

CITY OF
*Mount
Gambier*

ANNUAL REPORT 2013/14

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the City of Mount Gambier 2013/2014 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 2013/2014 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:

- Governance
- Compliance
- Corporate
- Infrastructure
- Environment
- Community
- Economic & Regional
- Finance

Each year, Council undertakes many initiatives to help improve the quality of life for its 26,092 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.

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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.



OUR VISION & MISSION

OUR 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.

OUR 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



2013/14 has been an outstanding year for council with progress in a number of key areas. Again council has worked successfully with state and federal governments to secure additional funding for our major projects including stage 2 of the Rail Lands redevelopment program and for the re-beautification of the former hospital lands following its long awaited demolition.

It is not all about buildings and infrastructure though, a lot of effort has gone into furthering relationships between council and a variety of agencies and organizations in our community to strengthen our connectedness. This galvanizes our sense of community and gives us the ability to take localized responses and actions to the issues that we face in our community. There have been many highlights including progress on:

- Progress on developing a Children's Charter under the Lifelong Learning banner.
- Working with our local aboriginal communities on a Statement of Commitment and permanent display of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags in the Council Chamber.
- Consultation with over 600 individuals, many of whom represented community groups, clubs, government agencies, and NGO's in developing the City Development Framework to guide

the physical, cultural, educational and environmental development of our community over the long term.

- Maintaining a high level of services, facilities and amenity across our local government are whilst remaining one of the most efficient and economical councils in South Australia. Average residential rates in the City of Mount Gambier have been assessed by the South Australian Grants Commission as being in the order of 20% lower than the state average. An outstanding result of which Council is very pleased.
- A policy review which has seen many redundant policies scrapped and many others merged. There are now more than 100 fewer policies to implement.
- Substantial progress on the redevelopment of the Central Business District creating a more attractive retail experience, better car parking facilities and easier access from off street car parking to shopping areas. Improved signage has been installed to support the Park & Stride initiative aimed at getting more people out and walking in the CBD.
- Expansion of the bicycle lane network.
- Major success of the Da Vinci Exhibition – a partnership between Council, Riddoch Art Gallery and numerous businesses who came on board as sponsors.

It gives Council great pleasure to present the City of Mount Gambier Annual Report for 2013/14.

In what has been acknowledged as a first for any council in Australia, council has undertaken the City

Development Framework project. At the heart of this document is the question "What do you want your community to be like in thirty to fifty years time, or beyond?". From this starting point the community has worked together to construct our shared aspirations. This is a framework which council will act as a facilitator for bringing about outcome and whilst council will be the responsible body for some actions and a lead partner in some actions, for a great many of the actions council will be only a facilitator or supporter as the scope of the framework demands commitment and action from all of our community. In this way, it is not a strategic management plan, but a community action plan which can bring together the many strands of endeavour which occur across the community now, and in the future.

We value the productive local partnerships we share which assist to achieve our community's 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. The assistance of our state and federal members and their office staff are valued also.

Council continues to reflect an ambitious, dynamic, pro-active and diverse community. On behalf of elected members and staff I am proud to present this Annual Report as a record of the broad range of our activities and achievements of council and our wonderful community.

Steve Perryman
MAYOR
City of Mount Gambier

MEMBER INFORMATION

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

Council 2010-2014 (L-R)

Cr Hanna Persello
 Cr Andrew Lee
 Cr Jim Maher
 Mayor Steve Perryman
 Cr Allen Smith
 Cr Byron Harfield
 (Deputy Mayor)*
 Cr Biddie Shearing
 Cr Merv White
 Cr Des Mutton
 Cr Penny Richardson
 (Deputy Mayor)^
 Cr Ian Von Stanke



* Deputy Mayor Cr Byron Harfield resigned from Council, effective 1st January, 2014.

^ Cr Penny Richardson appointed Deputy Mayor 28th January 2014.

ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS

The following is the recorded attendance (or apologies) of Elected Members at the twelve (12) Ordinary Council Meetings, the six (6) Special Council Meetings held during the 2013/14 year.

ELECTED MEMBER	COUNCIL MEETINGS HELD	MEETINGS ATTENDED	APOLOGIES	NOT IN ATTENDANCE
Mayor Perryman	18	14	4	0
Cr Harfield*	18	9	1	0
Cr Lee	18	17	1	0
Cr Maher	18	14	4	0
Cr Mutton	18	13	5	0
Cr Persello	18	15	3	0
Cr Richardson	18	14	4	0
Cr Smith	18	16	2	0
Cr Shearing	18	15	2	1
Cr Von Stanke	18	18	0	0
Cr White	18	18	0	0

* Deputy Mayor Cr Byron Harfield resigned from Council effective 1st January, 2014.

COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES 2010-2014 (FROM NOVEMBER 2010)



**HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR
MR STEVE PERRYMAN**

- Ex-officio member of every Committee of Council
- Australia Day Awards Selection Panel Advisory Group
- City Development Framework Sub Committee
- 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**

- 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

* Resigned from Council effective 1st January, 2014

* Distribution of Committee Representation amongst remaining Councillors determined 18th February, 2014



CR ANDREW LEE

- Corporate and Community Services Committee
- Audit Committee
- Blue Lake Management Committee *
- City of Mount Gambier Junior Sports Assistance Fund*
- Library Committee (with District Council of Grant) – Financial*
- Mount Gambier and Districts Airport Committee*
- 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.

* Appointed 18th February 2014

* Committee disbanded 3rd December 2013



CR JIM MAHER

- Corporate & Community Services Committee (Presiding Member)
- CEO Performance Review and Development Committee
- City Development Framework Sub 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

- Operational Services Committee
- Strategic Planning and Policy Development Committee
- CEO Performance Development and Review 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 PERELLO

- Corporate and Community Services Committee
- Community Engagement and Social Inclusion Sub Committee
- Health Advisory Committee (currently with District Council of Grant)
- 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
DEPUTY MAYOR[^]

- Corporate & Community Services Committee
- Operational Services Committee*
- Strategic Planning and Policy Development Committee*
- CEO Performance Development and Review Committee
- Community Engagement and Social Inclusion Sub Committee
- Library Committee (with District Council of Grant) – Operations⁺
- Mount Gambier Lifelong learning Sub Committee*
- 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

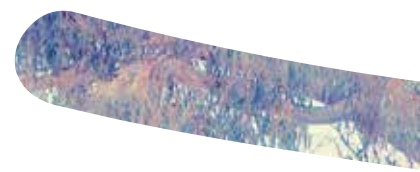


CR ALLEN SMITH

- Corporate & Community Services Committee
- AWU Consultative Group
- City Development Framework Sub Committee
- 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, WH&S / EEO.





CR BIDDIE SHEARING

- 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.



CR IAN VON STANKE

- Operational Services Committee
- Strategic Planning and Policy Development Committee
- Australia Day Celebrations Advisory Group (By Agreement)
- CEO Performance Development and Review Committee
- Council Development Assessment Panel (CDAP)
- Dry Areas Working Party / Licensed Premises Accord Group
- Environmental Sustainability Sub Committee *
- 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.

*Appointed 18th February 2014

COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES 2010-2014 (FROM NOVEMBER 2010)



CR MERV WHITE

- Operational Services Committee (Presiding Member)
- Strategic Planning and Policy Development Committee (Presiding Member)
- Building Fire Safety Committee
- CEO Performance Review and Development Committee
- City Development Framework Sub 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
- Mount Gambier Aquatic Centre – Innovate Leisure Management*
- Mount Gambier Cemetery Trust*
- Queen Elizabeth Park Trust
- South East Local Government Association (First Deputy)
- South East Local Government Association Road & Transport Working Group

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.

*Appointed 18th February 2014



CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT



Council's are often challenged by major infrastructure projects that are in addition to the annual scope of works carried out across the City. Major projects present both opportunities to enhance public amenities while balancing issues of scheduling, resources and financial matters. Over 2013/14 Council has commenced a number of such projects each unique in their nature yet all delivering benefits to the community.

The former Hospital featured on Mount Gambier's skyline for decades however the significant deterioration of the building over 15 years, once it's previous uses ceased became a community concern and a blight on the City. Council's purchase of the building and site in late 2011 and resulting public consultation and cost estimates for potential future use resulted in the decision to remove the building. Demolition occurred over several months towards the end of 2013 and was completed early 2014 resulting in reintroducing natural contours and greening the site. Feedback from the community was extensive with many positive comments, "at last". Following the refurbishment of the hospital laundry building the site will provide community open space and a large sheltered area for informal gatherings and family events – all with fantastic views over the City and beyond.

Out of sight out of mind is often the case with refuse services but the large volume of waste has to go somewhere. During 2013/14 Council expanded the capacity of the Caroline Landfill that takes waste from our Council, several surrounding Councils and commercial operations.

The construction of a new landfill cell is complex and is closely monitored by the Environmental Protection Agency that places stringent criteria on all aspects related to the landfill during its construction and its ongoing operation. Caroline Landfill will provide for the City's needs for about a decade and we are fortunate to have this facility as the alternate is to truck all of our waste to an alternative site necessitating a round trip of 700 km per refuse truck.

The railway lands, gifted to Council from the State Government in 2006, was a site in desperate need of a major overhaul. Long used as a rail transport hub the site required soil decontaminant as the first stage of development. Designs for the 4ha site were subject to extensive community input with earth works commencing late 2013 and the site taking shape mid year with the laying of extensive grassed area, tree planting and the construction of the artificial lake.

Due for staged completion during early 2015 the rail lands will provide an excellent space for families and events including shade areas, natural play space and riding / walking paths. The State Government provided grants of \$2 million dollars being about half of the cost of the works in stage 1 and 2. Finally this previously unusable area of land will be available to the community enhancing an area close to the City's CBD.

The heart of the CBD is a major attraction point for locals, tourists and visitors and must present as an attractive, friendly, accessible and safe environment. The CBD provides a raft of shopping, recreation and services all within walking distance. As a bustling hub its also a major economic driver for small, medium and large businesses in the community.

Over the past two years Council has commenced the regeneration of the CBD via improving off street car parking, walking linkages, signage, repairing and replacing aged infrastructure. These works really accelerated in 2013/14 providing a fresh new CBD landscape and there is more to come over the next two years with further improvements to off street car parking and extending infrastructure improvements along Commercial Street and adjacent roads. When completed the CBD project will ensure an attractive city centre for several decades and present a positive image to locals and visitors that Mount Gambier is a progressive city with much to offer.

In conjunction with our annual infrastructure and parks maintenance, these major projects collectively will enhance the livability of Mount Gambier. We are certain the new areas will provide the community with great places to relax and enjoy recreational activities with family and friends.

Mark McShane
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

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2013/14 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 programs, 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 2013/2014 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 \$10.5m (new and renewal)

- maintaining our extensive public realm assets and infrastructure;
- maintaining support for community based programs and initiatives including environmental sustainability, lifelong learning, community events and social inclusion;
- retaining and developing Council's workforce to ensure capacity in service delivery.

BUDGET

2013/2014 Budgeted Expenditure consisted of:

- Operating Expenditure \$22,775,000
- Non-Operating Expenditure \$878,000
- Capital Expenditure \$10,559,000

That total expenditure of \$34,212,000 provides for the delivery of all Council services and programs, maintenance of assets and the development of new or upgraded assets.

2013/2014 Budgeted Revenue, to fund Council's Budgeted Expenditure, consisted of:

- Operating Revenue \$22,775,000
- Non-Operating Revenue \$11,437,000

OPERATING RESULT

The 2013/2014 Budget proposed to spend a total of \$33.3 million on the delivery of services and programs, maintenance of assets and development of new or upgraded assets (operating/capital expenditure).

Operating Expenditure was budgeted to increase by approximately \$1.47 million which is fully attributable to an increase in depreciation as a result of revaluation of Council infrastructure. In comparison, Operating Revenue increased by approximately \$1.3 million, resulting in the achievement of a balanced operating budget.

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

2013/14 BUDGET ANALYSIS

2013/2014 BUDGET INITIATIVES

Key initiatives in respect of the maintenance, renewal and replacement of community assets and facilities for 2013/2014 include:

FUNCTION/ACTIVITY	\$'000 EXPENDITURE	\$'000 REVENUE
Administration		
Civic Centre Building Renovations	50	-
Rates		16,272
Grants Commission		2,585
Support Services		
Software Upgrades	78	-
Community Services		
OPAL	75	50
General Donations	194	-
Public Conveniences	205	-
Main Corner Operating (inc \$244,000 depreciation)	624	64
Community Celebrations	60	-
Cultural Services		
Library Services	1,881	389
Cultural Services	318	226
Riddoch Art Gallery	61	-
Economic		
Economic Development	57	-
Lifelong Learning	22	-
Tourism - Major Events	145	-
Tourism - Regional Tourism	59	-
Tourism - Local Sponsorship	25	-
Visitor Information Centre (includes Bus ticketing)	950	402
Environment		
Waste Management		
refuse collection	510	-
green waste collection/disposal	255	247
recycling collection/disposal	327	-
waste transfer centre	150	-
landfill operating	883	1,400
new landfill cell "Stage 1"	2,000	-
Street Cleaning	311	-
Street Lighting	455	-
Environmental Sustainability	107	-
Recreation		
Parks, Gardens, Reserves		
Cave Gardens	135	-
Crater Lakes	270	-
Vansittart Park Garden	128	-

2013/14 BUDGET ANALYSIS

FUNCTION/ACTIVITY	\$'000 EXPENDITURE	\$'000 REVENUE
Recreation		
Sports Facilities	454	
Aquatic Centre	276	-
Sports Grants/Donations	140	-
Rail Lands Redevelopment	1,650	-
Old Hospital Precinct	2,500	-
Regulatory		
Development Control	602	186
Health Services	169	-
Dog/Parking Control	257	168
Transport		
Plant and Machinery	1,087	
<i>Major Purchases:</i>		
refuse compactor		
street sweeper		
mowers x 2		
tip trucks x 2	78	
Stormwater Drainage - Annual Program		
<i>Major Projects:</i>		
Tolmie/Law Sts		
Pinehall Avenue	251	
Ambrose Court		
Footways/kerbing - Annual Program - \$251,000		
<i>Major Projects:</i>		
Penola Road		
White Avenue	2,076	
Bike Plan Implementation		
Footway Resealing		
Road Infrastructure - Annual Program - \$2,696,000		
<i>Major Projects:</i>		
Wireless Road East		
Commercial Street East		
Yeates Street		
Mahoney Avenue		
Goss Street		
MacKenzie Street		
Boundary Roads Program		
Road Reseal Program		
Traffic Control Program		
CBD Renewal Project		

2013/14 BUDGET ANALYSIS

IMPLICATIONS FOR RATES

In order to deliver Council's services and programs in 2013/2014, Council determined that it required an increase in the overall general gross rate revenue equivalent to 6.1% 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 0.5% benefit in general rate revenue which will provide a "cushion" to the full extent of the 6.1% rate rise.

For the average residential ratepayer this equated to an estimated \$57 per annum (or \$1.10 per week) increase in Council rates bringing the average annual residential rates to \$984.00 to assist in funding the 2013/2014 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.

During the 2013/14 year Council commenced a comprehensive review of its Policies. The following Policy Index lists all current Council Policies as at 30 June 2014.

In the 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:

- Member Register of Interests
- Member Register of Allowances and Benefits
- Member Register of Gifts & Benefits
- Officers Register of Remuneration, Salaries and Benefits
- Officers Register of Interests
- Officers Register of Gifts & Benefits
- Register of Community Land
- Register of Public Roads
- Register of By-Laws
- Access to Meetings and Documents – Code of Practice

These Registers and Code 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.



POLICY MANUAL INDEX

CORPORATE SERVICES

ADMINISTRATION

C200	Complaint/Compliment Policy
C250	Consultants - Engagement of
E105	Elections - Supplementary Elections
E115	Elections - Council Entitlement to Vote
F140	Flags - Flying of
P155	Privacy Policy
Q110	Quotations and Tenders
R180	Records Management Policy
R200	Community Land (Reserves) - Lease/Licence/Rental Arrangements
R300	Risk Management Policy
S140	Street Numbering

COMMUNITY

A270	Australia Day Awards
C140	Main Corner Complex - Hire
H120	Historical Matters - Collection of
H125	Historical Matters - Copyright - 'The Les Hill Photographic Collection'
L190	Library - Opening Hours

COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES

C160	Coat of Arms
C190	Community Identity
C265	Council and Committees - Communication of Council Committees
C275^	Council and Committees - Access to Council Meetings
C280	Committees - Appointment of Members to serve on Council Committees
C285	Council and Committees - Appointment of Independent Members
C290^	Internal Review of Councils Decisions
C300	Council and Committees - Protocol for Common Items
C305	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

POLICY MANUAL INDEX

F225	Fraud and Corruption Prevention Policy
M130	Media - Statements on behalf of Council
M155	Members - Allowances - Payment when Acting in a Higher Officer
M165	Members - Allowances and Benefits Policy
M170	Members - Conferences, Courses and Seminars
M190	Members - Deputy Mayor
M205	Members - Mayor - Anniversary Messages
M210	Members - Newly Elected Members
M225	Members - Service Recognition
M240	Members - Access to Information
M250^	Members - Training and Development
M255	Members - Council Induction Policy
M260	Members - Use of Council Letterhead
M265	Council and Committees - Members - Complaint Handling
M270	Members - Mayor Seeking Legal Advice
P195^	Community Consultation and Engagement Policy
Q115^	Competitive Tendering, Contracting, Purchasing, Sale & Disposal of Land & Other Assets
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
PERSONNEL	
C375	Council Vehicles - Provision and Replacement Of
E200	Employees - Service Awards and Resignation Gifts
S175	Safe Environment Policy
W150	Whistleblowers Protection Policy
FINANCE	
A130	Accounts - Investment Policy
B300	Budget Reporting and Amendment Policy
D230	Donations - Authority to Approve Requests
I105^	Internal Controls
R105	Rates - Rating Policy
R130	Rates - General Matters Policy
R155	Rates - Rebate Policy
T150	Treasury Management

POLICY MANUAL INDEX

OPERATIONAL SERVICES

ENGINEERING/WORKS

C120	Cemeteries - Carinya Gardens & 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
P120	Parking - Vehicles on Council Land for Promotion
R270	Road Pavement - Excavation and Reinstatement Of
S115	Strategic Management - Engineering Works - Fencing of Stormwater Basins
S120	Street Signs - Directional, Scenic and Tourist
S150	Streets - Procedures for New Inverts and Crossovers

HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL

W115	Waste Management - Receiving of Waste - Caroline Landfill
W125	Waste Management - Refuse Collection

INSPECTORIAL

A200	Animals - Keeping of Birds, Livestock
A210	Animals - Noise Nuisance
B120	Building - Encroachments over Public Places
B150	Building - Sewer Connections, Waste Management Control & Provision of Toilet Facilities
B160	Building - Verandah Posts
C330	Council Land - Removal of Objects
C340	Council Land - Sale of Commodities from Vehicles
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
F135	Flammable Undergrowth
F200	Footways - Protection of Public - Building Work
F220	Footways - Sale of Commodities from
O110^	Order Making
T110	Taxi Regulation
V120	Vehicles - Removal from Public Places

POLICY MANUAL INDEX

PLANNING

A170	Advertising - All Business Premises/Property
D140	Development Act - Delegations
D150	Development Act - Inspection of Building Work
D160	Development Act - Inspection and Copying of Documents
L130	Land Divisions
L135	Land Division - Provision of Power to New Allotments
L230	Licensed Premises - Trading Hours
P135	Planning - Entertainment Venues
S135^	Streets - Naming of

RECREATIONAL

A240	Assemblies and Events on Street and other Council Land
C180	Community Organisations - Badge Days Raffles Street Stalls
C325	Council Land - Advertising Signage
C355	Council Land - Irrigation Policy
R250	Reserves - Sponsorship and Advertising Signs
T120	Tree Policy

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 also utilises data provided by independent sources such as the SA Local Government Grants Commission to provide comparative reports on a regular basis.

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 2014).



MEMBERS ALLOWANCES AND REIMBURSEMENTS

Elected Member's 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, 2013 are as follows:

COUNCIL	GROUP 2 CLASSIFICATION (OUT OF 5 GROUPS)	2013 ADJUSTED PAYMENT
Group 2	Base is \$15,495	\$14,478
Mayoral Allowance	4 times the \$15,495 = \$61,977	\$57,913
Deputy Mayoral Allowance	1.25 times the \$15,495 = \$19,368	\$18,098
Presiding Member	As for Deputy Mayoral Allowance \$19,368	\$18,098
Members	\$15,495	\$14,478

NOTE

(i) A 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.

(ii) The Adjusted Payment is the result of the ABS re-indexing their CPI figures in October 2012.

The re-indexing (down) was not reflected in the 2012 Member allowance calculations however is now adjusted in the 2013 calculation.

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 Benefits Policy, available from Council's website.

MEMBERS TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

Council has a formal Member's Training Policy M250 and has developed and adopted a Member's Training Program.

The purpose of the Policy and Program is to maintain competency standards, build on Member's skills base and address Member's 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 Member's training and development and unstructured continuous learning for Elected Members.

During 2013/14 Elected Members participated in a varied program of Workshops and Briefings including:

- Members Workshops for all Members covering:

Regional Public Health Plan	Rotary Markets
OPAL	Representation on Outside Bodies
Child Development	Elected Member Representation
Developing Council Induction Program	Main Corner Signage
NBN Rollout	Mayoress Family Fun Day
Chamber of Commerce, SAPOL, SELGA, RDA	Flag Protocols
Federal Member for Barker – Tony Pasin MP	In-Confidence Items
State Member for Mount Gambier - Troy Bell MP	Tourism
Property Matters	Long Term Financial Plan
Developing a China Engagement Strategy	Performance Manager
Bike Lanes	Limestone Coast Economic Diversification Forum
Environmental Sustainability – CHAT Tool	Community Engagement
Budget	Riddoch Art Gallery
Enterprise Bargaining	Council Policy Review
Peter's Project	City Development Framework
South East Animal Welfare League	Smoke Free Areas
Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA)	ICAC Legislation
Commercial Street Protuberances	Local Heritage and Lakes Zone DPA
SA Government Stimulus Fund	Urban Boundary DPA
Mount Gambier Men's Shed	Local Government Expert Panel
Penola Road / Wireless Road Traffic Lights	

- Various LGA General Meetings and associated sessions/conferences

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 \$163,140 was provided by Council for statutory or discretionary rebates on Council rates as follows:

	2013/2014	PREVIOUS YEAR
Statutory	\$147,214	\$124,782
Discretionary	\$9,755	\$12,548
Boundary Adjustment	\$6,171	\$16,076

All rebates are reviewed on an annual basis.

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

This in turn, has implications for all other ratepayers who increasingly, are required to 'pick up' this shortfall in rate revenue.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION APPLICATIONS AND STATEMENT

The City of Mount Gambier determined five Freedom of Information applications during the 2013/14 financial year.

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 for viewing from Council's website.

Number of applications	4
Number of Applications carried over from 2012/13	1
Full access granted	3
Access refused	2
Fees not paid	1
Documents otherwise available	1
Incomplete (as at 30 June 2014)	0
Applications for Internal Review	1
Decision confirmed	1

COMPLIANCE STATEMENT

Long-term Financial Plan	26	Building Fire Safety Committee	35
Confidentiality Provisions	27	Community Lands	36
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LONG TERM FINANCIAL PLAN

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF A LTFP?

Whilst the development of Long Term Financial Plans is a requirement of Section 122(1)(a) of the Local Government Act, 1999, the purpose is to translate the objectives and strategies of the Council's Strategic Plan into financial terms and to guide the direction of Council in a financially sustainable manner.

Council's Long Term Financial Plan (reviewed annually) will act as a reference point in the formulation of future Annual Business Plans and Budgets.

WHAT ARE THE KEY ELEMENTS OF THE LTFP?

The LTFP is driven by Council's Strategic Management Plan and includes Council's future revenue and expenditure estimates particularly focusing on the financing and scheduling of major projects, loan indebtedness, rating level, asset replacement/renewal and impact on operating expenditure.

Council's LTFP assumes:

- the continuation of existing services at current service standards;
- no internal changes to services or investment in new or upgrades assets other than what is already resolved and planned

Council's financial projections over the long term planning horizon are not meant to be a prediction of financial position or performance, but rather an indication of direction and financial capacity.

WHAT DOES THE LTFP TELL US?

Council is meeting its financial targets over the term of the plan and has the financial capacity to continue meeting our community's service demands plus the flexibility to respond to changing circumstances.

The projections indicate that, based on current assumptions, Council is in a sound financial position with a favourable outlook over the term of the Plan. Whilst, given the recent major capital infrastructure projects completed by Council and the associated loan borrowings to fund those projects, the next four (4) years projected operating indicates some deficit returns however the following years of the plan return Council to surplus.

Council's LTFP is reviewed annually, most recently in December 2013 and is available from the Council website www.mountgambier.sa.gov.au.



CONFIDENTIALITY PROVISIONS

Council is required to report on the use of confidentiality provisions under subsections 90(2) and 91(7) of the Local Government Act.

The following tables provide the information required to be published for the 2013/14 financial year:

Use of Section 90(2) Orders to Exclude Public and Section 90(3) Grounds

		GROUNDS SECTION 90(3)												
	No. of S90(2) Orders made	(a) Personal Affairs of Person	(b) Commercial Advantage	(c) Trade Secret	(d) Prejudice Commercial Position	(e) Security of Council Members Employees	(f) Maintenance of Law	(g) Does not Breach any Law or Court	(h) Legal Advice	(i) Litigation may take place	(j) Info provided by Crown or Minister	(k) Tenders	(m) DPA's	(n) FOI
Totals	18	6	6	-	5	-	-	1	1	1	-	2	5	-

Use of Section 91(7) Orders to Keep Documents Confidential

NO. OF S91(7) ORDERS MADE	NO. OF S91(7) ORDERS THAT EXPIRED, CEASED TO APPLY OR WERE REVOKED	NO. OF S91(7) ORDERS REMAINING OPERATIVE AT 30TH JUNE 2014
15	10*	21^

* Includes expired, ceased and revoked Orders from previous financial years

^ Includes operative Orders from previous financial years

CONFIDENTIALITY PROVISIONS

Meeting Dates, Subject, S90(3) Grounds and Status of S91(7) Orders associated with the use of confidentiality provisions

DATE OF MEETING	SUBJECT OF S90(2) ORDER	S90(3) GROUNDS	S91(7) ORDER STATUS
20/05/2014	REVIEW OF IN-CONFIDENCE ITEMS	(m) & (d)	N/A - No S91(7) Order made
20/05/2014	REVIEW OF IN-CONFIDENCE ITEMS	(m) & (d)	N/A - No S91(7) Order made
15/04/2014	ROTARY CLUB OF MOUNT GAMBIER LAKES -Donations to Financially Disadvantaged Junior Sports Persons	(a)	Current
28/01/2014	STRATEGIC PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT POLICY REPORT NO. 1/2014 - Development Control - Regulating - Local Heritage and Lakes Zone Development Plan Amendment (DPA)	(m)	Current
17/12/2013	REVIEW OF IN-CONFIDENCE ITEMS	(a) (b) (m)	N/A - No S91(7) Order made
17/12/2013	SALE OF COUNCIL PROPERTY - 38 James Street	(b) and (d)	Current
17/12/2013	COMMERCIAL CLUB INC. - Donation to exceptional junior sportsperson	(a)	Current
17/12/2013	ROTARY CLUB OF MOUNT GAMBIER LAKES - Donations to Financially Disadvantaged Junior Sportspersons	(a)	Current
17/12/2013	DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENT WORKS - Wandaree Court - Purchase of Vacant Land	(b)	Expired
17/12/2013	DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION 381/0349/2013 - Temporary Parking of Loaded Truck Trailers - 30 White Avenue, Mount Gambier	(g) and (h)	Expired
19/11/2013	CEO ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REVIEW - Discussion regarding Draft Report received from AME Recruitment	(a)	Current
15/10/2013	SOCIAL, CULTURAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICES - Schools, TAFE and University Advice and Information	(d)	Current
15/10/2013	STRATEGIC PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT POLICY REPORT NO. 9/2013 - Development Control - Regulating - Local Heritage and Lakes Zone Development Plan Amendment (DPA)	(m)	Current
15/10/2013	SALE OF LAND FOR NON PAYMENT OF RATES - Notice of Intention to Sell Land for Non-Payment of Council Rates	(b)	Current
2/10/2013	FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT – Consideration of Tenders - Construction of Cell 3 and Capping Part of Cells 1 and 2 - Caroline Landfill	(k)	Current
17/09/2013	CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORT NO. 45/2013 - Legal Action - Costs Awarded	(i)	Current

CONFIDENTIALITY PROVISIONS

DATE OF MEETING	SUBJECT OF S90(2) ORDER	S90(3) GROUNDS	S91(7) ORDER STATUS
20/08/2013	PROPERTY MANAGEMENT - Mount Gambier Aquatic Centre Business Plan 2013/1014	(a), (b), (d)	Current
20/08/2013	PROPERTY MANAGEMENT - Project Management - Former Mount Gambier Hospital Site - Expression of Interests for demolition of Former Mount Gambier Hospital buildings	(b), (d), (k)	Expired
18/06/2013	SOCIAL, CULTURAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICES - Committees - City of Mount Gambier Junior Sports Assistance Fund (Section 41) Committee - Minutes of Meeting held 22nd May, 2013 – Ref. AF11/725	(a)	Current
18/06/2013	SOCIAL, CULTURAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICES - Committees - City of Mount Gambier Junior Sports Assistance Fund (Section 41) Committee - Minutes of Meeting held 22nd May, 2013 – Ref. AF11/725	(b)	Current
18/06/2013	CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORT NO. 23/2013 - Sale of Council Properties	(b)	Current
17/07/2012	SALE OF LAND FOR NON PAYMENT OF RATES – Notice of Intention to Sell Land for Non-Payment of Council Rates	(d)	Current
15/03/2011	DEVELOPMENT PLAN AMENDMENTS - currently being prepared by the City of Mount Gambier - Ref. 335/1/23	(m)	Current
15/02/2011	OPERATIONAL SERVICES REPORT NO. 2/2011 - Heritage - Local Heritage and Lakes Zone Development Plan Amendment - Ref. 225/1/10	(m)	Current
20/07/2010	OPERATIONAL SERVICES REPORT NO. 41/2010 - Heritage - Local Heritage Development Plan Amendment - Ref. 225/1/10	(m)	Current
18/05/2010	OPERATIONAL SERVICES REPORT NO. 31/2010 - Heritage - Local Heritage Development Plan Amendment - Ref. 225/1/10	(m)	Current
15/12/2009	OPERATIONAL SERVICES REPORT NO. 44/2009 - Heritage - Local Heritage Development Plan Amendment - Ref. 225/1/10	(m)	Current

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 reports and audited statements of income and expenditure for year ended 30th June, 2014;
- Reports detailing the work and operations of the Associations for year ended 30th June, 2014.



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 February 2014)

COUNCIL	2013/2014	ELECTORS	ELECTOR RATIO
Pirie Regional	10	12,380	1:1238
Barossa	12	16,695	1:1391
Victor Harbor	10	11,391	1:1139
Murray Bridge	10	13,352	1:1335
Mount Gambier	11	18,400	1:1673
Whyalla	10	14,849	1:1485
Mount Barker	11	21,826	1:1984
Alexandrina	12	18,848	1:1570
Adelaide Hills	13	29,267	1:2251
Port Augusta	10	9,240	1:924
Port Lincoln	11	9,918	1:902

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

applicable as of the November 2010 Local Government elections.

Council will next conduct a representation review during the period April 2016 to April 2017. Council will give public notice of the preparation of a representation options paper and subsequent report responding to the options paper, and will invite written submissions on each document at the relevant time.

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 meetings if required. The Committee met

on four (4) occasions during the 2013/2014 financial year with all Members present at all meetings.

Matters examined by the Audit Committee included:

PRINCIPAL ISSUES EXAMINED

External Auditor	2013 Interim Audit
External Auditor	2013 Statutory Audit
External Auditor	Meeting Attendance
Audit Committee	2013 Annual Report to Council - Review of Terms of Reference - Self Assessment process - Review Audit Works Program
Policy Reviews	Fraud and Corruption framework Whistleblowers Policy Internal Control Policy Monitoring Budget Performance
Long Term Financial Plan	Review of Long Term Financial Plan – Monitor annual review process
Asset Revaluation	Develop/adopt revaluation strategy Liaise with External Auditor
Risk Management	Policy review Business continuity
Financial Internal Controls	New legislation – Ongoing monitoring of implementation process
Treasury Management	Annual Report Periodic Review
Council Annual Report	
Draft Business Plan and Budget	
Budget Reviews (6 of)	Review in context of Council policy
Information Reports	Various- Accounting for leased buildings Constitutional recognition of Local Government Community consultation – Draft Business Plan and Budget SA Grants Commission database comparative reports Council policy review project Council delegations and appointments review Council fees and charges review Infrastructure and asset management plan review Valuation and rating review

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.

COMPETITIVE TENDERING STATEMENT

During the 2013/14 year Council advertised and accepted the following competitive tenders for the provision of goods and services (all excluding GST) -

ITEM	VALUE
Demolition of Site Infrastructure - Railway Lands	\$23,710
Site Remediation Works - Railway Lands	\$389,609
Demolition of Former Mount Gambier Hospital Building	\$1,984,657
Hino FM 2628 Refuse Truck and Compactor	\$244,895.79*
Construction of Cell 3 and Capping Part of Cells 1 and 2 - Caroline Landfill	\$1,305,870
Hino FG 1628 Street Sweeper	\$243,728.52*
Ford Mondeo Hatch	\$11,777.82*
FG Falcon MKII	\$10,706.98*
Crushing of Stone, Concrete and Brick - Caroline Landfill	0-10,000m ³ \$9.32/m ³ >10,000m ³ \$9.21/m ³ >20,000m ³ \$9.10/m ³ >20,000m ³
Supply of Organic Waste - Modelling and Advice	\$22,650
Kubota F3690 Front Mower	\$19,000*
Hino J08E-VD Tip Truck	\$62,160*
Maintenance Services - Council Buildings and Structures	\$172,171
Painting Services - Council Buildings and Structures	\$121,204.72
Construction of Wetland and Creek - Railway Lands	\$593,700
Holden Cruze CD Station Wagon	\$10,251.54*
Isuzu NPR 300 Tip Truck	\$42,047*
Ford MKII	\$13,665.93*
Laying of Concrete Pavers - Ferrers Street	\$132,950
Falcon XR6T	\$16,730.87*
Design, Supply and Installation of Shade Structures - Commerce Place Carpark	\$241,957

*Excluding GST and after trade-in

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)
- Mr Bill Beumer
- Ms Emily Finnigan
- Mr Peter Seebohm
- Cr Des Mutton
- Cr Ian Von Stanke
- Cr Merv White

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



EXTERNAL AUDITORS

Council is required under Section 128 of the South Australian 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 2013/2014 audit:-

- the sum of \$7,400 was paid for the interim annual audit of the Council's internal controls;
- the sum of \$10,500 was paid for the annual audit of statutory financial records and related specific purpose statements.

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 2013/14 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 motels, gymnasiums, commercial premises and residential complexes.

The BFSC generally meets every three (3) months.

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.

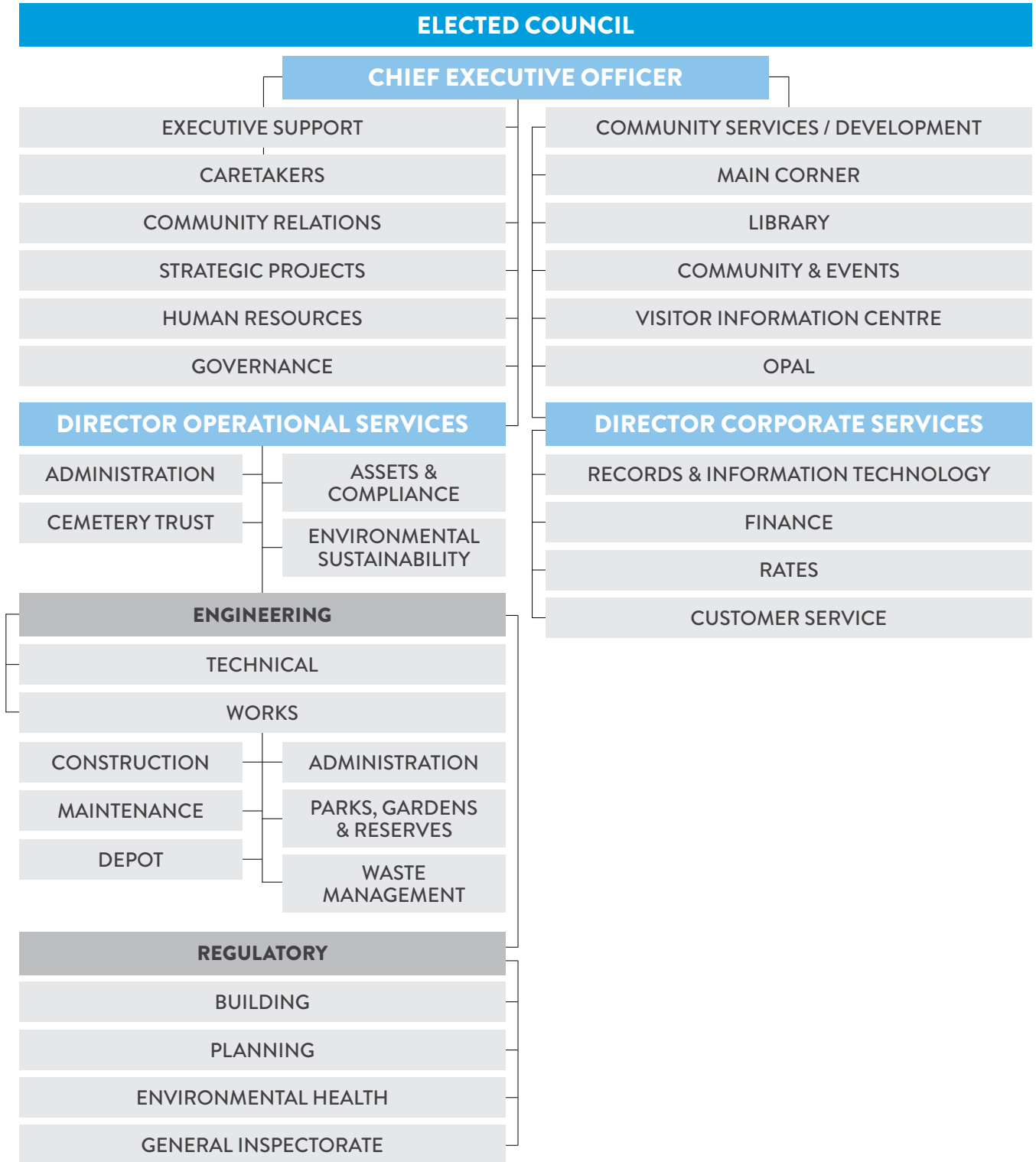
When Council receives new Community Land it undertakes public consultation, in accordance with the Local Government Act, prior to adopting a Management Plan.

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				
6118/154	Penola Road	550	551	Roadside screening reserve
5946/670	Wandaree Court	552	552	Open drainage reserve
New Land Holdings to be amended				
5992/835	Jubilee Highway East (Umpherston Sinkhole)	352	352	Open reserve, playground area and sinkhole
5663/245, 5808/209, 5633/71	Shepherdson Road (Hastings Cunningham Reserve)	14, 115	115, 134, 145	Open reserve, playground area, BMX area, soccer, tennis and Community use sheds

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

ORGANISATIONAL CHART



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 2013):

- 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

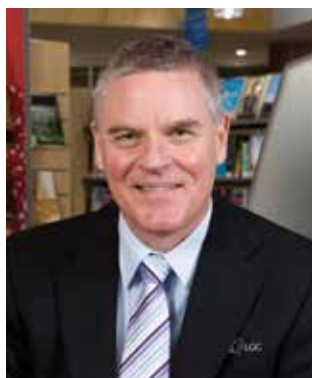


MANAGEMENT TEAM

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 2014:

SENIOR EXECUTIVE



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
Manager Human
Resources



Michael McCarthy
Governance Officer



Lynne Dowling
Team Leader
Executive Support

MANAGEMENT TEAM

DIVISIONAL MANAGERS



Daryl Morgan
Engineering Manager



Gary Button
Finance Manager



Vicki Hutchinson
Library Manager



Michael Silvy
Manager Regulatory
Services



Chris Mustart
Works Manager



HUMAN RESOURCES

The City of Mount Gambier's Human Resources Strategy aims to support Council's strategic objectives by encapsulating the personnel elements of our Strategic and Corporate Plan. The strategy was implemented in 2012 with a view to building the capacity of our people to work within a strategic framework with a high level of engagement, motivation, and commitment to success.

Because people ultimately determine our effectiveness, Council has focused on:

- Having the right people to achieve outcomes (recruitment/retention);
- A workforce with the skills to achieve these outcomes (training needs analysis/job role audit/appraisals);
- Employee understanding and demonstration of positive and appropriate behaviours (code of conduct, recognition/reward, organisation culture), and;
- Personnel being developed appropriately (performance evaluation/training/personal development).

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 begins at induction and continues throughout the working life of an employee.

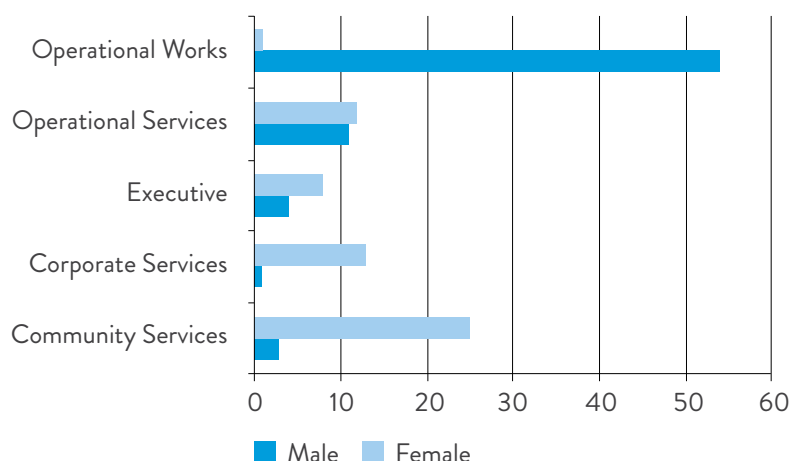
Council's training plan is the foundation of our training management process. It defines objectives, sets priorities, plans

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

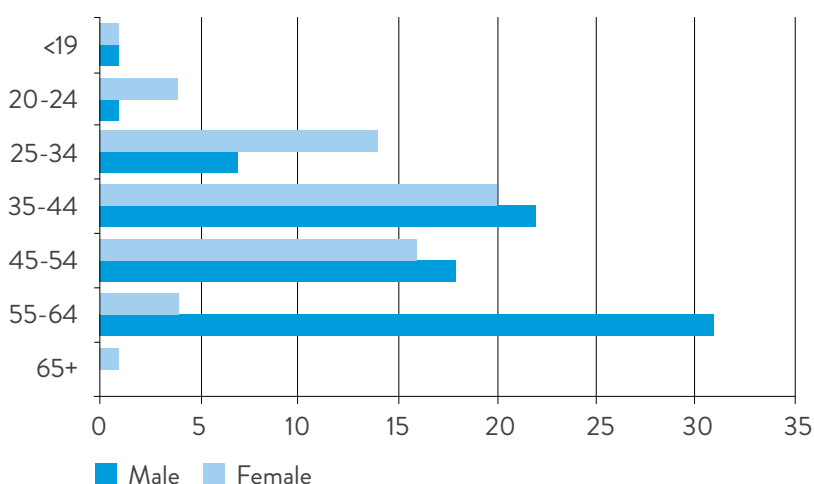
business plans to provide for a skilled and competent workforce tailored to meeting Council's strategic goals. It provides the primary reference document to define training budgets and project current and future training needs.

CURRENT EMPLOYEE PROFILE

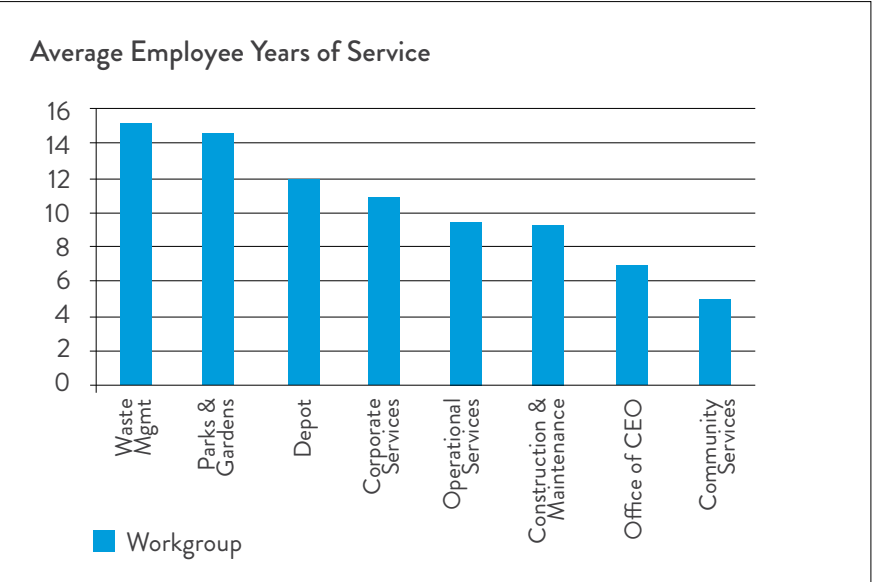
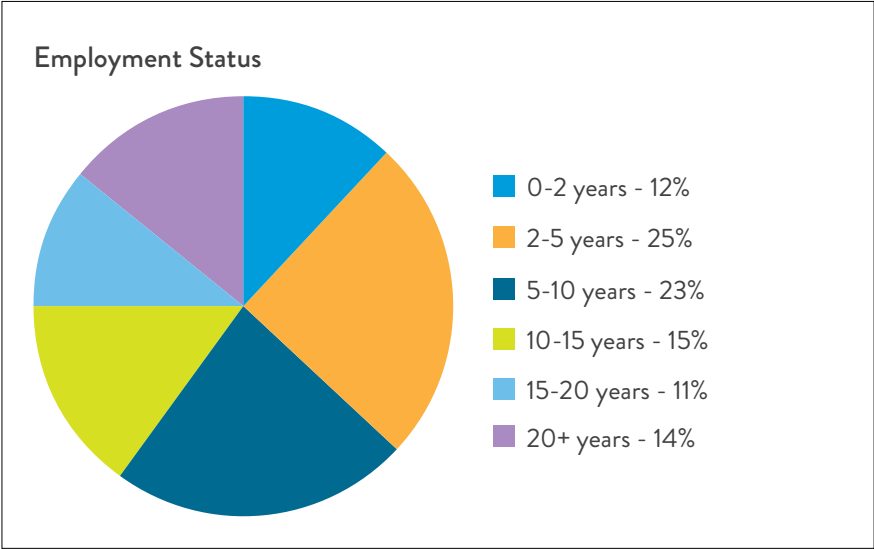
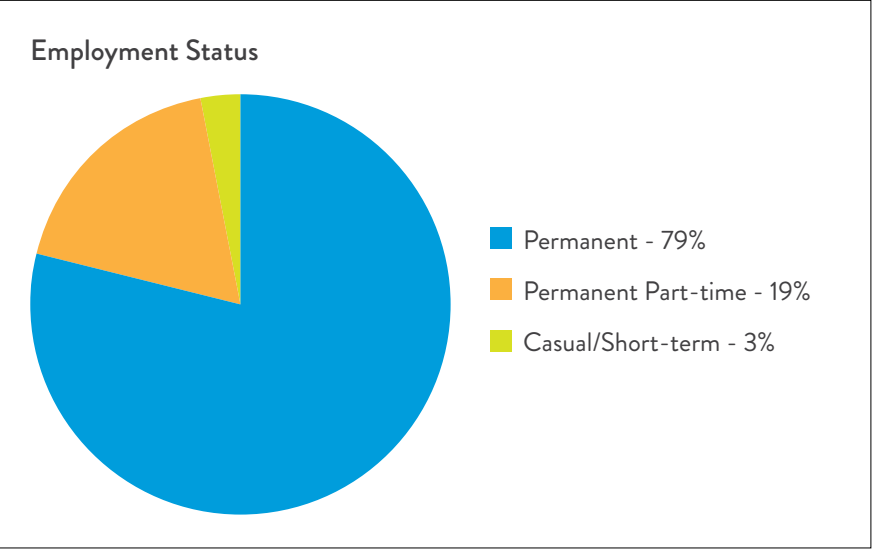
Gender by Division



Age by Gender

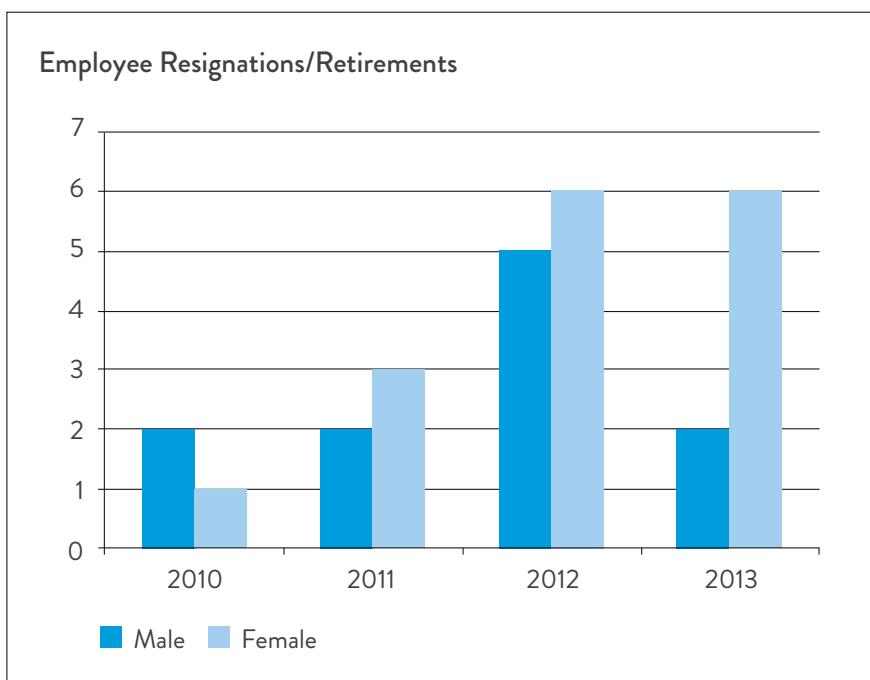


HUMAN RESOURCES



HUMAN RESOURCES

CURRENT EMPLOYEE PROFILE *cont.*



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.

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.

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Council is committed to the provision of a work environment free of discrimination, bullying, victimisation and harassment and to ensuring that all people are given fair opportunity and treatment in recruitment and employment.

This means that recruitment, selection, appointment, promotion, training and advancement decision are all made based on the merit of the applicant. Assessment of that merit is based fairly on factors such as experience, skills, qualifications and relevant attributes and Council will not discriminate on the grounds of irrelevant personal characteristics.

Council's HR Strategy demonstrates commitment to EEO and workplace diversity in 2012-2013 through the following actions:

- Continue to monitor recruitment procedures to ensure fair, transparent and merit based recruitment and selection processes;
- Promote employee rights, equity and social responsibility by providing flexible work practices designed to best meet organisational and employee needs;

- Review and update EEO policy and integrate principles and practices of equity in all areas of HR policy, practice and programs;
- Develop and implement policy and programs which improve employment opportunities, career development and job satisfaction for employees;
- Promote equal opportunity for all employees through HR activities within recruitment and selection;
- Ensure EEO contact person is trained appropriately;
- Encourage employees to raise equal opportunity issues or grievances;
- Recruitment practices recognise Council's commitment to workplace diversity;
- Commitment to workplace diversity to be embedded in recruitment policy and procedure;
- Develop workplace diversity statement incorporating EEO principles and legislation, and recognising the value of individual differences in the workplace;
- Encourage employees to raise equal opportunity issues or grievances;

- Promote EEO policy to all employees; and
- Promote the role of the EO Contact Officer at staff meetings and via other mediums including email and staff noticeboards.

Council Policy clearly defines discrimination, bullying and harassment and ensures that staff, prospective employees and customers are treated fairly, equitably and consistently. Council's HR Strategy demonstrates commitment to the prevention of discrimination, bullying and harassment in 2012-2013 through the following actions:

- Implement training and development activities to ensure all employees are able to define behaviours that constitute discrimination, bullying and harassment.
- Review policies, procedures and systems to ensure timely and fair resolution of grievances and allegations relating to discrimination, bullying and harassment.
- Implement procedures and systems to address perceptions of discrimination and harassment.

TEAM	MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL
Office of the CEO	5	11	16
Corporate Services	1	12	13
Community Services	3	26	29
Operational Services	11	11	22
Operational Services - Works	53	1	54
Totals	73	61	134
Percentages	54.5%	45.5%	100%

Total Number Employees: 134
 Full Time Equivalents: 120.88
 (all as at 30th June 2013)

CORPORATE STATEMENT

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OUR
views

COUNCIL'S FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE - LG GRANTS COMMISSION DATA

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.

Relevant data from the Grants Commission reports has been extracted and assembled in the following formats;

- In 'Comparative' format – with other similarly classified South Australian Councils, under four (4) major headings;
 - Financial Comparison
 - Expenditure Comparison
 - Revenue Comparison
 - Rates Comparison
- In 'Time Series' format – key financial data relative to the City of Mount Gambier for the past four (4) financial years. The Time Series' reports have been arranged under the following headings;
 - Employee/Operating
 - Assets
 - Financial
 - Rating

The most recent data provided by the Grants Commission is for the 2012/13 financial year.



COUNCIL'S FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE - LG GRANTS COMMISSION DATA

SA Local Government Grants Commission database reports 2012/2013

FINANCIAL COMPARISON

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	387,485	37,159	350,326	7,776	29,383	0	84	33
Barossa	304,307	26,601	277,706	13,451	13,150	1	43	35
Gawler	207,338	17,504	189,834	6,210	11,294	(1)	53	18
Mount Gambier	196,123	7,070	189,053	2,072	4,998	2	23	85
Murray Bridge	244,015	15,896	228,120	6,888	9,008	(8)	30	24
Port Augusta	203,164	27,352	175,812	8,789	18,563	(31)	60	31
Port Lincoln	155,136	4,419	150,717	5,870	(1,451)	3	(10)	29
Victor Harbor	245,026	18,247	226,779	4,450	13,797	1	67	48
Whyalla	228,827	6,798	222,030	4,173	2,625	1	11	77

EXPENDITURE COMPARISON

Council	Estimated Resident Population as 30 June 2013	Employee Costs (\$'000)	Materials, Contracts & Other Expenses (\$'000)	Finance Costs (\$'000)	Depreciation, Amortisation & Impairment (\$'000)	Total Operating Expenses (\$'000)	Operating Surplus/(Deficit) (\$'000)
Alexandrina	24,824	11,565	14,104	1,524	8,424	35,619	54
Barossa	22,808	10,033	13,052	1,362	6,529	30,979	148
Gawler	21,590	8,393	8,929	901	3,397	21,653	(119)
Mount Gambier	26,092	8,318	7,837	336	5,662	22,153	299
Murray Bridge	20,579	12,411	11,435	687	6,811	31,344	(1,434)
Port Augusta	14,605	15,390	13,907	981	5,020	35,298	(4,363)
Port Lincoln	14,732	3,203	8,610	0	2,730	14,543	314
Victor Harbor	14,639	7,212	7,558	948	4,984	20,702	110
Whyalla	22,562	8,426	11,035	135	5,980	25,576	91

COUNCIL'S FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE - LG GRANTS COMMISSION DATA

REVENUE COMPARISON

Council	Total Rates (\$000)	Statutory Charges (\$000)	User Charges (\$000)	Grants Subsidies & Contributions (\$000)	Investment Income (\$000)	Reimbursements (%)	Other Revenues (%)	Total Operating Revenue (%)
Alexandrina	29,121	788	1,451	3,081	118	402	596	35,673
Barossa	23,985	499	2,281	2,682	399	576	705	31,127
Gawler	16,037	651	1,587	2,390	122	398	108	21,534
Mount Gambier	15,772	357	3,393	2,232	31	191	476	22,452
Murray Bridge	17,755	523	2,088	8,398	133	181	561	29,910
Port Augusta	14,199	238	4,280	10,301	250	415	1,252	30,935
Port Lincoln	10,363	255	755	1,818	221	415	1,030	14,857
Victor Harbor	16,160	418	2,063	1,270	218	391	280	20,812
Whyalla	15,517	494	3,234	5,072	121	103	1,126	25,667

RATES COMPARISON

Council	Estimated Resident Population 30th June 2013	Number Of Rateable Properties January 2013	Capital Value January 2013 (\$Mil)	Total Rates (\$000)	Number of Rateable Residential Properties as at January 2012	Total Residential Rates (\$000)	Total Residential Rates per rateable residential property (\$)
Alexandrina	24,824	18,080	6,275	29,121	11,672	19,334	1,656
Barossa	22,808	12,373	4,319	23,985	7,948	11,747	1,478
Gawler	21,590	10,413	3,018	16,037	8,243	12,088	1,466
Mount Gambier	26,092	14,037	3,127	15,772	11,317	11,688	1,033
Murray Bridge	20,579	11,543	2,681	17,755	7,501	10,276	1,370
Port Augusta	14,605	7,516	1,625	14,199	6,228	8,599	1,381
Port Lincoln	14,732	8,377	2,336	10,363	6,323	7,820	1,237
Victor Harbor	14,639	10,626	3,675	16,160	7,575	12,394	1,636
Whyalla	22,562	12,049	2,357	15,517	10,545	12,539	1,126

COUNCIL'S FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE - LG GRANTS COMMISSION DATA

Local Government Grants Commission Database Time Series Reports

EMPLOYEE / OPERATING

Year	Employees FTE	Employee Costs	Operating Expenditure	Operating Revenue	Operating Surplus / (Deficit)
2009/10	107	6,610,000	18,459,000	18,733,000	274,000
2010/11	110	7,286,000	20,742,000	19,632,000	(1,110,000)
2011/12	112	7,983,000	23,038,000	22,455,000	(583,000)
2012/13	116	8,318,000	22,153,000	22,452,000	299,000

ASSETS

Year	Cash / Cash Equivalent	Other Receivables	Inventories	Land	Buildings	Infrastructure	Plant, Equipment	Other Assets	Total Assets
2009/10	9,696,000	1,638,000	44,000	28,012,000	53,120,000	43,618,000	4,842,000	1,406,000	142,376,000
2010/11	8,298,000	2,520,000	35,000	28,363,000	56,215,000	45,263,000	4,704,000	2,425,000	135,289,000
2011/12	981,000	1,470,000	47,000	41,026,000	112,109,000	56,625,000	4,840,000	2,946,000	220,044,000
2012/13	675,000	1,397,000	40,000	41,188,000	87,340,000	58,186,000	4,627,000	2,670,000	196,123,000

FINANCIAL

Year	Total Liabilities	Total Financial Assets	Net Financial Liabilities	Total Equity	% Operating Surplus Ratio	Net Financial Liability Ratio %	Asset Sustainability Ratio %
2009/10	9,059,000	11,334,000	(2,275,000)	133,317,000	2	(12)	55
2010/11	12,534,000	10,818,000	1,716,000	135,289,000	(8)	9	51
2011/12	8,432,000	2,451,000	5,981,000	211,612,000	(4)	27	52
2012/13	7,070,000	2,072,000	4,998,000	189,053,000	2	23	85

RATING

Year	Estimated Population	Rateable Properties	Capital Value of Rateable Properties	Total Rates	No. of Residential Properties	Total Residential Rates	Total Res Rates per Property
2009/10	26,128	13,441	2,879,000	12,689,000	10,760	9,206,000	856
2010/11	26,206	13,801	3,171,000	13,872,000	11,276	10,157,000	901
2011/12	25,911	13,937	3,209,000	14,881,000	11,276	11,474,000	1,018
2012/13	26,092	14,037	3,127,000	15,772,000	11,317	11,688,000	1,033

2013/14 RATING AND VALUATION SUMMARY

RATING COMPONENT		2012/2013	2013/2014
1	FIXED CHARGE	\$516.40	\$544.80
	Amount Total Collection	\$6,950,744	\$7,378,226
	% of Total Rates	45%	\$45%
2	DIFFERENTIAL RATES		
	Residential	.19945	.21167
	Commercial - Shop	.5385 (+ 170%)	.57151 (+170%)
	Commercial - Office	.5385 (+ 170%)	.57151 (+170%)
	Commercial - Other	.5385 (+ 170%)	.57151 (+170%)
	Industry - Light	.5385 (+ 170%)	.57151 (+170%)
	Industry - Other	.5385 (+ 170%)	.57151 (+170%)
	Primary Production	.19945	.21167
	Vacant Land	.5385 (+ 170%)	.57151 (+170%)
	Other	.19945	.21167
3	VALUATION		
	Rateable Land	\$3,139,059,180	\$3,167,914,030
	Non Rateable Land	\$177,104,360	\$199,262,010
	All Land	\$3,316,162,540	\$3,367,176,040
4	RATE REVENUE		
	Gross General Rates	\$15,450,000	\$16,396,000
	% Increase on Previous Year	6.9%	6.1%
5	SEPARATE RATE		
	Catchment Board Contribution	\$533,000	544,445
	Catchment/NRM Levy	\$39.80	\$40.60
6	AVERAGE RESIDENTIAL RATES CALCULATIONS (GROWTH EXCLUDED)		
	Average Residential Rates	\$927	\$984
	Average dollar increase	\$23	\$57
	Average Percentage Increase	2.5%	6.1%

2013/14 RATING AND VALUATION SUMMARY

7 Valuation comparison

Land Use Category	2012/2013		2013/2014		% Increase
	Properties	Assessed Value \$	Properties	Assessed Value \$	
1 Residential	11,693	2,410,824,455	11,782	2,456,321,080	1.88%
2 Commercial	986	488,945,087	1026	471,547,185	-3.55%
3 Industry	223	115,988,142	222	115,131,058	-0.73%
4 Primary Production	56	23,140,500	66	24,451,511	5.66%
5 Vacant Land	482	55,776,896	430	55,937,396	0.38%
6 Other	59	44,383,100	58	44,525,800	0.32%
TOTALS	13,499	3,139,058,180	13,584	3,167,914,030	0.92%

8 Rating comparison

Land Use Category	2012/2013			2013/2014			% Increase
	Fixed Charge	Differential Rates	Total Rates	Fixed Charge	Differential Rates	Total Rates	
1 Residential	6,035,167	4,807,370	10,842,537	6,396,496	5,199,123	11,595,619	6.9%
2 Commercial	498,326	2,632,970	3,131,296	558,965	2,694,939	3,253,904	3.9%
3 Industry	113,092	624,597	737,689	120,946	657,986	778,932	5.5%
4 Primary Production	26,853	46,154	73,007	35,957	51,757	87,714	20.1%
5 Vacant Land	246,839	300,360	547,199	234,264	319,688	553,952	1.2%
6 Other	30,467	88,522	118,989	31,598	94,248	125,846	5.8%
TOTALS	6,950,744	8,499,973	15,450,717	7,378,226	9,017,741	16,395,967	6.1%

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 2013/14 this was 34% of rate revenue compared to 35% 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
- BPay View (Electronic Delivery of Rate Notices)
- Direct Debit
- Australia Post

Sixty three (63) percent of Council's total rate revenue collection is now collected via these facilities compared to fifty two (52) percent five years ago in the 2009/10 financial year.

Statistics - 2013/14

SERVICE	NO. OF PAYMENTS	\$ VALUE
IVR	1,791	579,154
Internet	1,249	481,575
BPay	29,484	6,623,399
Direct Bank Debits	2,245	247,137
Australia Post (from June 2009)	6,908	2,404,715
TOTAL	41,677	10,335,980

RESIDENTIAL RATES COMPARISON REPORT 2012/13

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	ACLG	POPULATION (ERP)	TOTAL RATES \$	RATES AS % OF REVENUE	RES RATES/ RES PROP \$
Mount Gambier	URS	26,092	15,772	70	1,033
Murray Bridge	URS	20,579	17,755	59	1,370
Port Augusta	URS	14,605	14,199	46	1,381
Port Lincoln	URS	14,732	10,363	70	1,237
Victor Harbour	URS	14,639	16,160	78	1,636
Whyalla	URS	22,562	15,517	60	1,189
Mount Barker	URM	31,325	27,310	76	1,630
Alexandrina	UFS	24,824	29,121	82	1,656
Barossa	UFS	22,808	23,985	77	1,478
Gawler	UFS	21,590	16,037	74	1,466
State Average				70	1,308
URS/URM/UFS Average				69	1,408

*Source: SA Local Government Grants Commission database reports.

In 2012/13 the City of Mount Gambier residential rates per rateable property (\$1033) were 79% of the State average (\$1,308) or 21% below the State average.

In the previous financial year (2011/12) this figure was 85% of the State average or 15% below the State average.

BY-LAWS

Council has adopted the following By-laws:

By-law No. 1	Permits and Penalties
By-law No. 2	Local Government Land
By-law No. 3	Roads
By-law No. 4	Moveable Signs
By-law No. 5	Dogs
By-law No. 6	Taxi Regulation

These By-laws will expire on 1st January 2019, unless revoked or amended prior to that date.

LAND ACQUISITIONS

Council purchased land contained in Certificate of Title Volume 5946 Folio 670 located at 5 Wandaree Court for the purpose of constructing an open drainage reserve.

Council did not sell or otherwise dispose of any land during the 2013/14 Financial Year.

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
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
2014	\$836	\$883	\$1,719	NIL	\$252	\$252

"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.

The average age of all employees is 44.06 years (male 45.52 and female 41.07).

The average years of service for all employees is 9.58 years (male 11.17 and female 6.65).

ENTERPRISE AGREEMENTS

Council's enterprise agreements for AWU and ASU employees will expire 31st December 2014. Negotiations for the new agreements commenced early in 2014 with all parties aiming to complete the process prior to Council entering caretaker mode in the lead-up to the November election.

Council is represented on the AWU negotiating team by Cr Smith, Cr Lee (proxy), and Director Operational Services, and on the ASU negotiating team by Cr Smith, Cr Lee (proxy), and Manager Human Resources.

Council and employee representatives obtained a range of independent advice and guidance regarding enterprise bargaining trends in the public and private sector including agreement length, improvement clauses, and employer of choice strategies.

Each of the parties tabled a range of matters for negotiation reflecting positive aspirations for both the employer and the employee. The Director – Operational Services and Manager Human Resources worked closely to ensure that, as much as possible, the two agreements were aligned.

The development of both agreements involved employee consultative groups meeting regularly with management over a period of five months and extensive consultation with the wider employee group and union representatives.

Management has negotiated a wage adjustment of 3.5% for each year of the three year agreements. In reaching the salary adjustments significant comparisons and reviews were conducted of local government workplace agreements in this region, other South Australian regional cities and Adelaide Councils.

Further consideration was given to national workplace adjustments and current and projected CPI movements. In summary the outcomes of both agreements were deemed to be fair and reasonable with a focus on change and productivity, stable, committed and focused workforce.

The new agreements demonstrate a significant emphasis on progressive cultural and operational changes while reinforcing improvements that have already been made. Much of the focus is on a stable, productive workforce with high skills levels and a commitment to delivering outcomes for the community. There is also a focus on driving Council's direction via strategic, corporate and business unit planning.

Both agreements commence 1st January 2015 and run for a period of three years.



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.

As the following figures highlight, Council has generally maintained a consistently low incidence of workplace lost time injury (LTI) and lost time injury days (LTI days) 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	DURA- TION RATE	FREQ. RATE	INCIDENT RATE	CLAIMS GREATER 5 DAYS
2008/09	Council Groups	0 5	0 88	8 15	0.0 16.4	0.0 16.9	0.0 3.4	0 3
2009/10	Council Groups	2 5	20 43	13 14	10.0 8.2	9.9 17.3	2.0 3.5	2 2
2010/11	Council Groups	3 6	118 49	10 13	39.3 8.9	13.8 18.5	2.8 3.7	2 3
2011/12	Council Groups	1 4	1 63	14 12	1.0 14.1	4.5 16.4	0.9 3.3	0 2
2012/13	Council Groups	3 4	66 79	7 10	22.0 18.1	12.4 16.1	2.5 3.2	3 2
2013/14	Council Groups	2 4	15 68	13 10	3.0 13.7	20.8 17.1	4.2 3.4	1 3

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

Incident Rate = $(\text{LTI} \div \text{employees}) \times 100$ • Hours Worked = 500 per employee per quarter, or 2,000 per year •

Frequency Rate = $\text{LTI} \div (\text{hours worked}) \times 1,000,000$ • Duration Rate = $\text{LTI days} \div \text{LTI} \cdot \text{Number of Claims}$ = all claims (that is primary and secondary claims reported during the period) • Lost Time Injuries as defined in Australian Standard 1885.1 = one complete shift or more of lost time, not cumulative

Note: figures depend on compensation reimbursement being claimed up to end of period.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

LOCAL GOVERNMENT SOFTWARE

Council operates the 'Authority' enterprise Local Government software solution developed and maintained by Software vendor Civica Pty Ltd which is delivered via a Managed Service (Cloud) 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, Main Corner 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:

- 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
- Implementation of 'Authority' Online Requisitioning designed to streamline Councils purchasing arrangements
- 'Authority' version upgrade (to latest version of the software)

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

In September 2013 the Library joined the Statewide "One Card" Network, which utilizes the SirsiDynix "Symphony" library software solution. This Network now connects more than 130 public libraries across South Australia and enables Mount Gambier Library members to borrow and return items across the State with their current library card, with access to almost 5 million items.

The new service will also give members 24/7 access to an online catalogue where millions of books, DVDs and magazines in libraries across South Australia can be looked

up and reserved either from home or at the Library, to be delivered to their Library of choice.

The Library as part of the move to the "One Card" Network also moved 16,000 digital assets, with the majority being our Les Hill Photographic Collection, over to a digital asset management product called Portfolio. Portfolio utilizes OCR (optical character recognition) and harvests library-configurable metadata across a range of different asset types to deliver cross-collection results, now unlocking digital assets held in public libraries throughout South Australia. It also exposes our digital content to web services so that our digital resources will become available via the internet not just through our library catalogue.

All upgrades and management of the system, including help desk services are now provided by Public Library Services.

As a result of the move to the "One Card" Network, the Library also upgraded its computer reservation and print management system to a single solution, Monitor. This allows customers to utilise their library cards to book computers and manage all of their printing with the one system. To further enhance our public printing capabilities, the system also provides access to WebPrint, which enables anyone using a computer or mobile device, either within the library or at home, to send print jobs via the internet in a range of different file formats and then release them once they visit the library.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

In late 2011 the Library implemented Evanced Solutions a suite of simple, cost-effective tools to help streamline library processes and better attract and engage the community we serve. Products include event calendaring and registration, meeting room booking and summer reading management.

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.

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 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 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's local government 'Authority' Software solution has been managed in a hosted environment since 2007 and is delivered via internet/citrix from a Sydney based data centre.

Since 2010 all other corporate software solutions including mapping (Exponare), electronic document management (TRIM) and the MS Office suite of applications have also been established in the managed, cloud environment.

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 four (4) year finance/rental cycle.

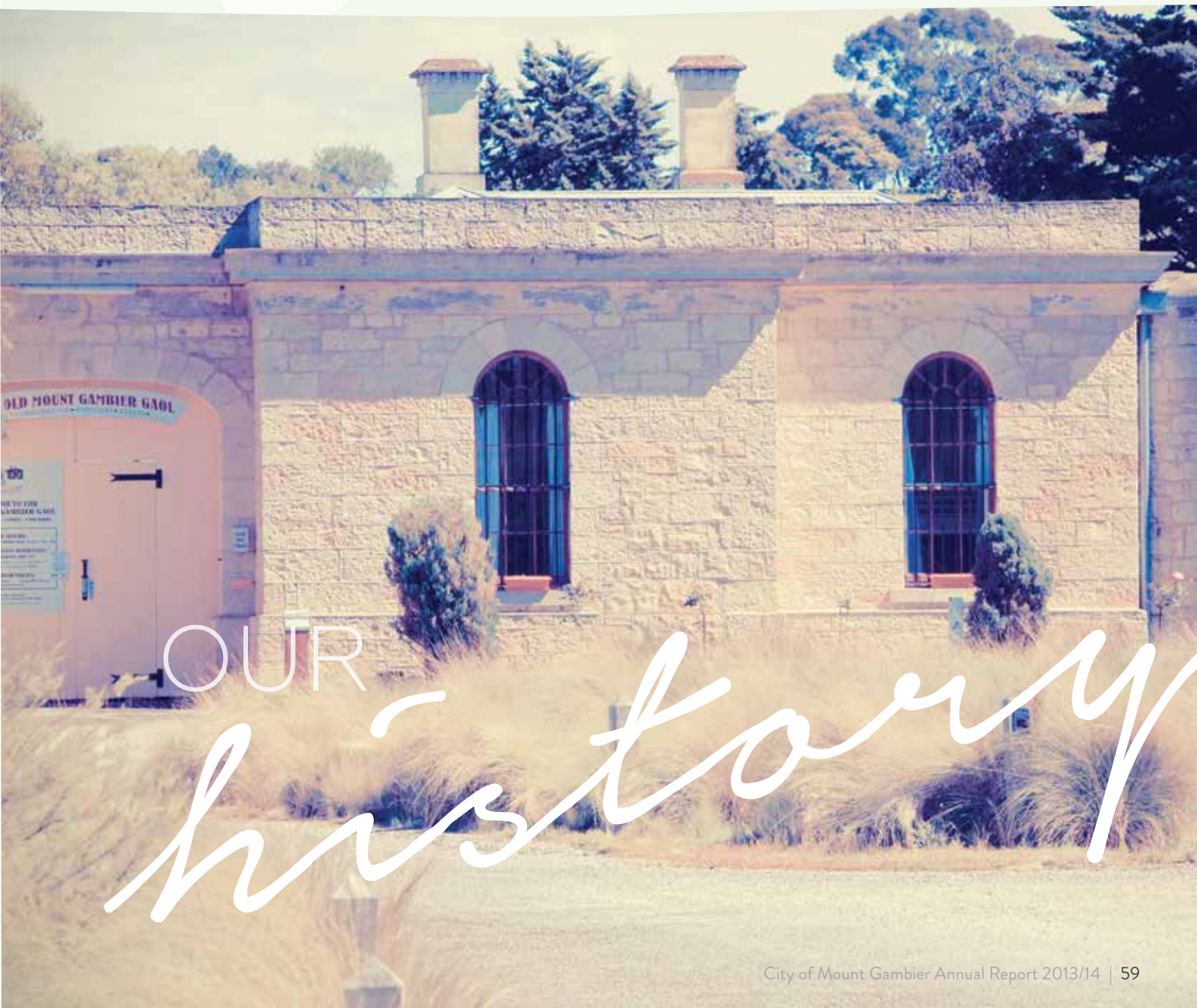
WEBSITE

www.mountgambier.sa.gov.au

Following a review of Council's website operations, consolidation of the two existing sites (Council and Tourism) and migration to a new content management system has commenced.

INFRASTRUCTURE STATEMENT

Infrastructure Works	60	Valley Lake Conservation Area	63
Boundary Roads	60	Carinya Gardens Cemetery	63
City Centre Urban Design & Traffic Management Plan	60	Aquatic Centre	64
Railway Lands	61		
Old Hospital	61		
Street Trees	62		
Bicycle Paths	63		



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 various sections of Commercial Street East
- Reconstruction of Goss Street
- Reconstruction of Elizabeth Street
- Reconstruction of sections of Fairlane Drive
- Reconstruction of Mahoney Avenue
- Reconstruction and widening of a section of Wireless Road East
- Reconstruction and widening of O'Leary Road

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 2013/14 each Council contributed \$82,000 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.

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 and the annual contribution to the Boundary Roads Program has reduced from

\$125,00 from each Council to \$82,000, reflecting the generally good condition of the boundary roads network.

The work completed this year was the upgrade of Bishop Road from Penola Road to the eastern boundary of the Marketplace development.

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 the 2013/2014 Financial year, Council continued on with the Commercial Street Urban renewal project which saw new paving and landscaping works being placed to the main street between Wehl Street and Crouch Street.

This project has revitalised the City Centre and compliments previous Urban renewal projects such as the Main corner and Library Plaza areas.

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.

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. This work commenced in late 2013 with site remediation, the shared path and basic landscaping. In early 2014, Council was again successful under the 'Places for People' program adding another \$1m plus Council's \$1m contribution to the overall project.

With in excess of \$4m to spend on the project Council is able to realise the vision of Stages 1 and 2 of the project including completion of the landscaping, wetlands and nature play space. Also including in the works is the refurbishment of the Former Signal Box, extension of the existing platform and the creation of a large paved central plaza area with feature palm avenue. Completion of the project is expected in early 2015.

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.

Demolition was carried out and completed in January 2014 by an Adelaide based company following an exhaustive tender process. The demolition included the retention of the Former Laundry building to be used as a feature shade structure within the park.

Permanent bracing works, structural repairs and refurbishment works on the Former Laundry are due to be completed by the end of 2014 so that it can be used by the public for various purposes.

STREET TREES

COMMON NAME	BOTANICAL NAME	STREET NAME	OVERHEAD POWER LINES	TREES BEING RETAINED	PROPOSED REMOVALS	PROPOSED PLANTINGS	NET GAIN
Crimson Spire Cherryplum	<i>Prunus cerasifera</i> 'Oakville Crimson Spire'	Lake Terrace East (South Side)	NO	0	1	38	37
Flowering Ash	<i>Fraxinus ornus</i> 'Meczek'	Henty Street (East Side)	YES	0	0	21	21
Flowering Ash	<i>Fraxinus ornus</i> 'Meczek'	Kielpa Street	YES	0	1	15	14
Gawler Hybrid Bottlebrush	<i>Callistemon viminalis</i> 'Harkness'	Morgan Street (West Side)	YES	0	0	15	15
Gawler Hybrid Bottlebrush	<i>Callistemon viminalis</i> 'Harkness'	Cunningham Street (West Side)	YES	0	3	25	22
Gawler Hybrid Bottlebrush	<i>Callistemon viminalis</i> 'Harkness'	Bodey Street (North Side)	YES	0	2	10	8
Greenvase Japanese Elm	<i>Zelkova serrata</i> 'Greenvase'	Stafford Street (East Side)	NO	0	0	20	20
Greenvase Japanese Elm	<i>Zelkova serrata</i> 'Greenvase'	Calula Drive	NO	0	0	62	62
Purple Leaf Cherryplum	<i>Prunus cerasifera</i> 'Nigra'	Lake Terrace East (North Side)	YES	0	7	35	28
Purple Leaf Cherryplum	<i>Prunus cerasifera</i> 'Nigra'	Stafford Street (West Side)	YES	3	0	23	23
Southworth Dancer Pear	<i>Pyrus betufoia</i> 'Southworth Dancer'	Murndal Court	NO	0	0	19	19
Yellow Gum	<i>Eucalyptus leucoxylon</i> var. <i>Megalocarpa</i> 'Rosea'	Morgan Street (East Side)	NO	0	0	15	15
Yellow Gum	<i>Eucalyptus leucoxylon</i> var. <i>Megalocarpa</i> 'Rosea'	Cunningham Street (East Side)	NO	2	2	12	10
Yellow Gum	<i>Eucalyptus leucoxylon</i> var. <i>Megalocarpa</i> 'Rosea'	Bodey Street (South Side)	NO	0	1	10	9
			TOTAL	5	17	320	303

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 and Crouch St South
- Sturt Street
- Wireless Rd East
- Suttontown Road

Council also constructed a number of off road paths at the follow locations:

- Ash Crt to Heaver Dr
- Crouch St North (North Tce to Boomerang Ave)
- Crouch St South (Griffiths St to Boandik Tce)

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

VALLEY LAKE CONSERVATION AREA

A series of upgrade activities within the Valley Lake Conservation Area were instigated in 2013 by members of the Lions Club and Council Staff. Works included;

- Demolition of part of an existing lookout and salvaging the materials for re-use;
- Construction of a new lookout using the salvaged materials;

- Re-decking of the main boardwalk over the pond;
- Installation of irrigation system to one of the fauna enclosures;
- Pathway repairs, weed control and widening of one of the small timber bridges;
- Spreading mulch to landscaped areas and front entry garden

Council designed and built a new feature entrance to the Area with members of the Lions Club providing labour to assist in the construction of the dolomite feature walls, modifications to the existing shelter and building the timber feature fence.

CARINYA GARDENS CEMETERY

There were 336 services conducted at Carinya Gardens Cemetery during the 2013-14 year, compared with 394 for the same period in the previous year.

The Trust conducted 111 burial services at Carinya Gardens Cemetery in 2013-14, compared with 108 for the same period in the previous year.

During 2013-14, the Trust conducted 225 cremations, compared to 286 for the same period in the previous year.



AQUATIC CENTRE

The Management of the Centre was undertaken by Innovative Leisure Management (ILM), the fourth 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 performed very well during its first season of operation. Water temperatures were maintained at a consistently high temperature although the fuel source has now changed from green sawdust to dry woodchip to maximize the heating capacity of the new boiler.

INDIVIDUAL ADMISSIONS

Swimming - Adult	3,488
Swimming - Child	6,446
Swimming - Spectator	480
Swimming - Pensioner	365
Swimming - Family	228
Aquavoucher Return - Pensioner	59
Swim School - Preschool	2,254
Swim School - School age	4,310
Swim School - Adult	41
Season Pass – Laps	5,998
Season Pass – Swimming Lessons	3,228
Lap Swimming	2,157
VacSwim	1,971
Carnivals - General	139
Carnivals – School	1,185
Education Department - Primary	14,919
Education Department - Jnr Primary	6,740
Aquavoucher Return - Adult	268
Aquavoucher Return - Child	251
Fitness (aqua aerobics)	817
Swim Club	725
School Groups	1,230
INDIVIDUAL TOTAL	
Royal Life Saving Society	93
HIRE GROUP TOTAL	
No Charge Spectator	10,437
Education Department - Teachers	1,019
COMPLIMENTARY TOTAL	
TOTAL ATTENDANCES	68,848

ENVIRONMENT STATEMENT

Environmental Sustainability	66	Blue Lake Management Committee	74
Environmental Health Division	69	Stormwater Management	74
Community Health Division	70	Waste Management	75
Planning Division	71	Graffiti Removal	75
Building Division	72	Crater Lakes	76
Heritage Committee	73	John Powell Reserve	76
Local Heritage Restoration Fund	73	Dog & Cat Management Plan 2013-2018	77
Strategic Bushfire Prevention Plan	74		



OUR *parks*

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2013-2014

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITMENT AND THE NATURAL STEP FRAMEWORK

The City of Mount Gambier has a history of strong support for Environmental Sustainability. As a response to the importance of environmental sustainability, at the November 2007 Council meeting Council established an Environmental Sustainability Working Party (ESWP), to assist Council to achieve its environmental sustainability goals and objectives. The ESWP is now known as the Environmental Sustainability Sub-Committee (ESSC).

At the 20 May 2008 Council meeting, Council formerly adopted the Natural Step Framework, to be used as a planning tool to enable Council to integrate environmental and social considerations into strategic decisions as well as daily operations. Council has undertaken many environmental sustainability projects since the establishment of the ESWP and adoption of the Natural Step Framework.

City of Mount Gambier – Natural Step Sustainability Objectives

The ‘system conditions’ of the natural Step Framework are as follows.

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>

CHAT TOOL

Following on from the adoption and gradual implementation of the Natural Step Framework, City of Mount Gambier have developed a holistic decision making tool, which incorporates the Natural Step Framework and quadruple bottom line considerations. The tool is known as the “Comprehensive Holistic Assessment Tool”, or “CHAT Tool” for short.

All major Council projects and programs are now assessed using the CHAT Tool. The tool consists of 20 questions that cover environmental, community, finance and governance factors. Projects and programs are rated according to their positive or negative impact on these factors. This results in a final score which indicates if the project or program is truly holistic, and hence valuable to pursue, or needs to be discarded or re-worked.

MOUNT GAMBIER AQUATIC CENTRE BIOMASS BOILER

In September 2013 Council installed a biomass boiler at the Mount Gambier Aquatic Centre. The City of Mount Gambier is the first Council in Australia to implement

such heating methods for their local pool. The biomass system runs on wood chips and is more cost effective compared to running a gas system. It supports the local economy through the sourcing of biomass feedstock from the forestry industry, and uses a carbon neutral fuel source – wood chips from local plantations that are regrown.

On the 7th of April 2014 the innovative project was awarded the 2014 South Australian Aquatic Innovation Award by Recreation SA. Recreation SA is the peak industry body for the aquatics, fitness and health, community recreation and outdoor sectors in South Australia.

Following the considerable interest shown by the community a simple case study on the project has been developed;

The Case Study is available on the “Environmental” section of the City of Mount Gambier website, located under “Energy”.



ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

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 2013. The award received numerous nominations with Café Melzar the 2013 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 2013, 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 “Wastewater Treatment and Reuse” and “Water Cycle and Conservation”. 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 “Water in the South East” was also held in the Main Corner. This was an interesting night of local information from a local expert.

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES / TIDY TOWNS AWARDS

In 2013 Council participated in the KESAB Sustainable Communities program, resulting in the winning of the Environmental Sustainability Award by the local campus of TAFE SA. The Award was given in recognition of the great work that TAFE have been doing with their educational “Green Room”.

EARTH HOUR

In March 2014 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 2014. 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:

- Community planting days in involving Scouts, Girl Guides, Lions Club and general public.
- Lions Club installed and/or repaired numerous boardwalks within the Park.
- Commenced redevelopment of front entrance to the Park (contractor and Lions Club).
- Continuation of works program with Gordon Education Centre - revegetation, mulching, weeding general works around the park.
- Continuation of program for youth Correctional services - pathway maintenance and construction.
- Construction of viewing platform near Potoroo compound - purpose is to allow children to see animals better during feeding times.
- Continuation of association with Nature Glenelg Trust - plant propagation but also obtained

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

some funding to create a display garden within the park. It is a selected area that had bush sand deposited there over 10 yrs ago. It is suitable for native flowering bush plants that their conservation status are either rare, endangered or vulnerable.

EXPANSION OF PUBLIC BIKE FLEET

Thanks to the generosity of the Opal program the City of Mount Gambier was able to expand the public bike fleet. There are now eight free hire bikes in total, with three located at both the Lady Nelson Visitor Centre and the Main Corner, as well as two at the Mount Gambier Library. The bikes are free to anyone to borrow – locals or visitors. Give them a try today!

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:

- Implemented the collection of cooking oil for recycling at the Mount Gambier Waste Transfer Centre.
- Put “What’s in/Out” stickers on all 26,000 rubbish and recycling kerbside bins.
- Delivered an educational waste collection calendar to all residences.
- Updated the What to Recycle Where Guide – An A-Z guide for product recycling or disposal.

- Waste and recycling talks at schools – with interactive activities.
- Clean outs of Gross Pollutant Traps in front of school groups, highlighting the litter that is caught by the traps.
- Clean up Australia Day.
- Environmental Month – Variety of environmental themed talks and workshops.

FRUIT & NUT TREES

In May 2014 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 Dawn Court and Pettingill Lane both put together strong submissions to have fruit and nut trees planted in their local reserve.

On the 5th of July and 13th of July 30th 2014 local residents braved the inclement weather to participate in planting the fruit and nut trees in the two reserves. The selection of trees included lemons, limes, oranges, apples, almond and a selection of stone fruit.

Council hopes the 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!

Smart Living profiles of local community members can be found on the “Environmental” section of the City of Mount Gambier website, located under “Sustainable Living”.

RIDE 2 WORK DAY

On Wednesday 16th October 2013 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).



ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DIVISION

FOOD SAFETY

FOOD PREMISES INSPECTIONS

Council conducts regular inspections of food premises within the Council area. 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 2013/2014 Council conducted

401 food premises and stall inspections. Inspection frequency 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. 2014 has seen the introduction of the new state wide Food Business Risk Classification system.

Administration of the Food Act 2001, During the Financial Year 2013/14

Routine inspections undertaken	263
Follow up inspections undertaken	125
Incident triggered inspections	13
Total number of inspections conducted under the Food Act 2001	401
Number of permanently operating premises routinely inspected under the Food Act 2001	279
Inspections conducted of temporary premises operating at local events (markets, festivals etc.)	92
Number of orders/notices issued under Food Act 2001	0
Number of expiation notices issued under Food Act 2001	0
Number of alleged food poisoning complaints received	21
Number of confirmed food poisoning cases received	5

FOOD SAFETY EDUCATION

Council takes a pro-active approach to food safety education, providing educational opportunities for local school students, community groups and businesses. SA Health food business and community group information packs are distributed during inspections and training courses. Council's successful partnership with TAFE SA has resulted in approximately 100 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 attended by volunteers of community groups involved in providing food for the public and by food industry job seekers. Council believes food safety education is important as it positively encourages compliance and breaks down the barriers between the EHO's and food handlers. In addition this ongoing partnership provides consistent training across the region.

Council also subscribes to the I'm Alert online food safety training, which is free when accessed via Council's website. A number of volunteer community groups have used the computer room in the Mount Gambier Library and completed the training as a group. A CD Rom of the I'm Alert Food Safety Training is also available from the Mount Gambier Library for

those food handlers who do not have access to the internet.

During food safety week in November 2013, a display was held with SA Health giveaways and information available to 6,737 Library visitors. A food safety display was also held at the Market Place with Environmental Officers available for questions from the public.

HEALTH PROMOTION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

DISEASE PREVENTION

Council's authorised officers administer and regulate the South Australian (SA) Public Health Act 2011 and associated Regulations for disease prevention. This includes wastewater systems,

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DIVISION

public swimming pools and spas, hairdressing, beauty and skin penetration premises, high risk manufactured water systems (Legionella) and domestic squalor. Public health web links, fact sheets and videos have been added to Council's web site for access by industry and community members. During the year the following complaint and scheduled inspections were conducted by authorised officers.

Administration of the SA Public Health Act 2011, during the Financial Year 2013/14

Public swimming pools and spas	25
Wastewater systems	11
Domestic squalor or rodent activity	26
Hair, beauty, skin penetration premises	4
High risk manufactured water systems	3
Other	2

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 supports the promotion of preventative and public health topics, supports the public immunisation program and provides a domestic sharps disposal program for residents.

IMMUNISATIONS

During the 2013/2014 financial year Council continued to support the South East Regional Community Health Service in the provision of the Public Immunisation Sessions. Council supports the provision of public immunisations to assist in maintaining appropriate immunisation rates and health within our community.

Public immunisation sessions are held twice a day on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month. The public immunisation sessions provide for the vaccination of children in accordance with the

Australian Immunisation Schedule and provide the opportunity for adults to be vaccinated under a user pay system.

DOMESTIC SHARPS DISPOSAL PROGRAM

The Domestic Sharps Disposal 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 375 people register for this program since it

began in 2004 and the interest is still strong, with 79 sharps containers purchased over the past twelve months.

PUBLIC HEALTH PROMOTIONS

During April 2014 various promotional materials were distributed to promote women's health. Informational stickers and posters were displayed in women's public toilets in 10 different locations in the CBD. The promotional materials focused on the SA Cervix Screening Program as part of Pap Awareness Week and the 1800 RESPECT hotline for the National Sexual Assault, Domestic Family Violence Counselling Service. Resources provided to Council were displayed to help raise awareness in the community of these issues.

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.

The Development Plan Amendment is currently awaiting authorisation from the Minister.

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;

The Development Plan Amendment is currently awaiting authorisation from the Minister.

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.

The Development Plan Amendment is currently awaiting authorisation from the Minister.



BUILDING DIVISION

Throughout the last financial years periods of fluctuating construction industry activity Council's Building Division has continued to support local builders and professionals delivering 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 Councils 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). During the 2013/2014 financial year the

legislative playing field has remained relatively stable in response to substantial amendments introduced in 2012/13 and in anticipation of wide ranging reforms to the Development Act which may be introduced in the not to distant future.

Council's building division has, throughout 2013/14 recorded statistics regarding the progression and state of the local construction industry as presented below;

	2013/14	2012/13	2011/12
Estimated Expenditure	\$46,225,552	\$31,961,666	\$93,180,204
Dwellings	112	75	104
Dwelling additions	15	29	25
Outbuildings	174	162	195
Commercial	29	46	40
Industrial	6	10	11
Signage	24	12	11
Wastewater	2	0	0
Other	56	43	58
TOTAL	418	377	444



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 2013/14 Council allocated \$20,000 as part of the 2013 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.

2013/14 is the twelfth year that Council has offered grants as part of the Local Heritage Restoration Fund, with \$16,400 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.

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. 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 Committee has met very infrequently in the past 12 months.

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

Stormwater management is an area council allocated approximately \$78,000 towards which is primarily aimed at improving stormwater infrastructure to reduce flooding.

Whilst there were a number of improvement projects initially listed on the works programme, the majority of funding was used to purchase land in Wandaree Crt for the purpose of constructing a retention basin to prevent property flooding in this area.

The projects listed for the 2013/14 year that were not completed because of the land purchase were included in the 2014/15 works program

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.

Information stickers have now been placed on all bin lids to assist residents maximise their recycling effort.

Businesses are encouraged to ensure recycling becomes part of their core business and point segregation of waste to ensure disposal to the correct waste stream will be a focus of Council in the coming years..

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 Schaik's 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 continued 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:

- Monday to Friday
7.30am to 12 noon
- Saturday and Sunday
2pm to 5pm

LANDFILL

Council also constructed it's third waste cell at the Caroline Landfill using local contractors Gambier Earth Movers. The total value of the contract, which includes placing a sealing cap over cells 1 and 2 is in the order of \$1.4m. The work is expected to be completed in the 2014/15 summer period.

GRAFFITI REMOVAL

Timely removal of graffiti is a high priority for Council. Bedford Gambier Contracts provide a rapid response to graffiti removal on Councils 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.

Council endeavors to remove graffiti as soon as possible after it is reported.

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 giving 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. The redevelopment works have reached the stage of practical completion for the foreseeable future.

The Crater Lakes continues to be very well patronised and enjoyed by locals and tourists alike.

A number of infected trees have been removed from the Freemans Landing area and replaced with new trees.

JOHN POWELL RESERVE

The City of Mount Gambier have become increasingly aware of the health and wellbeing benefits that connecting with and exploring nature offers people, especially children, by way of learning and improved cognitive development.

Council have identified an opportunity to develop the John Powell Reserve into a **naturescape**, to both beautify the area and increase outdoor learning opportunities and engagement for local children and the community.

The Reserve is located on John Powell Drive, close to the Corner of Maxwell Street and is accessible from the path which travels through the back car park of the Mulga Street Primary School.

The site is surrounded by a number of residential dwellings, with more residential building expected to take place in the near future.

Currently the site features minimal landscaping. A number of earth basins and a low natural limestone rock face aids the site's primary function as a storm water collection area, and the Reserve will continue to provide this important storm water collection role.

To develop the site as a **naturescape**, Council propose building a small bridge and providing improved features such as climbing logs, rocks and stepping stones, a wooded area, waterfall, flower garden and wetlands planting, a sand island and signage amongst other things, to encourage improved local engagement with the site.

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.

Dog expiations	79
Dog complaints	848
Dog impoundments	142
Dog attack report	5
Parking offences	596
Longgrass notices	150
Fire permits	29
Cattle impoundments (sheep and cows)	1
Vehicle impoundments	2
Dog Registrations	4,838
Payment to SEAWL (Councils pound)	\$19,000
Dog expiation income	\$13,988.69
Dog registration fees	\$108,245.50



COMMUNITY STATEMENT

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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 2013/14:

Care Ring Telephone Service (Lifeline SE)	\$2,000
Crime Prevention initiatives (Security Foot Patrols, CCTV Cameras, Graffiti Control, Lighting)	\$51,298
General Community Donations	\$19,046
Lambert Village - supported residential facility (for capital improvements)	\$5,000
Life Education Centre	\$5,000
Senior Citizens' Centre (maintenance to building/other expenses)	\$5,565
Seniors' Month/Seniors Activities	\$1,224
Syringe Disposal Service	\$3,834
Youth Advisory Committee and projects	\$5,475
Reidy Park Centre	\$9,462
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)	\$82,571
Wehl Street Theatre (Centrestage)	\$23,602
Community Events Support	\$20,428
Naidoc Week	\$1,000
Heritage Restoration Fund	\$14,400
Mount Gambier Christmas Parade	\$27,155
Obesity Prevention and Lifestyle (OPAL)(Net Cost)	\$53,886
Citizenship Ceremonies	\$8,505
Mount Gambier A & H Society	\$3,075
Stand Like Stone Foundation	\$8,000
The Junction	\$1,000
Rotary Club of Mount Gambier - Careers Expo	\$500
Mount Gambier Chamber of Commerce Business Awards	\$1,000
Christmas Decorations - Purchase/Display Costs	\$36,200
Tertiary Education grants	\$8,357
New Years Eve Celebrations (Mount Gambier Community Events)	\$12,000
Party in the Park (Rotary Mount Gambier West)	\$1,000
Blue Lake Fun Run (Rotary Mount Gambier)	\$2,500

COMMUNITY, SERVICES, LIFESTYLE, WELFARE AND WELL BEING

Eisteddfods (Backstage Inc.)	\$5,000
Australia Day Breakfast	\$5,000
Mount Gambier Gold Cup Races	\$2,000
Active Community Team Challenge	\$2,000
Suicide Prevention Network	\$3,000
	\$438,083

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

OPAL

In September 2009, the City of Mount Gambier became one of the first six sites across South Australia to introduce the Obesity Prevention and Lifestyle (OPAL) program into the community.

OPAL encourages children through families and communities to eat well and be active, and over the past five years, a comprehensive multi-strategy approach working in conjunction with local stakeholders has been developed across all sectors of the Mount Gambier community.

OPAL is now the largest childhood obesity prevention program ever conducted in SA, now operating in 20 local communities across the state and in one community in the Northern Territory. It is based on a globally proven community development and social marketing program called EPODE which began in France in 1992 and now operates in eight countries.

OPAL Mount Gambier has now been part of 6 Themes – Water the original cool drink, Give the Screen a rest active Play is best, Make it a fresh snack, Think Feet First,

Healthy Breakfast and the current theme Its Brighter Outside. The themes have helped the community to focus on a specific behaviour change with a consistent health message.

City of Mount Gambier have assisted in funding 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 Projects, Programmes and events include:

'Its Brighter Outside' theme has assisted schools and the community

with the development and implementation of nature play space. OPAL's work with schools has led to the commencement of Nature play planning now and for future projects.

The Healthy breakfast programme 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 continues to grow in participation and outcomes. City of Mount Gambier will work with Housing

OPAL

SA, the community 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 will continue 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.

City of Mount Gambier 'recognises 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 have continued 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 has been well supported within the Mount Gambier community through OPAL and the City of Mount Gambier.



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 2010/11	TOTAL NUMBER OF CALL 2011/12	TOTAL NUMBER OF CALLS 2012/13	TOTAL NUMBER OF CALLS 2013/14
July	65	67	117	85
August	100	83	78	106
September	131	43	102	108
October	111	No call centre in operation	107	103
November	109	No call centre in operation	123	83
December	262	No call centre in operation	173	222
January	170	No call centre in operation	119	152
February	113	119	106	93
March	77	103	144	112
April	106	101	131	98
May	59	86	118	65
June	116	76	88	76
Total Calls	1,419	678	1,406	1,303

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.



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 2013/14 was as follows:-

	\$
Assistance to Juniors	31,305
Support for special Coaching Clinics	9,500
Assistance to Disadvantaged Juniors	300
Members' Contributions	10,181
Councils' Contributions	15,000
Bank Interest earned	345
Donations received	791
Sponsorship of Programs received	12,300
Other Expenses	-
Government and Bank Charges	5
Cash at Bank, 30th June 2014	51,044

For the twenty eight (28) years of the Fund's operations, the consolidated transactions to 30th June 2014 are as follows:-

	\$
Assistance to Juniors	401,405
Support for special Coaching Clinics	70,453
Specific Purpose Programs	1,990
Members' Contributions	132,908
Councils' Contributions	260,500
Bank Interest earned	65,918
Donations received	38,386
Sponsorship of Coaching Clinics	14,500
Other Expenses	300
Government and Bank Charges	1,315
Cash at Bank, 30th June 2014	51,044

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:-

- 23 sporting organisations/clubs are members of the Fund;
- Commercial Club Inc again provided a very generous \$2,500 donation to the Fund;
- New members admitted were:- Western Border Soccer Association
- Members resigned / suspended were:- Nil
- 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 Blue Lake Fun Run.



LIFE EDUCATION

Life Education continues to provide preventative drug and health education programs to young people in Mount Gambier.

In Term 4, 2013 the following schools received visits from the mobile classroom and 443 students within the Council area accessed the Life Education Centre resources.

SCHOOLS	STUDENTS	COUNCIL SUBSIDY \$
St Martins Lutheran College	65	1,788
Gordon Education Centre	100	270
Suttontown Primary School	131	600
TOTAL	111	2,658

Unfortunately many families genuinely struggle with through financial hardship to meet the fees. Council's funding of \$6 per child is directly used to offset this charge, reducing the fee for Mount Gambier families. This will again happen in 2014/15. Life Education SA Inc apply a policy that no child is to miss out on the programs due to economic hardship and local service club and other community support further assist such families.

All primary schools within the Council area are invited to have the mobile classroom attend their schools. The programs cover years R-10, are age appropriate and designed to be delivered on an annual basis.

Life Education SA lost its State Government funding and is currently in the rebuilding process in the South Australia region and are very excited to have developed a new Board of Directors, chaired by ex

Police Commissioner, Mr Mal Hyde and are looking forward to expanding their program into many more schools, particularly in the regional areas.

Council provided the sum of \$5,000 to the organisation in the 2013/14 financial year of which \$2,614 was used to provide the subsidy and the balance to offset administration and educator costs.

YOUTH ADVISORY GROUP

The Mount Gambier City Youth Advisory Group (YAG) is made up of people aged 13 – 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 got people grooving during their 'Silent Disco' at Centro, and raised funding to assist the District Council of Grant's Geared 2 Drive Program.

Conscious of ensuring there are opportunities for young people to be actively involved in the community, they conducted research into use of a local skate park, lobbying Council to consider ongoing support for the venue. They designed and facilitated school holiday programs, and another huge Youth Week program, rocking the Library during "LOUD" and taking over the streets during the City Scavenger Hunt.

The YAG represented the views and opinions of young people both locally and at a state level this year, participating in research to improve the mental health of young people in regional areas, through Flinders Universities Young and Well Towns Research Project, launching the Mount Gambier City Youth

Facebook Page, and developing a five year relationship with Rotary to support regional youth leadership opportunities. YAG also supported the Migrant Resource Centre to run their Mount Gambier Youth and Intergenerational Family Forum and our members once again actively participated in Youth Parliament.

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 build networks and integrate into our community, particularly those who have either relocated for employment/career purposes, are returning to the district, or are focusing on professional development and rural work placements.

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 2013/14 YPN co-ordinated monthly social meet and mingle events at The Main Corner and Mac's Hotel, whilst encouraging gatherings at food and wine, arts and cultural events both in Mount Gambier and the Coonawarra. Keeping people in the loop about opportunities available in and around town, and offering the opportunity to access them with other people has been a key focus over the past 12 months.

AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS 2014

Each Australia Day Mount Gambier's Community get up early to share a cooked breakfast in the Cave Gardens in preparation for the annual Australia Day Awards which honour the outstanding achievements of individuals and groups within our community. On 26th January 2014, Council presented its Australia Day Awards to:

CITIZENS OF THE YEAR

Mr Allan Dowdell - for extensive support to the local cycling industry and significant volunteer services with Mount Gambier's Community through fundraising, and awareness raising of humanitarian issues.

Mr Bruce Ridland - for his commitment to the welfare of citizens in Mount Gambier, across the age spectrum and his extensive volunteering within both the education and aged care sector.

Husband and wife Ross and Sue Parkinson - for over 50 years combined volunteering, largely with an education focus through their work with St. Johns Ambulance, The SES, The Red Cross and local service Clubs. This couple have created an indelible legacy which has inspired many in our community, and made it a safer place.

YOUNG CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

Ms Claudia Bailey - for actively raising awareness and funding to support girls education and equality in the developing world, especially in Sierra Leone, West Africa, where her fundraising supports girls to gain educational scholarships. Locally she has focused on raising awareness of mental wellbeing and increased local youth voices and perspectives around mental health issues and local response opportunities.

COMMUNITY EVENT OF THE YEAR

The Limestone Coast Symphony Orchestra for their Inaugural Concert. Director - Jennie Matthews. A true community collaboration, this inaugural concert with conductor Angus Christie hosted in June 2013 saw musicians from across the Limestone Coast ranging in age from their early teens to their seventies joined on stage by guest soloists along with a massed choir of over 60 choristers from across the Limestone Coast.

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

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

AUSTRALIAN CITIZENSHIP

During the 2013/14 financial year, eleven (11) Citizenship Ceremonies were conducted, at which a total of eighty four (84) people received Australian Citizenship.

As a special gift and as part of the Royal Agricultural & Horticultural Society of South Australia's 175th birthday celebrations, the Society provided South Australian Councils with complimentary tickets to the 2014 Royal Adelaide Show for each person who received Australian Citizenship in South Australia in 2014, prior to September.

This year, the City of Mount Gambier welcomed new residents from The Bahamas, Cambodia, Canada, Federal Republic of Germany, Great Britain, India, Iran, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nigeria, The Philippines, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Uganda.

At each public ceremony Members of Soroptimist International of Mount Gambier presented a gift to each of our newest citizens.

CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY 2014

Clean Up Australia Day 2014 consisted of clean ups held on two days. The Schools Clean Up Day on Friday, 28th February and the Community Clean Up Australia Day on Sunday, 2nd March.

Hundreds of children and teachers participated in the Schools Clean Up Day with 6 schools registered for the event. Participants worked together to clean up their school grounds and surrounding reserves and streets. Site supervisors handed out separate bags for litter collection and recyclable materials to educate children on recycling and reduce the amount of rubbish going into landfill.

The Community Clean Up Australia Day event involved approximately 150 volunteers and 9 registered community sites. Volunteers collected approximately 58 bags of rubbish and 17 bags of recyclables, a total of 75 bags. Volunteers ranged from all ages and it was encouraging to see a number of families returning again this year in the annual event.

Key areas targeted on the Sunday morning were the Valley Lake, Blue Lake, Vansittart Park, Olympic Park precinct, Frew Park, Lady Nelson, Potters Point, Sealy Reserve, Millicent Road, Wireless Road East/ Kennedy Avenue, Hawkins Road/ Jubilee Highway East and the CBD, including the Cave Gardens and off street car parks.

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.



THE EVERY GENERATION FESTIVAL - CELEBRATING OUR SENIORS

In 2013 The City of Mount Gambier's Senior's Festival was launched with a packed concert courtesy of the Mount Gambier City Band and the Mount Gambier City Concert Band. A month of activities featuring open days, films, sports and cultural events happened throughout October.

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 many different sports and recreation clubs, service 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.

Since 1993, Celebrate Senior's have recognised remarkable local achievements and duly awarded 45 Senior's in our community through the Senior Citizen of the Year and Recreation Awards. In 2013, in conjunction with the Lions Club of Gambier City, and the Lions Club of Mount Gambier, both these awards went to people with a long history of community volunteering. Margaret Millowick was named Senior of the Year, in recognition of her strong social conscious, dedication to community work, quiet determination and ability to inspire others to achieve great things. A much loved President of the Mount

Gambier Coquet Club, Margaret has made an extraordinary contribution to our community, having been involved with Meals On Wheels since 1978. The 2013 Recreation Award went to local Men's Shed advocate, U3A course facilitator and well known community motivator Garry Vandepeer who has spent many years encouraging the active involvement of Seniors in continued learning and innovation. Garry was nominated for the award in recognition of his achievements in providing quality services to seniors in our community.

MAYOR'S CHRISTMAS APPEAL

The City of Mount Gambier wish to thank everyone who has so generously donated to the Mayor's Christmas Appeal over recent years

Last year alone \$29,000 worth of community contributions were distributed to vulnerable and isolated people in our community, assisting over 500 families, including almost 700 children who received Christmas hampers, vouchers or gifts from the proceeds of the Mayor's Christmas Appeal.

Donations to the appeal were distributed through the Christmas Cheer Program delivered by the following agencies;

- Uniting Care,
- AC Care,
- Lifeline SE,
- St Vincent De Paul, and
- The Salvation Army.

Additional coordination support was once again offered through the Sunset Kitchen and Families SA.

The Christmas Parade alone, saw over \$3,000 in contributions made from the crowd that afternoon, through the collection buckets our young clowns walked down the Main Street with. In 2013 for the first time the Main Corner began

receiving gifts under their Christmas Tree, and these were also distributed to the five key agencies. Ukuleles, soft toys, sports equipment, jewellery and vouchers for teenagers were just some of the gifts our generous community donated.

The City of Mount Gambier wish to thank all of the volunteers and generous donors who continue to support this initiative. The success of this appeal is a direct reflection of the strong community spirit of our City's residents.

MOUNT GAMBIER CHRISTMAS PARADE 2013

The Mount Gambier Christmas Parade has delighted the people of Mount Gambier and District each year since 1959, heralding the arrival of Father Christmas and the Festive Season to the City.

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

The 2013 Christmas Parade had a new and exciting float, ABC TV's "Bill the Steam Shovel" accompanied by Mr Squiggle, the Grumpy Blackboard and Miss Jane. The float was welcomed by young and old alike as it made its way along the Parade route.

The Youth Advisory Group joined with the Mayor's Christmas Appeal Star Float. The YAG clowns encouraged the public to donate towards this worthy cause to help those less fortunate enjoy a better festive season.

Each year the Lions Club Blue Lake City 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. Thanks to the efforts of the Lions Club, there were 11 brass bands from across Victoria and South Australia competing in a street march before the Parade. Afterwards they performed at a public concert and competition in the Sir Robert Helpmann Theatre with major prizes on offer.

Following the Parade the Mount Gambier Rotary West Club held their annual "Party in the Park" so children and parents could meet Father Christmas and suggest what they might like for Christmas (assuming they've been good of course!). Entertainment is also supplied for families in the Cave Gardens.

Comments from the public suggested this was the best Christmas Parade ever with many varied and exciting colourful floats. Overall it was a tremendous effort by all the community members involved and by the Parade Advisory Group.

WIN Television provided the following awards for the 2013 Parade winners:

Most Outstanding	"Let's Celebrate 150 Years" Compton Primary School
Best Christmas Theme	"Snowie the 6th White Boomer" SA Metropolitan Fire Service
Best School Entry	"Chinese New Year" Allendale East Area School
Best Club or Community Organisation	"Return to Sender" Lake City Rock n Roll Club
Best Out of Town	"I'm a Farmer & I Grow It" Nangwarry Primary School
Best Musical	"Xanadu" Grant High School
Best Brass Band	Geelong West Brass Band
Best Individual	"Aussie Bush Christmas" Linda Lawless and Friends
Encouragement Award	"Home Amongst the Gum Trees" Maureen Opperman, David Hill and Stan Hill

THE MAIN CORNER

The Main Corner continues to solidify its status as 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.

ATTENDANCE RECORD

The Main Corner achieved a 6.3% growth in attendance rates in the 2013/14 financial year, despite one of its significant venues, City Hall, undergoing maintenance and paint work for a 6 week period.

MONTH	ATTENDANCE	MONTH	ATTENDANCE
July 2013	5,059	January 2014	4,056
August 2013	7,041	February 2014	4,022
September 2013	4,804	March 2014	4,736
October 2013	6,039	April 2014	8,513
November 2013	5,801	May 2014	8,947
December 2013	4,298	June 2014	9,116

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

- Mayor's Christmas Appeal launch
- TRANSECTS exhibition
- Ride2Work Day Community Breakfast
- Limestone Coast Services Round Table
- Cave Divers 40th Anniversary
- Adelaide Kids Film Festival
- Mental Health Awareness Day
- Blue Light Disco
- CPR4Kids
- Gold Cup Carnival Cocktail evening
- Ovarian Cancer Chemmart Fundraiser
- Sustainability Awards Morning Tea
- National Story Telling Day

- Scinema Science Film Festival
- NAIDOC Awards
- Suicide Prevention Strategy Launch
- Sidney Myer Rural Lecture Series
- Alzheimer's Australia
- OPAL – Rod Tolley Q&A
- Photography exhibition for Mount Gambier High School
- Exchange Printers 100th Birthday celebration
- EXPOS (B&P Travel, Green Triangle Electronics)
- Recycled Fashion Show
- Girls Night In Cancer Fundraiser
- National Water Week
- Australian Breast Feeding Association Shopping Spree
- White Ribbon Cocktail event

- Community Action for Sustainability Public documentary screenings
- City of Mount Gambier citizenship ceremony
- Radio outside broadcasts (ABC, 5SE, StarFM and LimeFM)
- Youth Week launch and Scavenger Hunt
- Generations in Jazz Welcome Reception
- Pangula Mannamurna concert and linguistic workshops
- Earth Hour

THE MAIN CORNER

DA VINCI AND BRICK BY BRICK

The increase in attendance rates at The Main Corner were influenced by two major projects, being the Da Vinci Machines exhibition and the Brick By Brick Capital Authority LEGO exhibition.

Working with the Riddoch Art Gallery we achieved an outstanding success in the delivery of the internationally acclaimed Da Vinci Machines exhibition, with 11,500 patrons over a two month period, including schools from throughout the Limestone Coast. This also generated a substantial amount of positive media and showcased the Main Corner, with many patrons also participating in screenings of Volcano and the Brick by Brick Workshops.

Brick by Brick offered an alternative to school groups who could not afford to attend a paid exhibition, and provided an educational package about Canberra, by engaging with children about our National Capital and supplying blueprints of National buildings to be made out of LEGO. The workshops attractive over 1,500 people from ages 4-75, including local and outer regional schools, the Gordon Education Centre, Girl Guides and more.

FORK AND CORK FESTIVAL

The inaugural Fork and Cork Festival utilised all Main Corner venues with beer and wine masterclasses hosted in the meeting rooms, live cooking demonstrations in the foyer, and the VIP Gala Dinner in City Hall, with stalls and an outdoor stage in the Cave Garden. The food and wine festival is scheduled for late February 2015 and is set to become a staple annual event for the region.

SCIWORLD

SciWorld returned in August and again utilised every venue of the Main Corner including Institute and City Hall venues. The increase in floorplan signage utilising plasma screens where possible, resulted in an ease of the congestion issues faced in the first year. Science experiments in The Dress Circle continued to be a major attraction and was one of the venues where capacity needed to be managed. The inclusion of 3D printing was also a highlight of this year's SciWorld and we look forward to hosting this event again next year.

DISPLAY UPDATES

Two significant updates were achieved to The Main Corner's sound and light displays this year. Firstly a remote PC was installed into the Cave Garden projector box, allowing us to schedule and promote Garden Square events as part of the nightly sound and light show. Secondly an LED strip was added to the front entrance of The Main Corner to promote opening times and Main Corner/Riddoch Art Gallery events.

VOLCANO & CRAITBUL

Volcano and Craitbul continue to attract a range of locals, tourists and a steady flow of student bookings from schools throughout the region, with consistent positive feedback regarding the quality of the production. We have also accommodated special screening times for such groups as Bowls SA, Blue Lake Young Adult Social Club, Tenison Woods Out of Hours Care, Beachport Museum, Friendship Force etc.



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 to provide the community with a contemporary environment to support their learning journey.

PARTNERSHIPS

Collaborative ventures and partnerships have been sought to maximise community benefit and participation in the library. Support from local businesses to provide areas such as a learning lounge facility and sponsored spaces within the library, as well as many other contributors providing program assistance or financial support for special events and programs have assisted the library in providing many 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 native foods cookery and education, snakes, bugs and slugs, rammed earth homes 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 1,000 people attended activities, ranging from documentary screenings, author and school visits, an historical wedding dress exhibition and numerous workshops. In partnership with the Mount Gambier Local History Group, a 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.



MOUNT GAMBIER LIBRARY STATISTICS

EARLY LITERACY PROGRAMS

The Library has focused this year on improving the quality of our early literacy programs, which include Baby Bounce, Move and Groove and Storytime. As a result of children's programming staff attended a Building Foundations for Early Learning workshop we have now adopted principles and practices to underpin children's early learning in all of our sessions. Attendance has risen over 30% from the previous year with almost 8,000 children and parents participating in sessions.

The District Council of Grant's 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 has now reached its conclusion in 2013/2014.

The Library continues to contribute to strengthening our 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 communities, building strong social networks as well as meeting their learning and recreational needs through the exploration of new opportunities.

LOANS	2013/2014	2012/2013
Adult Fiction	92,199	87,895
Adult Non-Fiction	39,386	34,899
Large Print	26,393	27,523
Ebooks	5,248	1,813
Childrens Fiction	62,934	56,508
Childrens Non-Fiction	6,980	5,882
Graphic Novels	3,927	4,023
Jigsaws	961	1,018
Magazines	14,506	14,079
Emagazines	4,599	5,402
Music CD	9,679	7,349
CD ROM	610	764
DVD	125,076	110,352
Hear a Books	6,570	6,616
Eaudiobooks	2,160	2,540
Community Languages	316	321
Interlibrary Loans	0	1,544
Bikes	46	39
Other	302	86
Loans	401,892	368,653

	2013/2014	2012/2013
Door Count	395,822	411,110
Internet (hours)	24,285	25,984
Baby bounce, Storytime, Move & Groove	7,925	5,432
Holiday Activities	2,115	1,665
School and Outreach Visits	3,600	3,974
Adult and other programs	2,731	3,935
JP Service	882	695
Author Events	976	1,061
Visits per head of population	15.17	15.86
Number of borrowers	22,452	21,031

Mount Gambier Library

Usage and Patronage Report 2013/2014

In 2013/2014



22,452

Registered
Patrons

Borrowed

404,692
Items

32,822

people visited
EACH MONTH

395,822

visitors for
the YEAR!

That's
15X

the ENTIRE
population
of the City of
Mount Gambier

While our patrons are in the Library

51%



Borrow Items

11%

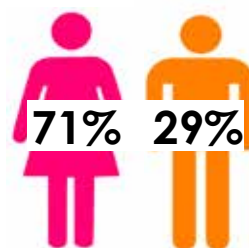


Read/ sit in the
Library

18%



Use
Computers/ Wi-Fi



FEMALE
VS
MALE
PATRONS

68%

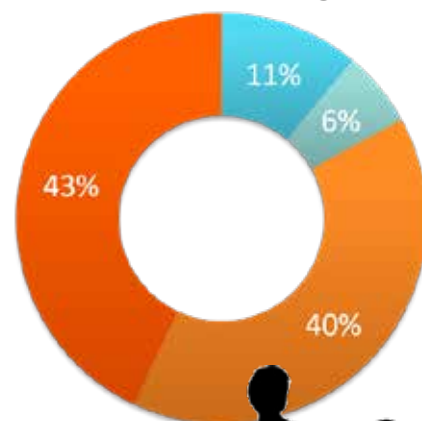
Of our patrons visit on
a weekly basis

PROGRAM ATTENDANCE

Baby Bounce	3,971
Move and Groove	1,634
Storytime	2,320
86 School Visits	3,600
School Holiday Programs	2,115
13 Author Events	976
51 Other Programs held	2,315
Computer Lessons	416

Registered Users By Age

- Under 24
- 25- 34 Yrs
- 35-59Yrs
- 60+ Yrs



98%

of patrons believe the
Mount Gambier Library
is an important place for the
COMMUNITY.



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



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & SOCIAL INCLUSION

The Community Engagement and Social Inclusion Sub-Committee was 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, resigned 2014)
- Emma Hay (community)
- Caroline Hill (community)

The sub committee have worked to alter the terms of reference to include ongoing representation from our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community, the successful nomination was accepted from Ms Emma Hay in 2013. Active steps have also been taken to have the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Flags permanently displayed in the Council Chamber.

Other work has seen Council adopt a new Community Consultation and Engagement Policy (P195) and develop a working handbook.

Council's commitment to listen and respond to the concerns and ideas of the broad spectrum of people within our community is an open invitation to participate in your community's future. Council is keen to see growing numbers of people taking part in information, consultation and discussion opportunities now and into the future to enable Council to make informed decisions on our future. Effective communication and engagement with Council, demonstrates a strong community spirit and enables our City to grow and mature as the most liveable City in Australia 'Beyond 2015'.



ECONOMIC AND REGIONAL STATEMENT

Regional Funding Support	99
Mount Gambier - A Lifelong Learning City	100
Mount Gambier & District Tertiary Health Education Grants	101
Kanawinka Geopark “Land of Tomorrow”	103
The Mount Gambier Visitor Centre and “The Lade Nelson” Discovery Centre	104
Major Events 2013/2014	106



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 Council contributions it has provided to State and/or regional organisations for 2013/14:

Regional Development Australia Limestone Coast	\$22,000
Regional Tourism	\$26,000
Local Government Association of South Australia	\$32,000
Provincial Cities Association	\$12,725
Regional Recreation and Sport position	\$11,000
Riddoch Art Gallery	\$61,000
South East Local Government Association	\$45,000
South East Heritage Advisory Service	\$23,000
South East Resource Information Centre (SERIC)	\$12,000
Stand Like Stone Foundation	\$8,000
Lifelong Learning Initiatives/Tertiary & Higher Education Initiatives	\$13,000
Life Education Centre	\$5,000
Regional Waste Management	\$7,000

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

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 Penny Richardson
- Cr Biddie Shearing
- David Mezinec (community)
- Sarah Pellen (community)
- Alexandra Nicholson (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”.

OUR MOUNT GAMBIER VILLAGE – ONLINE HUB

The City of Mount Gambier has remained committed to the continued development of a whole of community relational learning approach, working in an increasingly

relationship-based way in terms of both service provision and the development of the Mount Gambier Children’s Charter.

The launch of the online hub will allow for ongoing conversations and collaboration as we shift from focusing on predominantly agency based approaches to service delivery.

This is a way to continue the conversation, foster relationships and plan outcomes and action plans for our community.

Participation in the online hub demonstrates a commitment to continuing the conversation and developing Social Capital by working together - bonding, bridging, linking – our Mount Gambier village.

CHARTER FOR CHILDREN

Following the series of forums and workshops held in Mount Gambier over the past two years the City of Mount Gambier’s Lifelong Learning Sub Committee continues to foster and develop partnership projects which enhance our community across each stage of the learning cycle.

With a goal of making Mount Gambier the most liveable City for all of our citizens, we recognised the importance of developing a pledge with local services to allow our children to flourish in their earliest years.

To date the sub-committee has primarily focused on partnerships in the early childhood stage of the lifelong learning cycle.

Through the *Perspectives of the Child* project we have listened to young children as well as the early learning educators who support them. This has been important as the City recognises the value in encouraging

and respecting the perspectives of children and responding to their requests and interests.

We appreciate it takes a village to raise a child, and that villages are enhanced by having inquisitive, active, happy children who explore and participate actively in community life.

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

The Charter for Children aims to serve as an aspirational set of principles, to guide the work of Council, early learning services, service providers and business who wish to subscribe to the Charter’s principles.

The focus remains on early childhood, with the aim of decreasing rates of developmental delay in the region (recorded independently by the Australian Early Childhood Index -AEDI) we recognise the Charter principles have relevance and application within our community.

MOUNT GAMBIER & DISTRICT TERTIARY HEALTH EDUCATION GRANTS

Council continued the Mount Gambier & District Tertiary Health Education Grants program in 2013/14 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.

Thirteen recipients from Mount Gambier and the surrounding districts were awarded grants from the Mount Gambier and District Tertiary Health Education Grant Program this year.

The value of the grant is \$2,000 each and a total distribution of \$26,000 was provided to the thirteen successful applicants.

Twenty three 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 2014 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.



MOUNT GAMBIER & DISTRICT TERTIARY HEALTH EDUCATION GRANTS

Successful recipients in 2014 were:-

Brett Slarks	Bachelor of Medicine / Bachelor of Surgery University of Adelaide
Johannah Pham	Bachelor of Medical Radiation Science University of South Australia
Kayla-Maree O'Keefe	Bachelor of Nursing/Midwifery (Double Degree) Deakin University (Warrnambool/Geelong)
Jim Weston	Bachelor of Paramedic Science Flinders University
Abby Docking	Bachelor of Physiotherapy University of South Australia
Kelsey Hood	Bachelor of Health Science / Masters of Occupational Therapy Flinders University
Sarah Coshan	Bachelor of Physiotherapy University of South Australia
Liarna Buck	Bachelor of Health Science / Master of Physiotherapy Flinders University
Nicole Feast	Bachelor of Psychology (Hons) University of Melbourne
Hayley Greenfield Bendigo Bank Grant Recipient	Bachelor of Vision Science / Masters of Optometry Deakin University
Britany Wilson Bendigo Bank Grant Recipient	Bachelor of Psychology Deakin University
Amelia Hancock UFS Chemist Grant Recipient	Bachelor of Pharmacy University of South Australia
Jeremy Sparks Greater Green Triangle Grant Recipient	Bachelor of Pharmacy University of South Australia



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 (91 Geoparks in 27 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)



THE MOUNT GAMBIER VISITOR CENTRE AND “THE LADY NELSON” DISCOVERY CENTRE

VISITOR INFORMATION & DISCOVERY CENTRE

In 2013/14, 77,047 visitors came through the door. A total of 46,021 enquiries were handled at the counter, 76% of enquiries handled were from out of the local area. International Visitors made up 9.5% of the total visitation. 10.3 % of total visitors also visited the Discovery Centre. Website visits continue to make up an increasing share of our enquiries, with 124,789 unique visits to our website.

Monthly calculations show peaks occurring in March, May, January, and December, which reflects our busiest periods of Christmas, Easter and the Generations in Jazz Festival. With the busiest day of the year occurring on the 27th December, with 758 visitors. Whilst the 31st August was the quietest with 62 visitors.

New staffing needs and structure was identified and implemented, with staffing measures now in place, with a more streamlined rostering system operating.

Staff have undertaken a series of weekly familiarisations to all accommodation properties in Mount Gambier, with over 50 different accommodation properties visited.

Improvements to the layout of the building continue to be undertaken, with the replacement of the front windows, and double front doors installed, to allow for an out door seating area, providing extra seating area for bus passengers and visitors, during opening hours.

A review of the wetlands area within the Discovery Centre identified a number of issues that have now been addressed. Restoration of the area allowing for sympathetic

interpretation of native and coastal flora was undertaken.

Closer ties have been formed with local tourism industry stakeholders through a commitment to a series of meetings, and attendance at local forums and committees. Including Kanawinka Geotrail, Limestone Coast Visitor Information Providers, Mt Gambier Chamber of Commerce, South Australian Tourism Commission Forums, S.A State Visitor Information Centre Network Meetings.

PUBLICATIONS AND BROCHURE DISTRIBUTION

The Mount Gambier/Lady Nelson combined DL brochure has been updated and reprinted. The Mount Gambier Map has been updated and reprinted. Our Guides and Brochures are distributed throughout Mount Gambier, the Limestone Coast and Western Victoria, The Great Ocean Road, and the South Australian Tourism Commission Visitor Centre in Adelaide.

ACCOMMODATION HUB

Through meetings with the Generations in Jazz representatives a need for an alternative accommodation option was identified. The Community Accommodation Hub was set up and trailed for the Generations in Jazz Festival. Involving homeowners nominating their home or property as accepting bookings for accommodation; this was facilitated through the Roomshare.com website. It is envisioned that similar arrangements can be utilised for other peak period when traditional accommodation providers are fully booked.



THE MOUNT GAMBIER VISITOR CENTRE AND “THE LADY NELSON” DISCOVERY CENTRE

VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE ENQUIRY FIGURES FOR 2013-14

July 2013	5,475
August 2013	4,408
September 2013	5,989
October 2013	1,612
November 2013	6,908
December 2013	8,787
January 2014	10,192
February 2014	6,287
March 2014	7,643
April 2014	9,981
May 2014	5,478
June 2014	4,287
TOTAL	77,047
Website enquiries (unique visits)	124,789
Total enquiries serviced	204,836
Total visitation cumulative (May 1977- June 2014)	274,8722

MISCELLANEOUS STATISTICS AND INFORMATION

Total email and phone enquiries	2,266
Total counter enquiries	46,021
Counter enquiries from outside of Mount Gambier	38,247
International visitors	13,073
Easter long weekend visitation	2,541
Christmas period visitation (26 Dec – 6th Jan)	6,612
Busiest Day (December 27th)	957
Quietest day (August 31st)	62
Information packs/mail-outs	2,178
Top 10 info packs distributed Christmas	1,187
Average website hits per day	876

BUS TICKETING

	TOTAL PAX	TICKETING EX GST (\$)
Premier Adult Ticket	813	69,207
Premier Child Ticket	128	4,607
Premier Concession Ticket	1,839	22,541
Premier Student Ticket	503	99,593
Premier Stateliner Total	3,283	117,253
V/Line Adult Ticket	1,421	69,993
V/Line Child Ticket	277	4,219
V/Line Concession	1,464	1,225
V/Line Student Ticket	69	41,815
V/Line Total	3,231	195,950
Combined Bus Ticket Sales	6,514	313,204
Bus Enquiry No Sale	2,408	
TOTAL BUS ENQUIRIES	8,922	

MAJOR EVENTS 2013/2014

RACV GREAT VICTORIAN BIKE RIDE 2013

22nd and 23 November 2013

This event was held in Mount Gambier for the first time ever to celebrate 30 years of Bicycle Network of Victoria. It traditionally offers riders adventures through Victoria's spectacular landscapes, but this year the event started in Mount Gambier, to showcase the natural wonders of the Blue Lake and to capitalise on the City's hospitality.

4,600 riders of all levels of experience, and all ages, participated in the pre-race camp at Hastings Cunningham Reserve. They headed off in rainy conditions from Mount Gambier, to Portland, Warrnambool, and the Ottway Ranges, finishing at Geelong. Over nine days, the riders covered approximately 560 kilometers.

The City also had the benefit of 150 volunteers and 50 support staff visiting to help prepare the Reserve with tents, portaloos and other infrastructure.

The event had 50 schools participating with over 1,200 students taking part from across Victoria.

There were buses and semi trailers arriving at the reserve, carrying participants, their tents and overnight gear.

Not all the riders stayed in tents however. Many families opted to stay in local motels and caravan parks, in preparation for a gruelling nine days in the saddle.

The Mount Gambier Chamber of Commerce provided a courtesy bus for riders to catch from Hastings-Cunningham Reserve into the CBD of Mount Gambier. This really boosted patronage in many of our restaurants and cafes, and gave other main street businesses plenty of new customers.

The youngest rider was just 3 years old, with the oldest rider being 83. It was her eleventh time participating in the bike ride! The City of Mount Gambier together with Bicycle Network promoted the health

advantages of active transport to the community, hopefully encouraging more people to cycle and support improvements to local bike riding facilities.

We were also fortunate to have riders come from the UK, NZ, Fiji, the Netherlands and USA. Hopefully they'll pass on their good experiences in Mount Gambier to their fellow citizens.

The City of Mount Gambier Community Events Team in conjunction with local Service and Sporting Clubs organised a wonderfully varied menu of food to be sold to the riders at the Friday evening meal and Saturday morning breakfast at Vansittart Park. Entertainment was supplied by Phoenix Music Studio and Wilson & Flint.

Although the weather was less than conducive to outdoor activities, we did not hear one complaint from the riders or organisers. As a matter of fact there were more comments on what a beautiful, friendly city we have with and on our amazing attractions. Many said they can't wait to come back and visit for a longer holiday.



MAJOR EVENTS 2013/2014

BOWLS SA – SOUTH EASTERN 2 DAY CLASSIC SUPA SERIES OVER 60'S TOURNAMENT

This two day event staged in conjunction with City of Mount Gambier and Bowls SA was held on 24 & 25 February 2014. The third day was a Volunteers Appreciation morning tea and Movie at the Dress Circle in Main Corner complex for those volunteers who work tirelessly for the sport of Lawn Bowls.

The two day competition saw 250 participants play at the Mount Gambier & District RSL clubrooms and the Mount Gambier Bowls clubrooms.

Players came from as far away as the Riverland, mid north and Adelaide.

The South East Classic was a round of the "Seniors Supa Series" which is a Statewide event comprising nine rounds, culminating with the Grand Slam event which will take place later in the year in Adelaide.

The bowlers visiting the region played at the "birth-place" of country bowls in South Australia. Mount Gambier Bowls Club celebrated its 100th year in 2004 and is proud of its key role in the rich history of the sport of Lawn Bowls in our State.

SOFTBALL SA – SA JUNIOR STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

15 & 16 February 2014

This competition was held over the two days at the softball grounds at the Blue Lake Sports Park.

400 softball players descended on Mount Gambier for the weekend with 18% being locals and 75% from the Adelaide and other Regional areas. There was also a 7% participation from Victoria.

As this was a junior carnival there were many family groups visiting our City and they took advantage of the perfect weather we offered for the weekend. There were 24 teams from across the state competing in both boys and girls U13, U15 and U17 divisions showcasing some of South Australia's best softball talent.

There were 7 diamonds for competitors to play on for the weekend at the sports park. The Softball committee organised a fantastic action packed weekend of games, with the presentations held on Sunday afternoon.

Congratulations go to the Mount Gambier U 17's girl's team winning their category in the Championships with three of the players going on to represent South Australia at the Nationals. The U 13's girl's team was beaten by just one run to be placed second in their age group.

Events such as these give teams an opportunity to showcase their skills and compete against the top players in the state, including South Australian representatives. For many players this starts their transition to open age state teams and even National teams.

LIMESTONE COAST SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Mount Gambier was honoured to have the second concert of this local orchestra held on 29th June at the Sir Robert Helpmann Theatre. Another concert was also held at Naracoorte for the enjoyment of Mid and Upper SE residents.

The 71 piece orchestra comprising a majority of musicians from the Limestone Coast region, is led by Hamilton based conductor Angus Christie. Musical Director is Mount Gambier woman, Jennie Matthews. The Orchestra showed why they well and truly earned the 2013 City of Mount Gambier "Community event of the year award" presented to them on Australia Day.

Not only were instrumentalists showcased, but there were also guest vocalists from Western Victoria and the Naracoorte Singers. Many varied classical pieces of music from across the centuries entertained the audiences at sold out venues. Another highlight of the concert was the premiere of a newly commissioned work, "A Festive Overture – Fanfarria L'Ale i Compassio by Beachport composer Dr Chris Waite.

The orchestra has been very fortunate to have found the right mix of instruments from budding musicians across the Limestone Coast. They regularly travel to Mount Gambier for rehearsals and enjoy the thrill of performing together. The Orchestra is very proud to be showcasing the amazing depth of musical talent we have in this region.

MAJOR EVENTS 2013/2014

AUSTRALIAN ARIEL REGISTER MOTORCYCLE NATIONAL RALLY

28, 29, 30 & 31 March 2014

Mount Gambier hosted the Ariel Register National Rally with 97 enthusiastic participants visiting Mount Gambier. The Ariel is a much loved English made motorcycle. The oldest machine at the rally was made in 1929 with the last production of the marquee ceasing in 1964.

Many had accompanying family members visit our City. There were visitors from – Qld 12%; NSW 28%; Vic 26%; SA 25%; 2 each from ACT and TAS and 1 from WA.

Not all rode their motorcycles to the rally; some made the long trip by towing their bikes in a trailer to the event.

The gathering brought many visitors to this area who had never been this far south before and gave them a great taste of our lovely City of Mount Gambier and surrounds. Positive comments from the visitors suggest many will return for a holiday.

The rally included highlights such as visits to McNamara Park on the Friday afternoon, a barbecue at the Umpherston Sinkhole with the City Band playing, and various runs to attractions within Mount Gambier and District. Apart from a few breakdowns with some of the older machines, the rally was a great success.

Some participants stated “This is the best Rally ever held” which is a real credit to Colin and Mavis Thompson who were the Rally coordinators.

TOUR OF THE GREAT SOUTH COAST BIKE RACE

12 August 2013

This amazing event was held during the wettest, coldest, windiest weather imaginable accompanied by thunderstorms and rain, but the elite cyclists managed it all and put on a spectacular show of professional bike racing.

The high-profile sporting event threw the spotlight on the City. Circuits included a 30 lap Criterium of 1.2km around the streets enclosing picturesque Vansittart Park. This included 11 sprints and a very fast finish which unfortunately left five cyclists bearing the scars of gravel rash after a major collision.

The second stage was 10 lap road race of a 6.5km circuit starting on O’Halloran Tce, then along Lake Tce, around the iconic Blue Lake and a very fast descent on Bay Rd before a sharp left turn back into O’Halloran Tce. This circuit included 4 sprints and 4 hillclimbs.

The city’s backdrop certainly provided a spectacular course for the elite riders and this was live-streamed through SBS to the world.

This event was a rare opportunity for residents to see up close the cream of Australia’s up-coming young talent in the professional National Road Series which is considered just one level below the Tour Down Under.

The schools embraced the second stage and gave their full support with a lot of cheering when the cyclists raced past in a blur of colour. The organisers loved the involvement of the children and have named Mount Gambier as one of their favourite locations to hold the Tour.

FORK & CORK, MOUNT GAMBIER FOOD AND WINE FESTIVAL

1 March 2014

The inaugural Mount Gambier Food and Wine Festival was held on a beautiful sunny day in the Cave Garden and Main Corner precinct. Thirteen hundred visitors enjoyed a day of fine wine, (and some local beers & ciders) top quality entertainment and scrumptious food.

The day involved local chefs preparing and demonstrating their skills in making “chocolate delice” using regional flavours, also preparing the superb local Mayura Wagyu beef, cooking local trout, showing how to use Kalangadoo organic apples and local olive oil, and preparing a salad of foraged and found herbs to partner with local produce.

Local Cider and Craft Beer workshops were very popular amongst the locals and visitors attending the festival.

Tasting classes were held by wine makers from both Mount Gambier and Coonawarra. Noted Australian wine critic Nick Stock, also conducted Pinot Noir and Cabernet Sauvignon master classes at a variety of tasting sessions.

Former Masterchef contestant and celebrity Chef, Justine Schofield, well-known for her television show “Everyday Gourmet”, was guest Chef at the Festival. Two Penola High School students who recently competed in the International Culinary Challenge in Japan, assisted Justine in the production of her masterpieces on the day.

MAJOR EVENTS 2013/2014

Several local schools were heavily involved in pre-event programs to grow fresh food and then involve students in food preparation. They were part of the Stephanie Alexander and Jamie Oliver schools programs. So in the week leading up to the major event, these students at various schools across the lower South East had the opportunity to learn about healthy consumption based on local fresh produce. The week's program for students included sessions on Making great coffee, Unconventional afternoon teas, Greek food traditions; an Italian food Workshop and French pastry traditions.

Musical entertainment from the Generations in Jazz Academy and band Foxhow also added to the festival's success. The bands created a great atmosphere in the Cave Garden.

A celebration gourmet dinner was held on the Saturday night with celebrity chef Justine Schofield explaining the steps taken in preparing the feast and how the mix of foods and flavours complimented each other.

Nick Stott also evaluated the wines chosen to compliment the food. Everyone enjoyed a delicious meal, fantastic local wines and again, great music on the night.



FINANCIAL STATEMENT

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SELECTED GENERAL STATISTICS FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

Area	3,388 ha or 34 km ²
Length of Roads	222 km
Number of Properties coded Residential	11,782
Median Age	37
Unemployment	7.1%
Capital Value (July 2013)	\$3,167,914,030

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Residents of the City of Mount Gambier	26,128	25,247	25,911	25,911	26,092
Eligible Voters	17,854	17,843	17,411	18,050	18,379
No. of employees (full time equivalent)	106.1	110.4	111.4	116	118
Development Applications (Blg & Plan)					
Applications and Land Divisions (No.)	540	472	444	363	442
Dwellings (No.)	128	104	104	75	112
Flats/Units (No.)	5(15)	0	0	0	0
Business/Commercial /Industrial (No.)	35	36	51	56	35
Additions and Alterations (No.)	281	240	220	191	189
Other, signs, divisions	91	92	69	43	80
Estimated Expenditure (Value \$m)	50.9	43.6	93.1	31.9	46
No. of Dogs Registered	4,310	4,813	4,837	4,818	4,945
No. of Assessments	12,857	13,309	13,395	13,499	13,584
Rateable Capital Value of Assessments (value \$m)	2,829	3,070	3,207	3,139	3,167
Rates foregone on non rateable property (value \$thous)	457	567	599	610	649
Rate Rebates and Remissions (value \$thous)	51	119	137	153	163
Value of Pensioner Concessions (value \$thous)	423	417	426	465	424
No. of non-ratable 100% rebate assessments	467	497	501	504	510
Fixed Charge	\$428.90	\$456.00	\$480.00	\$516.40	\$544.80

SELECTED GENERAL STATISTICS FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

HOW YOU CAN HELP

What you can do as a public minded citizen to make your City a better place:

- a. Keep any overhanging branches from your property over the footpath neatly trimmed to a minimum height of 2.2m above the footpath.
- b. Report street trees that require trimming for safe sight distance and safe to walk under.
- c. Care for your own street footpath. Some residents are unable. Can you assist them?
- d. 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.
- e. Report to Council any dangerous pot holes in roads or footpaths.

- f. 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.
- g. If you see any Council's safety signs on road works down, please stand them up or report to Council.
- h. 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 years:-

1961	15,388
1966	17,146
1971	17,934
1976	19,292
1991	19,880
1996	20,813
2001	22,720
2006	23,922
2011	25,257
2013	26,092 (ABS – ERP)



STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

	NOTES	2014 \$'000	2013 \$'000
INCOME			
Rates	2	16,826	15,772
Statutory charges	2	378	357
User charges	2	3,530	3,393
Grants, subsidies and contributions	2	1,278	2,232
Investment income	2	32	31
Reimbursements	2	229	191
Other income	2	467	476
Total Income		22,740	22,452
EXPENSES			
Employee costs	3	8,772	8,318
Materials, contracts & other expenses	3	8,467	7,837
Depreciation, amortisation & impairment	3	5,907	5,662
Finance costs	3	262	336
Total Expenses		23,408	22,153
OPERATING SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)		(668)	299
Asset disposal & fair value adjustments	4	(3,227)	(1,838)
Amounts received specifically for new or upgraded assets	2	3,064	835
NET SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)			
transferred to Equity Statement		(831)	(704)
Other Comprehensive Income		-	-
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME		(831)	(704)

This Statement is to be read in conjunction with the Notes commencing page 117.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT 30 JUNE 2014

	NOTES	2014 \$'000	2013 \$'000
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	5	1,173	675
Trade & other receivables	5	1,132	1,149
Inventories	5	37	40
Total Current Assets		2,342	1,864
Non-current Assets			
Financial assets	6	154	248
Infrastructure, property, plant & equipment	7	195,144	194,011
Total Non-current Assets		195,298	194,259
Total Assets		197,640	196,123
LIABILITIES			
Current Liabilities			
Trade & other payables	8	2,643	1,116
Borrowings	8	243	356
Provisions	8	1,742	1,723
Total current liabilities		4,628	3,195
Non-current Liabilities			
Borrowings	8	4,538	3,618
Provisions	8	252	257
Total Non-current Liabilities		4,790	3,875
Total Liabilities		9,418	7,070
NET ASSETS		188,222	189,053
EQUITY			
Accumulated Surplus		46,307	48,060
Asset Revaluation Reserves	9	131,574	131,574
Other Reserves	9	10,341	9,419
TOTAL EQUITY		188,222	189,053

This Statement is to be read in conjunction with the Notes commencing page 117.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

	ACCUMULATED SURPLUS \$'000	ASSET REVALUATION RESERVE \$'000	AVAILABLE FOR SALE FINANCIAL ASSETS \$'000	OTHER RESERVES \$'000	TOTAL EQUITY \$'000
2014					
Balance at end of previous reporting period	48,060	131,574	-	9,419	189,053
Restated opening balance	48,060	131,574	-	9,419	189,053
Net Surplus / (Deficit) for Year	(831)				(831)
Other Comprehensive Income					
Transfers between reserves	(922)			922	-
Balance at end of period	46,307	131,574	-	10,341	188,222
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	(3,943)			3,943	-
Balance at end of period	48,060	131,574	-	9,419	189,053

This Statement is to be read in conjunction with the Notes commencing page 117.

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

	NOTES	2014 \$'000	2013 \$'000
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Receipts			
Rates - general & other		16,808	15,754
Fees & other charges		408	385
User charges		3,993	3,676
Investment receipts		69	63
Grants utilised for operating purposes		1,374	2,399
Reimbursements		252	210
Other revenues		2,748	2,022
Payments			
Employee costs		(8,719)	(8,407)
Materials, contracts & other expenses		(9,935)	(10,049)
Finance payments		(230)	(342)
Net Cash provided by (or used in) Operating Activities		6,768	5,711
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Receipts			
Amounts specifically for new or upgraded assets		3,064	835
Sale of replaced assets		276	212
Repayments of loans by community groups		126	106
Payments			
Expenditure on renewal/replacement of assets		(6,574)	(5,010)
Expenditure on new/upgraded assets		(3,969)	(1,022)
Net Cash provided by (or used in) Investing Activities		(7,077)	(4,879)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Receipts			
Proceeds from borrowings		1,163	-
Payments			
Repayments of borrowings		(356)	(1,138)
Net Cash provided by (or used in) Financing Activities		807	(1,138)
Net Increase (Decrease) in cash held		498	(306)
Cash & cash equivalents at beginning of period	10	675	981
Cash & cash equivalents at end of period	10	1,173	675

This Statement is to be read in conjunction with the Notes commencing page 117.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

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.

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.

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.

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.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

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

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2014

which the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount (which is the higher of the present value of future cash outflows or value in use).

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

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

6.7 Borrowing Costs

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

7 Payables

7.1 Goods & Services

Creditors are amounts due to external parties for the supply of goods and services and are recognised as liabilities when the goods and services are received. Creditors are normally paid 30 days after the month of invoice. No interest is payable on these amounts.

7.2 Payments Received in Advance & Deposits

Amounts received from external parties in advance of service delivery, and security deposits held against possible damage to Council assets, are recognised as liabilities until the service is delivered or damage reinstated, or the amount is refunded as the case may be.

8 Borrowings

Loans are carried at their principal amounts which represent the present value of future cash flows associated with servicing the debt. Interest is accrued over the period to which it relates, and is recorded as part of "Payables". Interest free loans

are carried at their nominal amounts; interest revenues foregone by the lender effectively being a reduction of interest expense in the period to which it relates.

9 Employee Benefits

9.1 Salaries, Wages & Compensated Absences

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

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	2.44% (2013, 3.06%)
Weighted average settlement period	1 year 2013, 1 year)

No accrual is made for sick leave for ASU employees 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 for ASU employees.

AWU employees are entitled to the payment of sick leave under the AWU Enterprise Agreements No. 8 of 2012, on the following basis:-

- Annual Cash-Out – Clause 25.5
- Termination Pay-Out – Clause 25.4

A provision has been raised in 2014 for \$22 and will be increased over a 5 year period to match the maximum in any one year that would need to be paid by Council. Currently that figure is \$120, however to date only two employees have qualified for this benefit with \$22 being paid since the introduction of this benefit in 2012.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

9.2 Superannuation

The Council makes employer superannuation contributions in respect of its employees to the Local Government Superannuation Scheme. The Scheme has two types of membership, each of which is funded differently. No changes in accounting policy have occurred during either the current or previous reporting periods. Details of the accounting policies applied and Council's involvement with the schemes are reported in Note 16.

10 Provision for Carbon Taxation

Council operates a landfill facility, which operates 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.

11 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.

12 GST Implications

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

- Receivables and Creditors include GST receivable and payable.
- Except in relation to input taxed activities, revenues and operating expenditures exclude GST receivable and payable.

- Non-current assets and capital expenditures include GST net of any recoupment.
- Amounts included in the Statement of Cash Flows are disclosed on a gross basis.

13 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
ASB 12	Disclosure of Interests in Other Entities
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 2012-2, AASB 2012-3, AASB 2012-5, AASB 2012-6, AASB 2012-10, AASB 2013-3, AASB 2013-8 and AASB 2013-9.

(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.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

NOTE 2 - INCOME *cont.*

	NOTES	2014 \$'000	2013 \$'000
RATES REVENUES			
General Rates		16,383	15,479
Less: Discretionary rebates, remissions & write offs		(163)	(153)
		16,220	15,326
Other Rates (including service charges)			
Natural Resource Management levy		550	536
		550	536
Other Charges			
Penalties for late payment		56	63
		56	63
Less: Discretionary rebates, remissions & write offs			(153)
		16,826	15,772
STATUTORY CHARGES			
Development Act fees		108	90
Town planning fees		101	105
Animal registration fees & fines		122	121
Parking fines/expiation fees		38	29
Other licences, fees, & fines		9	12
		378	357
USER CHARGES			
Cemetery/crematoria fees		608	643
Green Waste Collection		274	360
Hall & equipment hire		70	42
Sales - general		2,396	2,126
Sundry		182	222
		3,530	3,393
INVESTMENT INCOME			
Interest on investments			
Local Government Finance Authority		29	21
Banks & other		1	8
Loans to community groups		2	2
		32	31

Continued...

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

NOTE 2 - INCOME *cont.*

	NOTES	2014 \$'000	2013 \$'000
REIMBURSEMENTS			
for roadworks		72	52
for private works		55	56
other		102	83
		229	191
OTHER INCOME			
Insurance & other recoupments (infrastructure, property, plant & equipment)		246	399
Donations		75	53
Sundry		146	24
		467	476
GRANTS, SUBSIDIES, CONTRIBUTIONS			
Amounts received specifically for new or upgraded assets		3,064	835
Other grants, subsidies and contributions		1,278	2,232
		4,342	3,067
<i>The functions to which these grants relate are shown in Note 11.</i>			
Sources of grants			
Commonwealth Government		2,581	189
State Government		1,760	2,878
Other		1	0
		4,342	3,067



NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

NOTE 2 - INCOME *cont.*

	NOTES	2014 \$'000	2013 \$'000
Conditions over grants & contributions			
<i>Grants and contributions which were obtained on the condition that they be expended for specified purposes or in a future period, but which are not yet expended in accordance with those conditions, are as follows:</i>			
<i>Unexpended at the close of the previous reporting period</i>		1,000	1,000
<i>Less: expended during the current period from revenues recognised in previous reporting periods</i>			
<i>Railway Lands</i>		(1,000)	
Subtotal		(1,000)	
<i>Plus: amounts recognised as revenues in this reporting period but not yet expended in accordance with the conditions</i>			
<i>Roads Infrastructure</i>			
<i>Heritage & Cultural Services</i>			
Subtotal			
<i>Unexpended at the close of this reporting period</i>			1,000
<i>Net increase (decrease) in assets subject to conditions in the current reporting period</i>		(1,000)	



NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

NOTE 3 - EXPENSES

	NOTES	2014 \$'000	2013 \$'000
EMPLOYEE COSTS			
Salaries and Wages		8,055	7,770
Employee leave expense		149	37
Superannuation - defined contribution plan contributions	16	802	744
Workers' Compensation Insurance		227	211
Other		45	67
Less: Capitalised and distributed costs		(506)	(511)
Total Operating Employee Costs		8,772	8,318
Total Number of Employees <i>Full time equivalent at end of reporting period</i>		118	116
MATERIALS, CONTRACTS & OTHER EXPENSES			
Prescribed Expenses			
Auditor's Remuneration			
Auditing the financial reports		19	19
Elected members' expenses		272	284
Subtotal - Prescribed Expenses		291	303
Other Materials, Contracts & Expenses			
Contractors		2,886	2,887
Energy		877	845
Maintenance		6	6
Legal Expenses		18	46
Levies paid to government - NRM levy		544	532
Parts, accessories & consumables		1,738	1,507
Professional services		171	80
Sundry		1,936	1,631
Subtotal - Other Materials, Contracts & Expenses		8,176	7,534
		8,467	7,837

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

NOTE 3 - EXPENSES

	NOTES	2014 \$'000	2013 \$'000
DEPRECIATION, AMORTISATION & IMPAIRMENT			
Depreciation			
Buildings & Other Structures		2,563	2,606
Infrastructure		2,140	1,953
Plant & Equipment		683	591
Minor Plant		31	22
Office Equipment		258	258
Other		232	232
		5,907	5,662
FINANCE COSTS			
Interest on Loans		262	336
		262	336

NOTE 4 - ASSET DISPOSAL & FAIR VALUE ADJUSTMENTS

	NOTES	2014 \$'000	2013 \$'000
INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT			
<i>Assets renewed or directly replaced</i>			
Proceeds from disposal		276	212
Less: Carrying amount of assets sold		3,503	2,050
Gain (Loss) on disposal		(3,227)	(1,838)
NET GAIN (LOSS) ON DISPOSAL OR REVALUATION OF ASSETS		(3,227)	(1,838)

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

NOTE 5 - CURRENT ASSETS

	NOTES	2014 \$'000	2013 \$'000
CASH & EQUIVALENT ASSETS			
<i>Cash on Hand and at Bank</i>		647	167
Deposits at Call		526	508
		1,173	675
TRADE & OTHER RECEIVABLES			
Rates - General & Other		411	393
Rates postponed for State Seniors		-	-
Accrued Revenues		4	41
Debtors - general		539	537
GST Recoupment		118	86
Loans to community organisations		60	92
		1,132	1,149
INVENTORIES			
Stores & Materials		15	24
Trading Stock		22	16
		37	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.

NOTE 6 - NON-CURRENT ASSETS

	NOTES	2014 \$'000	2013 \$'000
FINANCIAL ASSETS			
Receivables			
Loans to community organisations		154	248
TOTAL FINANCIAL ASSETS		154	248

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

NOTE 7 - INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT

	FAIR VALUE LEVEL	2013 \$'000				2014 \$'000			
		AT FAIR VALUE	AT COST	ACCUM DEPN	CARRYING AMOUNT	AT FAIR VALUE	AT COST	ACCUM DEPN	CARRYING AMOUNT
Land - 2	2	7,546	-	-	7,546	7,451	-	-	7,451
Land - 3	3	31,913	1,729	-	33,642	33,318	89	-	33,407
Buildings & Other Structures - 2	2	53,425	-	(2,945)	50,480	53,425	1,075	(4,387)	50,113
Buildings & Other Structures - 3	3	65,349	-	(28,489)	36,860	65,349	958	(29,610)	36,697
Infrastructure		75,559	3,515	(20,888)	58,186	75,559	7,812	(23,028)	60,343
Plant & Equipment		4,685	349	(583)	4,451	4,685	1,065	(1,177)	4,573
Minor plant		155	43	(22)	176	155	74	(53)	176
Office Equipment		-	1,716	(894)	822	-	1,775	(1,144)	631
Other		1,926	154	(232)	1,848	1,926	291	(464)	1,753
TOTAL INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT		240,558	7,506	(54,053)	194,011	241,868	13,139	(59,863)	195,144
Comparatives		241,342	3,223	(48,874)	195,691	240,558	7,506	(54,053)	194,011

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

NOTE 7 - INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT cont.

	2013 \$'000	CARRYING AMOUNT MOVEMENTS DURING YEAR \$'000							2014 \$'000
	CARRYING AMOUNT	Additions		Disposals	Depreciation	Impairment	Transfers	Net Revaluation	CARRYING AMOUNT
		New/ Upgrade	Renewals						
Land - 2	7,546	1,657	-	(957)	-	-	(795)	-	7,451
Land - 3	33,642	89	-	-	-	-	(324)	-	33,407
Buildings & Other Structures - 2	50,480	795	280	-	(1,442)	-	-	-	50,113
Buildings & Other Structures - 3	36,860	200	1,966	(2,316)	(1,121)	-	1,108	-	36,697
Infrastructure	58,186	1,168	3,118	-	(2,140)	-	11	-	60,343
Plant & Equipment	4,451	5	1,026	(226)	(683)	-	-	-	4,573
Minor plant	176	-	32	(1)	(31)	-	-	-	176
Office Equipment	822	55	14	(2)	(258)	-	-	-	631
Other	1,848	-	137	-	(232)	-	-	-	1,753
TOTAL INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT	194,011	3,969	6,573	(3,502)	(5,907)	-	-	-	195,144
Comparatives	195,691	1,022	5,010	(2,050)	(5,662)	-	-	-	194,011

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

NOTE 7 - INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT

VALUATION OF ASSETS

General Valuation Principles

Accounting procedure

Upon revaluation, the current new replacement cost and accumulated depreciation are re-stated such that the difference represents the fair value of the asset determined in accordance with AASB 13 Fair Value Measurement: accumulated depreciation is taken to be the difference between current new replacement cost and fair value. In the case of land, fair value is taken to be the current replacement cost.

Highest and best use

For land which Council has an unfettered right to sell, the “highest and best use” recognises the possibility of the demolition or substantial modification of some or all of the existing buildings and structures affixed to the land.

Much of the land under Council’s care and control is Crown land or has been declared as community land under the provisions of the Local Government Act 1999. Other types of restrictions also exist.

For land subject to these restrictions, the highest and best use is taken to be the “highest and best use” available to Council, with a rebuttable presumption that the current use is the “highest and best use”. The reason for the current use of a large proportion of Council’s assets being other than the “highest and best use” relates to Council’s principal role as the provider of services to the community, rather than the use of those assets for the generation of revenue.

For buildings and other structures on and in the land, including infrastructure, “highest and best use” is determined in accordance with the land on and in which they are situated.

Transition to AASB 13

The requirements of AASB 13 Fair Value Measurement have been applied to all valuations undertaken since 1 July 2013 as shown by the valuation dates by individual asset classes below.

Fair value hierarchy level 2 valuations

Certain land, and the buildings and structures thereon, are shown above as being based on fair value hierarchy level 2 valuation inputs. They are based on prices for similar assets in an active market, with directly or indirectly observable adjustments for specific advantages or disadvantages attaching to the particular asset.

Fair value hierarchy level 3 valuations of land

Valuations of Crown land, community land and land subject to other restrictions on use or disposal, shown above as being based on fair value hierarchy level 3 valuation inputs, are based on prices for similar assets in an active market, but include adjustments for specific advantages or disadvantages attaching to the particular asset that are not directly or indirectly observable in that market, or the number and / or amount of observable adjustments of which are so great that the valuation is more fairly described as being based on level 3 valuation inputs.

Fair value hierarchy level 3 valuations of buildings, infrastructure and other assets

There is no known market for these assets and they are valued at depreciated current replacement cost. This method involves:

The determination of the cost to construct the asset (or its modern engineering equivalent) using current prices for materials and labour, the quantities of each being estimated based on recent experience of this or similar Councils, or on industry construction guides where these are more appropriate.

The calculation of the depreciation that would have accumulated since original construction using current estimates of residual value and useful life under the prime cost depreciation method adopted by Council.

This method has significant inherent uncertainties, relying on estimates of quantities of materials and labour, residual values and useful lives, and the possibility of changes in prices for materials and labour, and the potential for development of more efficient construction techniques.

Capitalisation thresholds used by Council for a representative range of assets are shown below. No capitalisation threshold is applied to the acquisition of land or interests in land.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

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

Estimated Useful Lives

Useful lives are estimated for each individual asset. In estimating useful lives, regard is had to technical and commercial obsolescence, as well as legal and other limitations on continued use. The range of useful lives for a representative range of assets is shown below, although individual assets may have an estimated total useful life of greater or lesser amount:

Plant, Furniture & Equipment	
Office Equipment	5 to 10 years
Office Furniture	10 to 20 years
Vehicles and Road-making Equip	5 to 8 years
Other Plant & Equipment	5 to 15 years
Building & Other Structures	
Buildings – masonry	50 to 100 years
Buildings – other construction	20 to 40 years
Park Structures – masonry	50 to 100 years
Park Structures – other construction	20 to 40 years
Playground equipment	5 to 15 years
Benches, seats, etc	10 to 20 years
Infrastructure	
Sealed Roads – Surface	15 to 25 years
Sealed Roads – Structure	20 to 50 years
Unsealed Roads	10 to 20 years
Bridges – Concrete	50 years
Paving & Footpaths, Kerb & Gutter	10 to 70 years
Drains	70 years
Other Assets	
Library Books	10 to 15 years
Artworks	indefinite

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

NOTE 7 - INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT

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 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.

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.

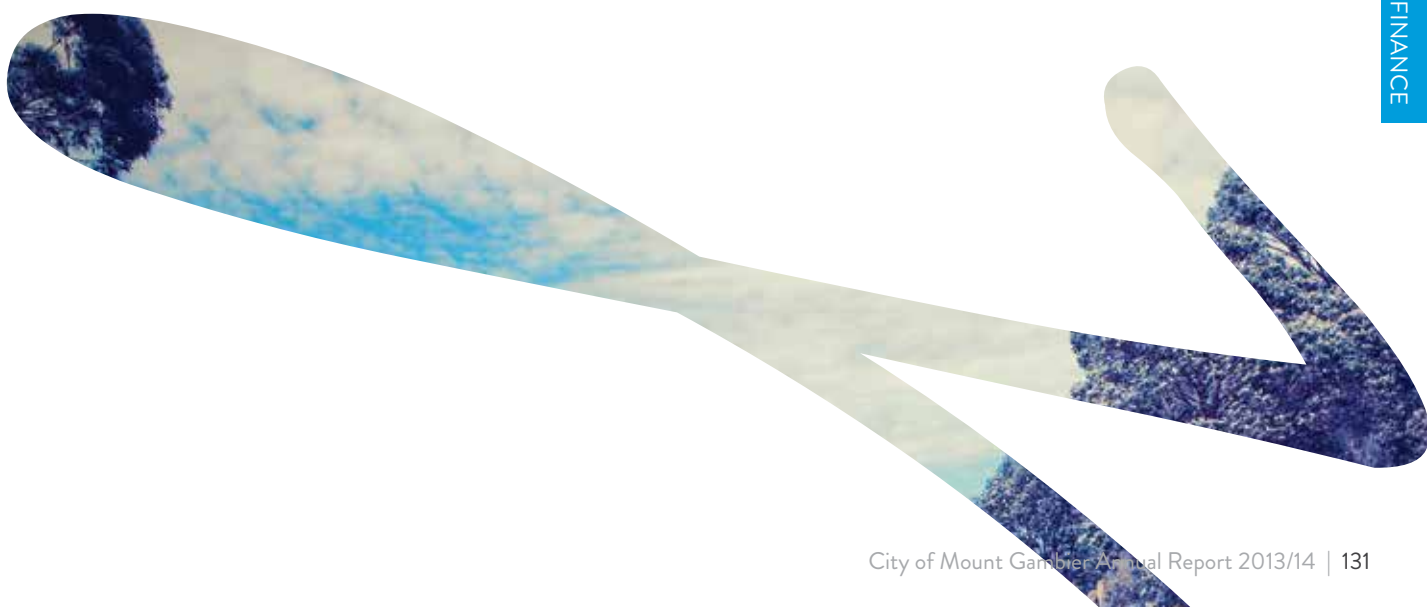
Stormwater drainage infrastructure was valued by Council officers as at 30 June 2012 at depreciated current replacement cost, based on actual costs incurred during the reporting period ended 30 June 2012. All acquisitions made after the respective dates of valuation are recorded at cost.

PLANT, FURNITURE & EQUIPMENT

These assets 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 date 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 date of valuation are capitalised in bulk, and written out when fully depreciated.



NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

NOTE 8 - LIABILITIES

		2014 \$'000		2013 \$'000	
	NOTES	CURRENT	NON-CURRENT	CURRENT	NON-CURRENT
TRADE & OTHER PAYABLES					
Goods & Services		2,222		1,001	
Payments received in advance		189		33	-
Accrued expenses - employee entitlements		59		20	-
Accrued expenses - other		50		18	-
Deposits, Retentions & Bonds		123	-	44	-
		2,643		1,116	-
BORROWINGS					
Loans		243	4,538	356	3,618
		243	4,538	356	3,618
<i>All interest bearing liabilities are secured over the future revenues of the Council.</i>					
PROVISIONS					
Employee entitlements (including oncosts)		1,742	252	1,723	257
		1,742	252	1,723	257

NOTE 9 - RESERVES

		1/7/2013	NET INCREMENTS (DECREMENTS)	TRANSFERS, IMPAIRMENTS	30/6/2014
	NOTES	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
ASSET REVALUATION RESERVE					
Land		30,511			30,511
Buildings & Other Structures		73,182			73,182
Infrastructure		23,718			23,718
Minor plant		495			495
Office Equipment		3,668			3,668
TOTAL		131,574			131,574
<i>Comparatives</i>		131,574			131,574

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

NOTE 9 - RESERVES *cont.*

	NOTES	1/7/2013	TRANSFERS TO RESERVE	TRANSFERS FROM RESERVE	30/6/2014
OTHER RESERVES					
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 Divison - Outstanding Work		232			232
Downstream Drainage		116	55		171
Work In Progress		3,537	4,385	(3,537)	4,385
City Centre Improvement		688			688
Major Capital Works		482			482
Mount Gambier Cemetery Trust		466	12		478
Junior Sporting Fund		44	7		51
TOTAL OTHER RESERVES		9,419	4,459	(3,537)	10,341
<i>Comparatives</i>		5,476	3,951	(8)	9,419

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 entitlements
- Ongoing Reserve Fund
- Transfers from the Fund are made as required
- Transfers to the Fund include Council budgetary allocations, interest received and funds from other employers in respect of transferred employees

Off Street Parking Reserve

- Established to fund off street parking initiatives in to 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 and interest received

Lady Nelson Park Development

- Established to fund any development works that may occur at The Lady Nelson suite

- Ongoing Reserve Fund

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

NOTE 9 - RESERVES *cont.*

- 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 divisions 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 made as and when required with works and projects normally completed in the year following
- Transfers to the Fund include funds for work 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
- Transfer to the Fund include Council budgetary allocations and interest received

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 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

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

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	2014 \$'000	2013 \$'000
Total cash & equivalent assets	5	1,173	675
Less: Short-term borrowings	8	-	-
Balances per Cash Flow Statement		1,173	675
(b) Reconciliation of Change in Net Assets to Cash from Operating Activities			
Net Surplus (Deficit)		(831)	(704)
Non-cash items in Income Statement			
Depreciation, amortisation & impairment		5,907	5,662
Net increase (decrease) in unpaid employee benefits		53	(89)
Grants for capital acquisitions treated as Investing Activity		(3,064)	(835)
Net (Gain) Loss on Disposals		3,227	1,838
		5,292	5,872
Add (Less): Changes in Net Current Assets			
Net (increase) decrease in receivables		(15)	(33)
Net (increase) decrease in inventories		3	7
Net increase (decrease) in trade & other payables		1,488	(135)
Net Cash provided by (or used in) operations		6,768	5,711
(c) Financing Arrangements			
Unrestricted access was available at balance date to the following lines of credit:			
Bank Overdrafts		-	-
Corporate Credit Cards		21	27
LGFA Cash Advance Debenture facility		12,000	12,000

The bank overdraft facilities may be drawn at any time and may be terminated by the bank without notice.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

NOTE 11 - FUNCTIONS

	INCOMES, EXPENSES AND ASSETS HAVE BEEN DIRECTLY ATTRIBUTED TO THE FOLLOWING FUNCTIONS & ACTIVITIES									
	INCOME		EXPENSES		OPERATING SURPLUS (DEFECIT)		GRANTS INCLUDED IN INCOME		TOTAL ASSETS HELD (CURRENT & NON-CURRENT)	
	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	2014 \$'000	2013 \$'000	2014 \$'000	2013 \$'000
Administration / Support Services	17,992	17,858	4,968	4,790	13,024	13,068	1,494	2,584	21,770	21,602
Community Support	859	826	2,246	1,831	(1,387)	(1,005)	16	44	13,817	13,711
Culture	554	527	2,873	2,851	(2,319)	(2,324)	209	234	51,888	51,491
Economic Development	408	407	1,402	1,293	(994)	(886)	-	-	5,858	5,813
Environment	1,899	1,888	4,070	3,065	(2,171)	(1,177)	-	10	5,531	5,488
Recreation	109	105	2,722	2,179	(2,613)	(2,074)	-	-	44,013	43,676
Regulatory Services	396	357	406	1,161	(10)	(804)	-	-	-	-
Transport	108	177	2,761	2,486	(2,653)	(2,309)	2,623	195	40,345	40,035
Engineering / Indirect	-	-	1,281	1,883	(1,281)	(1,883)	-	-	8,197	8,134
Unclassified Activities	415	307	679	614	(264)	(307)	-	-	6,221	6,173
TOTALS	22,740	22,452	23,408	22,153	(668)	299	4,342	3,067	197,640	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.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

NOTE 11 - COMPONENTS OF FUNCTIONS

The activities relating to Council functions are as follows:

ADMINISTRATION / SUPPORT SERVICES

Governance, Elected Members, Organisational, Support Services, Accounting/Finance, Payroll, Human Resources, Information Technology, Communication, Rates Administration, Records, Occupancy, 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.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

NOTE 12 - FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

All financial instruments are categorised as loans and receivables.

ACCOUNTING POLICIES - RECOGNISED FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Bank, Deposits at Call, Short Term Deposits	Accounting Policy: Carried at lower of cost and net realiseable value; Interest is recognised when earned.
	Terms & conditions: Deposits are returning fixed interest rates of 2.50% (2013: 2.75%). Short term deposits have an average maturity of 1 day and an average interest rates of 2.50% (2013: 1 day, 2.75%).
	Carrying amount: approximates fair value due to the short term to maturity.
Receivables - Rates & Associated Charges (including legals & penalties for late payment) <i>Note: These receivables do not meet the definition of “financial instruments” and have been excluded from the following disclosures.</i>	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: Secured over the subject land, arrears attract interest of 0.666% (2013: 0.708%) 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 - describe) rates between 5.05% and 7.90% (2013: 5.05% and 7.90%)
	Carrying amount: approximates fair value.
Liabilities - Finance Leases	Accounting Policy: accounted for in accordance with AASB 117.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

NOTE 12 - FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Liquidity Analysis

2014	DUE < 1 YEAR	DUE > 1 YEAR; ≤ 5 YEARS	DUE > 5 YEARS	TOTAL CONTRACTUAL CASH FLOWS	CARRYING VALUES
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Financial Assets					
Cash & Equivalents	1,173			1,173	1,173
Receivables	543			543	543
Other Financial Assets	60	154		214	214
TOTAL	1,776	154	-	1,930	1,930
Financial Liabilities					
Payables	2,534			2,534	2,534
Current Borrowings	243			243	243
Non-Current Borrowings	-	803	3,735	4,538	4,538
	2,777	803	3,735	7,315	7,315
2013	DUE < 1 YEAR	DUE > 1 YEAR; ≤ 5 YEARS	DUE > 5 YEARS	TOTAL CONTRACTUAL CASH FLOWS	CARRYING VALUES
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'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
	1,434	828	2,790	5,052	5,052

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

	30 JUNE 2014		30 JUNE 2013	
	WEIGHTED AVERAGE INTEREST RATE %	CARRYING VALUE \$'000	WEIGHTED AVERAGE INTEREST RATE %	CARRYING VALUE \$'000
Other Variable Rates	4.78	-	5.00	-
Fixed Interest Rates	6.48	4,781	6.55	3,974

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

NOTE 12 - FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

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.



NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

NOTE 13 - FINANCIAL INDICATORS

	2014	2013	2012
These Financial Indicators have been calculated in accordance with Information Paper 9 - Local Government Financial Indicators prepared as part of the LGA Financial Sustainability Program for the Local Government Association of South Australia. Detailed methods of calculation are set out in the SA Model Statements.			
Operating Surplus Ratio			
Operating Surplus	(4%)	2%	(4%)
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	(4%)	2%	(4%)
<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	31%	23%	27%
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	107%	85%	52%
Infrastructure & Asset Management Plan required expenditure	*	*	*
<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>			

Amounts shown above an asterisk (*) indicate that the depreciation expense has been used as a proxy, pending finalisation of the Infrastructure & Asset Management Plan.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

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.

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

	2014 \$'000	2013 \$'000
Income	22,740	22,452
less Expenses	23,408	22,153
Operating Surplus / (Deficit)	(668)	299
less Net Outlays on Existing Assets		
Capital Expenditure on renewal and replacement of Existing Assets	6,574	5,010
Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	(5,907)	(5,662)
Proceeds from Sale of Replaced Assets	(276)	(212)
	391	(864)
less Net Outlays on New and Upgraded Assets		
Capital Expenditure on New and Upgraded Assets (including investment property & real estate developments)	3,969	1,022
Amounts received specifically for New and Upgraded Assets	(3,064)	(835)
Proceeds from Sale of Surplus Assets (including investment property and real estate developments)	-	-
	905	187
Net Lending / (Borrowing) for Financial Year	(1,964)	976

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

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 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:

	2014 \$'000	2013 \$'000
Not later than one year	26	63
Later than one year and not later than 5 years	13	39
Later than 5 years	-	-
	39	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 (9.25% in 2013/14; 9.00% in 2012/13). 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 2012/13) 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, and employees may transfer to another employer within the local government sector and retain membership of the Fund, the Actuary is unable to allocate benefit liabilities, assets and costs between employers. As provided by AASB 119.32(b), Council does not use defined benefit accounting for these contributions.

The most recent actuarial investigation was conducted by the 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.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

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 user of the financial report in making and evaluating decisions about the allocation of scarce resources.

1. LAND UNDER ROADS

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

At reporting date, Council controlled 222 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 \$210,000 (2013: \$210,000) 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 one 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 a number of 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.

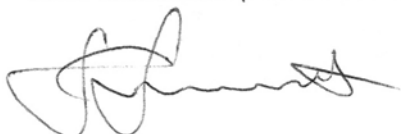
Information currently available provides assurances that "legacy emissions" from garbage placed in landfills prior to commencement of the tax will not subsequently become liable to the tax. However, should taxable thresholds be substantially reduced Council may be subject to taxation on landfill deposits made after 1 July 2013. No liability has been recognised in these reports.

CITY OF MOUNT GAMBIER
ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 June 2014

STATEMENT BY AUDITOR

I confirm that, for the audit of the financial statements of City of Mount Gambier for the year ended 30 June 2014, 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 Smith

Galpins Accountants, Auditors & Business Consultants

Dated this 30th day of September 2014


CITY OF MOUNT GAMBIER

ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 June 2014

CERTIFICATION OF AUDITOR INDEPENDENCE

To the best of our knowledge and belief, we confirm that, for the purpose of the audit of City of Mount Gambier for the year ended 30 June 2014, 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: 30/9/2014

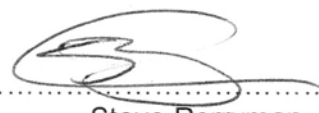
CITY OF MOUNT GAMBIER

ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 June 2014

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 2014 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: 21st October, 2014.



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