funding for the grant program was provided by:-

- City of Mount Gambier
- Mount Gambier Private Hospital
- District Council of Grant
- Ken and Carol Stafford
- UFS Chemist
- Country Health SA (SERCHS)
- Greater Green Triangle UDRH
- Mount Gambier & District Community Bank

- Rotary Club of Mount Gambier Lakes

Council is indebted to the above financial sponsors who through their vision and confidence, meaningful financial support can be offered to the successful students and their families to meet the very high costs of tertiary study.

Council continue to be impressed with the standard and number of our residents who are undertaking demanding study away from home in the critical areas of medicine and allied health.

Council extends its very best wishes to the successful recipients in their studies and we trust they obtain the success and rewards that come from dedication, commitment and desire to achieve.

It is the wish of the community partnership to support any initiative that strengthens and enhances our strategic objective for Mount Gambier to be a leading community in encouraging all forms of Lifelong Learning and assist in meeting local essential skills shortages.

Successful recipients in 2013 were:-

Sara Turnbull	Bachelor of Applied Science (Occupational Therapy) University of South Australia
Jade Lee Sambell <i>GGTURDH named recipient</i>	Bachelor of Midwifery Flinders University
Ainsley Jane Best	Bachelor of Pharmacy University of SA
Mariah Louise Castignani	Bachelor of Pharmacy University of SA
Lachlan Scott Sutherland	Bachelor of Physiotherapy University of SA
Ashlee Jade Belmonte	Master of Dietetics University of South Australia
Salva Kasole	Bio Medical Engineering Flinders University
Hannah Kaye Fabish	Bachelor of Medical Radiation Science University of South Australia
Madeline Andrae	Bachelor of Medical Radiation Science University of South Australia
Brett Dean Size <i>Mount Gambier & District Community Bank named recipient</i>	Bachelor of Psychological Science University of Adelaide
Katherine Louise Cope <i>Mount Gambier & District Community Bank named recipient</i>	Graduate diploma in addition and Mental Health University of Adelaide
Samantha Lee Galpin	Bachelor of Oral Health University of Adelaide

Economic and Regional Statement

Kanawinka Geopark “Land of Tomorrow”

The Kanawinka Inc. is the evolution of the former Volcanoes Discovery Trail Cross Border Committee, an organisation established around 1995 which identified the need for and commissioned the preparation of a strategy for the volcanic assets of Victoria's western plains and the volcanic outcrops in south eastern South Australia.

The volcanic province of the western district of Victoria and south eastern South Australia is the most extensive in Australia, covering some 26,910 square kilometres across two states and seven Council areas.

It ranks with the top six most significant volcanic provinces in the world and contains six sites of international significance as well as nearly fifty sites of national, state or regional significance.

Whilst the aims of the former Volcanoes Discovery Trail Committee focussed principally on the implementation of a tourism marketing strategy, the goalposts and associated opportunities have dramatically shifted with the transition to Geopark status.

In 2006 the UNESCO Global Geopark network issued an invitation for the area of the Volcanoes Discovery Trail to apply for status as part of the international network of Geoparks.

Following submission of an application and an inspection process that occurred in the region in June 2007, the UNESCO International Geopark Conference held in Germany on 22nd June, 2008 Kanawinka Geopark was proclaimed as the 57th member of the Global Network of International Geoparks assisted by UNESCO.

Unfortunately due to the Federal Governments opposition to the UNESCO Geopark movement (90 Geoparks in 26 Countries) the required four yearly revalidation process was unable to be completed and therefore Kanawinka's status as a Global Geopark under the UNESCO banner has lapsed.

Kanawinka however will continue to act as a National Geopark focussing on the marketing and promotion of the significance of the geological and volcanic assets of the region, which would include:

- maintenance of the Kanawinka website www.kanawinkageopark.org.au
- redevelopment of the tourism/ promotional elements of the website
- maintain stocks of the Kanawinka brochure (including map) at Visitor Centres throughout the region and at other strategic locations
- development of Drive Maps
- development of an overall Kanawinka signage strategy for the region
- maintain industry contacts and use of local visitor publications to promote Kanawinka
- review of volcanic sites fact sheets (available at Visitor Centres)



Economic and Regional Statement

The Mount Gambier Visitor Centre and “The Lady Nelson” Discovery Centre

VISITOR INFORMATION & DISCOVERY CENTRE VISITATION

A total of 46,649 enquiries were handled at the counter, with 79,360 visitors through the door.

53% of enquiries handled were from outside of the local area. International Visitors made up 11% of the total visitation. 9.4 % of total visitors also visited the Discovery Centre.

Monthly calculations show peaks occurring in March, January, and December, which reflects our busiest periods of Christmas and Easter. With the busiest day of the year occurring on the 2nd January, with 610 visitors. While Sunday 14th June was the quietest with 57 visitors.

The Lady Nelson, was re opened on the 3rd December 2012 with a major event held at the centre, the Brig was officially relaunched, the event hosted by the Mayor, included morning tea served to invited guests and members of the public. The celebrations included a re-enactment of the sighting and naming of Mount Gambier, and a ceremonial firing of muskets by volunteers from Flagstaff Hill, Warrnambool where the Brig was rebuilt.

Opening hours of the centre were altered to Mon – Fri 9.00am to 5.00pm, remaining the same, Sat-

Sun - Public Holidays altered to 10.00am to 4.00pm. This brings us in to line with the majority of the state's VIC's.

The Visitor Centre was selected to participate in the South Australia Tourism Commission's Sell SA Pilot Project. The aim of the project is to deliver outstanding customer experience through the State's network of accredited Visitor Information Centres. Mount Gambier was one of eight Centres across the state to be selected. Staff were supported in attending familiarisation to Kangaroo Island and Fleurieu Peninsula, as these areas were identified as having the potential to increase sales conversion.

As part of the program training was also provided in InDesign and Microsoft Office applications. This will allow staff to produce more professional publications in house, and to update them as needed, ensuring the accuracy of the information provided.

Part of the Project was to move Information Centres closer to providing bookings for accommodation and tours. The Centre now has an online booking capability, through V3Launchpad, Mount Gambier operators are now able link through to our website, and visitors are able to book accommodation “live” through the public access computer.

Grant funding was also provided for a purpose built online booking pod. Along with the purchase of two lock down tablets this will allow multiple visitors to proceed with their own bookings throughout the state, independently.

Through the project, the aim is to increase VIC sales capability, encourage conversion in order to maximise visitor expenditure and improve financial viability. As well, as build strategic partnerships that support conversion activities.

PASSENGER BUS FACILITIES

The passenger bus terminal structure, in the existing car park, was completed and provides all weather protection for 30 V Line and Premier Stateliner arrivals and departures per week, as well as many private bus groups and charter services.

PUBLICATIONS AND BROCHURE DISTRIBUTION

The A4 Mount Gambier Visitor Guide, has been updated, and the A1 and A3 tear off Mount Gambier City Maps have been updated twice and reprinted. All are distributed throughout Mount Gambier, across the region, and into Victoria and South Australia.



Economic and Regional Statement

The Mount Gambier Visitor Centre and “The Lady Nelson” Discovery Centre

BIKE HIRE

Bike are now available at the Lady Nelson, and forms part of a network across Council sites, this facility has been greatly utilised by visitors and local alike.

VISITATION FIGURES FOR 2012/13 VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE	
Jul – 12	5,488
Aug – 12	4,492
Sep – 12	5,920
Oct – 12	4,500
Nov – 12	4,687
Dec – 12	9,561
Jan – 13	11,127
Feb - 13	6,671
Mar – 13	9,216
Apr – 13	8,714
May – 13	4,701
Jun – 13	4,283
TOTAL	79,360
Comparison 2011/12	94,277
Total Visitation (May 1977- June 2013)	2,671,675

MISCELLANEOUS STATISTICS AND INFORMATION	
Total Email and Phone Enquiries	2,583
Total Counter Enquiries	46,649
Visitor from outside of Mount Gambier	53%
International Visitors	16%
Easter Long Weekend Visitation	2,319
Christmas Period Visitation (26 Dec – 6th Jan)	6,612
Busiest Day (Thu Jan 2th)	610
Quietest Day (Sun Jun 14th)	57
Information Packs/Mail outs	1,797
Bike Hire (since Dec 12 only)	69

BUS TICKETING EX GST	QTY	TOTAL
Premier Stateliner	QYT	TOTAL
Premier Adult Ticket	816	\$64,870
Premier Child Ticket	128	\$5385
Premier Concession Ticket	1808	\$93,736
Premier Student Ticket	629	\$25078
Premier Stateliner Total	3381	\$189,070
V Line Adult Ticket	1352	\$62932
V Line Child Ticket	236	\$4061
V Line Concession	1273	\$34,389
V Line Student Ticket	76	\$1389
V Line Total	2937	\$102,771
Combined Bus Total	6318	\$291,841

Economic and Regional Statement

Old Mount Gambier Gaol

Council expended just over \$44,700 in the 2012/2013 financial year to complete its agreed capital renewal and capital refurbishment of the complex of buildings that comprise the Old Mount Gambier Gaol.

In partnership with the licensees, an internationally recognised unique boutique accommodation and functions facility has been created.

Council receives a reasonable annual commercial rental from the licensees.

The renewal works reinforce the State Heritage features of the Old Gaol and also provide very comfortable and varying forms of accommodation and also function capabilities.

The Council vision for the Old Mount Gambier Gaol complex is to have a fully viable, functional community connected asset that will:

1. add real value to the social capital of Mount Gambier by its presence and the activities therein;
2. be accessible to the community as a genuine community facility and comprise a range of events, services, programs, activities that will encourage and promote community use and visitation;

3. integrate with and be a part of the entire precinct of Olympic Park and Reidy Park and all of the existing community activities now occurring across the entire precinct;
4. repair, refurbish, develop and renew the Old Gaol at minimal cost to Council or a partnership scheme that can maximise the Council's financial contributions to its renewal and in a manner which respects and recognises the benefits of its history and heritage;
5. build tourism and visitor experiences and provide a level of quality backpacker accommodation and services and be an integral part of the complex, the precinct and the community;
6. connect with and utilise the complementary skills and needs of other community sectors to provide activities that enhance the complex within an overarching theme;
7. be extremely professionally managed, with onsite supervision and control, creative promotion and community engagement;
8. be financially viable and sustainable long term without operational support from Council and in time provide a direct financial return to Council.

The 2012/13 capital renewal works included:

- Replacement of kitchen cupboards/kitchen stove and light fittings to dormitory kitchen/dinning area
- Replacement of kitchen cupboards/tiles and hot water service to Chappell kitchen
- General upgrade and maintenance of commercial kitchen to include, repairs and painting to walls/floors and ceiling and to replace existing cupboards and some minor electrical and plumbing works.
- Replacement of the main front entrance gate/door on the Eastern side
- Replacement of existing light fittings and re-wiring to main dinning/entertainment area
- Repairs and replacement of stonework/doorway to service room for shower/toilets in the main courtyard
- Sewer connection upgrade to the two (2) external houses
- General repairs and replacement to roof sheeting/flashings and guttering



Economic and Regional Statement

Mount Gambier Community Events

WHITELION “BAIL OUT”

Whitelion “Bail out” was held on Friday 24th May at the Old Gaol in Mount Gambier.

This community event is a planned partnership between Whitelion SA and Blue Light SA.

Whitelion provides youth-focused, gender and culturally-specific services in several areas. These include employment, role modelling, specialist outreach support, and education-based prevention programs. All funds raised support and empower young people at risk to reach their full potential within our local Region.

Some of the funds from Blue Light SA will help to improve facilities at Noorla-Yo-Long youth adventure camp at Rendelsham run by SAPOL.

The Regional community and businesses donated their time to be inmates at the Old Gaol for six hours. Upon arrival, the inmates were stripped of their possessions,

fingerprinted, photographed and shunted into the main exercise yard where they were fed prison gruel. The inmates faced the judiciary and had their cases heard in the historic Old Courthouse before being sentenced to some cell time with their gang members or as solitary inmates. Once bail had been raised and the inmates were released, they were escorted to the Parole Party to celebrate with family and guests.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY – COMMUNITY SLEEP-OUT

The inaugural community sleep-out was held at St Paul’s Hall on Wednesday 19th June.

It was one of the coldest, frostiest nights of the year, which gave the 14 brave participants realisation of what it’s like to sleep outside. Just as many homeless people experience.

The Vinnies CEO Sleepout is in fact a nationwide event used by St Vincent de Paul Society to highlight the homeless problem.

Approximately \$7,000 was raised by the Limestone Coast effort, and will go towards short term emergency accommodation with the hope of financing more permanent accommodation in future.

Next year hopefully, there will be even more participation by business and community people.

SA JUNIOR SOCCER ASSOCIATION COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS HELD ON 18 TO 19 AUGUST 2012

The two day carnival hosted 50 games of soccer on the Saturday and 35 games on the Sunday, involving approximately 650 children plus supporting officials and coaches.

Thirty nine Soccer teams (with a maximum of 16 per team), were made up from Under 11 to Under 16 boys and Under 13 to Under 16 girls.

Games were held at the Blue Lake Sports Park providing 7 pitches and Grant High School soccer oval with 2 pitches.

Teams that attended were from 7 associations throughout South Australia – Fleurieu, Riverland, Adelaide Hills, Port Pirie, Whyalla, Limestone Coast and Portland.

2012 ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE OF THE PROVINCIAL SURGEONS OF AUSTRALIA HELD ON 31 OCTOBER TO 3 NOVEMBER 2012

This conference was a great opportunity for Mount Gambier, involving regional surgeons and future surgeons from across Australia and New Zealand. There were 180 delegates representing 30 Associates from all states of Australia.

Local Associate Professor Matthias Wichmann convened the conference in Mount Gambier as he could see a potential spin-off with surgeons perhaps considering relocating to the Limestone Coast.



Economic and Regional Statement

Mount Gambier Community Events

The theme for the conference was “Inflammatory Bowel Disease – Diagnosis and treatment in Rural Australia”. Also on the program was an up-date on medical oncology for Regional Surgeons.

The program also included a “relaxation” session by visiting various tourist areas of the Limestone Coast. During the course of the conference, local sculptor Ivo Tadic, carved a limestone block in the main hall of the venue. The resulting artwork was later placed in the courtyard of the Hospital.

MOUNT GAMBIER TIMBER INDUSTRY CLUB 214 (AFFILIATED WITH HOO- HOO INTERNATIONAL) JURISDICTION CONVENTION HELD ON 11 TO 14 APRIL 2013

One hundred people attended this conference, with attendance from six states of Australia and internationally from New Zealand and USA. The World President of Hoo-Hoo International was also present.

Attendees enjoyed Mount Gambier & District attractions including a field trip to the Nangwarry Timber Museum and the historic Glencoe Woolshed.

Club 214 also celebrated its 50th year by holding this Convention for the third time. Several comments from those attending said the Main Corner was “outstanding, and a first class venue”.

MOUNT GAMBIER JUNIOR MOTORCYCLE CLUB SA MOTO X TITLES ROUND 2 HELD ON 20 TO 21 APRIL 2013

Mount Gambier held its first state Moto X titles as part of Motorcycle SA's Championship rounds.

314 riders participated at the dirt track on McNamarra Road.

The event was well supported by the local Mount Gambier Junior Motorcycle Club providing 20% of the participants, with 60% from other parts of SA and 20% from Victoria.

The two day event ran extremely well and was well supported by the local community. The racing proved to be of a high class, with many locals performing well, being round winners in their relevant classes.

The local club has expressed their interest in hosting state titles again in future.

2013 BMX STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS HELD ON 13 TO 17 FEBRUARY 2013

The Blue Lake BMX club held its very successful State Titles in February. A real credit to them since the previous year, they hosted the huge and very demanding National Championships in Mount Gambier. The State Titles included 5 days of racing, involving riders as young as 5 yrs old through to 15 yrs and over.

Blue Lake club participants very well, with several local representatives winning the right to ride in New Zealand for the Junior World series.



Economic and Regional Statement

Mount Gambier Community Events

2013 NATIONAL STREET STOCK CAR TITLE CHAMPIONSHIPS HELD ON 7 TO 9 MARCH 2013

The first National title race in this category was held in 1990, and since then the event has grown into the most prestigious and highly supported event on the Street Stock racing calendar. The event is rotated each year around 5 states, which Mount Gambier last conducted the event in 2003.

The event attracted 90 competitors with many of them from other Regions of SA and interstate.

LIMESTONE COAST SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA GALA CONCERT HELD ON 30 JUNE 2013

The newly formed 60 piece Limestone Coast Symphony Orchestra received a standing ovation at the end of their concert at the Sir Robert Helpmann Theatre. A great way to finish the financial year with a sell out performance by a local ensemble.

The idea originated with the Mount Gambier City Band , who secured an internationally trained conductor from Victoria. The performance was a great opportunity for South East instrumentalists and soloists which from other successful Bands and Academies to perform in front of a packed audience and for the audience to have an experience that normally would only be found in a capital city.

MILESTONES

This financial year included two major milestones, with the South Eastern Dressage Association 30th Anniversary event held on 9th and 10th March 2013 and also the 130th Anniversary of the Mount Gambier Racing Club Gold Cup.



Financial Statement



Financial Sustainability Indicators 2012/13	121
Financial Statistics of Council at a Glance	122
Selected General Statistics	123
Income Statement	127
Balance Sheet	128
Changes in Equity	129
Cashflow Statement	130
Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements	131

Financial Statement

Financial Sustainability Indicators 2012/13

FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY INDICATORS & OUTCOMES FOR PERIOD 2007/08 TO 2012/13

SUSTAINABILITY TARGET	2012/13 COUNCIL OUTCOME (\$=,000)	2011/12 COUNCIL OUTCOME (\$=,000)	2010/11 COUNCIL OUTCOME (\$=,000)	2009/10 COUNCIL OUTCOME (\$=,000)	2008/09 COUNCIL OUTCOME (\$=,000)	AVERAGE PER YEAR OVER 5 YEARS *
1. Operating Surplus of breakeven position or better over any five year rolling period (\$,000)	Operating Surplus of \$299 ⁵	Operating Deficit of \$583 ⁴	Operating Deficit of \$1,110 ³	Operating Surplus of \$274 ²	Operating Surplus of \$976 ¹	Operating Deficit of \$29
2. Net Financial Liabilities (Deficit) Ratio of greater than 0% but less than 100% of annual operating revenue	23% Surplus	27% Deficit	9% Deficit	12% Surplus	20% Surplus	3.8% Surplus
6. Asset Sustainability Ratio of greater than 90% but less 110% of capital outlays on renewal of existing assets as a percentage of annual depreciation over any five year rolling period	85%	52%	51%	50%	68%	61%

¹ Includes a \$457,299 Grants Commission payment as an advance payment for 2009/10.

² Includes a \$504,699 Grants Commission payment as an advance payment for 2010/11.

³ Includes a \$552,434 Grants Commission payment as an advance payment for 2011/12.

⁴ Includes a \$1,196,609 Grants Commission payment as an advance payment for 2012/13.

⁵ Includes a \$1,267,196 Grants Commission payment as an advance payment for 2013/14.

IMPORTANT NOTE

In each of the June 2009, 2010 and 2011, the Commonwealth Government made an advance payment of one quarterly payment of the Financial Assistance Grant (see Notes 1-3). In June 2012 and June 2013, the Commonwealth Government made an advance payment on one half payment of the Financial Assistance Grant (see Notes 4 & 5).

Accordingly there were five "quarterly" payments in 2009 and four payments in each of 2010 - 2013. The above figures have not been adjusted to reflect this distortion.

Financial Statement

Financial Statistics of Council at a Glance

	YEAR END				
	2009 (\$,000)	2010 (\$,000)	2011 (\$,000)	2012 (\$,000)	2013 (\$,000)
Operating Revenue	18,501	18,734	19,632	22,455	22,452
Council Rates Included in Operating Revenue	11,746	12,241	13,464	14,307	15,173
Operating Expenditure	17,525	18,460	20,742	23,038	22,153
Employee Costs included in Operating Expenditure	6,082	6,611	7,286	7,983	8,318
Depreciation included in Operating Expenditure	4,243	4,622	4,995	5,491	5,662
Operating Surplus/(Deficit)	976 ¹	274 ²	(1,110) ³	⁽⁴⁾ (583)	⁽⁵⁾ 299
Capital Revenue	3,539	2,083	2,792	1,874	835
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	5,480	2,674	1,972	1,129	(704)
Loans Principal Outstanding	6,730	5,881	9,114	5,122	3,974
Current Assets	13,616	10,921	10,503	2,159	1,864
Current Liabilities	4,235	3,402	3,927	3,523	3,195
Non Current Assets	127,528	131,455	137,320	217,885	194,259
Non Current Liabilities	6,266	5,657	8,607	4,909	3,875
Net Equity	130,643	133,317	135,289	211,612	189,053
Cash at Beginning of Period	9,369	12,041	9,696	8,298	981
Cash at End of Period	12,041	9,696	8,298	981	675
Principal Paid on Borrowings	764	849	711	⁽⁶⁾ 4,002	⁽⁶⁾ 1,138
Interest Paid on Borrowings	195	369	325	560	336
Superannuation Council Contribution (included in Employee Costs)	466	545	643	725	744
Rates Outstanding	202	252	298	375	393
Lease Commitments	117	90	155	156	102
External Debt to Net Equity	5.1%	4.4%	6.7%	2.4%	2.1%
External Debt to Gen Rates	57.2%	48.0%	67.6%	35.7%	26.2%
Debt Servicing (P&I) to General Rates	8.2%	9.9%	7.6%	⁽⁶⁾ 31.9%	⁽⁶⁾ 9.7%

¹ Includes a \$457,299 Grants Commission payment as an advance payment for 2009/10.

² Includes a \$504,699 Grants Commission payment as an advance payment for 2010/11.

³ Includes a \$552,434 Grants Commission payment as an advance payment for 2011/12

⁴ Includes a \$1,196,609 Grants Commission payment as an advance payment for 2012/13

⁵ Includes a \$1,267,196 Grants Commission payment as an advance payment for 2013/14

⁶ Full Treasury Management was implemented during 2011/12 with surplus funds paid into a CAD loan re-draw facility

Financial Statement

Selected General Statistics

Area	3,413 ha	Site Value (July 2012)	\$1,150,485,140
Length of Roads	218 km	Capital Value (July 2012)	\$3,316,162,540
Number of Properties coded Residential	11,693		

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE:	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Residents of the City of Mount Gambier	25,729	26,128	25,247	25,911	25,911
Eligible Voters	17,267	17,854	17,843	17,411	18,050
No. of employees (full time equivalent)	102.6	106.1	110.4	111.4	
Development Applications (Blg & Plan)					
Applications and Land Divisions (No.)	537	540	472	444	363
Dwellings (No.)	122	128	104	104	75
Flats/Units (No.)	21(217)	5(15)	0	0	0
Business/Commercial /Industrial (No.)	44	35	36	51	56
Additions and Alterations (No.)	249	281	240	220	191
Other, signs, divisions	101	91	92	69	43
Estimated Expenditure (Value \$m)	91.5	50.9	43.6	93.1	31.9
No. of Dogs Registered	4467	4,310	4,813	4,837	
No. of Assessments	12,561	12,857	13,309	13,395	13,499
Rates of cents in the dollar	See Below	See Below			
Rateable Capital Value of Assessments (value \$m)	2,560	2,829	3,070	3,207	3,139
Rates foregone on non rateable property (value \$thous)	452	457	567	599	610
Rate Rebates and Remissions (value \$thous)	54	51	119	137	153
Value of Pensioner Concessions (value \$thous)	394	423	417	426	465
No. of non-ratable 100% rebate assessments	452	467	497	501	504
Fixed Charge	\$421.50	\$428.90	\$456.00	\$480.00	\$516.40



Financial Statement

Selected General Statistics

	2008/09 \$	2009/10 \$	2010/11 \$	2011/12 \$	2012/13 \$
Residential	.00188	.001782	.001843	.00192	.0019945
Commercial - Shop	.005076 (+170%)	.004811 (+170%)	.004976 (+170%)	.005184 (+170%)	.005385 (+170%)
Commercial - Office	.005076 (+170%)	.004811 (+170%)	.004976 (+170%)	.005184 (+170%)	.005385 (+170%)
Commercial - Other	.005076 (+170%)	.004811 (+170%)	.004976 (+170%)	.005184 (+170%)	.005385 (+170%)
Industry - Light	.004794 (+155%)	.004811 (+170%)	.004976 (+170%)	.005184 (+170%)	.005385 (+170%)
Industry - Other	.004794 (+155%)	.004811 (+170%)	.004976 (+170%)	.005184 (+170%)	.005385 (+170%)
Primary Production	.00188	.001782	.001843	.00192	.0019945
Vacant Land	.00752 (+300%)	.007128 (+300%)	.004976 (+170%)	.005184 (+170%)	.005385 (+170%)
Other	.00188	.001782	.001843	.00192	.0019945



Financial Statement

Selected General Statistics

HOW YOU CAN HELP

What you can do as a public minded citizen to make your City a better place:

- Keep any overhanging branches from your property over the footpath neatly trimmed to a minimum height of 2.2m above the footpath.
- Report street trees that require trimming for safe sight distance and safe to walk under.
- Care for your own street footpath. Some residents are unable. Can you assist them?
- Report to Council or the Police any acts of vandalism, graffiti or damage to any public or private property. Remember you are a 'shareholder' in your City.
- Report to Council any dangerous pot holes in roads or footpaths.
- Take your visitors for a walk through our parks, gardens, the Crater Lakes area, Cave Garden, Umpherston Sinkhole and public facilities such as the Main Corner, Library and 'The Lady Nelson' complex. Show them that you are proud of your City.
- If you see any Council's safety signs on road works down, please stand them up or report to Council.
- Report to the ETSA Utilities or to Council, any street lights which are not working. Phone 13 13 66.

You have a duty to yourself and the community, to keep your property clean and tidy at all times.

The simple commitment to the presentation of your property will make you a good neighbour and a good citizen.

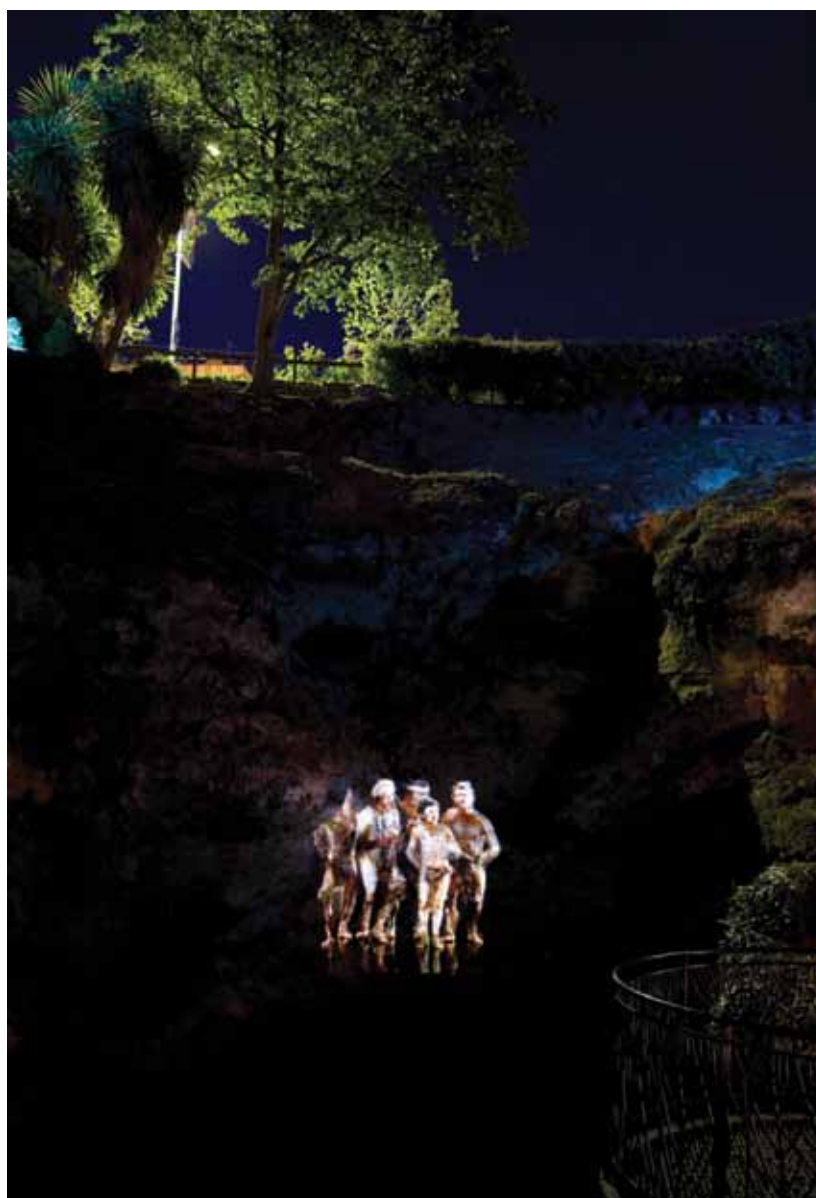
We owe it to everyone to play our part in making Mount Gambier the tidiest and friendliest City in Australia.

POPULATION CHANGE

The population of Mount Gambier City over the last 50 years:-

1961	15,388
1966	17,146
1971	17,934
1976	19,292
1991	19,880
1996	20,813
2001	23,503
2006	24,959
2011	25,257

(Source: State Library of SA – ABS SA Year Books and ABS data)





Financial Statement

Statement of Comprehensive Income

for the year ended 30 June 2013

	NOTES	2012 \$'000	2013 \$'000
INCOME			
Rates	2	14,881	15,772
Statutory charges	2	310	357
User charges	2	3,157	3,393
Grants, subsidies and contributions	2	3,101	2,232
Investment income	2	141	31
Reimbursements	2	598	191
Other income	2	267	476
Total Income		22,455	22,452
EXPENSES			
Employee costs	3	7,983	8,318
Materials, contracts & other expenses	3	9,004	7,837
Depreciation, amortisation & impairment	3	5,491	5,662
Finance costs	3	560	336
Total Expenses		23,038	22,153
OPERATING SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)		(583)	299
Asset disposal & fair value adjustments	4	(162)	(1,838)
Amounts received specifically for new or upgraded assets	2	1,874	835
NET SURPLUS / (DEFICIT) transferred to Equity Statement		1,129	(704)
Other Comprehensive Income			
Changes in revaluation surplus - infrastructure, property, plant & equipment	9	53,339	-
Total Other Comprehensive Income		53,339	-
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME		54,468	(704)

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

Financial Statement

Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2013

	NOTES	2012 \$'000	2013 \$'000
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	5	981	675
Trade & other receivables	5	1,131	1,149
Inventories	5	47	40
Total Current Assets		2,159	1,864
Non-current Assets			
Financial assets	6	339	248
Infrastructure, property, plant & equipment	7	195,691	194,011
Total Non-current Assets		196,030	194,259
Total Assets		198,189	196,123
LIABILITIES			
Current Liabilities			
Trade & other payables	8	1,231	1,116
Borrowings	8	438	356
Provisions	8	1,854	1,723
Total Current Liabilities		3,523	3,195
Non-current Liabilities			
Borrowings	8	4,674	3,618
Provisions	8	235	257
Total Non-current Liabilities		4,909	3,875
Total Liabilities		8,432	7,070
NET ASSETS		189,757	189,053
EQUITY			
Accumulated Surplus		52,707	48,060
Asset Revaluation Reserves	9	131,574	131,574
Other Reserves	9	5,476	9,419
TOTAL EQUITY		189,757	189,053

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

Financial Statement

Changes in Equity as at 30 June 2012

	NOTE	ACCUMULATED SURPLUS \$'000	ASSET REVALUATION RESERVE \$'000	AVAILABLE FOR SALE FINANCIAL ASSETS	OTHER RESERVES \$'000	TOTAL EQUITY \$'000
2013						
Balance at end of previous reporting period		52,707	131,574	-	5,476	189,757
Restated opening balance		52,707	131,574	-	5,476	189,757
Net Surplus / (Deficit) for Year		(704)				(704)
Other Comprehensive Income						
Transfers between reserves	9	(3,943)			3,943	-
Balance at end of period		48,060	131,574	-	9,419	189,053
Balance at end of period		52,707	153,429		5,476	211,612
2012						
Balance at end of previous reporting period		53,620	78,235		3,434	135,289
Restated opening balance		53,620	78,235	-	3,434	135,289
Net Surplus / (Deficit) for Year		1,129				1,129
Other Comprehensive Income						
Changes in revaluation surplus - infrastructure, property, plant & equipment			53,339			53,339
Transfers between reserves		(2,042)			2,042	-
Balance at end of period		52,707	131,574	-	5,476	189,757

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



Financial Statement

Cashflow Statement for the year ended 30 June 2013

	NOTES	2012 \$'000	2013 \$'000
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Receipts			
Rates - general & other		14,804	15,754
Fees & other charges		335	385
User charges		4,103	3,676
Investment receipts		159	63
Grants utilised for operating purposes		3,334	2,399
Reimbursements		658	210
Other revenues		507	2,022
Payments			
Employee costs		(8,096)	(8,407)
Materials, contracts & other expenses		(9,490)	(10,049)
Finance payments		(568)	(342)
Net Cash provided by (or used in) Operating Activities		5,746	5,711
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Receipts			
Amounts specifically for new or upgraded assets		1,874	835
Sale of replaced assets		257	212
Repayments of loans by community groups		108	106
Payments			
Expenditure on renewal/replacement of assets		(3,099)	(5,010)
Expenditure on new/upgraded assets		(8,193)	(1,022)
Loans made to community groups		(8)	-
Net Cash provided by (or used in) Investing Activities		(9,061)	(4,879)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Receipts			
Proceeds from Borrowings		-	-
Payments			
Repayments of Borrowings		(4,002)	(1,138)
Net Cash provided by (or used in) Financing Activities		(4,002)	(1,138)
Net Increase (Decrease) in cash held		(7,317)	(306)
Cash & cash equivalents at beginning of period	10	8,298	981
Cash & cash equivalents at end of period	10	981	675

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

Financial Statement

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2013

NOTE 1 - SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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

1. Basis of Preparation

1.1 Compliance with Australian Accounting Standards

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

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

1.2 Historical Cost Convention

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

1.3 Critical Accounting Estimates

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

1.4 Rounding

All amounts in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest thousand dollars (\$'000).

2. The Local Government Reporting Entity

The 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 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.

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

3 Income recognition

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

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

In the month of June in recent years the Federal Government has paid amounts of untied financial assistance grants, which are recognised on receipt, in advance of the year of allocation. In June 2011, one quarter of the 2011/12 allocation amounting to \$552 was paid in advance; in June 2012, two quarters of the 2012/13 allocation: \$1,196; and in June 2013, again two quarters of the 2013/14 allocation: \$1,267. Accordingly, in the reporting period ended 30 June 2013, Council's operating surplus was effectively overstated by \$1,267.

It is anticipated that these amounts in advance will be adjusted at some future time, but details of the timing of this are not currently available. The total amounts to be adjusted at 30 June 2013 is \$1,267 (\$2012, \$1,196).

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

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.

Financial Statement

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2013

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

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

All financial instruments are recognised at fair value at the date of recognition. A detailed statement of the accounting policies applied to financial instruments forms part of Note 12.

5 Inventories

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

6. Infrastructure, Property, Plant & Equipment

6.1 Land under roads

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

6.2 Initial Recognition

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

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

Capital works still in progress at balance date are recognised as other non-current assets and transferred to infrastructure, property, plant & equipment when completed ready for use.

6.3 Materiality

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

6.4 Subsequent Recognition

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

6.5 Depreciation of Non-Current Assets

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

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

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

6.6 Impairment

Assets that have an indefinite useful life are not subject to depreciation and are reviewed annually for impairment. Assets that are subject to depreciation are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. An impairment loss is recognised for the amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount (which is the higher of the present value of future cash outflows or value in use).

Financial Statement

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2013

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

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

6.7 Borrowing Costs

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

7 Voluntary Change in Accounting Policy

The financial report has been prepared on the basis of a retrospective application of a voluntary change in accounting policy relating to the accounting treatment of buildings, structures and other improvements that are not under Council's control.

The new accounting policy in relation to buildings, structures and other improvements is that Council will only recognise such items that it controls.

The previous accounting policy was to include all buildings, structures and other improvements regardless of whom the controlling entity was which has resulted in an overstatement of Council's assets.

Council has created a new class of assets known as 'Not Council Controlled'. The value of this asset class were all previously included in a valuation at 30 June 2012 by Mr Martin Oldfield, BBus Property (Val) AAPI Certified Practicing Valuer of Maloney Field Services at current replacement cost. Given the significance of the value of this asset class, it was considered appropriate to change the accounting policy.

The impact of the change in accounting policy on the Balance Sheet and the Statement of Changes in Equity is set out below:

7.1 Balance Sheet

The removal of assets that are 'Not Council Controlled' required the balances of our Building/Structure assets to be restated as at 1 July 2012 resulting in a net decrease of \$21,855 to the Infrastructure, property, plant & equipment category.

7.2 Statement of Changes in Equity

The removal of assets that are 'Not Council Controlled' required the balances of our Building/Structure assets to be restated as at 1 July 2012 resulting in a net decrease of \$21,855 to the Asset Revaluation reserve.



Financial Statement

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2013

8. Payables

8.1 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.

8.2 Payments Received in Advance & Deposits

Amounts received from external parties in advance of service delivery, and security deposits held against possible damage to Council assets, are recognised as liabilities until the service is delivered or damage reinstated, or the amount is refunded as the case may be.

9. Borrowings

Loans are carried at their principal amounts which represent the present value of future cash flows associated with servicing the debt. Interest is accrued over the period to which it relates, and is recorded as part of "Payables". Interest free loans are carried at their nominal amounts; interest revenues foregone by the lender effectively being a reduction of interest expense in the period to which it relates.

10. Employee Benefits

10.1 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 average discount rate	3.06% (2012, 4.00%)
Weighted average settlement period	1 year (2012, 1 year)

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

10.2 Superannuation

The Council makes employer superannuation contributions in respect of its employees to the Local Government Superannuation Scheme. The Scheme has two types of membership, each of which is funded differently. No changes in accounting policy have occurred during either the current or previous reporting periods. Details of the accounting policies applied and Council's involvement with the schemes are reported in Note 16.

11. Provision for Carbon Taxation

Council operates a landfill facility, of which, and in aggregate, is below the taxation threshold of 25,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e) gas emissions.

Council considers that it has no current or likely future liability for this tax.



Financial Statement

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2013

12. Leases

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

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

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

13. GST Implications

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

Receivables and Creditors include GST receivable and payable.

Except in relation to input taxed activities, revenues and operating expenditures exclude GST receivable and payable.

Non-current assets and capital expenditures include GST net of any recoupment.

Amounts included in the Statement of Cash Flows are disclosed on a gross basis.

14. Pending Accounting Standards

Certain new accounting standards and UIG interpretations have been published that are not mandatory for the 30 June 2012 reporting period and have not been used in preparing these reports.

AASB 7	Financial Instruments – Disclosures
AASB 9	Financial Instruments
AASB 10	Consolidated Financial Statements
AASB 11	Joint Arrangements
AASB 12	Disclosure of Interests in Other Entities
AASB 13	Fair Value Measurement
AASB 119	Employee Benefits
AASB 127	Separate Financial Statements
AASB 128	Investments in Associates and Joint Ventures
AASB 132	Financial Instruments: Presentation

Standards containing consequential amendments to other Standards and Interpretations arising from the above - AASB 2010-7, AASB 2011-7, AASB 2011-8, AASB 2011-10, AASB 2012-2, AASB 2012-3, AASB 2012-5, AASB 2012-6 and AASB 2012-10.

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

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

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

Financial Statement

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2013

NOTE 2. INCOME

	NOTES	2012 \$'000	2013 \$'000
RATES REVENUES			
General Rates		14,587	15,479
Less: Discretionary rebates, remissions & write offs		(137)	(153)
		14,450	15,326
Other Rates (including service charges)			
Natural Resource Management levy		515	536
		515	536
Other Charges			
Penalties for late payment		53	63
		53	63
Less: Discretionary rebates, remissions & write offs		(137)	(153)
		14,881	15,772
STATUTORY CHARGES			
Development Act fees		70	90
Town planning fees		102	105
Animal registration fees & fines		117	121
Parking fines / expiation fees		13	29
Other licences, fees, & fines		8	12
		310	357
USER CHARGES			
Cemetery/crematoria fees		678	643
Green Waste Collection		345	360
Hall & equipment hire		41	42
Sales - general		1,887	2,126
Sundry		206	222
		3,157	3,393
INVESTMENT INCOME			
Interest on investments			
Local Government Finance Authority		124	21
Banks & other		14	8
Loans to community groups		3	2
		141	31
REIMBURSEMENTS			
for roadworks		172	52
for private works		275	56
other		151	83
		598	191

Financial Statement

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2013

NOTE 2. INCOME CONT.

	NOTES	2012 \$'000	2013 \$'000
OTHER INCOME			
Insurance & other recoupments - infrastructure, property, plant & equipment		230	399
Donations		36	53
Sundry		1	24
		267	476
GRANTS, SUBSIDIES, CONTRIBUTIONS			
Amounts received specifically for new or upgraded assets		1,874	835
Other grants, subsidies and contributions		3,101	2,232
<i>The functions to which these grants relate are shown in Note 11.</i>		4,975	3,067
Sources of grants			
<i>Commonwealth Government</i>		1,649	189
<i>State Government</i>		3,326	2,878
<i>Other</i>		-	-
		4,975	3,067
Individually Significant Item		2,196	1,267
<p>On 14 June 2012, Council received \$1,196 payment of the first two instalments of the 2012/13 Grant commission (FAG) grant. Also on 27 June 2012, Council received \$1,000 grant for Stage 1 of the Railway Lands redevelopment.</p> <p>Similarly, on 12 June 2013 Council received \$1,267 payment of the first two instalments of the 2013/14 grant.</p> <p>This has materially increased Council's operating results in the current year, as these amounts are recognised as income upon receipt.</p> <p>Similarly material adverse effects will be experienced when the timing of these grant payments is restored to normal schedule. It is not known when this will occur.</p>			

Conditions over grants & 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, are as follows:

Unexpended at the close of the previous reporting period	1,000	500	-
Less: expended during the current period from revenues recognised in previous reporting periods			
New Library & Main Corner Developments	-	(500)	-
		(500)	-

Financial Statement

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2013

NOTE 2. INCOME CONT.

	NOTES	2012 \$'000	2013 \$'000
Plus: amounts recognised as revenues in this reporting period but not yet expended in accordance with the conditions			
Railway Lands		1,000	
Subtotal		1,000	
Unexpended at the close of this reporting period		1,000	1000
Net increase (decrease) in assets subject to conditions in the current reporting period		1,000	



Financial Statement

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2013

NOTE 3. EXPENSES

	NOTES	2012 \$'000	2013 \$'000
EMPLOYEE COSTS			
Salaries and Wages		7,481	7,770
Employee leave expense		(112)	37
Superannuation - defined contribution plan contributions	16	725	744
Workers' Compensation Insurance		194	211
Other		63	67
Less: Capitalised and distributed costs		(368)	(511)
Total Operating Employee Costs		7,983	8,318
Total Number of Employees		111	116
(Full time equivalent at end of reporting period)			
MATERIALS, CONTRACTS & OTHER EXPENSES			
Prescribed Expenses			
Auditor's Remuneration			
Auditing the financial reports		17	19
Elected members' expenses		319	284
Subtotal - Prescribed Expenses		336	303
Other Materials, Contracts & Expenses			
Contractors		3,673	2,887
Energy		689	845
Maintenance		11	6
Legal Expenses		66	46
Levies paid to government - NRM levy		513	532
Parts, accessories & consumables		1,775	1,507
Professional services		34	80
Sundry		1,907	1,631
Subtotal - Other Materials, Contracts & Expenses		8,668	7,534
		9,004	7,837

Financial Statement

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2013

NOTE 3. EXPENSES CONT.

	NOTES	2012 \$'000	2013 \$'000
DEPRECIATION, AMORTISATION & IMPAIRMENT			
Depreciation			
Buildings & Other Structures		2,632	2,606
Infrastructure		1,556	1,953
Plant & Equipment		846	591
Minor Plant		21	22
Office Equipment		259	258
Other		177	232
		5,491	5,662
FINANCE COSTS			
Interest on Loans		560	336
		560	336

NOTE 4. ASSET DISPOSAL & FAIR VALUE ADJUSTMENTS

	NOTES	2012 \$'000	2013 \$'000
INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT			
Assets renewed or directly replaced			
Proceeds from disposal		257	212
Less: Carrying amount of assets sold		419	2,050
Gain (Loss) on disposal		(162)	(1,838)
NET GAIN (LOSS) ON DISPOSAL OR REVALUATION OF ASSETS		(162)	(1,838)



Financial Statement

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2013

NOTE 5. CURRENT ASSETS

	NOTES	2012 \$'000	2013 \$'000
CASH & EQUIVALENT ASSETS			
Cash on Hand and at Bank		823	167
Deposits at Call		158	508
		981	675
TRADE & OTHER RECEIVABLES			
Rates - General & Other		375	393
Rates postponed for State Seniors		-	-
Accrued Revenues		73	41
Debtors - general		519	537
GST Recoupment		57	86
Loans to community organisations		107	92
Total		1,131	1,149
INVENTORIES			
Stores & Materials		28	24
Trading Stock		19	16
		47	40

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



Financial Statement

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2013

NOTE 6. NON-CURRENT ASSETS

	NOTES	2012 \$'000	2013 \$'000
FINANCIAL ASSETS			
Receivables			
Loans to community organisations		339	248
TOTAL FINANCIAL ASSETS		339	248

NOTE 7. INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT

	2012 \$'000				2013 \$'000			
	AT FAIR VALUE	AT COST	ACCUM DEP'N	CARRYING AMOUNT	AT FAIR VALUE	AT COST	ACCUM DEP'N	CARRYING AMOUNT
Land	39,459	1,567	-	41,026	39,459	1,729	-	41,188
Buildings & Other Structures	119,558	-	(29,304)	90,254	118,774	-	(31,434)	87,340
Infrastructure	75,559	-	(18,934)	56,625	75,559	3,515	(20,888)	58,186
Plant & Equipment	4,685	-	-	4,685	4,685	349	(583)	4,451
Minor Plant	155	-	-	155	155	43	(22)	176
Office Equipment	-	1,656	(636)	1,020	-	1,716	(894)	822
Other	1,926	-	-	1,926	1,926	154	(232)	1,848
TOTAL PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT	241,342	3,223	(48,874)	195,691	240,558	7,506	(54,053)	194,011
Comparatives	120,258	37,321	(20,609)	136,970	241,342	3,223	(48,874)	195,691

Financial Statement

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2013

NOTE 7. INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT CONT.

	2012 \$'000	CARRYING AMOUNT MOVEMENTS DURING YEAR \$'000								2013 \$'000
	CARRYING AMOUNT	ADDITIONS		DISPOSALS	DEPRECIA- TION	IMPAIR- MENT	TRANS- FERS	NET RE- VALUATION	CARRYING AMOUNT	
		NEW/ UPGRADE	RENEWALS							
Land	41,026	200	-	(38)	-	-	-	-	41,188	
Buildings & Other Structures	90,254	572	997	(1,877)	(2,606)	-	-	-	87,340	
Infrastructure	56,625	-	3,514	-	(1,953)	-	-	-	58,186	
Plant & Equipment	4,685	48	444	(135)	(591)	-	-	-	4,451	
Minor Plant	155	-	43	-	(22)	-	-	-	176	
Office Equipment	1,020	48	12	-	(258)	-	-	-	822	
Other	1,926	154	-	-	(232)	-	-	-	1,848	
TOTAL INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT	195,691	1,022	5,010	(2,050)	(5,662)	-	-	-	194,011	
Comparatives	136,970	8,193	3,099	(419)	(5,491)			75,194	195,691	

Financial Statement

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2013

NOTE 7. INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT CONT.

VALUATION OF ASSETS

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

Land & Land Improvements

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

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

Land improvements, including bulk earthworks with an assessed unlimited useful life, are recognised on the cost basis, originally deriving from a valuation at 30 June 2012 by Mr Martin Oldfield, BBus Property (Val) AAPI Certified Practicing Valuer of Maloney Field Services at current

replacement cost. Additions are recognised at cost.

Buildings & Other Structures

Buildings and other structures generally are recognised at fair value, based on current market values. These assets were revalued as at 30 June 2012 by Mr Martin Oldfield, BBus Property (Val) AAPI Certified Practicing Valuer of Maloney Field Services at current replacement cost. As at 30 June 2013 Building and Structures that are 'Not Council Controlled' were identified and were removed from our financial statements. Further details of this decision are provided at Note 1 under the Voluntary Change in Accounting Policy disclosure.

Infrastructure

Transportation assets were valued by Council officers at depreciated current replacement cost during the reporting period ended 30 June 2012, based on actual costs incurred during the reporting periods ended 30 June 2011 and 2012. All acquisitions made after the respective dates of valuation are recorded at cost.

Stormwater drainage infrastructure were valued by Council officers as at 30 June 2012 at depreciated current replacement cost, based on actual costs incurred during the reporting period ended 30 June 2012. All acquisitions made after the respective dates of valuation are recorded at cost.

Plant, Furniture & Equipment

These assets valued by Council officers as at 30 June 2012 at depreciated current replacement cost, based on actual costs incurred during the reporting period ended 30 June 2012. All acquisitions made after the respective dates of valuation are recorded at cost.

All other assets

These assets are recognised on the cost basis. Library books and other lending materials were valued by Council officers as at 30 June 2012 at depreciated current replacement cost, based on actual costs incurred during the reporting period ended 30 June 2012. All acquisitions made after the respective dates of valuation are capitalised in bulk, and written out when fully depreciated.



Financial Statement

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2013

NOTE 8. LIABILITIES

	NOTES	2012 \$'000		2013 \$'000	
		CURRENT	NON-CURRENT	CURRENT	NON-CURRENT
TRADE & OTHER PAYABLES					
Goods & Services		831		1,001	
Payments received in advance		29	-	33	-
Accrued expenses - employee entitlements		-	-	20	-
Accrued expenses - other		24	-	18	-
Deposits, Retentions & Bonds		347	-	44	-
		1,231	-	1,116	-
BORROWINGS					
Loans		438	4,674	356	3,618
		438	4,674	356	3,618
All interest bearing liabilities are secured over the future revenues of the Council.					
PROVISIONS					
Employee entitlements (including oncosts)		1,854	235	1,723	257
		1,854	235	1,723	257

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



Financial Statement

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2013

NOTE 9. RESERVES

ASSET REVALUATION RESERVE	NOTES	1/7/2012 \$'000	NET INCREMENTS (DECREMENTS) \$'000	TRANSFERS, IMPAIRMENTS \$'000	30/6/2012 \$'000
ASSET REVALUATION RESERVE					
Land		30,511			30,511
Buildings & Other Structures		73,182			73,182
Infrastructure		23,718			23,718
Plant & Equipment		495			495
Minor Plant		3,668			3,668
TOTAL		131,574			131,574
Comparatives		78,235	53,339		131,574
OTHER RESERVES					
		1/7/2011	TRANSFERS TO RESERVE	TRANSFERS FROM RESERVE	30/6/2012
Long Service Leave		724			724
Off Street Car Park		267			267
Plant Replacement		1,561			1,561
Lady Nelson Park Development		6			6
Asset Replacement		1,296			1,296
Land Division - Outstanding Work		232			232
Downstream Drainage		61	55		116
Work in Progress			3,537		3,537
City Centre Improvement		688			688
Major Capital Works		482			482
Mount Gambier Cemetery Trust		107	359		466
Junior Sporting Fund		52		(8)	44
TOTAL OTHER RESERVES		5,476	3,951	(8)	9,419
Comparatives		3,434	2,135	(93)	5,476

Financial Statement

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2013

NOTE 9. RESERVES CONT.

PURPOSES OF RESERVES

Asset Revaluation Reserve

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

Other Reserves

Long Service Leave

- established to fund City of Mount Gambier employee long service leave entitlements
- ongoing Reserve Fund
- transfers from the Fund are made as and when required
- transfers to the Fund include Council budgetary allocations, interest received and funds from other employers in respect of transferred employees

Off Street Car Parking Reserve

- established to fund off street car parking initiatives in the Mount Gambier City Centre precinct
- ongoing Reserve Fund
- transfers from the Fund are made as and when required
- transfers to the Fund include Council budgetary allocations and interest received

Plant Replacement

- established to fund Council's plant and machinery fleet requirements
- ongoing Reserve Fund
- transfers from the Fund are made as and when required
- transfers to the Fund include Council budgetary allocations, interest received, sales etc

Lady Nelson Park Development

- established to fund any development works that may occur at The Lady Nelson site
- ongoing Reserve Fund
- transfers from the Fund are made as and when required
- transfers to the Fund include Council budgetary allocations and interest received

Asset Replacement

- established to fund the City of Mount Gambier Asset replacement/renewal requirements
- ongoing Reserve Fund
- transfers from the Fund are made as and when required
- transfers to the Fund include Council budgetary allocations, interest received, any sales etc

Land Division Outstanding Works

- funds held in trust to ensure land division obligations are completed
- ongoing Reserve Fund
- transfers from the Fund are made as and when land division obligations are certified as completed
- transfers to the Fund are funds deposited by developers in respect of their land division obligations

Downstream Drainage

- funds contributed by developers and held by Council to complete drainage obligations
- ongoing Reserve Fund
- transfers from the Fund are made as and when required
- transfers to the Fund are developer contributions and interest received

Work in Progress

- established to fund Council works and projects that are carried over from one budgetary year to the next
- ongoing Reserve Fund
- transfers from the Fund are as and when required with works and projects normally completed in the year following
- transfers to the Fund include funds for works and projects that have been allocated in one budget year but not completed in that year

City Centre Improvement

- established to fund improvements and initiatives in the Mount Gambier City Centre precinct
- ongoing Reserve Fund
- transfers from the Fund are made as and when required
- transfers to the Fund include Council budgetary allocations and interest received

Financial Statement

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2013

NOTE 9. RESERVES CONT.

Major Capital Works

- established to assist Council fund impending major capital works projects
- ongoing Reserve Fund
- transfers from the Fund are made as and when required
- transfers to the Fund include Council budgetary allocations and interest received

Mount Gambier Cemetery Trust

- established to fund any development works or projects that may be required at the Carinya Gardens Cemetery and Crematorium
- ongoing Reserve Fund
- transfers from the Fund are made as and when required
- transfers to the Fund include Cemetery Trust budgetary allocations and interest received

Junior Sporting Fund

- Established to fund the operations of the Mount Gambier Junior Sporting Fund
- ongoing Reserve Fund



Financial Statement

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2013

NOTE 10 - RECONCILIATION TO CASH FLOW STATEMENT

(a) Reconciliation of Cash

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

	NOTES	2012 \$'000	2013 \$'000
Total cash & equivalent assets	5	981	675
Balances per Cash Flow Statement		981	675
(b) Reconciliation of Change in Net Assets to Cash from Operating Activities			
Net Surplus (Deficit)		1,129	(704)
Non-cash items in Income Statement			
Depreciation, amortisation & impairment		5,491	5,662
Net increase (decrease) in unpaid employee benefits		(113)	(89)
Non-cash asset acquisitions		(1,874)	(835)
Grants for capital acquisitions treated as Investing Activity		162	1,838
Net (Gain) Loss on Disposals		4,795	5,872
		4,064	4,795
Add (Less): Changes in Net Current Assets			
Net (increase) decrease in receivables		1,044	(33)
Net (increase) decrease in inventories		(12)	7
Net increase (decrease) in trade & other payables		(81)	(135)
Net Cash provided by (or used in) operations		5,746	5,711
(c) Financing Arrangements			
Unrestricted access was available at balance date to the following lines of credit:			
Corporate Credit Cards		27	27
LGFA Cash Advance Debenture facility		7,000	12,000

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

Financial Statement

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2013

NOTE 11 - FUNCTIONS

	INCOMES, EXPENSES AND ASSETS HAVE BEEN DIRECTLY ATTRIBUTED TO THE FOLLOWING FUNCTIONS & ACTIVITIES									
	INCOME		EXPENSES		OPERATING SURPLUS (DEFICIT)		GRANTS INCLUDED IN INCOME		"TOTAL ASSETS HELD (CURRENT & NON-CURRENT)"	
	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	2012 \$'000	2013 \$'000	2012 \$'000	2013 \$'000
	2012 \$'000	2013 \$'000	2012 \$'000	2013 \$'000	2012 \$'000	2013 \$'000	2012 \$'000	2013 \$'000	2012 \$'000	2013 \$'000
Administration / Support Services	17,177	17,858	4,047	4,790	13,130	13,068	2,583	2,584	21,830	21,602
Community Support	252	826	1,889	1,831	(1,637)	(1,005)	8	44	13,855	13,711
Culture	732	527	2,965	2,851	(2,233)	(2,324)	140	234	52,033	51,491
Economic Development	398	407	1,422	1,293	(1,024)	(886)	129	-	5,874	5,813
Environment	1,641	1,888	3,185	3,065	(1,544)	(1,177)	-	10	5,546	5,488
Recreation	1,151	105	2,860	2,179	(1,709)	(2,074)	-	-	44,136	43,676
Regulatory Services	309	357	1,113	1,161	(804)	(804)	-	-	-	-
Transport	192	177	1,901	2,486	(1,709)	(2,309)	241	195	40,457	40,035
Engineering / Indirect	-	-	2,273	1,883	(2,273)	(1,883)	-	-	8,220	8,134
Unclassified Activities	603	307	1,383	614	(780)	(307)	-	-	6,238	6,173
TOTALS	22,452	22,455	23,038	22,153	(583)	299	3,101	3,067	198,189	196,123

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

Financial Statement

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2013

NOTE 11 - FUNCTIONS CONT.

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, Contract Management, Customer Service, Other Support Services, Revenues, Separate and Special Rates.

Community Services

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, Other Services for the Aged and Disabled, 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, and Other Economic Development and activities.

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, Streetscaping, 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

Engineering office expenses, AWU employee's expenses and entitlements, depot expenses, plant and machinery expenses.

Unclassified Activities

Finance charges and investment revenue, private works and sundry property maintenance.



Financial Statement

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2013

NOTE 12 - FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Bank, Deposits at Call, Short Term Deposits	Accounting Policy: Carried at lower of cost and net realisable value; Interest is recognised when earned.
	Terms & conditions: Short term deposits have an average maturity of 1 day and an average interest rates of 2.75% (2012: 1 day, 3.75%).
	Carrying amount: approximates fair value due to the short term to maturity.
Receivables Rates & Associated Charges (including legals & penalties for late payment)	Accounting Policy: Carried at nominal values less any allowance for doubtful debts. An allowance for doubtful debts is recognised (and re-assessed annually) when collection in full is no longer probable.
Note: These receivables do not meet the definition of “financial instruments” and have been excluded from the following disclosures.	Terms & conditions: Secured over the subject land, arrears attract interest of 0.708% (2012: 0.77%) Although Council is not materially exposed to any individual debtor, credit risk exposure is concentrated within the Council’s boundaries in the State.
	Carrying amount: approximates fair value (after deduction of any allowance).
Receivables Fees & other charges	Accounting Policy: Carried at nominal values less any allowance for doubtful debts. An allowance for doubtful debts is recognised (and re-assessed annually) when collection in full is no longer probable.
	Terms & conditions: Unsecured, and do not bear interest. Although Council is not materially exposed to any individual debtor, credit risk exposure is concentrated within the Council’s boundaries.
	Carrying amount: approximates fair value (after deduction of any allowance).
Receivables Other levels of government	Accounting Policy: Carried at nominal value.
	Terms & conditions: Amounts due have been calculated in accordance with the terms and conditions of the respective programs following advice of approvals, and do not bear interest. All amounts are due by Departments and Agencies of State and Federal Governments.
	Carrying amount: approximates fair value.
Liabilities Creditors and Accruals	Accounting Policy: Liabilities are recognised for amounts to be paid in the future for goods and services received, whether or not billed to the Council.
	Terms & conditions: Liabilities are normally settled on 30 day terms.
	Carrying amount: approximates fair value.
Liabilities Interest Bearing Borrowings	Accounting Policy: Carried at the principal amounts. Interest is charged as an expense as it accrues.
	Terms & conditions: secured over future revenues, borrowings are repayable (principal and interest over a fixed term); interest is charged at fixed (or variable) rates between 5.05% and 7.90% (2012: 5.05% and 7.90%)
	Carrying amount: approximates fair value.
Liabilities Finance Leases	Accounting Policy: accounted for in accordance with AASB 117.

Financial Statement

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2013

NOTE 12 - FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS CONT.

Liquidity Analysis

2013	DUE < 1 YEAR \$'000	DUE > 1 YEAR; < 5 YEARS \$'000	DUE > 5 YEARS \$'000	TOTAL CONTRACTUAL CASH FLOWS \$'000	CARRYING VALUES \$'000
FINANCIAL ASSETS					
Cash & Equivalents	675			675	675
Receivables	578	-	-	578	578
Other Financial Assets	92	212	35	339	339
Total	1,345	212	35	1,592	1,592
FINANCIAL LIABILITIES					
Payables	1,078	-	-	1,078	1,078
Current Borrowings	356	-	-	356	356
Non-Current Borrowings	-	828	2,790	3,618	3,618
Total	1,434	828	2,790	5,052	5,052
2012	DUE < 1 YEAR \$'000	DUE > 1 YEAR; < 5 YEARS \$'000	DUE > 5 YEARS \$'000	TOTAL CONTRACTUAL CASH FLOWS \$'000	CARRYING VALUES \$'000
FINANCIAL ASSETS					
Cash & Equivalents	981			981	981
Receivables	592	-	-	592	592
Other Financial Assets	108	270	68	446	446
Total	1,681	270	68	2,019	2,019
FINANCIAL LIABILITIES					
Payables	1,207	-	-	1,207	1,207
Current Borrowings	438	-	-	438	438
Non-Current Borrowings	118	689	3,867	4,674	4,674
Total	1,763	689	3,867	6,319	6,319

Financial Statement

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2013

NOTE 12 - FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS CONT.

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

	30 JUNE 2012		30 JUNE 2013	
	WEIGHTED AVERAGE INTEREST RATE %	CARRYING VALUE \$'000	WEIGHTED AVERAGE INTEREST RATE %	CARRYING VALUE \$'000
Other Variable Rates	5.50	700	5.00	-
Fixed Interest Rates	6.48	4,412	6.55	3,974
		5,112		3,974

NET FAIR VALUE

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

RISK EXPOSURES

Credit Risk represents the loss that would be recognised if counterparties fail to perform as contracted. The maximum credit risk on financial assets of the Council is the carrying amount, net of any allowance for doubtful debts. All Council investments are made with the SA Local Government Finance Authority and are guaranteed by the SA Government. Except as detailed in Notes 5 & 6 in relation to individual classes of receivables, exposure is concentrated within the Council's boundaries, and there is no material exposure to any individual debtor.

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

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

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



Financial Statement

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2013

NOTE 13 - FINANCIAL INDICATORS

	2011	2012	2013
These Financial Indicators have been calculated in accordance with <i>Information Paper 9 - Local Government Financial Indicators</i> prepared as part of the LGA Financial Sustainability Program for the Local Government Association of South Australia. Detailed methods of calculation are set out in the SA Model Statements.			
OPERATING SURPLUS	(8%)	0%	0%
Rates - general & other less NRM levy			
<i>This ratio expresses the operating surplus as a percentage of general and other rates, net of NRM levy.</i>			
Adjusted Operating Surplus Ratio	(9%)	0%	0%
<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. The Adjusted Operating Surplus Ratio adjusts for the resulting distortion in the disclosed operating result for each year.</i>			
NET FINANCIAL LIABILITIES RATIO			
Net Financial Liabilities	9%	-543%	-383%
Total Operating Revenue less NRM levy			
<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 (excluding NRM levy).</i>			
Asset Sustainability Ratio			
Net Asset Renewals	51%	52%	85%
<i>Net asset renewals expenditure is defined as net capital expenditure on the renewal and replacement of existing assets, and excludes new capital expenditure on the acquisition of additional assets.</i>			



Financial Statement

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2013

NOTE 14 - UNIFORM PRESENTATION OF FINANCES

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

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.

	2012 \$'000	2013 \$'000
Income	22,455	22,452
less Expenses	23,038	22,153
Operating Surplus / (Deficit)	(583)	299
less Net Outlays on Existing Assets		
Capital Expenditure on renewal and replacement of Existing Assets	3,099	5,855
less Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	5,491	5,662
less Proceeds from Sale of Replaced Assets	257	212
	(2,649)	(19)
less Net Outlays on New and Upgraded Assets		
Capital Expenditure on New and Upgraded Assets (including investment property & real estate developments)	8,193	1,019
less Amounts received specifically for New and Upgraded Assets	1,874	-
less Proceeds from Sale of Surplus Assets (including investment property and real estate developments)	-	-
	6,319	1,019
Net Lending / (Borrowing) for Financial Year	(4,253)	(701)



Financial Statement

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2013

NOTE 15 - OPERATING LEASES

LEASE PAYMENT COMMITMENTS OF COUNCIL

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

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

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

No lease contains any escalation clause.

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

	2012 \$'000	2013 \$'000
Not later than one year	62	63
Later than one year and not later than 5 years	94	39
Later than 5 years	-	-
	156	102

NOTE 16 - SUPERANNUATION

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

Marketlink (Accumulation Fund) Members

Marketlink receives both employer and employee contributions on a progressive basis. Employer contributions are based on a fixed percentage of employee earnings in accordance with superannuation guarantee legislation (9% in 2012/13; 9% in 2011/12). No further liability accrues to the Council as the superannuation benefits accruing to employees are represented by their share of the net assets of the Fund.

Salarylink (Defined Benefit Fund) Members

Salarylink is a defined benefit scheme where the benefit payable is based on a formula determined by the member's contribution rate, number of years and level of contribution and final average salary.

Council makes employer contributions to Salarylink as determined by the Trustee based on advice from the appointed Actuary. The rate is currently 6.3% (6.3% in 2011/12) of "superannuation" salary.

In addition, Council makes a separate contribution of 3% of salary for Salarylink members to their Marketlink account. Employees also make member contributions to the Fund. As such, assets accumulate in the Fund to meet the member's benefits, as defined in the Trust Deed, as they accrue.

The Salarylink section is a multi-employer sponsored plan. As the Fund's assets and liabilities are pooled and are not allocated by each employer, the Actuary is unable to allocate benefit liabilities, assets and costs between employers. As provided by AASB 119.32(b), Council does not use defined benefit accounting for these contributions.

The most recent actuarial investigation was conducted by the Scheme's actuary, A C Miller, FIAA, of Russell Employee Benefits Pty Ltd as at 30 June 2011. 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.

Financial Statement

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2013

NOTE 17. CONTINGENCIES & ASSETS & LIABILITIES NOT RECOGNISED IN THE BALANCE SHEET

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

1. LAND UNDER ROADS

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

At reporting date, Council controlled 219 km of road reserves of average width 20 metres.

2. POTENTIAL INSURANCE LOSSES

Council is a multi-purpose organisation providing a large range of building, parks infrastructure, playgrounds and other facilities accessible to the public. At any time, it is likely that claims will have been made against Council that remain unsettled.

Council insures against all known insurable risks using a range of insurance policies, each of which is subject to a deductible "insurance excess", the amount of which varies according to the class of insurance.

Council has recognised the potential losses arising from claims known at reporting date based on average historical net cost (including insurance excess) of similar types of claims. Other potential claims not reported to Council may have existed at reporting date.

3. BANK GUARANTEES

Council has guaranteed certain loans and other banking facilities advanced to community organisations and sporting bodies, amounting to \$210 (2012: \$0) at reporting date.

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

4. LEGAL EXPENSES

Council is the planning consent authority for its area under the Development Act 1993 (as amended). Pursuant to that Act, certain persons aggrieved by a planning decision of the Council may appeal. It is normal practice that parties bear their own legal costs. At the date of these reports, Council had notice of 1 appeal 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.

5. "CARBON" TAX

From 1 July 2012 a new tax on emissions of certain "greenhouse" gases commenced operation. Council has two garbage landfill facilities which emit, and will continue for many years to emit, gases of this type.

Using current calculation methods, emissions from Council's landfill facilities are substantially below current taxable thresholds. This situation is expected to continue while thresholds remain at current levels.

Information currently available provides assurances that "legacy emissions" from garbage placed in landfills prior to commencement of the tax will not subsequently become liable to the tax. However, should taxable thresholds be substantially reduced Council may be subject to taxation on landfill deposits made after 1 July 2012. No liability has been recognised in these reports.

CITY OF MOUNT GAMBIER

ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 June 2013

STATEMENT BY AUDITOR

I confirm that, for the audit of the financial statements of the City of Mount Gambier for the year ended 30 June 2013, 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*.



Simon Christopher Smith

Galpins Accountants, Auditors & Business Consultants

Dated this 10th day of October 2013

CITY OF MOUNT GAMBIER

ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 June 2013

CERTIFICATION OF AUDITOR INDEPENDENCE

To the best of our knowledge and belief, we confirm that, for the purpose of the audit of the City of Mount Gambier for the year ended 30 June 2013, the Council's Auditor, Galpins Accountants, Auditors & Business Consultants, 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*.



Mark McShane
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



Donald Currie
**PRESIDING MEMBER
AUDIT COMMITTEE**

Date: 15th October 2013

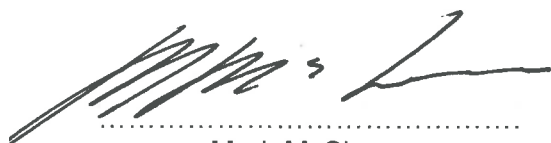
CITY OF MOUNT GAMBIER

ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 June 2013

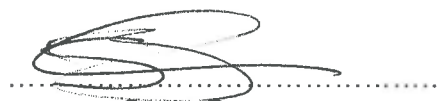
CERTIFICATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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 2013 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.



Mark McShane
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



Steve Perryman
MAYOR

Date: 15th October 2013



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MOUNT GAMBIER
LIVE . LEARN . IMAGINE



Annual Report 2012-2013

South East Local Government Association

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This document is the Annual Report of the South East Local Government Association Inc. for the period 1st July 2012 to 30th June 2013. This report is 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 our Constituent Councils and to advance the Limestone Coast communities through effective advocacy, facilitation and innovation.

Our Association

The South East Local Government Association (SELGA) was established as a regional body on 6th October 1885.

SELGA 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. Under its Charter, SELGA's objects are to:

- Work in association with both the Local Government Association of South Australia and the Australian Local Government Association to assist in the achievement of their aims and objectives.
- Undertake co-coordinating, advocacy and representational roles on behalf of its Constituent Councils at a regional level.
- Facilitate and co-ordinate 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.

SELGA Constituent Councils

The Association is comprised of the following Constituent Councils:

- City of Mount Gambier
- District Council of Grant
- Kingston District Council
- Naracoorte Lucindale Council
- District Council of Robe
- Tatiara District Council
- Wattle Range Council

Office Bearers 2012-2013

President	Mayor Richard Vickery
Vice President	Mayor Evan Flint
Executive Officer	Mr Rob Forgan (to 08/02/13) Ms Ann Aldersey (from 20/05/13)
Auditor	Galpins

Our Staff 2012-2013

Executive Officer	Mr Rob Forgan (to 08/02/13) Ms Ann Aldersey (from 20/05/13)
Acting Executive Officer	Mr Frank Brennan (from 12/02/13 to 24/04/13)
SELGA STARCLUB Field Officer	Ms Josephine Duigan

Constituent Council Delegates to the Association

Council	Delegate	Proxy Delegate
City of Mount Gambier	Mayor Steve Perryman	Cr Merv White Cr Ian Von Stanke (from 01/02/13)
District Council of Grant	Mayor Richard Sage	Cr Brian Collins Cr Bruce Bain
Wattle Range Council	Mayor Peter Gandolfi	Cr Rob Dycer
District Council of Robe	Mayor Peter Riseley	Cr Harvey Nolan

Council	Delegate	Proxy Delegate
Kingston District Council	Mayor Evan Flint	Cr Chris England Cr Sid Frankling
Naracoorte Lucindale Council	Mayor Erika Vickery	Cr Ann Bell (to 31/01/13) Cr John Flynn (from 01/02/13)
Tatiara District Council	Mayor Richard Vickery	Cr Graham Excell Cr John Ross.

Coorong District Council attends SELGA meetings as observers. The Coorong District Council is represented by Mayor Roger Strother (with Cr. Neville Jaensch as proxy) and the Chief Executive Officer Mr Michael Boyd, with Mr Timothy Tol as proxy.

SELGA Delegates to the Local Government Association of South Australia

The following representatives are elected under the provisions of the Constitution of the Local Government Association:

- Delegate to the State Executive (SE Zone) Mayor Richard Vickery, Tatiara District Council
- Proxy Delegate to the LGA State Executive Mayor Evan Flint, Kingston District Council

Delegates (2) to the South Australian Regional Organisation of Councils

- Mayor Richard Vickery
- Mayor Evan Flint (Proxy)
- Mr Rob Forgan (to 08/02/13)
- Ms Ann Aldersey (from 20/05/13)

The South Australian Regional Organisation of Councils (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.

Presidents Report 2012-13

During the last twelve months, SELGA has continued its strong advocacy role for the South East on a range of issues at regional, state and national levels.

Following the forward sale of Forestry SA's South East plantations, we initiated extensive interaction with the State Government on enhancing the economic diversity and growth here in the region. Ultimately the Premier convened the Limestone Coast Economic Diversification Forum in September. Following the Forum, which brought together visionary industry, government and local leadership, SELGA convened the Limestone Coast Economic Diversification Reference Group in order to progress the recommendations of the Forum. In conjunction with Primary Industry and Regions SA, we engaged the Forum convenor, Mr Dennis Mutton, who with his extensive networks and knowledge of government, research and development, innovation and primary industries has been very effective in engaging government agencies, the research and education sectors and private companies. One of the main objectives for the reference group is to take up the offer to present to the State Government's Growing Advanced Manufacturing and Premium Food and Wine from our Clean Environment Cabinet Taskforces, with presentations having already been made to the Senior Officers Groups that inform the taskforces. One of the first results of this work was the extensive Cellulose Fibre Chain Study conducted by renowned Finnish research institute VTT. Significant grant funds have also flowed to the forestry products sector during this time. Some of the many initiatives of the Reference Group are highlighted later in the report.



Regional Development Australia Limestone Coast has worked closely with SELGA during this process and provides two members to the Reference Group. While RDA is going to be significantly challenged by the cessation of operational funding from the State Government from July 2013, their continued viability is crucial for the region's economic progress.

Recognising the potential competitive advantage of access to high-speed broadband, SELGA promoted strongly for the entire South East, not just Keith, Bordertown and Kingston, to be in round one of the rollout of the NBN fibre optic network and were particularly pleased when the Federal government announced that this would be the case. This will mean that the whole of our region will be serviced by either satellite, radio or fibre optic high-speed broadband by 2016.

At the SAROC and State Executive levels we have continued to have strong input into the formulation of local government and state government policies that affect both our region and the operations of our councils. The regional perspective and influence of SAROC is well respected within the South Australian Local Government Association.

We appreciate the attendance at SELGA meetings by key Coorong District Council representatives and value their collaboration on matters where we have mutual interests.

Between our meetings the SELGA CEOs group continues to work with great effect to enhance the ability of councils to work productively for our mutual benefit. I would like to thank Mr Mark McShane for his work in chairing this group.

In February our Executive Officer Mr Rob Forgan retired from his role. Rob contributed five valuable years to SELGA and his work was characterised by a genuine passion for and understanding of the region. He demonstrated absolute integrity and was highly regarded within the region, and more broadly at local government and State government levels. His commitment to the region and his abilities were perhaps best demonstrated by his management of an extensive process which led to the Federal government changing the rules for access by students in Mount Gambier and some other areas of rural Australia which were deemed to be Inner Regional, to levels of Youth Allowance commensurate to that received by other students in regional Australia. We wish Rob and his family all the best in his retirement.

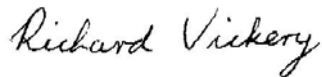
Local government also lost the services of long serving CEO of Wattle Range Council Mr Frank Brennan. Frank's contribution to local government over several decades has been outstanding and he has been a mentor for both employees and elected members involved in local government.

In late May we welcomed Miss Ann Aldersey to the role of SELGA Executive Officer. Ann brings a broad range of skills to the organisation and is a committed resident of our region.

Josephine Duigan, Biddie Shearing and Julie Scott complete the small but highly effective SELGA team and I congratulate them on their contribution to our important work.

SELGA is very well served by many elected members and council staff who make themselves available for our various committees and representing local government on outside organisations.

I would like to thank board members for their collective knowledge and their dedication to the South East, and particularly thank Mayor Evan Flint for his support as SELGA Deputy President.



Mayor Richard Vickery
SELGA President

Our Board

The Board held six ordinary bi-monthly General Meetings, two Special Meetings and the Annual General Meeting (February 2013) during 2012-13. The SELGA Board comprises the seven Mayors of the Constituent Councils, and is chaired by the SELGA President Mayor Richard Vickery. Meetings are also attended by Council CEOs. Meetings are hosted by Constituent Councils on a rotational basis, with every second meeting held at the central location of Naracoorte.

Initiatives and issues acted on by the Board during 2012-13 included:

- Response to the South East Drainage System Operation and Management Bill 2012, including the proposal for a landholder levy to fund the maintenance of the drainage network
- Consultation on the proposed South East Flows Restoration Project, including the process for community and landowner input
- The Limestone Coast Economic Diversification Forum, including the formation of a Reference Group to implement resulting actions
- The forward sale of the harvesting rights of the Forestry SA plantation estate
- Advocating for State Government funding to Regional Development Australia Boards, and the renewal of the funding agreement with Regional Development Australia Limestone Coast
- The investigation of potential for a regional Development Assessment Panel, and a regional approach to development planning and approval
- The over-abundance of kangaroos in the Lower South East
- The need for further State funding of Council-run Visitor Information Centres
- The security of Telstra exchanges and reliability of communications in the Limestone Coast
- The reduction of funding for the South East Veterans Information Centre
- Mental health and anxiety disorder services in regional South Australia, including the 'Great Step Forward Program'
- Development of a safe and well communicated process for the disposal of marine flares
- Funding for the engagement of a Regional Road Safety Officer in the South East
- Promotion of the responsible use of South Australian Parks and Reserves for four-wheel driving, and the investigation of appropriate four-wheel drive opportunities in the region
- The schedule and priority of the NBN Rollout in the Limestone Coast
- The continuation of State Government funding for Regional Development Australia committees beyond 30 June 2013
- Attracting funding to the region via the Regional Development Australia Fund
- The closure of Zero Waste SA, and the quantum and use of the Solid Waste Levy
- The approval of projects submitted to the Special Local Roads Program
- The development of a project to write a Regional Trails Master Plan

- The risk to biosecurity and the potato industry from potentially diseased imported potatoes, and the importance of appropriate quarantine measures
- The loss of local WIN TV news service, and the need for local television content

Guest Speakers

In order to ensure SELGA is well briefed on current issues and initiatives in the region, a wide range of presentations were provided at SELGA General Meetings during 2012-13. Guest speakers included:

- Ms Elaine Carbines, CEO, Geelong Regional Alliance G21
- Mr Duncan Bremner and Mr Chris Gregory, Regional Stakeholder Relations, NBN Co
- Mr Tim Collins, Regional Manager, Department of Water, Environment and Natural Resources
- Mr Andrew Johnson, Executive Director and Dr Glenn Shimmin, Manager South East Water, Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources
- Mr Tim Bond, Manager Planning and Evaluation, Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources
- Mr David Walshaw, CEO of Medicare Local
- Mr Dennis Mutton, Convener of the Limestone Coast Economic Diversification Forum
- Mr Jason Drewitt, Operations Manager Region 5, Country Fire Service
- Mr Nick Jones, Ms Emma Fletcher and Mr Peter Cahalan, South Australian Tourism Commission
- Mr Mark Bolton and Mr John Bannister, Telstra
- Mr Richard Bingham, South Australian Ombudsman
- Ms Jean Kerslake, Drug and Alcohol Services South Australia
- Ms Lois Rose-Smith, Life without Borders and Sergeant Rick Grimes of SAPOL

Association Committees & Working Parties

To undertake specific projects or fulfil areas of operational responsibility, SELGA convenes a number of committees and working parties. SELGA acknowledges the work of all who have contributed to the following committees and working parties throughout 2012-13.

Committee / Working Party	Representative	Council
SELGA Roads and Transport Working Group	Cr Robert Mock (Chair)	Tatiara District Council
SELGA SE Road Safety Strategy Steering Group	Mr Rob Forgan (Convenor)	SELGA
SELGA Recreation and Sport Steering Committee	Mr Frank Brennan	Wattle Range Council
	Mr Rob Forgan	SELGA

Committee / Working Party	Representative	Council
	<i>From 01/02/13, the SELGA CEOs Group have assumed the role of Recreation and Sport Steering Committee.</i>	
SE Local Government Inspectorate Group (SELGIG)	Mr John Best (Convenor)	Wattle Range Council
SELGA Building Fire Safety Committee	Mayor Erika Vickery	Naracoorte Lucindale Council
	Cr Brian Collins	District Council of Grant
	Cr Dave Moreland (to 31/01/13)	Kingston District Council
	Mr Milan Hodak (from 01/02/13)	Kingston District Council
Coorong and Limestone Coast Coastal Management Committee	Cr Robert Mock	Tatiara District Council
Limestone Coast Economic Diversification Reference Group	Mayor Richard Vickery (Chair)	Tatiara District Council
	Dr Helen Macdonald	Naracoorte Lucindale Council
	Mr Mark McShane	City of Mount Gambier
	Mr Rob Forgan Ms Ann Aldersey	SELGA
SELGA – RDA Limestone Coast Funding Agreement Working Party (from 01/02/13 to 28/06/13)	Mayor Richard Vickery (Chair)	Tatiara District Council
	Mayor Richard Sage	Grant District Council
	Dr Helen Macdonald	Naracoorte Lucindale Council
	Mr Mark McShane	City of Mount Gambier
	Mr Trevor Smart	District Council of Grant
	Mr Frank Brennan Ms Ann Aldersey	SELGA
SELGA Development Assessment Panel Working Party	Mayor Richard Vickery (Chair)	Tatiara District Council
	Mayor Erika Vickery	Naracoorte Lucindale Council
	Mayor Peter Riseley	District Council of Robe
	Mr Trevor Smart	Grant District Council
	Mr Peter Harriott	Wattle Range Council

Association Representation – Other Bodies

SELGA has numerous representatives on working parties, boards and committees including State Government boards, cross border bodies and regional boards and committees. This representation allows SELGA to keep in touch with communities, and have input to new and existing initiatives.

During 2012-13, SELGA made or continued the following appointments to other bodies.

Board / Committee	Representative	Council
Anglicare Community Care	Mr Glenn Brown	Wattle Range Council
Limestone Coast Tourism	Cr Penny Richardson	City of Mount Gambier
	Cr Erika Vickery	Naracoorte Lucindale Council
	<i>Limestone Coast Tourism was disbanded in late 2012</i>	
Limestone Coast Community Services Roundtable	Mr Rob Forgan	SELGA
Regional Development Australia Limestone Coast	Mayor Richard Vickery	Tatiara District Council
	Mayor Erika Vickery	Naracoorte Lucindale Council
	Cr Harvey Nolan	District Council of Robe
	Cr Darren O'Halloran	Wattle Range Council
South East Natural Resources Management Board	Dr Helen Macdonald	Naracoorte Lucindale Council
SE Regional Bush Fire Prevention Committee	Mr David Hood	Naracoorte Lucindale Council
SE Resource Information Centre (SERIC)	Mr Tom Krieger	Naracoorte Lucindale Council
Green Triangle Freight Action Plan Implementation Group	Mr Rob Forgan	SELGA
	Proxy Cr Merv White	City of Mount Gambier
Group Training Employment (GTE)	Cr Julie Reis	District Council of Grant
South East Zone Emergency Management Committee	Mr Rob Forgan (Local Government Controller)	SELGA
	Mr Ken Stratton (Deputy Local Government Controller)	Grant District Council
Limestone Coast Strategic Youth Coalition	Mr Rob Forgan	SELGA

SELGA CEO's Forum

During 2012-13, the SELGA Council CEO's and the SELGA Executive Officer held bi-monthly forums, hosted by the Naracoorte Lucindale Council.

The purpose of the CEO Forum is to provide coordination and alignment on high priority operational issues between Councils.

Meetings explore opportunities for regional policy alignment, knowledge sharing, and coordinated approaches to common issues and operations. SELGA acknowledges the work of Mr Mark McShane (CEO City of Mount Gambier) as the convener of the Forum, and Mrs Lynne Dowling (Team Leader Executive Support, City of Mount Gambier) for executive support to the group.

Topics of discussion and briefings included:

- The NBN Rollout schedule and regional priority
- Regional training needs, including support from the LGA with identification of training opportunities
- The Limestone Coast Economic Diversification Forum, including regional approaches and representation
- Internal audit requirements and processes
- Regional disaster resilience and council planning for disaster resilience
- Opportunities for collaboration on Local Government procurement methods
- The opportunity for a regional project for submission under the Biodiversity Fund
- Fire and emergency management
- Regional Planning
- Road Safety partnerships
- SE Resource Information Centre
- Shared Services Projects
- Waste Management
- Tourism Industry Development Project Plan 2012-13

STRATEGIC ACTIVITIES 2012-2013

The reporting of the Association's activities during 2012-13 is grouped under the five strategic priorities of: infrastructure; economy; environment; social well being; and leadership, governance and financial sustainability.

Our Infrastructure

“Working together to ensure that Regional Infrastructure is fit for purpose and has the capacity to meet member Councils’ and the respective communities expectations.”

Infrastructure is a constant and priority issue for all SELGA Constituent Councils. The requirement for new and replacement infrastructure is critical for regional Australia. SELGA works closely with Regional Development Australia Limestone Coast to identify priority infrastructure projects and seek funding for key projects.

SELGA continues to advocate for improved infrastructure in critical areas of transport, health, education, communications and recreation.

Our Association was supportive of a number of Regional Development Australia funding projects providing evidence to support the submissions developed by member Councils.

In August 2012, the SELGA Executive Officer Rob Forgan presented to the 20th Local Government Roads and Works Conference on the infrastructure needs and challenges in the Limestone Coast.

Airports

The SELGA-initiated study into the existing and future infrastructure needs for airports owned and operated by Regional Councils was completed in June 2012. SELGA continues to work with the Constituent Councils with responsibilities for airports to further the recommendations of the report, as well as the LGA.

As the owner and operator of the Mount Gambier Airport, Grant District Council was awarded significant State Government funding in 2012-13 to undertake a runway lighting upgrade, and to develop a long term secure car park, which includes the development of a paid, secure car park for the increasing number of Fly In Fly Out employees.

SELGA Roads and Transport Working Group

The SELGA Roads and Transport Working Group focused on two priority projects for 2012-13: the process for identifying, evaluating and ranking roads projects that qualify for Special Local Roads Program (SLRP) Grant funding; and the development of the 2030 Regional Transport Plan.

Special Local Roads Program

\$1.405 million in roads funding was awarded to the region in 2012-13 under the Special Local Roads Program (Refer to Table 1).

Table 1: SELGA Special Local Roads Program Allocation 2012-13

Ranking	Project	Council	Stage	Purpose	SLRP (\$)
R1	Emu Flat Road 5 km of 21.3 km	Tatiara District Council	Year 2/4	Freight	325,000
R2	Border Road South 1.8 km of 3 km	District Council of Grant	Year 2/2	Social	100,000
R3	Mundulla-Padthaway Road 4.8 km	Tatiara District Council	Year 1/1	Freight	336,000
R4	Wrights Bay Road 1.75 km of 5.35	District Council of Robe	Year 1/3	Freight	204,400
R5	Old Coorong Road 10 km	Kingston District Council	Year 2/2	Tourism	80,000
R6	Mount Charles Road 9.6 km	Tatiara District Council	Year 1/1	Social	150,000
R7	Meyers Road 3 km of 10.6 km	District Council of Grant	Year 1/4	Tourism	210,000
TOTAL					1,405,000

In April 2013, SELGA endorsed eight road funding applications for consideration in the 2013-14 SLRP round, comprising five freight roads, two tourism roads and one community road for a total of \$2.11 million.

All submissions acknowledged Local Government Transport Advisory Panel requirements for financially sustaining the whole of life maintenance of the roads with each application undergoing an independent analysis and assessment.

These submissions sought 50% of total project costs for much needed road infrastructure work in the Limestone Coast.

SELGA 2030 Transport Plan

In June 2012, HDS Australia was engaged by SELGA to prepare its 2030 Transport Plan. The 2030 Transport Plan is a strategic level assessment of transport needs and priorities within the Limestone Coast region for the period from 2012 to 2030. It officially replaces the 2020 Transport Strategy, which has reached the end of its period of operation.

Overall, the project entailed three distinct stages, namely:

- Identification of land use and regional transport demands
- Development of updated Regionally Significant Routes for the South East, for freight, tourism and community demand; and
- Preparation of a Final Report.

The project was overseen by the SELGA Roads and Transport Working Group, who provided significant input into the planning process.

The Final Report is a study of the future requirements for the Limestone Coast region based on current and predicted demands for road, rail, sea and air transport for current and emerging industries, tourism and domestic vehicle movements.

The Plan provides a blueprint and a practical implementation plan to meet the transport infrastructure and transport service needs of the Limestone Coast that will enhance the economic development of the region.

The Final SELGA 2030 Regional Transport Plan will be considered for adoption at the October 2013 SELGA General Meeting.

Integrated Land Use and Transport Strategy

As part of the development of the South Australia Integrated Land Use and Transport Strategy, representatives from the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure met with SELGA Delegates and Constituent Council representatives in June 2013. SELGA provided input on the key regional issues for integrating land use and transport planning in the region. The draft Integrated Land Use and Transport Strategy is due for release at the end of September 2013.

South East Drainage Infrastructure

SELGA has long supported the work of the South Eastern Water Conservation and Drainage Board in maintaining and operating the regional drainage network, which delivers significant agriculture, transport and environmental benefits to the region. During the year, SELGA considered the proposed South East Flows Restoration Project, and worked with the Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources to consult with the South East community on the project.

The SELGA Board, and SELGA Constituent Councils also considered the South East Drainage System Operation and Management Bill (the SEDSOM Bill). In particular, SELGA strongly advocated against the introduction of a drainage levy on landowners.

SELGA continues to advocate at the regional, state and federal level for a well-maintained drainage and bridge network in the region, and seeks opportunities to attract ongoing government investment.

The Green Triangle Freight Action Plan

SELGA has an ongoing involvement in the Green Triangle Freight Action Plan (GTFAP) which was launched by the South Australian and Victorian Government Transport Ministers in April 2009. GTFAP includes the South East and the Western Districts of Victoria and sets out a range of key strategic investments needed to accommodate the current freight task, address capacity constraints, and manage the significant increase in freight due in part to the growth in the plantation timber industry.

SELGA in close collaboration with Regional Development Australia Limestone Coast and the South Australian Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure is a member of the GTFAP Implementation Management Group.

Together with Regional Development Australia Limestone Coast, SELGA supported an application by the Glenelg Shire Council to upgrade the Condah-Hotspur Road, an action identified in the Plan.

Telecommunications

SELGA continues to monitor changes and opportunities to Government policy and funding at Commonwealth and State Government levels by maintaining contact with Department of Further Education, Employment, Science and Technology, the Department for Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy, NBNCO, TELSTRA and Industry.

Heritage Advisory Services

The Heritage Advisory Service provides for the proper care and management of heritage assets within the Local Government areas of the City of Mount Gambier, Grant, Kingston, Naracoorte Lucindale, Tatiara and Wattle Range.

On 1st July 2012, the Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources (DEWNR) withdrew funding for the State Heritage Advisory Service. SELGA corresponded with the DEWNR Chief Executive regarding its concerns over the loss of this valuable service. SELGA raised concerns through SAROC and the LGA Board, resulting in correspondence with the Treasurer and the Minister for Sustainability, Environment and Conservation highlighting the impact of the removal of the State Heritage Advisory Service.

In 2012-13, SELGA engaged Habitable Places Architects to provide Heritage Advisory Services, with bi-monthly visits to the region. The cost of this service was met by participating SELGA Councils. This service was subject to a 6-month review. Following review, it was decided to continue the Heritage Advisory Service by Agreement with Habitable Places Architects during 2012-13.

A copy of the Heritage Adviser's Annual Report for 2012-13 is available from participating Councils or from SELGA.

Waste Management

Waste Management remains a critical regional infrastructure issue for all Member Councils and is a significant budget expense.

Opportunities continue to be sought for regional solutions and for shared services and facilities within our region and remains on the agenda.

Issues that received attention in 2012-13 included the Solid Waste Levy, e-Waste collection, the handling and disposal of green waste and the high cost of freighting recycled material from regional areas to metropolitan processing centres. During 2012-13, several councils and many townships have had to close landfills, which have been replaced by Waste Transfer Stations. Substantial costs have been incurred by those councils to export their waste to accredited landfill sites north of the River Murray.

Community Waste Water Management Schemes (CWMS)

SELGA rural Councils have been active in CWMS construction projects during the year. Work is continuing in this field with projects that utilise remote control systems. SELGA recognises the work of the SELGA CWMS Users Group.

Zero Waste SA

It was announced that the South Australian Government will wind up Zero Waste SA in 2015/2016. SELGA raised concerns regarding the increase in the Solid Waste Levy, and the continual inability of Local Government to access appropriate funding from the resulting Waste to Resources Fund. This issue was raised by SELGA in SAROC, which then furthered the matter with the Minister.

In May 2013, SELGA submitted a project application for funding under ZWSA's Regional Implementation Program for a Regional Waste Management Coordinator for the South East. If successful, the Coordinator would support SELGA Councils to further a number of initiatives, including regional waste management contracts, community engagement programs, compliance, and a regional waste management strategy.

Our Economy

“Working together to create a thriving and sustainable economy capitalising on our diverse assets, sustaining growth, prosperity and employment throughout the region.”

Limestone Coast Economic Diversification Forum and Reference Group

A key priority for SELGA in 2012-13 has been strong involvement in the Limestone Coast Economic Diversification Forum process.

To assist the Limestone Coast region identify opportunities for growth, The Premier convened the Limestone Coast Economic Diversification Forum (Forum) in September 2012. The event brought together twenty three visionary leaders with an understanding of the region’s challenges and ability to think innovatively around emerging and future economic development opportunities.

The final report *Limestone Coast Economic Diversification – Building a more prosperous future, Nov 2012* provided a blueprint for future actions for economic diversification in the region. It was intended that the outcome from the Forum would inform the work of the Premium Food and Wine from our Clean Environment and the Growing Advanced Manufacturing Cabinet Taskforces.

Following the release of the report, SELGA convened the Limestone Coast Economic Diversification Reference Group, in order to further the recommendations of the Forum in consultation with community and industry leaders, and finalise submissions to the Cabinet Taskforces.

The Limestone Coast Economic Diversification Reference Group (Reference Group) is chaired by SELGA President Richard Vickery. The Reference Group includes representatives from SELGA, Regional Development Australia Limestone Coast Board member Mr Alan Richardson and CEO Mr Mike Ryan, and works with Primary Industries and Regions South Australia (PIRSA) Regional Manager Limestone Coast Ms Peta Crewe, and Department of Manufacturing, Innovation, Trade, Resources and Energy representatives. SELGA has engaged Mr Dennis Mutton, the Forum’s convener, to form part of the Reference Group. SELGA has developed the Terms of Reference for the Reference Group.

The group meets monthly and continues to work with funding support from PIRSA and SELGA.

The Reference Group has provided submissions to the cross-agency Senior Officers Groups for Growing Advanced Manufacturing, and Premium Food and Wine from our Clean Environment.

Growing Advanced Manufacturing

The outcomes of the Forum called for value adding and diversification for existing industries in the region, specifically forestry and timber. To deliver these objectives, the South Australian Government has engaged VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland, as part of a \$1.08 million project to undertake a Cellulose Fibre Chain Value Study to identify a sustainable roadmap and achievable market opportunity for higher value activity in the forestry section.

The results of the Forum also highlighted opportunities for growth in renewable and alternative energy, a regional innovation hub, and the need to mobilise regional leaders. The Reference Group presented a series of recommendations for specific future actions to the Growing Advanced Manufacturing Senior Officer's Group.

Premium Food and Wine from our Clean Environment

To realise the outcomes of the Forum, The Reference Group has worked with the opportunities and challenges as detailed, and developed a number of proposals relating to: the beef/sheep meat industry, horticulture, wine, a Limestone Coast Innovation Hub, and mobilising regional leaders. Representatives of the Reference Group presented these recommendations to the Senior Officers Group in May 2013.

The recommendations to both of these groups have been to forward the proposals to the relevant Cabinet Taskforces to inform their priority setting, as intended by The Premier when the Forum was convened.

Since its formation in 2012, the Reference Group has undertaken the following actions:

- Provided a submission during the public consultation on the *Premium Food and Wine from our Clean Environment Concept Statement* to ensure the priorities for the Limestone Coast region fed into opportunities for successful delivery of this strategic document.
- The City of Mt Gambier Mayor and CEO met with the Minister Agriculture, Food & Fisheries, Regional Development & Forestry to provide an update on the work of the Reference Group.
- Conducted a Livestock Focus Group discussion with significant support from DEWNR Regional Landcare Facilitators.
- Reference Group members met with the Chief Executive of PIRSA.
- Participated in Cellulose Fibre Value Chain Study. Two members of the Reference Group sit on the Steering Committee for this project.
- Chaired two public briefing sessions on the VTT project, at the request of DMITRE.
- Engaged with University of South Australia regarding an Innovation Hub.
- Met with Professor Goran Roos, Chair of VTT Steering Committee and Chair of the Advanced Manufacturing Council.
- Provided updates at SELGA meetings in April and June.

PIRSA Regional Manager Peta Crewe has provided considerable time and expertise to the Reference Group, and has been instrumental in furthering a wide range of actions.

Regional Development Australia Limestone Coast (RDALC)

Regional Development Australia is a partnership between three levels of Government to support the development of regional Australia.

SELGA is a partner in a Funding Agreement 2010 - 2013 with the Minister for Regional Development and RDALC. This Agreement forms a tripartite commitment to economic development in the Limestone Coast region.

Local Government is represented on RDALC by four SELGA Constituent Council representatives.

In September 2012, Mr Mark Braes resigned as Chair of RDALC. SELGA recognises the strong leadership role that Mark performed during his time as Chair, and welcomes Dr Ruth Schubert to the position of Chair.

The State Government signalled during 2012 that it would no longer fund RDA organisations after 30 June 2013. SELGA strongly advocated for the retention of State funding for RDAs, highlighting the value in the tripartite relationship and the importance of State funding for the sustainability of the RDA model. As part of this advocacy, SELGA wrote to the Independent Member for Mt Gambier and Member for MacKillop to lobby for Members of State Parliament to secure the continuation of State Government operational funding for RDAs post 30 June 2013.

Despite the impact on the sustainability of RDAs without State funding, the State Government confirmed its intention to cease funding provision. Throughout 2012-13, SELGA worked with RDALC to put in place a funding agreement for post 30 June 2013, including the development of alignment of strategic objectives and key performance indicators. In June 2013, SELGA endorsed the establishment of a Funding Agreement with RDALC for two years, to 30 June 2015.

SELGA and RDALC continue to collaborate on various issues, and in particular on actions arising from the Economic Diversification Forum.

SELGA has provided significant input into RDALC Roadmap and Business Planning documents. RDALC provide regular updates to delegates at SELGA General Meetings and the RDALC monthly, quarterly reports are distributed to Constituent Councils via SELGA's Executive Officer.

For a copy of the Regional Development Australia Limestone Coast 2012-2013 Annual Report visit: www.rdalimestonecoast.org.au

Regional Development Australia Fund (RDAF)

The Regional Development Australia Fund is providing almost \$1 billion over five years to finance projects that will boost economic and community development in regional Australia.

The Regional Development Australia Fund (RDAF) represents an opportunity to address infrastructure needs in regional communities. Applications must be endorsed by local Regional Development Australia (RDA) Committees and align with the Regional Development Australia Limestone Coast "*Regional Roadmap*".

The RDAF was rolled out over five rounds. In 2012-13, SELGA Constituent Councils submitted a number of applications for Rounds Three, Four and Five.

- RDAF Round Three was worth \$50 million and provided grants of between \$50,000 and \$500,000 for projects located in towns with a population of 30,000 or less. Two applications were submitted from SELGA Constituent Councils, from the Robe District Council, and the Tatiara District Council. The Tatiara District Council was awarded \$115,600 for the upgrade of the Mundulla Bowling Club Green.
- RDAF Round Four will allocate \$175 million through grants of between \$500,000 and \$15 million for priority regional infrastructure projects that also leverage funding from state and local governments and the private sector. Three Councils submitted applications in Round Four, in June 2013, it was announced that the District Council of Grant will be awarded \$726,127 for the upgrade of the Port MacDonnell marina; however this contract is yet to be finalised.

- RDAF Round 5 will provide \$953,405 for Local Government across region, however it is yet to be confirmed.

Regional Tourism

SELGA Consistent Councils continue to support tourism industry development across the Limestone Coast. SELGA, together with the Coorong District Council, are partners in a Funding Agreement with RDALC to engage a Tourism Development Officer for the Limestone Coast.

This long standing partnership enabled the forward planning and implementation of marketing strategies that would maintain and increase visitor numbers to our Limestone Coast region.

As in 2011-12, the South Australian Tourism Commission (SATC) investment in regional tourism was redirected to pooling marketing dollars in a drive to generate greater impact and to concentrate on reversing the trend of falling intrastate visitors.

In late 2012-13, SATC announced that it was increasing its allocation to regions in 2012-13 and 2013-14. SELGA welcomed the \$30,000 per year contribution of SATC to support the provision of a local tourism contact person in the region, and the implementation of priority actions.

Employed by RDALC, the Tourism Development Officer Biddie Shearing continues to drive tourism development in the region with a focus on access, on-line distribution, events, experiences and accommodation and tourism infrastructure. The tourism program for the region continues to deliver a number of actions from the Limestone Coast Destination Action Plan, including a focus on facilitating an increase in four star accommodation, and preparation to host cruise ships in Robe.

South Australian Centre for Economic Studies

The LGA, in conjunction with RDA SA commissioned the South Australian Centre for Economic Studies (SACES) to conduct an independent review of the seven Regional Development Australia Boards in South Australia, and provide recommendations on business structure, role and future service delivery on behalf of local, state and federal government agencies.

SELGA Consistent Councils, and SELGA via SAROC, provided information toward the review, including an assessment of the performance of RDA Limestone Coast.

The review made a number of key recommendations, including the need for the State Government to reinstate core funding to RDAs, as well as the improved collaboration of State Government with RDA Board Chairs and CEOs.

South East Resource Information Centre (SERIC)

SELGA is a funding partner of the South East Resource Information Centre, a non-profit organisation established in 2003 by a group of partners from government and non government organisations including agencies, local government and industry.

SERIC has assisted Constituent Councils and SELGA in their decision making and management by employing spatial technologies and utilising data and products held and developed by SERIC. During 2012-13, SERIC provided key information to support the development of the 2030 Regional Transport Plan, as well as a number of council specific projects.

Industry

Throughout 2012-13, SELGA continued to advocate on behalf of the region's industries, in particular the forestry, horticulture and livestock industries. In October 2012, the Select Committee on Sustainable Farming Practices visited the South East region. SELGA supported the visit by providing links to industry innovators, relevant industry groups, as well as making a submission to the Committee.

Bio-security for the Potato Industry

In response to concerns regarding the bio-security threat posed to the State's potato industry by the import of whole potatoes to Australia, SELGA led a State-wide campaign with other regional LGAs for the strengthening of quarantine restrictions. In particular, the threat of imported potatoes introducing 'zebra stripe' to Australia poses a considerable risk to industry and communities in the region. SELGA wrote to:

- the Member for Barker expressing our fear for the Limestone Coast and the Australian potato industry with a recent Federal Government report suggesting reversing an import ban on NZ potatoes; and
- Independent South Australian Senator Nick Xenophon supporting his continued efforts that call for both sides of politics to amend the Quarantine Act, amendments that will prevent risks to Australian Bio-Security and protect Australian primary industries and regional communities.; and further to the recommendation write to;
- All South Australian Senators and the Hon Joe Ludwig, Federal Minister for Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries & the Shadow Minister for Agriculture and Food Security, John Cobb, MP

The SELGA Executive Officer coordinated a joint submission from the Presidents of the South East, the Murray and Mallee, Southern and Hills, and the Central Local Government Associations on this issue.

Live Animal Export Trade

In late 2012 the City of Port Adelaide Enfield passed a motion to advocate for the phasing out of the live animal export trade. In order to raise awareness regarding the negative impact of this motion on the economy of the South East, and other regional areas of South Australia, SELGA brought the matter to SAROC. Further, SELGA representatives met with the LGA to discuss the need for a common Local Government approach to this issue, as well as meeting with the Mayor of the City of Port Adelaide Enfield.

Our Environment

“Working together, to responsibly manage our natural environment and resources, ensuring its sustainability and diversity”.

South East Natural Resources Management (SENRM) Board

The SENRM Board plays an active role in the management of the region's soil, water, ecosystems, coast and marine environments.

The SENRM Board Presiding Member, the Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources Regional Manager and other NRM staff addressed SELGA Delegates throughout 2012-13 on various issues, including the Lower Limestone Coast Water Allocation Plan, the NRM levy, community programs, pest plant and animal control and the Board's Strategic and annual business plans.

SELGA provided input into the SENRM draft Business Plan for 2013-14.

Frank Brennan, former CEO of Wattle Range Council is the Presiding Member of the NRM Board. SELGA is currently represented on the SENRM Board by Dr Helen Macdonald of Naracoorte Lucindale Council.

In April 2013, SELGA submitted an application for funding under the Australian Government's Biodiversity Fund for the 'Improving Strategic Biodiversity Conservation on Community Land – Limestone Coast'.

Native Vegetation

SELGA and SELGA Constituent Councils continued to provide input to the Department for Planning, Transport and Infrastructure (DPTI) and the Native Vegetation Council on the issue of providing safer road infrastructure and in particular road side vegetation. This matter was also addressed through comment provided on the Native Vegetation (Road Verges) Amendment Bill 2012.

Coast and Marine

Marine Parks

Nineteen South Australian Marine Parks were proclaimed in 2012, including the Upper South East and Lower South East Marine Parks. SELGA maintained its position on Marine Parks acknowledging the intent of the Marine Park legislation and the importance of protecting our marine environment, and the need to balance regional economic and community interests.

SELGA remained supportive of our coastal Councils and their communities and the position taken by the SE Professional Fisherman's Association and the SE Recreational Fisherman's Association.

Limestone Coast and Coorong Coastal Management Group (LCCCMG)

The commitment shown by members of the Limestone Coast and Coorong Coastal Management Group (LCCCMG) helps manage our region's coastal environment in a balanced and sustainable manner.

The LCCCMG is a sub-committee of SELGA and was formed in 2003 to implement the Limestone Coast and Coorong Action Plan. SELGA coastal Councils are represented on the LCCCMG alongside State Government environment, water and tourism bodies. The Group was involved with a number of projects throughout the year including Connecting People to the Coast, Caring for our Country Community Grants, the Biodiversity Fund and the Coastal Gardens Demonstration project.

With the support of the Group, SELGA submitted a successful application to the Australian Government Caring for Our Country Target Area Grants 2013-14 for the Limestone Coastwatchers project.

Implementing the Limestone Coast and Coorong Coastal Action Plan (LCCCAP) Project

The Australian Government Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities has granted \$2.312m over 6 years for key projects in the Limestone Coast (SE) region.

The "Implementing the Limestone Coast and Coorong Coastal Action Plan" project is a collaboration between SELGA and the Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources (DEWNR) and is designed to advance the priority issues detailed in the Caring for Country funded Limestone Coast and Coorong Coastal Action Plan (LCCCAP).

The LCCCAP identified 53 core conservation actions for the 427km, 124,568 ha section of the South Australian Coast and aims to address the identified key bio diversity actions particularly:

- Managing threats to biodiversity from introduced weeds, animals and erosion
- Improving habitat resilience
- Conserving valuable habitats and species.

The project commenced during 2012-13, and delivered a number of key activities, including:

- Formation of a Project Steering Committee which met a number of times during the year;
- Development of a Ranger Program with Burrundies Aboriginal Corporation, to provide opportunities for Indigenous Rangers to be involved with on-ground activities.
- School coastal activity days, including shorebird monitoring and controlling marine debris.
- A Coastal Community Group forum was held in August, and a range of community group representatives travelled to Torquay to view on-ground activities of similar volunteer groups.
- An information session for Coastal Landholders.
- Community information material in regional publications (for example, in *From the Ground Up*), and the development of posters for the identification of Spiny Rush for distribution to chemical re-sellers, community groups and within affected communities.
- Three rounds of fox control in coastal habitat.

Our Social Wellbeing

“Working together to enhance the quality of life and the vitality of our regional community”.

SELGA Regional Recreation and Sport STARCLUB Program

Following application for funding to the Office for Sport and Recreation (ORS), SELGA was awarded \$50,000 per annum for three years to engage a STARCLUB Field Officer in the region. SELGA Constituent Councils provide matching funding to the program. The SELGA STARCLUB Field Officer Josephine Duigan works with sport and recreation clubs across the Limestone Coast region to become STARCLUBS. A STARCLUB is a well-run club where quality coaches and officials work alongside valued volunteers in a safe and welcoming environment. All clubs in the Limestone Coast are eligible to participate.

During 2012-13, 96 sporting clubs in the region became registered STARCLUBs, which represents approximately 40 percent of sporting clubs in the region.

The STARCLUB Field Officer maintains ongoing communication regarding recreation and sport activities in the region via the Sports SE e-News, direct mail outs, Sports Network meetings and the regular fortnightly segment on ABC SE Local Radio. This also includes communication to clubs to access sports and recreational funding.

During 2012-13, a total of \$466,293 grants were awarded in the region, including:

- Active Club Grants (2 rounds) \$104,293 for 24 clubs
- Community Recreation and Sports Facilities Program \$362,000 for 11 clubs

SELGA applied for a number of grants for regional recreation and sport initiatives, including:

- Office for Recreation and Sport Grant - Regional Trails Master Plan.
- Australian Sports Commission - Multicultural Youth Sports Partnership Program in conjunction with the Soccer United Program at Tenison Woods College

The STARCLUB Field Officer maintains an active communication network for all sports clubs in the region, which includes a Web Site, E News, Twitter, LinkedIn, Face Book, as well as a comprehensive and up to date email distribution list for clubs / associations in the Limestone Coast. In the last six months, the regional distribution list has doubled in size to contain over 400 contacts. In addition, the Field Officer provides one-on-one consultation with individual STARCLUBs regularly.

As part of the STARCLUB Program, numerous sports network meetings were held across the Limestone Coast throughout the year and timed with the release of Office and Sport Recreation Grants.

Various courses were conducted throughout the region over the previous 12 months, including:

- Child Safe Officer training
- Strategic Planning
- Essentials for Coaching Children

- Promotion of other training opportunities including Sports Medicine Australia training sessions via 'special event' Enews.

sportSE Sports Star Awards Program

Following its approval by SELGA in March 2012, planning is well underway to host the inaugural sportSE Sports Star of the Year Awards in September 2013. The event has attracted significant sponsors, a panel of well-regarded judges and a local media partner in the ABC. There are five categories of Athlete, Coach, Club, Volunteer/Official and Event of the Year. Monthly winners were presented with certificates from September 2012, and the annual winners will be announced at the Awards event in September.



Special Olympics Limestone Coast

The STARCLUB Field Officer commenced working with interested community members to provide sport and recreation opportunities and pathways for people with disabilities. The Field Officer is the secretary and media liaison for the Special Olympics Limestone Coast (SOLC). The annual Regional Games – incorporating soccer, basketball, ten pin bowling, mixed netball and Riding for the Disabled are held annually in September at various locations in Mount Gambier. The Field Officer manages all meeting agendas and minutes, program planning, and OHS requirements.

Every Generation – Celebrate Seniors - October

The STARCLUB Field Officer provided support for Every Generation - Celebrate Seniors Month in October. This included attending regular planning meetings at The City of Mount Gambier over a 6 month period in the lead up to the celebration, participating in the Every Generation - Celebrate Seniors Expo held in Mount Gambier, promoting Council of the Aging grant opportunities throughout the region and managing the nominations for two (winning) Recreation Senior of the Year awards.

Active Community Team Challenge – November

In partnership with Life Be in it, OPAL and the City of Mount Gambier, Naracoorte Lucindale Council and the Wattle Range Council Councils, the Active Community Team Challenge was held in Naracoorte, Mount Gambier and Millicent over an 8 week period in the Spring of 2012.

Heart Foundation Walking Groups Limestone Coast

In collaboration with the Heart Foundation, walking group leaders were trained in preparation for a new program of social walks. The walking program is conducted by 14 different groups at different locations around the South East including Mount Gambier, Bordertown, Frances, Robe, Kingston and Naracoorte.

Indigenous Games - March

In conjunction with The Office for Recreation and Sport Indigenous Field Officer and Pangula Manamurna, sport based activities were conducted during Reconciliation Week.

Health

SELGA advocated for the improved delivery of regional mental health services and the introduction of specialist mental health programs such as “Headspace” and “Streetlink”. Our Local Members provided support to SELGA’s campaign for mental health services and the introduction of a regional sexual assault response service to assist victims.

The Greater Green Triangle University Department of Rural Health (GGTUDRH) is one of eleven Australian UDRHs and is part of the Australian Rural Health Education network and has a strong presence in the region with offices in Mount Gambier, Hamilton and Warrnambool. The GGTUDRH was established in 2000 and has a dispersed network of multi disciplinary student support, teaching and research sites embedded throughout the region and in metropolitan Victoria and South Australia. City of Mount Gambier Councillor Jim Maher is a member of the GGTUDRH Board.

Throughout the year, SELGA advocated for the State Government to maintain the Drug and Alcohol Service in the Limestone Coast, highlighting the importance of this service as part of integrated health services in the region. SELGA received a briefing from the Drug and Alcohol Services South Australia to further understand and advocate for this issue.

Education

SELGA undertakes a range of advocacy actions to promote lifelong education opportunities in the region. The Association also continues to advocate to address issues that discriminate against regional students.

Educational organisations that received SELGA’s support during the year include, the Education Partnership Broker program, UniSA, Deakin University, the Service to Youth Council and Group Training Employment. A number of SELGA representatives attended the Partnership Brokers Dinner at Coonawarra in June, which aims to facilitate relationships between local government, employers and schools.

SELGA continues its role on the Strategic Youth Council.

SELGA continues as a key stakeholder in the Australian Government’s Regional Educational, Skills and Jobs Plan for the Limestone Coast 2012-2014, and is involved in the implementation of a number of strategies promoting a regional approach to overcome barriers to education, training and workforce development.

South East Road Safety Strategy

The SE Road Safety Strategy was launched in February 2008 as a result of our community's desire to stem the devastating impact of road trauma.

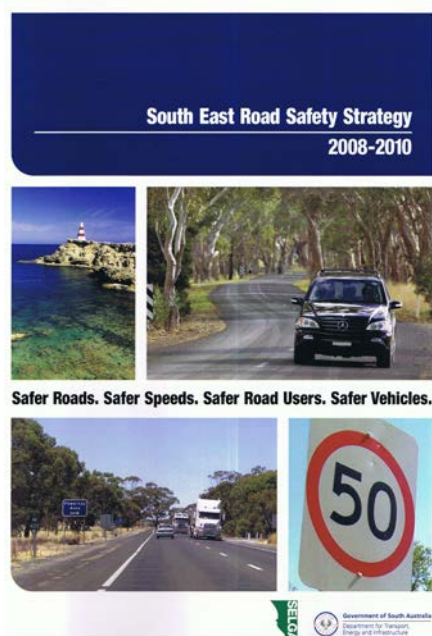
The SE Road Safety Strategy Steering Group meets regularly and comprises members from four active Community Road Safety Groups and the Emergency Services network in the Limestone Coast and is convened by SELGA's Executive Officer. The Group continues to introduce a number of regional initiatives that support and complement the work of the dedicated Community Road Safety Groups.

A key initiative in 2012-13 was the application for funds to engage a Regional Road Safety Officer for the Limestone Coast, in order to further a number of actions from the Strategy. Following discussions with the Motor Accident Commission, an application was submitted for a three year project to engage an officer to work with the community road safety groups on a range of regional projects. The outcome of this application is still pending.

Some of the initiatives and achievements of 2012-13 include:

- At appropriate times of the year, screen successful television campaigns such as "Lights On, see and be seen" "Fatigue" and "Wildlife on our Roads" on the WIN TV Network.
- Community Vehicle Safety Check. The SE Road Safety Steering group facilitated the coordination of free safety checks in collaboration with Rotary Clubs in Mount Gambier, Millicent and Naracoorte. These free safety checks generated an overwhelming response in the three regional centres and the past year has seen this initiative expanded to Bordertown and Western Victoria. SELGA acknowledges the tremendous support of Rotary in making this a resounding success.
- Country Football Road Safety promotion. SELGA promoted the road safety message at the Kowree Naracoorte Tatiara, MID SE and Western Border football and netball league final series in 2012.
- SELGA updated weekly their innovative road safety message "No Winners Here" on the Country Footy SA website throughout season 2012.
- Development of advertisements for placement in regional media that address regional road safety issues.

SELGA acknowledges the dedication and the commitment of the volunteer members of the SE Road Safety Strategy Steering group, Regional Community Road Safety Groups and the initial seed funding from the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure (DPTI) and the cooperation of our regional Television and Radio network.





SE Zone Emergency Management Committee

At a regional level Local Government continues to take on an integral role within the South East Zone Emergency Management Committee.

The SE Zone Emergency Management Committee (ZEMC) is responsible for the local planning to support the State Emergency Plan. SELGA's Executive Officer is a member of the Zone Emergency Centre Committee (ZECC). The ZECC is formed to ensure that the coordinated resources within Zone Emergency Centres are activated swiftly to support the Control Agency resolve an emergency.

During 2012-13 there were no activations of the Zone Emergency Centre Committee in response to regional emergencies that called upon SELGA.

SELGA Council representatives participated in Risk Assessment Workshops for flood, earthquake, extreme weather, extreme storm and extreme heat, animal and plant disease and bushfire.

Rural property addressing across the Limestone Coast has been successfully implemented, providing all occupied rural properties, homes and businesses, with a numbered property address. This will be consistent with the national standards for Australia and New Zealand.

The Regional Commander for CFS Region 5 addressed SELGA at the December 2012 meeting and provided a briefing on the summer bushfire threat to our region.

Our Leadership, Governance and Financial Sustainability

“Working together, providing leadership to our region and ensuring efficient, effective and sustainable management of the community’s resources”.

Local Excellence Expert Panel

Chaired by former Minister, the Hon Greg Crafter, the Expert Panel is working on the development of a blueprint for the ‘Council of the Future’. The Panel comprises Mr Crafter, former Justice Christine Trenorden and Professor Graham Sansom. The Panel is considering issues including: services delivery and shared services; State and Commonwealth Government expectations of Local Government; governance and integrity; responsibility to communities; infrastructure responsibilities; over-regulation; and opportunities and partnerships.

In November 2012, SELGA hosted the Expert Panel in Naracoorte to provide regional feedback. The meeting was attended by all Panel members, and Mayors, Elected Members, CEOs and staff of SELGA Constituent Councils. SELGA was the only regional LGA to host the Expert Panel in South Australia.

The Expert Panel has sought responses from regional representatives for a regional view on the challenges and opportunities facing local government over the next 20-30 years, and has engaged with Council staff and Elected Members, State and Commonwealth Ministers and Members of Parliament, as well as public hearings, independent experts and industry associations.

The Panel is expected to report its findings in October 2013.

Charter Review and Change of Name

In October 2012, SELGA resolved to investigate the process required to change the Association’s name to the Limestone Coast Local Government Association. Legal advice was sought on the process to undertake the change. Concurrently, it was resolved to undertake a review of the SELGA Charter, to ensure its currency and appropriateness for the future. This work continued throughout the remainder of the year, and will progress into 2013-14.

Shared Services

SELGA has established a state wide reputation for cooperation between its Constituent Councils. This cooperation exists at multiple levels that include SELGA delegates, Chief Executive Officers, Senior Officer and operational levels. Forums attended by Delegates, CEO’s and staff result in the identification of further opportunities for the sharing of services that are likely to capture efficiencies and cost savings by pooling resources and expertise.

This year, examples of SELGA’s long history in shared services continue in areas such as CWMS, Corporate Services and Waste Management. The Wattle Range Council has led the establishment of a group to further the development of a Regional Public Health Plan, which will continue into 2013-14.

SELGA continues to explore opportunities for further shared services that will increase the sustainability of councils and build capacity within our region.

Regional Development Assessment Panel Working Party

In 2009-10 SELGA engaged planning consultants Connor Holmes to undertake a strategic Regional Planning Review in accordance with section 30 of the *Development Act 1993* on behalf of SELGA Councils. The final SELGA Section 30 Report was completed in May 2010 and included a number of strategic recommendations for a regional model for development planning and assessment.

In April 2013, SELGA resolved to form a Working Party to investigate the formation of a Regional Development Assessment Panel, or Panels, for the South East. Building on the direction of the Connor Holmes Report, the Working Party met in April 2013 to discuss a number of components of a potential regional model, including streamlined regional processes for Development Plan Amendment approvals, Regional Development Plans and Development Assessment Panels. The Working Group, with support of the LGA, will continue its work into 2013-14 to assess the feasibility and options for a regional model, and will report back to SELGA Constituent Councils in October 2013.

Limestone Coast Regional Planning Framework

This Planning Strategy provides a physical and policy framework to assist in reaching the various targets outlined in South Australia's Strategic Plan and was released by the Hon John Rau, Minister for Urban Development, Planning in late August 2011.

The Planning Strategy is applicable to all member Councils; and

- Provides a framework for development based on principles of ecologically sustainable development and management of regional South Australia; and
- Promotes an environment of certainty for investors, State agencies, local government and the community by providing a clear indication of the State Government's policy directions for the physical development of regional South Australia.

South Australian Strategic Plan (SASP)

SELGA is an Alliance Member of the Community Engagement Board supporting the strategic objectives in the Regional South Australian Strategic Plan. The SELGA Strategic Plan is aligned to the priorities of the South Australian Strategic Plan.

Regional Communities Consultative Committee (RCCC)

The RCCC is an independent advisory body chaired by Mr. Peter Blacker with the ability to make recommendations to the Minister for Regional Development on matters of importance that will strengthen the capacity of regional communities. SELGA delivered their presentation "Opportunities, Issues and Local Solutions" to members of the RCCC on the occasion of their SE regional visit in June 2012.

SELGA Policies

In April 2013, SELGA formally adopted:

- A Risk Management Policy to protect SELGA employees, assets, liabilities and community against potential losses and to minimize uncertainty in achieving SELGA goals and objectives;
- A General Ledger Policy to outline the procedures for the management of SELGA's Chart of Accounts and General Ledger by staff/contractors involved in financial transactions and management reporting; and
- A Fraud and Corruption Prevention Policy to protect SELGA's revenue, expenditure and property from any attempt, either by its members, the community, contractors or its own employees to gain by deceit, financial or other benefits.

Representations and Submissions

Throughout the year, SELGA made a number of submissions to advocate on key regional issues. Submissions were made to:

- The Australian Sports Foundation regarding ASF Sports Incentive Program Grant (July 2012).
- Regional Development Australia to support their submission to seek funding for a Business Advisory Officer to be based in the mid-upper South East, including correspondence to Don Pegler MP and Member for Mackillop Mitch Williams (August 2012).
- Ms Jane Jeffreys, Chair and CEO of SATC, to invite SATC to address SELGA Delegates on SATC marketing activities in the Limestone Coast (August 2012).
- The Parliamentary Select Committee on Sustainable Farming Practices (September 2012).
- The Member for Barker expressing our fear for the Limestone Coast and the Australian potato industry with a recent Federal Government report suggesting reversing an import ban on NZ potatoes (September 2012).
- Independent South Australian Senator Nick Xenophon supporting his continued efforts that call for both sides of politics to amend the Quarantine Act, amendments that will prevent risks to Australian Bio-Security and protect Australian primary industries and regional communities.; and further recommend to write to all South Australian Senators and the Hon Joe Ludwig, Federal Minister for Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries & the Shadow Minister for Agriculture and Food Security, John Cobb MP (September 2012).
- The Minister for Veterans Affairs, the Hon Warren Snowden MP, and Member for Barker, Patrick Secker MP, expressing concern at the decision to reduce funding for SE Veterans Information Centre (October 2012).
- The Treasurer, Hon Jack Snelling MP, the Minister for Forests, Hon Gail Gago MLC, and the Minister for State/Local Government Relations, Hon Russell Wortley MLC seeking clarification on the operation of the South Australian Forestry Corporation Act 2000 (October 2012).
- The Minister for Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities Tony Burke MP regarding the potential impacts on fish stocks, fishery operations and regional communities of permitting super trawlers to operate in Australian waters (October 2012).
- The Minister for Environment, Sustainability and Conservation Hon Paul Caica MP regarding action on the over abundance of kangaroos in the Lower South East, and seeking support for a cull (October 2012).
- The South Australian Tourism Commission regarding the importance of Council-run Visitor Information Centres to the State's tourism industry (October 2012).
- NBN Co Stakeholder Manager for Rural Australia Duncan Bremner regarding delay in connection and interim wireless points (October 2012).
- District Council of Grant to support the 'Geared 2 Drive' program submission (October 2012).

- The Glenelg Shire Council to support its funding application under Round Four of the Regional Development Australia Fund for the upgrading of the Condah-Hotspur Upper Road (April 2013).
- WIN Television expressing concerns over their cutting of the local WIN TV news and requesting they reinstate the service (April 2013).
- Senator Nick Xenophon expressing support for his draft legislation to protect regional South Australia from cuts to its local news services (April 2013).
- Patrick Secker MP, Member for Barker, expressing concern over the cuts to the local WIN TV news and requesting his support to have it reinstated (April 2013).
- The Hon Michael O'Brien, Minister for Road Safety, to seek clarification on the timing and process of the review of rural speed limits in South Australia (June 2013).

Financial Management

Financial Statements to 30th June, 2013

Regular financial reports are presented at each SELGA General Meeting. The Audited Financial Statements for 2012-13 are included at the rear of this report.

Into 2013-2014

General meetings will continue to be held on the first Friday of the months of August, October, December, February, April and June. The Annual General Meeting will be held on the first Friday in February in Naracoorte.

Program for 2013-2014

October 2013	Naracoorte Town Hall
December 2013	Hosted by Wattle Range Council
February 2014	AGM and GM Hosted by Naracoorte Lucindale Council
April 2014	Hosted by Kingston District Council
June 2014	Naracoorte Town Hall
August 2014	Hosted by the District Council of Grant

Acknowledgements

SELGA members, delegates, past and present are recognised for their dedication and commitment, many of whom have provided local government representation on internal and external committees and working parties, and who have been well supported by Constituent Council CEO's and staff.

Our People



Rob Forgan

Rob Forgan served in the role of Executive Officer to 8th February 2013. Rob's dedication, integrity and considerable expertise was highly valued by SELGA Delegates and Council staff, as well as the range of community and agency representatives he worked with to advocate for SELGA Councils and the region.



Josephine Duigan

As the SELGA STARCLUB Field Officer, Josephine (left) brings dedication and commitment to engaging and supporting the region's sporting clubs, as well as going to great lengths to support regional sporting events such as the Limestone Coast Special Olympics.



Ann Aldersey

Ann Aldersey (right) commenced in the role of Executive Officer on 20 May 2013.

Local Government Association of South Australia

The Local Government Association of South Australia has continued to provide support to SELGA and its members. We acknowledge the contributions from SAROC President Kym McHugh, CEO Wendy Campana and the many LGA staff that have supported SELGA during the year.

Local Government Research and Development Scheme

The annual capacity building grant from the Local Government R&D Scheme supporting SELGA activities in 2012-13 that has been applied across a range of Association activities building regional capacity, e.g. Limestone Coast Economic Diversification Reference Group, and development of the SELGA 2030 Regional Transport Plan.

Office of State and Local Government Relations (OSLGR)

Representatives from the OSLGR subject to availability attended SELGA General Meetings in 2012-13 providing briefings of relevance on matters that their Office is addressing. SELGA welcomed a number of OSLGR representatives during 2012-13.

Regional Development Australia – Limestone Coast

Regional Development Australia Limestone Coast continues to provide significant administrative support to SELGA on a daily basis. SELGA acknowledges the substantial and professional support provided by the Board and in particular the administrative and accounting services provided by Julie Scott, Dani McKinnon and Jan Shanahan.

The SE Natural Resources Management (SENRM) Board and the Department for Environment, Water and Natural Resources (DEWNR)

SELGA and the SENRM Board continue to work together to strengthen their relationship and communication in order to improve coordination of service delivery to enhance regional natural resource management initiatives.

SELGA has developed a close working relationship with staff from the South East Coastal team of DEWNR responsible for the ongoing delivery of the Implementing the Limestone Coast and Coorong Coastal Action Plan Project.

Limestone Coast Regional Media

SELGA acknowledges the role of the regional media and thanks them for their support in 2012-13 and the contribution made by Mr Fred Smith.

Ann Aldersey

Executive Officer

SELGA

10 September 2013



Accountants, Auditors
& Business Consultants

Laurie Galpin FCPA
David Chant FCPA
Simon Smith FCPA
David Sullivan CPA
Jason Seidel CA
Renaë Nicholson CA
Tim Muhlhausler CA
Aaron Coonan CA
Luke Williams CPA

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF SOUTH EAST LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION INC

Report on the Financial Report

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of South East Local Government Association Inc, which comprises the balance sheet as at 30th June 2013, and the income statement for the year then ended, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the statement by the members of the committee.

The Committee's Responsibility for the Financial Report

The Committee is responsible for the preparation of the financial report, and has determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 1 is appropriate to meet the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act (SA) and are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The Committee's responsibility also includes such internal control as the Committee determines is necessary to enable the preparation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

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

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

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

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w www.galpins.com.au

Liability limited by a scheme approved
under Professional Standards Legislation

Independence

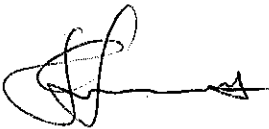
In conducting our audit, we have complied with the independence requirements of the Australian professional accounting bodies.

Audit Opinion

In our opinion, the financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of South East Local Government Association Inc as at 30 June 2013, and its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements, and the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act (SA).

Basis of Accounting and Restriction on Distribution

Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to Note 1 to the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared to assist South East Local Government Association Inc to meet the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act (SA). As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose.

GALPINS ACCOUNTANTS, AUDITORS & BUSINESS CONSULTANTS

Simon Smith FCPA, Registered Company Auditor
Partner

233 Commercial Street West, Mount Gambier. SA 5290

Dated this 29th day of August 2013

SOUTH EAST LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION INC.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2013

NOTE 1: STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial report is a special purpose financial prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act (SA). The Committee has determined that the organisation is not a reporting entity.

The financial report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act (SA). There is no requirement to apply accounting standards, UIG Consensus Views or other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board in the preparation of the financial report.

The statements are prepared on an accruals basis. They are based on historic costs and do not take into account changing money values or, except where specifically stated, current valuations of non-current assets.

SOUTH EAST LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

PO BOX 1445
MOUNT GAMBIER SA 5290
Ph: 08 87231057 Fax: 0887231286

Balance Sheet [Last Year Analysis]**June 2013**

	This Year	Last Year
Assets		
Cheque Account	\$10,866.71	\$8,048.89
Business Access Saver Account	\$206,445.43	\$179,415.55
Total Assets	<u>\$217,312.14</u>	<u>\$187,464.44</u>
Liabilities		
Trade Creditors	\$2,467.72	\$4,251.78
Unspent Funds (RR&S)	\$32,106.14	\$25,044.07
Funds Rec in Advance	\$30,000.00	\$0.00
GST Liabilities		
GST Control Account	\$3,941.00	\$912.00
GST Paid	-\$133.43	-\$250.09
Total GST Liabilities	<u>\$3,807.57</u>	<u>\$661.91</u>
Payroll Liabilities		
PAYG Payable	\$6,272.00	\$4,061.00
Superannuation Payable	\$1,090.35	\$0.00
Workcover Payable	-\$369.00	\$296.53
Accrued A/Leave	\$2,532.65	\$6,388.60
Total Payroll Liabilities	<u>\$9,526.00</u>	<u>\$10,746.13</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>\$77,907.43</u>	<u>\$40,703.89</u>
Net Assets	<u>\$139,404.71</u>	<u>\$146,760.55</u>
Equity		
Retained Earnings	\$146,760.55	\$131,552.60
Current Year Earnings	-\$7,355.84	\$15,207.95
Total Equity	<u>\$139,404.71</u>	<u>\$146,760.55</u>

SOUTH EAST LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

PO BOX 1445
MOUNT GAMBIER SA 5290
Ph: 08 87231057 Fax: 0887231286

Profit & Loss [Last Year Analysis]**July 2012 through June 2013**

	This Year	Last Year
INCOME		
SUBSCRIPTIONS-MEMBER COUNCILS		
City of Mount Gambier	\$43,614.00	\$42,344.00
District Council of Grant	\$21,239.00	\$20,620.00
Kingston District Council	\$10,647.00	\$10,337.00
Naracoorte Lucindale Council	\$23,870.00	\$23,175.00
District Council of Robe	\$9,413.00	\$9,139.00
District Council of Tatiara	\$20,596.00	\$19,996.00
Wattle Range Council	\$34,954.00	\$33,936.00
Total SUBSCRIPTIONS-MEMBER COUNCIL	\$164,333.00	\$159,547.00
CONTRIBUTIONS		
RDA Limestone Coast	\$80,666.00	\$79,106.00
Tourism Development Officer	\$256,420.00	\$240,501.50
SE Resource Info Centre	\$48,970.00	\$48,970.00
Total CONTRIBUTIONS	\$386,056.00	\$368,577.50
PROJECTS		
REG REC & SPORT		
Rec & Sport Funding	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00
Council Funding	\$41,027.00	\$37,204.00
C/Over Funds/Workshops/Sundry	\$27,264.71	\$38,556.30
Total REG REC & SPORT	\$118,291.71	\$125,760.30
LGR&DS Regional Capacity Build	\$36,424.00	\$35,780.00
Heritage Services	\$30,573.00	\$49,429.00
Review 2030 Transport Strategy	\$45,000.00	\$0.00
Review SELGA Charter	\$8,000.00	\$0.00
LCCSRT	\$10,000.00	\$0.00
DTEI-Workplaces	\$0.00	\$25,492.98
DTEI-Car Pooling	\$0.00	\$9,108.01
Total PROJECTS	\$248,288.71	\$245,570.29
OTHER INCOME		
Interest	\$17,936.09	\$24,829.37
SLRP Consultancy	\$9,700.00	\$8,600.00
Sundry	\$0.00	\$1,501.37
Total OTHER INCOME	\$27,636.09	\$34,930.74
Total INCOME	\$826,313.80	\$808,625.53
EXPENSES		
EXEC OFFICER/OFFICE EXPENSES		
Executive Officer Salary Costs		
EO Salary/Costs	\$85,361.05	\$104,402.76
FBT	\$524.11	\$882.87
Contract - Acting EO	\$14,708.13	\$0.00
Total Executive Officer Salary Costs	\$100,593.29	\$105,285.63
Vehicle & Travel		
Vehicle Lease	\$12,384.95	\$14,337.44
Fuel	\$2,617.32	\$2,386.54
Travel/Accommodation	\$2,771.64	\$3,065.68
Total Vehicle & Travel	\$17,773.91	\$19,789.66
Office Expenses		
Financial/Administration	\$16,000.00	\$15,500.00
Advertising	\$5,709.50	\$660.00
Printing/Stationery	\$4,066.98	\$2,554.03
Postage	\$140.04	\$258.31
Audit Fees	\$1,780.00	\$2,000.00
Bank Fees	\$509.87	\$555.55
Insurance	\$6,131.72	\$5,809.67
Seminars	\$1,333.18	\$2,041.72
Review Internal Controls S43	\$733.64	\$10,250.00
Consultancy	\$9,700.00	\$0.00

SOUTH EAST LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Profit & Loss [Last Year Analysis]

July 2012 through June 2013

	This Year	Last Year
Legal Costs	\$1,763.00	\$0.00
Miscellaneous	\$11,524.18	\$1,066.19
Meeting Expenses	\$6,689.30	\$3,648.96
Executive Expenses	\$4,341.15	\$834.10
President Allowance	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
Telephone	\$1,170.56	\$1,339.76
Computing & IT	\$2,946.12	\$1,675.46
Total Office Expenses	<u>\$80,539.24</u>	<u>\$54,193.75</u>
CONTRIBUTIONS		
RDA Limestone Coast	\$81,084.49	\$79,106.75
Tourism Development Officer	\$256,420.00	\$240,501.50
SE Resource Information Centre	\$48,970.00	\$48,970.00
Total CONTRIBUTIONS	<u>\$386,474.49</u>	<u>\$368,578.25</u>
PROJECTS		
REG REC & SPORT		
RR&S Salary/costs	\$58,356.32	\$63,152.33
Office Expenses	\$5,792.77	\$4,127.07
Vehicle Expenses	\$11,476.71	\$16,504.27
Admin/Rent	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
Programs	\$40,665.91	\$39,976.63
Total REG REC & SPORT	<u>\$118,291.71</u>	<u>\$125,760.30</u>
LGR&DS Regional Capacity Build	\$36,424.00	\$35,780.00
Heritage Services	\$30,573.00	\$49,429.00
Review 2030 Transport Strategy	\$45,000.00	\$0.00
Review SELGA Charter	\$8,000.00	\$0.00
LCCSRT	\$10,000.00	\$0.00
DTEI Workplaces	\$0.00	\$25,492.98
DTEI Car Pooling	\$0.00	\$9,108.01
Total PROJECTS	<u>\$248,288.71</u>	<u>\$245,570.29</u>
Total EXPENSES	<u>\$833,669.64</u>	<u>\$793,417.58</u>
Net Profit / (Loss)	<u>-\$7,355.84</u>	<u>\$15,207.95</u>

**Membership**

City of Port Augusta
City of Mount Gambier
City of Port Lincoln
City of Whyalla
Port Pirie Regional Council
Rural City of Murray Bridge

Executive Officer

Mr. Ian McSparran
PO Box 3106
PORT AUGUSTA WEST SA 5700
Mobile: 0419 810 644
Email: myallone@bigpond.com

Annual Reports

2012/2013

Chairperson's Report
Executive Officer's Report
Auditor's Report
Financial Statements

31st August, 2013

Executive Officer's Report

During the 2012/2013 Financial Year, the Provincial Cities Association met on three (3) occasions:

- Meeting #52 - 24th October, 2012 at the Haven Comfort Inn, Glenelg
- Meeting #53 - 20th February, 2013 at the Haven Comfort Inn, Glenelg
- Meeting #54 - 5th June, 2013 at the Haven Comfort Inn, Glenelg

The Meetings held on the 20th February 2013 and 5th June 2013, were rescheduled from Port Augusta to accommodate meetings with Mr Jim Hallion, Chief Executive, Department of Premier and Cabinet (20th February) and the Hon Tom Koutsantonis, Minister for Transport & Infrastructure, Minister for Mineral Resources and Energy, Minister for Housing and Urban Development (5th June 2013).

Unfortunately Minister Koutsantonis cancelled his meeting at the very last minute due to State Budget Meetings, but met with Association representatives at a rescheduled meeting on the 27th August 2013.

The meeting with Mr Hallion resulted in the Provincial Cities Association being invited to be a participant in a State Government Working Party involving the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure, Office of State/Local Government Relations and the Local Government Association of South Australia, with the specific aims of: -

- Cutting costs associated with Development Plan Amendments to "charge the economic engine for Regional South Australia"
- Providing input and feedback directly to the Planning Review Committee being chaired by Mr Brian Hayes QC

The Association resolved to nominate the City Manager of the City of Port Augusta, Mr Greg Perkin and Chief Executive Office of the Rural City of Murray Bridge, Mr Peter Bond as the representative and alternate representative respectively, to the Working Party.

The Association also successfully nominated the Chief Executive Officer of the City of Whyalla, Mr Peter Peppin, to be the representative for regional and rural Local Government Authorities on the State Government's "Transport, Infrastructure and Planning Strategy Review," which is expected to be released for public comment in the very near future.

The preceding appointments are seen as very good examples of some of the changing attitude of the Government to the role of the Provincial Cities Association and its constituent members and their importance to the future wellbeing of South Australia.

However, during the last six months, considerable time has been spent on dealing with issues associated with the provision of comments on the State Government's "Draft Regional Strategy" released in December 2012. Various meetings have been attended, with the almost unanimous view being expressed that the "Draft Regional Strategy" was "not conducive to providing a road map" which would benefit Regional Development in both the short and long term, due to the lack of appreciation of the importance of the grass roots input and drive of the regions. The results of the review of the strategy are awaited with great interest.

The Association's Financial position as at the 30th June 2013, met the overall Budget predictions and enabled the Association to reduce its Annual Subscription levels for the 2013/2014 Financial Year, at a time when financial prudence is considered an imperative across all levels of Government.

A copy of the Audited Accounts for 2012/2013 is attached.

In closing my Report, I must acknowledge the passing of Mayor Joy Baluch on the 14th May 2013. Joy's commitment to the Provincial Cities Association and its ideals was without question, as was her support for all those living and working in the regions. She will be sadly missed as a fighter for us all.

Vale Joy.

Ian McSporran
Executive Officer
31st August 2013

Chairperson's Report

As the Chairperson of the Provincial Cities Association of South Australia, I submit my Report on activities of the Association for 2012/2013.

In doing so, I must place on record my feelings of sadness at the passing of the former Chairperson Mayor Joy Baluch on the 14th May 2013.

The public expression of sympathy, from not only the community of Port Augusta but from Local Government across the State, Federal and State Politicians and many others who had come to know her over the years was clearly on display at Joy's Memorial Services in Port Augusta and Adelaide.

As a fighter for the regions and rural residents, Joy left no one in doubt of her frustration at the lack of progress by Governments in addressing, not only the needs of her community of Port Augusta, but all regional and rural South Australia.

This commitment was very well eulogised by Hon Simon Crean at Port Augusta, but unfortunately like the endeavours of Joy, those of Simon Crean generally fell on deaf ears, once he lost his position as Minister for Regional Development in the Commonwealth Government. As the Mayor of an Upper Spencer Gulf and Provincial City, who was able to work very closely with Joy and Minister Crean, particularly in the past year, "the joint losses" will be extremely difficult to replace as we move into the future.

In preparing this Report, we are well into the final stages of the Federal Election campaign. The indications are that we will have a change of Government with differing policies and commitments across our nation. If this is the case we must ensure that the degree of support which we have endeavoured to provide to each other over the years, is maintained and strengthened so that we are not divided and conquered in ensuring that our communities are not forgotten in preference to our Eastern State colleagues.

Similarly as we face the last six months or so before the next State election, we must ensure that all State Parliamentarians (current and prospective), become well aware of our respective wishes and needs for our communities. Whilst the majority of the Members of Parliament will be metropolitan based, we must ensure that they are very well aware that the riches required to meet the State's demands are going to be found in the mining, agriculture, fishing/aquaculture, wine, food growing and other industries located in the regions, not within Adelaide. Again "a united we stand, divided we fall" approach will be necessary to ensure we succeed in our endeavours.

In her report last year, Mayor Joy Baluch commented on the advice that the City of Port Lincoln was considering leaving the Association and expressed the wish that the Council would reconsider its position. Joy's wish has been granted, and I am very pleased to note the Council's decision to continue as a vital and essential member of the Provincial Cities Association of South Australia.

I look forward to the continuing evolution and development of the Provincial Cities Association and its constituent members, and to working with you all as we face the ever changing challenges.

Jim Pollock
Chairperson
31st August, 2013

PROVINCIAL CITIES ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
As at 30th June 2013

	Note	2013 \$	2012 \$
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	6	22,569	40,204
Receivables	7	305	71
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		<u>22,874</u>	<u>40,275</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES		0	0
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		0	0
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>22,874</u>	<u>40,275</u>
NON CURRENT ASSETS		0	0
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		0	0
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		0	0
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		0	0
NET ASSETS		<u>22,874</u>	<u>40,275</u>
EQUITY			
Accumulated Surplus		<u>22,874</u>	<u>40,275</u>
TOTAL EQUITY		<u>22,874</u>	<u>40,275</u>

FIN0022

PROVINCIAL CITIES ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

OPERATING STATEMENT

For the year ended 30th June 2013

	Note	2013 \$	2012 \$
OPERATING REVENUE			
Contributions	2	63,000	93,000
Trade & Other Receivables	3		800
Bank Interest		531	903
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE		<u>63,531</u>	<u>94,703</u>
OPERATING EXPENSES			
Contractual Services	4	49,950	44,681
Other	5	30,982	26,170
TOTAL OPERATING SERVICES		<u>80,932</u>	<u>70,851</u>
NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)			
RESULTING FROM OPERATIONS		(17,401)	23,852

FIN0022

PROVINCIAL CITIES ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

**STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN EQUITY
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30th JUNE 2013**

	2013	2012
	\$	\$
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS		
Balance at end of previous reporting period	40,275	16,423
Net surplus/(deficit) for year	(17,401)	23,852
BALANCE AT END OF PERIOD	<u>22,874</u>	<u>40,275</u>

FIN0022



**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2013**

Note 1. Statement of 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 equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards.

This general purpose financial report has been prepared in accordance with Australian equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards (AIFRS) as they apply to not-for-profit entities, other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board, Urgent Issues Group Interpretations (UIGs) and relevant South Australian legislation.

The financial report was authorised for issue by certificate under clause 11 of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1999*.

1.2 Historic Cost Convention.

Except where 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 AIFRS requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates, and requires management to exercise its judgement in applying the Subsidiary'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

The Provincial Cities Association of SA Regional Subsidiary is incorporated under the SA Local Government Act 1999 and has its principal place of business at a Lot 7, Section 147, Eyre Highway, Port Augusta West. In the process of reporting on the Subsidiary as a single unit, all transactions and balances between activity areas have been eliminated.


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3. Income Recognition.

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

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

4. Cash, Cash Equivalents and other Financial Instruments.

Cash Assets include all amounts readily convertible to cash on hand at the Subsidiary's option with an insignificant risk of changes in value with a maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition.

5. 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 taxes activities, revenues and operating expenditures exclude GST receivable and payable.
- Non-current assets and capital expenditures include GST net of any recoupment.

6. Comparative Information.

Comparative information has been reclassified to be consistent with the current year disclosure of equivalent information in accordance with AIFRS.

PROVINCIAL CITIES ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Note 2	2013	2012
Contributions		\$
City of Mount Gambier	10,500	15,500
Rural City of Murray Bridge	10,500	15,500
City of Port Augusta	10,500	15,500
City of Port Lincoln	10,500	15,500
Port Pirie Regional Council	10,500	15,500
City of Whyalla	10,500	15,500
	<u>63,000</u>	<u>93,000</u>
 Note 3		
Dinner Levies		
Paid	<u>0</u>	<u>800</u>
	<u>0</u>	<u>800</u>
 Note 4		
Contractual Services		
Executive Officer Contract	49,050	43,781
Audit Fees	<u>900</u>	<u>900</u>
	<u>49,950</u>	<u>44,681</u>
 Note 5		
Other Expenses		
Travelling Expenses – Executive Officer	9,281	9,083
Postage and Stationery	404	261
Telephone/Internet	770	714
Administration & IT Services – City of Port Augusta	5,000	4,500
Bank Fees	60	55
Membership – Corporate	1,690	1,940
Insurance	6,192	5,931
Meeting Expenses – Members (Note 8)	<u>7,585</u>	<u>3,686</u>
	<u>30,982</u>	<u>26,170</u>
 Note 6		
Cash and Cash Equivalents		
Balance at Bank SA	12,038	30,204
Investment Account (028 4036384660)	<u>10,531</u>	<u>10,000</u>
	<u>22,569</u>	<u>40,204</u>

FIN0022

Note 7**Trade & Other Receivables**

GST (nett)	305	71
	<u>305</u>	<u>71</u>

Note 8**Meeting Expenses – Members**

Association Meetings	2,709
Regional Capitals Australia	2,782
LGA Overseas Study Tour	1,364
Native Title	480
In Memoriam – Mayor Baluch	<u>250</u>
	<u>7,585</u>

FIN00226

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S STATEMENT

I, IAN MCSPORRAN the EXECUTIVE OFFICER of PROVINCIAL CITIES ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA do hereby state that the Statement of Financial Position of the PROVINCIAL CITIES ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA as at 30 JUNE 2013 and the operating Statement and Statement of Changes in Community Wealth, together with the supporting notes for the year ended on that date are to the best of my knowledge presented in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1999*, and the *Local Government Accounting Regulations* made under that Act.


Signed

5th August 2013
Dated

ADOPTION STATEMENT

Laid before me the PROVINCIAL CITIES ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA REGIONAL SUBSIDIARY

And adopted on _____ 2013

Executive Officer

Chairperson


FINO052



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE PROVINCIAL CITIES ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

We have audited the accompanying Financial Report of the Provincial Cities Association of South Australia which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2013 and the operating statement and statement of changes in equity for the year ended on that date, a summary of significant accounting policies, other explanatory notes and the Chief Executive Officer's declaration.

THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE FINANCIAL REPORT

The Chief Executive Officer is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations) the *Local Government Act 1999* and the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011*. This responsibility includes establishing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

AUDITOR'S RESPONSIBILITY

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

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

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

AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION

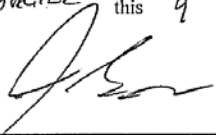
In conducting our audit we have complied with the independence requirements of the *Local Government Act 1999*, the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011* and the Australian professional accounting bodies.

AUDIT OPINION

In our opinion the financial report of the Provincial Cities Association of South Australia is properly drawn up:

- a) To give a true and fair view of:
 - i) the Subsidiary's state of affairs as at 30 June 2013 and changes in equity resulting from operations and cashflows for the year ended on that date.
 - ii) the other matters required by the Local Government Act 1999 to be dealt with in the financial statements.
- b) According to the Local Government Act 1999, together with the Local Government Act 1999 (Financial Management) Regulations 2011 made under that Act; and
- c) According to Australian Accounting Standards and mandatory professional reporting requirements.

Signed at *Macleod* this *9th* day of *August* 2013



JOHN D EWEN
JOHN D EWEN & ASSOCIATES
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT

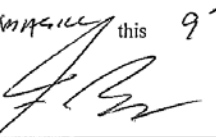
AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION

Auditor's Independence Declaration Under Section 16A of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1999 to The Members of the Provincial Cities Association of South Australia.

I confirm that, for the audit of the financial statements of the Provincial Cities Association of South Australia for the year ended 30 June 2013 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 16A (4) *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011*.

Signed at *Macleod* this *9th* day of *August* 2013



JOHN D EWEN
JOHN D EWEN & ASSOCIATES
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT